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THE

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1943

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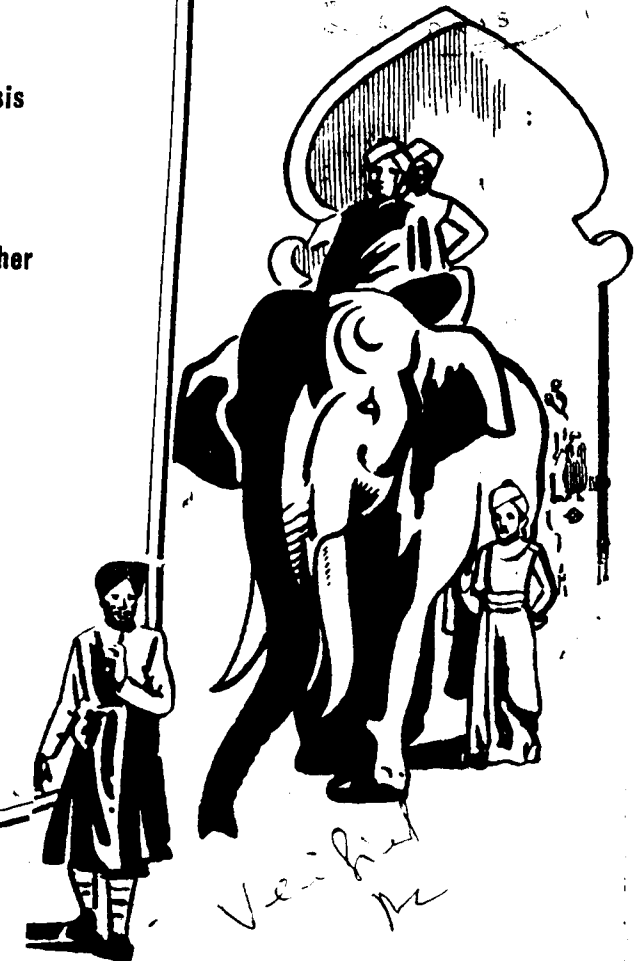
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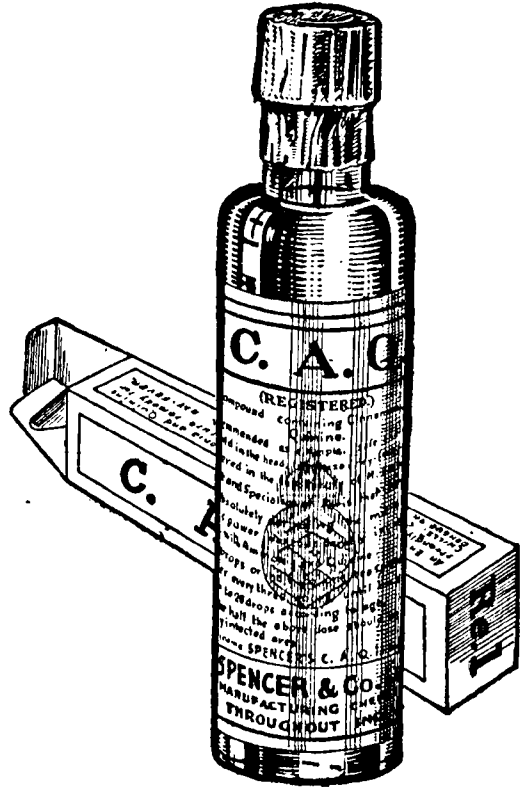
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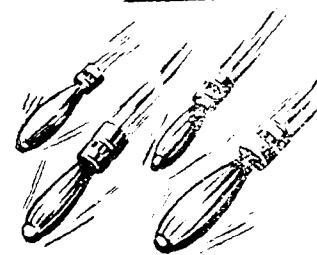
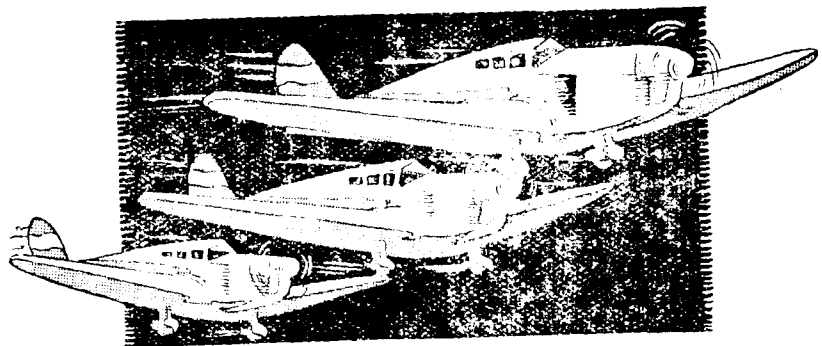
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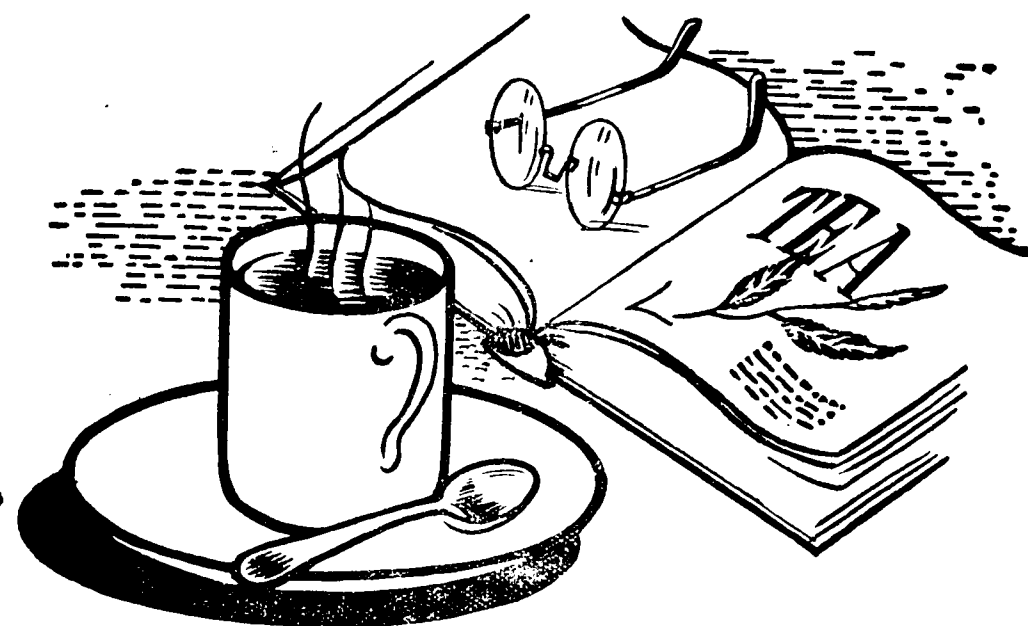
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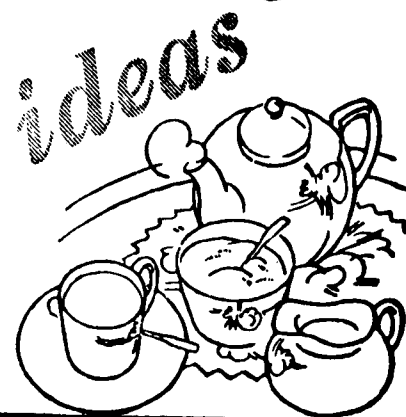
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[No. 1.

World Religions: A Study in Synthesis

BY DR. SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR, K.C.S.I.

AFTER a perusal of the series of handbooks issued by Messrs. G. A. Natesan and Company under the title, "The World Teachers", one's primary duty is to convey the thanks of the reading public to the several authors for their most useful analyses and to the enterprising publishers for the extremely informative and conveniently succinct summaries of the lives and teachings of personages who have, by their character and messages, profoundly affected human life and human thought. In conjunction with the other series entitled "National Classics", these volumes enable everyone interested in the topic of Religion to obtain a comprehensive view of the main creeds of the world.

Religion was characterised by an acute, though somewhat cynical, thinker as a function of the land and the atmosphere. He meant thereby to suggest that the environment of each nation and race is as largely responsible for its spiritual outlook and development as it is understood by the theory of evolution to be in respect of its physical build and mental faculties. It has thus been asserted that the uncompromising rigidity and the so-called fatalism of Islam were largely conditioned by its birth amidst the deserts and the infrequent oases of Arabia, and

no less a thinker than Arthur Avalon, dealing with the emergence of Sakti worship, has, after describing the Sal Forests which cover the slopes of the Himalayan Hills and picturing the scene as "vast, secular and awe-inspiring," asserted that such a view displayed before the eyes of the incoming Aryan people "led to the intuition of the forest sages who realised that the Mother Power or Sakti as will, thought and action, personifies the life of this magnetic stretch of earth which is India".

However this may be, it is a remarkable fact that practically all the great religions and creative mystical thought of the world originated in the East, and the saying *ex oriente lux: ex occidente lex* embodies a definite truth. The light of intuition has been vouchsafed to the people of the East as continuously as the sense of Law and Administration has characterised many of the civilisations that have sprung up in the West.

The oldest creeds known to man have been connected directly or indirectly with Asia and the Eastern Mediterranean region. The civilisations of Crete, Egypt, Babylon, Assyria, China, Palestine, Arabia, Persia and India are all essentially Asiatic and the traditions of ancient Egypt and even of Mexico and Peru are that the inspiration

of their faiths came from Asiatic regions as is evident from the community of basic conceptions and the representation of the divinities. The worship of such Hindu deities as Ganesha and Indra, the system of priesthood and the marriage and cremation customs in pristine America, the well-nigh universal serpent cult and the curious adoption of variants of the Sanskrit word *Ahi* (or snake) in Mexico and Egypt and many other features, seem to prove that there was a large Indian migration to the Far West as well as to the Far East. Arjuna, the Pandava hero, is, in fact, supposed to have married Alupi, the daughter of a Ruler of "Pathala" (or Antipodes), a description of which land, rich in gold and unique in features, is set out in the Puranas. It is remarkable that Montezuma, the Emperor of Mexico, informed the invader, Cortes, that his ancestors had migrated from the Orient.

The relativity of the Universe and the phenomena of worldly appearances, the seemingly inescapable duality involved in the problem of good and evil, the tremendous topics of sin and redemption from sin, the approach of man to the Supreme through a Son of God or the Mother Goddess or Sakti or through Intercessors, Avatars or other manifestations, or, again through Prophets or Apostles, priests or oracles, are characteristic practically of all religions even though some creeds have originated in a breakaway from earlier traditions. It has further to be noted that in nearly every religion known to man whether ostensibly dualistic or polytheistic or pantheistic, the ultimate truth is always conceded which is expressed by the saying:

एकं सद्विप्रा बहुधा वदन्ति ।

"The Supreme is one; learned men speak of it differently". As a resultant of speculation there may have arisen, as for instance, in the Christian faith the doctrines of Trinity, of unity in Trinity and of rigid Unitarianism; there has been propounded in Zoroastrianism the eternal riddle of Ahuramazda and his unceasing fight with Ahriman. The Bodhisattvas and Arhats of Buddhism and Jainism, the Virgin Mary and the canonised Saints in the Catholic hagiology and the multiform Gods and Goddesses of the Hindu pantheon are evidences of a fundamental human tendency to revere different forms of Godhead but immanent in all the creeds is the ultimate truth which is expressed most adequately and in imperishable verse in the following lines:—

रूपं रूपविर्जितस्य भवतो ध्यानेन यत्कल्पितं
स्तुत्यानिर्वचनीयताखिलगुरो दूरीकृता यन्मया ।
व्यापित्वञ्च निराकृतं भगवतो यत्सीर्ययात्रादिना
क्षन्तव्यं जगदीश तद्विकलतादोषत्रयं मत्कृतम् ॥

O Lord, in my meditation I have attributed forms to Thee Who art formless. O Thou Teacher of the world, in singing my hymns I have, as it were belied the truth that Thou art indescribable. By going on pilgrimages I have, so to say, denied Thy omnipresence. O Lord of the Universe, pray forgive me for these threefold faults.

This invocation brings home to us the eternal verity that it is by reason of the imperfections of human nature and the reactions of human emotions and aspirations, that man's spirit attributes forms to the formless, describes the indescribable, and seeks in its very fervency of devotion to confine within the limits of a temple or a church or a mosque the omnipresent Soul of the World. If all of us

realise the inner meaning of our rituals and observances we shall witness less of that intolerance and that lack of mutual understanding which have alas! made the history of religions to no small extent a chronicle of narrow-minded bigotry and persecution.

The publication of a set of brochures* like the one now dealt with, if it serves no other purpose, will at least be of value in enabling us to perceive the fundamental harmony that exists among all religions and the futility of controversies on minor matters. Just in the same way as a thread of unity runs through all the great and formative religions of the world, so likewise, to a careful observer will be apparent the unity that underlies even the careers, the achievements and the realisations of the chief Prophets and Saints.

To mention the following names is to indicate the land-marks of human striving and human achievement in the domain of religion: (Kung-futse) or Confucius, Laotse, the Rishis who were the compilers of the Vedas and Upanishads, Sri Krishna, Zoroaster, Buddha, Rishabha and Maha Vira, Socrates, Jesus, Paul of Tarsus, Muhammad, and more recently in India Sankara, Ramanuja, Madhvacharya, Kabir, Tukaram, Chaitanya, Guru Nanak, Ramakrishna, Vivekananda and Narayana Guru. Examining the lives of these originators of creeds, there are easily discernible divergences ranging from the non-esoteric and intensely practical outlook of Laotse to the subtle monistic doctrines of Sankara and the self-forgetful and

* Life and Teachings of: Zoroaster, Buddha, Jesus Christ, Muhammad, Sri Krishna, Sankaracharya. Six uniform volumes. As. 12 each. G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.

all-absorbing Bhakti cult of Madhvacharya, the Alvars, Nayanars and Sri Ramakrishna. But the similarities are equally noticeable. Most of these teachers started with a practical knowledge of the world and its problems. Krishna passed through all the world's experiences from a cowherd's life to that of a charioteer and of a reigning monarch. Some like Confucius and Laotse and Zoroaster were administrators, some like Lord Buddha were born and bred in the atmosphere of a gorgeous court which they rejected. Muhammad carved his way to a throne. Others like Ramakrishna Paramahansa for a time lived the life of a house-holder while being utterly detached in reality; and to others still, the problems of existence were revealed by intuition rather than by experience as in the case of Jesus and Sankara. But every one of these was endowed with a sagacity and wisdom that comprehend the lures as well as the pitfalls that encompass our lives and our possibilities as well as our frustrations. On the mind of each of these the problem of evil impinged itself. To each came the call sooner or later to renounce the outer world and its works. Almost every one of these passed through a period of mortification of the flesh and asceticism of spirit. To all practically without exception came the great temptation in one form or another. Note for instance the temptation of Jesus by Satan and of Buddha during his tapas by Mara and the powers of evil; they overcame the temptation to choose the easy path and each emerged with mellow faith and with his special scheme of Salvation and was filled with the desire to spread the gospel which had been revealed to him. In performing

this duty, some chose the form of abstract philosophy; some preferred ethical precept and laid emphasis on conduct rather than on doctrine; some evolved comprehensive and coherent philosophies like the authors of the Upanishads and Sri Krishna, Sankara and Ramanuja, Socrates and Plato; some spoke in parables like Buddha and Jesus; some were lawgivers like Moses and the Prophet Muhammad and Zoroaster. But all proclaimed the underlying faith that was in all of them—the faith in the eternal existence of a Supreme Spirit, the dependence of the Universe on that Spirit and the need to conform to that way and that conduct which would lead to realisation and the fulfilment of man's destiny and the purpose of his life. None of them advocated the path of ignoble peace, or mere acquiescence or one strewn with roses all the way. They knew instinctively that it is not temporary happiness nor worldly prosperity that can act on the heart of man but, on the contrary, difficulty, abnegation and even martyrdom and death which are proved by history to be amongst the allurements that powerfully operate on the human soul. Carlyle deals with this phenomenon and says in his "Heroes and Hero-Worship":

Kindle the inner life of man and you have a flame that burns up all lower considerations. Not happiness, but something higher. One sees this even in the frivolous classes with their 'point of honour' and the like. Not by flattering; no, by awakening the heroic that slumbers in the heart does any religion gain true followers.

However all the teachers had their message interpreted by commentators and scholiasts who too often, in the manner of a prism, broke up the white light of revelation into innumerable colours depending upon individual, local or national idiosyncrasies finally

producing a medley of confusing flashes—some dazzling and some dim but mostly obscuring the source of the light.

With only three notable exceptions namely ancient China, Rome under the Antonines and early India, religion and tolerance have rarely gone together, so much so that at present the followers of different creeds are assumed to be antagonists, overt or potential. The study of books like those under review is calculated to minimise, if not to eliminate, such calamitous errors.

The analysis that is here attempted would be futile if it did not establish that from the earliest stages of history up to the present moment, similar ideas and ideals have animated humanity in its search after perfection and that different cults and forms of worship have originated in differences of national and individual temperaments and evolution. It was stated in one of the sacred books of Egypt that the soul seeking the land of peace meets the dwellers who, as stated in the 'Papyri', are people of all times and of all nations who have weighed their hearts against the feather of truth and gone into freedom through the open gateway of Tabuti. The Egyptian counterpart of Chitrugupta is said to record the weighing of the heart by the assessors of the dead in the same way as judgment is given on the Day of Judgment according to the Scriptures of the Jews, the Christians and the Muslims. One of the assessors asks the question of every soul "Hast thou seen thy giant shadow upon the wall and thought thy semblance mighty?". And another asks "Dost thou know that the end of one journey is but the beginning of another?". What intrinsic difference is there between this assessment and the vision that came to the Lord Buddha? Have not all human yearnings and prayers been equally addressed to that Being of whom, as our Seers sang, the shadow is alike death and immortality.

यस्य छाया मृतं यस्य मृत्युः ।

(To be Continued.)

Anglo-India in the Early 19th Century

By PROF. AMARANATH JHA

(Vice-Chancellor, University of Allahabad)

IN 1825 was published in London a very interesting book by J. B. Gilchrist, LL.D. The publishers were Messrs. Kingsbury, Parbury, and Allen, publishers to the Honourable East India Company. The book is entitled: "The General East India Guide and Vade Mecum for the Public Functionary, Government Officer, Private Agent, Trader or Foreign Sojourner, in British India, and the adjacent parts of Asia immediately connected with the Honourable the East India Company." It was a Digest of the work of Captain Williamson, with some improvements and additions. The author, Gilchrist, was a resident for twenty-two years at Bombay and Bengal, and he did a considerable amount of literary work. He was also the author of a book entitled: "Hindoostanee Philology comprising a Dictionary, English and Hindoostanee, with a Grammatical Introduction." In his elaborate introduction to this work—extending to sixty-four pages—he discusses Hindee-Roman orthography, comparative view of the former and present mode of orthography, names of the letters of the Persi-Arabic and Nagree Alphabets, Meer Umman's account of the Hindoostanee Language, and a fairly elaborate account of grammatical rules. Meer Umman, in his version of the "Char Darwesh", pays this tribute to the author:

So ab Khuda ne ba'ab muddat ke Jan Gidlkrist Sahib se dana nukta ras paida kiya ki jinhon ne apne gvan aur oakt se aur talash or mehnat se qayadon ki kitaben tasnoef kin; is sabab se Hindoostan ki zaban ka mulkon mer rewaj hua, aur nave sir raunao zivada hui; nahin to apne dустar o guftar or ruftar ko koi bura nahin janta.

The Lord had given to Gilchrist a good conceit of himself, and in the Introduction he speaks of his book as being indispensable to all students of Hindoostanee.

In "The East India Guide", he expresses his wonder that many gentlemen reside from ten to thirty years in India, without even being able to summon resolution to acquire sufficient of the Hindi language even to take their accounts. He gives a list of articles which every one must have when keeping house. The prices are of special interest:

	Rs.
One dozen of chairs	40
One dining table for six	25
Two teapots	7
One writing table, with drawers	25
One bedstead of 6 ft. 4 in. by 4 ft. 6 in.	30
Curtains for ditto; those for the exterior of chintz	20
Inside ditto, of gauze, to keep out mosquitoes	10
Bookcase upon chest of drawers	100
Shades to put over candles, one pair	40
A chillumchee for washing hands	25
A palanquin and bedding	100
Table cloths and towels	50
One large and one small satringe (cotton carpet)	35
Various culinary articles	40
A variety of small articles in cutlery	45

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The conditions in which Anglo-Indian Society lived in the early years of the 19th century were much more lax and comfortable; one may read with envy the following account:—

Evening visits are paid in a very airy manner, coats being often dispensed with, the gentlemen wearing only an upper and an under waist-coat, both of white linen, and the former having sleeves. This would appear an extraordinary freedom, if not established by custom.

During recent months doctors who have had anything to do with *beri beri*, or epidemic dropsy, attribute it either to rice or to mustard oil, and one of the symptoms is glaucoma. Gilchrist has this passage which will be read with interest:

The natives consider rice to be very injurious to the sight; but, probably, whatever injury arises from its use proceeds entirely from eating it too hot, and in such quantities at one meal, generally about sunset, as can scarcely fail to injure the stomach.

Of some literary interest are the portions dealing with Hindoostanee. A few formations and phrases have a distinctly archaic sound; many of them are obsolete now. *Gao ka dudh*, for cow's milk; *Khabar dejiyo*; *hamon par*, on us; *mere taveen kaha*, he told me; *tum zor tamashe ke larke ho*, you are a

very funny boy. The author has also a list of names of places which have been vulgarised by the Anglo-Indians, e.g., Balasore (Balashwar); Berhampore (for Bahrapur); Bombay (for Mumbai); Calicut (for Kalikot); Cawnpore (for Kanhpur); Chittagong (for Chutgaon); Cossipore (for Kashipur); Deccan (for Dukkhin); Oude (for Oudh); Serampore (for Sreerampur); Seringapatam (for Shreerangapatam); Tannasore (for Thanosur). Similarly there is a list of words corrupted from English, e.g., turnee (for attorney); barik (barracks); bujra (for barge); bukus (for box); burus (for brush); kampoo (for camp); Kobee (for cabbage); Konsulee (for Counsellor); garandeel (for grenadier); laltain (for lantern); raseed (for receipt); salbot (for sideboard).

There is much interesting information and there are some quaint comments in the volumes entitled "The Oriental Annual". Several of these appeared regularly in the thirties of the last century in London, and were beautifully illustrated with the celebrated drawings of William Daniel. In the Volume of 1835, the author, the Rev. Hobart Caunter published a poem on the Ganges, by Kasiprasad Ghosh, "a young Hindoo", who, we are told, had brought out a volume of English poems. Here is one stanza from it:

Gold river! Gold river! the moon will soon grace

The hall of the stars with her light-shedding face;

The wandering planets will over thee throng
And seraphs will waken their music and song.

In the "Hindoostanee Intelligencer and Oriental Anthology", published in Calcutta in 1801 and 1802 at the Hircarrab Press, there is a mass of valuable matter which sheds light on the opinions and literary activities of the Anglo-Indians of that period. One subject that caused considerable discussion was whether Indians should wear shoes when visiting Englishmen. The correspondence was started by one calling himself "Dooshmun-i-Paposh" on March 13, 1802, who referred to "the impropriety of allowing natives to come

into their presence with their shoes", and suggested the following remedy:

While the Native is sitting in your presence with his shoes on, call the Mehtur on some pretence. When he enters, feign a passion and order him never to come before you again, without his shoes or you will immediately discharge him! If the Native will not take the hint on hearing this, you should stand no longer on ceremony with him.

A correspondent, "Veritas", wrote as follows on April 14, 1802, after referring to a work entitled "Paposh-nama", or "an attempt at a fair discussion of the propriety of natives of this country wearing their shoes in gentlemen's houses":

In every instance where the shoe is taken off by a native (except in places of worship, to which, it will not be pretended, European houses should be compared) the Master of the house takes off his shoes; of course his guests must do the same; and may not this principle, without the reproach of insolence and insult on one side or of ignorance and apathy on the other, account for the introduction of the opposite practice in the houses of Europeans? With that the controversy appears to have come to an end.

Among other curiosities there are two specimens of "Baboo English"—a term not then coined.

(1) Honoured Sir,—Having heard your accurate reputation of the several performance of religious Course, therefore the necessity forced me to address your honour the miserable condition which I am at present in that for so many years successively my father has been employed as an Interpreter to the Court of Cutcherry, also he was taken by General Coote, as an Dewan to him, and he has possessed a good fortune by the above said means, but his whole fortune he consumed himself thro'out the time he was out of employ, at last he departed his life. Now I am to maintain my families could not provide their victuals by hard labour therefore most humbly crave your honour that you will be so gracious as to confer on me to write the appren-tice in your Office. For which act of Charity,

Your honour most obedient servant,
RAMCOMMY TAKOORS.

(2) Sir,—I have the pleasure to inform you That many days ago had not been Overjoy'd with your good news, you will be so good as to write your news, thereof, however at present, I have the satisfy To send you a list of word, which Point out from English Grammer you will write proper mining of those words and will return me by the Dawk Incourse of four days—

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient servant,
COMMULLOCKUN MOCKERJEE.

THE SITUATION IN INDIA

[British policy in India comes in for strong criticism at the hands of the Standing Committee of the Non-Party Conference, held under the presidency of Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru at his residence, in Allahabad recently. Besides the President, the following members were present:—Dr. M. R. Jayakar, Vice-President; Kunwar Sir Jagdish Prasad, Secretary; Mr. B. Shiva Rao, Joint Secretary; Mr. Shyam Prasad Mukerji and Sir Ardesbir Dalal. The following invitees also took part in the deliberations and issued the statement:—Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, Dr. B. S. Moonje, Mr. Rallia Ram, Dr. Subbarayan, Master Tara Singh, Sir B. P. Singh Roy, Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha, Raja Maheshwar Dayal Seth, Mr. N. M. Joshi, Mr. G. L. Mehta, Mr. P. N. Sapru, Mr. Ranadive and Dr. Radha Kumud Mukerji.—ED. *Indian Review*.]

THE recent Indian speeches of prominent British statesmen may be described as savouring of skilful propaganda designed to persuade the Allied Nations and more particularly the doubting Americans and the sympathetic Chinese, that the root cause of Indian unrest lies deep in the historic diversities of race, religion, culture and political outlook of the Indian people and not in British reluctance to part with real power.

It is an incontestable fact that the British are the real repositories of power, both political and administrative. Since the outbreak of the war, this power has been greatly increased by the suspension of the constitution in six provinces. In these provinces, the British Governors wield absolute authority with the exclusive help of Advisers drawn largely from the British members of the Indian Civil Service. The executive heads of the police force, called Inspectors-General, are British. The exigencies of the war have placed in the hands of the Governors the widest power of arrest and detention without trial. Special courts have been created. There is control over the Press and over all public associations. The legislatures of course are not functioning. In brief, the rule of law has been, to a great extent, replaced by rule by ordinance. The constitutional position is thus, in some important respects, worse than it has ever been since the Crown assumed responsibility for the Government of India nearly a hundred years ago. In provinces where the constitution is still functioning, the discretionary powers of the Governors are frequently used with regard to questions relating to law and order.

As regards the Central Government, the power of the Governor-General to pass

ordinances has seriously affected the position of the Legislature and the Executive Council. Much stress is laid on the fact that the Governor-General's Executive Council has an Indian majority. This is true, but it is also true that the vital departments of Finance, of Home Affairs and of War Transport are in charge of British members, and the first two departments have always been so held since the advent of British rule in India. Even the Secretaryship of these two departments have never, to this day, been permanently held by Indians. Besides, the working of the expanded Council has created no little dissatisfaction. Some Indian members of Council have publicly stated that the initiative for discussing vital political questions agitating the country in the Executive Council can be taken not by them but only by the Governor-General. Such confessions and the general situation have shaken the confidence of the people in the Council. They have shown that while the Indian members are supporting administrative and legislative measures adopted by the British authorities, which have curtailed the liberties of the people and hit hard large sections of population which have taken no part in the recent disturbances, they are powerless to mould the policy of the Government in regard to the freedom of the country. It seems that they are treated only as administrative heads of departments and have no decisive share in political matters.

Indians are now told that they must take the initiative and present a united demand to the British Government before the present deadlock can be removed. They are entitled to ask what the Government was doing during the fateful weeks

after the failure of the Cripps Mission. Was there not a regrettable lack of initiative on their part when the situation was so rapidly deteriorating? And in view of their possession of all real power, have they no responsibility for solving the Indian problem? They have refused hitherto to shoulder their moral responsibility to take steps which will facilitate a political settlement but will they at least declare unequivocally that when an agreement is arrived at they will part with power so that India may occupy the position which Australia does? Apart from this, if the Government are so insistent that the major parties in India should present an agreed demand, how do they reconcile this with their refusal to allow public men of the eminence of Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee, Working President of the Hindu Mahasabha, and of Mr. Rajagopalachari, ex-Premier of Madras, even to interview Mahatma Gandhi in prison? If the intention is to treat the Congress for the period of the war as a body of rebels, then all reference to agreement between the major elements in India's life should be discarded for the moment. Profession and practice should not be so cynically inconsistent.

The Standing Committee hold strongly that acts of sabotage or arson, murder and loot cannot advance the real interests of this country and must be unequivocally condemned. But while violent crime has to be put down with a firm hand, methods which aim at terrorising the people or humiliating them should be discouraged and discarded. The imposition of collective fines irrespective of individual guilt, their summary realisation and the fact that they are almost exclusively levied on one community, has created a bitter feeling of injustice. There should be a radical alteration of policy in this respect, and in view of the many and persistent complaints regarding the manner in which law and order have been restored, an enquiry should be held into the alleged official excesses.

The present policy of the Government has created an acute and profound feeling of frustration and resentment in the country. The existing state of things shows not merely lack of statesmanship

but also lack of efficiency. Judging by the industrial policy favoured by the Government even during the war and their failure to provide the people with sufficient food at reasonable prices, they have failed in vital matters affecting the nation in this crisis. Even those who are not associated with extreme policies are deeply dissatisfied with the authorities and are beginning to feel that the Government have no settled policy of a progressive character to follow. Britain can gain the friendship of India not by boasting that the number of British troops in this country is greater now than it was ever before in the history of the British connection, but by transferring the largest amount of power to Indians during the war and thus convincing them that the British authorities genuinely desire to make India free and self-governing.

U. S. LEADERS' MEMORANDUM TO PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT

Seventy-five prominent men and women, including authors, economists, trade unionists and Church leaders have submitted to President Roosevelt and to Congress a "programme for United Nations for the adoption of those fundamental economic principles which are necessary to insure a just and lasting peace". The programme declares in part:

The Atlantic Charter applies to all peoples everywhere. . . . It commits the United States to uniting with other nations after the war, securing for all improved labour standards, economic adjustment and social security and furthering the access, on equal terms, to the trade and raw materials of the world. The 'economic agreements' of the United States with other Allied nations under the terms of the national Lend-Lease Act point the way to a joint post-war "programme for the United Nations" economic effort in peace time. We recommend early consideration and approval by the people of the United States of an International Economic Union of all nations.

We believe there should be no difference between the East and the West, the Atlantic and the Pacific, and that all peoples should be permitted and encouraged to govern themselves at the earliest possible time. We are opposed to imperialistic control on the part of anyone, either victor or vanquished. We are in favour of the surrender of so much sovereignty as will be necessary to create a world society which will be equitable and just and keep open the way to a lasting peace.

Confucius—China's Sage and Philosopher

BY MISS WAHIDA AZIZ

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FEW men have left the impress of their teaching and life upon a nation in so marked a degree as Confucius upon the Chinese. His works and those of his commentators are national in their calm, moral, and grave character, and form the religion of nearly half the human race.

The influence of Confucius has made learning in China the road to State employment and distinction, since all candidates for the public service must possess a competent knowledge of the whole doctrine of the sage, and commit to memory all his moral teachings.

This remarkable man, who was essentially a man of peace, and a born statesman, lived during a period of political anarchy and corrupt manners. Born in 551 B.C., Kung-fu-tse, 'the Master', was thus contemporaneous with the Grecian philosopher Pythagoras, and Cyrus, King of Persia. His father Shuh-lang Heih, was a distinguished officer of the country of Lu.

At an early age, Confucius devoted himself to study, and it is said that when only fifteen years' old he had mastered the five sacred books of the Chinese, called 'Kings', and was well-versed in ancient history, rites and ceremonies. All his doubts were solved at the age of thirty.

IMPORTANT REFORMS

After holding several subordinate positions, Confucius became chief magistrate of the city of Chung-tu, in which capacity he instituted important reforms in the social government of the people with so much success that he was appointed by Ting, the duke, Minister of Crime for the State of Lu. His wise administration produced such excellent results that crime disappeared and the penal laws were practically in abeyance.

The successful progress of the State under the guidance of Confucius, however, led to jealousy with the result that he was obliged to leave, and devoted himself to the instruction and reformation of his

age. Travelling over various parts of the kingdom for thirteen years, the sage returned at last to Lu, where he occupied the last years of his life in editing the Kings, or Sacred Books of the Chinese. He died in 479 B.C.

While in his lifetime Confucius met with scant success, his memory has been honoured most highly, and his precepts revered far and wide. Every town or country district in China has its temple for the worship of the sage and of his most distinguished followers in various ages, their canonisation being effected by imperial decree; emperors have vied with one another in devising titles that may express the Master's worth; his tomb at Shun-tung has been the object of many a pilgrimage, and at his temple in Peking his followers solemnly worship; while his descendants are honoured and enriched, his lineal successor being entitled Kung, and ranking next to the imperial family.

HIS PHILOSOPHY

The Chinese, even before they were conquered by the Manchus in the 17th century, exhibited the typical Asiatic quality of amenability to superior minds, as may be judged from a saying which was current in China at least eighteen centuries before the beginning of the Christian era: 'Heaven gives birth to the people with such desires that without a ruler they would fall into all kinds of disorder, and Heaven again gives birth to the man of intelligence to regulate them.' The sovereign and the philosopher are thus both sent by Heaven, and we meet with them at every turn in Chinese history.

How far Confucius was influenced by his predecessors it is impossible to say, but there is no doubt that he devoted an immense amount of attention to the works of those who had preceded him. 'The ancients,' he would say, 'hesitated to give utterance to their thoughts; they were afraid that their actions might not be equal to their words.'

That he himself was not afraid to do so may easily be observed from th

respectable collection of sayings attributed to him, no doubt justly, include one in particular recorded by a disciple.

'Chu-wen-tsu used to reflect thrice before he acted. When told of this the Master said: 'Twice would do.' The whole philosophy of Confucius may be said to be directed to one end: to influence people in such a way that they should recompense good with good and evil with justice, unlike Lao-Tze, who was hailed because he elaborated the so-called very important Golden Rule: 'Reward evil with good and good with better.'

CONFUCIAN SCRIPTURES

The name of Confucius is inseparably associated with the classical books of China which not only contain the foundations of their religious and political beliefs but are recognised as canonical. They are:—

I. The Five Kings:—1. Yih-King, or Book of Changes; 2. Shu-King, or Book of History; 3. She-King, or Book of Odes; 4. Le-Ke-King, or Book of Rites; 5. Ch'un Ts'eu, or Spring and Autumn-Annals (721-480 B.C.)

II. The Four Books:—1. Lun-Yu, or Confucian Analects (Table Talk); 2. Ta-Hio, or Great Learning; 3. Chung-Yung, or Doctrine of the Mean; 4. The Works of Mencius.

In the earlier 'Books' a monotheistic belief is more clearly indicated than in the later ones. Among the ancient Chinese, Shang-te was the chief object of worship. The deity was regarded as the ruler of earth and heaven, the arbiter of national and individual destinies, and the dispenser of good to the upright and of evil to the wicked.

In the process of time, however, the personality of Shang-te was merged into that of Tien or Heaven; and Confucius, who does not express any faith, by his silence on the subject, has largely contributed to reduce Shang-te from the position which he formerly held in the ancient faith. He believed only in God who was the preserver of the world and human society, and this is manifest from many of his sayings.

ETHICAL SYSTEM

Filial piety constitutes an all-important duty as the first and chief of human virtues, and is the keystone of the structure on which Chinese society is founded. Five things are stated by Confucius as necessary to the proper discharge of filial duty:—1. The utmost reverence to parents. 2. The fullest and most ungrudging support to them. 3. The greatest anxiety when they are ill. 4. Every demonstration of grief in mourning for them. 5. The utmost solemnity in sacrificing and making offerings to them after death.

Confucianism is, as it were, saturated with the spirit of filial devotion. On the other hand, a dutiful son must with humility and great respect remonstrate with his parents, should they in any way violate the rules of propriety.

Brotherly love follows as the necessary sequel to filial piety, as forming a bond of union between members of a household, and the happy agreement between elder and younger brothers, and the dutiful obedience yielded by the latter to the former, is strongly insisted upon. Deference must be shown to elder brethren, but they in turn must set an example of right conduct to the younger.

In spite of the fact that maternity elevates the Chinese woman in social regard, she is subject to the 'three obediences', and is much in the power of her husband to whom she must pay all reverence, and to whose authority she must submit in all things. The 'three obediences' are:—to obey her parents, to obey her husband, and, if a widow, to obey her eldest son.

When, however, she becomes a mother, she then shares in the respect due to a parent and is absolute in the household, and commands universal reverence, as all mothers do in China.

The idea of the family pervades the State, even the authority of the Emperor is really limited by the ancient usages of the country, and nowhere is 'custom' so rigidly observed and jealously guarded as in China. A principle as old as the monarchy is this, that the State is a large family, and the Emperor is in the place of both father and mother. When

he is not supposed to have this sentiment, he soon loses his hold on the reverence of the people, and the throne becomes insecure.

THE 'SUPERIOR MAN'

The influence of Confucius is peculiarly apparent in the power of the literary class, which really forms the aristocracy of China. All civil officers are chosen from three degrees of learned men. Anyone, except he be an actor, boatman, or barber, may become a candidate for the first degree of 'bachelor', and, after passing a severe examination and attaining the second rank of 'licentiate' may finally become 'doctor'. These examinations are very stiff, and a knowledge of the whole system of Confucius is required from each candidate, as well as a familiar acquaintance with the traditional wisdom of the country.

The 'superior man' is not an unknown quantity in modern society, but he is a person of much greater importance. Next to the sage, who is held to be the perfection of manhood, born with a pure nature and incapable of doing evil, he may by following the good inherent in him attain to a high degree of moral, mental, and social excellence. According to the 'Master', as Confucius was termed by his disciples, the 'superior man' strives after nine things: 'in seeing to see clearly, in hearing to hear distinctly, in expression to be benign, in his demeanour to be decorous, in speaking to be sincere, in his duties to be respectful, in doubt to inquire, in resentment to think of difficulties, when he saw an opportunity for gain to think of righteousness.'

On the other hand, he carefully avoided three things: 'in youth, when the physical powers are not settled, he avoided lust; in manhood, when the physical powers are in full vigour, he avoided quarrelsomeness; in old age, when the animal powers are decayed, he avoided covetousness.'

The cultivation of morality, in all its relations to the public and private life of a man, was the essential principle of the teaching of Confucius, and has left its indelible influence on the national character of the Chinese. The great

teacher summed up all his inclination of the duties of mankind in the general rule: 'What ye would not that men should do to you, do not ye do it to them.'

AN ILLUSTRIOUS DISCIPLE

The most illustrious of the early Confucians was Meng-tse, more generally known under the Latinised form of Mencius. He appears to have been born in the province of Shan-tung about 372 B.C., which would make him a contemporary of Plato and Aristotle.

From the little that is known about his life, it appears that he studied Confucius and originated a very practical almost Socratic philosophy for the regulation of human conduct. When about forty years of age he led his followers from place to place in the endeavour to find a ruler who would put into practice his theoretic system of government. Not finding one, however, he withdrew into retirement and died about 289 B.C.

After his death, his conversations and sayings were collected by his disciples and circulated extensively, and it must be acknowledged that in the last two or three centuries his doctrines have exercised much influence on Chinese ethics, though they are not very closely adhered to where the government of the country is concerned. His system is based on an almost touching belief in the innate goodness of man. According to his teaching, man should collect and utilise the virtue of benevolence, wisdom, and propriety, which comes out of his goodness! For if this were done both individually and collectively the result would be a liberal and enlightened political system.

There is one characteristic at least which Mencius shared with modern socialists and democrats—his intense desire for the education of the people, without considering the ultimate purpose of such a training, or how far it might be utilised for the benefit of the truly cultured and intellectual men, who must always be necessarily few in number.

The Patriot Poets of Modern Bengal

BY MR. J. G. KARANDIKAR, B.A., B.T.

(Headmaster, Sulakhe High School, Barsi, Sholapur District)

THROUGH the columns of the *Indian Review* the readers have been already acquainted with the articles on the Patriot poets of Maharashtra and the Patriot poets of Gujarat. Now it is intended to give a brief outline of the modern patriotic poetry of Bengal. Of all the patriotic songs in various Indian languages, those in Bengalee occupy a unique position. In the patriotic literature of India, the poets of modern Bengal have carved for themselves a niche which is undeniably prominent. Since the advent of British rule and especially during the last half a century, Bengal has been an altar of freedom where hundreds and thousands of her sons and daughters have cheerfully sacrificed their lives for their mother country. And the patriot poets of Bengal are the priests of this tremendous sacrifice where they chant the hymns of liberty. They sing of their motherland, her glorious past, praise her exquisite natural beauty in a charming style, and sound the message of awakening not only to Bengal, but to the whole of Bharata.

While surveying the patriotic poetry of Bengal, we are aptly reminded of that great trio of patriotic French writers, Voltaire, Rousseau and Diderot who by their facile pen and vigorous propaganda, disseminated the seeds of revolution among the masses. Of these, Diderot had compiled an encyclopaedia to enlighten his people in the several avenues of knowledge. He wanted to dispel their poverty of thought and thus to rouse them effectively to their real situation. But the volumes of the encyclopaedia were proscribed by the then Bourbonne despot of France, to whom the awakening and the enlightenment of his subjects was unwelcome. Diderot being deprived of his source of maintenance was reduced to destitution and misery. But by this time his fame had reached the other end of the Continent. The Tsarina of Russia appreciated his talents and invited Diderot to her court with a view to patronize him. Diderot, however, humbly refused to accept her invitation and wrote to her in reply: "Poor as I am,

I am born in this country and I shall die for this country." And one cannot help thinking that the conditions which prevailed in France prior to the Revolution in the field of patriotic literature are likely to make their appearance in one form or other, in India!

It will not, therefore, be out of place to take a review of the national songs of India which form part of our patriotic literature. It is, of course, not within the scope of this article to take a minute or searching retrospect of the patriotic poetry of Bengal. In the present article a few but celebrated poets will be alluded to, and this will be sufficient to convey to the readers the general tone of the patriotic poetry of Bengal.

"Bande Mataram", a Bengalee song is now recognised as the national song of India. But the author of this song, Babu Bankim Chandra Chatterji, cannot be called a poet. He was essentially a novelist. It was in one of his novels that this song appeared. But subsequently it gained such a wonderful hold on the public mind that it is today sung as a national song not only in India but in every part of the globe where an Indian heart is breathing and is leaping up with an ardent love for the mother country.

Rabindranath Tagore, "The Poet-Laureate of Asia" needs no introduction. He has composed a number of illustrious songs of freedom. A champion of universal brotherhood, he was nevertheless a patriot poet of a high order. To him the liberation of this country was an essential pre-requisite for the realization of that lofty ideal of world-fraternity. And this is amply justified by his beautiful songs. For instance in his song "Nawa Watsarer Pana" (New Year's vow), the poet strikes a distinct note of patriotic emotion, when he says: "O India, I will sit at thy feet. I will give up the apparel and the ornaments and the eatables of others", meaning thereby that he will not use foreign material of any sort. Further he says, "I may become indigent but I will

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never degrade myself. I will refuse to have alms at their hands." His song "Jana-Gana-Mana" or "The Morning Song of India" has now become very popular throughout India. He harmonizes national spirit with an international outlook and one cannot but appreciate the great poet's keen insight when he says in this song, "Day and night thy voice goes out from land to land calling the Hindus, Buddhists, Sikhs and Jains round thy throne, and the Parsis, Mussalmans and the Christians. The East and West join hands in their prayer to thee, and the garland of love is woven." "Ayi Bhuwan-Mano-Mohini" (My Charming Motherland) is a beautiful song of Tagore. Imaginative grace, and nobility of thought and expression are the characteristic features of this song. It is an excellent patriotic song remarkable by the poet's broad vision. The poet says: "O thou, who art the world's delight: Everlasting is thy renown who feed'st the world and feed'st thy own: The Jumna and the Ganges Sweet, carry thy mercy day and night."

Dwijendralal Roy is a great Bengalee writer of substantial literary merit. He has composed several patriotic songs, which have been translated into English by Aurobindo Ghosh and B. C. Muzumdar. But the charm of the original songs is peculiarly their own; and hence to realize it one has to read the original Bengalee songs. An atmosphere of profound serenity and sublimity pervades his songs. For instance his songs "Amar (my) Desh" and "Amar (my) Janmabhumi" are in no way inferior to the songs of Rabindra Babu, in respect of the vivid delineation of the natural beauty and greatness of this land and the charm of poetic expression. In depth of feeling and picturesqueness of style, the songs of D. L. Roy rank perhaps only next to those of Tagore. In his illustrious song: "My Motherland" which is translated into English by B. C. Muzumdar from the original Bengalee "Amar Desh," the poet says that the blood of our glorious ancestors like Ramachandra and Pratapaditya is flowing in our veins. Blessed is the country where such heroes were born and so blessed are we too because some drops of blood of theirs we still can claim.

Men are we and not mere sheep. His another song: "Amar Janmabhumi" ends with the following brilliant line: "We are born in this country and so we shall die for this country." Are we not here strikingly put in mind of the words of Diderot already referred to?

Swami Vivekananda, the saint of Bengal of world-wide fame, has composed the song "To The Awakened India". With his essentially spiritual insight he opens his song with these words: "Once more awake! For sleep it was, not death, to bring thee life anew, and rest to lotus eyes." The saint's confidence in the regeneration of this land is firm and so he says that though her (India's) home is gone where loving hearts had brought her up and watched her growth with joy, yet Fate is strong and all things are sure to come back.

Atul Prasad Sen is another reputed patriot poet of Bengal. "Utho (go)! Bharata-Lakmi" (Awake O! Goddess of Ind) is his masterpiece. In it he compares India with a boat without a helmsman, and the countrymen with pilgrims. But at the touch of the fearless feet of the goddess, the boat will sail in renewed joy to her auspicious destination. The poet implores her to put an end to pain and poverty and degradation of Bharat, to destroy hatred and violence and fill it with the humming of the bees of love, to wipe out the heaps of sin and once more to make India pure and holy with the fire of her austerities.

"Swadesher Dhuli" (Dust in my country) is a song by Satyendra Datta. Our motherland's plight is like that of Dewaki who was confined in the prison-house of Kamsa. She is groaning under the load of a stone on her breast and iron-chains on her feet. But the poet hopes that from the ashes of our forefathers will rise those who will restore to her the ancient glory.

Sarojini Naidu and Saraladevi Chaudharani are great patriot poetesses of Bengal. "Mother", "Eternal India", "Awake" are some of the excellent songs of Sarojini Devi. The message of awakening and regeneration of this country is the keynote of her songs.

Saraladevi Chaudharani in her inspiring chorus song: "Hail! Hindusthan!" recalls the ancient glory of this country and makes a stirring appeal to the inhabitants of Hindusthan to live peacefully together in joy and sorrow and to devote body, mind and life to the cause of the Motherland, to be single-hearted in the achievement of their goal, to uplift the flag of Energy as high and to sound the bugle of duty.

Veerendranath Chattopadhyaya's "To Hindusthan", Satyendra Nath Tagore's "Sons of India" are other instances of patriotic songs, admirable alike for thought and expression.

It is hoped that this effort to present in a nutshell the general nature of the patriotic songs of Modern Bengal, will create curiosity among the readers to study and appreciate the original songs. Those readers whose mother-tongue is not Bengali or who have not studied the language, but have some knowledge of Sanskrit will not find much difficulty in understanding the gist of Bengali songs. Many of the Bengali songs have been translated into English and these translations will be helpful for a clear understanding of the sense of the original. Once there is such an understanding, the original will never cease to exercise its sublime fascination.



BRITISH MOUNTED HOME GUARD

Members of a Mounted Home Guard Corps are now patrolling Dartmoor, that wild and beautiful tract of country in South Devonshire. All these men—not forgetting their one woman despatch rider—were born and bred in the local villages and know every one of the secret caves and coppices with which this eighty thousand acres of moorland abounds. The Guards are extremely difficult to locate on their native moors since they are masters of the art of camouflage, and wear a specially selected shade of khaki uniform which blends almost exactly with their surroundings. At anything over a hundred yards they are almost invisible.

JAPAN'S WAR RESOURCES

By MR. KANWAR JOGENDRA SINGH, M.A., LL.B., F.R.Econ.S.

[This article should serve as a warning to those in India who take a somewhat complacent attitude towards India's War efforts.—Ed. I.R.]

THOUGH foreign trade, production and warehousing figures are no longer published yet reliable observers point out that of all major countries Japan is, in relation to its economic capacity and eventual war requirements, the best stocked. As any further miscalculation of Japan's war resources would be fatal to the cause of Allied Nations, it is worth while at this stage to have an idea of the vast resources which feed the war-machine of our enemy.

Within a period of a little more than two generations, Japan emerged from the position of the Hermit Kingdom to one of highest distinction as a military and naval power. Long before the beginning of the present war the strengthening of State control over every phase of the nation's life—industrial, financial, agricultural, commercial, political and social—featured the efforts towards economic organisation. During 1941, the third Konoye Government devoted its supreme economic and financial effort to the accumulation of the unprecedented reserve stocks demanded by Japan's fighting forces. The accumulation of large stocks of war supplies was accomplished first through the systematic economising of war material originally earmarked for use in the China war and secondly by the continued tightening up of Japan's foreign trade and foreign exchange controls with a view to eliminating the last non-war imports and at the same time reducing exports to the minimum level required by foreign exchange needs. The increase in stocks was achieved thirdly by the further curtailment of civilian consumption all along the line. During recent years the principal imports from the United States to Japan (in 1939) were raw cotton, scrap iron, machinery, petroleum products, and copper. In view of reduced domestic consumption, Japan's copper production is proving sufficient to meet the combined demands of the munitions and the electric power industry which is expanding rapidly in the Japanese Empire

and Manchukuo. The machinery industry has also grown enormously so that the value of exports of machinery from Japan exceeded the value of imports in 1936 and 1939. The rapid drop in exports of steel materials and automobiles and parts from the United States to Japan since 1937 is an indication of the development of the industrial capacity in Japan to meet these needs. The United States' exports of scrap iron, pig iron, steel ingots and semi-finished steel materials dropped from more than 800,000 tons in 1937 to just over 100,000 tons in 1939 as Japan and Manchukuo initiated a programme of developing their own supplies for both war purposes and industrial expansion. A temporary rise in scrap imports from the United States during 1939 was due to the fact that Japan was building up stock piles in anticipation of a possible embargo. By means of technological developments Japan is very definitely economising in the use of scrap iron in the steel industry. A large scale economy drive in 1940 enabled Japan to meet the sharp decline in the volume of scrap iron imports. Throughout the year the iron and steel industry was subjected to intensified official regulations and control, with the object of obtaining maximum efficiency from the limited supplies of raw materials available. The Government ordered a reduction in the quantity of scrap for consumption in flat furnaces from 47 per cent. to 42 per cent. in order to conserve existing stocks. During 1941 various efforts were made to operate efficiently on reduced scrap rations.

Since the beginning of Sino-Japanese war, the bulk of the oil used by the Japanese war machine in blasting its way through the Chinese armies came from democratic sources. The U. S. A. alone supplied something like 60 per cent. of Japan's oil requirements, the other suppliers being Netherlands Indies and Mexico. United States' exports to Japan

rose steadily for a number of years to a peak of about 31,200,000 barrels in 1938 and due to export restrictions declined to 23,000,000 barrels in 1940. The deficiency was made good by increased imports from Netherlands Indies which amounted 550,000 tons—say 3,500,000 barrels—as against 350,000 tons in 1939. According to the official trade returns Mexico exported to Japan about 764,000 barrels of crude oil in 1940 compared with 175,000 barrels in 1939. All these huge supplies have gone to swell the oil reserves of Japan, and it is estimated that these reserves are large enough to cover Japanese war requirements for a considerable period. A prominent member of the Roosevelt Administration recently suggested that Japan's oil reserves might suffice to wage a two years' war. Though the results of Japan's self-sufficiency policy have been deliberately shrouded in mystery, the crude oil production is believed to have made a good progress in recent years.

It is, therefore, clear that Japan's resources are quite sufficient for continuing the war which she started so successfully in December 1941. Japan anticipated a war with democracies and had been accumulating large stocks of raw materials by importing much more than her current needs, even allowing for the requirements of the force in China. As a correspondent of the *Economist* pointed in September, 1941, in addition to supplies of scrap iron and oil both the Japanese Army and Navy today hold in Japan proper, Korea, Manchuria and Japanese occupied China unusually large stocks not only of arms, munitions and other military and naval equipment, but also of raw materials and fuel. Such stocks include large quantities of iron ore, coal, fuel oil, gasoline, lubricants, rubber, non-ferrous metals, rice, clothing material and leather. Many private industries essential for war have been induced to hold large stocks of this sort in reserve for a sudden emergency and instructed not to touch them for current consumption. In the sphere of trade policy, Japan has sought to establish a regular supply of war materials. The commercial agreement concluded with Indo-China in May, 1941 afforded an indication of the type of

economic relationship which Japan would establish with areas entering even partially into its projected "co-prosperity sphere". Under the agreement Indo-China would send Japan practically its entire supplies of rice and would be sending at least certain specified quantities of the other foods and raw materials produced in the country.

Japanese war finance has also been too often misunderstood and misinterpreted. Japan, it is said, is a country of sudden and disastrous financial panics and consequently her war finance would not be able to withstand the strain of war with great nations, like U. S. A. and Great Britain. Though the vital details of the State Budget are not known the essential facts about Japan's finance are clear enough. Japanese financial structure appears to be as efficient as that of Germany for prosecuting war on a large scale and for a long period. Owing to an expansion of national income and taxable capacity, total authorised expenditures of the Japanese Government have increased from 2,278,000,000 Yen in the fiscal year 1936-37 to 12,874,000,000 in the budget for 1941-42 and are expected to be about 24,000,000,000 during 1942-43. The percentage of national income devoted to military expenditure was estimated at 26 per cent. in 1939 and is believed to have increased slightly to a figure which is, however, still much lower than the corresponding figures of 60 per cent. and 72 per cent. for England and Germany respectively. Apparently, the Japanese national income provides a higher margin over subsistence than does the national income of Germany and England and it is, therefore, reasonable to expect that Japan could spend a high percentage of its national income on war effort. At present much reliance has been placed on bond issues for financing the war equipments. Rigid controls have been enforced to marshal all capital funds, public and private, for use in ways deemed important to the national interest. The technique of war financing employed by Germany in Europe will, in all probability be used by Japan in occupied territories and consequently the position or her wartime finances will be greatly strengthened.

Magadha: Architecture and Culture

By PROF. K. A. NILAKANTA SASTRI, M.A.

THE most abiding expression of the spirit of a nation is to be found in its architectural forms. The temple and the palace, the stupa, vihara and matha, the lay out of the town and village in relation to these, represented the fruits of centuries of endeavour to meet felt needs with the resources and in the conditions obtaining in each region. The fauna and the flora of the surrounding country, the myth and legend as well as the occurrences of history were blended by the creative imagination of the sculptor and painter into numerous decorative patterns which at once surprise and please the observer by their boldness of conception and refined skill of execution sometimes with apparently very inadequate means. This priceless art tradition still lives though not in the files of government offices and though only in a condition enfeebled by steadily increasing neglect and discouragement. In this sphere, as in several others of our national life, a timely, well directed and sustained effort is required before the spirit of native creativity is recaptured and applied to the altered needs of the present day. Sri Chandra Chatterjee,* an architect of wide experience, has set to himself the task of showing his countrymen how this may be done; he has done it with conspicuous merit and deserves to be congratulated on the measure of success that has attended his effort.

In his works on Indian Art and Architecture, Havell drew pointed attention not only to the splendid achievements of past generations of Indian architects and craftsmen, but to the living tradition of master builders which was being steadily pushed out by the rapid extension of the ugly dominion of P. W. D. architecture. And the efforts he made in company with several others to get the Government of India to employ Indian talent in the planning and construction of New Delhi failed utterly, and the only Indian 'features' in the architecture of New Delhi are a

few chajjas, chatris, and lattice windows, all the rest of it being thoroughly outlandish in conception.

To this day the Indian craftsman continues to be an artist, rebels against being a slave to the detailed drawings and specifications evolved by the modern architect sitting in his office, detached from materials, workmen and site, and carrying his buildings to completion upon paper before even the first sod is turned. The Kailasa temple and the Taj were not built that way. Even now a master builder can be got to produce very pleasing results if he is left free to make his own designs after being given simple specifications regarding accommodation and arrangement.

In his *Magadha: Architecture and Culture*, Sri Chandra Chatterjee has explained how the religious belief of the people of Magadha and their social demands jointly influenced their town planning and architectural designs in the past, and created the wonders of Rajagriha, Nalanda and Pataliputra; and how, in spite of the adverse conditions now prevailing, it is still possible and necessary to revive the old association between the daily life of the people and their art. The exposition of his thesis is simple, clear and convincing. Not only does he comment illuminatingly on leading examples of past achievement, but he illustrates by concrete modern instances how beautifully the old ideas may be adapted to the satisfaction of the requirements of modern life. Mr. Chatterjee says with good reason: "The indifference of the State, the ignorance of the University and the apathy of the City Corporation to the civic and national value of India's architectural arts and the contempt of so-called 'qualified architects' for the traditional architecture and its exponents, are the main factors to which the destruction of Indian Architecture is unquestionably attributable." He appeals to universities and municipalities to join hands in saving Indian Architecture from threatened extinction, and re-establishing the cultural freedom of the country on its proper foundation.

* MAGADHA: ARCHITECTURE AND CULTURE. By Sri Chandra Chatterjee, C.M., University of Calcutta. Pages xxviii + 112. Plates 30 comprising 46 figures.

RECENT CONVOCATION ADDRESSES

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[This is the season of University Convocations and we have had a number of addresses delivered by distinguished persons at various University centres in India during the last two months. Being in the nature of a general exhortation to the students about to enter life, they contain valuable advice to the young, couched more or less on the same lines. But different speakers emphasise different aspects of Education and an attempt is made in the following pages to record their impressions.—ED. I.R.]

SIR C. V. RAMAN ON "FOREIGN EDUCATION"

I do not wish to be unjust, but I think there is in the mind of many Indians a feeling that Indian universities may be good but not good enough or not quite so good as they ought to be. Before the war as you know, a great many young Indians went abroad, to Great Britain, Germany, France, America and other parts of the world, to study in universities there. Behind all this, there was a kind of abstract feeling that we must send our young men to Oxford, Cambridge or Paris if we want to give them the best. Parents and young men shared that belief. I have been told that, at a rough estimate, something like a crore of rupees was spent annually by students from various parts of India studying in various universities abroad. What a pity! I do not decry the idealism and the thirst for knowledge, so far as these were the motives underlying their going abroad, but one cannot help deploring the state of affairs which made such a thing necessary. If you study the budgets of our universities, you will realise, with the same feeling with which I regard this vast expenditure of money abroad, that even half that amount, Rs. 50 lakhs, would mean a vast addition to the resources in staff, laboratories, libraries and other equipment to our universities here. That being so it is but right, I think, to ask if India is getting the value for the vast outpouring of her money each year? I say it with due deliberation and sense of responsibility, that I hold all that money as literally wasted. I do not for a moment, let me repeat, seek to decry the great universities of Great Britain and other countries. But, what we are concerned with now is this: Do Indian students really benefit by going to that environment to the extent they think they do, and can they not do just as well and even better still by staying here if all

the money were used here? To that question, there can be only one answer.

Believe me, graduates and Senators, I say with a due sense of responsibility, that no country in the world and no people should continue to believe that their own teachers, their own institutions, their own scientific Chairs and Academies are inferior to those of other countries. Can we ever hope to see anything achieved unless we shed this complex? If we want our institutions to be great and rise to eminence, we must lay aside such beliefs and refuse to accept the proposition that Calcutta, Madras or Allahabad is inferior to Oxford or Cambridge or any other university in the world. (*Loud cheers.*) I will go further, as a teacher pleading for understanding, I am prepared to quote any number of examples to show that Indians who have stayed here and worked at our universities and used the opportunities present here, have done infinitely better and shown more real originality than many of those who went abroad. I do not say that a few who did go abroad have not really benefited; but, I do maintain that if they had stayed here, they would have benefited more, certainly not less. I feel strongly that it is up to you and every one interested in the future of Indian education to try and make our institutions—I include here the Universities and everything connected with the advancement of learning—the very best in the world. . . .

The moment we believe that the right thing to do is to send our young men abroad, we come to believe also that the right thing is to have men with foreign degrees as teachers, professors, and for other places. It is a vicious circle. I should, therefore, put it before my young friends that their aim must be to reach the highest in the field of scholarship and learning by remaining and studying in Indian Universities, and I am sure they can achieve their ambition.

—Madras University, November 26.

JANUARY 1943]

RECENT CONVOCATION ADDRESSES

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H. H. THE MAHARANI OF TRAVANCORE
ON "THE CULTURE OF INDIA"

The culture of India was, by no means, one of quiescence or passivity. Referring solely to historic times, when India counted for a great deal in the world, when, for instance, the Mouryas and Nandas, the Cholas, Pandyas, and Cheras as well as the Vijayanagar and several Andhra dynasties made their mark on the history of the world, our land was noted for achievements both in war and peace. Nevertheless, the special characteristics of our life in the past may best be described as the maintenance of *Dharma* and the pursuit of simplicity in life combined with many-sided culture. During the last few years, our contacts with the later developments of European civilisation have, however, produced a state of disequilibrium. False social values were created by the rise of what has been described as a "white collar" or clerical class who, though useful to a limited degree, tended to occupy the front stage in life. An employee in a Government office or a member of one of the professional classes was regarded with a special respect whereas a great musician, a fine sculptor or a skilled artisan was treated with much less regard. This is bound, amongst other things, to produce a revolutionary change in such an outlook. The technician, the scientist and the research worker are rapidly coming to their own although the world has been too chaotic and events have been too catastrophic for a due recognition of the place of the artist in the scheme of things. Mechanical inventions are giving us a larger command over the resources of nature and the capacity to produce wealth. But have they helped to add to the peace and happiness of mankind? Are we receding or progressing? Are we becoming less civilized or more? Is it not true that even our leisure has become as mechanised as our labour so that we are passively amused by mechanical devices which, in the language of Aldous Huxley, condemn us to frustration? Such are some of the inescapable questions facing us.

The future opens up a vista of infinite possibilities, and we are noticing

all around us and even in the midst of the prevailing turmoil the results of what can be done by courageous enthusiasm and nation-wide effort. The chronicle of what is being achieved in the Chinese Universities is one of epic grandeur. Assailed from the air and on land, the apparatus and even the furniture of the Universities were bodily shifted and taken from place to place by students and teachers alike so that even in the midst of the clash of arms and the assaults of the dive bomber and the machine-gun, the boys and girls of China were not deprived of the mental and spiritual training which was their due.

Self-reliance and self-dependence are amongst our foremost requisites. If nothing else has been done by this war, it has at least brought home to us the importance and possibility of substitutes for everything, the need to improvise and to get on with whatever may be available and make the utmost use of it. The transportation of huge factories across a whole continent and their reconstruction is not only an instance of the rapid assimilation of scientific knowledge by the Russians but is evidence of a creative skill brought to being by the hammer-strokes of Fate. The Universities in future should be universal in the sense of being able to create not only pervasive ideas but also the apparatus and the environment amidst which such ideas may germinate. The future will be for those who make things side by side with originating new thoughts and new visions of beauty.

All Universities, therefore, bear special responsibilities. Physical education has to be their first care so that in the fashioning of the future the coming generation may not be handicapped by weakness, bodily or mental. Discipline in action accompanying freedom of thought and speculation will be their next care, and, finally, the fostering of aesthetic and spiritual development which is the foundation and the *sine qua non* of that poise and harmony without which enduring work will not emerge.

—Andhra University, December 12.

SIR MIRZA ISMAIL ON "THE UNITY OF INDIA"

Unity—how blessed is that word and that idea, so inspiring, so profoundly necessary to us in India, and so very hard to attain! If there is any real message that I have for you, especially to the young men with whom our future rests, it is just this that, throughout this country, we must not, in any sense whatever, be separate: ours must be the virtue, ours the power and glory, of a single nationhood. There are those who, looking far, too far, ahead despise talk of nationalism, conceiving that the only worthy citizenship henceforward is citizenship of the world. There are others whose view is precisely opposite, who prefer to think that India is not, and cannot be, one nation, and that a permanent conflict of interests exists, which makes impossible any singleness of consciousness and constitution. To me, India, one Nation, is a most inspiring thought and a most reasonable one. I see, too, all round the growth of this consciousness. This is the land of all of us, to whatever race or creed we may belong.

We all know well how serious are the discrepancies and conflicts of tradition and mode of life and thought, and, perhaps most serious, of economic interest; but it is our absolute duty to forge all this diversity into a single comprehensive state, within which there shall be absolute liberty for each composing element, and absolute justice, and confidence of justice, between them. It is not beyond our power. It is too great, too fine a thing to be impossible. We must be men of faith, faith in India's destiny, and then no mountain of difficulty can fail to be removed. Nationality, then, is by no means too broad an ideal for us to-day. Nor is it too narrow an ideal. Did you ever hear of any cosmopolitan, anyone whose country is the world, who was of any value to the world? My country first, from which my life has sprung, whose people are my people, whose very soil is dear. He who has no country is nothing: the sap of life cannot flow into him, he must live on thin intellectual sunlight. . . .

I am sure that he who most deeply and wisely loves his own country is the very man who will most deeply care for the well-being of mankind. Just as he who, as a child at home, has truly loved his parents and his brothers, becomes thus so rich and true in love that in the world he will care for his brethren, so love of our own people will teach us a wider charity and service far better than any vague, theoretic idealism can. As Harry Emerson Fosdick has said: "No other nation can mean to us what our nation means. Here are the roots of our heritage, and here our central loyalties belong. But because we feel so deeply about our own land, we understand how other people feel about their lands, and using our patriotism to interpret theirs, we grow, not in bitterness but in understanding and sympathy."

—Patna University, November 27.

If only India can achieve unity! And why not? In unity alone there is freedom and in freedom alone lies real life and happiness.

Anything that a thoughtful and serious man can do, whatever his profession or vocation, to create a feeling of oneness in the country, is probably the most worth while thing that he can be doing. The educationist can achieve a great deal by upholding the idea of unity and in moulding the younger generation to a way of life which will lead to the solution of conflicts and the growth of a new and broader outlook. Both inclination and reason place me among the optimists. I believe the future will be better than the past. The destiny of India is unity. Geography, time and common dangers and interests work towards its integration. Indian rivers, rise, fall and flow without reference to provincial and State boundaries. Every instrument that science forges from telephone to television, jumps frontiers. People cannot be left in compartments in the world of Today, much less in the world of Tomorrow. The eternal business of living must go on.

—Dacca University, December 2,

H. H. THE MAHARAJA OF TRAVANCORE ON
"A COMPLETE EDUCATION"

Not a little of the general distress which has overwhelmed the world is due to the disproportionate importance attached to one-sided scientific and technical training. The world cannot do without such training and indeed for us, in India, who have been lagging behind in the race and who, by nature, are predisposed to contemplation rather than to action, the lessons of the laboratory, of the workshops and the polytechnic have to be learnt without delay. The claims of pure and applied science cannot be denied and the Engineer, the Physicist and the Chemist as well as the Doctor and the public health specialist will be amongst the indispensable elements of the future, but the Annamalai University is amongst those institutions which, without ignoring such claims, also stress the importance of an all-round reconstruction of education, holding that every system should combine with technique and with science the teaching of an appreciation of harmony and beauty not only in art but in daily life and ideals—a knowledge in other words, of the things that are more excellent.

Rightly viewed, there is and should be no antithesis between a technical and a liberal education. No such antithesis was envisaged in any Eastern scheme of studies or even by the European scholars, artists and scientists of the middle ages or later by Bacon and Newton. A complete education, as Milton declares, fits a man to perform justly, skilfully and magnanimously all the offices, both private and public, of peace and war. The ignoring of these aspects has, perhaps, led to the catastrophes that are evident around us. Accumulated and perverted scientific knowledge and the strict regimentation of the human intellect applied not only to the armies in the field but to the armies in the class rooms and workshops have proved futile and indeed, dangerous because tolerance and fair play and the spiritual aspects of human life cannot safely be ignored.

—Annamalai University, December 9.

SIR C. R. REDDY ON "INDIA'S ROLE IN
POST-WAR WORLD"

India should realise that in this war, issues far transcending nationalism and imperialism are involved and by promoting proper world order which cannot be done unless the Allies win, we shall stand a chance not merely of our independence being secured, but of there being an order wherein regulated or limited independence we shall have especially assured, and there will be guaranteed peace and safety. An independence which is threatened by aggressors every day is not worth having. What we must have is an insurance, and that insurance is a global order, which, I think, is being evolved. . . .

India's duty is clear. Apart from politics, we must support the Allies in this war, because individual problems are not going to be decided according to the pretensions and claims of individuals, but as parts of a big global order, and if that global order is secured, then claims and privileges, whereto individual nations and races can legitimately aspire, will also be secured.

—Travancore University, November 5.

SIR RADHAKRISHNAN ON "INDIA'S RIGHT
TO INDEPENDENCE"

India has a message for the whole world. Her treasures of spiritual wisdom are for the healing of nations. Many are struck with amazement that a nation so great, spiritually, morally, materially, once upon a time, has come down to its present low position. The recent past of our country is an age of decadence and shaken nerves. A nation that has produced such culture and such men for centuries has a right to Independence, to shape her own future in keeping with her great past. If India wants freedom, it is for enabling her to teach the world lessons of moral perfection and love. It is impossible for those who have not experienced foreign rule to realise how deadening it is to the soul of the country. Freedom is something deep and elemental. Speeches like those of the Prime Minister about there being in this country a White army, larger than at any time in the British connection, and that he is,

therefore, entitled to report to the House that the situation in India at this moment gives no occasion for undue despondence or alarm, are highly provocative. They burn into the Indian soul deep resentment and bitterness.

To preserve order was the primary duty of every Government, but it did not stop there. There was another obligation on the Governments to base their rule on the consent and goodwill of the governed. It was the duty of a Government, not only to maintain law and order, but to create conditions which made for law and order. We need a programme more positive than repression, which is not an aid to civil peace or war effort. The Secretary of State said: "Indian nationalism, the desire to see India's destiny directed by Indian hands free from external control, is not confined to any one party in India. It is shared by all. To that aim we in this country have solemnly pledged ourselves before India and before the world. In the name of His Majesty's Government, I repeat that pledge to-day." But when the fulfilment of this pledge is put aside to some future date in the name of war, doubts arise.

We are glad that the course of the war has changed for the better and we hope very much that it will end in 1948 with the victory of the Allies. But if we have to win it on the moral plane also, where we have the power, equality and freedom must be established. In fighting for our rightful place in the commonwealth of nations, we should not sacrifice our inner wealth of spirit, the inexhaustible richness of human sensibility. If we give up the traditional courtesy of this ancient race, if we fail in love and forgiveness, the soul of India will have departed from this stand. Nothing is lost if the spirit lives. This world plunged into darkness will wake up to the truth and come to its senses. Daylight shall yet return, for time is boundless, and the world is wide.

India never stood for national and cultural isolation. Her spiritual heights rest on a basis that embraces all humanity. Wherever men love reason, shun darkness, turn towards light, praise

virtue, despise meanness, hate vulgarity, kindle sheer beauty, wherever minds are sensitive, hearts generous, spirits free, there is your country. Let us adopt that loyalty to humanity instead of a sectional devotion to one part of the human race.

—Benares University, November 29.

THE HON'BLE MR. N. R. SARKAR
ON "EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION"

People who do not believe in education under circumstances, militarists and others whose vision does not extend beyond the immediate job on hand, must naturally deprecate the expenditure of public money on objects which they regard as of doubtful value and of no assistance whatever to the war effort. Small wonder that such people cannot help casting covetous eyes on educational buildings and staffs for war purposes. The former are suitable for hospitals, offices, barracks, A. R. P. posts and so on and to the people in question nothing seems easier than to requisition educational buildings as a short-cut solution of the difficulties in finding suitable accommodation.

Such a tendency displayed itself in Great Britain both immediately before and after the outbreak of war, but had been resolutely resisted, and it is now agreed that educational buildings should only be requisitioned under circumstances of extreme urgency. With war at our very door, we must be on our guard against a similar tendency raising its head in India, but I sincerely hope that the lessons learnt by Britain in this matter will not be lost upon us.

—Agra University, November 14.

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.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

THE HANDLOOM INDUSTRY IN SOUTH INDIA.

By K. S. Venkataraman. (Bulletin of the Department of Indian Economics) Madras University. Rs. 3.

The subject of handloom weaving has now assumed some importance for a number of reasons. The great interest which the Provincial Governments have been taking in this matter, as well as the work of the Congress and the All-India Village Industries Association reveals the general recognition of the importance of the handloom industry from the point of view of providing employment. With the striking reduction of cotton textile imports and their replacement by internal mill production in the last decade, a stage has now been reached when in the absence of a growing export market the cotton mill industry can progress only at the expense of the handloom. The recent appointment of the Handloom Fact-Finding Committee by the Government of India to investigate into the conditions of the industry shows that the competition between the mills and handlooms, which has become serious, is not a matter for un-co-ordinated action by the Provincial Governments but one for regulation on an All-India basis by the Central Government. A number of suggestions have been made for resolving the difficulty which has arisen over the conflicting claims of the handloom and mill industries, such as the imposition of excise duty on mill-made cloth, the levy of terminal tax on mill products, allocation of spheres of production by classes or counts of cloth, reduction of duty on yarn, etc. The findings of the Investigating Committee are in the meanwhile awaited for formulating right policy.

The real problem of the handloom industry is the conflict between more productive machine production and direct handloom production, in which the latter has been able to survive only at great human cost, i.e., the reduction of wages for labour under pressure of competition and of the absence of alternative sources of income. The reconciliation seems to lie in combining the advantages of lower production with those of large labour resources by a method which will employ more labour per unit of capital than in Western countries. The author, while almost leaning at one point in the concluding chapter, towards thorough-going collectivisation and socialisation, finally tilts himself in favour of the handicraft cult.

THE GOSPEL FOR TOMORROW. By the Bishop of Truro. (Penguin Special.) Harmondsworth, Middlesex, England.

The learned Bishop within the short compass of ninety pages has given a clear, lucid and elastic interpretation of the Christian religion. Like all religious servants of humanity, he laments the bankruptcy of spirituality in our present civilization. If we are to pull through successfully from the present slough, the Bishop holds that we must be at heart true Christians.

Christianity is not to be mistaken for a series of dogmas. Nor should it be identified with effete and reactionary institutions. Christianity is a progressive religion with an elasticity all its own. The Bishop gives us a liberal, modernist version of Christianity. He believes that the present crisis in civilisation can be tided over only by adopting a genuine Christian view of life. The volume is a valuable addition to the popular Penguin specials. It serves as a good guide book to Christianity to a general reader.

LIFE INSURANCE IN INDIA: Its history, law practice and problems. By R. M. Ray, Ph.D. With a Foreword by Sir Chunilal V. Mehta, K.C.S.I., Published by Allied Publishers Ltd., 15, Graham Road, Ballard Estate, Bombay and Calcutta. Rs. 6-12.

This is a comprehensive study of life insurance, with special reference to problems connected with India. Dr. Ray examines the various types of policies now in use and points out their shortcomings. Apart from dealing with the fundamental principles underlying life insurance, Dr. Ray defines the duties and functions of agents and methods of field organisation. Much valuable information and statistics are gathered in the appendices which must add to the usefulness of the book to those engaged in insurance work. Besides men in the profession, others including journalists and legislators will find the chapter on insurance law particularly valuable. Dr. Ray has produced a valuable *vade-mecum* on the subject.

VAIYAKARANA PARIJATAMU. By V. Ch. Seetharamaswami Sastri, (Pandit, University College of Arts, Waltair). Andhra University Series No. 15. Printed at the Ananda Press, Madras. Rs. 8.

This is the first part of an elaborate commentary on two famous works on Grammar in the Telugu language, namely *Andhra-sabdacintamani* and *Vikritivivekamu*. The date and authorship of the first work are highly controversial points, but Pandit Sastri starts on the basis that Nannaya wrote this work and refers us to one of his previous works for a discussion of this problem. The present work, which is also called *Nannayadhar-vaniyam* and *Sitaramapanditiya Vyakhya*, is primarily concerned with the consolidation and interpretation of the two ancient grammatical works in the light of the early commentary of Ahobakapandita and the author's own studies on the subject.

PRACTICAL NON-VIOLENCE. By K. G. Mushruwala; and **A DISCIPLINE FOR NON-VIOLENCE.** By Richard B. Gregg. Published by J. D. Desai. Navajivan Press, Ahmedabad. As. 6 each.

As Mahatma Gandhi says in his introduction, these two pamphlets should be read together by any student of Non-violence. They present in a closely reasoned and tersely expressed form the essentials of the ideology and practice of Non-violence or Satyagraha as a philosophy of conduct from day to day or a way of life here and now. Violence and Anti-violence or Ideal of Non-violence are easily understood. But Practical Non-violence as an effective agent in regaining lost rights, preserving existing rights, and leading a life of individual and National self-respect requires elaboration. Acts, and deeds are the essence of all life. And for Right Action an ideal Vision, a constructive programme and noble motives are essential and discipline above all: discipline specially through manual work on a communal and organised basis.

BOOKS RECEIVED

INDIA AND FREEDOM. By The Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, M.A., Secretary of State for India. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

PROSPERITY THROUGH INDUSTRY. By Sir M. Visvesvaraya. All-India Manufacturers' Association, Bombay.

THE ASHRAM DIARY, 1943. Published by the Christadasa Ashram, Olive Mount, Coyalmanna P. O., Palghat.

STATISTICAL ABSTRACT FOR BRITISH INDIA from 1930-31 to 1939-40. Manager of Publications, Delhi. Rs. 6-10.

A HISTORY OF COOCH BEHAR. Translated from original Bengali by Sarat Chandra Ghoshal, M.A., B.L. State Press, Cooch Behar.

MODERN POEMS FROM RUSSIA. Translated by Gerard Shelley. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., London.

KADALKADANDA GANDHI. By G. Birla. Translated by A. Subbiah. Lalita & Co., Tennur, Trichinopoly.

B. E. A.: An enquiry into the economic condition of lower middle class persons in service in Baroda City. By D. Ghosh, M.A., and D. S. Gigha, M.A. The Baroda Economic Association, Baroda.

KASHMIR: THE PLAYGROUND OF ASIA. By Sachchidananda Sinha. Ram Narain Lal, 2, Katra Road, Allahabad. Rs. 3-8.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Viceroy's Calcutta Speech

SOMEHOW or other the Viceregal Speech at the Associated Chambers at Calcutta in December is always looked forward to as a pronouncement of some importance. H. E. Lord Linlithgow's speech at the last Session was not disappointing in this sense. The essential geographical unity of India and the need for its preservation are commonplaces of Indian political thought; but in the welter of confusing issues that have cropped up in recent months there is, perhaps, need for emphasizing this truism. Progressive political thought in India must welcome it as a significant, though belated, expression of India's age-long passion for unity. His Excellency did well to plead strongly for Indian unity, which is as important as it ever was in the past, nay, more important, that we should seek to conserve that unity. . . .

This is a clear enough answer to those who have been putting forward the two nation theory.

The Viceroy's reference to the Federation Scheme of the Act of 1935, which unfortunately has had to be suspended, is significant too:

Whatever its imperfections, it would have made an immense contribution to Indian political advance. It would have solved the great bulk of the problems in the constitutional field that we have heard so much of over these last few years. It would have welded together with the consent of all concerned in a common partnership and for common objects of British India and the Indian States. And it would have provided (and that is what I regard as so very important) a Government representative, authoritative, covering the whole or almost the whole of India, composed of persons of the highest standing in this country, able to speak with authority, and with general support, on behalf of this sub-Continent.

It would be well if Congressmen, representatives of Indian States and others interested in preserving the integrity of India would consider these remarks with the attention they deserve. For if the Federation Scheme comes to pass, there will be no more talk of the breaking up of India, of two-nations, of sub-nations, and other fantastic proposals.

But the immediate question is, what does His Excellency propose to do to bring all parties and interests together

and establish that harmonious relationship which will make this unity a reality? The Viceroy's answer is singularly barren of ideas in this respect. He is content to throw all the blame on the parties.

"We are familiar with the suggestion," the Viceroy complains, "that the troubles of India are due to Britain's refusal to part with power. I would say exactly the contrary. These troubles are due to Great Britain's expressed readiness to part with power."

This is rather ungracious to say the least. Beyond vague promises of after-war fulfilment, was ever a definite step taken to implement this transfer of power to popular hands at any time, except the so-called expansion of the Executive Council?

So far no such thing has been done or even attempted, and it is idle to preach a homily on unity without testing the effect of an immediate transfer of substantial power, here and now, to those willing and anxious to share the burden of responsibility.

Cripps wrote in 1940, when he was a Knight-errant of Socialism:

The attitude that is being adopted to-day by the British Government is that they can and will do nothing further until the Hindus and the Moslems settle their differences. This gives the reactionary leaders of the Moslem League the power to prevent the people of India getting self-government almost indefinitely. It is this attitude that the British Government is in fact encouraging whether consciously or unconsciously.

Cripps, in office, has of course a different sermon to preach!

Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan

The sudden and unexpected death of Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, removes from the Indian scene the most outstanding personality in the Punjab since the passing of Sir Fazl-i-Hussain. Though owing formal allegiance to the Moslem League, he was able to hold the scales even among the conflicting parties and interests of the Province. He saw active service in the N.-W. Frontier and in the third Afghan War in 1919; but his contribution to the present war has outstripped even his earlier efforts. He visited the Indian troops in action in various theatres of war and proved to be an unfailing source of encouragement to them.

Mr. Sarker on Control of Food-grains Prices

Addressing the Economic Conference at Lahore, the Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Sarker, Commerce Member of the Government of India, pointed out the practical difficulties in the way of a complete control over the prices of food-grains in India. War-time control must be such as to pave the way for post-war reconstruction. In a predominantly agricultural country like India, said Mr. Sarker, the problem of securing control over the entire supply of food-grains and limiting the demand of each consumer presented very serious difficulties. Apart from this, no scheme of control would succeed without complete and cordial co-operation on the part of the people. This is the crux of the problem which cannot be solved by treating it as merely a problem in economics. He therefore rightly stressed the political aspect of it as is evident from British experience.

War-time controls could not claim 100 per cent. success anywhere, but the degree of success which control measures had achieved in Great Britain was largely due to the fact that there was complete co-operation and identity of views between the Government and the governed, and control was unified in the hands of one single authority. The peculiar political conditions in India and constitutional position of Provinces introduced further complications in the institution of effective control.

In a speech at Bombay, Mr. Sarker dwelt again on the inherent defects of the present Government—lacking complete popular support—to tackle the problem of price control effectively. He shrewdly observed that those countries where price control and supply control had been attempted on a larger scale had their own Government backed by the people. That popular backing is lacking in India.

"Whatever Government decides is carried out," said Mr. Sarker, "it having the sanction of public opinion behind it; we have not got such a backing behind us and that is our handicap. Conscious as they are of their limitations, the Government of India are doing and will continue to do their best to remove the difficulties."

Speaking again at Allahabad quite recently, Mr. Sarker stressed this point:

Only when we are masters in our own house and have the freedom to mould our social and economic future, will it be possible for us to undertake nation-building activities on an adequate scale.

Paper Shortage in India

Enemy occupation of certain paper manufacturing countries and the difficulties of shipping have caused what may be called a wide-spread paper famine in the country. Newspapers and magazines have begun to appear in an attenuated form due to paper rationing. Apart from the prohibitive price of paper in the market, the shortage is so acute that it is scarcely available. Government's commandeering of 90 per cent. of indigenous production is responsible for this situation. While every one will agree that Government have every right to conserve paper for their urgent use in war time, the part played by businessmen and the press, in the same war effort, can not be ignored. The case for the public was put forward by Mr. R. W. Mellor in a resolution adopted by the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Calcutta, drawing attention

to the disproportionate reservation made for Government purposes and the entirely inadequate provision for civilian consumption, in particular for the essential war requirements of commerce and industry, and urging the Government to allow at least 30 per cent. of the mills' total production to be supplied to the general market.

It is certainly reasonable to assume that the shortage of paper should, as far as possible, be shared equally by the Government and by those commercial and industrial firms whose efforts are also vital to the success of the war effort.

In this connection, the assurance given by the Hon. Mr. N. R. Sarker, Commerce Member of the Government of India, that he was doing everything to secure stocks of newsprint from Canada and U. S. A. is heartening. But the greatest security against such shortage is the quickening of home production, and making it self-sufficient.

American Interest in India

In a letter to a friend in Bombay, Mr. Louis Fischer, the American journalist, whose articles on India have created a profound impression abroad as well as at home says:

Americans, even those who know little about India—and they are the vast majority—have an instinctive reaction in favour of an independence movement.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

The Don Front

DISPATCHES from the war zone in Russia state that at some points on the Middle Don Front, the Germans are retreating in panic. "Our troops are continuing to develop their offensive with great success. The enemy is sustaining heavy losses in men and equipment," they said.

The Soviet *Communique* adds:

During December 21, our troops in the area of Stalingrad and on the Central Front continued offensive engagement in the same directions as before.

As we go to Press, we learn that Soviet forces have liquidated a large German force, which had been encircled for several days on the Mid Don front, taking many prisoners according to the *Red Star*.

The Exploits of the 8th Army

The Middle East Joint War *Communique* announced on December 21, that the enemy is continuing his withdrawal. Our forward patrols were in touch with elements of this force in the neighbourhood of Es Sultan.

It is 70 days since the attack by the 8th Army began at El Alamein, and in the days since they have covered over 1,200 miles.

Further east, the work of mine clearing is proceeding continuously. Air activity over the battle area was on a reduced scale, although some Allied fighter-bombers operated against enemy transport on the Sirte-Buerat road.

The President's Envoy for India

Mr. William Phillips has been appointed U. S. Representative in India.

President Roosevelt said that Mr. William Phillips would serve as his personal representative near the Government of India to use diplomatic language. Mr. Phillips would not carry any special plan or formula for solving the Indian problem.

President Roosevelt, announcing the appointment, added that Mr. Phillips would carry on the regular duties of a diplomatic representative abroad. Mr. Phillips will proceed soon to New Delhi where he will assume charge of the American Mission, which was established there in November, 1941, by Mr. Thomas M. Wilson.

Position in the Pacific

The position in the Pacific in December 1942, wears a very different aspect for the Japanese than did that which arose immediately after Pearl Harbour, observes the *Manchester Guardian*. They have gained vast territory as they planned but they have had their naval strength reduced by half.

The American navy has recovered from its fractured limb and moves again in full strength whereas the Japanese resources are not great enough to replace all the lost air-craft carriers, cruisers and destroyers that have been expended during the year on glittering adventures. And the harbours of Singapore, Sourabaya and Manila are static. They can play no part in a sea struggle round the Solomons.

The Japanese grasped the shadow of land conquest and find themselves threatened with the loss of that sea control which is the sole defence of an island power.

Admiral Darlan

Admiral Darlan was shot by an unidentified assassin of 20 years age as he arrived at the office of High Commissariat at Algiers. The assailant, we are told, was waiting in the waiting-room opposite Darlan's study. Three shots were fired. One shot hit Darlan in the mouth and the second hit him in the lungs. These proved fatal.

The assassin was a French man, says the Algiers Radio. He shot the official who attempted to seize him in the leg. Other officials arrived and overpowered the assassin.

The assassin had asked for appointment with Admiral Darlan, and so got the day out of office. Darlan was rushed to the hospital but died without recognising his wife.

Allied Advance into Burma

During the past few days, says an India Command Joint War *Communique*, some of our troops have advanced southwards from the Arakan border into Western Burma, and have occupied the Maungdaw-Butthidaung area, about 60 miles north-north-west of Akyab. The enemy, who had been in occupation of this area since the allied withdrawal from Burma, and had prepared defences, withdrew without offering any opposition.



COLLECTIVE FINES

Collective fines have been imposed on areas where there have been disturbances in India. The idea underlying such fines is that when the Executive have not been able to track down the culprits, the people of the area are in some way assisting them in their nefarious work. Now this cannot always be sustained. There are one or two broad principles which must be borne in mind. The first is, the people of the disturbed area are the worst sufferers and, therefore, are not likely to harbour the miscreants. Secondly, the mischiefmongers are generally strangers to the locality, for a resident of the locality is not likely to betray himself in the same area as he is sure to be recognised by his neighbours. Thirdly, why should the innocent many made to suffer for the crimes of a few? It is true that in times of war, when the normal machinery of the Executive cannot function, the controlling authority should resort to such rough and ready methods. But there is no such situation created as yet in the country. Nobody wants the criminals to escape. Why not then let the ordinary processes of law, which are both effective and comprehensive enough, take their own course in dealing with the miscreants? The levying of such fines seems unfair and unjust.

But the worst of all considerations is in the exemption provided for certain communities as such. Collective fines have been imposed in Bengal, says Dr. Shyam Prasad, "in disregard of the Ordinance itself. Fines have been imposed on Hindus in general irrespective of their guilt". This is discrimination with a vengeance. It will give an incentive to the lawless members of the favoured community to defy the laws in the sure hope of transferring the blame on others. And then it will only lead to interminable misunderstandings and culminate in a communal conflict of which we have had bitter experiences in the past. Surely

we do not want a repetition of communal riots in addition to other troubles of which we have enough. As the *Indian Social Reformer* puts it:

If collective fines are to be levied only on those who participated in the disturbances according to the officials' own showing, the great majority of the population, mainly Hindus, did not participate in them and were only connected with them as victims. Why then penalise all Hindus whether they took part in the trouble as aggressors or not? It is inconceivable that, in the middle of the twentieth century, the British Government want to institute a religious persecution in this country. But, if the orders are maintained in their present form it will be difficult to avoid such a conclusion.

Friends of Britain in India feel and feel profoundly that the policy of collective fines is "a repudiation of the most important of the principles on which British rule was based" and that they "owe a duty to that rule to warn it of the dangerous course it is following".

THE CRISIS IN INDIA

"The one great danger is India. For, the Indian crisis has not been resolved by the arrest of Gandhi, Nehru and Azad. There is a grave risk of further civil strife. If our army there is engaged in dealing with civil disorders, Japan will be tempted to invade," writes *John Bull*, one of the oldest and influential political journals in Britain, commenting on the Indian situation.

Continuing, the journal writes:

Yet if both sides could but see it, there is an easy way out for the British Government and the Indian people. "Let an effort be made to increase the scope of that chiefly Indian Council. Let us try to include Congress and Moslem leaders among its members. Let us try to convince the Indian masses of the truth—that here, right now, they have the opportunity to govern themselves."

In conclusion, the paper says:

Our promise has gone forth that, after the war the Indian people will have Dominion Status. The means already exist by which they can be made to feel that the struggle against Axis aggression is a part of their own struggle for freedom. But it is our duty to make it clear that Self-Rule is theirs for the asking—not in some halcyon paradise, but quickly and definitely.

INDIA AND THE LAST WORLD WAR

In the *Modern Review* Dr. H. C. Mookerjee gives an account of the part played by India in helping Britain in various ways in the last world war of 1914. Of particular interest is his version of India's contributions to war loans and war charities. India's free gift of £100 million was met partly from loans raised in India and partly from additional taxation.

To that end, War Loans were floated in 1917 and 1918. These were planned to attract not only those people who ordinarily invest their savings in Government securities and who generally belong to the higher economic strata, but also members of those other classes who had not up to that time, been in the habit of doing so. While it is quite true that a vigorous campaign for persuading India to invest in these loans was conducted by Provincial and District War Loan Committees, it should not be forgotten that the reasons which prompted patriotic Indians to assist the war financially lay in those feelings of goodwill towards and sympathy with Britain which was fighting organised violence and to which expression had been given by the Indian National Congress and the Muslim League. These sentiments were strengthened by the expectation that India would secure further political advancement by co-operating with Government in ways open to different classes and different sections.

The rank and file of the soldiery and the Labour Corps had necessarily to be drawn from the agricultural population, but the War Loans presented an opportunity not only to the very rich and the well-to-do but also to the members of the upper and lower middle classes.

That they rose to the occasion is proved when we remember that whereas formerly the largest single loan raised by Government in India had never been more than £3 million, the two War Loans of 1917 and 1918 between them realised nearly £75 million.

Still another proof of the desire of India at large to assist the war effort and, incidentally, to show herself worthy of further political advance, is afforded by the fact that whereas the last pre-war loan of £3 million has been distributed among 1,172 investors, the number of investors in the 1917 War Loan was 155,103 while their number for the War Loan of 1918 was 227,706.

A very important matter which has to be mentioned here is that the Post Office Cash Certificates which formed part of these loans and which yielded nearly £10 million were purchased by thousands of the poorer section of the middle classes.

INDIA CAN BE FREE

"India, if she wills it, can be free in the same way and by the same means as Canada, Australia and New Zealand," says Field-Marshal Smuts in the course of an article in the magazine *Life*.

Hitherto it has been the bitter misfortune of India that her peoples or their leaders will not agree to do things. This is their own clear responsibility and nobody else's. Next to winning the war, the emancipation of India without internal disruption, is, perhaps, the greatest prize in the world.

Field-Marshal Smuts discusses the post-war position of colonies and advocates a system of regional grouping of colonies to whatever countries they belong in the same article. The article, which was prompted by Mr. Wendell Willkie's intervention in the discussions about the future of the British Empire, declares:

The old British Empire died at the end of the 19th century. To-day it is the widest system of organised human freedom which has ever existed in human history. The paramount question is, how far the colonies will fit into the new world which will emerge after the war—a world governed in accordance with the terms of the Atlantic Charter and similar international interests, a world of international collaboration as distinct from the old competitive world order. It will be a world where the colonies on strategic routes will become important items in the programme of general security against war, a world of security bases for United Nations, of controlled war materials and of supply of necessary raw materials for the economic needs of the world. It would be unwise to disturb the existing administrative relationship between mother countries and their colonies. The mother countries should remain exclusively responsible for the administration of their colonies, and interference by others should be avoided.

Under Field-Marshal Smuts' plan, isolated colonies belonging to the mother country would be grouped wherever possible into larger units for more efficient administration.

Such a change involving decentralisation as far as the mother country is concerned and centralisation with large powers as far as the colonies are concerned would be a welcome advance in the direction of colonial freedom and responsibility which is the general trend of colonial development.

Field-Marshal Smuts also suggests that the United States, although not a Colonial Power, could be on the Regional Control Council of the West Indies or Africa or elsewhere.

I have no doubt that such partnership of the United States of America in overhead colonial controls would be cordially welcomed as far as the British Commonwealth of Nations is concerned.

THE FUNCTION OF LITERATURE

In the current issue of the *Triveni Quarterly*, Srimati K. Savitri discusses the function of literature with apt illustrations from her own reading. Truly and finely, she says, that while the Vedas and the Upanishads tell us the right path with authority, as in a tone of command, literature proposes like our beloved, to lead us to it with sweet and tender words. The aim of both of them is the same though the means are different.

Nobody can deny that literature, if it is of the best and the truest kind, contains the loftiest ideas and sentiments and has for its ultimate object the cultivation of the reader's mind. It must, of course, gratify his intellectual as well as æsthetic sense. But it does not stop there. By a study of the best literature one is at peace with oneself and the world. It proves a great solace indeed to us in our hour of grief and in our declining years.

The purpose of literature is thus not only to instruct and entertain but to comfort and console.

The true function of literature is not only to entertain us in our happy moments but to be our best comforter when we are down with sorrow. We have seen in our own country the Ramayana proving an invaluable source of help to thousands of people in their hour of trial and tribulation. It has saved them from falling a prey to utter despair and desolation. The poetic excellence and lofty idealism of the Ramayana have for ages captivated the minds of people so much that it has been reproduced in all the languages of the country. It need not be taken from this, however, that it is suggested that apart from the Ramayana and similar immortal works there exists hardly any true literature. Have not these marvellous books survived throughout the ages without losing anything of their freshness and vitality? And can we ever conceive of a world without them?

It is interesting also to make a study of the changes that literature has undergone from age to age.

In the past it was always the tale with a high moral. Then the age of romance and tales of heroic deeds captured the fancy of the poets and writers of fiction. It again gave place to a new outlook which made writers take to commonplace subjects. It induced them to paint the ordinary human life, its strength as well as its weakness. The sorrows and sufferings of the poor and the low moved these great souls to their very depths

and they wrote with hearts bleeding for those afflicted beings. Temptations and severe mental conflicts were closely analysed and delineated with such sympathy and imagination as made their works live for ever. Indeed, the story of Hamlet would be like any ordinary story of murder and revenge if it were not for Hamlet and the terrible conflict of his soul for taking the life of his father's murderer. What else but the wonderful fidelity of Shakespeare to nature could have made the readers exclaim in wondrous rapture that nature herself took the pen from his hand and wrote for him? In the same way it is said of Valmiki, Kalidasa and other great poets that they were blessed with the divine vision, which was alone responsible for their imperishable works.

It is not difficult for us to know at once the master-mind when it deals with the frail human being with ordinary human weaknesses and his redeeming qualities as well.

INDIA AND SOVIET UNION

The gallant resistance put up by the Soviet forces against the German advance in Russia has been described as an Epic struggle. Indeed, in defending her own territory, the Soviet Union is playing a decisive part in the allied cause. India, with the rest of the world, has been thrilled by the dauntless bravery of the Russian soldier and the remarkable spirit of endurance and tenacity displayed by the Russian people. There is a feeling that India has much to learn from Russia, not only in the way of defence but in many other ways as well. It is, therefore, imperative that more intimate contact should be established between the two countries. In this sense, the *Soviet Union News*, specially devoted to things Russian and printed at Delhi, the capital of India, is a welcome publication. The first Number which is before us contains extracts from leading Soviet newspapers like the *Pravda* and the *Izvestia* and first-hand information on different features of Russian culture and life. They throw interesting side-light on the politics and personalities of modern Russia. We have pictures of prominent Russian leaders of the day in a special art supplement attached to the journal. An attempt is made in a separate section to teach the readers the Russian script by publishing extracts in Russian and English side by side.

EIRE IN WAR TIME

Mr. R. M. Fox, writing in the *Aryan Path* for November, points out the difficult position in which Eire has been placed in respect of the present war. Eire's insistence on neutrality has resulted in all kinds of attacks and misconceptions.

From one section of the British press, the reader may gather that Ireland is a sort of under-cover ally of Nazi Germany. It is necessary then to get some kind of objective analysis of the Irish situation.

For convenience we can separate the essential factors into the contemporary and the historical, although in practice there is no such separation. The historical influences are, in fact, just those ways of thinking which have made it impossible for Eire to preserve her national unity and take part in the war.

These historical influences are not just a matter of brooding over old wrongs or ancient enmities. They form part of the living present.

For generations Ireland was engaged in the struggle for independence—an independence substantially won with the establishment of the Irish Free State in 1922. But even then the separation of the Six Counties from the rest of Ireland left an unhealed wound. The London Treaty was not so much negotiated as imposed, and a civil war resulted for which Britain was blamed. Like all countries whose independence is of recent attainment, Eire is sensitive about her national status. Allied to this is the fact that, in pre-independence days, anti-British slogans entered deeply into the consciousness of the people, who were brought up on such sayings as "England's difficulty is Ireland's opportunity."

To-day these sayings have no meaning. But there is always a time lag and opinion is still coloured by them. What is surprising is that the section influenced by such prejudices remains so insignificant.

This intransigent element claims that Irish independence is not yet won and uses the border issue as a means of fomenting discontent. The group in question is not numerically strong but potentially it might be a great source of national weakness if it could draw discontented people into its orbit with familiar slogans. Those who remember the pre-war bomb campaign in Britain will not under-rate the disruptive powers of the physical-force group, which regards Mr. de Valera and his Government as its

greatest enemy and would lend itself to any anti-British activities.

Faced with that situation, Mr. de Valera has proclaimed Eire's neutrality. Any other line—even if he had wished to take it—would have split Ireland into warring fragments and put a powerful lever into the hands of his enemies at home. The wisdom of such a stand is evidenced by the support Mr. de Valera has received from practically every responsible section of the community including those who are bitterly anti-Nazi and who realise that a Nazi triumph would mean the end of Irish independence. The gain to the Allied cause, they feel, would not be compensated by the dangers of civil war and commotion which a declaration of solidarity with Britain would involve. Such a split in Ireland might even do great harm to the cause which they would like to assist.

It must be remembered too that when Mr. de Valera talks about being neutral, he means just that. Long before hostilities began, he announced that he would never permit Eire to be made a base for any hostile activities against Britain. Reports to the contrary, which have appeared in papers catering to sensation, are untrue and have the harmful effect of injuring the friendly relations between Ireland and Britain.

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DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- Dec. 1. Debate in the House of Commons on British post-war plans.
—Sir William Beveridge's plan for social security is published.
- Dec. 2. Russians advance along the Don.
—Artillery duel near El Agheila.
- Dec. 3. Mr. Amery, replying to a question in the Commons, affirms safeguarding of treaty rights with Princes.
—Indian battalion formed in South Africa.
- Dec. 4. Rt. Hon. D. J. Colville is appointed Governor of Bombay.
—American raids on Burma.
- Dec. 5. Federal Union movement Manifesto opposes Imperialism.
—Mr. Wendell Willkie declares that Colonial system must go.
- Dec. 6. Full story of U. S. loss at Pearl Harbour is published.
—Sir M. N. Mukerji is dead.
- Dec. 7. H. E. Lord Linlithgow's term extended for six months until October 1943.
- Dec. 8. Dakar to be used as Allies' base.
—Hon. Sarker's speech on Indian Members' efforts to end deadlock.
- Dec. 9. H. H. the Maharaja of Travancore addresses Annamalai University Convocation.
—Mr. Willkie urges that post-war aims must be frankly stated.
- Dec. 10. German News Agency announces that General Witzler is appointed Chief of German General Staff in succession to General Von Halder.
- Dec. 11. Mr. William Phillips is appointed President Roosevelt's Personal Representative in India.
- Dec. 12. Non-Party Leaders' Conference meets in Allahabad.
—Sir S. Radhakrishnan delivers the Kamalz Lecture at Calcutta on "Gandhi's policy and Non-Violence."
- Dec. 13. All-India Women's Conference (of the Tamil Nad) meets in Vellore, Mrs. Cousins presiding.
- Dec. 14. Allies capture Buna.
- Dec. 15. Standing Committee of the Non-Party Conference asks Britain to part with power in India.
- Dec. 16. Japan and Indo-China negotiate an Economic treaty.
—Chittagong is bombed again.
- Dec. 17. The Employers' Federation meets at Calcutta under the Presidency of Sir Henry Richardson.
—Admiral Darlan declares his intention to give his fleet to the Allies for fighting Axis Powers.
- Dec. 18. Standing Committee of the All-India Newspapers Editors' Conference meets in Bombay.
- Dec. 19. Allied advance in Burma.
—Cape Endaidere in South-West Pacific is captured by the Allies.
- Dec. 20. Russian offensive in Middle Don pierces the Enemy Defences.
—Hitler receives Laval.
- Dec. 21. Calcutta has its first enemy air raid.
—Allied recognition of Albanian independence.
—Eighth Army is pursuing retreating enemy.
- Dec. 22. Bertrand Russell urges grant of Swaraj to India.
- Dec. 23. U. S. Planes raid Rangoon.
—Allied advance in Tripolitania.
- Dec. 24. American troops arrive in Dakar.
—Jap withdrawal in Burma.
—Admiral Darlan is assassinated at Algiers.
- Dec. 25. Gen. Giraud takes over charge in North Africa.
—H. M. the King's broadcast to the Nation and Empire.
- Dec. 26. Sir Sikandar Hyat Khan, Premier of the Punjab, is dead.
- Dec. 27. The Rt. Hon. Jayakar presides over the All-India Educational Conference at Indore.
—Fighting in New Guinea.
- Dec. 28. Sir Jogendra Singh presides over the Annual Session of the Indian Historical Records Commission at Trivandrum.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

NIZAM'S STATE RAILWAY

The Nizam's Government passed orders on the report recently submitted by the labour enquiry committee appointed under the chairmanship of Syed Abdul Aziz, Judicial Member of H. E. H. the Nizam's Executive Council in connection with certain grievances of the section of the employees of the Nizam's State Railway. The Committee examined the sixteen demands put forward by the labour representatives and arrived at the conclusion that most of the charges upon which the demands were based were unfounded. Government accept the recommendation of the Committee that increase in cost of living is ground for increase in wages of low-paid staff and that the starting wages of an adult unskilled male worker and woman or boy worker should be increased by rupee one to rupees 13 and rupees eight respectively but the grades proposed need not be introduced until the high scale of dearness allowance now granted is either withdrawn or curtailed. The Committee expresses the opinion that the rates of pay of the N. S. Railway staff and conditions of service compare favourably with the new scales of pay obtaining on the G. I. P. and M. S. M. Railways and wages of N. S. Railway skilled and semi-skilled staff does not compare unfavourably with those Railways.

INCOME-TAX AND SUPER-TAX

It is learnt that despite opposition from vested interests like businessmen, etc., Mr. Ghulam Mohamed, Finance Member, Hyderabad Government, has been successful in pushing forward his scheme of introducing income-tax and super-tax in order to balance the State budget which showed a deficit of nearly eighty lakhs during the current year. Further, it is stated, that the scheme of new taxation has received the sanction of H. E. H. the Nizam. An early notification is expected.

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Mysore

LAND MORTGAGE BANKS IN MYSORE

Unveiling the portrait of Rajasabha-bhushana Diwan Bahadur K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar, and laying the foundation-stone of the new building of the Mysore Central Co-operative Land Mortgage Bank in the site adjacent the Tippu Sultan's Palace, on November 1, Mr. N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, expressed pleasure at the satisfactory and steady progress which the Bank had made since its inception. He assured also that certain suggestions for the grant of further facilities and concessions to the Bank made by Mr. Kuppaswamiengar would be duly examined by the Government. The Dewan then unveiled the portrait of Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar and laid the foundation-stone of the Bank building.

ESSENTIAL COMMODITIES

The Government of Mysore have passed orders under the Defence Rules removing the existing restrictions on inter-district transport of essential commodities like paddy, rice, ragi, jola and jaggery, but prohibiting instead transport of these commodities from and to certain specified taluks except under a permit issued by the Director of Civil Supplies in Mysore.

HOUSE-RENT CONTROL

The Government of Mysore have under the Defence of India Rules, promulgated the Mysore House-Rent Control Order 1942. The order gives power to the Controller, who is the Deputy Commissioner of the District, having jurisdiction over the area notified, to hold an enquiry into cases of excessive rents and to fix rents which will be binding upon the house-owner.

Baroda**RURAL ECONOMIC CONDITIONS**

To effect permanent improvement in the economic condition of 5 talukas in North-western part of Mehsana district, the Government had approved a comprehensive programme. Out of this programme, during 1940-41 the work on 16 tanks was completed, the Harij-dry farm and soil reclamation experiments were started, and in addition to a Rabari colony and two settlements three other settlements were started in the Mehsana taluka. A village in the Vijapur taluka is selected for the soil conservation scheme.

IMPROVING SANITATION

In addition to providing water supply and means of communication, the following works of public utility were undertaken in the year 1940-41 by the district local boards:—

Anti-malaria campaign in all the districts was undertaken and quinine was distributed free. Sanitary exhibitions and baby weeks were held. Village dispensaries were opened in 185 villages of the Baroda district and help was given for construction of village dispensaries.

LAND REVENUE POSITION

There was marked improvement in the realisation of land revenue in the year 1940-41. The total demand was Rs. 95'85 lakhs as compared with Rs. 95'51 lakhs in the previous year. The realisation was Rs. 90'84 lakhs as against Rs. 88'51 lakhs in the previous year. The balance of arrears fell from Rs. 49'71 lakhs in the previous year, to Rs. 30'48 lakhs during the year under review.

SALE OF TIMBER-WOOD

The order prohibiting the sale of timber-wood at Baroda has been withdrawn by the Baroda State authorities. It is understood that this withdrawal is a sequel to the undertaking given by the wood-merchants of Baroda to fully supply timber-wood whenever required by the State.

Travancore**PADDY YIELD**

A press note issued by the Travancore Government says:—

"Having regard to the difficulty which is only being gradually surmounted in the matter of importing rice from outside and in order to conserve all paddy derived from next harvest, Government have decided to exercise control over the entire production of paddy and tapioca in the State and propose to purchase all stocks except to the extent indispensably required for domestic consumption of land-owners concerned and for such payments as are usually made by them in kind to their servants and dependents.

Whether by way of forward contract or payment in cash, no transaction in respect of paddy available at the next harvest shall be entered into without the written permission of the Food Grains Purchase Officer. Government wish to emphasize that on account of food situation any infraction of this rule will be dealt with severely."

RADIO STATION

The Travancore Broadcasting Station will commence regular broadcasts from this month. This decision has been taken following the test broadcasts conducted last month from the Travancore Broadcasting Station at Pangapara, which proved an unqualified success. To start with, the broadcasts will be on a humble scale on account of the difficulties of getting spare parts and other equipment due to war conditions. The present idea is to have broadcasting programmes of roughly two hours' duration every week-end. The features will include music, both vocal and instrumental, talks in English and Vernacular, short plays, farces, etc., educational and health broadcasts for the benefit of schools and colleges and the rural population.

Jaipur**SIR MIRZA'S ADVICE TO OFFICERS**

At an important meeting which was the first of its kind since he assumed office, Sir Mirza M. Ismail, Prime Minister, Jaipur, addressed the Officers of the Revenue Department and laid down the principles which should govern their policy and guide their actions. The Revenue Member and the members of the Revenue Board were also present on the occasion.

Addressing the Officers, he said:

I would like you to be accessible to all and sundry. By being accessible to them, you will be able to know their wants more easily, and will thus be in a better position to help them. Moreover, accessibility on the part of higher officers is, perhaps, the simplest, the easiest, and the most effective way of minimising, if not altogether stopping, corruption in the lower officials and of protecting the average citizen from tyranny of the petty official. It is your duty to take a deep interest in all that concerns the welfare of the ryot and to promote his happiness in all possible ways. Revenue collection is, doubtless, an important duty of the Revenue Department, but I look upon it as only a routine matter, demanding little enthusiasm or initiative on the part of the officers, for they have only to put their foot down and enforce the rules and collect the money. But the qualities which you should display in dealing with the peasant are of a much higher order and need some effort to cultivate them. They are: sympathy, patience in listening to him and solicitude for his welfare and an earnest desire to grant his requests, if they are reasonable. I would also impress upon you the desirability of giving reasons—whether orally or in writing—for your refusal or inability to grant any request made to you in your official capacity. The applicant must know and, if possible, understand and appreciate your reasons for not granting his request.

Sir Mirza's term of office has been extended by another two years.

Cochin**MAHARAJAH'S 80TH BIRTHDAY**

The Maharaja of Cochin celebrated his 80th birthday on December 11th. There was nothing of the usual pomp and splendour usually connected with the birthday celebrations. The amount saved on this account was utilised for distribution of rice to the poor.

Kashmir**INDUSTRIES IN KASHMIR**

Kashmir has, under the dewanship of Sir N. Gopaldaswami Iyengar, well-established her industries and more are being developed under the lead of the Prime Minister. Among the industries, sericulture is, of course, the State's most important industry and one of her oldest. It has recently been reorganised and some of the finest qualities of silk cloth are now produced. Kashmir carpets are famous for their durability and design, but the war has had an adverse effect on the carpet-making industry. Government have been helping with subsidies. Among other established industries may be mentioned the manufacture of woollens, tapestry and embroidery, leather work, brass and other metal works, oil extraction and oil milling, wood-work, and papier-mache. Under the State Aid to Industries Act, which was passed in 1937, assistance is given to industrialists in the form of loans, guarantees and subscription.



"I hope Indians will realise the importance of patronising only Indian Insurance Institutions."

—Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.

Place your Life Business with INDIAN Insurance Companies only.

April '43.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

—:0:—

Ceylon

SIR B. JAYATILAKA ON HIS MISSION

"The main purpose of my appointment is to promote good understanding and friendly relations between India and Ceylon," observed Sir Baron Jayatilaka, representative of the Government of Ceylon in India, in the course of an interview to the *Associated Press* representative at Madras, on December 15.

"I expect," said Sir Baron, "every right-minded Indian to extend to me his sympathy and support and to help me to succeed in my mission. It is in the interest of both Ceylon and India that there should subsist cordial relationship and goodwill between them. In fact, Ceylon and India are one in many respects and one country cannot act independently of the other in most matters. The defence of Ceylon, for instance, is to a large extent the defence of India."

Sir Baron denied that there is anything like anti-Indian feeling among the Ceylonese. There may be trade rivalry here and there as is usual in all countries and in all communities, but there is no feeling of antipathy in Ceylon towards the Indians as a community.

South Africa

THE LATE MR. PATHER

We deeply regret the death at Durban, of Mr. V. S. C. Pather, the well known Indian merchant in South Africa, who, for decades past, has taken an important part in the Indian struggle.

Mr. Pather was born in Kimberley in 1887. He was a prominent business man, closely associated with all activities of the Indian community—political, social and religious.

Mr. Pather accompanied a deputation to India to protest against the "Class Areas Bill".

In recognition of his public work, he was given the King's Silver Jubilee Medal in 1935, and the Coronation Medal in 1936.

East Africa

INDIAN INTERESTS

A Deputation of the Africa Shippers' Association, consisting of Mr. Dawood Haji Nasser, J.P., Mr. Tayebali Adamji, Mr. A. K. Kanji and others, led by Mr. Hooseinbhoy A. Lalljee, M.L.A. (Central), discussed recently with the Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Aney, the Overseas Member, the difficulties that have now risen on account of the decision of the East Africa Government to sponsor a Utility Textile Importing Corporation on the lines of the U. K. C. C.

The Deputation explained to the Overseas Member how Mr. Clay, the Economic Adviser to the Governors' Conference in East Africa announced a *fait accompli*, as it were, concerning the starting of this monopolistic body which would, in effect, deprive thousands of Indians, traders and businessmen in East Africa of their livelihood. This monopolistic body, it was explained, was to take over practically the entire imports of textiles in East Africa and to have the fullest control over its distribution. It was stated by the Deputation that the avocation of 24,000 Indians as businessmen and the general prosperity of 1,50,000 Indians in East Africa was now at stake.

The Overseas Member and Mr. Bozman, after discussion with the Deputation, assured them of their most sympathetic consideration of the grievances placed before them by the Deputation, and informed them that the Government were already proceeding in the matter and that they were now in close touch with the Commerce Department and the East African Government. They further stated that they would try their best to safeguard the interests of the Indians over there and see that no hasty action was taken jeopardising their welfare.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

GANDHIJI'S CALL TO AMERICA

According to a report from Chicago, Gandhiji in a message to the India League of America (evidently given before his arrest) urges the people of America to take active interest in Indian Independence. Gandhiji says:

"My demonstrable spirit of accommodation has been described as my inconsistency proving me to be an utterly unreliable man.

"You have made common cause with Great Britain. You cannot, therefore, disown responsibility for anything that her representatives do in India. You will do a grievous wrong to the Allied cause if you do not sift the truth from the chaff while there is yet time. Just think of it. Is there anything wrong in the Congress demanding unconditional recognition of Indian Independence? It is being said: 'But this is not the time'. We say: 'This is the psychological moment for that recognition. For then only can there be irresistible opposition to Japanese aggression.' It is of immense value to the Allied cause. It is also of equal value to India. I want you to look upon the immediate recognition of Indian Independence as a war measure of first class magnitude."

SCORCHED EARTH POLICY IN THE EAST

A request that the Government should pay for "the scorched earth policy" in the Far East is made by the Far Eastern agricultural, banking, commercial, industrial, mining and general trading associations in a letter to the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Sir Kingsley Wood, the Colonial Secretary, Lord Cranborne and the Secretary of State for Burma, Mr. Amery.

The letter suggests that the Government should assume responsibility for all such losses not recoverable under insurance schemes and guarantee the solvency of any Government insurance scheme.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

VICEROY ON THE UNITY OF INDIA

Addressing the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Calcutta, H. E. Lord Linlithgow observed:

I have spoken often to you in my earlier addresses of the importance of unity in this country. Geographically India, for practical purposes, is one. I would judge it to be as important as it ever was in the past nay more important, that we should seek to conserve that unity in so far as it may be built up consistently with full justice for the rights and the legitimate claims of the minorities, whether those minorities be great or small. That that would be a desirable aim no one, gentlemen, can doubt who tests that proposition in terms of foreign policy, of tariff policy, of defence policy, of industrial development. Can India speak with the authority that she is entitled to claim, can she play her part effectively at international discussions, at discussions with the other parts of the Empire if she is to speak with two voices? Indian unity, subject as I have said to full and sufficient provision for the minorities, accepted as such by those minorities, is of great and real importance if India is to carry the weight which she ought to carry in the counsels of the Empire and of the world. But these are hard practical issues that have got to be faced before any true solution can be found. Political opinion in all responsible quarters must discover a middle road along which all men of goodwill may march. That indeed is the difficult but essential task which must be performed if India is to achieve the great position we all desire for her. . . . A divided people cannot carry the weight that it ought to carry, or make its way in the world with the same confident expectation of success.

LOUIS FISCHER ON INDIA

In a debate featured by the radio forum "Wake up America", Louis Fischer said:

Neither Mr. Gandhi nor any other Indian leader is asking for immediate and complete freedom. They know that it is impossible during the war. Indian Nationalists are not demanding Britain to quit India. All that Indian Nationalists want now during the war is an Indian National Government which, as Mr. Gandhi told me this summer, would have full control of India and which would co-operate with the United Nations in a common effort for victory over the Fascists.

LORD LINLITHGOW'S TERM EXTENDED

The following announcement has been made from 10, Downing Street:—

"His Excellency the Most Honourable the Marquess of Linlithgow, P.C., K.T., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., with the approval of the King-Emperor, at the special request of His Majesty's Government, who place on record their high confidence in him, has consented to a further extension of his term as Viceroy and Governor-General of India for six months, namely, until October, 1948."

This is the third time Lord Linlithgow's term is being extended since his appointment in April, 1936.

MR. AMERY AND STATES TREATIES

Mr. Amery was asked in the House of Commons whether the proposals of Sir Stafford Cripps had taken full notice of the treaties between the Crown and the Princes of India, whether these treaties remained valid in their integrity, and whether he would undertake that they would not be changed by any constitution-making body without the assent of the parties concerned.

Mr. Amery said: "The questioner no doubt refers to the various treaties, engagements and sanads defining the relations of the Crown and the Rulers of Indian States. The interpretation of the original terms of certain of these engagements have, as is well known, been affected over a long period by usage and sufferance, but, subject to that qualification, the answer to all the three parts of this question is in the affirmative."

DR. JAYAKAR ON GOVERNMENT MEMBERS

"Some Indian Members of the Viceroy's Executive Council, whom I know personally, are very nationalist in their sentiment. If they are unable to achieve much there must be other reasons for it," said Dr. M. R. Jayakar at Allahabad.

I would favour the selection of members by a Prime Minister, so that the Members would know that they owed their allegiance to the Prime Minister. That would also create a sense of joint and collective responsibility amongst them."

CEYLON UNIVERSITY DEGREES

A *Gazette* notification announcing the degrees and other academic distinctions which may be conferred by the University of Ceylon mentions the following:—

Bachelor of Arts,
Master of Arts,
Doctor of Letters,
Bachelor of Science,
Master of Science,
Doctor of Science,
Bachelor of Laws,
Master of Laws,
Doctor of Laws,
Bachelor of Medicine,
Master of Surgery
Doctor of Medicine,
Doctor of Philosophy,
Bachelor of Commerce,
Master of Commerce and
Bachelor of Surgery.

There will be a Scholarship Board, which shall consist of:—

The Vice-Chancellor, the Deans of the Faculties; and such other persons not exceeding five as may be appointed by the Senate. Among the functions of the Scholarships Board shall be the award of Scholarships, Exhibitions and Bursaries.

TECHNOLOGICAL INSTITUTE

Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chettiar, Dewan Bahadur C. S. Ratnasabapathi Mudaliar, Mr. R. Venkataswami and other mill-owners met Dewan Bahadur A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Vice-Chancellor of the Madras University, during the latter's visit to Coimbatore in the last week of November and discussed with him the question of starting a Technological Institute at Coimbatore at a capital cost of Rs. 12 lakhs.

It is understood the mill-owners have agreed to pay Rs. 4 lakhs and to request the University of Madras and the Madras Government to pay Rs. 4 lakhs each, the recurring expenditure also being similarly shared equally by the three parties. It was represented that to start with, textiles should be introduced and that later on sugar technology and similar subjects may be added. The Institute will be managed by the University and representation will be given to the mill-owners.

THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF INDIA

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of Mr. William Patrick Spens, O.B.E., K.C., M.P., to be Chief Justice of India, in succession to Sir Maurice Linford Gwyer, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., who is due to retire on attaining the age of 65 on April 25th next, says a *communiqué*.

The Secretary of State, proposing the health of Mr. Spens at the Dinner given by Law Officers of the Crown in London on December 18, emphasized the absolute necessity of the occupant of the post of Chief Justice being a man, who, from his knowledge and capacity, would be able to settle knotty points which will continue to arise under any constitution which India may devise for herself. The Chief Justice, who would succeed Sir Maurice Gwyer, would have a difficult task in view of the remarkable qualities which made the term of office of the retiring Chief Justice, in spite of the difficulties of the times, a memorable one. In his successor, the Secretary of State declared that he was confident that India and the Empire had one who was eminently qualified in legal attainments, in impartiality and in wisdom, to fill the high office to which the King-Emperor had seen fit to appoint him.

TEMPLE-ENTRY BILL FOR PUNJAB

Rai Bahadur Mukand Lal Puri, M.L.A., has given notice of his intention to introduce a Temple-entry Bill in the forthcoming Session of the Punjab Assembly. The Bill aims at removing the disabilities of certain classes of Hindus who are now excluded from worship by reason of their caste. The Bill provides that if the trustees of any temple desire to prohibit such entry, they shall have to get a declaration from a competent civil court that the majority of the adult Hindus living within two miles of the temple are opposed to the admission of the persons concerned.

MR. JUSTICE S. R. DAS

Mr. Sudhi Ranjan Das, Bar-at-Law, is appointed Additional Judge of the Calcutta High Court with effect from the date on which he takes his seat to the 31st August, 1948.

SOCIAL INSURANCE

Sir William Beveridge's report on social insurance and Allied services has been published as a White Paper and placed before Parliament. Sir W. Beveridge gives the following summary of the plan:—

The plan covers all citizens without an upper income limit, but has regard to their different ways of life. It is a plan, all-embracing in scope of persons and needs, but is classified in application.

In relation to social security, the population falls into four main classes of working age and two others, below and above working age respectively:

Class 1. Employees, that is, persons whose normal occupation is employment under contract service.

Class 2. Others gainfully occupied, including employers, traders and independent workers of all kinds.

Class 3. Housewives, that is, married women of working age.

Class 4. Others of working age not gainfully occupied.

Class 5. Below working age.

Class 6. Retired above working age.

The sixth class would receive retirement pensions and the fifth would be covered by children's allowances paid from the Exchequer in respect of all children when the responsible parent is in receipt of insurance benefit or pension and in respect of all children except one in other cases.

The four other classes will be insured for security appropriate to their circumstances.

All classes will be covered for comprehensive medical treatment and rehabilitation and for funeral expenses.

LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS IN INDIA

The total new life insurance business effected during 1940 amounted to 2,00,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 86,11,00,000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 1,89,00,000, as compared with 3,00,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 46,62,00,000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 2,87,00,000 in 1939.

INDIA'S TRADE WITH EAST AFRICA

"I am as anxious as you are to safeguard and maintain the position which our ancestors have secured for themselves in the trade of other countries through courage, enterprise and sacrifice in distant lands," said Mr. N. R. Sarker, Commerce Member, Government of India, replying to a Deputation of the Indian Exporters' Association at Bombay on December 7.

Mr. Sarker urged Indian exporters to be alive to the changing trends in the sphere of world trade, the structure and technique of which in post-war years would be radically different from what we had been accustomed to before the war.

On the subject of the proposed Import Trade Corporation in East Africa, Mr. Sarker, said the Government of India were in correspondence with the Government of East Africa and would take the necessary steps. The Commerce Member also promised to look into the question of Sudan Price Enquiry.

Regarding acceptance of Indian insurance policies by exchange banks, he said the matter was under consideration.

COMMANDEERING OF PAPER

The reported decision of the Government of India to commandeer 90 per cent. of the production of Indian paper mills was strongly criticised by various speakers at a public meeting held recently at the University Institute Hall, Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, ex-Finance Minister, Bengal, presided.

The meeting was attended by representatives of more than a dozen associations including the Indian Journalists' Association, All-Bengal Teachers' Association, Printers' and Publishers' Association, Bengal Provincial Trade Union Congress, Booksellers' and Publishers' Association and Calcutta Paper Traders' Association.

INDIA'S DEFENCE

India's defence expenditure is now reported to have exceeded rupees 60 lakhs a day as compared to the previous figure of rupees 40 lakhs, quoted in the Finance Member's budget speech during the last Session of the Central Assembly.

WOMEN'S APPEAL TO BRITAIN

A resolution urging the Government of India and the British Government to make earnest efforts to end the deadlock by releasing the national leaders at an early date and establish a National Government and thus give every chance to this great country to take her full share in establishing freedom and democracy in the world for which the Allied nations were fighting, was passed at the annual conference of the All-India Women's Association, Madras, Srimathi B. Kameswariamma of Mysore, presiding.

In her presidential address, Srimathi Kameswariamma made an appeal to the British statesmen in the name of the women of India to take steps to see that the four hundred millions in this land were enabled to take part in the war for freedom under a National Government.

The Conference expressed whole-hearted sympathy with all victims of the war and called upon all women to work towards the establishment of a New World Order, surmounting all barriers of race, creed, caste and nationality and bring about a spirit of patriotism and love of humanity necessary for international fellowship and lasting peace.

The Conference appealed to all women to work earnestly for bringing about communal harmony and thus pave the way for the solution of the communal problem which stood as an impediment to India's national progress.

The Conference also resolved to continue their support to the Women Air Raid Precaution Corps whose services were considered quite necessary for the safety of their homes.

BEGUM SHAH NAWAZ

Begum Shah Nawaz, who has been in the United States for the last eight weeks, had a long talk with Mrs. Roosevelt. Begum Shah Nawaz gave a series of lectures and broadcasts, speaking authoritatively as active leader of the women of India and the only woman member of the Indian National Defence Advisory Council.

EMPIRE JOURNALISTS

The London Correspondent of the *Bombay Chronicle* reports under date December 11, that at the suggestion of Mr. Brendan Bracken, a Standing Joint Committee of the representatives of Empire correspondents and the Ministry of Information has been formed in London so that improved facilities for Empire journalists may be secured.

Mr. Francis Williams is the Chairman of the Committee, Mr. Leonard Matters (London representative of the *Hindu*) will be representing the Indian Press. The Vice-Chairman of the new Committee will have direct access to Ministers and also to representatives of the Service Departments if occasion should arise.

TELEGRAPHIC DEVIL

Sometimes, *Reuter's* telegraphic mistakes have provided food for much amusement, writes *Roy's Weekly*. One such instance relates to a cable from Sydney to London, announcing the fact "Governor turns first sod" of a railway line from Queensland port to some inland town. The message reached London, "Governor twins first son". Immediately, the British public was informed that "the wife of His Excellency the Governor has presented him with twins, the first of whom is a son." The mistake was discovered when a friend of His Excellency disclosed the startling fact in a letter to the *Times* that the Governor had not yet entered into the bonds of holy matrimony.

KIPLING—A QUAIN-LOOKING OBJECT

Rudyard Kipling was the Sub-Editor of the *Labore Civil and Military Gazette* from 1882 to 1887.

"In the heat of summer, E. K. Robinson says, white cotton trousers and thin vest constituted his office attire and by the day's end he was spotted all over like a Dalmatian dog. He had a habit of dipping his pen frequently and deep into the ink pot and all his movements were abrupt, almost jerky and the ink used to fly. Driving or sometimes walking home to breakfast in the light attire plentifully besprinkled with ink, his spectacled face peeping out under an enormous mushroom-shaped pith hat, Kipling was a quaint-looking object."

THE LATE SIR M. N. MUKHERJI

The death occurred on December 6, at his Calcutta residence, of Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherji, President, Bengal Provincial Hindu Mahasabha and former acting Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court.

Sir Manmatha Nath, who was 68, had been ill since September. He leaves Lady Mukherji, five sons and three daughters.

Sir Manmatha Nath Mukherji was Puisne Judge of the Calcutta High Court from 1924 to 1936, and acted as Chief Justice for brief periods in 1934, 1935 and 1936. He officiated as Law Member of the Government of India from June to October 1938. He was knighted in 1935. Enrolling as a Vakil of the Calcutta High Court in 1898, he built up a large criminal practice for nearly two decades before his elevation to the Bench.

Sir Manmatha Nath was a Fellow of the University of Calcutta and President of the Bengal Sanskrit Association. He also played a prominent role in the affairs of the Hindu Mahasabha in Bengal.

Sir Manmatha Nath was a valued contributor to this *Review* and we extend our sympathies to the bereaved family.

PROF. SURYANARAYANA SASTRI

We deeply regret to record the untimely death on December 9, by kidney trouble, of Mr. S. S. Suryanarayana Sastri, Reader in Indian Philosophy, University of Madras. The death occurred at his residence in Egmore. He was aged 49. Mr. Sastri was an eminent professor of philosophy, an invaluable friend and an erudite scholar and a frequent contributor to this journal. Only recently he wrote for Messrs. G. A. Natesan & Co., a life of Sankara in their *World Teachers Series*.

NEW GOVERNOR OF BOMBAY

His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the appointment of Colonel the Right Honourable David John Colville, M.P., to be Governor of Bombay in succession to Sir Roger Lumley, G.C.I.E., whose term of office expires on March 17, 1948.

NEW CURE FOR PNEUMONIA

From a simple dye chemical patented in 1908 by Germany's vast I. G. Farben-industrie sprang the group of wonder drugs called Sulphanamides. Greatest of them all is Sulphanilamide, a white powder, which slays such infections as childbed fever, gonorrhoea, scarlet fever, and pneumonia.

Announced recently was an addition to the group. Sulphamethazine is a creation of the newly formed £500,000 Imperial Chemical Industries Pharmaceutical Organisation.

Tried in 71 cases of pneumococcal lobar pneumonia, a few cases of meningococcal meningitis and gonorrhoea, Sulphamethazine caused a clinical improvement in 24 hours, related the *Lancet*. The striking difference was that the patients never complained of severe mental and physical depression which often accompanies sulphapyradine treatment; there was far less vomiting and nausea.

In lobar pneumonia cases, Sulphamethazine lost only one case out of 37 in-patients under 40, older patients showed four deaths to 32 recoveries.

BENGAL GOVERNMENT AND MEDICAL MEN

In order to encourage medical men to volunteer their services for military duty during the war, the Government of Bengal have decided that all vacancies in the cadre of Sub-Assistant Surgeons (Bengal Medical Service—Lower) during the war should be filled up only temporarily. After the war when these vacancies are filled up on a permanent basis, preference will be given to candidates who have put in military service and are well reported on by the military authorities irrespective of whether they proceeded from Government service or from outside.

RELIEF OF DISTRESS IN CHINA

A medical unit consisting of a hospital of 200 beds, and a staff of seven physicians and surgeons has been sent to China under the auspices of the Red Cross. The unit is co-operating with the Chinese Red Cross and the British Fund for the Relief of Distress in China.

FACTS ABOUT FOOD FOR SCHOOL-CHILDREN

An attempt to put into simple language important facts about food and diet which the Indian high school pupil should know has been made in a 20-page bulletin "Food and Diet" prepared in the Nutrition Research Laboratories of the Indian Research Fund Association at Coonoor. The bulletin, primarily intended for use in schools, has been written in simple language avoiding difficult technical terms.

The purpose of the bulletin is expressed in the following observations of Dr. W. R. Aykroyd, Director of the Laboratories, in his preface:

There is one subject about which all children should learn something, namely health. In India there is a great deal of ill-health and disease which could be prevented if people understood more about their causes and were determined to remove them. . . . The kind of food we eat has a great influence on our health and much ill health and disease are due to eating the wrong sort of diet. This Bulletin deals with this part of the subject of health, which is of great importance in India.

The booklet aims at teaching children about the practical side of dietetics. Thus, while great deal has been written about vitamins, most of it is of little instructive value to ordinary people. A little knowledge of the more important vitamins is very useful to children.

The purpose of food, what it contains, the roles of vitamins and mineral salts, the value of milk and various cereals, the importance of cooking and regular meals, and the evils that result from badly balanced and poor diets are explained and the conclusions are summarised in thirteen "Facts to Remember."

GRAY HAIR AND BALD HEADS

Although little or nothing at present can be done to prevent the changes which bring about baldness or grayness, it can be predicted with a fair degree of accuracy that the man who is losing considerable hair from the top of his head will become bald before he is gray, that the one who is becoming gray all over his head will be slow in becoming bald and that the man who becomes gray chiefly at the temples is not likely to become bald. Old age, of course, alters all these prognostications,

SHROFFS' BANK OF INDIA

"The aim of banking should be not to replace or compete with the Indian shroffs or the old established banking system, but to harmonise it with the modern banking system, so as to make facilities available to the small traders and merchants in the far distant villages of our country without disturbing or displacing the shroffs," declared Sir Chimanlal Setalvad inaugurating the Shroffs' Bank of India Ltd., recently in Bombay.

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad added: "No system has been invented to replace the working of the Indian shroffs. The shroffs allowed banking facilities at rates so cheap as to be available to the smallest as well as the bigger merchants."

He complimented Mr. Framroze H. Adenwalla, Chairman, and Rao Sahab C. M. Kothary, Managing Director of the bank on their enterprise.

THE EXCHANGE BANK OF INDIA

A new Bank under the name of "The Exchange Bank of India and Africa Ltd." has been started at Bombay. Its capital is Rs. 2,50,00,000 and the issued capital Rs. 1,25,00,000, details of which are given in the Bank's prospectus. Eighty-eight thousand eight hundred and eighty ordinary shares of Rs. 100 each and 25,000 preference shares of Rs. 100 each are offered for public subscription. The Bank aims at securing a fair share of the idle capital of the people and the princes and making it available, in accordance with sound banking principles, for industrial, agricultural and commercial purposes amongst others. It also hopes to have a network of branches in various parts of the country including Indian States and in due course other countries also. The Bank will carry on banking business and will engage in banking activities of all kinds.

INDIAN DEFENCE LOAN

The grand total of subscriptions to all Indian Defence Loans since they were first issued in June, 1940, upto October 3, 1942, is Rs. 1,25,48,57,000. (These figures do not include subscriptions to the 8 per cent. loan, 1963-65, opened on October 3, 1942).

RAILWAY FINANCE

The Standing Finance Committee for Railways met on December 15 and 16 under the chairmanship of Mr. T. S. Sankara Aiyar, Financial Commissioner for Railways, for the examination of the works programme for the year 1943-44. The Committee approved of the modifications made by the Railway in the rolling stock programme already approved by them last July. These modifications did not result in any substantial increase in the provision of Rs. 5'37 crores already agreed to by the Committee. They also approved of the works programme placed before them in full. The total expenditure which is being provided for including Rs. 5'37 crores for rolling stock is Rs. 12'22 crores.

The Committee were informed that, as a result of the higher priority which has now been possible to secure for railway requirements, the railways now hoped to obtain during 1943-44, 100 broad gauge and 92 metre gauge locomotives which would require an additional provision of Rs. 5½ crores. The exact proposals will be placed before the Committee later when a more accurate forecast of the probable expenditure will be possible.

INDIAN RAILWAY EARNINGS

The total approximate gross earnings of all State-owned railways for the month of October 1942 amount to Rs. 11'10 crores, i.e., Rs. 62 lakhs more than the actuals for the corresponding month of the previous year and Rs. 186 lakhs more than the corresponding month of 1940-41. Compared with the last year, coaching earnings increased by about Rs. 75 lakhs, while goods earnings decreased by about Rs. 15 lakhs during the month; other earnings showed an increase of about Rs. 2 lakhs only. The total approximate gross earnings from April 1 to October 31, 1942, amount to Rs. 30'44 crores and are more by Rs. 9'10 crores when compared with the actuals for the same period of last year and more by Rs. 19'48 crores in comparison with the corresponding period of 1940-41.

UKRAINE ART FESTIVAL

Prominent Ukrainian actors and musicians were present in Moscow for the Ukrainian Art Festival held in the capital in June.

The achievements of Ukrainian art during the Great Patriotic War were demonstrated at concerts and performances in which leading members of the Company of the Shevchenko State Theater of Opera and Ballet of Kiev and the Ivan Franko Dramatic Theater participated.

The programs of the concerts included selections from operas, songs by Ukrainian composers on war themes, as well as Ukrainian folk and ballet dances.

ACADEMY OF FINE ARTS

Sir Abdul Halim Ghuznavi, M.L.A. (Central) President, Academy of Fine Arts, Calcutta, announces that Maharaja Probirendra Mohan Tagore has offered to present his father's art library, and to give on the basis of loan some of the pictures from his father's unique collection to the Academy of Fine Arts, Calcutta, in the event of the contemplated memorial to the late Maharaja Bahadur Sir Prodyoe Coomar Tagore, Founder-President of the Academy, taking shape in the construction of a building for the Academy which will serve also the purpose of a national art gallery.

AKBAR'S VISION

Emperor Akbar's genius for government and his universal intelligence were celebrated on December 15 in London when an exhibition was opened at the India House in honour of his memory.

Akbar stands high in the ranks of kings said the speaker Mr. D. de B Codrington, and four hundred years ago, he was already inspired by the vision of a united India in which men of all castes and creeds could live side by side, equal before the law.

Lady Katharine Nicholson, who has succeeded the late Sir Francis Young-husband as Chairman of the India Society, opened the Exhibition which includes several fine contemporary portraits of Akbar.

"POKER—AN UNLAWFUL GAME"

In a case in which Maurice Ellinger, the former bridge champion of England and other leading bridge players contended for the defence that "Poker" requires more skill than bridge, the Chairman of the London Sessions on December 17, ruled that "Poker" is not a game of mere skill but an unlawful gaming.

The Act relied on was a statute of the time of King Henry VIII and the prosecution contended that mere skill meant nothing but skill. Fines totalling £100 were imposed on three people for taking part in a club for unlawful gaming. The prosecutions followed a raid on the club premises.

ROBINSON BEATS GEORGE MUIR

A. L. Robinson of Leeds enhanced his prospects of becoming the British Heavy-weight Champion in the place of the recently retired Len Harvey by knocking out George Muir, the champion of New Zealand, in the third round of an eight-rounder.

Ronnie James, Welsh Light-Weight champion and contender for the British title, beat Freddie Simpson, the former amateur champion, the referee stopping the bout in the eighth round after Simpson had been floored four times.

MADRAS AND RANJI TROPHY

Madras is not competing in this year's Ranji Trophy Cricket Championship of India. This was the decision taken at a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Madras Cricket Association held recently, Dr. P. Subbaroyan, President, presiding.

The decision was taken in view of the transport difficulties, and the lack of practice for players owing to most of the grounds not being available for play.

TABLE TENNIS

In the Bengal Table Tennis Championships, U. M. Chandarna (Bombay) won the Singles title beating A. Ghosh (Bengal) 21-19, 21-10, 21-14. In the final of the Men's Doubles, M. Sivaraman and R. E. Moreton beat P. Mitter and A. Shome 18-21, 21-4, 21-2, 21-20.

LIEUT. A. B. C. LANGTON

The South African 'Test' Cricketer Lieut. A. B. C. Langton, of the South African Air Force, has been killed in an air crash outside the Union.

SOCIAL FUNCTION OF SCIENCE

"Science is the very basis and texture of life to-day and without it we perish or, what is even worse, slide back to barbarism," thus observed Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru in the course of a message sent prior to his arrest to *Science and Culture*, the well-known monthly journal of Natural and Cultural Sciences conducted by the Indian Science News Association and edited by a group of eminent Indian scientists.

The message adds: "Science does not just mean the thousand and one applications of it that we see to-day, but even more so the scientific and rational approach to all problems of life. Science has made great progress in the West and raised the standard of living in some countries to unprecedented heights. And yet that very science has failed to solve the major problems of the age and we see war with all its horrors ravaging the world. Thus science destroys itself if it is not extended to the political, economic and other fields of human life and endeavour. It would appear that science to-day is in a position to solve all these problems, or most of them and create conditions of well-being and progress for all humanity. Yet though we swear by science and accept it advantageously for many purposes, still the habit of unscientific approach remains. Vested interests, superstitions and out-of-date customs prevent the full application of the scientific and the rational method."

AUSIOSCALE

A new instrument known as *Ausioscale* enabling the blind to weigh even small articles accurately by sound, was demonstrated by the American Federation for the Blind at New York last month.

The instrument, we are told, can be attached to any type of weighing machine and operates on the aeroplane radio-beam principle of giving out a different note for each different weight. It is mainly due to the suggestion of a blind woman nurse.

JOAN CRAWFORD AS PRODUCER

Joan Crawford took the first step towards her goal of becoming a motion picture producer when she sat in on a conference with Carey Wilson for the production of a short called "For Men Only" which tells what happens in a beauty shop to make the gals late for appointments.

Miss Crawford, who starts work shortly in her new Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer starring film "Reunion in Rotterdam", is sincere in her desire to learn producing. Wilson thought it a good idea for her to give the woman's angle on his beauty short. He says Joan was enormously helpful, and had a good production-mind. She had another idea for a short, which both she and Wilson hope will be ready for production before Miss Crawford starts her own film.

RATIONING OF RAW FILMS

India has come within the scope of rationing, and the supply of raw film stock and of carbons is beginning to be very seriously affected. There is, too, an embargo on the import of equipment and spare parts. Electrical energy is under the direction of Central Electric Power Control Board, and thus economies of all kinds have to be pursued. Transport is becoming another problem, and if nothing is done in this respect, the film supply to outlying cinemas may become a serious problem. Though the Railway Board has kindly arranged to include films in the priority claim, it cannot still ease the situation much as there are various other problems to be considered.

NEW BOARD OF FILM CENSORS

His Excellency the Governor of Madras has constituted, with effect from December 8, a Board of Film Censors consisting of the Commissioner of Police, President; the Station Staff Officer, Fort St. George; and the Director of War Publicity as *ex-officio* members and 15 other non-officials, for the purpose of examining and certifying films as suitable for public exhibition in the province of Madras. The term of office of other members, except the *ex-officio* members, will be for a period of one year.

ALCOHOL FOR CARS

A recent Japanese broadcast in Japanese reported: "Difficulty is being experienced in running motor buses due to the scarcity of petrol, so experiments are being performed in rubber petrol." And what was the result of this local difficulty? Nothing—except that every country was to spend its diminishing resources on devising ways and means of producing alcohol for Jap automobiles.

The Batavian Radio announced two days later: "Experiments are being conducted for producing alcohol from sweet potatoes and many sugar refineries were opened for a similar purpose." Philippines were asked to whip up their cultivation of glutinous rice and soon all Malaya may get a similar ukase. Tokyo finds it hard to get the necessary fuel for her plunder.

CHARCOAL FOR MOTOR VEHICLES

By converting 600 motor vehicles to producer gas, it has been computed that it is possible to save one million gallons of petrol per year. With charcoal selling at Rs. 2-12-0 per maund, a bus or a lorry, converted to producer gas and running about 2,000 miles per month, can show a saving of Rs. 200 per month. Such a vehicle running for this mileage at 12 miles per gallon on petrol, or one gallon per day when working on producer gas, saves the country about 140 gallons of petrol a month.

FLYING MOTOR CARS

The possibility of post-war development of flying motor cars—travelling both on land and in the air—is pictured by Mr. Wilson, President of the American United Aircraft Corporation.

Mr. Wilson said: "Ivor Sikorsky of my Company has perfected a rotating wing aircraft, capable of ascending or descending vertically, moving sideways, forward, or backward. It can be built with a body of small car. Its owner could use it as a business car and as an airplane when distance warranted."

FORD COMPANY

The Ford Motor Company, it is learnt, have decided recently to return to Government a sum of Rs. 10.5 lakhs after computation of their profits on sales to Government during the past year.

SECRET WEAPONS FOR AIR FIGHT

Gen. Hervey Arnold, Chief of the United States Army Air Force, spoke about secret weapons to young Air Force cadets recently.

"We have a secret weapon or two up our aerial sleeves that will deal paralysing blows to our enemies," he said. "Our fighters and bombers are steadily increasing in range, speed, fire-power and bomb-loads. I will also state that entirely new battle wagons are on the way. We will soon put on a special demonstration for Hitler, and Hirschita. We don't think they are going to like it either."

AXIS PLANE LOSSES IN THE DESERT

German and Italian planes destroyed on the ground on enemy airfields between El Alamein and Derna number no fewer than 500, apart from the great number shot down in combat over the desert, said an R. A. F. officer on the Cairo Radio. "The airfield outside Derna is a veritable cemetery of Swastika bombers and fighters," he added. "One staggering pile of wrecked planes contained anything up to 100 aircraft, including troop-carrying gliders and huge Junkers 52s. used to take stores and troops across the desert to support Rommel's army."

ECONOMY IN AIRCRAFT

The Ministry of Aircraft production has appointed a Board under the Chairmanship of Sir Charles Bruce Gardner to investigate and advise the Department upon measures necessary to effect more economical use of man and woman—power in aircraft factories. Sir Charles Bruce Gardner is Chairman of the Society of British Aircraft Constructors. He was loaned to the Ministry of Aircraft Production in 1940 and later returned to the Society.

WOODEN MILITARY TRANSPORT PLANE

The first wooden military transport plane of war is rapidly nearing completion at the Curtiss-Wright Corporation plant and will soon undergo flight tests, according to officials of the Corporation. The new air giant is a high wing monoplane. It has a wing span of 103 feet, is 63 feet long and powered by two 1,200 horse power engines.

DEARTH OF NEWSPRINT

An assurance that he was doing everything possible to secure stocks of newsprint and that he had already sent "3 or 4 telegrams to the U. S. A. and Canada to release newsprint" was given by Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker, Commerce Member, Government of India speaking at a tea party given in his honour by Mr. Amritlal D. Sheth on behalf of the Indian Languages Newspapers Association at Bombay recently.

Mr. Sarker said that he was keenly aware of the dearth of newsprint. The country had large resources but these had not been sufficiently developed so much so that even in peace-time India's requirements of newsprint had to be imported from abroad. During war-time the country's demands increased due to military needs. Further imports had been curtailed.

In regard to Mr. Sheth's request that a proportion of the paper manufactured in India should be reserved for newspapers, Mr. Sarker said that this was difficult in view of the fact that the control over Indian-produced paper was not complete. He had ordered an investigation to find out how much more paper could be produced in India with the present machinery and he had been told that production could be raised by about 10 or 12 per cent. The Government of India have issued circulars for economy in paper consumption.

MUNITION OUTPUT

In the munitions field, output in India is many times pre-war capacity. Six times the pre-war output of rifles, eight times of machine-guns, ten times of bayonets, twenty-four times of gun ammunition and nine times of guns and gun carriages are a few of the new production figures. To enable these increases more than Rs. 7,00,00,000 have been spent on expansion projects and a further Rs. 16,00,00,000 expansion scheme is already in hand. New types of shell, including 25-pdr., 3-7" anti-aircraft, various types of armour-piercing anti-tank shells and new types of guns, including the 3-7" anti-aircraft gun are regularly in production.

RURAL WELFARE

Addressing the Royal Society of Arts recently on "Rural Self-Governing Bodies in India," Sir Azizul Haque, the Indian High Commissioner at London said:

"I must painfully notice a tendency in some places to bring party politics into rural self-governing bodies. No doubt, here and there, unhealthy factions and rivalries have cropped up: they are mere passing phases and will gradually get corrected. But once these local or self-governing bodies are brought into the arena of major political controversies, I have no doubt it will be a set-back in their growth."

On the question whether proper representation of all communities will, in future, be solved through reduction of the size of the electorate, introduction of direct election and grant of adult franchise or by the creation of separate registers, Sir Azizul Haque said: "As I visualize it, the Muslim problem will probably not be so difficult to solve as the problem of due representation of the Scheduled castes and, with my personal experience of rural habitations of these people, I feel a good deal has to be done to bring their areas within the amenities of proper rural life even as existing today. While a good deal has been done to provide amenities for rural areas, I am afraid these rural bodies have not yet touched the economy of village life very closely."

FOOD FOR VICTORY

There are 60,00,000 fertile farms in the United States and 8,00,00,000 farmers live on them. They have organised themselves in what they call the "Food for Victory" campaign, and are undertaking to increase the already large output of their farms. Normally, the United States produces much more food than the inhabitants can consume. Wheat, fruit, meat, vegetables, egg and milk are shipped to all parts of the world.

POTATOES IN MADRAS

The Government of Madras have prohibited with immediate effect the transport of potatoes from the producing areas in the province to any place outside.

THE WORKERS AND THE WAR

Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, Labour Member, Government of India, in a broadcast talk entitled "What Indian Labour can do to win the war" from the Bombay Station, observed that Labour had been actively co-operating in the prosecution of the war. During the war, Labour had secured many gains and would, no doubt, secure many more. Labour wanted Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Labour believed that victory for the Allied nations was the only hope for such a new order.

Proceeding, Dr. Ambedkar said that there was not much value in independence if the form of government and the order of society were to be those against which the world was fighting to-day. Labour felt that more emphasis ought to have been placed on "New Delhi"—and less on "Quit India". The immediate realisation of Independence as a condition for support to the war effort, Labour found it difficult to understand. In the view of Labour no one could deprive India of her right to freedom if she demanded it with the combined strength of a united people. If India's independence was in the balance, it was because of disunity among Indians. The enemies of India's independence were Indians and none other.

U. S. LABOUR AND INDIA

The Annual Convention of the Congress of Industrial Organisations, the powerful labour organisation of U. S., has passed a resolution unanimously supporting India's demand for Independence.

The Resolution states;

"The C. I. O. supports the aspirations of the Indian people for National Independence needed to mobilise their energies and resources for their full part in the war against the Axis aggressors".

STRIKES

There were 859 strikes involving 291,054 workers during 1941 in British India as compared with 322 strikes involving 452,589 workers during 1940. The total number of working days lost was 3,830,503 as compared with 7,577,281 in 1940.

ENHANCEMENT OF PAPER PRICES

The Government of India have issued a notification enhancing the maximum prices for paper by one anna six pies per lb.:-

1. Bleached woodreef of writing and of printing paper 14 lbs. demy and above, including cream laid, cream wove and account book paper and pulp boards but excluding imitation art, supercalendered typewriting, duplicating, map printing and blotting paper As. 8 per lb.

2. Brown wrapping and cartridge paper 22 x 29-30 lbs. and above As. 7-3 per lb.

3. Ordinary badami paper 14 lbs. demy and above As. 7-5 per lb.

Additional prices: (a) For coloured printing and pulp boards one anna, (b) for light weights—foregoing qualities under 14 lbs. demy one anna per lb.

NO RECRUITMENT TO THE I. C. S.

A Press *Communique* says: "With a view to attracting young men of a suitable type for emergency commissions in the defence forces and in order to ensure that such men were not placed at a disadvantage compared with those who sought civil employment, it was announced in March 1941 that 50 per cent. of the annual vacancies in the I. C. S., and I. P. would be left unfilled with a view to their being available after the war for candidates with approved "war service".

The Secretary of State has now decided that all vacancies in I. C. S. and the I. P. should, after the January examination of 1943, be reserved for such war service candidates and that recruitment to both services should be suspended for the period of the war.

INDIAN COMMISSIONED OFFICERS

Steps have been taken, by the amendment of King's Regulations, to bring the power of command of Indian Commissioned Officers into line with those of King's Commissioned Officers, British and Indian, in respect of British personnel serving in the Army in India or in Indian formations overseas.

It is explained in New Delhi that so far Indian Commissioned Officers had only powers to command British personnel serving in the Indian Army. The amendment gives them powers of punishment also.

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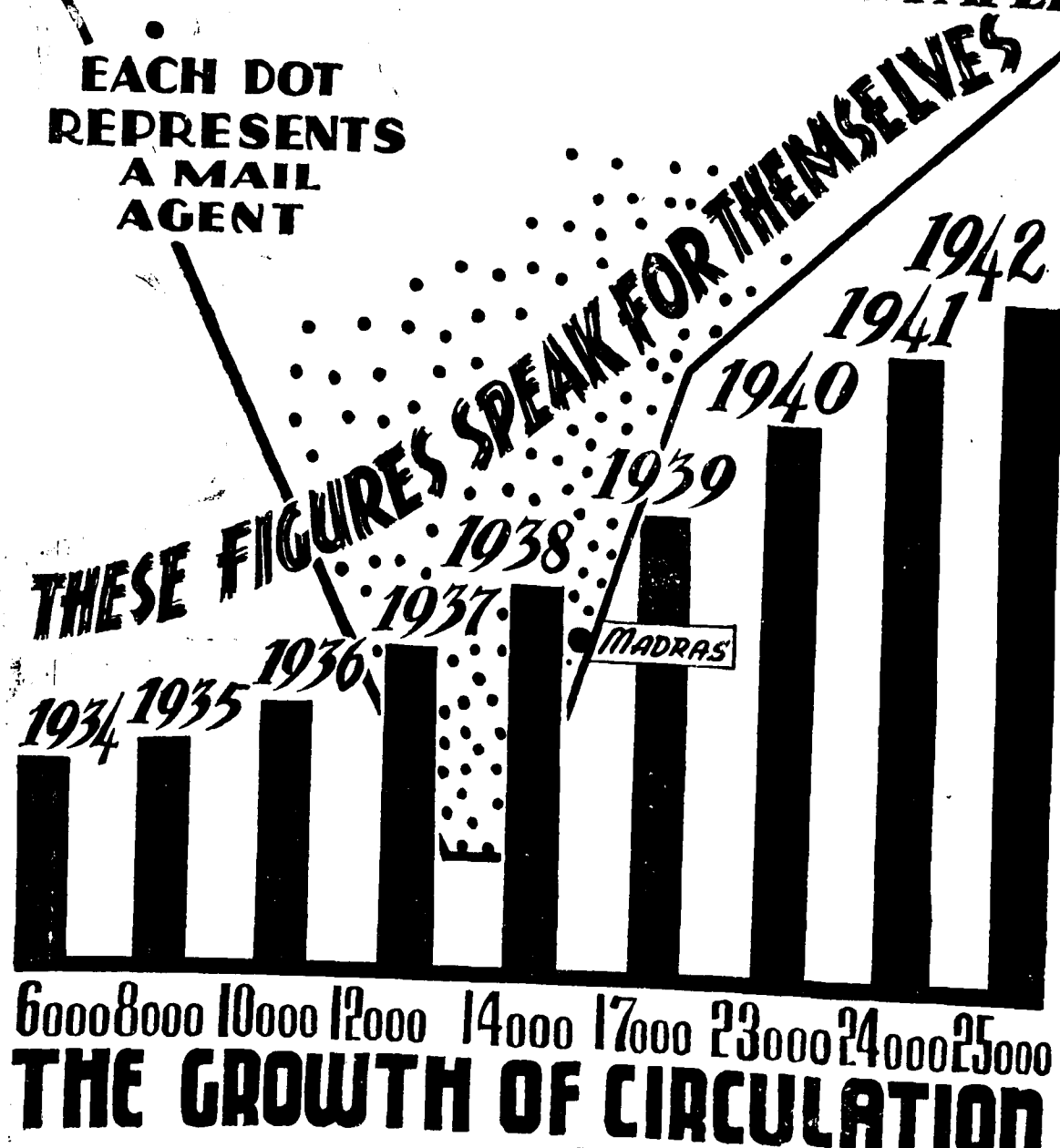
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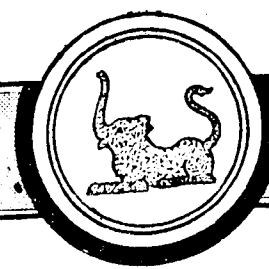


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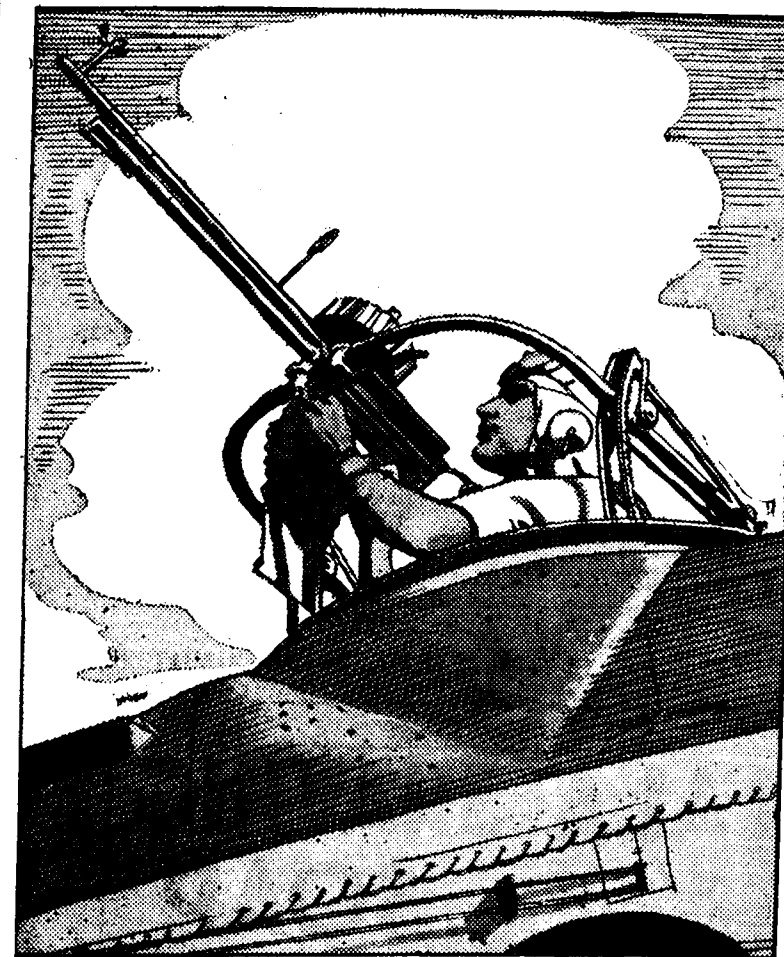
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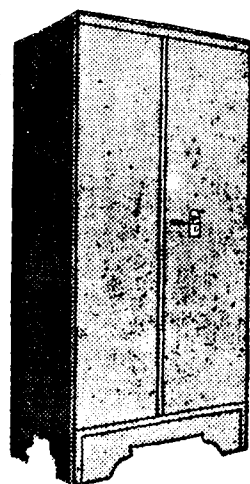
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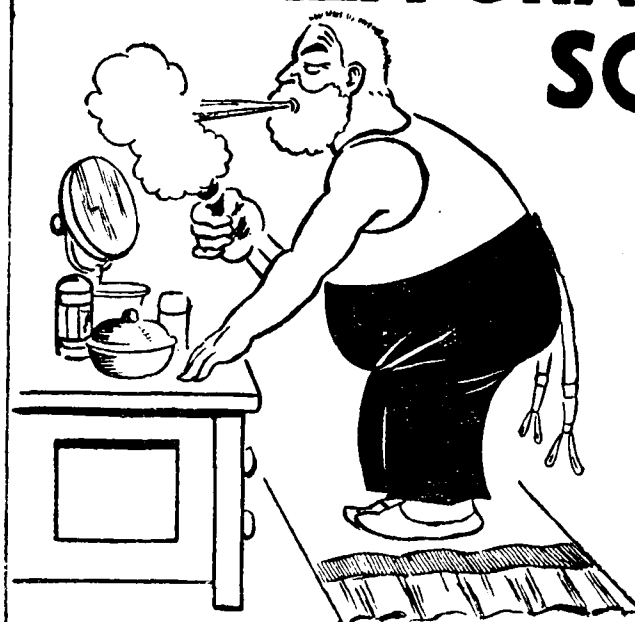
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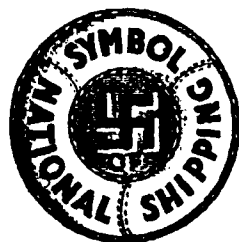
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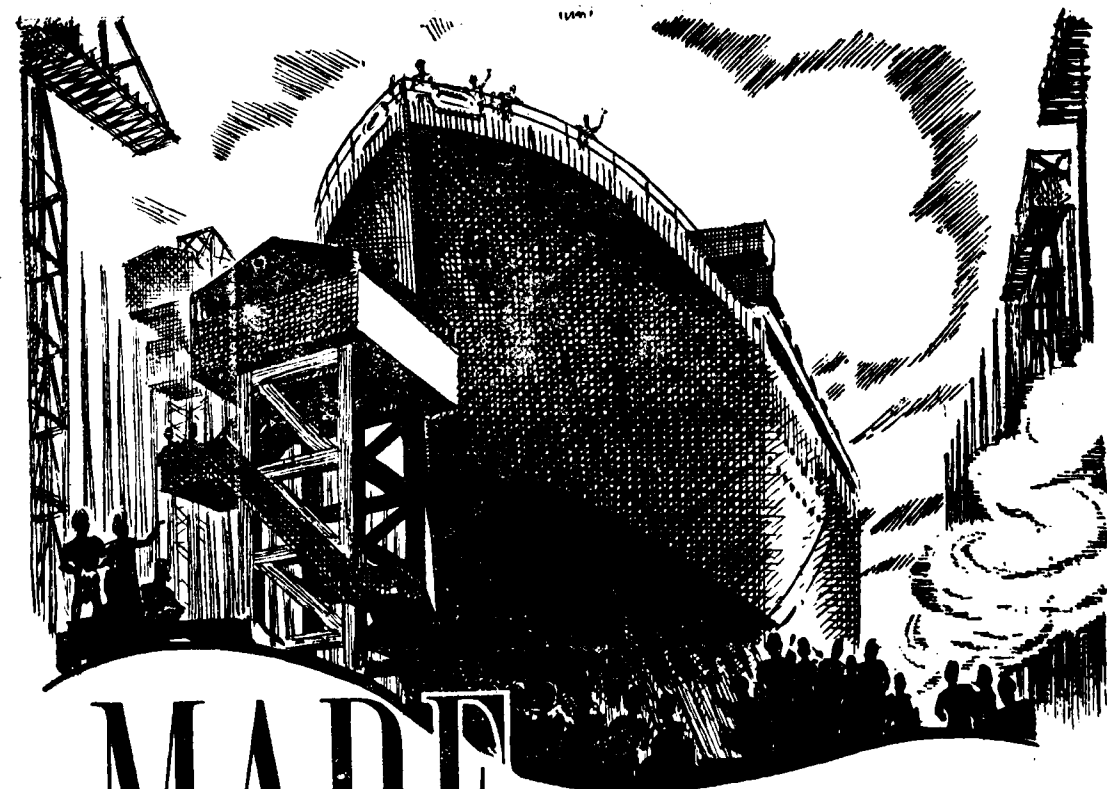
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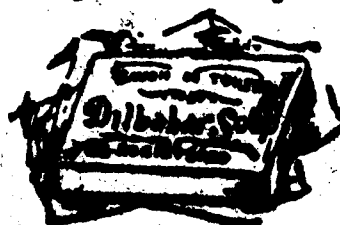
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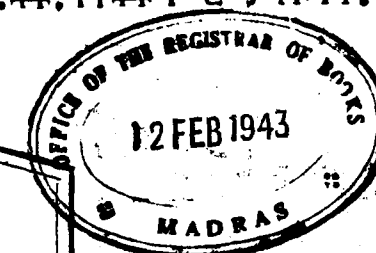


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MONDAY	...	4	11	18	25	...	1	8	15	22	...	1	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26	
TUESDAY	...	5	12	19	26	...	2	9	16	23	...	2	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27	
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THURSDAY	...	7	14	21	28	...	4	11	18	25	...	4	11	18	25	...	1	8	15	22	29	
FRIDAY	1	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26	...	5	12	19	26	...	2	9	16	23	30	
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SATURDAY	4	11	18	25	...	2	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27	...	4	11	18	25	...	...

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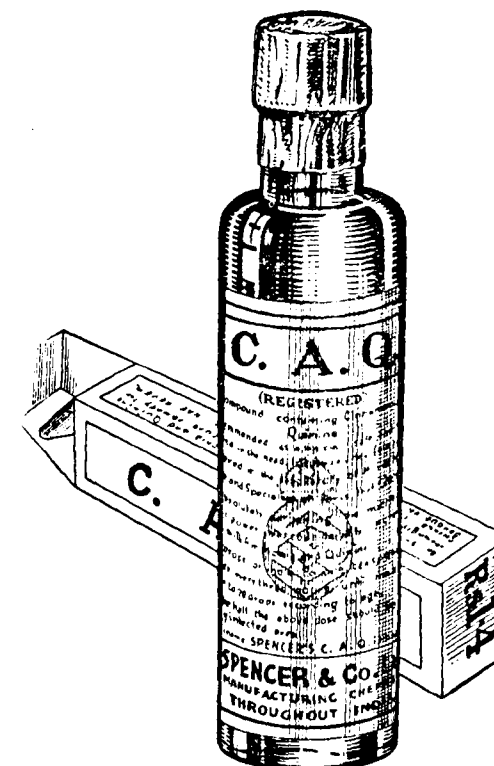
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

9

[FEBRUARY 1943]

Watching the fireworks!



FIRE and explosives are among the works of man which are misused when they are turned against one's fellow-men. But those who face the fireworks now are doing so because there is no other way to make a world in which explosives will regain their rightful place—to give joy to the young of all ages, without apprehension of danger and domination.

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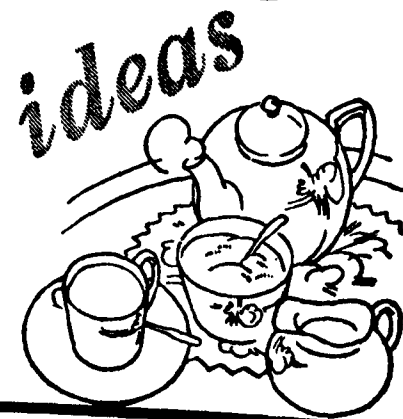
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 44.]

FEBRUARY 1943

[No. 2.]

THE WAR AND INDIA'S WOOD

By ST. NIHAL SINGH

GEARED to the war in Asia, Africa and Europe, the timber industry in India is humming. There are, it is understood, some tens of thousands of separate "items"—the military revel in that word—needed by a modern army.

Exact figures as to the tonnage of timber shipped out to the various theatres of war cannot be published. That it must run into a tremendous figure can, however, be taken for granted. India must have been paid crores of rupees for it.

So insistent, extensive and profitable a demand has the war created that portions of forests that were, till the outbreak of hostilities, regarded as uneconomic to exploit, are now being worked intensively. The prices that are being paid for wood of almost any kind and quality (or rather lack of quality) are sending cutters and sawyers into forest recesses—remote from riverside or rivuletside and away from tracks even for bullock carts. These men hew down trees, cut them into lengths, or even plane them. Hardy labourers carry these on their backs to the point where communication by road or water will end that trail.

The war has also stimulated effort to make India get along without woods of foreign origin. Till the diversion of

shipping from civilian service to war requirements few persons not intimately acquainted with the timber trade realised how abjectly dependent we were upon imports.

What was to be said of wood for building aeroplanes? We did not—could not (it was thought)—do without teak from Burma for making ammunition boxes, bodies for army lorries and the like. Even handles and helves for tools, especially those of a better grade for higher types of work, were made from wood brought to us from abroad—particularly the United States of America and Canada. The boxes in which tea was shipped out from gardens in Assam and the Nilgiris were made of foreign plywood. The cotton and jute industries were dependent upon the outside world for many wooden articles without which they could not carry on for a day. Even the separators used in the batteries were not made from indigenous timber.

With the extinction of supplies of foreign woods in the country and the stoppage of further imports foresters were compelled to seek substitutes. They soon found that with her extensive and varied resources in wood India could be self-sufficing for all, or nearly all purposes, if she only willed so to be.

India is indeed fortunate in respect of raw materials. Nature has generously dowered her with wood in the bole. The area under forest, reserved and unreserved, totals 266,000 square miles, exclusive of similar tracts in the Indian States. The Forest Departments of the various provinces control between them, something like one-fourth of this area.

The woods are situated at different elevations. Some dot plains almost as flat as a table-top, often running along-side rivers, streams and even irrigation canals. Many of the hill-sides and mountain-sides are under forest. With wide variations in soil and climate, the timber yielded is of numerous species, soft and hard, light and heavy, capable, between them, of serving nearly every human requirement.

Intensive research is already enabling India to meet the requirements for aeroplane construction from her own timbers. This she is doing, I understand, for planes meant for defence as well as civil purposes. The Indian Navy, too, is, I fully believe, able to obtain supplies, at least for the most part, from indigenous sources. The Army has certainly no need for Burma teak. It can make—it has, in fact, been making—ammunition boxes, bodies for lorries and the like from Indian woods and the articles manufactured from the home-grown products are every bit as good as those that erstwhile were made from Burma teak. Some, indeed, are better.

The experience in the civil realm has been equally gratifying. Our tea trade is no longer at the mercy of the foreign makers of plywood. The cotton and jute textile industries have been made independent of supplies of essential articles

manufactured from wood brought from beyond the seven seas. Users of batteries in India need not now suffer inconvenience because woods suitable for separators are now available in our own forests. They are—in any quantity—and accessibly.

In rendering India self-sufficing in these and many other respects the Indian Forest Research Institute, situated a little way beyond the western outskirts of Dehra Dun in the United Provinces of Agra and Oudh has played an important part. Men who have distinguished themselves in various branches of science and technology at Indian and British Universities have laboured, separately and conjointly, to free India from this slavery.

The research has been directed by President Stanley Herbert Howard, B.Sc., I.F.S., who was placed by the Government of India as the head of the institute at the beginning of the war. He succeeded Mr. L. Mason, C.I.E., O.B.E., M.C., who was needed at Delhi to organise and to conduct the timber section of the newly created Supply Department. The work of investigation and experimentation has been done by men gathered from all parts of India, in association with a few Britons.

I can make room for just one instance to show how the war is giving us now wood industries. Some years prior to the outbreak of hostilities, machinery was set up, at the Institute, for making plywood. To any one—every one—likely to be interested in the manufacture of this essential article, a demonstration was given. The demonstrator, Mr. Sultan Mohammed, himself a practical wood-worker from the United Provinces laid emphasis upon the fact that almost any kind of wood could, if desired, be utilized and would yield a product that in addition

to being beautiful and even ornamental, would be remarkably strong and proof against shrinking and warping. Men who could command the capital necessary for a first-class plywood plant, however, did not rush forward to start factories.

With the disappearance of existing stocks of imported plywood and the stoppage of further supplies, capitalists saw an opportunity for making money. Where were they, however, to obtain the services of specialists who would help them to manufacture plywood of the various grades for which the war had created so large and so insistent a demand? Where were they to obtain the machinery and the materials?

The Utilization Branch of the Institute under the direction of Captain H. Trotter, I.F.S., M.C., an experienced, energetic officer with considerable commercial acumen, came to the aid of these men. A scientist from Tamil Nadu—Dr. Narayana-murti, worked out formulae for the preservation of wood with chemicals that were available or could be made in India. His experiments also resulted in making glues that were efficient as well as

cheap, needed in large quantities for the manufacture of plywood. The wood-seasoning expert, Mr. Aziz-ur-Rehman, an M.Sc., of the Lucknow University, perfected easy and economical methods of seasoning wood in a fraction of the time that would be needed were Nature to be entrusted with the job. He went to more than one industrial centre to help men who had ventured upon manufacture to solve difficulties that threatened to have a disastrous effect upon the nascent industry. As I write I learn that a young Sikh chemist from the Punjab—Sardar Kartar Singh—trained at the Institute, is going out to a plywood factory to superintend and to guide the work.

If the impetus given by the war continues to be utilized in this wise, India is sure to find, in a few years, new uses for her forest resources. Their utilization will provide lucrative work for an ever-increasing number of science graduates from our universities and for thousands, and, in time, for lakhs of labourers. Men with money and possessed of the requisite initiative, will also reap a harvest of gold.

AMERICAN INTERVENTION IN WAR

BY PROF. HARICHARAN MUKERJI, M.A.

THE present most favourable turn in the tide of war is due undoubtedly to America's intervention in it. American as well as British soldiers and marines were landed on the north coast of Africa and after occupying Oran, Casablanca and other fortified positions they are sweeping on towards their next and ultimate objectives, Tunis and Bizerta. In order to stem the tide of this invasion, Germany

has been compelled to withdraw a large part of her forces from the Russian front thus giving her harassed ally the much needed relief which she needed. Russia too has not been slow to utilise this opportunity and has renewed her attack on the German hordes near Stalingrad who are now being driven away in head-long rout and confusion hastily raising the siege of the city. In the Solomons

too, the Japanese attempts to make a landing in force on Guadalcanar have been repeatedly baffled and Japan was compelled to pay a heavy price each time for her presumptuous attempt. It can be confidently predicted that the tide which has distinctly set in, will rise higher and higher till it engulfs Germany and her allies. So once again as in the Great War of 1914-18, the cause of democracy will triumph by the active intervention of America. She was thoroughly unprepared when Japan treacherously attacked her in December last and this is why she suffered great initial losses but now that she has been thoroughly roused and got into her strides, the Axis powers will soon learn to their dismay the folly of antagonising her. In the present war there was no direct menace to which she was exposed but it was her idealism which prompted her to range herself on the side of the democratic powers and to stake her very independence and prosperity for the independence and liberation of the smaller nations of the world whose liberties were subverted and whose territories were overrun by the Germans. No counsel of prudence such as that tendered by Col. Lindbergh could restrain her when she realised that the cause of liberty both political and civil was in danger. She was prompted by no selfish considerations, by no ignoble motives when she donned the armour this time as during the last. And there is not the least doubt that the war would have been lost long long ago but for her timely intervention and stout championship.

But it is devoutly to be wished that when to the greatest relief of suffering humanity, hostilities will cease and the

armistice signed and the victorious nations will sit round the table to draw up the peace protocol, America will be actuated by the same lofty idealism and she will exert her influence to the utmost to arrive at a just and humane solution, otherwise the war must have been waged in vain.

We, the Indians, look fondly to America to help us improving our status when the war will be over. When it first broke out, Indian opinion was solidly in favour of the Allies and the Indians were anxious to demonstrate their sympathy for the allied cause by doing everything in their power to further it and most of all by joining the army and the airforce in large numbers. But as days rolled on, the prospect which had opened up before them grew dim, the lights departed and they were filled with disappointment. India no doubt supplied and is still supplying the ordinary sepoys but so far as the commissioned ranks are concerned, the doors were not opened wide for the admission of really capable and deserving Indian cadets belonging to the intelligentsia.

The offer of the nation for honourable co-operation in war was turned down. The operation of the Government of India Act of 1935 has been virtually suspended and the country is being ruled by ordinances. The legislatures wherever they function have ceased to be representative and have long outlived their natural life. The noblest in the land having the most glorious record of public service and sacrifice have been clapped in jails. People in high places in London do not hide their intention of keeping India and the Indians in perpetual bondage. When the

prospect is so dark and gloomy it is natural for the Indians to expect that America at least will not fail her, she who had always been guided by lofty idealism and had not hesitated to make the supermost sacrifice for it. If the small nations of Europe are to reap the fruits of victory, why should India be deprived of this inestimable blessing? If to shed one's blood in the cause of liberty and supply the sinews of war be the criterion for showing this, then India must be pronounced to have passed that test. After the war America will emerge as the strongest and greatest nation of the world and her voice at the Peace Conference will be the determining factor.

She is even now the major partner, so to say. It may be questioned why she should go out of her way to help India, to the detriment of Britain for blood is thicker than water. But to entertain any such doubt will be to do her the greatest injustice and to misread the entire lesson of her history as well as deny the existence of idealism in practical politics. A nation which made the supermost sacrifice in men and money and risked her very existence as a nation for the liberation of a few million slaves ought not to hesitate to improve the lot of 400 millions, descendants of a proud and highly civilized nation.

FOOD CONTROL

BY DR. SIR ZIAUDDIN AHMAD Kt., C.I.E.

THE price control as devised and practised by the Government of India is like putting the cart before the horse. The real problem is that it is the duty of the Government of India during the war-time to take necessary steps to regulate fair distribution of the essentials of life among all classes of people. No country can shrink from this responsibility. Even America, with all its resources and Russia, with its extensive territory and huge population, have regulated the distribution of all essential articles with success. Once we admit that it is the legitimate duty of the Government to see that the rich and the poor should alike be supplied with the necessities of life on an equitable basis, as is now done in all countries, then the necessary and logical conclusion will be

that the Government of India should control the entire stock.

Some members of the Government of India think that such action is neither possible nor desirable. This is not the mentality of a wise administrator. A person having sympathy with the stockists and millionaires can alone argue in this manner. All the other countries have controlled and regulated the distribution of foodstuffs. Even some Indian States have done it. I am familiar with the manner of distribution in Bhopal which I think British India ought to follow. The State purchased the stock at economic price which was about 9½ seers for a rupee. The state controls the entire distribution. What is brought to towns for sale at the expense of the State is sold at cost price. Thus the prices all

over the State are equalised. The State levies an export duty which covers the cost of freight.

I have been pressing both the Government of India and the local Government to intervene in this matter and the sooner they do it the better it would be. As soon as the Government have controlled the stock they should determine the economic price at which it should be sold. But the fixation of the sale price without controlling the stock must inevitably create the position that the stockists refuse to sell the articles at what is popularly known as control price. They do not bring their stock in the market but sell by backdoor without issuing receipts at double, treble and in some cases ten times the control price.

Poor people will have to face immense economic troubles particularly in large towns in the months of January, February and March. A plan should now be formulated for the purchase, storage and distribution of food grains which will begin to come into the market from April, 1948.

To alleviate the sufferings of the people I offer the following suggestions:

The District Magistrates should immediately be authorised to control the entire stock of food grains and they should take into account the surplus or shortage in their own districts.

The surplus and the shortage may be equalised by the Provincial Government. The movement from one province to another should be controlled by an officer in the Government of India. The Military requirements should be determined separately; the quota of contribution by each district should be fixed; and purchases should then be made through the District Magistrates.

The sale should not be regulated by the police or by the municipal servants but shops should be opened in each mohallah. Shop-keepers should be allowed a small commission and should sell grain only in prescribed quantity to each individual. Following the example of other countries, the card system may be introduced in bigger towns.

The stocks of villagers who have now kept back the food grains and of the stockists who are not bringing out their stock in the hope that they would be able to sell it at still higher prices should all be controlled by District authorities. The control price should then be fixed by each District Magistrate according to the circumstances of each locality.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

BY

DR. LANKA SUNDARAM, M.A. Ph.D.

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SANKARACHARYA*

BY DR. SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYER, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., LL.D.

THE story of Sankaracharya, the protagonist of the Advaita Vedanta, has been with insight and sympathy, narrated by Mr. Suryanarayana Sastri. The entire universe consisting of "Namarupa" or "names and forms" is but an appearance and Brahman or infinite consciousness is the sole reality. Its attainment and the annihilation of the great illusion of the Universe called Maya by a process of realisation were the objects of Sankara's quest. Sankara's biography is a short one. He was a Namboodiri Brahman born in Travancore, who early became a Sanyasin, studied under Govinda, defeated Buddhists and other sectaries in disputation and established mutts or centres of religious learning and practices in the North, South, East and West of India. Srinagar, Dwaraka, Puri, Sringeri and Kanchi were his far-flung spiritual capitals. A number of legends and miracles have been associated with his life; but one need not deal in detail with such occurrences as that he obtained the consent of his mother to assume the Sanyasa Ashram on the pretext that he had been caught in the bathing ghat by a crocodile and that he had saved himself after resolving upon what is called Apat Sanyasa. The account of the funeral ceremonies of his mother is probably apocryphal and Mr. Suryanarayana Sastri's treatment of these stories and of the one relating to his disciple Padmapada is reasonable and satisfying. The real miracle was his life itself. In about 82 years he is reported to

*"The World Teachers": Life and Teachings of Sankaracharya, Buddha, Zoroaster, Jesus Christ, Muhammed, Sri Krishna. Six uniform volumes. As. 12 each. G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras.

have travelled throughout India, established and vindicated the Vedanta doctrine and made it a part and parcel of Hindu psychology. He left the impress of his genius and of his marvellously analytical intellect and his capacity for devotion on a whole sub-continent without any adventitious aids of secular power or even of large masses of adherents. It may also be remembered that Sankara was not only the preacher of the unalloyed doctrines of the Vedanta but a poet of rare distinction whose luscious imagery and whose descriptions of nature and of man's and woman's life and thoughts argued an unparalleled intuition. He was a great Bhakta as well as a Gnana Yogi. His devotion was manysided but all-absorbing and yet no one has been more devastatingly critical of pretentiousness and humbug and foolish faith than Sankara himself. In one of his songs to Siva, he prays that he may be saved from the fate of becoming a Purohit, from leading a disreputable night life, from being a local leader, from being a Matadhipathi or pontiff, from being a witness in a court of law, from being a liar and above all from being arrogant or lacking in the quality of mercy.

पौरोहित्यं रजनिचरितं ग्रामणीत्वं नियोगः

माटापत्यं ह्यनुतवचनं साक्षिवादः पराक्रमः ।

ब्रह्मद्वेषः खलजनरतिः प्राणिनां निर्दयत्वं

मा भूदेवं मम पशुपते ! जन्मजन्मान्तरेषु ॥

The synthesis of all forms of belief and the perception of oneness have never perhaps been more perfectly expressed than in the following stanza included in Sankara's wonderful outpouring the Dakshinamurthi Stotra:—

भूरम्भांस्यनलोलोऽम्बरमहर्नाथो
हिमांशुः पुमानित्याभाति चरा-
चरात्मकमिदं यस्यैव मूर्त्यष्टकम् ।
नान्यं किञ्चन विद्यते विमृशनां
यस्मात्परस्माद्विभोस्तस्मै श्रीगुरुमूर्तये
नम इदं श्रीदक्षिणामूर्तये ॥

To Him whose eightfold body is all this moving and fixed universe, appearing as earth, water, fire, air, ether, the sun, the moon and soul; beyond Whom, supreme and all-pervading, there exists nothing else for those who carefully investigate; to Him who is incarnate in the Teacher, to Him in the Effulgent Form Facing the South, to Him (Siva) be this obeisance,

It is an amazing psychological phenomenon that the author of the Dakshinamurthi Stotras and the commentaries on the Vedanta Sutras could also be responsible for the intimate devotional thrill and the rapt ecstasy that characterise his Ananda Lahari and the verses beginning

भज गोविन्दं

as well as stanzas like the following:

जपो जल्पः शिल्पं सकलमपि मुद्राविरचना
गतिः प्रादक्षिण्यक्रमजमशनाद्याहुतिविधिः ।
प्रणामः संवेशः सुखमखिलमात्मार्षणदृश
सपर्या पर्यायस्तत्र भवतु यन्मे विलसितम् ॥

(O Mother!) Whatever I articulate may that be regarded as a prayer; may all my manual skill be the gestures of Your worship; may my walks be my circumambulations round you, may my daily food be sacrifice to You, my lying down, obeisance to you, may all enjoyment be an offering and dedication of myself! Whatever act I perform may that be Your worship.

Soundaryalahari.

It was the same seer that thus epitomised the Vedanta doctrine in his *Century of Verses* शतश्लोकी

जीवात्मब्रह्मभेदं दलयति सहसा यत्प्रकाशैकरूपं
माया तेनैव तस्य क्षयमुपगमिता संसृतेः कारणं या ॥

Such a resplendent realisation at once destroys the distinction between the individual soul and supreme self,

The illusion (Maya) that is the source of Birth and death is destroyed by that realisation". His main contribution to thought is his inflexible and rarified philosophy blended of the doctrines of Karma and Maya culminating in a logical exposition of the philosophy of nondualism. He took the Upanishads, the Gita and the Vedanta Sutras and interpreted these scriptures so as to sustain his thesis with wonderful clarity and depth of exposition. He was a great disputant but was also very catholic in outlook although he tolerated no paltering with what he regarded as basic. He has remoulded Indian thought and evolved the theory of Brahman and Atman in a specially individual manner. With a capacity for deep feeling and emotional expression, Sankara united a remorseless logic and destroyed many dogmas. He revived the Upanishads and, in the language of Sir Radhakrishnan, he was not merely a dreaming idealist but a practical visionary. Very different in outlook were the Vaishnava Alvars and the Saivite singers Sundaramurthi, Gnanasambandar and Manickavachakar; different too were the musings of the Virasaiva Saint Basava who sang in his Vachanas of Siva in certain of His aspects; also different was the appeal of the Gnana Vasishtham which has been one of the sources of religious inspiration in the South of India. Ramanuja the great Visishtadvaita, and Madwachari, and Vallabhachari, the Dvaitas took their stand alike on the Upanishads and this, in truth, is one of the features of Indian thought, namely, that the ultimate source of inspiration is regarded as one although the truth may be variously interpreted and commented upon and may be applied differently to the daily life of men in different strata of society. It is, for instance, stated in a Tamil hymn "like song and its tune, like fruit and its flower, the Lord's energy everywhere pervadeth, non-dual. Therefore, say the great Vedas, not "one" but "Not-two."

यन्नेति नेति वचनैर्मिगमा अवेचु ।

exclaims Sankara in one of his hymns. The supreme can only be described as "Not this" "Not that,"

THE PRE-HISTORIC PAINTINGS OF INDIA

By MR. ASIT K. HALDAR

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PRE-HISTORIC art is the record of the evolution of early man and his culture. Before we study the art of that period it is of interest to know how mankind originated and how the races came to be differentiated in the old world. How these occurred nobody adequately knows. The races were isolated from one another for thousands of years and thus composed the first six groups of Australian, Negroid, Mongolian, Alpine, Mediterranean and Nordic stocks. Anthropologists think that both the Australians and the Mediterranean groups migrated to India and then spread out to other countries. Remains of their Art still survive in the cave dwellings in India and also in Europe.

Pre-historic art is primitive and is not sophisticated by conventionalism. As men sought to make their surroundings beautiful, they brought forth 'the first cultural achievements of humanity.' The first discovery of the cave dwellings of Spain at Altamaria reveals the secret of the unsophisticated art of the primitive peoples which belongs to an age when the Asian, Egyptian and Aegean civilizations were unknown. Apart from the aesthetic values of these paintings these give the idea of their grim struggle for existence and of perilous adventures which they had to face. The boldness and vigour of their wild lives were abundantly expressed in their art. In the dark recesses of their cave-dwellings they drew in line and colour paintings of the animals they killed for their uncertain menu. The paintings were generally done by them in places which were inaccessible

and not large and lighted enough to suit the purpose. But it might have been sacred rituals which required such seclusions. Though they lived a most precarious existence in the past, their sense of beauty extorts the admiration of civilized men. The aesthetic sense existed in the most primitive mankind of the remote past in their consciousness in a potential state. In India such examples of primitive art are to be found at (1) Singanpur in Raigarh State, (2) at Hoshangabad, (3) on the river bed at Chakardharpur, (4) in Mirzapur district at Likhunia, Kohar, Bhaldaria and in (5) the Bijaygarh caves. Apart from these at Ghatsila and in different parts of the Vindhya range such paintings are either hewn on the rocks or painted with lard in different colours. Most of the paintings are quite unprotected from ravages of weather and time. They are drawn with the decisive hand of expert draftsmen. The colours are quite bright and vivid.

It is not possible to describe each and every painting in detail, but I shall indicate the main features as briefly as possible. Singanpur rock-paintings are situated eleven miles off from Raigarh—the capital city of Raigarh State and can be approached through the B. N. Railway Naharpali Station. The cave-dwellings in which these paintings are found are on a precipitous rock on the bank of the river Manda. The approach of the caves is covered with thick 'Sal' forests which command a fine view of the surroundings. Some pictures are painted while some are chiselled out of the walls of the caves. Most of them are painted so high up

that it is not possible to view them properly without the aid of a ladder. The paintings are generally painted in red and yellow ochre. Animals such as deer, lizards, and wild buffaloes are depicted in large numbers. In one of its series an elaborate hunting-scene is depicted. A group of hunters is chasing wild buffaloes, some are clothed while a few naked men nearby, supposed to be youngsters, have gone ahead of them with sticks. The head of the buffalo had been quite accurately portrayed which goes to prove how their power of observation developed in those days whereas the human figures were drawn in a childish, conventional manner. The significance lies in their power of making these patterned figures so realistic in feeling that one could almost hear the noise of their excitement and feel their heart-beating during the hunt. In another painting the animal has taken the upper hand, the man is in danger of being overcome by it. In yet another one an elderly person (obviously larger in size) is dancing with arms stretched out with two young boys round a "Trishula" as if devoutly absorbed in their ceremony. There are also some arabesque patterns which show that a keen sense of artistic rhythm was developed at that time.

In the sand-stone rock of Ademgarh two and half miles away from the district town of Hoshangabad in Central India an interesting series of pre-historic paintings is to be found. As usual, these paintings at the outset also look like child's scribbling but in fact these are not at all childish. These are the early stages of human invention to express feelings in writing pictographically and thus have a significance of their own in the story of man's imaginative creations. In the Hoshangabad group a scene shows a party riding on horses without saddles. They were apparently expert riders and had marvellous control over their semi-wild steeds. One of the horses has been depicted catching the rider's loin cloth with its mouth and trying to unseat him. Another horseman behind this unfortunate man has a very trying time to make his horse move in the right direction. He has got a stick in his hand and a bundle tied round his shoulder on account of which he looks quite out of

balance. The untamed horses with their uncanny riders and a man carrying a sword and a shield behind them represent a most grotesque panorama from which we could study the moods and thoughts of the people of the palaeolithic age. In another painting at Hoshangabad a Barasingah (stag) is painted in yellow ochre on a dark background which appears to be in a flight.

Similarly on the bed of the Sanjoy river at Chakardharpur, the capital town of Singhbhum district in Bihar, many such pre-historic records are to be found. Historians think that they are approximately thirty thousand years old. Some line-drawings have been found on the rocky bed of the Subarnarekha river a few miles off from Ghatsila in the same district. At Moubhandar village, a huge human figure is chiselled out on a rocky boulder. There are also some remains of paintings illustrating three persons lying flat on their back with brickbat strewn around them. A bow is placed on one of them and the other three persons seem to be announcing their victory with outstretched hands. Anthropologists think that they represent a proto-Australian stock which came to India many millenniums ago. There are also some traces of their early settlement to indicate this. Most of the other series of such paintings are in the Mirzapur district on the Vindhya Plateau by the river zone. In this district at Likhunna, Kohbar, Bhaldaria and Mahararia and also at Bijoygarh such paintings have been discovered. Near the village Mahararia on the rock-cliffs most of them are either chiselled or painted. Amongst them the Bijoygarh paintings are found on the hill on which the famous fort of Bijoygarh exists. The Garai river dropped hundred feet down the hill there and ultimately formed a rivulet on the side of which the Likhunna caves are situated. The place is densely covered with forests and from the Babarnama we could gather that it was a place for hunting lions, elephants, rhinoceros, bisons and wild buffaloes which used to roam about. In these Mirzapur series of paintings scenes of flight, horsemanship and hunting are generally to be found. All paintings of this

locality are not of the same period. They generally varied between pre-historic date to the 10th century. Cave dwellers also decorated their stone and bone implements of various patterns with figure designs.

Ages after these rock paintings of the palaeolithic age, we come across fragments of paintings on pottery excavated at Mohenjo-daro and Harrappa in the Indus Valley. These paintings are meant for decorating utensils and commodities of daily use. The patterns suggesting a row of stages and various flower patterns show that clever artists were in existence in that remote period, who had the true sense of rhythm and balance. The patterns are so smart to look at that they could pass the severe taste of a modern art-critic. Some of the conventionalised human figures painted on the earthen pots somewhat resemble the caveman's work which preceded them thousands of years ago. The realistic rendering of the natural objects with a fine sense of rhythm and form produced an art in the Indus valley which forms a class of its own; the artists' sensitive feeling for the reality and also the idea of decoration seemed to have wrought miracles and produced such elegant things that men of our time with a highly sophisticated knowledge in subjects cannot get back to that sensitive sphere again.

One of the seals discovered in a room at Mohenjo-daro is engraved with a figure reminiscent of a Babylonian deity. It is horned and holds a box in the right hand and is clothed in a costume suggestive of leaves. A considerable number of pottery figures has been found. Most of these figures have got narrow girdles around the loins. They wear a very distinctive fanlike head-dress. The peculiarity of these figurines is the pinner-like object worn on each side of the head. Most of these female figurines are decorated with jewellery. The figures with elaborate head-dress and jewellery are probably sacred images. These are very common there and Archaeologists think that they are well executed probably made by professional potters rather than at home.

Next to the Mohenjo-daro and Harrappa discoveries we do not come across any

work of art of the Vedic period except the fragments of paintings found in the Jogimara cave in Sarguja State, Central Provinces. These give evidence of the continuity of the pre-historic art to the advent of the highly cultured art of the Buddhist period. The big gaps in between these ancient arts cannot be linked up unless some new discovery is made. In the ancient literature of the pre-Buddhist age the art of painting has been mentioned. The canons of the art of painting developed gradually through the experience of the Artists of many centuries and a highly sophisticated art developed. The Jogimara cave-paintings cannot claim to be a highly developed fine art of India but could be classed by themselves. These paintings consist mainly of processions of elephants, chariots and also Makaras. The human figures are quite primitive in their expression. The colours are restricted to black, Indian red and yellow. The paintings of the Jogimara caves are done on the rough surface of the natural cave which is only 10 feet wide. Archaeologists think that these paintings are pre-Asokan and painted some time in the third Century B.C. The place is hundred miles off from the nearest railway station of Pendra road and is difficult of access.

Primitive art has been re-valued in our time in Europe and it will not be out of place to mention that since the advent of photography, cinematography, talkies and television the whole outlook in art has been changed and certain groups of modern artists in Europe cannot bear following the traditions of the so-called Romantic art. Modernist painters have ruthlessly excluded nature and brought about a change which is nothing but abstractionism and is quite akin to the art of the pre-historic people. The traditions of the pre-historic art form still persist among backward races in certain parts of the world viz., Africa, America, Australia and Indonesia. With the extinction of these races, pre-historic art may yet survive in the Surrealist School of the highly civilized countries in Europe.

(A Radio Talk, Lucknow).

THE ETERNAL I.C.S.

BY MR. AHMAD SHAFI

THE *Times* (London) as usual has given us unsought advice. "Whatever the new form of political constitution the new India may choose for itself," we are told, "the peace of the nation will depend largely on the maintaining of continuity of the I. C. S."

Let us first determine the main features of this service. It is recruited by an authority which derives its sanction from outside India. Its cadre and salary and prospects have been fixed without reference to the revenues of the country or the national income of the people in whose interests it has been engaged and the conditions of its service have placed it beyond the reach of these people. The range of its authority covers governmental powers both at the end where policies are framed and decisions are reached, that is in the government secretariats, and down the line where these policies are translated into action in daily administration.

Now these exactly are the features which any service to be useful to the people must shed.

It is recruited on All-India basis. The candidates are gathered from all the provinces and thrown together for their training. Most of them are returned to their several provinces but some may be allotted to different provinces. Interchanges are permitted to suit individual cases or to meet exigencies of administrative convenience, otherwise the officers form practically a provincial service till a good few of them are picked up to feed the pool of officers required by the Central Government.

Gone are the days when this service used to supply heads of technical departments like agriculture, veterinary, industries and a few others. Except for a few remnants of the old Imperial services the staffs of these departments are now provincial responsibilities. Here and there a few foreign experts have been recruited on contract for definite period but that is a different affair. The departments do not now depend on the I. C. S., neither for their heads nor for their hearts.

In the sphere of Civil Administration a disproportionate share of higher ranges

falls to the lot of the I. C. S. Only a privileged few from the provincial service are allowed to taste its flesh-pots, but then they merge all traces of their origin in the new service. This mal-adjustment between the provincial and All-India service must end.

A fixed proportion of the judges of a High Court is drawn from the I. C. S. As the judicial functions of administration have not been separated from the executive sometimes it so happens that an officer who has acquired a distinct bias for the executive finds himself elevated to the highest judicial office in the province. The executive taint manifests itself in some judicial pronouncements which are thus rendered very unpleasant. This shall not be allowed to continue.

According to the last Congress resolution the residuary powers in new India shall lie in the provinces. If this happens the scope of the I. C. S. in the centre will be reduced with the curtailment of its range and powers. Except for a few minor secretariat posts there will not be much left for them to do. It may happen that the Central Government may have to recruit a separate service of its own instead of indenting on the provincial cadres of the I. C. S.

All these main factors and several others in minor key indicate the increasingly diminishing utility of the I. C. S.

But the *Times* cannot rid its mind of the communal conflicts and heat of religious controversy in India. It admits that "although the large majority of members of the I. C. S. are now Indians, for whom detachment from the heats of religious controversy might have been more difficult than for their British predecessors and colleagues, communal conflicts are still handled by district officers with the same firmness and absence of bias which have always been maintained by the service." Pray who had created and propagated the myth that Indians if placed in positions of authority and power would prove weak administrators and under the stress of communal bias would be deflected from

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THE ESSENTIALS OF PRICE CONTROL

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the course of rectitude? Thank heavens, that myth has now been exploded and those who fostered and exploited it find themselves at the end of their tether. As usual the sting of the *Times'* advice is in the tail. It says: "If no other legacy were bequeathed to the free and united India of the future by the long years of British suzerainty and tutelage, the inheritance of an austere tradition of passionless service to the law would alone constitute a service of imperishable value." Apart from the fact that we have paid for this service through the nose we are not convinced that passionless service is a virtue introduced in India by the I. C. S. Long before the

I. C. S. was constituted time and again Kings and Emperors of India had tempered their despotism and autocracy with passionless service to their subjects. Their example set the course for their Ministers and the noblemen of the Court and for the feudal lords of the land. They regarded it as a point of virtue and were repaid by the loyalty and affection of their subjects. It is true that the I. C. S. have served the law, but in doing so they have worked like a machine without a soul.

No, this state of affairs cannot continue in its present form. We must mend it to fit into the conditions for which new India is being created.

THE ESSENTIALS OF PRICE CONTROL

BY MR. V. R. K. RAO, M.A., M.Litt. (Econ.), F.R. Econ. S. (Lond).

—O—

THE control of prices is not a simple affair, it is an extremely complicated one. Before I indicate what are the essential requirements of an efficient system of price control, I want to point out the need for such control.

As a result of war, trade with enemy and enemy occupied countries is prohibited. Thus we can not import articles which we were formerly importing. For example with the occupation of Burma, Indo-China and Siam by the Japanese, India is unable to import rice which she was doing before. This has resulted in a shortage of that commodity. Again, the military requirements of the Government are greater than before. In the interests of defence it is necessary for us to supply and feed our outposts—Ceylon, Iran and other countries in the Middle East. Over and above these difficulties, the Railways are pre-occupied with the military requirements of the Government. All these factors have created scarcity of many commodities. Further a successful prosecution of war requires the transference of the use of capital and industrial equipment from producing civilian goods to war effort. Thus the reduced available supplies will have to meet the civil demand which has increased by the great

additions to its purchasing power by the heavy war expenditure of the Government. Thus as an alternative to an exorbitant rise in prices, a system of control has to be instituted.

Prices cannot be fixed in violation of the fundamental economic law of supply and demand without enormous waste of effort and money and the consequent rise of black markets, hoarding and of deliberate cornering of supplies by profiteers. Thus we arrive at the first and most important principle of price control—reduction in civilian demand or in other words reduction in consumption. This reduction in consumption can be accomplished only by means of rationing of essential commodities. Rationing is necessary because social justice demands that the all classes should have their elementary needs satisfied. It is not fair that the rich should continue to live in luxury and the poor should suffer more.

Secondly cutting down in civilian consumption by rationing is most powerful by reducing the purchasing power available to the people for immediate use. This requires also cutting away the additional purchasing power created by the vast war expenditure of the Government of India and by the purchases

made by them in India on behalf of the Allies and the Home Government from reaching the civil population. This will inevitably lead to the regulation of wages and salaries and to the adjustment of taxes such as enhancement of incometax, levy of excess profit tax etc., and by a system of enforcement of compulsory saving on the lines of the famous Keynes' plan or a modification of it.

The third point is to augment the existing supplies of essential commodities by increasing production. What I mean will be clear from the following illustration. As a result of war, important commercial crops like, groundnut, cotton etc., have lost export markets. Import of rice, the staple article of diet of this province, cannot be had from Burma etc. This requires wherever possible transferring lands under commercial crops for growing paddy and other food crops and by breaking up new land. Essential articles like medicines and drugs which can not be imported must be manufactured locally or alternatives have to be devised to replenish the existing stocks. Production has to be controlled in such a way that it ensures maximum war effort while at the same time the minimum stocks of essential civilian commodities are kept up.

The stocks of essential commodities at consuming centres have to be replenished if scarcity at those places has to be avoided. Further stocks of these have to be built up as reserves against the contingency of a breakdown in communications. This requires control of railway transport. To satisfy the computing departments a system of Railway priorities has to be introduced.

We come now to the last stage—distribution. In order to control stocks and allow a fair and equitable distribution, it is necessary to control the agencies of distribution. This means the licensing of retailers or using the existing co-operative stores.

Thus from the above discussion we find that a system of price control comprises (1) reduction in consumption by rationing and fixing prices at various stages, (2) controlling the agencies of production of civilian goods, (3) a system of Railway priorities, (4) licensing distributing agencies

and (5) adjustment of taxes and regulation of wages and salaries.

But a price control can be effectively enforced only by a central authority. Prices have to be fixed at various stages from production down to the stage of actual consumption. Provincial requirements have to be co-ordinated, railway transport has to be regulated so that war effort does not suffer.

In contention of my view for the control by central authority, I quote here one or two anomalies that would arise in the absence of such a control. If Punjab and Madras ban export of wheat and rice respectively from those provinces, what should happen to a province like Bombay? There have been of late, many complaints of scarcity of rice, wheat, sugar, etc. at various places. The civil authorities have explained away this situation by saying that the wagons are not available. At the same time we have heard that the wagons could be made available to transport 800 horses for Bombay races! Recently Sir Edward Benthall, in opening the Indian Railway Conference stated that the Railways released and made available the required number of wagons at the stations specified but the commodities to be moved were not there!

I may mention also that the greatest evil consequence of an efficient control of prices will be the investment in commodities by the public. The prevalence of this move-flight from the currency in technical language was admitted by the Government *Communique* issued in conjunction with the institution of a separate Food Department in the Government of India. Once this tendency gathers momentum, the consequences will be most damaging.

That the present policy of price control by means of conferences and complicate machinery of Advisory Food Councils is a failure, is evident from the fact that the Calcutta index of all prices (1914=100) which was 101 in June 1939 rose to 182 in June 1942.

These are difficulties which have to be overcome in a country like India but they are not insuperable. To act quickly will be to reduce the privations which the poor suffer.

THE TRIUMPH OF DEFEAT

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

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INDIAN history is full of instances where defeats have been the greatest of triumphs for the vanquished and where it is the conquerors who ultimately met with failure. The first attempt of Greek invasion of India under Alexander did not materialise and the second attempt under Selucus met with terrible reverses and the Eastern portion of the Greek Empire of Bactria was ceded to the victorious Indian warrior, Chandragupta Maurya. But this defeat of Selucus was a great triumph for the Greeks; from that time, the Greek element became an integral factor in India's life and the Greeks began to appear very prominently in Indian literature, as is evident from the works of Kalidasa less than two centuries after the defeat of Selucus. It is true that Panini himself mentions the Greeks, as he uses the term Yavana and their script, Yavanani. But it is in Kalidasa that we first meet with a prominent mention of the Greeks. He sings of the beautiful Greek women of Persia in the *Raghuvamsa*. King Dushyanta appears in the *Sakuntala* with Greek girls about him. King Pururavas has Greek girls in attendance in the *Vikramorvasi*. The first Greek victory in India was just at the time of Kalidasa when they invaded India under Minander. But after this victory, the Greeks were swallowed up by the Indian nation and got merged into it.

Then came the Cythians. They conquered India and kept parts of the country under subjection. Slowly they got themselves established in the land; first they became Buddhists and then they became out and out Hindus, far more fanatical Hindus than the earlier settlers

of the country. Here also as in the case of the Greek victory, the defeated Indians had the final triumph. The victorious Cythians disappeared as a separate nation of conquerors. The Huns also had the same fate. This triumph of defeat, in the form of the fusion of the conquerors with the conquered people took a long time, to be counted in centuries.

The next defeat of India was at the hands of the Muslims from the North West. Muslim Emperors of various dynasties sat on the Imperial throne at Delhi for three centuries from 1206 to 1526 A.D. Then came the Moghuls, also Muslims, and they reigned at Delhi for two centuries from 1526 to 1707 A.D., when after the death of Aurengazeb, the Empire declined. The Muslims were getting merged into the Hindu, or rather Indian, society both ethnically and culturally. The Muslim Empire was at its zenith of expansion during the Moghul period and this period of triumph also coincided with the triumph of the conquered Indians over the conquerors by getting the conquerors dissolved among themselves and by the gradual disappearance of the distinction of the conquerors from the conquered. But the Mahratta conquests after the Moghul period was the real cause of the arrest of this process of amalgamation and provided the Muslims with a chance of preserving their separate individuality. If the Moghul Empire had continued in its glory for another century until the advent of the British, there would have been only one Indian nation without any distinction of Hindus and Muslims just as there was till then only one Indian nation without any distinction of Indians as against the Greeks, the Cythians and the Huns.

The secret of this triumph of defeat is that man has a love for culture and civilization. Man does not live for political conquests; he does not die for mere

political causes. The craving of the soul, a feature common to all men, though not so prominent as his political instinct, operates slowly and steadily in his life and the advantages of civilized life as a consequence of national merging supercedes man's love of political advantages. The European colonisation of America, of Africa and of the Pacific islands presents a different problem, where national merging threatens the civilized life of the conquerors. If India can preserve her civilization, then the conquest of India will in course of time turn out to be the worst defeat for the victorious nation. The innate soul-craving of the conquerors for civilised life will compel a merging of the British into Indian nationhood and the problem of foreign rule will meet with a natural solution. It is the operation of the power of Indian civilisation that compelled the merging of the former conquerors of India into the Indian nationhood; and that is the only solution for the present problem of India. If Indians will develop a consciousness of being the inheritors of a great tradition which had an unbroken history in the country from the earliest Vedic times, that means, if Indians will accept the doctrine of Vedic authority in all the aspects of their national life, as was done by the Indians of old at the time of the Greek, the Cythian and the Hun conquests, then surely the British conquests of India on the political plane will end in the Indian conquest of Britain, which means Indian conquest of Europe, on the plane of culture and civilization. One civilization cannot eradicate another civilization; in their clash they get merged. There can be the eradication of one nation by another nation only when the former does not stand for any civilization for which man's soul develops a craving and love. This is what the past history of India has proved and this is what we find in the modern history of India also.

Many English writers of the nineteenth century were very unhappy over Britain's victories in India, in so far as they feared that the conquests may turn out to be the worst defeat for the ideals of freedom which the English people very much cherished through many centuries.

Even now there are many English thinkers who feel that the only great triumph for English ideals is the attainment of freedom from British domination by India.

The triumph of Indian defeat by Britain is exhibiting itself even now in various ways. If many British officials maintain their English manners with religious devotion even in out of the way places during their inspection tours, there are others who adapt themselves to Indian ways in dress and food and other aspects of life, and try to keep up many of them even after their return to their homes. If Christian missions try to convert Indians to their religion, many religious missions from India are receiving whole-hearted welcome in Europe and America. Buddhism has a great appeal to the European nations and Buddhism is essentially Indian. Swami Vivekananda made a deep impression in Europe and America and the Ramakrishna Mission is a living force in those countries even now. Many doctrines peculiar to Indian religion are whole-heartedly adopted in many homes in Europe and America, and especially so in the homes of Theosophists. The doctrine of non-violence is acclaimed by very influential sections of people in Europe and America as a great spiritual gift from India.

In this way the political defeat of India by Britain, which affects man's physical life, is meeting with great triumph over the conquerors on the plane of culture and civilization that changes man's spiritual life. If the door to India's past civilization can be thrown open to the conquerors, they all will walk in and get themselves merged into the Indian nation. Thus the real problem in India is not one of political or economic conflict but one of cultural fusion. The stoppage at the gates of ancient Indian civilization, which remain shut, is the real cause of the congestion in the political and economic regions; the opening of the gates will provide enough material for all to enjoy their souls' requirements. The political defeat of India will, as on previous occasions, be the greatest triumph on the plane of culture and civilization.

RECENT GATHERINGS

The Christmas holidays usually provide the occasion for a number of Conferences—political and cultural. During the closing week of December last and the first week of last month many such gatherings took place in different centres of India. In accordance with our usual practice an attempt is made in the following pages to give a bird's-eye view of these gatherings and to provide the busy reader with a precis of their proceedings. It is hoped that this brief account of these important Conferences will be read with interest.—[ED. I. R.]

THE HINDU MAHA SABHA

The twenty-fourth Session of the All-India Hindu Maha Sabha met at Cawnpore on December 29 under the presidency of Mr. V. D. Savarkar. It was attended by some 15,000 people, besides 500 delegates from different provinces.

Lala Lakshmi Pat Singhania, Chairman of the Reception Committee welcoming the delegates said:

"It is not desirable at this time to blame the Congress for having always tried to come to terms with the Muslims by giving them concessions and raising their demands ever more. It is also not wise to say that they would accept only those demands of the Muslims which are reasonable and warranted by their numerical strength in the country. If we want freedom and if we want a National Government at the Centre during the war, we shall have to rise above these considerations and find out a solution."

In his presidential address Mr. Savarkar stressed the unflinching determination of the Hindu Maha Sabha to oppose the All-India Muslim League's demand for Pakistan.

He analysed the dangers of conceding the demand for Pakistan and the principle of self-determination for the provinces. There is a fundamental difference between provincial redistribution and provincial self-determination which enables the question of secession of a Province from the Central State to be ruled out altogether, as it amounts to breaking up Hindusthan. Again the granting of the right to Provinces to secede from the centre at their own sweet will and allowing them to set up separately independent States would prove far more dangerous than the basic demand for Pakistan, meaning thereby freedom for certain territories

containing Muslim majorities to cut themselves off and form a separate State. The Pakistan demand contained in the latter case is by itself intolerable and we must oppose it with all our might, as it means the loss of number of Provinces; but the demand for the principle of self-determination for Provinces can but have only one meaning and that is that it will be a veritable sword of Damocles kept hanging on the head of the Central State.

Pointing out that the demand for a separate state is treachery, Mr. Savarkar went on to say that hopes of obtaining independence by what is known as the "unity demand" were futile.

After pointing out the limits of communal minority rights and reasonable safeguards in a united, undivided and indivisible India, Mr. Savarkar said:

It will be well for the Muslims, even in their own interests, to bear faithful allegiance to the Indian nation on the same conditions as the other minorities.

The main resolution of the session reiterating its opposition to any constitutional scheme which undermines the integrity of the nation and asking the British Government to modify their policy of possible *vivi-section* of India, was discussed at length at the subjects Committee, and placed before the open Session on the 31st. The following is the text of the resolution which was moved by Dr. Syamaprasad Mookerjee:

It records its definite opinion that the political situation has deteriorated owing mainly to the refusal of British Government to take the initiative and transfer power to Indian hands.

Complete unanimity on all points among all political parties has never been achieved in the history of any country in the world and insistence on such unity as a condition precedent to transferring power is only a pretext for not parting with political power.

The impossible attitude taken by the Muslim League and its refusal to come to any settlement

unless the principle of Pakistan is accepted—a principle to which the Hindu Mahasabha can never agree to both in the interest of Hindus and India as a whole—has been due mainly to the open encouragement which the League has received and is receiving at the hands of British Government. Now that the Viceroy in his recent Calcutta speech has openly recognised that political integrity and geographical integrity of India must be maintained, the British Government should now modify their policy of possible vivisection of India as embodied in the Cripps' proposals.

Moving the resolution, Dr. Mookerjee said that the responsibility for the present political deadlock in the country rested with the British Government, which had failed to meet India's political demand under various pretexts such as disunity among the various communities, want of common front etc. The speaker asked if such want of unity ever stood in the way of the British Government when it had made up its mind to thrust something on India. He instanced the case of the Communal Award and the passing of the Government of India Act of 1935.

We do not want any foreign aggression, nor do we want any foreign rule. We want to be ruled by Indians and on behalf of Indians.

Dr. Mookerjee further declared that the Maha Sabha would not be a party to any settlement that sacrificed the integrity of India. He was seconded by Seth Jugal Kishore Birla and supported by Sardar Nand Singh and Mr. B. G. Khaparde. The resolution was passed unanimously.

The next resolution dealing with the charter of rights and responsibilities of citizens was moved by Dr. M. B. Udgaonkar.

But the most controversial resolution of the session which was moved by Dr. B. S. Moonje, was referred to a special Sub-Committee. It ran:

In view of the fact that Great Britain is not prepared to part with power as has been clearly proved by their rejection of the national demand formulated by the Sabha and in view of the fact that Pakistani Muslims are actually threatening civil war and particularly in view of the fact that the principle of Pakistan is being encouraged by the British Government as evidenced in the Cripps scheme, this session of the Hindu Mahasabha has come definitely to the conclusion that an active movement must be resorted to compel Great Britain to recognise India as an independent nation in the world, as well as to defend the integrity of India against the Pakistani Muslims.

Moving the resolution, Dr. Moonje said that the Subjects Committee of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha had appointed a sub-committee consisting of Mr. V. D. Savarkar, Dr. S. P. Mookerjee, Raja Maheshwardayal Seth, Mr. Khaparde and himself (the mover) to redraft the resolution which was originally before the Subjects Committee, with a view to effecting a compromise of all views held on the subject. He was glad to announce that the resolution he was moving was a unanimous resolution.

Office bearers for the new year were then elected and it was decided to hold the next session at Amritsar.

THE CEYLON NATIONAL CONGRESS

The Ceylon National Congress at its 23rd Session held at Peliyagoda on December 20, decided by a big majority to adopt the attainment of "Freedom" for Ceylon as its object instead of "Dominion Status within the Statute of Westminster." For this purpose a change was made in the Congress constitution.

Mr. J. R. Jayawardene, who moved the resolution submitted that while the word "Dominion" might be applied to countries outside Britain peopled by British emigrants, it had no meaning in regard to countries like India and Ceylon which had a civilisation of their own.

Mr. D. S. Senanayake, Minister of Agriculture and Lands, opposing, contended that the adoption of the resolution as a substitute for the present Article 1 of the Congress constitution must necessarily mean the exclusion of the second part of the present article which laid down the social and economic development of the country also as an object of the Congress. For 20 years the Congress had worked wholeheartedly for the political advancement of country, with one object in view and had never wasted its time in verbal controversies. The resolution was carried, only four voting against.

Mr. Dudley Senanayake proposed the next resolution, calling upon the United Nations to make forthwith a declaration guaranteeing to Ceylon freedom immediately after the war. Mr. C. P. G. Abeywardene seconded. The resolution was carried.

ALL-INDIA EDUCATIONAL CONFERENCE

Presiding over the All-India Educational Conference at Indore on December 27, the Rt. Hon'ble Dr. M. R. Jayakar discussed the changes that have taken place in the educational thought and activities of present day India. He deplored the curtailment of Government grants to education and cited in contrast the example of China which is diverting all its resources to the development of its educational system.

"To quote only one instance, article 157 of its draft constitution provides that educational appropriations should constitute not less than 15 per cent. of the total central budget and 30 per cent. of the budgets of the provinces, districts and municipalities. This ill-placed economy in education is particularly undesirable in India, where educational grants have always formed a drop in the ocean. I am one of those who hold that war is the best time for pushing educational schemes for the simple reason, among others, that the conscience of mankind is stirred during the war against ancient wrongs and injustice. We must, therefore, start planning our educational programme now for it is long and difficult and, when the war is over, we may have no time and we shall be found unprepared to prosecute them."

Detailing the plan, Dr. Jayakar said:

First, it will be national, because it is based on the actual needs of the entire nation in all its stages so as to provide an opportunity for every man, woman and child to develop personality to the utmost extent and to live a full life. Secondly, it will be national because its objectives methods and standards of performance will have relation to the facts of the economic, social and cultural life of the people of all classes of whom it is composed. Thirdly, it will be national, because it will be based on a new conception of citizenship, the requirements of which will have to be carefully planned by the state co-operating with the people.

Dr. Jayakar then stressed the importance of military training and urged that the universities, as the name implies, must take up the work of unification and their curricula should be so framed as to place more insistence on all that unites the people and not on what divides them.

Universities are best fitted to do this, subjugating more and more all forces which make for isolation, superiority, intolerance and hostility. There is much in India on which the people can unite and, if this is brought more prominently forces of disintegration will be replaced by mutual understanding, respect and co-operation. The bigotries, both superstitions and political of self-seeking leaders, must be dissipated by diffusion of right ideals of education.

The session concluded on the 30th after adopting resolutions condemning whipping as punishment for students and proselytizing activities in educational institutions, recommending the appointment of teachers solely on grounds of ability and adoption of general uniform policy for welfare, safety and discipline of students, teachers, and introduction of training for self-defence and approving Teachers' Charter.

THE BHANDARKAR INSTITUTE

The Raja Saheb of Bhore presided over the Silver Jubilee celebration of the Bhandarkar Oriental Research Institute at Poona on January 4.

Addressing the gathering Dr. Sir S. Radhakrishnan observed that this institute was founded in the middle of one war and is celebrating its silver jubilee in the middle of another. This shows that the heritage of reason and tradition of civilisation are superior to passing events and in a war like this, so vast it is essential that we should be recalled to the critical values of life.

There is a rule of law, governing the universe, he said. The world is hankering to become one in reality. If they could not bring about cultural unity—the only other way was "the way of withering itself through agony, through torture, and through anguish."

Sir Radhakrishnan urged that it was no use contemplating the vanished glory of India when they were engulfed in a common catastrophe.

Civilisation seemed to have lost its vitality. If it had to be redeemed from the charges of senility and imbecility, they had to build a different kind of superstructure. In our age when new forces were operating, when women were crying for emancipation, when there was a need for universal suffrage, mass education, etc., it was essential to reorientate and to reorganise our institutions keeping perfectly intact the fundamental values of human spirit.

THE INDIAN SCIENCE CONGRESS

The President-elect Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, being in jail, the 30th Session of the Indian Science Congress met under the presidency of Mr. D. N. Wadia, at Calcutta on January 2.

Dr. B. C. Roy, Chairman of the Reception Committee, inaugurating the Congress said:

If it is the object of Science, as it originally was to increase the comforts and security of man, then Science as originally conceived and developed cannot corrupt our morals. If Nature's gifts had been developed and perfected by man not for any higher purposes but to enable him to indulge in the blind orgy of destruction and destruction, the blame cannot be laid at the doors of science or scientists. The sharp weapon, the knife of a surgeon was forged not to destroy the life of an individual but to save him from the ravage of a malignant affection, gun-powder was manufactured not to kill thousands of innocent lives but to provide a channel for drinking water to thirsty people on the otherside of a hill, to provide a thoroughfare for the masses, the investigations into the properties of phosphorus were directed not to incorporate it in the preparation of bombs, but to provide a suitable and ready material for getting light.

In the course of his presidential address Mr. D. N. Wadia, Mineral Adviser to the Ceylon Government put in a plea for the adoption of a wise and justly planned international mineral policy framed by an international directorate in order to preserve peace and goodwill among countries inequally endowed by nature with mineral wealth. What is required is a planned international economy by which, all nations irrespective of their present status, will enjoy equal benefit.

The preliminary recommendations of the Conference on "Mineral Resources and the Atlantic Charter" convened by the British Association's Committee on Social and International Relations of Science last July appear to be on the right lines, but they will not go far enough if their implications are meant to safeguard the interests of the British Empire only, or even of the whole United Nations group. But if the Atlantic Charter did not unreservedly provide for all peace-loving nations of the earth, whatever oceans bound them, its fulfilment in a partial degree would not achieve the goal of post-war mineral allocation, nor succeed in removing a focal infection point in the body politic of the world.

Mr. Wadia then referred to the work of the National Planning Committee which through its 29 Sub-Committees had set

out on formulating a programme covering many phases of the country's future life and activities, material, productive, educational and artistic.

A planned reconstruction in a greater or less measure of India's commerce, industry, finance, land, labour, mining transport, power-generations, technology alongside educational cultural and social re-organisation is expected to emerge from the labours of this body.

Pandit Nehru will continue as President-elect for next Session which will be held at Trivandrum.

INDIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES

Sir C. V. Raman presided over the Eighth Annual meeting of the Indian Academy of Sciences which met at Bangalore on December 26. Rajamantravina K. V. Anantaraman, Finance and Revenue Minister, conveyed the following message from H. H. the Maharaja:

There is every ground for hope that Indian scientists will continue to make substantial contribution to the stock of knowledge. The Academy is striving to make the lay public realise the importance of human progress and happiness and its efforts in this direction deserve encouragement.

In the course of his opening address Mr. Anantaraman said that the neglect of Scientific research was a serious and outstanding defect in the scheme of our educational arrangements and that the removal of this defect had been a matter of recent attempt at the Universities.

Proceeding Mr. Anantaraman said that the controversy between pure science and applied science was an old one, but to his mind

the difference between the two points of view was not vital or serious. One stressed the pursuit of knowledge for the sake of knowledge and the other looked at it as a means to an end viz., that of adding to the wealth and happiness of the people. Both points were important, but to the non-scientific man, the second was naturally the more appealing. The war had shown and was showing what science could do to demolish and destroy. After the war, the scientist must show what he could do to create and construct and thus atone, in part at least, for the colossal destruction of life and property caused with the aid of science.

Sir C. V. Raman's address was a purely technical theme entitled "Diamonds Tell a Story".

ADULT EDUCATION CONFERENCE

Inaugurating the third Adult Education Conference at Indore, H. H. The Maharaja of Dewas, President of the Holkar State Cabinet pointed out that victory over poverty, distress and disunion would be a much greater victory than anything which might be achieved by our armed forces.

Presiding over the Conference Dr. Amarnath Jha, pointed out that in India we have to tackle first the problem of illiteracy and then to prevent the lapse to illiteracy. For this purpose we must bring out a series of publications in each of the major languages, called the people's Books. They should be cheap, readable, short and simply written. Each provincial organisation should undertake this work.

The President suggested that the Universities should undertake to arrange short term courses intended to serve as refreshers for those who had already received University training, but were out of touch with the latest developments in their special subject. They should organise also courses for part-time students, on the lines followed in Great Britain by Colleges for further Education; some of these Colleges had evening classes in mechanical and electrical Engineering, building and Chemistry, as well as technical classes for the trades. The resolutions adopted at the conference recommended the establishment of an adult education department of the Government of India, Educational Commissioner's Office, strengthening adult education movement in universities.

INDIAN STATISTICAL CONFERENCE

Opening the Sixth Session of the Indian Statistical Conference at Calcutta on January 4, Dr. B. C. Roy urged the importance of Statistics with the development of Economic Science. In India, Dr. Roy added, advanced studies of and training in Analytical Statistics were first started in the Statistical Laboratory, which had been closely associated with the University of Calcutta. Dr. Roy claimed that the Calcutta University, therefore, which in India had recognised Statistics first as a subject of independent study, had given a lead in this matter.

In a message wishing success to the Conference H. E. The Governor of

Bengal, Patron, invoked the aid of Statistics in planning on sound lines the future of industry, of commercial development and of the Economic life of the peoples.

The Hon'ble Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker, Commerce member, presiding over the session, pointed out:

"The absence of political freedom has so far hampered our nation-building activities, but I can see sure signs of a great improvement in our political status which would leave us free to mould our own economic destiny after the war. If the work of development is to proceed along rational lines we must have a well-thought-out plan in advance and for this a vast amount of statistical information on the many aspects of our social and economic life would be an essential pre-requisite. Statistics constitute the very foundation of planning."

THE THEOSOPHICAL CONVENTION

The Convention of Theosophists met at Adyar under the presidency of Dr. G. Srinivasa Murthi in the closing week of December last.

Mrs. Cousins in a lecture on vegetarianism said the Brahmanical tradition of pure food was a point of India's dharma which had been faithfully carried out, and a point of Karma which might save India from bloodshed. She regretted that women had been turned into makers of munitions: that was a fall in human morals, and a change in the dharma of womanhood. She urged people to talk about vegetarianism because the spread of the idea of refinement would help to refine the race. It was a form of modern rearmament. Mrs. Cousins quoted Dr. Anna Kingsford as saying fifty years ago that vegetarianism would prove to be a redeemer of the world.

Prof. J. H. Cousins in a closing address on the 30th said that the members would have made good use of their time in the Convention if instead of taking away chunks of Theosophy spoken by others, they became in their own nature, real, true and natural Theosophists.

Professor Cousins' address was followed by a symposium on "The Theosophists' Duty to India", in which Mr. Duncan Greenless said that the mere establishment of a constitution would not establish freedom.

INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

Opening the 19th Session of the Historical Records Commission at Trivandrum on December 28, H. H. The Maharaja of Travancore referred to the experience they had gained during the 23 years since the Commission was constituted and observed that the historical spirit has invaded every field of human activity and thought.

"History in the former sense originally depended for material on monuments, inscriptions, coins, medals and early chronicles, public and private, religious and secular. From these were evolved histories strictly so-called and I assume that your task is to collect and arrange all available data so as to present a true picture to the present and future generations of the march of humanity across the ages."

The Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, Member, Viceroy's Executive Council, delivering the presidential address, stressed the need for maintaining the integrity of India and pointed out the way that princes and states could help in evolving a truly federal constitution for India.

It is not beyond the powers of Princes and Representatives of people to bring Federal Constitution into action and thus actively work towards the realisation of righteous rule. In this hour of peril, unless princes and people join hands to maintain the integrity of India by bringing Federation into action they will jeopardise the future of India and with it their own.

In the Conference about 51 papers of historical interest were read in all.

In connection with the Conference an Exhibition of Historical Records was opened by the Dewan, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. The Governments of Baroda, Mysore, Patna, Jodhpur, the Punjab and the Central Provinces had co-operated with Travancore to make the exhibition a success. The largest number of exhibits had been sent by the Imperial Record Department of New Delhi.

As student of history the Dewan said he had sought to collate some records relating to Travancore as he believed that such collation was of importance not only in reconstructing the history of that State and other parts of India but in realising how close-knit are the various parts of India.

POLITICAL SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Principal Gurumukh Nihal Singh presided over the fifth Session of the Indian Political Science Conference held at Agra on January 2. In the course of his address Principal Gurumukh drew a vivid picture of the distracted condition of affairs in India;

"In my opinion the future of India will depend upon how the problem of minorities is handled in Hindustan and as to what efforts are made to bring about a real fusion of the peoples into a single whole. A good beginning might be made with composite cabinets and by guaranteeing complete religious freedom and protection to the language and culture of minorities but a determined effort must be made to cultivate a purely secular outlook in public affairs and to discard untouchability of all kinds and to abandon personal, local and communal conceptions of law and politics and thus create in course of time denational, socialist States in the country. When that is accomplished the separated States shall return and form a Union of the Indian Socialist Republics.

That may appear to-day a most unreal dream but if Socialist Russia emerges victorious from this titanic struggle and if the socialist order spreads in other parts of the world after the war and if an Indian Lenin or Stalin arises in our midst, the dream may materialise at a not too distant future."

RADICAL DEMOCRATS' CONFERENCE

The All-India Radical Democratic Party met in conference at Lucknow with Mr. A. K. Pillai in the chair. About 400 delegates attended the Session. Opening the Conference Mr. M. N. Roy said:

"Let us build our party as a powerful organisation and, perhaps within the next year or so, we shall make India the scene of events which may change the situation in India and, in consequence, perhaps the history of the whole world."

In his report Mr. V. B. Karnik, General Secretary, reviewed the activities of the Party since its inauguration two years ago, and declared that as a result of these activities the Party had grown tremendously.

The Session concluded on the 27th Dec. and adopted a number of resolutions.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

MARATHA POLITY. BY S. V. Puntambekar. Pamphlet No. 2. Minerva Series on Government. Minerva Book Shop, Lahore.

This neat and brief summary of the structure and features of the Maratha Polity claims that the Maratha State was not a mere police State but did a number of social, cultural and economic functions. In its first shape under Sivaji, it was suited to the genius of the people and the demands of the times, and above all it lifted the land from its mediæval rut and imparted a message of liberation and nationalism to other parts of India. This early polity might be said to be modern in certain fundamental respect and to have animated by a new moral purpose.

Under his grandson, Shahu, the Maratha Polity was largely transformed in the central structure. The *Samrajya* which now grew up came to be marked by separatist tendencies while the rise of the Peishaws and the feudalisation of political and military services led to further changes. It is claimed by the writer that the Maratha polity in the eighteenth century had two aspects, *Swarajya* or Home Government and *Samrajya* or Empire. It was only in the Empire that political feudalism quickly developed. Without going into the merits of the later Maratha polity, it may be enough for our purpose to remark that the view of the author about the modernity of the Maratha Government can be generally accepted, though with a number of reservations. But we cannot subscribe fully to the view that if the Maratha *Swarajya* had spread over the whole land in the 19th century it would have established unity of citizenship and close association of communities and cultures. The pamphlet is a very valuable accession to the literature on the evolution of Indian polity.

THE TRIAL OF SCIENCE FOR THE MURDER OF HUMANITY. By A. S. P. Ayyar, M.A., I.C.S., Barrister-at-law. Published by G. V. K. Swamy & Co., Kumbakonam.

Science was arraigned for the offence of attempting to Murder Humanity by his discoveries and inventions. The Supreme Court of Time was composed of Judges Philosophy, Culture and Intuition. The Jury consisted of Education, Maharajah, Trade, Finance, Research, Service, Citizen, Society, Unemployment and Frontier. On behalf of the Prosecution, Politician, Zamindar, Old Thought, Religion and the Investigating officer of uncommitted crimes deposed to the havoc committed by science. For the Defence, medicine, knowledge, transport, and electricity gave testimony to the good done by science. The unanimous verdict was, "not-proven." Science was honourably acquitted. Mr. Ayyar is a master of trenchant English and with his familiarity with Court procedure, he has made the Drama eminently readable and instructive by way of stimulating thought along different lines. The Drama was first enacted by the Cultural League at Vellore.

THE HEART OF A GOPI. By Raihana Tyabji. Published by Navjivan Karyalaya, Gandhi Road, Ahmedabad. Re. 1-8.

The author had an irresistible urge to write this story and did it in three days. So the author says. Written in an ecstatic mood and couched in chaste language, the author gives us an insight into the inner workings of the heart of a Gopi—the supreme charm of His name, the ever deepening sense of His Presence, the growing spiritual communion with Him and the ultimate absorption in Him. Krishna cult is so widespread in India and so much an integral part of India's spiritual life that this little book will find a ready welcome.

THE MENACE OF HINDU IMPERIALISM.

By Swami Dharma Theerthaji Maharaj (B.A., L.L.B.), President, Hindu Missionary Society, Lahore. (1941, Rs. 4-8-0).

This is a strange book as any one may guess who seeks to reconcile the title of the book with that of the organisation over which its author presides. It is worse than a strange book; it is a mischievous book; if the phrase "Hindu imperialism" in its title were replaced by 'Brahmin treachery' we shall get a faint indication of the contents of the book. In sheer untruth and malice, the book will easily hold its own, nay surpass, the worst anti-semitic writings of Europe. How Brahminism killed Buddhism, crushed nationalism, wrecked Sivaji's empire, and now under British raj promotes Hindu Muslim conflict and seeks to aggrandize itself is the thesis of this envenomed writer the poverty of whose knowledge is rivalled only by the strength of his hatred.

EZHUTTACCHAN AND HIS AGE. By Dr. C. Achyuta Menon. Madras University Malayalam Department Series No. 6. 1940. Price Rs. 3.

This is the thesis which Dr. Menon submitted to the London University for his Degree of Ph.D. The book has later been slightly revised and brought up to date. Ezhattacchan is a great poet of Malabar who lived about three hundred years ago. He is held by Malayalees with as much reverence as Homer is in Europe. He is the greatest poet of Malabar and should rank among the world's great poets. But till now no information about him has been available to non-Malayalam-knowing public and this contribution in English is a great help in that way. Little is known about the poet's life, his real name, his parentage and his time. His house name and the place of his birth are supposed to have been settled beyond doubt. The book contains a very good account of the works of the poet and his philosophy. There is a foreword by Dr. L. D. Barnett of London.

RATIONAL SPIRITUAL IDEALISM. By Satya Dass, Sharma Nivas, Chatterjee Road, Lahore; Price As. 4 or 6d.

In this very thought provoking pamphlet the author elaborates his ideas of a Rational Spiritual Idealistic world in which the spirit asserts itself through the individual by means of reason and intelligence and aims at perfection, at the realisation of the ultimate ideal. "The Kingdom come," "The garden of Bliss", "The State of Nirvana".

BRAHMACHARYA DRAMA. By Swami Sivananda. Published by the Sivananda Publication League, Ananda Kutir, Rikhikesh. As. 8.

This is an inspiring drama in four acts inculcating the virtues of celibate life in preserving a person's vitality and fostering spiritual powers. A book to be read by all young persons specially.

BOOKS RECEIVED

BEGAMS OF BENGAL. By Brajendra Nath Banerjee. With a Foreword by Sir Jadunath Sarkar, S.K. Mitra and Brothers, 12 Naskal Bagan Lane, Calcutta.

LINGADHARANACHANDRIKA of Nandikeshwara, with translation and full notes by M. R. Sakhare, M.A., T.D., Published by the author at 134, Thalakwadi P. O. Rs. 15.

BENGALI LITERATURE (P. E. N. Books). By Annadasankar and Lila Ray, International Book House, Ltd, Bombay.

ASTRONOMICAL EPHEMERIS OF GEOCENTRIC PLACES OF PLANETS FOR 1943. Shree Jiwajee observatory, Ujjain. Price 12 as.

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION. By S. N. Agarwal. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

JOY OF THE SUN. By Savitri Devi, Thacker Spink & Co. Ltd., Calcutta. Rs. 4-8.

THE STORY OF INDIA. By F. R. Moraes. The Noble Publishing House, Bombay.

THE SUBSTANCE OF POLITICS. By Dr. A. Appadorai, M.A. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

THE STREAM DIVINE being discourses by Bhagwan Shri Shukacharyaji Maharaj. Foreword by Sjt Manubhai C. Pandya. Translated by P. M. Trivedi, M.A. Available of N. M. Tripathi & Co., Princess Street, Bombay.

TRAINING IN LEADERSHIP AND CITIZENSHIP FOR YOUNG INDIA. By S. C. Roy, M.A., I.E.S. University of Calcutta.

WOMEN AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE. By M. K. Gandhi. Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Prof. Bhansali and the Chimur issue

ALL'S well that ends well. Thanks to the good sense and spirit of accommodation that prevailed in the end, Prof. Bhansali has been rescued from the inevitable end after undergoing the ordeal of a sixty-three days' fast. The unfortunate happenings at Chimur that had disturbed public mind so much certainly called for prompt investigation. The C. P. Government could not see their way to comply with that request. They aggravated the grievance by a tactless reference to the women of the locality and condoning the soldiers who had misbehaved. This was a hard blow to the public. Whatever may be said of the propriety of fasting as a weapon for the removal of a grievance of that character there is no doubt of the depth and intensity of feeling that had been aroused by the callous disregard of public sentiment—especially in a matter touching the character of women on which Indian opinion is particularly sensitive. Only a burning faith in the righteousness of the cause he espoused could have sustained the good professor through the terrible ordeal he passed through.

It is therefore with a sense of profound relief and thankfulness that the public received the news that Prof. Bhansali had broken his fast as a result of satisfactory settlement with the C. P. Government on January 12. Prof. Bhansali agreed to give up the demand for public enquiry, as after such a lapse of time an enquiry of this kind may not be of much use in bringing the offenders to book. On the other hand, the Hon'ble Mr. Aney, Member of the Viceroy's Council, has agreed to visit the area in his company and do everything possible to obliterate the memory of the past. And then, by declaring that "there was no intention on the part of the Government to attribute any ulterior motive to the women of Chimur generally," they have removed the vital cause of grievance and indignation.

A word must be said as to its immediate reaction on the press. The C. P. Government had prohibited the publication

of even factual news concerning Bhansali's fast and other matters in no way connected with war effort. The organised body of the press—the A. I. N. E. Conference—protested against this flagrant violation of their agreement with the Central Government and to mark their disapproval recommended a striking protest. The raising of the C. P. Governments' ban on such news which is an integral part of the settlement was promptly followed by the withdrawal of the newspaper ban on certain Government circulars. This is as it should be, and with the restoration of press facilities by the Madras Government it is hoped that the future of their relations with the press will not be marred by such conflicts—which in the end affect the public even more than the parties concerned.

The Society of Friends on Government's Policy

Mr. Gandhi and the Congress party leaders have been interned now for over five months. The deadlock is continuing and a deepening antagonism has developed. The continuance of this tension is naturally disturbing many thinking minds in England. The Executive Committee of the Society of Friends in England at a meeting held in December last adopted a resolution deploring the situation and urging the Christian Communities in India not to accept the continuance of this tension "coupled as it is with the apparent decision of the Government to make no further effort to reach a settlement at present and the refusal to allow any conversation between the interned leaders and the leaders of other parties outside."

We do not urge this time any specific political policy, but are sure the Christian Church of this land cannot remain quiescent whilst the nationalist leaders are refused any contact with their fellow Indians. It is unreal to say that Indians must first agree among themselves before any advance can be made and at the same time refuse the means by which they may come to an understanding.

The Committee ask for the co-operation of all Christian people for "the policy of the closed door is contrary to Christian public opinion."

Citizen Rights for Ceylon Indians

Indiscriminate emigration of Indian labourers abroad, whether to Malaya or Ceylon, without reference to the conditions of life over there, and without sufficient guarantees as to their welfare and rights has led to infinite troubles. Sometime ago, there was a lot of prejudice in Ceylon against Indian workers. In a letter to the press Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastriar who was a member of the Indian Delegation to Ceylon recalls a significant conversation he had during his exploratory talks with a representative of the Ceylon Government. Mr. Senanayake was emphatic that never again would Ceylon ask for Indian labour even if the vast waste spaces in the Island should remain undeveloped, for ever. Now that the estates need outside labour Ceylon is trying to get 20,000 Indian labourers. They take them whenever they need, and an obliging Government here is helping them to get their requirements. When the need is over they could be rejected, or their lives made miserable there. Now this cannot continue. In India as in Ceylon, Indians are definitely against the demand being met without the assurance that their just claims and rights would be respected. The Government of India will be well advised to stick to their demand for according citizen rights to the Indians in the Island. It is hoped that this insistence on citizen rights will cover those in India prevented from going back to Ceylon by the ban imposed. It should be ascertained too, as Mr. Sastriar says:

that this new labour does not have the effect of prejudicially affecting those in Ceylon, or those who are now going on with the lifting of the ban. The period for which a person is required, the wages payable, the provisions for his due maintenance, these and every other essential matter should be clearly fixed. Neither those, nor those in Ceylon already, should, by any competition, be thrown into unemployment. The Government of India are not only justified, but bound to insist on the recognition of the Indian labourers' rights before acceding to the further recruitment of Indian labour for Ceylon. It would also be just to demand that the anti-Indian measures recently taken should be withdrawn and no discriminatory legislation should be undertaken, now or in the future, except in accordance with the settlement that may now be arrived at.

India and the Pacific Conference

In a B. B. C. broadcast the other day Sir Mahomed Zafrullah who attended the Pacific Relations Conference in Quebec as one of the delegates from India revealed that most of the discussions were political not military. He further admitted that "the keenest topic which led to the most heated discussion was the practical application of the principles of the Atlantic Charter particularly to South East Asia." Now the countries bordering the Pacific, India and Ceylon, in particular are vitally interested in what concerns them. They are eager to know how their affairs were dealt with at the Conference. It would appear however from an interview given by Begum Shah Nawaz—another Indian delegate to the same Conference—that the discussions were to be regarded as "a closely guarded secret." On the other hand, at a private gathering of the Empire Parliamentary Association in London Sir Mahomed is reported to have explained the gist of the proceedings. Surely there could be no valid reason why we in India should be deprived of the knowledge of discussions, in which delegates claiming to speak for this country had taken part.

The Turkish Press Mission in India

The Press Mission from Turkey which arrived in India in the middle of last month has had an interesting time, visiting places of historic interest and contacting officials and non-officials, journalists and public men. The six men who comprise the delegation are journalists of standing in Turkey, widely travelled men and keenly interested in international affairs. Though journalists by profession, the members are all of them connected with the Government in one way or other. The head of the Mission Mr. Atay has been a Deputy of the Turkish National Assembly and President of the Turkish Press Association. It is good that closer contact should be cultivated between the two countries—Turkey and India. We heartily welcome the Delegation and wish to reciprocate the desire of the leader of the mission for an exchange of pressmen between the two countries.

British Propaganda in America

Begum Shah Nawaz, who has just returned from America, is reported to have said in an interview in Karachi:

The ignorance about India in America is simply colossal. The American thirst for knowledge is responsible for their gulping down untruths and half-truths.

This 'colossal ignorance' coupled with 'Thirst for Knowledge' seems to have been completely exploited by interested propagandists trying to make it appear that all is well with India while the truth is that India is denied her rightful place in the governance of her own people.

We have already in these pages drawn attention to the so-called talking points on India supplied by the Ministry of Information in England for the consumption of the credulous American public. It was a pamphlet attempting to throw dust on American eyes by a clever distortion of facts and figures twisted to suit their pretentious claims. Yet another attempt is now made in the brochure issued by the same Ministry under the arresting caption, "Fifty facts about India." The pamphlet poses the question "Who Manages the Affairs of India" and seeks to impress the American mind, by an ostentatious display of figures, that Indian affairs are to an overwhelmingly large extent managed by Indians themselves and that the British personnel in the administration is almost negligible. A grotesque and false impression is created as to the real position in India. It would be superfluous to examine the figures in detail. It is like proving that the Railways in India are Indian owned, because the Station Masters and Porters and a few Traffic Superintendents are natives of the soil, while the fact is that British interests are the vital concern and the fulcrum of administration is the Board of Directors in England. Let us take only one sample from the brochure.

The viceroy is bound by the Advice of the majority of his Executive Council in all executive decisions, and though he has the right to overrule them in certain specific circumstances, this right has not been used since 1879. Matters of policy too, even those relating to external affairs are increasingly submitted to the Executive Council for advice. The arrest of Mr. Gandhi, for example and other measures taken to counter his movement

were decided upon by a meeting of the Executive Council, at which only one British member, in addition to the Viceroy, was present; the eleven other members were Indians.

Now it is common knowledge that the Members of the Executive Council are nominees of the Viceroy and are in no way responsible to anyone else. In the nature of the case they have to be yes men, if they should retain their seats. Different versions have been given of the arrest of Mr. Gandhi; but one point is clear beyond dispute—the Viceroy's fiat was endorsed *subsequently* by the members. In any case, either in the provinces or in the centre, all power is vested in the head of the administration who takes his cue from Whitehall and Downing Street. It is the all powerful British element backed by the Home Government that carries on the administration doubtless and inevitably with the help of *willing subordinates*. This fact is too palpable to be ignored and no amount of false propaganda can hide this blatant fact from the more thoughtful Americans.



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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

The Casablanca Decisions

MR. CHURCHILL and Mr. Roosevelt have again met in Conference at Casablanca in North Africa and have arrived at decisions of momentous significance touching allied strategy for 1943. The *communiqué* says that they have come to a complete agreement on the offensive campaigns of the year. It is true that recent developments in the various theatres of war have been altogether satisfactory and the enemy has been compelled to retreat even from his defensive positions. Allied offensive may be said to have begun already. And the Casablanca decisions have given the finishing touches to their consultations. Mr. Churchill characterised the meeting as the most important war Conference while the President called it "an unconditional surrender" meeting—expressive of the grim determination to eliminate the German and Japanese menace once and for all. The plan is "to draw as much of the weight as possible off the Russian armies by engaging the enemy as heavily as possible at best selected points." This is a welcome decision which must hearten the Russians who have been gallantly holding their own, with indomitable courage.

Giraud-Gaulle Understanding

Yet another perplexing problem of the hour has been solved in Casablanca by the Giraud-Gaulle meeting. In a joint official statement they say:

We have met—we have talked. We have registered our entire agreement on the end to be achieved, which is the liberation of France and the triumph of human liberties by the total defeat of the enemy. This end will be attained by the union in war of all Frenchmen fighting side by side with all their Allies.

The Burma Campaign

"On the Assam front, our troops continue offensive patrolling," says an Indian Command Joint War Communiqué. "Our levies have contacted the enemy in the Chin hills area, during the past few days, where there have been occasional encounters."

The Russian Offensive

The great Russian winter offensive has become irresistible. The lifting of the siege of Leningrad and the contact made by the Red Army with the heroic garrison mark a decided advance in their operations. In an Order of the day issued to the Russian troops on South-Western, Southern, Don, Northern Caucasus, Voronej, Kalinin, Volkhov and Leningrad Fronts on January 25, Premier Stalin, Supreme Commander of the Red Army observes:

As the result of two months' offensive operations, the Red Army has broken through the defences, of the German Fascist troops on a wide Front routed 102 enemy divisions, and captured over 200,000 prisoners and 13,000 guns.

During this period, Soviet troops have advanced about 250 miles. Our troops have won a resounding victory. The offensive of our troops continues.

The Order congratulates the Russian Commanders and troops on having routed Hitler's Armies, and outlines the list of towns from which siege have been lifted and which have been recaptured by the Russians.

The Late Unlamented Italian Empire

With the fall of Tripoli and its occupation by the gallant Eighth Army the last vestiges of the ill-gotten Italian Empire in Africa have disappeared. As the Secretary of State for War, Sir Edward Grigg said: "To all intents and purposes this completes the destruction of the Italian Empire in Africa."

Thus comes to an unlamented end, the dream of Sgn. Mussolini. Not one of the colonies on which he expended so much effort and treasure now remains.

Hitler's Proclamation

In a proclamation to the German people on the 10th anniversary of his accession to power Hitler says:

Today there are only two alternatives—Victory for Germany and her allies, or the flood from the East which will surge over the oldest civilised continent.

Hitler's proclamation, which was read by Dr. Goebbels, gave a long historical account of the wrongs done to Germany between 1919 and 1933 and then went on to dwell on the danger to Europe of Bolshevism. The occasion synchronised with the R. A. F. day light raid on Berlin.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



MUSLIMS & SANSKRIT LITERATURE

That in the Medieval ages, the Muhammedan rulers devoted much attention to the spread of Sanskrit knowledge and culture, is pointed out in a brief article to the *Modern Review* for January by Dr. J. B. Chaudhuri. "In this respect, the attention of the Moslem rulers of Bengal was first drawn to the two great Epics, the Ramayana and the Mahabharata. Nasir Shah of Bengal (1282-1325 A.D.) to whom the great Vidyapati dedicated one of his Padas ordered the first Bengali rendering of Mahabharata. Not only the rulers of Bengal but also the Imperial rulers of Delhi encouraged the propagation of Sanskrit learning in various ways:

Babar was a firm believer in Hindu Astronomy which, consequently, became a very popular subject for studies throughout his kingdom. He makes significant remarks about this science in connection with the observatory at Samargand the calculations of which were followed by all Indian Mahomedans. Nothing much about Humayun's enterprise for the spread of Sanskrit learning or his encouragement to Sanskrit scholars is known. But his great son Akbar compensated enough for this lack, if any, on his father's part. In 1582 A.D., he ordered Naqib Khan to translate the Mahabharata. He evinced much personal interest in this work.

In fine the writer observes that from the evidences one can at once trace the the fusion of Hindu and Moslem culture in the eleventh Century A.D.

The Mahomedan rulers helped the spread of Sanskrit learning in another way as well. That is no less important than their personal initiative in having important Sanskrit works translated into vernaculars or Arabic and Persian. The Hindu nobles and chiefs followed the noble example set by them. Thus, the noble initiative of the Mahomedan rulers gained in momentum in course of time and a great enthusiasm for Sanskrit learning prevailed throughout the country. It is during the Moslem rule in Bengal that she came to the fore-front of Sanskrit learning and two new important branches of Sanskrit studies, viz., the Navya-Smriti and the "Navya Nyaya, came into existence.

SRI PURANDARADAS

In the course of an article in the *Journal of the Music Academy*, Mr. T. V. Subba Rao observes that amongst the Karnatic composers Sri, Purandaradas' personality is the greatest that a combination of spirituality, art and culture has produced. He renounced the world and dedicated himself to God and he made the heaviest sacrifice by giving away all his wealth for which he was known as Navakoti Narayana.

In music his achievements are so vast and magnificent that the results of the efforts of all other composers put together cannot equal a fraction of his work. His compositions number 4,75,000 and more, each with numerous charanas and would in all be many times the length of the Ramayana and Mahabharata put together and would fill the pages of a thousand volumes. In the realm of music his services are precious beyond estimate. He is the father of the karnatic system of music which stands unparalleled as the most evolved system of music in the world. His compositions range from the simplest svaravalis and gitās to the elaborate and complex Sulālis. His synthesis of Sahityakshara and svara raga laya is the very acme of perfection. His language is poetic beyond description adorned with rich imagery and pithy sayings. His parables and allegorical utterances have all the fascination and depth of the scriptures. As a teacher of mankind inculcating the greatest truths of Hindu Dharma he is second to none. He pursued his gentle methods of instruction through the most attractive and congenial channels of music. India, nay the world has not produced a greater composer than Purandaradas. His eminence was so undisputed that all his contemporaries not excluding his own guru Sri Vyasaraya, have given him the highest praise and homage. Dasas who came after him have done nothing less than deify him as the special incarnation of Sri Narada.

In conclusion, Mr. Subba Rao says that it is usual to estimate a composer's contribution to Carnatic music; but what words can adequately convey the magnitude of the achievement of him who was the author and founder of that very system of which we are the proud inheritors; who endowed and enriched it with hundreds of thousand compositions; never sang but composed and never composed but sang; whose creations bearing the sad touch of humanity are of perennial interest to mankind. His place as Vaggeyakara and Lakshanakara is unique. He is to Carnatic music what Valmiki is for Sanskrit literature. He is a mighty personality the like of whom it takes the world a millennium to produce.

DIPLOMACY IN INDIA

Mr. Stanley Nehmern, New York, writes in the *Current History* that "the wisdom of the British campaign against Gandhi must be seriously questioned. Instead of helping to solve Indian problem, it only increased animosity against the British." Its effect upon American sentiment cannot be determined although it is interesting to note that the White House has made no move to interfere in the dispute in any way. American forces in India have been ordered to remain absolutely neutral.

One cannot help thinking that the situation in India should never have been allowed to advance to the present stage. According to Sir Stafford Cripps, upon the British Government rests the obligation to guarantee that "India remains a safe base in and from which to operate against the Japanese enemy." This responsibility on Britain's part involves the use of all possible measures to bring about this end. "But the British fail to realise that the present situation in India is hurting the United Nations' war effort. India cannot be safeguarded unless the entire Indian people co-operate and is made to realise that it will be fighting not for the British Empire, but for its own freedom. The best—and only—thing for Britain to do is to let India have control over every aspect of her war effort, to institute measures of democracy in the provinces ruled by the native princes, to point the way for complete independence—which does not have to wait for the end of the war to be granted."

The way in which this co-operation can be brought about, the writer observes, "without either party losing 'face' is to have the United States recommend mediation by the United Nations. The disorders in India are also America's concern, for it is a vital American war front. It is the duty of the United States to convince the Congress Party leaders that Britain is sincere and to persuade Britain that the only way India can be held will be if the entire people is united in defending its own liberty.

"HINDUISM" OF THE KERLA X'IANs

Writing on the above topic, Dr. P. J. Thomas says in the *Prabuddha Bharata* that the

well-known community of Christians inhabiting the States of Travancore and Cochin and further north the Malabar Coast, often called 'Syrian Christians' are mostly descendants of caste Hindus converted by one of the twelve apostles of Jesus Christ, St. Thomas, who is believed to have come to Kerala by sea in 52 A.D. and to have died in Mylapore (Madras) in about 68 A.D. after preaching the gospel all over S. India and, perhaps, beyond.

The notable feature about the Syrian Christians (who now number over a million) is that they have been socially united with their Hindu neighbours.

Whether in physical features, dress, or social customs, there was for long little difference between them and caste Hindus. The Christians observed nearly all the social customs and caste practices of the Hindus, and mingled with them in national and even temple festivals. In fact they obtained a social status in Kerala which was not below that of the caste Hindus.

They were patronized by many kings of Kerala and dwelling places were made for them in the vicinity of royal palaces. Of the social unity of the Hindus and Christians the writer points out:

While it is true that the economic prosperity of the Christians was the basis of their high social status, it must be admitted that the social unity between the Hindu masses and Christians was also largely due to the fact that the latter also conformed to the same mode of life and observed the same taboos in regard to food and drink as their Hindu neighbours. It is said that the Chera king, Palli Banavar, after accepting Christianity, retired to the precincts of an out-of-the-way temple and died there performing Tapas; the god he worshipped is still shown, it is a bearded Vishnu.

Not only did the Christians of Kerala observe the taboos in regard to food; they also strictly conformed to nearly all the social customs of Kerala. At birth, marriage, and death they observed the same customs as caste Hindus; even now the Pula (or pollution) connected with death is observed and Shraddhas are performed among the orthodox families.

Among the Catholic Syrian and Jacobite Syrians they still practise Hindu ideals and the writer concludes that

after further contact with European missionaries, especially after the introduction of Western education, many of these customs and taboos have disappeared or have become less common: and more freedom in regard to food and drink has come to prevail.

CASTE SYSTEM IN INDIA

Swami Akhilananda, discussing the caste system in the *Vedanta Kesari*, points out that it exists throughout the world—only the different countries have different types of caste systems based on different principles. "The caste system of the West, America and Europe, is based on racial distinction and material possession while the Hindu caste system is based on spiritual culture and unfoldment."

The writer emphasizes in conclusion that the Hindu caste system is very sound and rational.

This institution was introduced, not by some selfish persons for their own gain and privileges as many Westerners think, but by some spiritual leaders for the good of society and its members. Hindu society observes the method of selection in order to preserve its cultural integrity and continuity of civilization. This does not at all mean exclusiveness, but the sound spirit of assimilation and gradual upliftment. Swami Vivekananda advised the social reformers of India not to drag down the high caste persons to the lower level but to lift the unprivileged classes to the cultural status of the higher caste. This is the true Hindu spirit. The Hindu genius does not exterminate nor does it subordinate but uplifts and assimilates.

Cultural selection has also been advocated by Modern Western Scientists. The Eugenic Congress of 1932 held in New York supported this method of selection. Dr. Osborn supported it. Mr. Darwin warned that European culture will be destroyed if they do not adopt. The Swami clinches his arguments with a stay which shows how people ought to be careful to keep up their culture.

A man named Martin Kellakak went to America during the Revolutionary War. He married a feeble-minded girl in America and out of that marriage they had some children. The descendants of that man are now 480 by that feeble-minded wife. You will be shocked to hear that almost all of them are not what they should be. Many of them became abnormal in various ways, criminal, feeble-minded, insane, etc. Later this man Martin Kellakak returned to England and married a spiritual woman, a woman of culture. I think she was a Quaker. The descendants of that marriage number 496 and almost all of them are occupying very notable positions in society. In that group are lawyers, bankers, educationalists and important officials. So, after all, this cultural caste system is not bad, but what is bad is that exclusive claim for privileges and rights.

A CHINESE STOWAWAY

The *United Church Review* gives the following interesting story which appeared not long ago in *China's Millions*:

Some time in the last century a poor and friendless Chinese boy in one of the seaport cities of China smuggled himself on board an American brig and stowed himself away. After the ship had sailed, he had to steal out of his hiding-place and dispute with rats any piece of food that had been left about. One night, however, a sailor caught him and dragged him before the captain. In those days there was a chance of his being at once thrown overboard. But the captain was a Christian man and spared his life, and for the rest of the voyage work was given him.

Upon arrival in Baltimore, the captain handed him over to his minister, who in turn placed him in a humble home, but at the same time the best Christian home he knew. The lad was sent to school, where he showed unusual intelligence, and was later assisted in getting a college education. He then returned to China to be of service there. He married and his wife became, like himself, a Christian. They had three daughters, of whom one became the wife of Dr. Sun Yat Sen, creator of the Chinese Republic; another the wife of Chiang Kai-shek, now President of China; and the third the wife of China's present Finance Minister.

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DIARY OF THE MONTH

o:—

1942

Dec. 29. Hindu Maha Sabha meets at Cawnpore with Mr. V. D. Savarkar in the chair.

—French Somaliland joins Allies.

Dec. 30. Hon. Major Malik Khizar Hyat Khan Tirvana forms the Government in the Punjab.

—President, Newspaper Editors' Conference appeals to all newspapers in India to observe hartal on 6th January.

Dec. 31. Gen. Wavell is made Field Marshal.

1943

Jan. 1. Pre-censorship order served on *Hindustan Times*.

—Earl of Munster is appointed Under-Secretary for India and Burma.

Jan. 2. Indian Science Congress meets in Calcutta.

—De Gaulle-Giraud pourparlers.

Jan. 3. Russians take Mozdok.

—Madras Government withholds Press facilities to papers which did not publish New Year Honours.

Jan. 4. Russians occupy positions in Ukraine.

—Timoshenko summoned to Moscow to organise plans for final victory.

Jan. 5. Allies capture Buerat.

Jan. 6. The R. A. F. raid Jap strategic positions in Burma.

Jan. 7. Mr. William Phillips, President Roosevelt's Personal Representative in India arrives at Karachi.

Jan. 8. Soviet army advances towards Don.

—Two big Japanese ships loaded with troops are sunk at S. W. Pacific.

Jan. 9. Allied army contacts Jap troops near Rathedaung in Burma.

Jan. 10. Turkish Press Delegation leaves Ankara for India.

Jan. 11. Turkish Production Mission arrives in London.

Jan. 12. Russians take Georgievsk.

—Allied Treaty with China signed by U. S. A. and Britain.

Jan. 13. U. P. Government suspends the prohibition scheme inaugurated by the Congress Government.

Jan. 14. Russians enter Rostov.

Jan. 15. Calcutta is bombed again by Japanese raiders.

—Turkish Press Delegation arrives at Karachi.

Jan. 16. Sind Government hands over Pir of Pagaro to military authorities.

Jan. 17. Iraq declares war with Axis.

Jan. 18. The siege of Leningrad is lifted.

Jan. 19. Chile breaks off with the Axis.

Jan. 20. Germany, Japan and Italy sign an agreement on Economic Co-operation.

Jan. 21. Reds capture Voroshilovsk and Armavir.

Jan. 22. It is announced that one million tons of Allied shipping are sunk every month.

Jan. 23. Allies capture Tripoli.

Jan. 24. Mr. Jinnah at a meeting in Bombay declares that Gandhi still holds the key to end the deadlock.

Jan. 25. Civil Defence Conference meets at New Delhi.

Jan. 26. Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt complete a ten-day meeting in Casablanca.

—Independence Day celebrations.

Jan. 27. Mr. Amery in the Commons declines permission to contact leaders in jail.

Jan. 28. Ceylon State Council by 21 votes to 7 resolves not to requisition Indian labour.

Jan. 29. General Giraud's Forces occupy Ft. Saint in S. E. Tunisia.

—Axis Conference meets at Rome.

Jan. 30. Hitler's Proclamation promises a long war.

—R. A. F. raids Berlin in day light.

Jan. 31. Axis attack French positions in Tunisia.

—Col. Knox's warning re. air attack of Tokyo.

INDIAN STATES

—) o (—

Hyderabad

FUSION OF LANGUAGES

Writing under the caption 'Fusion of various languages' in a local paper His Exalted Highness the Nizam says:

"It is true that foreign words should not be unnecessarily introduced into a language. But it is difficult to follow this principle as far as Urdu is concerned, because its vocabulary is limited when compared with that of Arabic or Persian. Besides, constant usage has made words of other languages part and parcel of Urdu.

"Apart from this, there are different forms of Urdu. The language of the intelligentsia differs from that of the masses. The former cannot change their style of language which contains a large number of Arabic or Persian words, and the latter cannot attain elegance of expression which is beyond them. Now there remains the question of English, which the Eastern people must learn, as without it they will experience great difficulty in their everyday life. This apart, English has now reached its pinnacle of perfection and, due to changed conditions, is being spoken even in those Islamic countries where it was unknown about fifty years ago. Though it has borrowed much from French and Latin, English is no doubt a great language and the Eastern people cannot afford to do without it, as it is widely spoken.

"Incidentally, it is the language of the people who have a Divine Book."

HYDERABAD CANTONMENT

The Hyderabad cantonments' regulation, which provides for the establishment of a cantonment board in every cantonment has received the assent of H. E. H. the Nizam and has been published in a *Gazette Extraordinary*.

There will be two classes of cantonments—Class I., comprising Hyderabad cantonments and Class II, comprising all other cantonments in the Dominions. There will be both official members nominated in virtue of their appointments and elected members.

11

Mysore

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

Speaking at a party given in his honour by the President and Members of the Mysore Chamber of Commerce recently at the Chamber of Commerce buildings at Bangalore, Mr. M. A. Srinivasan, the newly-appointed Controller of Purchase to the Government of India, referred to the early difficulties experienced by the cotton and silk industry in Mysore. Since the war began, there was an increasing intermingling of Government departments and business interests with benefit to both, he added. Mysore's contribution in the direction of war effort was one of the largest in India. Mr. Srinivasan pointed out, however, that the contribution of small scale industries in Mysore was not adequate, and hoped that this aspect would receive early attention.

TRANSPORT OF STAPLE COTTON

In exercise of the powers conferred under the Defence of India Rules, the Government of Mysore have, in a *Gazette Extraordinary*, prohibited the transport from any place in the State to any place outside the State of CO4 long-staple cotton, except with the written permission of the District Magistrate of the district from which this commodity is sought to be transported.

INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION

The Board of Industries and Commerce, at its meeting held recently, Mr. K. V. Anantaraman, Finance and Revenue Minister, presiding, adopted resolutions recommending to the Government the setting up of an Industrial Commission in the State for post-war reconstruction.

NEWSPRINT CONTROLLER

The Government of Mysore have appointed a Newprint Controller for Mysore for controlling and regulating the distribution of 'emergency newprint' manufactured by the Mysore Paper Mills and fixing the price of 'emergency newprint' from time to time.

Baroda

RURAL RECONSTRUCTION

The activities at the Rural Reconstruction Centre at Kosamba were directed towards subsidiary occupations like poultry-keeping, kitchen and flower gardening, holding summer school for cottage industries, and rural classes, scouting, sanitation and cottage industry, spinning, weaving, carding, tape-making, etc.

The Karjan Centre concentrated its work in the surrounding ten villages dealing with agricultural development live-stock, cottage industries, adult education, sanitation and other activities relating to rural welfare.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO FOOD CROPS

To encourage the curtailment of the acreage crop of short and fair staple cotton and the growing of food crops on such lands, the Government have directed that a remission of assessment at the rate of four annas in the rupee should be granted to individual cultivators on lands which are usually under such cotton and are diverted to food crops in the coming season.

AGRICULTURAL ENGINEERING

The activities of the agricultural engineering section of the Department of Agriculture in the year 1940-41 included 12 new tube wells. The number of wells drilled and blasted was 242. In the Baroda and Navsari districts 2,454 bighas were ploughed and disced by tractors under contract. On the education side in all 592 students have taken advantage of the oil engine and tractor classes.

LIVESTOCK IMPROVEMENT

Two more veterinary dispensaries were added in 1940-41 to those already functioning in the State, bringing the total to 97. The following schemes were in operation for the improvement of live stock: Rabari colonisation scheme, Kankrej breeding farm scheme, and the Premium bull scheme.

Travancore

SIR C. P. ON 'STATES' POSITION

Speaking at Madras last month on the position of Indian States in the future constitution, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer said:—

"If any Indian State, while asserting its rights of internal sovereignty, is not responsive to the national tendencies or is not working in harmony with the national policy elsewhere in India, that State does not deserve to live.

Attention should be paid to what were called internal affairs to foster the growth of agriculture, local industries and culture, but all local wants and grievances were as chaff and straw compared with the needs of all-India. If a conflict arose between the demand of all-India and the clamour of the smaller patriotisms of the smaller units, who would be so churlish as to defy such a demand—the demand of all-India."

COINS OF REDUCED WEIGHT

A Royal Proclamation issued last month in a *Gazette Extraordinary* reduces the standard weight of certain copper coins issued from the State Mint. The Proclamation comes into force at once.

All copper coins issued prior to the Proclamation shall continue to be legal tender. A Finance Department Notification issued in the same *Gazette* announces that one chackram, half chackram and quarter chackram copper coins exactly similar in size and designs to existing coins but with slightly reduced weight have been issued from January 9. Cash coins of reduced weight will be issued shortly.

HOARDING OF SMALL COINS

An appeal to the press and the public to co-operate with the Government in preventing the hoarding of small coins is made in the course of a *communique*. The *communique* draws attention to the fact that the acquiring of coins in excess of minimum personal or business requirements and dealing in small coins at other than their face value are illegal and punishable under the Defence Rules.

Kashmir

PROVISION FOR EMPLOYMENT

A sum of Rs. 2,00,000 has been sanctioned by the Kashmir Government for a scheme designed to provide employment for over 8,000 persons.

It will be recalled that on the recommendation of the Committee appointed to consider the question of providing employment for unskilled labourers of Kashmir who migrate to British India during winter, His Highness's Government sanctioned *inter alia* a proposal to accept an order for the supply of four lakhs yards of pattu cloth. The organisation that has been set up for the purpose will also produce tweeds and other cloth to meet civil needs, so that the men that have been engaged may not entirely be thrown out of work when the present war-time demand decreases. His Highness's Government have now appointed a board consisting of the Hon'ble the Development Minister as Chairman and the Director of Industries as members with powers to co-opt one or more non-officials to assist in prosecuting this scheme.

Jaipur

REFORMS IN JAIPUR

An account of the various reforms and improvement works proposed to be undertaken shortly in Jaipur State was given by Sir Mirza Ismail, Prime Minister, Jaipur, when he met members of the Marwari Students' Union in Calcutta on his return from Dacca where he delivered the Convocation Address of the University. Mr. Durga Prasad Khaitan presided.

Sir Mirza said that a new Act had been promulgated whereby the Jaipur High Court would be an independent judicial tribunal. Constitutional reforms were to be introduced. A Committee was sitting for the purpose and representative institutions would be established.

The Government were embarking on a policy of industrialization and already several new industries had been or were being started in Jaipur. It was also their ambition to establish a University at Jaipur, which would produce scholars worthy of the institution.

Cochin

STATE'S FINANCES

The final accounts of the Cochin Government for the financial year ending 1942 August has been released by the Government. The financial transactions of the year have resulted in an actual surplus of Rs. 18,75,000, the receipts and expenditure having been Rs. 182,75,000 and Rs. 114,00,000 respectively. According to the budget estimates for the year, it had been expected that the income would be Rs. 118,48,000 and expenditure Rs. 108,96,000 leaving a surplus of Rs. 4,52,000.

Bhopal

STANDARD CLOTH

The Bhopal State has already put on the market and sold about two lakhs yards of standard cloth at the rate of between 4,000 and 5,000 yards daily through Government depots in the city and villages. The standard cloth is being sold at six annas a yard and crowds of people may be seen running up every morning at the Government shops to receive their quota.

General

MAJORS IN MAHARAJAHS

His Majesty the King-Emperor has been pleased, states a Press Note, to grant with effect from January 12, 1948 the honorary rank of Major to Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Baroda and Travancore and the honorary rank of Captain to His Highness the Maharao of Kotah.

His Majesty has also been pleased to approve of the promotion of Their Highnesses the Maharajas of Jind and Kapurthala to the honorary rank of Brigadier: His Highness the Maharaja of Gwalior to the honorary rank of Major in the army with effect from the same date.

NEW MADRAS STATES RESIDENT

Mr. H. J. Todd, at present Secretary to the Agent to the Governor-General, Resident and Chief Commissioner in Baluchistan, becomes Resident for the Madras States, *vice* Lt.-Col. G. P. Murphy, granted leave from May next pending retirement.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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South Africa

HINDUS AND MUSLIMS

Pakistan has led to differences among South African Indians. Mr. Jinnah's birthday celebration in Durban was the occasion for a Muslim gathering in support of Pakistan. The Hindus countered it by holding a South African Mahasabha meeting and by unanimously adopting a resolution expressing support to the All-India Hindu Mahasabha and to the preservation of the integrity and indivisibility of Hindustan. The Hindus decided to have a badge or other identification mark to show their religious faith to be worn on special occasions.

Mr. Jinnah, acknowledging the Natal Muslims' greetings, has replied: "My message to them is 'Maintain discipline, unity and faith'. If we do so, no power could prevent us from achieving Pakistan."

INDIAN PENETRATION

The Union Government have appointed Mr. Justice Broome, Judicial Commissioner, to inquire into fresh allegations of Indian penetration in Durban. When a Deputation from Natal saw the Minister of Interior, Mr. H. G. Lawrence recently, it was alleged that more than 200 cases of Indian penetration had taken place in Durban since the Broome Commission sat.

East Africa

TEXTILE CORPORATION

A deputation of the Africa Shippers' Association, consisting of Mr. Dawood Haji Nasser, J. P., Mr. Tayeb Ali Adamji, Mr. A. K. Kanji and others, led by Mr. Hooseinbhoy A. Tamjee, M.L.A. (Central), discussed on December 14 with Mr. M. S. Aney, the Overseas Member of the Government of India, the difficulties that have now arisen on account of the decisions of the East African Government to sponsor the Utility Textile Importing Corporation on the lines of the U.K.C.C.

It was stated by the deputation that the avocation of 24,000 Indians as businessmen and the general prosperity of 1,50,000 Indians in East Africa is now at stake.

Burma and Malaya

CLAIMS AGAINST BURMA & MALAYA

A Press *communiqué* issued last April stated that claims against the Governments of Burma and Malaya could be recorded with the Department of Indians Overseas for transmission to the Governments concerned.

As the Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics is concerned with the recording of certain classes of claims, it has become necessary to explain what claims may be recorded with the Department of Indians Overseas.

This Department, which has been responsible for the welfare of Indians in other parts of the Empire, will be prepared to receive and record claims which are *prima facie* registrable and relate to assets in other parts of the Empire, for the time being, under enemy occupation, or debts or moneys outstanding from any individual or body of persons resident there.

These will include:

1. Claims against those Governments for goods supplied to Civil Departments or Defence Services under them or for goods lost which were insured under their war risks insurance schemes;
2. Claims of firms and individuals in India against firms and individuals in those territories; and
3. Properties and assets left behind, in those areas.

The Empire territories referred to are: Burma, Malaya consisting of the Federated Malay States, the Unfederated Malay States, and the Straits Settlements, Hongkong, British dependencies in Borneo comprising Brunel, North Borneo and Sarawak, the portion of New Guinea in enemy occupation, and the Channel Islands.

In the case of Burma, claims may be sent to the Government of Burma, Simla, direct or through this Department. The Director-General of Commercial Intelligence and Statistics deals with claims in respect of non-Empire countries.

It should, however, be understood that the Government of India do not guarantee their settlement.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

MR. WILLIAM PHILLIPS' MISSION

"I have come to India as the personal representative of the President of the United States, and it is a high honour, and a privilege to represent our great President here in this capacity," said Mr. William Phillips, U. S. Ambassador in India, addressing a Press Conference on arrival in India.

Never before have I visited this vast country, but my association of almost 40 years with the Department of State in Washington has given me an intense interest in India and her people.

I come to study, and to learn as much as I can of the India of today, the India of the future, which has such an important role to play in world affairs, and I shall report my findings to Washington.

We Americans, together with the people of the United Nations are determined to carry on the war to final victory. That victory is now assured. Our troops are proud to be associated with the magnificent soldiers of India, some of whom I had the privilege of visiting in their desert camp in Egypt.

We all of us have much to learn from one another, Americans from Indians, Indians from Americans, and I am confident that I shall find here the friendly guidance so necessary to help me to understand, and to co-operate, and thus to fulfill my mission for the President.

PROFESSOR WOOD ON GANDHI'S INFLUENCE

"The one man who can transform the Indian situation is Gandhi. When his friends and admirers appeal to the Indian Government to make a further approach to Gandhi, they show that they are impressed by his moral prestige, and are concerned to maintain his reputation. They do not show any appreciation of his true moral greatness. From a saint in politics we must expect great things. I believe that Gandhi is great enough to realize that India's royal road to freedom lies in postponing satisfaction of her own claims and in ranging herself unconditionally on the side of all oppressed and tortured people."—Thus writes Professor H. G. Wood in a contribution to the 'Spectator', on the situation in India.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

SIR C. P. ON UNITY OF INDIA

Speaking at Ranade Hall in Madras last month, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar emphasised the need for preserving the integrity and unity of India. He said:

I am definitely of opinion that the ideal of two or three Indias would be ruinous, especially in the face of the competitive struggle that is bound to follow the successful conclusion of the war and in relation to those negotiations and discussions that will take place in post-war reconstruction. . . .

Assuming for a moment that two or three 'stans' appear in Madras Presidency, and the same phenomenon is repeated elsewhere, where will be the common customs and tariff policy, the emigration and immigration policy, the Defence policy in relation to a world which is going to be not the less but the more competitive after the war? . . .

If after the war India is to get her rights, India must speak as one unit, and India should be one and indivisible. Without the unity of India in the Centre not a single problem can be solved effectively.

MR. F. ANTHONY ON ANGLO-INDIANS

In the course of his address to the Anglo-Indian community of Madras during his visit last month, Mr. Frank Anthony, President of the Anglo-Indian Association of India said:

I can never emphasise too strongly the fact that we Anglo-Indians are definitely one of India's very real minorities. . . . Let us attract increasingly the goodwill, friendship and support of our fellow-Indians. Although the future may be difficult and grim, I have no unnecessary fear for the future. I have an unshakable faith in the moral stamina of the community. If we but love India sufficiently, we can carve out for ourselves an honoured place in India's future polity—we should and we can and I feel sure we shall be among the leaders of the new India.

PEARL BUCK'S CALL TO BRITAIN

Speaking at an Independence Day dinner under the auspices of the Indian League of America in New York Miss Pearl Buck declared:

We see in India, thanks to England's emphasis on all possible differences there, something even more troublesome than Europe. We, Americans, really have no wish to take our share of the white man's burden. There never was a white man's burden, except in the sense the white man made a burden for himself by trying to force his rule upon reluctant peoples.

SATYAGRAHA AVERTED IN 1939

In an article in the *News Chronicle*, Mr. Edward Thompson claims that he was instrumental in averting civil disobedience in October 1939. Prior to his departure from Delhi for Wardha, Mr. Thompson had a last minute telephone conversation with a British Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council who, it is stated, assured him that even if Congress decided to quit office in the provinces, there was no need for launching civil disobedience as the Government had admitted that Congress was entitled to pull out its Ministries and the Government had no intention to strike first. When Mr. Thompson conveyed this assurance to Gandhiji and the Congress Executive assembled at Wardha, there was an "instantaneous lightening of the tension" and he was told by them that 'civil disobedience was off.'

A NEW POLICY IN INDIA

Mr. Alex Sloan (Labour) in the Commons appealed to the Government for a new policy towards India. Mr. Sloan asked:

How can you convince Indians of your sincerity? Can the Leader of the House tell us how it is possible to grant Dominion Status to India under the Statute of Westminster with full rights to contract out without also voluntarily liquidating the last chunk of the British Empire? How can he reconcile this with Mr. Churchill's statement—"what we have, we hold"? Government should take the earliest opportunity of reopening negotiations and offering India full self-government.

U. P. GOVERNMENT & PROHIBITION SCHEME

It is understood that the U.P. Government have decided to suspend the prohibition scheme, which is now in force in six districts of the United Provinces, with effect from April 1948, partly on account of financial reasons and partly on account of the poor results attained.

It will be recalled that on April 1, 1938, the Congress Government enforced prohibition scheme in Etah and Mainpuri districts of the Province as an experiment. The scheme was further extended to Budaun, Farrukhabad, Bijnor and Jaunpur districts.

THE INTER-UNIVERSITY BOARD

The eighteenth session of the Inter-University Board met recently in Mysore under the chairmanship of Mr. A. B. A. Halim, Pro-Vice-Chancellor of the Aligarh University. Dr. Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Dr. A. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, Prof. Amarnath Jha, and Sir R. P. Masani were among those present.

It is learnt that the Board expressed the opinion that the Government should not take executive action against students of institutions without previously informing the authorities concerned, the heads of Colleges being left to sole charge of maintaining discipline among students.

The Board elected Sir S. Radhakrishnan as the Chairman of the Board for the coming year. Mr. M. Ratnaswamy, Vice-Chancellor, Annamalai University, was elected in the place of Sir K. V. Reddi on the Central Advisory Board for Forest Utilisation. Prof. Birbal Sahani was re-elected to the Advisory Board of the Imperial Agricultural Research Council.

Mr. Shervani was re-elected as Secretary.

The venue of the next session was fixed at Hyderabad. The quinquennial conference of the Indian Universities will also be held at Hyderabad then.

AIR FORCE CLASSES

A scheme for the organisation of special Air Force classes in Universities is recommended in a letter received by Madras University from the Government of India.

The scheme has been prepared by Air Headquarters to assist University students who desire to enter the technical and electrical trade groups of the Indian Air Force.

The University authorities will shortly address Principals of Colleges on the subject.

UNIVERSITY FOR RAJPUTANA

The Jaipur Government have taken up the question of the establishment of a separate University for Rajputana and with this end in view, have appointed Mr. J. C. Rollo, formerly Principal of the Maharaja's College, Mysore, as their Special Education Officer.

SPECIAL COURTS ORDINANCE

A Full Bench of the High Court of Bombay rejected recently the application filed by four persons challenging the validity of the Special Courts Ordinance issued by the Governor-General on January 2, 1942 and made applicable to Bombay Province on October 26 last.

Sir John Beaumont, Chief Justice, in his judgment said that the circumstances in which the Governor-General promulgated the ordinance in January showed conclusively that it was intended to deal with all offences irrespective of the date on which they were committed. About that time the Japanese were approaching the borders of India and the emergency which the Governor-General had in mind was in connection with the danger from a hostile power. In case of an emergency it might be quite impracticable to carry on criminal trials by the ordinary procedure. There might not be sufficient number of judges and juries. In August 1942 the ordinance was amended by a further ordinance because of the action taken by certain political leaders in India. It was apparent that serious disorders would take place and that the Provincial Government should be armed with certain powers. His Lordship directed that the trial of the applicants by the Special Judge was in order.

Mr. Justice Divatia and Mr. Justice Weston concurred.

CEYLON LAW OF DIVORCE

The Ceylon State Council has passed a motion recommending that the general Law of Divorce in Ceylon be repealed.

The Legal Secretary, in a note, had stated that the mover, Mr. George E. DeSilva, Minister for Health, had indicated that the ground on which a divorce could be obtained in Ceylon should be extended to include habitual intemperance, sentence of imprisonment for a term exceeding seven years, and an adjudication in lunacy followed by detention in a mental hospital.

INSURANCE ACT

The difficulties of Indian insurance companies were placed before Mr. N. R. Sarker, Commerce Member, Government of India, by a deputation organised by the Indian Insurance Institute, which waited on the Member recently.

On behalf of the deputation, Mr. S. C. Roy specially pleaded for the amendment of Section 27 of the Insurance Act, which provides for the compulsory investment of a large portion of the funds of a company in gilt-edged securities. This, he said, had considerably affected the interest-earning capacity of insurance companies, and handicapped them in giving bonuses to policy-holders and dividends to shareholders.

Mr. Sarker replied that all the suggestions would be carefully and sympathetically examined, and after necessary discussion at a meeting of the Insurance Advisory Committee to be held in Bombay early he would decide his course of action.

He could not, however, hold out any hope of an early introduction of war risk insurance for house properties, as it was beset with numerous difficulties.

CHEAPER RATES FOR COTTON

To facilitate the movement of cotton from Northern India to Bombay by the rail-cum-sea route the Government of India moved Lloyds and tariff underwriters in London through Bombay underwriters to reduce the rates for war risks insurance on cotton carried in country craft and steamers from Karachi to Bombay, says a press communique.

The underwriting bodies concerned have agreed as a contribution to war effort to reduce the war risks insurance rate from Karachi to Bombay by country craft to an absolute minimum of one per cent. subject to ten per cent. discount to the shipper and applicable to all merchandise. The rate, however, is liable to variation at underwriters' discretion according to circumstances in common with all other marine war risk-rates throughout the world.

The steamer rate has been similarly reduced to one and half per cent. subject to the same terms and conditions.

THE BHARAT BANK

The Madras Branches of the Bharat Bank Limited were declared open by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari on January 26. The function was attended by a large gathering of businessmen and prominent citizens.

Mr. M. Subbaroya Aiyar, on behalf of the Local Board of Directors, welcoming the guests, said that lack of adequate banking facilities handicapped India's industrial and agricultural progress. Started by Seth Ramakrishnadas Dalmia, with a view to meeting this great need, the bank would have branches in all important centres.

Mr. Rajagopalachari, after complimenting the community to which the Dalmias and Jajodias belonged, on their business acumen went on to observe that banks helped to produce credit which was the "magic wand of modern commerce." Well managed banks helped to increase credit to the Nth degree; a failing or misguided bank ruined all credit. There was no question of competition or rivalry in banking; banks should all help one another. In times of trouble, the big ones should help the smaller ones; otherwise, if the small banks got into serious difficulty, the other banks would also be affected. It was not capital so much as good management that would provide the stable foundation for a bank.

COINS TO AUSTRALIA

A strong protest against the reported decision of the Government of India to supply copper coins to Australia despite "their own inability to meet the requisite demand for the same in the country" is recorded by the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce in a communication addressed to the Central Government.

SMALL COINS

The standard weight of the two-anna, one-anna, half-anna and quarter-anna (or pice) pieces coined under the provisions of the Indian Coinage Act shall, with effect from January 23, 1943, be 90, 60, 45 and 30 grains troy respectively, provided that in the making of the said coins a remedy not exceeding one-fortieth of the standard weight shall be allowed, says an announcement in the *Gazette of India*.

MRS. ROOSEVELT ON MODERN WOMEN

Writing in the *Christian Science Monitor* in a new series, "To-day's women—women and the world we want", Mrs. Roosevelt urges an "economic system that functions on a world-wide basis . . . a society that looks upon work as an essential expression of good citizenship".

Mrs. Roosevelt continues: "First of all, we want a world which is disarmed. There will have to be, of course, an international police force.

"Secondly, we want some kind of machinery, which will function on the principles of a court of law, where difficulties between peoples may have a peaceful adjudication.

"Thirdly, it seems to me to be necessary that we begin to work toward an economic system which will function on a world-wide basis. The first and cardinal principle is that there will be work for any person who desires work and that pay may vary in different parts of the world, but in every instance shall cover the necessities of decent living. Only by providing work can we expect that human beings will train themselves in some type of work. In a society that looks upon work as a dignified and essential expression of good citizenship, public opinion will, I think, soon do away with the parasites."

BEGUM SHAH NAWAZ

Begum Shah Nawaz, one of India's representatives at the Pacific Relations Conference, arrived back in India, last month.

"America is out to win this war, and I am convinced that now, when the vast resources of that wonderful continent are being fully mobilised to defeat aggression, the day of complete victory is not far distant. The sooner the Axis powers realised this the better it would be for the whole world", she said in an interview to the Associated Press.

Paying a tribute to Mrs. Roosevelt, Begum Shah Nawaz who had an interview with her, said: "The First Lady of America is a profound thinker. She possesses a personality that radiates gentleness, kindness and human understanding".

TURKISH PRESS DELEGATION

A party of leading Turkish journalists and deputies Parliamentary arrived in India at the invitation of the Government of India. The party include:

(1) M. Atay, President of the Press Association and Editor of the semi-official *Ulus*;

(2) M. Sadak, Chief Editor of the *Aksam*;

(3) M. Muvaffak, Head of the Anatolian Agency;

(4) M. Burhan Belge, Assistant Director of the Press Bureau;

(5) M. Burhan Felek, a prominent journalist of Istanbul; and

(6) M. Salahettin Arbel, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

Major M. O. A. Baig of the Indian Political Service, and Mr. Syed Ali Jawad, Deputy Principal Information Officer will accompany the Turkish Mission throughout their tour.

Among the important places which they are to visit are Delhi, Lahore, Peshawar, Aligarh, Lucknow, Benares, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras, as well as one or two Indian States.

THE CEYLON DAILY NEWS

The *Ceylon Daily News* on 1st January celebrated its 25th Anniversary, the first issue having appeared on January 8, 1918.

A special supplement to commemorate the occasion contains numerous articles on the progress made by the paper during these years including one by Mr. D. R. Wijewardene, the Managing Director. In the course of his article Mr. Wijewardene says: "No one who was associated with me in the publication of the *Daily News* had political ambition. Nor did I embark on the sea of journalism to bring home any rich argosies. There are more comfortable methods of making money than the newspaper profession affords. I staked a great deal on the venture. The paper had the ideals of public service and national progress before it. In pursuit of those ideals the organization which I started with a few dozen men has grown and has been established on a solid foundation."

DR. SIR MANOHAR LAL

The Honorary Degree of Doctor of Literature was conferred upon Sir Manohar Lal, Finance Minister, Punjab, by His Excellency Sir Bertrand Glancy, Chancellor of the Punjab University, at the sixty-seventh Convocation of the University held recently. His Excellency also conferred upon Dr. George Mathai, University Professor of Zoology, the Honorary Degree of Doctor of Science.

A feature of the Convocation was the conferment of special war degrees on four students who had gone on active service. They received their degrees in military uniform. Degrees of M. B. B. S. were also conferred upon 15 students who have already joined the Indian Medical Service. They were present in military uniform.

DR. SYAMA PRASAD MOOKERJEE

At the 50th annual general meeting of the Maha Bodhi Society of India held on 5th January, 1943 at the Maha Bodhi Hall, Calcutta under the chairmanship of Dr. C. J. Pao, Vice-President of the Society and Consul-General for China, Dr Syama Prasad Mookerjee, M.A., D.Litt., LL.D., was unanimously elected as President of the Society in the vacancy created by the sad demise of Sir Manmatha Nath Mukerjee.

It may be recalled that Dr. Mookerjee's father, the late Sir Ashutosh, was for many years until his death in 1924, the President of the Society.

DR. S. N. SEN

Dr. S. N. Sen, Keeper of Imperial Records and Secretary, Indian Historical Records Commission, had been re-appointed for another term as Professor of History in the Delhi University for the purpose of re-organising the History Department of the University. The new appointment is in addition to his duties as Keeper of Imperial Records.

MR. A. V. RAMANATHAN

Rajamantrapravina A. V. Ramanathan, Law Minister to Mysore Government has been offered the Dewanship of Bharatpur State and he has accepted it. Mr. Ramanathan will be leaving for Bharatpur shortly.

FACULTY OF MEDICINE

A resolution was passed at the annual meeting of the Allahabad University Court urging the institution of a Faculty of Medicine in the University as early as possible and as a preliminary step in this direction, to arrange for the institution of a diploma course in nursing for girl students in co-operation with the local zenana hospitals.

The Vice-Chancellor said that there would be no difficulty in giving effect to the second part of the resolution and the University would take steps to establish a diploma course in nursing for girl students.

PSYCHIC VACCINATION

Psychic "Vaccination" against the nerve-shattering effects of war noise is a future possibility, it is suggested by a report recently made to the Mid-western Psychological Association. Noise sensitive rats that ordinarily would be thrown into fits similar to epileptic seizures by certain shrill or irritating noises have been made immune to the seizure-producing sounds, according to Dr. Norman R. F. Maier, of the University of Michigan. The immunity lasted for several days. But the fact that a means has been found for protecting the rats by this sort of psychological immunizing process raises the hope that some similar method may be developed for helping humans to protect their nerves against war damage.

ALL-INDIA AYURVEDIC CONGRESS

"India has a legitimate right to be proud of the great contribution she has made to the diverse branches of human knowledge including medicine. The debt that the other systems of medicine owe to the Indian system of medicine has been freely acknowledged by eminent Western scholars and physicians," says H. H. the Maharaja of Patiala in his message read at the 31st All-India Ayurvedic Congress, which was held in the Punjab University Hall recently.

NATURE'S MOST POWERFUL VITAMIN

The American Chemical Society has announced the discovery by Professor Vincent du Givneaud, of Cornell University, of the chemical architecture or biotin, nature's most powerful vitamin and one of the most elusive substances. The discovery is expected to pave the way for a synthesis of biotin, which is difficult to obtain in pure form.

The entire world's supply of biotin is at present about one-tenth of an ounce.

Distinguished chemists said Professor du Givneaud's discovery of the three-dimensional pattern of the biotin molecule is one of the great triumphs of modern science, heralding many important new developments in chemistry, biology and medicine.

The biotin molecule, composed of 32 atoms, is about ten angstroms long, or about one-tenth of a millionth centimeter. The 32 atoms consist of 10 Carbon, 16 Hydrogen 3 Oxygen, 2 Nitrogen and 1 Sulphur atoms.

Tests reveal that the higher forms of life including man need biotin for essential life functions. Without biotin, life could not have arisen on the earth.

VENEREAL DISEASES

In thirty out of the forty-eight States of America, men or women with venereal diseases are forbidden to marry, says the *British Medical Journal*.

In seventeen States, compulsory medical examination before marriage demands freedom from syphilis, and in the rest, other venereal diseases are also a bar to marriage.

In North Carolina and Rhode Island, people suffering from tuberculosis cannot marry. In North Carolina and Oregon, the ban is made on epilepsy, mental defectiveness, drug addiction and chronic alcoholism.

"This American experience should be of value to this country if it should ever decide to make the issuing of a marriage licence depend upon medical evidence," adds the journal.

SALES OF INDIAN SILVER

The Karachi Indian Merchants' Association in a representation to the Government of India support the contention of the Calcutta Indian Chamber of Commerce that sales of Indian silver in London should be immediately stopped and its price should be fixed by the Government of India with due regard to its current value in the country and other foreign markets. The voice of the British treasury should not be the determining factor in the fixation of prices of Indian silver. The committee consider anomalous that while the Government of India is selling silver at low prices in London they are withdrawing silver currency from circulation and request the Government to reconsider their decision in this connection.

DISCOUNT HOUSE OPENED IN BOMBAY

A Discount House on the lines of discount houses in London has been started in Bombay. This is the first time that such an organisation has been started and the main future of the discount house will be specialisation in discounting hundies of shroffs, indigenous bankers and approved business houses.

The Indian Central Banking Enquiry Committee, it will be recalled, emphasised the development of the discount market as an essential feature of any scheme of improvement of the country's monetary systems.

THE INDIAN BANK

We are informed that, subject to audit of accounts, the net profit of the Indian Bank Limited, for the year ended 31st December 1942, is Rs. 2,02,544-4-8. After having paid an interim dividend at the rate of 6 per cent. per annum amounting to Rs. 88,400 a sum of Rs. 1,91,670-9-0 is still left which is available for payment of final dividend and other appropriations.

TWO RUPEES NOTES

It is announced that the Reserve Bank of India will shortly issue from its Issue Offices in India, a bank note of the denomination of Rs. 2 in accordance with the direction of the Central Government. The size of the note will be 4½ by 2½ inches.

INDIAN RAILWAY DEBENTURES

A press *Communique* announces that in further pursuance of their policy of repatriating the sterling debt, the Government of India have, with the assistance and co-operation of His majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, arranged to repatriate the following Railway debenture stocks of the aggregate nominal value of £20'2 million:

E. I. Railway irredeemable 4½ per cent; G. I. P. Railway irredeemable 4 per cent; E. B. Railway irredeemable 4 per cent; S. I. Railways perpetual 4½ per cent; Burma Railways 8 per cent. debenture stock; E. I. Railway 3 per cent. new debenture stock; Bengal and North-Western Railway 5 per cent special debenture stock; B. N. Railway Company. Limited 4 per cent. debenture stock, and S. I. Railway Company Limited, 4 per cent. registered debenture 1945.

By an order issued by His Majesty's Treasury all residents in the United Kingdom Railway debenture stocks are required to surrender them at prices, fixed in the order, which are based on the market price of the day and allow compensation for the inevitable slight delay in actual payment. For securities delivered by February 19, 1943, payment, subject to good delivery, will, it is hoped, be made on or about March 12, 1943.

BROAD GAUGE SYSTEM

In 1941-42, the increase of ten miles on the Broad Gauge system on the Indian railways over the last pre-war year represents an increase of 28 per cent. In passenger traffic there has been an increase of 3,139 million passenger miles as compared with 1938-39, or 700 million compared with the previous peak year, in spite of the fact that public passengers services have been reduced to some 70 per cent. of the pre-war figure.

NEW RAILWAY FROM IRAQ TO RUSSIA

A new railway line across the Iraq desert which will speed up supplies to Russia was opened last month. The line extends over 123 miles. Confronted with scorching heat, daily sand-storms and occasional tropical down-pours of rain, the Indian Army built the line at the rate of one mile per day.

KOHINOOR

Kohinoor, the world famous diamond, has been the treasured possession of many Eastern monarchs. Its history can be traced to the early 14th century. In 1526 A.D. it passed into the hands of the Moghul Emperors and two hundred years later Nadir Shah took possession of it. He gave the stone its present name which means "Mountain of Light". Thereafter the diamond changed many hands, and after remaining in the possession of a few Persian and Afghan princes, it was again brought back to India during the reign of Emperor Ranjit Singh. After the annexation to Great Britain of the Punjab in 1841, the diamond passed through the East India Company to Queen Victoria, since when it has remained the property of the British Crown.

STATUE OF CHRIST FOR U. S. CAPITAL

Three sculptors have been commissioned to submit models for a statue to Christ, the Light of the World, which will stand in a niche in the 90-foot facade of the new head-quarters of the National Catholic Welfare Conference in Washington.

The three were chosen from among 64 sculptors from all parts of the United States who entered designs for the monument.

The statue is to be in bronze and will be 15 feet high. The choice from the models of the three finalists will be made by a panel of five nationally known sculptors and architects.

RELIGION AND ART

Artistic expression reaches its best form when the creative impulse behind it is some fine ideal or sentiment. If art consists only in the perfection of form, then even the immortal may become glorious. It is this inner motive of best forms of art that has ensured their permanency through the ages. Of such motives, not the least has been the devotion and ecstasy of the artist when moved by contemplation of the divine. The contribution of religion to art was the subject of a series of talks broadcast from A. I. R. Trichy.

EAST INDIA LAWN TENNIS

Dilip Bose and J. M. Mehta won the Men's Doubles final of the East India Lawn Tennis Championships recently by beating Sumant Misra and C. L. Mehta 6-4, 6-3, 6-3. A large crowd watched the game. It was one of the best matches witnessed in the tournament this season, both pairs being well-balanced.

Sumant Misra and Mehta took their defeat gallantly. Misra's backhand drive was a feature of his play. After losing the first set at 4-6 Misra and Mehta won the second in the fourteenth game. In the third set Dilip Bose was in an aggressive form, and the winners comfortably took it at 6-3. Misra and Mehta rallied in the fourth set and opened by taking the first game. Dilip Bose and Jimmy, however, took the lead soon after and led 3-1. Misra and Mehta equalized by taking the next two games. After this the winners gave them no chance and won the set at 6-3.

ALL-INDIA TABLE TENNIS

The Fifth Inter-Provincial and All-India Table Tennis Championship were brought to a close recently when the finals of various events were played. The prizes were given away by the Hon. Mr. Justice Monroe.

Bombay swept the board, winning all events in the All-India Championships and also the Inter-Provincial Title. In the Inter-Provincial Championship, the positions were as follows: Bombay 6, Bengal 5, Punjab 3, Madras 3, Mysore 2, Hyderabad 1 and Delhi nil.

The All-India Championships ended in a triumph for K. H. Kapadia of Bombay who won the triple crown, Men's Singles Men's Doubles and Mixed Doubles.

JEAN BOROTRA

According to the 'Frankfurter Zeitung', Jean Borotra, French Lawn Tennis player was arrested while trying to escape to Spain. He had been accused of being concerned with Admiral Darlan's flight to Africa.

SECRET RAY

A secret ray which could destroy a motor-car six miles distant and could go through a thick wall was mentioned at a Creditors' meeting at Manchester by George Baron of Manchester.

He claimed he had a half share in this ray which was worth a hundred million sterling, the ray being a tremendous discovery.

A Manchester University lecturer, in evidence said there was no doubt that Mr. Baron and his colleague had succeeded in doing something which had not been done before.

It is understood that Government officials will be shortly investigating this ray.

FRENCH SCIENTISTS IN U. S. A.

M. Henri Langier, ex-Director of the French National Centre for Scientific Research testifying before the Congressional Committee, gave a list of thirty leading French scientists now in the United States not one of whom is being used for war effort, despite serious shortage of scientists in the United States.

He urged the Government to make the fullest use of science in war effort.

M. Pierre Cot, former French Air Minister, agreed with M. Langier that France's failure to use Science was an important element leading to her present downfall.

SIR S. S. BHATNAGAR

The High Commissioner for India received last month on behalf of Sir Shanti Swarupa Bhatnagar the distinction of Honorary Membership of the Society of Chemical Industry. Only 11 living chemists had hitherto received this honour and of these only two—an Englishman and a Canadian—are British Empire citizens.

INVENTOR OF "DEATH RAY"

Nikola Tesla, who claimed in 1934 to have invented a "ray" which would bring down hostile planes and bring death to all in its path died on January 8, at New York. He was 86. Pioneer of radio-telegraphy, Tesla had 700 inventions to his credit.

PUPPETOONS

All of us have, sometime or other, seen Walt Disney's animated cartoons on the silver screen. But a greater wonder than Walt Disney has just appeared in the horizon. It is George Pal, a 35 year old Hungarian architect. He produces animated cartoons in the third dimension. Actually Pal's shorts are called puppetoons, as their technique consists, in using stringless puppets against their dimension sets.

He also uses wooden sets with synchronised music songs and special effects. No Pal puppet ever moves, and this eliminates the jerkiness which has marred puppet films in the past, resulting from the limitations imposed by the use of movable parts.

To do away with this effect, Pal creates a complete stationery puppet for each phase of movement.

SHANTARAM'S VENTURE

Besides the production and distribution activities Director Shantaram has announced yet another venture, an Academy of Motion Pictures Arts and Crafts, captioned the Film Academy of India.

To start with, only two to four students will be trained in each section except for the Art of Acting section, where the maximum number for admission is fixed at fifty.

COHAN, THE ACTOR

The death occurred at New York on November 5 of the well-known actor. George M. Cohan.

Mr. Cohan, composer of the famous United States war song "Over there," was well known in America as a dancer, actor, producer, Manager and motion picture and talkie star.

CINEMAS IN FRANCE

The whole of the news reel concession for cinemas in France has been sold to Germans, says a French Press Service report. The concession will cover about 7,000 cinemas all over France and it was operated formerly by "Franco Actualites." The control now has been passed over to UFA interests in Berlin.

MOVING THE LAID-UP CAR

Moving about a laid-up car that has no petrol or battery, presents problems. The following hint from 'The Auto-Car' enables one to do this without bothering about the engine at all:

"The trick I am about to describe", writes D. H. S., "was a standard unditching process in the early days and it is amazingly effective. Remove all the sparking plugs, engage first (or reverse) gear, put the handle into position, and wind away. The car moves irresistibly. Put a brick in the path of each back wheel and the car will just creep over them, whereas you could push till you collapsed and make no progress! There are probably few garages placed at the foot of slopes steeper than 1 to 6, and in the case of an Austin 10 weighing about a ton, I find it not too difficult to hand-wind it in reverse up the 1 in 6 ramps. I use to facilitate axle and sump servicing, even without removing the plugs, while with the plugs out my 18-year-old boy can do it.

"If a laid-up car is to be moved from time to time to free the garage space, I would suggest that the sparking plugs be left loose for easy removal, and that the gear box and back axle should be drained and flushed and then partly filled with oil and paraffin mixture just to prevent rust until better times return: the heavy drag of cold oil will thereby be eliminated."

GENERAL MOTORS' FUND

The General Motors Corporation has established a revolving credit of 1,000 million dollars through a Banking Syndicate, which includes 400 institutions in 40 States.

Announcing this the New York *Herald-Tribune* said, it "makes history in the field of industrial financing in this country. This huge fund will be employed in providing working capital need by the Corporation in its war production programme."

R. A. F.

Pupils in the Royal Air Force are today trained to fly at high speed. Training machines are specially designed to provide familiarity with all the advanced scientific equipment of the high speed service types.

When, in the later stages of training, comes the actual transition to fast bombers and fighters, there is no violent change-over to a new technique. In the early stages of the pilot's training, the Miles Magister, a low-wing machine which can be put through all the old-time acrobatics without risk of losing control at moderate heights, plays a prominent part.

This popular machine is a two-seater, fully cantilever monoplane of wooden construction, designed and equipped with dual controls for *ab initio* training. Normally, the instructor occupies the front seat, but the machine can be flown solo from either seat, all controls and instruments being fully duplicated.

Encouraging initiation into speed is provided by a Gipsy Major engine, developing 130 h.p. at 2,350 r.p.m. Normal cruising revolutions are 2,100 r.p.m. at which the power developed is 120 h.p. Cruising speed is between 125 and 130 m.p.h., maximum speed at 145 m.p.h.

ROCKETS FOR SPEED

The British aircraft authority, Mr. E. G. Grey, said that rockets were used at the take-off of German Junkers 88 medium bombers to effect quick acceleration. Writing in the annual issue of *Iron Age*, Mr. Grey said that such rocket-propelled starts had been used for two years. He added that rockets were being used in another way by Russians. Two or three rocket bombs for a ground attack were carried under each wing of new Stormovik bomber fighters. The bombs were carried on rails instead of normal racks and they were fired electrically and given their direction by sliding along the rails which the rocket for propulsion carried them more nearly in a straight line with the course of the plane.

POST WAR INDUSTRY

Sir George Schuster, former Finance Member, Government of India, warned the Industrial Co-partnership Association, London, that if profit-making continued after the war to be the primary motive of those at the head of industry, it would lead to the loss of the very things for which we were fighting.

"If each concern seeks to run its own affairs according to its own single interest, I see little hope of avoiding rigid State control at every point," said Sir George. The workers' demands for partnership in industry, security of employment and proper standards could never again be ignored. "A great danger is that in the necessity of making our State organisation efficient for defeating Hitler and for guarding against threats of Hitlers in future we may lose the liberty we are fighting to preserve. The guiding power in industry must rest with Parliament in the interests of the community as a whole. If industry wants to ensure that its interference shall not be destructive of freedom and individualism, it is for industry so to organise itself. The Government can give broad guiding directions leaving industrial leaders to settle detailed methods of execution."

TECHNOLOGICAL COLLEGE FOR COIMBATORE

The Syndicate of the Madras University, resolved to recommend to the Senate the founding of a College of Technology at Coimbatore, accepting the offer of the South Indian Mill Owners' Association in this regard.

The Association offered to provide a non-recurring grant of Rs. 8 lakhs and a recurring annual grant of Rs. 25,000 towards the expenses of the proposed institution.

The Syndicate recommended that the Government might be approached by the University for assistance.

WAR PRODUCTION

The U. S. War Production Board has issued 2 orders setting up a new concentration division as well as a wholesale and retail trade division to concentrate U. S. production still more in 1943.

NO SLAUGHTER OF USEFUL CATTLE

At its first meeting, held last August, the Central Food Advisory Council considered the increase in the slaughter of cattle resulting from large-scale increase in the demand for meat due to the exigencies of the war and recommended that, to prevent permanent damage to the cattle wealth of the country, the slaughter of working bullocks in a good state of health below the age of ten years, cows in milk and pregnant cows should be prohibited.

A Press note says that the recommendation has been accepted by the Government of India. Contractors with existing contracts are also being requested to comply with this restriction.

POTATO-PLANTING MACHINE

Farmers in Britain, where more food than ever before is being grown, are interested in a potato-planting machine.

The inventor claims that his device, which is now being tested by the Ministry of Agriculture, does the whole job in one operation—opening two drills, sowing the seed potato, covering it lightly with soil, distributing the fertiliser and splitting back the drills—as fast as a man can walk up and down a field.

So speedy is the machine, he says, that it does the work of 30 to 40 men employing traditional methods. With the aid of his invention he has planted over 100 acres of potatoes this season, at the rate of five to seven acres a day, employing unskilled labour with the exception of the tractor driver.

WHEAT PRODUCTION IN INDIA

On an average, India produces nearly 100 lakh tons of wheat per year, consumes nearly 99 lakhs tons, which leaves a small balance to meet the requirements of other provinces. In addition, India produces 264 lakhs of tons of rice as against the normal consumption of 278 lakhs tons which means a deficit of 14 lakhs of tons which used to be met by imports from Burma.

LABOURERS IN INDIA

Nothing shows more vividly the chaotic character of India's wage structure than the fact that while in advanced industrial countries in the world, miners' wages are on a par with wages in other industrial undertakings, in India these are less than one-fourth of the wages of textile operatives. In Great Britain and the U. S. A., wages in the iron and steel industry are about twice as much as those of textile workers. In India, they are lower by about 15 per cent. Even at the Jamshedpur plant, 40 per cent. of workers do not get even a living wage.

This is the opinion expressed by Dr. Radha Kamal Mukerjee in a lecture on the India Wage system at the University of Lucknow.

He expressed the opinion that to begin with Rs. 20 a month may be fixed as a general national minimum wage rising to Rs. 30 in ten years.

LEVER BROTHERS' PLAN

An economic new deal aimed at solving the problem of mass unemployment in Britain is outlined in a remarkable report "On the Problem of Unemployment," issued by Lever Brothers and Unilever, one of the world's biggest commercial and industrial combines with factories in 38 countries.

Mr. Geoffrey Heyworth, Chairman of Lever Brothers and Unilever, Limited, at a press conference said that the authors of the plan believed that the problem of mass unemployment could be solved, given five conditions—(1) The cure involves dealing with the trade cycle; (2) a variety of measures are necessary and no one nostrum will achieve it; (3) such measures must have concerted direction; (4) no country singly can decide that direction and (5) even then temporary expedients may have to be resorted to and these also must be concerted with others.

Governments will find it necessary to protect their industries from unfair competition. One great problem to be dealt with by International agreement will be regulation of production and prices of primary raw materials.

SCHEDULED CLASSES

"Unless we are in the political saddle we will not be able to sit side by side with Hindus and Muslims on terms of equality. Swaraj should not be for Hindus and Mohammedans only, but for the depressed classes also", declared Dr. Ambedkar, replying to an address presented to him on behalf of the depressed class people of Surat recently. He added: "Great men have tried and failed to remove untouchability. The day the untouchables get political rights their grievances will vanish".

Dr. Ambedkar advised the depressed classes to join the Scheduled Castes' Federation and stand united.

NEWSPRINT QUOTA

As shipping space from North America is very limited and as a substantial quantity of newsprint has to be shipped against un-utilised licenses, fresh newsprint quotas for shipment in the period January—June 1943, will be issued on a considerably reduced scale, which will be 25 percent of that adopted for July—December 1942, says a Press Note. The quotas will cover 3 months' requirements calculated on this basis. The proprietors of newspapers are advised in their own interest to effect immediately all possible economy in the use of newsprint.

MR. WILLKIE'S BOOK

Messrs. Simon Schuster announce the publication of a book written by Mr. Wendell Willkie, "One War, one peace, one world" relating to his tour around the world, expanding the convictions which he had formed and had publicly advocated.

The book is primarily a plea for open discussion of all problems of war and peace including the Indian question.

LEGACIES TO ROYAL FAMILY

Queen Elizabeth and Princess Margaret Rose are among the beneficiaries under the 1,56,4,000 sterling will of Dame Margaret Grenville, which is published recently. Princess Margaret Rose receives £20,000 while to the Queen is left a valuable collection of jewellery containing a number of magnificent pieces.

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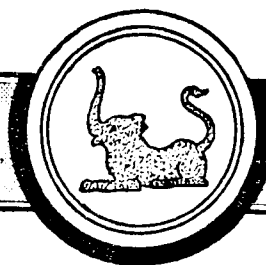
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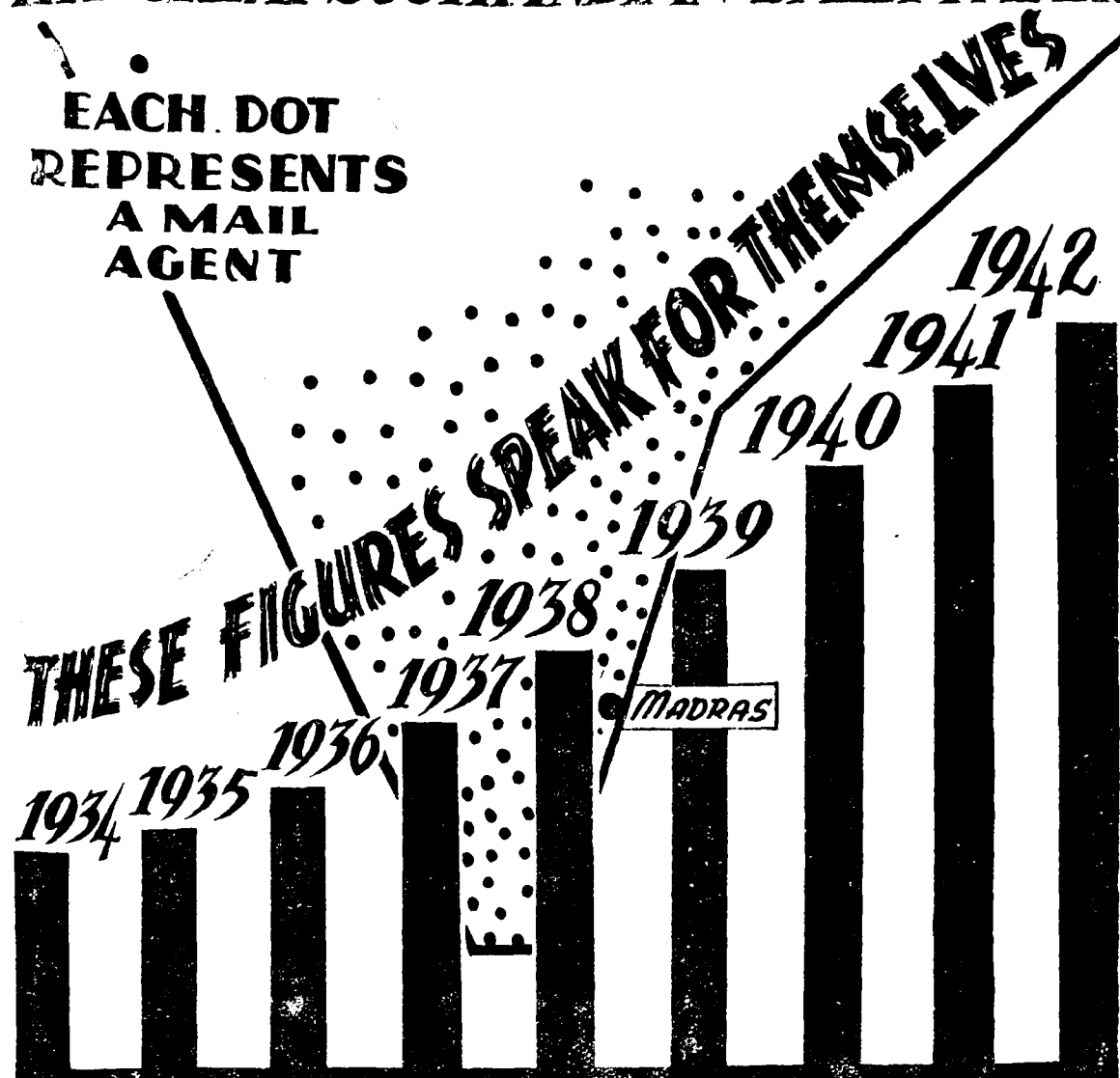
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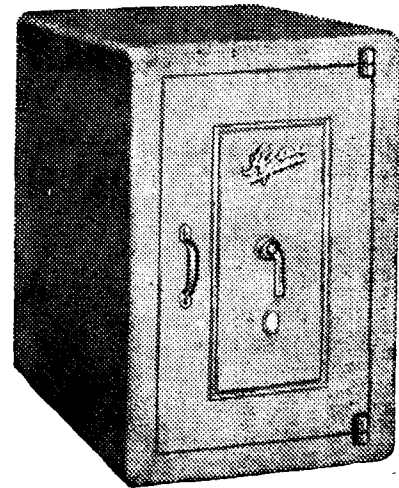
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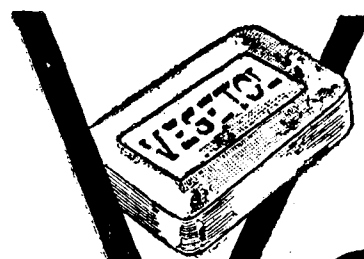
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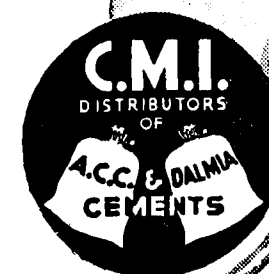
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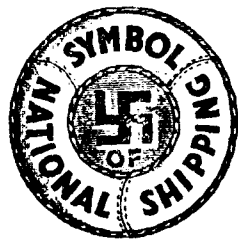
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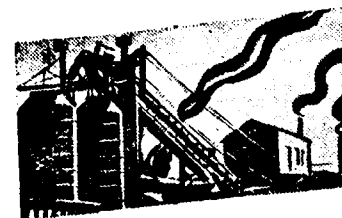
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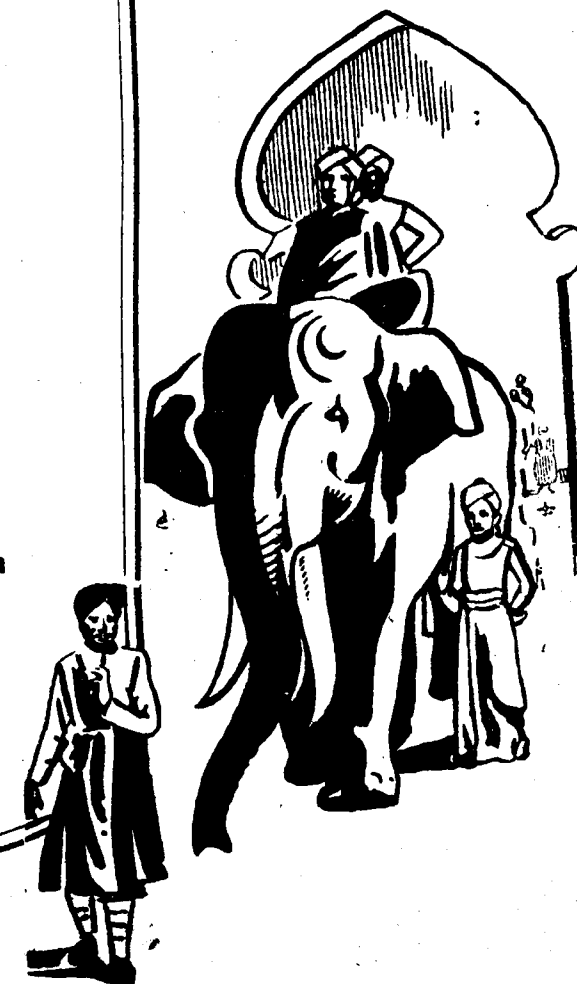
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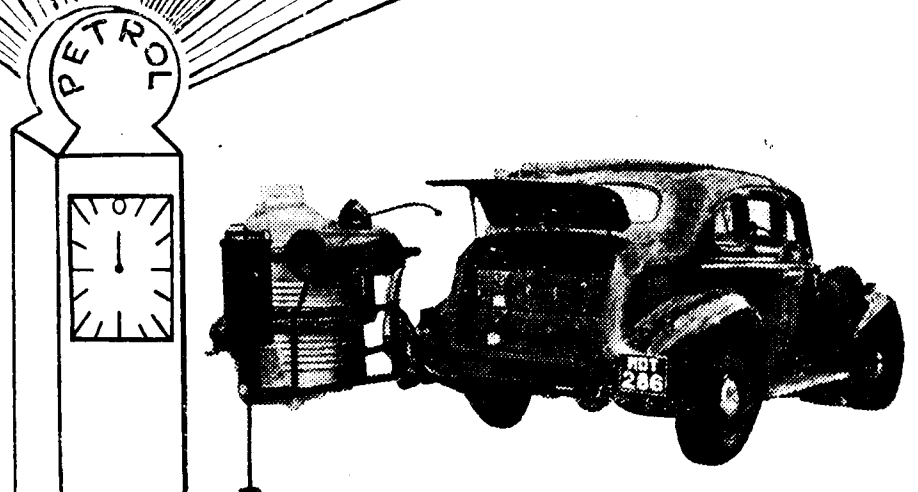
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The Indian Review

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 44]

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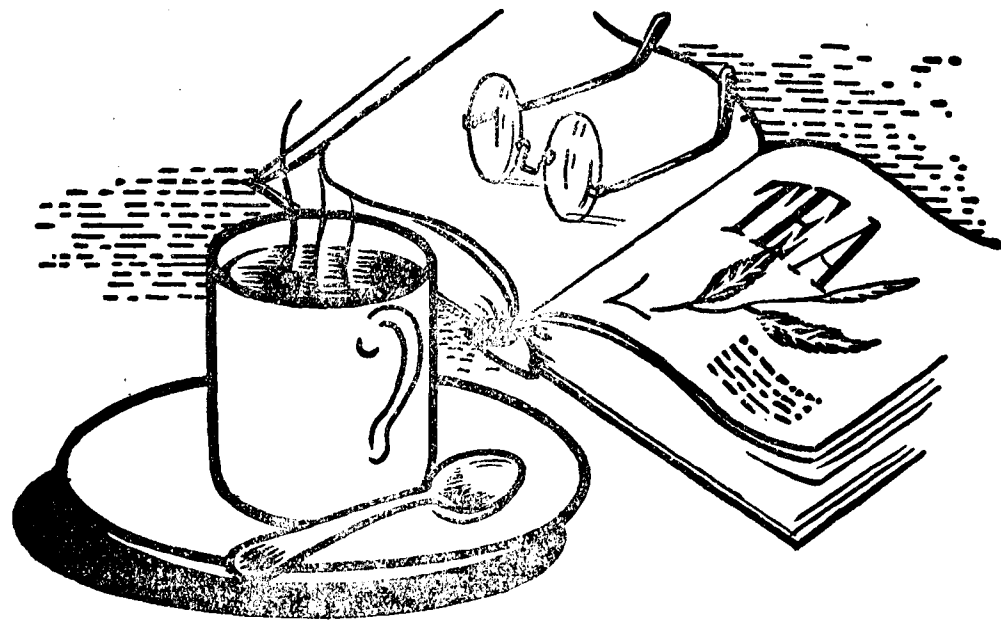
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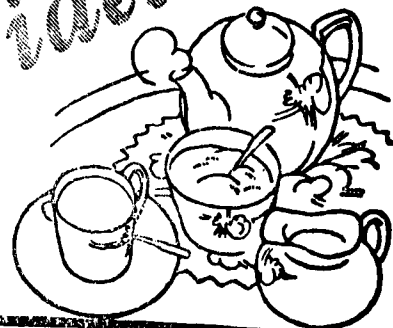
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

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MARCH 1943

[No. 3.

GANDHIJI'S FAST

[As we go to press, Mahatma Gandhi is passing through the last week of his fast and all the world is praying for his survival from the self-imposed ordeal. The whole country, irrespective of political or racial differences, and the best part of the civilized world, have been watching this extraordinary move with reverent sympathy. No consideration of the propriety or otherwise of the fast has deterred the millions of sympathisers at home and abroad from joining the chorus of appeal for his unconditional release on humanitarian grounds. There is no doubt the whole country has been moved to its depths as never before by the spectacle of the Mahatma trying to change the heart of the rulers by submitting himself to this extreme penance. It is unfortunate that the appeals have fallen on deaf ears. "There can be no justification", says the Prime Minister, "for discriminating between Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders." But is there any other Indian leader, rightly asks the *Manchester Guardian*, "for whom representatives of almost all sections would unite and much the greatest part of India be powerfully moved? Mr. Gandhi is not like any other leader. For more than any other, he is India to most of his fellow countrymen and to much of the world outside." It would be seen from the correspondence between the Viceroy and Mr. Gandhi from which we give copious extracts in the following pages, that Mr. Gandhi has throughout stood firm on the rock of non-violence and even today he is as anxious for negotiation and reconciliation as ever he was, before. It is sad to think that so welcome an opportunity for resolving the unwanted deadlock has been lost by intransigence and a misapplied sense of prestige. Above all, it is sadder to think that when every effort should be concentrated on the war, public mind should be allowed to be deflected on other matters which statesmanship should have helped to resolve amicably.—Ed. I. R.]

GANDHIJI and the members of the Congress Working Committee and many other Congressmen were arrested on August 9, following the meeting of the Working Committee at Bombay. Gandhiji and his party were detained at the Aga Khan Palace, Poona. Exactly six months and a day after the detention, on Wednesday, February 10 (1943), a Government of India *communique* announced that Mr. Gandhi had gone on a fast of three weeks' duration, following a private correspondence with H. E. the Viceroy. The *communique* added that it was to be a fast according to capacity, and during it, Mr. Gandhi proposed to add juices of citrus fruit to water to make the water drinkable as his wish was not to fast to death but to survive the ordeal. In

the correspondence that was published he made it clear that the fast would end only "on the morning of March 2," but that it "can be ended sooner by the Government giving the needed relief." Thus this fast undertaken for a definite purpose and for a specific duration under conditions was essentially different from the other fasts previously undertaken by the Mahatma.

PREVIOUS FASTS

This was the fifth of his fasts in India. The first was the Hindu-Muslim Unity fast of 21 days in 1924 undertaken in the late Maulana Mahomed Ali's house in Delhi. The second fast, also lasting 21 days, against the Communal Award, was started in Yerawada Prison in 1932

and finished at Lady Thakersey's residence in Poona. Gandhiji observed the third fast also in Yerawada Prison in 1933 as a protest against the Government's refusal to allow him to carry on anti-untouchability work through his *Harijan*. On this, as on the previous occasion, he was released by the Government. The fourth fast was undertaken by Gandhiji in 1939 to focus attention on affairs in Rajkot State.

GANDHI-VICEROY CORRESPONDENCE

Gandhiji set the ball rolling by a personal letter addressed to Lord Linlithgow as long ago as August 14 last, i.e., within five days of his detention in Poona. In that letter he complained that the Government were wrong in precipitating the crisis. The Government resolution justifying the arrests was "full of distortions and misrepresentations." That His Excellency had the approval of his "Indian colleagues", wrote Mr. Gandhi, "could have no significance, except this, that in India you can always command such services." That co-operation, he added, was "an additional justification for the demand for the withdrawal, irrespective of what people or parties may say."

The Government of India should have waited at least till the time I inaugurated mass action. I have publicly stated that I fully contemplated sending you a letter before taking concrete action. It was to be an appeal to you for an impartial examination of the Congress case. As you know, the Congress has readily filled in every omission that has been discovered in the conception of its demand. So could I have dealt with every difficulty, if you had given me the opportunity. The precipitate action of the Government leads one to think that they were afraid that the extreme caution and gradualness with which the Congress was moving towards direct action might make world opinion veer round to the Congress, as it had already begun doing and expose the hollowness of the grounds for the Government's rejection of the Congress demand. They should surely have waited for an authentic report of my speeches on Friday and on Saturday night, after the passing of the resolution by the All-India Congress Committee. You would have found in them that I would not hastily begin action. You should have taken advantage of the interval foreshadowed in them, and explored every possibility of satisfying the Congress demand.

It is a pity that this letter should have been withheld from the Indian public (though the gist of it seems to

have been within the knowledge of the British press), for it says categorically that Gandhi and the Congress were definitely looking for means of reconciliation and were in no hurry to act. Then Gandhiji answers seriatim the indictment against the Congress and asks, is the demand of the Congress for independence, legitimate at all times, "a challenge that could only be met by immediate repression instead of patient reasoning with the demanding party?"

I venture to suggest that it is a long draft upon the credulity of mankind to say that the acceptance of the demand "would plunge India into confusion". Anyway the summary rejection of the demand has plunged the nation and the Government into confusion. The Congress was making every effort to identify India with the allied cause.

Gandhiji then refutes the charge of "dangerous preparations on the part of the Congress for unlawful and in some cases violent activities." Then violence, says Mr. Gandhi,

was never contemplated at any stage. A definition of what could be included in non-violent action has been interpreted in a sinister and subtle manner, as if the Congress was preparing for violent action. Everything was openly discussed among Congress circles, for nothing was to be done secretly. And why is it tampering with your loyalty if I ask you to give up a job which is harming the British people?

Instead of publishing behind the backs of principal Congressmen the misleading paragraphs, the Government, immediately they came to know of the "preparations" should have brought to book the parties concerned with the preparations. That would have been the appropriate course. By their unsupported allegations in the resolution, they have laid themselves open to the charge of unfair dealing.

The Congress movement was intended to evoke in the people the measure of sacrifice sufficient to compel attention. It was intended to demonstrate what measure of popular support it had. Was it wise at the time of the day to seek to suppress a popular movement avowedly non-violent?

The charge that the "Congress is not India's mouthpiece" and that "its leaders have constantly impeded the efforts to bring India to full nationhood" is answered thus:

It is a gross libel thus to accuse the oldest national organisation of India. This language lies ill in the mouth of a Government which has, as can be proved from published records, consistently thwarted every national effort for attaining freedom and sought to suppress the Congress by hook or by crook.

The Government of India have not condescended to consider the Congress offer that if simultaneously with the declaration of the Independence of India, they could not trust the Congress to form a stable provisional government, they should ask the Muslim League to do so, and that any National Government formed by the League would be loyally accepted by the Congress. Such an offer is hardly consistent with the charge of totalitarianism against the Congress.

Examining the Government's offer that "as soon as hostilities cease, India shall devise for herself with full freedom of decision and on a basis embracing all and not only a single party the form of government which she regards as most suited to her conditions,"

he asked if such an offer had any reality about it.

All parties have not agreed now. Will it be any more possible after the war? And if the parties have to act before independence is in their hands? Parties grow up like mushrooms for without proving their representative character, the Government will welcome them as they have done in the past and if the parties oppose the Congress and its activities, though they may do lip homage to independence. Frustration is inherent in the Government offer. Hence the logical cry of withdrawal first. Only after the end of British power and a fundamental change in the political status of India from bondage to freedom, will the formation of a truly representative government whether provisional or permanent, be possible. The living burial of the author of the demand has not resolved the deadlock. It has aggravated it.

Gandhiji went on to add that it was because Congress is anxious for Great Britain to avoid the fate that had overtaken other imperial powers that it asked her to shed imperialism voluntarily.

It is sad to find the Government of India claiming to hold the "balance" between the parties for which it is itself demonstrably responsible.

Gandhiji wound up by saying that Pandit Nehru and he, Pandit Nehru even more than himself, "dreaded the success of Fascism and Nazism and were devoted to the allied cause of democracy and freedom."

Surely you are wrong in having imprisoned such a powerful friend and ally. If, notwithstanding the common cause, the Government's answer to the Congress demand is hasty repression, they will not wonder if I draw the inference that it was not so much the allied cause that weighed with the British Government, as the unexpressed determination to cling to the possession of India as an indispensable part of the imperial policy. This determination led to the rejection of the Congress demand and precipitated repression.

Finally, striking a personal note, Gandhiji concluded the letter with a plea for reconsideration of Government policy:

I remain the same friend you have known me. I would still plead for reconsideration of the Government of India's whole policy. Do not disregard the pleading of one who claimed to be a sincere friend of the British people. Heaven guide you.

The Viceroy replied that it was not possible for the Government, either to accept his criticism of the Government resolution or act upon his suggestion to reconsider their policy.

Reverting to the same theme, Gandhiji wrote again to the Secretary to the Government of India on September 23 last, reaffirming his belief that the reported deplorable destruction would most certainly have been avoided if only the Government had awaited his contemplated letter to the Viceroy. Once again he reiterated his faith in non-violence and urged the Government "to explore ways and means of reconciliation."

In spite of all that has been said to the contrary, I claim that the Congress policy still remains unequivocally non-violent. The wholesale arrest of the Congress leaders seems to have made the people wild with rage to the point of losing self-control. I feel that the Government, not the Congress, were responsible for the destruction that has taken place. The only right course for the Government seems to me to be to release the Congress leaders, withdraw all repressive measures and explore ways and means of conciliation. Surely the Government have ample resources to deal with any overt act of violence. Repression can only breed discontent and bitterness.

In the light of this emphatic avowal of non-violence and plea for negotiation, it is hard to understand the Government's charge against Gandhi's silence over mob violence. If only these letters had been published earlier, they could not have failed to have the desired effect on the mischief mongers.

GROWL AND COUNTER-GROWL

Gandhiji waited for over three months to see if anything was done to resolve the deadlock. And then on Christmas eve 1942, he wrote again to the Viceroy, a letter which in his own words, was a growl against His Excellency.

I had thought, we were friends, and should still love to think so. However what has happened since the 9th August last makes me wonder whether you still regard me as a friend.

Your arrest of me, the *communiqué* you issued thereafter, your reply to Rajaji and the reasons given therefor, Mr. Amory's attack on me and much else I can catalogue, show that at some stage or other you must have suspected my *bona fides*. If I have not ceased to be your friend, why did you not before taking drastic action tell me of your suspicions and make yourself sure of your facts?

Apart from the personal issue, Gandhiji's complaint against the Government was that by arresting the Congress leaders, they had goaded the people into acts of violence and sabotage. The Viceroy's reply of January 13, was in effect a 'counter-growl' as Gandhi described it.

I have been profoundly depressed during recent months first by the policy that was adopted by the Congress in August, secondly, because while that policy gave rise, as it was obvious it must, throughout the country to violence and crime (I say nothing of the risks to the country from outside aggression), no word of condemnation for that violence and crime should have come from you or from the Working Committee. When you were first at Poona, I know that you were not receiving newspapers, and I accepted that as explaining your silence. When arrangements were made that you and the Working Committee should have such newspapers as you desired, I felt certain that the details those newspapers contained of what was happening would shock and distress you as much as it has us all, and your condemnation of it would be categorical and widely known. But that was not the case, and it has been a real disappointment to me, all the more when I think of these murders, the burning alive of police officials, the wrecking of trains, the destruction of property, the misleading of these young students, which has done so much harm to India's good name and the Congress Party.

The Viceroy went on to add:

But if I am right in reading your letter to mean that in the light of what has happened you wish to retrace your steps and dissociate yourself from the policy of last summer you have only to let me know and I will at once consider the matter further. And if I have failed to understand your object, you must not hesitate to let me know without delay in what respect I have done so and tell me what positive suggestion you wish to put to me.

Gandhiji in his letter of 19th January did not accept His Excellency's inference. "If I could be convicted of my error or worse," said Mr. Gandhi, "I should need to consult nobody so far as my own action is concerned to make a full and open confession and make ample amends." Of course, he "deplored the happenings which have taken place since 9th August last,"

but he laid the whole blame for them at the door of the Government of India. For he is a confirmed believer in non-violence.

This, however, I can say from the house-top that I am as confirmed a believer in non-violence as I have ever been. You may not know that any violence on the part of Congress workers I have condemned openly and unequivocally. I have even done public penance more than once. I must not worry you with examples. The point I wish to make is that on every such occasion I was a free man.

Hence this time, said Gandhiji, the retracing lies with the Government and not with him.

You will forgive me for expressing an opinion challenging yours. I am certain that nothing but good would have resulted if you had stayed your hand and granted me the interview which I had announced on the night of the 8th August I was to seek. But that was not to be.

And then Gandhiji summed up:

1. If you want me to act singly convince me that I was wrong. I will make ample amends.
2. If you want me to make any proposal on behalf of the Congress, you should put me among the Congress Working Committee members. I do the *impasse*.

If I am obscure or have not answered your letter fully, please point out the omissions and I shall make an attempt to give you satisfaction. I have no mental reservation.

It will be noticed that so far the only charge against Gandhi and the Congress was that they had not condemned the acts of mob violence. In his second letter, however, His Excellency said for the first time categorically, though 'reluctantly', that the course of events and his familiarity with what had been taking place had left him no choice but to regard the Congress movement and empowered spokesman as its authorised and fully of last August as responsible for the sad campaign of violence and crime and revolutionary activity which has done so much harm and so much injury to India's credit.

In reply to this, Gandhiji asked for positive proof of Government's charges. "I see the fact of murders as clearly, I hope, as you do," said Gandhi.

My answer is that the Government goaded the people to the point of madness. They started referred to. That violence is not any the less so, because it is organised on a scale so gigantic that it displaces the Mosaic Law of 'tooth for tooth' by that of ten thousand for one—not to mention the corollary of the Mosaic Law, i.e., of non-resistance as enunciated by Jesus Christ. I cannot

interpret in any other manner the repressive measures of the all-Powerful Government of India.

And then came the tragic announcement:

If then I cannot get soothing balm for my pain, I must resort to the law prescribed for Satyagrahis, namely, a fast according to capacity.

I must commence after the early morning breakfast of the 9th February (later changed to February 10), a fast for 21 days ending on the morning of the 2nd March.

Usually, during my fasts, I take water with the addition of salts. But nowadays my system refuses water. This time, therefore, I propose to add juices of citrus fruit to make water drinkable for my wish is not to fast unto death, but to survive the ordeal, if God so wills. This fast can be ended sooner by the Government giving the needed relief.

In a significant postscript to this letter, Mr. Gandhi made it clear that the Congress demands were for all the people of India and not for any section thereof.

As you should be aware the Congress is willing and prepared for the Government inviting Mr. M. A. Jinnah to form a National Government, subject to such agreed adjustments as may be necessary for the duration of the war, such Government being responsible to a fully elected assembly.

This sentence can be interpreted to mean a substantial modification of the unbending 'Quit India'.

In his reply to this, the Viceroy said that his views remained unchanged as he "had ample information that the sabotage had been conducted under secret instructions circulated in the name of the All-India Congress Committee":

If we do not act on all this information and make it publicly known it is because the time is not yet ripe, but you may rest assured that the charges against the Congress will have to be met sooner or later and it will then be for you and your colleagues to clear yourselves before the world if you can. And if in the meanwhile you yourself, by any action such as you now appear to be contemplating, attempt to find an easy way out the judgment will go against you by default.

To talk of "an easy way out" in connection with a man of Gandhiji's position and character in the public life of the country was definitely unfortunate; and then came the still more stinging accusation in the Viceregal admonition that he regarded

the use of a fast for political purposes as a form of political blackmail (Himsa) for which there can be no moral justification.

This was the unkindest cut of all.

Gandhiji in his reply asked why the culprit in question should not be tried before the Court of law and punished, if found guilty.

You say that the time is not yet ripe to publish the charges against the Congress. Have you ever thought of the possibility of their being found baseless when they are put before an impartial tribunal? Or that some of the condemned persons might have died in the meanwhile, or that some of the evidence that the living can produce might become unavailable?

After attempting an exhaustive reply to the views and statements attributed to him, Gandhiji felt that the Viceroy "left him no loophole to escape the ordeal." Stung to the quick by the description of the fast as "a form of political blackmail," Gandhiji wrote:

It is on my part meant to be an appeal to the highest tribunal for justice which I have failed to secure from you, if I do not survive the ordeal, I shall go to the judgment seat with the fullest faith in my innocence. Posterity will judge between you as representative of an all-Powerful Government and me as a humble man who has tried to serve his country and humanity through it.

In their *communiqué* announcing Mr. Gandhi's decision to fast from February 10, the Government of India declared that they had no intention on their part of allowing the fast to deflect their policy. Nor will they be responsible for its consequences on Mr. Gandhi's health.

They cannot prevent Mr. Gandhi from fasting. It was their wish, however, that if he decided to do so, he should do so as a free man and under his own arrangements, so as to bring out clearly that the responsibility for any fast and its consequences rested exclusively with him.

They accordingly informed Mr. Gandhi that he would be released for the purpose and for the duration of the fast of which he had notified them, and with him any members of the party living with him who may wish to accompany him.

Mr. Gandhi in reply expressed his readiness to abandon his intended fast if released, failing which he would fast in detention. In other words, it was now clear that only his unconditional release could prevent him from fasting.

If the temporary release is offered for my convenience, I do not need it. I shall be quite content to take my fast as a detenu or prisoner. If it is for the convenience of the Government, I am sorry I am unable to suit them, much as I should like to do so. I can say this much, that I, as a prisoner, shall avoid, as far

as is humanly possible, every cause of inconvenience to the Government save what is inherent in the fast itself. The impending fast has not been conceived to be taken as a free man. Circumstances may arise, as they have done before now, when I may have to fast as a free man. If, therefore, I am released, there will be no fast in terms of my correspondence above-mentioned. I shall have to survey the situation *de novo* and decide what I should do. I have no desire to be released under false pretences. In spite of all that has been said against me I hope not to belie the vow of truth and non-violence which alone makes life livable for me. I say this, if it is only for my own satisfaction. It does me good to reiterate openly my faith, when outer darkness surrounds me, as it does just now.

Thus the fast which became inevitable commenced on the 10th February at the Aga Khan Palace, Government having allowed access to Gandhi, to near relatives and friends and a syndicate of Doctors, including Dr. B. C. Roy, Dr. Gilder, and Major Gen. Candy, Surgeon-General to the Government of Bombay, who were allowed to issue daily bulletins as to Gandhiji's condition.

WORLD REACTIONS TO THE FAST

Commenting on the correspondence and Gandhi's irrevocable decision, the *Manchester Guardian* showed true insight into the Indian problem when it said that "Mr. Gandhi had embarked upon a fast, which, however much the Government might disclaim responsibility, might move India to its depths". And so has it. The news of Gandhi's fast spread like wild fire. Hundreds of telegrams were addressed to Government by public organisations representing every shade of political opinion in the country. The press, without a single exception, voicing the feelings of the people, urged the Mahatma's immediate and unconditional release. The Central Legislatures and the Bengal Provincial Legislative Assembly, then in Session, voiced the public demand in no uncertain terms. In the Central Assembly, Mr. N. M. Joshi vigorously combated the view that the Mahatma's declaration of his resolve to go on fast, failing the satisfaction of his demands, amounted to political blackmail.

"It was wrong and unworthy of the British people and the Government of India," he said, "to impute motives to Mahatma Gandhi. Was it blackmail if one wanted to get released in order that the present situation might be reconsidered and the impasse ended?"

The Council of State staged a walk out, in protest against Government's intransigence. Practically the whole country joined in the universal demand for the unconditional release of the Mahatma.

May his life be spared to his country and to humanity and may Providence vouchsafe grace and wisdom to those from whom these virtues appear to have fled,

observed Mr. Justice C. C. Biswas, presiding over a meeting of the citizens of Calcutta, to offer prayers for Mahatma Gandhi's long life. Mr. Justice Biswas added:

We have met here to fulfil a most solemn duty, a public and national duty. The whole of India is now watching with the gravest concern the developments from Poona. Our hearts are too full to-day. All that is left to us now is to pray to the Giver of all good that He may yet spare the life of one whom we have loved and worshipped and would like to love and worship to the end of our days as the greatest mortal walking this earth.

People in South Africa, in America and in England sent frantic appeals to the Viceroy and the British Prime Minister. The *London Times* said:

No one can be satisfied with the state of Indian affairs. . . . Nor can the errors of British policy in the past be a stumbling block now. Even while the shadow of war is across India, the way of discussion is wide open.

Mr. Lionel Fieldon, formerly Controller of Broadcasting in India and now Editor of the *Sunday Observer*, urged a judicial enquiry into the civil disturbances "before Mr. Gandhi's fasting brings the pot of hatred once more to the boil."

"In our opinion", wrote the *Chicago Sun*, editorially:

Mr. Gandhi should be released unconditionally. The fact remains that if he died a martyred prisoner, the bad situation becomes incalculably worse. There is little time to lose.

Lord Strabolgi, addressing a meeting in London, called by the India League, said that he dreaded the results of our future relations with Hindus if Mr. Gandhi's fast had fatal results. The Government here and in India should make a new approach without delay to seek a settlement.

Mr. Lloyd George, Father of the House of Commons and the Archbishop of Canterbury, expressed profound concern over a possible tragic denouement.

The newspapers, hard pressed as they were for space owing to shortage of paper, devoted whole pages for this matter

of supreme concern. Statements and appeals flooded the columns with the same unvarying demand to save the life of the Mahatma at any cost. "The Mahatma's life must be saved. This is the only thing that matters", said Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, the convener of the Leaders' Conference in Delhi.

All political considerations must be set aside and a united demand must be presented for the release of the man whose life is so precious for the country and the world.

"If my father were alive to-day", said Mr. Rathindranath Tagore, the Poet's only son, "his powerful voice would have reverberated all over the world in a mighty appeal to move the conscience of mankind." In the name of "United India and in the name of humanity", the Metropolitan of India, the Chief Minister of Bengal and other prominent citizens issued an appeal "to all without any distinction of religion or creed or nationality to go on praying with humility to God for Mr. Gandhi." Three Members of the Viceroy's Council—Sir H. P. Mody, Mr. N. R. Sarker and Mr. M. S. Aney—tendered their resignations on February 18. In a joint statement, they said:

Our resignations from His Excellency the Governor-General's Council have been announced, and all that we desire to do is to say by way of explanation that certain differences arose on what we regard as a fundamental issue (the issue of the action to be taken on Mahatma Gandhi's fast) and we felt we could no longer retain our offices.

THE LEADERS' CONFERENCE

About 800 leaders, Hindu, Muslim, Parsi and British from all parts of the country, met at Delhi on February 19, to give expression, as Mr. C. Rajagopalachari said in his address of welcome, "to the feeling in this country that Mahatma Gandhi should be enabled to end his fast." Every heart would be gladdened, he said:

if by any means Mahatmaji could be released, and his fast could terminate. I don't think there can be any difference of opinion on that point, though there may be differences of opinion as to the policies and programme from time to time pursued by Mahatmaji, and other people.

The Government feared that releasing him would create difficulties but Mr. Rajagopalachari declared on behalf of the conveners that the moment he was released the work of the Government

would be eased, and would not be made difficult.

He then referred to the legal and other aspects of the documents published and said: "We ask that he should have the opportunity to review his position, and give his advice to the country."

A Committee was set up which adopted a resolution urging the release of Mr. Gandhi and in view of the urgency of the situation it was forwarded immediately to the Private Secretary to H. E. the Viceroy.

A manifesto urging the immediate release of Mr. Gandhi, and containing over 17,000 signatures, was distributed at the Conference.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, who presided over the second days' proceedings, addressing the Conference observed:

I think I can say I have joined you all on this occasion in demanding the unconditional release of Mahatma Gandhi with a clear conscience.

No one knows better than Mahatmaji himself that by conviction I have always opposed civil disobedience. I have no hesitation in saying that I very much regretted the resolution passed at Bombay, and no one has followed the course of events since then with greater regret than I.

I have not hesitated to express my candid, frank and unambiguous opinion that it was to me a matter of the deepest regret that acts of sabotage should have taken place in this country.

He had no doubt that while those gathered in the Conference dissociated themselves from acts of rebels, and while they made appeals to Mahatma, and his friends to do everything they could to restore an atmosphere of calm and peace, they also expected that

if Mahatma Gandhi was released unconditionally that would be the first preliminary step towards reconciliation which was the immediate need of the country.

The Rt. Hon'ble Dr. M. R. Jayakar, moving the resolution, said that the release was essentially necessary in the interest of fairness and justice. Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerji, associating himself with the mover, said that "the demand for the unconditional release of Gandhiji should be made from a non-controversial plank so that his life may be spared." He was supported by Sir Maharaj Singh, Dr. McKenzie, Principal, Wilson College, Bombay, Sir A. H. Gaznavi, Pandit Kunzru,

Mr. N. M. Joshi, Mr. Allah Bux and several others.

The following is the full text of the resolution :

This Conference representing different creeds, communities and interests in India, gives expression to the universal desire of the people of this country that, in the interests of the future of India and of international goodwill, Mahatma Gandhi should be released immediately and unconditionally. This Conference views with the gravest concern the serious situation that will arise if the Government fail to take timely action and prevent a catastrophe. This Conference, therefore, urges the Government to release Mahatma Gandhi forthwith.

The resolution was cabled to Mr. Churchill and Mr. Amery and a copy handed to Mr. William Phillips, President Roosevelt's personal envoy in India.

The Private Secretary to H. E. the the Viceroy sent the following reply :

His Excellency asks me to say that he has received and considered the resolution adopted by the Conference under your Chairmanship, of which you were good enough to send him a copy to-day. The attitude of the Government of India in the matter of Mr. Gandhi's fast is set out clearly and in detail in the *communiqué* which they issued on 10th February, a copy of which I enclose for convenience of reference. No new factor has emerged since that date, and, as the Government of India's *communiqué* brings out clearly, the responsibility in connection with his fast rests solely with Mr. Gandhi, with whom, and not with the Government, the decision to bring it to an end must rest.

"Whoever else may have been surprised by the Viceroy's reply, I was not", said Dr. Sapru, who urged that the question of the disturbances require to be investigated by an impartial tribunal.

CABLE TO THE PRIME MINISTER

The Standing Committee of the Conference thereupon held a four-hour discussion on the 21st, Sir Tej Bahadur presiding, and unanimously approved a cable to be sent to the Prime Minister and the Party leaders in the British Parliament. The cable followed the lines of the resolution adopted by the Conference and also explained that the Conference was left with no alternative but to appeal to the highest tribunal of the Empire, namely, Parliament and Britain's national leaders.

The following is the text of the cable :

Three hundred public men of different parts of India representing various communities, creeds

and interests met yesterday in New Delhi and unanimously passed a resolution, asking for immediate and unconditional release of Mahatma Gandhi, whose condition is fast approaching a crisis. We fear, unless immediately released, he will pass away. We wish to explain to British public opinion that the Mahatma is fasting only to be able to review the situation as a free man and advise the public accordingly and not on the issue of independence. We are convinced that the terms of his letter of September 23, recently published, amount to an unequivocal disapproval on behalf of himself and the Congress of all acts of violence.

Sir T. B. Sapru submitted the resolution to the Viceroy and immediately afterwards received his reply declining to interfere as no new factor had arisen to alter the previous decision. We deeply deplore that the advice of so many representative and responsible men should have been summarily turned down by the Viceroy.

We firmly believe that if Mahatma's life is spared, way will be opened for the promotion of peace and goodwill as surely as his death as a British prisoner would intensify public embitterment. Charges brought by the Government against the Mahatma don't rest on examination by any impartial tribunal or independent body of men. We firmly believe that much of the trouble which has arisen was preventable by timely action on the part of the Government last summer and that the Mahatma should have been allowed to see the Viceroy to find a solution as he desired. Millions of our countrymen feel that the responsibility for saving his life now rests only with the Government. We, therefore, urge that he should be forthwith released.

As under the existing Constitution the ultimate responsibility is on the British Parliament for peace and tranquillity in India, we request this cable may be brought to its notice in order that it may do justice in the matter.

We are convinced that wise and liberal statesmanship will solve the Indo-British problem more speedily and effectively than stern repression.

In reply to this cable, Mr. Churchill, Prime Minister, said :

The Government of India decided last August that Mr. Gandhi and other leaders of Congress must be detained for reasons which have been fully explained and are well understood. The reasons for that decision have not ceased to exist and His Majesty's Government endorse the determination of the Government of India not to be deflected from their duty towards the peoples of India and of the United Nations by Mr. Gandhi's attempt to secure his unconditional release by fasting.

The first duty of the Government of India and of His Majesty's Government is to defend the soil of India from invasion by which it is still menaced, and to enable India to play her part in the general cause of the United Nations. There can be no justification for discriminating between Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders. The responsibility, therefore, rests entirely with Mr. Gandhi himself.

THE BATTLE OF HYDASPES (JHELM)

BY MR. T. G. SUBRAMANYAM, M.A.

THE battle of Hydaspes, ever memorable as an epoch-making event in the history of Ancient India, was fought to prevent the onrush of the Greeks under Alexander into India, by the valiant Porus, king of the Pauravas, in July 326 B.C.

The Hydaspes, now known as the Jhelum, is one of the five rivers of the Punjab. The Sanskrit name for this river is Vitasta, which means 'widespread'. The natives of Kashmir call this river Bidesta, which is but a slightly altered form of the Sanskrit name Vitasta. Ptolemy, in his geography, calls this river Bidaspes, a form nearer the original than Hydaspes. The river is mentioned in the Rig Veda. This river, along with four others, the Cheenab, the Ravi, the Beas and the Sutlej, forms the Punjanad of the Punjab. The five rivers flowing side by side are referred to as Punjanad, and uniting together as a single river, they meet the Indus at Mithankot, about 490 miles from the sea. The Hydaspes is separated from the Indus by a stretch of 160 miles.

At the time of Alexander's invasion, the land between the Indus and Hydaspes, i.e., the present Sind-Sagar Doab, was occupied by the powerful tribes, the Taxilas and the Abhisaras. Between the Indus and the Hydaspes was Taxila, a large city governed by good laws, writes Strabo. The kingdom of Taxila formed the eastern part of the old kingdom of Gandhara. It was situated on a level where the hills sank into the plains and the soil was extremely fertile from the number of springs and water courses. Taxila, which in Ptolemy's geography appears as Taxila, represents either the Sanskrit 'Taksha-Sila', i.e., hewn stone, or more probably 'Takshaka-Sila', i.e., the rock of Taksha, the great Naga King. Cunningham identifies the ruins of a fortified city scattered over a wide space near the rock-seated village Shah-Deri, Punjab, as Taxila. The ruins lie about eight miles south-east of Hassan Abdal and thirty miles west from the famous tope Manikyala and twenty-four miles north-west of Rawalpindi. In B.C. 327, the

ruler of this kingdom was known as Taxilas. He was succeeded by his son Ambhi, the Omphis of the Greek writers. Ambhi was afraid of his powerful neighbours, the Pauravas and the Abhisaras.

The kingdom of the Abhisaras, a powerful tribe, lay among the mountains above the Taxila country. At the time of Alexander's invasion, the Abhisaras, allying themselves with the Pauravas, threatened the very existence of the kingdom of Taxila. It was the fear of these two tribes that drove Ambhi of Taxila to seek the protection of Alexander. When Alexander, camping at Kabul, demanded submission, Ambhi readily obeyed the summons and allied himself with the invader. As Rapson observes, 'It was the hand of an Indian prince which unbarred the door to the invader'. Ambhi met Alexander at Ohind, sixteen miles above Attock and invited him to his capital.

Alexander, king of Macedon, surnamed the Great, was born at Pella, in the year 356 B.C. and his father was Philip II of Macedon, whose fame in Greek history is second only to that of his son. His mother Olympia belonged to the royal race of Eperes, which claimed descent from Achilles, the Greek hero of the *Iliad*. Alexander was trained by Leonidas, his mother's kinsman, on the lines of Spartan discipline—hard exercise and simple fare. He next came under the influence of Aristotle, the famous Greek philosopher. He had his military training under his father, Philip, who had then become famous throughout the Greek world. Alexander, under the able tutelage of his father, became a master of military technique, and in the battle of Chaeronea, won for himself a position and name for bravery.

On the assassination of his father, Alexander ascended the throne of Macedon. At the time of his accession, he was 21 years of age and was beset with many difficulties. He, however, soon overcame them by his courage and firmness, and made himself master of Macedon and the army. His success in quelling his opponents fired his ambition for a career

of conquest. He accordingly made preparations for his glorious and successful march into the kingdom of Persia.

Fully equipped, Alexander started from his native city, leaving his uncle Antipater, as his regent in the capital. Marching into Persia, he defeated Darius, the last Persian monarch of his dynasty, and having annexed his country, led his troops into India.

'India had been a part of the empire of Darius, and Alexander's invasion was only the necessary and inevitable completion of his conquest of that empire'. In the course of his march, Alexander met at Bactria, a chief of Gandhara, Sasi Gupta by name, and was by him assured of the aid of Taxila, who was being sore pressed by his powerful neighbour, Porus. Later, arriving at Kabul Alexander summoned the king of Taxila to do him homage. The Indian king met Alexander and saw the army at Kabul arrayed to invade India and estimated it at 25,000 to 35,000. Alexander, assured of help, divided his army, sent one division in advance with orders to march to the Indus and with the other marched against the mountain tribes around the Kabul valley. Later, marching into India, he met his other division near the Indus and crossed the river at Ohind, sixteen miles above Attock. Then leading his army away from the Indus, he arrived at Taxila, 'a great and flourishing city, the greatest indeed of all the cities, which lay between the Indus and the Hydaspes.' Taxila, as Alexander found it, was very populous and possessed of incredible wealth. He was given the usual royal greetings by the king of Taxila and Alexander stayed at the city for a few days.

From Taxila Alexander sent messengers to Porus demanding submission. The land between the Jhelum and the Cheenab, the present Jech-Doab, formed the kingdom of Porus and his tribe, the Pauravas. According to Strabo, the kingdom of the elder Porus 'was an extensive fertile district containing nearly 3,000 cities'. Didorus informs us that Porus had an army of more than 50,000 foot, about 3,000 horses, 1,000 chariots and 130 elephants. News was brought to Porus by his spies that Ambhi had allied

himself with the invader and was planning to march against his kingdom. Porus, undaunted, prepared to meet the invader, strengthened his army and sent his son to guard the passages of the rivers and prevent a successful crossing of the river by the invading army. Hearing of the preparations made by the king of Pauravas to check him, Alexander left a garrison at Taxila, and immediately marched towards Hydaspes, with the determination to subjugate Porus. However before taking any hostile action, he sent an envoy named Cleochaeres to Porus demanding submission and tribute in person at the frontier of his kingdom. To this Porus gave the proud answer that he would indeed go to him, not as a suppliant, but at the head of an army ready for the fight. 'No other Indian king except Porus came to the frontier to repel the foreign foe; and to the eternal glory of this valiant monarch, be it recorded that he with two sons and an army 50,000 strong gallantly stood to oppose the mightiest and the greatest hero of antiquity'.

News came to Alexander that Porus with the whole of his army was on the other side of the river, resolved either to prevent him from making the passage or to attack him when crossing. Upon learning this, Alexander sent back Koinos to the river Indus with orders to cut to pieces all the boats that had been constructed and made to float on the river Hydaspes, which was then in floods.

The site of Alexander's camp on the Hydaspes until he effected his passage, is, according to some, Jhelum and according to others, Jalalpur. Smith opines it to be Jhelum, while Cunningham, and later Stein, argue for Jalalpur. Prof. K. A. Nilakanta Sastri* accepting the contentions of Breloer, a German author, says that it has been conclusively proved beyond doubt that the place wherefrom Alexander took off was Jhelum, not Jalalpur.

'Alexander in his Indian expedition advanced to the Hydaspes with intention to cross it, when Porus appeared with his army on the other side, determined to dispute the passage. Alexander then

* Madras University Lectures, 1942.

marched towards the head of the river and attempted to cross it there. Thither also Porus marched, and drew up his army on the opposite side. He then made the same effort lower down; there too Porus opposed him. These frequent appearances of intention to cross it, without ever making a real attempt to effect it, the Indians ridiculed, and concluding that he had no real design to pass the river, they became more negligent in attending to his movements, when Alexander by a rapid march, gaining the banks, effected his purpose on barges, boats and hides stuffed with straw, before the enemy had time to come up with him, who, deceived by so many faint attempts, yielded him at last an uninterrupted passage. (Shepherd's translation of Polyianos on the Stratagem of War—II-IX-22 quoted by McCrindle—p. 345.)

A son of Porus with 2,000 men and 120 chariots, appeared on the scene and Alexander despatched against the prince the horse-archers and led the cavalry himself, believing that Porus was advancing against him. But news reached him that it was not the main army, and Alexander briskly charged them and routed the force. Among the slain was the brave son of Porus. Hearing of the death of his son and the successful passage of Alexander, Porus left his camp, leaving a small detachment to prevent the passage of the Greeks on the other side and marched his whole army towards the north-east of the Carri plain, to oppose Alexander on a favourable site. 'Porus drew up his army in order of battle, posting his elephants in the front line at intervals of at least 100 feet, so as to have his elephants ranged in front before the whole body of his infantry and so spread terror at all points among Alexander's cavalry'. The above quotation from Arrian amply proves the untenability of Smith's description and plan of the battle. Here too Prof. Nilakanta Sastri accepts the arguments advanced by Breloer, the German author, as against Smith's arrangement of the battle array. Smith places the elephants in the centre, with infantry in the front and the rear and with cavalry on the sides. Contending that Porus would have relied

upon his elephants to play the part of modern tanks, Prof. Nilakanta Sastri holds that Breloer's plan of battle array where the elephants form a semi-circular bastion of defence and offence, is more probable than that of Smith.

With his usual tactics of flank attack, Alexander threw the Indian ranks into confusion and disconcerted their plan of action. The elephants turning round increased the tumult and in the general rout caused more havoc to the Indians than to their enemies. The Indians fought bravely for eight hours, but were, in the end, defeated.

'The two sons of Porus fell in the battle and also Spitakes, the chief of the Indians of that district, and the loss of Indians fell little short of 20,000 infantry, 8,000 cavalry and all their chariots were broken to pieces.

'When Porus, who had nobly discharged his duties throughout the battle, performing the part not only as a general but also as a gallant soldier, saw the slaughter of his cavalry and some of his elephants lying dead and others wandering about sad and sullen without their drivers, while the greatest part of his infantry had been killed, he did not, after the manner of Darius, the Great king, abandon the field and show his men the first example of a flight, but on the contrary fought as long as he saw Indians maintaining the contest in a united body . . . but when he found himself wounded, he turned his elephant and began to retire. Alexander perceiving that he was a great man and valiant in fight, was anxious to save his life, and for this purpose sent to him first of all, Taxiles the Indian. Taxiles, who was on horseback, approached as near the elephant which carried Porus, as seemed safe, and entreated him, since it was no longer possible for him to flee, to stop his elephant and listen to the message he brought from Alexander. But Porus, on finding that the speaker was his old enemy Taxiles, turned round and prepared to smite him with his javelin; and he would have probably killed him, had not Taxiles, instantly put his horse to the gallop and got beyond the reach of Porus. But not even for this act did Alexander feel any resentment against

Porus, but sent him messenger after messenger and last of all Meroes, an Indian, as he had learned that Porus and this Meroes were old friends. As soon as Porus heard the message which Meroes had brought just at a time when he was overpowered by thirst, he made his elephant halt, and dismounted. Then when he had taken a draught of water, he felt relieved, he requested Meroes to conduct him without delay to Alexander' (McCrindle).

Alexander stepped in front of his line on horseback and beheld with admiration the handsome person and majestic stature of Porus, which somewhat exceeded five cubits. He saw too with wonder, that he did not seem to be broken and abased in spirit, but that he advanced to meet him as one brave man would meet another brave man after gallantly contending with another king in the defence of his kingdom. Then Alexander, who was the first to speak, requested Porus to say how he wished to be treated. Report goes that Porus said in reply 'Treat me, O! Alexander! as befits a king', and that Alexander being pleased with his answer replied, 'For mine own sake, O! Porus! thou shalt be so treated, but do thou, in thine own behalf, ask for whatever boon thou pleasest'. To which Porus replied, that in what he had asked, everything was included. Alexander, was more delighted than ever with this rejoinder, and not only appointed Porus to govern his own country, but added to his original territory another of still greater extent. Such then was the result of the battle in which Alexander fought against Porus and the Indians of the other side of the Hydaspes (McCrindle, p.108-110).

A city of victory was built on the site of the battle, while yet another was planted on the opposite banks in memory of the famous Bucephalus, the king's stalwart old horse.

Arrian says 'Indian bows though powerful were useless against the mobile Greek cavalry'.

The Indian method of using a bow had a technique of its own. One end of the

long bow had to rest on the ground, pressed by a toe before the bowman could discharge the arrow from it. This technique required a hard ground. Moreover though the bows were deadly in their action, yet it took time for manipulation. Hence is Arrian's statement "The Indian bows, though deadly, were no match against mobile Greek cavalry". It was rainy season, the ground was soft and miry and Porus' bowmen were unable to use their bows to good effect. This was one of the causes for the defeat of Porus.

In olden times the Indian kings rightly placed much reliance upon their elephants to crush their enemies, in the manner of modern tanks. But Porus' elephants got stuck into the miry ground and were unable to execute sharp movements. That the Greeks and their horses grew afraid of the big elephants has often been stressed by Arrian. If the rains had not set in, and prevented the elephants from working havoc on the enemy's cavalry and footmen, the end of the battle would have been different, and Indian history would have had to tell quite a different tale. At any rate, Porus could have really defended himself and his kingdom and preserved his independence.

It can be safely asserted here that it was the fear engendered by the elephants in general on the minds of the Greeks and the spread of a similar idea of terror in the countries bordering India, that was responsible for the comparative absence of any foreign aggression into India for nearly ten centuries after Alexander.

Moreover, Porus was not helped by any other chief and he had to fight single-handed. The flank attack made by Alexander's cavalry was quite unexpected by the Indian king. Thus was the Indian king, Porus, vanquished, though personally he was more than a match to Alexander.

With the descent of Alexander the Great into the Punjab a new period may be said to have commenced. His Indian expedition was the first occasion for close conscious contact between the two countries; the conqueror, it is true, subdued

no more than a mere corner of India and that only for a time, but that Hellenic culture to the diffusion of which Alexander devoted his attention, as great as that bestowed by him on his material conquest, long survived his transitory empire in Asia and even in India made its presence felt in many different directions. . . . Not only a few motifs of Hindu architecture and sculpture and carving and such like arts adhered too closely at their commencement to the Grecian models but Astronomy too—at least its scientific phase—was based somewhat on Grecian works; by which a great many Greek expressions have found their way into Indian astronomy'.

To exaggerate the Hellenistic influence of Alexander's invasion has been the tendency of a great many European scholars, while to minimise the influence of Greek art on India and to repudiate with vigour the suggestion that Indian art owed anything to the West has been of late the rule with some of our own historians. 'The vigorous rule of the Mauryan monarchs, which saw the beginning of a great Indian renaissance, was indirectly the result of Alexander's invasion', writes Mr. Sen in his book, *Hellenism in Ancient India*. To say that the vigorous rule of the Mauryan administration was the outcome of Alexander's invasion, however indirectly, is to repudiate the capacity of the Mauryan monarchs. The Mauryan monarchs just then wresting power from the Nandas, had to be vigorous and powerful in their policy and administration in their own interest. On the other hand, it was the vigorous Mauryan rule that led to a close and conscious contact between the two cultures, for the Mauryan monarch Chandragupta, not only conquered Seleukos Nikator, the great Viceroy, but married his daughter and allowed Megasthenes, the ambassador of Seleukos to reside in his court.

It can be asserted that one marked effect of the invasion was the rise of a strong monarchy, with imperial ideas in India in the place of small republican States. The easy subjugation of the small States by Alexander led to the realisation of the need for a strong monarch in the

country and this indirectly helped the rise of the Mauryan power and empire.

"Though his (Alexander's) direct influence vanished from India within a generation and her literature does not know him, he affected Indian History for centuries: for Chandragupta saw him and deduced the possibility of realising in actual fact, the conception handed down from Vedic times, of a comprehensive monarchy in India; hence Alexander indirectly created Asoka's empire and enabled the spread of Buddhism". (Cambridge, Ancient History of India.)

THE TOLL OF LOVE

BY S. R. D.

I plucked the full moon from the sky,
And placed it on her forehead fair;
I drew the constellations nigh,
And laid them in her flowing hair.

And of the Milky Way I made
A veil to hide her slender grace,
And ere the sunset red could fade
Its rouge I transferred to her face.

Two yellow streaks of gold I found
Above the sun, one evening fine,
And shaped them into bracelets round
Which on her lovely arms now shine.

I gathered moonbeams from aloft,
And wove from them a saree bright,
That she might wear it, shining soft,
Like silvery cloud on moonlit night.

I went on plundering Nature's store,
And made the moon, the stars, the sun,
Their treasures at her feet to pour,
And yet her heart I had not won!

The glorious gifts I brought she spurned,
Her heart did crave for love alone,
Consuming love that ceaseless burned,
With silent sacrifice unknown.

And when my bleeding heart I poured
Before her eyes without a groan,
A speechless victory I scored,
For she did then become my own.

Maharaja Ganga Singhji of Bikaner

BY MR. LEHAR SINGH MEHTA, B.A., LL.B. (Udaipur)

THE Princely world has suffered an irreparable loss by the sad demise of His Highness the Maharaja Sir Ganga Singhji of Bikaner, at the age of 68. He was born on the 13th October, 1880. He succeeded his brother to the *gadi* of Bikaner on 31st August 1887, when he was hardly seven years of age. In the early part of his life he received education through some private arrangement, but he was subsequently sent to the Mayo College, Ajmer, for further studies. Here he prosecuted his studies so diligently that he had won numerous prizes and medals. After finishing his education in 1894, he underwent practical administrative training. He was scarcely eighteen years of age, when by virtue of his extraordinary capabilities, he was invested with full ruling powers on December 16th 1898.

His Highness had no wish to lead a peaceful and luxurious life. His love for heroic deeds added lustre to the martial record of his race. He rendered distinguished services in the forces of His Majesty in France, in China and elsewhere. He was the first Indian Prince to venture to cross the seas in the year 1900 and land in China to fight side by side with the British Expeditionary Force to curb the Boxer Rebellion. His name became famous for his daring deeds and reckless bravery which he had exhibited in the last World War and which had won for him the Grand Cordon of the Order of the Nile. His unflinching loyalty to the British Crown compelled him to fight, for the defence of the Empire, not only in Europe, but in Asia and Africa as well. At the outbreak of the present World War His Highness was perhaps the foremost Prince to place all his resources at the disposal of the Crown.

His Highness had played an equally important role in the creation and organisation of the Chamber of Princes, of which he was the first Chancellor. He represented the Princes in England at the Imperial War Conference and Cabinet in 1917, at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919, at the Imperial Conference in London in 1930, at the

Round Table Conference in 1930-31 and at the League of Nations in 1924 and 1930. He had also been honorary General Secretary of the Indian Princes' Conference from 1916 to 1921.

Ganga Singhji was destined to prove himself not only one of the dauntless warriors, but he was equally great in the art of administration. Like Shree Bhagwat Singhji of Gondal and Maharana Bhupal Singhji of Udaipur, he can be called the Maker of Modern Bikaner. His attainments cannot be illustrated better than by the transformation brought about by him in the condition of his State. He worked unwearingly and with amazing persistence to turn the deserts of Bikaner into veritable gardens of vegetation, by pushing forward the Ganga Canal Project—a scheme worthily conceived and worthily executed. Possessed of firm conviction that the future of Bikaner rested on the prosperity of cultivators he carried on delicate and difficult correspondence with the Paramount Power to obtain sanction for this gigantic project, which has gone a long way to enhance the income and prosperity of the State, and allay the consequences of insufficient rainfall and resultant failure of crops.

His was also no small contribution to the extension of railways in the State. He was a pioneer in this field. The network of railways has been extended, with the zeal of Caesar, to the remotest part of the State. A comprehensive new Railway Scheme engaged his attention, along with the new road development project, almost every financial year. He spent more than rupees three crores over the railways and consequently the State has got more than a thousand miles of railway lines.

His administration resulted in far-reaching developments in education. He was the Chancellor of the Hindu University at Benares for a number of years. We must be thankful to God who had willed that Pandit Malaviya and His Highness of Bikaner should come together in mutual love and true comradeship to further the cause of this

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MAHARAJA GANGA SINGHJI OF BIKANER

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stupendous monument. Bikaner is probably the first State in Rajputana which introduced compulsory primary education to dispel the clouds of illiteracy. Its up-to-date Degree College and four other well-staffed High Schools were founded and continued to flourish during the benign reign of His Late Highness. Female education also received due attention of His Highness. Besides there being three Girls' Schools in Bikaner proper, each town and important village has one such institution.

The Local Self-Government Department, Sanitation and other urban Development schemes also occupied significant position in the Maharaja's programme. Every possible device was introduced to make the life of the citizens comfortable and healthy. Clean appearance of the streets, magnificent cinema house, extensive public park, playgrounds, power house, water-works, orphanage, well-equipped hospital (best in Rajputana), miniature dispensaries, handsome museum are competitive with latest system or design in any of the notable European cities.

Trade had prospered. Glass factory, wool-bailing press, wool-cleaning factory, carpet industry, soap factory and ginning factories have been steadily growing. The State is also known far and wide for the exquisite products of its cottage industries. The means of communication being cheap and speedy give healthy impetus to the regeneration of the country in the industrial sphere. They have further resulted in a drift of population towards the towns and enhancement of wages.

Building up an efficient administrative machinery also engaged the serious attention of His Late Highness. To make judiciary independent, he set up a full-fledged High Court and passed Civil Court Regulation in 1930, defining the functions of the Civil Courts at Bikaner. In 1902 a new Secretariat system was introduced bringing about desired regularity in the administration. His Highness' eyes were ever vigilant on the activities of the Officials—be they in the capital or in the remotest village on tour. He took close personal interest in the administration of the State and even the Ministers had to take commands from him.

Space does not permit to recapitulate the full tale of benefits and amenities bestowed by this Ruler. His Excellency Lord Linlithgow had aptly remarked on the occasion of His Highness' Golden Jubilee: "During that long period Your Highness has manifested in the highest degree the qualities of a ruler, soldier and statesman and I know well how deeply indebted Bikaner is to you for the unfailing devotion which you have shown to the interest of your State". In fact His Highness was a personality not only of Indian but of international reputation. He was a unique but rare combination of a statesman and a soldier and was a remarkable personality of contemporary India. As a ruler, as a soldier, as a statesman, as a debater, as a speaker, he achieved extraordinary success, which could well be envied by others. It is a sad irony of fate that his life has been cut short, but his example will always be a source of inspiration and encouragement to his friends and colleagues as also to the officers who served under him.

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MUSLIMS AND THE DEADLOCK

BY DR. SYED ABDUL LATIF

YESTERDAY the Muslim League appeared to hold a key position in Indian politics. But how does it stand to-day? Mr. Jinnah in his latest utterances at Bombay complains that the key has passed on to other hands. If that is so, who is responsible for it? Several opportunities did present themselves to the League last year to take the lead in improving the situation; but, one by one, they were thrown away in sheer petulance.

Its supreme moment came during the first week of August last, when the Congress, at my instance, clarified its attitude *vis-a-vis* Pakistan. It was an earnest attempt to placate the Muslim League. The Congress held out the largest measure of autonomy to units, residuary powers and even the right of secession. All that argued sovereign status to units, including Pakistan areas. The Congress also looked forward to the opening of formal negotiations with the League to afford further clarification of its attitude, if necessary. But, Mr. Jinnah would not appreciate the move. Instead, he stiffened his intransigent attitude by calling upon the British Government on the one hand and Indian political parties on the other, first to guarantee an undefined Pakistan before he would entertain proposals from them for the formation of an interim provisional Government to rally the people for the defence of the country.

What was the response? The Congress Executive was by now in jail and could not speak. The Mahasabha, at first, did try to make overtures, but soon realized that counter-intransigence was the only answer to Mr. Jinnah. The depressed classes leader, Dr. Ambedkar, refused to involve himself in what he considered a mere personal feud between Mr. Jinnah and Mr. Gandhi. Even Mr. Rajagopalachari forsook Mr. Jinnah in despair; while Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, in what he considered the abiding interests of Indian States, was not prepared to understand him. From the British side also nothing encouraging came forth. The Viceroy, representing all

that he represents, gave Mr. Jinnah a cold shoulder, and friend Mr. Amery, forgetting every promise made in the past, seriously put the question to himself whether Akbar's plan of administration would not suit future India. On the top of all this, the Turkish Mission chose to administer a *coup de grace* to all expectations of active sympathy from independent Muslim countries by making it clear in their reply to the League Secretary's address that Turkey was not interested in the domestic squabbles of India, such as Pakistan.

This is the position to which the League has now been reduced. To disturb its equanimity still further and complicate the situation, Mr. Rajagopalachari has evolved a new technique to hoist the League with its own petard. 'Have your pound of flesh', says he in effect to Mr. Jinnah, 'a tiny lump to the west of Lahore and a tiny lump round about Dacca and Mymensingh, poverty-stricken patches. That is the utmost that you can have in terms of your Pakistan resolution and your creed. Have it. It will be a good riddance for us; for then, we Hindus shall be free to have a strong Central Parliamentary Executive for the rest of India, a single-party Government, under whose dispensation your Muslim minorities shall have to live.'

How does all that strike Mr. Jinnah? Will he, for a moment, think that he is simply eddying about in blind uncertainty obsessed with meaningless egoism? The Muslim League on his account is still a concern of the easy going of those who would lie in ambush to pounce upon gains gathered by others. It is to meet shortly at Delhi to review its position in an open annual session. Will the balanced minds in the camp, assert themselves in favour of softening Mr. Jinnah's anguaries and earnestly seeking a contact with the Congress leaders in jail and the British Government, the parties which matter, to soften their angularities as well, and reach a settlement agreeable and honourable to everyone concerned? I trust that the League will not go round yet another barren year.

PUZZLES OF PAKISTAN

BY DR. SIR C. RAMALINGA REDDY

MR. JINNAH says and has been saying for a long time that every move of the Congress is really a move against the League; for instance the token or individual Satyagraha of two years ago and the August resolution of the All-India Congress Committee, of which the consequences have been arrests and disorders, were aimed at the Muslim League! Can any one regard this as a fair inference from or interpretation of Congress activities? Or does it indicate an obsession, a fixed idea, for which there is neither ground nor remedy? "If anything is done without me, it is done against me!"

Government thinks that Congress activities are aimed at itself and takes action which it pleads is defensive, such as the declaredly preventive arrests of last August. Which then is to be believed? Government which thinks that Congress is against it or the League which avers that these attacks on Government are only feints and the real objective of Congress moves is the discomfiture of the League?

When the Congress declares, as it has been doing recently, in contradiction of its previous principles, that independence should be secured first and it is only thereafter that a settlement with the Muslim League should be effected, the Congress is very rightly denounced—and I am in entire agreement with the leaders of the League here—as putting the cart before the horse and acting both wrongly and absurdly.

But when the League demands Pakistan in the North-West and in the North-East, where there are large Non-Muslim populations, far larger than the Muslim percentage in the whole of India, nothing is said about first coming to a settlement with those big minorities as a condition precedent to the claim of Pakistan. Here the cry is that Pakistan should first be conceded in principle and then the communal and other settlements should follow. How is this logic saner or better than that of Congress?

The Muslim League and those like me who strongly sympathise with it have always argued that arithmetical democracy is unsuited to India owing to her peculiar

communal, credal and racial composition. But the League, while denouncing the rule of arithmetic as improper for India as a whole, claims that where Muslims are in a majority, rule by its own arithmetical majority should be conceded as an incontestable right. One asks whether, while Hindu arithmetic is damnation, Muslim arithmetic is salvation. If rule of numbers is not appropriate to India as a whole, is it any more appropriate to North-East and North-West Indias?

LEAGUE AND NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Recently in the speeches of various leaders of the League a claim has been made that, in any National Government that may be formed, one-half of the seats in the Government should be allotted to Muslims. That means that the Hindus cannot get even half or an equality with the Muslims, unless all the other people in India like the Parsis, Christians, Sikhs and Anglo-Indians are to be excluded altogether from power or included amongst the Hindus and made to get their quotas from them. Till some time ago it appeared that what the Muslims claimed was an equal number of seats with the Hindus. Has there been a shifting of the ground recently and is the claim now one-half for Muslims and one-half for all Non-Muslims put together?

In other words, has the Muslim-Hindu problem changed into the Muslim-Non-Muslim problem?

Perhaps on the strict interpretation of a two-Nation theory, the Muslim claim for half the number of seats is unavoidable. But then the other Nation should not be called the Hindu nation. For it would be composed of others besides the Hindus.

If the League will be satisfied with having an equal number of seats with the Hindus and will agree to give seats to other big denominations in India, it would then have to modify its two-Nation theory. Either the Nations will have to be more numerous than two or else it may more accurately describe itself as a Sub-Nation, on the analogy of its description of India as a Sub-Continent.

So much so to-day our leaders may be classified into All-India leaders and No-India leaders. By All-India leaders, I mean, those who desire to see India preserved as a single nation or State. By No-India leaders is meant those who hold that India is on reality no nation now, and that after the war it should, formally too, cease to be one.

How is a National Government in which these root contradictions are, to be represented—I say represented and not reconciled, because reconciliation appears to be out of the question—possible? Is Mr. Rajagopalachari to tell the British and the United Nations—Here we are, Mr. Jinnah and myself, agreed that India is not a Nation and should not be one after the War; therefore give us a National Government at once?"

It seems to me that both the Congress and the League have this in common, that they are ploughing the sands; the Congress with its dubious Gandhian attitude towards the war, and threat of Civil Disobedience, and Independence before settlement with the League has been secured; and the League by its two-Nation theory, and non-co-operation in war efforts till Pakistan is conceded by Government, and threats of fighting Government and the Hindus if its claim is not conceded.

One thing is clear. In this atmosphere of civil war, the League cannot secure its Pakistan unless Government supports it and puts down opposition. Nor can the Non-Muslims secure the integrity of India unless Government supports and puts down opposition.

GOVERNMENT HOLDS THE KEY

Government holds the key to India's entire future. It holds it because Muslims and Non-Muslims have by their irreconcilable differences and their obvious incapacity to achieve their ends single-handed, thrust that key into its hands. Government has not grabbed the key; but of course stretched its hand to receive it.

Evidently, we cannot have both integrity and independence. Ours is a tragic choice—Division or Slavery, as Mr. Jinnah says.

Is it possible to have Independence without Integrity? Mr. Jinnah says: "Yes; a number of Independences". "Divided we rise, united we fall"! Most people would doubt the feasibility of Independence without Integrity. We can have Integrity without Independence, as now. But can we have Independence without Integrity?

Mr. Jinnah's speech telegraphed from Bombay on February 1, makes his position crystal clear. Analysis reveals the following points:—

(1) "The rule of Parliamentary democracy is not suited to the genius of this land." Agreed. Then does it mean that no other form of Government can be devised to suit our genius and division is necessary?

(2) His demand for Pakistan is no longer based on religious or cultural grounds, but entirely on the secular feeling that the Mussalmans are a different nation, who had ruled this country for nearly 800 years and therefore must be given separate States. It is thus a racial ambition.

The most familiar and insistent ground for Pakistan used to be Religion, viz: the need of the Muslims to have a state of their own to conserve their religion and promote their culture. Mr. Jinnah now declares that the religion and culture of Muslims are in their blood and can't at all be affected by political conditions, and that their demand for a separate state or states is a secular claim. This is something gained for the rational discussion of the subject; for, one religion is brought in discussion based on reason becomes difficult, almost impossible. The country is indebted to the Turkish Delegation and its able leader M. Atay for having made theocracy and theocratical contentions out of place and time even in India, for the moment at any rate.

(3) He agrees to treat the minorities under the Mussalmans better than any other civilised Government have so far done, as it is an injunction in the Koran to do so. Is this better treatment to rest on the grace and goodwill of the Muslim Rulers or is it to find embodiment in the constitutions and in the institutions founded thereon?

(4) If Parliamentary democracy, or what may be called Party Government based on preponderance of mere numbers, is unsuited to our genius, and further, minorities have to be treated generously as a matter of right, I take it, secured under the constitution and not the mere grace of the majority, then will Mr. Jinnah kindly outline the kind of constitution that he would inaugurate in Pakistan, so that all may benefit by his example? His destructive criticism of the lines on which constitution-making in India has proceeded so far, is obviously intended to prepare the way for a constructive scheme, and one would like to know what the features in broad outlines of this constitution are.

(5) Summing up, it is clear that the League's demand, however it may have originated, is not based on the wrongs and disabilities suffered in the past by the Muslims at the hands of Congress and Hindus; but on the natural right of a nation to have its own State; that therefore arguments and adjustments for remedying those wrongs and disabilities

and for rendering their recurrence impossible in the future as far as the future in all its contingencies can be apprehended in the present and provided for—are of no use; that in such a State Government will not be Government by Party Parliamentary majorities but some other type which will make the position of the minorities safe and secure; and that the only remedy for India's ills and the evils of her dependence on Great Britain is the division of the country into a number of States, all enjoying absolute independence.

(6) One asks whether this demand to treat the tracts in which the Muslims are in a majority as their homelands, is not in itself an application of the Western principle of the sovereignty of majorities?

Finally, I must reiterate what has been already stated, viz., that so far as I can judge neither the Muslims, who may demand division, or the non-Muslims, who may oppose division, appear to be in a position to realise their policy single-handed and without the support of the very British Government which they want to be displaced.

PROGRESSIVE BARODA

BY PROF. K. R. R. SASTRI, M.A., M.L.

(University, Allahabad)

BARODA State is a premier Indian State which has had a galaxy of able and seasoned statesmen as Dewans. The great Maharaja Sayaji Rao III, Gaekwar of Baroda, was known for his high spirit of nationalism and "hatred of wrong". He "found Baroda in the middle ages and placed it by his efforts in a prominent position among the progressive States of India". This great Ruler of Baroda was wise in choosing "incorruptible gentlemen" as Dewans and the result is increasing prosperity of the State of which the present Ruler is proud to "be the first servant."

South India can justly be proud of supplying first-class statesmen to Indian States. It is the same illustrious record when you travel from the Cape, through Baroda and Udaipur to Srinagar. The

primus inter pares among these statesmen is Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, who from 1927 to this date, has served nobly and well the true interests of Baroda State.

Baroda's land-revenue has "no capacity for increase". The administration has "to conform to the customs tariff in British India and the maximum and minimum railway rates under the Railways Act." This is an essential condition of development since variations in these matters will deter investment of capital in the State.*

Baroda State is one of the least self-sufficing areas of India as can be seen from the large tonnage of food-grains Baroda State imports even when monsoon

*SPEECHES OF SIR V. T. KRISHNAMACHARIAR, K.C.I.E. Information Office, Baroda (1942)—p. 43.

conditions are completely normal. Commercial crops in the State are cotton, tobacco, oil-seeds (groundnut and castor) and possibly sugarcane.

The textile industry is the most important among the major industries. The cement factory at Dwarka has expanded its production from 80,000 tons in 1938 to 200,000 tons in 1942. The sugar factory at Ganderi is also doing well. The Alembic Chemical works are doing useful work. The Hindustan Colour Manufacturing Company has commenced manufacture of starches. Sulphuric acid and nitric acid plants are working in Baroda and Petland. Factories have been established for the manufacture of reeds for the textile industries, webbings, and heavy tapes, bobbins. A non-ferrous metal rolling mill has also been established.*

The strong financial position of the State, and the establishment of a tradition of "rule of law" and of ordered progress under the aegis of the late Sayaji Rao Gaekwar and the present Ruler—are attracting industries to the State and thus adding to its prosperity.

UNPARALLELED GENEROSITY OF THE RULER

In 1936 and 1939, H.H. the late Maharaja and His Highness the present Maharaja have jointly made endowments for the benefit of the people of the State nearly equal to one year's revenue.† These huge sums have been administered as a trust fund for developing important nation-building schemes.

Baroda has taken leaps in social reform ahead of British India. Hindu Law is codified in Baroda. "We cannot", says Sir V. T. Krishnamachariar, "separate the social and economic aspects of a people's life. There should be harmonious development of all sides". The movement for reform of Hindu Law has culminated in an enactment which has made *monogamy obligatory*.

WORKING OF DEMOCRACIES

It is when one reads the bases of the successful working of democratic institutions as laid down by the experienced

*Sir V. T. K.'s speech at the Budget Session of the Dhara Sabha, 13-7-42.

†The average annual revenue of the State is Rs. 2,39,75,000 (MEMORANDA OF INDIAN STATES, 1940).

Dewan of Baroda that we in British India feel very much indebted to him. Democracy "is a spirit and a way of life and we should all aim at cultivating and developing this spirit". In his closing speech at the Dhara Sabha on 18th July 1942, he emphasised three points:

1. All aspects of the life of a people are inter-linked. They cannot be separated. . . . There should be harmonious development of all sides—social, economic and political aspects—of a people's life.

2. There should be identity of interests, between the Ruler and the people of the State and among all sections of the population. Democracy is not government by majority votes. It is government by mutual adjustment, compromise, tolerance and understanding.

3. Democracy has many forms and each State or other unit should work out for itself the form that suits it best.

When the Dewan as President of the Dhara Sabha gave a ruling regarding the nature of the recommendations of the Dhara Sabha *vis-a-vis* their binding character on the Government on 17th April 1942, it was couched in words containing less of legal jargon and more of sweet reasonableness.

Baroda State is known for its library system, spread of education, progressive social reforms, and enlightened constitutional advance. A true and faithful picture of Baroda State in recent years we get from the speeches of its Dewan, Sir Krishnamachariar, who has a robust pragmatic faith in India's high destiny.

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.

Shakespeare Studies in the Soviet Union

BY PROF. M. MOROZOV

THE distinguishing feature of the study of Shakespeare in the Soviet Union is that it is conducted in close conjunction with the practical creative work of the theatre. There has scarcely been a major production of a Shakespearean play in recent years, whether in Moscow or in the provinces, where the advice of a Shakespeare scholar has not been consulted. Not only the artistic merits or demerits of the production, but also its fidelity of interpretation of Shakespeare text and characters is debated in newspaper and magazine articles, as well as at public discussions, which invariably attract large audiences. The Shakespeare Section of the All-Russian Theatre Society was specially formed to advise directors, actors and stage artistes in the production of Shakespeare's plays. Last year the Section gave roughly fifteen hundred consultations, oral or written. In the autumn of 1941, already after the outbreak of the war, my book, *Comments on Shakespeare's Plays*, appeared in which were summarized the answers to questions which particularly interested the theatrical world. The Section possesses a collection of books and illustrations relating to Shakespeare's period and the history of the production of his plays. The stage directors' explanations of their productions which are read to the body of actors are often of extreme interest, and not infrequently of scientific value. Lastly, the productions themselves cast light on Shakespeare's works and are also in their way a contribution to the study of Shakespeare. A series of books under the general title *Shakespeare on the Soviet Stage* is devoted precisely to this theoretical aspect of our Shakespearean performances.

Shakespeare study is also one of the branches of activity of the Institute of World Literature of the Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R. In the spring of last year the Institute published a volume of essays entitled *The History of English Realism*, which, in addition to articles on Swift, Fielding, Sterne and Dickens, also contained an essay on Shakespeare's language and style. The Institute has ready for press the first volume of a

history of English literature, containing a chapter on Shakespeare. In recent years, for the first time in Russia, Shakespeare's collected works, as well as individual works furnished with glossaries and commentaries, have appeared in English. In these publications an attempt has been made at a critical treatment of the text based on a comparison with older publications. There can be no question but that Shakespearean textology will make rapid strides in our country. Essentially speaking, it may be said that our translators also make their contribution to Shakespearean textology. For example, the poet Boris Pasternak's translation of *Hamlet*, in certain details, and especially in the remarks, contains definite departures from the generally-accepted text, the result of the translator's study of old editions. Pasternak is now engaged on a translation of *Romeo and Juliet*. Of the other outstanding translations which have appeared in recent years, the poet Vadin Shershenevich's *Cymbeline* is worthy of note. The number of our Shakespeare scholars and translators is steadily growing, many of our universities have a special course in Shakespeare. I personally am acquainted with many young men and women who intend to devote themselves to Shakespeare study as a life-work. Another important aid to Soviet Shakespeare scholarship is the annual Shakespeare conferences arranged by the All-Russian Theatre Society. The fourth of these conferences was held in Moscow this year, in spite of the war. In the paper I read, I tried to bring out Shakespeare's attitude towards man, his faith in mankind, his affirmation of the equality of man and, lastly, his attitude towards war which he condemned as such, but condoned when it was fought in a just cause. The young Shakespeare scholar Stein, in his paper on English Humour in Shakespeare's works, dwelt at length on Falstaff. The suggestion was mooted at the conference of forming a Shakespeare Society of the Soviet Union, as a preliminary to which we are arranging a series of evenings in Moscow to be devoted to a study of the works of the great dramatist.

INDIA'S PAPER RESOURCES

By MR. GAYANACHARYA A. C. PANDEYA

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AS the war is prolonged, India is feeling acute shortage of paper. And it can be safely forecasted that this year will have the severest and most dangerous scarcity which will tell upon the cultural development of the people. The present paper control order of the Government of India leaving 10 per cent. of India's production for the public use has made the position still more precarious. This whole situation has arisen despite the fact that India is so superbly endowed with raw material that she can supply the world demand, if all the factories of other countries cease to manufacture paper for almost 40 years, and yet her resources will not exhaust. This was the opinion expressed by Mr. W. Raitt, the cellulose expert.

India's pre-war demand is estimated at roughly 21,00,000 tons yearly, India producing only about 48,000 tons. The biggest problem before Indian paper manufacturers is to cope with this demand and the increased demand of the Government of India. With the perennial resources at the disposal of this country, India can be self-sufficient if prudent policies are adopted and the Government of India come to aid. The need of the hour is to lend earnest support and impetus in establishing this industry manufacturing all varieties of paper. The Centre have great part to play.

War has put a natural check on the import of paper worth about three crores of rupees. Drain over newsprint is still in flow and it needs to be stopped.

In regard to the availability of raw material, India is the "Norway of the East". She has an abundant and cheap supply of raw material and labour force. Wood, *sabai*, *baib* and *dub* grasses are obtainable in large perennial stocks in Bengal, Chota Nagpur, Orissa and the U.P. Wool, rags of poor quality, gunny bags, old ropes, *ulla*, *muni* and *savanna* grasses and bamboos also yield pulp to manufacture ordinary qualities of paper. Bamboos and elephant grasses can supply India with about 50,000 tons of paper yearly. According to Mr. Raitt, bamboo

and *savanna* grasses can be utilized to produce ten million tons of pulp per annum. In view of such a vast availability of raw material, India should be never short of paper. India's prospective paper industry needs the Government support and not apathy.

Machines should be installed near the availability of raw materials and in the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, to manufacture wood-pulp which would prove of great national importance. Allied industries like rayon manufacture and cellulose can also be started. India should follow the example of Russia and manufacture wood-bricks for light houses from wood-pulp.

Labour in India is cheap and abundant. Men, women and children all three, are available to work in factories. Skilled labour can also be hired. The impetus given to paper industry on small scale during the Congress Ministries can be exploited to the full. Further, hand-made paper should be directed towards the improvement in qualities.

Use of coal should be eliminated by a growing harnessing of hydro-electric power. Everywhere near the source of the availability of raw material within a radius of a few miles ideal conditions exist for establishing such factories. Transport problems can be solved, if rebates in railway freights are granted.

If activities are not directed towards these suggestions, India's standard of civilization will seem to go down, for as the standard of civilization grades upwards, books, magazines, etc., are printed in large numbers and consequently demand goes up.

Instead of "paper" propaganda "Grow More", "Use Less Paper", etc., actual steps should be taken by the Government to increase the output of paper. And they should put a check on issuing such posters which render a vivid reading of "Useless Paper"!

Build India strong by making her self-sufficient in paper. Politics precedes culture, and culture needs paper.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

KASHMIR: THE PLAYGROUND OF ASIA. By Sachidananda Sinha. Published by Ram Narain Lal, Allahabad. Rs. 3-8.

Kashmir has been variously described as—beautiful, unique, an emerald set in pearls, the valley of happiness, the world's sweet-heart, the paradise of sportsmen, the playground of Asia and so forth. The author of this work, Mr. Sachidananda Sinha, Editor of the *Hindustan Review*, has produced a book well worthy of the subject. Here is a wonderfully comprehensive book about Kashmir—its history and present conditions; its arts, architecture, industries and manufactures; its scenes and sights; its splendid opportunities for all kinds of sport and recreation. In its varied aspects Kashmir is equally fascinating to the invalid, the artist, the scientist, the philosopher, the sportsman and the lotus-eater. The book, a veritable Kashmir-Encyclopædia, sets forth in accurate language, with graphic touches and poetic flights, the varied attractions of Kashmir. The bibliography and Index and the directory at the end of the volume gives very helpful information.

WOMEN AND SOCIAL INJUSTICE. By M. K. Gandhi. Navjivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad.

Not a little part of Gandhiji's utterances and writings concern the cause of women everywhere and in India in particular. This is a collection of the notes, articles and speeches which from time to time Gandhiji published in English. Gandhiji espouses the woman's cause with the same passion with which he pleads for truth and justice in everything. Being as harsh as truth, he mercilessly criticises certain aspects of modern life but he stands for the complete emancipation of women and their equal status with men in law and society.

JOY OF THE SUN. By Savitri Devi. Thacker, Spink & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

Under this quaint title "Savitri Devi" narrates the beautiful life story of Akhnaton, king of Egypt. Akhnaton lived and died three thousand three hundred years ago, but the author has been so moved by the character and genius of the ancient king of Egypt that she has felt the need to tell the story of his beautiful life, for the benefit of the young. Her English rendering is simple and attractive, and in a style specially designed for the young. There are few things in history as beautiful as Akhnaton's short life. In him, as depicted by Savitri Devi, we find the harmonious synthesis to which we aspire, the blending of scientific knowledge and religious inspiration and "to whom knowledge and love, truth and beauty, were identical." Akhnaton, says the author, "is pre-eminently the first modern man, whose teaching is in advance even of our present age."

SRIMAD BHAGAVAD GITA. Edited and translated by Tridandi Goswami Srila Bhakti Pradipa Tirtha Maharaja. Published by the Secretary, Gaudiya Mission, Calcutta.

This is quite a welcome addition to the many editions of the Gita hitherto published. There are several features of this book which will be greatly appreciated by those who wish to study this sacred scripture in a critical manner. The reader, who is not proficient in Sanskrit and ordinarily finds difficulty in understanding complex words due to *Sandhi* and *Samasa*, will very much appreciate the *Padaccheda* followed by English prose rendering. Then we have for each verse a translation in English which the author claims as being "verbatim as far as possible consistently with English diction." Another useful feature of the book is a brief summary of the contents of each chapter ending with the gist of the same.

INDUSTRIALIZATION. By Dr. P. S. Lokanathan. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

This is a welcome addition to the Oxford Pamphlets on Indian Affairs which, as a rule, are short studies in great subjects. Dr. Lokanathan, erstwhile Reader in Economics in the University of Madras, who has since joined Birlas, puts in a cogent and well-reasoned plea for the reorganization of our methods of industrial finance and management. India is plentifully endowed with raw materials of industry; she has the largest reserves of coal and iron and manganese ore; her resources in water power and man power are enormous. What then is lacking to bring her in line with the advanced countries of the West? Only organization and a definite acceptance by the State of the new obligations imposed on it by the exigencies of modern life. Already war conditions have broken down the old policy of *laissez-faire* and it is up to the State to see that the newly established industries do not stagnate. For "if India is to secure an increase in the standard of living for her growing population, the method of attaining that aim must be by transferring a larger proportion of her working population from agriculture to industry, transport, trade and service industry." The future industrial society, says Dr. Lokanathan, truly "will be a managerial society in which technical knowledge is the most essential requisite."

SPECIAL CRIMINAL COURT ORDINANCE No. II OF 1942. By Syed Mehdi Imam, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, Patna. Re. 1-4.

A useful and compendious publication on a subject of great importance at the present day giving the text of the ordinance and the notifications and amendments affecting it together with a lucid commentary in which the author deals with cases from the Allahabad and Patna High Courts holding the ordinance is not *ultra vires* the Governor-General. The scope of the ordinance and the applicability of its provisions are fully discussed, especially in regard to the ordinary Criminal Court Procedure.

THE STORY OF INDIA. By F. R. Moraes. The Noble Publishing House, Bombay. Rs. 3.

The story of India is a vast sweep of human history. We have it told in history books in the shape of records and chronicles of important events—the rise and fall of dynasties and Empires and the lives and fortunes of its people in different periods of time. In the book before us we have a simple and attractive presentation of the story of India in all its varied aspects. The rich cultural background, the economic and political life of the people, the social structure and the every-day life of the princes and peasants. The author is a journalist and student of Indian affairs and writes with a special view to enlighten American and British troops on things Indian. The chapters on Mahatma Gandhi and "some Indian leaders" are of topical interest. If you want to understand India, says the author truly: "learn to respect her and learn above all to treat her people as equals. No race responds more readily to a generous gesture. India, ancient and immemorial, has a long memory; she forgives slowly; she never forgets."

BOOKS RECEIVED

MARATHA POLITY. By S. V. Puntambekar. The Minerva Book Shop, Anarkali, Lahore.

A HINDU VIEW OF CULTURE. By K. Guru Dutt. Srinivas Electric Press, Mysore.

YARNS FROM INDIAN HISTORY. By B. V. P. The Author, 6th Main Road, Malleswaram Post, Bangalore.

WARDHA: The Unofficial Capital of India. By R. Visweswar Rao. Sunday Times, Bookshop, Madras.

TO EUROPE. By Raman Vakil. Padma Publications, Ltd., Fort, Bombay.

INDIA IN THE NEW WORLD ORDER. By Radha Krishna Khanna. Minerva Book Shop, Lahore.

SPECIAL CRIMINAL COURT ORDINANCE No. II OF 1942. By Syed Mehdi Imam, M.A. (Oxon.) Bar-at-Law, Patna.

THE FALLING RUPEE. By C. N. Vakil, Bombay.

ASHRAM DIARY. Christukula Ashram, Palghat.

THE PROMISED DAY IS COME. By Shoghi Effendi. Bahai Publishing Committee, Karachi.

BARODA ADMINISTRATION REPORT, 1941-42. Baroda State Press, Baroda.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Atlantic Charter

AT Lahore, the other day Mr. William Phillips, President Roosevelt's Personal Envoy in India, was asked a very simple question whether the Atlantic charter applied to India. Mr. Phillips, cautious diplomat that he is, tried to parry the question and refused to give a straight answer. He simply said he was not in a position to answer the question. Now the charter has been variously interpreted. The two signatories to the charter—Mr. Churchill for England and Mr. Roosevelt for the U.S.A.—have interpreted it differently. The British Prime Minister held that the signatories had only the enemy occupied countries of Europe in mind when they framed the charter. The American President, on the other hand, has time and again declared that the principles of the charter applied, in their broad principles, to everybody on earth. But he never said explicitly that India would be one of the beneficiaries of the charter. But a member or two of the Government of India and the Indian delegates to the Pacific Conference have no doubt that India is included in the charter. If that were so, Mr. Phillips, who must know the President's mind, if anybody could, ought to be able to endorse this view. Surely it is time that a clear pronouncement is made authoritatively. For, this dubiety on a matter of such vital import is not conducive to healthy politics. A definite assurance of India's inclusion in the charter will align this country even more enthusiastically with the allied cause than anything else could. It is crass perversity that could not realise this simple factor in the situation.

The Late Maharaja of Bikaner

By the death of the Maharaja of Bikaner, India has lost a great soldier statesman and an enlightened member of the princely order. A ruler of great personal charm, His Highness had a rich and varied career and was a pioneer in many ways. His beneficent activities included many phases of the political,

cultural and educational life of India during the last quarter of a century. Scion of a race of war-like Rajputs, he maintained the State's high martial traditions by his own personal services in China and in the last great war. He represented India at the Imperial Conference during the last war, at the Paris Peace Conference and at more than one session of the League of Nations. In his own State over which he ruled for over fifty-five years, he was, as Mr. Amery said, "a model ruler, admired and loved by his subjects." But his outlook embraced a wider horizon. "Indian princes", as Sir C. P. Ramaswami Ayyar truly observed, "who subordinate the interests of the whole of India to those of their own States, do not deserve to exist". His late Highness was an all-India statesman, keenly alive to this national outlook, and it is a great misfortune that he should have passed away at a time when the need for guidance of such sagacious leaders of the princely order is more than ever imperative.

The Central Budget

The Budget for 1943-44 was introduced in the Central Assembly on the 27th February. Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member, disclosed a revenue deficit of Rs. 94'66 crores for the current year and a prospective deficit of Rs. 60'28 crores next year. He announced the following proposals for fresh taxation which are expected to yield Rs. 20'1 crores and the balance of the deficit to be met by borrowing.

(1) A central surcharge on taxes on income above Rs. 5,000 per annum, which amounts uniformly to 60½ per cent. over the basic rates of income-tax.

(2) Increase in super-tax on slabs between Rs. 25,000 and Rs. 3½ lakhs by uniform half an anna.

(3) Rise in corporation tax to two annas in the rupee. Total revenue Rs. 7 crores.

(4) Indirect taxation includes excise on tobacco and vegetable products.

Tobacco grown for personal consumption of grower or his household is exempted from excise duty.

(5) Further increase in postal and telephone rates.

Two Significant Judgments

The responsibility for the disturbances following the arrest of the leaders in August last is shoved on Mr. Gandhi and the Congress, both by the Viceroy and the Government of India. Mr. Gandhi, in his correspondence with the Viceroy, while deploring mob violence, charges the Government with having goaded the people to acts of madness. If they are so certain of Congress incitement, why could not the Government haul up the alleged culprits before a Court of law? He also pleads for a judicial enquiry into the cause of the disturbances.

In strange contrast to the Government's contention are two judicial pronouncements, recently made at Delhi and Wardha. In the case against Mr. Devadas Gandhi, Editor of the *Hindustan Times*, Mr. Isar, District Magistrate of Delhi, held that

the prosecution did not produce any evidence to show that the disturbances in the country were part of the programme of action sanctioned by the A.I.C.C., and that Mr. Devadas Gandhi did not contravene the orders of the Chief Commissioner in publishing news of the disturbances.

On exactly similar grounds, Mr. J. R. Mudholkar, the Sessions Judge of Wardha, felt compelled to acquit an inmate of Nalwadhi Ashram, sentenced to six months' imprisonment under the Defence of India Rules. His judgment is even more categorical.

I do not think that it can be assumed that the disturbances which have taken place recently in this district are a part of the civil disobedience movement launched by the Congress. I have not come across any resolution of the Congress authorising the launching of any civil disobedience movement. It has not been proved that any secret instructions have been issued by the Congress to the people to launch such a movement. Simply because some persons who are also members of the Congress have taken part in the recent disturbances, it would not be reasonable to presume that there is a civil disobedience movement and that it has been launched by the Congress.

These judgments give added weight to the growing demand for a properly constituted independent tribunal to enquire into the cause of the disturbances. Only the verdict of such a tribunal will carry weight with the public in the matter of the alleged charges against the Congress.

The Turkish Delegation

The Turkish Press Delegation has now completed its tour of India. Wherever they went, the members were welcomed with marked cordiality. The leader of the delegation, M. Atay, proved to be an astute diplomat and refused to be drawn into controversial politics touching our domestic problems. But he made it clear they were nationalists to the core, and that religion in Turkey was a private affair and had nothing to do with the administration.

At Lahore the Muslim journalists banded together and tried to draw support for their pet scheme of Pakistan. They were disappointed.

"We (Turks) do not believe in Pan-Islamism or Pan-Islamic federation of any kind. We are Turks first, and Muslims next", said Mr. Atay.

Maulana Zafar Ali, M.L.A., Mr. Jinnah's lieutenant, felt aghast and pleaded that it was sheer religious affinity that prompted the Indian Muslims to help Turkey during the Khilafat agitation. Pat came M. Atay's crashing reply:

The Hindus of India also helped us during the Khilafat agitation days. However, modern Turkey has divorced religion from politics. If ever a Moulvi proceeds from India to Turkey and attempts to introduce religion into the administration of our country, we would not tolerate him.

Doubtless this straight answer has staggered some Muslim Leaguers. But the Turkish visitors were evidently in no mood to deceive their co-religionists in India.

The Late Lord Olivier

Lord Olivier whose death in England was announced the other day, was Secretary of State for India in the first Labour Government. He went to the India Office with a reputation as a Fabian and for sympathetic interest in the affairs of India and the Colonies. On large humanitarian grounds, he believed in India's right to constitutional democracy. But as a contemporary reminds us, one of the first acts of the Labour Government was to release Mahatma Gandhi. What Lord Olivier said then may be recalled at this moment when a similar situation is confronting the Country. Lord Olivier said that "it was repugnant to human feeling that a man of his character should be treated as a criminal."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Axis Peace Feelers

NONE of the rumours and hints of Axis peace moves should be taken seriously, says the *Daily Herald* in a leader. It declares:

All these peace-feelers have one purpose. That purpose is to divide the Allies. They are political offensives aimed in two directions. On the one hand, German propaganda is trying to put about in Britain and America the idea that it would be a wise thing for the Western democracies to come to terms with Germany before Russian victory is too complete. At the same time, another propaganda is being quietly directed towards Moscow. It is suggested to the Russians that Germany and Russia are bleeding each other dead for the profit of Western imperialism. That Russia is being let down by Britain and America, who are deliberately holding back and hoping for her exhaustion.

So, two voices speak. Their theme is peace, but their objective is war.

Dr. Goebbels on Germany's Plight

Dr. Goebbels in his speech at the Berlin Sports Palast last month painted the blackest picture of Germany's plight as the result of the Russian victories that any Nazi leader has yet given to the German people and said: The Reich is in peril; we must act and act quickly. This, in fact, was the main theme of his two-hour speech. Calling for a "gigantic effort to meet a gigantic danger," he said:

The hour demands total war: it is time to fight with both hands, with the whole life of the nation to fight for survival.

The Spring Offensive

The *Times* special correspondent in Stockholm discussing the spring prospects on the Russian front, says:

The Russians have defied the rigours of winter to a far greater degree than their friends or foes had expected. Whether and to what extent they are able to continue a non-stop offensive in spring remains to be seen. The whole of the German forces on the S front are badly shaken but in the main are not disorganized and still capable of stubborn resistance so long as they do not irrevocably lose confidence in their generals and supreme command. However far they may 'voluntarily' retire before spring, they may still be deep in Russia, and not till they have taken their first sound beating by the Red Army when the winter is past and they are no longer able to complain that the enemy is favoured by the elements can their final defeat be considered in sight.

Aid to China

At a joint Press Conference held at the White House, Washington, and addressed by Madame Chiang Kai-shek and President Roosevelt, the former revealed that China had received much aid from Russia, particularly in aeroplanes, before Russia herself was hard pressed.

China now had trained pilots for whom there were neither planes nor petrol, China's man-power was being used as fully as the munitions supply allowed. The Chinese could not fight with bare hands. Americans could help the Chinese best by sending more implements of war.

President Roosevelt declared that this was going to be done as "quickly as the Lord will let the Americans do it." He emphasized the intentions of the United Nations to use China actively as a base for attacking Japan, while efforts would continue to "snipe" the Japanese lines in the Pacific Islands. He also emphasized the need for hitting the Japanese Islands themselves.

Labour Party and the Communists

The Labour Party's Executive Committee has rejected the Communist Party's application for affiliation with the Labour Party. The application was refused on the ground that,

the Communist Party's complete irresponsibility in British politics and general outlook are entirely out of harmony with the philosophy and objectives of the Labour Party.

The Committee believes that the affiliation of the Communist Party would defer, if not destroy, the accomplishment of Labour's hopes for great social changes in the post-war world.

U.S. Supplies to Russia

The U.S. Lease-Lend Administrator, Mr. Edward R. Stettinius, Jr., states that Lease-Lend shipments of war supplies to the Soviet Government in January were 10 per cent. greater than in December.

He adds that the U.S.A. would continue to make every effort to increase the flow of supplies to Russia to still greater proportions.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



TAGORE AND GANDHI

The *Modern Review* contains an interesting study of Rabindranath and Gandhi—the two apostles of freedom—by Mr. Bijoylal Chatterjee. The one was a great poet and the other is a great hero of action—both men of destiny. The country had need for the services of both. Destiny sent them in our midst so that a dying nation might be rejuvenated.

Rabindranath was born in 1861 and seven years after the birth of the poet came Mohanlal Karamchand Gandhi. The bard was followed by the hero. What Bengal dreamed Gujarat willed into action. The poet's ideas remain dead like the princess of the fairy-tale until the hero appears who by the magic touch of his heroism breathes new life into the poet's ideas. The ideas then no longer remain buried in the dry pages of books. The man of action pours his life-blood into the poet's songs and the songs at once begin to revolutionise the outlook of innumerable men and women. The hero is, therefore, necessary to make the ideas fruitful—for it is the blood of the martyr that really fertilises the dream of the poets. The poet's dream of a new rejuvenated India to be translated into reality needed the birth of a hero like Gandhi. He came and the nation-wide struggle for all-round freedom began in right earnest. India responded to the clarion-call of her chosen leader.

The poet's dream of freedom and *vai-raghya* found fitting expression in the leader's resolve to translate that spirit into action.

The people learnt that no one could really compel them to do anything against their will and that they could secure their freedom by learning the art of dynamic non-violence of the brave.

Gandhi and Rabindranath gave dethroned womanhood a new glory and a new prestige. When the history of the emancipation of Indian women comes to be written—Gandhi and Rabindranath, says the writer, would be given a unique place as the makers of that glorious history.

Like Rabindranath, Gandhi too fights for the freedom of the untouchables with the zeal of a missionary.

Rabindranath began the campaign against the sin of untouchability in literature and in life too. The cause was taken up by Gandhi in right earnest. What the poet dreamed became the fact in national life through the untiring zeal of the

hero. The service of the two great men was essential for the liberation of the untouchables.

One more remarkable feature was that the two men fully appreciated each other. Such cordial relation between two such supermen has seldom been witnessed. It was beautiful to see each one outdoing the other in courtesy and veneration.

The poet perfectly understood that Gandhi was the man of destiny and incarnates in his personality all that he stood for in life. Gandhi also fully realised that the poet was his forerunner and had sung the glory of all those ideals that he is trying to translate into action. The poet wrote in his poem "Gandhi Maharaj."

"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."

And Gandhi when he came to Santiniketan on his way to Malikanda thus nobly addressed the gathering.

"I have come here leaving behind me all the cares and burdens of politics simply to have Gurudev's *durahan* and blessings."

MUSLIMS & INDIAN INDEPENDENCE

Writing in the *Hindustan Review*.

Miss Margaret Pope, an English journalist who recently spent three years' travelling through the countries of the Middle East and India, pleads for Indian independence. She also appeals to the Muslims to strive for unity. She says:

It is to the benefit of the Muslim community, both as Indians and Muslims, to strive wholeheartedly for India's immediate unity and independence. And unity means in practice unity with the Congress party and a common programme with it—no other unity counts much until that is effected. Independence must spring from an agreement with Congress (even if backed up by an impartial court of arbitration as Nehru suggested).

Lastly, it has surely to be recognised that Muslims, as all Indians, have duties as well as rights. And a special duty now to forge a common cause with Congress as a witness, now that the leadership lies with them, of their strength and devotion to the country, a duty to make it impossible for the accusation of disunity to be levelled against the cause of India's freedom.

It may be difficult, concludes the writer, but the difficulties are those with which America, China, the Soviet peoples, all peoples in fact that have achieved national unity, have had to grapple with.

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TOPICS FROM PERIODICALS

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FACT OR FICTION?

"The Muslim League which Mr. Jinnah represents is either alien to India or is a part of it. If it is alien, the leader of that alien body had invited a foreign power to share with him the forcible domination of India. In ordinary language such a person could justly be called an enemy of the country. If, however, the Muslim League is part of India, the Indian who invites a foreign power to enter into a bargain with him to force a constitution which will submerge a majority,—which is the word for him?" asks Mr. Munshi, questioning Mr. Jinnah's knowledge of history which was exhibited in the latter's recent interview to the Press. For Mr. Jinnah is reported to have said that "the Hindus have not ruled India for the last 1,000 years. For 800 years they were under Muslim rule, and for the past 200 years, both Hindus and Muslims are under British rule. The Muslims have been slaves only for 200 years but the Hindus have been slaves for 1,000 years."

Refuting this, Mr. Munshi writes as follows in his paper *Social Welfare*:

The first invasion of India, which resulted in a kingdom by Mohamed Ghor, a foreign Muslim, was in 1175 A.D. less than 800 years ago. For 200 years the Hindus resisted such invasions tenaciously. The Empires of Hoysalas, Cholas and Vijaynagar, much larger than even the kingdom of Delhi, were the big empires in India of that age.

The shortlived Empire of Alaudin Khilji was founded in 1296 and collapsed in 1351. It was only in 1556 A.D. that Akbar, for the first time, with the friendship of the Hindus, founded a stable Empire.

But a glance at any elementary history book shows that even at the death of Akbar his Empire did not extend to the south of the Godavari, nor to Gondwana which comprised parts of modern United Provinces, Bihar and Orissa.

By 1680 Shivaji had declared independence in the south, Guru Govind Singh had founded the Khalsa. The Rajputs had revolted against Delhi. When Aurangzeb died in 1707 A.D. the Moghul Empire had broken up.

The British took India not from the Muslims but from the Hindus and Sikhs. It was a Poona Brahmin who wielded the imperial sceptre in India which the British snatched from him at Kirkee in 1818. The Punjab was taken from the Sikhs, not from the Muslims. Rajputana was wrested from the Rajputs, not from the Muslims.

Except, therefore, during the 200 years of Moghul rule and the shortlived military occupation of two early conquerors—and these men were foreign

Muslims—the bulk of the country was always in Hindu hands. If Muslims ruled a few States in India with a Hindu population, Hindu rulers ruled other States with Muslim population.

As to Muslims being slaves only for 200 years and no more, the less said the better. The Indian Muslims are not the descendants of the foreign Turk or Moghul. When the Turks and Moghuls invaded India, some Hindus went under and accepted Islam. The resisting Hindus remained what they were.

Today the nationalist struggles for freedom. The Muslim Leaguer is the loyal henchman of the British.

The Hindus and Muslims as a whole again did not come under the British rule for the past 200 years. It was in 1818 A.D. that the battle of Kirkee was fought. It was in 1857 A.D. that the last Indian war of independence was lost.

False history and bad mathematics do not make good politics. Nor does a competition between two slaves for the badge of superior or inferior slavery bring freedom to either.

THE SOUTH INDIAN TEMPLES

Under the above caption, Mr. V. G. Ramakrishnan contributes an article to the *New Review*. The great temples of South India, says the writer, were public institutions representing the collective energy of the State rather than monuments for the king's personal glorification. For

they had civic as well as religious uses; they fulfilled the purposes of a town-hall, theatre and concert hall, college and technical school. The people met in the temple porches to elect representatives for local bodies, to listen to sacred music, recitations of plays. The schools attached to the temple were the repositories of the philosophical lore. The records of the religious movements in which the South Indian rulers took an active part have been carefully preserved in both Sanskrit and vernacular literatures, in Sankaracharya's and Ramanuja's famous commentaries, in the hymns of Sambandhar, Appar and Sundarar and in the Tamil puranas. Many temples built by royal command are memorials of them. Images of the saints and Alvars who composed hymns in praise of Siva and Vishnu were set up in temple precincts and the temple structures breathing the spirit of *Bhakti* prove the extraordinary richness of the artistic resources which the rulers commanded. But the temples they built tell nothing of their lives, except brief summaries of conquests which made so little impression on the popular memory that whole dynasties became forgotten though their temples are still in daily use.

INDIA'S SACRED SHRINES. Price Rs. 3. G. A. Natesan & Co., George Town, Madras.

GANDHIJI'S RELEASE

The *New Statesman*, in a front-page article headed "Commonsense or Prestige?", calls for Gandhiji's release.

Our conviction is that his death as a result of the fast would dig a gulf between us and the Indian people which might for generations defy all our efforts to bridge it.

The article adds: "His fast is an appeal as he conceives it to the Divine Government of the world." The article expresses the belief that Gandhiji's release will not cause the peace of India to suffer.

We think it probable, as his own letters to the Viceroy suggested, that, if he could look around him and convince himself that his own followers did resort to serious violence, he might use all his influence to end the disobedience as he did in like circumstances in 1922. If that happened, a way to agreement with Muslims might be opened up.

The article is of the firm opinion that Gandhiji contemplates reconciliation from the suggestion that he might find a way out of the *impasse* if he is put among his colleagues of the Working Committee.

But whatever the outcome of a renewed effort at reconciliation, one certainty is that his death would have consequences incomparably graver and more lasting than anything that could result from his release. It is not sentiment but sober utilitarian calculation that calls for his liberation.

GANDHI-VICEROY CORRESPONDENCE

"Recluse", the thoughtful writer of a *Bandra Diary* in the columns of the *Indian Social Reformer* is struck by the contrast between the tone and tenor of the correspondence which passed between Lord Linlithgow and Mr. Jinnah a year and a half ago and that published last month between Gandhiji and the Viceroy.

In the former it was Lord Linlithgow who was pleading, explaining, inviting, in the latter it is Gandhiji. The tone of Mr. Jinnah was peremptory accusing. It is Lord Linlithgow's tone which suffers in comparison with Gandhiji in courtesy. Mr. Jinnah did not hesitate to use the word "double crossing" in writing to the Viceroy. Lord Linlithgow more than suggests that Gandhiji is trying to levy political blackmail. Men who are conscious of the strength of their cause, have no need to indulge in accusatory language. The use of it, generally speaking, predisposes persons, who are not personally involved in the dispute, in favour of the person against whom it is used and against the person who uses it. The Governor-General of India is a great office, in some respects greater than that of many kings. The descent to

personal accusation in the case of one holding that office is far more marked than that of a political leader, though he may be the President of an important organisation. Apart from that, perusal of the Linlithgow-Gandhi correspondence reminded me of nothing so much as the argument between the wolf and the lamb in Aesop's story. The wolf charges the lamb with muddying the water which the wolf was drinking. The lamb pleads that the wolf is drinking at a distance up the stream which cannot, therefore, be defiled by the lamb's action. The wolf is obliged to concede the point but it has another up its sleeve which no argument can disprove. "If you have not spoilt my water," the wolf breaks out, "your father and grandfather cannot be absolved from responsibility." Gandhiji pleads that he has been a life-long protagonist of non-violence and cannot possibly countenance violence in any form. Says Lord Linlithgow, "That does not alter the fact that it was after the Congress passed the resolution that the acts of violence began to be committed. *Post hoc er go propter hoc*." "But between the passing of the resolution and the breaking out of violence," pleads Gandhiji, "you had put me in the Aga Khan's Palace, surrounded me with all comforts but as completely isolated me from the outer world as in a living tomb."

Lord Linlithgow rejoins that the wife of a member of the Working Committee, according to evidence in his possession, is organising the sabotage and other nefarious activities. Assuming that this is true, how is Gandhiji responsible, asks the writer. The son of a Cabinet Minister, he goes on to add, is said to be broadcasting for the Nazis; but no one in his senses thinks of holding the Minister responsible for it.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

THE ARCOT INTEREST AND PARLIAMENT. By Rao Bahadur Prof. C. S. Srinivasachari. [The New Review, February 1943.]

IS THE INDIAN PROBLEM A DOMESTIC ISSUE OF BRITAIN? By A. C. Banerjee. [The Modern Review, February 1943.]

A CRITIQUE OF HINDUISM. By W. C. Bhattacharjee. [The Aryan Path, February 1943.]

INDIAN ADMINISTRATION. By C. S. Venkatachar, I.C.S. [The Twentieth Century, January 1943.]

SWAMI VIVEKANANDA THE AMBASSADOR OF INDIAN CIVILIZATION. [The Vedanta Kesari, March 1943.]

THE CULTURAL IMPORTANCE OF TAXILA IN ANCIENT INDIA. By the Hon'ble Mr. Justice N. G. A. Edgley, M.A. [The Prabuddha Bharata, February 1943.]

CHINESE CULTURE

Professor E. E. Speight, in an article to the *Theosophist* on the Chinese culture, observes:

China has been called "the scene of the oldest civilization and the world's largest cultural unit." As a cultural unit it has very large fringes, extending into Korea, Eastern Turkestan, Indo-China, Malaya, and the Pacific, not to speak of Japan and Formosa.

In much earlier days, I am certain, Chinese as well as Indian culture reached the American continent. One critic has noted that the triangular interlacing of the bands upon certain ancient Chinese bronze is almost identical with motifs carved in stone upon the facades of Mexican temples, and last year I made the exciting discovery that on a golden object from the Tomb of the Chiefs at Monte Alban at Oaxaca in Mexico, are two clearly recognizable Chinese ideograms.

Chinese culture exhibits a continuation of 5,000 years of successive phases, from the primitive evidenced by some of the earliest pottery known, to a commanding place in the international development of the world:

Chinese art, through all its manifestations from pottery and bronze of over four thousand years ago to architecture of the past millennium, reveals the Chinese character in such powerful rhythms and steadfastness that it stands apart from the rest of the world of art. In the suggestiveness of its force I can only compare with it certain Egyptian sculpture, some of the verse of Aeschylus and Christopher Marlowe, and the verse and prose of Milton. It is not so much a matter of size or volume, but one of the subtle effect of proportion upon the sub-conscious faculty.

In China, as in India, there is an immense wealth of what may be called pre-historic culture.

It is always turning up in daily life, sometimes to give the illumination of common sense to a dark or tangled situation, sometimes, in the form of a superstition, to remind us of days beyond record, long before the safety and mental stability of what we call civilization. And often it surprises us by suggesting intercourse, in those early days, of the ancestors of peoples now inhabiting widely separated regions.

VILLAGE ROADS IN DELTAIC AREAS

The Special Road Number of the *Indian Concrete Journal* is a bumper number with many interesting articles written by experts on modern road-making. We congratulate the publisher Mr. M. H. Engineer on the excellent get-up of this number which contains numerous illustrations. There is an informing article on the making of village roads in deltaic areas by Rao Bahadur A. Nageswara Ayyar. He says:

With good care in the manufacture of bricks, a pavement of brick on edge laid over a sand cushion in cement mortar 1:4 will stand well and we could get a pavement which can be maintained for several years under light traffic even under bad conditions of soil. The pavement is, however, to be regarded as soiling and after it has been in use for a few years a thin wearing coat of cement concrete three inches thick will make it a decent road for all medium traffic. The cost of the cement concrete pavement three inches thick will come to about Rs. 10,000 per mile, so that the total cost, including the brick pavement, will come to Rs. 16,000 per mile and the life of the pavement under medium traffic will not be less than twenty years and will require very little maintenance.

Mr. Ayyar says that the road constructed in the fashion narrated above will be the cheapest in deltaic soil conditions. For an ordinary metalled road will cost much more to construct and maintain for this period and it will be far less efficient. Even where funds are not available, concludes Mr. Ayyar, for giving a cement concrete coat over the brick pavement the road can be maintained for some years with greater efficiency and with considerable saving both in initial cost and maintenance.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Feb. 1. Sixteen Nazi Generals taken prisoners in Stalingrad front.
- Feb. 2. Mr. Churchill in Turkey: Adana agreement.
- The Maharaja of Bikaner is dead.
- Feb. 3. Battle of Stalingrad ends successfully for Russia.
- Allies break through in Tunisia.
- Feb. 4. Axis troops encircled and mopped up west of Voronezh.
- Feb. 5. Mr. Churchill visits Tripoli.
- Italian Ministry overhauled: Mussolini takes up Foreign Ministry.
- Feb. 6. Gen. Eisenhower appointed Commander-in-Chief in North Africa.
- Feb. 7. Mr. Churchill returns to London, after tour of Middle East and North Africa.
- Turkish Press Mission in Madras.
- Feb. 8. H.H. the Jam Sahab's talk to pressmen in New Delhi re his experiences as Member of War Cabinet.
- Feb. 9. Japs evacuate Guadalcanar.
- Ceylon's request for Indian labour is announced.
- Feb. 10. Gandhiji goes on fast following a correspondence with Lord Linlithgow.
- Feb. 11. Prof. Bhansali goes on sympathetic fast.
- Countrywide demand for release of Gandhi.
- Feb. 12. Release of further correspondence between Viceroy and Gandhiji.
- Mr. Amery tells House of Commons that 60,000 were arrested during the disturbances.
- Feb. 13. Delhi move for an all Party Leaders' Conference on February 18.
- President Roosevelt broadcasting plainly indicates second front in Europe and decisive action against Japan.
- Feb. 14. Russians take Rostov.
- Prof. Bhansali gives up fast so as to avoid giving anxiety to Gandhi.
- Feb. 15. Adjournment motion on Gandhi's fast talked out in the Central Assembly.
- Feb. 16. Mr. Jinnah releases correspondence with the Hon. Mr. Huq. Mr. Jinnah demands expression of regret and repentance for past conduct.
- Feb. 17. Three members of the Viceroy's Council—Sir H. P. Mody, Mr. N. R. Sarker and Mr. M. S. Aney resign.
- Sir James Taylor is dead.
- Feb. 18. Joint statement of Messrs. Sarker, Aney and Sir H. P. Mody reveals fundamental differences with Viceroy on Gandhi's fast.
- Feb. 19. Countless appeals from individuals and organisations to Mr. Churchill, Mr. Amery and the Viceroy for the release of Mr. Gandhi.
- Feb. 20. Leaders' Conference adopts resolution urging Mahatma's release.
- Viceroy replies Government attitude is unchanged.
- Feb. 21. Leaders' Conference Standing Committee cables to Premier Churchill re Gandhi's release.
- Feb. 22. Sheriff's meeting, Bombay, urges unconditional release of Gandhi.
- Walk out in the Council of State.
- Feb. 23. Ceylon Legislators urge Gandhi's release. Justice Biswas' appeal for prayers for Gandhi's life.
- Feb. 24. Mr. Churchill rejects the leaders' appeal. Labour M. P.'s' deputation to Mr. Amery for release of Gandhi.
- Hitler's proclamation to German people.
- Feb. 25. Answering a question in the Commons, Mr. Amery echoes the Prime Minister.
- Feb. 26. C. R. Meets Gandhiji.
- Feb. 27. Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member, introduces the Budget in the Central Assembly.
- Feb. 28. Eighth army pierces the Mareth line.
- Text of newspaper control order published.

INDIAN STATES

Mysore

PLASTICS INDUSTRY

The question of starting a plastics industry in the State was discussed at length by the Board of Industries and Commerce, Mr. K. V. Anantaraman, Minister for Finance and Revenue, presiding and eventually an *ad hoc* Committee was appointed to go into the details and submit a definite scheme to the Government.

The need for improving the position of the handloom weavers in the State was also considered and in this connection the Board had, it is understood, the advice of Rao Bahadur K. S. Rao, Textile Expert to the Government of Bihar, who was present at the meeting at the invitation of the Government. It was suggested that the existing competition could be mitigated by linking the handlooms with the spinning and finishing mills which would result in a combination of the economies of large-scale machine production with the economies of a cottage industry.

PRISON REFORM IN MYSORE

Government constituted a Committee on 6th March 1940, to make an enquiry into the whole matter of prison administration in Mysore State, the efficacy of the existing system, and any defects therein, and to suggest remedies and improvements on practicable lines. The recommendations made by the Committee in their comprehensive report are under consideration of Government and several of them have been accepted.

It is proposed eventually to provide special institutions for juveniles and adolescents. Until they are established, all prisoners below the age of 21, sentenced in any part of the State to imprisonment exceeding one month, will be confined in the Central Jail in one of the new blocks there, under a separate staff.

The classification of prisoners into two divisions, *viz.*, special and ordinary, which obtained till recently, has been modified and prisoners are now classified into three divisions.

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Hyderabad

NEW AGENT OF BERAR

Speaking at a dinner given in honour of Nawab Mirza Yar Jung Bahadur, the newly appointed Agent to H. E. H. the Nizam at Nagpur, the Nawab of Chhattari said that the Nawab Sahab had been popular with all parties and won the friendship of members of all other communities. He had always been a great champion of Hindu-Muslim unity, and was also a zealous temperance worker.

Replying, Nawab Mirza Yar Jung thanked the Nawab of Chhattari for his kind references to him and expressed the hope that he would prove worthy of the trust reposed in him by H. E. H. the Nizam in appointing him to a post of such dignity and distinction.

STOCK EXCHANGE

The Stock Exchange, which is shortly to be established in Hyderabad, will be on slightly different lines to those followed in other parts of India. This is being done to suit the special conditions prevailing in Hyderabad State. There will be no forward dealings, and the administration of the Stock Exchange will be controlled by a Governing Body, consisting of representatives of the Hyderabad Government, mercantile, industrial and banking interests, and of the Stock Exchange itself. The Stock Exchange, to a large extent, will be autonomous, it is emphasized.

THE HYDERABAD CENSUS

A feature of the latest census memorandum, which puts the total population of the Nizam's Dominions at 163,98,534, showing an increase of 13.2 per cent. in a decade.

Brahmanic Hindus are the only community which has recorded a decrease in population of 3.5 per cent. in the last decade. The Muslim population has increased by 36.6 per cent.

Travancore**RICE MILLING**

The Travancore Government has, by a notification, prohibited the milling of rice in any part of the State.

It is well known that in the milling process, rice loses much of its nutritious elements. Hand-pounded rice, on the other hand, retains all its vitamins and minerals. Moreover, hand-pounding yields ten per cent. more rice and also provides part-time employment to our poor villagers in the bargain.

Further, a press communique says that it has been represented to the Government that the closure of rice mills in pursuance of the notification of February 1, will work hardship on the people on account of lack of trained labour to turn out as much work as machines and the consequent shortage of rice production in the present situation. The Government do not anticipate such hardship but, on the contrary, expect that the scheme will serve to relieve unemployment to an appreciable extent in addition to bringing about many other advantages.

If the proprietors of rice mills feel that the closure of the mills will result in loss to them consequent on the machines having to lie idle, the Government are prepared to buy all the machines and appurtenances at valuation. Intending sellers of such machinery and appurtenances should apply to the Government not later than February 28. It may be borne in mind that the resumption of work of rice mills as such in future is not at all likely.

ANANDAM RUBBER COMPANY

Anandam Rubber Company, Limited, which has been floated with an authorised capital of Rs. 5,00,000 divided into equal amounts of 7 per cent. cumulative preference (free of Travancore income-tax) and ordinary shares of Rs. 10 each, estimates the dividend on ordinary shares for 1943 at 25.5 per cent. calculated at the present price of rubber.

Baroda**RELIEF TO AGRICULTURISTS**

Crops having suffered owing to scanty and irregular rainfall in Okhamandal Mahal, His Highness the Maharaja Saheb sanctioned for all khedut khatedars remission and suspension of land revenue to the extent of Rs. 3,542-5-8 and Rs. 98,661, respectively. Suspension of takavi and loans of Rs. 1,89,675 has also been granted. Suspension of local cess amounting to Rs. 1,764-11-0 and of compulsory fine amount to the extent of Rs. 54-7 have also been sanctioned. Suspension of the execution of the decrees of civil courts, of revenue courts and of co-operative societies and the fines under the Compulsory Education Act was also ordered.

RURAL ENGINEERING WORKS

Engineering works which have a direct bearing on rural areas made considerable progress during the quarter ending November 1942. Five school buildings were completed and the same number was under construction. About eight medical buildings, mostly maternity wards, were on hand; nearly twenty roads were being dealt with, three bridges and culverts were being built, maintenance of numerous drains as well as water-works was proceeding. Some new drains and water-works extensions were also built; several irrigation wells were constructed completely or partially; great irrigation projects involving expenditure of several lakhs of rupees were almost completed.

FOREST INDUSTRIES

Plantation work was carried on in all the ranges. The work of grass storage in Amreli district was in progress and lac was being grown by the contractor. Supply of suitable kinds of wood for bobbins, packing cases, etc., is proceeding extensively to the advantage of forest crop and revenue. Soil conservation work was intensified during the period.

RURAL MEDICAL FACILITIES

To meet the medical needs of Umta, a village in the Mehsana district and the area surrounding it, Government have sanctioned an allopathic dispensary to be established there.

Jaipur**DEVANAGARI SCRIPT**

Representations have recently been made to Government with regard to the script used in Government Offices and Courts in the State, and it has been suggested that the existing arrangements are causing inconvenience to a large majority of His Highness' subjects. His Highness' Government are anxious at all times to give sympathetic consideration to the legitimate grievances of the public.

There is, even now, no restriction whatsoever on the use of Devanagari script, and as a matter of fact, this script is being used in most Government Offices and Courts in the State. In view of the fact that a large majority of His Highness' subjects use Devanagari script, Government desire that all Offices and Courts should adopt this script, so that the people concerned may not be put to any inconvenience. This will not, however, imply any ban on the use of Urdu script by those who are not conversant with Devanagari script.

Kashmir**NEW PRIME MINISTER**

The following communique has been issued by the Government of His Highness the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir:

"Sir N. Gopalaswami Iyengar will soon be completing six years of office in the State. In view of the exacting duties and onerous responsibilities which he has had to shoulder for this extended period without any real holiday and in agreement with his advice as to the desirability of making a change in the office, His Highness the Maharaja, though very hard to part with him, has in compliance with his wish permitted him to relinquish the office of Prime Minister with effect from April 9 next and has selected Raja Sir Maharaj Singh to succeed him."

Bikaner**THE NEW RULER**

The booming of a royal salute of 125 guns proclaimed the accession of His Highness Maharaja Sir Sadul Singhji Bahadur to the throne of Bikaner. The ceremonies took place last month, according to established custom and usage.

Patiala**EDUCATION IN THE STATE**

The establishment at a central place of a training institution for the teachers of the Punjab States, the opening of technical and industrial institutions at suitable localities, the reorganisation of girls' education and the examination of the possibility of introducing basic education in the States, were some of the questions discussed at the first Educational Conference of the Punjab States held at Patiala.

Indore**STANDARD CLOTH**

Indore, which has a food ration system already working, has also a standard cloth scheme in successful operation since December last.

Manufactured in local mills, standard cloth is sold by Government shops at prices 40 per cent. below the ruling market prices.



"I hope Indians will realise the importance of patronising only Indian Insurance Institutions."

—Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.

Place your Life Business with INDIAN Insurance Companies only.

April '43.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

: 0 :

South Africa

ASIATIC AFFAIRS BOARD

The personnel of the Asiatic Affairs Advisory Board, consisting of both Europeans and Indians, has been announced. The Indian members include Messrs. Christopher, Kajee, Pather and Rustomjee. The appointment was made under the terms of the old Natal Indian Immigrant Law and it will advise the Government on matters relating to Indians.

The Indian newspaper, *Leader*, commenting on the inauguration of the Board, says that the Indian Franchise Board might be a useful body if the Indian community merely laboured under the handicap of not finding a machinery that could make its view-points known. If a statement of Indian views were sufficient to ensure protection of Indian interests, no one could deny the value of the Advisory Board. But that is not the state of affairs at all. Indian views and interests are not wrapped in mystery. They are freely voiced and widely known.

Egypt

INDO-EGYPTIAN LINK

It is not so well known that Egypt was linked to India in the past, that the Puranas have a full description of the country and of the source of the Nile which was variously called Nila, Kali, Krishna, all having the same meaning of dark blue. The Puranas say:

"The celebrated and holy river takes rise from the lake Amara in the region of the Holy-Land of the Soma-Giri, or the Mountains of the Moon." When the source of the Nile was discovered, or re-discovered in 1860, the explorer had with him a map of the region drawn from Puranic description, and he records in his Journal that he found the lake which he called Victoria Nyanza, still called by the natives "Lake Amara—the Lake of Immortality or the Lake of the Gods", and the mountains round about still called in the native tongue, "Mountains of the Moon."

Ceylon

INDIAN LABOUR IN CEYLON

Before discussing the Ceylon Government's demand, made in December of last year, for 20,000 Indian labourers for rubber estates, the Government of India suggested that the principles for a settlement of the immigration and status problems should be determined and agreed upon.

This is revealed in the course of letters and telegrams exchanged between the two Governments, of which copies were placed on the table of the Central Legislature this session.

The documents contain a draft statement on the principles prepared by the Government of India and end with the Ceylon Government's rejection of the draft statement on February 12, 1948.

The Ceylon Government's demand was made in a telegram of December 8, 1942, asking whether the Government of India, notwithstanding their ban on emigration to Ceylon of unskilled labour other than labourers already in the island, would consider special recruitment of labour to meet the present war emergency, on the condition specified in the telegram.

In reply, Mr. Bozman, Indian Overseas Secretary, sent a letter to Sir Baron Jayatilaka in which he referred to the discussion in Mr. Aney's house during which Mr. Aney suggested "that before reaching a decision on the supply of additional labour now required by Ceylon for rubber estates, we should attempt to determine the main principles in accordance with which a settlement of immigration and status problems should be negotiated."

INDIAN REPRESENTATIVE FOR CEYLON

In answer to an enquiry, the Government of Ceylon had informed the Government of India that they would welcome the appointment of an Indian Representative in Ceylon of a status similar to that of Sir Baron Jayatilaka.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

THE C. D. ARRESTS

The Home Member Sir Reginald Maxwell, replying to Sardar Sant Singh, in the Assembly on February 12, said that firing had been resorted to 538 times upto the end of the year 1942 in connection with the disturbances following the Congress arrests. The number of persons killed by police or military firing upto the end of the year was 940 and the number injured 1,630. Sixty thousand two hundred and twenty-nine persons had been arrested upto the end of the year. The number of persons convicted upto the end of the year was approximately 26,000. He had no information about the number of persons prosecuted or the number sentenced to death or executed. Approximately 18,000 persons had been detained under Rules 26 and 129 of the Defence of India Rules about the end of the year. Although it would be seen from the figures large numbers of people had been arrested, convicted or detained, large numbers had also been released or were sentenced only to short terms of imprisonment or to fines. The number of persons actually in custody at the end of the year was approximately 14,000 convicted prisoners and 11,000 persons detained under the D. I. R.

Mr. Joshi asked whether it was not a fact that the Government of India agreed to the principle that the cases of persons detained without trial should be examined by a high authority from time to time.

The Home Member said that was in relation to the last Civil Disobedience.

Mr. Joshi: Do these principles vary from movement to movement?

The Home Member: Yes, Sir.

The Secretary of State for India, Mr. Amery, told the House of Commons the same day that 60,229 persons were arrested during the disturbances in India last autumn, of whom 89,493 were still under arrest on December 1, last.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

MR. BEVIN ON FREEDOM FOR INDIA

"Freedom for India is not enough in itself", said Mr. Ernest Bevin, Minister for Labour, addressing in London recently the Indian engineers who have been trained in Britain and who have left for India to take up positions in India's war factories. Mr. Bevin said:

"I believe there must be great industrial development in order that the standard of living may be raised so that when greater responsibility is placed upon your country, there will be the wherewithal to defend it from any enemies who may seek to take it. I do not think your country will go back to the old methods of production by hand. It must march with the machine-age and keep up with the mechanical developments now taking place in the world."

"I look forward to fullest co-operation between the peoples of Great Britain and India. I would like to suggest the slogan to you 'look forward, not backward'. History is a great guide, but can handicap us if we let it colour our minds too much. Keep your minds on future and work for the day when there will be greater equality in the standard of living."

JAMNAGAR ON STATES' RIGHTS

Addressing the East India Association on the future of India and the princes, Maharaja Jam Saheb of Nawanagar said that he did not propose to plunge into the deep waters of political controversy or speculate immediately about the future. Rather was it his purpose to emphasize the consistent attitude of the Princely Order towards constitutional change.

Orderly political and constitutional progress as I see it, is ultimately the striking of a balance between the surrender and the maintenance of the existing individual rights by each of the component elements in the political structure. Each must recognize the rights of the other element and is under obligation to respect them. At the same time, there is the inalienable right to hold what we have and to demand that other element should recognize our rights. . . .

Basically our demands have always been the same. First, the maintenance of the treaty right under the aegis of the Crown, and secondly effective and sufficient safeguards.

PAY OF INDIAN OFFICER TAKEN PRISONER

Replying to a question of Sir Frederick James in the Assembly, the War Secretary admitted that the pay of the Indian officer was reduced when he was taken prisoner while the pay of the British officer was not reduced under similar circumstances. The British services officer, however, when captured, lost his allowances such as light, fuel and ration allowances. Elements representing these allowances were included in the consolidated pay of the Indian army officer. This approximated his pay in captivity to that of his British service colleague notwithstanding the fact that the pay structure of the two services were different. Mr. Trivedi added that in the case of the officer of the Indian army, who was a prisoner of war, he received as his pay an amount equivalent to what he would have received were he serving out of India but not in the Indian army.

MAJOR SHAUKAT HYAT KHAN

It has been announced that Major Shaukat Hayat Khan, eldest son of Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan, has been appointed sixth Minister in the Punjab. He takes over the portfolio of Public Health and Local Self-Government vacated by Lieut.-Col. Khizar Hayat Khan Tiwana, who has succeeded the late Sir Sikandar Hayat Khan as Premier of the Punjab.

Major Shaukat Hayat Khan will seek election to the Punjab Assembly within six months. He is 27 years old and is the youngest Minister in the British Empire.

RELEASE OF DETENUS

A press note issued by the Government of Bengal says that all young persons below the age of 18 years, who have been detained or imprisoned for mere participation in some item of the Congress programme or commission of some offence in connection with it, will be released. Instructions have accordingly been issued to local officers for the release of such persons in their respective localities.

UNIVERSITY FOR SIND

The creation of a separate University for Sind, the establishment of a School of "Sind Culture" and the opening of a School of Aeronautics near Karachi are among the main recommendations made in their report by the Sind University Committee.

The report contains 16 main recommendations. It is suggested that the proposed University should be both a teaching and an affiliating University. (Sind's colleges are at present affiliated to the Bombay University.) While it should have its own centres for imparting education, it should also mother colleges all over Sind, because, if its scope were restricted to teaching, it would have to be located in one centre, probably Karachi, and instead of expanding higher education, it would retard the standard of learning.

As regards the functions of the University the Committee feel that the aim should be not merely to enable students to pass examinations, but to train and fit them for positions for which they are best suited and which their training should help them to obtain.

For this purpose, it is suggested, a School of Careers should be opened, as it is considered the best means of attaining the object in view.

UNITY OF KNOWLEDGE

"I think the purpose of a real University is not to create various water-tight departments of knowledge, but to create the necessary atmosphere and environment, in which the fundamental value of these various branches of knowledge is realised and opportunities given to the votaries of the different ideals with different outlooks, to come together and to appreciate their values without being made to excessively specialise in one or the other. My thesis, in short, is the fundamental unity of all branches of knowledge," observed Sir C. V. Raman, of the Indian Institute of Science at Mysore, presiding over the celebration of the Mysore University Union Day at the College quadrangle.

CONGRESS AND THE DISTURBANCES

"I do not think that it can be assumed that the disturbances which have taken place recently in this district are part of the civil disobedience movement launched by the Congress. I have not come across any resolution of the Congress authorising the launching of any civil disobedience movement. It has not been proved that any secret instructions have been issued by the Congress to the people to launch such a movement. Simply because some persons, who are also members of the Congress, have taken part in the recent disturbances, it would not be reasonable to presume that there is a civil disobedience movement and that it has been launched by the Congress," observed Mr. J. R. Mudholkar, Sessions Judge of Wardha, setting aside the conviction and sentence passed on S. Gadre by the lower court.

The charge against Gadre was that in furtherance of the C. D. movement he asked a village "mukkadam" to resign his office and the lower court sentenced him to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

ABOLITION OF WHIPPING

Whipping as a legal punishment was condemned by Mr. M. A. Kazmi in the Central Legislative Assembly moving his Bill for the abolition of whipping and the repeal of the Whipping Act of 1909. Pleading that the Bill be circulated for public opinion, he said that whipping was a relic of barbarous days and lowered the Government and the people of a country where it was in force in the estimation of civilised humanity. He said that nearly all civilised Governments had abolished it altogether. He quoted the opinion of Sir Harvey Adamson, one-time Home Member, who said that whipping was getting into disfavour and that public opinion was rising against it. The penalty, in his opinion, was revolting and he demanded its abolition.

The House agreed to the motion for circulation.

WAR RISK INSURANCE

The War Risk Insurance scheme for war injuries is now under the examination of the Government of India. It is explained that under the War Injuries Compensation scheme categories of labour receiving a certain minimum wage are covered, both for compensation and relief from war injuries, while categories of labour receiving wages above the specified minimum are permitted relief, but no compensation, and they cannot get compensation under the Workmen's Compensation Act because war injury is not covered by that Act. The proposal provides for giving such categories of labour compensation in respect of war injuries. It is proposed to work the system by means of a War Risk Injuries Insurance scheme, the premium for which will be paid by the employer into a fund kept with the Government of India, which will make the payments for compensation when the necessity arises. The scheme will be compulsory. A Bill covering the provisions of the scheme is expected to come up for disposal before the current Budget Session of the Central Legislature.

AMENDMENT OF INSURANCE ACT

There is no likelihood of the Indian Insurance Act being amended during the war period in order to meet the difficulties experienced by insurance interests, says the *Capital of Calcutta*. Government may, however, examine the possibilities of giving relief with the limited scope of the Insurance rules framed under the Act, said the Hon. Mr. N. R. Sarker, presiding over a meeting of the Insurance Advisory Committee to consider insurance problems. One of the proposals before the Committee related to Section 27 of the Indian Insurance Act in order to give relief to the Indian Life Insurance Companies in the matter of the statutory investments in Government Securities. Since the Bombay High Court had recently endorsed the views of the Central Government in regard to the interpretation of the section, it was proposed that Government might amend the Act to achieve the same object.

EIGHT-CRORE SCHEME

Work is being started on an eight-crore tele-communications development scheme which, it is expected, will not only assist in the organisation of India's defences during the war, but will make available for civilian use roughly twice as many circuits as are now available for all purposes, civil and military. A construction branch specially created for the purpose in the Posts and Telegraphs Department is already at work on the project which involves the erection of over 100,000 miles of wire.

Apart from the magnitude of the sum involved, says a press note, the scheme has two notable features. In the first place, a new Tele-communications Development Board, with the Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs as chairman, has been set up and given full powers with regard to the spending of money and the carrying out of the scheme. Secondly, the setting up of such an organisation for development work ensures that expansion will take place in a systematic and co-ordinated manner, and that the present needs of civilian traffic and the possible future requirements of the general public in the post-war period are not overlooked.

FREEBOOTERS

Mr. Frank Anthony (Anglo-Indian), in a spirited speech in the Central Assembly, attacked the traders and said that there was a lamentable lack of honest businessmen in the country. He was inclined to think that the present shortage was deliberate, and those handling the trade in foodstuffs, etc., were indulging in hoarding and profiteering. He suggested drastic action against "freebooters." The Government ought to impose compulsory sentence of imprisonment and not merely fines as was the case at present, offer rewards for information about hoarded stocks, confiscate all stocks belonging to the offenders and otherwise strike terror into the hearts of "anti-national blood-suckers."

STALINGRAD'S WOMEN

All through the siege of Stalingrad some of the women stayed behind, cables the *Daily Herald's* Moscow Correspondent. One with two little girls, aged three and five, lived in the no-man's-land. She popped up from a hole in the ground while I was touring the desperately contested grounds of the Red October Factory.

"My home was there," she said, waving her hand towards the pounded streets.

For a time it was not too difficult behind the Soviet lines and she could make herself useful by doing small jobs for the troops like washing. Then the tide of battle swayed over her head and she was between the German and the Russian positions. She had a little food saved up but it did not last long. At night she had to venture out periodically to carve pieces of flesh from dead horses.

I met another of the stay-out women at the top of a Volga cliff down which a wooden ladder led to her headquarters. She was standing at the entrance to the cave hanging out a line of washing with two children looking on. "I have been here right through the battle," she told me. "I reckoned it was safer to stay than to risk crossing the river under fire. Besides I could do laundry work for the staff."

WOMEN AND POLITICS

"Never was the need for reconstructive ideas, systematic planning and enlightened leadership so urgent as today when the old world is dead but the new seems powerless to be born", said Dr. Beni Prasad, Professor of Politics in the Allahabad University, delivering the annual Convocation Address at the Prayag Mahila Vidyapitha (Women's University). He added:

"The ruling classes in the West seem to hold to dogmas and traditions of radical domination and economic ascendancy and in fact to the whole paraphernalia of the lustful competitive passion for Empire."

TALKING NEWSPAPER

A talking newspaper that will read itself aloud to you is a recent invention of science, says a London paper.

Its pages may be printed on standard presses, but instead of words, they bear a pattern of printed dots and lines, serving as a sound track. When the paper is placed on a special reproducer and the machine is set to action, the events of the day are related aloud, without further attention on the part of the listener. The reverse side of each page is printed in standard type, for those who prefer reading in the conventional way.

NEWSPAPER SOCIETY

The Fourth Annual General Meeting of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society was held at the Imperial Hotel, New Delhi, on February 16, at which after Mr. Arthur Moore, the retiring President, and other officers had vacated office, a new election took place, and a committee was formed for the year 1948 consisting of the following members: President, Mr. Devadas Gandhi (*Hindustan Times*), Deputy President, Mr. H. W. Smith (*Times of India*), Vice-President, Mr. W. J. B. Walker (*Statesman*) and Honorary Treasurer, Mr. J. K. Cowley (*Statesman*).

Felicitous speeches were delivered eulogising the retiring president's unique services.

A.I.N.E. CONFERENCE

The Standing Committee of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference met at New Delhi recently with Mr. K. Srinivasan, President, in the chair.

The Committee passed a resolution urging upon the Government of India to release Mahatma Gandhi unconditionally and immediately to enable him as a free man to help in the restoration of peaceful conditions.

"CHITRA"

The security of Rs. 2000 deposited by the Marathi Weekly *Chitra* has been forfeited by the Government for publication of an objectionable article in its issue, dated January 17, entitled "Hammer, Sickle and Pen".

LATE DR. KOTNIS

News has been received in Bombay of the death in China of Dr. D. S. Kotnis of Sholapur. He was 32 years old.

The late Dr. Kotnis was a member of the Congress Medical Mission that was sent to China in August 1938. Of the five members of the mission, Dr. Kotnis and Dr. B. K. Basu, who is now in North Shensi, remained behind and both of them were attached to the Eighth Route Army. Some months before his death, Dr. Kotnis became the head of the International Peace Hospital at Chin Cha Chi. He died on December 8, last following an epileptic fit.

MR. SATYAMURTI

Mr. S. Satyamurti, who was under detention under the Defence of India Rules, was released on medical grounds, on February 8.

It will be remembered Mr. Satyamurti, who was detained in Amraoti, was brought to Madras last month and admitted in the General Hospital for treatment.

DR. P. S. LOKANATHAN

Dr. P. S. Lokanathan, Reader in Economics in the University of Madras, will take up the post of Economic Research Organizer with the firm of Messrs. Birla Brothers in New Delhi and become the Editor of a new weekly journal devoted to Economics. He has joined duty last month.

LORD NUFFIELD'S NEW TRUST

Lord Nuffield is creating a ten-million sterling charitable trust for the furtherance of medical research, the development of medical and health services and also trade and industrial research and the care and comfort of aged persons.

MR. T. K. RAJAGOPALAN

It is understood, Mr. T. K. Rajagopalan, retired Accountant-General, has accepted the post of Controller of Accounts, Tata Aircraft, Limited.

PENICILLIN

It is a "wonder drug", the latest discovery of a modest Professor—Dr. Alexander Fleming of the University of London. Professor Fleming saw service in the last war when he was led to work on the antiseptics of wounds. His interest in this branch of medical science found fruition in his work on the sulphonamides and their forerunner, prontosil, to the success of which his contribution was of no mean value. He next discovered lysozyme, a substance, found in human tears, like that in the white of the egg which has antiseptic properties. But it is Penicillin that will perpetuate Professor Fleming's name. This substance is the active principle of a mould called *Penicillium*—a substance like whiskers found on decaying fruit. Professor Fleming's discovery establishes that Penicillin is one of the most powerful instruments of anti-infection in carbuncles, wounds, boils and, indeed, in any condition where the staphylococcus breeds. The discovery has not yet reached the stage of commercial production and exploitation. The importance of Penicillin consists in its two-fold action: firstly, with its aid, scientists could obtain pure cultures of delicate germs by rendering existence impossible for hardier varieties which would otherwise swamp them; secondly, Penicillin will prevent bacteria from multiplying in the human body. Sir Almroth Wright, who surely is competent to assess its value, is confident, that it will work a veritable revolution. The *Hindu* says that humanity stands to gain considerably by this advance in its knowledge of therapeutics.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

A case of invidious racial discrimination in the army medical services, is referred to by the *Hindustan Times* of Delhi.

It is stated, it says, that a separate cadre, reserved only for Anglo-Indians, is still being maintained in the I.M.D. While Indian Licentiatees are allowed only a basic salary of Rs. 75—5—95, Anglo-Indians with similar qualifications are started on a pay of Rs. 200 and can go up to Rs. 1,000 a month. Even Auxiliary Nurses, it is stated, get more pay than the Indian Licentiatees, the nurses' starting pay being Rs. 168 per mensem with other allowances.

GROUNDNUT AS FOOD

Groundnut, taken in small quantities, is perfectly good food. Its high fat content makes it a concentrated food, with a high caloric yield per unit of weight. Since many poor school children are underfed as well as malnourished, any supplement which increased their total food intake would be of value, writes the *Indian Medical Gazette*.

Groundnuts as such have never been used as a staple human food anywhere in the world. Consumed in large quantities, they tend to be nauseating, probably because of their high fat content. Their main use has always been as a source of oil, the 'cake' which remains after the extraction of oil being employed as cattle food and manure. It is said that groundnut cake is used as human food in Spain. In the U.S.A., the so-called peanut butter has been fairly, widely consumed, and in that country, roasted peanuts are very popular. The inclusion of groundnut flour in small quantities in wheat biscuits has been suggested.

DIET VS. CLIMATE

Notwithstanding the undoubted influence of climate upon bodily functions, it is nevertheless true that much of the trouble often attributed to climate might be more justly charged to faulty habits of living.

The Englishman who takes with him to India the meat-eating habits which his colder climate helps to tolerate after a fashion soon finds himself complaining of the climate if he continues his high protein diet. Whereas, if he follows the biologic bill of fare, discarding meats of all sorts, eating freely of the luscious fruits which abound in tropical regions, he finds the climate both healthful and agreeable.

From East India, a missionary who was home on a year's furlough to recoup his health, after a few weeks of instruction and training in the physiologic mode of life, returned to India, having found relief from his ailments by a change of diet, and reported in six months that he had discovered that the climate of India was the most healthful in the world.

SIR JAMES TAYLOR

Sir James Taylor, Governor of the Reserve Bank, who at 58 has died at Bombay, succeeded to that position when Sir Osborne Smith, the first Governor, resigned from it. Of his 29 years in the I.C.S., all but the first 7 were spent in financial administration whether in the Currency Department, the Government of India, or the Reserve Bank, where he was at first deputy to Sir Osborne Smith. Only in his first years was he engaged in the ordinary duties of a Civilian: posted to C.P., he worked there until summoned to the Government of India's Commerce Department in 1921. His specialized experience was the natural outcome of special gifts, and gifts and experience have been of great value to India. Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, Deputy Governor, Reserve Bank of India, will act as Governor temporarily.

HOARDING OF SMALL COINS

By a notification published in the *Gazette of India*, the acquiring of coin in excess of personal or business requirement and the selling or exchanging of coin or notes for amounts other than face value and certain other offences, which are punishable under Defence Rule 90(2), have been made triable by summary procedure in order to facilitate the speedy punishment of offenders. To assist in the detection of offenders substantial rewards will be granted to all persons on whose information convictions for any of these offences are secured, says a press note.

GOLD AND DOLLAR SECURITIES

A suggestion that our large sterling balance in London should be converted into gold and dollar securities was made by Sir R. K. Shanmukham Chetti when he spoke at the Pachaiyappa's College, Madras, under the auspices of the College Economics Association. The subject of his address was "India's sterling obligations".

Sir R. K. Shanmukham also suggested that England should pay India for her purchases made in this country in rupees by floating loans in the Indian market.

THE RAILWAY BUDGET

The railway estimates presented by Sir Edward Benthall in the Legislative Assembly last month forecast for 1942-48 a surplus of Rs. 36'28 crores (Rs. 8'20 crores more than last year and Rs. 8'88 crores more than the original estimate) and for 1948-44 a surplus of Rs. 36'04 crores.

In 1942-48, total traffic receipts are expected to be Rs. 149½ crores (Rs. 144 crores from State-owned lines and Rs. 5½ crores from worked lines), i.e., Rs. 14 crores more than last year and Rs. 19 crores more than the original estimate. Total working expenses, including Rs. 12'58 crores, for depreciation and Rs. 2'67 for payment to worked lines, are Rs. 86'52 crores, and exceed last year's expenses by Rs. 7 crores.

Of the expected surplus of Rs. 36'28 general revenues will receive the originally budgeted amount of Rs. 20'18 crores, which is Rs. 2'36 crores over and above the current, and arrear contributions actually due from railways under the existing convention and the railway depreciation fund will receive Rs. 16'08 crores, the balance of Rs. 7 lakhs going to railway reserve. The depreciation fund will also receive Rs. 6'80 crores by transfer from the railway reserve and the railways' debt to the depreciation fund will thereby be wiped out.

STATE-OWNED RAILWAYS

The State-owned Railways yielded a net surplus of Rs. 28,08,00,000, after meeting all charges including depreciation and interest, in the year 1941-42 according to the annual report on Indian Railways just issued by the Railway Board. Out of this surplus Rs. 20,17,00,000 were placed to the credit of General Revenues of the Central Government, Rs. 4'80 crores in full payment of contribution for 1941-42 and Rs. 15'37 crores towards arrear contribution relating to the previous years. The balance of Rs. 7'91 crores was repaid to the Railway Depreciation Reserve Fund in partial discharge of the loans previously taken.

B.N. RAILWAY

Mr. W. R. Fitz-Gerald, Deputy General Manager, has been appointed to succeed the late Mr. A. Duncan, as Agent and General Manager of the B.N. Railway.

ROLE OF MUSIC

The role of music which spurred on a conquering army to fresh triumphs in ancient times and united warring elements in political warfare was emphasised by Sangeet Ratna Nawal Kishore of Bikaner in his presidential address to the Fyzabad District Music Conference held at Ayodhya recently. Nearly 300 musicians from all over the country attended.

The Conference passed a resolution advocating rigid adherence to the puritan type of Hindustani music and the propagation of scientific music, and condemned the inarticulate modulations sought to be introduced nowadays in the cinema music which passed for light music.

Another resolution urged women singers to refrain from using iron corsets in their public engagements as the Conference thought that their use in hot climate should not be persisted in on 'humanitarian grounds.'

THYAGARAJA'S COMPOSITIONS

The Madura Sourashtra Sabha has come into possession in cadjan leaves of a manuscript containing 500 poetical compositions of the Great Saint Thyagaraja having been handed over to the Sabha by a Sourashtra lady whose husband was the fourth descendant member of the first disciple of Saint Thyagaraja for over 20 years.

These compositions have not hitherto been published. The "Padukai" or the sandals of the Saint Thyagaraja, which had also been the family heirloom of the descendants of the disciple, has also been handed over to the Sabha.

MUSIC FROM THE AIR

Today our radios furnish almost any kind of music we wish. But did you know that the ancient Chinese enjoyed music from the air? They got their music by fastening little whistles to the tails of thousands of pigeons that flew over their towns and cities. Some of the whistles were made of gourds, some of reeds. Some had two pipes, others were of different numbers up to eight. They made different notes when the air passed through while the pigeons were in flight. All during the day the Chinese could hear the melodies coming from the air high above them.

RATNAM CHESS TOURNAMENT

The Ratnam Memorial Chess Tournament has concluded in Madras. V. K. Khadilkar of the New Chess Club, Sangli, carried away the first prize with 17½ points out of a possible 19. It may truly be said of him that he came, saw and conquered, for, with the exception of a solitary defeat at the hands of C. Theobald and a draw against V. Thirunarayan, he went through the tournament with a *sang-froid* that was amazing.

Khadilkar's play all through was sound. He made fewer mistakes than his rivals, and he showed that, at the age of 55, he is still to be numbered among India's best players. His modesty and unaffectedness in victory or defeat has earned him many friends, and it is hoped that he will come again. Incidentally, it may be recalled, that Khadilkar was All-India champion in 1911.

BOXING RANKINGS

Quarterly boxing rankings issued by the National Boxing Association shows a little alteration from those previously issued.

Among British boxers, R.A.F. Sergeant Freddie Mills, British Empire light heavyweight champion, is given as one of the world's outstanding boxers in that division. In flyweight section, R.A.F. Sergeant Peter Kane as also Jackie Paterson are given as logical contenders for the world title, which, according to the N.B.A., is held by the Phillippine Little Dado.

BUDGE AND AUSTIN

Donald Budge, leading lawn tennis professional, has enlisted as a Private in the United States Army.

H. W. Austin, the former British Davis Cup player, obtained a transfer of his draft induction into the United States Army from the New York Board to the Los Angeles Board. He has been scheduled for induction but it may be some months before he is called again.

LONG DISTANCE RECORD

By winning the 1,500 metres on the opening day of the 31st annual athletic meeting of the Kalighat Sports Association at the Eden Gardens, F. O. R. C. Manley, (RAF) maintained his supremacy in long distance events in Calcutta this season.

SCIENCE AND INDUSTRIES

As a result of its research work during the last two-and-a-half years, the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research has made available about 25 completed schemes for commercial exploitation, besides the large number of schemes which it has made available for direct war purposes and which cannot be revealed for obvious reasons.

These schemes have given an impetus to industrial development in various directions. The industries mainly benefited are the vegetable oil, plastic, chemical, paints and varnish, sulphur and lubricants industries.

The industrial process and products now under exploitation comprise anti-gas cloth, vegetable oils as fuels and lubricants, laminated paper board, air-foam solution, bhilavan stoving enamel and allied products, luminous paints and pigments, substitute for glass, silver and glossy transparent paper, solid fuel, steam-proof plastic powder composition, oil silks, water-proof painting for indianite roofing slabs, jute boards, cloth and jute containers, substitute for cork, sulphur, identity discs graphite crucibles, oleic and stearic acid, potassium chlorate, urea and seaming varnish. Plastic toothpaste and collapsible tubes in general, oil plastics, Dettol type of disinfectants, kooxyl and carbarsone are shortly to be developed.

MISUSE OF SCIENCE

Science has created the material foundations of modern culture. Our aspirations cannot transcend our cultural level. We in India cannot afford to overlook this grim fact. If aspirations are related to material conditions, which are dependent upon scientific knowledge, the basic importance of science in the solution of social problems cannot be exaggerated", said Dr. D. R. Bhattacharya, in his presidential remarks at the three-day annual session of the National Academy of Sciences at Allahabad.

Dr. Bhattacharya dealt at length with the topic: "Zoology in the Service of Man" and in conclusion remarked that if scientific knowledge had been misused, as done in the present war, the fault lay with the dictators and politicians and not so much with the scientists.

"M.S.S." AS MEERABAI

A packed assembly, suggestive of a full-house balcony class at a box-office-hit show, was present at the inaugural function of the newest film version of *Meerabai*. Practically all the film folk of the city were all there at Newtowne for the function at Madras.

On Mr. Ellis R. Dungan's experienced shoulders rests the directorial responsibility for *Meerabai*. Newtowne's famed technicians, Jiten Banerjee and Dinshaw Teherani, are in charge of the camera and the mike respectively. Music is by Papanasam Sivan.

M. S. Subbulakshmi, of course, plays Meerabai, while Nagiah is cast as her spouse, Kumba Rana. These two great stars are supported by N. S. Krishnan and T. A. Mathuram, the two benefic planets of the film zodiac.

Mr. UDAY SHANKAR

Uday Shankar has joined Prabhat, according to *Rupani*.

Recently Uday Shankar accompanied by the ever-smiling shrewd businessman Baburao Pai, paid a visit to Prabhat Nagar and signed a deal with Prabhat as a result of which, he will produce a picture in Prabhat studio in association with Prabhat. The credit for bringing about this super-alliance goes to Baburao Pai. It goes without saying that Uday Shankar's picture will be known as a joint production of Prabhat and Uday Shankar, and will be distributed throughout the world by Famous Pictures, Ltd.

FLYNN'S BUDGET

Sidelights on a film star's cost-of-living were revealed in the Superior Court of Los Angeles recently when famed agent Myron Selznick brought a case against Erroll Flynn. Flynn gets a weekly salary of £1,500. In an affidavit his monthly expenses were listed as:

Household, £300.

Boat, £250.

Ranch, £100.

Telephone and Telegraph, £15.

Car, £37 10s.

Mrs. Lili Damita Flynn, £250.

Mr. Flynn (pending money), £250.

Doctor and dentist, £37 10s.

Interest, £33 15s.

Insurance, £125.

Publicity and professional expenses, £1,000.

Taxes, £1,250.

PLYWOOD TYRES

Indian Forester draws attention to the plywood tyre as substitute for the rubber tyre.

An official of an American Pacific coast lumber concern, finding it impossible to replace a solid rubber tyre for one of his companies' lumber vehicles, fastened together three rings of 1½ in. plywood and used these on a rear wheel.

He reports that the wear has been slight and even that his drivers when driving the vehicle cannot tell the difference.

In view of the growing scarcity of rubber, plywood tyres would come as a relief to many in India, though it remains to be seen of course how they would stand up to the average Indian road.

FLAT-TYRE WARNING

Flat-tyre warning is given to the driver of a car equipped with the novel invention of a Mayville, N.D., motorist. The device consists of a length of wire locked to the wheel by a special lock. When the tyre becomes deflated beyond a pre-determined point, the lock springs open, releasing one end of the wire. Thus loosened, the wire leaves the rim and the revolving wheel causes it to bang against the fender or fender well of the car in unmistakable warning that the air pressure in the tyre is low.

PAINTING OLD TYRES

Painting miles on tyres is now possible with a new type of liquid made from synthetic rubber that is simply put on with a brush. Any number of coats may be applied, each after the previous coat has dried. The substance is applied directly to the tread of a tyre to build up a new traction surface. The dried material resembles rubber, and is said to add many miles of wear to the life of a tyre.

HINTS TO CAR OWNERS

All the useful hints as to "How to lay up your car" are contained in a leaflet issued by the Burma Shell Oil Storage and Distributing Co., of India, Ltd. Such of those car owners who have been forced to keep their cars idle for long periods, because of scarcity of petrol, will find this leaflet very helpful. It can be had free from any of the Burma Shell branches.

FASTEST BOMBER IN THE WORLD

De Havilland *Mosquitos* which were used for the first daylight air raid on Berlin are the fastest bombers in the world. They have twin-engines, long range and great accuracy in low-level bombing. The first public reference to them was made last September, when they carried out a daylight raid on the Gestapo Headquarters in Oslo. The *Mosquito* is of a simple wooden construction, and is notable for its beautiful lines. It carries a formidable bomb load, and its armament may consist of four 20-millimetre cannon and four machine-guns.

R.A.F. OVER EUROPE

An Air Ministry communique, dated February 19, states: "Last night in good weather aircraft of the bomber command made a heavy attack on Wilhelmsh. Fighter command aircraft attacked railway and canal targets in France and Belgium and enemy shipping off the coast. Coastal command aircraft attacked enemy shipping off the Dutch coast. The results were difficult to observe but hits were seen on one medium-sized supply ship which was set on fire. Four bombers, two fighters and one aircraft of the coastal command are missing from these operations.

AIRCRAFT PURCHASE

India has contributed since the outbreak of the war £4½ million for the purchase of aircraft for the R.A.F. and the Indian Air Force, according to the latest figures available. Subscriptions ranging from lakhs of rupees from the wealthiest Indian Princes to annas from the poorest peasants have swelled this large sum to buy squadrons of war-planes for the allied cause.

AIR FORCE CLASSES

The Executive Council of the Dacca University, at its meeting recently considering a letter of the Secretary, Government of India War Department (Air branch), forwarding a scheme adopted by the Aligarh University for opening air force classes, agreed to open air force classes in the Dacca University and decided to write to the Air Force Authorities for details.

INDUSTRIALISATION OF INDIA

"We are trying to spread the policy of industrialisation in the country, because it is the characteristic of all progressive nations to do so," said Sir M. Visvesvarayya, in his presidential address at the third All-India Manufacturers' Conference at Baroda last month.

About 150 delegates and industrial magnates from all over India attended.

Referring to the policy of industrialisation, Sir Visvesvarayya mentioned three important proposals, to which the All-India manufacturers' organisation wanted the Indian public to give their immediate attention. "These are," he said, "arrangements to establish two heavy industries in every province as soon as the war is over; the development of minor and subsistence industries in every district; and an attempt to promote all classes of industries by means of a five-year plan."

POST-WAR INDIA

Speaking at a meeting of the Y.M.C.A., Royapettah, at Madras, on the subject of "This War and the economics of India", Dr. P. S. Lokanathan emphasised the necessity for stabilising prices and for rapid development of industries.

Dr. Lokanathan said that India, which was a great debtor country, had now emerged as a great creditor nation. That was due to the war. But the question they had to consider was whether this revolutionary change was going to last. India would remain a creditor country after this war, if the credit was the result of real lending out to Great Britain from savings. He was afraid that the accumulation of sterling balances in Britain was not the result of savings. The accumulation was due to inflation in price and currency. When the prices came down, their position would be a difficult one. The only way by which India could steadily keep her credit position in the world after the war, was by devising steps from now to effect real savings in their finances.

AMERICA'S WONDERLAND OF AGRICULTURE

According to an article in a recent issue of the *American Magazine*, the Department of Agriculture's Research Centre in Beltsville, Maryland, is producing hens that lay coloured eggs; apples that defy the law of gravity; hogs that will not sunburn; bees with good dispositions; turkeys with nearly all white meat; chicks that are hatched with identifying marks; fowls with big drumsticks; dogs with special abilities and traits of character; pigs and hogs that have no fat; fuzz-free peaches; tearless onions; family-size water melons; and many other fantastic animals and plants.

Alfred Toombs, the writer of this article, states:

"New-model crops and animals like new-model airplanes, do not just grow. There must be research behind them. Beltsville can turn out just about any kind of plant or animal that one could dream of. New types of birds, beasts and bugs are built to order. In this wonderland of agriculture, scientists are remodelling nature to meet modern demands and needs".

"GROW MORE FOOD"

Speaking on production of food, Mr. Tyson in the Central Assembly said that as a result of the Grow More Food Campaign, for the kharif season alone 81 lakhs of acres of land not previously under food of crops had been brought under food crops, about half of this area by transfer from cotton, and three million more tons of food had been produced than in the previous year.

The provinces had now been asked to undertake all-out production and to ensure that no desirable scheme was omitted merely for lack of funds. The Central Government had offered financial assistance for approved schemes. The post of Director of Agricultural Production had been created and he would advise the provinces about their schemes.

THE BEVERIDGE PLAN

Briefly put, the idea behind the Beveridge plan is to secure for every family in England freedom from want, of guaranteeing them sufficient income to meet, at all times, their essential requirements. This minimum income is to be made available to all persons who are unemployed or disabled, or have reached the retiring age; and a specially interesting feature of the scheme is that by no means test will be imposed as a condition precedent to the grant of relief. All persons, rich or poor, whatever be their earnings, will be entitled to this income on becoming unemployed, or falling ill or reaching the retiring age; and the relief granted will be uniform for all persons. The basis on which this grand scheme of guaranteeing a minimum income to all persons is to be worked is a combination of self-help and State assistance. There is no doubt that this scheme will mark a significant step forward in the establishment of social security in England.

LECTURES FOR LABOUR OFFICERS

The Calcutta University Senate have approved a scheme (already in operation on the proposal of the Indian Jute Mills Association who donated Rs. 4,600 to meet the necessary expenses) for instituting a course of lectures on social work for the benefit of labour officers to be engaged by industrial concerns. If the scheme worked satisfactorily, it was proposed to introduce a diploma course as in Bombay and some universities of Europe. One of the advantages of the scheme was that the boys who were attending these lectures were already engaged in industrial concerns or had been promised employment in such establishments.

LABOUR IN AIRCRAFT FACTORIES

The Ministry of Aircraft Production has appointed a board under the chairmanship of Sir Charles Bruce Gardner to investigate and advise the department upon measures necessary to effect more economical use of man-power and woman-power in aircraft factories.

FOOD POSITION

Commenting on Mr. Amery's statement on the food position in India, Mr. Sorensen, M.P., said: "Mr. Amery's reply seems inconsistent. If there is no famine or danger of famine, why should Government arrange for importation of foodstuffs? If there is hoarding, one would like to know what action the Government of India are taking to meet this situation. It seems imperative that control of prices should be instituted and export of foodstuffs prohibited or restricted in order to secure stores against the possible contingency.

"The situation will not be helped by unworthy insinuations against the Congress; on the contrary, every endeavour should be made to co-operate with all political elements, including the Congress, to survey and meet the actual or potential human peril. The International Red Cross food relief committee should recognise the need for extending its scope beyond Europe."

THE SCHEDULED CASTES

A decision is reported to have been reached to declare the Scheduled Castes a Minority for the purpose of recruitment to Government services other than the Central Services, such as the Indian Civil Service. A definite quota will be allotted to the Scheduled Castes for the purposes of recruitment to Government employ, both under the Central and Provincial Governments. The question of allotting a percentage in the Central Services is now engaging the attention of the authorities.

PAPER FOR CIVILIAN NEEDS

The Government of India are prepared to release 90 per cent. of the total Indian paper production for civilian consumption, according to a communication received by the Indian Paper Mills Association, Calcutta, in reply to their representation to the Government some time ago, that in order to meet civilian requirements, specially for educational purposes, at least 50 per cent. of the total Indian paper production should be released to the public.

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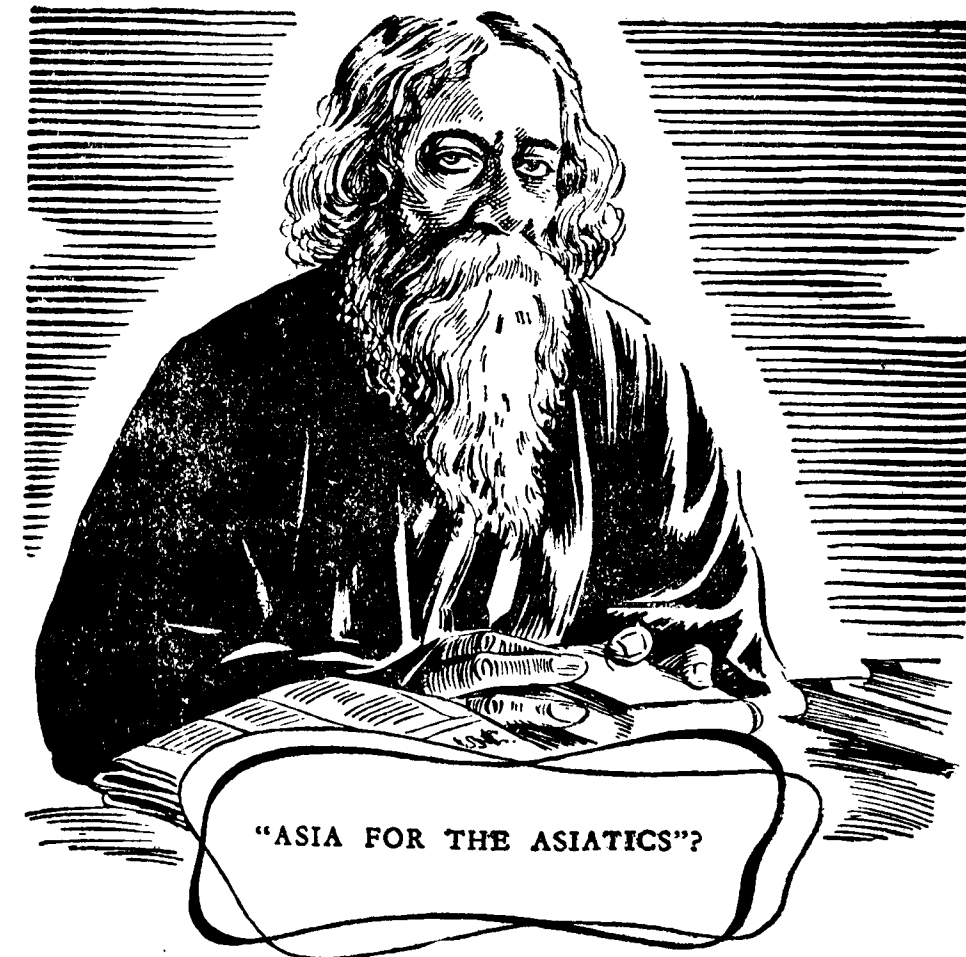
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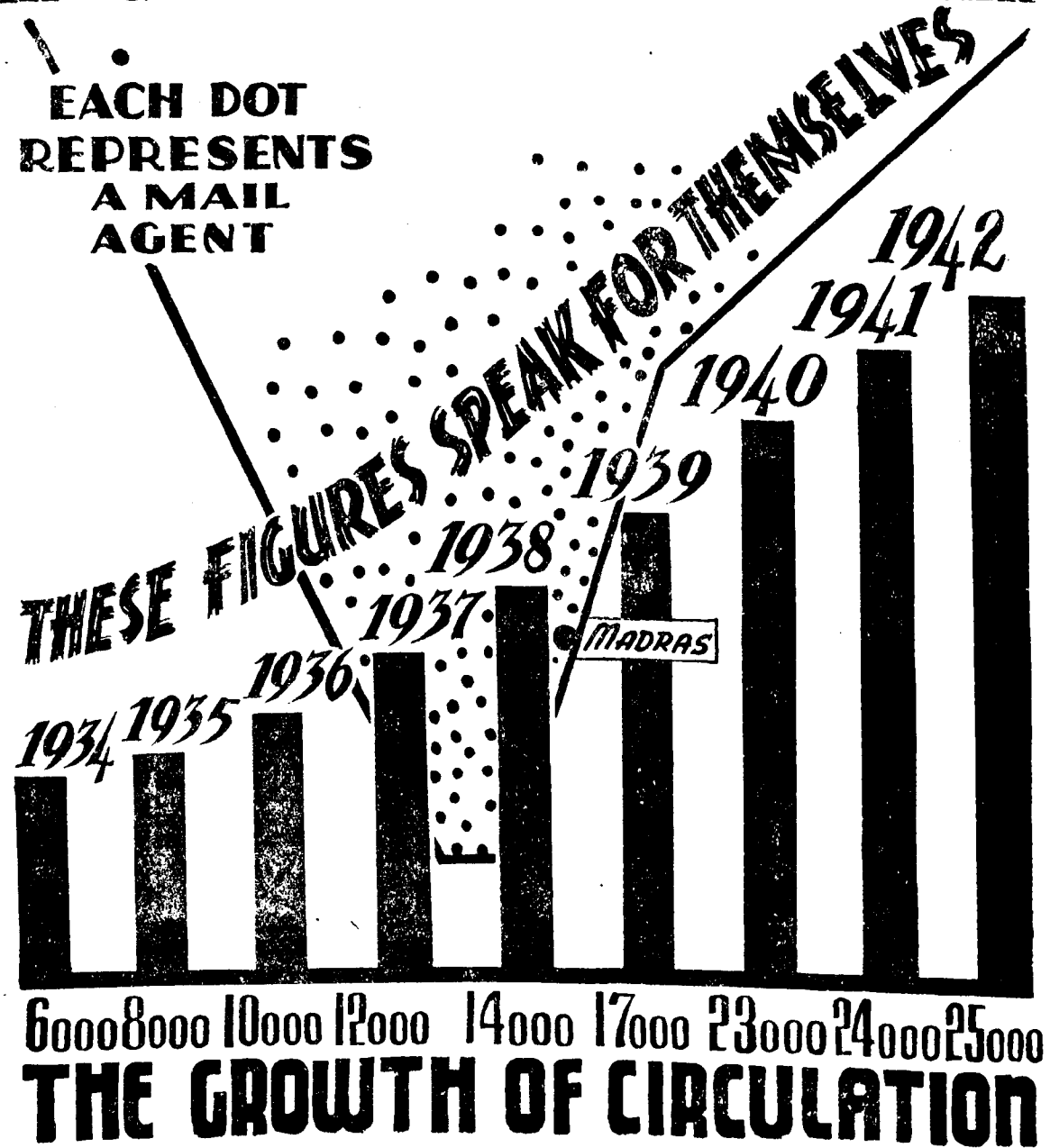
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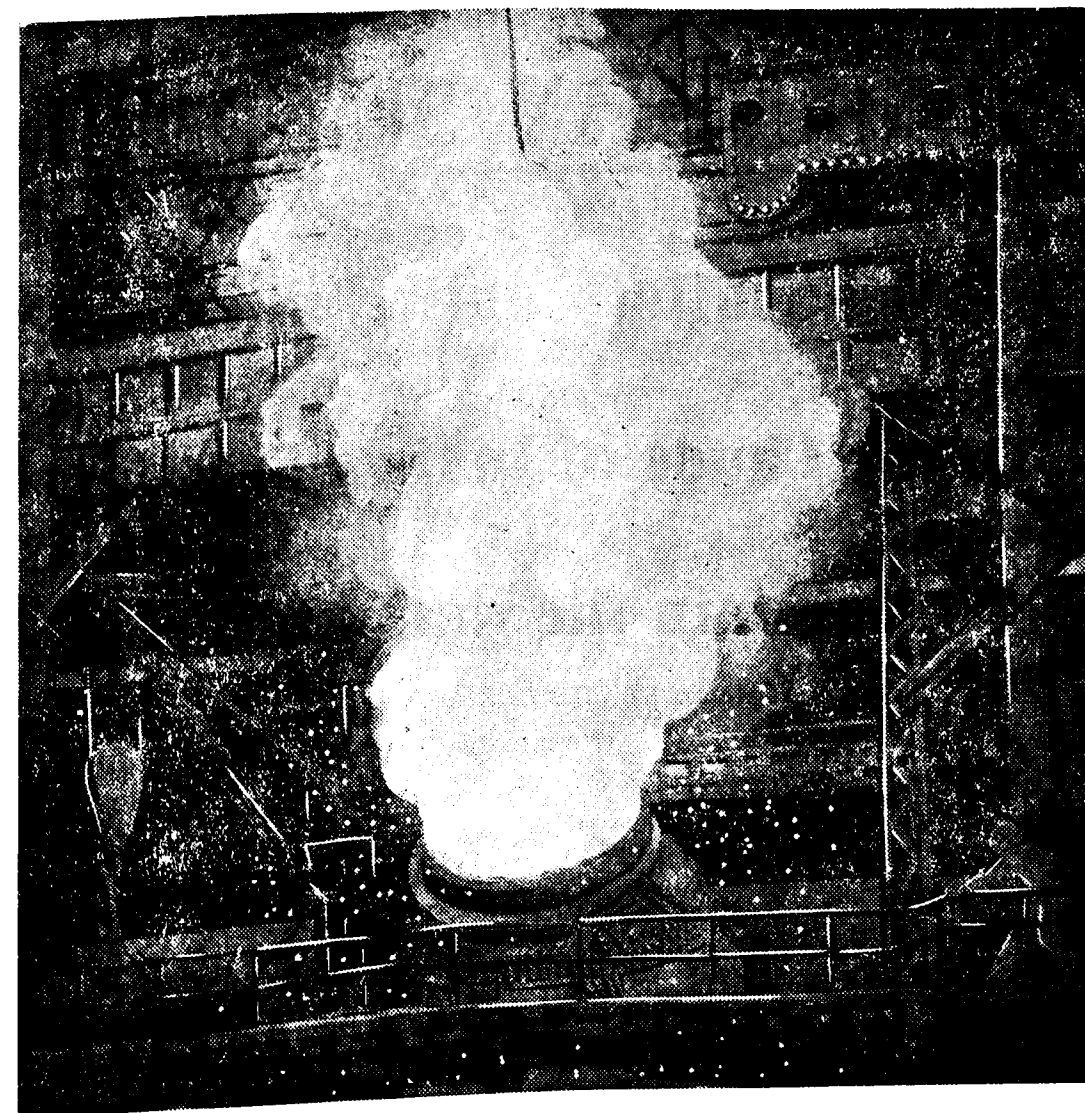
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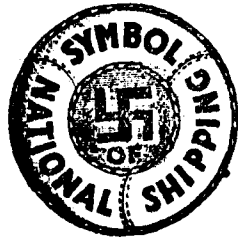
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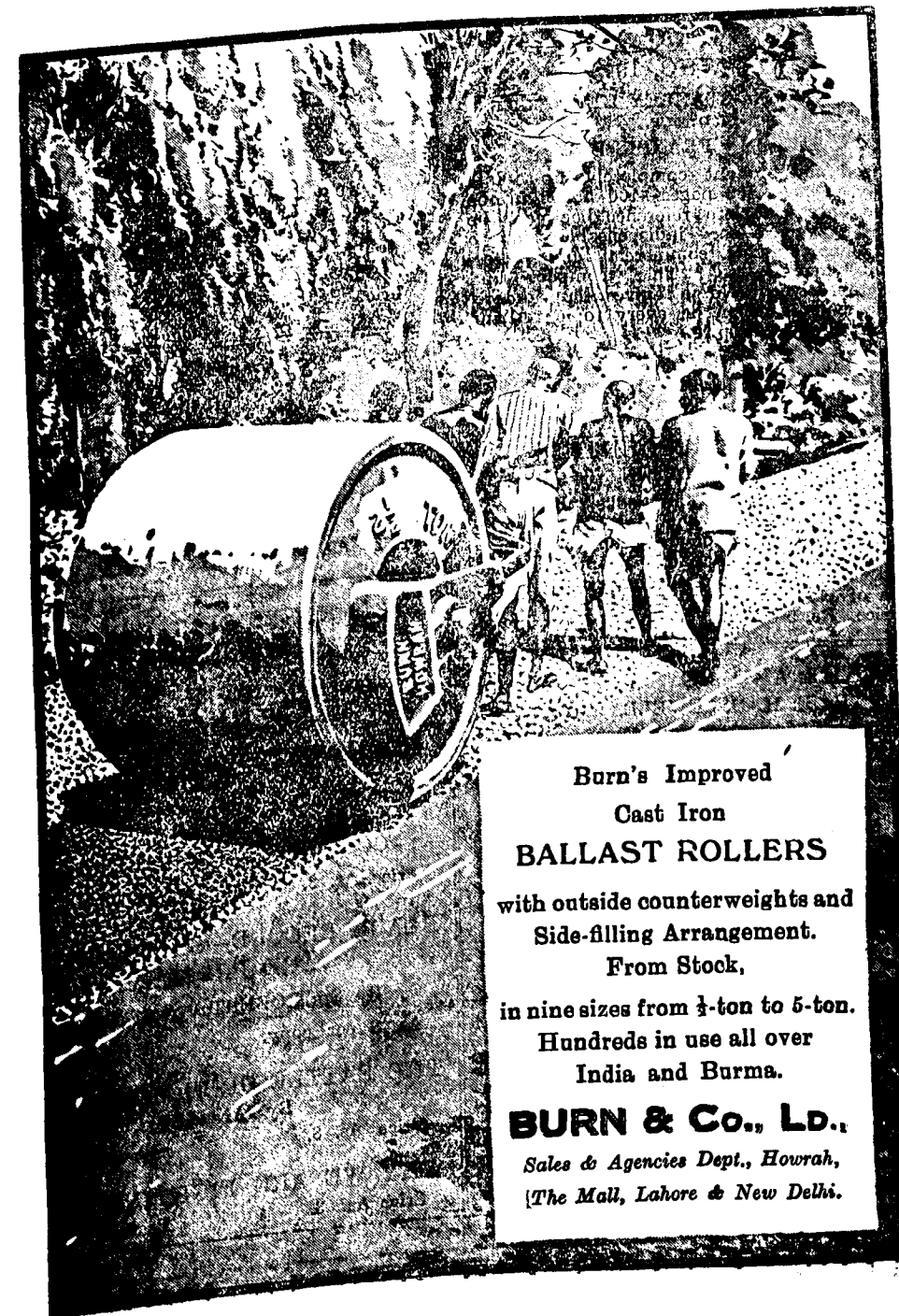
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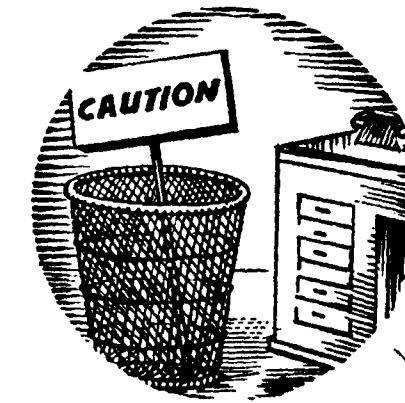
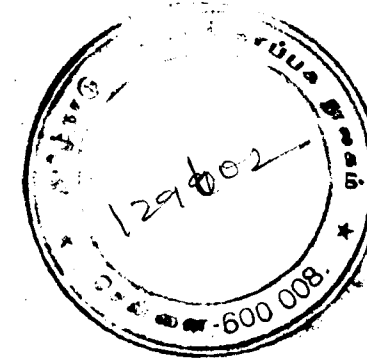
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In common with many other industries we find ourselves today in the anomalous position of appealing to our clients to use our products sparingly. Wehre we once encouraged the broadest use of paper in all walks of life, now we cannot stress too strongly the urgent need for rigid economy in this valuable commodity.

Use paper thoughtfully and thriftily, thereby avoiding the necessity for frequent fresh supplies. If your demands on us are rare, we can supply Government with more paper for the propagation of the war effort.

Be sparing with paper in Government and Military offices, in factories and mills, in commerce, in publishing and printing, and in your own home.

There is an acute paper shortage. Your attention is drawn to the following methods of avoiding waste of paper:

Use the smallest sheet of paper for any purpose that will do the job.
Write, type and print on both sides of the paper. For short letters, bills and accounts reduce the size of the paper.
Do not make copies except where absolutely necessary.
Always type single spacing.

In all cases (letters, commercial print-
ing jobs and pamphlets, etc.) curtail
margins.

Reduce the size of labels on manufac-
tured goods.

Use the back of the letters received for
the carbon copy of your replies.



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STORE YOUR EVERYDAY NECESSITIES?

REGD. M. 195.

OTTO DILBAHAR
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Perfume of Orient.
Few drops per-
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Re. 1-8. for 1/4 oz.
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It is not a
best hair
oil with 37
dients ben-
to hair and

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The best hair dresser.

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A hair oil.

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"KAMINIA" TOILET SOAPS.

Kaminia Sandal Soap.

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Keep skin smooth and fresh throughout day.

Re. 1-8 a box of 8 cakes. V. P. charges extra.

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Ask for catalogue and all above samples against As. 8 in stamps.

Sole Agents: -ANGLO-INDIAN DRUG & CHEMICAL Co.,

285, JUMMA-MUSJID, BOMBAY

Dec. '43.