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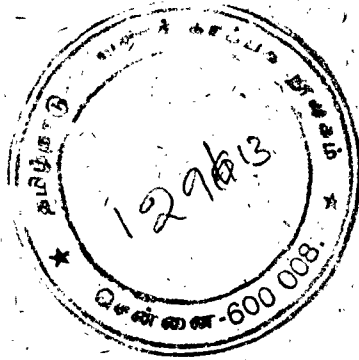
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 44]

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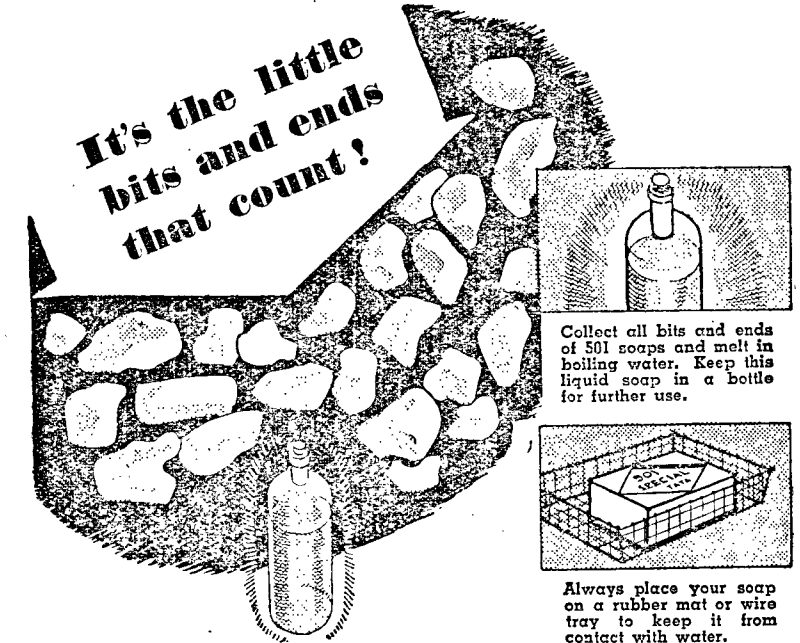
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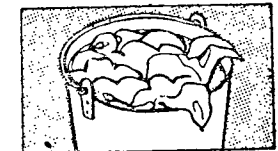
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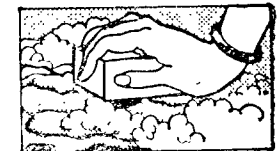
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 44.]

JULY 1943

[No. 7.]

INDIA IN THE NEW WORLD ORDER

BY

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

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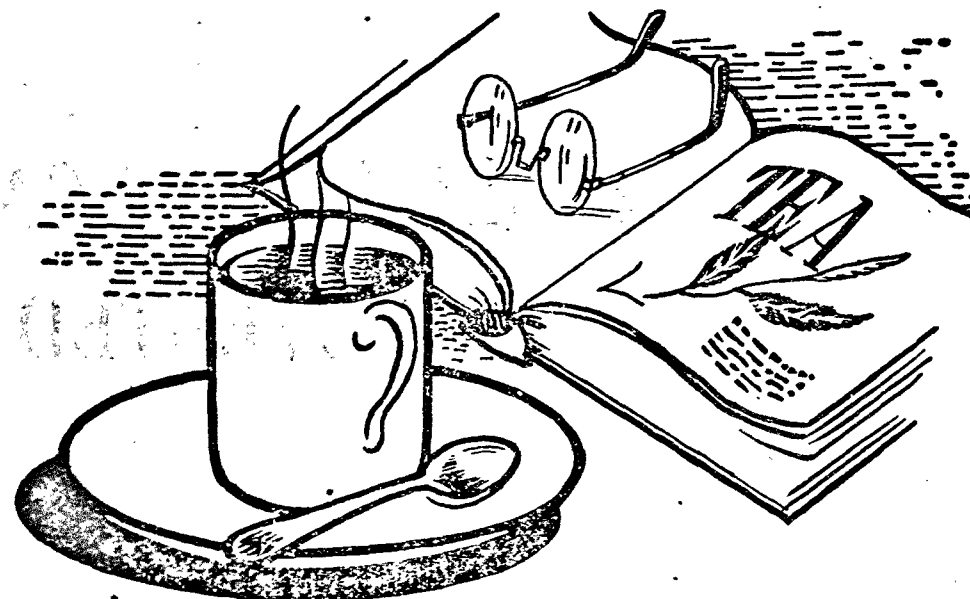
NOT long ago, that very acute and talented political thinker, Lionel Curtis, whose appearances in print have coincided singularly with new developments of policy, now in South Africa, now in India and now somewhere else has, in two pamphlets entitled "Decision" and "Action", raised questions which, in his opinion, will have to be faced if the world is to be saved from the periodic recurrence of world wars. His proposal, in short, is the union, firstly, of Great Britain with her own dominions for purposes of defence and the constitution of a new legislative body vested with the framing of a joint Foreign policy, a joint Defence policy and, a common budget for defence purposes. Such a legislature will be supplemented by a joint executive body for Defence questions and will be responsible for framing estimates and exercising sufficient authority to make Defence and Security a first charge on the individual State's revenue, the various national Governments dealing only with local questions. Mr. Curtis foresees, though not within his lifetime, a later union of America with Great Britain so re-constituted, a shifting of populations and a shifting of the centre of gravity in the matter of training and work in order to prevent war and to achieve the ends of peace.

Similar attempts by Mr. Streit and others are pointers to show that the minds of men are testing the foundations of existing societies and Governments and trying to discover a new "way out" from

the maze of hesitations, perplexities and dangers which are the common features of the life of to-day.

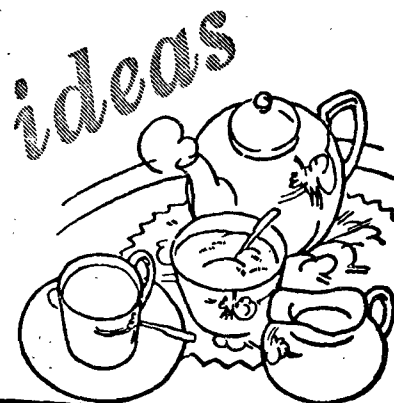
Mr. Radhakrishna Khanna, in a forcibly written book entitled "India in the New World Order" (Minerva Bookshop, Lahore), is mainly concerned with the internal problems appertaining to India, but he takes the line that all recent Indian thinkers and political bodies, including the Indian National Congress, have erred in so far as they have derived their inspiration from the fundamental conception that scientific progress and large-scale production are the true sources of the wealth of the world. He contests the position that the mal-adjustments of to-day are due to bad distribution and his thesis is that the machinery of production itself is wrongly designed. He argues that the emergence of multimillionaires like Ford and Nuffield divides nations into two camps; and insists with emphasis on the co-existence of love of liberty amongst the poor with the love of money and luxury and sloth among the rich. The author is a close student of Plato's Republic and takes for granted that the primary condition for the establishment of "democracy" as ordinarily understood is that some persons would be extravagantly rich and some desperately poor. Historically, the author may be justified but one may venture to doubt whether such a contrast is innate in the nature of things.

Proceeding from this position and arguing from the example of the French Revolution and the conditions in Russia,



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Italy and Germany before the war, he posits that the freedom established by the suppression of oligarchy is only a prelude to the establishment of the despotism of a dictator. He is an unsparing critic of the economy of Soviet Russia exemplified in the rapid industrialisation of the country and the socialising of the village. He is not impressed by the figures of production, or industry but says that the condition of plenty or even of super-abundance which is now being created in Russia already exists in many capitalistic countries, the economy of which has failed to diffuse general prosperity among the masses. In the author's words, Capitalism, Socialism and Fascism are the children of the same parent. Our aim should be to cast off Industrialism.

With this background of doctrine, the author analyses the processes of Indian agriculture and attacks modern schemes for replacing the plough with the steam tractor and the scythes with mechanical labour. His contention is that such modifications will not really tend to improve the condition of the peasant where there is no shortage of labour. In other words, farming by mechanical means is said to be an improvement on human labour only where labour is scarce and the produce of farming is raised to sell the same at competitive prices. He would therefore content himself with the improvements of the ordinary tools of a farm labourer or the facilitation of the irrigation of small plots of land. He asserts that it is not the deficiency of Indian agriculturists in the art of cultivation but rack-renting and excessive taxation that are responsible for the present plight of the country. He pleads strongly for a system of taxation only of that portion of the produce of the soil which goes to the market for sale. No wonder, therefore, that the author criticises the larger irrigation works as intended to increase and facilitate exports of food-grains and raw materials like wheat, cotton and oil-seeds to other countries.

Mr. Khanna likens the efforts made by various Commissions and Enquiries that have been set up in India to the procedure of the Chinese officials who, in order to improve the size of the eggs

laid by a hen in a peasant's farm, started a research office in the peasant's house with a number of clerks and menials and jostled the peasant and the poultry out of the farm when they were busy issuing reports and delivering official lectures on how hens should be educated to lay bigger eggs.

Holding such views, the author is highly critical of the present tendency to plan for the growth of the commercial and industrial wealth of India. He refers in detail to the suppression of Asiatic industry by the Dutch and the British East India Company; and relying upon the oft-quoted words of Mr. Wilson on British tariffs, he goes to the extent of asserting that there can be no countries exclusively devoting themselves to manufacturing and commercial enterprises which would be consistent with a healthy and natural development of human society. He prefers the production of food to the occupations of manufacturers, and merchants and professional entertainers. Although his contentions are over-emphasised, it is in these chapters relating to trade and manufactures that the author is most effective. He cites Engels who says that "Foreign industry rapidly developing, stares production of old manufacturing countries in the face everywhere, not only in the protected but also in neutral markets. While the productive power increases in a geometric ratio, the extension of markets proceeds at best in an arithmetic ratio. The cycle of stagnation, prosperity, over-production, and crises, ever recurrent since the beginning of mechanical industry, lead to over-work for some, enforced idleness for others and poverty, over-crowding and immorality for the entire working population". Mr. Khanna has some hard words to utter regarding the manipulation of rates of exchange which led to so many crises before the present war.

So far does the author go along his particular line of thought that he condemns the division of labour in manufactures as destroying the mental faculties of workers and he definitely avers that anything done to suppress or curtail foreign manufactures and trade will tend to

strengthen and purify English life as it will give English workers impetus and direction towards agricultural occupations and not towards catering for a bloated export trade. He is not a believer in large-scale machinery and industry or the extensive use of mechanical means of transport. He is a wholesale critic of trusts as against small industries and, in truth, he can hardly take any other line as he is convinced that the multiplication of conveniences and luxuries by mechanical means and their cheap production by means of great organisations will not provide conveniences and comforts to the largest number of inhabitants. He goes on further to elaborate his argument by the assertion that there are not perhaps any manufactures or industries with the exception of large iron works, cement works and some other heavy industries in which the exclusive employment of human labour in preference to machinery would not be advantageous. As a corollary to these series of propositions, the author is prepared to maintain that India's credit in the London market exists mainly to facilitate export of capital from India and, in his own language, the sooner India's credit in the London market is ruined, the better would it be for the prosperity of India.

We have, in this brief analysis, sought to expound the points of view embodied in the book. Real wealth, according to the author, consists in corn and cattle and the stimulation of small handicrafts and industries and not in colossal workshops and storehouses. The remedy is to reject the industrial system as utterly unsuitable to form a basis for a place in the new world order. Thus alone, does the author think, we shall be saved from the anarchy of Socialism, Communism or some other form of ruthless dictatorship that must follow in the wake of the wholesale development of large-scale industries in any country.

Despite the undeniable fact that there are many useful points made by him and despite the service that he has done to the country by pointing to the other side of the medal, it is difficult to agree with his analysis or his programme. There are some amongst us who are fully

aware of the evils of exaggerated commercialism and of manipulated tariffs and exchanges and of the factory system that has led to slums, overcrowding and multiform misery; but we are also fully conscious that in the world as it is being transformed to-day, with the shortening of distances through a transformed system of transport and communications and of the diffusion of new and organised scientific processes, we cannot halt where we are. It is impossible to revive the village community as it was in the time of Asoka or the village artisan who was responsible for the temples and the religious and secular sculpture of ancient and mediæval India. Those who think as we do contemplate a reconciliation of the two systems. They foresee a widely diffused State control and direction of the main productive elements and factors, the organised and equitable distribution of food, clothing and shelter, the non-monopolistic utilisation of light and heat and air and transport and cheap power for the benefit of the largest number so as to avoid all selfishly grasping and unsocial tendencies. We should prefer to work for the emergence of a civilisation where the agricultural worker will not be regarded as backward or be lacking in the amenities of urban life; where there will be no overgrown parasitic millionaires and trusts on the other hand and where there will be a properly devised distribution of wealth. To achieve this result requires not a harking back to the past on sentimental or emotional grounds, but a resolute facing of the future with a knowledge and appreciation of the inescapable developments that are taking place under our eyes in the ideals of Government and the handling of economic, agricultural, industrial and financial problems. Such a task is necessarily inconsistent with the desire to produce or perpetuate the present capitalistic system. The city beautiful and the village beautiful of the future must be largely the creation of a remodelled State with a new outlook. We need leaders who will create that new world so that, in the language of the poet, joy may be "in the widest commonalty spread". Call it Communism if you like, call it Socialism if you choose, but the civilisation-to-be will increasingly depend for its

maintenance upon an ever watchful State organisation. But in order that the efforts of the State might lead to good results, it is also manifest that education and public opinion should so advance that true equality, not of a levelling or deadening kind but an equality of far-flung opportunities should be afforded to the maximum number and a minimum of aliment and education and comfort assured to men and women, high and low, in village and town.

So considered, this book can be best regarded as a whip to spur us into active thinking. Such flagellation, even if somewhat indiscriminate, is perhaps better than blissful and ignorant contentment or a refusal to see whither the present system of life and the present civilisation

will lead humanity if some of their destructive tendencies are not curbed or eliminated.

One realises that there is a unity of thought underlying the treatment of the several subjects handled in it. This treatise may be said, in fact, to represent a particular aspect of the world-wide manifestation of anxiety for the future and for the rebuilding of a new world-order of which we find traces everywhere.

In so far as he has drawn attention to certain undesirable aspects of modern life and industrial growth, the author has done a real service. He is to be congratulated on a well-documented and thoughtful presentation of a special point of view.

ESSENTIALS OF SUCCESSFUL WARFARE

BY

DR. GANESH PRASHAD, M.A., Ph.D. (LOND.)

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THE last war was positional, this war is mobile. How was this change possible? Did it emanate from the brain of a general of genius? No. Napoleon or Wellington, Ludenbergh or Haig could not possibly dream of introducing the modern blitz technique in the wars they fought. Why could they not do so? The simple reason is that they did not possess the necessary means. A general of genius can at best adopt methods of fighting to the new weapons and human material at his disposal. He cannot, for example, transform a rifle unit into a tank unit, or make a rifle unit do the job of a tank unit and *vice versa*. A Wells will certainly be a dismal failure at the battle, front or in the General Staff. It, therefore, follows that the instruments of warfare determine the strategy and tactics of war. Modern mobility demands mobile weapons of warfare, an abundance of aeroplanes, tanks and moto-mechanised units. Without these, the advance from positional to mobile warfare could not be possible.

Can any and every country arm its forces with these mobile and deadly weapons? Mussolini failed to send a first-rate modern army to Lybia much as he would have wished to do so. For an industrially backward country cannot lavishly supply modern equipment to the front. Scarcity of heavy industry has been the greatest handicap with the Duce. Hence the pre-condition for launching a blitz attack or for defending against such onslaught is a technically advanced rear. In other words, the mode of production obtainable in a country is, in the last resort, responsible for the character of its army and its method of fighting. Technical advance at the factory-front makes possible mechanisation of army and mobility of warfare; technical backwardness means ill-equipped army and out-of-date method of fighting. This is the meaning of the phrase "factory or home-front is as important as the battle-front."

This partially explains the fall of France and the early reverses of the British forces in this war. At the beginning

of the last war England and France were less advanced in the technique of production than Germany. Only a shake-up, the imperial possessions and Amercian help could save the situation. By the beginning of this war this disparity in industrial technique had increased. It found its reflection at the battle-front; German army was up-to-date, the French army was based on the 1916 model and the British on the 1917-18 one. Naturally the Allied forces could not withstand the attack of the German panzer divisions, probably the majority of their High Command did not even think of the feasibility, or at least success, of such attack. The absoluteness of weapons, of method of fighting and even of ideas of the Brass Hats were accountable for the Narvik, Dunkirk, Greece, Crete and Lybia (1940-41.) British Empire could be saved only by permitting it a second place in the Anglo-American Coalition and by the Anglo-Soviet Alliance, the former making it economically dependent on the Wall Street and the latter forcing it to rely militarily on its traditional enemy, the Soviet Union and its Red Army. Now, however, the initial handicap in weapons has been considerably made good by the supplies from technically advanced American factories. Therefore only Russia, Germany and the U.S.A., the three industrially advanced countries, can produce modern armies and fight a modern war.

This is not sufficient. Mere possession of modern arms will not create a modern fighting army. There must be human material which can handle these weapons. Can any one and every one handle a modern machine without an adequate training? No. A Gurkha rifleman, for instance, cannot become a tank driver overnight. Only those who have some elementary knowledge of working of modern machines are able to use a war machine, that is, only a machine-minded citizen is competent to adopt himself to the conditions of mechanised warfare. A civilian technician can easily act as a war technician at the battle-front. One who has gone through the advanced technique of production at home can adjust himself to the advanced method of warfare. Hence only the population of an industrially

advanced country can man a modern army. Russia, where a scientific invention is given greater prominence in newspapers than a speech of a state official and where man attempts to become master of machine, Germany and America alone are capable of sending large number of modern troops to the front. Mussolini or Wavell cannot recruit Italian or Indian peasants for tank or moto-mechanised units. A modern soldier is, therefore, produced in factories and not in training centres. An advanced mode of production will automatically bring up advanced human material for fighting.

Not only this. Even field regulations and training of armies are conditioned by the method of production obtainable in the rear. The old technique of production is largely responsible for the out-of-date method of training of British infantry. British industries did not make any substantial progress since the late Victorian period. Since then British capitalism has become parasitic, it has been thriving on its colonial investments. This had its repercussions on army training. Whereas modern warfare requires training in mobility, British infantry is trained on the lines suitable to the Crimean War period. Modern warfare demands initiative to be given to lower ranks and training in crawling, running or lying down; the British infantry leaves no initiative to lower units and emphasises on movement of walking pace or quick steps and straight lines. The mentality of the Colonel Blimps is hardened; he probably values the lessons of the Waziristan campaigns more than those of the Western European, Russian or Chinese War. In the absence of modern weapons, stereotyped ideas are inevitable. Therefore as the weapons are, so will be the training of soldiers.

There is another important question. Can any country regardless of its form of government and society prepare for a modern war? No. Modern War is a total war; it demands mobilisation of all national resources. This means that those who wield the state power either must have an ungrudging support of the whole population or must temporarily incapacitate

the citizen from questioning the existing order of things. Class conscious workers of a modern capitalist democracy will not meekly submit to the orders of their masters and their government. Arming such population or establishing war economy under such conditions is a dangerous, rather suicidal adventure: it is an almost sure road to civil war. For trade union and democratic rights may be used by the underdog to overthrow the rule of capitalists rather than for mobilising the people for national defence or expansion. The fear of workers' revolt, the memories of the Paris Commune and of the Popular Front, were the nightmares for French rulers. They welcomed the rule of German fascism rather than the likelihood of a civil strife. Somerset Maugham informs us that the French Generals at the Maginot line explained the absence of tanks at the front because of their greater necessity at Paris for putting down the possible revolt of workers. Class interests were more important than national interests. The experiences of British and American rulers during the pre-Anglo-Soviet Alliance period were to justify the trepidation of French capitalists. Even the threat of invasion and the bombing of civilian population did not bring unqualified obedience to the State. Fascist methods—squeezing of small industry by big industry, curtailing the right to strike, banning the *Daily Worker* and the *Week* and imprisoning some militant shop Stewards—had to be enforced in order to carry on war and its preparation. In America war mobilisation was not so imminent, yet Earl Browder was arrested and some strikes were severely dealt with. The Anglo-Soviet Alliance has, however, eased the situation considerably in the English-speaking countries. Thus iron rule of the fascist model can alone enable the ruling classes of capitalist countries to make war preparations. The humdrum of democratic institutions is to be dispensed with before any serious scheme of defence or attack is launched.

But even a fascist dictatorship is not capable of durable obedience from citizens. True, the regimentation of ideas, the

police rule and constant appeal to the chauvinistic instinct of the population has given stability to fascist rule in Germany, Italy and Japan. But this can and will continue only so long as there is no military disaster. Serious military reverses will end the fascist regime, it will fall like a house of cards. For the urge for freedom, for democracy and for ending the class domination of the capitalist masters cannot long be suppressed. Workers, peasants and intellectuals are bound to rise against the existing order. The reports from Europe afford sufficient proof of this tendency. Hence only a socialist country or a country waging a just war of national emancipation can arm its citizens and continue a long war even after military reverses without any apprehension of civil war. A socialist country can do so because it has done away with exploitation, hunger and illiteracy; a country defending its independent existence can do so because it is fighting a just war. The morale of armies and civilians is unbreakable. The heroic defence of Leningrad, Moscow and Stalingrad and the struggle of the Chinese people are important in this context.

Germany could arm itself and create modern army only because of its armament factories and fascist rule. Russia prepared to meet the onslaught of the greatest military machine that the world has yet seen as it possessed heavy industries and a socialist state. It was just the absence of these factors that brought about the collapse of France and ever greater dependence of Britain on America and the U.S.S.R. But the fascist slavery cannot withstand long war and military reverses. Only a socialist country, like the U.S.S.R., or a country struggling for its national existence, like China, can succeed in combating an enemy even at a heavy cost. Hence the weapons used at the front, the nature of warfare, the type of soldier and the method of training are determined by the mode of production prevalent in a country. The social relationship existing in a country determines its war preparedness and the morale of its population and forces.

EDUCATION IN SOVIET RUSSIA

BY "AN INDIAN MARXIST"

"An illiterate people cannot build the Communist State"—Lenin.

IN no other country is so much done for the welfare and happiness of children, as in Soviet Russia. Every child in the Soviet Union begins its life in the public nursery for infants called *Creche*. This nursery infant school gives all its time to self-expression of the child. Soviet educationists believe that every child in the Union must be provided with beauty, with the opportunities for creative self-expression through every known form of human activity. While the mother goes to work, every baby is looked after with the utmost care, in the numerous *Creches* established by the State; the Soviet Government does not want their women to be burdened with the care of the babies, while they are at work. This is the period of pre-school education.

From this period of pre-school education, the child goes to the primary school and spends four years in the midst of formative influences. Children play with educative toys which relate to some aspect of adult activity around them; they are told stories *all of which must be true to life*. "Jack the Giant Killer", "Alladin and His Wonderful Lamp", have no place in this curriculum. When the child begins its formal schooling at 8, the entire curriculum is based on the ordinary economic and social activities of the people.

At about 12, the child goes on to the secondary school where specialisation begins either at 15 or at 18. Those who do not stay in the secondary school till 18 must either go to the factory-apprentice school or the technicum for specialised training. Education is compulsory for all from 8 to 18, whether at the secondary school or at the various technicums. Those who finish the secondary school or the course at technicums, go on either to the university or to higher technical institutes. Parallel with the higher institutes are academies for training directors and managers for national economy (two or three years' course), institutes for training teachers, higher education institutes, and great research institutes in almost every conceivable branch of education.

And all this education is free—free from the *Creche* until the man or woman stops from learning. It is free in the universities, free in all institutes and research academies, free in music, art and dramatic academies, free in workers' evening institutes, and free in all types of schools. It is as free for the illiterate and semi-literate peasant of worker, as for the factory worker who wishes to develop his gift for art or science in the university. It is a completely free and subsidised education, not comparable to any system (scholarship) in any other country. The systems in other countries, with the aid of scholarships or endowments, only enable a small percentage of population to benefit by higher education.

Another striking feature of the Soviet educational system is its classless character. All children go to the same kind of school, building and equipment. Equality of sexes expresses itself in co-education which is the universal rule. Sex equality means equal pay for men and women teachers, equal pay for equal work and equality of opportunity. Women occupy educational positions of great responsibility with men working loyally under them. No races in the Soviet Union are considered subject races, and there is no discrimination in education. In all the 160 nationalities inhabiting the Union, there are now no children between the ages of 8 and 18 who are not receiving the education due to them.

There are no examinations in Soviet schools and universities. There are tests, only to test knowledge. It is a test of the degree of knowledge and skill attained by the student. These tests are not the sole and only measurement of the student's abilities; they have to be supplemented by a record of his progress throughout the year. The questions are set according to each individual pupil's ability, the clever being tested more severely than the ordinary; the tests are only meant to discover the stage reached by the pupil. Great attention is paid to the health, and well-being of the pupil during the

examination so as to prevent the nervous strain on the pupil. It is impressed on the pupil and the parent, that the tests are a weapon in the struggle for improved work and for acquisition of exact knowledge essential to the building up of a socialist state.

School is not a mere educational body, but has a definite social purpose. There must be close connection between the life in school and the life outside and the life at home. Since all are striving for the same socialistic ideal, there cannot be any contradiction between the life at school and life outside or at home. Every school has a Parents' Council which discusses periodically the problem connected with the school, with the staff of teachers and psychologists. Active help is given by the teachers who visit the parents every week and become friends and companions in the building up of the Soviet youth. Utmost harmony between the home and the school prevails. The Soviet child is helped on all fronts, home, school and the world outside, in a scheme of harmony and co-operation.

What is taught in school and university should be interdependent on the life and environment of the students studying therein; this is a cardinal principle of Soviet education. All persons living within the environs of a State shall not remain merely "people", merely a mob; they should be citizens, good citizens; they cannot be good citizens unless they are informed citizens, unless they have the habit of thinking of the life they are to lead. There must be a complete understanding of the relation between man and nature, between education in the school and the labour outside, so that there may not be any conflict between theory and practice. Both theory and practice are linked together. From the nursery infant's school to the highest academic and technical stages, this principle is kept in view and strictly followed. The social significance of the work is always brought about, and is always linked up with the economic and political life outside the school. Thus all children leaving the school or the university and entering different avenues of life, will all have learnt something of economics, industry and production generally. The following

testimony of the distinguished Dean of Canterbury, Very Rev. Dr. Hewellet Johnson, speaks volumes for the efficiency of Soviet educational system.

Russia views the common man with active sympathy. She does justice to the common man, she models her economic plans with primary regard for the common man, beginning her care for him when he is very young, nay, even before his birth, pensioning the mother two months before and two months after his arrival. Once a week, throughout his babyhood, he is taken to the doctor, and kept beneath the doctor's eye throughout his youth, indeed for the whole of his after-life. If he gets sick, he is treated free of charge, and paid his full wages whilst he is absent from work. Soviet Russia never throws the common man on the scrap heap. Since 1931, there has been no unemployment. Russia is the land where wages steadily rise, and prices steadily fall. The common man's standard of life advances progressively every year, and at 60, if he wishes it, he is honourably and adequately pensioned. Soviet Russia ceases to have common men; she has built up a brotherhood of men; and all nationalities within her Soviet Union are in this brotherhood of men; the privileges of the Russian boy or girl are available for the Uzbekistan boy or girl, the Bokhara boy or girl, or the Khorizman boy or girl. What Soviets do for boys they do for girls, of all races and of all nationalities within their border.

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Dismissal of Provincial Premiers in India

BY PRINCIPAL GURMUKH NIHAL SINGH

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I

THE enforced resignation of Mr. Fazl-ul-Huq from the Premiership of Bengal has once again brought to the fore-front the question of the exercise of the powers of dismissal vested in the Governor of an Indian Province by the Government of India Act, 1935.

In England and the self-governing dominions the position is perfectly clear. Despite the legal phraseology used in the Dominion Constitutional Acts—"shall hold office during his (i.e., the Governor-General or the Governor as the case may be) pleasure"—it is now fully established that the Prime Minister—and with him the Ministry—must continue in office (and no longer) so long as he enjoys the confidence of the legislature in the first instance and of the electorate in the last resort, irrespective of the personal like or dislike or the personal pleasure or otherwise of the titular head of the government. In India, however, the position has not yet crystallised itself fully and, therefore, needs careful and dispassionate examination.

II

The easy and the autocratic manner in which the Sind and the Bengal Governors have been able to get rid of the premiers while ostensibly enjoying the confidence of their respective legislatures has caused alarm and a new searching of hearts. It appears to me that this was made possible by the peculiar political conditions existing in these provinces.

Under the existing conditions in India dissolution of a provincial legislative assembly has been ruled out; and, it therefore falls upon the members of the assembly to safeguard the working of responsible government in the province and to resist all encroachments upon their rights and privileges. Uproar by outside individuals and bodies is of little avail if the Legislative Assembly endorses the irregular and unconstitutional actions of the Governor as has been done in Sind and may be repeated in Bengal.

The action of Sir Hugh Dow in dismissing Mr. Allah Bux for reasons which had nothing to do with the working of the Government, in Sind while continuing the other ministers in office was constitutionally improper and irregular. As a matter of fact, it appears that his whole conduct of affairs for a considerable length of time previously was not in accordance with the understanding that a Governor should not ordinarily interfere with the decisions of the Ministry in the normal, day to day working of the government, as was represented by Mr. Allah Bux to the Governor-General. But it was for the members of the Sind Legislative Assembly to lend their powerful support to Mr. Allah Bux to assert the rights of the Ministry against the Governor but the action taken by the Assembly puts the seal of approval upon the constitutional improprieties committed by the Governor and encourages him to persevere in his autocratic conduct of affairs. By the support that the Sind Legislative Assembly has given to Sir Ghulam Hussein Hidayatullah and the new ministry, it has ratified the dismissal of Mr. Allah Bux and exonerated Sir Hugh Dow. It has gone further and negated the policy of Mr. Allah Bux of opposing the Pakistan solution of the Indian problem by passing the Pakistan resolution. It appears to me that the Sind politicians for personal, communal or party gains have sacrificed the larger interests of the province and have certainly jeopardised the development of responsible government in the province and the country.

III

The Congress governments in the provinces in which they had functioned had been able to establish the practice that the Governor should ordinarily leave the functioning of the government to his ministers. This they were able to do because of their unqualified support by the provincial legislative assemblies. In this connection it is well to remember, that the Governors in the Congress majority provinces had tried the experiment of

what came to be known as "Interim" or minority ministries. They had also refused to give guarantees that they shall not exercise their special powers as that was regarded by them as contrary to the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935. It was only because the British Government did not wish to establish that even the provincial part of the 1935 Act was unworkable that the Governor-General gave the general assurance which enabled the Congress to accept office in seven Indian provinces. However, it should be noted that even in the Congress governed provinces the position of the Governor was not at par with that of a Dominion Governor. Admittedly they had the right to exercise special powers in other than "ordinary" circumstances. The Congress ministers themselves, for national reasons, had requested the Governors to freely exercise their special power of protecting the legitimate rights and interests of the minorities. The Secretaries to Government continued to have direct access to the Governors and to give them whatever information they might have required over the heads of their ministers. The only reason why the Governors desisted from exercising their special powers ordinarily was the existence of strong, well-organised majorities behind the Congress governments and the impossibility of forming alternative governments. And ultimately, when Imperial interests required it, the Governors assumed complete control of the governments in all those provinces where the Congress had a majority in the provincial legislatures—thus proving conclusively that the position of an Indian Governor is very different from that of a Governor or Governor-General in the Dominions.

It is thus clear that so long as section 93 remains and the secretaries continue to have direct approach to the Governor over the heads of the ministers and the special powers of the Governors are not at least neutralised by assurances that they shall not be exercised in practice it is futile to expect that ministries can function independently. During the war the position has been made very much

more difficult by the wide powers conferred on the Government of India under the 1939 Amendment to the Government of India Act, 1935.

Under the circumstances ministries can maintain their restricted independence against the Governor only if they have behind them the full support of a powerful, well-organised and stable majority. A great deal, therefore, depends upon members of the provincial legislatures. If they can resist personal and communal ambitions and combine to give consistent and complete support to the ministries of their choice then alone can the ministers succeed in checking the autocracy of their Governors. But if the members of the provincial legislatures change their affiliations to suit personal or communal ambitions as they appear to have done in Sind and appear in the process of doing in Bengal then the future of responsible government is really dark in this country. The Huq Ministry in Bengal had sacrificed Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukerjee who wanted to resist the autocracy of the Governor only to be forced out of office more ignominiously a little later. And if now the Bengal Legislature ratifies the action of the Governor in getting rid of the Huq Ministry, it will strengthen the hands of the Governor still further against itself.

It will thus be realised that the establishment of conventions necessary for the proper working of responsible government in Indian provinces depends upon the members of the provincial legislatures to a very great extent. They can in the last resort help to uncover the mask of constitutionality and force the Governors to declare that the constitutional machinery has failed and to assume powers directly.

The intentions of the British Government, as embodied in the Government of India Act, 1935, are clear. The British Parliament has kept the ultimate authority to protect British and Imperial interests in its own hands—and the Governor-General and Governors have complete powers to carry out the instructions issued from Whitehall.

BEATRICE WEBB

BY MRS. LAKSHMI N. MENON

BEATRICE WEBB has passed away at the age of 85. We owe a tribute to this "super-extraordinary" woman, as Shaw once put it, whose life-long and selfless devotion to public work and whose achievements in intellectual and political spheres, in themselves revolutionary but hardly discernible as such, will not only survive her mortal remains but will also play a very important part in the new social order.

The student of economics, the social worker and the political theorist owe a debt, much too great to be defined in a brief article, to the Webbs, and not less to Beatrice than to Sidney Webb. One associates them with authoritative works on Trade Unionism. The Co-operative Movement, Local Self-Government and with monographs and pamphlets on various subjects from Poor Law to public administration; one recalls also the 'Fabian Essays' (the Poor Law Commission) Minority Report agitation in the early years of this century, the foundation of the London School of Economics and of the *New Statesman* and also their characteristic theory of 'the inevitability of gradualness'. But let us also remember that at the age of 72 these eternal youths were touring extensively in Russia to collect data for their work 'Soviet Communism—A new civilisation?', a monumental work of over a thousand pages, published when they were 80. In the death of Beatrice Webb England and the world have lost one of the most outstanding and indefatigable social investigators of the last half a century and more.

Born in 1858 in a family noted for its wealth, political and business connections and intellectual interests, it is not surprising that Beatrice Potter, the last but one of a family of nine sisters (most of whom married distinguished husbands—Sir Stafford Cripps is one of her nephews—) should have been what she always was, 'a clever woman, quite free from any sort of sentimental veneration'. Both her parents and all her sisters were people with intellectual interests. And in a household which however wealthy was always frugally run, 'the only expenditure

unregulated and unrestricted by my mother,' she says in her autobiography, was the purchase or subscription for books, periodicals and newspapers. Thought was free and there was no censorship on discussions. . . . Any question which turned up in classical or modern literature, in law reports or technical journals, from the origin of species to the latest diplomatic despatch, from sexual perversion to the rate of exchange, would be freely and frankly discussed within the family circle.

The Potter family lived in a perpetual state of intellectual ferment, receiving and questioning and settling all contemporary hypotheses as to the duty and destiny of man. In Beatrice's own case the first fifteen years were spent "in seeking a creed by the light of which I could live the life I had to lead."

Like girls of her station then she never went to school or attended a university. Education was through the agency of governesses, English, French and German. But disagreeable tussles with mathematics and grammar would always end the attempt at regular school hours, till ill-health finally forced the abandonment of all formal education. Her mother did not like girls and the death of an only boy did not help to improve the understanding between the mother and her nine daughters. And her opinion of Beatrice written in her diary was, "Beatrice is the only one of my children who is below the average in intelligence". A lonely childhood starved for affection forced her to invent what she calls a device for self-culture. With her intellectual curiosity and concentrated purpose, and not having had any university education, she took to self-training. For guidance she was thrown back on "books, books and again books", and these she selected deliberately and with care so as to forge an instrument of discovery about human nature in society. Her early association and friendship with Herbert Spencer also proved of immense value to her. According to her, Spencer taught her to discern not the truth but the relevance of facts, a gift said to be rare in women, yet so indispensable for social investigators confronted with masses of data,—relevant and irrelevant.

Disappointed with the social life of the London season, its round of parties, dinners

and dances, and consequential insomnia, indigestion and ill-health, she decided to take the plunge as a social investigator in 1888 when she went as 'Miss Jones' to Bacup in East Lancashire to study the conditions of work among the Lancashire mill-hands. And she came back with the profound conviction that the only safeguard against *laissez faire* in industry will be in a strong local government with considerable power to check individual action and power to the workers to participate in the regulation of their own affairs. But this adventure gave her something more. It gave a decisive turn to her self-development.

"Everyday actual observation", she notes in her diary in 1884, "of men and things takes the place of accumulation of facts from books and boudoir trains of thought. Undoubtedly the Bacup trip was in the right direction. To profit by that kind of observation I must gain more knowledge of legal and commercial matters, understand the theory of government before I can appreciate deficiencies in practice. The time is now for a defined object towards which will all my energies must be bent."

The time-spirit offered her the opportunity for the achievement of this defined object. In 1887 she went to London to help her cousin Charles Booth in his great enquiry into conditions in London which was to act as a most potent impetus towards socialist thinking. In 1889 she offered to undertake the investigation into the sweating system and in order to make the results actual and convincing she determined to live for a space among the workers as one of them. And it was her report in this connection which brought her into the ken of her future husband and collaborator, Sidney Webb. Reviewing Charles Booth's "Life and Labour in London," he said, "The only contributor with any literary talent is Miss Beatrice Webb". At about the same time she read the newly published "Fabian Essays on Socialism". She read it from cover to cover and recommending it to a friend wrote: "By far the most significant and interesting essay is that by Sidney Webb". Much against the disapproval of friends and relations, but after her father's death, they married in 1892 and one of the greatest literary partnerships known to history began, and continued till her death last month.

Marriage did not make any change in her life or necessitate any deviation from her

self-appointed task. It began and remained a partnership. Both considered marriage a waste-paper basket of the emotions and therefore settled down to work and for over fifty years they astounded the world with volume after volume of their investigations into history and the contemporary world. In 41, Grosvenor Road, it was said, "Secretaries get in the soup, and blue books into the conversation. There is a general flavour of paper in the entrees and of red ink in the claret". While they lived on an income of £1,000 frugally, the expenditure on secretaries, books and papers went on unrestricted. Economics, public administration, co-operative movement, trade unionism, education, in fact all social and political problems became subjects of their enquiry and study. Visitors were questioned, admissions exacted in a manner unimaginably persuasive. They never argued. Arguments were replaced by facts. They only wished to persuade and the innocent who came for an argument invariably went away feeling the unavoidable effects and ineffable charm of "Webbism". Their intimate familiarity with the subjects of enquiry and personnel of institutions, the steady persistence with which information was acquired and facts were scientifically dealt with, and conclusions 'borne down' on the unwary, made their work superbly effective. While neither cared for praise or blame, or courted popularity, they saw to it that their opinions were slowly permeating the strata they wished to influence. There can be no better illustration of the Webbs' genius for effective propaganda and organisation than in the campaign for the popularisation of the ideas of her Minority Report of the Poor Law Commission on which Beatrice Webb was the most famous member. The whole question of destitution, its cause, nature and cure became, the one subject of discussion, the one topic of conversation among all classes and kinds of people. The 'Crusade', the official organ of this campaign, was ultimately replaced by the *New Statesman*. In announcing the aims of this new venture, they said:

We shall strive to face and examine social and political issues in the same spirit in which the chemist or the biologist faces and examines his test tubes or specimens.

This they have done, thoroughly and loyally, steadfastly and unflinchingly, and they have done more than any one else to 'redeem politics from guess work and give it an exact and scientific basis.' Of course all this does not mean that the two Webbs were very similar people. As much in appearance as in temperament they were certainly a good deal different. He is small and unassuming; and she was handsome, dominant and vital. In temperament they have been described as 'going the same road for the same end but from different motives' he, a believer in socialism more for economic than for moral reasons and she just the opposite. And it is well known how when her husband agreed to accept a peerage to help the Labour Government in the Lords she steadfastly refused to call herself or be called, Lady Passfield.

Beatrice Webb's attitude towards the extension of franchise to women underwent a transformation during the later part of her life. In the nineties she was opposed to it like some other eminent women of the time. In her book "The wages of men and women—should they be equal?" (1919), she showed herself a more thorough-going equalitarian than most of the feminists of her day. Said she:

Women no more constitute a class apart than do persons' of a particular creed or race. . . . The essential principle which should govern all systems of remuneration, whether in private industry or in public employment, in manual working as well as in brain working occupations, is that of clearly defined occupational or standard rates to be prescribed for all persons of like industrial grade. . . . There is no more reason for such occupational or standard rates being made to differ according to the workers' sex than according to their race, creed, height or weight.

It is nearly 25 years since this was enunciated and in England as well as in other countries except Russia it still remains an ideal to be realised.

In 1932 the Webbs, the well-known protagonists of the theory of the inevitability of gradualness, took a trip to Soviet Russia to study first hand the working of that revolutionary socialist state. Every communist knows the Webbs as Lenin and Krupashkaya had translated their "Trade Unionism" in their exile in Siberia. But that was long ago. When Beatrice was forced to go into a Russian hospital to recover from

some ailment her not unexpected remark was that it gave her a chance to study the working of the state medical system from inside! They had always believed somewhat in guiding the masses, in ordering their lives so that they may live well-ordered and economically useful lives even if not in freedom; and both of them believed in planned action, planned approach and coherent programmes. They found all these in the five-year plans of Russia. With the mental equipment of trained social investigators and with the complete intellectual disinterestedness of scientists they set to work and produced two monumental volumes on "Soviet Communism: A new Civilisation" at the age of eighty. It is not at all surprising that the Webbs were taken up with the socialist experiment in constructive work; socialist Russia with its planned programmes, egalitarian outlook and co-operative aims fascinated these veterans who had advocated these on all occasions. Last year Beatrice brought out a small pamphlet "The truth about Russia" because, she says,

we thought it desirable that all those who are sincere in their avowed intention of creating a new social order within their own country, designed to eliminate poverty in the midst of plenty. . . . should study the internal organisation of the U.S.S.R. so as to avoid its mistakes and learn from its successful experiments. . . . It will be desirable to study the bolder experiments practicable in the U.S.S.R. owing to the fact that the revolutionary government swept away the remnants of the old social order and therefore had a clear field for experiments, deliberately devised, to carry out their new living philosophy of scientific humanism.

In a characteristic phrase they described the quintessence of this new civilisation as "planned production for community consumption."

In a biography of the Webbs which Mary Agnes Hamilton wrote some years ago, she tells how Sidney Webb has said more than once that could he compound with the Deity he would gladly give up his one year of juniority in age in return for an assurance that when death comes to either, it may come to both. Doubtless, she too must have felt the same; for it is well known that the great partnership was not only in work but in love as well. Beatrice Webb has certainly been the more fortunate of the two in this respect.

THE ARAB CONQUEST OF SIND

BY MR. T. G. SUBRAMANYAM, M.A.

THE battle of Raor is important in Indian history as marking the Arab conquest of Sind and the beginning of the Muhammadan invasion which, eventually, resulted in the establishment of Muhammadan rule in India.

Many are the views regarding the identification of Raor referred to by the early Muhammadan historians. Haig places Raor in "Lower Sind", 80 miles from Brahmanabad and about 70 miles to the south-east of Haiderabad. Raverty locates Raor within ten miles of Brahmanabad. The identification referred to above does not agree with facts disclosed by the Muhammadan historians. Professor R. C. Majumdar in his book "The Arab Invasion of Sind" conclusively identifies Raor, with the modern town of Robri on the western bank of Indus, important even in the present day as commanding the railway bridge, which connects the island of Bukkar in the midstream and Sukkur on the right bank of the Indus. The battle of Raor took place between Muhammad-ibn-Kasim, representing the Muhammadan Caliphate, and Dahir, ruler of Sind.

The chief sources for the reconstruction of an account of the Arab raids into Sind are (a) Kitab Fatah-ul-Bulden, written by Al Baladhuri and (b) the Cachnama, a Persian translation of an old Arabic history of the conquest of Sind by the Arabs, translated about 1216 A.D. The Cachnama gives a detailed account of the conquest of Sind by the Arabs.

"Like the nose of the alligator, Sind is the most vulnerable part of India, being exposed to foreign attack. The back of the country is covered by the Himalayan chain and is therefore like the back of an alligator, impossible to assail. The head of the country and its forehead too are protected by the Hindukush and the Sulaiman ranges and are therefore practically unassailable. It is lower down, where the river Indus falls into the sea that there is no natural obstacle in the path of a foreign invader. The nose of India is doubtless approachable through a sandy desert country without much water, but to those who are accustomed to

traverse deserts on camels and mules, Sind is easily accessible and hence, it is, that it has frequently fallen a prey to foreign invaders in the history of Ancient India.* The two other States forming North-Western Frontier of India, higher up Sind were known as Zabul and Kabul, more precisely Zabulistan and Kabulistan. The Arab armies tried in vain to expand into Kabulistan and Zabulistan and being unsuccessful in that direction turned their armies against Sind through the Makran coast.

At the time of the Arab invasion Raja Dahir, son of Cach, was the ruler of Sind. He had his capital at Alor. The modern town of Rohri stands close by the ruins of Alor, on the banks of Sikkim, which the native historians called Mibram.

Raja Dahir was in possession of Multan and all Sind with perhaps the adjoining plains of the Indus, as far as the mountains of Kalabagh and also to those of Karman, on the west. The Rajput feudal system was then prevalent in Sind and the territory was portioned among Dahir's relatives.

The immediate cause of the Arab attack on Sind, which led to a permanent conquest later on, was the uncalled for attack on the Arab ship near the mouth of the Indus at Debal by the pirates. The ruler of Ceylon had despatched eight vessels filled with presents and envoys to secure the goodwill of Hajaj and the Caliph. These ships were plundered by the pirates at Debal. Debal or Diwal was a port on the Indus in the territory of Dahir. The identification of Debal had been a moot point with the historians. "It is strange that the site of a port, once so noted as Debal, should now be left to vague conjecture", says the historian. Native authorities seem decidedly in favour of identifying Debal with Thatta, while some historians make Debal lie between Thatta and Karachi. Elliot, however, definitely asserts, "But there can be no question that Debal was on or close to the sea coast, with which the distant inland city of Thatta is by no means correspondent. For my own part, I

* History of Mediæval Hindu India by C. V. Vaidya, Vol. I, p. 169.

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entertain little doubt that Karachi itself represents the site of Debal".* Debal was a port on the Indus in the territory of Dahir.

Hajaj nominally Governor of Iraq, but in fact, the ruler over all the country, demanded reparation from Dahir, ruler of Sind. Dahir declined compliance on the ground that he had no control over the pirates and declared his inability to restrain and repair the excess. Thereupon Hajaj earnestly sought the permission of the Khalif to attack Debal and to exact due vengeance from Dahir and his subjects. Hajaj promised to pay the Khalif double the cost of the expedition on a successful return and obtained permission to attack Dahir. He then sent Muhammad Kasim against Dahir.

Mahammad Kasim, known as Muhammad Bin Kasim Sakifi, then a youth of seventeen, was entrusted with the work of chastising Dahir. He was equipped with an army of 6,000 armed camel riders, 6,000 picked cavalry of Syria and Iraq and a baggage train of 3,000 Bactrian camels. In Makran he was joined by the Governor Muhammad Harun with other reinforcements. Moreover he had five catapults together with the necessary ammunition transported by sea to Debal. Besides these Arab troops, many Jats and Medes enlisted themselves under Muhammad Bin Kasim's banner.

With this army, he successfully besieged Dewal and breaking the standard of the Hindus reduced the City of Dewal. A son of Dahir who was in the city of Dewal either as a master or as an ally retreated, on the reduction of the city, to Brahmanabad. Kasim then advanced on Nerun (now Haiderabad in Sind) and thence upon Saliwon and took the fortress called Salim. Thus far Kasim's progress met with little opposition. Here he was confronted with a powerful army under the command of the Raja's eldest son. After several indecisive encounters, Muhammad Kasim advanced to the neighbourhood of the capital Alor itself.

The Cachnama referred to as Tarikhi-i-Sind, by Elphinstone, gives a vivid account of

* The History of India as told by its own historians.

the battle and is here reproduced in part as translated by Elliot and Dowson. (The History of India as told by its historians.)

"Muhammad Kasim sends a Syrian ambassador and Maulana Islami to Dahir. When they came to Dahir, Maulana Islami of Debal did not bow his head or make any signs of reverence. Dahir recognised him and asked him why he failed in the usual respectful salutation and enquired if any one had thrown obstacles in his way. The Maulana of Debal replied, "When I was your subject it was right of me to observe the rule of obediences: but now, that I am converted and subject to the king of Islam, it cannot be expected that I should bow my head to an infidel." Dahir said "If you were not an ambassador I would punish you with death." The Maulana replied, "If you would kill me, it would be no great loss to the Arabs; but they will avenge my death and exact the penalty from you".

Muhammad Kasim's route to Alor lay over the river and so he determined to cross the river but was apprehensive that the Rai Dahir might come to the banks of Mibran and oppose the transit. Hence to have an easy passage Muhammad Kasim secured the aid of Moka, son of Bisaya, who was a ruler of the island of Bait in the river and was subject to Dahir. It is the base desertion of the chief of the island of Bait that had been the root cause of the defeat of the ruler of Sind. The historian referred to sings:

"Muhammad Kasim examined the ford

Dahir hears Moka Bisaya had collected boats.

Dahir gives the government of Bait to Rasil."

"When Muhammad Kasim had collected his boats and began to join them together, Rasil with his officers and chiefs come to the opposite banks and prevent the completion of the bridge and the passage of the river. Muhammad Kasim thereupon ordered that the boats should all be brought to the western bank and there joined together to a distance equal to the estimated breadth of Mibran. He then placed his warriors fully armed upon the

boats and let the head of the bridge which was full of archers to float down to the eastern bank. The archers drove off the infidels who were posted to guard the passage. So the Arabs passed over to the other side and driving pegs into the earth made the bridge fast. The horse and the foot then crossed and giving battle put the infidels to flight and pursued them as far as the gates of Jhani."

"Dahir awakes and kills his chamberlain for bringing him news of the flight of the infidels and the victory of Islam." Rasil who had hitherto been subject to Dahir and opposing Kasim, deserts Dahir and joins Kasim's army. On his advice Muhammad Kasim advanced to Rewa and arrived at a place called Jewar or Jaipur. "Intelligence was brought to Rai Dahir that Muhammad Kasim with the Arab army had reached Jewar and when his minister Sisakar heard of it he said, 'Alas! We are lost' That place is called Jaipur or the town of victory and as the army had reached the place it will be successful and victorious". Dahir took offence at these words. The fire of indignation blazed out in his mind and he said with his anger, "he has arrived at Hindbari for it is a place where his bones shall lie". Dahir left the place and with precipitation went into the fort of Rewar. Only a big lake separated the fort of Rewar from the Arab force. Muhammad encamped at Jitor on the stream of Dohrab. Rai Dahir leaving his dependants in the fort rushed forth to the open and fought the invaders. The author of Cachnama writes:—

Muhammad Kasim Sikifi reads the Khutba.

Muhammad Kasim exhorts his soldiers, The Arab army charges the infidels Shuja Hanshi becomes a martyr.

Muhammad Kasim charges in the name of God

The accursed Dahir is slain.

So narrates the Muslim writer of the Cachnama. Dahir was slain at the fort of Rewar (Raor) at sunset on Thursday the tenth of Ramzan in the year 93, i.e., June 712 A.D.

The causes that led to the fall of Sind are many. The usurpation of Cach, the

subsequent division of the kingdom among Cach's sons and their wars with the neighbouring kingdoms of Kashmir, Kanuj and Ramal and lastly the existence of powerful Buddhist monks who as political rulers of districts, wielded great influence, worked inimically to the Brahmanical State; the desertion of a great many chiefs and the utter lack of military perspective on the part of Dahir, all these contributed to the downfall of the Hindu kingdom of Sind.

"The conquest of Sind should not be regarded as indicating in a general way the superiority of the Muslims (Arabs) over the Indians from a military point of view". The success of the Muslims was largely due to the lavish equipment of Muhammad-Bin-Kasim, to the encouragement given by Hajaj and lastly to the utter disunity and treachery of the chiefs of Sind and to the superstitious ideas prevalent at that time. King Dahir, though brave and courageous, lacked statesmanship and military skill. His failure to realise the importance of a command over the sea as essential for the success of an invading army marching across the Makram coast and to provide against the same was yet another cause of his failure. Most of the officers, being Buddhists, had an aversion to war and bloodshed and failed to co-operate effectively with Dahir. Dahir's failure to oppose the Muslims crossing the Sind river also contributed to the Muslim success. "To the inexplicable want of strategy on the part of Dahir and of the treachery of the Buddhists of the south, we must add the base betrayals of the chief officials and grandees of Sind to account for its ruler's ignominious end. All important chiefs and officials seem to have deserted his cause. This is partly accounted by the superstitious idea that according to the Hindu Sastras, the country was destined to fall into the hands of the Muhammadans and it was therefore useless to fight."

"The Arab conquest of Sind has been described as a mere episode in the history of India, which affected only a fringe of that vast country." Yet, due to the increase of trade and interchange of ideas, Arab Sind formed a link between the

East and the West. The conquest of Sind was the first and the last great achievement of the Arabs in India and three centuries of unremittent efforts on their part secured them only two petty states of Mansur and Multan. The Arabs occupied the Indus valley but their attempt at expansion further inland received a setback from the alert Indians. "When we remember their wonderful military success in other parts of Asia

and Africa, the comparatively insignificant results they achieved in India certainly stand out as a marked contrast. The causes of this, however, do not lie in the religious and social peculiarities of India as old historians like Elphinstone vainly attempted to establish. The cause lies undoubtedly in the superior military strength and state organisation of the Indians as compared with most other nations of the time. ("The Arab Invasion of India" by Majumdar.)

NIGHT

BY "S. R. D."

Unto the moon the stars in silence whisper
Their age-old secrets buried in Time's womb,
The night grows darker, and the cold wind crisper,
And shadows flit across the lonely tomb.

All living things upon the earth are sleeping,
Except the revellers who turn night to day,
And those whose eyes like coals burn red with weeping
For loved ones lost or fortunes thrown away:

And lovers who with deep and earnest longing
Gaze into tender eyes for secret joy
That springs from sense of owning and belonging,
And feed on sweets of love that never cloy.

The children wrapt in slumber sweet are dreaming
Of wondrous playthings and of endless fun,
Old heads on pillows laid, with thoughts are teeming
Of what they hoped to do but left undone.

The labourer who all the day was toiling
With limbs outstretched enjoys his sweat-earned rest,
The criminal, his hands with dark deeds soiling,
Essays to calm the passions in his breast.

And when at dawn the Sun draws back Night's curtain,
Flooding her chamber with his golden rays,
She hugs her secrets like a bride, uncertain
If she may bare her bosom to his gaze.

THE NEW VICEROY

ALL speculations as to Lord Linlithgow's successor have been set at rest by the announcement of Field-Marshal Wavell's appointment to the Viceroyalty of India. The Field-Marshal, as has been observed,



VISCOUNT WAVELL

is the first great soldier to be appointed Viceroy of India at the end of a term as Commander-in-Chief of the Army in India. During the three years he has been Commander-in-Chief in India, he has had very good opportunities, notably during the Cripps negotiations, to give thought to Indian political questions apart from purely military problems connected with the defence of India. General Wavell has a record of military achievements second to none in the Empire, and in the present war he is one of those who, in spite of some reverses in the field, has come off with flying colours and with a reputation for leadership altogether untarnished. The Viceroyalty of India, in these critical times, is no bed of roses. It requires courage, imagination and statesmanship of a high order which has rarely been found in adequate measure, in some of those whose fortunes have called them to this exalted office in recent years. It may be asked whether a military man—even of the exalted position of the Field-Marshal—is exactly the sort

of person to handle the many pressing problems of a political and constitutional character with which he will be confronted today. This may be answered by the counter-question, if those with no pretensions to military reputation and with high political and diplomatic antecedents have proved altogether successful.

In this connection, it may be recalled that Lord Morley would not countenance the appointment of Lord Kitchener to the Viceroyalty following the introduction of the constitutional reforms by Lord Minto. It seemed to him a palpable anomaly to mix up reforms with brass hat rule. While it is a sound principle, it cannot be said, that all military men are *ipso facto* to be debarred from occupying positions of civil responsibility. There may be exceptions on rare occasions and it would be wise to suspend judgment and not to prejudice the case by extravagant hopes or fears. It would obviously be wrong to prejudge the new Viceroy, as the proper time to judge him is when he lays down his office. Lord Minto himself was a quasi-military person but then there was one like Lord Morley at the helm of affairs in England and there is all the difference in the world between him and Mr. Amery or Attlee. Much, of course, depends on the initiative of the man on the spot, and if Field-Marshal Wavell can show the same spirit of initiative and leadership which he has shown in the art of generalship he would make a great name for himself and justify British reputation for muddling through the crisis somehow to victory and greatness. If the appointment is an assurance of allied determination to continue the war relentlessly till the enemy is broken, it is welcome. But if it is an indication of the Home Government's intention to continue its policy of drift, without attempting a fresh approach to solve the deadlock, it is deeply to be deplored. But then, if the new Viceroy is merely to carry out the behests of the die hard elements in Whitehall, there should have been no need for any search for Viceroyalty and the labour of selection could well have been spared.

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BLOOD TRANSFUSION

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Viscount Wavell takes charge of his high office at a time of momentous significance in the history of the relations between England and India. If his task is difficult, his opportunities are great indeed. As the *News Chronicle* reminds us:

His term will be "fraught with historic responsibility and opportunities. Whether he makes a good Viceroy or a bad one will depend partly on whether he is able to bring the requisite openness of mind and flexibility of action to his task and partly on whether the cabinet at home is prepared to back up a policy that allows for the free exercise of such qualities.

The Viceroy-designate has done well to define his attitude on the eve of his assumption of office. In his first public statement on India, soon after his appointment, he promptly declared "that there is certainly no intention to set up anything in the shape of a military rule or to withdraw or weaken in any way the pledges and offers made to India by H. M.'s Government." This is a welcome assurance but it is not enough.

For promises and pledges have been made any number of times; and the sense of frustration and disappointment is too keen to be easily replaced by hope or enthusiasm. What is wanted is action and if the new Viceroy can act with vision and understanding without being a mere echo of Whitehall or Churchill, all will be well. Otherwise it will be another opportunity lost. One asset of inestimable value Sir Archibald has. He has no need to interview fifty-two persons to obtain first-hand information about India. The fifty-two, speaking with different voices, left the good Lord Linlithgow just where he started. As Sir Alfred Watson has pointed out:

He (Sir Archibald) knows the country and its people—knows them not only as a serving soldier but as one who has been thrown into daily contact with the political and administrative problems of the land.

The two years' period that it takes a Viceroy, fresh from home, to make himself acquainted with the intricacies of the Indian Government is cut out. Sir Archibald will be able to move with confidence from the moment he takes up office.

BLOOD TRANSFUSION

BY MR. MOHANLAL P. GANDHI

SCIENTIFIC researches about the composition of blood following intense interest into blood transfusion so vital in the medical and surgical side of war has exploded the myth of blue blood flowing in anybody's veins. For the blood, whether it be in the veins of a humble Negro or the purest and the most arrogant specimen of the Nordic race for whom Hitler and his satellites have claimed exceptional qualities denied to supposedly inferior races, is the same fluid carrying about an equal amount of its weight of solids in solution or in suspension about the veins and the capillaries in the human body.

Blood is to human body what means of transport is to human society, carrying sugar, salts, fat, waste of processes of combustion that ceaselessly go on in the body, vitamins, oxygen and several other things wherever they are needed or

delivered. But no waterway on earth is so crowded with vehicles of transport as are blood veins. In every cubic inch of blood there are no fewer than 50,000 million red corpuscles, tiny little discs three-fourths of a hundredth millimeter wide and a thousandth of a millimeter thick which carry fifty times as much oxygen, wrapped up around it as it were, than what blood fluid itself could have carried itself. In a much lesser concentration are the white corpuscles which are the scavengers and the medical attendants ready for their part when any injury is reported anywhere in the body.

Though blood transfusion was tried originally about four centuries ago with the blood of animals to compensate humans for copious loss of blood, the experiments failed sometimes with serious results and when they were resumed three hundred years later, the animals

were given a go-bye and only the human blood was selected for transmission in humans on the basis of its grouping. It is only in recent years that patient researches have established the presence of identical blood group types among the animals too. The art of breeding animals of exceptional stock has received a new orientation on account of the new discovery.

The four blood groups are unequally distributed in various races and the group which has come to be recognised as universal is the least frequent that one comes across among the members of the Caucasian races. Investigations have shown that as many as forty-five per cent. of the people of these races are endowed with the A group blood, and 42 per cent. with the Zero blood group. Ten per cent. have the B group blood in their veins and only 3 per cent. the universal type. B group blood is more widespread among the Asiatic races.

We need not go into all the details of early and unsuccessful experiment in blood transfusion. They started centuries ago, failed and were forgotten till the birth of the new age for science in the beginning of the present century. Interest in it was revived in 1907 with the discovery by an American of blood groups but medical practitioners received the new revival with cold shoulders and a medical dictionary published as late as in 1910 preferred an injection of saline solution to blood transfusion. But blood transfusion was established as an essential form of treatment during the first world war and it came to be recognised generally that in cases of loss of blood no other method could replace the treatment by blood transfusion.

If blood transfusion is the child of the present century, its finer development, the dehydration of blood serum for use long after the removal of the blood from the body of the donor is but a straddling infant of the present decade. It was in 1940 that technique for preparing dry powder from serum was perfected in the United

Kingdom, and because of the exigencies of war swiftly introduced elsewhere.

And "blood bank" is the term that has gone into currency during the current war. So long as the technique of processing the serum was not developed, the usual procedure for dealing with blood donors for blood transfusion was to keep a waiting list of these charitably-minded gentlemen and call them for being out with their donation whenever the local hospital felt the need of matching blood for transfusion into a patient. In the initial stages of the war, limited quantity of blood was being stored. But the catch phrase blood bank only came about to be justified when processing with the serum was introduced. Because it was only then that the donated portion of one's blood could be kept up for indefinite period for useful service anywhere, even at the front line. Whereas simple blood could not be preserved for use for more than ten days even with refrigeration and treatment with anti-clotting chemicals, blood serum could be preserved for use for months even without being dried and could be carried about in tins and kept good for years when dried and powdered. Mere addition of distilled water turns it back into serum wherever it is required for use.

Compared to the sizes of blood banks in other countries, particularly those involved in the war, blood banks that have been established in some towns and cities in India are mere pigmies in size. Thus one clinic in Moscow alone reported to be receiving three-fourths of a ton of blood daily against blood and blood products enough for about 12,000 transfusions stores in all the civil blood banks in India. Like her other Gargantuan performances, the United States of America is planning for a reserve of fifty million pounds of blood plasma in one year. England by February, 1941, was producing enough transfusion fluid from voluntary donations to supply the whole of her civil and military requirements and was able in addition to supply substantial quantity to India for the Army Transfusion Service.

DISSOLUTION OF THE COMINTERN

BY MR. WICKHAM STEED

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"Comintern" is abridgment for the Communist International—a revolutionary movement aiming at the overthrow of the capitalist system and the establishment of a proletarian dictatorship. The Communist or Third International was set up in Moscow in 1920, which, following Lenin's theories, vehemently opposed moderate, democratic socialism. It denounced the idea of aiming at socialism through democratic development and held that only forceful revolution was likely to lead to socialism, through an inevitable civil war and a period of proletarian dictatorship. The Russian revolution and the Soviet Union became their models for world revolution. Naturally this process of arriving at socialism through violence and world revolution was repugnant to liberal and democratic thinkers who preferred steady progress through education and the propagation of socialistic ideas. Following Soviet Russia's co-operation with Nazi Germany in the first stage of the war, communist organizations in different countries were made illegal. Soviet identification with the allied cause, has since altered the situation considerably but Russian socialism has always been suspected and many have held the view that Stalin has not given up world revolution. Under the circumstances, democratic England and America could not completely identify themselves with Soviet aims and policies as regards the future, though they were one with Russia in their war against Nazi Germany. Stalin's action in formally disbanding the Communist International has cleared the air of any suspicion of Soviet intentions and proved a gesture of goodwill paving the way for wholehearted co-operation of all democratic nations.—[Ed. I.R.]

NO political event in this war has surpassed in importance the dissolution of the Communist International or the Comintern in Russia. Military events have had greater immediate significance, such as the Battle of Britain in 1940, Hitler's attack on Russia in June 1941, Japan's attack on the United States in December 1941, and destruction or capture of the Axis armies in North Africa.

These military events put final victory beyond the reach of Axis Powers. Yet there remained the danger that dislike of the international revolutionary policy attributed to the Comintern might cause disagreement among the United Nations upon the conditions of peace. It was feared that they might win victory only to lose peace. Now this danger has been dispelled. The anger and dismay, revealed by the German comment upon the dissolution of the Comintern, proceed from the recognition that the chief ideological foundation of the Axis has been shattered. This foundation was the anti-Comintern pact concluded in Berlin between Germany and Japan. Italy had already subscribed to the principles of this pact and afterwards adhered to it formally. All the accomplices and the satellites of the Axis

have been required to accept it. Its object was to create an anti-Bolshevist front throughout the world as a cloak for the predatory designs of Germany, Italy and Japan.

Nor should it be forgotten that the peace proposals recently made by the Spanish leaders still echoed the doctrine that Russian Communism was the chief danger to mankind. Even in the Allied countries, particularly in the United States, the propaganda of the local Communist Parties had undeniably caused misgivings about the ultimate policy of Soviet Russia. Upon these misgivings the German propaganda played ceaselessly.

Now that the misgivings are relieved, if not dispelled, German propaganda must seek new arguments. One obvious German argument is that the dissolution of the Comintern is a mere trick, an insincere pretence which changed nothing in reality of the "Communist peril." Plausible though this argument may sound, I think it worthless.

The dissolution of the Comintern is a logical consequence of Stalin's policy. It follows from his rejection nine years ago of Trotsky's policy of world-wide revolution.

Nobody who has watched with understanding the development of Stalin's policy can doubt the sincerity of his desire not to be hampered by the Comintern.

An unimpeachable British Socialist authority, the late Mrs. Sidney Webb, who with her husband spent many years in careful study of Soviet Russia wrote last autumn that the foreign policy of the Soviet Government under Stalin has always favoured peace by treaties of non-aggression between the Soviet Union and all other sovereign States "without attempting to interfere with the internal organization of each other's countries."

Mrs. Webb mentioned persistent rumours that Stalin would like to see the Comintern disappear and only hesitated to suppress it

because it had been founded by Lenin in 1917. Now the Comintern has decided to suppress itself after having been gradually reduced to impotence. Stalin's influence has doubtless hastened its decision.

During this war, Russian feelings have become increasingly patriotic and less disposed to favour policies of international revolution.

This change strengthened the hands of Stalin and other Soviet leaders. I believe that the dissolution of the Comintern expresses this change and is, therefore, a genuine act of Russia's national policy.

The wholesome effects of this act will become more apparent in the future. Relations between the United States and Russia will improve.

THE LATE MR. VALOD OF TRANSVAAL

BY SWAMI BHAWANI DAYAL

I have learnt with much regret the death of Mr. Mahomed Ebrahim Valod, President of the Transvaal Indian Congress and one of the Vice-Presidents of the South African Indian Congress. It will indeed be a great loss to the Indian community of South Africa. His death removes from our midst one of the most distinguished Indian leaders and one of the foremost advocates of Indian education in South Africa. During the fifteen years I know him, I have had the fullest opportunity of getting to know him from every angle. His noble example to his countrymen compels admiration. His steady and persistent participation in all good work in the community's interests was a wonderful thing. The passing away of our friend, Mr. Valod, leaves a gap in the Transvaal which cannot be filled.

He was born in Gujrat about forty-five years ago and came to South Africa in his youth. He was a businessman and a partner in the firm of Mahomed Ebrahim & Co. at Johannesburg. He was keenly interested in the educational work and founded an Indian school and a hostel at Standerton which will ever remain a monument of his educational enterprise in the Transvaal.

I cannot, in this short tribute, speak of the innumerable services that Mr. Valod rendered as the President of the Transvaal Indian Congress. Mr. Valod was a man of great abilities and remarkable gifts and it was not surprising that he should have been engaged in so many public activities and connected with so many organisations, but I doubt if there was ever any work which was dearer to his heart than the work of the Transvaal Indian Congress. I always respected him because he was a gentleman and a man of character. His innate modesty and gentlemanliness prevented him from practising the art of self-advertisement. In his own quiet way he worked to advance in every direction the cause of the Indian settlers of the Transvaal.

His premature death will be more and more felt by the struggling Indian settlers particularly at this critical period of their existence, when his leadership was most essential to combat the notorious Segregation Act of South Africa, but none could stay the hands of Parmatma. A finest fellow I saw him in the shape of a co-worker; handsome as he was brave, determined, cool and clever. To the great Parmatma who loves all alike we can safely leave the departed soul, there to reap the reward of his exemplary life of service and sacrifice.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

THE WELL OF THE PEOPLE. By Bharati Sarabhai. New Book Company, Bombay. Rs. Two.

The well is more truly symbolic of India and its rural population than any other handiwork of man and the author of this lovely piece of dramatic art has shown fine judgment in choosing it as the theme of her fantasy. True to the soil and its inspiration, her voice, inspite of its English medium, has the spell of a rich and authentic note. The theme was suggested by a story that appeared in the *Harijan*, wherein an aged and destitute Brahmin woman, thwarted in her life's desire to go on a pilgrimage to Kasi, finds fulfilment in building a well for the village workers, a well too for the outcaste Harijans. From this simple tale of country life, the author has woven a moving story of passion and energy, strikingly beautiful in phraseology and instinct with a conception typically Indian. There is a genuine ring alike in the story and in the way of its unfolding, which keeps it above the level of humdrum mediocrity. The "Well" is full of shining surprises and breathes an atmosphere peculiarly its own and un-borrowed from contemporary efforts in English prose or rhyme.

SOVIET ASIA. By Violet Conolly. Oxford University Press.

Miss Violet Conolly is a familiar writer to students of Modern Russia. She has already done her mite to remove the shroud of mystery from present-day Russia by her masterly publications on "Soviet Economic Policy in the East", "Soviet Trade" and "Soviet Tempo". Her latest work "Soviet Asia" is a treasure-house of information about the marvellous development of a third of the continent of Asia which falls within the sway of the U.S.S.R. Though the book is only a pamphlet, it gives the necessary basic information on Soviet organisation.

THE DISCIPLES OF RAMAKRISHNA. The Advaita Ashrama, 4 Willington lane, Calcutta.

Chief among the disciples of Sri Ramakrishna was Swami Vivekananda whose life and activities have been the subject of innumerable memoirs and publications. But not much is known of other disciples whose activities were no less important. Soon after the Master's death, each went out into the world and became a centre of light and influence in his respective sphere of work. The lives and activities of no less than 15 monastic disciples and over half a dozen lay disciples, men and women, written by different writers but with the same back ground and centering round a single luminous personality, are herein recorded with fidelity and devotion. The sketches form an inspiring gallery of portraits of men, who had dedicated their lives to a cause, as inspiring as it is worthy. The lives of Brahmananda, the President and Saradananda, the Secretary, are presented in greater detail than the rest, who nevertheless, have been the pillars of the Mission, in its varied activities at home and abroad in propagating the sublime teachings of Sri Ramakrishna. The sketches are written with intimate knowledge and deep devotion to the service of the Mission.

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

This book is a collection of essays covering number of years, beginning with 1917. That being so, the different chapters do not hold together properly. At the same time, one cannot fail to notice the earnestness with which the author pleads for the training of worthy leaders and efficient citizens by a proper system of education. In these days when it is the fashion to decry higher education in India, one rejoices to find in Mr. S. C. Roy a doughty champion of it.

DRAUPADI. A Drama in five acts.

SAUDAMINI. A Tamil Drama by K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, Lloyds Road, Rayapettah, Madras.

In the first English Drama the author has rightly chosen the theme of the Mahabharata for Dramatisation. The Swayamwara of Draupadi, Arjuna's conveyance to his mother of the news of his success therein through a riddle, the polyandrous nation, the game of dice, the villainy of Duryodhana, the exile of the Pandavas, the Mahabharata war and the Geetamrita of Lord Sri Krishna are all made to float before our vision.

Saudamini is a Tamil play intended to expose the vagaries of the Brahmin Society and its marital customs. Saudamini the heroine, unable to reconcile herself to the idea that her father has to borrow Rs. 20,000 and sell his ancestral home to marry her off, burns herself to death and thus the play has a tragic end. In this social hit, Mr. Sastri has an easy fling at Varadakshina, dowry system, English-educated girls, and modernised Brahmin youths, lawyers and Pandits.

TO EUROPA. By Raman Vakil. Padma Publications, Bombay.

'To Europa' by Raman Vakil is a appeal in verse to Europe, 'to fair Europe, Satan's bride' to abandon her lust for conquest and empire and to settle down to a life of lasting peace and happiness'. The author has set to metrical form several historical incidents such as the Crusades, exploration and colonisation craze, Napoleonic menace and Kaiserian aggression. He finishes up with the pious wish that a glorious dawn will follow the dismal night. The book is a pleasant half-hour reading.

THE DHAMMAPADA. (Text in Nagari and English translation) by U. Dhammajoti. Mahabodhi Society, Sarnath, Benares.

This anthology of verses, constituting a section of the *Tipitaka*, is held to be a collection of verses from the Teachings of the Buddha. The translation is based on previous translations, with a few deviations from the commentary. It is a very handy manual for the student.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE HEALTH OF INDIA. By John B. Grant, Oxford University Press.

THE ART OF DISCIPLINE AND LEADERSHIP. By Abul Hasanat. The Standard Library, Dacca. Rs. 2-4.

THE CONCEPTION OF SURPLUS IN THEORETICAL ECONOMICS. By Amiyakumar Das Gupta, M.A. Ph.D. Das Gupta & Co., Calcutta.

THE INDIAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION. Proceedings of the fifth All-India Library Conference held in Bombay from the 3rd to 6th April 1942. Honorary General Secretary, Indian Library Association, 34, Chittaranjan Avenue, Calcutta.

PROSPERITY THROUGH INDUSTRY. By Sir M. Visvesvaraya. All-India Manufacturers' Organisation, Bombay. Re. 1.

CHRIST in a latest Synthesis of Religions. A companion volume to Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar's "World Religions" by Rev. George Pandethu Parampil. With Foreword and Appendices by Rev. Joseph Nadunathamuriyil. Pearl Press, Cochin.

AMRITA SIDDHI. By Akkapeddi Satyanarayana, S.K.P.V.V. Hindu High School, Bezwada. 8 As.

THE GREAT CHALLENGE. Being the complete story of Mahatma Gandhi's Great Fast. Compiled and edited by P. R. Sitharam. Arpee Publications, Post Box No. 2295, Bombay.

ADULT SCHOOLS: A Study in Pioneering. By Ernest Champness. Foreword by the Archbishop of York. The Indian Adult Education Association, Indore.

SITAVICARALAHARI. By N. Gopala Pillai, M.A. Foreword by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar. Introduction by Rao Saheb Ullen S. Parameswara Aiyar. The V.V. Press Branch, Trivandrum.

NEGATIVE FACT: NEGATION AND TRUTH. By A. C. Das, M.A., Ph.D., P.R.S. University of Calcutta.

LANGUAGES AND THE LINGUISTIC PROBLEM. By Smuti Kumar Chatterji.

THE MEMOIR OF A MAHARAJA'S MISTRESS. Kitabghar, Rajkot.

THE CULTURAL BASIS OF A NEW WORLD ORDER. By Syed Abdul Latif, Hyderabad.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Coalition Ministries

NOW that the bureaucracy has succeeded in installing ministries of some sort in Bengal, Sind and the Frontier, attempts are being made to repeat this performance in the Congress Provinces also. In all these cases it is some local leader of the Muslim League who is propped up to get round him a motley Cabinet. It functions mostly on the pleasure of the Governor, with no definite policy or programme, beyond taking advantage of the extraordinary situation created by the detention of leaders in prison. The Premiers, while ostensibly owing allegiance to the Muslim League in reality carry out the behests of the Governors of the respective Provinces. A stray Sikh here or a Hindu there is admitted in the Cabinet to give it the semblance of a coalition government. Hindu Mahasabha leaders like Dr. Shyam Prasad Mukerji and Mehar Chand Khanna have denounced the method by which these men have crept into office. In the light of their downright denunciation it is somewhat difficult to understand Mr. Savarkar's statement offering co-operation of the Mahasabha to form coalition ministries in the Congress majority provinces. The *Social Reformer* opines that "perhaps, this is merely a tactical move because some of his conditions are such as Mr. Jinnah cannot accept without swallowing his previous declarations. Whether that be so or not, we strongly object to the idea of a coalition between the two communal organizations as a betrayal of the principles for which Indian leaders from the time of Raja Ram Mohan Roy have consistently stood. That principle is that India is a single indivisible whole and the Indian people are a single nation."

And then, as Sir A. H. Ghaznavi truly observed the other day,

it is not fair on the part of the Government to keep the majority in jail and allow the formation of ministries without testing their strength in the legislature

The recent judgments of the Federal and Calcutta High Courts have demonstrated that the ordinances under which these men are detained lack the most elementary regard for the rights of the citizen. Hence, as the *Reformer* reminds us, it is positively

an act of political indecency for any Indian group to accept the responsibility, which is implicit in accepting office, for detaining thousands of their fellow countrymen, some of whom are world figures in prison without trial.

The New Commander-in-Chief

The re-appointment of Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck as Commander-in-Chief in India, in succession to Field-Marshal Wavell, is a step that has been widely welcomed in this country. Sir Claude, while Commander-in-Chief for a brief period in 1941, had made himself very popular with the Indian public and the politicians as well, as he had taken them into his confidence to a degree seldom equalled by any of his predecessors. Apart from his popularity with the intelligentsia in this country, Sir Claude has made a reputation for himself by successful handling of more than one critical phase in the present war. Created General in 1940, he succeeded Sir Robert Cassels as Commander-in-Chief in India in 1941. In July of the same year Gen. Auchinleck was made GOC-in-C. Middle East, on vacation of the post by Gen. Wavell. He showed great skill against the redoubtable Rommel until the Allied defeat near Tobruk a year ago but his final stand against the Italo-German forces at El Alamein when he prevented the enemy from reaching Alexandria will long be remembered.

The Madras By-Election

The result of the by-election in Madras for the seat in the Central Legislative Assembly rendered vacant by the untimely death of Mr. Satyamurti has proved conclusively, if proof were wanted, that Congress still commands the allegiance of the vast majority of voters. When it became a straight contest between the Congress candidate and the Justice party candidate, the result was a foregone conclusion. Apart from that the banning of Congress meetings and processions and the free field opened to "Justice" propaganda had a reaction quite the reverse of what was anticipated. Public sympathy turned entirely in favour of the Congress and expressed itself convincingly in according wholehearted support to the Congress which secured thrice the number of votes polled for the other party. The decisive victory of the Congress candidate as against the justicite shows the trend of public feeling over the greater part of the country. As a contemporary shrewdly observes, it "is not so much a reflection of public opinion on Congress policy as of resentment against the autocratic methods of Government." It would be surprising, if in the face of this decisive expression of popular will any attempt is made to prop up a non-Congress Ministry in Madras as in some other provinces.

Ban on Mr. Fischer's articles

Mr. Louis Fischer, the well-known American journalist, who during his visit to India, was a privileged guest at the Government House and had more than one talks with the Viceroy and the Vicereine, has suddenly fallen from grace. A New Delhi order forbids publication of his articles on Indian topics in original or translation in this country, without their being first submitted for revision to the Chief Press Adviser. Much of what Mr. Fischer wrote on India has already

appeared in the Indian Press and the ban on his articles comes too late to be of any practical value even from the bureaucracy's point of view. Apart from that, there was nothing new in the articles which is not shared by the Indian Press as a whole, and altogether it may be said, that so far as they had any effect on Indian readers, Mr. Fischer was merely preaching to the converted. In this sense, the ban seems to be a misfit. Mr. Fischer's object in writing to the American Press is to convince American readers of the truth of his contention that all is not well with the governance of India. In this he has succeeded in a large measure as his outspoken criticisms have been widely circulated and commented on in the American Press. The Government of India's ban can have little practical value; but it is up to the Editors' Conference to vindicate the right of free speech and writing.

The Eastern Economist

Under the able editorship of Dr. P. S. Lokanathan has appeared a new weekly in Delhi, which is a welcome addition to the ranks of economic journalism in India. Like *Capital* and *Indian Finance*, the *Eastern Economist* specialises in topics of practical interest to the citizen as cultivator, businessman or banker. Grave economic issues of far-reaching importance are facing the country today and problems of post-war reconstruction are already in the tapis. At such a time there is no need to apologise for the appearance of a journal mainly devoted to trade and finance, and the vital problems of production and distribution in the best interest of the millions of India. War conditions have inevitably resulted in creating new problems of supply and demand and a sensible programme of post-war planning for peace-time remains to be chalked out. The *Eastern Economist*, as its name implies, will tackle these problems with special interest to India and the eastern countries. Dr. Lokanathan has wisely gathered round him a team of special correspondents whose letters from the provincial capitals promise to be an attractive feature of this journal, apart from thoughtful editorials and current statistics.

The Revolt against Mr. Jinnah

Last month we commented on Mr. Jinnah's attempt to wriggle out of his own commitments at Delhi and the ridiculous position in which he found himself after his barefaced *volte face*. Mr. Abdur Rahman Mitha, after referring to Government's contempt for Mr. Jinnah's threat, said that he "has proved himself the greatest hoax of the day." Dr. Syed Latif who has made more than one attempt to show Mr. Jinnah the error of his ways, has again drawn attention to Mr. Jinnah's "lost opportunity" by his "latest performance." Mr. Jinnah, by ignoring his colleagues on the League has placed the League itself in a false position. Mr. Hafiz Ibadullah, former President of the District Muslim League, Raipur, characterises the demand for Pakistan as "utopian and injurious to the interests of the Mussalmans of India." He observes:

Pakistan will not solve the question of demands on the majority but will be followed by the demand for Sunni-stan and Shia-stan. It would be no wonder if the Scheduled Castes demand Harijan-stan following the foot-steps of Mr. Jinnah.

There is thus a decided revolt against his leadership as evidenced by the establishment of the Muslim Majlis, the newly-formed organisation of Mussalmans, whose President, Khan Bahadur Shaikh Mahomed Jan, M.L.C., has declared its object to be (1) to achieve the independence of India politically and economically, (2) to safeguard Muslim rights and privileges and (3) to oppose the partition of India. These are admirable objects and there is no doubt that sensible Mahomedans, tired of Mr. Jinnah's futile leadership, will be veering round the new organisation. Another Muslim leader, Mr. Kamaluddin Ahmed, M.L.A. (Cantab.), voicing the feeling of his compatriots "welcomes" the very timely formation of the Muslim Majlis. It is high time, he says,

that Mussalmans realise the grave danger that faces them and set themselves to the task of organising the Muslim Majlis and carry out its three-fold programme of political and economic independence of India, safeguarding of Muslim rights and privileges and opposition to the partition of India, for, Muslims are bound to suffer most in a divided India.

Declaration on Ceylon Reforms

The long-awaited declaration on the proposals for the reform of the Ceylon constitution has at last been made by His Majesty's Government. For twelve years since the Donoughmore reforms were introduced the people of Ceylon have been asking for a further extension in the light of their experience of the working of the constitution. Nothing has been done by way of improving that scheme. Two years ago a vague declaration was made, in answer to persistent agitation, which merely recognised the urgency of the reforms but deferred action "for consultation by means of a commission or Conference" which could be taken up only "after the war." The 1941 declaration satisfied nobody. The present declaration which professes to "give greater precision" to the earlier declaration, contains no concrete proposals which could in any way enthuse the people. There is no reason to think that this attempt to amplify the formula of 1941 will dispel all the doubts which were created then. It still postpones action. It does not go beyond the cautious undertaking that post-war consideration of reforms will be "directed towards" the grant of responsible government. It is unfortunate that lack of unanimity should still be the excuse for withholding reforms proved to be imperative. It has become a stock excuse, says the *Ceylon Daily News*, for procrastination and inactivity.

This is not a very hopeful way of preparing the way for a better understanding between the various interests in Ceylon and between Ceylon as a whole and the Imperial Government.

Nor is it founded upon political realities, for ordinary Parliamentary government is not based upon a majority agreement as to what the nature of the constitution should be, and those constitution which demand majority support for any amendment of the constitution seldom stipulate so high a proportion of agreement as 75 per cent.

Using lack of "unanimity" as a weapon, the declaration attempts to give Ceylon the responsibility for formulating practicable proposals for reform while laying down the concessions Whitehall is not prepared to make and offering no guidance as to how these limitations are to be reconciled with the legitimate aspirations of Ceylon or with the promise of "full responsible government under the Crown in all matters of internal civil administration."

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

The King's Visit to North Africa

THE visit of the King to the Allied Forces in North Africa is an event that has given the deepest satisfaction throughout the Empire, and to all the peoples of the Grand Alliance.

The King's visit is regarded by some observers in Washington as the final pre-zero hour visit to the Allied Armies there. It is viewed as a fitting tribute to the fighting men of Britain, whose deeds, in the past few months, have aroused the admiration of every American.

Eire Elections

The final state of parties in the Eire election is:

Mr. De Valera's Government party (Fianna Fail)	67
Fine Geal (Cosgravites)	32
Labour	17
Farmers	14
Independents	8

The closing results show that Mr. De Valera's party has 67 seats in the new Dail against the combined opposition of 71.

After the previous general election in 1938, the position was that the Fianna Fail had 77 seats against the combined opposition of 61.

At the time of the dissolution, the position was: De Valera's party 73, Mr. Cosgrave's party 40, Labour 10 and Independents 8. There were six vacancies and with the speaker the total strength of 138 was made up.

Mr. De Valera has since been re-elected Prime Minister of Eire by 67 votes 37.

Italian Islands

The conquest of North Africa is already having its repercussions on Italy, and Mussolini is facing Allied offensive in the outskirts of his domain.

Pantellaria, Lampedusa, Lampione and Linosa, small Italian islands in the Mediterranean, considered to be shock absorbers, have fallen to the Allied attacks without much resistance. Sicily and Sardinia will be the next targets.

Giraud-de Gaulle Settlement

A solution has at last been reached in the French political tangle. The French Committee of National Liberation met under the chairmanship of General Giraud at Algiers on June 21. After night-long consultations an agreement was reached in the dispute on compromise over reorganisation of the French forces. This involved division of powers and satisfied both General de Gaulle and General Giraud.

It is now revealed that the Allies did intervene in the dispute between the two French leaders. The exact nature of the intervention has not been published, but it can now be stated that the allied view was sent to the Committee in time to be placed on the agenda at the Algiers meeting. As to the nature of the Allied view one can only surmise that it laid down that the Allies are determined that military order should be maintained in North Africa and that they are opposed to any changes in the High Command which would involve a period of possible strife.

President's Veto Overridden

The House of Representatives overrode the President's veto of the anti-Strike Bill which thus becomes law. The vote was 244 against 108. The measure came to the House after the Senate had voted by 56 votes to 25 to override the President's veto on the Bill. The 244 Representative votes overriding the President's veto were divided into 114 Democrats and 130 Republicans.

Mr. Churchill's Prediction

Mr. Winston Churchill receiving the Freedom of the City of London at the Guildhall, on June 30 predicted "heavy fighting in the Mediterranean and elsewhere before the leaves of autumn fall." He said: "We demand from the Nazis, Fascists and the Japanese unconditional surrender. Their will power to resist must be completely broken and they must yield themselves absolutely to our justice and mercy."



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



UNITY IN SPITE OF DIVERSITY

How Akbar solved the communal problem in India nearly 400 years ago, is discussed by Sir Jadunath Sarkar in the *Modern Review* for June. He gave political unity to India amidst her differences of race and creed. He did not abandon it in despair, as many before, and after him too, have done. He boldly grappled with it and solved it by his statesmanship which has left an example to posterity.

Upon the clash of diverse races and sects in India descended Akbar's policy like a healing balm,—or, to change the metaphor, a cementing force. The result was that the strongest and bitterest opponents of Mughal rule in India became its most devoted supporters, because they felt themselves to be *equal partners* of a national Government of which the head merely happened to worship in a different church from theirs. The fruit of Akbar's statesmanship is seen even a century after him, when the favourite daughter-in-law of the bigoted Aurangzib (Jahanzib Banu Begam) harangued her Hindu escort on a Maratha battlefield with the words:

"The honour of the Mughal Emperors is identical with that of the Rajputs."

For, by this time, the victor and the vanquished had become one in interest and feeling, though still differing in creed, because the State had now been placed above the Church. It is only a united India—and an India united thus by political equality, religious toleration, and patriotic devotion to a common Motherland (and not to Arabia or Khurasan) that can defend her sacred soil from alien outrage.

Such a harmonious blending of the people along the line of least resistance and the greatest common measure of agreement enforced by the curbing all separatist and self-centred communities,—was attempted by Akbar and achieved within certain limits.

Akbar appealed to reason as against the so-called revelation, to political expediency as against ancient tradition. He secularized the State, and for the first time infused the spirit of nationalism, much as Ata Turk had done for Turkey and made it a model modern State.

Akbar, no doubt, began by annexing all the neighbouring States to his empire but he did not end with mere annexation. He gave to all parts of his vast empire internal peace, compactness through administrative uniformity and a higher culture

"with a glimmering sense of a common nationhood".

The Mughal Empire did ensure to more than one-half of India an amount of internal peace which this country had never known before. And if that peace was not so all-pervasive nor so unbreakable as Pax Britannica, we must remember the rudeness of Akbar's age and the fact that he was only a pioneer.

Akbar tried to modernise his State on the basic principles of (1) universal toleration to members of all religions (2) equality of all nationals of the country before law and (3) by throwing open the public services, including defence, to all alike irrespective of caste, creed or birth.

THE NUFFIELD FOUNDATION

Lord Nuffield has no heirs of his own to whom he can leave his vast fortune. Consequently, he has created a trust for public benefaction, says the *Economist*.

He is handing over to trustees his shareholdings in the Nuffield Organization, to the value of £10,000,000 as a capital fund, the income from which will be used to assist the following: Medical research and teaching; the organisation and development of medical and health services; scientific research and teaching in the interests of trade and industry; the pursuit of social studies; and the cure and comfort of aged persons.

There will, doubtless, be many who will disapprove of this gift, from the extremists, who regard all fortunes derived from private enterprise as ill-gotten, to others who consider that objects such as are to be assisted from the Trust should be the responsibility of the State and should not be left to private charity.

There is, perhaps, some force in this argument. On the other hand, there can be no doubt that, even in a completely socialised community, there will still be some individuals who will not fit into the plan. Private benefactions cannot take the place of a national system of education, of a national health service and of a national scheme for old age pensions. But in helping an old person, who for one reason or another is still in want in spite of a generous State pension, in encouraging and financing research into a new drug whose importance has still to be established, and in providing another year's study to a scholar who has come to an end of his State grant, they will continue to fulfil a very genuine need.

INDIA'S LOANS TO BRITAIN

India has every justification for being watchful of her sterling balances accumulated in Britain, says the *Eastern Economist*, the new weekly edited by Dr. P. S. Lokanathan and published in Delhi. Our growing fears are confirmed by the tendency in British journals to depreciate India's method of securing the assets.

Financial interests in Britain voiced by city editors of newspapers and by other journals seek to underrate the extent of the real sacrifice undergone by the people of India in the process of accumulating sterling, which was not of her seeking. The latest to indulge in this method of undermining India's part in the help she is rendering Great Britain and other allied nations is the city editor of the *Manchester Guardian* who after pointing out that by next February the India Government's sterling debt would only be £12 millions compared to £360 millions in 1936 expresses himself thus :—

On balance India has become a creditor of England, not through normal processes of trade and investments but through negotiated division of defence cost. The India Government drove a very hard bargain with the British Treasury only justifiable by regarding India as a semi-neutral.

Every pound sterling accumulated by India, says the writer, represents a real sacrifice in the consumption of essential goods by her ill-fed and hungry population and it passes comprehension how merely because exports are freely allowed by denying the essential minimum requirements of her people—without immediately getting payments therefor, the transaction differs in any sense from short term lending to Great Britain Indian public opinion is right.

Had the British Government been required to arrange for credits in India through the Government of India, these sterling assets would be seen in their true colour as short or medium-term loans to Britain, as indeed they are. On the other hand by using the Reserve Bank machinery of issuing notes against sterling, the true nature of the transaction is masked, and British interests can now conveniently twist them to their own profit. Indian public will, however, not be taken in by these spurious statements. But danger lies ahead. If sterling balances accumulate to still higher levels as seems certain, it is probable that proposals will be made by Britain asking the Government of India to cancel a large part of them. The Government of India will not be capable—whether they will be willing or not is irrelevant—of saying "No". Better far that India seeks to put some limit to this highly injurious method of accumulating sterling and to the export of essential articles of consumption than have the doubtful satisfaction of storing, like Midas, assets which may not be really available to her in the end.

WHY DOMINION STATUS?

Professor N. C. Sinha, writing in the *Hindustan Review*, examines the implications of Dominion Status and shows that the grant of Dominion Status of the type of the Statute of Westminster is preferable to isolation implied in complete independence. It means, in Mahatma Gandhi's words, "the substance of independence."

A perusal of the Act shows that the legislative supremacy of the United Kingdom Parliament is acknowledged, but by section 4 of the Act it is provided that "no Act of Parliament of the U.K. passed after the commencement of the Act shall extend or be deemed to extend to a Dominion as part of the law of that Dominion unless it is expressly declared in that Act that that Dominion has requested and consented to the enactment thereof".

Defining the powers possessed by the Dominions under the sphere of legislation, defence, foreign affairs, etc., in the light of the subsequent history of the countries enjoying the status, he says:

The Dominions had acquired the right to conclude commercial treaties with foreign countries and the right to the same was recognised by the U.K. As regards internal affairs, the Dominions are perfectly autonomous—the Government of the Dominions being carried on by the Ministers of the Crown for the Dominions who are responsible to the respective legislature.

Indeed no Act of the Imperial Parliament can apply to the Dominions unless the Act in question has been ratified by a subsequent similar legislation of the Dominion or the Act in question has been passed by the Imperial Parliament at the instance of the Dominion.

Apart from this, isolation under modern conditions, is becoming impossible, under the status of military and economic pressure.

Full and complete independence leads to isolation, whereas Dominion Status leads to inter-dependence. We find that the modern world has become one economic unit; an action in one part of the country has important and far-reaching consequences in other countries. It is admitted on all hands now-a-days that different tariff and economic policies lead to great bitterness and ultimately to wars. A union of countries, having independent powers, has better prospects as a military and economic power than a country which is independent but remains isolated.

Even Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, says the writer, has been emphasising that India would join some world federation after the right to independence is conceded;

ANGLO-AMERICAN HEGEMONY

In the course of an article on Anglo-American hegemony in the war against Japan in the Pacific, Mr. Lin Yutung regrets the neglect of what he calls the China front. He puts in a strong plea for Anglo-American co-operation with India and China in the common endeavour to defeat Japan, wholly and completely. Criticising Mr. Churchill's attitude to India, he says:

The impression is inescapable that we take the attitude that what the Indians think and feel does not matter, that we have sufficient force to quell the Indian rebellion, that the Congress leaders are safely in jail and out of harm's way, and, that being the case, that the situation is perfectly satisfactory. All we need to do is to defend India for the Indians out of a sort of 'noblesse oblige'; in fact, we are stationing English troops in India for the very altruistic purpose of saving her from bloodshed and chaos. As if the denial of the Atlantic Charter to the Indians was not enough, and "lest there be any doubt in any quarters about it," Churchill declared the British war aims very classically in six words, "We mean to hold our own."

And if I interpret Churchill's words correctly, Britain is fighting a twentieth-century war in order to take off its boots after the war and climb into a nineteenth-century bed comfortably mattressed in India, Burma, Singapore and Hongkong. There must be thousands of English people who think differently; if these liberals fail to speak out for the true England they are doing a great disservice to their country and to the Allies.

Mr. Lin Yutung says that when there is no unified and clarified political strategy towards the role of the Asian world in our post-war visions, the result is not absence of political strategy but a confusion of lame and halting strategies. It is inevitable that there should be divisions among any Allies, and it is natural that each nation should think first of its own interests.

Obviously, Hitler is a greater danger to England than Japan, while Japan is a greater danger to China than Hitler. Obviously also, American revulsion against Hitler is more against his ideology and more intellectual, while revulsion against Japan is more instinctive and based on the realities of the future of the Pacific area. It would be true to say that a small percentage of Americans hate Germans as Germans while a large percentage hate the Japs as Japs. But we must also think for England. It is obviously to England's disadvantage to crush Japan before she finishes with Hitler. If Japan should be crushed now while England has her hands full with Hitler, what would happen to Singapore and Hongkong and the whole Pacific area when Japan evacuates?

Clearly American influence would predominate. On the other hand, supposing England wishes to crush Japan completely, she would wish to have her own soldiers on the spot in sufficient strength when Hongkong and Singapore and the whole Pacific area are being re-occupied. That can be only when Hitler is liquidated, and the entire R.A.F. can move to Asia.

This confusion in allied strategy and planning is causing a dangerous gamble with a consolidated and well-entrenched Japan and an isolated and disgruntled China. It is also closely related to the confusion regarding Russia.

This confusion also paralyses any willingness to create an Allied Supreme War Council, at least with the participation of Russia, and China as equal partners, and results in the exclusive domination by Britain and America of war conduct and strategy. It is now clearly established that Anglo-American domination of the war existed in 1912, with no pretence of equality for the other United Nations. It is further clearly established that the strategy born of this Anglo-American domination is not entirely free of the suspicion of placing certain national interests, above the common interests of all Allies, and that even American and British aims in Asia and the Pacific are not the same. If, for instance, the broad policy of "defeating Hitler first" had been fairly discussed and decided upon in an Allied Supreme War Council with China's proper representation, instead of being arrived at arbitrarily by America and England, China would have less ground to complain, since this decision really involves and practically decrees at least three years of prolonged and intense suffering on China's part. Is this type of Allied leadership merely the continuation of the old big-power leadership at the League of Nations?

It is impossible not to draw the inference that Anglo-American domination of the war means Anglo-American domination of the peace and the post-war world.

It is also unconvincing to tell the United Nations that there will be equality among the nations in the peace when there is not even a pretence of equality among the United Nations, or even the nations actually fighting during the war.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

HINDU CULTURE. By J. M. Ganguli. [The Aryan Path, July 1943.]

SARATCHANDRA CHATTERJEE. By Kalipada Mukherjee. [The New Review, July 1943.]

PAKISTAN—A CONSTITUTIONAL STUDY. By Prof. A. Awasthi, M.A. [Prabuddha Bharata, June 1943.]

JAINISM. By Swami Prabhānanda. [The Vedanta Kesari, July 1943.]

THE RELIGION OF FUTURE INDIA. By Satischandra Chakravarty. [The Indian Messenger, May 1943.]

DIARY OF THE MONTH

INDIAN STATES

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June 1. Allied planes bomb Naples.

—Chinese troops occupy Kungan and Ichang.

June 2. Sir A. K. Roy takes charge of his office as Law Member of the Government of India from Sir Sultan Ahmed.

June 3. Allied naval forces bombard Pantellaria: Rome Radio admits the same.

June 4. Mr. Sailendranath Mukerji, Editor of the *Harijan Patrika* of Calcutta, kept as security prisoner, is released.

June 5. The Federal Court holds the Special Criminal Courts Ordinance to be *ultra vires*: Viceroy promulgates new Ordinance directing that pending cases shall be transferred to ordinary courts.

June 6. Dr. Goebbels broadcasting, says that the U-boat is the answer to the R.A.F. raids in Germany.

June 7. Sir Patrick Spens, the new Chief Justice of India, arrives in Delhi.

June 8. Mr. Churchill announces in the Commons, that full accord has been reached with Mr. Roosevelt for striking the Axis by land and sea.

June 9. Mr. Phillips, President Roosevelt's envoy to India, has an audience with Mr. Roosevelt at Washington.

June 10. The Admiralty announces the appointment of Vice-Admiral Sir John H. D. Cunningham to be the naval chief for Near East.

—Allied air and naval forces combine in pounding Pantellaria which has surrendered: Allied troops occupy the Island.

June 11. American heavy bombers attack targets in North-West Germany.

June 12. The Chinese capture Kihwa, the "bomb-Tokyo" air base.

June 13. Allies take Linosa Island in the Mediterranean.

—Allied planes raid Sicily heavily.

June 14. Allies capture Lampedusa and Lampedusa.

—Chinese retake Kungan.

June 15. The Muslim Majlis opposes partition of India "as impracticable".

June 16. H. M. the King visits North Africa.

—British Labour Party votes against affiliation of the Communist Party with them.

June 17. French National Committee meets at Algiers, Gen. Geraud presiding.

June 18. Field-Marshal Wavell is appointed Viceroy of India, and Gen. Auchinleck becomes Commander-in-Chief.

June 19. Sir Claude Auchinleck assumes charge as Commander-in-Chief.

June 20. Allied bombing activities in the Pacific causing heavy loss to Jap navy.

—Daylight attack on Italian islands.

June 21. Earthquake in Turkey: severe damage at Ada Bazaar.

June 22. Negro-white riot in Detroit.

—French differences settled by allied intervention.

June 23. U.S. coal strike ends.

—Eire General Election.

June 24. Italy evacuates Castello Rosso.

—Mr. Amery says in the Commons that India policy is unchanged.

June 25. American raid on Salonika.
—Eire election ends—No absolute majority for De Valera.

June 26. Government announces new loan programme.

—King George returns to England.

June 27. South African Indian Congress meets at Johannesburg.

June 28. Field-Marshal Wavell's farewell order of the day to the armed forces.

June 29. South African Indian Congress concludes after shelving the United Front resolution.

June 30. Viscountcy conferred on Field-Marshal Wavell.

—Mr. Churchill receives Freedom of the City of London.

Hyderabad

RATIONING IN HYDERABAD

Replying to the Memorandum on the food problem presented to His Excellency the President of H.E.H. the Nizam's Executive Council by a deputation of public workers, the Director of Food Supplies has written to Miss Padmaja Naidu, the Leader of the deputation, that Government do not consider it necessary, at least at present, to introduce rationing of rice and jowar, because the condition of shortage necessary for rationing is not present. The letter says that Government have decided to increase gradually the number of controlled cost-price grain shops in the City of Hyderabad and also to make special arrangements for the supply of grains to the staff of Government Departments, industrial labour, orphanages and other public institutions.

The letter adds: "Government will be pleased to receive the co-operation of public workers and their advice on food problems. It is considering the dissolution of the existing Price Control Committees, and their replacement by a Dominion Food Advisory Council and by City and District Food Advisory Committees, with large non-official elements."

NAWAB OF CHHATARI'S CALL

Nawab of Chhatari, Prime Minister of Hyderabad, in the course of a broadcast talk from Hyderabad made a fervent appeal to the youths of the country to enlist themselves in the Army for which special facilities have been made in Hyderabad. He said, the country has rejoiced at the glorious victory of Allies in North Africa and she is now anxiously looking forward to celebrate the complete victory. In conclusion, he appealed to the Revenue and Police officers of the State to provide every facility to the youngman seeking recruitment and thus making recruitment movement a success.

LAND REVENUE REMISSION

In view of the adverse seasonal conditions and consequent economic distress prevailing among the agriculturists of Raichur district, H.E.H. the Nizam has sanctioned a grant of remissions in land revenue amounting to Rs. 8,30,000.

Mysore

EXPANSION OF PRIMARY EDUCATION

On an average there was one school for an area of 3'49 sq. miles, and for every 150 persons of the total population in the State, and one out of every 2'81 of the population of the school-going age was under instruction, according to the Government review on the report on Public Instruction in Mysore State for the year ending June 30, 1942.

The total expenditure on public instruction, both direct and indirect, including that on University education, amounted to Rs. 76,37,985. The Government review records great progress in the field of primary education since control over the same was resumed by Government from the local bodies with effect from July 1, 1941, consequent on the passing of the Elementary Education Act, 1941. The four-year programme of expansion of primary education has been put into effect and 750 single-teacher schools have been opened in 1941-42 and 1942-43.

Reviewing the progress of adult education, the Government observe that the Mysore State Adult Literary Council was constituted for co-ordinating the efforts made by several agencies for educating illiterate adults. Grants amounting to Rs. 32,000 during the current year and the previous year were sanctioned to be placed at the disposal of the Council for adult literacy work.

SURPLUS BUDGET FOR MYSORE

The Mysore Government's Budget for the year 1943-44 presented to the Representative Assembly on June 1, shows a surplus of Rs. 3'96 lakhs, the anticipated Revenue and Expenditure being Rs. 600'98 lakhs and Rs. 597'02 lakhs respectively.

The revised Budget figures for the current year (1942-43) are Rs. 588'48 lakhs under 'Receipts' and Rs. 587'21 lakhs under 'Expenditure' revealing a surplus of Rs. 1'27 lakhs. The largest increase under 'Receipts' during the current year was under duty on gold, the actual amount realised from this source being over one crore of rupees as against an estimated income of Rs. 24 lakhs.

Baroda

REGISTERED COMPANIES

There were 150 registered companies in the State in the year 1940-41—132 public companies and 18 private. Of these 87 were incorporated in the State and the remaining were foreign. Of the indigenous companies, 23 were cotton mills, 10 were electric supply companies, 9 for chemical and allied trade, 4 life insurance companies and the remaining were agencies and miscellaneous companies. Of the 63 foreign companies, 51 were insurance companies.

RELIEF TO FIRE VICTIMS

Gratuitous relief to the extent of Rs. 50 each was sanctioned by Government from the Distress Relief Fund to some sufferers as a result of the fire which broke out in Navapura, a village in Dabhoi taluka, in March last.

Deccan States

FEDERATION OF DECCAN STATES

The aims of the Deccan States Subjects' Conference were outlined in a resolution passed at the thirteenth session of the Conference held at Jamkhandi under the presidentship of Pandit Satawalekar of Aundh.

The resolution defined the aims of the Conference as, first, to make every Deccan State self-sufficient, equip it with full Responsible Government, and to prepare it as a complete unit of the future Federation of Deccan States as outlined in the report of the Sabade Committee appointed to frame a Federal Constitution: and, secondly, to revise that constitution within the next four months to make it more perfect at the hands of a wider committee appointed by the Conference.

The resolution demanded that till the desired Federation was achieved, an attempt should be made, through deliberations with State Rulers and the Political Department, to establish a joint High Court for States offering to join the Federation.

Pandit Satawalekar, in the course of his speech, referred to the rights and duties of State Rulers and dwelt on the implications of the proposed Deccan States' Federation.

Travancore

GOVERNMENT AND MUNICIPALITIES

"The policy of the Government in regard to municipalities is definite and proclaimed. The Government will not interfere with the resolutions of municipalities, least of all with the financial commitments which the municipalities enter into. If, however, a municipality launched upon unsuccessful enterprises and came to Government for grant, Government would then consider whether the municipality had been unnecessarily ambitious or too conservative with regard to its financial activities," observed Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Dewan, at an 'at home', in the Corporation buildings, Trivandrum, given by Mr. K. George, the new Mayor.

Mr. George dealt with the achievements of the Trivandrum Corporation from its inception up to the present day.

The Dewan in his speech advised the Corporation not to embark on unwieldy schemes, but concentrate on definite, handy and urgent schemes like slum clearance in selected areas, in which work he promised the co-operation of the Government. He said that the municipality could put up model cottages in suitable localities and levy a betterment tax. Referring to the problem of beggar relief, he cited the instance of Kottayam as a model to be followed, and announced a donation of Rs. 2,000 as his contribution towards the founding of a beggar home in Trivandrum. The Dewan concluded with a tribute to H.H. the Maharaja and H.H. the Maharani who were deeply devoted to the task of beautifying the city.

DONATION TO UNIVERSITY

Two substantial biennial prizes named after His Highness the Maharaja and Her Highness the Maharani have been rendered possible by the magnificent donation of one lakh of rupees made by the Government to the University. The main purpose of the gift is to encourage original research in Sanskrit literature, Hindu philosophy and science. It is learnt that the Government are handing over the sum of one lakh of rupees to the Travancore University for an endowment out of proceeds of which the prizes are to be awarded.

Indore

RAJA GYAN NATH, PRIME MINISTER

His Highness the Maharaja Holkar having intimated that he is unable to return to India in the near future without serious detriment to the complete recovery of his health, and various difficulties having been experienced in regard to the indefinite continuation of the existing arrangements for the administration of his State, which were never intended to be more than temporary but have now been in force for over seven months, it has become necessary to make now arrangements pending the return of the Maharaja Holkar to his State, states a Press *communiqué*.

It has accordingly been arranged, with the approval of his Highness the Maharaja, to appoint Raja Gyan Nath as his Highness's Prime Minister.

His Excellency the Crown Representative has conveyed to his Highness the Maharaja of Dewas (Senior) an expression of his high appreciation of the ability and success with which he has conducted the administration of the Indore State during the past seven months.

Cochin

VILLAGE COURTS FOR COCHIN

The Village Courts of Cochin State were inaugurated at a conference of the newly appointed judges held under the presidentship of Rao Sahib C. V. Antony, retired Chief Justice. A number of prominent officials and non-officials from all over the State were present.

In the course of a message, Mr. T. S. Narayana Aiyar, Chief Justice, Cochin, emphasised the need for purity and efficiency in the administration of the courts and the speedy dispensation of justice to villagers.

The President pointed out the responsibilities of the 175 judges, who presided over the 35 village courts, in meting out justice to ten lakhs of villagers comprising 75 per cent. of the State population.

On behalf of the judges, Mr. P. Kunju Menon congratulated the Government on the speedy steps taken to inaugurate the courts.

Bharatpur

BHARATPUR INDUSTRIES

The advisability of industrialisation has been under discussion for some years past. So long ago as 1936, there was an application for the establishment of a card board factory among others, but the scheme fell through. On the 19th December, 1942, Messrs. Ram Kumar Agarwal and Company, Calcutta, applied for permission to establish "Paper and Board Mills" at Bharatpur and for the grant of certain concessions in this connection. The Bharatpur Government have given their careful consideration to the proposal.

The Government consider it desirable and necessary to encourage this industry in this State. They have, therefore, been pleased to grant permission for the registration of a Company by the name of "Sri Brijendra Paper and Board Mills, Limited" and the establishment of a factory by it at Bharatpur and to sanction certain concessions to that Company on specified conditions.

Kashmir

THE FOOD SITUATION

The steps taken by His Highness's Government during the last few weeks have brought about an improvement in the food situation and checked the upward tendency in prices in Jammu. The situation, however, needs constant and careful watching and handling.

His Highness's Government have, therefore, sanctioned the appointment of Captain R. G. Wreford, as Controller of Supplies and Prices for Jammu Province, in addition to his duties as Special Secretary, and given him the necessary staff.

Jaipur

TRAINING OF YOUNG JAIPURIANS

The Government of Jaipur have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 8,000 on account of capitation fee for three students to be sent for higher medical training in some Medical College in British India. This welcome step has been taken in pursuance of their policy to train young Jaipurians for all efficient positions in the State.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

SOUTH AFRICAN INDIAN CONGRESS

"Indians do not desire domination or supremacy in Natal. They act on the policy of 'live and let live'. All they insist on is equality of opportunity and abolition of colour bar which is inconsistent with the sanctity of human rights", declared the High Commissioner Sir Shafaat Ahmed Khan, opening the sixteenth session of the South African Indian Congress at Johannesburg. Sir S. A. Khan then proceeded to deal with the so-called 1939 Interim Act and the Pegging Act of 1943.

The community has been subjected to a series of humiliating laws which have deprived it of social freedom and political rights. The community has been deprived of rights of representation in local bodies and public services in the Parliament as well as in the Universities. It is denied admission even to hotels, cinemas, places of culture and subjected to a colour bar for which history affords no precedent. It seems the greater the progress made by the Indians the greater are the restrictions imposed on their development.

The Pegging Act, the speaker observed, had dealt a heavy blow at the hopes for the amelioration of Indian conditions. The Act had played into the hands of Berlin and Tokyo which applauded it as propaganda against the United Nations.

Councillor K. Ismail in his presidential address described the Pegging Act as more in keeping with racial oppression than with the ideal of democracy and freedom. It had been introduced as a matter of political expediency and passage was possible because the Indians were the only section of the community without representation. He revealed that the Member-in-charge of Indians Overseas of the Government of India was convening a meeting of Indian leaders to discuss the matter, and added "what corrective they can bring on the Union Government is in the lap of gods". He urged the Congress to demand a clear and unequivocal statement from Government on their future policy in regard to Indians who should be given a full picture of what was in store for them. He appealed for a united political front with other non-European races and also that Indians should close their own ranks.

INDIAN SEAMEN'S HARDSHIPS

The necessity of intervention by His Excellency the Viceroy "in the matter of removing the hardships that are being experienced by a large number of Indian seamen in the Union of South Africa, particularly in respect of housing and food supplies" is urged in a telegram addressed by Mr. Aftab Ali, M.L.A., President of the Indian Seamen's Union, to the Private Secretary to H.E. the Viceroy.

Ceylon

INDO-CEYLON RELATIONS

Major G. St. J. Orde Browne, Labour Adviser to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, in his report on labour conditions in Ceylon, Mauritius and Malaya, makes a reference to Indo-Ceylon relations and says: "A solution of the disagreement is much to be desired, not only for the avoidance of economic difficulties and individual hardship, but also for the elimination of a cause of serious friction among the various elements of the population of the island."

Dealing with future immigration, Major Orde Browne states that the logic of utilising a labour force near at hand rather than one imported from a distance is so obvious that it would seem certain to prevail. The employment of a greater proportion of village labour would, to that degree, relieve estates of the heavy burden of maintenance of labourers and their families.

U.S.A.

U.S. CITIZENSHIP FOR INDIANS

Two young Indians serving with the United States armed forces have been granted American citizenship—the first Indian nationals on the east coast at least to become American citizens since 1924. They are Mr. Rubykhan of Artgar village, Atujan Bourkafan in Sylhet, Assam and Mr. Mazjar Uddin of Monsur village, Kolaura in Sylhet. Under a special section of the Naturalisation Laws they were able to apply for citizenship after serving 90 days with the American Army.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

SERVANTS OF INDIA SOCIETY'S DEMAND

At a meeting of the Council of the Servants of India Society at Poona on June 14, the following among other resolutions were passed:

The Council of the Servants of India Society views with grave concern the situation created by Government's refusal to permit Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookherjee and Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and the deputation of the Delhi Leaders' Conference to interview Mahatma Gandhi in prison with a view to securing a solution of the present political stalemate. . . . The Council cannot too strongly condemn the obstructionist policy of Government which will not only intensify the discontent in the country and prevent the formation of a National Government but also seriously impede the war effort. Indeed, the situation in respect of law and order has so greatly improved that the Council feels that Congress leaders can be set at liberty without any serious risk to public peace. It, therefore, urges that they should be released immediately and unconditionally.

The Council of the Servants of India Society condemns the attempts that are being made in certain provinces governed under Section 93 of the Government of India Act to set up Ministries without parliamentary majorities. Such Ministries can be set up only with the help of Governors and can function only in the absence of Congressmen in jail. The Ministries in such Cabinets will be non-official Advisers in disguise, as they will owe their positions not to any parliamentary majority but to the support of the Government. The formation of such Ministries will mislead international opinion and make it appear that genuine democratic Government is functioning in the provinces. The proper way of ending Section 93 rule is to hold general elections in the provinces concerned and to set up Ministries in accordance with the result of those elections.

M.P.'S PLEA FOR RECOGNITION

Seven backbench Labour Members of Parliament have issued a declaration announcing the establishment of a "Council for the international recognition of Indian Independence" whose avowed aim is to "obtain a solemn guarantee from the United Nations for India in exercise of those rights proclaimed in the Atlantic Charter as belonging to all peoples." The declaration is also signed by Professor George Catlin, former Professor of Politics at Cornell University.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

F. M. WAVELL'S ASSURANCE

Field-Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell made his first public statement on India since his appointment as Viceroy-designate to a group of British and Empire journalists at the India Office on June 22. He said:

You will naturally not expect me to make a detailed statement on policy or to talk about future plans. I can only say that I am a sincere friend of India and am wholeheartedly in sympathy with her aspirations to political development and a firm believer in her future. I owe to India five of the best years of my life as a young officer and two of the fullest and most interesting years as her Commander-in-Chief. I will do my best to repay that debt by further service to India.

It is obvious that India's progress must depend on the successful prosecution of the war and that complete fulfilment of her aspirations requires the removal of the Japanese menace. India is a vital supply base for the strategy of the United Nations in the East and the more fully and rapidly India can develop and extend the great war effort she is already making the sooner will the shadow of war pass from her and the earlier can she achieve her aim of full self-government.

This does not mean that I go to India as a soldier or that there can be no political progress before the end of the war. I have put off my uniform—with what regret you may imagine—and ended my military career in the hope that I can better serve our cause and India's as a civilian. There is certainly no intention to set by anything in the shape of a military rule or to withdraw or weaken in any way the pledges and offers already made to India by His Majesty's Government.

It will naturally occur to you that it is not so easy to put off the military habit of mind by a single change of garb. But it is a mistake to think that a soldier's mind is always occupied with military affairs. I have had some experience in other countries with the machinery of Government and with political development and as a member of the Viceroy's Council in the last two years have at least gained some knowledge of India's problems and administration. . . .

So much attention has been focussed on the problem of India's political development that I think there are many who do not realise how much has been done and remains to be done in India's social and economic progress. That is, of course, mainly, the work of Indians themselves, but I hope that sympathy on my part for such progress may assist in furthering it.

LABOUR AND INDIA POLICY

After a speech by Mr. Reginald Sorensen, Member of Parliament, urging Government to make another offer to India or at least reopen negotiations, Mr. Arthur Greenwood, at the Labour Party Conference, last month, persuaded the backers of the two resolutions to withdraw them on a pledge that the Party Executive would immediately open new discussions on the Indian policy.

Mr. Sorensen, who is Secretary of the India League Parliamentary Committee, was moving the resolution on behalf of his own constituency Labour Party (Leyton) and three other divisional parties urging Government

to recognise the increasing urgency of a settlement with India and take the initiative in negotiating with the Indian national leaders on the basis of recognition of India's independence and formation of a provisional Government of Indian national unity under an Indian Prime Minister.

Mr. Sorensen said:

Although undoubtedly communal differences do exist in India, it is my conviction that the Cripps offer did not fail primarily through any communal differences. I would urge the conference once more to press on Government to make another offer to India or at least open negotiations with India. I express profound regret that Government has not enabled Congress leaders who, Mr. Amery himself admitted, were leaders of great and important parties to be in contact with non-Congress leaders like Mr. Rajagopalachari and Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru. Why cannot we allow these Indian patriots to be in contact with other Indians?

PANDIT KUNZRU ON THE DEADLOCK

Addressing the Members and Associates of the Servants of India Society, Poona, on the occasion of its 37th anniversary on June 12, Pandit Kunzru, President of the Society, reviewed the political situation in the country and dwelt on the unwillingness of the Government to part with power.

Referring to the move to set up Ministries in the Provinces, where Section 93 is in force. Mr. Kunzru said that this was to show to the outside world that democratic governments were functioning in the Provinces. The move had to be strongly condemned because such Ministries could function only in the absence of a large number of legislators who are under detention.

CONTROL OVER AFFILIATED COLLEGES

By 52 votes against 11, the Bombay University Senate has adopted a resolution moved by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad on the subject of "the attempt of the Director of Public Instruction to exercise control and supervision over affiliated colleges not maintained or aided by Government."

The resolution stated that the Senate viewed with apprehension the attempt on the part of the Director to exercise control and supervision over affiliated colleges by requiring them to submit weekly reports on "the discipline of the institution" under various detailed heads, including "the attendance and conduct of the staff."

Requesting the Government to instruct the Director not to make such requisitions in the future, the resolution added:

The Senate regret that the Director should have deprived scholars of Government scholarships at the H. L. Commerce College, Ahmedabad, as a measure of retaliation because the Principal declined to furnish weekly reports regarding the discipline of the institution including the attendance and conduct of the staff.

After a two-hour debate, an amendment to the resolution seeking to refer the proposition to the Syndicate was negatived by the Senate.

Dr. S. N. Moss, the Director of Public Instruction, assured that the views expressed by the Senate on the subject would be carefully considered by the Government.

CHEAP TEXT-BOOKS

Proposals for removing the inconvenience and hardship caused to parents as a result of frequent changes and the high prices of text-books which substantially increase the cost of education, are made by the Central Advisory Board of Education in a resolution adopted by them recently.

The Board think it desirable that copyright of books approved by the Text-book Committee should be purchased by Government and, like standard classical works, they may be printed and published by any firm. The Board further think that the maximum price of these books should also be fixed by Government and that the books prescribed should not be changed in at least three years.

HINDUSTAN TIMES APPEAL

The Privy Council has allowed the appeal preferred by the *Hindustan Times* (Delhi) in the case wherein Mr. Devadas Gandhi, the editor of the paper and two others had been convicted for contempt of court by the Allahabad High Court.

Messrs. D. N. Pritt, M.P., K.C., and R. K. Handoo appeared for the appellants, while Sir Walter Moncton, Messrs. W. W. K. Page and B. J. M. MackKenna appeared for the respondent.

The Privy Council allowed the appeal setting aside the conviction. The fines were ordered to be repaid.

The decision was made on the ground that the statement made in the *Hindustan Times* did not amount to contempt of court at all. The statements consisted of a news item reporting that the Chief Justice of the Allahabad High Court had asked judicial officers in the province to assist in the raising of funds for war effort and also of an editorial comment to the effect that if that statement was correct, such a course of conduct would reflect on the prestige of the High Court.

Mr. Pritt maintained that the conviction was the result not of a fair trial.

The essence of it is that the learned Chief Justice filled all the following roles. He was the only victim of the criticism. He directed the prosecution, that is to say, that the prosecution should take place. He sat as the judge at every stage of the prosecution. At the same time he conducted the proceedings as if in effect he were the prosecutor, eliminating the Government advocate almost entirely from the proceedings. He was a witness as to the most vital facts of the case. He was examined as a witness without notice to the defendants and behind their backs and then brought as a witness into the court, of course, and examined. He adjudicated upon the acute contest of facts which made considerable difference to the hearing. And of course, he sentenced the appellants (being the judge and after all he could not very well avoid doing that) and then he—it is a minor matter perhaps—refused them stay of execution of sentences, while they came to ask leave for appeal to Your Lordships.

SECURITY PRISONERS IN BENGAL

The Government of Bengal have sanctioned certain increases in the allowances granted to families of security prisoners.

RATES ON MEDITERRANEAN ROUTE

The Mediterranean route is now open to merchant shipping and goods can not only be sent by it but can also be insured. In the opinion of London underwriters—there are few better judges—the Mediterranean route to the East is even safer than *via* the Cape. The rate of insurance quoted to Aden, the Red Sea, Suez, Port Said and Alexandria, for instance, *via* the Cape is still 15 per cent.; it is only 10 per cent. *via* the Mediterranean. The rate for voyages from Britain to Ceylon *via* the Cape is also 15 per cent., while the same journey *via* the Mediterranean can be covered at 12½ per cent. The revised list of rates issued by the Institute of London Underwriters shows a reduction in the rates of insurance for many other voyages also.

UNITED INDIA LIFE ASSURANCE CO., LTD.

Presiding over the 37th Annual General Meeting of the United India Life Assurance Co., Ltd., the Hon'ble Mr. M. Ct. M. Chidambaram Chettiar referred to the very good progress the Company has made during the year 1942. 4829 proposals were received during the year for Assurances amounting to Rs. 1,02,02,547. Out of these and also the proposals pending in the beginning of the year, 4,114 new Policies assuring a sum of Rs. 84,70,887 were issued during the year. The total assurances in force in the books of the Company as on 31st December 1942, including bonus additions amounted to Rs. 6,74,86,100. The Policy-holders' Trust Fund at the end of the year stood at Rs. 1,77,49,239, which marks a very good increase from that of the previous year.

The investment policy of the Company is an outstanding feature of the Report.

HEALTH INSURANCE IN CANADA

A comprehensive system of national health insurance is the feature of a social security charter for Canada outlined by the Canadian pensions minister, Mr. Mackenzie, before a special committee of the House of Commons on March 16. The plan is submitted in the form of a draft bill prepared by the Advisory Committee on health insurance.

LEND-LEASE AID TO INDIA

The United States office of war information in a special report on Lend-Lease aid to India said that India was being strengthened with the aid of Lend-Lease as the source of supply for Allied Armies in China, India and the areas of the Middle-East. The report stated, in part: "The Lend-Lease programme for India includes improvements of Indian harbours and Railway systems and increased shipments of machine tools and raw materials to enable expanded production on the spot of munitions and other supplies to save shipping from the United States and England. From its inception in March 1941 to January this year, Lend-Lease aid to India totalled 295,501,494 dollars in value."

TEXTILE CONTROL ORDER

The Government of India have issued an order setting forth measures to control the prices, production and sale of cotton cloth and yarn and to prevent hoarding by manufacturer and consumer.

The order sets up a Textile Control Board consisting of 25, with a non-official chairman to be designated by the Central Government to advise the Central Government through the Textile Commissioner in declaring and defining classess and specifications of cloth and yarn which may be manufactured by mills; fixing maximum prices, both ex-factory and retail, and prescribing the markings which manufacturers shall make upon the cloth manufactured by them.

ECONOMIC CRISIS IN INDIA

The *Wall Street Magazine* points out that the political tug of war in India is overshadowing financial and economic developments which in the long run may be more important.

It recalls that India had become a creditor nation with a favourable balance of international payments, while on the other hand the country's economy is threatened with inflation, coincident with a shortage of food-stuffs such as rice, which is normally imported from Burma. The situation is further complicated by transportation difficulties.

BRITISH WOMEN IN INDIA

British women living in India have done more to make enmity between the two races than any other factor, said Mrs. Iris Portal, sister of the President of the Board of Education, Mr. R. A. Butler.

In a paper on "Individual Responsibility in India", read before the East India Association, Mrs. Portal said that she spoke as an individual after having spent 20 years in India. She said: "I would like to feel that every British man and woman who has anything to do with India is a practising Christian democrat".

Mrs. Portal said: "It is bitter to see the betrayal of the best in us by individual British behaviour now. This betrayal arises partly from ignorance and bad manners. The British, as a whole, never exchange ideas with Indians. The diet of Polo, Mahjong and Bridge is not very nourishing to ideas. There is also the bugbear of prestige."

Mrs. Portal added that entering into Indian family life and taking Indians into the British home circle should be the most natural thing in the world. It was in this respect that British women, in India had done so much to create enmity.

WOMAN POWER HELPS SOLVE MAN POWER

How women are helping to solve the U.S. manpower problem is described in an article in a New York City newspaper.

"Hundreds of women in two giant steel mills in Upper New York State are busy proving that the answer to the manpower shortage is womanpower," the article declares.

"What is more, they stick to their jobs, and the rate of absenteeism is very low."

RIGHTS OF HINDU WOMEN

Resolutions supporting the main principles of the Hindu Intestate Succession Bill were passed at a meeting of women of Simla. It was pointed out that the Bill should be so amended, that the daughter must be given an equal share with the son, in the father's property.

MUZZLING THE INDIAN PRESS

"A free Press", wrote Lord Elphinstone (Governor of Bombay in 1857, just before the famous "Gagging Act" was passed), "seems to be the natural concomitant of free institutions. It is, on the other hand, from its very nature antagonistic to despotic rule and above all, to foreign domination."

The struggle of the Indian Press, which has reflected the contest, first of all, between British Imperialist and British liberal notions, and secondly, at a later stage, the clash between India and Britain, has ebbed and flowed for some 160 years, steadily eroding the cliffs of Imperialism, says Mr. Lionel Fieldon in the *New Statesman and Nation*. It is worth noting that from 1780 to 1823 the fight was exclusively British. Government officials were incensed, not against Indian editors or journals, but against "the European community", which presumed to criticize them in print. Despotism was in full swing, and editors like Hicky, Duane and MacLean—the real pioneers of Indian journalism—were deported without much ado. After describing the successful All-India Press hartal as the Press answer to the August restrictions, Mr. Fieldon observes that Indian Journalistic history seems to show that repressive measures do not pay. National and political voices cannot be wholly stilled even in war-time.

LOUIS FISCHER

It is announced, that in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 41 of the Defence of India Rules, the Central Government is pleased to direct "that all matter relating to India, written or spoken, or purporting to have been written or spoken, by Mr. Louis Fischer, the American journalist and author, shall before being published in British India, whether in the original or in a translation, in any book, pamphlet, newspaper or other document, be submitted by the printer, publisher or editor of the document to the Chief Press Adviser, New Delhi, for scrutiny and that no such matter, as aforesaid, shall be published by any printer, publisher or editor in British India except with the written permission of the Chief Press Adviser, New Delhi."

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THE LATE J. P. MORGAN

Mr. J. P. Morgan, the well-known American banker, is dead.

Friend of King, Pope and Primate, with his four homes, magnificent yacht, priceless art treasures, private bodyguard of detectives, his love of princely living, John Pierpont Morgan was all that popular imagination conceives of a multi-millionaire. Son of a man whose enormous wealth gave him power to influence the destinies of 120 million Americans, he inherited eight million sterling and the throne of a great financial empire. Morgan, head of the great American banking firm of J. P. Morgan and Company, with vast interests in American industry, was 75.

Morgan was engaged in many famous banking deals. When the United States agreed to pay France 40 million dollars in gold for the Panama Canal rights, his firm was entrusted with the task of accumulating the metal without disturbing the world's exchange balance. He took part in nearly every large financial transaction connected with the last war and helped the Allies considerably in raising money for their war effort, including the largest bond issue ever floated in America up to that time. During the worst years of the Wall Street slump, in 1927 to 1931 when Morgan's dealings were far smaller than in the war years, the profits of Morgan's banks were more than 18 million dollars.

GENERAL AUCHINLECK

General Sir Claude Auchinleck, D.S.O., O.B.E., who assumed charge of his office as Commander-in-Chief in India on June 19, was born in 1884, the son of the late Colonel John Claude Auchinleck. He was educated at the Wellington College and served in Egypt, 1914-15, Aden, 1915, and Mesopotamia, 1916-1940. Attached to the Indian Army he was for a time Instructor at the Staff College, Quetta.

General Auchinleck, when Commander-in-Chief in India, replaced Marshal Wavell as the Commander-in-Chief, Middle-East, in July 1941. He pursued the Germans in the swaying battle of the Middle-East once again up to El Agheila. He was replaced by General Alexander after halting the dangerous Nazi advance at El Alamein,

NEW ACOUSTIC STETHOSCOPE

Doctor Harry F. Olson, of the R.C.A. Laboratories, has developed a new acoustic stethoscope which is so sensitive that doctors will be able to hear sounds which have hitherto escaped them. It amplifies the heartbeats, either normal or abnormal, and respiratory rattles, squeaks, murmurs or groans. It has been found that body sounds range from 40 to 4,000 cycles, all of which the new stethoscope can hear. Most body sounds above 4,000 are so weak that they are masked by random noises. The ordinary stethoscope is effective between the ranges of 200 and 1,500 cycles.

TURN-TABLE FOR X-RAY MACHINES

Westinghouse engineers have developed for the University of Pennsylvania Hospital an X-ray machine with a turn-table, which enables the physician to change the position of a patient at will during delicate operations to remove foreign bodies from the lungs. The machine makes possible examinations of horizontal or vertical planes in locating foreign bodies like coins or safety-pins. X-ray pictures can be made from any angle, even the vertical, without lifting or turning the patient.

NEW WAY TO TREAT ASTHMA

A new method for the relief of bronchial asthma is related by two doctors of Philadelphia's Hahnemann Medical College at the Pan-American Homoeopathic Congress at Cincinnati. The method consists in removing a pint or a pint and a half of the patient's blood, then exposing it to ultra-violet light for a few minutes and once again returning it to the veins. It is claimed that the ultra-violet light increases the oxygen content of the blood which gives relief to the patient.

NEW PREGNANCY TEST

At the meeting of the New York State Medical Society, Doctors Udall J. Salmon, Samuel H. Geist, Charles S. Poole and Austin Salmon of the Mount Sinai Hospital, demonstrated a new pregnancy test, using rats instead of rabbits, which requires only two hours compared with 48 to 96 hours formerly. A woman's urine is injected into an infant rat. If she is pregnant, the blood vessels in the rat's ovaries enlarge within two hours.

HIGHER NUTRITIVE VALUE OF RICE

Converted rice, too tough for the bugs, but delicious when cooked for army messes, was described to members of the American Association of Cereal Chemists recently.

Before dehulling, the rice is given a steeping process that takes nutrients from the hulls and puts them inside. The starch gelatinises, making hard, finished grain after milling.

This converted rice has the keeping qualities of milled grain, but retains the higher nutritive qualities of brown rice.

Declaring that the product deserves more attention, Major Virgil O. Wodicka of the U.S. Army Quartermaster Corps, explained that its hardness even discourages the weevils that often destroy army cereal supplies.

In a laboratory test weevils were put in a three-room compartment to live for six weeks. Each section contained a different type of rice.

"At no time during this period," Major Wodicka stated, "were weevils seen working on the converted rice, whereas at all times the weevils were present and thriving in the two other types."

The rice cooks up well, and has the advantage of staving in separate particles instead of forming a gummy mass.

TEA AND MOODS

The Editor of *Lancet*, a widely known medical journal of London, once observed: "Tea has a strange influence over moods, a strange power of changing the look of things, and changing it for the better, so that we can believe and hope and do under the influence of tea what we should otherwise give up in discouragement and despair."

SUBSTITUTE FOR FISH LIVER OIL

A new concentrated vitamin D-3 products made from sea mussels, mollusks and other spineless marine animals, has been placed on sale in Sweden and will be employed chiefly as a substitute for fish liver oil and other vitamin products which are now unobtainable to fortify poultry and animal foods.

RESTRICTIONS ON BANKING COMPANIES

The necessity to amend Section 277 (1) of the Indian Companies Act with a view to make it obligatory on every banking company to issue only ordinary shares or in the alternative, ordinary, preference or any other kind of shares provided the capital structure is such as to allow of voting rights in proportion to the capital contributed by each class of shares and to require that the subscribed capital is not less than half of the authorised capital, is stressed by the Committee of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta, in the course of a communication addressed to the Government of India regarding the proposals made by the Reserve Bank of India in this behalf.

The Committee feel that the corrective legislation that may be introduced to implement the proposals of the Reserve Bank of India should be enforced with retrospective effect, irrespective of the considerations whether a banking company was organised before or after the war. The Committee, however, suggest that a period of not more than two years should be allowed to the banking companies to adjust themselves for the purpose.

POST-WAR CURRENCY STABILISATION

The *Financial News* discountenances suggestions that the successful conclusion of the Hot Springs Food Conference presages an early agreement on post-war currency plans. The paper says that well-informed quarters expect that agreement on a concrete currency plan will be much more difficult than on broad principles. Britain and the United States have already reached an understanding on the basic principles of post-war currency.

RATIONING OF MONEY

It was time that the Government realised the true cause of the rise of prices in the country and took the right steps to check it, said Dr. P. J. Thomas, addressing a meeting at the New Senate Room, Madras, sometime ago.

The wage-earners spent their money on essential food-stuffs, and so the burden of the rise in the cost of living has to be borne by them. Mere rationing of stuffs alone would not solve the problem unless rationing of money too was undertaken.

FREIGHT TRAFFIC ON BRITISH RAILWAYS

During 1942 freight traffic carried by British railways which before the war averaged seventeen thousand million ton miles has increased by seven thousand million ton miles of passenger traffic (formerly about twenty thousand million passenger miles). In part these figures reflect the big cuts made in road traffic to economise petrol and rubber, but increases on this score are offset to some extent by a heavy fall in the volume of goods distributed for civilian consumption and by drastic reductions in holiday and pleasure travel of all kinds. For the most part, the very large addition to the work of the railways is an indication of the great scale of industrial activity for the war effort. Since the beginning of the war, stated the British Railway Press Office, 160,000 special trains had been run for the conveyance of troops and their equipment, and still greater demands are expected this year.

WAGON LOADINGS

Despite the improvement in earnings, wagon loadings during April indicate a decrease of about 1 per cent. on the Broad Gauge, says *Capital*. On the Metre Gauge, however, there has been an increase as compared with last year of 9.65 per cent. It is interesting to compare the current figures with those for April, 1941, which must have been free from many of the disturbing factors of 1942. Thus considered, the statistics of *wagon loadings* during last month show a drop of 13 per cent. on the Broad Gauge and 15 per cent. on the Metre Gauge. Except for full wagons, there has been a decrease under all heads. Grains and pulses are down by 22 per cent., oil-seeds by 39 per cent. and Miscellaneous Smalls by 45 per cent.

HOSPITAL TRAINS

The first of many hospital trains designed for use in the coming invasion of Europe has been turned over to the U.S. Army by a British railroad shop. The trains can run on all trunk line railroads of Europe except Russia. A careful study was made of continental rail clearances, gradients, curves and tunnels before the final design was approved.

DANCING IN SCHOOLS

Dancing should be included in our schools and colleges! This suggestion was made by Sadhona Bose in her speech on the occasion of the Bombay Art Society's Jubilee Celebration recently.

This need was felt, long ago, she said, by Shri Chaitanya, the great Vaishnava revivalist, and in more recent days, by our immortal Rabindranath Tagore. When the story of the Indian Dance renaissance comes to be written, Tagore's name shall be there in letters of gold. Another name which comes in purview is that of the late Guru Saday Dutt, the founder of the famous "Bratachari" movement. His untiring efforts to revitalise the nation through the revival of vigorous and virile types of folk-dances, met with the sympathy and support of the Government. And then, of course, comes Shri Uday Shankar, who has been happily described as "India's cultural ambassador." Of particular interest and value has been his progressive presentation of modern social themes and problems through the dance. And the success of his laudable efforts goes to strengthen my case for the necessity of immediate recognition of the great value of dancing.

ART IN ADVERTISING

"An artist in industry is not one who, after spending a considerable amount of his time producing beautiful water-colours of woodland scenes, may suddenly awake to the idea that he would like to draw advertisements and is therefore able to make convincing displays all at once. His very technical methods of drawing and painting must be relearned to conform with the reason of his employment—that is, in the main, to make a product pleasing to the public. There remains, of course, the psychological aspect of the temperament of the artist when he applies himself to industry." Thus observed Mr. Stanley Jackson, speaking on "Art in Industry" at the Y.M.C.A.

The ability to draw is not enough, the ability to draw well is not enough, the artist must co-operate with typographers, photographers and engravers, which clearly means that he must have at least a working knowledge of their business.

AUSTRALIAN CRICKETERS IN LONDON

This summer London has been having more cricket than it has had so far during the previous years of the present war, says a press correspondent from London. The Royal Australian Air Force, which raised teams for only two representative matches last year, have now so many players that they will be able to take part in several big games. In addition, they are running a regular R. A. A. F. Headquarters XI, and occasionally will join forces with the prewar London Australian Cricket Club.

Several experienced cricketers have arrived since last season to make the playing of several big matches possible. Among them are Flying Officer K. Ridings, opening batsman for the South Australia team, which, under the captaincy of Don Bradman, won the Sheffield Shield just before the war; Pilot Officer A. W. Roper, New South Wales fast bowler, and Flying Officer S. G. Sismey, New South Wales wicket-keeper.

Another newcomer is Sergeant J. A. Jeffreys, Western Australia opening bat, who played against the 1937-38 M. C. C. touring team.

Two of last season's outstanding players in Australian cricket in England, Sergeant A. MacDonald and Sergeant B. Sheidow, are again available.

BOMBAY PENTANGULAR

The dates of this season's Bombay Pentangular Cricket Tournament have been announced, and India's greatest sporting festival, which was allowed to lapse last year, will be held once again—unless, of course, subsequent developments arise to interfere with it, as they did last season not only in connection with the Pentangular but also in the case of Bombay's participation in the Cricket Championship of India for the Ranji Trophy.

If sane counsels prevail, however, there will be no interference again, says the *Illustrated Weekly*, "and none of that regrettable agitation which can create only one possible impression on the minds of right-thinking sportsmen—disgust that sport should be harnessed in the interests of politics, parties or otherwise."

RADIO-ACTIVITY ANALYSIS

Radio-activity is now being used to determine the amount of potassium in fertilizers and other mixtures. The new method may completely replace the old chemical analysis method, until now the only general method in use. This is a laborious task taking hours to complete. The radio-activity method requires a relatively short time. It is claimed to be accurate.

Radio-activity is a property possessed by certain substances, such as radium, of giving off spontaneously special rays of radiations that are invisible to the eye but which will pass through materials through which ordinary light will not pass. Potassium mixtures and compounds possess this property to a slight degree. In the new method the quantity of potassium present is determined by the intensity of the radio-activity of the mixture. The radio-activity is weak but is measurable by extremely sensitive modern physical instruments.

The new method is the result of research done by two U.S. scientists, Dr. R. Bowling Barnes and Dr. D. J. Salley of the American Cyanamid Company.

TWO NEW PHOTO PROCESSES

Working blueprints can now be dispensed with in war factories, thanks to a novel photographic process that has been devised in a U.S. laboratory. A photographic emulsion is sprayed directly upon the huge metal sheets required in building ships, planes, and tanks. After being properly exposed, the sheets become full-scale photographs which clearly indicate where they have to be drilled, stamped, or cut. As can be imagined, the saving in man-hours is impressive.

A new flashlight device, also invented in the United States, facilitates centering the subject to be photographed upon the film. It combines an accurately curved reflector, designed to get maximum light value from a small flash bulb, with a second, smaller reflector and bulb. Mounted just within the lower edge of the first reflector, this auxiliary unit throws a small light beam parallel to the axis of the camera's focus, and shows where it is pointing.

MR. VASAN'S PLEA FOR TAMIL FILMS

Mr. S. S. Vasan, President, South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce, at a tea-party given by him at the Gemini Studios, Madras, on June 20, explained the trade difficulties caused by the Government's restriction on footage of feature films to 11,000 feet. He said that the order had been passed arbitrarily and without consulting South Indian interests.

The average length of the Tamil and Telugu film was 17,026 feet, but that of Bombay was only 12,041 feet. The cut caused by the Government's order in Bombay was only 14 per cent, but for Madras it worked to 35 per cent.

Mr. Vasan said that the conditions in South India were quite different from that of the other provinces. The Bombay film had an assured middle and upper class support and commanded a wider market. But the South India films had a limited area. The cost of production of both the films were almost the same.

For this reason, added Mr. Vasan, the South Indian Film Producer had to handle familiar themes in familiar ways to satisfy the taste of the man in the street. In order to produce such a film he should present a good old theme in a familiar way with more songs. Such a treatment demanded a longer footage.

EXPANSION OF FILM INDUSTRY

Emphasising the importance of the Indian Film industry to the national life of the country, Sir H. P. Mody, declaring open "Filmistan", a new film producing concern in Bombay uttered a warning against ill-organised and unscientific expansion of the industry. He said that the progress of the industry during the last few years had indeed been phenomenal.

Sir Homi paid a tribute to the perseverance of the Indian film producers, who despite manifold handicaps, had made amazing progress. It was indeed gratifying to know that the majority of the 1,700 theatres in India exhibited Indian films and that last year the industry had produced as many as 165 "features" in this country as against 450 in the United States, which led the rest of the world in film-making.

INDIAN ARMoured CARS

"Safer than slit trenches during a bombing raid," was a gunner officer's tribute to "Tatanagars" armoured cars made in India, which have been doing remarkable service in the 8th Army's forward drive, says a press note issued by the Inter-Services Public Relations Directorate, E. Army.

The officer described how, even in spite of a 75 mm. shell bursting on the side of his Tatanagar all the 4 occupants of the car emerged unscathed. "Only a direct hit from a bomb or shell will knock out these Tatanagars," he added. As for machine-guns, they hardly scratched the paint off the Tatanagars and as for shelling, all that had to be done was to move about 500 yards away thereby making the enemy to start all over again. Units possessing Tatanagars swear by them, and many stories are current of how Tatanagars had saved the lives of men under shell-fire and bombing reports an Indian Army Observer.

U.S. MOTOR VEHICLES IN INDIA

It is learnt that, in the first half of current year, about 8,000 motor vehicles were available for India from America under lease-lend. An important condition of sale of such vehicles to approved civil operators is that the War Transport Department of the Government of India may require any lease-lend truck to be equipped with a producer gas plant approved by the Provincial Transport Controller concerned. The object is to save petrol as much as possible and encourage for this purpose conversion of vehicles to coal gas.

The lease-lend material is given solely for waging war and for maintaining the essential civil life of the community.

MOTOR TRANSPORT AND PETROL

The immense war expenditure of petrol, oil, vehicles and tyres and the strain on the production of these are so obvious that the need for all possible economy for that reason alone, should be apparent to all. So states a pamphlet of the War Transport Department on "Economy in the use of Motor Transport and Petrol". This pamphlet is addressed to all those "who have to use civil transport or any petrol for war work", whether official or unofficial.

U.S. BOMBER OVER JAP TERRITORY

Second Lieutenant Charles Howe of Ventura, California, flew a Mitchell Medium Bomber for 400 miles over Japanese-held territory at an altitude of 700 feet on only one engine. This magnificent flight is a striking tribute to the toughness and performance of Mitchell bombers and to the pilot's skill.

The plane was one of a formation which strafed the Madang area. Howe silenced an anti-aircraft gun position when a heavy-calibre machine-gun bullet hit his starboard engine. The motor spluttered and died, and the bomber plummeted 800 feet.

Howe ordered all movable equipment thrown overboard, and then, with his co-pilot, Second Lieutenant Lee Jones of Warsaw, Wisconsin, he began to fight for altitude. They reached 700 feet but could not go any higher, and he was forced to proceed over enemy territory. He could steer clear of enemy anti-aircraft positions, but he would have been an easy mark for Zero fighters.

Heavy weather added to the flight hazard, but the bomber reached the forward airbase safely. Howe has taken part in 35 missions against the Japanese and scored hits on enemy shipping in the Battle of the Bismarck Sea.

INDIAN AIR FORCE

Before a distinguished gathering at Jodhpur, Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin, Deputy Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief, the Air Forces in India, officiated at a passing out parade and inspection of over thirty Indian Air Force Officer Cadets at Number Two Elementary Flying Training School, Jodhpur.

Referring to the rapid expansion of the Indian Air Force, Air Marshal Baldwin said that it was the policy of the Air Headquarters to expand the Indian Air Force not merely to four or five times but to ten times its present strength. By the end of this year, the increase in the Indian Air Force squadrons alone would be ten times greater than the strength at the beginning of the war. That did not include Indian personnel who had been recruited into the many branches of the Royal Air Force.

DEVELOPMENT OF INDUSTRIES

A reconstruction plan for developing the industrial and economic strength of India was outlined by Sir M. Visvesvaraya, President of the All-India Manufacturers' Organisation, speaking at the quarterly meeting of the Organisation's Central Committee at Bombay on June 20.

The President suggested the following measures for inclusion in any post-war reconstruction programme which may be under the consideration of the Government. A plan and programme should be drawn up and kept ready for the investment of about Rs. 1,000 crores on basic industries, productive public works, and public utility undertakings in the first five years after the close of the war. Arrangements should be made to quicken production from industries, and also from agriculture, with the object of doubling production from both in the course of five to seven years. Provinces and districts should be adequately equipped with banking facilities, and with establishments for collecting and maintaining statistics of production, particularly under industries and manufactures. Before the commencement of each year a plan and budget should be prepared and published explaining the operations of the coming year. This should be accompanied by an approximate plan and programme for the ensuing five years. Provision should be made for adequate tariff protection and for facilities to private persons to import machinery for industries without harassing import duties.

To implement these proposals, Sir M. Visvesvaraya indicated that the following organisation:—Industries should be constituted into a separate Department of the Government of India in charge of a Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council who has had business experience. An Industrial (or Economic) Council or Development Commission, under the Chairmanship of a prominent industrialist, trusted by the people, was a fundamental necessity and should be established without delay. The Government should maintain adequate staff for the executive work of the Central Department of Industries and of the proposed Industrial Council.

AGRICULTURE IN INDIA

The poverty of the Indian peasant and the need to industrialise the country were the themes of a paper read to the East India Association in London recently by Sir John Maynard. Sir John addressed himself to the question whether the methods used by the Russians could be applied in India to diminish the cultivators' poverty and facilitate the industrialisation of the country. Collectivisation in Russia, he said, had made mechanisation possible, thus saving time, which is of very great importance in a country with a short open season. Though production per acre had not been stepped up until now, much waste had been eliminated. The broad aim of the Soviet system was to make Russia a powerful industrial State without incurring any external debt.

There is similarity in the conditions in Russia and India.

JUTE CULTIVATION

A Press Note issued by the Government of Bengal states that the acreage to be licensed for the growing of jute in 1943 will be half of the acreage registered in 1940 as amended in 1941. The amendment referred to presumably means the provision made in Section 3 (3) of the amending Act of 1940, which came into force on the 1st July, 1941. This section provided that any land on which jute was grown in any of the three preceding years might be recorded as jute land for the purposes of the Jute Regulation Acts. The total acreage so recorded was 53,99,285 acres.

POTATOES FROM TUBER CUTTINGS

Maurice Copisarow, in *Nature* magazine, reports that Alexander Cleland of Belfast has been experimenting since 1937 on the cultivation of potatoes from tuber cuttings and peelings. At the end of one season 288 "eyes" from 24 pounds of potatoes yielded 804 tubers weighing 172 pounds, in addition to many seed potatoes. Peelings were spread broadcast over the ground and covered lightly with soil. Plantings sprouted readily, yielding 32 pounds of usable potatoes and also many seed potatoes. The crops were free from disease and of good quality.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE FOR RAILWAYMEN

The dearness allowance granted by the railways to their workers and other measures taken by the railways in regard to the supply of food-stuffs and other necessities of life to their employees were reviewed at a meeting of the Special Committee of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation which met in Bombay last month. Mr. Jamnadas M. Mehta, M.L.A. (Central), presided and representatives from the various railways who are on the Committee attended the meeting.

The Committee was convened primarily to discuss the Railway Board's reply to the Federation declining the appointment of an adjudicator to go into the question of the payment of dearness allowance and other cognate subjects.

The Committee, it is understood, was of opinion that although the Railway Board had taken measures to alleviate the difficulties caused by the increased cost of living towards its workers, yet the relief measures generally were inadequate.

END OF U.S. COAL STRIKE

Mr. Lewis, President of the United Mine-workers, has called on the workers to return to work.

The United Mine-workers' Policy Committee headed by Mr. John Lewis ordered miners to return to work until October 31st, provided that Government remains in control of the production of coal. After an hour's meeting, the Committee issued a statement saying that the Secretary of the Interior, Mr. Ickes as the custodian of mines, "has given an assurance that the minimum wages and conditions prevailing as of this date will continue." As the result of their leader's latest orders, America's 530,000 miners went back to work on Thursday the 24th June.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE TO PEONS

At a meeting of the Imperial Secretariat Jamadars and Peons' Association, a resolution was passed requesting the Government to take immediate steps to increase their salaries and dearness allowances to help them to cope with the soaring prices of food-stuffs and clothes.

COMMUNISTS AND U.S. CITIZENSHIP

Mr. Wendell Willkie won an important decision from the Supreme Court recently, when, by a majority decision of 5 to 3, it overruled the order for deportation of a member of the Communist Party, Mr. William Schneiderman.

Mr. Schneiderman, who is now aged 38, came to the United States from Russia at the age of three and was naturalised in 1927. The lower court had cancelled Mr. Schneiderman's U.S. citizenship on the ground that Communists are not entitled to naturalisation.

The appeal was opposed by the Solicitor-General, Mr. Charles Fathy, who said the Naturalisation Act required an alien who obtained citizenship to be "attached to the principles of the Constitution and well disposed towards good order and happiness of the United States."

Justice Murphy, announcing the Supreme Court decision, quoted Lenin, Stalin and the Communist Party constitution to show that Communists did not preach violence against the United States. "Mr Schneiderman can be both a Communist and a good American citizen at the same time", he said, Chief Justice Charles Stone was among the dissentients.

Mr. Willkie appeared for Mr. Schneiderman without fee in the interests of justice.

UNITED NATIONS DAY

Flags decked cities of the United Nations throughout the world on June 14, to mark the celebration of the second United Nations Day. From Fiji to Sydney, Chungking, New Delhi, Cairo, Addis Ababa, Beirut in Syria, Moscow, London and New York, everywhere Allied troops were on parade.

IN THE KING'S ABSENCE

The King has appointed five Counsellors of State to act for him in his absence from the kingdom during his visit to North Africa. They are the Queen, the Duke of Gloucester, the Princess Royal, Princess Arthur of Connaught and Lady Southesk. The Queen's fellow counsellors are the four people next in succession to the Throne excluding minors.

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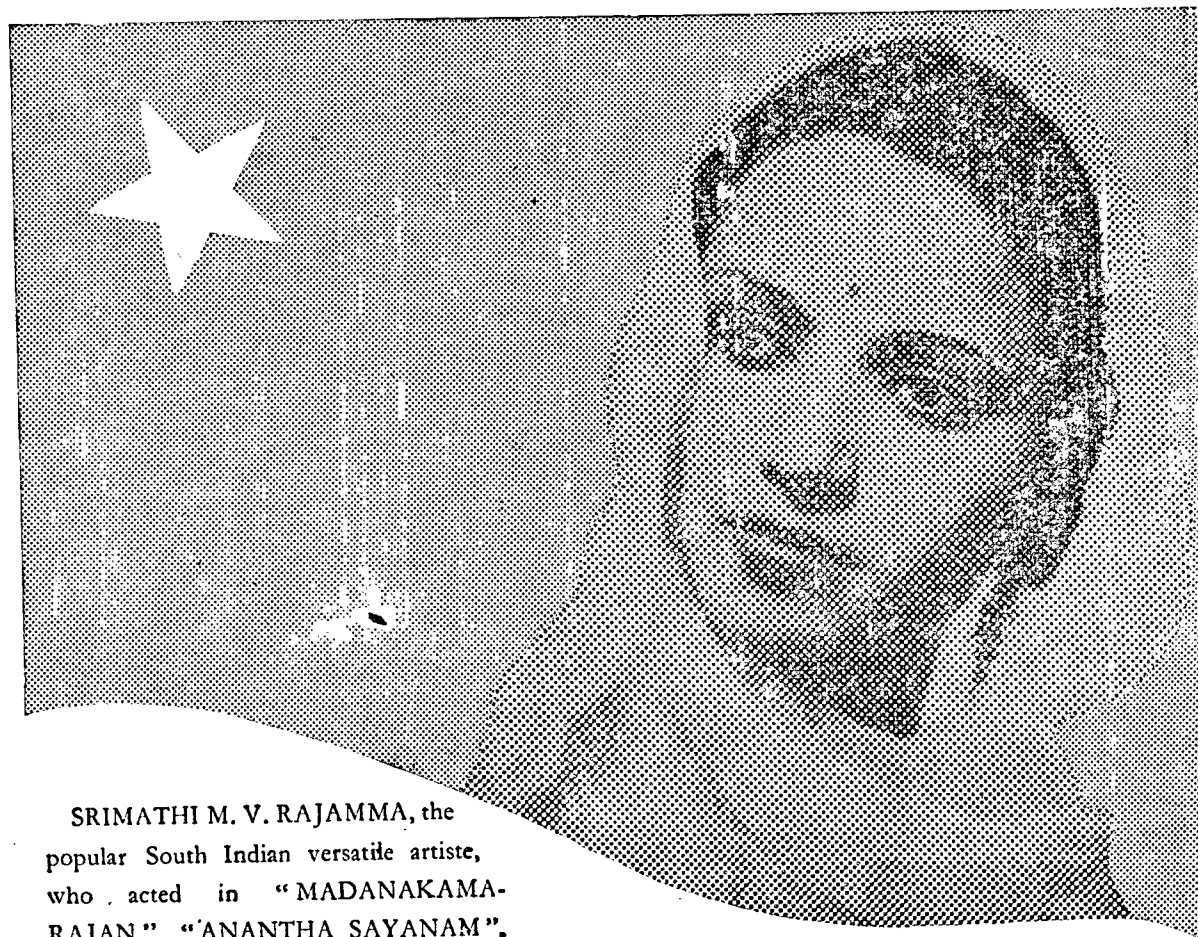
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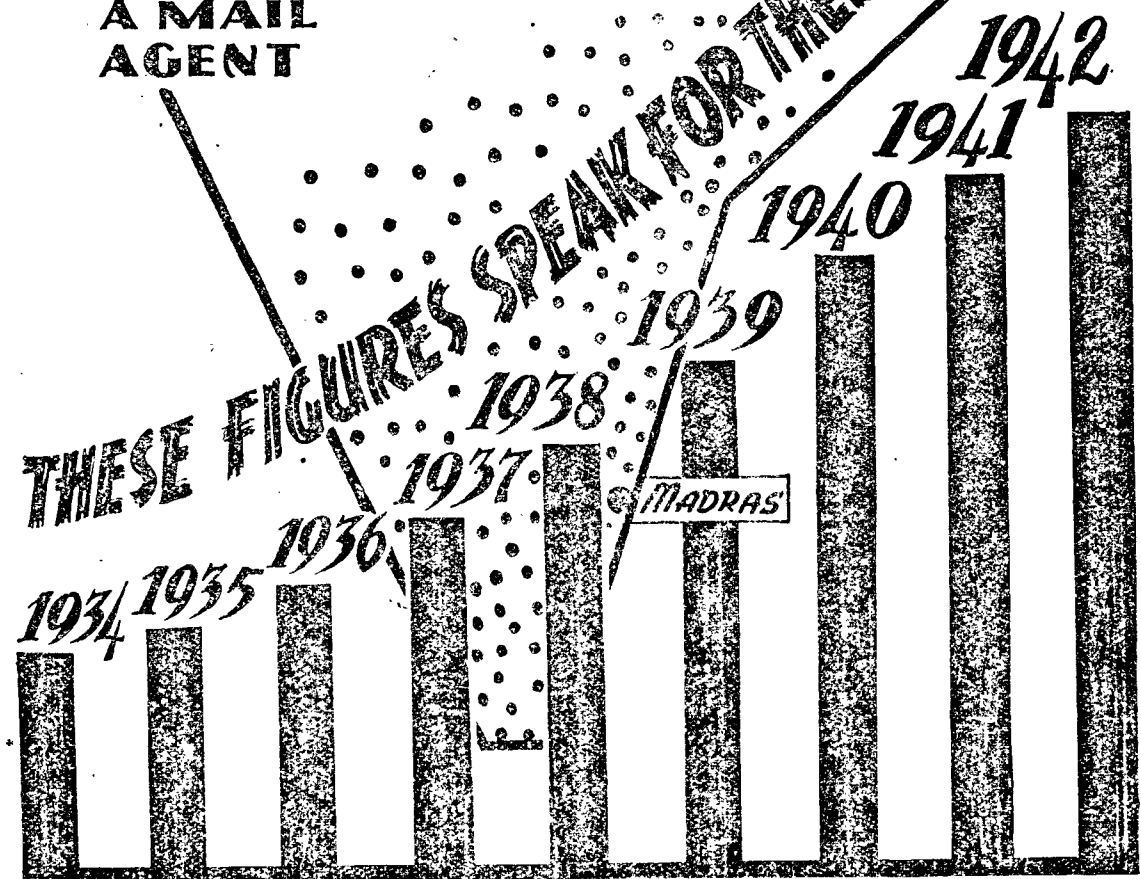
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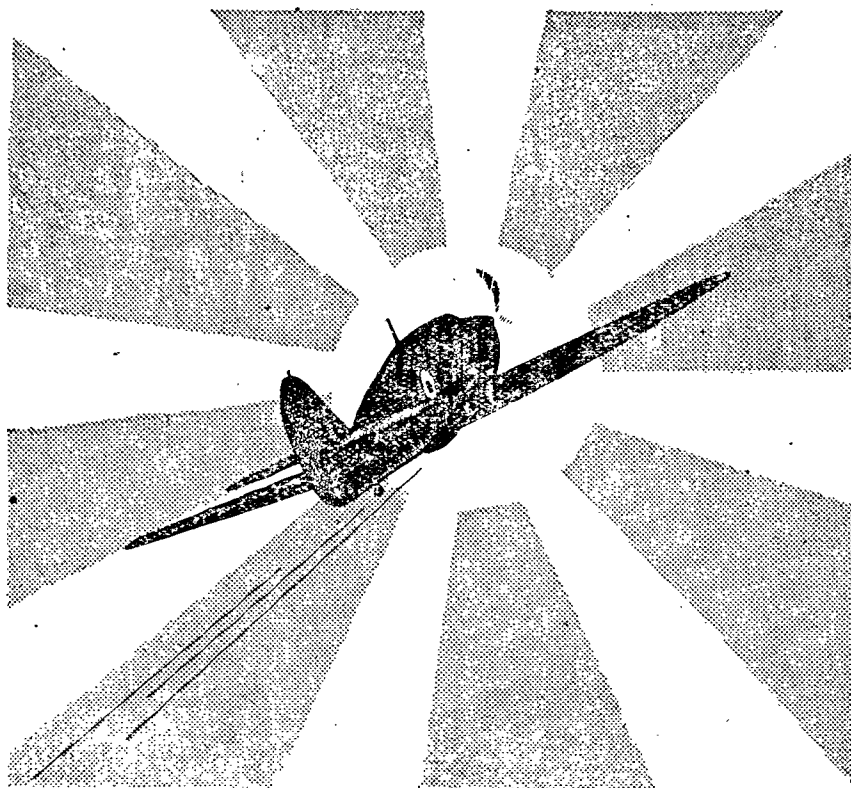


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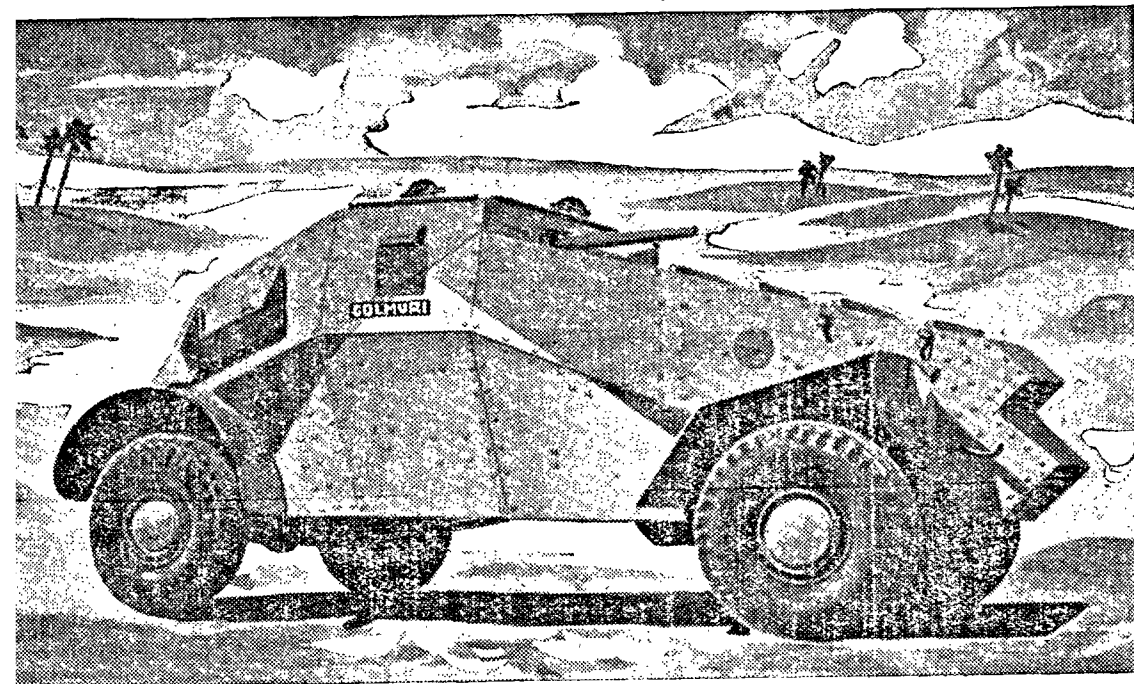
the less we buy, the more is available to the fighting forces, who are our protectors. Similarly, the less we spend, the more money is available for lending to the country.

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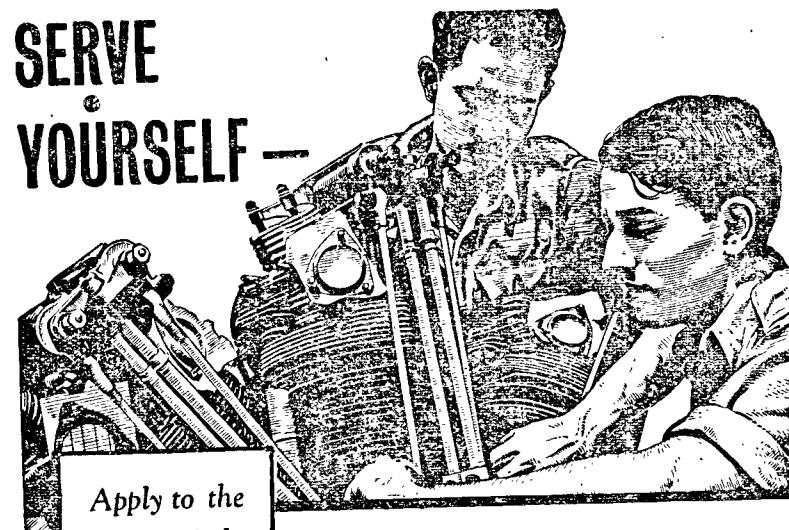
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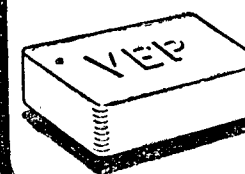
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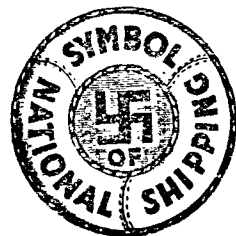
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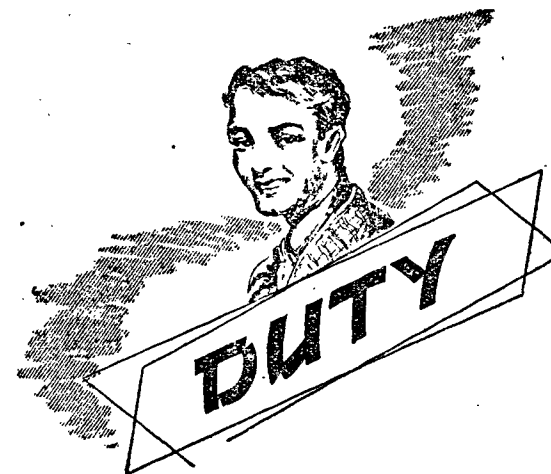
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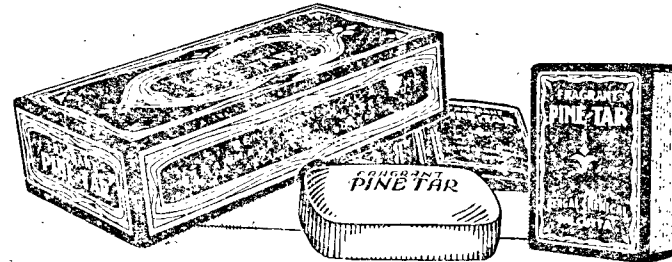
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

13

[August 1943]



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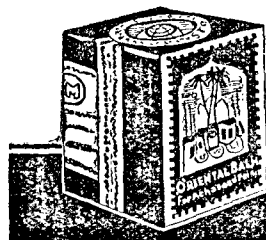
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SUNDAY	31	8	10	17	24	...	7	14	21	28	...	7	14	21	28	...	4	11	18	25
MONDAY	...	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	...	1	8	15	22	29	...	5	12	19	26
TUESDAY	...	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	...	2	9	16	23	30	...	6	13	20	27
WEDNESDAY	...	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	...	3	10	17	24	31	...	7	14	21	28
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
SATURDAY	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	...	6	13	20	27	...	3	10	17	24	...
	MAY					JUNE					JULY					AUGUST				
SUNDAY	30	2	9	16	23	...	6	13	20	27	...	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29
MONDAY	31	3	10	17	24	...	7	14	21	28	...	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30
TUESDAY	...	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	...	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	31
WEDNESDAY	...	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	...	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	...
THURSDAY	...	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	...	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	...
FRIDAY	...	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	...	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	...
SATURDAY	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	...	3	10	17	24	31	7	14	21	28	...
	SEPTEMBER					OCTOBER					NOVEMBER					DECEMBER				
SUNDAY	...	5	12	19	26	31	3	10	17	24	...	7	14	21	28	...	5	12	19	26
MONDAY	...	6	13	20	27	...	4	11	18	25	1	8	15	22	29	...	6	13	20	27
TUESDAY	...	7	14	21	28	...	5	12	19	26	2	9	16	23	30	...	7	14	21	28
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FRIDAY	3	10	17	24	...	1	8	15	22	29	5	12	19	26	...	3	10	17	24	31
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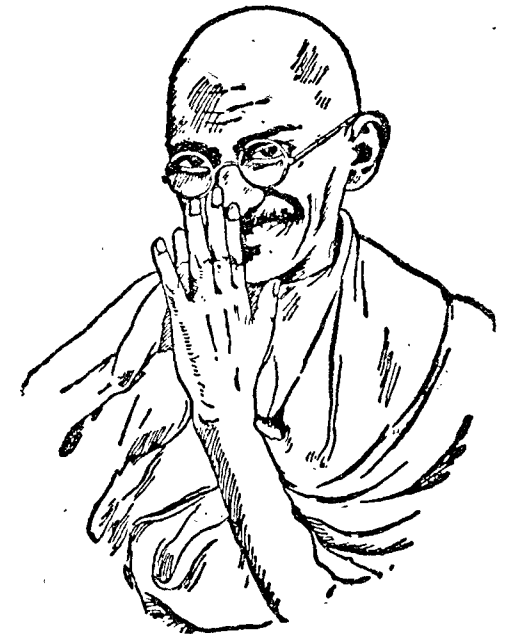
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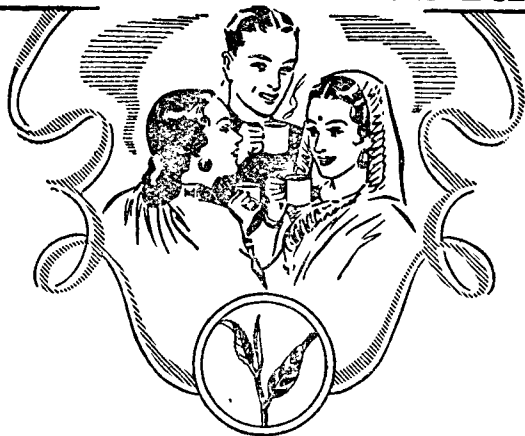
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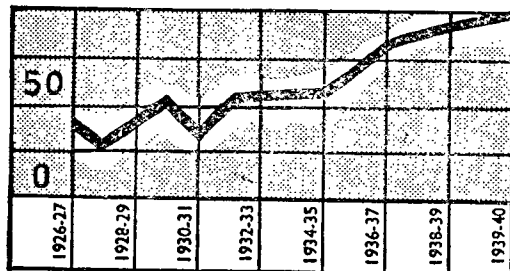
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 44.]

AUGUST 1943

[No. 8.]

RESOLVE THE DEADLOCK

BY THE EDITOR

TWELVE months have gone by since Gandhiji and the Congress leaders were put under restraint. In spite of persistent demands from responsible men and women in India and elsewhere, Government have taken no steps either to release the leaders or put them on trial. In his correspondence with Gandhiji, which ultimately led to the Fast, Lord Linlithgow claimed that he

had ample information that the sabotage had been conducted under secret instructions circulated in the name of the All-India Congress Committee.

And he went on to add:

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 charge 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.

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 evidences that the living can produce might become unavailable?

The situation has been allowed to drift for itself without any definite action being taken to arrest the rot. How long is this to continue?

Meanwhile the war is going on with unabated fury; and in spite of the favourable turn in the tide there is no knowing when it will all end. But one thing is clear. Ceaseless and untiring effort should continue if the war is to be won and the full resources of the United Nations should be mobilised for the purpose. Everybody realises this. But those in authority over India seem yet incapable of realising what a tremendous

thing it would be to be able to enlist the full, hearty and complete co-operation of the millions of India.

Lack of statesmanship has prevented this total war effort till now. It is never too late to mend. The Standing Committee of the Non-Party Conference has once again taken the lead in the matter and its appeal to the Government and the leaders of the Congress has come none too soon. Already much precious time has been lost in puerile effort at mutual recrimination. This is no time for such indulgence, and the non-party leaders wisely plead for a constructive plan of action to resolve the deadlock and pave the way for united action.

It is fitting that the new Viceroy should not be embarrassed by a legacy of "strife and ill-will." The way should be cleared "by liquidating the debts of the previous administration." That can be done only by releasing the leaders in prison, who should be allowed to have an opportunity to review the situation *de novo* and shape the destiny of India with due regard to her safety and honour. That way lies statesmanship.

If nothing else, at least the present crisis in food and clothing must have taught the authorities that nothing but a National Government, responsive to public opinion and responsible to the public, can adequately fulfil the functions of a real government. And under the present circumstances no national government is possible so long as the leaders of the Congress who undoubtedly represent the vast majority of the people are in duress. It is for this reason and for reasons of bare justice and humanity, they should be released forthwith, to be free to put their whole strength in what is known as the war of liberation.

Problems of Post-War Economic Reconstruction

BY PROF. PREM CHAND MALHOTRA

THE economic problems of the post-war have attracted their due share of notice in the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. Discussions have proceeded both along traditional and liberal lines. The fear of loss of foreign markets in the future haunt the countries which depend for their prosperity on exports. Countries with surplus of funds to invest think of the future of investments in the post-war period. The reports on reconstruction issued in England last June by the Associated Chambers of Commerce, the London Chamber of Commerce, the Federation of British Industries, are paradoxical in their conclusion. On the one hand these documents make a plea for economic freedom and economic expansion. On the other hand, they suggest controls, restraints and restrictions both at home and abroad.

The Atlantic Charter envisages the banishment of penury and want from all nations. The governments of various nations must shoulder this responsibility. This aim can be realised when the world's stock of goods and services in every place is raised. It is not free trade that will do this trick but the freedom given to all nations to organise their production according to their potentialities and their interests.

The co-operation between nations in the post-war world must be based on free association and equality of partnership. The condescending attitude of the powerful nations and the compromising position of the weaker nations are not foundations on which international stability can last. "If political liberty is the protection of the weak, commercial liberty is the triumph of the strong." In the post-war world the weaker nations therefore would seek some sort of protective and safeguarding devices to enable them to develop their resources. But the coming up of the economically depressed countries would be in the interests of a stable international peace.

The aims of post-war economic reconstruction in a nation would be economic security, steady employment, greater equality of opportunity and distribution and a rising standard of living. The realisation

of all these aims makes the intervention of the State in economic sphere inevitable. The State will have to act not only negatively by providing the conditions for an expansion in production of goods and services but positively also and see that people are properly fed, clothed and housed and that there is a regular volume of investment to maintain employment.

As the State assumes direct control over business undertaking, the fear of politics whittling down business efficiency assumes an ugly reality. The day to day operations of industry should be entrusted to competent business managers but the control of the legislature over the business policies must be retained. The legislature must have full control over the controllers of business on behalf of the community. The future management of nationalised railways in India according to the Government of India Act of 1935 is proposed to be put under an independent body free from political influence called the Federal Railway Authority. Under the plea of keeping nationalised business free from political influence the real masters of the railways, *viz.*, the Indian tax-payers lose their right to control the servants appointed on their behalf. Such problems would arise in other business fields as well as the State directly undertakes certain businesses in the country. Economic and political issues are at present so inextricably woven that there cannot be any definiteness about post-war economic reconstruction in a country unless its political future is known. In view of the principles enunciated in the Atlantic Charter, we can assume that India would be free to work out her own reconstruction programme. There would be ample scope for collaboration between India and other nations. But Imperial economic co-operation should not be a suave terminology for the Imperial big stick.

During this war each country has developed a technique of economic control suited to its requirements. The first problem on the termination of the war would be an examination into all these economic controls. If they are swept off in one stroke, economic confusion may be

the result. If they are retained after they have outlived their usefulness, they would hamper economic effort without any compensation. A transition from war to peace economy must be a smooth one and certain type of economic control which protect national enterprise, which check unhealthy speculation, which safeguard the consumers and which prevent the nation from the post-war economic depression may be pressed into service so long as they serve a useful purpose for the community.

It would not be denied that production in India during this war has increased. Existing industries have speeded up production to their full complement. Some new industries have appeared on the field. The production of food stuffs need also to be raised in order to avoid a threatened or actual shortage of food requirements. There has also been an increase in the production of services. A large army of technicians, engineers, medical men are being employed. In a country like India, where the chief cause of poverty is her low production, it is essential that the present level of production reached should be the starting line from which to key up production still further. Soldiers in the army are having a human existence. They are properly housed, clothed and fed whereas before joining the army a very large percentage of them were ill-housed, under-clothed and underfed. When the war is over, this extremely serviceable section of Indian community must not be allowed to relapse into destitution and starvation. The post-war labour problem in India should not therefore be one of the mass scale demobilization but of absorbing and re-employing the ex-soldiers into the ordinary business of life. If an increase in wants is the basis of economic progress then the soldier community having been used to better ways of living would be stirred by new ambitions and eagerly take to work which would give them the means to satisfy these ambitions. The future of industrialisation in the post-war India should be bright. In the war interval the industrial deficiencies of India have been acutely felt and also exposed. Existing industries have developed and some new industries have taken birth. The lessons of the war in the matter of our produc-

tive deficiencies must not be lost upon us. Temporary successes in the field of production must be annexed as lasting gains. Industrialization in India is both an economic and political issue. "Development of industries is not only inhibited by our political limitations but we cannot view it in right perspective if political freedom remains for us merely a national aspiration. It is when India is actually free and takes her place as an equal member of the international community then we will realise fully that industrialisation is much more than a question of Indian *versus* British enterprise."

What form of industrialization will be chosen in the post-war India? Is it to be a carbon copy of industrialism in the West? Is it to be a reversion to production with hand and the resort to commodity economy in place of money economy? The present war is not only a conflict of arms and aims but also a conflict of values. Our future economic policy will depend upon what kind of values we attach to different things in life. In a country like India there is ample scope for factory production, small scale production with available power, hand production for the market and hand production for self-sufficient economic units. It is obvious that when the field of hand production has been demarcated this form of production must be encouraged to live in a flourishing state and be protected both against foreign and domestic machine goods.

The progress of industrialisation in India would be limited by the purchasing power of the masses. The occupation of the masses being primarily agriculture, it is absolutely clear that if industrialisation in India is to make headway the purchasing power of the agricultural classes must be increased. In the post-war India rural reconstruction therefore should receive added impetus. It is a commentary on affairs in India that a profitless controversy between Indian agriculture and Indian industries has frequently arisen. Agriculture is the premier industry of India and it should be treated as such. The prosperity in the country must be widely diffused and this can take place through the progress of decentralised production in agriculture and handicrafts.

Co-partnership between agriculture and industry is the real need of India. . . .

An extensive country like India requires effective transport arrangements: Transport by roads must supplement transport by railways. Feeder roads must be spread and widely developed. River transport in India should be developed because it is not only cheap but can come to the aid of road and rail transport when they have to carry inordinately large loads as during this war and there is a scarce distribution of coal and petrol power. If the post-war India is to seek prosperity more and more within her own country, transport arrangements will have to be reconstructed so as to cope with the economic development of the country. The case for nationalization of some of our transport agencies, such as railway and coastal, would be very strong. Private interests in coastal transport must not deflect us from carrying out its nationalization when it is found to be in the interests of the nation.

Another urgent problem to be solved in the post-war India would be the utilisation of her surplus sterling resources. According to a recent report from London published in the end of December, 1942, India's sterling holdings amount to no less than £340,000,000. With the final extraction of Indian Government's sterling debt now impending the financial relations between Britain and India will be entering a new phase. The incubus of 'home charges' having been practically removed from India the post-war international trade and currency policies of the country can be freely decided on the merits of the case and in the interests of the country. Subsidiary considerations like the necessity of India having to keep a favourable trade balance in every year in order to remit 'home charges' and the advisability of having a higher rate of exchange as that meant cheaper rate for remitting the same need not after the war influence over future currency and foreign trade policies as these have affected them in the past. Surplus sterling reserves for India are both a matter for satisfaction and alarm. The satisfaction arises out of the situation that India would emerge a creditor country

out of the war and this economic liberation should blazen the trail of unfettered economic development for the country. The cause for alarm is that these surpluses may be frittered away through devious ways, such as the granting of a free gift out of these reserves to the United Kingdom, the depreciation in the value of these reserves if they are all held in sterling currency as it is feared that after the war sterling would depreciate, the imposition of fresh burdens on India as her share of the military expenditure incurred by the United Kingdom in thwarting an actual or a potential danger to India.

It is being suggested that India should keep a proportion of the reserves in sterling, and the rest of it in dollars and the suggestion is based on the common-sense point of view of scattering one's eggs in different baskets.

The economic unity of India must be maintained. It is this unity of India which is to be the basis of future prosperity of the country. Administrative units in the country must be free to develop their resources. But where the growth of a part impairs the solidarity and strength of the whole, this should not be permitted in the name of political autonomy. Political disintegration of India is dangerous; but economic disintegration of India is disastrous.

All attempts at post-war economic reconstruction must be characterised by definiteness of aim and unity of purpose. The economic problem of peace is summed up by the average man in a nutshell—if everybody can be given a war-time job now why not in peace-time production?

The experience of war has showed that unemployment is man-made. It can therefore also be unmade by man. Man-made unemployment ought not to exist and need not exist in the post-war world.

Unpreparedness for war has imposed an exacting amount of sacrifice on the United Nations. Unpreparedness for peace will be equally disastrous. Each nation has to be ready with clean-cut ideas and plans for post-war reconstruction.

Glimpses of the French Revolution

BY MR. RAJENDER MOHAN LAL BHATNAGAR, B.A. (HONS.)

"Fourteenth July is for all peoples of the world devoted to the ideals of liberty, a day of celebration. Immortal France has reaffirmed once again in the most heroic circumstances her greatness and her glory. On this anniversary of the winning by the French people of their liberties, I wish to recall again that the fundamental principles which guide our Democracies were evolved from the American and French Revolutions. The keystone of our democratic structure is the principle which places governmental authority in the people and in the people only. There can be one symbol only for Frenchmen—France herself. She transcends all parties, personalities and groups. They live indeed only in the glory of French nationhood. One of our war aims as set forth in the Atlantic Charter is to restore the mastery of their destinies to peoples now under the invaders' yoke. There must be no doubt anywhere of the unalterable determination of the United Nations to restore to the oppressed peoples their full and sacred rights. French sovereignty resides in the people of France. To-day this people is shackled in barbaric oppression. In the freedom of to-morrow when Frenchmen and their brothers in arms of the United Nations have cleansed the French soil of the enemy the French people will again give expression to their freedom by erecting a government of their own free choice. Long live liberty, equality, and fraternity. May France live for ever."—President Roosevelt's Bastille Day Message.

Taking of the Bastille (14th July, 1789)

AN idea dawned on Paris with the day. There was a light in each mind and a voice in each heart which said, "Go and you will take the Bastille."

It was impossible, madness, a strange thing to say. But everybody believed it nevertheless and that is what happened.

On the 13th, towards midnight, seven shots were fired on the sentries of the tower. The alarm was rung. The Governor went up and remained there for half an hour.

In the morning towards ten o'clock, a man arrived. He had come to demand the surrender of the Bastille.

This man was Thuriot, a terrible bull-dog of the kind of Danton. In spite of orders to the contrary, he managed to reach the enormous railing which enclosed the third court. This court resembled a well of huge dimensions whose eight towers united with one another formed its walls. At the bottom, in the darkness, was the strange promenade of the prisoners. Lost at the bottom of this abyss, oppressed by these enormous masses, they had nothing but to contemplate the inexorable nudity of these walls.

Thuriot was not at all frightened by the loaded guns and the garrison. "Monsieur," he said to the Governor, "I call upon you in the name of honour, in the name

of our country, to withdraw your guns and surrender the Bastille." And turning towards the garrison, he repeated these words.

He did not stop at this. He wanted to mount the towers and see if the guns were withdrawn. De Launey, the Governor, allowed him to do so after some hesitation.

The guns were drawn back, masked always in one direction. The view from this height was immense, terrifying. A black mass was advancing from the city. It was Fanbourg Saint-Antoine.

The Governor turned pale. He shook Thuriot by both of his arms and said "What have you done? You have betrayed me." Thuriot showed himself on the battlements and people seeing him alive and proudly mounted on a tower, gave a thundering ovation.

At last Thuriot leaves the Bastille. A wheel-wright, an old soldier, bravely sets to work. He advances, axe in hand and mounts the roof of a small guard-house near the first draw-bridge, and under a shower of bullets he works peacefully. He cuts down the chains and lowers the draw-bridge. Fire is opened from the loopholes. The invaders begin to fall. But they cry out to their comrades, "Our corpses would at least serve the purpose of filling the moats." And they march on unflinchingly.

In the meanwhile, the Gardes-Francaise get a battery of guns from the city. In Bastille, the Invalides ashamed and horrified at shedding the blood of their own countrymen, lay down their arms and refuse to fire. The Captain of the Swiss guards requests a safe passage from the invaders. The promise is given.

The mob surged in the Bastille, mounted the towers, descended to the dungeons and freed the prisoners.

It was half past five There was a great noise at the Grene. The Bastille is taken.
—Michelet.

The Condemnation of the King

The countenance of Louis XVI, when he entered the Hall, was firm. He threw an assured glance on the men gathered there and kept standing at the bar. The President said to him in a moved voice: "Louis, the French nation accuses you. You are going to hear the charges levelled against you. Louis, take a seat." A seat had been prepared for him and he placed himself on it. During the long cross-examination he showed calmness and presence of mind. He replied to each question suitably, more often in a manner touching and victorious.

When he was sent back to the Temple, the convention decided, in spite of the opposition of some montaguards, to provide Louis with defence counsels, Target and Tranchet were chosen. Target refused. It was then that the venerable Malesherbes offered himself. He was joined by Deseze, later on.

At last the day for defence arrived. It was pronounced by Deseze. Louis was present. The deadliest silence prevailed in the Assmby and the Tribunes.

Deseze ended by these solemn words: "Listen to the voice of History in advance which will say to you. Louis who ascended the throne at twenty was constantly the friend of the people. People wished that a disastrous tax should be removed, he removed it; people wanted the abolition of slavery, he abolished it; people asked for reforms and he gave them the reforms; people wished that the millions of Frenchmen should recover their rights, and he gave them their rights; people

wanted liberty, and he gave it to them. None can dispute to Louis the glory of preceding the people in making sacrifices . . . and it is he they accuse before you. Citizens, I do not complete my defence. I stop before the Voice of History. Think how will it judge your judgment, and remember her judgment shall be the judgment of centuries."

When the result of scrutiny was known, the President announced in an accent of grief: "I declare in the name of Convention that the sentence it pronounces on Louis Capet, is death."

The defence counsels appeared at the bar; they were very much moved. Malesherbes wished to speak, but he could not. Sobs stifled his voice, he was heard to speak a few broken and beseeching words. His grief moved the Assembly. The request for a reprieve was rejected. The fatal decree was pronounced.

—Mignet.

The Execution of the King

The king slept profoundly on the night before the execution. He got up at five and heard the mass on his knees. He remained near the stone for some time warming himself up and expressed his confidence in the justice of God.

He had promised the Queen to see her in the morning. But his confessor prevailed upon him to spare his relatives this great trial. At eight o'clock he came out of his cabinet and advanced towards those who were waiting for him in his bed-room. Everybody had his hat on; he noticed it and asked for his own. He gave his wedding-ring to Clery and said to him, "You will take this to my wife and tell her that it causes me great pain to separate myself from her." For his son he gave a seal on which was the escutcheon of France, transmitting him in this seal, the principal insignia of royalty.

He wished to give his Testament to a member of the commune, one Jacques Roux from Gravilliers, who was notorious for his furious temperament. Roux stepped back without saying anything. A municipal officer took it from Louis.

They offered him his top coat but he said, "I do not require it." He was wearing a brown coat, light grey breeches and waistcoat of white swanskin. He got in a carriage, a green carriage. He was on the back with his confessor, with two jendarmes in front. He read the Psalms on the way.

There were very few people in the streets. Shops were only half opened. Nobody appeared on the doors, not even in the windows.

It was ten minutes past ten when he reached the place. Round the scaffold, they had reserved a big empty place, lined by guns and beyond that as far as eye could see, there were troops. The spectators were therefore extremely far away. The king descended and undressed himself.

The executioner wanted to bind his hands but he resisted. They had the air of using force. The king looked at his confessor and asked his advice. He remained mute with horror and grief. Louis raised his eyes to heaven and resisted no more: "Do all that you like, I will drain the chalice to the lees."

The corpse, placed in a basket, was carried to the cemetery of La Madeleine and thrown in lime. But already on the scaffold, soldiers and other men, be it in order to outrage or out of reverence, soaked their weapons, pieces of paper and linen in the blood which remained there. Some Englishmen bought these relics of the latest martyr.
—Michelet.

La Marseillaise

There was a young officer of artillery in the garrison at Strasbourg. His name was Roget de Lisle. He was born at Lous-le-Salmer. This young man charmed the restless tedium of the garrison by his verses and music. Courted for his double talent he familiarly frequented the house of Dietrich, the Alsatian patriot and mayor of Strasbourg. The wife and the young daughters of Dietrich shared the enthusiasm of patriotism and revolution which was palpitating in these days, on all frontiers. They loved the young officer and were a source of inspiration to his heart, poetry and music.

It was the winter of 1792. Famine was raging at Strasbourg. The house of

Dietrich was poor, his table frugal but hospitable to Roget de Lisle. The young officer used to sit there like a son or a brother of the family. One day when he had only soldier's bread and a few slices of smoked ham on the table, Dietrich looked at de Lisle with sad serenity and said to him, "There is a lack of abundance in our meals, but what does it matter if enthusiasm is not wanting at our civic feasts, and courage in the heart of our soldiers. I have yet a bottle of wine left in my cellar. Go and bring it", he added to one of his daughters, "Let us drink to liberty and to our country. Strasbourg will soon have a patriotic ceremony and de Lisle ought to draw from these last drops one of those songs that intoxicate the heart of the people."

The young girls applauded the idea, brought the wine and filled the glasses of their old father and the young officer till the liquor was exhausted.

It was midnight. De Lisle was pensive, his heart was moved and his head excited. He caught cold and unsteadily entered his solitary room. He slowly began to seek inspiration, now composing the air before the words, now the words before the air and associating in such a way in his thoughts that he did not know which note or verse was composed first. He sang all but did not write anything.

Overwhelmed by this sublime inspiration, he placed his head on his instrument and did not raise it till it was daylight. He could recall the song of last night with an effort only, like the impressions of a dream. He wrote them down, set them to music, and ran to the house of Dietrich. He found him in his garden digging with his own hands winter lettuces. The wife and the daughter of the old patriot were not yet up.

Dietrich aroused them and called some of his friends. Roget sang and Dietrich's eldest daughter accompanied. At the first strophe their faces became pale, at the second tears flowed down their cheeks, at the last one's frenzy of enthusiasm broke forth. The hymn of the *patrie* was found.

Alas! It was also to become the hymn of terror. The unfortunate Dietrich marched a few months later to the scaffold to the sound of the notes born in his

house, in the heart of his friend, and first sung by his daughters.

The new song was sung a few days later in Strasbourg and spread from city to city. Marseilles adopted it for being sung in the commencement and at the close of the sittings of its Clubs. The people of Marseilles spread it in France by singing it on the way. Hence the name of Marseilles was given to it.

A few months later, de Lisle himself was proscribed as a royalist. He heard it and shuddered as the notes resounded on his ears with a menace of death as he was fleeing in the footpaths of the Alps. "What do you call this song?" he asked his guide. "La Marseillaise," replied the peasant. That is how he learnt the name of his own work.

—Lamartine.

The Execution of Robespierre

Robespierre, his head covered with a dirty linen, stained with black blood and which sustained his broken jaw, no more vanquished in this horrible situation than he had ever been, bearing the frightful weight of the curses of a people, maintained his stiff attitude, his firm deportment, his eyes fixed and dry. His unimpaired mind was surveying this situation and disentangling without doubt what was right and what was wrong in these transports of rage that followed him.

It was horrible. The windows of houses were rented at all prices. Unknown figures who had hidden themselves for a long time, came out. A world of rich men and women paraded these balconies. Leaning on velvet up to their waist-cut on rue Saint-Honore, they cried out with a shrill voice, "To death! To guillotine!"

The gendarmes of the scaffold, who yesterday under the orders of Henriot, dispersed men at the point of their swords, today paid homage to the new power and with the point of their swords under the chin of the victims, showed them to the curious people, crying, "Here is the famous Conthen! There, that is Robespierre!"

Robespierre had drained the cup of gall to the dregs. He got some respite when he reached la place de la Revolution. He mounted the steps of the scaffold firmly.

Should an infamous thing be recorded? An attendant of the guillotine seeing so

much fury and feeling of vengeance against Robespierre—a coward and a flatterer of the mob that he was—brutally tore down the bandage that sustained his broken jaw. He uttered a roar of pain. For a moment, they saw him turn pale, looking hideous, his big mouth open, his broken teeth fall on the ground.—And then the inexorable stroke fell.—Michelet.

THE LEADERS' DEMAND

The following statement has been issued by the Rt. Hon. Dr. Sapru and the Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar and other Leaders of the Non-Party Conference:

(1) Congress leaders, Mahatma Gandhi, Pandit Nehru and others, should be released and given an opportunity of reconsidering their resolution of August 8, 1942, and of making another effort to bring about a settlement between the conflicting elements in Indian national life. Alternatively, they should be put on their trial before an impartial tribunal and given every reasonable facility to meet such charges as may be brought against them.

(2) If they are prepared, as we hope they will be, to participate as free men in the Government of the Provinces, Coalition Ministries should be established there pledging full support to the war effort.

(3) If they are not prepared to do so, we would make an earnest appeal to them to let others assume responsibility and that they should give them a fair chance, in the existing circumstances, of carrying on the administration on a stable basis.

(4) At the centre, a National Government consisting of representatives in whom the people have complete confidence should be in charge of all portfolios, with due provision for defence remaining during the period of the war in the special charge of the Commander-in-Chief, Indians being associated with such aspects of defence as can be handed over without weakening the authority of the Commander-in-Chief.

(5) The principle of collective responsibility in the actual working of the constitution should be definitely accepted, though constitutionally the Council will remain responsible to the Crown during the period of the war.

If this policy is not adopted immediately we fear that the people of India will inevitably draw the conclusion that they are to be ruled by force. The task of the Government of India in these increasingly difficult days is to secure general goodwill and not to alienate it by flouting or hurting Indian opinion, to create a genuine national war front based on the willing and wholehearted co-operation of the people and not to hamper its formation.

The time is overdue for His Majesty's Government to bring some imagination into play and to undo the mischief born of a policy lacking in all the essentials of statesmanship.

A CASE FOR FEDERATION

BY MR. A. S. PICKLAY

WHILE Indians are exercised in their minds over the question of the form which the future constitution of the country should take, while the Congress, the Muslim League and other parties are wrangling among themselves for political and other privileges, and British statesmen and men in authority are trying to apply to the country the methods which might have been justified four decades ago, the one question which should engage the attention of India and Britain alike, and which has been prominently brought to the fore by the present war, is whether or not the constitutional structure of the British Empire should be so altered to make of it a comprehensive Imperial federation or Commonwealth of Nations, each member country or colony existing as a self-governing unit for all internal purposes but all binding themselves in a closer and more effective union for protection against foreign aggression and the better and more effective exploitation of indigenous or common economic resources.

Fifty years ago, the idea of a British Commonwealth of Nations with self-government for every component part, would have been considered highly utopian. But the Boer war was the first unpleasant shock to the centuries old British complacency, and established to a certain extent the right to self-determination of a people. While up to the beginning of this century, the Boer and the British were looked upon as two distinct nationalities, after the conclusion of the Boer war the settlers of both the races made a common cause of their various economic and other interests and combined not only against the coloured people but also against any interference in their internal affairs by the British Government. Like South Africa, Canada, New Zealand and Australia also secured gradually a self-governing status and never missed an opportunity of making the home country feel it.

The only country which continued as a dependency was India, and judging by the trend of political events, her status, under the glare of a critical world opinion, will not remain unchanged for very long. In fact, the huge sacrifices made by Indians

in men, money and material in the last Great War, in the cause of empire security, wrung from Britain not only unqualified gratitude but the admission of India's claim to a fuller recognition as an equal member of the empire. But in the cavalcade of post-war events, India's claim to an equal partnership in the British Commonwealth of Nations was not only shelved aside, but even the doubtful reforms ushered with obnoxious legislation and the tragedy of Jallianwalla Bagh and martial law failed to register public appreciation to any reasonable extent. The period between the end of the last war and the commencement of the present one has witnessed in the country a struggle for political freedom resulting in the recent expressions of discontent even from Liberals who are considered to be easily satisfied.

Whether the Congress will finally prevail or the Muslim League, whether there is federation of British India and Indian princes or a division of the country into Hindu and Muslim India, one cannot overlook certain facts which are staring the country in the face today and which, whatever the form of Government offered and established, will continue to exist for a considerable time to come, unless the conditions of the world change for more ideal and humanitarian ones, or India as a free country undertakes to put herself on the basis of an Imperialist military nation, prepared fully for all the evils of aggressive or defensive nationalism. World events are moving so rapidly and with such unexpected turns that the conditions of only four decades ago do not exist now. Up to the time of the Boer war, the navy was an important item of national defence. In the last war, aerial warfare and submarines played an important part and made the old-fashioned but heroic navy look foolish. In the present war, it is tanks, aeroplanes, submarines and mechanical strength that is deciding the issues between the Allies and the enemies.

The last war was the first which made the world realise that neither neutrality nor a steadfast aloofness from the warring parties can yield any protection to a

nation. In the present war, that danger has taken bigger dimensions as witnessed in the occupation of most European countries by the aggressive Nazis on the slightest and flimsiest of pretexts. Like all organised aggressors, Germany has the advantage over other unprepared and peaceful countries. The surrender of France has shown only too clearly how even sworn friends may be turned into sworn enemies under combined threats and persuasion. Britain, by herself, it is clear, cannot fight the caucus of Hitler and his partners in crime. The entire pooled resources of the empire have not been found sufficient to meet the demand, and even the willing and enthusiastic response of a vast industrial country like America has not fully helped to meet the full blast of the Nazi onslaught.

It may, however, be contended by some dreamers that the present war is the last of its kind, and that Democracy will be safe for all time to come hereafter. So was it said in 1918, and the false security into which many countries, including Britain lapsed, has resulted in the frightful growth of Nazism and Fascism. It is, therefore, only reasonable to expect that in the new world order that is to emerge when this war comes to its natural and desired end, Britain will come out not as an imperialist power but as a champion of democracy treating India with the rest of the colonies as an equal and respected partner in the British Commonwealth. The extreme politicians may be opposed to this view because it denies to India the complete freedom for which she has been agitating all these years. But in an equal partnership, every member of the Commonwealth will be sharing the risks, honours and gains equally with the advantage of the combined strength of vast and varied economic resources preserved and exploited for common good.

Not the most optimistic of India's politicians can expect the country, given independence, to maintain an up-to-date modern defence organisation demanded by the prevailing war craze. The fate of independent countries like Belgium, Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Holland and France is before them. The independence which

is being held up to India's approbation by those who are carried away by sentiment and mere considerations of honour will be a State which cannot stand the strain of any serious danger, and will be exposed to ridicule the moment an attack from a powerful and aggressive nation materialises at any point of her vast and undefended coast-line and frontier.

That India has deserved well of Britain is evident from her present relations with that country. In the last war of 1914-1918, India offered to Britain a free gift of £100,000,000 besides subscribing heavily to the British loans from her various reserves. The Indian people whose economists have put them under the category of the poorest in the world breathed not a murmur against the steadily increased burdens of taxation. From the prince to the commoner, every one volunteered to help Britain in her defence of democratic and humanitarian ideals. In the present war, though the Congress and some others have remained aloof, as parties, their members in their individual capacities helped the war efforts of the Government. Again, the vast mass of Indian people has helped generally with money, material and man-power, and subscribed liberally to the various war funds and loans. If a fuller and more fulsome co-operation has not been available, it is not the fault of India or her peoples. The blame may be laid partly on the past and present British Governments which have refused to take India into their confidence and offer to her the status of a self-respecting partner in the British Commonwealth.

Apart from the justice of the demand that India should be treated as an equal partner in the British Commonwealth, there are practical and cogent reasons why such a consummation should be desired. One of them is that India as a willing partner would not only contribute substantially to British prosperity but would be a source of great courage and strength in times of foreign aggression. A large number of British politicians appear to be labouring under the erroneous impression that the granting of Independence or even Dominion Status to India will deprive Britain of the economic advantages she is enjoying at present in the country.

The idea of maintaining India as a vast consumer country for the products of Manchester, Lancashire, Sheffield and Birmingham may not have sounded wrong in the last century, but the last few decades have witnessed remarkable changes in the East. Japan, a small island, has set the example to Asia by its successful imitation and adoptions of Western industrial methods. For years past, Japanese factories imported raw materials and turned out finished products which were supplied to most countries of the world in Japanese ships at rates which defied competition, trade barriers and tariff walls. India has a greater scope for industrialisation. She possesses qualifications even greater than Japan's for industrial success. She has vast populations of industrious and intelligent workers, immense undeveloped tracts of cultivable land, ample products of every useful variety, cheap and efficient labour in the masses and much commercial ability among some of the educated classes. With the country's wealth drained away in foreign imports of manufactured goods, agriculture yielding a bare living to the peasant, and unemployment figures rising steadily with a growing population, the educated classes demand, and rightly, too, an effective protection for India's nascent industries. There was a time when Indian ships built in the country sailed the oceans. Today, she has to depend on British, American and other foreign shipping companies for her commercial and transport requirements.

Some of the reasons which have led to political agitations and Swadeshi movements in India against Britain have been due to the invidious distinctions made against her people by some Britishers and their cousins in the colonies. An Indian is taboo in Africa and suffers from economic disadvantages deliberately created against him. The Indian was not welcome in certain hotels in the colonies where the Jap was admitted because of his country's strong position to retaliate. So far, unfortunately for better Anglo-Indian relations, this matter

has not received the attention it should from either the British public or the Government.

The attitude of the average Britisher towards India is one of sympathy and friendliness but not sufficiently exertive on the side of India's demand. Many years ago, a friend of the country like Sir Roper Lethbridge who had seen service in the country frankly admitted in one of his publications that he had "the pleasure of warmly supporting the efforts (unavailing though they unhappily proved) of such typical and honoured Indians as the Maharaja Sir Jotindra Mohan Tagore and others, in opposition to the mischievous and inquisitorial excise duties on Indian-made cotton cloth that were imposed in 1894," but considered that it would be "childish and futile to speculate on any form of preference that would act as 'protection' against Lancashire or against British products in general, for it is absolutely certain that no British Parliament, whether Conservative or Radical, would look at such an arrangement for a moment."

This dogmatic attitude of the not unsympathetic Britisher has undergone considerable change since the time of Sir Roper. The Swadeshi movement which was considered a folly did hit Lancashire in a very sore spot and provided financial stimulus for the political agitations of the Congress. This was only to be expected as for quite a long time everything concerning India was looked at mainly from the British point of view, exclusively. At present, with the Congress, the Muslim League, the Hindu Sabha and other parties having a multi-directional tug of war, the real Indian issue has become clouded. But sooner or later, when the heat of the struggle cools and the dust thrown by it subsides, India's leaders will have to consider with the saner elements in Britain, a more practical solution of their political problem rather than insist monotonously on a separation from Britain with all its distinct disadvantages.

INDIA AND FREEDOM

BY DEWAN BHADUR R. V. KRISHNA AIYAR, C.I.E.

THIS volume* brings together a dozen speeches made by Mr. L. S. Amery in and out of Parliament, on the subject of India or having references to India, published with the express object, as stated by Mr. Amery himself in his foreword to the book, of refuting the charge often brought against Great Britain of denying to India that freedom and democracy which she is professing to fight for in Europe. Published for purposes of propaganda, this volume is intended to point out the difficulties which beset the solution of the problem of Indian independence.

The main difficulty is, of course, the communal disharmony which enables him to say,

anxious as we are to see the responsibility of Indian Government resting on Indian shoulders, we can only transfer that responsibility to some authority which can assume it without breaking down or breaking up.

He believes that "the Indian Viceroy and the British Parliament are the trustees for the future constitution of India". He deprecates the use of "catch phrases" for the solution of the Indian problem and asks perhaps with some gusto:

Where is the body in India in existence or yet to be constituted which can . . . speak for India or express an agreed demand? What democracy can be found under which the peoples of India are prepared to live together? The question brings us not a step nearer to the resolution of our problem.

The italics are ours. Regarding the application of the Atlantic charter to India, he says:

It gives us no indication as to whether India is to be regarded as one people or several; it does not say by what method the form of government is to be decided; it lays down no procedure or time table.

According to him, two conditions are essential before self-government can be granted to India:—

(1) Agreement among the various communities and interests as to the future constitution of India.

(2) Safeguards for due fulfilment of "the obligations which Great Britain's long connection with India has imposed on her". He admits that while the settlement of a constitution has everywhere been a long and difficult process, it will, on account of the peculiar conditions in this country, be a particularly long and difficult process here.

The speeches make it clear that a self-governing constitution cannot and will not be established in India during the pendency of the war. The reasons given are:—

(1) The setting up of any kind of national government would prejudge the whole structure of the future unresolved constitution.

(2) It would be impossible in the middle of the war to alter the basis of power and authority. On 28th April, 1942, he said, talking on the Cripps Mission:

There was therefore *never* any question in our view of conceding a demand for national government whether made by Sir Tej Bahadur and his colleagues or by the Congress.

On 22nd April, 1941, he had stated:

There could, of course, be no question of changing over the whole basis of administrative and legislative powers in the supreme crisis of the war or placing the direction of India's war effort in the hands of an entirely new executive.

Of Sapru's scheme, he said:

It was going beyond what we think practicable in the midst of the ever-increasing strain and urgency of the war situation.

According to him, all that the Indian leaders can do at this stage, is to get through the immense amount of preliminary discussion, enquiry, and negotiation which has to be got through before the real decisive meetings take place. There is absolutely no reason why any of this indispensable preliminary work should wait for the end of the war.

On the question of *Pakistan*, we must sympathise with his desire not to offend susceptibilities. On 18th August, 1940, he said:

To keep one's balance steadily along a knife-edge of ice in the high Alps is a much easier task than threading one's way, without stumbling or offence, through the intricate, pitfall-strewn maze of the present situation in India.

In spite of this, it appears to us that these speeches show his leaning in favour of India's unity. He considers

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Pakistan as "a counsel of despair". In more than one speech, he has referred not only to the geographical unity of India as "a self-contained and distinctive region of the world" but to the fact that "India can boast of an ancient civilisation, and of a common history common to all her peoples, of which all Indians are equally proud", and to the unity of administration, and of political thought and aspiration. While admitting that there are differences between the Hindus and the Muhammadans, he refuses to regard them "as unbridgeable". On 21-11-40 he himself suggested a possible solution—

a further increase in the powers of the provinces, possibly rearranged and regrouped, subject only to the minimum of central control necessary to secure some measure of unity in foreign, defensive and economic policy.

In a later speech on 12-12-40, at the Foyle Luncheon Club, he put forth the slogan of "India First" as a watch-word not only for Indians of every community but even for Englishmen in England. Nearly a year later, on 19-11-41, at a Manchester Luncheon, he said that beneath all the differences of religion, of culture of race and political structure, there was an underlying unity in India, and that, if some sort of Indian unity had not existed, it would have to be invented against the dangers from outside.

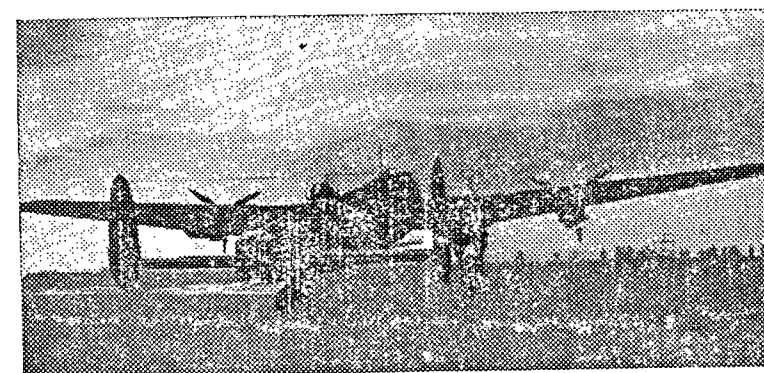
If, in spite of all this, the Cripps proposals countenanced the formation of a separate union of non-acceding provinces, he explained it by saying on 28-4-42:

Our ideal undoubtedly remains a united All-India: including the States as well as British India . . . But we would sooner see India divided and free, than keep her various elements for ever chafing against us and against each other under a sense of impotent frustration.

We at any rate are not surprised at the recent emphasis placed by the Viceroy on the question of Indian unity.

For the rest, the speeches contain a frank recognition of the Congress as "the largest and most highly organised political party in the country", as capable of "sweeping most of the Hindu constituencies", and as having been actuated in the past by high and noble ideals. About the attitude of the Congress towards the Axis powers also, the speeches make it clear that the Congress was one with the other sections of India in its detestation of Nazi tyranny and Nazi aggression. "On one main issue", said he on 20-10-40,

there is certainly no divergence among the leaders of Indian opinion. They know that the defeat of the British Empire and the victory of the dictatorships would leave India defenceless against inevitable aggression from every quarter. . . . They knew more: they knew it would mean the end of all their cherished hopes of contributory progress within India and in India's relation to the outside world.



BACK FROM BERLIN: A LANCASTER THAT HELPED TO SET THE GERMAN CAPITAL ABLAZE

Picture shows: An R.A.F. Lancaster bomber arriving back at base after taking part in the heavy British raid on Berlin on 16-1-43. A strong force of 4 engine bombers showered bombs, including eight thousand pounders on the German capital.

*INDIA AND FREEDOM. By the Rt. Hon. L. S. Amery, M.P., Secretary of State for India. Oxford University Press.

THE HEART OF KIPLING

BY MR. C. L. HOLDEN

THE writer who attains immediate and almost universal popularity early in his literary career often pays a heavy price for his success. His works fail, if they are significant and not just ephemeral, to be understood. Proper respect is not given to them, for normally we do not expect the popular to be profound or vital. We look upon it as a mere vehicle of pleasure that has no intellectual or spiritual values.

This appears to have happened with Kipling, so that those who love him and know him need to bring out clearly for others his meaning and worth. We will deal here only with his poetry for that perhaps is the more neglected part of his works. A great modern poet, T. S. Elliot, in a recent essay upon Kipling's verse has been at pains to demonstrate his greatness, not perhaps with complete success. T. S. Elliot grants Kipling the greatness of a ballad writer, and little more. This is unfair, for there is real vital poetry in abundance in Kipling. It is at its best great poetry and goes to the heart as does the finest of our acknowledged English poets.

English poetry of the first rank is always serious and passionate dealing with the bitterness as well as the ecstasy of life. Kipling touches this level frequently. To quote an example:

That which is marred at birth Time shall not mend,
Nor water out of bitter well make clean;
All evil thing returneth at the end,
Or else way walketh in our blood unseen,
Whereby the more is sorrow in certaine,—
Dayspring mishandled cometh not againe.

Expression so simple and so moving as this is the very essence of poetry, and justifies for it all those high claims made for poetry by writers like Sidney, Shelley and Carlyle. By every standard of pure literary greatness in English literature Kipling in this and other poems we will mention touches the heights. The poem is rooted in experience. What has been cannot be altered. What is wrongly or falsely or mistakenly begun cannot be put right. There is an inevitability about failure, that is like the famous 'Sunt lachrymae rerum' of Virgil.

These are the tears of things. All that we can say is that life is like that.

Longing for happiness and the grief of the lover is finely expressed in his Love Song of Har Dyal. We will quote the last verse only:

My father's wife is old and harsh with years,
And drudge of all my father's house am I—
My bread is sorrow and my drink is tears.
Come back to me, Beloved, or I die.

Here speaks romantic passionate love. It is the cry of youth imprisoned in a comfortless domesticity, for its own life, its own freedom, and its own joy in life. Such words and feelings may offend, but only the sentimentalist would really object to them. They are true and universal. Young love must have its way, and it finds the home always a prison. Kipling sees the truth of things and expresses it boldly.

It is true that he does not often deal with love as a theme for his poetry. His tales also show that he regarded the love interest as relatively minor in life. Yet tho' minor when compared with the whole of life, it is intense, and he never treats of it weakly. One of his epitaphs of the last war illustrates this. It has all the pathos and bitterness and passion of the old English ballads, most of which are made up of love and blood and tears. It begins:

Call me not false, beloved,
If, from thy scarce known breast
So little time removed
In other arms I rest.

There is something macabre in this. The alliance of love and death, the bridal night and the death night united, are a common theme in all poetry. But it rings true despite its commonness. Another poem of yearning shows how bitterly the woman resents exclusion from her world of love of man's activities. It is a song from Puck of Pook's Hill:

What is a woman that you should forsake her,
And the hearth fire and the home acre?
To go with the old grey widow maker?
She has no house to lay a guest in
But one chill bed for all to rest in
That the pale suns and the stray berg
nest in—
She has no strong white arms to fold you
But the ten times fingering weed to hold you
Out on the rocks where the tide has rolled you.

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In this poem we see another intense and abiding passion driving away and conquering all others. Just as the girl in the earlier poem is ready to throw off all her home life finding it unendurable for love, so the man of action must go down to the seas when the Spring returns and risk death and pain in many forms. In both there is an abandonment of self, a rejection of the complicated structure of personal ties and the web of domestic affections, for one thing held supreme. The brave man or woman in Kipling rejects without regret, and dares whatever the future may offer. This is an attitude to life, an interpretation of it that we find both in the gospels and in Nietzsche. It is a dominant theme in Kipling.

Here also we meet a major strand in Kipling's poetry. Life for him must centre around activity. Action demands courage. But the bravery Kipling praises so frequently is never heroic, it is never grandiloquent or artificial. Courage faces life, tho' it does not always conquer it, and it finds its own satisfaction in so facing it. Fame is unnecessary. Glory and renown are little sung of in his poems. These are false values that a man has no need of. The poem also introduces us to another characteristic topic in Kipling—the sea. Many of his poems, as also his tales, deal with the sea.—"Those who go down to the sea in ships, they see the wonders of the Lord". The sea is full of mystery. But there is no idealisation. Kipling like Conrad finds the sea cruel and remorseless. Yet the fascination of a storm holds him to the end. One of his latest poems Storm Cone reveals this:

This is the midnight—let no star
Delude us—dawn is very far.
This is the tempest long foretold
Slow to make head, but sure to hold.
Stand by! The lull twixt blast and blast
Signals the storm is near, not past
And worse than present jeopardy
May our forlorn tomorrow be.

Life as something to be endured, life as a series of ever-increasing dangers and perils, that is the picture one gets from the vivid storm scenes in this poem, and in so many others by Kipling. To be endured, let us note, in quietness and without protestation.

So much of Kipling's work is about the British army and the lives of ordinary vulgar soldiers who drink and fight and blaspheme and beget illegitimate children. These are of the earth, and Kipling does not hide their earthliness: but one quality in them stands out and wins his constant praise—their loyalty and discipline and the high courage with which they accomplish great things and the simplicity with which they refuse to claim that the work of their hands is great. This is seeing the essential worth in the commonest of people: it is illustrating the manhood of the very poorest. It takes a generous mind to do this. The mere talker can pretend to believe in democracy and human equality, but the discerning and generous heart sees that beneath all the vileness and shabbiness of too many of us there is also the fire given from God—the spirit that makes mankind distinct from all other creatures.

One of the very best of his songs of the sea is the poem in free verse in *The Finest Story in the World*. This is the *Song of the Galley Slaves*. It is full of stark realism:

The salt made the oar handles like shark
skin; our knees
were cut to the bone with salt cracks; our
hair was stuck
to our foreheads; and our lips were cut to
the gums,
and you whipped us because we could not row.

It is not only however the harshness and violence of life that fill his poems. A number of them can be roughly classified together as patriotic. These may have earned for Kipling the somewhat contemptuous designation of a newspaper poet. Certainly he always wrote for the people. He sought the widest possible audience. And he was never afraid of putting topics of the day into verse. But though he wrote for the people, he never wrote down to them. There is no trace of condescension in his poems. He has been called an imperialist poet, and in the weak-minded years between the two great Anglo-German wars has suffered in reputation on this account. There are imperialist poets, writers who blatantly glory in empire. Kipling definitely is one of these. He lived too closely to

every aspect of Anglo-Indian life to attach glamour to empire. What he did was to accept the empire as a fact, and it still is in the world showing little signs of disappearing, and insist not on its glamour but on the responsibilities it entailed. Nor did he ever conceal that empire rested on the armed forces. The vast number of his poems about the soldier in India show that, Kipling hid nothing, however unpalatable. His patriotism was of a different mould.

It is found best expressed in the poems he wrote in his books for children. He takes it to be real love of the land, the earth about one, not a theory, or an idea.

I am the land of their father.
In me the virtue stays.

Returning to England in his maturity it is of one particular English piece of earth that he most writes and loves;

God gave all men all earth to love,
But, since our hearts are small
Ordained for each one spot should prove
Beloved over all.

So he himself praises Sussex. He writes his Dymchurch Flit, The Run of the Downs, and A Tree Song. In the poem A Charm he says,

Take of English earth as much
As either hand may rightly clutch:
It shall sweeten and make whole
Fevered breath and festered soul.

He shows us in the Land how the men who really work on the land with their own hands own it and deserve to own it. There is nothing racial in this. We have in one of the stories the tale of a Roman centurion who has grown to love the country he has occupied as an alien soldier:

Here where men say my name was made, here
where my work was done;
Here where my dearest dead are laid—my wife—
my wife and son;
Here where time, custom, grief and toil, age,
memory service, love
Have rooted me in British soil. Ah! how can
I remove?
For me this land, that sea, these airs, those
folk and fields suffice.

One can acquire this patriotism, for the thing to which one has fully given one's life is indeed one's love. But Kipling has as keen a sense of the historic and conservative aspect of patriotism as a man

like Burke. His book, Puck of Pook's Hill, with its mingled tales and poems gives us an almost mystic interpretation of the way in which the land of England has absorbed its history and people so that in spite of constant change there is a real continuity of experience. Something of this appears in his poem for children, The Heritage:

Our Fathers in a wondrous age,
Ere yet the earth was small,
Ensured to us an heritage,
And doubted not at all
That we, the children of their heart
Which then did beat so high,
In later time should play like part
For our posterity.

The sense of responsibility which is the keynote of maturity is very high in Kipling, and for this alone he deserves consideration. He tells us in one of his poems, The Gods of the Copybook Headings, that fashions in ideas and in scales of value come and go, and that men are only too eager to run away from commonplace truths. Men believe what they want to believe and not what is true. Kipling's warning voice declares that this cannot be. There cannot ever come a society when

all men are paid for existing and no man must pay for his sins.

He believes with the ancient Indian exponents of Dharma that when the castes are mixed chaos and confusion result. The truth as he bluntly and harshly expresses it is:

The Dog returns to his vomit, and the Sow
returns to her Mire.
And the burnt Fool's bandaged finger goes
wabbling back to the fire.

This is far from despair in humanity. In all his poems there is belief in human greatness, but it is individual and personal. In the Sons of Martha, for example, he shows us that there are always men eager and willing to give their lives:

Not as a ladder from earth to Heaven, not as a
witness to any creed
But simple service simply given to his own kind
in their common need.

One could quote numberless examples to the same effect from Kipling but this is sufficient for our purpose. Passion and sincerity are the keystones of his poetry.

ITALIAN FOREIGN POLICY

BY MR. K. VENKATASUBRAMANIAN

EVER since Cavour made Italy into a nation, colonial expansion has been the keynote of her foreign policy. Prominent Italian statesmen, like Crispi and explorers, like the Duke of Abruzzi, have dreamed of a far-flung colonial empire.

But unfortunately for Italy, her own obstacles stand in the way. She is lacking in almost all the essentials that are needed for the building of an empire. She has little coal, less iron and no oil. She is not a highly industrialised country as Great Britain or Germany. Her population is mainly agricultural. Another distressing factor is that the Italians as a race have little stomach for fighting. Even the advent of fascism has effected little change in the above aspects. Fascism has, of course, given a certain point and vigour to Italian ambitions but her national economy and the poor fighting quality of her people are still matters of anxiety for the Italian Dictator.

She embarked on her policy of colonial expansion with another disadvantage—she began too late in the day. In the Mediterranean sphere to which her ambition was naturally directed, far greater Powers had already installed themselves. France had occupied Algeria. The Suez Canal had virtually passed into British control. The attentions of Austria and Russia were focussed in the Balkans. Thus the field was already crowded when she entered. Small wonder then that she was easily elbowed out of the field. From the Berlin Congress of 1878, she returned with clean and empty hands. Her humiliation was complete when in 1881 France helped herself to Tunis with Bismark's connivance.

In 1882 Italy joined the Triple Alliance with Germany and Austria. By this stroke of diplomacy she won recognition as a great power but this was also a pathetic confession of the fact that she could never win her object by standing alone. She cleverly turned this alliance to her advantage by bringing diplomatic pressure on France to accede to her occupation of Tripoli.

But this alliance itself did not last long. It was, at best, an uneasy partnership of

opposing powers. The Austrian occupation of Northern Italy had always been a sore point in the relations of the two countries and any real understanding between the two was out of question so long as this problem remained unsolved.

The frantic attempts of Italian statesmen to 'find the keys of the Mediterranean in the Red Sea' led to the Italian occupation of Eritrea and the memorable defeat inflicted on her forces by the Abyssinians at Adowa. The year 1911 saw Italy once again on the move. The French march on Morocco enabled Italy to capture Dodecanese. Though the great powers extracted from her a promise to return it to Turkey, a succession of subsequent favourable events, has enabled her to continue in possession of it.

In the Great War Italy remained neutral until May, 1915, conducting negotiations with both sides simultaneously. She was ready to sell herself to the highest bidder. Ultimately she joined the Allies on being promised a substantial share in the spoils of the war. By the Secret Treaties of London and St. Jean de Marrienne she was promised the return of Trieste and the Trentino, besides Dalmatia. In addition, her right to an 'equitable compensation' in the German African Empire and Asiatic Turkey, should these be shared among the Allies, was also recognised.

The Peace Conference was a bitter disappointment to Italian hopes of expansion. Great Britain and France helped themselves to all they could lay hands on while Italy was left to satisfy herself with a few crumbs left on the table after their imperial feast. She got Trieste, the Trentino, South Tyrol, Jubaland and Dodecanese (which she had previously occupied), while England and France got off with the major prizes. Italy could never forgive this act on the part of Great Britain. Only the uncomfortable presence of Kemal in Turkey and her own internal troubles prevented Italy from putting up an effective resistance to this scheme. Since then treaty revision has been one of the main planks of Italian foreign policy.

With the Treaty of Lausanne the reshaping of post-war Europe was complete. To the Italian Dictator it was anything but satisfactory. The old Great Powers of Central Europe had gone. A beaten and crippled Germany and a mutilated Austria stood in their place. For a long time the Duce was consistently opposed to a German *anschluss* with Austria until the Feuhrer presented him with a *fait accompli*.

In the Balkans, French influence was on the increase. The Balkan States which had profited by the war—Jugoslavia and Roumania—looked on France as their natural friend and protector. Poland and Czechoslovakia lined up with France and these two Balkan States in their attempt to maintain the *status quo*. Italy could scarcely tolerate this. The rise of a strong Kemalist Turkey and the presence of a string of British and French 'mandated' territories in the Eastern Mediterranean left the Duce no mental peace. Only in Albania (which was soon to become an Italian colony) did Italy feel her influence secure.

Despite this rather bleak prospect, she budged not an inch from the stand she had taken; her demand for treaty revision became increasingly insistent. This was followed by a frantic preparation for war. The fortification of Pantellaria, the building of new air and naval bases in Sicily, Tripoli, Leros and Tobruk and the adoption of the policy of autarky (though this met with indifferent success) were all calculated to this end.

She then began an active search for allies who could be used to compass her ends. In attaining her object Italy had always fought shy of war and in the post-war world alliance-making was going to be no easy task for her. Her choice was severely limited by her political aims. She could never hope to enlist the sympathy of any Great Continental Power, committed to *status quo*, for her revisionist claims. She had to choose her allies from the other 'have-nots' of Versailles—Germany, Russia, Austria, Hungary and Bulgaria.

Even as early as 1924, Italy started flirting with Russia. The Duce was ready to swallow any ideological differences that might exist between the two countries,

provided the connection helped him with his object. France was seriously perturbed over such an unfavourable turn of events. Indeed, her own relations with Italy at this time were far from happy (over the naval question and Tunis among other things). The Russo-Italian Alliance was a bold attempt at revisionism and France was only waiting for an opportunity to break this hostile concentration.

And the arrival of Hitler on the scene brought her, her much-looked-for opportunity. The Japanese occupation of Manchuria and the rise of a militant Nazi Germany increased Russian fears of encirclement. The non-aggression pacts signed by Russia and her neighbouring States during 1938 and her alliance with France (France had now got over her anti-Bolshevik prejudices) were signs of a radical change in Russian foreign policy.

From the Italian point of view, this drifting of Russia towards the *status quo* powers was anything but welcome. Her interest in the Russian connection began to show signs of slackening and when finally Russia joined the ranks of the *status quo* Powers by accepting League membership and signing a Treaty of Mutual Assistance with France and Czechoslovakia the Duce saw that the time had come for parting company with his erstwhile ally.

Even now the idea of an Italo-German alliance was far from the Duce's mind. He made a bold attempt at friendship with the Western Powers by joining the Stresa Front against Nazi Germany. In return for joining this anti-German camp, France promised to view with sympathy Italian designs on Abyssinia.

But England would not have it that way. At her instance, the League Powers (with the solitary exception of France) adopted a policy of 'sanctions without war' against Italy. And between a half-hearted England and reluctant France, this policy of sanctions fell through; Abyssinia went down before the armed might of Italy after a feeble but heroic resistance. This futile sanctions policy only served to rouse Italian anger against the Western Powers. Italy began to suspect internal decadence in the 'Pluto-Democracies' of the West. The Duce almost instinctively began to turn his eyes towards Berlin.

The Montreux Convention (which sought to undermine Italy's position in the Eastern Mediterranean by upsetting her calculations of naval parity and balance) greatly reinforced her desire for an understanding with Germany. The two countries drew together under the stress of a growing need for presenting a united front to a hostile combination. If still there remained any doubts as to the need for such a common policy, they were swept away by the events in Spain.

From the first it was apparent that General Franco's revolt had the Duce's blessings. When, however, France and Russia intervened on the side of the Spanish Republican Government, Axis support to General Franco became more active. From the Italian standpoint, the defeat of General Franco would mean the formation of a solid anti-Italian bloc on the Western Mediterranean at a time when her position in the Eastern Mediterranean was hardly secure.

Italy and Germany, faced with a hostile combination, determined to break that up. The weapon was the anti-commintern Pact and the Spanish civil war provided the necessary justification for such a step. Under the cover of an ideological campaign they made a bold attempt at driving a wedge into the relations of the Russia with the West. It was not directed so much against Russia as against the continental *status quo* and the Western Democracies.

If England had supported France's policy (instead of setting up the farce of Non-Intervention), subsequent history would have been different. The Rome-Berlin Axis would probably have met its doom on the battle-fields of Spain. But, that was not to be. England, alarmed at the prospect of Russia's growing influence in the Mediterranean, was anxious to make friends with Italy. She concluded a Gentleman's agreement with Italy in 1937. This was followed by the Anglo-Italian Pact of 1938, designed to safeguard the Mediterranean *status quo* (and thus to keep Russia out).

Affairs reached a crisis in September, 1938. At Munich where the Great European Powers assembled to discuss the fate of

Czechoslovakia (to write her off, if you please), Russia was deliberately excluded. The triumph of Axis policy was now complete. France had been forced to give up her *status quo* policy. Russia had withdrawn. Thus the inglorious retreat of the Western Powers at Munich made Europe safe for Fascism.

Hitler had achieved treaty revision in Central Europe, and Italy felt that her turn had come. The inspired Italian Press put forward with increasing confidence the demand for a 'Mediterranean Munich' (which, in other words, was an invitation to the Western Powers to abandon their positions in the Mediterranean, in favour of Italy).

But Italy's demands were swept away by the onrush of Hitler's European advance. Europe had little time to spare to Italy's claims and she was ignored. Meanwhile, public opinion in France and Great Britain was rapidly crystallising in favour of standing up to the Axis Powers, and when finally the test came over the question of Poland, the Western Powers took up the challenge. The full offensive and defensive alliance entered into by the Axis Partners failed to frighten the Democracies into submission. . . .

British persistence upset the calculations of the Duce ('The Italian miscalculator', Mr. Churchill, called him the other day). Italy entered the war banking on the speedy collapse of England. She was not prepared for a major war, either; and when Britain held out, she was in a quandary. . . .

And then came the crippling of the Italian Navy by the Allies and the crushing defeat on Marshal Graziani's forces at Sidi Barrani. She has lost her Abyssinian Empire, since then, in the course of the war.

The surprising succession of resignations from the Italian High Command and frequent reports of the people's dissatisfaction with the Dictator's policy have led people to expect the speedy collapse of Fascist Italy. But this tottering structure is now being propped up by Germany. To-day Italy has no independent existence.

Paul Antokolsky: the Russian Poet

BY MR. E. LEVONTIN

PAUL Antokolsky is one of the representatives of the older generation of the post-revolutionary Russian poets. His grandfather's brother was the famous sculptor, M. Antokolsky, and his father, one of the outstanding barristers of Moscow.

The poet was born in 1896 and his first volume of verses appeared in 1922.

In addition to being a poet, Paul Antokolsky is one of the directors of the Vakhtangov Theatre of Moscow.

Great knowledge of poetry, vivid temperament and keen patriotism are the principal features of Antokolsky as poet. He knows and values human knowledge. Not in vain does he list among his teachers, the famous Russian scientist and poet, Valeri Bryusov. He loves Russia, having travelled up and down the country, and in his early poems about Russia one could hear the echo of Alexander Blok, the poet who had an inspired conscious love for Russia.

At the beginning of his career Antokolsky saw the world through literature; his way led him from literature to life. His original conception of Russia was a symbolic one.

The revolutionary transformation in Russia and the great change in the country's social relations, opened up before the poet—as before many millions of other people—the road to an optimistic and active participation in life. His book, "Active Men" (the poems of 1929—1932), with its expressive series, "Catechism of the Materialist", showed that the poet had taken to the new, broad road.

Antokolsky demands of nature complete "exposure"; demands that the skies should be cleared for "observatory".

He came to know the country as a great construction site. He was attracted by the factory blocks and by the pulse of new life. He eagerly studies the new people, engineers, workers and representatives of various nationalities.

The reality of the present day intruded imperiously into Antokolsky's poetry. The poet's characters, vocabulary, poetic images

and, indeed, the very trend of his inspiration have undergone a radical change.

Work-a-day heroics, the heroism of airmen flying over the North Pole, the great and new Moscow—these become the themes of Antokolsky's works. Gorky's saying "Man sounds proud" has become Antokolsky's unshakable principle. A sense of realism now permeates his poetry and the poet has become truthful to the utmost in the most intimate, the most lyrical of his poems.

From the very first day of the war, Antokolsky placed his pen at the service of the defence of his country. His books on war (the volumes "Six Months" and "Iron and Blood") which have roused hatred of the enemy, spoke the most sacred things for the motherland.

The last of these books is dedicated to the memory of his son, the nineteen-year-old officer of the Red Army, Vladimir Antokolsky, who died a hero's death during the summer of 1942.

The poet's personal tragedy inspired him into writing a novel in verse, "Son", which is outstanding for its unusual power of feeling.

The author recovers from his grief, from his shock without hiding and minimising it. . . . His first lines sound almost like a photographic reproduction of a father's suffering which led the man almost to the verge of insanity. . . In biographical detail he reveals the character of the boy growing up to manhood. But the personal element gives ground for deductions—replete with convincing sincerity—for counterposing two worlds; the world of virtue, beauty, reason and humaneness to the inhuman world full of animal cruelty. The poet speaks of the sacred right of revenge on the Hitlerites; he calls for an effective, passionate defence of truth and life.

■ The novel "Son" gained popularity at the front. The author has received many letters from young Red Army men vowing to avenge the death of his son and to pay back for all the humiliated and murdered defenders of the freedom of the country.

BRITISH MISSIONARIES' APPEAL

[An earnest appeal to all parties in India to make an entirely fresh approach to the political problem with a view to coming to a settlement, is made in a statement issued over the signature of a number of British missionaries resident in India. The signatories* to this appeal urge the Government of India to consider the granting of a general amnesty to all political prisoners not convicted of crimes of violence. The following is the full text of the statement. ED. I. R.]

“WE, a group of British missionaries belonging to various branches of the Christian Church, have felt moved to express our minds on the political situation. We are not party politicians, and we realise that in many political questions it is possible for Christians honestly to hold opposing views. On this particular question we know that there are differences of opinion, and we wish to make it clear that in what we now say we have no authority to speak on behalf of the whole body of British missionaries, but we have reason to believe that the opinions which we held are widely shared.

We cannot but be disturbed by the fact that while it has been authoritatively declared that India has the right to frame her own constitution for a free India the methods of friendly consultation and discussion with a view to the preparation of plans for the attainment of this end have broken down, and bitterness and distrust have infected the minds of great numbers of people. It is not for us to apportion blame for all that has happened in recent months, but as Christian men and women we feel it to be our duty to give whatever help we can towards the restoration of goodwill and the attainment of a settlement acceptable to all classes in India.

NEED FOR FRESH APPROACH

We believe that such a settlement can be reached only through the co-operation of the best minds in India. We therefore earnestly urge that all parties should admit the necessity of making an entirely fresh approach to the whole problem, and should declare their willingness to enter into unrestricted conference with each other with a view to discovering whether their differences are irreconcilable. This seems to us to be not only the right method of procedure but the only method that is likely to be fruitful.

We are aware that it has been widely alleged that Britain has no intention of

agreeing to any scheme of self-Government for India. In particular, it has been said (1) that the promises which Britain has made to India are vague and ambiguous, and (2) that experience has proved that past promises have been untrustworthy. We would suggest that, so far as the first charge is concerned, the leaders of responsible parties may apply to Government for the elucidation of any points which do not seem to be clear. In regard to the second charge, we would suggest that a fresh and dispassionate study of the undertakings given by the British Government with reference to self-Government for India from 1908 onwards, and the manner in which they have or have not been implemented, would be of value at the present time. For the future, it is clear that both British public opinion and world opinion would make it impossible for any British Government to break promises which have been clearly made to India.

The policy of postponing even the planning of a new constitution until after the war has caused great dissatisfaction in India. We are strongly of opinion

* Signatories to the statement are:—

W. T. M. Clewes, London Mission, Erode;
J. F. Edwards, Editor, *Dnyanodaya*, Poona;
B. F. W. Fellows, Baptist Mission, Cuttack;
Foss, Calcutta, Metropolitan of India;
Ethel A. Gordon, Church of Scotland, Poona;
J. S. M. Hooper, B. & F. Bible Society, Nagpur;
J. Z. Hodge, formerly Secy. National X'an Council;
J. Jardine, Baptist Mission, Baraut;
J. Kellock, Wilson College, Bombay;
J. M. Lyle, Irish Presbyterian Mission, Baroda;
W. Machin, Methodist Mission, Akbarpur;
John McKenzie, Wilson College, Bombay;
John McLean, Wilson College, Bombay;
R. M. Macphail, Church of Scotland, Bamdah;
Michael, Madras, Bishop of Madras;
E. Forester Paton, Tirupattur Ashram;
H. A. Popley, London Mission, Erode;
C. W. Ranson, National Christian Council, Nagpur;
Eleanor Rivett, Women's Christian College, Madras.
Christopher Robinson, Cambridge Mission, Delhi.
Lewis J. Thomas, London Mission, Bangalore.
I. L. Thomas, London Mission;
W. E. Tomlinson, Methodist Mission, Mysore;
Jane R. Watt, Church of Scotland, Poona;
F. Whittaker, Methodist Mission, Secunderabad.

that the representative body proposed in the Cripps scheme for the planning of a new constitution should be called together now, and that Government should give it every help and encouragement in its work. We should suggest that in convening this body Government should make it clear beyond all possibility of misunderstanding that every question regarding the future constitution is open and that no question may be presumed to have been settled beforehand, so that no individual or party may have any excuse for refusing to participate in its deliberations.

AMNESTY TO POLITICALS

We offer these suggestions in the hope that they may secure the attention of the general public, of the leaders of the political parties, and of Government. We fully recognise that the successful prosecution of the war must be the prime concern of Government, and we believe that the acceptance of our suggestions would greatly help and not hinder this. We would ask Government, if these suggestions commend themselves to them, to consider the granting of an amnesty to all political prisoners not convicted of crimes of violence, who are prepared to follow constitutional methods and to work on constructive lines. At the same time we would suggest to the leaders of the various parties that they should prepare the way for formal action by arranging meetings for friendly and informal conference now.

It is clear that no happy solution of the Indian political problem is possible while suspicion and distrust remain. On the other hand, we believe that if goodwill and mutual trust can be restored, the way lies open to the attainment of a just and lasting settlement.

THE METROPOLITAN'S SUPPORT

Interviewed on the above statement, the Most Rev. Foss Westcott, Metropolitan of India, who is one of the signatories to the statement, said:

Sir Stafford Cripps' statements have left no room for doubt as to the sincerity of the British Government's pledge for the grant of responsible self-government. That guarantee stands. Unquestionably the refusal to take any steps for the drafting of the constitution till after the war has embittered national feeling. At

least, let the Congress be given the opportunity of frankly disavowing the policy which led to such deplorable violence and sabotage and accept the policy of free negotiation with other political parties with a view to framing the constitution. Why wait to undertake this task which must of necessity be the preliminary to the exercise of self-government, which is thus unduly delayed? This has led to the aggravation of the spirit of ill-feeling and even of hatred. As one pledged by his office to the promotion of goodwill, I fully associate myself with the appeal which is so reasonable."

BRITISH COUNCIL'S MESSAGE

The British Council of Churches has sent a message to the National Christian Council of India assuring complete support to the council's appeal. The message runs: "We are deeply distressed by the long-continued political deadlock and deterioration of relations between our peoples.

Among us, as with you, this creates a sense of frustration. We realise that beneath the political difficulties there are soreness and alienation deeply rooted in history whose ultimate causes are moral and spiritual. We admit a share in these for which in spite of the devoted service of many the British people as a whole must accept responsibility. But none the less, we are convinced that the British Government and the people are sincere in the offer made a year ago that a constitution carrying with it complete self-government shall be devised by the Indians themselves and that even if India should wish to separate herself from the British Commonwealth of Nations, no obstacles would be put in her path, much as we should regret such an end to the long association of our peoples. We assure you that we and our countrymen regard ourselves as wholly committed by their offer. Concerned as we are to see the political deadlock ended, we have a still deeper concern. In the face of the deep-seated alienation and mistrust, the Christians have a message and a mission."

The message which is sent together with a covering letter from the President of the British Council of Churches, the Archbishop of Canterbury, was unanimously adopted at a recent meeting of the Council.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

INDEPENDENT INDIA AND A NEW WORLD ORDER. By Y. G. Krishnamurthi. Introduction by K. M. Munshi, Popular Book Depot, Bombay. Rs. 10.

"We have certainly no illusions about the immediate realization of a 'New World Order', writes Mr. Krishnamurti, but this has not deterred him from producing a plan of the new order as he visualises it. The lines of thought followed by the author are dictated by his fervid faith in Gandhism and its message to the world. At a time when several find it satisfactory to their inclination or interest to denounce Gandhi, accuse him of having deserted or compromised his principles, and driven the country on the rocks of a barren policy of *non possumus*, it required some courage on the part of the author to hold him up as the prophet of the new world order, the one leader whose message, if heeded, will point the way to the salvation of the world. Indeed on Mr. Krishnamurti's view Gandhism is not the reactionary turning back on civilization and lapse into a primitive simplicity that it is often represented to be, but a radical revision of the prevailing scale of human values in the light of a sound morality. Of the principles of that morality Indian social thought has always evinced a much firmer grasp, and Gandhi's personal life provides a shining example to India herself and the world.

PESHA MADHAV RAO I. By Anil Chandra Banerjee. A. Mukherjee & Bros., 2, College Square, Calcutta.

Our author gives an exhaustive account of this Peshwa's career and particularly of his campaigns against Haidar Ali. It was unfortunate that other factors should have prevented the further extension of southern conquests begun by Madhav Rao, whose four Carnatic expeditions are described here in considerable detail. Marathi documents have been utilised in this book for the study of the character of the Peshwa who had to contend with violent prejudices and general corruption.

PRICE CONTROL AND FOOD SUPPLY. (With special reference to Bombay City). N. M. Tripathi & Co., Bombay.

The three authors of this book, Messrs. C. N. Vakil, J. J. Anjaria and D. T. Lakdawala, all of the Bombay University School of Economics and Sociology, have worked up their conclusions with the help of investigations carried out by a number of their post-graduate students, in the last quarter of 1942 and supplemented by later inquiries. They opine that the problem of food supply and price control in any locality could not be entirely isolated, nor can it be effectively tackled without a consideration of inter-relations with production, transport and distribution. This holds good and has held good both in the present crisis and in the last war and the last great depression. Further it is also difficult to isolate the monetary aspects of the problem and to deduce anything conclusive from the consideration of merely monetary or non-monetary factors.

The investigation is full and lucid.

DRAVIDIAN ORIGIN AND PHILOSOPHY OF THE HUMAN SPEECH. By Father Ad. T. C. Closset, S.J., Part I. Keys and General View. Balangoda; Galle.

The author contends that as far as the antiquity of its vocabulary is concerned, the Dravidian family holds its supremacy in human speech. The Dravidian languages have changed very little in the passage of time; and to all appearances, according to the authority of the Rev. H. Heras, S.J., they are prior in their origin to the Sumerian inscriptions. Thus the argument is that the emigrating shoots from the original Sumero-Dravidian stock branched off prior to all Aryan expansion; and "the presence of innumerable Dravidianisms of all shapes, found in the languages of the four parts of the world" is held to be a good proof of this view. We await the subsequent parts of the theses with curious interest.

THE PROMISED DAY IS COME. By Shoghi Effendi. Published by the Bahai Assembly of Bombay, Mehta House, Apollo Street Bombay.

The original of this work was published in America and this is the first reprint in India. It conveys the message of Baha'ullah regarding the day of the great convulsion which is at once a visitation from God and a cleansing process for all mankind. The end of the first century of the Baha'i era is approaching (1844—1944; and the book gives choice passages from the revelations of the author of the Faith and of its herald. Even during the lifetime of Baha'ullah and of Abdul Baha retribution for their sins and persecution of the faith began to fall on the Turkish House of Othman and of the Kajar dynasty of Persia. The cause of monarchy and of priestly orthodox has everywhere diminished in vitality. World unity is the ideal preached and the world commonwealth is bound to emerge out of the present carnage, agony and convulsion.

REGULATION OF WAGES AND OTHER PROBLEMS OF INDUSTRIAL LABOUR IN INDIA. By D. R. Gadgil, M.A., M.Litt. (Cantab). Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics Publications, 1943.

This is a collection of six Patna University Banaili Readership Lectures for 1939-40. Professor Gadgil approaches the theme with the thoroughness of a scholar and authority of a sound economist. He worked for some time on the Bombay Textile Labour Enquiry Committee and acknowledges his indebtedness to the committee, for the choice of the subject and the plan of his lectures. The book is not a portrayal of sordid labour conditions but a critical approach to the problem of industrial labour in its several aspects. The sound economist that Prof. Gadgil is, he is fully alive to the importance of the human factor and considers the question both from the point of view of the wage earner and the wage giver. He quotes profusely from leading economists and shows the leading difficulties of reconciling theory with practice.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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WAR AND INDIAN ECONOMIC POLICY. By D. R. Gadgil, M.A., M.Litt. and N. V. Sovani, M.A., Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Poona.

THE FORMATION OF FEDERATIONS. By S. G. Vaze, B.A. [R. R. Kale Memorial Lecture, 1943.] Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics, Servants of India Society, Poona.

IMMORTAL INDIA. By L. H. Ajwani, M.A. Educational Publishing Co., Karachi. Rs. 2-8.

INDIAN ADMINISTRATION. By M. R. Palande, M.A., Oxford University Press, Bombay.

KARAKA HITS PROPAGANDA. Published by Sound Magazine Publication Dept. Sir P. M. Road, Bombay. Re. 1-8.

MAURYAN POLITY. By V. R. Ramachandra Dikshitar, Minerva Series on Government Minerva Book Shop, Lahore.

SIR SIKANDER. Soldier Statesman of the Punjab. With Foreword by H. E. Sir Bertrand Glancy, Institute of Current Affairs, Lahore. Re. 1-4.

THE CIRCLE OR A NEW FRONT. By Sanjile Chandhuri, M.A. The Book Company, Ltd.

AUTHOR CATALOGUE OF PRINTED BOOKS in European Languages, Vol. III and IV, Government of India Press, Calcutta.

PENOLOGY OLD AND NEW. By Dr. P. K. Sen. With a Foreword by Sir Maurice Gwyer, K.C.B., K.C.S.I., Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd., Calcutta. Rs. 10.

THE FOUNDATION OF THE MAHRATTA POWER IN THE SOUTH. By Dewan Bahadur Dr. S. Krishnaswami Iyengar, Mylapore, Madras.

PROPOSALS FOR AN INTERNATIONAL CLEARING HOUSE. Presented by the Chancellor of the Exchequer to Parliament, April 1943, Manager of Publications, Delhi.

UNITED STATES PROPOSAL FOR A UNITED AND ASSOCIATED NATIONS STABILIZATION FUND. Government of India Press, New Delhi.

PERSONALITIES OF THE WAR. By Parantapa. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

THE CRADLE OF CIVILISATION. By "Savra." Kitabistan, Allahabad.

THE ART OF KATHAKALI. By Gayanacharya A. C. Pandeya. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

HOW INDIA PAYS FOR THE WAR. By K. T. Shah. Pratibha Publications, Sir Pheroze Shah Mehta Road, Bombay.

POEMS. By R. C. Prasad, M.A. The Searchlight Press, Patna.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Leaders' Statement

IN another page will be found the text of the statement issued by Dr. Sapru, Dr. Jayakar and other leaders of the Non-Party Conference. It is a weighty document appealing to the Government and the leaders of the Congress "to end this chapter of strife and ill-feeling." It asks the Government to release the patriots now in prison and calls upon Gandhiji and the Congress actively to take counsel with the other political parties and form

Governments, both at the Centre and the Provinces, capable of securing the maximum co-operation of the people for the prosecution of the war and the creation of a Home Front able to stand solid against panic, unsocial activity and enemy propaganda.

That Home Front is never more urgent or imperative than now.

Commenting on certain points in the statement, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru in a talk to Press correspondents observed that "conventions could be established to the effect that the Secretary of State would not interfere in the internal administration of the country."

This was done in the early days of the Colonies before the Dominion Acts were passed by Parliament. And Dr. Sapru does not think it necessary to amend any Acts of Parliament.

Dr. Jayakar says it is "monstrous" that the leaders should be detained for the whole period of the war without trial. Supporting Sir Tej Bahadur's appeal for urgent action, Dr. Jayakar remarked that the "political debts of the previous administration ought to be liquidated," before a new Government took office.

The Food Problem

The actual recommendations of the recent Food Conference in Delhi have not been made public but Government's decisions, presumably based on the recommendations, have come none too soon. For, already the situation has become well nigh acute and the shortage of food supply coupled with inadequate means of distribution has wrought great hardship in more than one Province and State.

For the first time the Government of India seems to have decided on a concerted plan to tackle the problem seriously. No free trade in food grains, rationing in urban areas, deficit provinces to have direct approach to surplus areas and a merciless drive against hoarders—these are steps in the right direction. But will they be enough to meet the extraordinary situation created by the clumsy and haphazard methods of distribution now extant?

The success of the scheme depends mainly on the promptness with which it is implemented. For, already much harm has followed indifferent methods of control and distribution. We welcome the first prompt step the Government have taken in suspending the export of rice. The Central Government should not be content with merely relegating the responsibility to the Provinces. For effective action, the whole country should be treated as a unit lest the Provinces should pull in different directions. It is the Central Government that can effectually co-ordinate the resources of the different units and ensure quick transport of available surpluses to deficit areas.

The drive against hoarding is to be welcomed; for no State can tolerate private profiteering at the expense of the millions left to starve for want of food. But even here there is need to distinguish between the hoarder who is an evil and the prudent householder who at all times is an asset to the State. As has been rightly observed by a contemporary:

A person who takes thought for the morrow may lay by stock for a period, but he is not necessarily a profiteer or speculator. As a matter of fact, it will be wise policy for the State to encourage people to lay by stocks which are essential for their personal needs. The age-long practice of seasonal purchases of necessities by the villagers is in this view to be commended in every way. We have always considered the provisions in the Food Control Order which penalise this practice as unwise and calculated to impose on the State a responsibility which it could not easily discharge. They have resulted in panicky buying in markets which at best of times have been delicate and narrow. The profiteer, it must be recognised, stands in a category different from that of the private citizen who buys and stores just what is sufficient for his own use; his acts are anti-social and must justly be punished.

The Cloth Control Order

The control of prices of cloth and yarn is no less important than the control of foodstuffs and their prices. It is Government's failure to introduce proper and effectual control at an earlier stage that has resulted in the abnormal rise of prices and the growth of the black market in cloth and yarn. The measures recently introduced by Government have had the desired effect in bringing down the price level of an article, quite as indispensable as food. At the All-India Merchants' Conference in Bombay, the President charged the Government as being responsible for the high prices of cloth and yarn. While Government is certainly responsible to a large extent by their failure to take prompt and adequate measures, the merchants themselves cannot be said to have a clean record. There is, however, point in Mr. Morarji's contention that Government should have sought the help of the dealers no less than the producers in making cheap cloth available to the public. It is time Government realise the need to arrange for a proper system of distribution in co-operation with the merchants no less than with the manufacturers.

South African Indians

We have had reports of differences among Indians in South Africa—differences which came to be emphasised at the recent Session of the South African Indian Congress. But all were united in condemning the "Pegging" Act as an outrageous measure of racial discrimination which no self-respecting Indian could tolerate. All were united too in urging its immediate repeal or replacement by more equitable legislation. Indians in South Africa wish to live on terms of cordiality and neighbourly friendliness with the Europeans. Segregation involving discrimination against Asiatics is an insult to their self-respect. Says a contemporary:

It is the compulsory segregation implied in the new Act that involves a vital principle on which there can be no compromise. It is likely that, as in India, so in South Africa there are Indians who are willing to accept small concessions on the principle that a bird in the hand is worth two in the bush. The bird in the hand, however, is often illusory. It is likely to be snatched away as soon as the purpose for which it was offered

as a bait is served. In any case, we in India can only deal with the question on the ground of principle. Experience has shown that the concessions so far made have not in the least conciliated anti-Indian sentiments. Only the securing of the full franchise will ensure civilised treatment in democratic countries. Indians must now repudiate all the old concessions as to immigration, and insist on enjoying equal rights of citizenship with the white races.

As we go to press comes the welcome news of a move for political unity among Indians of Natal. The four years' rupture between the Natal Indian Congress and the Natal Indian Association is now to end; and the two bodies are to be dissolved with a view to resuscitate the old Natal Indian Congress founded by Mahatma Gandhi in 1896! This is the happiest news we have had for some years past and we look forward to its realisation with great interest.

Mr. Huq's Allegations

Mr. Fazlul Huq, lately Chief Minister in Bengal, made a statement in the Assembly the other day, which is a devastating exposure of Governor's infringement of the rights of popular ministries. Recounting the events that led to his resignation, Mr. Huq charged Sir John Herbert with partisanship and violation of the instrument of instructions. Mr. Huq's allegations are so pointed and serious that it would be well for the Governor to take the public into his confidence and give his own version of the story. That must be done without delay as it would otherwise leave the public to draw its own conclusions from Mr. Huq's version—which necessarily must be damaging to Sir John's reputation as a constitutional Governor.

The Attack on Mr. Jinnah

Mr. Jinnah is reported to have been attacked with a knife by a visitor who wanted to interview him. It is a dastardly crime which is rightly denounced by every one in the country. Mr. Jinnah regrets that the cowardly attack should have been made by a Muslim. It is shocking to think that the venerable leader of the League should have been assaulted by any one at all—Muslim or non-Muslim. It is a mercy, the injury has not been serious. We wish him speedy recovery.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

The Fall of Mussolini

THE collapse of Fascist Italy was forecast in an article published in another page in this issue. Says the writer on "Italian Foreign Policy":

The surprising succession of resignations from the Italian High Command and frequent reports of the people's dissatisfaction with the Dictator's policy have led people to expect the speedy collapse of Fascist Italy. But this tottering structure is now being propped up by Germany. To-day Italy has no independent existence.

The ink was hardly dry on these words ere Mussolini himself resigned and his place has been taken up by Marshal Badoglio. His resignation is perhaps the biggest Axis bombshell of the war. One of the two pillars of the Axis has thus "been blown skyhigh"—a fate as well deserved as any in recent history. In the words of a B.B.C. message to the Italians, the Italian people have at last found the strength and will to assert themselves and drive their Fascist dictator who has for 21 years misled and betrayed them. Mussolini has been overthrown, but the Germans remain in Italy. The work of neither the Allied forces nor of the Italian people will be completed until the last German has either been killed, captured or expelled and the Italian Government has accepted the Allied demand of honourable capitulation.

It is further reported that Mussolini has been arrested while trying to make good his escape to Germany. It is said he was captured by army officers.

The Sicilian Campaign

Town after town in Sicily has fallen like ripe apples to the Allied forces, and Palermo, the capital, has been occupied. General Montgomery has declared himself very satisfied with the progress of the military operations. "Sicily is fed up with the Fascists and Nazis," he said. "Now the Sicilian population is working for us both on railways and elsewhere and is pleased to do so."

The British, Canadian and American armies continue their advance on all sectors of the front. The total number of prisoners on the entire Sicilian front is now 79,000.

The net is thus closing in on the Germans and the Italians.

Mr. Grew's Warning

The former United States Ambassador to Japan, Mr. Joseph C. Grew, who is now special assistant to the Secretary of State, speaking at Columbia University, issued a warning against complacency and stressed that it would not be an easy task to 'mop up' the Japanese:

Even when we can turn our entire attention to Japan, let us not for a moment think that we can regard with complacency the problem of defeating the enemy." Mr. Grew said. "To-day the Japanese occupy tremendous areas throughout East Asia and in the islands of the Pacific, areas which contain every raw material needed by any country for national power and they control some 300 million native inhabitants in those areas whom we know by experience they will use as forced labour to develop those raw materials. In the ports they have taken, there exist great potentialities for additional shipbuilding facilities. Industrial plants everywhere in those regions they will have put in first class working order, for the Japanese are tremendously industrious, thorough, pertinacious and scientifically expert. They will undoubtedly have aimed from the start to make those areas as far as possible self-sustaining and independent of shipping facilities. Their shipping is vulnerable and will become increasingly so as time goes. Eventually, though we have not reached that point already, we shall sink their ships faster than they can build. They know this and will therefore prepare for the day when they can no longer depend on shipping for the maintenance of their supplies.

Administration of Colonies

At the tail end of a long debate in the Commons on July 13, Mr. Oliver Stanley, Colonial Secretary, just dropped what several Commoners described as a bombshell when he quite casually announced that Government had decided to form commissions in all Colonies under International Colonial Councils which will look after them. When Labour Members pressed him, Mr. Stanley could not say what powers the Councils would have or even what countries would be on them.

Cultural Relations through English

An additional Government grant of £100,000, bringing the estimate for 1948 to £1,975,000 has been voted to the British Council established to promote wider knowledge of Britain and the English language abroad and develop closer cultural relations with other countries.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



BRITISH POLICY IN INDIA

Mr. H. V. Hodson, former Editor of the *Round Table*, and in recent years Reforms Commissioner with the Indian Government, writing in the *Foreign Affairs*, an American quarterly, on "The Responsibilities in India" finds among the causes for the Anglo-Indian conflict the tendency of Britons—habituated to an international outlook and responsibility for a world-wide group under the Crown

to concentrate on a wider setting and under-rate the inherent value of national yearning for independence for its own sake. Indians, by nature introspective and disinclined to look beyond their national horizon, tend to forget that independence is unreal unless qualified by membership in an international society to which each member must contribute in accordance with his ability and in which the affairs of each must be the affairs of all. The one, knowing independence is an illusion, looks for international stability, while the other, knowing that stability can be a cloak for stagnation, looks for national independence.

After outlining at length what he considers the responsibility of Indian leaders—such as Mr. Gandhi's alleged totalitarian and nihilistic leanings and Mr. Jinnah's intransigence—Mr. Hodson emphasises

that British responsibility has not been destroyed or mitigated by their attitude to India's Self-Government and the duty is all the more pressing in that a post-war settlement in Asia, without a constitutional settlement in India, is a contradiction in terms because every day's advance towards victory brings nearer the time when British and Indian opinion will insist upon a decision on India's future at whatever cost.

How can that duty be discharged to-day, consistently with other equally valid responsibilities, for defending and governing India?

There is an answer, or part of an answer, which we can see more clearly if we ask ourselves another question, "When the moment for that inevitable post-war settlement arrives, what will be most needed in India in order to save her from peril that in the presence of the British Power, and their own communal and party intransigences the main groups in British India will stand in the way of an agreement, while in the absence of the British Power those same forces will bring about chaos and civil war?" The answer is simple: an Indian Government, provided only that it is genuinely Indian in personnel and spirit and reasonably well-balanced between the different main communities and classes.

INDIA—WAR—AND AMERICA

Under this heading, Hilda Wierum Boulter, Member, India League of America, has an article in the July number of the *Modern Review*. She says that America is tremendously aware of India just now. All over the United States, Colleges, Clubs and Forums are holding meetings on India, and Indian lecturers are busy as the proverbial bees.

The writer goes on to give a list of persons and organisations interested in diffusing knowledge of India to the American public. We have every variety of publicists abroad. There are pretenders too, who as Indians try to pass their propaganda as authentic Indian views. What do they say?

That Mr. Gandhi is such a pacifist that he would be a danger to India and the United Nations, and that it would be most unwise to grant India her freedom at present. In short—the familiar British arguments, which coming from a Hindu carry extra weight. With the exception of Mr. Khanna and of Mr. Panikkar who has not made any speeches at all, the members of the Indian delegation to the Pacific Relations Conference, who have been touring the United States speaking on India, have done serious damage to the cause of Indian freedom in this country. And Americans as a rule do not realize that this so-called Indian delegation did not in any way represent Indian thought.

India actually is a United Nations' problem. There is no doubt of it.

Because of her unsettled condition she constitutes a hazard to the successful pursuit of the war, and will, if that condition is allowed to remain, constitute an even greater hazard to the attainment of a permanent peace. Any decent future world order depends very largely upon the settlement of the whole Colonial and Imperial question—of which India is the key. Of that too, there is no doubt.

But there is such a thing as the presence of public opinion. Hence the stream of English and Indian visitors to mould American opinion in their favour:

There is an overwhelming desire on the part of America to make sure that whatever is to be the future of the world, it must be based on justice and equity. It should not be impossible to turn so intense a feeling to account. The cause is a world cause now, and must be fought on a world front—and the fight for India's independence is an integral part of that world cause.

THE HIGH COURTS

Mr. K. M. Munshi, writing in his weekly—*The Social Welfare*—says that the invasion of the University and the affiliated Colleges of which we heard some time ago, has been followed by a front also against the High Courts in India. For the High Courts are by no means popularly controlled institutions.

The High Court judges are appointed by the Governor and the Viceroy in consultation with high British bureaucrats. A well-known instance of this 'palace intrigue' was seen when the Prime Minister and the Home Minister of the Bombay learnt for the first time who the next judge of the High Court was from the Chief Justice's announcement at an after dinner speech in a local club which was published in the press next morning. Of course all this is on the specious plea that Indians would not make an impartial selection, which the British Burra Saheb—being perfect—alone can be relied on to do.

Men are picked and chosen as Chief Justices. In the Punjab High Court a European was appointed Chief Justice in preference to Mr Justice Bakshi Tekchand, one of the ablest of lawyers and judges in India. In Bombay, 46-year-old Sir John Stone has been appointed Chief Justice in preference to Justice Sir Harilal Kania, the seniormost judge, whose standing at the Bar before he became judge was, and his ability as a judge is, of a very high order.

Thus the High Courts are nothing but a part of the British machinery to hold this country. Yet, thanks to the sense of justice which the great English and Indian lawyers who sat on the bench brought to bear upon their duties, the High Courts in India as a whole have built up a great tradition.

Even when the British Government tries to crush public men who fight for the elimination of British rule or for a complete transfer of power from British to Indian hands, the High Courts are resorted to by the victims to secure justice. Even during the present disturbances it was the High Courts that were approached for the vindication of personal liberty, and, barring exceptions, they have maintained the tradition extraordinarily well. In an ordinance ridden country they were and are the only safeguard against the deprivation of civil liberties by an all-comprehensive Ordinance Raj.

During the war Government in India, as elsewhere, has had a mania for increasing the crush of legislative efforts. The convenient device of the ordinances renders the Executive not only arbitrary but almost a public danger, says Mr. Munshi.

INDIA POLICY—A TEST

Discussing the task before the Labour Party in the course of an article in the *New Statesman and Nation*, Prof. Harold Laski refers to the Party's role as a very junior partner in the coalition Government which is dominated by Conservatives whose aim can best be judged by the criteria of their policy in regard to India, the Trades Disputes Act, Social-ownership of vital instruments of production and above all, the Bank of England and land. All these issues, Prof. Laski points out, are being left untouched by Labour on the ground that they are controversial questions. But Prof. Laski thinks

that Labour Leaders do not seem to have grasped the vital fact that because they are left untouched when the mood of the nation is ready for their solution, these controversial questions are in fact being settled in favour of preserving as much of the *status quo* as Mr. Churchill can get away with at the next general election.

Urging admission into the Labour Party of Communists and members of the Commonwealth Party, Prof. Laski reminds the Party executive that the Conservatives have learned, with magnificent amplitude, the meaning of Franklin's great aphorism that they must hang together or else they will be hanged separately. Prof. Laski advises the Party not to be afraid of healthy variation of opinion in the Party.

If it can keep Rhys Davis or Stokes who are pacifists, it really ought not to cavil at Jennie Lee or Harry Pollitt. The task before the Party is to make itself the spinal column of the immense, if unorganised, progressive forces in the country. It won't do that until it ceases to be afraid of Mr. Churchill's shadow. If Mr. Churchill is invaluable to the country, let us be quite sure that the Labour Party is indispensable to Mr. Churchill. Just as the Tories used Mr. Lloyd George and victory of 1918 to disunify and destroy forces of Liberalism, so are they likely to do if they can use Mr. Churchill and the victory a generation later to destroy progressive forces, and thus perpetuate their interests while their opponents are quarrelling over their ideas, British democracy has survived not merely because Mr. Churchill gave it a great lead but not less because the ordinary men and women of Britain followed that lead with so unbreakable a resolution. Time is short. If the Labour Party waits till the danger is over, it will find that the fatigued electorate lacks the energy and ardour from which great reforms emerge.

FOR HUMANITY'S SAKE

Writing under the above caption, the *Hindustan Times* says that even while the war effort goes on, and every ounce of energy is jealously preserved for the zero hour, it is no proof of patriotism to ignore other matters which affect the immediate well-being of large numbers of people. There is no gainsaying the fact that the Americans are fighting the war with their very soul.

But long-view questions of post-war reconstruction also occupy the time and keen attention of the best of their brains. In South Africa a solution of a "domestic problem" could on no account await the end of hostilities, and an amazed world witnessed a great Field-Marshal, one of the principal war leaders of the United Nations, taking time off in cold blood to launch a racial measure regardless of any consequence it might have on the result of the war. In England itself the Beveridge Plan is next in importance only to the war. But in India the aspect changes. You must either mind your business, that is, be a docile self-seeker, or accept a war-job on attractive pay. Any third interest is treason. Thus tendency, however, has to be firmly combated by those who value the nation's claim to character. The internal food situation is grave beyond dispute, and there are famine spots in the country which would be a disgrace to any people or Government. The majority of the Indian population, always, half starved are likely to become total physical wrecks as a direct result of malnutrition during the war. The only milk which millions of Indian babies born in 1942 and 1943 will ever have known in their childhood will probably be mother's milk. The age when the poor mites needed milk most will have passed. All this need not happen in a country like India, with all the burden of the war, if the people are alive to their duties and the Government responsive to the environment.

A matter of equal urgency is the lot of our prisoners. The Italian war-prisoners, one hears, are sumptuously fed and luxuriously accommodated. That is all to the good, for we must treat our war-prisoners as we wish the enemy to treat his.

But the Indian political prisoner need not be worse off than the war-prisoner merely because no countervailing favours of immediate value are expected of him. And yet there is more similarity between the two sets of prisoners than would appear on the surface. Did not a prominent Governor lay it down as a policy in his province some years ago that political prisoners should be well treated, for the "prisoner of today may be the Minister of tomorrow"? Since then, the cycle has taken more than one full turn and it now stands at the "prisoner" stage. But the principle is important, and psychologically the time has probably arrived for the Government to revive its interest in it.

UNITED NATIONS AND INDIA

In a recent issue of the *Yale Review*, Mr. William Henry Chamberlin, who was the correspondent in Russia, Far East and France of the *Christian Science Monitor* and a renowned expert on foreign policy, has analysed the changes for "coalition for war and peace". He is convinced that the United Nations coalition will doubtless, be safe but sees difficulties arising after the war, possibly about Russia's claims in East Europe as well as in the Far East in connection with Asia's awakening.

Mr. Chamberlin holds that continued Anglo-American co-operation is certain despite some differences on some subjects as "India". The British reaction to criticisms on the British policy in India varies from "our business" attitude of the Tory diehards to reasoned attempts to justify the policy of "making haste slowly" in imperial matters. The familiar arguments in this connection are peace and order which the British rule brought to large regions in the world, the inability of Indian groups to agree among themselves, the likelihood that a British renunciation of imperial possessions would be a prelude to anarchy or seizure of those regions by less scrupulous powers. However, Mr. Chamberlin believes that "when the immediate preoccupation of winning the war becomes less urgent. . . Great Britain might be willing to speed up the pace of extending self-government in India and forego some monopolistic and preferential features of imperialism, if America would underwrite a guarantee against aggression and make some concessions in the field of trade and tariffs."

INDIA'S TEA CROP

In an article entitled "India's Record Tea Crop", published in *Capital*, Mr. J. Jones, C.I.E., Chairman of the Indian Tea Association, observed:

"The tea industry has been called upon to play a vital part in defence of India, and the story which will be told one day of the work done by the tea garden labourers, by the planters and by those who were responsible for the organization of the arrangements for the transport, feeding and clothing of these thousands of workers, will be a story which India and particularly all connected with the tea industry in India, will read with justifiable pride."

GANDHIJI: MAKER OF NEW ASIA

Doctor William Paton, who for five years was Secretary of the National Christian Council of India, has a "Study of Gandhi" in the current issue of the *Spectator*. Dr. Paton writes:

Whatever historians may make of Gandhi—and they certainly have to make something of him, for he ranks with Sun Yat Sen as maker of a new Asia—it can hardly be denied that he has been at every point a challenge to the age in which he is famous. He is a champion of the spinning wheel in an age of machines. When, in the present world order, a sense of safety leads men increasingly to look to larger grouping of peoples, he stands for independence *pur sang* (of the full blood, without admixture). He has on the whole prevented the Indian nationalist movement from adopting violent methods when violence was all the fashion. He has always executed a diplomacy of his own in which the most obstinate tenacity was joined to engaging friendliness, expressing itself in writing long, self-analysing letters. Many of those who discuss Gandhi, whether as friends or foes, make the mistake of over-simplifying him. He cannot be subsumed (included) under any one category. He is not just George Fox or George Washington or St. Francis of Assisi nor is he adequately described as a disloyal agitator. People who know him much better than I have had the privilege of doing, might add other items to the list. But I should venture to suggest as the main ingredients in the mixture, personal goodness, keen nationalism, deeply Hindu understanding of man and the world, dietetic faddiness, passion for social reform and an extremely astute political sense—all combined with a fundamental distaste for the routine business of carrying on Government from day to day. It is perhaps this inability of his to fit into any accepted categories that has caused good many British people, who do not know him well, to under-rate his power which has been much greater for a long time than that of anybody else.

Regarding Gandhiji's personal goodness, Dr. Paton gives two examples:

Both women and children have found him simple, easily approachable and charming; secondly, young men of high quality are always found immediately around him. These youths may have some odd political notions, but when contrasted with the usual run of politicians, they are remarkable for a certain moral keenness and austerity.

Dr. Paton characterizes Gandhiji's social ideas as "partly conservative and partly revolutionary."

On the one hand he abhors the machine age, while, on the other, it is impossible not to feel the reality of his challenge to the whole idea of untouchability.

His doctrine of non-violence is undoubtedly an element in his work and the teaching which all have always associated with him. That he is passionately

absorbed in the practice of his principles, no one can doubt. It is not for him a negative thing; nor is it, as some have said, a chosen weapon of the weak. He conceives of it as positive and aggressive, a combination of sincerity and love. British opinion has never done justice to the astonishing degree to which the Indian nationalist agitation—even when deepest feelings were aroused—has been non-violent. That it has been so is due in the main to Gandhi. But it is a doctrine which almost completely prevents him from comprehending the task of the Government or helping his beloved India to the concrete achievement of freedom.

During the Cripps negotiations what was needed was a sense of realism to grapple with the actual problems of Indian freedom and the problem of reconciling conflicting communal claims. Gandhi might have been of incalculable value to an Indian Government as the voice of conscience and the embodiment of austere morality.

His nationalism and his religion, I have felt to be very closely allied. No one should speak of 'Gandhi's religion', who does not know him better than I have had the chance to. In such talks as I have had with him on the subject, he left me with the feeling that he was a profoundly reverent agnostic—that is to say, one with an intensely religious nature who yet had little of the content of certainty in his religious life. He seemed to find the substance of Indian life in Hinduism, and he gave one something of the impression (which is much stronger in men like Mr. Birla) of regarding the old Hindu tradition as the genuine and authentic India.

Dr. Paton concludes:

Even in spite of these last months, Gandhi is the greatest Indian of his time—one of the greatest of all the sons of Asia. What I feel he has done for India, I can put in the simplest form by saying that it is he more than any other who has restored to India and Indians their self-respect. In him they feel they have a representative of whom the whole world is aware and whom the world respects, whatever it is able to make of him. All India, including many Muslims, rejoices in and is proud of that.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

LORD MINTO AND THE RAJPUT STATES. By Anil Chandra Banerjee. [Journal of Indian History, April 1943.]

CULTURAL FELLOWSHIP OF BENGAL. By Sisir Kumar Mitra. [Prabuddha Bharata, July 1943.]

WAR AND INDIAN INDUSTRY. By Gaganvihari L. Mehta. [Journal of the Indian Merchants' Chamber, July 1943.]

TWO RAJPUT—FERINGI BATTLES. By Sir Jadunath Sarkar. [The Modern Review, July 1943.]

HINDU CULTURE. By J. M. Ganguli. [The Aryan Path, July 1943.]

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- July 1. Allied offensive in S.W. Pacific.
—Mr. de Valera is elected Prime Minister of Eire by 67 votes to 37.
- July 2. Meeting of Calcutta citizens, presided over by Mr. N. R. Sarker, calls on Government of India to intervene in S.A. struggle to safeguard Indian interests.
- July 3. U.S. troops link up with Australia's and rout Jap warships.
- July 4. Gen. MacArthur opens operations in New Guinea.
- July 5. Gen. Sikorski killed in plane crash in Gibraltar.
—Mr. Fazlul Huq indicts Bengal Governor in the Assembly.
- July 6. Railway accident between Bezwada and Guntur.
—Gen. Giraud in Washington.
- July 7. Gen. Chiang's appeal to United Nations to open offensive against Japan.
—General elections in South Africa.
- July 8. Delhi Food Conference decisions announced.
- July 9. Geraud-Roosevelt agreement.
- July 10. Allied forces land in Sicily.
- July 11. Hindu-Muslim Unity Association, Calcutta, condemns Pakistan propaganda.
—Non-Party Leaders' plea for National Government.
- July 12. Syracuse falls to the Allies.
—Sir H. M. Hood, Adviser, explains food situation in Madras.
- July 13. British Missionaries' appeal to Government to release Congress leaders.
—Prof. Laski opposes electoral truce.
- July 14. Metropolitan supports Missionaries' plea.
—Editors' Conference Standing Committee meets at Bombay.
- July 15. Travancore University honours Sir Maurice Gwyer.
- July 16. President Roosevelt reprimands Wallace and Jesse Jones and abolishes U.S. Board of Economic Warfare.
—British Council of Churches supports Indian Missionaries' plea.
- July 17. Gen. Alexander appointed Military Governor of Sicily.
- July 18. Americans bomb Rome.
—Alert in Ceylon.
- July 19. Allied bombing of Rome.
—Hitler and Mussolini meet in a town in Upper Italy.
- July 20. Axis retreat in Sicily.
—Germans trapped near Orel.
- July 21. The Pope deplores raid on Rome.
—Mr. Churchill's statement in the Commons on the secret document about de Gaulle.
- July 22. Gen. Giraud in England.
—Americans take Palermo, capital of Sicily.
- July 23. Sir Kailas N. Haksar is appointed Dewan of Kashmir.
—Government of India decides to stop export of rice.
- July 24. Indians in Natal agree to dissolve rival organisations and resuscitate the old Natal Indian Congress.
- July 25. Sgr. Mussolini resigns; Marshal Badoglio succeeds as Prime Minister.
- July 26. Martial law proclaimed in Italy.
—Mr. Jinnah attacked with knife by a Muslim.
- July 27. Premier Churchill warns Italians.
—German negotiations with Marshal Badoglio.
- July 28. Reports of Italian peace move.
—German troops pass through Brenner to Italy.
- July 29. Lord Wavell takes his seat in the Lords.
—Assembly discusses resolution re. treatment of prisoners.
- July 30. Gen. Eisenhower's peace offer to Italy.
—Roosevelt underlines Churchill's warning to Italy.
- July 31. British Government backs Eisenhower's offer to Italy.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

HYDERABAD JUDICIAL DEPT.

The Committee appointed by the Chief Justice of the Hyderabad High Court to inquire if corruption and bribery existed in the Judicial Department has come to the conclusion that there is much less corruption now than about twenty years ago.

The Committee opines that the separation of the Judiciary from the Executive, and the appointment of an Inspecting Officer of the rank of a High Court Judge, who is constantly on tour to satisfy himself that the disposal of cases is not unduly delayed and that the various rules and regulations governing Judicial Procedure are strictly adhered to, are factors that are bound to exercise a healthy influence on the quality and speed of judicial work.

BEGGAR PROBLEM

Giving his impressions about Hyderabad, Mr. B. G. Khaparde, Vice-President of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha and ex-Minister, Central Provinces, in an interview to the *Orient Press*, said, "Life is normal in Hyderabad and H. E. H. the Nizam's Government is evidently giving much attention to enable people to get all their necessary comforts."

When informed about the introduction of Anti-Beggary Act, he said, "Anti-Beggary Act is a long-needed legislation. I am glad Hyderabad is giving the lead to the rest of India in this respect. I hope the legislation will be applied impartially and that suitable work will be provided to professional beggars."

E. P. TAX FOR HYDERABAD

The Hyderabad Legislative Council passed the Excess Profits Tax Bill on July 22. At its sitting on July 21, an amendment to the effect that imprisonment should be compulsory was adopted by the House as regards the section which imposed a maximum fine of Rs. 1,000 or imprisonment not exceeding six months or both on a party which kept incorrect accounts of transactions.

Mysore

A PROGRESSIVE BUDGET

The Budget for 1943-44, which the Acting Dewan of Mysore presented to the Representative Assembly, contains many gratifying features. Revenue is expected to exceed the six-crore figure for the first time in the State's history. This has been achieved without recourse to any heavy increase in taxation. In fact the only new measures announced by the Dewan were excise duties on tobacco and vegetable products in conformity with similar levies in British India and a small increase in the rate of super-tax on company incomes. Despite the latter, companies in Mysore will still be getting off with a lighter duty than their counterparts in British India.

BEGGAR PROBLEM

The report of the Committee appointed by the Government of Mysore to put down beggary in the State, has recommended legislation to make begging a penal offence and that relief measures are to be provided before the Bill is made applicable to any specific area in the State.

The Committee recommends that non-Mysorean beggars should be repatriated to their native districts.

Regarding the financing of the relief organisations, the Committee feels that the required finance can be obtained through voluntary subscriptions and donations. If this should fail, the Committee suggests the levy of an urban tax, as the beggar problem is mostly peculiar to cities—tax to be levied on items other than lands and buildings.

INDUSTRIES IN MYSORE

Reviewing the report on the working of the Government Industrial Concerns in the State during the year 1941-42, Government of Mysore observe that the working of the ten industrial concerns under Government control continued to be satisfactory and the production, sales and profits further increased in all the concerns during the year.

Baroda

FOOD POSITION IN THE STATE

The Baroda State is one of the least self-sufficing areas of India, as can be seen from the large tonnage of food grains imported even when monsoon conditions are normal. The Baroda and Navsari districts are wholly deficit areas as regards food grains, and so is Amreli except for wheat. Mehsana continues to record a surplus in wheat, bajri, gram and pulses but not enough to cover the deficit in the other districts of the State, except in bajri. Thus, the position for the State as a whole is that it has to obtain bajri, jubar, wheat and rice from outside for consumption in the State.

The 'Grow More Food' campaign was undertaken in the State with two objects:—

- (i) change—over from commercial crops to food crops, and
- (ii) bringing marginal lands and cultivable waste lands under cultivation.

Out of the total area of 8,75,780 acres under cotton, it was found possible to switch over 1,81,000 acres of short and fair staple cotton to food crops. To induce agriculturists to grow more food crops, a remission of 4 annas in a rupee of assessment of land revenue was given on all lands diverted from cotton to food crops. About 25,000 acres of land under tobacco and 5,000 acres of land under oil seeds were also diverted to food crops.

PRICE CONTROL

To prevent profiteering, the Price Control Act was passed on 7th September 1939. A central consultative committee consisting of representatives of consumers, traders and large agriculturists, advises the Sar Seba, who is the chief controller of prices under the Act. In each mahal, there is a local advisory committee consisting of two or three traders or merchants who advise the vahivatdar in fixing the maximum prices. Prices are fixed and published every week. The district and taluka officers are advised to keep a constant watch on stocks of commodities in order that, when depletion of food grains is feared, stocks may be replenished.

Travancore

SURPLUS BUDGET FOR 1948-44

The outstanding features of the Travancore State budget for the Malabar Year commencing on August 17, presented by Mr. A. Lakshminarayana Aiyar, Finance Secretary to the Government of Travancore at a joint session of the Travancore Legislature, on July 19, were that, according to the revised estimate, the revenue for the year that was coming to a close would be Rs. 375'41 lakhs, the highest figure so far attained in the history of the State. The expenditure had not exceeded Rs. 294'57 lakhs, leaving a surplus of 80'84 lakhs. For the coming year, the total revenue anticipated was on a conservative estimate, Rs. 84'554 lakhs and the expenditure budgeted for was Rs. 327'79 lakhs, resulting in a surplus of Rs. 57'75 lakhs.

SIR C. P.'S DONATION TO UNIVERSITY

Addressing the joint session of the Travancore Assembly and Council, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, the Dewan-President, made a vigorous plea for systematic industrialisation, self-sufficiency in the matter of food and educating the people on the right lines.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar announced a donation with effect from 1st Chingom 1119 (corresponding to August 17) of Rs. 1,000 per month to the Travancore University to be utilised for the encouragement of research in soil analysis, intensive cultivation and fertilisers suited to the conditions of Travancore.

RELEASE OF POLITICALS

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan-President, in the course of his speech at the joint session of the Travancore Legislature, on July 19, announced the release of all detenus and political prisoners.

All detenus and other persons convicted under the Defence of Travancore Rules for political offences, the Dewan-President said, had now been released in view of the calm atmosphere prevailing in the State and the spirit of co-operation generally shown by the people at large. Travancore was perhaps the first State to take a lead in the matter.

Kashmir

REFORMS COMMISSION

His Highness the Maharaja of Kashmir has appointed a Commission of Enquiry under the presidentship of Chief Justice Ganganath, who is also the President of the Praja Sabha. The Commission will consist of eight Muslims, eight Hindus, one Sikh and one Buddhist, the members having been selected principally from the Praja Sabha.

The Commission will examine whether the existing constitution, revised four years ago on the initiative of the Maharaja, has disclosed any difficulties in the course of its day-to-day working.

The main terms of reference to the Commission relate to the (1) safety, integrity and security of the State, (2) efficient and progressive character of the administration, (3) uninterrupted and harmonious progress of the State with the object of promoting inter-communal friendship, (4) development of the economic resources of the State in order to improve the standards of living of the people, (5) increasing representation of State subjects in the higher offices, (6) strict enforcement of the policy of reservation of all appointments for subjects of the State with the exception of expert or technical appointments and (7) adoption of measures to stamp out corruption.

The Commission has also been charged to enquire into some special matters relating mainly to medical and sanitary reforms, provision of technical, industrial and scientific education and development of Local Self-Government.

Cochin

REVISED POSTAL RATES IN COCHIN

The Cochin Government have ordered a revision of the Anchal rates with effect from the 1st Karkadagom 1118. Single cards will, as from this date, cost six pies, the minimum postage for letters will be nine pies for weight not exceeding one tola, and 6 pies for every additional tola or fraction thereof. There has been a proportionate enhancement of the rates for book-packets and parcels.

Bharatpur

WAR LOAN

The public have purchased Rs. 71'495 worth of War Bonds and Certificates. In order to encourage State servants to purchase War Bonds and Defence Savings Certificates, the Bharatpur Government advanced, free of interest, a sum equal to one month's salary to all employees drawing pay below Rs. 100. The Government have also invested rupee one lakh in interest-free Bonds. The total investments in War Loans are Rs. 3,48,407.

Jaipur

REFORMS IN JAIPUR

The Constitutional Reforms Committee formed under the chairmanship of Raje-sevasakhta S. Hiriannaiya has finished its labours and submitted its report. It is understood that the Committee is in favour of a Single Chamber called the Legislative Council and of a Representative Assembly more or less similar to the Mysore one.

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INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

INDIANS' RIGHTS IN SOUTH AFRICA

The South African Indian Congress, which concluded its session on June 29, resolved to ask the heads of all Allied Governments or expression of their view on the recent 'Pegging Act' and use their replies as part of propaganda.

After a warning by Mr. S. M. Nana (Transvaal) that its passage would further endanger Indian unity by causing another split, Councillor Ismail (Capetown) and Mr. A. I. Kajee (Durban) withdrew the non-European united front motion standing in their name and the following amended resolution was unanimously passed:

This Conference resolves that the time has arrived for the Congress and affiliated bodies to co-operate with representative non-European bodies on such specific questions as the Congress Executive Committee may deem fit with the object of safeguarding and promoting the political, economic and educational interests of the non-European peoples of South Africa.

The original motion called upon the Congress to appoint a sub-committee to negotiate with the African Malay and coloured organisations to convene a national conference this year to form a united political front. The original motion obtained a considerable measure of support, some delegates stating that they had been completely converted by the militant speech of Councillor Mrs. Gool (daughter of the late Doctor Abdul Rahman) but when the Opposition warned the delegates of the possibility of a further split, the motion was withdrawn.

The Congress unanimously adopted the motion of Mr. S. M. Nana instructing the Executive Committee to prepare and submit to Field-Marshal Smuts a "Charter of Indian Rights" demanding recognition of Indians as citizens with parliamentary and provincial civic franchise, repeal of all legislation adversely affecting Indians, inclusion of Indians in old-age pensions and other existing social legislation, removal of all obstacles on Indian employment in industry, trade and agriculture at a living wage, free primary education and admission of Indians to universities and technical colleges.

In the event of these requests not being granted, the Executive is empowered to take steps to enlighten opinion in India, America and Britain on the disabilities of South African Indians and to contact Allied leaders at the Peace

Conference after the war to place before them the discriminatory treatment of the Indian minority in South Africa.

The protest against the Pegging Legislation produced bitter speeches with many slighting references to Field-Marshal Smuts and the Finance Minister, Mr. J. H. Hofmeyer, who normally leads Liberal opinion in South Africa. Capetown members of Parliament also came in for a share of condemnation for failure to vote against the Bill.

The Congress closed with a short address by the High Commissioner, Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan.

MRS. PERIANAYAGAM PILLAY

Born in India a hundred years ago, Mrs. Perianayagam Pillay died in Johannesburg. She was one of the first women pioneers to enter Transvaal immediately after the discovery of gold in Johannesburg. She was President of the Transvaal Indian Women's Association for many years and at the time of her death, a life patron.

When Passive Resistance was started in this country by Mr. Gandhi, she as President of the Women's Association, suffered imprisonment on more than one occasion. She is survived by three sons, one daughter, 50 grand-children and 25 great-grand-children.

Ceylon

MR. ANEY AS INDIA'S AGENT

Mr. M. S. Aney, till recently a Member of the Governor-General's Council in charge of Indians Overseas, has been appointed the Government of India's Agent-General in Ceylon. Both as a member of the Emigration Committee and a member of the Governor-General's Council for Indians Overseas, Mr. Aney is reputed to have an intimate knowledge of the Indo-Ceylon problem. Following the appointment of Sir Baron Jayatilaka as the Special Representative of the Ceylon Government in India, the Ceylon Government, at the instance of the Government of India, has also agreed to raise the status of India's Agent in that island to that of Agent-General. This change, it is said, was brought about by Mr. Aney himself when he was a Member of the Government of India.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

FOOD CONFERENCE DECISIONS

The Government of India's decisions on the recommendations of the Food Conference which was in session in New Delhi since July 5, were announced on the 8th. The decisions *inter alia* were:—

Rationing in urban areas to be taken up in a progressively increasing measure and almost immediately.

No statutory fixation of maximum prices at the present stage but every possible step to be taken to bring down the general level and to stabilise the prices of all commodities; Provinces and States to be left free to take administrative measures to bring prices under control within their regions;

A merciless attack on the hoarder and the profiteer to be launched immediately throughout India by all Provinces and States;

Free trade not to be considered except as an objective for the return of normal conditions;

Procurement operations in execution of the basic plan to be carried out either directly by Government or by agencies under the full control of the Provincial or State Governments;

Deficit Provinces and States to be free within the limits of their basic quota to make a direct approach to surplus areas and wherever possible make direct transport arrangements with the railway or shipping authorities;

Government of India to do their best to see that the present shortage of consumers' goods is corrected as soon as possible;

Problems of long-range planning to be discussed by representatives of States and Provinces in a Conference to be convened early in September.

INDIA'S FUTURE

Immediate independence for India is one of the series of demands set out in a war-time manifesto issued by the latest British political party, "Common Wealth."

Other demands include transfer to common ownership of all land and all credit and investment institutions, industries, mines, etc., self-government for the Colonies, and after the war a world organization to control shipping, civil and military aviation, and international trade.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

MURSHIDABAD'S PLEA

"On no pretext whatsoever can the prevailing consensus of opinion countenance the erection of the foundation of a divided India on any novel method of individualism", said the Nawab Bahadur of Murshidabad, President of the All-Bengal Hindu-Muslim Unity Association, presiding over the sixth anniversary celebration of the Association at Calcutta on July 11.

"Now the time has come when the thought uppermost in the mind of everyone, whether Hindu or Muslim, should be to stand steadfastly united together. Much has been said by some people in favour of Pakistan, and its implication, attractive though it might have been so far, has not been received with acclamation. Nor perhaps, judging from the Muslim viewpoint, is it ever likely to find room in the estimation of the entire Muslim community. Be it this or any other, the cry raised, which possibly strikes at the root of Hindu-Muslim unity and solidarity, or tends to separate one community from the other places Indians in a sad predicament and is, therefore, not commensurate with India's national demand.

It is the outcome of narrow-minded statesmanship based on the policy of isolation, and not conducive to a well-being united India.

Indians cannot hope to reach the ultimate goal towards which they are heading unless and until they advance hand-in-hand together in that direction. It, therefore, behoves India to proceed on lines of universal brotherhood. The two major communities should sink their differences, whatever they may be, in order that nothing may stand in the way of the building up of an all-parties constitution, unanimously agreed upon, on the strength of which only can a national government of India be securely established."

SIR C. V. RAMAN ON YOUTH AND AGE

Broadcasting from Madras Sir C. V.

Raman observed:

If there is one fact which stands out more than any other in the history of science, it is the remarkable extent to which great discoveries and youthful genius stand associated together. Scores of instances can be quoted in support of this proposition. The conservatism which develops with increasing age is thus revealed as a factor which militates against great achievements in the field of science. The principal function of the older generation of scientific men is to discover talent and genius in the younger generation and to provide ample opportunities for its free expression and expansion.

PACIFIC RELATIONS CONFERENCE

The following points have been agreed upon about India at the Pacific Relations Conference:—

(1) India should have complete Self-Government, Dominion or Independent, at the end of the war; (2) complete freedom cannot be achieved during the war; (3) direct intervention by America or any foreign Power is impracticable; and (4) necessity for removal of sense of frustration and help of leaders to reach an agreement.

On this basis the following proposals have been accepted:—

The Viceroy's Executive Council be entirely composed of Indians only and an Indianised Cabinet would help to understand the problems better without disturbing the present constitutional equipoise. Such an Indianised Cabinet should constitute an 'ad hoc' Indian Commission composed of political leaders to explore and suggest solutions for numerous problems arising in connection with the future constitution. The Commission will be a Research body investigating Pakistan, Federation, Confederation, Indian States, Parliamentary Democracy, etc. The Commission will form the matter on which the constituted body will have to make decisions later.

THE INDIAN ARMY

Mr. Amery gave the following figures in the Commons on July 8, showing what percentage of the Indian Army has been recruited from each of the main provinces of India and the Kingdom of Nepal:— Punjab: fifty per cent.; United Provinces: fifteen per cent.; Madras Presidency: ten; Bombay Presidency: ten; North-West Frontier Province: five; Ajmer and Merwara: three; Bengal: two; Central Provinces and Berar, Assam, Bihar and Orissa: five, while about eight per cent. of recruits obtained from all sources come from Nepal.

Figures for religious groups were: Mohammedans about 34 per cent.; Hindus, including Gurkhas, about 50 per cent.; Sikhs ten per cent. and other religious groups, including Christians, six per cent.

INDIANS TO VISIT ENGLAND

Eight non-official Indians are expected to visit Great Britain shortly on an eight months' lecture tour to tell the British public about various aspects of India's war effort. Each speaker will specialise in one particular aspect, such as recruitment, industrial development, the part played by labour organisations and publicity as a weapon of war. The names are expected to be announced soon.

B. COM. COURSE IN PACHAIYAPPA'S

The need for nation-wide planning from the point of view of the industrial development of the country was emphasised by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, when he inaugurated the B. Com. Degree course in the Pachaiyappa's College. The function was held in the College Hall on July 12, Kilpauk, and was largely attended.

Referring to the request made by the Principal to enlist the support and sympathy of the Maharaja of Travancore for the institution, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar said that speaking so far away from Travancore, he was unable to pledge his Maharaja in advance, but that he would consider it a privilege if this Commercial College would accept a donation of Rs. 5,000 from him to found scholarships for deserving students, who were entitled to help.

MILITARY SCIENCE IN UNIVERSITY

Military science has been introduced in the Lucknow University in the new session commencing from July 16, this year. Military science can now be offered as one of the optional subjects for the B.A. pass degree. A two years' diploma course in military science has also been instituted which will be open only to the post-graduate students of the University, says a Lucknow A. P. message.

LOYOLA STUDENTS' FLIGHT

Over a dozen students belonging to the Loyola College, Madras, were presented with their "transfer certificates," when the college re-opened on July 1, and asked to seek seats elsewhere. Among the students, there is an impression that this is due to "political activities" of the students concerned. Most of these students were, it is stated, those who had to proceed to senior classes this year.

DR. S. SINHA

Dr. Sachidananda Sinha has been re-appointed to be Vice-Chancellor of the Patna University for the period August 23, 1943, to December 1, 1944, after the expiry of his present term of appointment, states an official notification.

TORTURE OF SUSPECTS

"When a man has been questioned about his connection with an offence and has denied it and the police officer has discovered no further material or incriminating circumstances against him, the police officer has no power to require him to attend the investigation day after day, to keep him on attendance for hours together without doing anything more than questioning him whether he had committed the offence or not, and it is ridiculous to describe this method as 'interrogation'. The presence of a suspect in these circumstances tends to suggest that some third degree method is being used by the police and is a powerful corroboration of the allegation of wrongful restraint and confinement by the suspect."

With these observations, Mr. Justice Mohd. Munir of the Lahore High Court, dismissed the revision petition of Iqbal Krishnan, Sub-Inspector of Gurgaon, who had been sentenced to one year's R.I. by the Additional District Magistrate, on charges of wrongful confinement.

WHIPPING IN INDIA

In the Commons on July 1, Mr. Silverman (Labour) asked Mr. Amery if he was aware that reports of whipping for offences arising out of or in connection with political disturbances showed that in three districts of Sind alone 800 such penalties had been inflicted during the past three months. Mr. Amery said that he had no information about canings in Sind in the past three months.

Mr. Amery, in reply to a further question, added that the figure of 958 sentences last March for all India did not mean that such sentences had vastly increased during the past three months. They were in connection with the outbreak of murder and violence last autumn which had ceased. He had no reason to believe that there had been numerous sentences of that kind in India as a whole.

THE HON. JUSTICE LEACH

The Secretary of State for India has granted a further extension of service of one year to Sir Lionel Leach, Chief Justice of Madras High Court.

ORIENTAL LIFE ASSURANCE

The report of the Directors of the Oriental Government Security Life Assurance Co., Ltd., Bombay, for the year ended December 31, 1942, shows that 36,713 new policies assuring Rs. 9,51,27,864 were issued during the year as compared with 37,067 policies assuring Rs. 8,16,19,725 issued during the previous year. The total number of policies in force is 4,39,940 assuring with bonus additions and increases under triple benefit policies the sum of Rs. 88,48,89,662, of which Rs. 54,17,433 is reassured. The Directors have recommended a dividend to the shareholders of Rs. 125 per share, free of income-tax for the year 1942 and bonus equal to one month's salary to the officers and staff.

MARINE INSURANCE SURCHARGES

The Underwriters' Institute has revised the schedule of combined marine surcharges (additions to basic marine insurance rates to offset war-time marine conditions as distinct from direct war risks). The new schedule reduces many rates where voyages are now through the Mediterranean instead of the previously long route *via* the Cape. For instance, the minimum rate for United Kingdom to and from India, previously 16s., is now 14s., and most East African surcharges are also lowered. Formally, the new schedule is effective from August 1, because the assured is entitled to 30 days' notice but underwriters are optionally introducing it forthwith and shippers will naturally accept this option since the changes are reductions.

THE BOMBAY MUTUAL

The Directors' Report of the Bombay Mutual Life Assurance Society, Ltd., for the year 1942 shows that during the year 9,013 proposals were received for assurance amounting to Rs. 2,07,69,500, 8,058 proposals resulted into policies, assuring a sum of Rs. 1,72,59,500 with an annual premium income of Rs. 8,98,754. The total assurances in force at the close of the year amounted to Rs. 14,02,86,645-11-0, of which assurances to the extent of Rs. 32,11,635 were reinsured.

NEW RULE FOR FIRMS

It is announced that under powers conferred upon it by the Defence of India Rules, the Central Government has ordered that the statement which a company shall file with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies shall contain the following particulars, namely:—

(i) The names and addresses of all persons, who have become members of the company since the date of the last return and the number of shares of each class acquired by each; (ii) the names of members of the company, other than those stated in clause (1) who have transferred or forfeited any shares held by them, or acquired any shares, since the date of the last return, specifying in each case, the total number of shares of each class transferred, forfeited or acquired; and (iii) the total number of shareholders of each class.

MR. DAWOOD HAJEE NASSER

The President of the Africa Shippers' Association, Mr. Dawood Hajee Nasser, has, it is understood, been invited by the Government of India to serve on the Advisory Committee to assist the Export Trade Controller in Bombay in dealing with exports of cotton piecegoods and yarn. The committee consists of Sir Ness Wadia (Bombay Millowners' Association), Mr. Sakerlal Balabhai (Ahmedabad Millowners' Association), Mr. Haridas Madhavdas (Indian Merchants' Chamber) and two or three others representing the Government of Bombay and the Bombay Chamber of Commerce.

TEA EXPORT ALLOTMENT

By a notification, dated July 3, 1943, the Government of India have declared the Indian tea export allotment for 1943-44 under the Indian Tea Control Act at 421,567,207 lbs., which approximates the quantity programme for export during this year, says a Press Note. This allotment represents 110 per cent. of the Indian standard export figure as against the maximum release of 125 per cent. of the standard figure permitted by the International Tea Committee.

BRITISH WOMEN AND INDIA

Seventy women are signatories to an appeal that has been sent to the Prime Minister and the Secretary of State for India. They include Miss. Jennie L. Adamson, M. P., Miss Sybil Thorndike, Mrs. Emmeline Pethick Lawrence, Miss Vera Brittain, Mrs. Margaret M. Cole, Miss Margery Fry, Miss Storm Jameson, Dr. Maude Royden and Miss Edith Summerskill, M.P.

Their appeal stated:

We, the undersigned, believe that we are expressing the desire of many people in this country, in India and other parts of the world in wanting to see the deadlock between Great Britain and India ended now. We are aware of the complexities of the problem set as it is in the midst of a world war and of the many efforts that have been made on both sides to end the *impasse*. But we cannot believe that these difficulties are beyond the reach of human remedy. In all great struggles the method of consultation and negotiation finally has to take the place of strife. We want to see this method employed without further delay. We therefore urge His Majesty's Government not to allow the present position to continue. As a first step towards ending the deadlock, we ask that facilities be granted to moderate Indian leaders for the consultation they desire with the interned leaders.

KAUSHALYA-JANKIDAS CASE

The suit filed by Mrs. Kaushalya Devi, against her husband, Mr. Jankidas, India's champion cyclist, for the dissolution of her marriage, was dismissed by Sardar Mehrsingh Chaddah, Sub-Judge, Lahore. The Judge held that the plaintiff had deliberately and wilfully made a default in not producing in the Court for inspection the documents on the basis of which she had alleged that the marriage had been brought by misrepresentation of the defendant (Jankidas).

WOMEN AND HINDU LAW

The Committee of the Bombay Women's Association at its meeting held at Bombay on July 16, passed a resolution "urging the Government of India to reconstitute the Committee to amend and consolidate the Hindu Law with Sir B. Rau as its Chairman. It is of the opinion that the work of codification of Hindu Law should be completed by 1946 so as to obtain the full advantage of the bills now before the Assembly".

GOVERNMENT AND THE PRESS

Addressing the members of the Standing Committee of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference, on July 15, Sir Sultan Ahmed, Information Member, stated that he wished to see this country maintain a free press even in war time. He added that, while he would be a watchful advocate of its privileges, he expected the Editors to be equally watchful in discharging their duties.

Mr. K. Srinivasan, President of the Conference, replying, said that he could not endorse the claim advanced by Sir Sultan Ahmed that the Press in India was as free from restrictions as the Press of any country could be in times of war. He criticised the censorship methods followed in India and said that the picture of the existence of a free Press in India had been a long-standing plank in the propaganda campaign of the officials and reached its climax when a party of Turkish journalists, after a conducted tour, began to write articles telling the world of the paradise Indians lived in. The model which Indian Editors set before themselves was not, he said, the Turkish Press, but the British and American Press.

MAHABHARATA IN RUSSIAN

Soviet Sanskrit scholars have announced that the translation of the first volume of the Mahabharata, the great Hindu epic, is completed. Other volumes are being translated, and it has been planned to publish a complete edition in the next few years.

Professor Kalianov, an outstanding Soviet Sanskrit scholar, told the Press that he had trained a number of young scholars to aid him in this undertaking. "The Mahabharata has always been popular with Russian intellectuals", he said. "Its popularity has grown now that the United Nations are waging a struggle in defence of civilisation. This great Hindu epic, which is imbued with the spirit of love for the native land and the whole mankind, is topical to-day".

CASUALTIES AMONG WAR CORRESPONDENTS

At least 23 British and American war reporters have been killed in this war. Seven are missing, over 60 wounded and over 80 taken prisoners.

STALIN PRIZE FOR PROF. RAMZIN

Professor Leonid Ramzin, the famous Soviet scientist, who was sentenced to death with other scientists in 1930, accused of sabotage and of attempting to overthrow the Government, has now been awarded the highest honour in the Soviet Union. He gets the Stalin Prize, First Class, worth between £3,000 and £7,000, and the Order of Lenin, for his work in perfecting a new hydro-electric boiler which will be installed in power stations throughout Soviet Union.

Professor Ramzin's death sentence was commuted to ten years' imprisonment in which he continued scientific work under surveillance and in 1936 he was granted amnesty.

THE LATE MR. N. S. SUBBA RAO

The death on June 29 of Rajakaryapravina N. S. Subba Rao, Professor of Economics, Allahabad University, and former Vice-Chancellor, Mysore University, deprives this *Review* of a valued contributor. He was aged 59.

Mr. Subba Rao was a distinguished economist and educationist of all-India repute. He accompanied Sir Mirza Ismail to London for the Second Round Table Conference.

PROF. ASLAM

Professor Mohammad Aslam, Head of the Department of Psychology, Government College, Lahore, has been appointed by the Madras University as Lecturer for the year under the Principal Miller Endowment. Professor Aslam will come to Madras in September and the subject of his lectures will be, "The Rise of Islam."

SIR JEHANGIR COYAJEE

It is with regret that we have to record the passing away of Sir Jehangir Coyajee at Bombay on July 14. Sir Jehangir was a well-known economist and a frequent contributor to this *Review*. He was ailing for some time and he died at his sixty-seventh year.

MR. E. M. JENKINS

Field-Marshal Wavell, Viceroy-Designate of India, has appointed Mr. E. M. Jenkins, I.C.S., to be his Private Secretary.

SOVIET DOCTOR'S NEW TECHNIQUE

Professor A. S. Vichnevsky, head of the surgical department of the Soviet Neurological Clinic, has successfully transplanted nerves taken from corpses to living persons. A wounded Red Army officer was recently taken to hospital after a mine splinter tore out part of a muscle and a section of the main motor nerve in his arm. Because the severed ends of the nerve were separated by approximately five-eighths of an inch, it could not be sewn together.

Professor Vichnevsky used a piece of nerve from a man who had been killed in an accident. The transplanted nerve took root successfully and the wounded officer was later able to use his arm as if it had been injured. To-day he is in active service at the front.

AIR-BORNE SURGICAL UNITS

It is now disclosed that the Indian Army Medical Corps has air-borne surgical units. Fully trained and equipped, this air-borne counterpart of the field ambulance, has a staff of doctors, orderlies and stretcher-bearers, who can stand the strain and stress involved in parachute jumping.

The training has all along been carried out with a paratroop formation of which these flying surgical units form an integral part. At any time these units can be detached from the paratroop formation for such jobs in forward areas where they and their equipment can be parachuted, thus bringing medical aid to our forces operating in areas where normal methods of transport are impossible.

"DR." TITLE FOR MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS

Government have directed that, in all official correspondence, medical practitioners of the scientific system of medicine (except those who hold military rank), whether in the service of Government or otherwise, shall be addressed by the courtesy title of "Dr." before their names and with their degrees, licences and service (in the case of Government servants) added at the end, e.g.

"Dr. ———M.B.B.S., Provincial Medical Service."

"Dr. ———L.M.S., Provincial Medical Service."

"Dr. ———L.M.P., Provincial Medical Subordinate Service."

VITAMIN P

Recent experiments by Dr. Scarborough in Scotland, Dr. Zaecho in Denmark and the Glaxo Laboratories in London have confirmed the original findings of Dr. Szent-Gyorgi of Hungary that Vitamin C, in which citrus fruits are especially rich, does not affect scurvy unless it is accompanied by the unknown factor which is called Vitamin P. This vitamin reduces the fragility of capillaries. Unless it is present, the capillary walls burst, causing bleeding.

The discoveries of Dr. Szent-Gyorgi were announced eight years ago. However, English, German and other scientists were unable to confirm the existence of Vitamin P in animal experiments and hence belief gave way to incredulity until these most recent experiments.

The Royal Infirmary at Edinburgh has shown that citrus fruits contain something which strengthens capillary walls. The Glaxo Laboratories have shown how Vitamin P activity can be assessed, but the precise definition of Vitamin P is still not available because it is not yet isolated.

EYE EXERCISE

It takes from 45 to 50 minutes for the eye to adapt itself to brilliant light after complete darkness and *vice versa*. Dr. Kriker Kekeneiyev, writing in *Nature Magazine* reports a speeding up of adaptation to darkness by giving the subjects sugar and light muscular eye exercise. The adaptation period is reduced by exercise to 5 or 6 minutes.

INDIA-MADE CIDER

If an experiment carried out by the Army's Canteen Stores Department fulfils expectations British troops may before very long be enjoying an inexpensive India-made cider which may go some way towards consoling them for the shortage of beer. The new drink is made from tea and has been named "Cydrate".

ANTI-SNEEZE MIXTURE

A new chemical solution, described as an anti-sneeze mixture which, when sprayed into a room, will kill pneumonia and other germs, was disclosed recently as the by-product of pneumonia research carried on for the past four years by University of Chicago scientists.

BANK OF JAIPUR

Declaring the Bombay branch of the Bank of Jaipur, Ltd. open in the presence of a large and distinguished gathering of Bombay businessmen, Sir M. Visvesvaraya stressed that there was urgent need for expansion of banking facilities all over India.

Sir M. Visvesvaraya said industries and agriculture were at present ill-served by banks. There was money in the country but for lack of organisation it was not being freely utilised for productive purposes. He threw out an interesting suggestion to Indian bankers to meet periodically and build up a strong countrywide banking organisation to encourage varied lines of work, such as rural credit, industrial credit, exchange banking, etc. It would be useful if they tried to bring into existence a large Indian foreign exchange bank by combined effort. The proposed exchange bank should have a large amount of capital and it should have branches in all the most important cities of the world. An Indian foreign exchange bank was badly needed because it was difficult to obtain co-operation from competing foreign traders in developing export business. The speaker had heard from Indian traders in foreign countries of the disadvantages under which they laboured for lack of direct banking connections with India, lack of consular agencies to watch the interests of Indian trade and absence of a national mercantile marine.

CENTRAL BANK OF INDIA, LTD.

The net profit of the Central Bank of India, Ltd., for the half-year including brought forward is Rs. 4,11,314. A dividend of 10 per cent. has been declared, absorbing Rs. 8,40,660. The balance of Rs. 3,26,644 has been carried forward subject to provision for taxation.

NEW QUARTER RUPEE COIN

In order to afford further protection against counterfeiting, the Government of India have issued a notification directing that the design of quarter rupee coin to be coined and issued from the mints in August, 1943, and thereafter, shall have the security edge which the present rupee and half rupee coins have.

N. S. RAILWAY BUDGET

The Nizam's State Railway budget for 1943-44 estimates the gross earnings at 396 lakhs compared with 421 lakhs (forecast for 1942-43) and with 258 lakhs actuals for 1938-39 before the war.

Col. Slaughter, Managing Director of the State Railway, explaining the budget at a Press Conference said that the figures for this year were conservative and that the trend of the earnings had shown marked improvement. The working expenses for the year are estimated at 198 lakhs. Thirty lakhs have been earmarked for capital expenditure, the bulk of it for railway rolling stock and road vehicles.

Colonel Slaughter also referred to the question of transport after the war. The air transport department of the N. S. Railway was doing all it could to help the war efforts at present and it hoped that this goodwill and services would be reciprocated after the war when the allocation of air routes was discussed. Hyderabad, for instance, would like to run an air line from Madras to Delhi via Mysore and Hyderabad.

Discussing the question of enhanced bus-fare in road transport, Colonel Slaughter said that this was mainly intended to curtail traffic so as to ensure longer use of the available vehicles. Any profits made now would be spent on augmenting the existing amenities and constructing new roads, etc., after the war, thus providing employment for thousands of workers coming back to civilian life. Colonel Slaughter also disclosed that the railway was spending Rs. 40,000 a month in providing food grains to its employees. Any increase in the price of food grains over the prices prevailing last February was being borne by the railway.

NARASARAOPET TRAIN DISASTER

It is now officially revealed that the cause of the railway train disaster near Narasaraopet early last month was the flooding of the permanent way close to a culvert following heavy rains during the previous day or two.

A report from the District Magistrate, dated the 8th July, gave the number killed to be 21, two of them remaining unidentified.

PRESERVATION OF ANCIENT PAINTINGS

The appointment of a qualified officer to be exclusively in charge of ancient paintings, in Ceylon, has, it is learned, been recommended by Khan Bahadur Mohamad Sana Ullah, Archaeological Chemist to the Government of India, says a report in the *Ceylon Observer*.

The Khan Bahadur, who recently treated the Sigiriya frescoes to arrest their deterioration, was also asked to submit a report on the state of the other ancient paintings and what measures should be taken to preserve them.

In his report he states that sufficient attention has not been paid to preserve the ancient paintings. This is partly due to the absence of a qualified officer, and he has recommended an archaeological chemist to be appointed to look after the paintings.

The Khan Bahadur has strongly condemned the habit of restoring missing parts to paintings which in his opinion would retract from the value of the ancient paintings.

INDIAN ARCHITECTURE

Indian architecture, said Dr. C. L. Fabri in his broadcast from Delhi, has a history of over 2,000 years, during which it underwent many and important changes. Anyone who would try to sum up the characteristics of Indian architecture over this whole period would attempt the impossible. There is no such thing as one, constant, 2,000-year-old Indian style. In fact, the difference between a Buddhist stupa of 200 B.C. and a Hindu temple of 1,200 A.D. is much greater than the difference between the same Hindu temple and a Greek temple or a Chinese temple or an Egyptian temple! Indian architecture, like every art, constantly developed and changed; and as it had a practically uninterrupted development for over 2,000 years, nothing is more fascinating than just this very study of changing fashions, developing styles, unfolding of tastes.

INTERNATIONALISATION OF ART

A vigorous plea for the internationalisation of art was made by the Hon. Mr. Ghulam Mohamad, Finance Member of H. E. H. The Nizam's Government in his inaugural address to the students of the Central School of Arts and Crafts, Hyderabad, recently.

BOMBAY CRICKET ASSOCIATION

Glowing tributes eulogising the services he had rendered during his nine years of presidentship were paid recently at the annual general meeting of the Bombay Cricket Association held at the Brabourne Stadium to Sir John Beaumont, Chief Justice of Bombay, who retired from the association.

In moving this resolution, Mr. A. A. A. Fyze said that Sir John during his nine years of presidentship had evinced keen interest in the affairs of the association and his advice and counsel were of the greatest value to them. His courteous manner, his knowledge of the game and desire to further the interests of sports in general and cricket in particular had endeared him to sportsmen everywhere. The resolution was carried unanimously.

The following office-bearers were elected for the ensuing year:—President: Dr. H. D. Kanga; Vice-Presidents: Sir Homi Mehta and Mr. A. A. A. Fyze; Hon. Secretaries:—H. N. Contractor and D. P. Thanawalla; Hon. Treasurer: Bhogilal Shah.

BEVERIDGE PLAN FOR SOCCER WORLD

The eagerly awaited Football Association post-war scheme, "their Beveridge Plan for an ideal soccer world", contains two somewhat startling recommendations. One is the foreshadowing of official recognition of Sunday football by the suggested formation of a Sunday Football Association and the other that the Government be approached with a view to devising a scheme whereby part of the proceeds of pools should form a central fund from which the cost of provision of grounds, sports, centres and clubs should be made.

EXHIBITION FOOTBALL

Bangalore beat Mysore, 2-1, in an exhibition football match, on July 11, arranged by the Bangalore Committee of the Mysore State Football Association, on the Sullivan Police ground. Mysore had slightly the better of the exchanges and were unfortunate to lose. Bangalore took the lead towards the end of the 1st half, Tomkins scoring off a corner-kick. Venkatanaranappa equalised soon after the resumption. Midway through, Kareem scored the winning goal, the ball striking the cross-bar and rebounding into the net.

DYES FROM SAWDUST

Dyes which do not fade to any great extent in strong sunshine nor are affected by frequent washings—both important for many war uses—are now being made from sawdust and other waste from sawmills. U.S. chemists have developed these substitutes for coal-tar dyes, and they are suitable for all commercial purposes.

Sawdust is treated with sulphur and caustic soda in a furnace, and the substance remaining, after hydrogen is liberated in large quantities, is rendered soluble in water to which it imparts a strong colour. This solution may be employed in dyeing. When finally fixed by passing the material through boiling potassium bichromate, it yields colours hardly distinguishable from coal-tar dyes.

LIFE SAVING DEVICES AT SEA

New devices produced this year for improving life saving at sea include better luminous compasses, an apparatus for converting sea water into drinking water, fabric rain catcher modifications in the life saving waistcoat to render the wearer more conspicuous in water and facilitate rescue, lifeboat ladders and lifeboat seat extensions to enable the occupants to lie down. These facts were given in the Commons by the Spokesman for the Ministry of War Transport, Mr. Noel Baker. He added further improvements are in preparation.

LARGEST CAMERA

The largest camera of its kind in U.S.A. is now operating in the photocopy department of the Bell Telephone Laboratories. It makes a maximum of 800 negatives daily. A negative three and a half by six feet in size can be made as easily as an eight by ten-inch negative. The camera is so large that a photographer works inside it with only a dim red light.

MANUFACTURE OF GLASS BULBS AND RODS

The scheme of setting up a factory for the manufacture of glass bulbs and rods in Bangalore is well under way. Dr. Nadel, Glass Technologist of the United Provinces Government, who visited Bangalore recently, met Mr. M. A. Srinivasan, Minister for Industries, and discussed the details of the above scheme.

FILMS FOOTAGE CONTROL ORDER

To effect economy in the use of raw film, which is now in short supply, the Government of India have, by a notification entitled: "The Cinematograph Films (Footage Control) Order, 1948", dated July 17, 1948, prohibited the exhibition of advertisement films or trailers and restricted the total length of a picture to 14,500 feet, says a Press Note.

The length will include a feature film not exceeding 11,000 feet, and one or more "war effort" pictures, the total length of which is not less than 2,000 feet.

The Government of India have also, with the object of controlling the distribution of raw film, published another notification "The Raw Cinematograph Film (Control of Distribution) Order, 1948", dated July 17, 1948, under which the sale, use, purchase or acquisition of raw film for producing a picture or for taking copies or for any other purpose will be forbidden except under a licence issued by the licensing authority.

SHORT FILMS

At an ordinary general meeting of the Cine Technicians' Association of South India, the following resolution was passed:

"That the Cine Technicians' Association of South India, Madras, recommends that the industry should take advantage of the amendments to the Defence of India Rules by compelling every Exhibitor on or after 14th September, 1948, to screen propaganda films of not less than 2,000 feet, as it is conducive to the general expansion, welfare and betterment of the cine-technician by opening up new avenues of work and employment, by providing work to more technicians and by giving encouragement to junior talent and to the industry in general, and as it will lay the strong and sure foundation of short films in the future cinema programmes of this country which can be the best medium of propagating knowledge and information to the public."

MR. M. T. RAJEN

We regret to record the death of Mr. M. T. Rajen, partner, M. T. Rajen & Co., Madras Theatres, Saraswathi Talkies, Vel Murugan Film Service, and Director, Vel Pictures, on July 14 at Madras.

GROUNDNUT-OIL DRIVEN CAR

The credit for inventing a device which enables a motor car to be run on any liquid fuel, including vegetable oils, goes to Mr. T. K. Nair, formerly Chief Chemical Analyst and Metallurgist of the East India Railway, and his son Mr. C. P. Nair, an engineer in the Defence Services who gave a demonstration of their new device at the D. S. P.'s office premises, Calicut, in the presence of Mr. A. R. MacEwen, Collector, Mr. Keye, D. S. P., and other police officers on June 23.

Mr. Nair explained to an interested audience, including the Collector and the D. S. P., the intricacies of his new appliance which, he hoped, may well turn out to be a landmark in the history of automobiles.

The device was simple and could easily be manipulated, the only material alteration in engine construction being the substitution of the original carburettor by one of Mr. Nair's own make. The whole thing had been improvised with the help of the local blacksmith and as such a bit crude in appearance.

Mr. Nair claimed that according to his calculation the car was expected to attain a speed of 42 miles per hour although the speed actually obtained was only 35 M.P.H. Mr. Nair further explained that there had been occasions when his driver touched 41 miles and even went to the length of putting up a wager in case he attained 50 miles.

The fuel consumption was not high, the M.P.G. varying between 25 and 30. The author explained this as due to the necessarily crude nature of the construction of the carburettor which could be overcome by the aid of suitable machinery.

ORDER ON MADRAS MOTOR FIRMS

Some firms dealing with motor car spare parts and other accessories in Mount Road, Madras, have been served with an order by the Commissioner of Police asking them not to sell any material for a period of three months. They are also asked to specify their stock. It may be recalled there is already a controlling order of the Motor Spare Parts, and a Special Officer is now functioning under the rationing office in Madras.

RESCUE LAMP FOR AIRMEN

Westinghouse engineers have designed a searchlight the size of a walnut but powerful enough to project a 1,500 candle-power beam 60 nautical miles. The light can be used in aiding the rescue of aviators who are forced down at sea. The lamps will be packed with the rubber life-rafts with which all ocean-flying military aircraft are now equipped. The light fits on a band around the head like a miner's cap, leaving both hands free to hold the raft in rough weather. The six-watt lamp is wired to a small hand-cranked generator. It can also be flashed by a trigger-switch. Half of the lamp bulb is silvered to reflect the rays in the beam. The life of the lamp is 100 hours, or about ten nights.

R. A. F. REGIMENT IN SOUTH INDIA

Somewhere in South India, amid wide tracts of sandy gorseland, an R. A. F. regiment is training battle squadrons to defend India's airfields.

Established in Britain as an anti-invasion measure and later tested and found hundred per cent. successful in the North African campaigns, the regiment is now getting ready to carry on its fine work in the East. Its members are the Commanders of the Royal Air Force, officers and men trained to meet and master any contingency.

The task of the R. A. F. 'soldiers' is to defend airfields and R. A. F. installations. But they proved in Libya that they are capable also of offensive action and have more than one enemy airfield to their credit.

NEW AIR OPTICAL LENSES

The enemy ruse of sending bombers in from the east in the early morning so that the defenders will be blinded by the sun will be rendered useless by new optical lenses which have been developed by an American company.

These lenses, already in production for the U.S. Army Air Forces, enable observers to look directly into the sun to stop approaching aircraft.

Details are secret, but company officials have revealed that the development was made possible by the use of a new type of glass.

INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

A decision is believed to have been reached to start a National Chemical Laboratory at Poona under the auspices of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research. The major cost of building and equipping this Laboratory will be met by Tatas, who have placed as much as Rs. 8,30,000 at the disposal of the Board for the purpose.

The proposals for a National Physical Laboratory and a Fuel Research Station have also reached an advanced stage, and have come up for the consideration of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. It is further learned that satisfactory progress has been made in preparing a Directory of Commercial Terms for India on the model of Watt's Directory of Commercial Terms.

INDIAN COCONUT INDUSTRY

The Government of India have decided to constitute an All-India Central Coconut Board for placing the industry on a sound basis. It is estimated that about 163,000 tons of copra are crushed every year in India.

The Board is expected to consist of 16 members, including representatives of the Governments of Madras, Travancore and Cochin and those of the coconut growers and milling and coir industry. The Board is proposed to be financed by levying a cess on the quantity of copra crushed in the mills of the country.

TECHNICAL TRAINING

Over 120,000 boys have so far been given training under the Government of India's technical training scheme and absorbed as technicians in the various war factories in India. This was revealed in a Press interview by Mr. Isaac A. Ezenial, Assistant Director of Publicity and Recruitment, Government of India.

MALT PRODUCTION

The Government of India have sanctioned a non-recurring expenditure not exceeding Rs. 62,500 and a recurring expenditure not exceeding Rs. 63,300 per annum for increasing the production of the Malt Factory, Coimbatore, from 36,000 lbs. to 100,000 lbs. of Fine Chola Malt per annum.

SUGARCANE RESEARCH

In his terms of reference attached to the questionnaire, Sir T. S. Venkataraman, Special Officer, Sugarcane Research Survey, while stressing the importance of taking stock of past research, states that the object of the survey is to try and improve further both the quality and quantity of future sugarcane research, the main lines being based on experience and practical knowledge, as would be furnished to the replies to his questionnaire issued to the Government Departments concerned, the factory owners and growers. Sir T. S. Venkataraman will visit sugarcane growing areas in the provinces, and consult leading growers and factory owners and trade interests, before making his final recommendations to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

VEGETABLE SEEDS

Indian Farming contains a valuable article on vegetable seed production in India by Dr. W. Burns, Agricultural Commissioner with the Government of India.

The writer points out that one of the effects of the war has been to interrupt the supply of vegetable seeds to India. Large quantities of such seeds were formerly imported from the United Kingdom, America, Australia, France, Italy and Germany. Since these sources of supply have temporarily dried up, it is essential for India to produce as much vegetable seed of her own as possible.

IMPROVEMENT OF CATTLE

The improvement of cattle is one of the questions engaging the attention of Government.

As regards the free grazing of cows, Government wish to state that this is a proposal which would present some difficulty in carrying it out. The Government will, however, examine the question with every sympathy and will be glad to do all that is necessary or desirable to provide facilities for free grazing of cows.

CULTIVATION OF FOOD CROPS

The Madras Government have advised local bodies to bring under cultivation of food crops and vegetables, lands attached to schools and dispensaries managed by them, and open spaces in public parks.

CANTEENS FOR INDUSTRIAL WORKERS

The need for setting up cooked food canteens for industrial workers is stressed in a letter issued by the Government of India urging all employers to consider the advisability of adopting this measure as part of their general food policy.

The Central Government do not at present intend to place any legal responsibility on employers and feel that initially greater success may be obtained by voluntary effort. But in view of the advantages likely to accrue from the opening of canteens, and the importance of this measure in raising productive efficiency, all employers in large-scale undertakings and Government employing departments are being asked seriously to consider the proposal to open canteens for their labour.

A Press Note says: "Provision of cheap and nutritive food for workers separated from their families, and substantial economy in the use of foodstuffs as a result of communal feeding, are some of the advantages associated with the institution of canteens. Moreover, the canteens are particularly useful in times of emergency when normal arrangements for supply of food may be dislocated."

AMERICAN WORKMEN'S GIFT TO BRITAIN

A gift of \$100,000 from American labour for developing a scheme for war workers was received by the Minister of Labour, Mr. Ernest Bevin, in London, recently.

The cheque was presented by the London Chairman of the British War Relief Society of America, Mr. Bertram Cruger. Mr. Bevin said that the American workers' generosity was a real contribution to the maintenance of cheerfulness and morale of the British people.

AMENITIES FOR LABOURERS

A proposal is under examination in Delhi to create a fund to provide welfare amenities to industrial labour in India. It is claimed that some of these amenities would have to be provided by industry, while in some other cases the Central Government should share the cost. It is likely that a fund will be created by levying a small cess on industry, and a beginning is expected to be made with the coal industry.

THORNS FOR PINS

Owing to the growing scarcity of pins, clerks in defence services offices are now fastening papers together with thorns. These war time "pins" are the thorns of the common babul tree which grows in scrub jungle in most parts of India. The thorns are of two colours—black and white. The white type has a natural metallic sheen—so that at first sight it is easy to mistake it for an ordinary pin.

Organised by the Central Stationery Office at Calcutta, collecting squads go out from the villages to gather in babul thorns. They are taught to cut them off at the point where the thorn joins the stem, so that its base becomes a sort of pinhead. Green thorns, they are instructed to avoid for these are still tender. The gathering of the thorns does not impair the life of the tree.

One of the most remarkable instances of improvisation this war has produced, these "natural pins" are made up in bundles of 250 or 500 packed in old match-boxes. The total cost works out at a little over one rupee per thousand.

An order for 25 lakhs of thorns has been placed. Part of this consignment is already in use in military offices.

INDIAN CASUALTIES IN THE WAR

Indian casualties, including casualties to British officers of the Indian forces up to the 31st August, 1942, were 3,286 killed, 9,168 wounded, 86,289 missing. Mr. Amery gave these figures in the Commons on July 15.

Questioned about the treatment of Indian prisoners, Mr. Amery said:

I do not think there is any evidence of unfair treatment by the Germans and Italians, as far as I am aware. I am sorry to say so far we have not received direct information regarding the treatment of Indian prisoners by the Japanese and I am very anxious to secure it.

FAMINE IN BIJAPUR

Famine conditions in Bijapur district are too horrid to describe. It will suffice to say that in several villages men have to be yoked to ploughs and carts in place of bullocks, as entire live stocks in these areas have perished for want of fodder and water.

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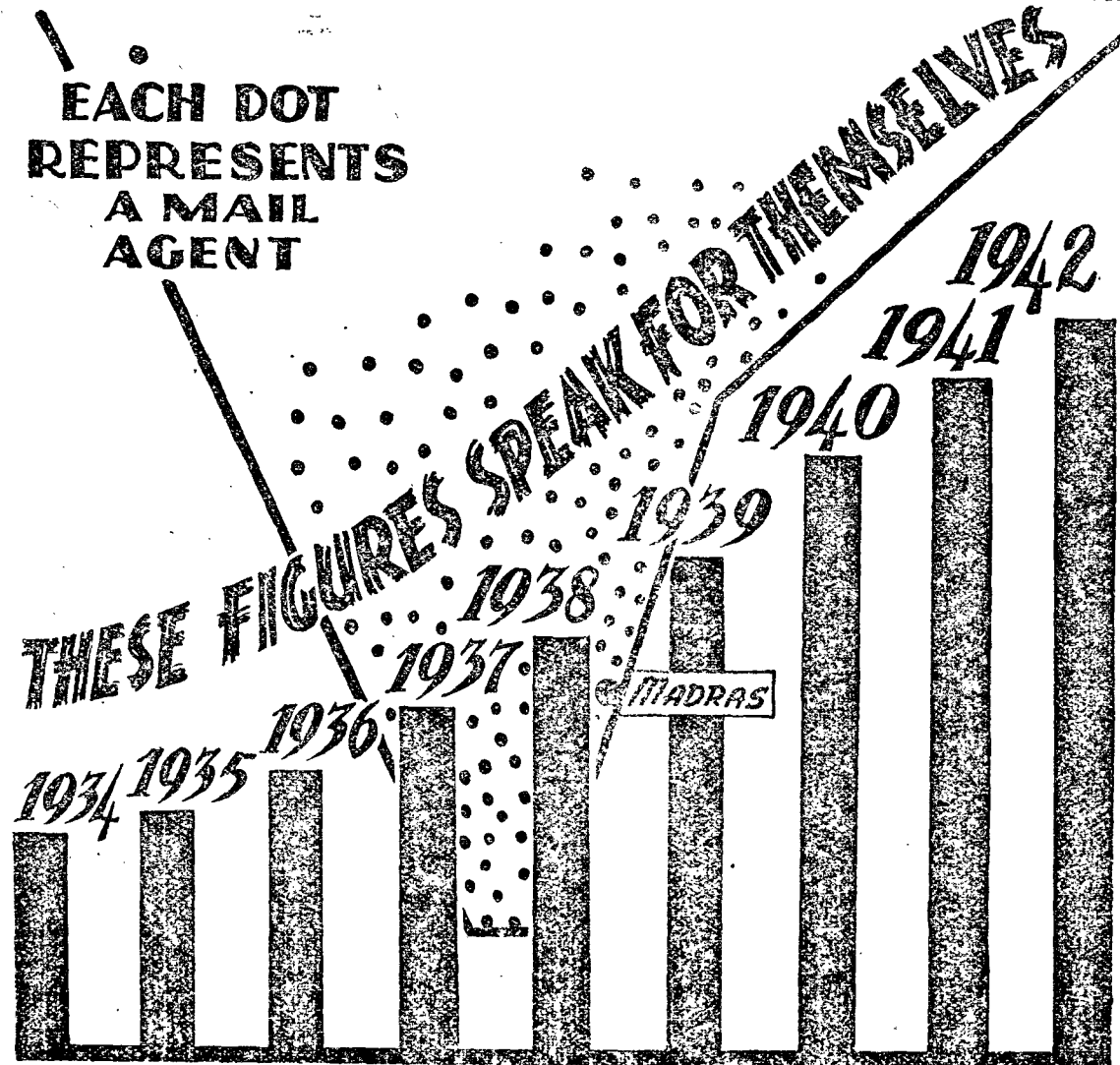
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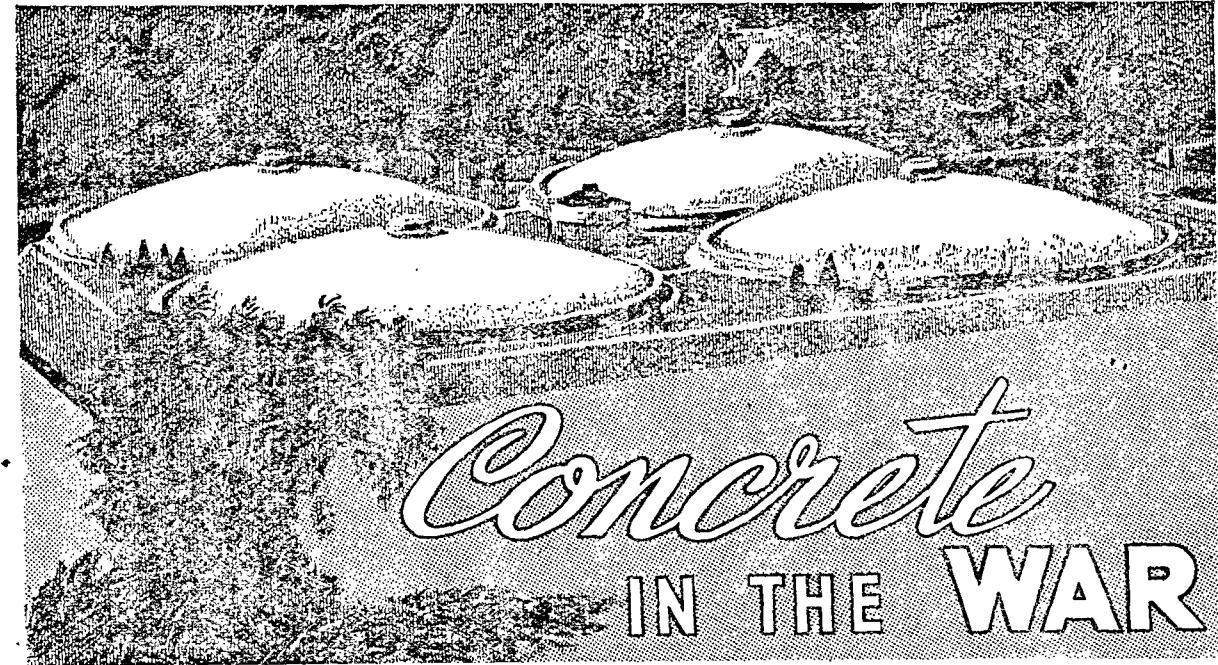
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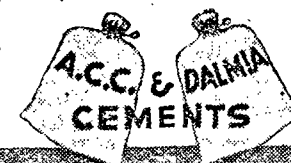
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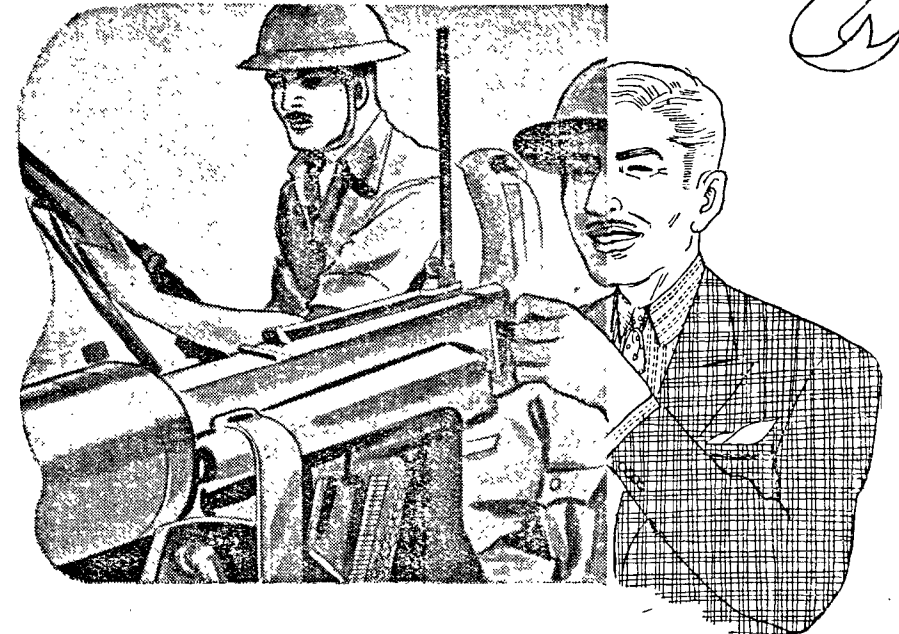
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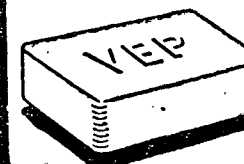
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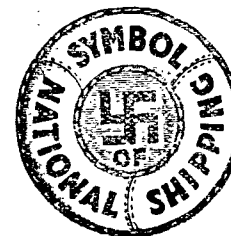
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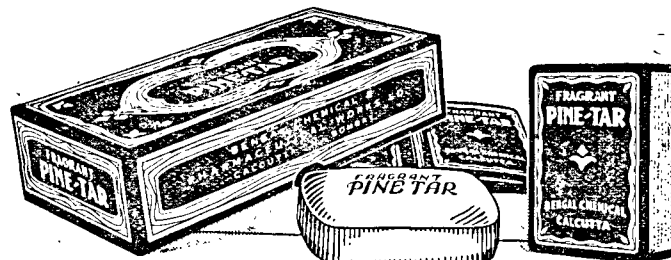
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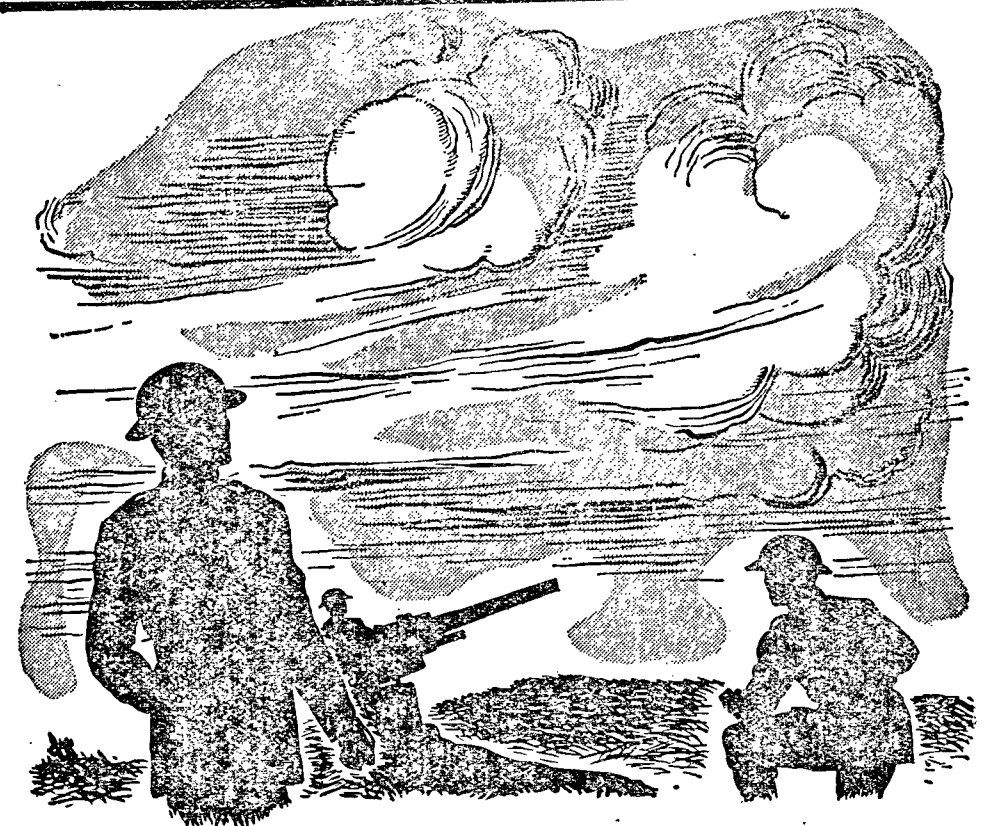
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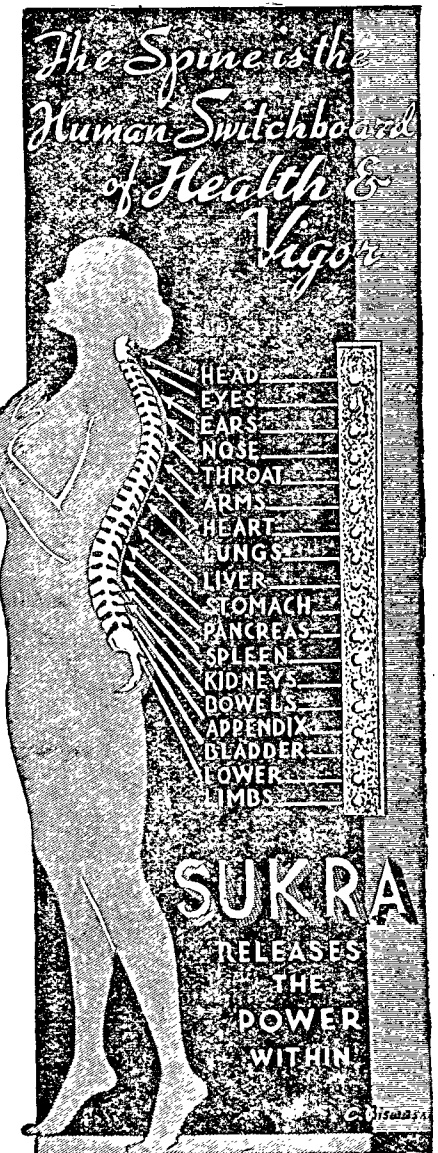
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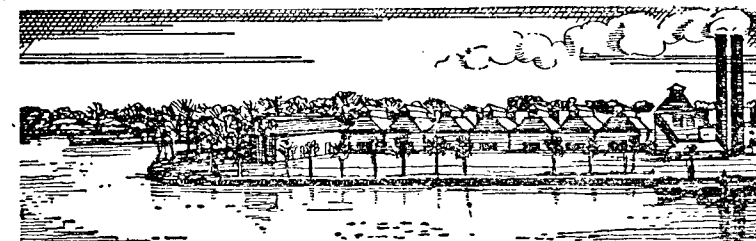
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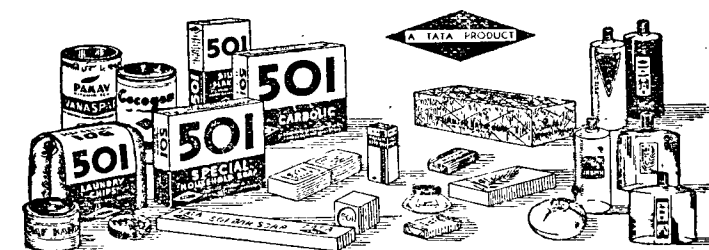


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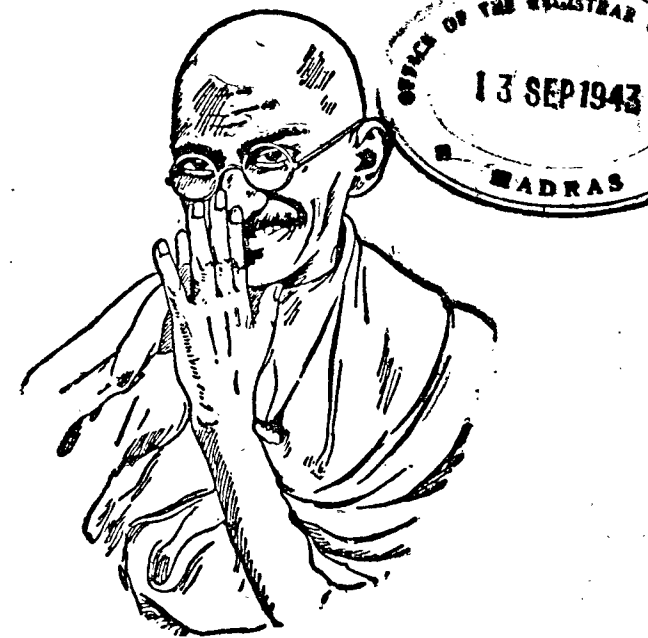
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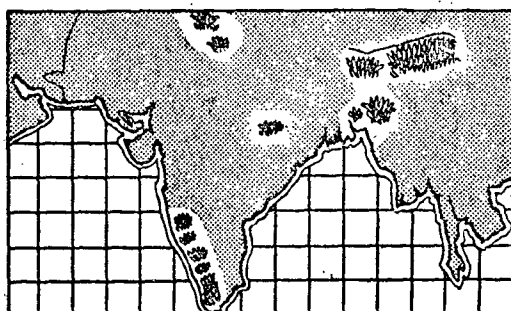
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Position of Indians in South Africa

BY THE HON. DR. N. B. KHARE

(Member, Viceroy's Council)

[That a measure like the "Pegging" Act should have been passed by the Union Parliament of South Africa at a time of war shows the scant regard that that Government has for a so-called member of the Commonwealth, which unfortunately has no independent status. Indians who are thought fit to fight arm in arm with the allied forces in North Africa to make South Africa safe for its citizens, are not thought fit to live in peace side by side with South Africans! This discriminatory measure has added insult to injury, and Indians in this country, no less than in South Africa, are profoundly distressed by the attitude taken by the Smuts Government. The only redeeming feature in the situation is that the Government of India are in complete accord with the people in their resentment and protest against this act of sheer injustice. Dr. N. B. Khare, the Overseas Member of the Government of India, truly voiced the feelings of the whole country when he made the following vigorous statement in the Central Assembly, recounting the painful story of the Indians' struggle in South Africa and their sufferings and humiliation during many years past, under repeated acts of discriminatory legislation. We make no apology for reproducing the full text of the statement he made in the Assembly.—ED. I. R.]

IN response to one of those periodic waves of anti-Asiatic prejudice which from time to time besmirches the name of South Africa and which the Union Government find difficult to resist, there has been recently enacted there the Trading and Occupation of Land (Transvaal and Natal) Restriction Act, usually known as the Pegging Bill. It has the two following effects:—

(i) In the Transvaal it extends for a further three years the provisions of the interim legislation enacted for the year in 1939 and extended for another two years in 1941, by which purchases of property by Indians in areas not already subject to other restrictions are prohibited without the special permission of the Minister.

(ii) In Natal it prohibits Indians from purchasing property and Europeans from selling property to Indians in predominantly European areas in Durban without the Minister's permission and provides for the extension of similar provisions to other areas

in Natal on sufficient cause being shown after enquiry. There have been hitherto no statutory restrictions upon the acquisition of land by Asiatics in Natal, though provision exists for the insertion of an anti-Asiatic clause in title deeds.

Indian emigration to Natal began in 1860 upon the request of European planters through the Governor. Reports reached India that the emigrants were ill-treated and Indian emigration declined to such an extent that planters continued to complain of a shortage of labour. An enquiry held in the colony revealed that the reports were well founded; apart from other ill-treatment, wages were habitually held in arrears and in many cases not paid at all. Emigration to Natal was stopped by the Government of India in 1866. It was reopened in 1874 on the enactment of measures by the Natal Government which provided that the indentured labourer, on the expiry of his indenture, might commute his return

passage to India to a parcel of land for free settlement.

European fears of Indian expansion in Natal expressed themselves as early as 1880, and in 1887 a Commission appointed by the Natal Government reported that "the majority of the white colonists are strongly opposed to the presence of the 'free' Indian as a rival and competitor either in agricultural or commercial pursuits." As a result of pressure by the white colonists, the enactments providing for free settlement of ex-indentured labourers were repealed.

In 1894 the Natal Parliament passed a measure depriving Indians of the parliamentary franchise. Mr. Joseph Chamberlain, in refusing to recommend the Bill for Royal Assent, said:

The Bill involves in a common disability to all natives of India without exception and provides no machinery by which an Indian can free himself from this disability, whatever his intelligence, his education, or his status in the country. To assent to this measure would be to put an affront on the people of India such as no British Parliament could be a party to.

And in speaking to the Colonial Conference in 1897, Mr. Chamberlain said:

We ask you also to bear in mind the traditions of the Empire, which makes no distinction in favour of or against race or colour, and to exclude by reason of their colour or by reason of their race all Her Majesty's Indian subjects or even all Asiatics would be an act so offensive to those people that it would be most painful, I am quite certain to Her Majesty to have to sanction it.

Her Majesty's potential suffering appears to have caused little concern to many of the white colonists in Natal who stuck by their policy of using Indians for their own enrichment while denying them ordinary human rights and privileges, comparable to the policy of the snake in the fable, which lets the rat make a hole and then occupies it itself. Some, however, saw the inequity of such a policy. In 1907 a Commission in the colony reported that absolute and conclusive proof has been put forth before the Commission that several industries owe their existence and present condition entirely to indentured labour. The Indians are industrious, law-abiding and on the whole sober in their habits and it has been proved that their presence has had no injurious effect on the morals of the 'whites' or the 'natives'.

In 1908 Sir Liege Hulett, speaking in the Natal Parliament, said:

The condition of the colony before the importation of Indian labour was one of gloom, it was one that

then and there threatened to extinguish the vitality of the country, and it was only by the Government assisting the importation of labour that the country began at once to revive. The coast has been turned into one of the most prosperous parts of South Africa.

There were those in England too who felt themselves compelled to voice their disapproval of the Natal policy. In 1908 Lord Curzon said:

In the first place, as regards South Africa itself, the Indian 'coolie', or at any rate the educated man who is behind the Indian 'coolie' and who has conducted this agitation, sees that the coolie or the artisan is invited and even encouraged to emigrate from India. We send him to a colony which he enriches by his labour and then the society there appears to turn round upon him as if he were a pariah dog. He is penalised there not for his vices but for his virtues. It is because he is a sober, industrious, frugal and saving man that he is such a formidable economic danger; and then the Indian remembers that at any rate in a large number of cases he has fought for the British Empire in South Africa and that it was largely owing to his efforts that Natal was saved.

In the Transvaal the Provincial Government was always in favour of a declared policy of segregation. By a law of 1885, amended in 1887, Asiatics were forbidden to live except in such areas and locations as may be set aside for them on sanitary grounds. This law and its interpretation was the subject of much controversy between His Majesty's Government and the Republican Government, a controversy which was reflected in a speech by Lord Landsdowne, Secretary of State for War and an ex-Viceroy of India, who stated a few weeks after the outbreak of the Boer War that of all the misdeeds of the Boers none filled him with so much anger as their treatment of British Indians and proceeded to paint a lurid picture of the political evils which might have been expected to follow in India itself if England had failed to put an end to such insolent injustice. After the Boer War the Transvaal became a crown colony. In 1902 and again in 1904, the Governor, Lord Milner, put forward proposals for the registration of Asiatics. In 1902 Mr. Joseph Chamberlain rejected the proposal and said that it would be impossible to defend what would practically be a continuance of the system of the South African Republic against which Her Majesty's Government had so strongly and repeatedly protested. It is an irony of fate that the self-same insolent injustice as described by Lord Landsdowne

is being perpetrated even to-day on the defenceless South African Indians by the British and the Boer combining into a double-barrelled gun for the annihilation of Indian interests in South Africa.

In 1904 Mr. Lyttleton, while agreeing to the introduction of an Immigration Ordinance to restrict the entry of Indians in the future by applying a dictation test in a European language, refused to sanction legislation taking away rights for which Indians had contended in republican days and which had subsequently been assured to them. European opinion in the Transvaal was, however, by no means satisfied and continued efforts were made to impose further restrictions upon Asiatics. In speaking of the Immigration Restriction Act of 1907, which incidentally gave rise to Mr. Gandhi's first passive resistance movement in South Africa, Lord Morley said: "The Act may work grave injustice since British Indian subjects who had before 1902 acquired domicile in the Transvaal but, having temporarily left the colony, had not registered themselves may under its provision be debarred from re-entry." In 1908 the Townships Act and the Gold Law, which consolidated the position regarding occupation and ownership in proclaimed land and contained stringent provisions against Asiatics and 'coloured persons' were passed.

In 1910 the Union of South Africa was established and from that date forward, matters affecting Indians became a Union Government responsibility, though the laws of the constituent parts of the Union remained in force. In 1913 an Immigration Bill was introduced and passed which was the cause of Mr. Gandhi's second and more spectacular passive resistance campaign. It was in relation to this legislation that the Viceroy, Lord Hardinge, speaking in Madras, said:

Recently your compatriots in South Africa have taken matters into their own hands by organising what is called passive resistance to laws which they consider invidious and unjust—an opinion which we who watch their struggle from afar cannot but share. They have violated, as they intended to violate, those laws, with full knowledge of the penalties involved and ready with all courage and patience to endure those penalties. In all this they have the sympathy of India deep and burning—and not only of India, but of all those who like myself, without being Indians themselves, have feelings of sympathy for the people of this country.

In 1914 Mr. Gandhi came to terms with General Smuts and the passive resistance movement ended, but under the Immigration Act all Indians were, by an order of the Minister, deemed undesirable and consequently became prohibited immigrants. At the Imperial War Conference in 1917 and 1918, General Smuts said:

Once the white community in South Africa were rid of the fear that they were going to be flooded by unlimited immigration from India, all the other questions would be considered subsidiary and would become easily and perfectly soluble. . . the fear, which formerly obsessed the settlers there, has been removed; the great principle of restricting immigration for which they have contended is on our statute book.

Mr. Burton, speaking on behalf of South Africa, said:

It is only fair to say, and it is the truth that we have found that the Indians in our midst in South Africa who form in some parts a very substantial portion of the population are good, law-abiding, quiet citizens and it is only our duty to see that they are treated as human beings with feelings like our own and in a proper manner.

Speaking elsewhere of the troops who had served under him, General Smuts said:

I wish here publicly to repeat that I have had no more loyal, devoted and brave troops under me than those troops from the Indian Empire and I think the young South Africans who went with me, who fought side by side with those heroes from Asia, to-day have more kindly feelings than they had before towards the Indian population of South Africa.

These sentiments apparently have now gone with the wind!

Feelings, however, were not so easily modified and as a result of pressure by the Government of India and the Secretary of State a Commission was set up in 1920 to consider the question of Indian trading and property rights. This Commission, in recommending against "compulsory segregation of Asiatics," said:

We find ourselves wholly unable to support the policy of repression which was advocated by some of the witnesses. Indiscriminate segregation of Asiatics in locations and similar restrictive measures would result in eventually reducing them to helotry. Such measures, apart from their injustice and inhumanity, would degrade the Asiatic and react upon the European.

The Union Government, nevertheless, willingly or unwillingly, found the pressure of European opinion too strong, and in 1925, General Hertzog's Government introduced the Areas Reservation Bill.

Dr. Malan introducing the Bill, said that the measure frankly started from the general supposition that the Indian was an alien element in the South African population and that no solution of the question would be acceptable to the country unless it resulted in a very considerable reduction of the Indian population. As the result of representations from the Government of India, the Bill was postponed and in 1926 the Round Table Conference was held in Capetown, which finally concluded the Capetown Agreement.

It was in regard to this legislation that the Viceroy, Lord Reading, said at the opening of the Legislative Assembly in 1927 that it appeared to contain a radically objectionable principle. Lord Olivier, speaking in the House of Lords in 1926 on the same subject, said:

that is more than pressure, it is oppression. It is not to be wondered at, when Indians in India see their relatives exposed to this oppression, that they become restive and ask "What is the use of our belonging to an Empire which guarantees to protect us if, again and again, the promises that have been made in the name of that Empire to our kinsmen are not to be maintained and these kinsmen are to be subjected to oppression to induce them to relinquish the privileges that they have acquired?"

He added:

I have stated that Lord Reading's opinion, and certainly the opinion of anyone connected with the India Office, is that these oppressive enactments are a distinct infraction of the rights of Indians which His Majesty's Government are bound to honour, to maintain and safeguard.

He pleaded:

Let us have some kind of moratorium from the continued pressure upon them (the rights of Indians in South Africa) which is being exercised to the great disturbance of our own Imperial relations with India.

The foregoing shows clearly enough how from the earliest days of Indian immigration into Natal the white population of South Africa has been guided by no other motive but gross self-interest. When times were bad they did not hesitate to implore India to help them and were ready to make any promises to get the labour they so sorely needed. But when times improved they were eager to repudiate their promises and to invoke any means at their disposal to oppress and insult the very people who had come to their assistance.

His Majesty's Government and many prominent British statesmen have consistently protested and striven against the South African attitude but as time has gone on their protests and their efforts have become weaker and of less avail. By passes, licences, registration, taxes, tests and reservations regarding property and trading and by denying the elementary right of the franchise to people born and bred in their country the white Governments in South Africa have done their utmost to humiliate and hedge in their Indian population. To this has been added social and public indignity of many kinds; refusal of entry to shops, hotels, places of amusement, restrictions on the use of public conveyances, separate counters at post offices and similar degradation.

A man of such robust common sense as the present Prime Minister, Mr. Winston Churchill, writing of the Indians in Kenya, said:

Is it possible for any Government with a scrap of self-respect for honest dealing between man and man to embark upon a policy of deliberately squeezing out the native of India from regions in which he has established himself under every security of public faith?

That sentiment, so forcibly expressed, applies with equal pertinence to the history of Indians in South Africa.

And yet, at a time when Indian troops have given their lives in countless gallant actions on African soil and are ready for further sacrifices in the same cause for which South Africa is fighting, at a time too when that same great man, Winston Churchill, is leading all the peoples of the Commonwealth in the sternest struggle that has yet been seen, all those noble sentiments are forgotten, all those high principles enunciated by former British Ministers and statesmen are ignored and the last indignity is imposed upon the Indian people by the latest so-called "Pegging" legislation in South Africa.

It is worthy of note that the Union Government's action has the support of Dr. Malan whose followers, constituting some 40 per cent. of the white population, stand openly for secession from the Empire and neutrality in the war. It may be that Field-Marshal Smuts has

accepted this position only for the purpose of the general election; but India can derive little satisfaction from such a reflection. The original Interim Act prohibiting Indian purchases of property in the Transvaal was passed in 1939 for two years only, to tide over a difficult period. It was extended in 1941 for another two years and has now been again extended for three years. It is small wonder if Indians regard the recent enactment as designed to be a permanent measure. Nor should undue weight be attached to apparent disunity among the Indians in South Africa. There is disunity among the Europeans too, between the seceders and the non-seceders, but on this issue they are at one. So too are the Indians, whose differences arise from other sources.

The crux of the situation is that South Africa prevails because she is a Dominion and Indians there have to suffer because India is a dependency. Under the circumstances, the moral responsibility of Britain which is the trustee of India is very great. She cannot ignore that she owes a duty just as great to the dusky millions in India and the quarter million in South Africa as she owes to the whole people of her own race in any territory in the British Commonwealth of Nations.

The constitutional drawback from which India suffers does not detract from the inherent justice of the case of Indians in South Africa and some means must be found for maintaining the dignity and prestige of India, and of the Government of India, even in war time. It should not be forgotten that the Union Government's action is an affront to the Government of India as well as to Indian sentiment. Fortunately in this matter the people of India and the Government of India are at one, and the Government of India have already publicly characterised the recent legislation as repugnant, unnecessary and inopportune. Had India been independent she would have considered this a *causus belli* against South Africa. But we may not think lightly of breaking away from the British Commonwealth of Nations because the ideal of co-operative inter-dependence on a footing of equality is better than the ideal of isolated independence.

There may also be a forlorn hope of representations yielding valuable results after the election fever in South Africa has cooled down. But representation unbacked by any action is valueless. As for action, an amended Reciprocity Act is already before the House for consideration and possibility of applying other feasible and proper measures is being carefully examined.

NAZI ATROCITIES

By MR. ALEXEI TOLSTOY

(Academician, Academy of Sciences of the U.S.S.R.)

AT the end of June I flew by plane from Moscow to the Northern Caucasus to record, by material evidence and eye-witnesses' testimony, the traces of crimes perpetrated by the Germans in those parts. They are many and they are terrible for their brutality, for the number of innocent victims involved and for the methodical way in which massacres were perpetrated.

I believe there are still many people living far from the war-fronts who can only with difficulty and with incredulity imagine that anti-tank trenches were beneath the layer of earth, and to a depth

of half a metre and length of hundred metres lie respectable citizens, old women, professors, Red Armymen with their crutches, school children, young girls and women clutching with scorched hands infants in whose mouths earth was found showing that they were buried alive. It is difficult to imagine German soldiers hastily calling to one another in a vegetable path where they are looking for a little girl who is hiding because her grandfather and mother have just been killed only because a photograph of a Red Army lieutenant was found in their house; they found the girl

hiding in a clump of high maize and shot her. It is hard to believe that the Germans, on the eve of their retreat, sold in the market-place at low prices liquor and bicarbonate soda which liquor proved to be methylated spirit and packages marked 'soda' proved to contain oxalic acid. But they did, and, as a result, over seven hundred trustful citizens of Givrgievsk were poisoned, fell sick and died. The protocol of investigation and indictment await those who are guilty of this poisoning who one day will be brought to justice.

Half of my life was passed in the period when the European civilisation was blossoming in the sunshine of nearly half a century of peace.

I stayed at German hotels without fear and never locked my room when I went to bed. My suitcases were never stolen from me in Germany.

I had implicitly believed that every drop of blood in my veins belonged to me, and that no German had any right to spill it through a hole drilled in me by knife or bullet. I am one of the older generation. I cannot understand the present-day Germans. During the five months of their occupation of the Northern Caucasus, in the Stavropol region alone they forcibly requisitioned (robbed), slaughtered, partly devoured and partly sent to Germany 149,674 cows, 18,50,259 sheep and goats, 196,452 pigs, 850,000 hens, geese and celebrated black Turkeys.

In all the towns and Cossack villages of regions and republics of Northern Caucasus and Kuban the Germans blew up and burnt down all—without exception—schools, theatres, cinema houses, hospitals, libraries with their books, hospital sanatoria, young pioneer palaces and public buildings. Where, in the hurry of retreat, there was no time for demolition squads to arrive, the German soldiers, with picks and crowbars, smashed windows, baths, wash basins, lavatories and even screens of ventilation shafts; they fired from tommyguns at stucco ornaments, tore upholstery, smashed furniture, drove holes into zinc roofs with bayonets—all of which indicative of true German thoroughness and real penchant for destruction. In

Zheleznovodsk—a health resort, which for its comfort and medical equipment had no equal in Europe—the Germans tore up maturing plants. They built stoves in magnificent sanatoria ornamented with precious goods and marble; allowed the soot of lard to waft through broken windows of these palaces. And in January, when they fled from Zheleznovodsk, they blew up all sanatoria and rest-homes.

Everything that I relate here I saw with my own eyes. But I also saw something far more dreadful. In the Northern Caucasus the Germans slew the entire Jewish population which, for the most part, had evacuated in war-time from Leningrad, Odessa, Ukraine and Crimea.

Among them were many scientists, professors and physicians who had evacuated together with their scientific institutes. The Germans began their preparations for wholesale massacres in the very first days of their occupation. They formed Jewish committees ostensibly for the re-settlement of Jews in sparsely populated regions of Ukraine, and simultaneously created intolerable and humiliating conditions for the Jews: old men, adolescents; sickfolk, scientists, physicians, old women who could scarcely move—were all equally put to heavy manual labour without remuneration or even bread ration. They were ordered to wear a yellow star on the breast and were forbidden from entering restaurants, shops or public places. They were forbidden to leave towns. Consequently, when the "Day of re-settlement" was announced, it was with the greatest ease that Jews assembled in appointed places together with their families with baggages weighing twenty kilograms per person and provisions for two days. They left the keys of their apartments with house janitors for, in the order of the army commander, the security of their property was guaranteed. A certain Armenian told me that that morning he had gone to the railway station of Kislovodsk. A noisy and agitated mass of people were being loaded on to nineteen boxcars and flatcars—the twentieth was reserved for the members of the Jewish committee. This Armenian looked for his acquaintance in the throng, and when he found her, said "You had

better leave your daughter with me. I will bring her up. You will never get to Ukraine". This woman's seven-year-old daughter was so pretty and intelligent as to attract the attention of all eyes. He pleaded with the woman long and earnestly; she wavered, clutching the child to her breast, but at length, she said, "No, come what may, we won't be separated".

At 1 p.m. the train with its freight of some 1,800 people, having passed Mineralnye Vody, stopped in the middle of a field and German officers, who escorted it, scrutinized folds in the ground through their field-glasses.

What they saw did not satisfy them and the train was backed into Mineralnye Vody; switched on to a siding and stopped near the glass-works. "Climb out, jump down", the convoying German soldiers shouted. The people began to grow alarmed. The members of the Jewish committee, among whom were four well-known physicians and an elderly writer by the name of Bergman—tried to re-assure the people by saying: "The Germans are our enemies, it is true. The Germans are harsh. But they are a cultured people and we must have faith in the commander's promise". Then they were ordered to deliver their valuables. They hastily stripped their rings, ear-rings, watches and dropped them into the caps of the German Guard. Another ten minutes or so passed when the Gestapo chief Welben and the commandant of police drove up in the staff car. Order was given to all to strip themselves naked.

All this was told me by the sole survival—an old man named Fingeruth. He had hidden in grass on the siding under one of the cars. When the order was given for them to strip themselves, the unfortunate people realised that their last hour had come. People began to shriek and scurry hither and thither. They shrieked so loudly that their eyes stared out of their heads and many went out of their minds. Many stripped themselves to their under-clothes, men and women—who it is hard to say. The guards herded them through across the aerodrome field to an anti-tank trench, about a

kilometre from the glass-works. Fingeruth saw a German soldier dragging two children by the hand, then drew out a revolver and shot them. Those who tried to escape were put down by rifle shots. Several automobiles speeded around the field in circles; the soldiers in them were firing at the fleeing people. It is not easy to massacre 1,800 persons. They were driven to the edge of the anti-tank trench and shot. The massacre went on all the afternoon until the evening.

That night covered trucks drove up to the anti-tank trench from Essentuki. There too a Jewish committee had been used as a lure, and at the orders of Commandant Beck 507 able-bodied Jews and about 1,500 old men and women assembled with baggage and provisions in a school building on the outskirts of Essentuki, having been told that they were to be resettled. They waited all the day. After 8 o'clock in the evening the guards began to take away their baggage and load them into trucks. By the next morning these two thousand people had been slaughtered and thrown into an anti-tank trench at Mineralniye Vody.

The evidence of eye-witnesses and medical examination testify that, beside shooting, Germans also resorted to asphyxiation by carbon monoxide in hermetically sealed motor-trucks specially designed and constructed for this form of murder.

The motor mechanic—a war prisoner—gave a detailed description of these machines which were built by the "Automobile Body Works, Limited", Berlin.

In Pyatigorsk, likewise, two thousand and eight hundred Jews were similarly got to assemble on the pretext that they were to be re-settled. They were loaded on to the trucks, driven to Mineralniye Vody, massacred and thrown into the same anti-tank trench. The round-up in Pyatigorsk continued for several days. One witness woman named Ostrovenetz told us, "I lived in a wing in the courtyard where the Germans had arranged prison cells with walled-up windows. I observed that from time to time a black-closed motor-track drove up to these cells. Then the command 'get undressed' could

be heard from inside the cells. The imprisoned women and children would begin to shriek wildly. Then they were pushed, dragged by the hair out of the cells and bundled into the truck. Its door was tightly closed. The officer and other Gestapo officials would come out of the prison and, for some reason, invariably examined the underpart of the truck. After this the drive turned on the motor which hummed loudly, but not loud enough, in order completely to drown the shrieks of the terror and the trampling of feet inside the truck.

The Gestapo officials began to whistle and guffaw loudly. This continued for six or seven minutes after which everything had grown quiet inside the truck and it drove away. The excavations made under my supervision of anti-tank trench at Mineralniye Vody exposed a solid mass of corpses for a length of one hundred and five metres. We estimated the number of dead at six thousand, which is somewhat less than the number of Jews stated by witnesses to have been carried away from Kislovodsk, Essentuki and Pyatigorsk. Evidently not all the graves have been discovered. Outside Kislovodsk in a ravine near the Koltso Hill heavy rains washed away the ground and exposed the bodies of children. The excavations in two different parts of ravine brought to light corpses of 161 adults, 70 children. At the aerodrome in Stavropol dead bodies are being discovered to this day as bomb shelters are cleaned up.

In an old stone quarry on the Mashuk Hill in Pyatigorsk bodies of some three hundred citizens of Russian nationality were disinterred and identified. To this day on the steep lime and stone wall of the quarry dark patches and splashes of blood can be seen and among stones tatters of clothing and tresses of women's hair. To this quarry the Germans brought from prisons men and women sometimes half dead from terrible tortures. Signs of torture were revealed by medical examination—broken jaws fractured and charred limbs and scalped skulls. These people were asked to stand on the edge of a precipice and shot:

then rocks were blasted so as to topple down on them. So far, in Briskklin and other places on the Mashuk Hill the bodies of 356 persons have been discovered among them 66 women and children.

On August 10th in Stavropol the Germans asphyxiated with carbon monoxide in motor-trucks 660 inmates of the Psychiatric Hospital.

One citizen named Konevsky, who managed to escape being shot, related the following about the massacre of August 12th:

We were given spades and ordered to get into the tarpaulin-covered motor-truck together with thirty other arrested people. We were driven outside the town escorted by two passenger cars containing armed Germans. The truck stopped just outside the town and the Germans singled out eight elderly persons while the other twenty-two—I among them—were driven further to the place called Kholdony Rodnik. There we were led to a cement pit roughly twelve metres by eight. It was filled with corpses slightly covered over with earth through which blood oozed. When we filled up that pit with our spades we were made to fill up another smaller one in which there were corpses also. When this pit was filled, we were all driven about a kilometre to some pits and trenches filled with bodies of men, women and children who had been shot and were lying in their underclothing, or altogether naked. Not far from one of the trenches eight men from whom we had been separated, lay down with faces. They were still alive. As we were working, an officer drove up in his car and ordered us to lie down faces down, while eight others were forced with blows by the Germans to rise and approach the trench. Then we were fired from tommygun; they fell into the trench after which we continued to cover up corpses. Among us was a professor of mathematics named Goykh. Among the corpses in the pit we were filling up he suddenly recognized two of his children. He flung down his spade and leaped into the pit. An officer went up to the professor and shot him. About midday three motor-trucks drove up on which lay or sat wounded Red Army men. We were ordered to lift them down and they were shot in our sight. The shooting was done by twenty-five or thirty Gestapo officers. I knew only one of them, named Bayer.

By what deeds of repentance can the German wash away this shameful stain? This shameful stain is Nazism. The Germans did not spit on the face of their tempter, Hitler, but followed him in murder and pillage. Woe to those Germans who do not at once, without a day's delay, shake off this brown hypnosis.

THE HERITAGE OF INDIA

By THE HON. MR. JUSTICE N. CHANDRASEKHARA AIYAR

PROF. AJWANI of the Sind College, Karachi, has brought out a second edition of his "Immortal India" (Educational Publishing Company, Karachi), which, when it was first published last year, elicited, deserved praise from the Indian Press and the public. In this new edition, he has added a chapter on "Indian Women" and another entitled "Awakening", thus enhancing its merit. That India had a glorious past and was once upon a time rich materially and spiritually, is the main theme of the Professor; and this he seeks to establish by quoting extensively from several writers, Indian and European. Swami Vivekananda, Dr. Besant, Tagore, Romesh Chander Dutt, Radhakumud Mukherjee, Max Muller, MacDonnel, Col. Todd and a number of others have been cited to attest India's ancient greatness in almost every field of activity—Arts, Sciences, Literature, Philosophy, Religion, Military valour and chivalry. The book consists of quotations mainly.

Whatever some ignorant or narrow-minded Westerners may say, it cannot be denied that in several centuries known to history, apart from the very dim and remote past, the portrayal of whose glory in the epics and the *puranas* may be regarded as legendary—India enjoyed a high degree of culture, progress and refinement, when men and women in the Occident were comparatively primitive in their civilisation. Indian philosophy and the wisdom of her sages enshrined in the Vedas and the Upanishads and in the Gita have stood as shining examples to the rest of mankind from times immemorial. It is really unnecessary, however—nay, even prejudicial—to dwell far too much on the resplendent past, as there is always the danger in such an endeavour that we might forget the present and be oblivious to the future. It is no doubt true, as observed by Swami Vivekananda in one of his memorable utterances, that you cannot securely build up national greatness except on ancient foundations and that, if they are cast aside thoughtlessly by zealous but unwise reformers, the result might be castles in the air. But at the same time, it must be remembered that while we can only in the

process of construction inherited traditions, bents of mind and cultural ideals, the structure to arise must be predominantly influenced by present events and forces and probable and possible tendencies of the future in the growth of states, nationalisms, and internationalism.

The theory that the Indian civilisation has still survived like the Chinese chiefly because it has been spiritual in its outlook and has honoured and worshipped prophets of peace and not apostles of war and violence has received forceful support from Dr. Thomas of America in his thought-provoking book on "The Story of the Human Race." Material prosperity and spiritual greatness, however, cannot be divorced altogether from each other; they have to go hand in hand to a large extent. Wordly eminence must be sublimated with a spiritual back-ground as much in national affairs as in individual lives, so that ambition might not degenerate into lust for power, wealth or prosperity. Aspiration for the possession of a part of the world's goods is thoroughly legitimate, provided there is recognition of similar rights in others. Herein and in her absorbent policy of toleration and catholicity of outlook lay India's greatness in the past; and this way of thought and conduct is likely to prove her main contribution to post-war world reconstruction, should she be allowed to take any part in the task. Long before Jesus Christ exclaimed that the world is but a bridge and that you have to pass over it and not build your dwellings upon it, Indian sages emphasised the ephemeral and evanescent aspect of all earthly glory.

Prof. Ajwani thinks that self-government is the real panacea for the present decadence of India and that once Swaraj is secured, she will have a future even more glorious than her past. He says: "Everything is in the melting pot. It does not require, however, a super-natural intelligence to forecast that, in the new-world order (to come) the extraordinary blindness or indifference or self-interest which made the Western nations leave out of account one-half of mankind (gathered in China and India), and confined their attention to their own little principalities

and big estates, will have to be replaced by a sense of fairness and equality—in their own interest as much as in the interest of the teeming millions of China and India". The Professor has not, however, enlightened us on the kind of Swaraj that is wanted. Is it complete independence of British rule and yoke, or is it self-government of the Dominions' pattern? This question has not even been referred to, much less discussed. The main hindrance to Indian unity, namely, the vivisectionist cry of Pakistan, raised by Mr. Jinnah and his followers is recognised as a solid rock in the way of national progress. But the only solution attempted by the author for overcoming this obstacle is a pious wish that there must be a change of heart on both sides and that while every Muslim should feel with Dr. Iqbal that Hindustan is his land, it is the duty of every Hindu to realise that Islam has brought precious gifts to India. Rarely, however, has it happened that mere friendliness or sentiment brings together two politically hostile camps of different races in loving embrace of each other. The tendency of the two groups will be to fight out the issue between them to a finish, especially when any friendly rapprochement between them is rendered difficult by the interested intervention of other factors. When British rule in India disappears, though it is not possible for us to think of such disappearance in the near future without disastrous consequences to this land, torn as it is by communal jealousies, rancour and disunity—an ultimate conflict between the Hindus and Muslims for political hegemony or supremacy cannot perhaps be avoided. Many thoughtful observers of current politics and world problems take the view that this country has not passed through enough of suffering, travail and misery to unify her peoples as one nation and that if a sense of solidarity is now lacking, it is because each group or community inhabiting this land has lived in comparative ease and comfort as an independent unit by itself. Much may perhaps be said for the position that the dwarfing or the stunting of the Indian race is due to the very security that the country has enjoyed under British rule and that the qualities of energy, initiative, awareness, alertness, unity

of thought and action and genius for organisation, which are so necessary for national progress, have become moribund, if not dead, owing to the peace and prosperity that have prevailed in India during the last two centuries nearly.

Doubtless, it is very patriotic to feel that a "bright future awaits India" and that "Providence will see that in due time India fulfils her mission of saving the soul of the world". Nationhood and independence, however, are not secured merely by the expression of poetic sentiments or the offering of pious prayers. The peoples and their leaders must set their shoulders to the task of nation-building in grim earnestness and with unswerving faith in their mission. And to the discharge of the task must be brought the collective ability and wisdom of sober political thinkers, able administrators and far-sighted statesmen. The masses must be roused from their "pathetic contentment", to use the famous phrase of Montagu and awakened to a sense of their self-respect and their underlying unity, despite seeming or superficial dissimilarity of habits, manners and outlook. Self-government is not a boon to be received as a favour or grant from any one else. A race must achieve it as the result of its own exertions, and when it so deserves it, its demand will be irresistible. What place India is going to occupy in the post-war world will largely depend on her contribution to the solution of the problems that are now baffling modern civilisation in the shape of the giant conflict that is being waged both in the West and in the East.

It is not easy to accept the comforting statement of the learned author that a glorious reawakening is at hand for India. Great gloom and despair are now on us and we are groping in the dark helplessly for a ray of light or joy. To ordinary mortals not gifted with any prophetic insight or imagination, the so-called renaissance seems more a poetic fancy, a mere thought of dreamland. In the ultimate dispensation of Providence, nothing is of course impossible: and changes may be wrought much sooner than we can see or foretell. But at present, it is rather difficult to discern any roseate colours in India's future destiny.

CHINA FIGHTS ON

BY THE HON. MR. S. H. SHEN
(Commissioner for China in India)

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SIX years have passed since China, under the able and inspiring leadership of Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, rose to resist Japanese aggression. When war was thrust upon us in 1937, as it was later thrust upon our British and American Allies in 1941, we were not prepared. Our nation had hardly recovered from the throes of its rebirth and was, therefore, the least inclined to be engaged in any trial of strength, particularly with an opponent who, to realise his dream of world domination, had been for decades planning and plotting for our subjugation.

When, therefore, the issue was joined the difference in preparedness between the two contending parties was so glaring that in the eyes of observers our case was a forlorn one and the Japanese High Command gave their army only three months within which to liquidate this "China Incident". However, such is the irony of fate that after six years of ruthless assault the enemy finds us still holding our own, while his own feet of clay are sinking steadily in a quagmire from which there is no hope of extraction.

For the best part of these six years we faced the storm alone. Uplifted first by the sympathies and then by the aid of friendly nations but sustained mainly by our indomitable will to resist, we stood up to the enemy's fire with composure and fortitude, conscious of the toils and sacrifices that had to be made and confident of the righteousness and ultimate triumph of our cause. Victories strengthened our confidence and reverses only inspired us to greater exertions. In the face of increasing privations, increasing efforts were made and the loss of resources was compensated by the development of the hitherto undeveloped interior.

Thus our ill-equipped troops have been resisting and repelling enemy assaults, demonstrating conclusively how, with courage and fortitude, faith and tenacity, "comparatively much can be done with comparatively little" and for six years

China "has hung like a millstone around the neck of the Japanese military and has succeeded in preventing Japan from utilising several millions of armed forces and workers in other parts of the world."

Happily, we are no longer fighting alone now. The cause of which we were the sole and solitary champions during the first two years of our strife has been so commonly espoused that we count on our side no less than four-fifths of the human race, all dedicated to the noble task of crushing the aggressors and of establishing and maintaining a better, a more decent world after the achievement of victory.

The disadvantage at which we and our Allies were placed at the outbreak of hostilities and from which we and our Allies suffered so grievously has been corrected and the arsenal of democracies is turning out war supplies in quantities that must be staggering to friend and foe alike. This, coupled with the pooling of man-power and resources by the United Nations, has brought home to the enemy that after all war is not all loot and plunder.

However, we must not suppose that it would be all plain-sailing henceforward. The gravity of the task yet to be performed should not be underrated. The path before us is still a long and stony one. So far as this quarter of the globe is concerned, six years of wanton aggression, together with earlier adventures, have brought the enemy into possession of rich resources which he is relentlessly exploiting for the consolidation of his new expanded position. From the occupied territories in China alone some 100,000,000 tons of raw material were carried away during the past twelve months for Japanese armed forces and for the heavy industries that are being rapidly built up in Japan, Manchuria and other parts of Asia.

What was done in occupied China must have been practised in Malaya and the



Dutch East Indies and the resources thus placed at the disposal of the Japanese military must be considerable. Knowing as we do the insane ambition and the insatiable appetite of that notorious gang, we deem it imperative that to forestall further mischief these wrong-doers should be dealt with at the earliest possible moment. Every day that passes adds to the strength of that vicious world-threat which, unless dealt with in time and dealt with effectively, will stand in the way of the early achievement of complete victory.

It is, therefore, gratifying to note the many arrangements that have been made in this theatre of war since the successful termination of the African campaigns—arrangements which tend further to strengthen this main supply base in the Far East and augur well for the early re-opening of the Burma Road, without which it would not be possible to send supplies to our country as constantly and plentifully as is required.

However, whatever the future may unfold, we, for our part, will keep on striking with all our might and main till all the territories seized from us have been recovered, till the last Japanese invader has been driven away from our soil. Nor, with adequate and effective equipment, shall we fail to give a good account of ourselves. China affords the natural basis from which to launch the counter-offensive. Though lacking in aeroplanes and heavy armament, we are rich in man-power. Without protection in air and always within effective range of the enemy airfields, our troops have been at grips with the enemy all these years and the recent victories on the Yangtse show how much they can accomplish with sufficient air protection, how, on ever terms of equipment, they can prove more than a match for the enemy. These troops of ours have been tried and not found wanting. They require only adequate and effective equipment to fulfil their mission. Give them the tools and they will finish the job.

—A Broadcast Talk.

DICTATORSHIP

BY MR. S. V. JAGANNADHA RAO, B.A.

DICTATORSHIP is not an institution peculiar to the present century. It can be traced back through 19th and 18th century France and 17th century England, to ancient Greek and Roman times. Though this is true, broadly speaking, no dictatorship of the past can compare with its present-day form, both in its scope and audacity. Particularly, when we consider the dictatorship of Hitler, we find that its scope is not fruitful but barren, and that its audacity is not born of a hero but of a tyrant. Cæsar and Napoleon were dictators in their day; but their dictatorships were such that they have not gone down to posterity as relentless tyrants, but as admirable heroes.

The earliest form of dictatorship, which has placed absolute reliance upon force and authority as engines of Government,

is that of Pisistratus in ancient Greece. It is also marked by the subtle precaution that the dictator took to keep the masses in position, by flattering the basest elements in them.

Peeping into Roman times we find a peculiar form of dictatorship in the Triumvirate, though Cæsar was virtually the dictator.

It is only in 17th century England that we find an example of a modern dictatorship under the ægis of Oliver Cromwell. Though he styled himself as Protector, his regime was a dictatorship for all that.

18th century France countenanced only enlightened dictatorships, as the dictators were — enlightened despots. Whatever Richelieu did as a dictator was only to place the monarchy on a sound basis.

It is only when we come to consider the present-day dictatorships that we find, that they have almost no parallel in the past and may have none in the future. Such is their overbearing nature and menacing attitude, especially that of Hitler. Neither the dictatorship of Kemal Ata Turk, nor that of Lenin or Stalin, has thrown such a sickening shadow on the rest of the world as that of Hitler or Mussolini. Especially the dictatorship of Hitler deserves the attention of any thoughtful man; for, Mussolini after abortive attempts on Abyssinia and Greece, seems to be restored back like a froward child. We will study the subject under four heads: (1) Genesis of dictatorship. (2) Fruits of dictatorship. (3) Lessons of dictatorship. (4) Conclusion.

In ancient times, Pisistratus and Pericles came into power as dictators by associating themselves with the malcontents who were dissatisfied with the then state of affairs. But the modern dictators came into their own by a novel method which ushered in dictatorships without ado. Cromwell in England, Napoleon in France, Pilsudski in Poland, Hitler in Germany and Mussolini in Italy, seized power by what is known as the *coup d'état*.

Hitler always took care to stir popular imagination and foment popular discontent. The day of his dictatorship dawned when the aged Von Hindenburg asked him to form a government. Hitler seized this opportunity and made secure his position even against Hindenburg. After the Marshal's death, he seized the Chancellorship and fortified his position by means of relentless tyranny and merciless terrorism. He gave the quietus to the masses as he sent into their heads a queer idea, that something mysterious and indefinable would happen to them, unless he were in power.

Mussolini caught the Facta Government in its weak moment and pounced upon it with his Fascist army. The King of Italy had no alternative but to request Mussolini to form a government, which ushered in Fascist dictatorship. Such being the case of the Nazi and Fascist dictatorships, the Proletarian dictatorship came into being when Russia was overshadowed by economic

breakdown and political upheaval, after the Great European War.

A tree is judged by its fruits; so also dictatorship. Whatever philosophical cloak the dictators may have thrown upon their dictatorships, the naked truth as to their real anatomy is bound to come out as a glaring fact, when we examine the effects of dictatorship in its various phases.

After beheading King Charles, Cromwell began by extolling liberty and ended by "taking away that babble". Communist Russia under Lenin, smarted under a worse form of tyranny than that under the Tsar. War communism and the "Cheka" took away from the peasants what little they were promised under the new order. Lenin's dictatorship was a regular Oligarchy.

What sort of freedom and happiness may any one expect under the Fascist dictatorship may be gauged from the dangerous principles by which it is guided. According to it the masses should only believe and not know. Sacredness of human life has nothing to do with it. The State is absolute. Foreigners are disliked. It has suppressed all democratic institutions. It is more or less the regime of "Big Businesses" in consonance with the Fascist party, backed by the army.

The repercussions of no other dictatorship are so grave and dangerous as those of the Nazi variety. The thud of Nazi militarism is keenly felt both at home and abroad. As soon as Hitler came into power, he cured his party of all undesirables, by the notorious "blood bath". Others more unfortunate were thrown into Concentration Camps, oscillating between life and death. Under pretext of a race superiority, Jews were persecuted and expelled, with the result that Einstein, the greatest scientist of our age, had to quit Nazi Germany only to flourish in Democratic America. Intellectuals have no place in Hitler's Germany, lest they should expose the dictator with impunity. The worst of it all is the spreading of a network of propaganda which may be characterised by the maxim, *suggestio falsi suppressio veri*. Whatever the Nazi Oracle, Goebbels, gives out is true and good; or must be true and good; or shall be true

and good. That, in short, is the gist of Goebbels' propagandist activities. But more inhuman than anything else found under any other dictatorship, is the compulsory sterilization of the stricken and the disabled. Add to this, radio reports go to show that there is a move on the part of the Nazi authorities, to put to death all wounded soldiers who are so far disabled as not to be fit for further active service. Such a treatment is meted out only to useless horses and mad dogs in civilized countries. An enumeration of the effects of Hitler's dictatorship will be incomplete without a reference to the Gestapo. No one, be it a Nazi patriot, or a foreign spy, or a visiting gentleman, is safe under the constant surveillance and threatening vigilance of Himmler's agents.

The lessons of dictatorship are graded both for the dictator himself and to those under his sway.

Pompey fell to an assassin's dagger. Caesar was betrayed and murdered by his best friends, for they did not love him less but loved Rome more. Lenin was shot at by a woman revolutionary, from the effects of which he did not recover till death. He only lived to see the decline of his power before his very eyes. Mussolini* many times escaped violent death. But no one is in a more perilous position and constant apprehension of unnatural death than Hitler. The Fuehrer, who has placed a price upon the head of some of his enemies, is so much afraid of losing his own at any moment, that in addition to his other extensive precautions, he has to engage certain persons to "play the double" for him. That shows which way the wind of popular discontent is blowing.

Such being the lessons for the dictator, those that the people have learnt are not less drastic. After Cromwell's death, even the Roundheads had to acknowledge that another Stuart (Charles II) was better

* This article was written before Mussolini's downfall.

than a dictator. Under Lenin, the Russian peasants had to realise that they became owners of land only to forfeit their produce to the State, and face beggary. Mussolini's Fascists have completely lost their individuality in the State. Each individual is not reckoned as a person by himself, but as so much part of the State. A fine form of slavery is all that the people got under Mussolini's dictatorship.

No other dictatorship has brought about such a suppression of individual liberty and political freedom as that of Hitler. He has crushed all democratic institutions. The people have no right even to "strike work". The small middle class is sacrificed at the altar of "Big Business". It is no less true of Hitler than of Bismarck, that in striving to make Germany great, he has made Germans small. If dictatorship is the negation of liberty, nowhere is it more true than in Nazi Germany.

After studying dictatorship so far in its various aspects, I now conclude my article with a few observations.

The aims of dictatorship may be high, but the methods adopted are of so sweeping a nature, that no good is done to anybody. The intention of a dictatorship is to bring in healthy reform, but it has so far succeeded only in bringing about a turpid change. That a dictatorship is lawless is well illustrated by the maxim, *cessante ratione legis cessat ipsa ex.* (When the reason of any particular law ceases, so does the law itself.)

It seems, that in the last resort, dictatorship is the stronghold of an avaricious coward. To all intents and purposes, dictatorship appears to be a formidable column on the top of which is supposed to be the statue of a hero; but to those who have taken pains to go up and see, is revealed only the figure of a weather-cock instead. But the day is not far off when the victorious Allies may mount the column and exhibit to the world the supposed hero or the real weather-cock!

A BALANCED DIET

BY MR. S. N. BOSE

[In a poor country like India, apart from underconsumption, malnutrition is a constant companion of poverty. Even in well-to-do families, undernourishment, due to ignorance of food values, is a chronic source of disease and ill-health. In the following article, Mr. Bose discusses the value of a balanced diet as gathered from his own experience. The details he gives of his own menu may be of interest to lay readers in choosing a balanced diet for themselves.—ED. I.R.]

PROTECTIVE FOOD

Our meals, therefore, should contain:

- (a) Energy-yielding food, e.g., rice, atta, potatoes, etc.
- (b) Protective food, e.g., meat, fish, eggs, milk, green vegetables, fruits, etc.

COMMON FOODSTUFFS

Rice: In these days of scarcity we see a good deal of coarse rice. Most people can digest this variety of rice but those that are accustomed to highly milled and devitalised rice often complain that it is difficult to digest this rice. But they must remember, that this very kind of rice is also used by thousands of other people. This shows conclusively that such rice can be digested without any difficulty. Therefore, there is no doubt that within a few days you will all be able to digest this coarse variety as well. Also it will do you more good than the polished rice you have been used to. It may be helpful if you reduce your quantity of this coarse rice a little, and boil it with just enough water so that no excess remains after the rice is boiled.

Wheat: After rice the next important item of food is wheat.

It is a staple food in Northern India. Like rice it should also be taken whole, including the bran after the husk has been removed since its health-giving properties lie more in the bran and next to it than in the centre of the grain. Red atta is made from the whole grain, including bran. White flour or maida consists of nothing but starch from the central portion of the grain which has no vitality.

Atta and white flour as available in the market usually come from big flour mills. Wheat is first washed with water and cleaned of dust, earth, etc. It is then dried in a current of hot air and brushed. The moisture, heat and brushing partially remove the delicate coating of the grain, which contains the vitamins and salts. It is then milled by machines, and first

WHAT is balanced food? Balanced food is one which consists of a combination of various kinds of natural—not devitalised—foodstuffs. Such a combination would give as correct proportion of the food components as needed by the various parts of the body. These components are carbohydrates, proteins, fat, vitamins, mineral salts, etc.

The food that I have been taking for the last four years fulfils these conditions, a list of which I now give below:

- (a) Chapatti made of coarse atta with bran from hand chakki.
- (b) Home-pounded red coarse rice boiled with enough water so that no excess water remains after the rice is boiled.
- (c) Dal cooked with skin on as far as possible.
- (d) Whole raw sprouted dal, such as Moong and Chana.
- (e) Sag and other vegetables cooked from which no water is thrown out.
- (f) Raw salad with lemon juice, if necessary, but no vinegar nor spices.
- (g) One egg and two chataks of meat or fish.
- (h) Some milk and unsweetened dahi.
- (i) Fresh fruits, raw and not cooked.
- (j) A total of 8 glasses of water early in the morning and between meals.

CORRECT MAINTENANCE OF THE BODY

Now why the different food components, e.g., vitamins, proteins, mineral salts, etc., should be taken and not thrown away. This is rather a technical subject, but a few words about their benefits might be of help.

The body requires a definite amount of energy to support its internal processes, such as maintaining body temperature, digestion and the circulation of blood as well as for all forms of exercises and work we have to do every day.

the coarse bran and then the fine is removed. The flour is still further sifted as atta and maida. Atta from big mills is not as rich as from a small bazar mill. The best way, therefore, of using wheat is to sift and grind it at home and send it to the small mill to be ground. The coarse bran should be seized and ground again and then mixed with the flour. It must not be thrown away.

Foods made of maida, such as white bread, loochi (not whole wheat poori), singhara, nimki, biscuits, cakes, etc., have almost no vitamins or mineral salts and are constipative. Foods made of red atta, on the other hand, such as chapattis, parotas, pooris, whole-meal bread, are much more nourishing. Out of the above, whole-wheat bread and chapattis are the best, as they are not fried, but only baked.

Brown bread: Whole-wheat bread should not be confused with brown bread. Brown bread is made of white maida with some brown colouring matter and so is as useless as white bread, from the point of view of proteins, vitamins and mineral salts.

DALIA

Another very nourishing food made out of wheat is dalia. This can be used as porridge in place of the usual oatmeal which is imported from foreign countries and, at present, is very expensive if available at all.

Apart from the viewpoint of nutrition, in these days of food scarcity, it is highly necessary that we do not waste, but get the most out of any grain that we can get hold of. We must, therefore, take whole-wheat atta, including the bran, not maida.

There are other good cereal grains that can be eaten in place of wheat, but somehow they are very much neglected though some of these are better than wheat in certain respects, e.g., bajra, jenera or cholam, jawar, kode, bhutta, marua or ragi.

Dal: Next I come to dal. Dal is a very useful food and one or two chatacks per day should be enough. The usual way of preparing dal is to boil it in water and spice it. It is then taken with

rice or chapatti. But by boiling, it loses some of its nutritive elements and mixed with whole-wheat atta and made into chapatti, it will retain some of its properties.

Another way of taking dal is to parch or roast it, but this is not so good as some of its health-giving properties are lost by heat. Besides it is less digestive.

The best way to take dal is to sprout the whole grain Moong Chana, Mutter Arhar, etc., and then eat it. Sprouted dal retains not only the whole of its properties but also generates vitamin "C" in the sprouts, which is very essential for the body, specially of the children.

The way to grow sprouts in the case of Moong is to soak it in just sufficient water for about 12 hours and then spread it dry on a plate and cover it with another. Sprouts will then grow in 24 to 48 hours. Other whole-grain dals may be sprouted this way, but these can be taken raw with a little salt or ginger or gur.

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India—The Concern of United Nations

BY RAI BAHADUR MEHERCHAND KHANNA

[Rai Bahadur Meherchand Khanna was one of the Indian delegates to the recent Conference of the Institute of Pacific Relations at Quebec. He did little official propaganda but his views set forth in the journal of the Institute, mainly with a view to enlighten world opinion on the posture of affairs in India, may be read with interest in this country.—Ed. I.R.]

[T is alleged that Indians are a disunited people, still living in a semi-barbaric stage, neither fit to govern nor to be free. I doubt whether propaganda of this nature will either solve the Indian deadlock or is in keeping with the Allied cause. I also wonder whether this is taking a realistic or long-range view of the situation. Above all, an argument of this nature loses all force when it is considered that less than two years ago, His Majesty's Government stated in the British War Cabinet's Proposals (the Cripps offer) "that immediately upon cessation of hostilities, steps shall be taken for the earliest possible realization of self-government in India." It further said that "the object is the creation of a new Indian Union which shall constitute a dominion associated with the United Kingdom and other Dominions by a common allegiance to the Crown but equal to them in every respect, in no way subordinate in any aspect of its domestic or external affairs." This statement should have removed all doubts regarding the capability of India to govern herself and be free. But for the benefit of sceptics and pessimists, I shall try to deal with the various allegations in detail.

HOMOGENEOUS

Is India a land of diverse religions and languages? How could it be otherwise? India is not a small country; it is a sub-continent, covering an area of over 1½ million square miles. It has a population of 400 million; "one of every five-persons in the world is an Indian." But nevertheless the Indian people, whatever their racial or religious origin, are psychologically homogeneous and in that sense constitute one national block within a geographical boundary which has remained unchanged for thousands of years. The great heterogeneity which is visible among the people of India, especially to foreign

observers, has been occasioned solely by the material circumstances of life.

DEMOCRATIC

Is India pacific and pro-Axis?—She is neither one nor the other. Indians are a martial race with martial traditions behind them. The pages of Indian history are full of glowing accounts of wars. Indians gave ample proof of their fighting talent and spirit in the last world war. In the present war, they have not lagged behind any nation or country. India has raised her fighting strength from about one-fifth of a million at the beginning of the war to nearly two million to-day and it is still expanding. Her troops have fought and are fighting the Axis powers in every theatre of war. India has declared with one voice that during the period of war, the Allied troops should stay in India, India should be used as a base against the Axis and that the operational control of the war should remain in the hands of the British Commander-in-Chief.

EXPLODED BOGEY

Is India a divided house? The so-called friends of India never hesitate to shout from the housetops that the Indians are divided among themselves, that there is an acute minority problem, and that if they would only compose their difference, England would be only too glad to give India her desired freedom. May I ask if this bogey of "division" and "minorities" is common only to India? Is it not found in all the big countries and nations of the world? As in their case, so India's differences are of a healthy and domestic nature and capable of adjustment, if given a chance. Even under the existing circumstances, India has proved her solidarity. The "Lucknow Pact" of 1916 is a thing of the past. The elections of 1937, when the Indian National Congress, despite the Communal Electorates under which the

country has been divided for voting into religious groups, captured governments in eight out of the eleven provinces in India, clearly indicated that the peoples, notwithstanding "division" and "minority," were behind the national party. This bogey of a divided house was once again exploded in September 1942, when all the major groups in India, comprising Hindus, Muslims, Sikhs, and Christians, put forward an agreed formula: that an unqualified declaration should be made by the British Government now that India will be free after the war and that she will be allowed then to draft her own constitution based on democratic lines in which due safeguard will be provided for all the minorities and that if any minority still feels aggrieved, it will have the absolute right to refer its case to any international tribunal, whose decision will be final and binding on India.

The problem of untouchability, though confined only to the Hindus, is not as often alleged. The caste system has been in vogue among the Hindus from time immemorial. It is, however, gradually vanishing and is mostly confined to Southern India. Also it is purely economic in its outlook; the Negro problem in America is the nearest parallel to it. The Hindu Mahasabha, the mouth-piece of the Hindus, has declared in unambiguous terms that every Hindu, be he born in the home of a Brahmin or any other, will be entitled to equal rights and equal privileges—social, economic and political—without any distinction in caste, colour, or creed.

INDIAN INDIA

As regards the Indian States, the position is equally clear. The peoples in the States, for, there is no Chinese Wall segregating them from their brethren in British India, react to the political problems in India in exactly the same way. They, like rest of India, have long been clamouring for independence. An authoritative representative of the Indian States has declared only recently at the Montreux Conference of the I.P.R. "that the Indian States would be ready to hand over certain rights to a new central government provided there was a precise demarcation between the internal affairs of the States

and those of the central body." He further said, "in general the States would not welcome complete separation from Britain, but if it does come, they feel confident that they can survive, as, in fact, they survived long before the British came to India."

ONE OF SIX

The All-India Muslim League is one of the Six Muslim Organizations, the others being the Azad, Ahrars, Momins, Jamiat-ul-Ulema and Red Shirts. The Muslim League was formed in 1906. In 1909, separate electorates were introduced in India by the British Government. Under this system, Hindus could only vote for Hindus, Muslims for Muslims, and Sikhs for Sikhs, etc. In other words, the basis of the electoral system was communal and religious. There are four provinces in India (out of the eleven) in which the Muslims are in a majority: the Bengal and the Punjab, about 55 per cent.; Sindh, about 76 per cent.; and the North-West Frontier, about 92 per cent.

The so-called friends of the Muslim League in America have also made much of the alleged acts of "oppression" against the Muslims by the Congress Ministries when they were in office for a brief spell of 27 months. These grievances are more imaginary than real; the British Governors of the Provinces concerned could not find a single instance of unjust dealing or unbecoming behaviour by the Ministries towards the minority communities. In fact, even after their retirement from office, one or two Governors paid glowing tributes to the work of the Congress Ministries. Actually, 74 per cent. of the Muslim population in India was under non-Congress Governments; of the 71 Ministers of the eleven provinces, 26 were Muslims, 10 of the other minority communities and 35 Hindus. In other words, the 75 per cent. Hindu majority was represented by 35 Ministers and the 25 per cent. non-Hindu minority by 36 Ministers. It should also be recalled that when Mr. Nehru challenged the Muslim Premier of Bengal to prove the charges and agreed to accompany him from place to place, the Premier did not fulfil the engagement and the reason was never fully made

known. On October 5, 1939, the then President of the Congress sent a letter to Mr. Jinnah, President of the Muslim League, suggesting the name of Sir Maurice Gwyer, Chief Justice of the Federal Court, the highest judicial authority in India, to inquire into the matter. Mr. Jinnah, however, refused to accept the suggestion.

I do not minimize the importance either of the Muslim League or any other minority

group but I am not prepared to concede that any party stands in the way of India's independence or is against it. In fact, every party and group has worked hard and fought long for India's freedom. There is one hundred per cent. unanimity of opinion on this point, which is the most important and crucial one. This was more than proved when every party in India rejected the Cripps offer.

DR. SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA

BY DR. SIR P. S. SIVASWAMY AIYER, K.C.S.I.

OF the many public men in India in the present generation who have done distinguished service to the country, Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha is one of the foremost. He has served the country in various capacities, and has done so with conspicuous success in all of them. His speeches and writings were first published in a collected form in 1935. The fact that a second edition* has been called for is itself sufficient proof of the appreciation which they have met with at the hands of the public. The speeches of public men generally create only a temporary interest, and it is seldom that they are read years after their original delivery. It is only those that possess exceptional merit that tempt the public to read them over again. It depends upon their literary merit, the nature of the topics they deal with, the value of the views and opinions which they express, and the esteem in which the speakers or writers are held. Tried by all these tests, the book now published is entitled to claim the attention of the reading public. Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha's views on public questions are the result of wide and careful study, a well-balanced judgment and a desire to do justice to all aspects of a question. His extensive knowledge of English literature, his abundant sense of humour, and his literary flair combine to invest his style with a charm of their own. His knowledge and experience of public affairs and the sobriety of his views are bound to appeal to all critical readers. A man of

* SPEECHES AND WRITINGS OF SACHCHIDANANDA SINHA, Thacker Spink & Co., Calcutta. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Madras, Rs. 7.)

very lovable personality, he has been justly described by my friend the late Sir C. Y. Chintamani, as one "who never lost a friend or made an enemy". By his high character and attainments, his capacity for friendship, and the generosity of his disposition, of which his munificent gift of a public library and a town hall to the capital of Bihar are only some of the instances, he has acquired a high place in the esteem and affections of his fellow-citizens. The fact that he seceded from the Congress when it embarked on a programme of non-co-operation and civil disobedience is an indication of his courage and independence of spirit. The same independence had been displayed by him when he went to England for study at the age of eighteen, and married a lady belonging to a different section of the Kayastha community. As founder and editor of the *Hindustan Review* for forty years, as Finance Member of the Executive Council of Bihar, as Vice-Chancellor of the University of Patna for three terms, as a Member of the Imperial Legislature and the Provincial Council, as President of the Bihar Legislative Council, and in numerous other capacities, his opportunities for acquiring experience and a knowledge of public life were uncommon.

I have read most of the speeches and writings included in this volume with equal profit and pleasure; and if one has to make a selection for the reader, one feels an *embarras de richesses*. I may, however, refer to his address on "Practicalism and Idealism," on "Indianisation and the Government of India", on "An Anglo-Indian Vision of Free India," and "On Law and Literature".

AGRICULTURE IN INDIA

BY MR. AMIRTRAJAH DHAIRYAM

THOUGH agriculture has for long remained modestly in the dim back ground, recent events and developments have dragged it very much into the lime light: the serious food situation in India and the Hot-springs Conference have contributed largely towards what, we hope might be, the rejuvenation of our national industry. Agriculture has been conducted in our country under very unsatisfactory conditions: the yield has consequently been lower than in other countries. Sir M. Visvesvaraya writes: "On the normal pre-war basis, the average productions of British India, including irrigated crops, cannot be more than twenty-five rupees per acre: in Japan it cannot be less than a hundred and fifty". This article is an all-too-brief survey of an old subject—agriculture and its progress in India: along with some of the causes for the low productivity of the soil and methods of increasing yield.

Hindu and Muhammadan laws of inheritance and the customs associated with them are the possible causes for the excessive subdivision and fragmentation of the land; the gradual breaking up of the joint family system probably has its share in the matter also. But whatever the causes, the resultant evils have unquestionably influenced the agricultural prosperity of the country. Sometime there is not enough land even to tax the strength of the typical agriculturist's simple equipment, which consist of little more than a pair of bullocks and a plough: the yield then is sufficient for little more than meeting expenses: the peasant, consequently, carries on work with the very minimum of capital. Under such conditions, the use of labour-saving devices, such as tractors, etc., are an impossibility. Co-operative societies, unions and efforts at joint cultivation are possible solutions. Legislation could also help to mitigate the difficulty: but until then the evil must remain a mill-stone round the neck of the progressive agriculturist.

The average Indian cultivator, though possessed of the sound practical experience of generations, is by no means a very efficient person. Steeped in superstition

and bounded on every side by tradition, he is in a state of social and mental stagnation. An uncertain climate has induced in him a tendency to rely too much on Providence and too little on himself. This psychology of the peasant can only be countered by a well-organised scheme of education—not education as we know it but one that infuses in him a truer appreciation of the better modes of living and farming and impresses on him the dignity and value of 'corporate labour'—relentlessly pursued. It is bound to be a difficult campaign and progress must of necessity be slow: but the fruits of victory will be well worth the labour expended.

Experts claim that the soil in India had been gradually deteriorating and that it has now reached the state of maximum exhaustion. Dr. Clouston in his "Memo-randum to the Agricultural Commission" says:

We may take it that with the exception of the limited area in this country, the soils of which are deficient in phosphates, old cultivated land has by long service reached its maximum state of impoverishment: that increased yields now depend upon the rainfall, standard of tillage and manure applied.

Whatever the state of the soil, fertilisers cannot but increase the productivity of the land and the possibility of more intensive cultivation: hence fertilisers must be made easily obtainable and within the range of the agriculturist's limited means. The unfortunate part about the whole thing is that our agriculturist does not fully realise the importance of the conservation of manure. Mr. F. L. Brayne, recognizing this need has done useful work in the Gurgaon districts of the Punjab. But a great deal more must needs be done. I cannot do better than quote Messrs. Jathar and Beri on the subject:

The Indian cultivator has much to learn from the Chinese and Japanese cultivators with regard to the manufacture of composts. In China there is no organic refuse of any kind which does not eventually find its way back, to the land as manure

which is what we should strive to achieve. The levying of export duties on oil-seeds is a controversial matter: but whatever the findings of the Agricultural or Fiscal Commissions, the importance of fertilisers

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and research work on soils and soil conditions cannot be gainsaid. Irrigation is another factor in agriculture, the advantages of which are too numerous to mention. Wells, tanks, canals and other irrigation works, irrigate an area of well over fifty million acres; whether they be productive or protective works their virtues cannot be sufficiently extolled. The canal colonies of Lyallpur, Shahpur and Montgomery in the Punjab are instances of the 'desert blooming as the rose' under the hand of man.

Agricultural departments in Provinces were started on the recommendation of the Famine Commission of 1880: but those departments did not prove to be of much use. Research laboratories and institutes being the hall-marks of progressive countries, Lord Curzon in his wisdom, started the Agricultural Research Institute at Pusa in 1904; and with it started a new era in Indian Agriculture. The Provincial departments were reorganised

and given full facilities for research. In the years that followed Agricultural Colleges were started all over the country: Muktesar, Bangalore, Wellington and other places. Experiments are now being carried out in research laboratories and farms on seeds, manures, better methods of cultivation and allied subjects. That the result is highly satisfactory is proved by the fact of the greatly enhanced value of crops on areas sown with the improved varieties. After all villagers are more impressed by visible proofs than by a lot of high sounding lectures. It is meet to conclude with a suggestion from Sir M. Visvesvaraya:

There should be permanent agricultural museums established in every city and large town and in a centrally situated village in a village group, which has a local organisation to promote the interests of agriculture. Such museums should maintain books and pamphlets giving descriptions of the latest agricultural practices, tools and machinery. They should also give demonstrations and hold annual agricultural exhibitions. This might, with advantage, be done in connection with local festivities by the co-operation of the efforts of the farmers and with the encouragement of the Government.

THE CREATIVE ART IN THE CHILD

BY MISS VALERIE VERSTIN

WHY do we cultivate the creative art in our children? One might say it is not necessary, they can pass their examinations without painting pictures, they only waste time with them and it keeps their minds away from their other studies. Moreover, very few of the children, if any at all, will become artists, and for the other professions picture-making is not of any value. So why on earth, you ask, do you let them make those pictures?

Creating brings joy. That can be understood by every one who has ever created anything. There is the same joy, whether you compose a song or a dance, a poem or a novel, whether you model a figure or do a painting. No one will ask: "Why do we need this joy; is it not enough to feel that we are doing our duty"? No, it is not enough. It is joy that makes life bright and colourful. Every piece of work that we have to do, we are able to do better when we are joyful. Art enriches life in many ways and the outlook

of somebody who cultivates the arts should be bright in every way.

Drawing gives an understanding about forms and explains how things are built. Drawing increases the intelligence, in training children to observe and understand. It stimulates the imagination and gives a sense of beauty which need not be limited to pictures. They will then try to bring a touch of beauty into all their surroundings, their class-rooms, their homes or wherever they may be.

The children draw from imagination. They should not be allowed to copy.

I have seen the art-rooms of many Indian schools. They are usually decorated with the complicated pictures of their drawing masters. The students have to copy them as exactly as possible, and if they fail in doing so, they are marked as without any feeling for art. When they get tired of copying and they create something out of themselves, the drawing teacher usually smiles at the primitiveness of their

expression and their unskilled work. He calls them hopeless. But in this he is quite wrong. Children are never hopeless but teachers are sometimes hopeless. How can one expect children to succeed in imaginative drawing, when one does not give them a chance of developing it?

But though this may be clear in our minds, we make many errors about it in practice. I am sure most of us smile graciously when we look at the drawing of a kindergarten child. Even when we don't want to discourage it, we say consolingly: "You did not do it so very well, but of course, how could you? You are only four years, but when you will be a grownup, you will do it properly!"

This patronising attitude towards the child's production is fundamentally wrong. Naturally, the child will be able to express himself differently at a later age and it would be very absurd if that were not to be so.

But each age has its completeness in itself and each stage of the imaginative drawing is complete and can be perfect.

To understand the child's expression in his drawings and paintings requires a lot of psychology. The great outlines, as well as each detail, have a meaning and a deep connection with the individual. There is nothing that is without significance.

The pictures of a child are as revealing as his handwriting. They give us an insight into his feelings and the working of his mind, even of his sub-conscious mind. One should look at it with the full understanding of a grownup, but with spectacles of a child.

Then those drawings will surprise you by the richness of their imagination, their many glowing colours, their strange but often attractive composition and last but not least by their originality.

Take the work of our so-called artists in general. How little originality it shows! It is all too often the product of the study of contemporary artists or of those who have gone before. How little it expresses of the artist himself! Of course, he possesses a more or less adequate technique which covers to a certain extent the poverty of his creation.

When you understand a child's drawing, you will be able to discover many slumbering talents which need to be brought to life. You will recognise wonderful beginnings of his personality—exactly what you miss in most of the pictures of the so-called artists.

Let the children draw free and don't hinder them in their own expression! Now, some of you might ask: when you let the children draw as they like, why do they need a drawing-teacher at all and what is his part in the drawing lessons? Has he just to sit in an easy chair and watch his creative children and admire whatever they do?

Certainly not! He has to see first that they go on right lines. They need a lot of explanation if they are to understand the meaning of shapes in the things they draw.

Motor cars and ships have to be shaped in a certain way to move quickly; the trunk of the tree must be thicker than the branches in order to carry them; vessels, bowls, cups and every article of use has its meaning in form. There is a reason for the different forms of different animals and for each part of the human body too. There is a reason behind everything and when the child asks, "Why is it shaped like that," we should be able to tell him.

The foundation of our drawing is knowledge of these things and the rest is an artistic feeling which helps us to present our subject in an original and interesting way.

The teacher has to show many possibilities of composition and of colour effects and has to demonstrate various kinds of technique. He has to teach the child to observe and to simplify. This opens the mind greatly and improves the whole standard of intelligence. It is interesting to look at various steps and to know that the children worked them out, bit by bit. Yet the result is not the most important thing about it.

The most important thing is the happiness that is growing in those children as they do those pictures, and the greatest happiness is the joy of creation.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

GANDHI AGAINST FASCISM. Edited by Jag Parvosh Chander. Free India Publications, The Mall, Lahore. Rs. 2.

That Gandhi and the Congress have been totally against the Axis powers, even before the war, is a common-place of Indian politics. Even at the time when Chamberlain was trying to appease the Fuehrer and Sir Samuel Hoare was plotting with Laval to appease the Duce, Congress under the influence of Nehru stood four square against the surrender. And yet the enemies of the Congress did not scruple to call Gandhi a "quisling". This collection of articles and paragraphs culled from the *Harijan* is proof eloquent of the consistent position taken up by Gandhi and the Congress against the Totalitarian States, even from the time when the leaders of the so-called democracies were fraternising with the dictators. In the words of the editor, a perusal of this exhaustive collection would make it clear as day light

that Gandhi has all along opposed Fascism as a creed, condemned Japanese aggression in China, wept over the rape of Abyssinia, chastised Hitler for the annexation of Czecho-Slovakia and criticised the policy of appeasement followed by the democracies which has resulted in letting loose the forces of perfidy, cruelty and rapine.

THE QUEST AND THE FIND. By Wanderer. Published by N. Dey. Namkum, Ranchi. As. 12.

The Quest and the Find is a mystic play based on a number of devotional Bengali songs sung in praise of Sri Krishna by his ardent *bhaktas*. The central theme of the play is the mystic love of the Lord after the model of Radha. The Radha-Krishna cult is much misunderstood in our days. Students of the Bhagavata point out with conclusive evidence that the love of the *gopis* was not of the flesh. It is *prema* and not *kama*, i.e., it is love and not lust. The English rendering is flowing and readable. The Bengali text is given at the end of the book.

THE METAPHYSICS OF VALUE. By K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar, M.A., University of Mysore. Rs. 5.

In this well-thought-out and well-written book, Mr. Srinivasa Iyengar sets forth an attractive theory of value. Normatics—the name which he gives for the science of value—should no more be identified with ethics than with economics. Its concern is not with particular goods, but with human well-being as such. The norms or standards with which Normatics deals have a subjective origin and an objective application. In the course of experience several values arise as emergent properties of objects. They are created by desire out of the objects. Since these values are related to ends, they are always relative in character. Spirit alone has intrinsic worth. The values are all instrumental. The main types of value are (1) organic, (2) hedonic, (3) recreative, (4) economic, (5) personal, (6) social, (7) intellectual, (8) æsthetic, and (9) moral. In the second part of the book, the emergence of these values and their nature and place in human experience are elaborately described.

SELECTED SPEECHES AND ADDRESSES OF SACHIVOTTAMA SIR C. P. RAMASWAMI AIYAR. Edited by P. G. Sahasranama Aiyar. (The Superintendent, Government Press, Trivandrum.) Rs. 2.

This is a collection of speeches delivered by Sir C. P. on different occasions. Through all his busy life as lawyer, politician and administrator, Sir C. P. has not neglected the companionship of good books and great thoughts. The editor has done well to eschew the more ephemeral and polemical topics, and confined himself to subjects of wider and more permanent interest like literature and the arts. The selected speeches reveal Sir C. P.'s versatile interests and tastes.

The sale proceeds of this book, as of some other books by the same author, go to the Vanchi Poor Fund, Trivandrum.

KAYATARAM. Edited by Rao Sahib S. Vaiyapuri Pillai, B.A., B.L., Reader in Tamil. (Bulletin of Tamil Department, No. 4. University of Madras.)

This is an important metrical lexicon in Tamil, written by one Kayatarar of Rameswaram, who is attributed to the middle of the 15th century. It closely follows and throws much light on, the text of the Divakaram, the earliest of the Tamil lexicons, which is its model in the treatment of synonyms. The date of the work has been fixed by the editor from the point of view of the development of lexicographical method in Tamil. The editor has obtained and worked on three manuscripts of the work, one of which is complete containing all the eleven sections. He has given us the text of the verses and an index of the first words of each verse and of the matter contained in the different sections. He tells us that the words contained in the work would form a good contemporary guide to the vocabulary of the 15th and 16th centuries.

BOOKS RECEIVED

FABIAN SOCIALISM. By G. D. H. Cole. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., London.

THE NIGHT IS HEAVY. By Krishan Shungloo. Free India Publications, Lahore.

SOVIET STUDIES. By Ela Sen and Alex M. Reid. Thacker Sprink & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

FOOD POLICY IN INDIA. By P. N. Singh Roy, O.R.E., British Indian Association, Calcutta.

AN ATLAS OF THE U.S.A. 19 Maps with explanatory text by Jasper H. Stenbridge, Oxford Pamphlets, Oxford University Press, Bombay.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE MARWARI CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR THE YEAR 1941. Published by K. L. Dhandhanai, Hon. Secy. M. C. of C. 143, Cotton St., Calcutta.

REPORT ON THE CO-OPERATIVE MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE IN INDIA. Manager of Publications, Delhi. Re. 1-4.

BHAJANON KI KITAB. By P. C. Banerji, Rd., Assistant Master, Ambala Road, Saharanpur.

FINANCIAL BURDEN OF THE WAR ON INDIA. By C. N. Vakil, University Professor of Economics, Bombay. Rs. 4.

WHY EXHIBIT WORKS OF ART. By Ananda K. Coomaraswamy. Luzac & Co., London.

MY MISSION; AND THE MESSAGE OF HARANATH. Published by the Haranath Mission, 361, Hornby Road, Bombay. As. 6 each.

These two attractive brochures issued by the Haranath Mission set out in simple and direct language the main tenets of Thakur Sri Haranath Bannerji, a great saint and philosopher, who has had a profound influence on his disciples and people he came into contact with. He was popularly known as Pagal Haranath or mad Haranath. But his was the madness of ecstasy. "My Mission" gives in the form of sutras or aphorisms, and "the message of Haranath" in the form of letters addressed to disciples, the doctrine of Universal Love and Selfless Service, of the efficacy of Faith and Nama Japa of the Lord, of the supreme value of pure thoughts and of the necessary discipline of life in the grihasthasrama for all people as taught by the guru. The pamphlets will be much appreciated as aids to meditation.

REPORT ON THE MARKETING OF CITRUS FRUITS IN INDIA. Manager of Publications, Delhi. Re. 1-4.

(1) "Large-scale Industries in India", As. 4; and (2) "Iron and Steel Industry in India", As. 8. All India Manufacturers Organisation, Bombay. The first monograph contains a statistical table with an explanatory note while the second one, an introduction by Sir M. Visvesvaraya, President of the Organization.

CRIME AND CRIMINAL JUSTICE. By Abul Hasanat Superintendent of Police, Khulna, Bengal. (Foreword by Sir Hari Singh Gour, M.A., D.Litt., D.C.L., LL.D.)

THE ABORIGINALS. By Verrier Elwin. Oxford Pamphlet, Oxford University Press, Bombay.

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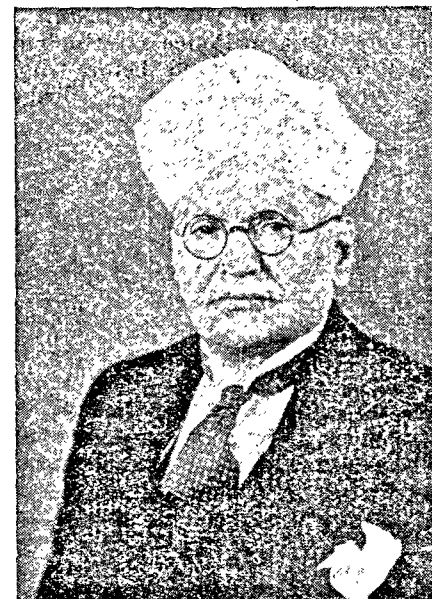
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INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Mr. G. A. Natesan's 71st Birthday

ON September 2, according to the Hindu calendar, the Editor of this *Review* completes the Psalmist's three score years and ten. Seven decades may be a small chunk in the life of a nation but is certainly big enough in a man's life. And



MR. G. A. NATESAN

Mr. Natesan has filled these 70 years with a record of active and useful work of which he can look back with pride and thankfulness. Apart from anything else, to have conducted a journal like the *Indian Review* uninterruptedly for 48 years is no small achievement in this land of infant mortality, where journals like men come to an abrupt and premature end. In all the changes and chances of a life of varied activities, Mr. Natesan has kept his gaze steadily on the principal pursuit of his life. This concentrated effort, without any frittering of energies, is of the essence of success in any enterprise. It is a tribute to his single-minded devotion to the cause he made his own that amidst all the distractions of a career of diverse possibilities he stuck to his call with a

firmness and fidelity which the years have abundantly justified. For fifty years he has been a publisher of national literature on which generations of men and women have drunk deep. And it must be no small consolation that in the evening of his life he could look back upon a series of classics, the publication of which has been a source of delight to him and an inspiration to successive generations. For his Gita, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Bhagavata and the other sacred scriptures he has edited will remain a lasting tribute not only to his enterprise but to his sound judgment and genuine taste in classical literature. We wish him all the autumnal felicity which his exertions have earned for him and pray for many more returns of the day.

Lord Linlithgow's Farewell Address

Lord Linlithgow's Farewell Address to the Central Legislature is a depressing performance. In the nature of the case, it cannot but be a review of his tenure of Viceroyalty and inevitably a laboured defence of his policy. But anyone can see that throughout that long lamenting speech runs like a thread a wearisome note of complaint and a consciousness of failure too pronounced to be missed.

His Excellency cannot, of course, be expected to review the results of his administration, with a mind detached from the accident of his office but there is no mistaking the fact that never before has the gulf between Britain and India been wider than during his regime. It may be, as he claims, that he had done his bit to cement the relations between the two countries closer, but then that bit must be disappointingly meagre. For, judged by the results, the situation as we find it to-day on the eve of his departure is much worse than ever before.

There is still the same old reiteration that lack of agreement in India, and not Britain's unwillingness to part with power, is the one obstacle in the way of full-fledged freedom for India. And then the periodical expansion of the Executive Council is

described with apparent gusto as constituting changes of great significance and far-reaching importance. Only the wearer knows where the shoe pinches and all India has a different tale to tell. The Viceroy complains that

while one endeavour after another by His Majesty's Government to find a solution fair to all parties and communities and acceptable to India as a whole has been rejected by one party or the other, not one such practicable alternative proposal has been put forward by any one in this country.

So the onus of discovering a basis of agreement is thrown on the parties, while the principal parties to the agreement are denied the freedom to consult one another—with so many of the Congress leaders still in prison with no opportunity to contact persons and parties disposed to such agreement. The Viceroy managed to review his term of office

without so much as mentioning that Mr. Gandhi and the Congress chiefs are in prison, that they are forbidden to receive visits from leaders outside, that Mr. Gandhi himself is forbidden to write letters to these leaders.

In fact, as the *News Chronicle* reminds us, anyone reading this speech, who was not conversant with the situation in India, would assume that the people of India were not interested in their political future and required prodding by Government.

Surely, to suggest that the problem of India's future can never be resolved by pretending that Mr. Gandhi and the Congress simply do not exist is to be wilfully blind to realities. Unless some new approach can be found the post-war situation in India can only be viewed with grave misgiving. We are in effect sitting on a safety valve. When sooner or later, the political elements in India explode, we shall have only ourselves to blame. For the Government of India is at present a virtual dictatorship for which we cannot disclaim responsibility.

The Viceroy and the Indian Press

In his address to the Central Legislature, the Viceroy paid a tribute to the Indian press—a tribute which sounds cynical in the light of his own actions against the freedom of the fourth Estate. He said he was

deeply grateful to this great institution for its fairness, its eager anxiety to serve the public, its concern to observe, and if possible to improve the best traditions of journalism.

And what is the reward for all its "fairness" and "eager anxiety to serve the

public"? Ordinances galore and vexatious restrictions! No doubt an agreement was made—a gentleman's agreement between the Government and the all-India Newspaper Editors' Conference—whereby the Government agreed to drop pre-censorship in favour of the editors themselves exercising due restraint. That agreement has been evident more in the breach than in its observance. And what is one to say of the extraordinary manner in which the office of the *Hindustan Times* was raided by the Police on the morning of the 9th August, even before the echo of the Viceregal utterance had died down.

At four o'clock in the morning, that is, when the copies were on the point of being sent out for distribution, a police party belonging to the Delhi C.I.D. visited the offices of the newspaper armed with an order of the Chief Commissioner authorising them "to seize all copies of the issue of the *Hindustan Times* newspaper bearing the date August 9, 1943, and detain the same for such time as may be necessary" for examination of the contents of the issue by the Chief Commissioner. They executed the order and left, taking with them a few copies. Half an hour later the issue was released for circulation, presumably because, on examination, the contents of the issue in question were not found to contain any "prejudicial" matter.

What a sad commentary on the Viceroy's professed respect for "that hard working body of intelligent and able men by whom India is so well served in the press"! Words. Words. Words. It seems very strange indeed that when a motion for adjournment came up before the Central Legislature the House was denied even the opportunity to discuss this "unusual action" on the part of the Executive.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyer's Munificence

In addition to the many munificent donations which Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyer, K.C.S.I., has been making not only to the Travancore University but to the Madras University and the Pachayappa's College and other educational institutions, we are glad to record that he has set apart a sum of Rs. 35,000 for the constitution of a fund for the relief of distressed members of the Bar. This is quite a well-thought-out charity, and we sincerely hope that many other affluent members of the Bar will follow Sir C. P.'s illustrious example.

India and the Peace Conference

The war is still on—and the question of the personnel of an Indian delegation to the Peace Conference is rather a remote affair. As things stand, with the Government of India under the leading strings of a British Secretary of State in London, there is little likelihood of a truly representative Indian being called to participate in the Peace Conference, if past experience is any guide in such matters. And yet it is pathetically amusing to see Sir Chimanlal seriously contesting the Rt. Hon. Sastri's harmless suggestion, that Gandhi as the apostle of Ahimsa, and a world figure of undisputed eminence is most fitted to represent this country at the peace table. In a communication to the press, Mr. Arthur Moore has said: "It should now be clearly evident—India cannot be truly represented by mere nominees of some London Secretary of State." To whom then, asks Mr. Sastri,

can this high task be entrusted with greater confidence than to the man who owns nothing and wants nothing, who loves all mankind as his own family, who sees the truth clearly and pursues it unflinchingly, who fears his God only, and whom no earthly potentate can buy, bully or cajole? The attainment of universal peace, universal brotherhood and universal love is peculiarly his work, the mission of his life, and when it is taking shape, where should he be but right in the midst of it? If the Government will depute him, well and good, and all honour to them. If they won't, he must still be on the spot. The good men will seek him out and listen to him.

The Treatment of Politicals

The Central Assembly rejected by a narrow margin Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari's resolution regarding the treatment of politicals. Speaker after speaker condemned the treatment meted out to persons who had been detained without trial and who had been denied any opportunity to vindicate their innocence. What the resolution demanded was that the members of the Central Legislature should be allowed to interview the political prisoners, so that the attention of the Central and Provincial Governments might be drawn to the restrictions and other inconveniences imposed on the prisoners. Nothing could have been lost by accepting this modest proposal. Neither war effort nor the prestige of the Government would have

suffered thereby. Even the spokesman of the League told the Home Member bluntly that

in the case of a Government like the present one whose policy and control is foreign, though its composition may be Swadeshi, it is necessary for a Government of this kind not to ignore the opinion and feeling of the people of this country.

And yet the Home Member thought fit to turn it down on the plea that he would be poaching on the preserve of the Provinces. Strange plea in the light of the revelations made by Allah Bux, among the dead and Fazlul Huq among the living Premiers of Provinces!

It is not surprising that a House which was more than half empty, armed with a solid official block, was able to score by a narrow majority of three. And the voting was significant. Of the three, two Europeans stood neutral. Thus though the motion was negatived, the moral victory lay with the movers.

Mr. Amery's Defence

Mr. Amery is surpassing himself. Asked in the Commons to explain the nature of the correspondence between Gandhiji and the Government of India, he declared pontifically that the Government of India had decided that "in view of the circumstances of his arrest, 'Gandhiji' should not be afforded any opportunity of expressing or conveying his views to the public either in India or in this country". "How can anyone in this country", asked Mr. Sorensen, know what particular views Mr. Gandhi has regarding the present situation?" To this Mr. Amery gave answer: "It is not desirable that they should." This is strange answer to give the House of Commons, considered to be the custodian of the people's rights. Since when have Mr. Gandhi's views become so explosive? Apparently they were not so, when on the eve of his Fast, the full correspondence on the subject of the arrest was released. Evidently the effect of the publication has not been favourable to the Government. And Mr. Amery smarts under the sting of unfavourable comment on the mishandling of the Indian situation.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

End of Sicilian Campaign

ALL Sicily is in Allied hands. On the 39th day after the first Allied troops landed on Sicily, Messina fell, and the campaign has been brought to a victorious conclusion.

The battle for Sicily, the largest of the Mediterranean islands, has been won by the British 8th and U.S. 7th Armies under the brilliant leadership of Gen. Eisenhower, ably supported by Gen. Alexander and Gen. Montgomery.

A glance at the map of Europe shows the great strategic importance of Sicily in the large-scale amphibious operations which Premier Churchill has forecast against the Axis. Sicily is separated from the Italian mainland by the Straits of Messina which, at their narrowest, are only some two miles wide; and history, from the times of the second Punic War, has proved that the Power which controls Sicily will have easier access to the Italian mainland if it also dominates the North African shores. The stage is now set for the battle of Italy.

Rome declared an Open City

The proclamation of Rome as an open city has been made by Marshal Badoglio after prolonged pressure by the Holy See to bring this about. The Pope, in his statement, after the first bombing of Rome alluded to appeals which he had made to both sides to obtain that Rome should be immune from warfare. The Vatican subsequently rebuked the Germans for claiming that the Pope held the Allies as solely responsible for the damage done to Rome.

The German Overseas News Service, commenting on the declaration of Rome as an open city, said that it was now apparent that the Pope's activities were limited to passing on to the Allies the desire of the Italian Government. It added that the most important departments of the Italian Ministries left Rome a considerable time ago and so did the Italian High Command. The Germans never had headquarters or barracks in Rome.

Quebec Conference

Commanders are believed to have been appointed by Mr. Churchill and President Roosevelt for "several offensives" in the European theatre. This was stated authoritatively in the first detailed account of the military implications of the Quebec Conference.

General Eisenhower will "probably" be designated head of the United Nations forces attacking through the Balkans. Under present plans "Englishmen" have been appointed to take charge of invasion through France and (or) the Low Countries.

While these plans are naturally subject to revision should the military situation change, it is stated Allied offensives "will certainly satisfy Marshal Stalin's repeated demands for a second front".

In an assault on France or the Low Countries, it is expected that the following will be used: Firstly, air-borne forces in great numbers; secondly, a tremendous softening up of the coastal defences by bombardment; thirdly, an army of at least two million assault troops carried in a thousand transports.

French National Committee

It is officially announced that the British Government has recognised the French Committee of National Liberation.

President Roosevelt, on August 27 announced conditional American recognition of the French Committee "subject to the military requirements of the Allied commanders."

The Canadian Government granted qualified recognition to the Committee.

Russia, China and Brazil have also recognised the Committee.

Labour's Victory in Australia

A tremendous swingover to the Labour (Government) Party giving the Prime Minister Mr. John Curtin a clear majority in the next parliament, is assured in the returns of the General Elections in Australia. Labour has gained a majority of almost 2 to 1 both in the House of Representatives and in the Senate.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



CHINESE MUSLIMS AND PAKISTAN

A written appeal, addressed to Mr. Mohammed Ali Jinnah, President of the Indian Muslim League, urging him to co-operate with the Indian National Congress, was drafted to be signed by General Omar Pai Chung-hsi China's No. 1, Muhammadan General and Deputy-Chief-of-Staff of the Chinese Army, in his capacity as President of the Chinese Islamic National Salvation Federation, representing all the Chinese Muslims. This decision, says Mr. John Kin in *Asia*, followed shortly upon a request made by fifty-five Americans that President Roosevelt and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek "should use their good offices to ask the British Government and National Congress of India and other leaders to open new conferences with mutual determination to find a way of action most speedily to bring India into the ranks of our Allies by beginning now a programme of her independence". The crux of the matter lies in the separationist policy known as Pakistan supported by the Muslim League.

General Pai Chung-hsi, in communicating the President of the Indian Muslim League, would naturally take every care not to commit himself to any open criticism of 'Pakistan'. But it would be insulting Mr. Jinnah's intelligence to assume that he could fail to read between the lines the obvious Chinese disapproval of that idea. General Pai has on numerous occasions emphasised the idea that the Chinese Muslims are part and parcel of China—neither a distinct racial unit, nor even a political party, but a religious and cultural group with much to contribute to the general welfare. In politics, they believe in the Three People's Principles, underlying Chinese democracy just like the rest of the Chinese people. The Chinese Islamic National Salvation Federation has as its two-fold objective the salvation of the nation and the propagation of Islam, but for the present the nation comes first. There can be no religious freedom to speak of when the freedom of the nation is not assured. In fact the policy of the Federation, as General Pai conceives it, is diametrically opposed to that of the Indian Muslim League.

The Federation's decision to appeal for co-operation between the Indian Muslim League and the National Congress was reached after considerable discussion, culminating in a meeting at which the recently-recalled Indian Agent-General, Sir Zafrulla

Khan, was present by special invitation. This gave him one of his opportunities "to learn the mind of China and at the same time to interpret to China the mind of India", as he stated in a farewell message issued on the eve of his departure.

While interpreting the mind of India at that gathering of Chinese Muhammadan leaders, Sir Zafrulla revealed himself as a strong advocate of "Pakistan". He was at once bombarded with questions.

One of these questions pointed sharply to the sheer infeasibility of the idea of a separate Muslim State in India. Out of all the provinces in India, it was pointed out, the only two in which Muslims constitute the majorities are Bengal and the Punjab. Of the inhabitants of Bengal Province 27,810,000 or 54.44 per cent. are Muhammadans and 22,212,069 are Hindus. In the Punjab one-half of the total population of 24,187,750 are Muhammadans. These two provinces are separated by many States and Provinces in which the Muslims are definite minorities. The "Pakistan" idea, all considerations of its religious and political justification quite aside, thus seems impracticable.

THE IRISH PARALLEL

Apropos the present political situation in India, Mr. Frank Colebrook, an octogenarian, who was the House of Commons Press Gallery Reporter in 1884, has written a letter to the *Manchester Guardian* in the course of which he says: "Like Dickens Podsnap Linlithgow puts aside any problem he fails to solve or understand, whereupon he expects the problem to vanish."

Mr. Colebrook refers to Gladstone's action in the early eighties and says:

Then in the zenith of his power, Gladstone was confronted by outrages in Ireland (assaults on bailiffs, burning of property, cattle-maiming and the like). He clapped Parnell and some other nationalist leaders into the Kilmainham gaol. But although a sort of guerilla war was in progress, Gladstone looked for and fostered any sign of a more pliable mood on the part of these political prisoners; and in a few months he released them. Nothing that followed gave cause for regret. The policy thereby exemplified, received sincere tribute and imitation at the hands of Lord Salisbury, the Tory leader, and Lord Carnarvon who had become his representative in Ireland. Lord Carnarvon met Mr. Parnell in what was otherwise an empty house. They talked matters over and came to some understanding.

Mr. Colebrook adds: History never exactly repeats itself. But it has pointers for remembering and reflecting minds.

FREEDOM FOR INDIA

India occupies the most strategic position on the continent of Asia in our war against Japan, writes Sirdar J. J. Singh in the American Magazine *Pic*. On its eastern border lies Burma and next to Burma is China. And from the Chinese coast at many points,

Japan lies at easy bombing distance. In short, if we could occupy this Chinese coast line, then bombers could shuttle to and fro and blast the islands of Japan into smithereens.

It is being generally conceded that it would be very costly in time and in money and in the lives of American boys if we were to try and reach Japan by jumping from island to island.

Therefore, it is being realized that probably the best way to reach the heart of Japan will be to get close to it by land. Excepting Russia, the only other adjacent territory is the Chinese coast line. And the only way to reach that Chinese coast line near Japan would be to launch an offensive from India into Burma, and after driving the Japanese out of Burma, to go into Eastern China and join hands with the forces of General Chiang Kai-shek. In short, the only possible and feasible way to reach and attack the very heart of Japan is to use this contiguous territory—India—Burma—China.

And it is at this point that the importance of India in this war begins to loom large. In the writer's judgment, one of the reasons that the United Nations are not launching an all-out offensive against Burma is due to the political deadlock in India. How can we attack Burma or expect co-operation from the Burmese?

When Japan attacked Burma, the Burmese sided with the Japanese against the British and fifth columnists were rampant all over Burma. Food-stocks were stolen or removed, wells were poisoned so that British troops might not get food or water. The debacle in Burma and the hell of a beating that Allied troops got was due more to help rendered by Burmese to Japanese than to any Japanese superior military qualities or achievements.

Tojo of Japan has just announced that they are going to give complete freedom to Burma and that Burma will be a free country. However, information that has leaked out of Burma would indicate that many Burmese are not satisfied with the *bona fides* of the Japanese, or the treatment accorded to them by the Japanese. But what have we offered the Burmese, asks Mr. Singh.

Isn't the choice before the Burmese the same, to be ruled by either the British or the Japanese?

Now, if Britain could proclaim that India will be a completely free country after the war to form her own constitution and to be the master of her destiny, and the popular Indian leaders

are immediately released and a coalition government of all parties and persons who command the love, affection and respect of the Indian people is formed then the present deadlock would be broken. Then let the Indian troops form the spearhead of the attack on Burma and let the Indians tell the Burmese: "Look! We are free people now, and we have come to help you attain your freedom. Britain has given us our freedom, so you can trust British promises now." I would wager anything that under these conditions the Burmese would turn against the Japanese and would join the Allies in driving out the Japanese from Burma.

Such a step would have moral ramifications not only in Burma, but throughout Asia. It would galvanize the people of Asia, more than a billion of them. It would create faith in the hearts of the people of Iraq, Iran, Malaya, Siam, Java and give renewed strength to our brave Allies, the Chinese.

Will Britain perform this belated act of justice to India in the name of freedom? If she does, her leaders will go down in history as great men who raised England's moral stature in the eyes of the whole world. Such a step will destroy the effects of the Japanese slogan, 'Asia for the Asiatics', which truly means 'Asia for the Japanese.' By this one stroke, Japan's fate can be sealed and quick victory assured for the United Nations and a free India.

THE FOOD PROBLEM IN INDIA

The *Economist*, in the course of an article, points out that the centre of gravity in Indian affairs has shifted, for the moment from war and politics to economics. It says:

Rightly or wrongly the danger of a Japanese attack is now taken to have been removed. Mobilisation of the Allied offensive is steadily proceeding: but there is no sign yet—that the crucial campaign for the recapture of Burma is likely to be opened at any very early date. Politics are held in abeyance... In these circumstances, inflation and food supplies are the reigning considerations.

Discussing the food situation in Calcutta and the political lull in India, the paper adds:

It would be very shortsighted to regard this extremely disturbing state of affairs as having no political significance. Attempts made so far to pool food supplies over very large areas and bring all the foodgrains into the pool—which is obviously the right policy—has been very much impeded by provincial and local reluctance and by the absence of an overriding central authority. Expediency as well as justice and humanity demand that nothing should be left undone in India or elsewhere to increase the supplies of food available and guarantee its prompt distribution to those in want. Authority must be asserted with the utmost dispatch.

SETTLEMENT IN INDIA

In the current issue of the *World Review*, Mr. Bertrand Russel and Mrs. Russel, writing on the "International significance of the Indian problem," refer to the alleged pacifist sentiment of the Congress and dangers of the concession of independence during war-time. They too repeat the usual story so common in Tory comments on India.

If the English were to withdraw, the war effort of the Hindus and Muslims might well be directed against each other and not against the Japanese. Clearly the belligerents are entitled to do what is necessary to prevent a social convulsion which may lead to their defeat....

Answering the question, "What then should be done?" they say:

Four Commissioners representing Britain, America, Russia and China should go out to India to resume negotiations on the understanding that so long as they continue there will be no civil disobedience and the present political prisoners will be released. With regard to the war period the purpose of the negotiators should be to discover what is the utmost that can be done immediately in the way of handing over administrative power to Indians without risk of administrative chaos.... We do not know what recommendations they will find possible but in any case, Indians and Americans will know that their finding will be dictated solely by military needs and not by any wish to preserve British Imperialism. At least one good result may be expected—there will be great diminution in the suspicion of Great Britain which at present exists in the United States."

They go on to add that the long run solution of the Indian problem cannot be settled merely by saying that the British must go.

It will be necessary to discover some political organisation which the various parties will accept and majority rule "will not do". The proposed international commission "will have to state bluntly that until Indians can agree to obey peaceably to some system of self-government the leading groups, assisted by the United Nations (not merely British), will remain to preserve order. If this is known to be the fixed policy of the United Nations, it is possible the Indian parties would reach an agreement: if not for some time, India must submit to external control, not by Britain but by an international authority.

Declaring that the principle of absolute national independence is anarchic, the Russells conclude:

India should, therefore, be free after the war if it can abstain from civil war. If not, such a degree of international control as is necessary to preserve order must continue until it is no longer required for that purpose.

PRESS AND WAR

The tremendous work that newspaper men are doing on the battlefronts, though many of them are blown up by bombs and shells, is described by "Pallas" in *John Bull*. I have always felt, he says, that the Press, usually so frank and outspoken about other subjects, is painfully modest about the men who keep busy radio and cable communications between the battlefronts and Fleet Street.

These newspaper men share the hardships of the troops.

They don't carry weapons. You'll find them in front-line dugouts, in warships protecting sorely tried convoys, in bombers strafing enemy targets, in planes engaged on U-boat hunts, in beleaguered garrisons.

They don't want praise—don't get it, unless it's a private telegram of thanks from an editor for a job well done.

It is a job. But it's a job which has none of the compensations that are the fighting man's—the ability to hit back, the chance to forget "nerves" in the task of manning guns and dropping bombs and firing torpedoes.

Correspondents are harassed by the censors. They have all manner of problems to solve. But they never forget their duty—that to their newspapers and their readers. But they do have the satisfaction of getting their names over their stories.

And that, believe me, is the highest praise an editor or a newspaper can bestow on one of its staff.

And there is the added knowledge that the pen and the film camera are mighty weapons in this global war.

Perhaps, after all, that inner satisfaction that comes of a job well done is the best reward of all.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

INDIA'S MILITARY DECLINE IN THE 18TH CENTURY. By Sir Jadunath Sarkar. [The Modern Review, August 1943]

SMALL INDUSTRIES OF BENGAL. By D. N. Ghose, [Current Thought, July-September 1943].

UNTOUCHABILITY THROUGH SANSKRIT EYES. By B. Bhattacharya. [The Aryan Path, August 1943].

A VISION OF INDIA'S FUTURE EDUCATION. By Lahar Singh Mehta. [The 20th Century, August 1943].

A HISTORICAL SURVEY OF BEGGAR RELIEF IN INDIA. By M. Vasudeva Moorthy. [The Indian Journal of Social Work, June 1943].

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- Aug. 1. Three islands off Sicily surrender.
—Mr. Savarkar resigns presidentship of Hindu Mahasabha.
- Aug. 2. Chinese President, Dr. Lin Sen, is dead.
—The Viceroy addressing the Central Legislature, reviews his period of office.
- Aug. 3. Southern Army Chief—Lieutenant General Sir Noel Beresford Peirse—meets pressmen in Madras.
—Hamburg pounded by R. A. F.
- Aug. 4. Council of State condemns Pegging Act.
—Russians break into Orel.
- Aug. 5. Byelgorod falls.
—Allies occupy Catania.
- Aug. 6. One hundred representative British signatories appeal to Premier, Viceroy and others to end the deadlock.
- Aug. 7. Mr. Sastri, speaking at Willingdon College, says that Gandhi alone can speak for India at the Peace Table.
- Aug. 8. Allies capture Adrona in Sicily.
—Russians thrust into the Ukraine.
—Police raid *Hindustan Times* office.
- Aug. 9. India League meeting in London demands release of Gandhi and Congress leaders.
- Aug. 10. Mr. Churchill arrives in Canada.
—Sir J. P. Srivastava becomes member in charge of Food.
—Reciprocity Act Amendment Bill is passed in the Council of State.
- Aug. 11. Field-Marshal Smuts declines to receive Indian Congress deputation.
- Aug. 12. Mr. Churchill in U.S.A.
—Elders criticise Government's food policy.
- Aug. 13. Mr. C. D. Deshmukh is appointed Governor of the Reserve Bank.
—Order under Defence Rule prohibits loan on security of foodgrains.

- Aug. 14. Rome declared an open city.
—Germans retreat to Meesina.
- Aug. 15. Akyab raided by R.A.F.
—Anglo-American talks in Quebec.
- Aug. 16. Paris and Berlin bombed.
—Jap installation in Andamans raided.
- Aug. 17. Allies take Vella Lavella island in the Pacific.
—Axis quit Sicily.
- Aug. 18. H.E. the Viceroy visits Madras.
—Mr. Roosevelt in Quebec.
- Aug. 19. Mr. Aney, speaking at Madras, says Government will vindicate honour of Nationals overseas.
- Aug. 20. Military objectives in Germany, including the Rush, Hamburg and Berlin bombed by R. A. F.
- Aug. 21. Japan's treaty with Siam.
—Hoare-Franco talks.
- Aug. 22. M. Litvinov, Soviet Ambassador in Washington, is relieved.
- Aug. 23. Allied invasion plans decided in Quebec Conference.
- Aug. 24. In the *News Chronicle*, C.R. suggests that Cripps must visit India again.
- Aug. 25. Churchill-Roosevelt statement on Quebec decisions.
—Reported resignation of Mr. Sumner Welles.
- Aug. 26. Lord Louis Mountbatten is appointed Supreme Allied Commander in South-East Asia.
- Aug. 27. Hoare-Franco talk *re.* British grievances explained.
—French National Committee recognised by the Allies.
- Aug. 28. Bernard Shaw's advice to Indians to fight their own battles.
- Aug. 29. Nazis arrest King, Queen and Crown Prince of Denmark.
—Germans proclaim martial law in Denmark.
- Aug. 30. Sir Shafaat Khan, Indian High Commissioner in South Africa, announces that Government of India recognise the Natal Indian Congress.
- Aug. 31. Federal Court holds Ordinances valid.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

NIZAM'S STATE RAILWAY BUDGET

The Nizam's State Railway Budget for 1943-44 estimates the gross earnings at Rs. 396 lakhs compared with Rs. 421 lakhs (forecast for 1942-43) and with Rs. 258 lakhs actuals for 1938-39 before the war. Col. Slaughter, Managing Director of the State Railway, explaining the budget at a press conference, said that the figures for this year were conservative and that the trend of the earnings had shown marked improvement. Col. Slaughter also referred to the question of transport after the war and said Hyderabad, for instance, would like to run an air-line from Madras to Delhi via Mysore and Hyderabad.

Col. Slaughter further disclosed that the railway was spending Rs. 40,000 a month in providing foodgrains to its employees. Any increase in the price of foodgrains over the prices prevailing last February was being borne by the railway.

MORE JUDGES

Mr. Hussain Ahmed Baig, Mr. Sripat Rao and Mr. Qamer Hasan, three newly appointed Judges of the Hyderabad High Court, were sworn in last month by the President of the Nizam's Executive Council, the Nawab of Chhatari. Owing to increase in work in the High Court and the necessity of expeditious disposal of cases, H. E. H. the Nizam created two more seats on the Bench.

EXAMINATION CENTRE

The authorities of the Muslim University, Aligarh, in co-operation with the authorities of the Osmania University, have agreed to open a centre in Hyderabad for girls only, for their High School Leaving Certificate Examinations.

RAJA DHARAMKARAN

H. E. H. the Nizam has granted an extension of two years in service to Raja Dharamkaran Bahadur, Member, Public Works Department, Nizam's Executive Council.

Mysore

SILK INDUSTRY IN MYSORE

The establishment of a permanent silk farm at Beligirirangam Hills, 70 miles from Bangalore, and a bigger and fully equipped silk farm at Bedaguli, 120 miles from Bangalore, in order to have a continuous supply of foreign race seed for producing cross-breed layings, is revealed in a review of the report on the administration of the sericultural department for 1941-42 by the Government of Mysore.

Referring to the activities of the department during the year under review, Government say that a scheme for expansion of the silk-worm supply in the State was sanctioned at a cost of Rs. 53,000. The scheme provides for increasing the supplies of seed, particularly of pure foreign race and cross-breed layings and for reviewing and fixing periodically the sale prices of cross-breed laying, having regard to the increased costs of production and market conditions.

STANDARD CLOTH QUOTA

According to information available regarding the supply of standard cloth in Mysore State, out of an annual production for the whole of India of about 2,000 million yards for distribution among the various Provinces and States in the country, the annual quota for Mysore has been fixed at 37.6 million yards, including the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore.

An Advisory Committee, representing various interests, is proposed to be set up and distribution of cloth will be arranged in close consultation with this Committee, and in accordance with instructions from the Central Government.

Not more than 15 yards will be sold to any individual at a time.

MR. JUSTICE SUBRAMANIA AIYAR

Mr. Justice C. Subramania Aiyar of the Mysore High Court has been given an extension of one year till March 1944. This is the second extension that has been granted to Mr. Subramania Aiyar.

Baroda

EXCESS PROFITS ORDINANCE

Baroda State has joined the ranks of those seeking to counteract the effects of inflation with the promulgation of an Excess Profits Ordinance, which has come into force with effect from 1st August. The measure embodies the results of discussions which have been proceeding for some time as to the best means of preventing excess profits arising out of war conditions finding their way into anti-social investments and speculation. The State is to collect a portion of these profits, invest the amounts and return them within one year after the war or twenty-four months of the date of levy, whichever is later, for the benefit of the trade or industry concerned.

BARODA STATE BUDGET

The formation of a Post-War Reconstruction Fund with an initial capital of Rs. 30,00,000 during the current year, the provision of Rs. 10,00,000 for the development of the newly attached areas under the scheme of merger of smaller States, Estates and Principalities announced by the Government of India, out of the surpluses of the State, as well as a further provision of Rs. 38'95 lakhs for expenditure in connection with the war, including a further contribution of Rs. 25 lakhs to the above-mentioned fund out of the revenue realisations during the next year, are some of the outstanding features of the Baroda State Budget Estimates for 1943-44 beginning August 1.

MEMBERSHIP OF BARODA ASSEMBLY

A Government of Baroda Press Note says: "The Government have by special order directed that persons convicted of an offence or ordered to give security for keeping good behaviour or peace by criminal courts of the State in connection with the political movement and subsequently released by the Government shall not be deemed to be disqualified on that account from being chosen as members of the Dhara Sabha (State Assembly), panchayats or municipalities, provided that such convictions or orders of security passed against such persons are not passed for offences of sabotage or other offences of such violent nature."

Travancore

GOVERNMENT'S INDUSTRIAL POLICY

By a unanimous vote the Sri Chitra State Council accorded support to the "bold, practical and businesslike policy" of the Government in regard to industrialisation. After listening to suggestions made by members the Dewan-President made a comprehensive statement indicating the policy of the Government in this regard.

The Dewan said that the Travancore Sugars, the original sugar factory, which was entirely run by Travancoreans, was a catastrophic failure and went into liquidation. After its management was taken over by an outside concern with extensive experience of sugar production and marketing the industry was resuscitated. As regards the Rubber Company, he said machinery and appurtenances purchased at a cost of about Rs. 8 lakhs were, entrusted to a Travancore concern which, however, failed to manage it properly. The co-operation of a leading industrial magnate who has been running rubber factories elsewhere was sought, with the result that on an outlay of Rs. 8 lakhs profits of more than eight lakhs were realised during last year, though no doubt the profits were enhanced by war conditions.

The Dewan-President hastened to add that every outsider who came here for the purpose of starting an industry, would have to train a certain number of local men to take his place after him and, as in the case of the Porcelain Factory, when local men were available, the Government would put them in management of the concern.

RATIONING IN TRAVANCORE

The Government of Travancore have resolved to introduce throughout the State a system of rationing applicable to all classes of people alike under which basic ration of rice will be uniform with no difference between individuals and groups of individuals or institutions except in regard to landholder or cultivator.

Measures to tap alternative sources of supply, for preventing hoarding, profiteering, prohibition of export of tapioca, prohibition of husking paddy in mills and the popularization of novel diets like millets and gram, are included in the scheme.

Cochin

COCHIN RECORDS

The Cochin Government have, in pursuance of a resolution passed by the Indian Historical Records Commission, decided to publish valuable records available in the State. The Rama Varma Research Institute has also favoured such publication. Among the publications that will be shortly reprinted are a *Grandha Vari* of the *Perumpadappu Swaroopam*, extracts from the letters addressed by the Rulers of Cochin to the Dutch Governors of Batavia, and certain rare records of the Cochin State temples.

NEW JUDGE OF COCHIN

The appointment of Mr. V. K. K. Menon, War Publicity Officer and Additional Secretary to Government, as the Judge of the Cochin High Court, in the vacancy caused by the appointment of Mr. Thomas Manjuran, a Judge, as the Chief Justice of the High Court, is announced by the Cochin Government.

Kashmir

RAJA SIR MAHARAJ SINGH

"I resigned mainly because the facts represented to me, before going to Kashmir, of my responsibilities and powers as Prime Minister, and of conditions generally in that State were different from what I found them to be," said Raja Sir Maharaj Singh, former Prime Minister of Kashmir and Jammu State in an interview to the Press.

He said his personal relations with His Highness were good. His Highness was a capable ruler with progressive ideas.

Bikaner

MR. PANIKKAR AS PRIME MINISTER

His Highness the Maharaja has appointed from August 1, 1948, Mr. K. M. Panikkar, Vice-President, State Executive Council, and Foreign and Political Minister, as Acting Prime Minister of Bikaner.

Indore

HERBARIUM FOR INDORE

The Inspector-General of Hospitals of the State recently made a proposal for starting a pharmaceutical industry in the State and suggested that a beginning could be made by establishing a herbarium where medicinal herbs and plants would be grown, and a factory for the extraction of medicines from them. In this factory easily manufactured tinctures would also be produced. The factory would also produce such chemicals as calcium gluconate, camphor oil and fill wampules, etc. The scheme is likely to enable the State not only to get some of its own requirements but also to sell the drugs manufactured in the factory to the public and is expected to become self-supporting in course of time.

Government have now approved of the proposals and have ordered that they should be given a trial.

Kolhapur

EDUCATION IN KOLHAPUR

The recent educational survey of the Kolhapur State held on behalf of the State Educational Department reveals some interesting and instructive facts, says Mr. S. L. Chitnis.

The total number of villages in the State is 1,263. Out of these, 1,090 have been provided with educational facilities. 173 villages or 13'7 of the total number have no schools.

The total population of Kolhapur State, excluding Kolhapur City, is 699,557. Of this 592,396 have been provided with educational facilities by the Kolhapur State District Local Board popularly known as Ilakha Panchayat. 86,248 people get benefit of education from the schools aided by the State Government. Only 20,948 people or 3 per cent. of the total population have remained out of reach of the educational facilities.

The survey marks out the salient fact that as regards facilities provided and progress made in the field of primary education Kolhapur State comes off a successful number third, the first two being Travancore and Cochin respectively.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

DR. KHARE AND THE PEGGING ACT

The Central Assembly passed Dr. N. B. Khare's (Member for Indians Overseas) motion with Dr. G. V. Deshmukh's amendment on the South African Pegging Act. The resolution in its final form reads:

The position arising out of the recent Pegging Legislation in South Africa be taken into consideration, with a view to enforce the Reciprocity Act, and adopt measures to redress the grievances of Indians in South Africa.

Initiating the discussion Dr. N. B. Khare traced the history of Indo-S. African relations from the days of Indian immigration into Natal, and said the White population had always been guided by gross self-interest, and when times were bad they did not hesitate to implore India to help them. But when times improved they repudiated their promises, and insulted the very people who went to their aid. They had done their utmost to humiliate their Indian population.

The full text of Dr. Kare's important statement appears elsewhere in this issue.

The Council of State discussed the Pegging Legislation on August 4.

M. G. S. Bozman, Secretary, Indian Overseas Department, initiating the discussion, gave a short resume of the events preceding the enactment of the Pegging Act. He also gave details of the various representations the Government of India had made to the Union Government on the subject. The Government, he said, considered the legislation as repugnant, unnecessary and inopportune. He read short extracts from some of the speeches made on the Bill in the South African Parliament to indicate that at least some of the members of the Union Parliament also regarded the Bill as inopportune and repugnant. He claimed that people in South Africa were already aware of the keen resentment aroused in India of all shades of political thought and of the identity of views between the Government and the people in that respect. As for the future, Mr. Bozman said that the Government had an open mind. The Government had thought it desirable to ventilate this matter as widely as possible and to obtain the

opinions of as many people as possible. The Government had taken no decision and would not do so until all the discussions they had planned were completed.

Mr. P. N. Saprú, Sir A. P. Patro, Pandit Kunzru, Mr. Parker, Rai Bahadur Srinarain Mehta, Mr. Padsha, Rai Bahadur Ramsaran Das, Mr. Kalelkar and Sir Chiranjit Singh participated in the debate.

THE LATE MR. JHAVERI

News is received of the death of Mr. Omar Hajee Amod Jhaveri, one of the veteran South African leaders, at Durban. The death of Mr. Jhaveri at this particular juncture, writes Mr. Bhawani Dayal Sannyasi, is a great loss to our countrymen in South Africa. "He will be always remembered for his public services for the uplift of his community in the Union. He was a great patriot and loved by every section of Indians. He was a faithful friend and an early associate of Mahatma Gandhi, who had elected him as one of the trustees of his Phoenix Settlement (Gandhi Ashram) before Gandhiji bade farewell to South Africa".

The late Mr. Omar Hajee Amod Jhaveri was born at Porbander (Kathiawar) in 1878 and went to South Africa at the tender age of ten. He received his education in Boys' Model School of Durban. He became a firm follower and friend of Mahatma Gandhi, which lasted without a break.

Ceylon

MR. ANEY'S MISSION TO CEYLON

"The establishment of a permanent goodwill mission in Ceylon on behalf of India is the function of my new office", observed Mr. M. S. Aney, India Government's Representative in Ceylon, speaking at the Servants of India Society, Madras, on August 19.

It shall be my duty to see that the rights and privileges of my countrymen in Ceylon are in no way less than those accorded to people of other free countries living in that island. I am convinced that we are not asking for special concessions and privileges in Ceylon; it is a question of asking for rights similar to those enjoyed by nationals of other countries—rights which must be conceded in equity and justice.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

THE FOOD DEBATE IN THE ASSEMBLY

Initiating the food debate in the Central Assembly on August 9, Sir Azizul Haque, Food Member, said complacently:

We have many difficulties to-day, and we shall probably have more difficulties in the future. I can assure the House that the Department for which I speak will spare no effort to solve these difficulties.

Mr. Akhil Chandra Dutta described the present conditions in Bengal, and urged that there should be no legal quibbling about the constitutional position:

The centre should take up the ultimate responsibility to organise and co-ordinate an All-India food policy. The Government must not, he said, leave the deficit provinces at the mercy of surplus provinces. The case of Bengal, he urged, was a special one. There, the famine had resulted from war conditions and the Government of India, in the interest of defence of the whole of India, should come to Bengal's rescue.

Sir Henry Richardson, Leader of the European Group, said that he could not congratulate the Food Member or the Government on the arrangements made for the programme of business this session and said

it was inescapable that the Government laid itself open to criticism on the ground that while people were starving, discontent was ripe all over the country and the food problem was burning, the Government were content to fiddle with legislative measures, which were of far less urgency and which could have waited. It was deplorable that after all that had happened the lesson of the folly of being too late had not been learnt. The Food Department itself was formed years too late. When other countries were planning and rationing, India had a surplus in many commodities which, had the Food Department existed, could have been purchased and stored by Government as provision against the rainy day, which had now come and found India unprepared.

Sir Henry emphasised the demand that this all-important subject of food should be placed in charge of a member with ripe experience, who would be able to devote his entire time solely to food.

Since the debate, Sir J. P. Srivastava has been put in charge of Food.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

VICEROY'S FAREWELL ADDRESS

The Viceroy, addressing a joint session of the Central Legislature at Delhi on August 2, made a detailed review of events during his 7½ years of office. Referring to political and constitutional problems. His Excellency said:

From the very beginning of the war, I have done everything that man could do to bring the parties and their leaders together; to remove doubts as to the intentions of His Majesty's Government: to achieve that sufficiency of common agreement among the parties and communities in this country, and that necessary preliminary acceptance of the legitimate claims of all, that must be the pre-condition of any constitutional advance, that is worth having or that can hope for permanence. It will always be a sharp disappointment to me that these 4 years of war should, for all that effort, have seen us no nearer to our goal, and that, as I speak to-day, these internal divisions, these communal rivalries, that reluctance to place India first and to subordinate sectional ambitions and jealousies to the common interest of the country, should still stand in the way of progress.

Reviewing his term of office, the Viceroy said:

The 7½ years of Viceroyalty have lain in momentous times. Through the whole period we have been faced by political issues of the first importance. For the last four years there has been the dominating need to concentrate on India's defence against hostile attack, on the expansion and training of our armed forces (whether naval, military or air), on organising our war effort in terms of men, money and supplies. India's response to every call made on her throughout the war has been magnificent.

MR. FISCHER ON THE DEADLOCK

Addressing a rally of the India League of America Mr. Louis Fischer proposed the following steps for settlement of the Indian problem:

Firstly, the release of Gandhiji and Pandit Nehru on condition that they call off the civil disobedience movement.

Secondly, Britain must announce that she would help to establish a provisional Indian Government which would ally itself with war effort.

Thirdly, agreement between India and the United Nations for the conduct of military operations.

Fourthly, the United Nations should give a pledge that armed forces would be withdrawn from India one year following Japan's unconditional surrender while India is given complete freedom.

SIR R. ACLAND ON THE DEADLOCK

"The situation in India has deteriorated more than people in this country realise. Mediation by the United Nations seemed the best way to break the deadlock. To-day that hope has gone," observed Sir Richard Acland, M. P. leader of the influential Commonwealth Party in an interview to the United Press of India.

Sir Richard added:

The present policy of accepting deadlock must inevitably be disastrous. It is a confession of the bankruptcy of Tory statesmanship. The present deadlock can only be broken if a National Government representative of the Indian people is established and empowered to treat with the British Government on equal terms. The first step must be the release of political prisoners.

In the course of a manifesto issued by the Party earlier, it was stated:

If as British Government insists, there is no practical difference between Dominion Status and National Independence, we are allowing sentiment to conquer sense in refusing to allow independence to Indians. To withhold it until all the differences of the minorities have been resolved is equivalent to a direct refusal. The Commonwealth Party believes firstly that all political prisoners should be released and Legislative Assemblies in Provinces should be re-established. Secondly, power should be transferred to a Government either composed of eleven elected Provincial Prime Ministers or formed by Indian leaders, such as Messrs. Saprú, Rajagopalachari, Jinnah or Nehru. Thirdly, Britain should make a treaty with this Government making the necessary arrangements for the control of the armed forces in India.

C. R.'s PLEA FOR SETTLEMENT

Mr. C. Rajagopalachari says in a statement:

Nationalist India does not want Japan in India or in a dangerous position anywhere near as in Burma or Malaya. The moral and material support of Congress and its vast body of supporters and sympathisers would therefore be available for the new campaign if the Roosevelt-Churchill talks in America resulted among other things in the co-ordination of Indian politics with the strategy to be adopted in the Eastern Front. This can be done easily by the scrapping of the present Executive Council and the establishment of a provisional national government in its stead. The proposals which Sir Stafford Cripps made on behalf of the British Government in 1942 as Congress understood them should be put into effect recognising the right of self-determination in the future constitution for predominantly Muslim areas re-demarcated according to population. If these steps are taken, we shall have a solution of the Indian problem without further loss of time and there would be no need to keep Indian leaders in prison a day longer.

SIR C. P.'s ENDOWMENT

In addition to the donation of Rs. 5,000 for a Scholarship in connection with the B. Com. degree in the Pachaiyappa's College, announced last month, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, has endowed the Madras University with Rs. 25,000 from the income of which scholarships will be given for study of automobile and aeronautical engineering. The University has accepted the donation with thanks.

It will be recalled in this connection that Sir C. P. is donating Rs. 1,000 every month to the Travancore University. This amount is to be paid out of his salary as Dewan of the State.

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY

A Bill to further amend the Annamalai University Act, 1928, together with a statement of objects and reasons, has been published for purpose of eliciting opinion, in the *Fort St. George Gazette*.

The main changes introduced, according to the statement of objects and reasons are:

(1) Abolition of the Academic Council and the Boards of Studies; (2) Altering the constitution of the Senate so as to make it a more representative body and disqualifying teachers and other employees of the University for nomination to the Senate or for election to that body except to the seat, representing the teaching staff of the various Faculties; (3) Reducing the strength of the Syndicate and disqualifying teachers and employees of the University from being members thereof; (4) Revival of the Finance Committee; (5) Grant of effective powers to the Vice-Chancellor; to refuse admission to any person to any course of study without assigning reasons; and (6) Appointment of teachers, officers and other employees of the University on contracts not exceeding five years in the first instance.

DELHI UNIVERSITY BILL

Discussing the clauses of the Delhi University (Amendment) Bill, the Assembly rejected the proposal to reduce the term of office of the Vice-Chancellor from four to three years and also the amendment to secure more Muslim representation in the administrative body of the Delhi University on the ground that communalism must be kept out of the seat of learning. It accepted the proposal to fix the Vice-Chancellor's salary at Rs. 2,000 a month.

BHOWAL CASE APPEAL

The application of the Rani of Bhowal, Srimati Bibhabati Devi, for leave to appeal from the decision of the Calcutta High Court that the claimant, Kumar Ramendra Narayan Roy, son of Raja Rajendra Narayan Roy, was entitled to the estate and £100,000 annually as her husband, having escaped from a funeral pyre in 1909, was before the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council again on July 28. The widows of two other sons of Rajendra Narayan Roy have joined Ramendra as respondents to the appeal.

Mr. D. N. Pritt, K.C., for the respondents, continued his arguments recently by examining a pronouncement of the trial judge in India who summarized the evidence of witness about the disappearance of the body. The judge had said: "A few minutes after bier, or bedstead, was set down, a heavy shower came on and the attendants ran for shelter. They waited for an hour and set about selecting a place for the pyre. It was then noticed that the body was not on the bedstead and it could not be found."

The appellant's case was that there was no rain that night. She said her husband died at midnight and was cremated in the morning.

Lord Maugham said that everything turned on the date and hour of the funeral.

The Privy Council granted leave to appeal.

C. R. AND "SUNDAY OBSERVER"

The Chief Presidency Magistrate passed orders recently in the case for alleged defamation filed by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari against the editor and printer of the *Sunday Observer*. The Magistrate found the accused guilty under Section 500, I.P.C. (defamation) and sentenced Mr. P. Balasubramaniam, the editor of the paper, to pay a fine of Rs. 1,000, in default to undergo simple imprisonment for six months. The second accused, Mr. Mir Baquir Hussain, printer of the paper, was sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 500, in default to undergo three months' simple imprisonment.

Mr. Balasubramanian has preferred an appeal which has been admitted.

DIFFICULTIES OF INDIAN INSURANCE

The view that the new Defence of India Rule preventing the formation of new companies not approved by the Central Government, although intended to check the growth of mushroom companies would prevent free flow of capital in any business enterprise and that unless the Government exercised the control discriminately and in the interests of the country at large, opportunities of building up new enterprises and industries, including insurance companies in India, would receive a serious set-back, is expressed by Mr. J. C. Setalvad, Chairman of the Indian Insurance Companies Association, Bombay, addressing the fifteenth annual general meeting of the Association at Bombay on August 9.

The Chairman referred to the difficulties experienced by member companies regarding acceptance of their policies by foreign exchange banks operating in India and urged that the Government should move in the matter through the Foreign Exchange Banks' Association and secure the removal of the ruling that British companies mean companies whose head offices are domiciled in the United Kingdom and restore the practice previously followed of including Indian companies in the definition of a "British company."

STATE INSURANCE IN BRITAIN

In the course of a memorandum on the subject of nationalisation of insurance in Great Britain, the Accident Offices Association states:—

Before the war there was hardly a country in the world where British insurance had not attained an important and in some case a leading position. It has been estimated that in 1939 the premiums written abroad by British companies in all classes other than life amounted to £80,000,000. The profits earned on this business, together with the interest on their funds devoted to this overseas business, enabled contribution to the invisible exports of this country, a contribution which will be of even greater value and necessity in Britain's post-war economy. This vast overseas business of the British companies has been built upon the experience of the companies in developing all forms of insurance, their care and skill in the management of their funds and the acknowledged freedom of British commercial enterprise from political interference. Any restriction upon the scope of the companies' domestic activities would not be without its adverse repercussions upon their overseas business.

INDIA'S FINANCIAL HELP TO BRITAIN
India's financial help to Britain was mentioned in the Commons. Sir Stanley Reed (Conservative) said that the Chancellor of the Exchequer drew the attention of the House to the easement in British finance effected by the generosity of the Canadian Government. He hoped on some convenient occasion the Chancellor would tell the House how far this case in finance had been effected by the action of the Indian Government in its method of meeting the very heavy expenditure of the armed forces in the Middle East and Far East. "I am not referring", he said "to the repatriation of the sterling debt which has left only an insignificant sum outstanding but to the large sterling balances which are being built up in this country to the credit of the Government of India. Our financial conduct of the war would be more difficult without their acquiescence in this policy."

THE VICEROY ON INFLATION

Referring to inflation, H. E. the Viceroy, addressing the joint session of the Legislature, on August 2, declared the Government was determined to do everything in their power to stabilise economic condition at tolerable levels. The drive against inflation is being pursued simultaneously in the monetary and commodity fields. The Government of India also was resolved to check speculation and profiteering in every sphere which affects the life of the nation and to repress and penalise all cognate anti-social activity. He was glad to say the measures already taken were beginning to have a most salutary effect.

FOREIGN BALANCES

"What we in India should ask for and insist upon is some provision by which we should be able to utilise our foreign balances for the purchase of plant and machinery required for our industrial development in any country from which we can obtain them on the best possible terms," observed Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarker, formerly Commerce Member of the Government of India, in the course of a statement to the Press on the tentative plans drawn up by British and American experts for an international monetary scheme.

WOMEN AND MINE WORK

Mrs. Radhabai Subbarayan, M.L.A., (Central), in a statement to the press urging that revival of the employment of women for underground work in mines should not be permitted, declares: "Even in Western countries, where conditions in mines are surely far better than in Indian mines, it is held that women should not be engaged for such work. The International Labour Conference of 1934 recommended unanimously an international convention prohibiting women from being employed in underground work in mines. If in normal times it was considered inhuman to engage women for underground work, it is much more so in hard days like now. With increasing scarcity of food commodities and soaring prices, the vitality of our poor people is rapidly deteriorating. I earnestly appeal to the public to urge Government to try other methods of increasing coal production before reviving the cruel system of engaging poor women to do work underground."

CRIPPS ON WOMEN'S EMANCIPATION

The Minister of Aircraft Production, Sir Stafford Cripps, speaking in London, said, "Women must be prepared to accept their responsibilities as citizens. The theoretical problem of sex equality has gone. We now face the practical problem." Sir Stafford pointed out that during 1941 and 1942, the percentage of women employed on aircraft production was nearly doubled. He added that in no country had true equality been achieved to the extent it had been in Soviet Russia. In China there had been general emancipation of women and there was no doubt that once India got her independence, women would step out into active life on equality with men."

BRITISH WOMEN FOR NATIONAL SERVICE

Women aged 47 to 50, inclusive, will register in September and October for National service, according to an announcement by the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Labour in the Commons. He said that in the main these women would be regarded as immobile. The very greatest care would be taken to give the utmost consideration to those with domestic and household responsibility.

STUDY OF SANSKRIT

Delivering the inaugural address of the Loyola College Sanskrit Association, Dr. C. Kunhan Raja said that Sanskrit is a valuable language, the treasures of which should be preserved and cherished for ever. He pleaded for a more realistic interest in the study of all the Indian languages. He specially appealed to the language associations in the colleges to be keen on asserting whenever opportunities occurred, that theirs was in no way inferior to any foreign language, including English. It should be their duty to ensure for them (languages) a position of equality with English. In fact there was no statutory disability in the matter of advancement of the Indian languages and literature. The defect lay not in the system of education but in their own apathy. No nation had given up its culture under political domination. Poland was dismembered several times. Still the Polish culture is there. He would therefore plead for the development of an abiding taste and interest in the study of one's own language.

Mr. Justice Patanjali Sastri, who presided, said that Sanskrit was a store-house of knowledge. A wide study of the language by the rising generation would contribute considerably towards the amelioration of the communal dissensions; for it was a cementing and unifying force, the greatest common measure of all Indian languages.

TAMIL MANUSCRIPTS FOR ADYAR

The inauguration of the late Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. Swaminatha Aiyar's Library at the Kalakshetra, Theosophical Society, Adyar, took place on July 5, with Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Aiyar in the chair. The Library of Dr. Aiyar is a good collection of Tamil manuscripts and has been handed over to the Kalakshetra by Mr. Kalyanasundaram Aiyar, son of Dr. Swaminatha Aiyar.

Srimathi Rukmini Devi, accepting on behalf of the Kalakshetra, welcomed the large gathering present, and paid a tribute to the learning of the late Dr. Aiyar.

After a special song in praise of Dr. Aiyar was sung, numerous messages wishing the function success were read out,

THE LATE MR. M. C. RAJA

We regret to record the death of Dewan Bahadur M. C. Rajah, M.L.A., ex-President of the Chingleput District Board and a prominent Harijan leader, which occurred on the 23rd August at his residence in St. Thomas Mount.

Mr. Rajah, who was 60 years of age at the time of his death, resigned his chairmanship of the Chingleput District Board owing to ill-health recently.

He took a prominent part in the signing of the Poona Pact. For a short period in 1937, he was Minister for Development in Madras.

MR. V. D. SAVARKAR

In the course of a statement to the United Press, Mr. V. D. Savarkar announces his resignation of the presidency of the All-India Hindu Maha Sabha recently.

"The heavy work involved in discharging my duties as President continuously for six years has visibly affected my health," says Mr. Savarkar in his lengthy statement and recalls the circumstances in which he had to resign more than once in the past years and subsequently to withdraw the same.

MR. HENRY FORD AT 80

Mr. Henry Ford, the famous American automobile manufacturer, said on the eve of his 80th birthday, that industry's primary objective always should be to produce goods "that will really help the people rather than roll up profits."

Mr. Ford told the Press that he believed that "business is never good business unless it does equally well for the public, its employees and itself."

At 80, Mr. Ford is still able to ride a bicycle, chop wood and outdistance many of his associates in a foot-race.

DR. COUSINS' SEVENTIETH BIRTHDAY

A notable birthday was celebrated in Trivandrum, on July 22, when Dr. J. H. Cousins, the Irish poet, who has spent nearly thirty years in India as educationist and scholar in Indian culture and is now Art Adviser to the Government of Travancore State and head of the Department of Fine Arts of the State University, completed his seventieth year.

NEW TREATMENT FOR ANAEMIA

Dr. Howard L. Alt, in the "Journal of the American Medical Association," declares that a patient with an unyielding case of progressive anaemia has been sustained with transfusions of red blood cells in a solution of salt. For the battlefield, transfusions of blood plasma are collected, but the red cells are discarded (blood consists largely of red cells, white cells and plasma, the latter being the amber-coloured fluid in which the cells swim). Dr. Alt, therefore, recommends the wider use of red cells for the armed forces as well as in U.S. hospitals, due to the importance of fighting the frequent anaemia cases.

NEW MEDICINE DROPPER

William Dubilier, well-known radio engineer of New York, has invented a medicine dropper which is more accurately controlled than the ordinary type. The dropper has the usual rubber bulb at one end, but the other end is pinched and then enlarged into a ball. The liquid exudes through four perforations in the wall of this ball, flows over the surface and then falls as a single drop. With this device a constant number of drops can be made to fall in a specified time regardless of the angle of inclination. Moreover, the drops are always the same size.

PRICE CONTROL OF DRUGS

The institution of price control of drugs was foreshadowed by Mr. M. S. A. Hydari, Secretary, Civil Supplies and Industrial Department, Government of India, addressing the Pharmaceutical and Allied Manufacturers' and Distributors' Association and the Indian Chemical Manufacturers' Association of Calcutta. Mr. Hydari emphasised Government's determination to ensure supply of drugs to the civilian population at reasonable prices.

QUICK X-RAY METHOD

A new method for the accurate localisation of foreign bodies in wounded persons by means of X-rays has been developed by an Australian and is being used in X-ray machines built in Australia for military hospitals. This method does away with the delay in taking X-ray photographs.

STEAM BATH

During these hot months, the skin of your face requires extra care. Heat tends to enlarge the pores, and unless particular care is taken, the dust and dirt that settles in them will coarsen the skin.

To prevent this, a steam bath about once a week will be found beneficial to most skins. For this all you have to do is to fill a basin with very hot water to which the juice of half a lemon has been added. Cover your head with a large towel, bend over the basin, letting the towel completely screen the face, and remain in this position until the face has become thoroughly steamed. Then wash your face thoroughly with any good soap, to flush out all the impurities from the pores. Rinse the face well. The pores are now thoroughly cleansed. To close them bathe your face in cold water for a few minutes and dry with a soft towel.

CONTROL OF LEPROSY

A Bill further to amend the Madras Public Health Act, 1939, is published in the *Fort St. George Gazette* for the purpose of eliciting opinion.

Owing to the peculiar nature of leprosy its relatively low infectivity and the difficulty of detecting the disease in its earlier stages, the inclusion of leprosy with other infectious diseases under Public Health Act has made it impracticable to enforce the law. The Bill, therefore, proposes to remove leprosy from the category of "infectious diseases" and provide in a separate part for the treatment and control of open leprosy.

HIGHER NUTRITIVE VALUE OF RICE

Converted rice, too tough for the bags, but delicious when cooked for army messes, was described to members of the American Association of Cereal Chemists recently. Before dehulling, the rice is given a steeping process that takes nutrients from the hulls and puts them inside. The starch gelatinises, making hard, finished grain after milling. This converted rice has the keeping qualities of milled grain, but retains the higher nutritive qualities of brown rice.

BANKING IN INDIA

"The banking system of the country has not only withstood the strain imposed by war conditions and adapted itself successfully to the constantly changing requirements of the times, but has also given evidence of vigour in several directions," said Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, Governor, Reserve Bank of India, at the ninth annual general meeting of the shareholders of the Reserve Bank of India at Calcutta on August 9.

Mr. Deshmukh said that the maintenance of a liquid position by banks should not only enable them to tide over difficulties during the war but should also make it easier for them to co-operate with Government in any plans, the latter might have for post-war reconstruction.

Referring to the large number of new floatations which was the most remarkable feature of Indian banking during the year, Mr. Deshmukh said that the increase, though welcome, had not been without its disquieting features. The Board, after careful consideration, had made certain suggestions to Government regarding capital structure of banking companies, though they were aware that this was only touching the fringe of the wider problem of banking legislation.

Pointing out the appreciable increase during the year in the number of branches of scheduled banks, particularly in mofussil centres, Mr. Deshmukh said that, if this tendency gathered strength, it would gradually fulfil one of the most pressing banking needs of India, viz., a network of branches of the larger banks throughout the countryside.

THE RESERVE BANK

It is notified for general information that Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, C.I.E., assumed charge of his appointment as Governor of the Reserve Bank of India on August 11, and that Mr. C. R. Trevor and Mr. Wajahat Hussain, C.I.E., assumed charge of their appointments as Deputy Governors on August 15.

Mr. Deshmukh is the first Indian to be appointed Governor of the Reserve Bank.

RAILWAY PRIORITIES

According to a recent news, the Government have remodelled the system of granting Railway priorities with a view to ensure that the movements of goods of the highest urgency are given the first priority and that unnecessary movements are cut out. By way of explanation, it is pointed out that the system which proved workable so long as comparatively few goods were urgently required for war or essential purposes, has been now found unsuitable to meet the present pressure of traffic on Railways. Apropos of the reforms that have been introduced the *Hindustan Standard* asks how far will the new system ensure free movement of the essential goods needed by the civilian population? It hardly need be restated that the people in various parts of the country have suffered from acute shortage and abnormally high prices of certain vital necessities because the railway priorities could not be arranged to move goods from places where they are plentiful to those where they are scarce. An important test of the value of the new reorganisation and reform in respect of transport control and the system of priorities would be as to how far it facilitates the movement of essential goods like foodstuffs, coal, etc., not only to the advantage of the military but also to that of the non-military people.

ALL-INDIA RAILWAYMEN'S FEDERATION

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta was unanimously re-elected President of the All-India Railwaymen's Federation at the convention held on August 14, at Jamalpore, attended by over 125 delegates from all Indian Railways, wires the General Secretary. The name of Mr. N. M. Joshi was also proposed for the presidentship but was withdrawn.

Mr. Guruswami was re-elected General Secretary.

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta, in his presidential address, criticised the Railway Board for "its meagre response to the workers' demands" and complimented the workers on their steadfast adherence to duty despite the worsening of living conditions. Railway workers were the backbone of the war effort, and deserved better treatment, he said.

BHARATA NATYA IN NEW YORK

Madame La Meri, the founder and present leader of the Ethnological Dance Centre in New York, opened her new, enlarged studio with a public performance of the Indian dance drama, "Gauba Visits Paradise".

Deeply interested in the Bharata-Natya dance forms of South India and a student of Uday Shankar, the famous Indian dancer La Meri said that the purpose of her Dance Centre is to "build up an appreciative American audience for the time after the war when Indian art forms will be practised and understood in all countries."

Born in Kentucky and raised in Texas, La Meri discovered at an early age her tremendous interest in the folk dances of foreign countries. She studied Mexican and Spanish dances and, learning of Uday Shankar, she studied with him in France and decided to concentrate on Indian dance techniques. In her three visits to India, La Meri toured the country, learning the principles of Kathakali and Manipuri dancing, and worked with a tutor of Bharata Natya in Madras. On her latest return, two years before the war, she completed dance tours throughout the East Indies, Australia and Japan.

ART IN INDUSTRY EXHIBITION

It is announced that the 1944 Art in Industry Exhibition will be held in Calcutta in January of next year. Prize money will exceed Rs. 20,000, which is a record for any art exhibition in India. The exhibition will contain a number of sections devoted to posters of recruiting themes and defence savings, and careless talk publicity will also feature prominently in the exhibition. New features will be sections devoted to film scenarios, commercial photography and industrial design.

A display of 80 prize-winning exhibits from the third All-India 'Art in Industry' Exhibition, which had been held in Bombay early this year, was arranged at the Central Y.M.C.A., Esplanade (Madras), and remained open from 13th to 15th August.

CAPTAIN VERITY

Captain Hedley Verity, the Yorkshire and England slow left-arm bowler, is reported missing according to information received by his relatives. Verity, who is 38 years of age, had been on active service in the Middle East for the last three years.

He played in 40 tests for England, taking 144 wickets at an average of 24.37 runs each. He visited India with Jardine's M.C.C. team.

Verity reached a 100 wickets in the Tests in a shorter period than any other Englishman. Probably his most memorable feat for Yorkshire was taking all Nottinghamshire's wickets for 10 runs, including a hat-trick at Leeds in 1932. He also took all the ten wickets against Warwickshire in 1931.

In each of his full nine seasons for Yorkshire, he took over 100 wickets.

JARDINE TO PLAY AT BOMBAY

Mr. D. R. Jardine, the former England Captain, will skipper the inter-Services team against an Indian XI in the forthcoming Red Cross Fund cricket match at Bombay in January next, for which the necessary official sanction has been granted to the Cricket Club of India by the Board of Control at its last meeting. Hardstaff may play for the inter-Services team.

HAEGG AND THE MILE RACE

The Swedish runner, Gunder Haegg, won a special one mile invitation at New York on August 11, by two yards. The American 1,500, metre champion, Gil Dodds, was second and the American inter-collegiate champion, Bill Hulse, was third five yards behind Dodds. Haegg's time was four minutes 6-9/10 seconds.

CAPTAIN R. ALEXANDER

The Irish International Rugby forward, Captain R. Alexander, has been killed in the Far East. He was serving with the Royal Inniskilling Fusiliers. Captain Alexander was first capped in 1936 and was member of the Ireland Team in the 3 succeeding seasons. He also played in representative cricket for Ireland.

COLOURED SMOKE GRENADES

Coloured smoke grenades, a new type of signal device, have been developed by the U.S. Army Chemical Warfare Service. The device, which serves to control and identify military units and has other uses, is being used in all United Nations battlefronts.

The advantage of the new grenades over signal pistols and rockets is that they are more readily seen, as they throw off a dense smoke for two to three minutes, which hangs in a cloud. The grenades come in various brilliant colours, and in black. They can be set off on the ground or dropped from a plane to explode in the air, or, through a time fuse, after they have hit the earth.

They lend themselves to numerous uses. For example, troops surrounded by the enemy can set off different coloured grenades to indicate to observation planes that they need food, medicines, or different types of ammunition. Or observation planes, hunting enemy concentrations, can adjust time fuses and drop grenades on ground targets, thus not only pointing out locations to following bombers, but through the colour, the type of target.

Again, a plane, sighting tanks of uncertain nationality, can challenge them by radio or by tossing out a grenade of a certain colour. If friendly, the tanks thereupon reply by exploding grenades of a pre-arranged hue. Orders governing movement of ground troops can also be issued through grenades of different colour combinations dropped from planes.

SIR S. S. BHATNAGAR

A tribute to the work of Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, Director of the Board of Industrial and Scientific Research, Government of India, in the field of chemical research was paid by the students of the Indian Science Institute at the Institute Gymkhana on July 20. Sir J. C. Ghosh, Director of the Institute, presided.

The Students' Union of the Institute congratulated Sir Bhatnagar on his election to the fellowship of the Royal Society which was a well-deserved recognition of his distinguished contribution to the advancement of science. The event was a signal one for Sir Bhatnagar was the first Indian chemist to receive the high honour.

PROPAGANDA SHORTS

Under the auspices of the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce, a representative conference of the cinema exhibitors in the Presidency was held recently at Sagar Talkies, Madras, with Mr. Paul Vincent, Proprietor, Variety Hall Talkies, Coimbatore, in the chair.

The following resolutions were passed:— "Whereas the Exhibitors have been screening War Propaganda shorts free of charge for a long time in the past; this meeting of Exhibitors feels that the rates fixed by the Government for theatres in South India for such shorts are too exorbitant compared to the paying capacity and requests that considerable reduction must be given in the rates already fixed for various stations in consultation with the South Indian Film Chamber of Commerce.

"That the time-limit for the closing hour of cinema theatres be extended and that Government be requested to relax the electricity rationing order accordingly".

WAR WORK AT DISNEY STUDIO

The Walt Disney film studios in Hollywood are now almost totally converted to making war pictures. In a single month more film is turned out than in the year before America entered the war. The technique of the animated cartoon has proved invaluable for educational pictures for the armed forces.

"The motion picture, almost totally inarticulate in the last war, is speaking volumes in this conflict." Disney said in a recent radio address.

ACADEMY AWARDS

The annual awards of the U.S. motion picture industry gave Greer Garson recognition as the best actress of the year for her performance in "Mrs. Miniver," the story of an English family undergoing the blitz. The Russian-made "Moscow Strikes Back" was voted the best documentary film. A special award went to Noel Coward for the best foreign picture of the year "In Which We Serve," a film about the British Navy which Americans are still flocking to see.

INVASION GLIDER

Designed to take a leading part among invasion forces, the U.S. Army's new "Commando" troop-carrying glider spells bad luck for the enemy. Besides the pilot and co-pilot, it carries 18 fully equipped troops into action. Towed by a twinmotor plane, two or more of the craft may be cut loose and landed in a small field or pasture. Unconventional features include an overhead attachment for the towline, and take-off wheels that are dropped in midair for a landing on skids. Measuring 83 feet in wing span, more than many fighting planes, the heavy-duty glider scarcely exceeds 8,000 pounds in weight. The new glider, called the CG-4A, is now in quantity production for the armed forces.

BUS COMPANIES SAVE PETROL

About 50,000,000 gallons of petrol are being saved annually by the company-owned omnibus undertakings throughout Britain by economies in mileage. This saving is sufficient to fuel 500 multi-engined planes for 100 raids on Germany.

Against the figure of petrol-saving must be set the increase in the consumption of fuel oil as a result of the progressive change-over from buses operated on petrol to those run on fuel oil. This increased consumption of fuel oil is estimated at 15,000,000 gallons yearly.

The petrol-saving figure does not include the economies effected by the London Passenger Transport Board and the municipally-owned omnibus undertakings.

MOTOR ROAD TO CHAMBA

Chamba State, which is situated at the foot of the Dhauladhar range of the Himalayas, will now have a motorable road, running all along the State, and connecting Chamba, its capital with the British territory at Baniket, about 5 miles from Dalhousie. The construction of this 29-mile road has already been taken in hand and it is estimated that it will cost nearly ten lakhs of rupees. It is hoped that the project will be completed before the end of this year.

POST-WAR AIR TRANSPORT

By a question in the Central Assembly, Mr. Neogy drew Sir Gurnath's attention to the reported declaration of 16 American airlines regarding the demand of commercial rights in some instances where airports were built abroad at the expense of the U.S., once they had served the military purpose, and asked if Government were examining the implication of the declaration regarding the possibility of American airlines operating in India, particularly running internal services.

Sir Gurnath Bewoor replied that the whole question of post-war air transport was under the examination of the Government. The particular declaration referred to did not appear, however, to have any bearing on India's internal air services.

INTERNAL AIR SERVICES IN INDIA

Sir Gurnath Bewoor, Secretary, Posts and Air Department, informed the Central Assembly, that subject to the provisions of the Government of India Act relating to the exemption of the British concerns, it was the general policy of the Government of India that the operation of internal air services in India should be by an Indian company.

The Government of India had always demanded and obtained reciprocal concessions in return for the right to operate air services across India. This right was for the operation of an air service across the territory of the other States by an Indian company, either in association with other British air services or independently. The right to operate air services across India had been given to companies nominated by H.M. Government in U.K. and by Governments of Holland, France, China and Germany. (The last had lapsed now.)

THE AIRGRAPH SERVICE

The fact that the Indian Post Office handles three million airgraphs a month—a million and a half inward and an equal number of outward airgraphs—was disclosed by Mr. W. H. Shoobert, Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs, in a broadcast talk on "The Airgraph Service" from the Delhi station to the All-India Radio on Monday (July 19). Mr. Shoobert gave a brief history of the service and its extension to India in 1942.

FUTURE OF INDIAN LEATHER INDUSTRY

A spokesman of the Department of Commerce said that India "may have within the next decade an outstanding leather goods industry due to the possession of the greatest raw material reserves for the manufacture of this product." He said such a development might occur despite plague flies which now damage a large number of hides and human indifference in India to the leather business.

He mentioned the aversion of many Indians to killing cows or handling skins and observed that this feeling had somewhat diminished. "Some trade authorities estimate India can take off approximately twenty-five million hides annually, a large portion of which is not now fully utilised. These may well find their way into world markets as relationships between India and the rest of the world draw closer after the war."

NEW USE FOR TAMARIND SEEDS

How tamarind seed can be employed as a sizing material for cotton yarn, thereby replacing the starch obtained from materials now required more urgently as foodstuffs, is described in an article recently published in the *Indian Textile Journal*. Mill trials suggest that these seeds will be used permanently for the purpose and not merely as a wartime measure. Hitherto, while large quantities of tamarind have been consumed in India, no use has been found for the seeds.

HAND-MADE PAPER MANUFACTURE

The Government of Madras have appointed Mr. T. Venkaji of Rajahmundry as Paper Specialist on a pay of Rs. 500 per mensem temporarily for a period of one year to formulate a well-considered scheme for the manufacture of hand-made paper on a large scale.

CHEMICAL RESEARCH

Sir Homi Mehta had donated Rs. 7,00,000 to the University of Bombay to be utilised for the promotion of research in Chemistry in connection with the Technological Department of the University.

MARKETING OF FARM PRODUCE

Several suggestions for the better marketing of agricultural produce through co-operative societies in India are contained in a report on the subject issued by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser to the Government of India.

Co-operative marketing deserves increased attention to give the agricultural producer a larger share of the price paid by the consumer. The report recommends the Madras system of linking credit with marketing by which borrowers from a credit society must sell their produce through the associated loan and sale society. It advocates financial aid to producers' societies for the construction of godowns and the repayment of dues to societies in kind, provided societies do not hold up produce for speculative purposes.

Arrangements to produce and market newly introduced varieties of commercial crops through co-operative societies (as are made by the cane development and sale societies in the U.P. and certain cotton sale societies in the Bombay Province) are considered desirable. It is also suggested that sugarcane growers' societies may with advantage widen their field of activity and in particular dispose of the entire cane crop of members in more than one way for example, by selling cane to open pan factories and juice to *khandsaries* for making *rab*.

Ghee and milk societies may be organised in areas where adequate supplies and a competent supervisory staff are available. Stress is also laid on the linking up of consumers' and producers' societies for their mutual benefit.

EXPERIMENTS WITH GRASS

Experiments with a grass which, it is claimed, drives away mosquitoes, insects and snakes, and also provides luxuriant pasturage on which livestock thrive, are being carried out now by the Assam Agricultural Department. It has been obtained from Venezuela by the Agricultural Commissioner with the Government of India. It is stated that the grass exudes an oily substance with a strong but pleasant odour which keeps away snakes and insects.

PROPOSED LABOUR LEGISLATION

Important labour legislation comes within the purview of the Central Legislative Assembly at its present session. A bill relating to holidays with pay seeks to grant 15 days holidays in a year to all industrial workers, including those in Government employ.

The main features of the Holidays with Pay Bill are:—

The provisions extend only to non-seasonal factories. The minimum number of paid holidays is 7 and they must run in one block.

The holidays cannot be accumulated.

The qualifying service is one year.

Half the wages due for the holiday period are required to be paid at its commencement.

Workers are prohibited from undertaking remunerative work during the holidays.

"Compensatory" holidays are provided for workers deprived of the weekly holidays as a result of exemption of a factory from the provisions of section 35 of the Factories Act.

INDIAN LABOUR IN CEYLON

Dealing with the various problems facing the Indian labour in Ceylon, Mr. Peri Sundaram, ex-President of the Ceylon Indian Congress, in an interview to the United Press at Madras, said:

"The Indian labour in Ceylon is putting its proper weight for the economic prosperity of Ceylon. The cost of living there has gone up by leaps and bounds and the Indian labourers are feeling the scarcity of food and the effect of the high prices. In Ceylon, almost all articles are controlled and rationed. The labourers have been given a dearness allowance, the basis of which, has been altered rather adversely for the last few months for some inscrutable reason and a demand has been made for making the dearness allowance commensurate with the soaring prices. Despite the system of control, black markets are flourishing."

SELECTION OF OFFICERS

At a luncheon party given by the Madras Provincial Committee of the All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference on August 3, Lt.-Col. A. M. Raza, Deputy President of the Officers' Selection Board at Bangalore, explained how the officers were being selected for the army, navy and air forces now. He said in the early stages of this war, candidates were selected after a few minutes' interview by the Central Interview Board. This method proved a failure. So a new system has been adopted, on the same lines as in America and England. There are going to be five such Selection Boards in India—in Rawalpindi, Dehra Dun, Jubbulpore, Calcutta and Bangalore. Only two are operating at the moment, at Bangalore and Dehra Dun. Others are coming into being. Col. Vinden is the Director of all these Selection Boards. The East Board has a President at its head with several other army officers and two Indian civilian gentlemen on its staff to assist him. The Board includes a Psychiatrist and a Psychologist. A candidate is tested in intelligence, personality and outdoor work to assess his stamina and qualities of leadership.

C. R. ON THE ROYAL ROAD TO A SETTLEMENT

In a statement given by Mr. Rajagopalachariar to the *News Chronicle*, he says:

"The royal road to a settlement of the Indian problem is to restart the negotiations with the Indian National Congress from where they stopped. The issues on which the talks floundered are no longer shrouded in the dimness of futurity. Lapse of time and events have brought them into dry light, and they can be now easily and satisfactorily disposed of. Let Sir Stafford Cripps meet the Congress President and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru again."

TATA'S GIFT FOR BENGAL RELIEF

The Sir Dorabji Tata Trust and the Sir Ratan Tata Trust have contributed Rs. 75,000 and the Tata Iron and Steel Company Rs. 50,000 for the relief of those suffering from starvation in Bengal. The amounts have been forwarded to the Bengal Relief Committee.

The Sir Dorabji Tata Trust has also donated Rs. 15,000 for flood relief in Ajmer-Marwara.

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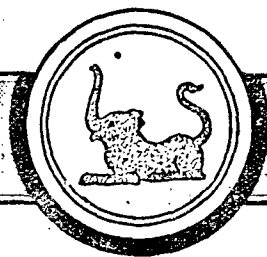
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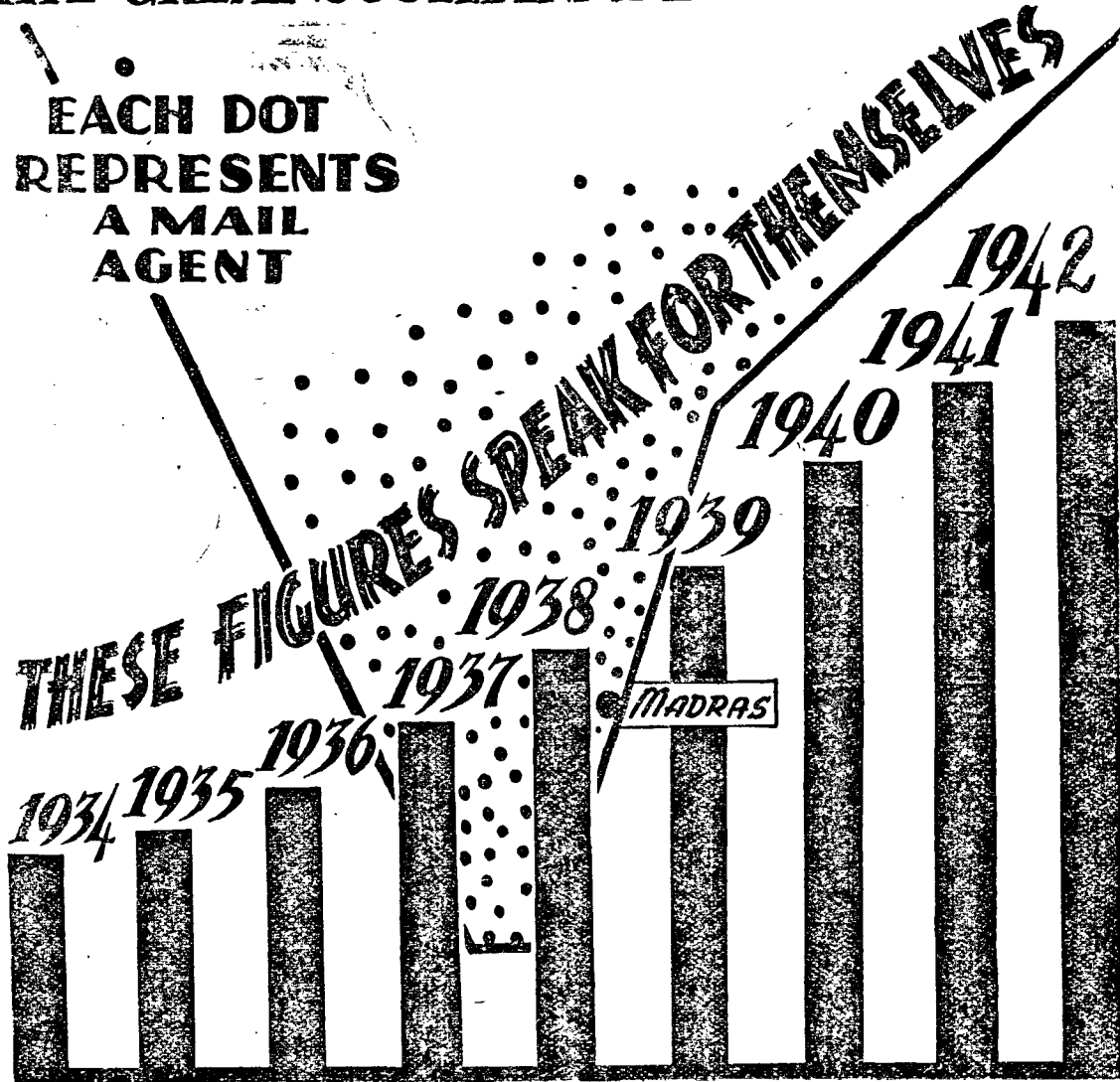
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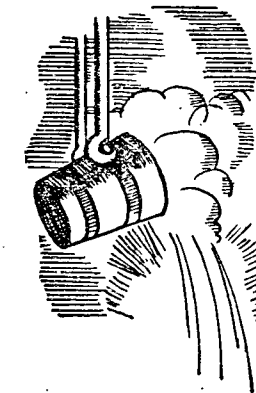
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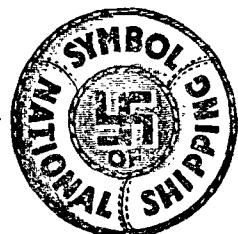
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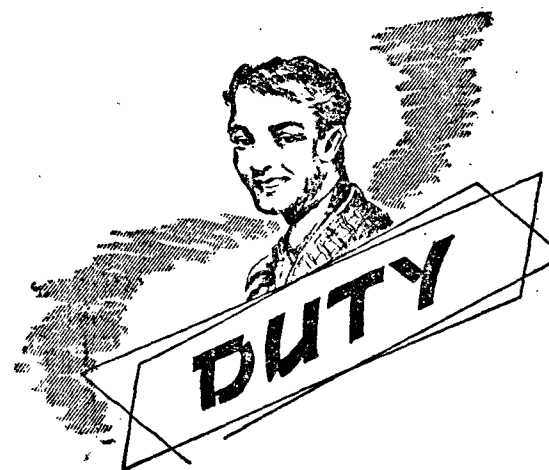
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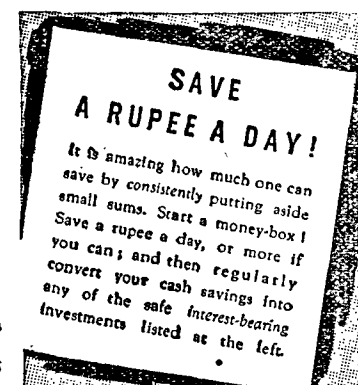
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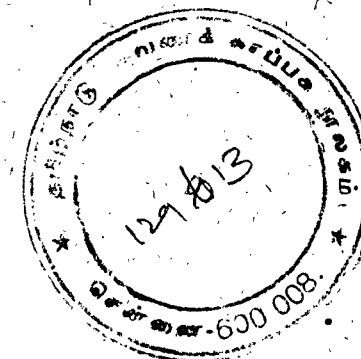
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