

THE INDIAN REVIEW

EDITED BY MR. G. A. NATESAN.



1943

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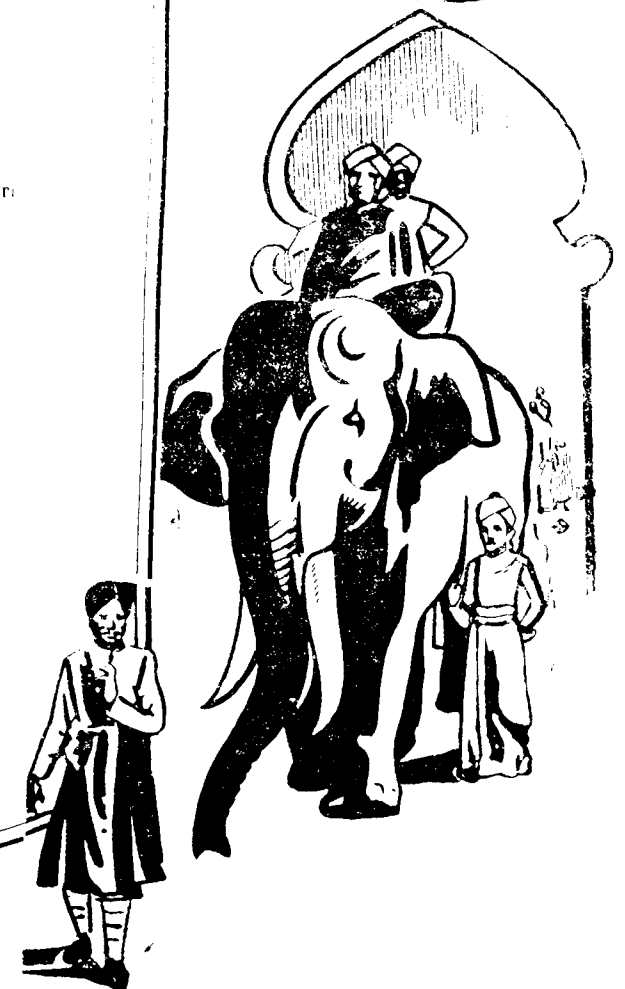
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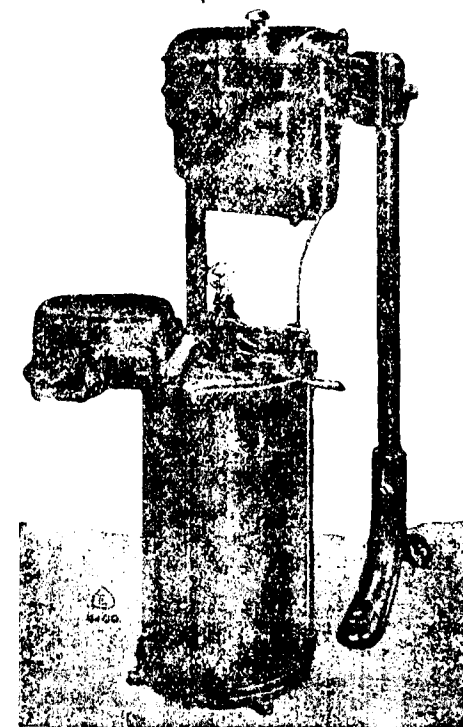


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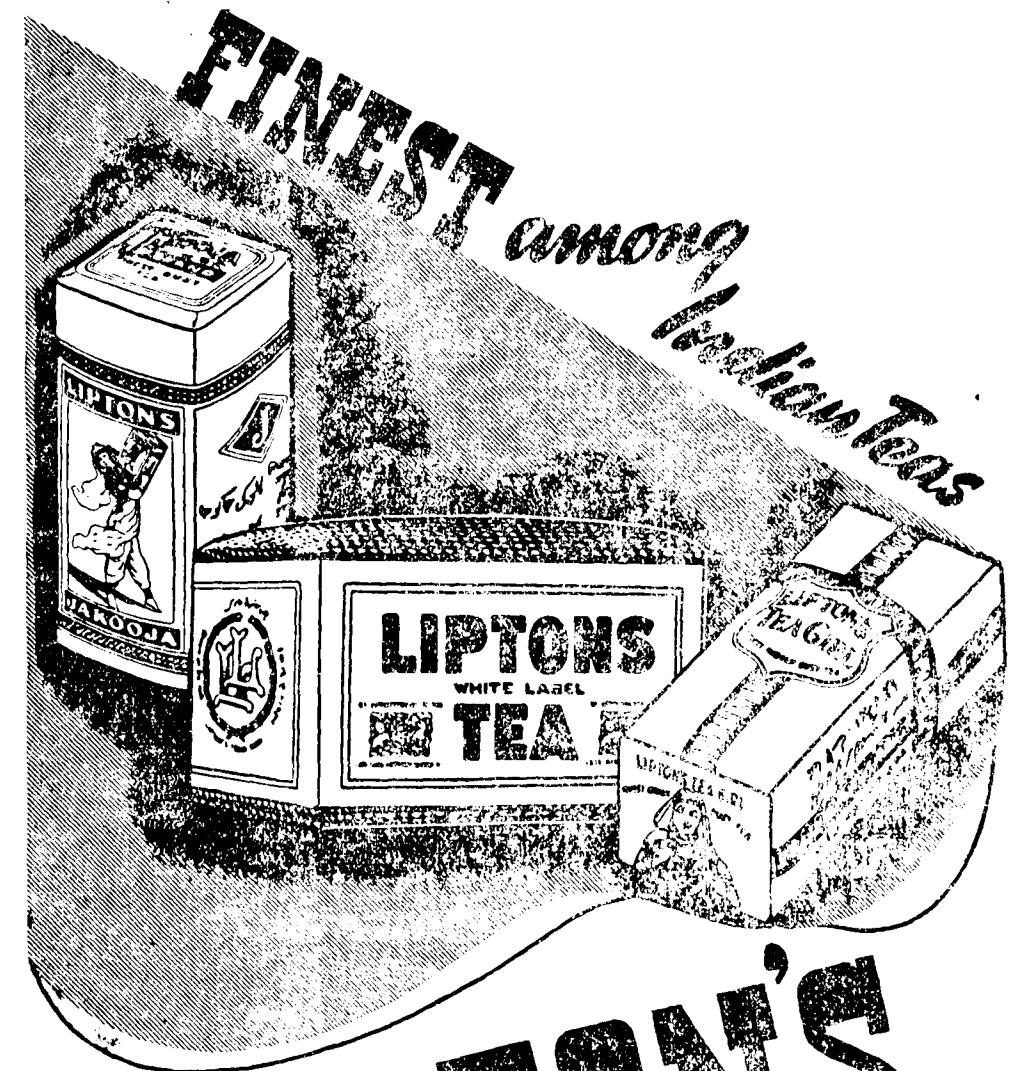
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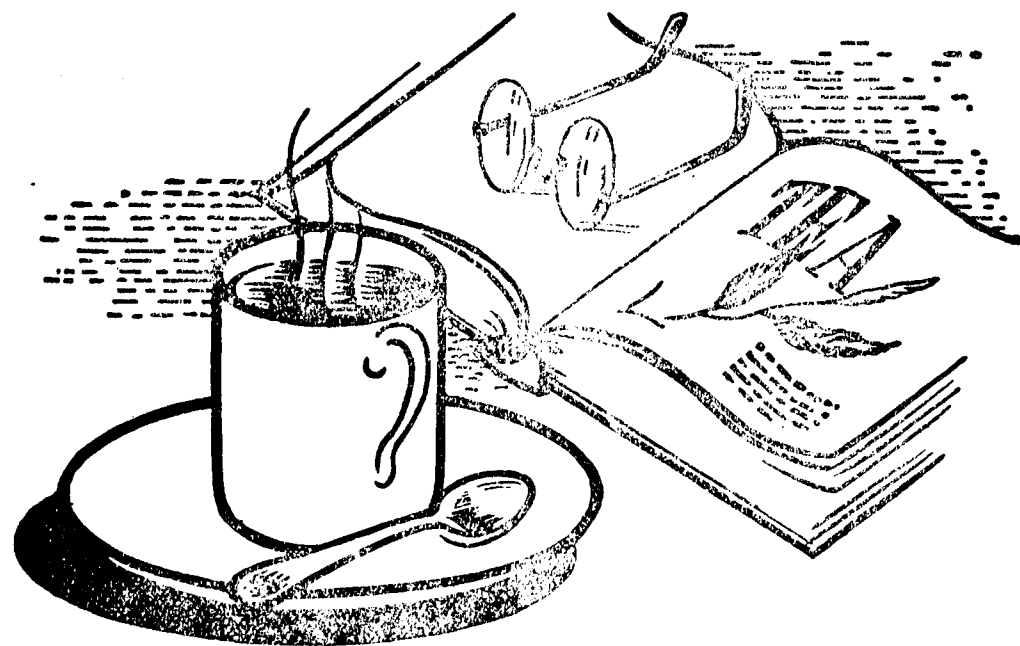
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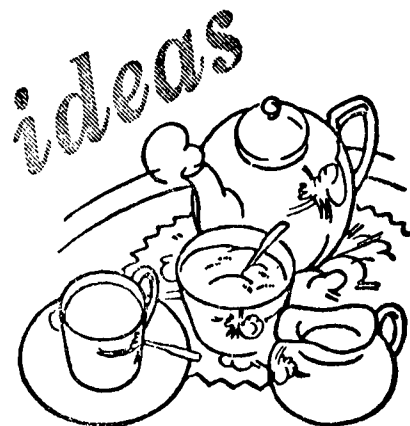
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Who Will Guard the World's Peace?

BY THE RT. HON. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI, P.C., C.H., LL.D., D.Litt.

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FOR the last two weeks we have been reading of interviews and statements of one kind or another regarding post-war arrangements by front-rank statesmen on both sides of the Atlantic. We may infer, and gratify ourselves with the inference, that the ultimate victory seems to them more than a possibility. The conduct of war is still their main pre-occupation, and they will not tolerate minute inquiries tending to distract their attention. But at intervals when they pause to take breath, problems of the future in bewildering variety obtrude their faces and seem to ask "What about us?" Indeed many men and women, in their very anxiety for victory, feel that the efforts of the United Nations may derive fresh vigour from contemplation of the brave new world that is taking shape. Harrowing fears, too, haunt a great many of us that, if our leaders were suddenly confronted with peace problems, they might be compelled by the pressure of circumstances to take ill-considered and immature decisions which carried the seeds of unhappiness and war. So far the most valuable and coherent ideas on the reconstruction of the world have been contributed by thinkers and philosophers somewhat removed from the immediate contact of the ever-changing and ever-

clamant phases of the titanic struggle. It is scarcely to be expected that these thinkers and philosophers will be accorded more than a tiny fraction of the seats of authority round the peace table. They and we, who have read their writings with avidity and formed visions of a new heaven and a new earth, must be content with such influence as we may be able to exert indirectly on the governments that have borne the brunt of the war. Statesmen who saved the world will not surrender it into the hands of philosophers and say: "Our job is done; begin yours". Such complete dichotomy of functions is not in human nature.

President Roosevelt, one of the two men to whose faintest whisper the world listens with anxious attention, has promised our race four freedoms: freedom of conscience, freedom of expression, freedom from fear and freedom from want. Interpreted liberally, these boons would seem to comprise all that an individual can desire.

If a man can think what he pleases and express his thoughts without taking into consideration the dangers, say of the Defence of India Act, if he can live his life without dreading violence or exploitation from his neighbour or tyranny

*Read at the Rotary International, Madras, on 23rd March 1943.

from a totalitarian State, if he can be sure of suitable employment and a minimum standard of living, he must be an ingrate beyond redemption to grumble even then. It is no small thing to promise so much to every man and woman everywhere on earth. To fulfil this promise not only should international relations come under the control of an overwhelmingly powerful Super-State, but the internal polity of each individual State should likewise pass under that control. Would this be consistent with the self-determination promised to each government or political community? A condition so innocent-looking and in fact so indispensable to human welfare threatens on closer examination to become unattainable. The poor people of the world, having had the hope at last of a millennium held out to them, would suffer the bitterest disappointment if they still had to face destitution and hunger during part of their lives.

Let us take the Atlantic Charter announced to the world in August 1941. This is a document affirming certain purposes and principles of far-reaching scope as to the future of the world and bearing the signatures of the heads of the two mightiest governments of today. It has since been endorsed by the governments of twenty-four other countries in alliance with the United States of America and Great Britain. The hopes of improved conditions embodied in this momentous declaration do not touch the individual human being, but are held out to the nations of the world. These include the restoration of sovereignty and self-government to the peoples who have been forcibly deprived of them; access to trade and to raw materials to all peoples great or small, victor or vanquished; co-operation in the economic field to all alike so as to secure improved labour standards, economic advancement and social security; the means of dwelling in safety within their own boundaries with freedom to all from fear and want; freedom to all to traverse the high seas and oceans; the abandonment of the use of force and the lightening of the burden of armaments. This Charter, according to the Prime

Minister of Great Britain, is not applicable to India, which must look for salvation to pledges of an earlier date and of similar scope. Complaints against this exclusion made by the leaders of Indian political parties have elicited no response of any kind from the other signatory. That India is one among the twenty-four additional signatories cannot be construed as raising her status. Precedent is against it. India signed the Treaty of Versailles and was one of the foundation-members of the League of Nations. Still her rights of initiative in that body were subject to serious restrictions, as she is not a Dominion like Canada or Australia. The obligations of membership, however, would press on her with full force. I shall have something more to say on this subject a little later.

The phraseology in which the eighth principle is couched deserves careful study. It runs thus: "Since no future peace can be maintained if land, sea or air armaments continue to be employed by nations which threaten, or may threaten, aggression outside of their frontiers, they believe, pending the establishment of a wider and permanent system of general security, that the disarmament of such nations is essential. They will likewise aid and encourage all other practicable measures which will lighten for peace-loving peoples the crushing burden of armaments". This sounds ominously like what happened after Versailles and was one of the causes of the present war. The distinction between peace-loving and peace-disturbing nations is unreal and cannot be a safe foundation for the construction of the world's future. Italy and Japan were once on the side of the Angels, but have now gone over to the wrong side. Russia has recently changed her character in the contrary direction. And poor fallen France—where can we place her? In the matter of disarmament the most virtuous nation must agree to abide by the common rule. Self-righteousness is wrong in nations as in individuals.

In the enormous array of suggestions made for the New Deal, there are a few which command either universal or almost universal assent. I shall endeavour to bring them together in this place. Nations

ought no longer to be allowed to make war on one another. They should all be disarmed. An International Authority should be created with well-defined powers over all and having at its disposal land, sea and air forces sufficient to overcome any State or any combination of States that may threaten to break the peace. It may be necessary to locate these forces at three or four strategic points in the two hemispheres. Disputes between nations, if not settled among themselves, should be decided in a court like the Hague Tribunal or submitted to arbitration. Arbitral awards must in the last resort be enforceable by the Supreme International Authority. The constitution and functions of this Authority should be more precise and capable of being mobilised than those of the League of Nations were, and its procedure must admit of greater dispatch of business. It may, if necessary, hold its sittings in two or three different places by turns. Member-States must submit to such taxation as may be imposed by the Authority, which should have power to collect its dues when necessary by force. Territories of which the inhabitants are unable to look after themselves must be administered by International Authority. If the agency of Member-States be used for the purpose, it must be subject to the supervision of the International Authority, which may require facilities for inspection and periodical reports.

In the last regime, the mandates, graded differently and named A, B and C, did not work properly. Certain Powers frankly regarded the trust as little short of annexation. A Dominion Prime Minister made the avowal cynically. In some cases the people under tutelage rose against their masters' unsympathetic treatment, but were put down with barbarous cruelty. When the Mandates Commissioners bestirred themselves and made inquiries, their intervention was resented and the errant Powers even refused information. The League was unable to redress the wrongs of the oppressed. If the mandates system be found unavoidable, care must be taken that the ultimate power is in the hands of the International Authority and can be invoked for the benefit of the

backward communities. Also a period must be fixed in each case for the conclusion of the mandate, and the conferment on the people concerned of the full dignity and status of nationhood. Where the process of uplift has not reached its consummation, the International Authority must have the right to renew the probation for a further period. The Powers that possess Colonies seem to be agreed that such possession must be subject to the claim of other Powers to a share of the Colonial products to the extent necessary for their economic life. This recognition, when regulated by the International Authority, will remove one of the prolific causes of jealousy among the nations.

Unanimity is not perceptible on certain other important suggestions. They seem desirable in themselves, but cannot be forced on unwilling Powers. The notion of sovereignty is held with the tenacity of deep-rooted pride, so that encroachments are perilous if pushed beyond the point of necessity, proved and admitted. We have experience of the feeling in India where, after the substance has been taken away, the mere name is clung to with a degree of pathetic fervour that reminds us of our common human frailty.

Strong arguments, for example, are adduced for the abolition of political boundaries in order to ensure absolute freedom of movement on this planet and remove all boundary and nationality disputes, which have in the past led to acrimonious and prolonged quarrels and even to wars. With greater cogency pleas have been urged for the elimination of economic barriers, so that commerce and manufacture may have no impediments of any kind, and vexatious delays and harassments in travel may cease. A uniform monetary currency has also been proposed as a desideratum: but the difficulties in the way of its introduction seem insuperable. If it were feasible at all, that other millennial feature of the New Deal would come into practical politics,—a uniform minimum standard of living. Less utopian without doubt and far more necessary in the interests of the world peace is the internationalization of all Colonial possessions for the equal benefit of the nations of the earth. But

nationalism and the narrow patriotism that goes with it are passions still too strong in the human breast. The British Prime Minister has choked off even discussion of this momentous subject by declaring with the finality of conviction that his great office precludes him from entertaining proposals to weaken or diminish the magnitude of the British Empire. India has been alarmed by the emphasis and unqualified nature of this enunciation of policy. It is certain to be challenged by more than one people now comprised within the Empire, who pray for the triumph of the doctrine that the sway of one people over another is against the law of nature. The wise are many who hold that no new order in the world's affairs is good for anything which does not terminate imperialism root and branch. The passion for complete independence is now so strong among the politically-minded classes in this country that those who deliver a frontal attack on it will before long have a rude awakening. The Indian equivalent of the Atlantic Charter dangled before our eyes is the Indian Constitution of 1935, modified by the proposals which bear the name of Sir Stafford Cripps and have the official imprimatur of the British Cabinet. These last are withdrawn in form, but have been reaffirmed by front-rank statesmen as Britain's bond of honour, on which there can be no going back. The sands of the hour-glass have nearly run down. Why don't the Government promulgate an irrevocable decree, making India a Dominion alongside Great Britain and the rest of the members of the Commonwealth, and binding themselves to implement the decree within a named period after the war with the co-operation of those practical-minded elements of the population who realise that the status now attained by South Africa and Eire, together with the express acknowledgment of the right of secession, is as good as independence?

Like other governments, the India Government should get busy with the post-war order. It ought not to sit back with folded hands and say to the communities: "You tell me when your quarrels are composed; we shall then start the real job together". Rather

should its exhortation to us be in a tone of unmistakable sincerity: "Within a year after the war, you shall be a complete Dominion of the Commonwealth, not subject in any way to Great Britain, but bound like her and the other Dominions by a common allegiance to the Crown. Your new constitution shall be framed by your chosen delegates, while the country is kept as a going concern without need of a drastic revolution. The change-over may be made with minimum disturbance. After you are settled as a Dominion, and when you feel that you would rather be independent, you may exercise the right of secession and enter on the new regime, again with minimum disturbance. In effecting these changes, we will give you every possible help. We earnestly desire but won't wait for a complete understanding between the communities. Let who will, stand apart and watch; let who will, take a hand in the work of reconstruction. Not a day shall be lost after the war is over. But at present let us work together for victory. Except the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief, the personnel of the Government shall be Indian and drawn from all parties in the Legislature by the choice of the Prime Minister appointed by the Viceroy".

Such a pronouncement will prove beyond cavil that the Indian people are trusted as allies: and they will prove worthy of the trust, and do their duty by themselves, by Britain and by the friends of freedom in the world.

One more word on the subject of India. Muslims have taken a firm stand on Pakistan as an essential condition of all parleying. Hindus are no less firm that the unity of India shall not be broken. I am sure, as sure as of my speaking to you at this moment, that the Hindus are right and the Muslims are wrong. Government have, with disastrous short-sightedness, allowed this communal dispute to grow into a formidable danger. How they can reconcile this policy with their high duty to India I cannot see, though I have every desire to be just to them. The belated repudiation by the Viceroy of the Pakistan idea is impotent to check the spread or mitigate the virulence of the deadly potion. I once likened the

Cripps scheme to a repast of delectable viands marred by an ineluctable cup of mortal poison at the end. If nations cannot in future decide their mutual quarrels by war, but must submit to international arbitration, neither can two Indian communities be allowed to resort to civil war for any purpose, but must agree to abide by the award of an arbitral court composed of impartial judges. To find proper judges, to get the parties to plead before them and finally to give effect to their decision,—is a most onerous and delicate task. But it must be faced, seeing that the dread alternative is civil war. On the eve of the new World Order, at the very threshold of the temple of peace, it is hardly likely that either of the disputant parties will refuse to submit to arbitration.

One dreaded enemy of peace, one potent cause of war, remains still to be considered. It is colour prejudice. Of its malignant possibilities the world has still no clear perception. Let us hope these possibilities will be understood betimes and prevented from ever taking shape or form. There is no calculating the harm it has done in the past. Shall mankind rise above it? There are white communities who sincerely believe that the coloured races were created to serve them. Hindus with their caste system consigning people by their birth to lowly occupations will understand the disabilities of colour, which admits of no remedy. The fate of the Harijan community must give us pause in condemning the harsh treatment accorded to coloured races where white people dominate. There is, however, one circumstance in India which redeems the situation in part. The law of this country is against caste discrimination, and it is administered in a liberal spirit. Enlightened public opinion too is decidedly unfavourable to caste tyranny and caste pride. In South Africa, on the contrary, both the law and its working are hostile to coloured people, and public opinion is even more so. The Dominions have closed the door against coloured immigration, though enormous spaces are unpeopled. At the present moment the white inhabitants of Durban, predominantly British by origin, are conducting one of their

periodical agitations against their Indian fellow-citizens without a sense of responsibility. The Negro of the Southern States of America is far yet from enjoying the rights of citizenship given him by the law, though cases of lynching are less common than formerly, and it is some time since one read of the weird and lawless activities of the Ku Klux Klan. When the last great peace was fashioned at Versailles in 1920, the delegation of Japan demanded that the principle of equality between coloured and colourless peoples should be formally recognised. But it was turned down. When the issue is raised this time, as it will be, by the united eastern nations, let us hope that it will be accepted without a demur and with grace. Repetition of the blunder will be high treason against posterity, besides being an ignoble betrayal of the ideals that seers and saints have taught in the past. There is no need, however, to catalogue the manifestations of colour prejudice. Suffice it to say that its magnitude may well alarm those that are interested in the future of humanity. If unchecked, it may lead to bloody wars. Once they begin, they will set the East against the West and fill all the continents with ruin and carnage. On the white peoples of the earth and on every man and woman among them there rests a heavy responsibility,—that of learning to look upon coloured persons as equal and entitled to the good things of the world in equal measure with themselves. The required change of heart is of slow growth and must be carefully fostered in the schools, while yet the children's minds are plastic. It is needless to add that the coloured races for their part must change their attitude towards their white brethren in a spirit of friendly response, shed their fear and inferiority complex and show a measure of confidence and trustfulness.

We are now prepared to consider the type of persons who should be entrusted with the duty of guarding and maintaining the world's peace in future. What qualities should we look for in them besides ability, tact, character, refinement and so on that we expect in men and women holding responsible positions? In one word, the international mind. The crass nationalism,

known by the dignified name of patriotism, they must shed. In spirit they must belong to the world, not merely to a country or nation. It is not easy, this emancipation. On the contrary, it is a difficult discipline, in which backsliding accords with one's habits and ways of thought and feeling, and progress depends on the vivid perception of larger viewpoints than one is used to and the firm grasp of wider notions of justice and more comprehensive ideas of human welfare. Of old, when the schoolmen talked of the citizenship of the world, it was perhaps a term of derision. Spread over an area scarcely known to its full extent, stretched to peoples mostly unknown and unheard-of, and never exercised in concrete tasks of benevolent service of which the results could be seen day by day, the citizenship of the world could not acquire even in a life-time any degree of warmth or compelling stimulus to action. No wonder the cynic said that such a person loved every country but his own, and bestowed his unavailing brotherliness, not on men, but on man. But in the higher administrative ranks of the Secretariat of the International Authority, in the military services, in the judicial tribunal, and in the various special commissions appointed by the Authority, an officer comes into daily contact with persons belonging to many lands and many races, handles their affairs and appreciates their special attitudes to life, their contentions and their ambitions. His knowledge of the world and his labours for its various peoples will be real and purposeful, so that his citizenship of the world will be an active and lively emotion. He may have to take decisions against his government; he may have to conduct military operations against his nation; he may have to deliver adverse verdicts against the authorities of his country. On such occasions he must learn to assume the necessary detachment without a qualm or special effort. Ideas of great reach like the oneness of humanity, the parliament of man and the federation of the world must become familiar ground on which his mind moves with habitual ease. His sympathies must attain catholicity; his unreasoned prejudices must wither and drop away; mode

and object of worship, style of dress, food, colour of skin,—towards these in their wide variety his toleration and sympathy must flow with the readiness of nature. It may be advisable, in appointing to offices under the International Authority, to require of the candidates that they will, to the extent of their capacity, cultivate the international mind, look upon all States and all nations with absolute impartiality and serve all with equal zeal and equal fidelity.

A costly blunder of the past should be avoided at the birth of the Supreme International Authority. When at Versailles in 1920 the League of Nations was created, its limbs were crippled by the jealousy of the great Powers. They assigned great functions to the baby, but gave it no chance to grow to the necessary stature. The scramble for the main posts of influence was pitiful, and, not to mince matters, the victors divided the spoils among themselves without compunction. The League thus became an instrument for the camouflaged execution of the policies of the great Powers and could not check their high-handedness or bullying at the incipient stage or bring the stipulated sanctions into effective use at the right moment. A more democratic basis must be provided this time for the Supreme Authority; power must be more equitably distributed; the smaller States must be placed in a position to invoke and mobilise the resources of the Authority at need. Expressions like "Anglo-Saxon races" and "English-speaking communities" are already audible. Formidable cliques may be formed overnight, and the weak peoples of the world, instead of leaning on the International Authority as their bulwark, may find it a broken reed and be cheated of the new heaven and new earth that were promised to them. Let it be realised to the full that the saviours of the world must undergo sacrifices all the way and all the time. Of the noble, noble deeds are demanded. Those that win the war for the world's freedom must win the peace too for the world's freedom. Else all the suffering would be thrown away, and all the glory forfeited.

BIOLOGICAL IMPORTANCE OF INDIA

BY MR. T. V. SUBRAHMANYAM, B.A.

TO one who is interested in field natural history, India offers endless avenues for indulging in collection work. Surrounded on three sides by water, protected on the fourth side by the loftiest mountain, the Himalayas, with extremes of climatic conditions and varying degrees of rainfalls, with chains of ghats and series of rivers, with dense forests and open plateaus, with rugged rocks and silvery lakes, India is ever the fostering mother of abundant fauna and flora—aquatic, terrestrial and aerial. Her faunistic and floristic opulence has never failed to fascinate the naturalists. If a Charles Darwin or Ray Lankester had the opportunity of doing researches on the Indian plants and animals, our biological literature would have been the double of what exists today.

What is interesting about India is the immense variety of her plant and animal life. Almost all the genera of the fauna and flora are abundantly represented. This variety is the most potent factor that nullifies the collector's monotony and enables him to carry on his studies in as many directions as possible. The super-abundance of species is another factor which assists the collector to take up any particular branch of study and dive in it as deep as possible. The mammal specialist will never complain of the lack of mammals in the Indian forests. No other country is so famous for its tigers, hyenas, jackals or elephants. The entomologist will only get tired of the innumerable species of Indian insects and no one can fail "to be impressed by the splendour of the butterflies of India". With regard to Molluscan shells, India is a typical tropical country whose sea-coasts offer plenty of attractive specimens and a conchologist will find few better fields elsewhere. The fact that there are more than 450 species of snakes in India alone speaks for itself the richness of her reptilian fauna. Of birds no special mention is to be made, for, everybody knows that the Oriental Regions in which India is included, are famous for the thousands of brightly coloured aves.

The presence of the animals speaks also about the presence of plants. As

a matter of fact, plants are more primitive than the animals and the latter are always dependent upon the former either directly or indirectly for their sustenance. Many members of the animal kingdom are herbivorous and they wholly depend on the plants for their living. Most of the insects pass through various stages in their life histories called the Metamorphoses, among which the caterpillar stage is a very important one and most of these caterpillars are voracious devourers of plant leaves. Many adult insects and spiders are sheltered by plants. The birds feed on fruits and build their nests among the foliage of plants. The butterflies, bees and wasps owe very much to the sweet nectar of the floral apparatus of shrubs and herbs. And the so-called man! he is only an extract of plants. Moreover the percentage of the oxygen constituent of the atmosphere, without which life is impossible, is always maintained normal by the oxygen manufactured by the plants during their photo-synthetic activity. Altogether it can be said that animals are indebted to plants to such an extent that without the latter the former cannot exist and therefore the presence of an abundant fauna is impossible without an equally abundant flora.

In those places watered by rainfalls and by the side of lakes the luxuriant verdure of India is a sight to see. From the smallest unicellular Chlamydomonas of Volvocales to that full fledged majestic banyan tree, with thousands of shoots covering hundreds of square yards, all sorts of plants which the botanists classify into annuals, biennials and perennials, or herbs, shrubs and trees are represented in India. India's fame is not in her inanimate byzantine rocks or in her coal and iron mines but in her living gems. All the emeralds she produces are the different kinds of edible fruits and all her 'eldorados' are her endless golden harvests.

According to the nature of climatic and other geographical conditions, the Indian flora naturally present great variation in distribution. In the more interior portions where there are no regular rainfalls, nor

rivers, we find the climate extremely dry and the plants that grow there of xerophytic nature. Such plateaus extend for miles and a traveller, crossing India from East to West can see in these dreary plains nothing but some solitary trees and Boucerosian Cactus growths amid rocky cliffs crumbling in the scorching sun. The animal habitation in this locality is comparatively poor. Here the naturalist can find some sandy tinted birds or beetles, desert rats and solitary spiders, or some other rare insects or reptiles which are habituated to such dry mode of life.

Towards the coastal areas, and by the sides of rivers, however, the climate is more temperate and hygroscopic favouring the natural development of plants and trees. Especially Western India, including, of course, Malabar coast, with its lofty chain of mountains, the western ghats, and regular rainfalls is the seat of innumerable trees and plants of different species. The sandy sea coast is famous not only for the shells and fisheries but also for the countless green umbrellas—the coconut palms. Under the cool and welcome shades of these spreading palms, surrounded by backwaters and canals, the west wind mildly blowing, the solitary Biologist can work a lot. As a matter of fact, in the confined waters of these localities, he can come across all the members of the algae and Protozoan groups, various specimens of Platyhelminthes and Polyzoons, many members of the aquatic Crustaceans etc. Proceeding more and more to the interior (nearer the ghats), the vegetation also increases in quantity and quality with the corresponding increase of the fauna also. Endless number of butterflies and other interesting insects, spiders and other arachnids, land snails and slugs, numerous snakes and other reptiles like chameleons and flying lizards, amphibians of different species, birds of every order and description—all abound in the narrow strip of land extending between the western ghats and the Arabian Sea. Entering the jungles and the forests fringing the ghats, wild animals of different orders can be met with from the smallest squirrels to the largest mass of protoplasm, the elephant.

Thus India offers so many facilities and specimens for the biologist to pursue his studies and it can be truly said that few other countries can match her in the variety and richness of natural treasures. She is in herself a living biological museum or a combined botanical and zoological garden, with mother Nature as the curator and demonstrator. So fascinating and opulent are her stores of animal and plant life that all naturalists agree that she is an ideal country for studying biology. Many biologists, both of the past and the present, have been working in this country and as a result of their continuous and constructive labour a series of valuable systematic natural history records are now available in every good library of the world. Under the instigation of the leading museums and biological societies various scientific surveys have been organized and creditable is the work turned out by scores of eminent field and cabinet naturalists. In the vast biological field of India, many have put in their sickles but the harvest is so abundant that even the most negligent search of a straggling gleaner may be rewarded with a sheaf.

Biology is only an infant science still in its progress. On the applied side of this science, there still remains much to be worked out. Uptil now we have, so to say, only touched the brink and even this incomplete study has revealed many wonders. There can be no doubt that with more advance in this branch of knowledge greater wonders will be unravelled and more utilitarian results achieved.

In the interests of this science, therefore, it is necessary that the fauna and flora of India should not be spoiled in any way but, on the other hand, preserved as carefully as possible. In many countries, even including Britain, the reason for the dwindling of wild life has been mainly attributed to the destruction done by man. Such a thing should not happen to India and for this none but all of us should see that no animal is hunted down or no plant destroyed simply for sensual felicity.

BUDDHIST PAINTINGS IN INDIA

BY MR. ASIT K. HALDAR

THE sense of rhythm is a primitive urge of mankind and this sense is expressed in man's artistic creation even in the remote days when he lived in a wild state in the caves. Art is a reflection of this sense of rhythm mingled with potential energy with which he could gradually put things in harmony and order in his wild disorderly life. Thus the art of any country may be considered to be the criterion by which the standard of civilization achieved might be judged.

In India there exists big gaps between the paintings of the pre-historic, pre-Vedic, pre-Asokan Buddhist and Moghul paintings. Due to the ravages of time and constant invasions of various races in successive periods, the art of paintings could hardly survive in India and be discerned in chronological sequence. Moreover, the technique involved was such that only by an accident traces of paintings remained in Ajanta, Bagh, Sigiriya and in some other places. After the pre-Asokan paintings of Jogimara caves in Central Provinces mention could be made of the highly developed paintings at Ajanta caves at Deccan, Hyderabad, which date from the 1st century B.C. to the 9th century A.D. These series of 29 caves were discovered by an Englishman in 1819 and first copied by Major Gill in 1857. These Buddhist cave monasteries were excavated at different times by the Kings of the Buddhist faith ruling at that time for the rainy-day resort of the Buddhist monks. The *Chaitya* caves were meant for worship and the *Vihara* types were for congregation of the preachers as well as for the lodging of the lay-worshippers. But none can say who actually did the paintings

on the walls of the caves and their approximate date of completion. The subject-matters of the paintings are obviously Buddhist as also some important historical incidents and episodes of that period. Mention may be made of the Persian Embassy at the court of Pulakeshin II; and also the invasion of Ceylon by Bijoy Singha of Bengal and many other incidents of the court and daily life of the people as described by the contemporary poets and authors in their works. These incidents are depicted in a panorama, group by group, in such a way as the episodes could be seen one at a time separately without losing the effect of the harmony of the complete pictures of the wall. These groups are not divided compartmentally and are so cleverly composed as to give an idea of completeness in keeping with the architectural features of the surroundings. The fresco paintings of Europe differ greatly in this respect, as they are drawn separately panelwise and could be easily taken out of the wall without losing the unity and effect of the other pictures painted on the same wall.

Unfortunately the ground prepared by the artists on the stone walls of the caves in India was extremely fragile, made of husk, earth and cowdung which easily fell off. The Government of Nizam, however, spent considerable sums of money to restore these paintings and engaged two Italian experts recently. The special features of these paintings have been described by Mr. John Griffiths in his monumental work on "The Cave Paintings of Ajanta" and also by Lady Herringham and by Mr. G. Yazdani in their sumptuous monographs on Ajanta cave paintings. Both

John Griffiths and Lady Herringham made copies of these frescoes in 1872 to 1885 and 1909 to 1911 respectively. Incidentally it might be recalled that the present writer also took part in copying them along with Lady Herringham's party. These copies are preserved in the Indian section of the South Kensington Museum in London. The merits of these paintings cannot be better described than by quoting some remarks made by both Messrs. Griffiths and Binyon. Mr. Griffiths said:

The artists who painted them were giants in execution. Even on the vertical sides of the walls some of the lines which were drawn by one sweep of the brush struck me as being very wonderful; but when I saw long delicate curves drawn without faltering with equal precision, upon the horizontal surface of a ceiling, where the difficulty of execution is increased a thousand-fold, it appeared to me nothing less than miraculous.

Mr. Lawrence Binyon, writing a preface to Mr. Yazdani's book on Ajanta, described the paintings as follows:—

It is a vision of the living world that the artists of Ajanta present; the teeming earth, the springing plants, the birds, the deer, the elephants, crimson-pillared pavilions and porticoes; gateways, and roofs of cities: and among all these the life of men and women and children, supple-limbed, gracious in gesture, freely moving, playing in pensive mood; all earthly life in its laughter and its grief: but always emerging from it a life of the spirit prevails, the spirit that contemplates and is filled with compassion.

After the Ajanta we could speak of the famous series of fresco painting at Bagh caves in the Gwalior State which is equally vigorous in spirit and in execution. The caves are situated 90 miles off from Mhow in Central India. They are now in a bad state of preservation; the roof of the caves in many cases has given way and the bare wall on which the paintings were done is exposed to the ravages of weather and time. It is indeed a miracle that the series of paintings extending about 40 feet still remain intact, whereas

some damaged fragments could also be found in different places in the various caves there. The paintings at Bagh are identical specimens of the contemporary Ajanta paintings and are done in the same technique and spirit. The Bagh cave paintings had some disadvantage as the caves were hewn from soft sand-stone and the mortar available was of much inferior kind. Like Ajanta these paintings remained in obscurity for centuries and were only discovered in 1820 for the first time by Major Dangarfield, 150 miles away from Ajanta. The panorama of paintings, which still exists on the wall of the verandha of the Bagh caves, depicts a continuous scene, representing a queen weeping on a window sill with a female attendant by her side consoling her. Next to it, separated by a wall, a kingly personage absorbed in conversation with a princely ambassador apparently illustrates a serious political confabulation. Under it *arhatr* (mendicants) fly in the upper air along with a group of girl musicians playing on musical instruments. The third scene opens up with a dancing troupe of female musicians and a male dancer, obviously a joker, dressed in Persian costume with a wig on his head. Subsequently we see a procession of men riding on elephants and horses advancing towards the dancing party. The dresses are painted gay with all kinds of *Hansa Mithuna*, lotuses and geometrical patterns. The horses and elephants are so realistically rendered that one could almost hear the movements of the elephants and the galloping of the horses. There are some female musicians on elephant back holding one another, and it gives a very realistic and homely rendering of the scene. At the end of it a *Chaitya-torana* (city entrance)

out of which the procession is emerging is depicted. The last scene represents a saint sitting in an *Arama*—a public park with a sad demeanour.

After the Bagh cave paintings, we come across the contemporary paintings at Sigiriya in Ceylon executed at the time of King Kasayapa between 479 to 497 A.D. These paintings are to be found on a precipitous hill in *Sigiriya* or *Singhagiri* inside the niches, representing water goddesses as protecting guardians of the hill. These paintings resemble Bagh and Ajanta in their general technique and also in the mannerism of dresses and decoration of the female figures. Some traces of paintings are still to be found in the ancient city of Anuradhapura and also at Rawanveli Dagoba in Ceylon. Apart from those, in the Central Provinces at Taman Kadwa paintings representing kingly knights seated in a row with folded hands could be observed. The inscription found near the paintings could not be deciphered and consequently no time or date of these groups could be attributed. Similar paintings of the later types are still to be found in Polanarwa, Dambhole, Kenheri-Vihara in Colombo and Dogaldurwa in Kandi. These paintings dated between the 1st to 11th century A.D. were drawn in a most rigid conventional manner which ultimately made them lifeless. With the advent of the Mahayana Buddhist cult the Buddhist monks tried to preach the consequences of sin and how to avoid it and we therefore notice in these paintings scenes of Hell and various kinds of punishments which were very carefully illustrated. Such paintings could be seen at the Velubanavihava painted at the time of Parakramabahu between 1153 to 1186 A.D.

and they are somewhat akin to the Ajanta frescoes but not quite in their spirit.

The mediæval period could be called a dark period for Art. Mention of paintings could only be found in the various contemporary literatures. From Taranath's book we gather that a variety of techniques was in vogue in painting pictures and that there were artists like Joya, Vijoya and Prajaya in Northern India at that time. In Magadha also we understand from his works that famous artists like Dhiman and Bitpala lived and created a school of their own which survived more than a century.

Only recently in Sionavasal at Padukot Jain paintings have been discovered in the cave temples there. These paintings were done at the time of Palhavi Raj Mahendra Varman in the 7th century A.D. The lotus tanks with playful elephants, ducks, makara, and mahisha painted on the ceiling of the caves are worth mentioning. There are also personages painted with *Jata mukuta* who resemble Siva as an ascetic. At Kashivarma in Kailash temple some paintings in a damaged state still linger on the wall. In the Narathmallai hills there is a painting of *Chamunda*, *Kala-nritya*, which must have been executed at the time of Pandya Rajas in the 9th century A.D.

In the cave temples of Ellora some remains of frescoes still exist. It gives ample evidence that the mural paintings once elaborately adorned the cave temples of India. In Tanjore Brihadiswara temple some paintings of the Chola period exist. These mediæval fresco painting differ greatly from the Moghul miniature but a trace of sincere lineal treatment suggesting the affinity of them could be noticed and we would therefore safely call them the "connecting link"

with the subsequent great art of the Moghul. Apart from the Buddhist and Jain cave paintings, we can also mention Hindu cave paintings at Badami which were done at the time of Chalukya Raj Mangaleswar in the 5th century A.C.

Some paintings which belong to the 11th century have been found at Trichur in Tirumallaipuram temple. In Cochin and Travancore States we come across a series of paintings of the early 15th to 17th century A.C. They are full of vigour and life although extremely decorative. We could trace some paintings on the Jain manuscripts among which Shalivadra illustrations of the Jain mythology could be mentioned.

The vitality of these pre-Moghul paintings could be ascertained from the paintings

at Banyan caves at Afghanistan, Khotan, Meeran, Tarfan in Central Asia, Honon and a thousand Buddha temples in China and Horioji and Kongobuji temples in Japan. These recall the character and spirit of Ajanta which obviously influenced the art of those remote countries with the expansion of the Buddhist religion. In Nepal and Tibet the tradition of ancient Indian painting has still persistently continued in our time in spite of the Western influence in Indian art. The Tibetan and Nepali Banner paintings (Tangka) did not allow the vigour of the Ajanta tradition to decay and continued it in a different vehicle. Thus the art of ancient India remained as potential as ever like that of their religion.—*A Radio Talk (Lucknow).*

ATATURK AND TURKEY

BY MR. G. PINTO

WAR never leaves a country where it found it. Many are the changes ushered in by war in the life of a people. And of all countries, Turkey witnessed the most drastic overhaul in its political, social and cultural system in World War I. The old Ottoman Empire of the Sultans gave place to the compact model Turkey of Mustafa Kemal Pasha Ataturk. The life of Mustafa Ataturk and the history of modern Turkey have been so intertwined that it would not be extravagance of language to regard the two names as synonymous. For it was Mustafa who preserved it from disruption and foreign domination, "reclaimed" it from the moribund Empire and set it on the path of Peace and Progress. Today Turkey, thanks to the genius of Ataturk and the

efforts of his trusted friend and steward Ismet Inonu, bids fair to fulfil the fond hope of its founder "to raise the fatherland to the level of the most prosperous and civilised country in the world".

But now after 18 years of its foundation, Turkey has been faced with a critical period in its history. Many of its neighbours now lie prostrate under the heel of foreign domination, aggression is staring her in the face and any hour she may be required to uphold her honour or be overwhelmed like the rest. The time has come when Kemalism itself will be put to a severe test and it would be profitable to recount in brief the life of Mustafa Kemal and the system which he conceived and carried out, shaped and solidified.

Mustafa was born in 1880 in Salonika where he spent most of his youth and

which was to be the scene of many of his activities. Zubeida, his mother, was an orthodox Muhammedan but Ali Riza, his father, was more inclined to be liberal. At the age of seven he was admitted in a school but his father's death soon after forced him to leave school and Salonika as well to join his mother at Lazaran where we find him occupied in the humble employment of a stable groom or tending horses, sheep and geese. Destiny perhaps required that he should accustom his body to such hard work for the arduous task he would be called upon later to undertake. The stay at Lazaran, however, was short, and returning to Salonika Mustafa resumed his study displaying that keen intelligence and a subtle mind with which he was eminently gifted. The culmination of his study was the rank of Captain on passing with flying colours through the Cadet School of Monastir and the Harbiyeh Staff School of Istanbul.

But public life for Mustafa did not begin till the age of 30, when he accompanied General Ali Riza (not to be confused with his father) to Paris as Staff Officer. On his return he was posted in Derna as Commanding Officer of the 38th Regiment. A year later he fully justified the confidence reposed in him by his superiors by frustrating Italian designs on Tripoli in October 1911.

Mustafa, however, was not content with a soldier's life and he was taking a keen interest in political activities whenever work and time permitted it and very soon he came under the surveillance of the authorities. But for the outbreak of the Great War, of 1914-18 in which Turkey staked to much, Ataturk might have faced the displeasure and even

banishment from his fatherland. For the first year of the war nothing noteworthy happened in the life of Colonel Mustafa but on 25th April 1915 the Allies planned to take the Turks from the rear as a preliminary to infesting Constantinople, the Ottoman capital. But in Mustafa, who happened to be posted in the region through which the initial operations were scheduled, the Allies caught a Tartar and his brilliant manœuvres culminating in the complete discomfiture of the Allied army on 9th August even wrung an admiration from his enemies for the Hero of the Dardanelles.

The war took a bad turn for Germany and Turkey suffered the consequences as Germany's ally. The Empire was crushed and the victors tried to exploit the fallen enemy. The first to trample upon the prostrate Empire was Greece. On 15th May 1919, the Greeks landed at Smyrna with a view to occupying the important places in Anatolia. Mustafa at once realized the danger. He saw that the Empire was incompetent to the task before it. All authority virtually ceased to emanate from the Government. He demurred and characteristically made the decision. On his own responsibility, he went on a whirlwind tour of the country rousing the national instincts of the people. On 23rd April 1920, the Grand National Assembly was constituted and Mustafa was elected its President. Resistance was speedily organised and the people pledged to defend their fatherland. At this time and notwithstanding the Greek pressure, the Allies imposed the Treaty of Sevres on the Sultan aimed at dividing the Empire (August 1920).

Mustafa was now faced with the odious problem "Now or Never." With that

dynamic force which was his peculiar attribute, he launched the big offensive on a 100 miles front, drove the Greeks the way they came to the sea and got the Peace of Mudania signed on 11th October 1922. The Sultanate disappeared. Mustafa became the Great Chief of his people by universal acclaim. The Peace Conference of 21st November 1922 and the Treaty of 1923 acknowledged Turkey as a member of the Free States. The same year Turkey was declared a Republic (29th October 1923), with Mustafa Kemal Pasha Ataturk as the First President. He was then 48 years old.

Having accomplished this great task of freeing his country of foreign domination, Mustafa did not spare himself but soon embarked on the scheme of fostering in the people the love of the country of which is born the love of humanity and that nationalism which fights to preserve its accomplishments. Many of the social, cultural and political reforms which he carried out are indeed the product of his genius. Above all, Ankara, the new capital of the renovated Republic, is his creation and may be regarded as a significant symbol of Turkish Renovation. He conceived it, he inspired it and overcame the difficulties that faced him in the realisation of his conception, the model of modern cities. What impelled him to this stupendous decision follows.

Mustafa saw clearly that foreign influence had penetrated too deep in Constantinople. So were the palace intrigues. The war had also proved beyond doubt the vulnerability of the old capital and he realised the need of a nerve centre which should prove an example of high morale and a fortress of resistance in a crisis. Besides the Empire was dead

and the past deserved to be buried with the past. Building anew was easier than cure! The new Republic must also have a new capital which should embody the synthesis of all that is best in the new State of Mustafa Kemal, itself built by adapting the best that each civilized State had to offer. The place he chose for the new capital was the heart of Anatolia, a desert spot, dry, waterless, malarious, inaccessible and the problem of transforming such a place into a capital he conceived can best be imagined than described.

Mustafa brought out even a greater energy and enthusiasm than he had shown in overwhelming the Greeks with a united people. Work was commenced with a great army of workmen. Every problem—water, sanitation, power—received his attention and conditions which would facilitate the growth of a first rank city were set afoot. Stately Government buildings, Embassies, Banks, Factories and a thousand and one institutions, constructed on most modern lines of architecture, sprang up. The 5,000 inhabitants shot up to nearly three quarter of a million in 1935 and the once soulless desert is today transformed into a bee-hive of humming city activity and industry.

Turkey is not a dictatorship, as some would have us believe. It is a distinct type of democracy. Ataturk was never a dictator like Hitler, Stalin or Mussolini. All his actions had the stamp of the assent of the nation who knew and trusted him to do everything in the general interest. There is but a single Chamber of Deputies—the Grand National Assembly—elected for a period of four years which is also the term of the President of the Republic. The President being elected,

he nominates the Ministers who are to carry on the government. The elections are conducted on adult franchise, 18 years being the qualifying age, while the eligible qualifications are 30 years and ability to read and write in Turkish. Men as well as women are accepted on an equal footing which accounts for women deputies in the Assembly. Every transaction of national interest is and must be submitted to the Assembly for its sanction. It is true that there is only one recognised party in Turkey—the People's Republican Party. Opposition appears to have been welcomed lately but since it is frowned upon it has never grown to its full stature.

Under such a system advocated by Ataturk's love of his country and its people, there is today palpable all-round improvement. Education has been reorganised in modern lines. Primary education is compulsory. Physical culture is enforced in all institutions. Agriculture is encouraged, planned and prospers. Banking is very efficient. Railway, transport, mines and waterways, many of which were worked by foreign capital, have been almost nationalised. Big commercial enterprises are inspired, controlled and directed by the State. Work and wages are assured. Prosperity reigns everywhere.

Religious freedom is guaranteed to all, but fanaticism so prevalent in the Turkey of old has been done away with.

The State is the sole arbiter in conflict between employers and workers,

That this system has been working happily and beneficently is borne out by the thousands of soldiers, sailors, mariners, men, women, and children who year after year muster strong at the tomb of Ataturk to render homage to their Great

Chief and take a solemn oath to defend the fatherland and all it stands for. The people are proud and happy to be Turkish subjects, and, from what we find reported, their happiness is infectious.

Hence the cautious but determined and vigorous foreign policy of Turkey aimed at preserving its honour and integrity and non-interference in others' affairs. With this end in view, Turkey has concluded a number of treaties pledging mutual friendship and goodwill.

Turkey today is a colossal Kemalistic brotherhood, united and inspired by a deep love of the man Ataturk and of their fatherland which they are fully prepared and resolved to defend, to fight, and if need be, to die. The course of time will prove it.



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April '43.

HOW IS INDIA TO BE FED?

BY MR. A. AZIZ FAROOQ, M.A.

(Islamia College, Peshawar.)

ABOUT half a century ago, Sir William Crookes, President of the British Association, uttered the warning: "England and all civilized nations stand in deadly peril of not having enough to eat. As months multiply, food resources dwindle. I am constrained to show that our wheat-producing soil is totally unequal to the strain put upon it."

Looking back over the time which has passed since, one is led to believe that Sir William's warning was a little too pessimistic and premature. Far from having less to eat, England and other civilized nations are actually enjoying a bigger, better and more varied diet and the world does not appear to be over-worried for its food supplies.

In India, however, the case is on quite a different footing. Being principally an agricultural country, she must produce all the food her inhabitants are likely to need. Unlike England, she cannot look forward to imports of foodstuffs from lands beyond the seas, because she has not got the wherewithal to pay for them. The possibility of supplementing home-produced food with imports is thus ruled out.

But need we talk of imports at all? Is our home production really insufficient to meet the needs of our growing population? This is a question which has attained paramount importance in war-time. But even otherwise it has been engaging the attention of students of rural economics.

The population of India is increasing at the fantastic rate of five millions a year, but the area under cultivation does not show any appreciable increase. In fact, it has been stationary for years now.

If this sort of thing goes on, we shall soon find the population of India out-stripping the means of subsistence. Already one of our leading economists, Dr. Radhakamal Mukerjee, believes that our food production falls short of our needs by 12 per cent. and his contention finds support from other quarters. Dr. Gyan Chand estimates that, whereas the population of India has increased by 21 per cent. during 1900-1934, the area under cultivation has increased only by 11 per cent. Mr. P. K. Wattal calculates that between 1913-14 and 1935-36 population has been increasing at the rate of 1 per cent. annually but crop production has been expanding by 0.65 per cent. only!

Even if we believe that for the present there is no real shortage of foodstuffs in the country (apart from the artificial scarcity created by hoarders), the future prospects are far from being rosy. Already we are cultivating every bit of land which can be put under plough and any increase in cultivated area appears to be unlikely under the existing circumstances. No doubt, about 145 million acres of land technically called cultivable and constituting 28 per cent. of the total area of the country are not being used for crop production. But full one-third of this comes under current fallows, mostly in dry tracts where fallows are essential for the preservation of soil moisture. The remaining two-thirds would not easily yield to the plough, being either too dry or too wet or too stony or too inaccessible and unhealthy to permit cultivation. In fact, all talk of bringing any but the most insignificant part of this so-called cultivable

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area under cultivation is pure moonshine.

The area under cultivation being thus incapable of any large-scale extension, the next question is: Can we not substitute food crops for non-food crops? The suggestion is very tempting but it would not bear close scrutiny. Already more than 80 per cent. of the total cultivated area is under food crops. The remaining bit grows valuable commercial crops which must be raised if the cultivator is to meet his cash liabilities, such as land revenue, and purchase cloth, salt, gur and other items of daily need which are not produced on the farm. Certain crops, however, show symptoms of over-production, e.g., jute and cotton. Both of these are highly speculative in character and the demand for them does not hold any promise of expansion in the immediate future. We could profitably divert some of the jute area to rice for which it is equally suited and grow food on some of the short staple cotton lands. But the extent to which the country's food supply would benefit from this arrangement is necessarily small.

Intensive cultivation of existing crops holds a more hopeful prospect. The yield of most crops is very low in India as compared with other countries. Our average production of wheat is 662 lbs. per acre, as against 1,060 lbs. in Italy, 1,271 lbs. in France, 1,280 lbs. in United Kingdom and 1,892 lbs. in Germany. Japan gets twice as much and Italy nearly thrice as much rice as we do from an acre of land. Our outturn of cotton is a miserable 92 lbs. per acre, whereas in Egypt it goes upto 400. We produce more sugar than any other country in the world but the per acre

yield of our sugarcane crop is one-sixth of Java and one-seventh of Hawaii!

If only we could adopt more intensive methods of cultivation, we would definitely be getting much more of our land. More foodstuffs would be available, and as the yield per acre rises, fewer acres would be required to obtain a definite quantity of jute, cotton, tobacco, sugarcane and other commercial crops. Thus more area would become available for food production.

But what are the practical possibilities of intensive cultivation? To cultivate existing crops more intensively would require an increased expenditure of labour, thorough manuring, use of good quality seed and better appliances, a regular water-supply, protection of fields from soil erosion and of crops from insect pests and predatory animals and better planning crop production. It is unfortunately too true that in many areas the standards of cultivation leave much to be desired. The application of manure on a really adequate scale is restricted to a few crops like tobacco and sugarcane. Seed selection is an important operation in agricultural husbandry, but the great majority of our cultivators do not have the resources, inclination or knowledge for a proper choice of really good quality seed. And as regards labour, the less said the better. It is so easy to blame *kismet* when the fault really lies with the slothful habits of the cultivator which allow weeds to grow in the fields and thus hamper the growth of crops. Much leeway has to be made up in all these directions, but the pace of reform is bound to be very slow. It is almost certain that a proper selection of seed and a little more attention to the growing crops would raise our crop yields by 15 to 25 per cent. immediately and

thus not only wipe off existing deficit but also provide for a future rise in demand for food.

A more attractive and immediately practicable form of intensive cultivation is the changeover from millets to superior grains such as wheat. Millets have about one and a half times as much area as wheat and yet their total production is much less than that of the latter. In practice, it means that the cultivator is not getting the maximum out of his land either in terms of monetary return or quantum of production or even food value. In favour of the present arrangement, it may be said that the land under millets is usually less fertile than that under wheat and that most probably it would give a lower wheat yield also. Secondly, millets are much hardier and they can stand bad seasons more successfully than other food-grains, and, lastly, they require a less thorough cultivation and are rarely manured. On the other hand, it is a criminal folly to go on raising poor crops of inferior grains on over 50 million acres of land at a time when a fast growing population and the serious threat of food shortage necessitate utmost economy in the use of land and when by a small additional expenditure of capital and a little more labour (of which there is no shortage), these very lands can be made to give excellent crops of wheat and maize. The changeover from millets to wheat, maize and gram is the most hopeful line of action for the present and immediate results can be expected if the Government makes a concerted drive in this direction by means of a publicity campaign and liberal supply of seeds, etc.

Intensive cultivation of existing crops and substitution of wheat for millets may

ease the situation for the time being, but the really lasting solution of the problem lies in two other directions: checking the growth of population and growing high yielding crops which give maximum results on minimum area. Leaving aside the first of these as being outside the scope of this article, our only hope lies in a change in the food habits of our people so that land may be devoted to those crops which respond quickly to increased expenditure of labour and capital. These crops are: fruits, maize, potatoes, peas, beans, cauliflower, cabbages, turnips, carrots, radish and beet-root. They are intensive crops, i.e., they give higher yields, keep the farmer occupied longer and require heavier manuring. From the dietetic point of view, they would be a great improvement upon the present essentially unvaried and monotonous Indian diet in which grains predominate.

An idea of the extent to which we can increase our food supplies in this way is furnished by the fact that in England an acre of wheat can produce food for 6.5 persons, whereas an acre of potatoes would suffice for 79.4 persons. Here is our clue. More than eleven times as many people can live on potatoes as on wheat! From the farmer's own point of view the cultivation of potatoes is a more profitable business as an acre of wheat would yield about ten maunds of produce, but an acre of potatoes yields 177 maunds in England and even in India a yield of 150 maunds is not unusual. Moreover, potatoes frequently fetch a better price per maund. Cabbages, cauliflower, turnips and other vegetables bring in similar high yields and the area under them can be profitably multiplied many times over. At present the total area under fruits, vegetables,

spices, etc., in the whole of India is less than seven million acres. The total irrigated area is 55 million acres. But even that is not the limit to vegetable gardening, because in many parts of the country rainfall is so abundant that there is no need for artificial irrigation. Even at a very modest estimate, a five times expansion of market gardening and horticulture is quite feasible, and, still we would be left with enough irrigated area for other money crops.

The difficulty in overcoming the threat of food shortage is in fact social rather than physical. Our food habits defy all efforts to increase the production of food in the only possible direction. In Great Britain people have developed a really varied and nutritious diet which has reduced the demand for low yielding crops like wheat to the minimum and expanded the area under intensive crops. The following table gives an idea of the per capita food requirements of the Englishman for a year and shows how well balanced his diet is:

Wheat flour	...	207	lbs.
Potatoes	...	192	"
Milk	...	180	"
Meat	...	147	"
Fruits	...	101	"
Sugar	...	86	"
Butter and margarine	...	32	"
Cheese	...	10	"
Eggs	...	12	dozens.

If we could similarly increase our consumption of potatoes, fruits, vegetables, poultry and meat and reduce our demand for cereals, not only our diet would be improved but the menace of food shortage would also vanish. Millions of unwanted cattle would be converted into meat, thus releasing valuable fodder for milch cattle and much fodder land for cultivation of food-crops.

But the question is: Can we effect this revolution in our food habits? I

believe we can, but the change cannot be very rapid. It has been attempted successfully in other countries. Germans were principally a wheat and mutton eating people, but they changed over to potatoes and pork and the change enabled them to resist the allied blockade for such a long time during the last world war. In England the "Drink more milk" campaign has resulted in a phenomenal expansion of milk consumption. In our own country, wheat is gaining popularity at the expense of rice in Bengal and of millets in the Punjab and elsewhere on account of dietetic propaganda. At present many of us have got a strong distaste for such excellent food as maize, potatoes, cabbages and meat. Other people have had similar distaste for some of these in the past. But this feeling of aversion was overcome by economic considerations and it is bound to be overcome here one day. Urban people are always willing to give a trial to new things and new ideas. Why not make a beginning with the towns now and start a campaign for "eat more potatoes", etc., so that the cultivator, seeing that the market for these crops is expanding, changes over to them for sale as well as home consumption?

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, Esplanade, Madras.

THE GOVERNMENT SECRETARIATS

BY PROF. SRI RAM SHARMA

THE present organisation and personnel of our Secretariats in the provinces and at the centre have clearly become very much out of date. We have in the junior cadre at present the routine grade clerks performing such duties as typing out documents and doing other mechanical work in the Secretariat. They receive the letters addressed to the department, they send out the replies when ready. They look after the record, keep it properly indexed, and place it at the disposal of their seniors whenever called upon to do so. Above them there are the assistants. It is their duty to assist those who have to formulate decisions in the department. When any question arises in the department itself or by reference from outside, it is their duty first to ascertain what records on the question are available in the department or outside and then put down in their *notes* what light these records throw on the question. They study the *file* and though they send it up to their superiors along with their notes, it is usually presumed that their notes would save those superiors the task of going through the file themselves. Every department is usually organised in sections under a number of superintendents chosen from among the assistants by selection. Thus the assistants report to their superintendent. He goes through the note and where necessary reads the relevant portions of the file which are usually flagged at the appropriate places. If he thinks it necessary, he may call upon the assistant to explain matters to him and after discussing the question with him he passes on the note in its original or modified form to a Secretary or Under Secretary.

Here the trouble starts. The assistant and the superintendent are members of the departments. The Under Secretary is usually an outsider passing his days in the department during the course of his upward journey in his own service. He might belong to the Provincial or the Indian Civil Service or he might be a member of one of the Provincial or the Indian branch of the various technical services. He is there only for a short period, usually for three but sometimes for five years. After this he often reverts to his own service though he might sometimes come back later on as a Secretary of a higher status.

Thus when the papers are presented to the Under Secretary, they have all to be complete. The office is not allowed to assume that the Under Secretary has any personal knowledge of the traditions or the policy of the office. Every scrap of paper that might be needed has to be there before he can pass judgment on the question. Now the Under Secretary has papers sent up to him from several sections. He is pressed for time. It is necessary therefore that he should be able to make up his mind quickly about the matter. Thus most of the *record* comes printed to him, so that he might be able to read it and decide the question expeditiously.

The Under Secretary, in his turn, passes on the file to the Secretary, or the Deputy, Additional, or Joint Secretary. These men might be drawn from the same service or from a higher one. At the centre all varieties of Secretaries in most departments belong to the Indian Civil Service. In the provinces whereas the Under Secretaries might belong to

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the Provincial services, the Secretaries usually belong to the Indian Civil Service. They again are only migratory birds in the department. Some of them might have served earlier as Under Secretaries in the same or a different department but usually there is a break between such earlier service and their present position. They also need the printed record, properly flagged and judiciously indexed. When the Secretary has given his opinion in the matter, the passage of the file in the department comes to an end. In the provinces it is now sent on to the Minister, at the Centre to the Member.

Thus the work in the Secretariat is done by two classes of public servants, the permanent servants occupying the routine and junior executive posts in the department and lent officers from outside services enjoying short-term appointments in the office and filling the principal administrative and executive posts. This system was inaugurated at a time when Indians were studiously excluded from the higher category of offices. It was naturally difficult then to breed officers in the departments capable of handling all questions arising therein satisfactorily. They would not have possessed the actual knowledge of the problem outside the records available in the offices. Of course it would have been possible to recruit a class of administrative officers who after spending some time in training as superintendents—like the members of the I.C.S. who before assuming charge of a district get training as Assistant Commissioners along with the P.C.S. men in the districts—would have later on served as Under Secretaries or Secretaries but such Britishers would not have been able to cope successfully with the

problems presented to them by the district officers who could have easily taken their stand on their knowledge of actual conditions on the spot in support of their opinions. The Secretaries bred in the offices would have been no match for them. It was, therefore, decided that the Secretaries be recruited from among the public servants who might have acquired some knowledge of the actual conditions of various problems as district officers.

Contrast this with the English practice. In England all persons managing the departments are trained in the departments themselves. It is true that we do not have district officers of Collectors' type there. But still there are now—and have been for a considerable time past—a large body of representatives of the central government serving outside the Secretariat in England. The British Secretariat is a self-sufficient organization drawing fresh blood occasionally from other branches of national life.

It cannot now be argued that the British Secretaries and Under Secretaries are absolutely essential either at the centre or in the provinces. A large body of Indians is now occupying these posts today in the provinces as well as at the centre. Now, we know our country and its main problems as well as most district officers therein. The present system of government presumes that the local M.L.A. probably knows more about his constituents than the district officers. It is no longer necessary that we should first of all recruit foreigners for Indian administration, then allow them to learn a little of India before posting them to the Secretariat jobs in the various departments. This system entails a

wasteful expenditures in collecting information, indexing it elaborately and finally printing it for the use of the migratory birds of the Secretariat. It should be possible to draw the requisite personnel for these jobs by recruiting a higher class of administrative officers for the central and provincial Secretariat in India by a competitive examination of the same standard as the Indian Civil Service. Better still it would even be possible to draw from among the successful candidates for the Indian Civil Service a number of men for administrative jobs in the Secretariat. They could get the requisite training in the posts of the Superintendents from where they could be promoted to the Under Secretaryships. As in the Finance and Audit Department examinations the age-limit for the candidates from within the departments could be higher and permission limited to men with high academic qualifications. It would also be possible to organize this branch of the service on salaries more appropriate to Indian conditions than is the case to-day when lent officers are paid fabulously high salaries based on the assumption that the British element is necessary.

It might be said that such a system of recruiting candidates for various types of jobs might not succeed. It is already in operation in the Finance and Audit examination. Successful candidates serve in the Railway and the Post Offices Departments besides the Finance and Audit Departments. Even the I.C.S. examination at present recruits candidates for the directorate of several social services besides judicial and administrative charges. We in India have adopted the British thesis for recruiting for public services

—what is needed is a high intellectual standard among the candidates rather than any specialized knowledge of the type of work they would be expected to do during their public career. There is no reason why it should give us any the less successful Secretaries in the future.

The Committee—or rather its Civilian Chairman—that considered this question some years ago had another objection to offer. It would deprive the members of the Indian Civil Service of legitimate chances of promotions to these highly paid jobs. Lower though not inappropriate salaries would easily get rid of this obstacle. We can be sure that Indian members of the I.C.S. would not like themselves to be paraded as an obstacle in the way of rationalizing Indian administrative machinery. It is time that in reorganizing our administrative machinery we should no longer allow ourselves to be deflected from our ideals by any personal considerations. In any other country such an argument would never merit serious consideration.

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The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

MODERN CHINESE HISTORY. By Professor Tan Yunshan. Printed at Rao Bros., Madras.

This book is a reproduction of five lectures delivered by the author before the Andhra University some time ago, and gives in a small compass much interesting information about the history of China and the recent political, economic and social changes in that country. The author was the organiser of the Sino-Indian Cultural Society at Nanking and has written these lectures not only with knowledge of his own country but with an appreciation of India's greatness and civilisation.

The aim and outlook on life of the Chinese people are stated by him to be "to have a mind of continence and contentment, a life of exertion and toil." He adds "our ideal of life is not far removed from the great Indian way of life." The very contentment and peacefulness of the Chinese people have led to a large-scale exploitation of their country by foreigners, which in the words of the author "has not been a whit less than that of your own land (i.e., India) but the two nations are like two sisters in misery."

The Chinese Revolution and the establishment of the Republic are described in a few absorbing pages which show that, though the Revolution itself was accomplished without much struggle, the country had afterwards to pay the inevitable price of freedom by long years of toil and suffering—mostly due to the selfish machinations of Yuan Shih-kai or the intrigues of the Japanese politicians.

Prof. Tan Yun-shan nightly condemns the Japanese aggression in China. "To be quite frank", he says,

the only irreconcilable enemy of China today is our neighbour Japan. . . . Japan already stands morally condemned at the bar of public opinion of the civilised world. I make bold to assert that before long Japan will also realise that the organised hatred of more than 400 millions of people is too dear a price even for a puppet empire.

THE LAND AND ITS PROBLEMS. By Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya. Oxford University Press, Bombay.

Sir T. Vijayaraghavacharya, Prime Minister of Mewar State, was Vice-Chairman of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research for the first six years of its life. He has had extensive administrative experience and has always shown marked interest in agriculture, which includes cattle breeding, dairy farming as well as production of crops from the soil. Nearly three-fourths of the people of India are directly engaged in agriculture, and in this small monograph, the author shows what infinite scope there is for improvement through the evolution of new varieties of existing crops. "What Indian agriculture needs", he says, "is more brains to be put into the land and more State money to be put into agricultural improvement and research."

ALDOUS HUXLEY AS A NOVELIST. By Kunwar Mahindra Singh, M.A. Lucknow Publishing House, Lucknow.

Undaunted by the dictum of Huxley himself in disparagement of theses generally submitted to the Universities, Mr. Kunwar Mahindra Singh in his thesis presented to the Lucknow University last year, has essayed a critical, but on the whole appreciative, study of the art and literary craftsmanship of Aldous Huxley. Huxley is only forty seven years old at present but he has already a very large literary output—Poems, Essays, Short stories, Novels—to his credit. He is recognised as an essentially modern author with very modern intellectual views on a vast variety of topics on Art, Literature, Music, Philosophy, etc. Mr. Singh describes him as a brilliant and powerful satirist of the follies, vices and of much of the outlook of his age but imbued with a firm conviction that it is in man's power to create a better world for himself and his fellow creatures.

HISTORY AND PHILOSOPHY OF LINGAYAT RELIGION. Being an Introduction to Lingadharanachandrika of Nandikeshwara. With translation and full notes by Prof. M. R. Sakhare, M.A., T.D., Belgaum. Published by the author, Belgaum.

This heavy tome is divided into two parts, the introduction forming the first and the Sanskrit text (exclusive of a dialectical discourse on the burial of the dead) with its translation and notes constituting the latter part; owing to difficulties in printing, separate pagination has been adopted for the four divisions. The author traces historically, the origin of Shaivism as a Dravidian religion and as the result of Dravidian civilisation and explains that the Linga is the amorphous symbol of the ultimate Reality. Lingayatism corresponds closely in philosophy and principles to Shaktism, though differing from it in practice of religion, spiritual life and discipline. It is held that the word *Virashaiva* is more extensive and a genus, while the term *Lingayata* is less extensive and a species. After a lengthy and laboured account of the early primitive cultures of the land, Professor Sakhare supports Father Heras' view as to the Dravidian character of the people and script of the Indus Valley and to those people being labelled as proto-Dravidians and to their having worshipped Shiva and Shakti.

The treatment of the rise of the Lingayat religion and its founder is very elaborate. Acharya Revana is held to be a contemporary of Bijjala and Basava and to have lived about the middle of the 12th century; he was a Virashaiva Acharya, but not the founder of Virashaivism. Not the Aradhyas, but Basava was the founder of the religion; and his teachings are most clear cut regarding the socio-religious discipline of life. The ideological concepts of the creed and its philosophy are next treated. The literal translation of the *Linga dharana Chandrika* and the notes thereon are very elaborate.

On the whole, Dr. Sakhare's treatise, though touching a number of points that may challenge controversy, is very instructive and comprehensive in scope. It is perhaps over-dogmatic in several places and contexts.

MOBILISING SOCIAL SERVICES IN WAR TIME: A SYMPOSIUM. Edited by J. M. Kumarappa. The Sir Dorabji Tata Graduate School of Social Work, Bombay. Rs. 2-8.

The talented editor, who is also the Director of the Graduate School of Social Work, has collected in this book some of the ideas and suggestions of leading personalities, for stimulating Government to put forth a well-organised and effective effort to meet the menace of total war and to help the forces of social service in the country to co-ordinate their efforts, so as to form 'great arsenals of morale'. He invites us to learn from British experience lessons of social service for the family under war conditions, particularly in providing security for the family in case of attack or evacuation. Dr. Akroyd urges the application of more concrete objectives than mere 'grow more food' propaganda. He holds that an entirely self-dependent India should increase her production in cereals by 30 per cent., in pulses by 100 per cent., in milk products by over 300 per cent., meat, fish and eggs, by an even larger margin; and in vegetables by 100 per cent. This offers plenty of scope for the application of scientific methods to agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries. War-time nutrition must be balanced, according to Dr. A. C. Ukil, so as to require a smaller choice of essential ingredients, less fuel and less time for cooking and less waste. Civilian morale, problems of refugees and evacuees, precautions against false rumours and propaganda, maintenance of public health service and the duties of the State in the matter of the efficient maintenance of public services—these are all exhaustively treated by respective experts in this very useful manual.

BOOKS RECEIVED

MARATHA POLITY. By S. V. Puntambekar. The Minerva Book Shop, Anarkali, Lahore.

A HINDU VIEW OF CULTURE. By K. Guru Dutt. Srinivas Electric Press, Mysore.

YARNS FROM INDIAN HISTORY. By B. V. P. The Author, 6th Main Road, Malleswaram Post, Bangalore.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The late Mr. Satyamurti

It is with profound regret that we record the death of Mr. S. Satyamurti, M.L.A. (Central), at the General Hospital, Madras, where he was under treatment for some months past. Mr. Satyamurti was arrested under the Defence of India Act, along with so many other Congress leaders, soon after the Bombay Session of the A.I.C.C. In February last, he was released on medical grounds but he remained in the Hospital for continuing the treatment. It is melancholy to think that he should have passed away suddenly leaving the Congress and the country the poorer for his death.

For well over quarter of a century Mr. Satyamurti played a part in the public life of the country, second to none in this Province. His gifts and aptitudes naturally drew him early to politics, in which his career has been one of ceaseless activity and amazing eloquence, which marked him out for outstanding leadership. As a debater and parliamentarian, he won his spurs not only on Congress platforms, but in the local and Central Legislatures, where his power of repartee and eloquence gained for the Congress and the cause of the nation many a resounding victory. An indefatigable worker in the Congress, he fought for it with courage and energy, and more than once gave a new and vitalising direction to its activities. His mastery of parliamentary procedure and strategy was an asset to the Swarajya cause in the legislature. It is no small tribute to his patriotism, that having fought and won the battle for office acceptance, he quietly withdrew from standing for election in favour of his great and distinguished colleague and friend Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, who proved such a brilliant success as Prime Minister of Madras.

Mr. Satyamurti endured much for the cause of discipline in the Congress. There is no doubt that the monotony of prison life and the sense of futility and frustration broke his body which was never robust at any time, and hastened the end. But nothing could break his indomitable spirit.

Mr. Satyamurti was a brave fighter for the cause he espoused and with true sportsmanship, gave and received knocks with equal spirit. While the claims of higher politics absorbed much of his time, he was by no means indifferent to civic and educational and cultural interests. His services to the Corporation, the University and the Arts bespeak his many-sided activities.

When all is said, the personal loss to many of his friends, of whom the Editor of this journal could count himself as one, must be poignant indeed. Even as a young man, fresh from college, he had been marked out by the Editor of this *Review* as a writer whose views and opinions were always welcome to these columns. We deeply regret the cutting short of a valued and useful career at so early an age—for Mr. Satyamurti was only 56—and our heartfelt sympathies go to his poor wife and only daughter.

Indians First and Last

That is the burden of the address, delivered the other day by Raja Sir Maharaj Singh, presiding over the All-India Conference of Indian Christians at Delhi. No wonder that a small community of not more than seven millions, has by virtue of the strength and sanity of its leadership played an important part in the public life of the country. Men like K. T. Paul and Dr. S. K. Dutta had in the past given a right lead to the community, which in its anxiety to safeguard its own interest has not hesitated to put the country above the community. Defining the attitude of the community, Raja Sir Maharaj Singh truly said:

While we are Christians and proud to be such so far as our faith is concerned, in all other matters we are Indians first and Indians last. There is no antithesis between religion and patriotism, for a true Christian must be a true patriot. Indian Christians are ready to place their country above communal considerations. In more than one public statement they have offered to part with separate electorates and to ask for no special privileges.

What a difference it would make in the fortunes of the country if all the other minority communities had imbibed the same beautiful spirit and put the interests of the country, first and last.

After the Fast

To the profound relief of all, Gandhiji broke his fast on March 3, thus surviving the 21 days' ordeal. It was a day of thanksgiving all over the country. We have no doubt Government share the sense of relief and thankfulness with the public, for it is evident that an unhappy turn would have made the situation worse. In more than one statement, Dr. B. C. Roy who was with Gandhiji during the period of the fast, gave moving accounts of how the Mahatma, by sheer force of will, tided over the crisis which, in the Doctor's opinion, threatened to take a tragical turn. It was a sheer miracle, he said, that he survived the ordeal at the great age of 75.

The failure to move the authorities to release Gandhiji during the fast has not deterred the leaders from continuing their endeavours further with a view to end the deadlock. With Gandhiji safe and sound, there is always hope for settlement; for none else could, in the jargon of the day, deliver the goods. And then Gandhiji himself has, in his letters to the Viceroy, promised to review the situation *de novo*, in consultation with his friends on the Working Committee. Here was the starting point for another effort. And so at Bombay, the leaders met again at the residence of the Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar and issued the following statement on March 10:

We are of opinion that the deplorable events of the last few months require a reconsideration of their policy, both by the Government and the Congress. The recent talks which some of us have had with Gandhiji lead us to believe that a move for reconciliation at the present juncture will bear fruit. It is our conviction that if Gandhiji is set at liberty he will do his best to give guidance and assistance in the solution of the internal deadlock and that there need be no fear that there would be any danger to the successful prosecution of the war. The Viceroy may be approached on our behalf, to permit a few representatives to meet Gandhiji to authoritatively ascertain his reaction to the recent events and to explore with him avenues for reconciliation.

The statement was signed by 35 leaders, including Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Mr. M. R. Jayakar, Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and Sir Jagdish Prasad.

Youth and the Future

In another page will be found the full text of Mr. Sastri's illuminating address to the Madras Rotarians, in which he has essayed some aspects of post-war problems with that breadth of view and clarity of thought which always distinguish his exposition. Mr. H. C. Papworth, President of the Club, who presided on the occasion, while drawing attention to the "wisely" provocative discourse, himself made certain observations which should not be lost sight of in the building of the future. For, what is the good of winning the war if we lose the peace? The men who were managing the last war and made the last peace bungled woefully and left us an unenviable inheritance. War falls heavily on the youth of the belligerent countries—it is they who fight and suffer and sacrifice themselves for the cause in a spirit of noble adventure and generous enthusiasm: and how have the old and middle aged men who took charge of affairs acquitted themselves in discharging their trust? The youth of the world have not been impressed with the world into which they have been born

nor have they very much respect for the way in which their elders have managed the affairs of the world during the past 25 years. They are not at all pleased to find that as soon as they have become of age, they are called upon to clear up the muddle in the making of which they have had no hand whatever. They look forward to a settlement after the war which will really make a recurrence of these horrors impossible.

The young men of India too—and I claim without immodesty to know a good deal about the youth of India the things they are thinking, the dreams they dream and the visions they see—they too feel that their country's affairs have been sadly mismanaged and that their natural ambitions are being frustrated.

The youth of Russia and Germany and China have borne the burden bravely, and in spite of tragedies have wrought for solidarity and unity. A similar task lies before the youth of India too. "We, rotarians," said Mr. Papworth,

must be very careful in our own contribution to the guarding of the peace, not to play into the hands of those who once again may try to deprive youth of the inheritance it has earned for itself by fighting this war for us.

Government's charge against Congress

The Government of India have thought fit to set out their case against Mr. Gandhi and the Congress party in a 50,000 word document just published in London. Gandhi and the leaders of the Congress are in prison and are not in a position to answer the charges. What is the purpose of all this elaborate indictment, when it can lead to no definite plan for ending the deadlock? The white paper, as the *Manchester Guardian* truly points out, is nothing more than a speech for the prosecution.

It does not touch the problem which, when all is said and done, confronts us in India. We find a large part of the country in sympathy with this "Open Rebellion" campaign and we have thousands of malcontents in prison. We cannot satisfy the Nationalist demand by an indefinite repressive policy, however serious the offences that are punished. Some day we have to talk, negotiate and construct a political settlement.

What is it that stands in the way of resolving the unwanted deadlock? Lord Linlithgow, through his correspondence with Gandhiji, has demanded two essential conditions, firstly, the recantation of what he calls the "open rebellion" part of the Bombay resolution, and, secondly, condemnation of violence on the part of the people. We contend that both these are found in ample measure in Gandhiji's own correspondence with the Viceroy. And then here is what C. R. says:

When I saw Gandhiji during his fast on the 26th of February and following days, I had opportunities to discuss these questions of sabotage and violence with him. His disapproval was complete and he said that no one was justified in conducting or encouraging such activities in his name or in the name of the Congress.

What more does the Government expect of Gandhiji in his present position as a prisoner shut off from all contact with the world?

India Debate in the Commons

Having sponsored a deliberate and one-sided indictment of Gandhiji and the Congress, it is not to be supposed that the spokesmen of the Government—Mr. Amery and Mr. Attlee—would depart in any essentials from their stand, in the India debate in the House of Commons. The debate afforded another opportunity to them to repeat their wild accusations against Gandhiji and the Congress—and

Mr. Amery minced no words in his condemnation of either. But as Mr. Ammon pointed out, no good purpose could be served by harping back to past mistakes—even granting that Congress was in the wrong, a fact which can't be proved when all who could speak for the Congress are in prison. What is of more account is the need for a new approach.

If other leaders thought that talks with Mr. Gandhi would be useful, observed Mr. Graham White (Liberal), it would be a heavy responsibility to refuse them. The solution of the Indian problem may need new men, new ideas and a new approach.

It now rests with us, not with the Indians, declared Mr. Sloan (Labour), to make a new approach.

Their leaders are in jail. They are not free men to discuss this matter. It rests with us to re-open negotiations so peremptorily closed when Sir Stafford Cripps so hurriedly left India.

Mr. Amery's speech is not likely to facilitate the peace move of the Indian leaders!

Mr. Huq on Provincial Autonomy

Even an unrepentant believer in the virtues of Provincial autonomy—and indeed of his own Premiership—has been disillusioned. For Mr. Fazlul Huq, lately Prime Minister of Bengal, just managed to retain his position in the teeth of formidable difficulties. And yet he has confessed that he is thoroughly fed up.

I have to work under considerable limitations. In many cases, I have got to do things contrary to what I would have done if I were a free agent. In these cases there are moments, when I do feel that the best course for me is to walk out, and if that moment does arise, I shall not be slow to adopt that course because I am fed up with the position which gives me very little opportunity of conceding to what I know is public opinion, in view of the overriding consequences which have been imposed on me as a result of the war.

This confession throws a lurid light on Mr. Amery's claim that Provincial autonomy is functioning in four provinces!

If further proof of the hollowness of Provincial autonomy were needed, one has only to read the statement of Mr. Huq himself at the Bengal Legislative Assembly revealing the circumstances attendant on his resignation. We are told that a "typed resignation letter was kept ready" for his signature, and the Prime Minister of Bengal was faced with the alternative of dismissal!

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

Mr. Churchill on Post-War Planning

MR. CHURCHILL, dealing in a broad-cast on March 21 with domestic and post-war issues, refused to bind the Government, or any future Government, to large-scale expenditure on the State in the year ahead.

At the end of his speech he proposed a Council of Europe and a Council of Asia to safeguard against future wars and bring to justice those responsible for this war. He reiterated that the conquest of Germany and Italy was the Allies' first and supreme task. Then would come Japan's turn.

Mr. Churchill added that he was attracted by the suggestion of a Four-Year Plan of reconstruction for Britain.

General Smuts' Optimism

The tide has turned for good, said General Smuts, the Union Prime Minister, broadcasting on the occasion of the presentation of honorary degree of Doctor of Laws to Mrs. Smuts by the University of Witwatersrand. General Smuts said:

On the battle-fronts the clouds are lifting. The tide has turned and turned for good whatever desperate, deadly expedients the enemy may yet resort to in his despair. Victory is coming nearer, however far off it may be. Historic human advance will not be halted—the great light will not be put out. This will be a free and not a slave world and that freedom will surely be achieved by our great faith in good loyalty to it and our total effort behind that faith and loyalty.

Allied Success in Tunisia

As we go to press, there is good news from North Africa. The Eighth Army has occupied El Hamma and Gabes. In spite of strong enemy rearguard actions, Allied forward troops have made further progress to north. American forces thrust forward from El Guettar to clean up the last Axis troops between them and the Eighth Army.

Giving this news to the Commons, Mr. Churchill declared that "the tide has turned very much in our favour." Gen. Montgomery's decision to throw his weight on to the turning movement instead of persisting in a frontal attack has been crowned with success.

American Interest in India

"American interest in the Indian problem is extremely keen and the Americans are deeply sympathetic towards Indian aspirations, but their knowledge of the factors of the Indian situation is neither deep nor very accurate," said Sir Muhammad Zafrullah Khan, giving impressions of his tour in a press interview at Lahore on March 24.

To a question whether the American public opinion favours the application of the Atlantic Charter to India, Sir Muhammad Zafrullah replied:

American public opinion seeks to make no distinction in the application of the principles of the Atlantic Charter. The Americans think that the principles are and ought to be of universal application.

Sir Zafrullah recalled his conversations with President Roosevelt and said that there was no specific talk about the future of India, though the President expressed his sympathy with Indian aspirations, namely, the desire of India to be the complete mistress of her house. Sir Zafrullah had no doubt that the President had no reservations in his mind about the application of the Atlantic Charter to India.

The Russian Front

The large-scale German attempt to hold up the Russian drive on Smolensk has failed, says Reuter's special correspondent in a despatch from Moscow. Russian forces are steadily drawing nearer to the town. In an attempt to outflank a Russian column which was moving towards Smolensk from the south-east, the German Command struck at Zhizdra about fifty miles north of Bryansk. The battle lasted four days. On the first day Soviet artillery met the attacking German tanks with its usual deadly efficiency. On the second day, the Germans attacked once more and were again pushed back. On the third day the Germans rallied again and launched a strong tank and infantry blow, but before the attack could get properly under way, the Russians launched their own attack and routed the Germans.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE SPIRIT OF SCIENCE

This is the subject of a scholarly article by Dr. N. R. Dhar, in the *Prabuddha Bharata*. Recounting the life and achievements of famous men of Science in the West, Dr. Dhar sighs: "So little done, so much to do." This is in fact the first and last thought of the man of science. A short time before his death, Sir Isaac Newton expressed the memorable sentiment:

I do not know what I may appear to the world, but to myself I seem to have been only like a boy playing on the sea-shore, and diverting myself in now and then finding a smoother pebble or a prettier shell than ordinary, whilst the great ocean of truth lay all undiscovered before me.

Roughly the scientific workers may be classified into three categories. First of all is the naturalist who seeks knowledge for its own sake, for the joy of making discoveries, irrespective of personal gain.

He is patient, hard-working, and entirely devoted to work. He is of the opinion that no sacrifice of time and money is too much if he can discover a scientific truth. In these days of materialism, such lovers of truth may be regarded as human beings who are to be pitied by an average man who cannot understand why any one should devote oneself to an object which does not bring personal or public gain.

The second class of scientific workers is well described by Sir Richard Gregory in the following words:

Of a different type is the iconoclast—the breaker of images—rebellious against authority, impetuous to prove that old idols are false, impatient with the world because of its indifference to the new gospel he has to teach. This man is not content to see things revealed to him, and single-handed he is prepared to storm the citadel of traditional belief. In all ages he is a disturber of peace and is as unwelcome in scientific circles to-day, as he was to contemplative philosophers of the middle ages or before. But be assured of this: You may crucify the body of such an apostle or you may visit him with the despair that follows upon neglect, but if his torch has been lighted from the divine flame of truth and righteousness, it cannot be extinguished.

Most men of science steer a middle course in their attempt to discover truth.

From whatever side nature is approached for a true understanding of her obstacles arise which

check a clear vision. A great deal of patience and labour is necessary to go one step further than the existing knowledge.

The writer concludes that great men of our country like Sir J. C. Bose, Sir P. C. Ray, Swami Vivekananda, Dr. R. N. Tagore, Sir M. Vivesvaraya, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru and others realized long ago that

progress of this country was possible only through the pursuit of science steadfastly and steadily. Through science and its applications we must bring back to this land the days of Ashoka in which period there was a harmonious blending of material prosperity and progress with moral and religious fervour. We must not be like the European nations who are chiefly concerned with material prosperity. But in this great land we must work up our system by which a marked material prosperity and wealth would go hand in hand with moral and religious fervour amongst our fellow men and women. This should be the spirit of the future India if it is to be honoured and respected by other nations.

SELF-GOVERNMENT FOR INDIA

Refuting charges of anti-British bias, Louis Fischer, in a letter to *Time and Tide*, says:

"My approach to politics is not national. . . . my criteria are not accidents of birth, colour, race, religion or nationality. That smacks of Fascism. My criteria are ideas, policies, interests, deeds. . . .

"You must not underestimate the fact that sentiment in America is for Indian freedom; it is not anti-British but pro-democracy. This is the way in which many officials of the United States Government feel about India and also many of our very prominent non-officials like Mr. Wendell Willkie.

"British spokesmen now in their speeches in America are emphasising the existence of the British Commonwealth. Though we know that the Dominions are free, India is not. India is a poor, illiterate, resentful, unhappy colony. Americans have profound sympathy for India even when they do not understand its complications. I repeat: 'India is an important factor in Anglo-American relations'."

QUALITIES OF GREAT LITERATURE

It is a common experience, says Mr. B. J. Wadia, in the *Hindustan Review*, that when a noble book appeals to the mind as well as to the heart, for the moment we feel transported to a new world, a world so different from our own that we feel as if we were in a dream-land.

To love the book and enjoy reading, it is like the feeling of a little child that has never ceased to look at life with childhood's eyes; but to analyse and interpret its deeper meaning is the task of the grown-up man. Literature is not meant to be the pastime of the leisured few, though even the leisured man is fast becoming an anomaly in a hustling world. Literature is the story of human life. It is fatal to sever literature from life, and life would be equally a poor thing without literature. Let us enjoy literature as we try to enjoy life.

The first thing is the essentially artistic quality of all literature. Art is the expression of life in forms of beauty, and beauty, according to Plato's conception, is the splendour of truth.

It is the expression of some truth and beauty which remain unnoticed until brought to attention, just as the shell on the sea-shore reflects sounds too faint to be ordinarily noticed. Literature expresses subjective truth, not things but thoughts, but with the magical ease with which the sea moves, and the flowers grow, neither toiling nor spinning. The glorious description of the creation of the heavens and the earth found in the Genesis is so artistic that it reads like a poem.

Another characteristic of great literature is its permanence. There is something in it which is fixed and enduring.

Peace of mind, the assurance of faith, joy and sadness, love and friendship, all our fundamental, unchanging emotions,—out of these things are woven the permanent threads of our lives, and with these literature deals. These things are fine, and without a touch of them great literature cannot be written. It is, therefore, futile to seek beauty everywhere, through land and sea, except in the lives and deeds of men themselves. In fact, the common phrase, "the literature of the day", is a contradiction in terms. What is really literature is not only of the day, and what is only of the day is not literature. A thing of beauty is not merely a joy, but it is a joy for ever.

The test of great literature is universality and lastingness of appeal to the widest human interests against which time and change of fashion seem powerless.

THE WHITE PAPER

The *New Statesman* and *Nation* characterize the White Paper as a personal indictment of Mr. Gandhi and a "propaganda document". The paper adds that Mr. Gandhi is not in a position to reply or defend himself and asks if the graver charges are well-founded, ought not the India Government have tried Mr. Gandhi before a court of law "instead of holding him silent and isolated in internment by an administrative act?"

Our chief reflection on reading the White Paper is that if Mr. Gandhi, with his policy, ruinously blended of pacifism and political tactics, became after the failure of the Cripps Mission, a dominant force in Congress Party, the responsibility lies primarily with Linlithgow, Amery and Churchill.

The journal asserts that after the outbreak of war, Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Nehru alternated as inspirers of Congress policy. Mr. Nehru was always for collaboration with the United Nations,

if only he could wring terms from us compatible with Indian self-respect. Always Mr. Gandhi took the negative line, partly on pacifist grounds, partly because he is defeatist and thought the Axis would win.

The journal opines if modern minds like Messrs. Nehru, Rajagopalachari and Azad were defeated and

Mr. Gandhi won the power to wreck the cause of this disaster lay in the defects of the Cripps offer. It was rigid and could not be amended nor did it in the judgment of any Indian party amount to real transfer of power. Whether Mr. Gandhi has taken liberties with his own doctrine is a question of biographical interest, but the graver charges made through innuendo "seem to us not merely to lack proof but to be impossible." The White Paper is the "Speech for the Prosecuting Counsel".

For the past three years, the paper says, Mr. Gandhi and Mr. Nehru

alternated like the little old man and the little old woman in a primitive toy barometer in old-fashioned farm houses. Whenever by the smallest sign of comprehension we seemed to smile on India, out came the friendly fair-weather face of Mr. Nehru; when we frowned and India despaired, Mr. Nehru swung back on his perch and out came the hostile figure of Mr. Gandhi, set for storm.

GANDHI AND CRIPPS FAILURE

Mr. Dewett Mackenzie, visiting correspondent of the Associated Press of America, interviewed Sir Stafford Cripps on the Indian position. The following is an extract from his interview published in the *Manchester Guardian*:

"Sir Stafford says the key to the situation is Gandhi's persistent support of the policy of non-violence. This makes it impossible for Gandhi's personal adherents to take part in any Government, no matter what its nature, which wages war. Thus England which is in the midst of a life-and-death struggle, is asked to countenance an Indian Government that not only would not fight but might even insist on making peace with Britain's enemies.

"I do not believe that Gandhi, who was not present when the decision was taken, was personally responsible for the rejection of the Government's proposals" adds Sir Stafford. "However, his influence and ideas dominated those of the Working Committee of All-India Congress, who did turn down the offer. We must have the agreement of the Congress for any solution".

Sir Stafford speaks in the highest terms of Gandhi as one of the great thinkers and leaders of our time.

"I believe Gandhi is quite sincere", he said, "but with his passionate belief in non-violence he must keep the Congress non-violent and so non-co-operative with a Government which is at war. He is the greatest single influence in India or at least in the All-India Congress. We must have Congress for any complete solution.

The tragedy of it from the Indian standpoint is that had there been an agreement, Indians would have had absolute control of the situation."

"WAR EFFORTS FOR VICTORY"

This is an Annual published by the A.A. & Service, the enterprising advertising consultants of Madras. It has a foreword from H.E. the Governor of Madras followed by many interesting articles on different phases of the war. Among the articles, the following may be mentioned: "War and New Nationalism" by Capt. Harvey, "India's War Efforts" by Ayrahca, "The National War Front" by P.V.A. and "Britain's Air Strength" by P. Vijayaraghava Acharya. This number contains numerous illustrations printed in good paper.

THE INDIAN CRISIS

Writing in the *Far Eastern Survey* issued by the American Council of Pacific Relations, Doctor Anup Singh reviewing the recent developments of the Indian problem admits that Mr. Gandhi's fast settled little. He warns the public, however, not to consider it as a dismal failure.

That judgment is premature. It is too early to envisage the long-range repercussions, but one thing is already obvious. The Indian crisis has been aggravated. "Whatever view may be taken of Mr. Gandhi's fast by the world at large, in India it has already evoked certain specific reactions; it has reinforced the belief in Mr. Gandhi's moral stamina and almost supernatural powers: dramatised, as nothing else hitherto has ever done, the incompatibility of nationalist and British viewpoints; made Indians sceptical of ever-gaining freedom with outside help, as it has made them equally sceptical of gaining freedom from the British even at the end of the war. The only redeeming factor is that it has quickened the desire of almost all parties to reopen negotiations, but whether the Government will respond is another matter.

After reviewing the relations of various factions, the author concludes:

Of course Indians will have to set their own house in order before they can break Britain's grip and launch out on an independent political career, but for Britain it is immeasurably safer and wiser to help them in this problem.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

- CONSTITUTION OF FREE INDIA. By C. V. H. Rao. [The Twentieth Century, February 1943.]
- ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE IN THE MUGHAL EMPIRE. By Professor Sri Raim Sharina. [The Calcutta Review, March 1943.]
- EURASIAN INFLUENCE ON INDIAN ART. By Dennis Stoll. [The Aryan Path, March 1943.]
- THE ANDHRAS. By S. R. Balasubramanyam. [The New Review, March 1943.]
- THE PAKISTAN THEORY ECONOMICALLY UNSOUND. By V. V. Gokhale. [The Hindustan Review, January 1943.]
- HINDU MATHEMATICS. By M. Gopalan Kutty Menon, M.A. [The Astrological Magazine, April 1943.]

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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March 1. Soviets smash their way to Poltava.
 March 2. Sir B. P. Singh Roy elected President of Bengal Legislative Council.
 —Turkish Delegation leaves India.
 March 3. Gandhiji breaks fast at 9 A. M. at Aga Khan Palace, Poona, on completion of 21 days' fast.
 March 4. Battle of Bismarck Sea: Jap convoy of 22 ships wiped out.
 March 5. U.S. troops in Tunisia penetrate Sidi Bon Zid.
 —Soviet thrust at Smolensk.
 March 6. Russian troops occupy Gzhatsk.
 —Allied troops capture Pichon town in North Africa.
 March 7. Stalin created Marshal of the Soviet Union.
 March 8. Leaders meet U.S. President's envoy in Bombay.
 March 9. Meeting of leaders at the Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar's residence in Bombay.
 March 10. Leaders' call to Government to set Gandhi free.
 —Mr. Rutherford appointed Governor of Bihar.
 March 11. President Roosevelt presents Social Security Plan to the Congress.
 March 12. Sir Reginald Maxwell's term extended.
 —Sir S. Bhatnagar elected Fellow of the Royal Society.
 March 13. Mr. Eden confers with President Roosevelt in Washington.
 March 14. Gen. Giraud's pledge to Frenchmen.
 —Gen. Smuts on post-war peace policy.
 March 15. Muslim League in the Central Assembly votes against the Finance Bill.
 March 16. Nazi drive to Donetz.
 March 17. Finance Bill in the Assembly—First Reading passed.
 March 18. H.E. Sir Arthur Hope pays a tribute to Madras in the army.
 March 19. Finance Member's scheme for freezing dividends.
 March 20. Fierce fighting for Mareth Line. Eighth army advances.

March 21. Mr. Eden and Halifax meet Mr. Hull in Washington.
 —Rt. Hon. Sir John Colville, Governor-designate of Bombay, arrives.
 March 22. Sir Azizul Huq, High Commissioner for India in London and Sir Muhammad Zafrullah arrive in Karachi.
 March 23. South American Republics raised to the status of embassies.
 March 24. Sir Zafrullah Khan gives his American impressions at a Press Conference in Lahore.
 March 25. White paper re. Government's charge against Congress published in London.
 —Assembly discussion on treatment of prisoners.
 March 26. Mr. Louis Fischer reiterates his stand in favour of settlement with Gandhi.
 March 27. Eighth army regains initiative in Mareth Line.



THE LATE MR. S. SATYAMURTI

March 28. Death of Mr. S. Satyamurti at the General Hospital, Madras.
 —Berlin raided by British bombers.
 March 29. Mr. Fazlul Huq, Chief Minister of Bengal, resigns.
 March 30. Bengal declared a "raid area".
 —Commons debate on India.
 March 31. Governor takes over administration of Bengal under Section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935.

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

POLITICAL PARTIES IN HYDERABAD

The Nizam in a Firman published in a *Gazette Extraordinary* forbids all political associations existing in the Dominions, no matter to which race or religion they belong, to make public speeches of a nature likely to stir up mischief or publish articles in local papers calculated to cause unrest in the country or lead to breaches of peace. In case of contravention of the order, the Government will take strong action against the offenders.

Any party wishing to ventilate its grievances, the Firman states, may do so in a proper and constitutional manner. The Firman further forbids Nawab Bahadur Yar Jung (President of the All-India States Muslim League) to deliver any speeches either within or outside the Dominions for a period of one year or publish any statement in any newspapers, so that he may avoid placing himself in difficulties by his own act and causing embarrassment at the same time to the Government.

MEDICAL REORGANISATION

A Press Note says the Government have sanctioned a constitution committee, composed of the following members (with power to co-opt such persons from time to time as may be able to assist them in special branches of their enquiry) in order to consider and report on the Medical Registration Bill (comprising within its scope Allopathic, Ayurvedic, Siddha and Homeopathic systems), reorganisation of the Medical Department and securing co-operation between Ayurvedic and Medical Departments as also the possibility of opening a Medical School: Dr. Tirumurthi (Chairman), the Surgeon-General, Dr. Jacob Thaliath, Dr. L. A. Ravi Varma and the Secretary to Government in charge of Medical, Ayurvedic and Public Health Departments.

Baroda

BARODA TELEPHONE SYSTEM

The telephone system in the State has been extended in the recent years. Besides the Baroda city, there are automatic telephone systems at Navsari, Petlad, Dabhoi, Kalol, Mehsana and Billimora. All these have been or are being connected with the trunk telephone system. During the year 1940-41, installations at Kalol and Navsari were completed and the exchanges were thrown open to the public. The junction lines Ahmedabad-Kalol and Surat-Navsari attracted fair amount of traffic.

BENEVOLENT SOCIETIES

There were 105 societies on the register under the Benevolent Societies Act in the year 1940-41 and 6 more were registered during the year, making a total of 111. More than two-thirds of these were societies for promoting education, libraries, etc., 10 were merchants associations, 12 for sanitary and medical relief and the remaining for miscellaneous purposes. Out of the 111 societies, 71 were in the Baroda, 21 in the Mehsana, 15 in the Navsari and 4 in the Amreli districts.

HIS HIGHNESS'S MUNIFICENCE

His Highness the Gaekwar of Baroda has contributed in all a sum of Rs. 1,00,000 to the joint war organisation of the Indian Red Cross Society and St. John Ambulance Association in order to enable it to help the sick, the wounded, the convalescent and the prisoners of war of Indian forces, says a press note from Baroda.

RELEASE OF BARODA DETENUS

The Baroda Government have released unconditionally all detenus interned after August 18, 1942, according to a message from Baroda in a local paper. It is stated that this action is the result of a settlement between the Praja Mandal and the Government.

Mysore

PRISON REFORM

The Select Committee on the Mysore Prisons Bill have submitted their report to the Government. The Committee have made recommendations of a far-reaching character in regard to prison reforms.

The Committee are of the opinion that the health of a prisoner should be examined soon after admission, not only in the case of criminal prisoners but of civil prisoners also and that the cost of clothing supplied by the Superintendent to a civil prisoner should not be a liability upon the person in whose favour it is being executed. The Committee further say, that no criminal prisoner should be kept to labour for more than eight hours in any one day, that in every prison there should be provided a suitable place for the accommodation and treatment of sick prisoners and that not only should prisoners under trial be permitted to see their legal advisers but such privileges should also be available to prisoners who may be convicted but who intend to prefer an appeal or petition against their conviction. They also point out that formal warning should not be combined with any other punishment whatsoever and that in the case of serious prison offences, the substance of the evidence of the witnesses for the defence should also be recorded. Lastly, the Committee have also recommended that provision should be made in the Bill for the temporary release of prisoners on parole.

REVISION OF PAY

It is understood that the Government of Mysore are contemplating revision of scales of pay in both the higher and lower grades of the several departments in view of the need for economy and for reducing the working cost. It is learnt they have asked the heads of departments to submit definite proposals in that regard.

STANDARD CLOTH FOR MYSORE

It is learnt that the Mysore Government has indented for two lakhs of rupees worth of standard cloth which is expected to arrive early this month. The cloth will be distributed all over the State through Government agency.

Travancore

NEW RADIO STATION

Inaugurating the Trivandrum Broadcasting Station recently, Her Highness Maharani Sethu Parvati Bayi said:

"I avail myself of this occasion to emphasise the main purposes of the Trivandrum Broadcasting Station. The radio is bound to become increasingly one of the strongest links uniting country and country, making it possible for the widest circulation of news and views and for the exposition of the fine arts. When the urgencies of the present conflict are over, when the world's nerves are quieted and hourly news reels and catchy music give place to the much-needed programme of harmony and synthesis so essential for the future, the work turned out by receiving and transmitting sets will be amongst the most effective factors, tending towards co-operation and mutual appreciation amongst nations.

Another and perhaps even more valuable contribution that can be made by this station is to spread as well as to intensify the adults as well as the youth of the State popular education through the mother-tongue in things that are important to them in every-day life. It should be the ambition of this station to impart to our peasantry up-to-date ideas relating to their future agricultural and industrial possibilities involving a campaign to grow more food and to improve cottage industries. They will also be instructed in what is essential for them to know in the domain of contemporary history and contemporary scientific knowledge."

SHIPPING CORPORATION

At a meeting held in Trivandrum last month, the Dewan called upon commercial and mercantile interests to constitute a shipping corporation for Travancore to take charge of coastal and other water-borne traffic in the State, with the assistance of the Government. Prominent businessmen, besides the Chief Secretary and some planters, were also present.

The Dewan suggested the formation of a committee for evolving a definite scheme on the lines already discussed.

Jaipur

A UNIVERSITY FOR RAJPUTANA

"Our hope has been that there might be a separate University for the whole of Rajputana, with its headquarters at Jaipur but with complete distribution of authority", observed Sir Mirza Ismail, Prime Minister of Jaipur, and member of the Central Advisory Board for Education, presiding over the annual function of the Maharaja's College, Jaipur, recently.

Sir Mirza continued: "Its different centres might perhaps specialise in different branches of study. Its convocations could be held in the different States in rotation, that is, in the State whose ruler is also the Chancellor of the University. Jaipur would have no wish to dominate such a University but if the other States are willing to come in, the thing can be organised with complete distribution of control. If, however, this undertaking is to be ours alone or almost alone, it is not beyond the resources of the State and its immensely generous benefactors of learning".

Sir Mirza criticised the whole system of present-day education in India as "wrong" and emphasised the need for academic reorganisation throughout the country. Sir Mirza hoped that in the planning, staffing and administration of Rajputana University, there will be no regard whatsoever for political, communal, partisan or personal considerations.

Indore

INCREASED ALLOWANCE

The Government of His Highness the Maharaja Holkar have recently been pleased to sanction the revision of the scale of dearness allowance granted to the staff of Indore Municipality. The Municipal employees will now get this allowance at the same scale as the Government employees are getting and that scale is the same as the one followed by the Government of India. The additional expenditure of Rs. 25,186 to be incurred as a result of this measure will be met from the opening balance of the current year's budget of the Indore City Municipality.

Kashmir

KASHMIR BUDGET

Presenting the budget estimates in the Kashmir State Assembly recently, the Prime Minister, Sir N. Gopalaswami Ayyangar, specially referred to the increase in the army budget to Rs. 35 lakhs, compared with an expenditure of Rs. 48'78 lakhs in the year immediately preceding the outbreak of the war. The budget figures, the Prime Minister pointed out, represented an increase of Rs. 36'27 lakhs, or 78'39 per cent.

All the Jammu and Kashmir artillery units and the artillery training centre were transferred to the Indian Army with effect from October 1 last.

Bharatpur

BHARATPUR WAR FRONT

A meeting of the National War Front was held in the A. V. M. School on the 11th March, 1943, at Bharatpur; it was attended by about 500 people. Rajmantra Pravina Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, the Dewan of Bharatpur, presented watches sent by His Excellency the Crown Representative and the Viceroy to Bakshi Nathi Singh, Collector, Customs and Excise and Subedar Girdhari Singh, Assistant Recruiting Officer, in recognition of their excellent recruiting work.

Patiala

PATIALA CONVOCATION ADDRESS

An appeal to the students on whom degrees were conferred to devote their entire time and energy in forthcoming war efforts was made by His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala in the course of the convocation address delivered on February 19, at the Mahendra College, Patiala.

Cochin

FULL RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

The Cochin Legislative Council, on March 21, carried by a majority of 26 against 13, a resolution tabled by Mr. C. V. Iyyu recommending to the Government that His Highness the Maharaja may be requested to declare that full Responsible Government would be granted at the end of the war.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

: 0 :

South Africa

INDIANS IN DURBAN

Since the publication of the report of the Indian Penetration Commission under the chairmanship of Justice Broome a year ago, it has been alleged that penetration by Indians into predominantly European areas in Durban has taken place at an accelerated rate and the Government has been urged to take early action to cope with the situation.

The Government has decided that in the first place facts should be established and to this end, has appointed Justice Broome as a commission to enquire into the situation and report whether and if so, to what extent Indians (including companies with predominantly Indian directorates) have since September 30, 1940, in the municipal area of Durban acquired sites in those areas which the Indian Penetration Commission found to be predominantly European. The latter commission covered the period between January 1, 1927, and September 30, 1940. The commission now issued to Justice Broome in fact, requires him to bring the report of the previous commission up to date in respect of the city of Durban.

THE BROOME COMMISSION

In the Central Legislative Assembly, Mr. A. V. Pai, Deputy Secretary, Indian Overseas Department, explained the position regarding the terms of reference of the Broome Commission in Durban. The inquiry, said Mr. Pai, was not concerned with the acquisition of lands already in the possession of Indians, but with purchases of land by Indians in predominantly European areas since September, 1940.

"The terms of reference of the present inquiry are whether and to what extent Indians (including companies with predominantly Indian directorates) have, since September 30, 1940, within the municipal area of Durban, acquiring sites in those areas which the Indian Penetration Committee found to be predominantly European on January 1, 1927.

The Natal Indian Association complained that these terms of reference did not include

the reasons for the acquisition of these sites by Indians. The South African Minister of the Interior replied that the inquiry was designed to elicit facts only, and that the inclusion of this further point was unnecessary. As the previous Broome Commission (in 1941) commented in detail upon the reasons which induce Indians to acquire property in predominantly European areas, it does not appear that the omission of this point in the terms of reference will seriously prejudice the Indian case before the Commission. The High Commissioner for India did, however, make a representation on the subject, and ascertained that there was no objection to Indian representatives at the inquiry stating the reasons for acquisition."

Ceylon

INDIANS IN CEYLON

As an emergency measure, the Government of Ceylon have promulgated new regulations by which no female person of any age, unless she be a Ceylonese or married to a Ceylonese or, being an Indian, is a relative (whether by blood or by marriage) of a person resident in Ceylon, may now enter Ceylon except under the authority of a permit granted by or on behalf of the Chief Secretary to the Government of Ceylon, states a press note. By administrative arrangement, Indian women accompanying male relatives will be treated as in the same position as Ceylonese women and allowed entry without permits. Indian women who are not accompanied by male relatives and who have no relations in Ceylon will require permits.

East Africa

INDIAN TRADE WITH EAST AFRICA

A delegation from East Africa consisting of Mr. Macquade, Controller of Customs, Tanganyika, Mr. Stone, Agent, Mackinnon Mackenzies, representing Kenya merchants, and Mr. Damala, Manager of Ralli Brothers' branch in Kenya, has arrived in India to interview the Government of India with a view to securing certain trade facilities for East Africa analogous to those which the U.K.C.C. have acquired.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

INDIAN CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE

The demand that a round table conference should be convened immediately in India to reach an agreed solution of important constitutional problems was put forward by the All-India Indian Christians' Conference on March 20, when a number of resolutions on the political situation in the country were passed. The conference called upon the British Government to make a clear declaration as soon as possible that India would attain full freedom within two years after the cessation of hostilities. Meanwhile, it appealed to the leaders of the principal parties and communities in India to come to an agreed solution on the communal problem, failing which the question might be referred for decision to an international tribunal. . . .

The Conference gave unqualified support to the ideal of a free and independent India in a world brotherhood of nations.

RACIAL DISCRIMINATION

Speaking in the Assembly, Mr. Frank Anthony, Anglo-Indian, after pleading for tightening up arrangements for distribution of food, spoke on the discrimination in salaries and allowances of British and Indian Commissioned Officers. He alleged that 99 and 9/10 per cent. of the so-called British emergency commissioned officers at present were really Anglo-Indians but because of the higher scale of pay given to European commissioned officers, they made the false statement that they were Europeans and Government without stopping to enquire or examine the claim accepted them as Europeans.

It was also the case, he declared, that the better educated class of Anglo-Indians refused to deny their Indian parentage and were therefore denied the higher scale of pay.

PANDIT MALAVIYA'S ADVICE TO YOUTH

"We are passing through very critical times and there is a widespread feeling of discontent and despair, but I do hope that a better day will dawn upon our country," said Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, addressing the students of the Benares University on March 8.

Remember that the University is a temple of learning. Let not the atmosphere of this temple be spilt by internecine quarrels. Continue to build happy traditions that the elders guide the young and the young respect the elders and that all unite in offering worship to the Motherland. You want complete independence. So do I. You want freedom for yourselves. So you must allow the same freedom to others. In your behaviour you should so act that you should bring good name. I hope you will establish such traditions in this University that members of the staff will show utmost affection to their students and the students show due respects to their teachers.

SIR RAISMAN'S WARNING

Winding up the debate on the first reading of the Finance Bill, at the Central Assembly, on March 17 last, Sir Jeremy Raisman concluded with a stern warning to the Bombay Cotton Market. He said:

He had rarely seen a more disgusting and disgraceful spectacle than that provided by the market during the last few days. There was no justification to have run the level of the price of cotton as had been done. If they indulge in this type of action, Government will mobilize the whole of its resources in order to defeat and crush them (Loud cheers). They have not only made it difficult to provide cheap cloth for the poor man; they have introduced a serious obstacle in our programme of crop planning in order to secure the food production which we need to solve the food problem; they have acted in the most anti-social way they possibly could. It is nothing less than economic sabotage.

I assure the House that Government is certainly not going to take that kind of thing lying down and are going to take the most drastic steps to prevent it. I have learned a lesson from the behaviour of the market, and if the speculators think I have said my last word on February 27 they may find they are very badly mistaken.

SIR MAHARAJ SINGH ON THE FUTURE

Raja Sir Maharaj Singh, delivering his presidential address at the 25th session of the All-India Conference of Indian Christians, which met at New Delhi on March 19, said:

Merely to fold one's hands and tell the various political parties to come to an agreement is not consonant either with the duty or the dignity of the Government in power in India or elsewhere. But we, Indians, cannot blame only the Government for the unhappy plight in which India is placed. We also must share the responsibility and try to secure Hindu-Muslim unity, for, without some agreement between the Congress and the Muslim League, there would be no lasting solution of the problem of India.

WAVELL ON INDIA

Field Marshal Sir Archibald Wavell, Commander-in-Chief, opening the War Exhibition at New Delhi on March 16, said:

We have accomplished the imperative task that lay on us after the fall of Malaya and Burma—to secure India from the threat of a major attack from the East by sea, land or air.

We can say now that India is in a position to meet and defeat any attack against her soil.

We cannot yet say that India is safe. She will not be until we can drive away and make powerless that cruel, aggressive, treacherous enemy who still threatens our security and our peaceful development and that of our great Allies, America and China, who fight with us in this East theatre.

SIR R. MAXWELL

"His Majesty the King has been graciously pleased to approve the continuance in office of the Hon'ble Sir Reginald Maxwell, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., Home Member in the Government of India, for a further period," states a *communiqué*.

It is understood that the intention is that Sir Reginald Maxwell should hold office for a further period not exceeding 12 months.

MR. JINNAH

Mr. Mohammed Ali Jinnah was unanimously re-elected the Leader and Nawabzada Liaquat Ali Khan was unanimously elected the Deputy Leader of the Muslim League Party in the Central Legislative Assembly at its meeting held at New Delhi.

KAMALA LECTURERSHIP

Their inability to inform Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, President of the Indian National Congress, now in detention as security prisoner under the Defence of India Rules, of the fact that he has been appointed "Kamala Lecturer" of the Calcutta University for 1935, has been conveyed to the University by the Government of India in the Political Department.

The letter addressed to the University on the matter states that "all correspondence with him must be confined to the members of his family and to personal and domestic matters."

In view of this, the authorities of the University have decided to postpone the lecture for that year till the Maulana Sahab is released.

ADULT EDUCATION

That the Annamalai University authorities are considering a scheme of Adult Education and that it would be put into effect soon was revealed by Mr. M. Ruthnaswami, Vice-Chancellor. He stated that a very large number of lecturers, who could lecture in Tamil on various subjects of interest to the masses would be required, when the scheme was put into effect and that speakers in Tamil on science and other subjects would be useful to the organisers of the School of Adult Education.

INDIAN SCHOLARS TO CHINA

The authorities of the Calcutta University have received a letter from the Educational Commissioner with the Government of India, requesting them to submit to the latter the names of five or six post-graduate students of the University who would like to go to China under the Government of India's scheme for exchange of research students between the Universities in China and India.

AIR FORCE CLASSES IN UNIVERSITIES

A scheme for the organisation of special air force classes in the different Universities is embodied in a letter received by the Calcutta University from the Government of India.

ABSENCE FROM MEETINGS

Mr. A. S. P. Iyer, I.C.S., District Judge of Vellore, disposed of petitions on March 9, in respect of non-attendance of meetings of the North Arcot District Board by some members holding that they retain their membership as they had not absented themselves voluntarily in as much as they were under detention under the Defence Rules.

The District Judge remarked that he was definite that a man, who absented himself from the meetings, because of the causes, beyond his control, like seizure by cholera or plague, conscription in the army, or detention in the jail under the Defence of India Rules would not be held to have presented himself under Section 56 (1) of the Madras Local Boards Act. It was urged that doing things, which made the Government retain them, should be held to be voluntarily doing them, knowing that they would be detained by the Government in consequence, and, therefore, disabled to attend the meetings, thus falling within the phrase "absents himself". The Judge could not agree to this view. These persons had not been brought to trial. The Court did not know what the evidence against them was. Nor did the Government pleader let in evidence to show that they had done certain acts in order to get themselves detained by the Government. They should be strictly proved, before they could be believed and acted on.

FEDERAL COURT

The Full Bench of the Federal Court consisting of the Chief Justice, Sir Varadachariar and Sir Ameer Ali dismissed three criminal appeals, two of them preferred by two police officers and the third by an excise sub-inspector of the province of Bihar against a judgment of the High Court at Patna which dismissed their appeals against the judgment of the Sessions Judge of Dharbhanga convicting them of offence under Section 161, Indian Penal Code.

The Court held that there was no force in the objection based on Section 197 of Criminal Procedure Code. Similarly the objection based on Section 96 of the Bihar and Orissa Excise Act raised on behalf of the Excise Sub-Inspector, was held to be untenable.

SICKNESS INSURANCE SCHEME

The Government of India in the Department of Labour have, it is learnt, accepted the advisability of introducing a sickness insurance scheme in the country. They have appointed Prof. Adbarkar of Allahabad University to prepare a scheme which is, in the first instance, to be applied to the cotton and jute textile industries and the heavy engineering industries.

Provincial Governments, who were addressed on the matter, have agreed to give a guarantee to reimburse a Central Sickness Insurance Fund, which will be necessary to ensure the operation of the proposed scheme.

After a draft has been prepared, Provincial Governments and associations of employees and workers will be asked to express their views before any scheme is finally decided upon and legislation introduced for the purpose.

PROTECTION AGAINST WAR INJURIES

The Labour Member, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, introduced in the Central Assembly on March 11, a bill to impose on employers a liability to pay compensation to workmen sustaining war injuries and to provide for the insurance of employers against such liability.

A provision has also been made to extend the scheme of insurance to employers in States provided that provisions substantially corresponding to the provisions of this bill are made in that State.

The bill follows closely the War Risks Goods Insurance Ordinance and the War Risks Factories Insurance Ordinance.

FREE ANNUAL MEDICAL EXAMINATION

Every policy-holder, says a writer in the *Indian Insurance Journal*, should have the right for a free Medical examination annually at the hands of the company's doctors at the company's expense and this extra expenditure incurred by the company is really an additional investment because if the early detection of disease ensures early treatment, and the life is sure to be prolonged by another year.

INDIAN CHAMBERS' DEMAND

"We must realise that a fundamental of economic progress is the condition of the mass of people", observed Mr. G. L. Mehta, President of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry, in his presidential speech delivered at the Sixteenth Annual Session of the Federation held at Delhi. "It is not a problem but an obligation to solve the economic maladies from which our country suffers", added Mr. Mehta.

The meeting passed three resolutions put from the chair on the political situation, India's participation in international conferences and the sale of Indian silver in England.

The first resolution expressed grave concern with the political situation in the country and reiterated the Federation's demand for immediate and effective transfer of political power to a National Government. The meeting urged the following steps: (1) an immediate declaration of Government's readiness to transfer effective political power to people of this country; (2) release of political leaders unconditionally to enable them to review the political situation with a view to establishment of a National Government in conjunction with other political parties.

The second resolution urged the Government of India as at present constituted to desist from entering into any agreement on behalf of India which involved acceptance of financial, fiscal or economic principles or policies as basis for post-war reconstruction and would commit the future Government in India in that respect. The Federation demanded that in any international conferences which are convened for arriving at such arrangement or agreement for common objects, delegates should consist wholly of representative Indians, including representatives of Indian commercial community and should in every instance be responsible to Indian public opinion and not function as nominees of His Majesty's Government.

The Federation strongly disapproved of the policy pursued by the Government of India in selling the accumulated stocks of Indian silver in the London market at a low price, which compared unfavourably with the price paid by the U.S.A. to Mexican sellers.

RELIEF FOR BENGAL WIDOWS

"No Hindu widower shall marry anyone who is not a widow." This is the chief provision of a private member's Bill introduced in the Bengal Legislative Assembly, which has been re-circulated this session by the House for further eliciting public opinion. The Bill provides that violation of the provision shall be punishable with simple imprisonment up to 6 months or fine of up to Rs. 1,000 or both. The statement of objects and reasons of the Bill emphasises that it is absolutely necessary that more effective steps should be taken so that the number of widow remarriages may increase. "The number of widowers in Bengal is more than 5 lakhs. It may safely be assumed that half of them will marry again. If it is provided that a widower, whenever he marries again, should marry a widow, all widows between the ages of 5 and 25 may get themselves remarried. This, it is hoped may solve the problem of widow remarriage in Bengal to some extent."

WOMEN BIO-CHEMISTS

Miss P. Devi, M.Sc., who is now working in the Government Bio-chemical Laboratory at Madras, has been appointed Bio-chemist in the Nutrition Research Laboratories at Coonoor. She is the second lady to be entertained on the staff of this institution, the first being Dr. Miss K. Bhagavat, who is the Assistant Director. Both the ladies have replaced men who have gone abroad on active military service.

MRS. ROOSEVELT ON BRITISH WOMEN

Mrs. Roosevelt broadcasting to Girl Guides, said: "The women of Britain have risen magnificently to the opportunities the war situation has offered them and have filled every need. On every side you hear the remark, 'we do not know what we would have done without the women.'"

MRS. SAROJINI NAIDU

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu was released from detention on March 21 on grounds of health.

LIBRARY FOR CENTRAL GOVERNMENT

"Books in War Times" was the subject of a discussion held in New Delhi on 14th March under the auspices of the Government of India Libraries Association. The Labour Member, Dr. B. R. Ambedkar, who presided, remarked that our production of books and their collection was "in a very primitive state." The U.S.A. Government spent Rs. 1½ crores a year on the Congress Library, while the British Government spent Rs. 2½ lakhs a year on the British Museum. The Government of India, on the other hand, spend only Rs. 28,450 a year on the eleven libraries attached to various departments, which had a total of 600,000 books.

THE INDIAN EXPRESS

The Bangalore Branch Office of the *Indian Express*, *Dhinamani* and *Andhra Prabha* was declared open by Mr. N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, before a large and distinguished gathering recently. The Dewan, in his speech, thanked Mr. Ramnath Goenka, Managing Director of the Free Press of India (Madras), for the appreciable references he has made about Mysore and said that the opening of this branch may signify not only success and enterprising journalism but also growing prosperity as a commercial venture.

MR. LAURENCE BINYON

Mr. Laurence Binyon, the well-known poet and orientalist, died last month.

Mr. Binyon, who was born in August, 1869, was an official in the British Museum in charge of oriental prints and drawings. He won in 1890 the Newdigate prize for poetry, while at Trinity College, Oxford. He was a spiritual and delicate poet and aesthetic critic. His first volume of poetry, "The Lyric Poems", appeared in 1894, and his collected poems in 1931.

EMPIRE PRESS UNION

Mr. K. Srinivasan, Editor of the *Hindu*, has been elected Chairman of the Empire Press Union, in succession to Mr. Arthur Moore, who has resigned the office owing to his retirement from the editorship of the *Statesman*.

THE LATE MR. KANDASAMI CHETTI

We deeply regret to record the death of Mr. O. Kandasami Chetti, retired Professor of Madras Christian College and veteran public worker, at his residence in Madras, at the ripe age of 76.

Mr. Chetti was an ardent social reformer and edited the journal, *Social Reform Advocate*. Some years ago he took an active part in Congress politics and was associated with the late Mr. S. Srinivasa Iyengar on his public activities. He was connected with the Y.M.C.A. for a long time. In the early years of this journal Mr. Chetti used to contribute frequently on educational and social topics in which he always evinced great interest.

MR. A. V. RAMANATHAN

A Note issued by the Government of Mysore in appreciation of the services rendered to the State by Rajamantrapravina A. V. Ramanathan, who has been appointed Dewan of Bharatpur, states:

"In permitting Rajamantrapravina A. V. Ramanathan, Minister for Law, to retire from service on the expiry of the leave granted to him for five months and three days from the 22nd January, 1943, His Highness the Maharaja wishes to place on record his high appreciation of the valuable services rendered by Mr. Ramanathan to the State during an official career extending over 34 years."

SIR G. B. PRADHAN

The death occurred recently, at the age of 67, of Sir Govind Baiwat Pradhan, after a prolonged illness.

Sir Govind was Finance Member of the Government of Bombay from 1923 to 1932. In 1934, the title of "Promoter of the Faith" was conferred on him by Shri Jagadguru Shankaracharya. He was the Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Provincial Land Mortgage Bank, and was also a substitute delegate to the Assembly of the League of Nations in 1937.

DR. P. J. THOMAS

Dr. P. J. Thomas, Professor of Economics, Madras University, has been appointed Economics Research Organiser with the Government of India, with headquarters at Simla.

EMERGENCY COMMISSION IN I. M. S.

The Government of India have decided to open recruitment to emergency commissions in the Indian Medical Service for service within Indian limits, to specialists possessing appropriate post-graduate medical qualifications and sufficient experience in the special subjects of medicine.

Officers recruited in this category will be granted a lower rate of pay than specialists recruited to the general service cadre of the Indian Medical Service, but their other terms and conditions of service will generally be the same as for the latter. These officers will be commissioned as Lieutenants in the first instance, and will subsequently be granted the acting rank of Major when holding specialist posts.

They will be exempted from preliminary military training.

GRIEVANCES OF INDIAN DOCTORS

The view that any proposal for conscription of doctors by Government would, in the present political situation, be unwise, was expressed by the Central Council of Indian Medical Association, at a meeting at Lucknow.

"If the legitimate grievances of the medical profession," the Council stated in a Resolution, "as put forward by the Indian Medical Association from time to time, are remedied, the promulgation of any scheme of conscription will not be necessary."

The Council expressed its disapproval of the delay by Government in enforcing the Drugs Act of 1940, which in its opinion, vitally affected public health.

ANIMAL BLOOD FOR TRANSFUSION

Animal blood is now being tried for transfusion purposes.

At Harvard University, for example, experiments have been conducted and satisfactory results obtained, on the use of beef blood as a source of plasma for human beings.

Altered to make it suitable for human use, the beef blood plasma has been injected into the veins of over 2,000 convicts, who volunteered to act as subjects for the experiment.

THE WONDER DRUG

Without any real understanding of how the wonder sulfa-drugs overcome infections, doctors have been freely using them ever since. Dr. Gerhard Domagk of Germany discovered prontosil, forerunner of sulfanilamide, in 1932. But the mystery of their effectiveness has recently been cleared up by a series of discoveries reviewed in a recent issue of the *British Medical Journal*.

Discoverer of the mechanism of sulfa-therapy is Bacteriologist Paul Filde of London. Certain bacteria, he found, mistake the sulfa-drugs for a vitamin-like substance—probably of the Vitamin-B complex—which they need for growth. Consuming the pseudo-vitamin instead of the real, the bacteria fail to multiply, so that the blood's white corpuscles can easily destroy their limited numbers. How slight is the lethal error which the bacteria make is shown by the similar chemical names: sulfanilamide is para-amino-benzene-sulfa-namide; the growth factor is para-amino-benzoic acid.

HOW TO FIGHT MALARIA

A new method of fighting malaria—commonest disease on earth—is being used to protect the residents of Delhi, India's capital, and the U.S. troops quartered there from the epidemic, now raging among the 100,000,000 people of North-West India. Gangs of trained workmen go from house to house all day spraying a mixture of pyrethrum insecticide (5 per cent.) and kerosene (95 per cent.) on the walls and rafters, where the night-flying mosquitoes rest.

The sprayers, says an American Weekly, are all lads of good caste, so no high-born Hindu will be outraged by their attentions to his residence, out-house and cow-shed, each of which must be re-sprayed every week or so. First night after spraying, all mosquitoes vanish.

The big advantage of the new technique, which was developed during the last three years by Rockefeller Foundation scientists in India, is its cheapness. Cost runs about 8 cents per person per season, whereas "permanent" malaria control measures—would cost about \$1.50 per person per season.

THE BANK OF JAIPUR, LTD.

The Bank of Jaipur, which has been just formed with a total authorised capital of Rs. 20 crores divided into 200,000 shares of Rs. 100 each, are offering 50,000 shares for public subscription, out of the present issue which totals 100,000 shares. Of the remainder of 50,000 shares, 25,000 shares have been subscribed by the Jaipur State and another 25,000 shares by the Directors and their friends. These latter shares will be allotted in full. Sir Padampet Singhania of Cawnpore is the Chairman, while the Jaipur Government's nominee on the Board is Mr. P. M. Bhargava. The Bank intends to open branches in all important business centres of India.

VICTORIA AND EDWARD VII COINS

The Government of Madras have issued the following *communiqué* :—

The public are hereby finally reminded that after the 30th April 1948, Queen Victoria and King Edward VII rupees and half rupees will cease to be accepted at the Offices of the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank of India unless the Reserve Bank authorities are fully satisfied that the tenderer was prevented by causes beyond his control from tendering the coin by the prescribed date. Holders of these coins, who wish to exchange them at an office of the Issue Department of the Reserve Bank (Currency Office, Madras), should tender them there before 30th April 1948.

PHOTOPRINTS OF CURRENCY NOTES

A bill introduced in the Assembly on February 16 by Sir Jeremy Raisman, Finance Member, to amend the Indian Penal Code and the Currency Ordinance seeks to put a stop to the practice under which photoprints and other reproductions of currency notes and bank notes, though printed for innocent purposes, have passed into circulation in a number of cases. It is considered undesirable that in a country like India with a large mass of illiterate and ignorant persons, such reproductions should be permitted to go unchecked before it menaces the safety of the currency.

RAILWAY EMPLOYEES

A press *communiqué* dated March 14, says :

The Central Government have had under review the dearness allowance at present given to railway servants in view of the recent rise in the cost of living. Dearness allowance was originally given to railway employees with effect from September, 1940, and this was increased in November, 1941 and again in June, 1942. At present, railway servants working in towns of more than 250,000 inhabitants are drawing Rs. 10-8 per mophth, if their pay is Rs. 120 or below; those in towns of 50,000 inhabitants together with certain selected areas, Rs. 8-12 a month, if their pay is Rs. 90 or below and those in other areas Rs. 7 per month, if their pay is Rs. 60 or below.

The Government of India have now decided that, with effect from February 1, 1948, Rs. 16 shall be given in Bombay, Calcutta and Cawnpore to those drawing up to Rs. 200; Rs. 14 in other towns of over 250,000 inhabitants to those drawing up to Rs. 175; Rs. 11 to those in towns of 50,000 inhabitants drawing up to Rs. 125 and Rs. 8 to those in other areas drawing up to Rs. 90 per month. As before, a few areas will be included in higher categories than is warranted on the population basis. Railway servants, who have been enrolled in Defence of India Units, and who thus receive generous allowances, will not be eligible for these increases in dearness allowance. They will, however, be entitled to draw dearness allowance on the present scale.

DAMAGE TO RAILWAY PROPERTY

The physical damage caused to railway assets on the B. and N.W. Railway and E.I. Railway as a result of the recent political disturbances amounted, in round figures, to Rs. 16 lakhs and 14 lakhs, respectively, declared Sir Edward Benthall, Transport Member, in reply to Sir Ziauddin Ahmed at question hour in the Central Assembly on February 18. These figures, he added, did not include damage to goods in transit.

Asked who would bear the losses, Indian taxpayers or the railway administration, Sir Edward said that the latter would do so.

NEW IDEAL IN ART

Modern art in Europe is against any pleasing effect in composition and consequently gives the idea of a rebellion and sometimes eccentricity, says Mr. A. K. Haldar broadcasting from Lucknow. A wave of modern art penetrated India through Tagore's paintings, which he started late in life after he had frequently visited Europe. He caught the trend of the German master, Kuben, and developed it in his own way, making it more rigid and austere in technique. Kuben's painting, "The Symbol", gives the idea to what extent Tagore was influenced by him, and his series of paintings on pseudo-pre-historic animals also inspired Tagore to depict them. I would like to warn the art students of our country not to imitate blindly the modern art of the West just because it produces novel sensations. They should, instead, study and understand the underlying meaning of such change which may not be beneficial to our art.

NEW PRE-HISTORIC SITES

New pre-historic sites as well as traces of pre-historic civilisation are reported to have been discovered by the well-known archaeologist, Sir Aurel Stein during his latest excavations in Las Bella State, 90 miles from Karachi. These are entirely different from the famous Mohenjadarо excavations which are in Larkana district.

Sir Aurel Stein has returned to Karachi after completing a seven weeks' tour of the Las Bella State in search of pre-historic sites. Sir Aurel is reported to have brought some finds with him.

TAGORE INSTITUTE FOR LONDON

The Tagore Society plans to establish a Tagore Institute in London as a centre for the study of Indian art and literature. The Institute will work closely with Tagore's University at Santiniketan in Bengal. A committee including Sir Muirhead Bone, Miss Vera Brittain, M. P., Mr. Creech Jones, Labour M. P., Miss Ethel Mannin, Dr. Ghosh of the Oxford University, and Mr. B. Chaudhury has been formed.

WRESTLER'S AMBITION

"Strangler" Lewis, former world wrestling champion, wants to join the American Commando Division. Weighing 20st. 10lb. against his 27st. some time ago, Lewis recently stated that he was feeling fitter than ever before.

Five times champion of the world, Lewis has had a most remarkable career. He has the amazing record of over 6,000 matches, of which he has lost only about 30. He first won the world title in 1916.

Colossal! Yes, there is no other word to describe the famed footman. What a huge figure of a man he is. Bronzed and browned in the sun, bulging with brawn and muscle, hair slightly grey, Lewis seems to believe, says a writer in the *Illustrated Weekly of India*, that a wrestler never reaches his prime until he is between 40 and 50 years of age.

BOMBAY HOCKEY CHAMPIONSHIP

The final of the Bombay Provincial Hockey Championship between the Lusitanians and the *Times of India* again resulted in a draw for the third time, neither side being able to score. The game was even and while the pressmen dominated the play in the first period, the Lusitanians retaliated in the second when they threw away several grand scoring chances.

WORLD RECORD

Gregory Rice, the American Distance Runner, established a new world record when covering $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles in 11 minutes 23-3/10 seconds at Washington recently. This was 9-3/10 seconds faster than the previous best time recorded for this unusual distance. This was the 61st consecutive win for Rice who has not been beaten since May, 1940.

NEW JERSEY'S LIGHTWEIGHT

Henry Armstrong, former triple world title holder, completed his Western Comeback tour with a ten-round contest held at San Francisco recently in which he knocked out Triply Larkin, New Jersey's leading lightweight in the second round. Armstrong now intends to open an Eastern Comeback Campaign.

SOCIAL FUNCTION OF SCIENCE

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

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

Science thus becomes a narrow field unless it is accompanied by a wider and more far-seeing view of human society. This is where a real culture comes in, not the narrow culture of the upper social groups that we see but the real culture which enthuses the great majority of human beings and gives to all their undertakings a moral and human basis.

SIR S. S. BHATNAGAR

According to a report received from the United Kingdom, Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar, Director, Board of Scientific and Industrial Research, has been elected a Fellow of the Royal Society. He is the first Indian chemist to receive this distinction.

CINEMA INDUSTRY

Mr. S. S. Vasan, Proprietor, Gemini Studios and the Gemini Pictures Circuit, Madras, speaking at a party which he gave at Bangalore on the occasion of the opening of the Regional Office of the Gemini Pictures Circuit, pointed out some of the difficulties which the cinema industry was experiencing due to the war, and made a special reference to the Government of India order prescribing the maximum footage of films in Indian languages. This would be a great handicap to distributors and exhibitors in future.

Mr. Vasan suggested that there should be a separate maximum footage for films in South Indian languages instead of one maximum footage applicable for films of all languages. Mr. Vasan appealed to all distributors and exhibitors in Bangalore, which he described as the "brain centre" of the cinema distributing industry, to think and act collectively in this matter.

WAGES OF U. S. STARS

Several famous Hollywood film stars may abandon their screen careers as the result of the U. S. Government order limiting salaries to a maximum of £ 6,250, says a message to a London paper.

Legal representatives of a dozen stars are planning to put their clients' cases before the U. S. Treasury Department in Washington.

TOLSTOY'S WAR AND PEACE

Sir Alexander Korda has obtained permission from the Soviet Government to film Tolstoy's "War and Peace," reports the *Daily Telegraph's* Hollywood correspondent.

Many scenes will be made in Russia with Russian actors and "extras," but the principal members of the cast will be British actors and actresses.

A NEW TAMIL FILM

Dharma Devata is the title announced by director R. Padmanabhan (of *Devakanya*) as his next production. The story deals with Kalathiappan of Kanchi, a famous giver of gifts, who gave away to others in charity all that he had.

MOTORING ECONOMIES

The stress on correct inflation (of tyres) may appear to receive undue importance, but it is impossible to ignore its importance, since under-inflation is still the most devastating misuse to which tyres are subjected, says a writer. An overinflated tyre wears away very quickly along the centre of the tread. But if speeds are strictly limited, it will be safe to inflate tyres up to 13 per cent. above normal. It is a pity that even some garages cannot give us correct information regarding pressure of tyres. I would suggest that leading tyre companies should disseminate correct information on this subject. Again, wrong alignment means loss of thousands of potential tyre miles. Its signs and symptoms can easily be detected on the tyres themselves, and if this is attended to in time one can save easily 25 per cent. more life of tyres. This job should be attended to monthly whether misalignment is suspected or not. A weekly job is the removal of flints and foreign bodies from the tyre surface. Very few punctures are caused by the instantaneous penetration of foreign bodies. In most cases they are in the cover for weeks before they work their way through to the tubes. A regular removal of stones, nails, etc., will obviate 90 per cent. of punctures. Another good plan is to remove the tyre equipment at least twice yearly from the rims, when any internal injuries can be attended to. What is generally done unconsciously is speeding when overloaded, because there is no actual check on the weight carried. Tyres may be retreaded but must be returned to the makers before they become too worn. It requires less raw rubber to retread a tyre than to make a new one.

PRICE OF PNEUMATIC TYRES

It is announced that with effect from March 4, no person shall sell pneumatic tyres and tubes of Indian manufacture at prices higher than those specified in the notification published in the *Gazette of India*.

MOTOR SPEEDS FIXED IN C. P.

By a notification in the provincial *Gazette*, the Government of the Central Provinces and Berar has fixed the maximum speeds for certain classes of motor vehicles "because of the nature of the roads and bridges in the province."

AIRCRAFT BUILDING IN INDIA

The fact that the Hindustan Aircraft Factory had already made first-class aircraft in small numbers was revealed by Sir John Higgins, Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Company, in a message published in the factory gazette.

Sir John stated: "In the next few months, we may hope to turn out a considerable number of modern machines, in addition to carrying out the very considerable and very important overhaul and repair work which will be entrusted to us."

Tracing the progress of the factory since its inception two years ago, Sir John said that when the first anniversary celebration was held on 24th December, 1941, the Company had just begun to emerge from the construction period, or at least so it was hoped. The exigencies of war, added Sir John, had made it impossible to keep up to the original programme.

"The average employee now does excellent work and, above all, it is evident that there will not be lacking capable leaders in the future for the industry when, as was always visualised, the present American supervisors hand over this exacting job to Indian personnel."

AIR MAIL TO INDIA

The delay in air mail services to India is due to the necessity for sea journeys and heavy priority traffic, states the British General Post Office.

The Air-Ministry hopes to be able to arrange through air transport from Africa of outward mails and more expeditious sea services for mails home.

It adds that airgraph service should always secure a more speedy transmission.

AIRCRAFT ENGINES

A special article in the *Times-Trade and Engineering* discusses the prominent place which silver has now taken in such fields as bearing metals, brazing alloys and chemical plant. For large aircraft engines where resistance is necessary to cracking caused by fatigue and to seizure when an aircraft is driving at high speed, steel backs lined with pure silver have proved their worth.

ALUMINIUM PRODUCTION

Aluminium has now been produced for the first time in India at the production works established by a prominent company in South India. Smelting operations were started at the beginning of last month, and the production of aluminium is now in full swing.

It will be remembered that the production of aluminium in India was originally recommended by the Roger Mission, and subsequently endorsed by the American Grady Mission which visited India in May, 1942.

With the completion of these works, this recommendation has now been carried into effect, and India rendered self-sufficient in the supply of this important strategic metal. This development also marks a further stage in the industrialisation of India by the establishment of an important large-scale metallurgical industry in this country.

STANDARD CLOTH

It is announced that, in order to assist them in giving effect to the standard cloth scheme, the Government of India have decided to set up an advisory panel, to be called, the "Standard Cloth Panel", with headquarters at Bombay. This panel will consist of representatives of the cotton textile industry and others.

The Standard Cloth Panel will advise the Government of India generally on matters concerning the manufacture, transport, distribution and sale of standard cloth and the fixing of prices for the purchase and sale of such cloth. The Commerce Member or in his absence the Secretary to the Government of India in the Commerce Department, when present at a meeting of the panel, will preside over the meeting.

HAND-MADE YARN

The Government of Madras are taking measures to control the distribution and prices of yarn more closely, says a Press Note, so that while it may be practicable to sell cheap mill-made standard cloth to the general public, the large community dependent for their livelihood on hand-weaving shall not suffer.

SUGAR INDUSTRY

The setting up of a sugar committee on the lines of the Indian Central Cotton Committee to plan the future development of the sugar industry in India is under the consideration of the Government of India.

It is felt that the industry has made such vast strides that a committee like the one proposed is essential.

The Government of India are, it is further understood, now engaged in settling the details of the constitution of the Committee and the question of financing it from the Sugar Excise Fund.

It is estimated that the cost of the Committee per annum will be between Rs. 11 and 12 lakhs. Representatives of growers, manufacturers and sellers are expected to be on the Committee.

BRITAIN'S HARVEST

Half a million helpers—school children as well as adults—will be needed to harvest Britain's crop this year, the Minister of Agriculture, Mr. R. S. Hudson, said in London.

"With any luck in the weather the harvest should be many million tons greater in weight than last year." He had not the slightest doubt that compulsion would be adopted in certain areas, if voluntary efforts failed.

FOOD CROPS

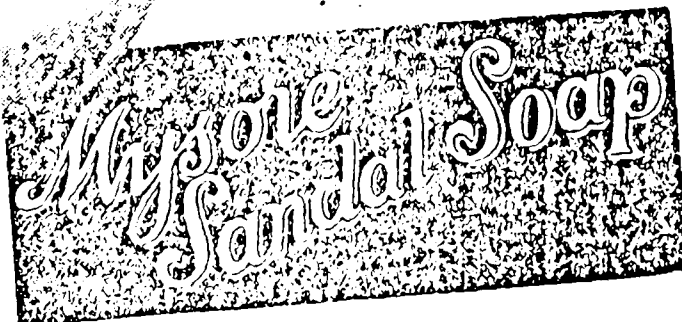
The main food crops grown in India are rice, wheat, gram and jowar-bajra, which account for about 80 per cent. of her total production of food grains. In normal times India produces practically all the staple food grains she needs except for about 14 lakh tons of rice, which used to be imported from Burma.

MR. G. N. R. IYENGAR

The Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal has awarded the Bruhi Medal to Rao Bahadur G. N. Rangaswami Iyengar, F.N.I., I.A.S., Retired Geneticist, Millet Specialist and Principal of the Agricultural College and Research Institute, Coimbatore. This medal is awarded for meritorious research in any branch of botany in the Indian Empire.

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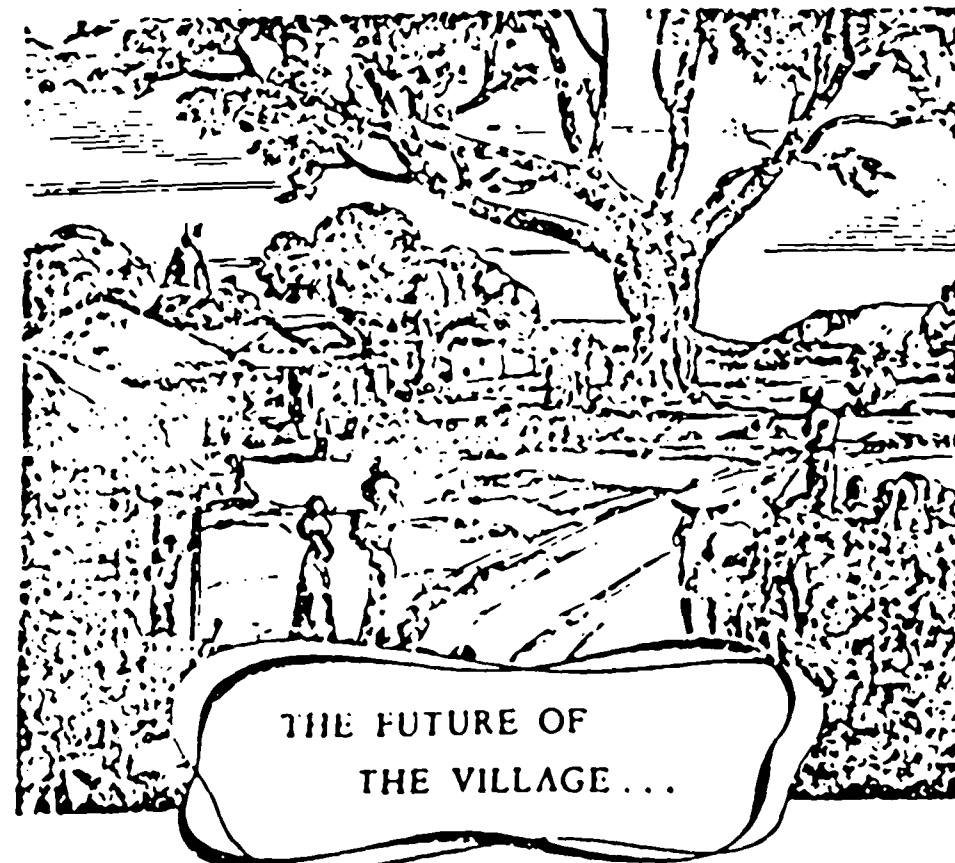
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resources be fully developed. Only by reconstructing our village seeds can India be reborn as China and Russia have been reborn.

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Under Japanese occupation our educated classes would have no chance to carry on such work—still less to suggest the revolutionary economic changes necessary to its success.

Now, as in the future, educated India must lead village India. Show our peasants the way, and they will resist the Japanese!

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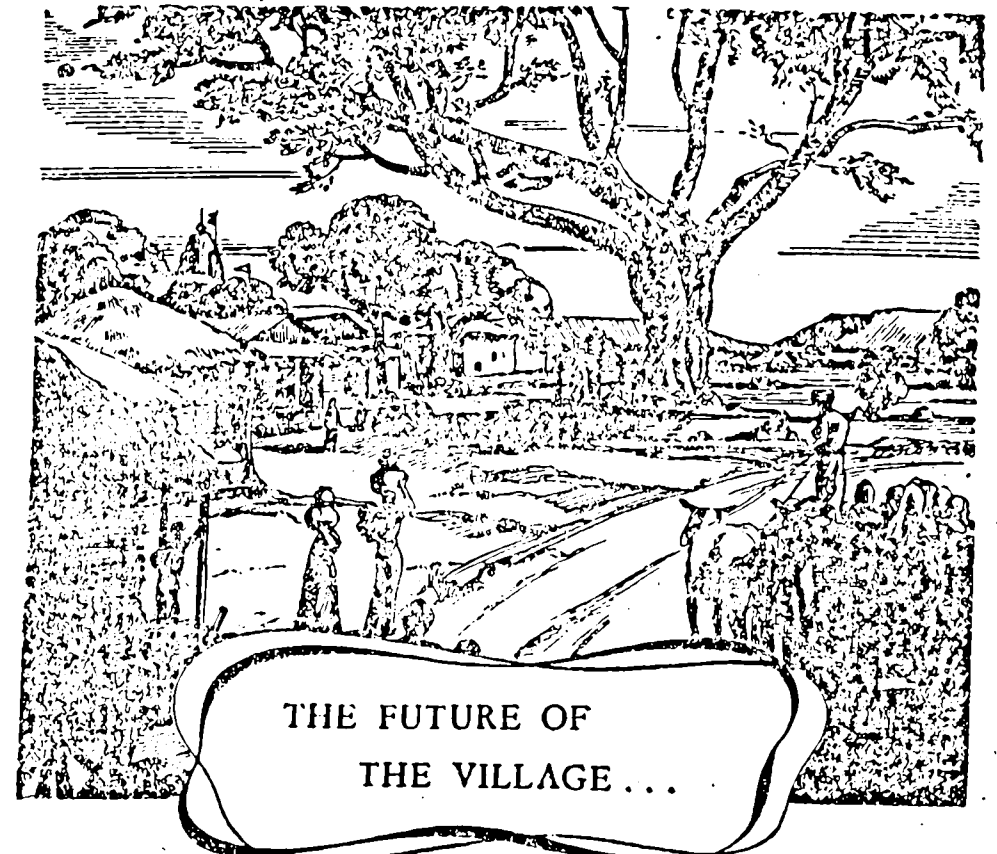
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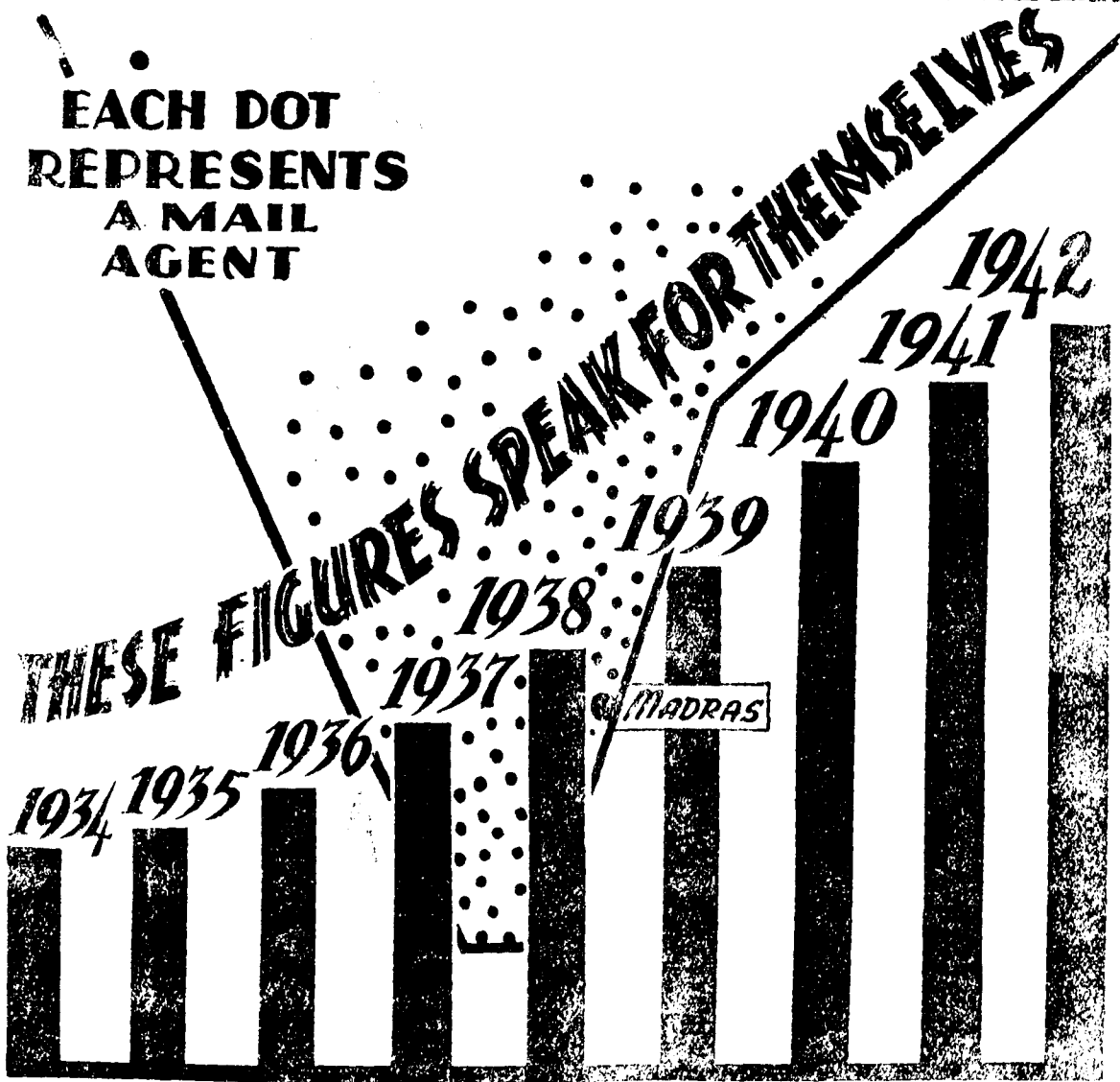
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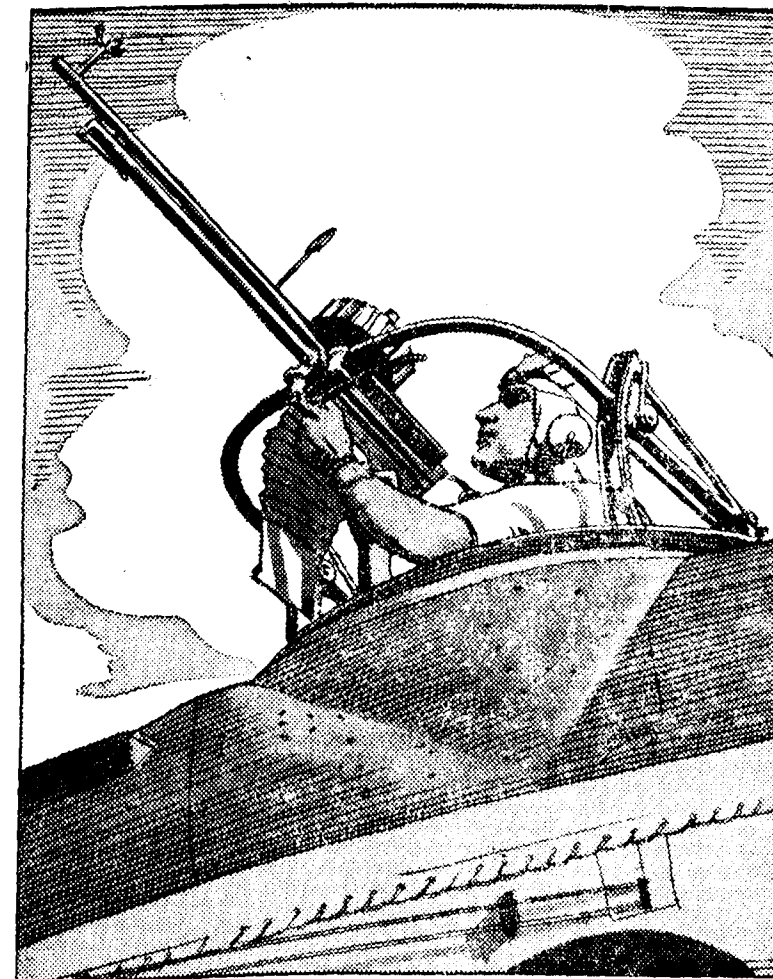
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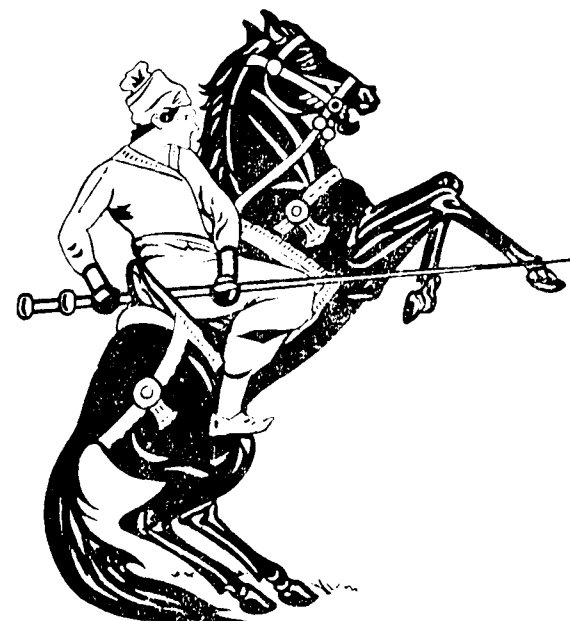
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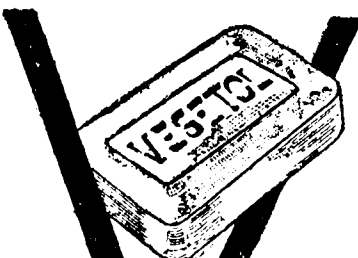
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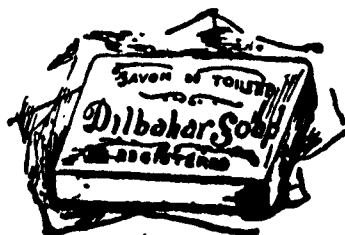
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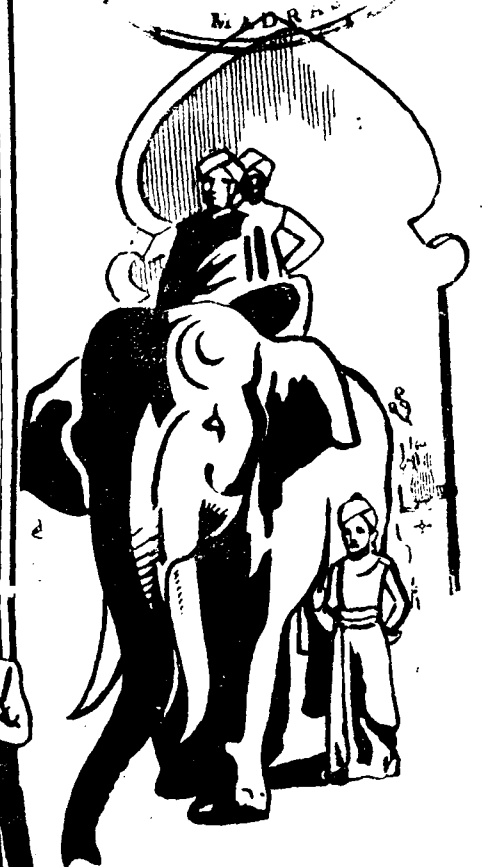
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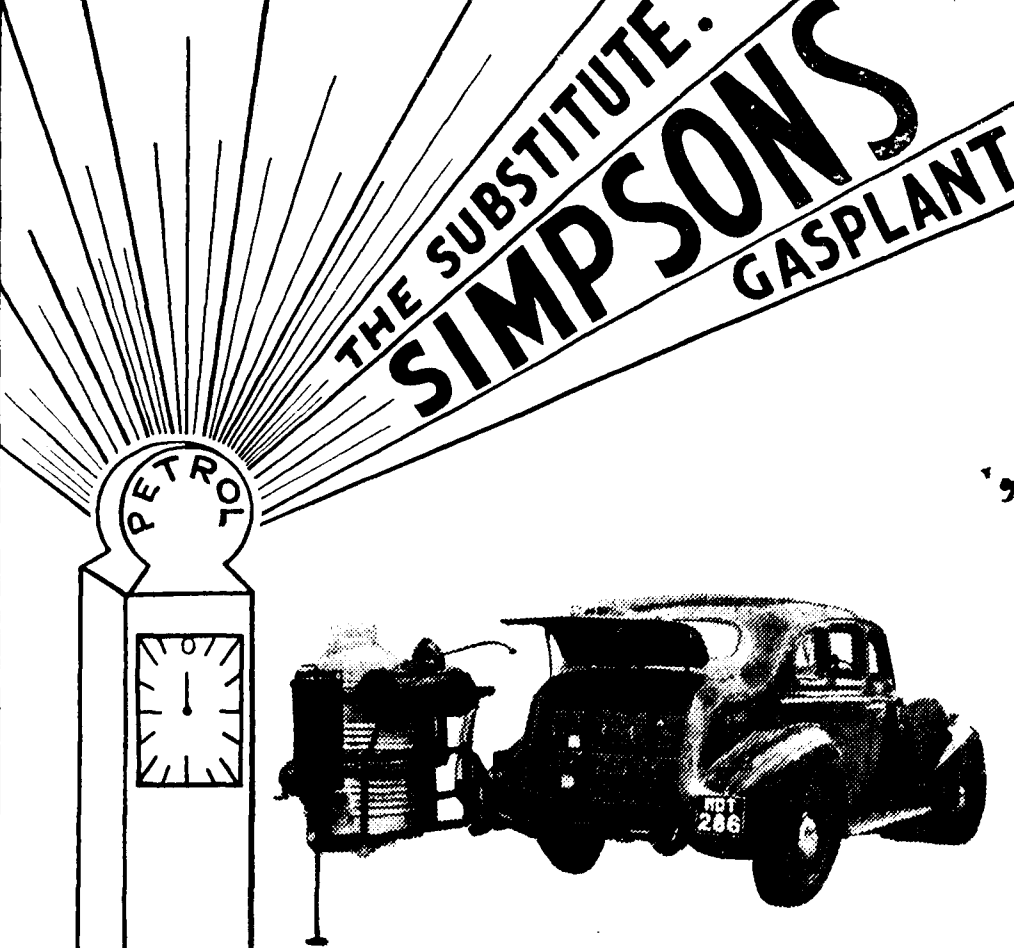
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The Indian Review

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 44]

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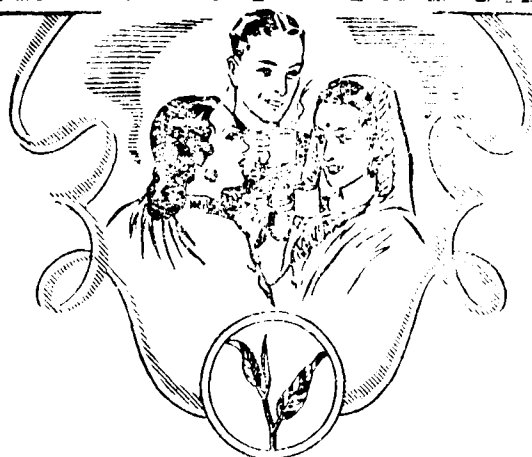
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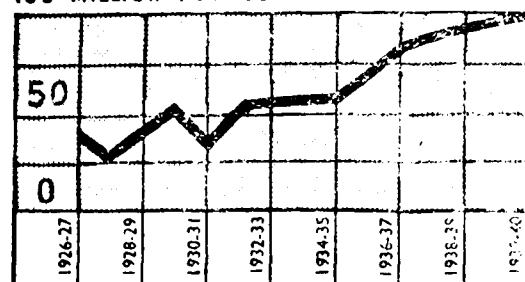
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THE TURNING TIDE OF WAR

BY SIR FRANCIS LOW,

(Editor, "The Times of India.")

LOOKING back on the war since it started, there are two periods which can rightly be regarded as vital. The first period was the short interval between the fall of France and the end of the Battle of Britain. When France fell, Hitler had practically the whole of Europe at his mercy except two countries—Russia and Great Britain. At that time the whole first line equipment of the British Army was lying on the beaches of Belgium; it was nothing but scrap iron. The Allies got back the men but they could not get back the material. There was practically no preparation in Great Britain against invasion, and defence works had not been constructed on any large scale. If Hitler had crossed the English Channel at that time, he would have conquered England. But he waited, and was lost.

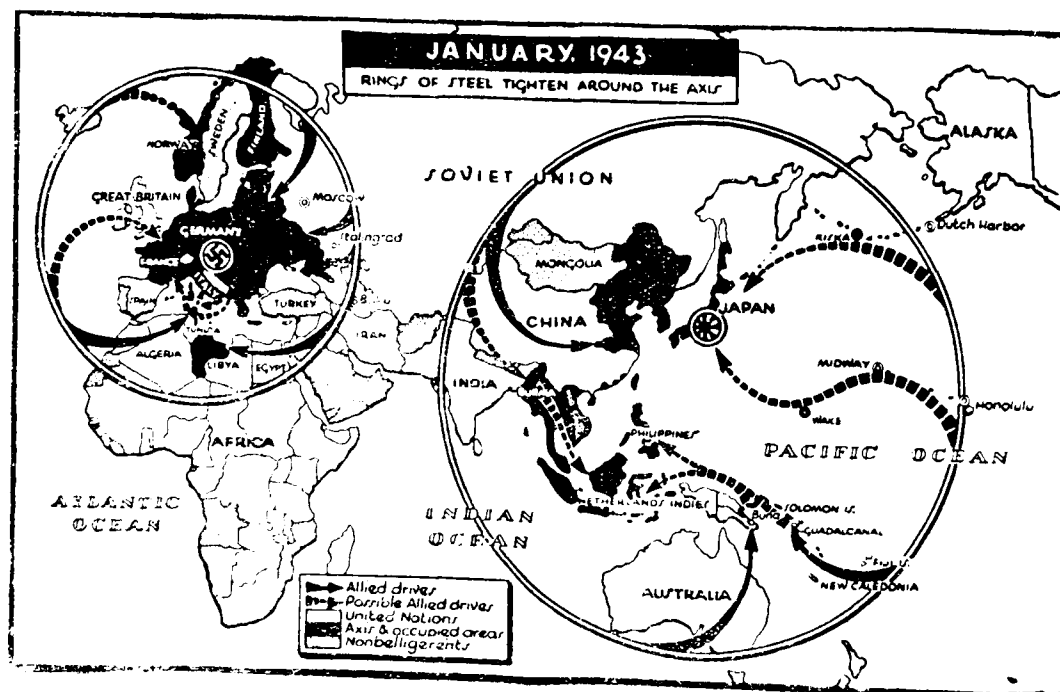
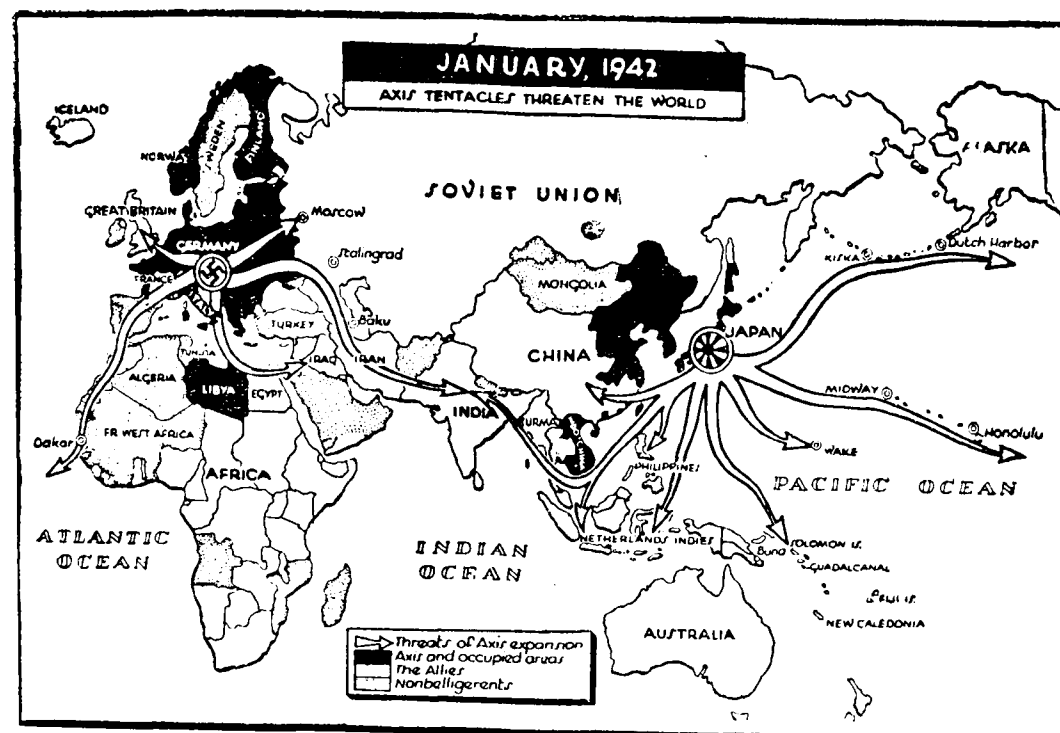
The little interval between the fall of France and the Battle of Britain gave the British Government a chance to defend their beaches, and to build up their Air Force. The R.A.F. got ready to have it out with the *Luftwaffe*. And you know the result of the Battle of Britain. When the Battle of Britain ended, an astonishing historical parallel happened. Over a hundred years ago Napoleon was supreme over the whole of Europe except for the same two countries—Russia and Great Britain. Napoleon, standing on the cliffs at Boulogne, declared that if he were master of the Channel for six hours, he would be master of the world. Napoleon's problem was a naval one, while Hitler's problem was both air and naval. When Napoleon could not master the English Channel,

he ordered his army to march against Russia. Hitler did the same. When Hitler realised that the war would be a long affair, he turned to Russia. His reasons were fairly obvious; he had said on one occasion: "Had I the Ukraine and the Caucasus, Germany would be swimming in plenty." If Germany had conquered Russia with its food-producing and oil-bearing areas, she would certainly have stood against Britain indefinitely. Hitler was led to attack Russia because he believed that the Russian campaign in Finland proved the Red Army to be poor. When his eyes were opened to Russian armed strength, Goebbels bitterly complained that the Finnish campaign was the biggest camouflage in history.

The next critical period of the war was the attack which Hitler made in the East towards the end of the last year. One arm of the pincers went through Russia and the other arm was to go through North Africa into the Middle East, where they were to join hands somewhere in Iran or Iraq. They would then have made, I presume, towards India with the object of linking up with the Japanese coming from the other side. They wanted to have a union of the two forces in India. During the fateful "eighty days" the two great arms were not only held, but were eventually smashed. That led to the turning of the tide.

Great Britain built up a small Birmingham in the Middle East and gave Rommel such a blow that it smashed him. Russia likewise achieved a miracle at Stalingrad and Mozdok.

It has often been asked why Japan came into the war. Most people think



HOW THE TIDES OF WAR HAVE TURNED

that Japan came into the war because she thought Germany was going to win and she would collect the pickings like Italy. Yet an Englishman who had lived for many years in Japan said that Japan came in when she thought Germany was going to lose, since the Japs decided to seize what they wanted before it was too late and trusted that war-weariness would prevent the Allies from driving them out. Japan also believes that she has a divine mission not only to conquer the world but to rule over it, just as the Nazis believe the same of Germany. All the evidence that we have leads us to believe that Japan is digging herself in most thoroughly and effectively in every piece of territory that she has conquered. It will be a most difficult job, indeed, to get the Japanese out of the territories they have overrun.

There was complete unpreparedness in the Far East. There was in Malaya great unpreparedness and incompetence, with the result that we gave a present of the whole of the Far East to the Japs. The only good that the entrance of Japan into the war did was to bring in America, thereby adding immensely to the strength of the United Nations.

The situation in 1941-42 was that the United Nations had tremendous resources in industrial and material equipment and in man-power. But these resources were only partially developed. When people last year were beginning to shout "Why don't you open a second front?" they forgot that it could not be opened for the very good reason that the Allies were not in a position to do so. Armies had not merely to be trained but to be transported with all their equipment to far distant theatres of war. What President Roosevelt did was to organise a sort of second front, a big diversion, in North Africa. Field-Marshal Smuts, you will remember, said that the war could not be won until the Mediterranean was cleared. There descended on North Africa an enormous convoy which achieved astonishing success.

It should be borne in mind that even after the enemy has been driven out of North Africa, the war will not be over. Mr. Churchill truly said: "This is merely

the end of the beginning." The turn of the tide began when the Allies landed in North Africa, when General Montgomery sent back Rommel to Libya, and when the Russians were able, by some miracle, to recapture practically all the territories that they lost in the German 1942 offensive.

In the Far East the turn of the tide came about the same time. The Japanese advance was stopped at Midway Island and at the Battle of the Coral Sea. The Americans then turned the tables on the Japs at Guadalcanar with the result that the Japs had to withdraw from the Island. That was the turning of the tide in the South Pacific. Which way is this tide going to flow? I have no information, but I would not be surprised if the second land front in Europe turned out this year to be largely in the nature of a major diversion. Some people think that the Allies, after getting complete command of North Africa, may go for the Islands of Sicily and Sardinia. I do not think that anything terrific would be gained by a large-scale landing in Italy, which is a dead end in the north. Perhaps it is far more likely that the Balkans will be selected as a suitable ground for the invasion of Europe in the south. The Balkans are a happy hunting ground for trouble. If Russia was able to advance and if Turkey was convinced that the move taken by the Allies was the right one, the second front might open there. Recently Mr. Churchill went to Turkey because, it is felt, that Turkey is vitally interested in what happens in the Balkans. But it seems to me that before a really smashing blow can be delivered at Germany, it must be delivered through the Low Countries.

We are fighting two countries which have exceedingly good communications. We have Germany sitting like a spider with her land communications radiating from the centre. In the Far East we have Japan, another spider, with communications also radiating from the centre. As against this, the Allies have colossal sea and land communications, and the allied blow must come eventually from points where communications are good. Had it not been for Russia and her

strength, the British Empire would have had a very poor chance against Germany. Russia is still maintaining her strength, and let us hope, she will continue to do so until a large and powerful second land front is opened.

As soon as the turning of the tide was visible, some of my Indian friends were unduly optimistic. Personally, I think, it would be unwise to be unduly optimistic. Although we have a right to look forward to the effects of the blows dealt by the Allies at the enemy, the war, I believe, will be a very tough job. We have yet to crack the German army before we crack

the morale of the fanatical Germans. Then we shall have to tackle Japan, a task in which America is specially interested. It will, indeed, be a most difficult business to get the Japs out of the territories they have conquered. I do not think the opening of the Burma Road by itself, will be enough to open the way to Japan; something more substantial than that will have to be done. What the Allies have to do is to get into China with great force and carry the war right into Japan itself. On the solution of that problem the defeat of Japan will largely depend.

A PHILOSOPHER'S REFLECTIONS

BY DR. R. C. MAJUMDAR, M.A., Ph.D.

PHILOSOPHY has ceased to be a favourite subject of study among the educated public and philosophers are generally thought of as recluses living apart from those passing currents in society and politics which are shaping human destiny in modern times. Pursuit of speculative branches of knowledge like Metaphysics or Ethics may still be regarded by some as a part of liberal education in the best sense of the term but no one concedes that they can have any bearing on practical problems of modern life or exercise any influence on the solution of the complex problems which confront us to-day, either as a member of a race or nation or as a citizen of the world.

To persons, imbued with these ideas,—and their number is by no means few—the autobiographical sketch of the philosopher John Henry Muirhead* comes as a startling revelation. As we go through the pages of this unpretentious volume, we are fascinated by the intense humane sociability which characterised the author during his long life of 85 years (1855-1940 A.D.), and deeply moved by the reaction of his philosophic mind to almost all the passing currents of thoughts

and movements which distinguish, in a remarkable degree, the closing phase of the glorious Victorian Age and the memorable years of political, social and economic ferment, strife and struggle that preceded and followed the First Great War. For to him, philosophy was not a mere abstract study of ultimate realities, but a powerful mental equipment "in the search for the values which are abiding, and devotion to which alone can give security and stability to human life upon our globe". He has throughout stressed the high practical value of philosophical studies. Failure to realise this, in his opinion, accounts for the little success that has attended our efforts to achieve reforms of an abiding character in State and Society. That the university teachings in sociology and kindred subjects did not create a more lively interest in social problems is due to similar reasons. "But I know", says he, "from my own experience of the great subjects in Oxford how Plato's *Republic* and *Laws*, Aristotle's *Ethics* and *Politics* might be studied for examinations without any suggestions that these books contained anything that was of vital importance for the understanding and proper conduct of our own lives, individual and social". Yet he was convinced "that these dead bones might be made to live" and might set valuable ideas before the social reformers as to the

ends they should hold in view as the things that exalt a nation. This is all the more important for India at the present moment when the social and political reformers are engaged almost exclusively with questions that concerned the machinery and forms of organization in State and Society, which, "however important when ends were clearly grasped, if mistaken for the ends, might prove an obstacle instead of a path to real progress." He concludes with a warning which with a little modification applies remarkably well in the case of our country.

To make an idol of a political or economic system, and exploit the discontent of the younger generation with the present one in its favour, might serve a passing purpose but contained no gospel for the soul of the nation, and if mistaken for such a gospel, might prove an obstruction to a true social philosophy.

Wise words are these and should be read and re-read by everyone who has the true interest of India at heart. We might do worse than listen to this clarion call for harnessing the inexhaustible lore of our ancient wisdom to the chariot of our progressive movements in all walks of life.

Throughout the work runs a deep and sincere conviction that higher philosophical truths are meant to be of practical use in elevating the standard of individual and social lives. As the author so characteristically puts it, the more abstruse and technical side of philosophy "is subordinate to its function of contributing to the understanding of what makes life worth living and furthering mankind in the pursuit of it." Throughout his long life Muirhead practised what he preached and tried, in his humble way, to bring his philosophic ideas and outlook to bear upon the various movements that stirred the life of Great Britain. These need not be referred to in details, as they are not likely to be of much interest without some account of the movements themselves which cannot be attempted here. But we would like to refer to some of his views on educational reforms as we are faced with similar problems here in India.

On the value of education he reminds us of Plato's famous saying that

it is right education that turns out good men and that for this reason it is our bounden duty to cast no slight on education, the first and fairest gift that our best men have to help them; and if ever it is dying out and can by any possibility be restored this ought to be the great business of everyman so long as he lives.

He justly points out that this idea of education was the inspiration of the closing quarter of the nineteenth century. "Think of the Victorian age, as we may, it is difficult to over-estimate what post-Victorians owe to the wave of enthusiasm for education which swept the country in the last thirty years of the great Queen's reign." But it is not enough to realise the value and importance of education; we must have clear ideas about its methods and contents. There would perhaps be a general agreement on the ideal, expressed by great philosophers in such felicitous expressions as: "Education has two purposes—on the one hand to form the mind, on the other to train the citizen"; or "education in all departments must be an approach to life and not an escape from it". The more contentious thing is "the particular way of approach" which we select. The author begins by decrying the snobbish distinction between "bread and butter" and purely cultural subjects and raising the voice against the taboo that a large section of academic opinion wished to impose on the former. He contends against the current view that the tradition of the mediaeval Universities is responsible for that distinction and points out that the mediaeval Universities had always their eyes fixed on the highly practical object of supplying the three chief professions then recognised of law, medicine and divinity with the best brains available.

The logical process leads him to the view that as the range has now been extended to include a dozen or more professional callings there is no reason whatever why these should be regarded as outside the scope of a university, but on the contrary every reason why they should be included in it. He even proceeds further and urges that technical sciences should form an integral part of University education as against the view that they should be taught in Technical Institutes outside the University which should minister to cultural subjects alone. In the former

* REFLECTIONS BY A JOURNEYMAN IN PHILOSOPHY. By John Henry Muirhead (George Allen and Unwin, London—pp. 215, Price 15s. net.)

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To make an idol of a political or economic system, and exploit the discontent of the younger generation with the present one in its favour, might serve a passing purpose but contained no gospel for the soul of the nation, and if mistaken for such a gospel, might prove an obstruction to a true social philosophy.

Wise words are these and should be read and re-read by everyone who has the true interest of India at heart. We might do worse than listen to this clarion call for harnessing the inexhaustible lore of our ancient wisdom to the chariot of our progressive movements in all walks of life.

Throughout the work runs a deep and sincere conviction that higher philosophical truths are meant to be of practical use in elevating the standard of individual and social lives. As the author so characteristically puts it, the more abstruse and technical side of philosophy "is subordinate to its function of contributing to the understanding of what makes life worth living and furthering mankind in the pursuit of it." Throughout his long life Muirhead practised what he preached and tried, in his humble way, to bring his philosophic ideas and outlook to bear upon the various movements that stirred the life of Great Britain. These need not be referred to in details, as they are not likely to be of much interest without some account of the movements themselves which cannot be attempted here. But we would like to refer to some of his views on educational reforms as we are faced with similar problems here in India.

On the value of education he reminds us of Plato's famous saying that

it is right education that turns out good men and that for this reason it is our bounden duty to cast no slight on education, the first and fairest gift that our best men have to help them; and if ever it is dying out and can by any possibility be restored this ought to be the great business of everyman so long as he lives.

He justly points out that this idea of education was the inspiration of the closing quarter of the nineteenth century. "Think of the Victorian age, as we may, it is difficult to over-estimate what post-Victorians owe to the wave of enthusiasm for education which swept the country in the last thirty years of the great Queen's reign." But it is not enough to realise the value and importance of education; we must have clear ideas about its methods and contents. There would perhaps be a general agreement on the ideal, expressed by great philosophers in such felicitous expressions as: "Education has two purposes—on the one hand to form the mind, on the other to train the citizen"; or "education in all departments must be an approach to life and not an escape from it". The more contentious thing is "the particular way of approach" which we select. The author begins by decrying the snobbish distinction between "bread and butter" and purely cultural subjects and raising the voice against the taboo that a large section of academic opinion wished to impose on the former. He contends against the current view that the tradition of the mediæval Universities is responsible for that distinction and points out that

the mediæval Universities had always their eyes fixed on the highly practical object of supplying the three chief professions then recognised of law, medicine and divinity with the best brains available.

The logical process leads him to the view that as the range has now been extended to include a dozen or more professional callings there is no reason whatever why these should be regarded as outside the scope of a university, but on the contrary every reason why they should be included in it. He even proceeds further and urges that technical sciences should form an integral part of University education as against the view that they should be taught in Technical Institutes outside the University which should minister to cultural subjects alone. In the former

* REFLECTIONS BY A JOURNEYMAN IN PHILOSOPHY. By John Henry Muirhead (George Allen and Unwin, London—pp. 215, Price 15s. net.)

case, says he, "the members of the University would have had their outlook widened by contact with that of the practical school, while the students of the practical schools would have had theirs refined by contact with those who were pursuing abstract studies." In a similar spirit Muirhead enters an emphatic protest against the fatal separation of the "Faculties of Art and Science" which the London University (and following it, Indian Universities), "instead of scotching, as might have been expected, had sanctified and sought to perpetuate in its organization". As this distinction is regarded almost as an axiomatic truth in this country, it is well to quote some of the arguments in favour of its abolition. No educated man in these days can afford to be unacquainted with the methods and results of science. Physical science is now so bound up with all the interests of mankind that it draws to itself an ever-increasing amount of intellectual energy, so that the intellectual man who has been trained without it must feel at every turn his inability to comprehend thoroughly the present phase of the progress of humanity. On the other hand without a knowledge of the best that has been thought and said about the world, our passage through life would be like the passage along a gallery filled with wonderful works, nine-tenths of which have their faces turned to the wall. It is interesting to note that the above plea for a knowledge of science comes from a great philosopher and that the claim on behalf of the Arts is made by a great scientist. It is natural that the role of philosophy in a scheme of education and the vital force of intellectualism should find accentuated expression in the writings of a philosopher. Muirhead, with characteristic modesty, tries to keep himself always in the background, and lets others speak out the truth. Thus he quotes with approval the statement of Haldane that "Philosophy gave back to his generation what science threatened to take away, namely, faith in the reality of the spiritual world." His defence of Haldane against the charge of intellectualism practically sums up the idea which he has preached throughout his work. If "intellectualism means," says he,

belief in the power of ideas to mould them in the right directions, the accusation was true. But in these days when flagrantly false ideas are being given wings by all the arts of nationalists or class propaganda, who can tell us of any other way of meeting the danger threatened by them than by the advocacy in season and out of season of these truer ones on which all civilization worthy of the name rests?

Enough has been said to indicate the general trend of views and ideals preached and practised by Muirhead, and expressed in a lucid and fascinating style in the handy volume before us. Throughout the book rings one sincere note which may be regarded as its central theme, *viz.*, the need of a close harmony between ideals and actions in our every-day life so that "we should act as men of thought and think as men of action." To this inspiring message of Bergson Muirhead's life and autobiographical sketch furnish a splendid commentary.

Before concluding, we should add that the book contains various other side-issues of abiding interest. The vivid and delightful sketch which Muirhead gives of his childhood conjures up to our vision a picture of the family and social life of Scotland in mid-Victorian age. It is a phase of life that has definitely passed away never to return, and many in India would find in it an astonishing degree of similarity with their own reminiscences of the past. Muirhead had an exceptional breadth of sympathy and catholicity of mind and his short sketches of a large number of men who were either already distinguished or destined to attain eminence in various walks of life form one of the most informative and interesting sections of the book. His accounts of the various movements and activities with which he was more or less intimately connected are also of great historical interest. His appraisal of the different doctrines current in his time and of men who promulgated them is both refreshing and instructive. In short, the whole book is full of impressions of a wise and penetrating intellect and deep sympathetic understanding which impart to it a character of historical study of an interesting age that is just passing out of our view.

SECULAR STATE AND MUSSALMANS

BY MR. AHMAD SHAFI

THE Turkish journalists caught the Mussalmans of India in their mood of introspection. Ever since the Lahore (1940) resolution of the All-India Muslim League, the thoughts of the Mussalmans have turned to the nature and character of the state they would like to establish for themselves. Will it be a modern state like Turkey with modern laws and modern machinery of administration or will it reproduce a Muslim state of the Kingly days of Islamic world? The opinion in favour or against either of these alternatives has not yet crystallised.

The main drift of the argument is leading away from the conceptions of a secular state. A closer examination betrays a natural reaction from the means and ends of the type of state under which we now live. It is true that we are allowed the benefits of our personal laws but during the last few years a few outstanding cases of conflict between the Islamic law and the law of the land have emerged. The force of law has been given to a custom of the Muslim peasantry which in parts of the country contrary to the Muslim law denies the women the right of inheritance. The recognition by the Courts of the apostasy of Muslim women as an escape from an inconvenient marriage has been another point of trouble. A painful case of another type was responsible for creating grievous communal bitterness. A building which was claimed to be a mosque was judicially declared to be such but Mussalmans were denied the right of saying their prayers in it because it had passed into the hands of the Sikhs and the law of limitation had operated against the law of Wakf. I cite these instances not to kick up the dust of controversy but to indicate the turning points which have led the Muslim opinion to its present tempo.

Now came the Turks who explained that Turkey was a secular state where religion was separated from the functions of state and that this had done them good. The integrity and liberty of conscience is respected and every citizen is free to believe in and practise the

religion of his choice. This transformation of a purely religious state where the law of Islam held sway for centuries was effected by stages and it so happened that each stage marked a diplomatic device or a political plan or an administrative act.

The old system of justice and law, "which obtained in Turkey before the National Assembly revised the constitution, was based on the Sunni Muslim law which was religious in origin and sanction and based on the teaching embodied in the Quran. That it worked well is undisputed and a very high standard of justice was reached even so early as the sixteenth century, when the Sultan Suleman the Magnificent raised the level of administration to a higher level than was then current in Western Europe. The tradition of sound popular justice survived and the Courts of the Ottoman Empire, despite the capitulations, and despite their notorious slowness were, before the time of Abdul Hamid mediums of justice not inferior to those of Christendom."*

The first break of the state from religion was sheer diplomatic expediency. The Angora Government after annihilating the Greek Army in 1922 compelled the British and French Governments to come to terms with the Turks. The Allies also invited the Sultan's Government at Constantinople to the Peace Conference. "Tewfik Pasha, the last grand vizier of the Ottoman Empire, wrote to the Grand National Assembly, proposing joint action and this made it necessary for the Assembly to face the dilemma of having two governments in one country. In consequence the Caliphate was separated from the Sultanate; the Sultanate was abolished, and the sovereignty of the nation without any restriction, already inserted in the new constitution was reaffirmed on October 1, 1922. But it was decided to keep the Caliphate in the House of Osman." Subsequent events compelled Caliph Abdul Majid to give up his claims to the Sultanate by a written document. This was the last time the Turks used the *Fatwa*. The

* Mr. A. A. Adnan, in the Encyclopædia Britannica, 14th edition, volume 22, page 591.

next inevitable step was to make Turkey formally a republic (October 29, 1923) but this change in itself did not affect the status of religion in the state and the new constitution contained a clause which declared the state religion to be Islam. The continuous secularisation, however, gave evidence that no radical reform could be accomplished without complete separation of state from religion. Here were met two formidable hurdles, the Ulema and the Military. The latter was a force which could neither be ignored nor antagonised. With characteristic shrewdness Mustafa Kemal Pasha took it into his confidence. He assembled the commanders of the army at Smyrna and discussed the matters with them and won them over and thus adroitly shifted the responsibility for the change to the shoulders of the army. A replica of three laws was passed on March 3, 1924, and once again the blow was muffled this time by a process of elimination. A distinction was drawn between the "civil transactions" and the "dogma and religion" sections of the Sheria (department of religious affairs). The withdrawal of civil transactions extinguished Ulema from the affairs of the state. The process of secularization gathered momentum but its path did not prove to be as smooth as it might have at first appeared and force had to be applied on many an occasion to beat down the opposition till at long last on February 17, 1926, the Assembly adopted a civil code which is almost a translation of the Swiss Code. But this was not the end. The state had still two points of contact with religion. The constitution recognised Islam as state religion and there was a law which attached the department of religious affairs to the Prime Minister's Office. On April 9, 1928, the Assembly by a unanimous vote eliminated the former and passed a decree which substituted the oath "by Allah" by the oath "by my honour."

Thus step by step by political action and with the help of force the state has been secularized but the citizens being Muslims the influence of Islam has not been altogether eliminated. A noticeable instance is the *evkaf nazareti*, a special, ministerial department which administers

vakuf which is property dedicated to God, of which revenue is consecrated to His poor or property of which the usufruct is attributed to a work of charity and public interest. When once a property has been registered as *vakuf*, it can never be withdrawn. Another instance which shows how the state cannot help reflecting the hold of Islam on people's mind has just come to light. Writing in the *Contemporary Review* for November, 1942, George Glasgow says:

When Sir Samuel Hoare on a short visit to London from his embassy in Madrid publicly associates himself with the Archbishop of Canterbury's bid for a Christian way of life, Turkish opinion whose religious basis is Muslim, asks whether the war aims of the United Nations are in any way antagonistic to, or incompatible with, the ideals of non-Christian peoples. The question is sincere.

Here, in India, Mr. Jinnah told the students of the Ismail College, Bombay, that "in Pakistan we shall have a state which will be run according to the principles of Islam. It will have its cultural, political and economic structure based upon the principles of Islam." This is not a politician's promise or a mere propaganda stunt. If the provincial and central legislatures are any indication of the mind of the Mussalmans, the tendency is to make use of political power to enforce the sanctions of Islam. A difficulty is, however, experienced by Muslim writers and speakers when questions relating to economic structure and fiscal fabric of the new-state-to-be are discussed. The tentative manner of such discussions is understandable and may be excused but the apologetic tone of some participants in these discussions is tantalizing. It clearly shows that there is a section of Mussalmans who would, if they could, secularize the state on the model of modern Turkey, but they feel handicapped in several ways. It is idle to predict whether they would be able to capture power if and when the Mussalmans will create and run a state of their own. If fates contrive to place them in seats of power, their course will be determined more by the actual day to day political conditions and by the character of government of the contiguous territories where the Congress or the Mahasabha or both may hold the reins than by the precedent of modern Turkey alone.

INDIA'S FOURTH WAR BUDGET

BY MR. V. G. RAMAKRISHNAN, M.A.,

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THE budget for 1948-44, which is the fourth war budget, has raised many serious and far-reaching issues so that we have to consider not only its fiscal but also some of its economic aspects. Unlike the previous war budgets, the routine financial problems are of less interest than the bigger financial and economic problems. That is to say, the budget is closely connected with questions of price inflation and currency expansion, utilisation of sterling balances and allocation of military expenditure between India and the United Kingdom.

REVENUE AND EXPENDITURE

The budget discloses a revenue deficit for the current year of no less than Rs. 94'66 crores and a prospective deficit for the ensuing twelve months of Rs. 60'28 crores. The revised estimates of expenditure in the current year on revenue account is placed at Rs. 189'75 crores, and in 1948-44 at Rs. 182'81 crores. The 1948-44 defence estimates envisage a total expenditure of Rs. 182'81 crores, nearly Rs. 7 crores less than the revised estimates of defence expenditure for 1942-43, which, according to the Finance Member, indicates that the stage of heavy additions to expenditure under this head is past. Capital expenditure on defence account for the current year is Rs. 49 crores, and will, next year, be reduced to Rs. 16'85 crores. This item of expenditure has hitherto been disbursed on such items as aerodromes, industrial expansion, reciprocal aid, ships, telecommunication scheme and none of these can be regarded as rapidly wasting assets. The financial position for the coming year may be summarised as follows:

Civil Estimates	...	Rs.	76'78	crores.
Defence Services	...	"	182'81	"
			Rs.	259'59
			crores.	
Total revenue at the existing level of taxation	...	Rs.	199'30	crores.
Prospective deficit	..	"	60'29	"

Of the prospective deficit of Rs. 60'29 crores, one-third is to be raised by new taxation and the balance, by borrowing.

The Government of India's defence policy is open to criticism on the ground that the burden imposed by it on the country is inequitable. The Financial Settlement by which the Finance Member sets much store has not achieved any of the objects with which it was entered into. Its primary purpose was to limit India's financial war liability to her financial capacity. On the existing level of national income, India cannot afford to spend Rs. 239 crores on defence. This means 12 per cent. of our national income which compares with 13 per cent. of Australia, 14 per cent. of America, and 25 per cent. of Britain. India's burden, judged by the measure of real sacrifice, i.e., sacrifice in terms of welfare, is the heaviest. Looked at from the point of view of tax-burden as the measure of capacity, India's position is pitiable. The defence expenditure of the country, it is said, is to be limited to four categories—(1) the normal peace budget, (2) allowance for price increase on that, (3) measures taken purely for India's local defence, and (4) non-effective charges. The expenditure under the third category has swelled from Rs. 3'86 crores in 1941-42 to as high as Rs. 139 crores in the current year 1942-43. It is not clear how much of the total expenditure is borne by His Majesty's Government. It is arguable that this striking expenditure incurred by India contributes considerably to the 'external defence' of the United Nations. Therefore on the analogy of the contribution levied on us under the Chatfield Settlement for the 'external defence of India', the United Nations should meet a part of this expenditure. Why should India share half the G.H.Q. charges while many others than India benefit therefrom? Of course in joint ventures of this kind, it may not be possible to achieve mathematical accuracy and there will be no need for it, if the principles of the Financial Settlement had

been formulated in a liberal manner, acceptable to public opinion in this country. The present defence arrangements are from India's point of view, wasteful. India gets from abroad at ruinous cost what she could have manufactured herself. The hopes entertained in the early stages of the war that India would be encouraged to develop her economic potential to war purposes have been given a cold douche and the recommendations of the Grady Technical Mission from U.S.A. have been pigeon-holed in the files of the Government of India.

The greatest weakness in defence policy is that the fundamentals of such a policy have been ignored. Success depends not on the quantum of expenditure a nation incurs, but on the progress of her industrial potential, the possession of an efficient army, navy and air force and the morale in the home front. India lacks in all these. The land army is by no means a national army; its officer personnel is substantially foreign, and for its equipment, it has to depend on others. The Royal Indian Navy is still defective and inadequate; it has no cruiser squadron; in regard to air force, India is pitifully helpless. Though India is spending several crores out of all proportion to her capacity, the defence expenditure is not based on a national defence policy. While the Dominions have developed an efficient and reasonably self-sufficient defence based on a revolutionised natural economy capable of providing much of the weapons, vehicles, tanks, planes and equipment of a modern army, India had not been allowed to plan and develop on the same lines.

TAXATION

Out of a deficit of over Rs. 60 crores for 1943-44, only Rs. 20 crores is to be raised through additional taxation, and so the taxation measures in the Budget are not open to much adverse criticism. As regards indirect taxation, the emergency schedule of one-fifth over the schedule of customs import duties are retained; two new taxes have been added—excise duty on tobacco estimated to produce a gross return of Rs. 10 crores during the first year, and the duty on vegetable product

(*vanaspati*) estimated to yield a sum of Rs. 1'40 crores; certain small increases in postal and telephone rates are calculated to bring in a further Rs. 1'20 crores. As regards direct taxation, it has rightly taken the form of increases in the rates of income-tax and super-tax—the increase in income-tax, central surcharge commencing with the income group of Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 10,000 per annum. The effect of this will be to impose a surcharge amounting uniformly to 60 per cent. over the basic rates of income-tax, whilst at the same time there will be an increase in super-tax on companies between Rs. 25,000 and 3½ lakhs amounting to a uniform increase of half an anna in the rupee. Aggregate rates of super-tax henceforth will thus run from 2 annas on the lowest slab to 10½ annas on the top slab. Corporation tax is also to be raised by half an anna to 2 annas in the rupee. In all, the enhancement of direct taxation will yield Rs. 7 crores. These various taxation measures are expected to yield about Rs. 20 crores and the balance of a little over Rs. 40 crores is to be borrowed from the investing public.

The new tax burdens are not unexpected and are likely to be criticised only in certain matters of detail. The case for the excise duty on tobacco rests on the ground that it serves to broaden the basis of taxation, and was recommended by the Indian Taxation Inquiry Committee as early as 1925. The resort to additional taxation on means of communication is to be deplored, especially in a country like India. The tax on *vanaspati* or vegetable ghee shows to what straits the Government have been reduced to explore new objects of taxation. In the case of direct taxation, the burden of direct taxation in India should be slowly increased and made more progressive and there can be no possible objection to stepping up the rates of income-tax and super-tax and the successive increases in income-tax and super-tax and have been effected in recent years have the effect of removing from the Indian tax system the stigma of being regressive, and under the pressure of war conditions, the Indian fiscal system is being slowly but surely shaped into greater accord with the needs

of a free India in the post-war world. For not only our direct taxation is becoming more progressive but the task of adjusting the system of indirect taxation to the altered conditions of declining imports and increasing production of protected indigenous industries is being accomplished smoothly and efficiently. Though excises are generally unpopular, the expediency of replacing customs by excise, when the former dries up as a source of revenue, and as the inevitable result of the policy of encouraging indigenous industry by means of heavy import duties, must be frankly faced. Hitherto excise duties were confined to organised modern large-scale industries. The inclusion of tobacco in the list of central excise and the assurance of the Finance Member that the administrative framework will be quite capable of collecting a tax on a commodity which is produced over such wide areas in this country should encourage the hope that administrative difficulties of collection will not loom large. The Budget reveals the extremely limited scope for further additional taxation and the pressure of the present level of taxation is already putting a heavy strain on the community. In Britain the net national income has increased from £4,595 millions in 1938 to £6,338 millions in 1941; in India it has remained almost stationary at about Rs. 2,000 crores or Rs. 50 per head of population. The majority of the people live at mere subsistence level and the country's economy is based on an impoverished peasantry and so it is difficult to tap new sources of revenue.

BUDGET AND THE STOCK MARKET

The market reactions to the Budget proposals have been favourable. The new taxation measures—duties on tobacco and *vanaspati*—are not what the markets expected and have no significance so far as the major industries are concerned. The proposal to raise Rs. 7 crores out of the total estimated yield from fresh taxation of 20'1 crores cannot to any great extent affect companies' earnings and the capacity of individual investors and it would seem as if the stock markets are let off lightly this time. The increase in the rates on income-tax,

super-tax and corporation tax has not in any way affected gilt-edged securities. With the higher rates for income-tax, super-tax and corporation tax, an yield of Rs. 7 crores is expected and if this amount is to be secured through an increase in the rate of the Excess Profits tax, the same will have to be higher at 80 per cent. If the latter course had been adopted the earnings of the companies belonging to certain industries would be very badly affected, among them being cotton, sugar and tea. Further the incidence of the higher rates of income-tax will be from a larger body of tax-payers, and to that extent the amount payable by the individual tax-payer will be lower.

The additional burden on industries will be more than offset by higher earnings, in the case of some industries and that dividend distribution will not be affected. Textile mills in particular have reasons to feel joyous over the Budget in so far as cotton mill earnings will not be affected to any great extent by the increase in the rates of income-tax and super-tax. Since the Excess Profits tax has been left unchanged at 66⅔ per cent., cotton mills which have shown appreciable increase in their earnings stand to gain. This explains the increase in the price of shares in this group. Cotton shares have been marked higher. Steel shares which had already shown a tendency to firm up have recorded substantial increases. In fact that big business has got off more easily than it expected can be seen by the exceedingly buoyant conditions that have characterised Calcutta and Bombay Stock Exchanges since the announcement of the Budget.

STERLING BALANCES

India since the outbreak of the war has extinguished decades of accumulations of public debt. Besides extinction of the sterling debt, the Indian Reserve Bank has accumulated sterling assets making a grand total of India's war time gains of £607 million. India has been able to repay within three years of the war sixty years' investment of British capital in India besides accumulating sterling assets more than equalling the whole of that debt. Sterling balances arose not only

from goods exported out of the country or services rendered in other theatres of war but that a part of the cost of defending India and the measures taken in India therefor became part of the sterling balances.

The utilisation of sterling balances for bringing-out a transfer of British investments in India to Indian hands and for acquiring dollar or gold balances and at a later stage for ensuring import of machinery and other capital goods from Britain has met with general public approval. So long as sterling balances were utilised for the repayment of the sterling liabilities of the Government, the policy was a sound one. The next step is to bring about a transfer of British investments in India to Indian hands not only because such a development is in accord with national aspirations but it also enables a solution at one stroke of the twin problems of sterling balances and inflation at home. The Finance Member has argued that the balances represent a postponed claim for goods and services to be rendered at a time when they can be made available, and it is in relation to the world as it will be several years hence that the problem will have to be resolved. Meanwhile he has put forward his scheme for a sterling annuity for the amortisation of provident funds, pensions and kindred obligations and for the creation of a Reconstruction Fund as means whereby some part of the sterling balances might be turned. The Finance Member has also observed that the statement that the Reconstruction Fund was not for the reconstruction of British industry was a sample of suspicion and prejudice imported into discussions of the financial matters.

To ear-mark a part of sterling balances for payment of pensions and the decision to constitute a part of our sterling balances into an Industrial Reconstruction Fund are open to question. This investment fund is obviously to ensure for British industry a good deal of India's custom in the post-war period, and what adds to our suspicion is the failure of the Finance Member, to state precisely the principles which will govern the utilisation of further accruals of sterling in the future. The argument of the

Finance Member is that India will have to buy for sometime after the war from Britain for reconstruction and equipment, and it would be to India's advantage to look at the problem from the point of view of international co-operation. But international co-operation as past experience has shown, is a vague and uncertain factor on which it is not wise to bank too much. Britain's taking responsibility for sterling pensions will offset a substantial capital sum, but won't exhaust the resources already available to the Indian Government, and according to the Finance Member, the pensions scheme was a purely financial measure and the sterling which could not be utilised now was invested so that it would yield a return when it could be utilised and the scheme did not arise from any fear of repudiation or from any desire to provide any additional safeguard for any class of officials. In fact Britain's magnanimous financial arrangements with India have created a volume of sterling which might ultimately be used for British exports thus aiding employment in certain British export industries after the war.

Repatriation of external debt is, by itself, a desirable thing and if the Government had resorted to it in the manner in which every other country in India's position has done—Canada, Australia, and South Africa—India would have welcomed it. The Finance Member has given no explanation why the problem of rupee finance of the purchases made by other countries here could not be met in the same manner—as similar problems have been solved by U.S.A. and the Dominions. The Government have secured the compulsory conversion of all the foreign assets of India into sterling which might suffer from further depreciation. If India had insisted on the rupee being her currency standard, as the U.S.A. and Canada insisted that the dollars should be theirs, the exchange value of the rupee might have reached, not the 2s. 10d. which it did in the last war, but 3s. In that event, which is the really natural course, our sterling debt would have been wiped out with less than half the amount of rupees which we have now been obliged to pay. Since the pound sterling was really worth only three-fourths of its

nominal value in the free market, we have lost, having been compelled to purchase in the controlled market, a quarter of a pound or over Rs. 3 on each pound we purchased and are purchasing. A rising exchange is a legitimate source of profit especially for a nation like India which has been denied fair terms of international exchange, judged by the scale of human effort exchanged. That is we have had to pay more man hours for the value of each man hour of the Westerners who trade with us.

The failure to own our foreign currencies to secure productive assets has resulted in continuing loss. It has also led to inflation. Of course the measure of inflation has not equalled the measure of currency expansion, but there are clear signs of attempts at flight from the currency. The giddy heights to which the prices of real property, commodities and shares have risen and are rising show how the monied classes view the situation. The high level at which silver, the poor man's store stands is evidence of the poor man's anxiety to get at something, however high the price which may enable him to retain part at least of the fruits of his labour. The worst evils of inflation are the uncertainty it produces in the internal economy and the paralysis of economic effort which comes in its train. The Finance Member argues that there is no credit inflation and seems to think that the whole position is a natural consequence of the sterling standard which is the legal standard in India and that Britain made purchases in sterling as she is entitled to do under the Reserve Bank Act and that the issue of rupees is an inevitable consequence under the existing mechanism. This is a mere display of dialectical skill and not financial statesmanship. Other countries converted unfunded into funded debt to avoid inflation. The Government of India have converted their £300 odd millions of funded debt into unfunded debt largely with currency from the Central Bank. Financing debt repayments with fresh currency means inflationary financing. If the note issue in India were convertible,

the position would have been different, but having made it inconvertible except into notes, and to a limited extent, sterling, the Finance Member's claim that there is no inflationary financing is unsustainable.

The sheet anchor of the war finance policy in modern countries is the maintenance of home front in a state of efficiency. This means the supply of adequate food to all people, the building of industries, capable of employing all able-bodied men and women, the ensuing of external and internal markets for the products of these industries, the maintenance of the stability of the currency by earning adequate foreign exchange. This is exactly what Britain is seeking to do. Every citizen of Britain to-day gets 3,200 calories as against the optimum of 3000 fixed by the League of Nation's Nutrition experts. Britain in the midst of the war is the best fed and the healthiest as can be seen from the League publication "War Time Rationing and Consumption". Similar conditions prevail in other countries like Canada, Australia and U.S.A. India's position is not at all comparable to any of these countries. The Finance Member refers to the rise in the industrial workers' incomes and the addition which the rise in prices must mean to the purchasing power of the ryot, but the rise is more than set off by the rapid increase in general prices and cost of living. It is difficult to escape the notion that the Indian Budget is treated as the budget of the subordinate branch of His Majesty's Government. India's resources have been faithfully marshalled to prop up the pound and British finance and support British industries. In so far as these things can be achieved consistently with India's interest as the primary consideration, none will object, but the budget cannot be accepted as a truly national budget.

WAYS AND MEANS

In normal times what the Finance Member has to say on the subject of 'Ways and Means' in his budget speech is regarded as a matter of first-class importance. This year this has been overshadowed by other aspects of India's financial prospects and problems. Dealing with the ways and means position, the

Finance Member stated that total borrowings in the seven months—July 1942 to January 1943—averaged Rs. 19 crores a month. Subscriptions to the Defence loans from 1st February 1942 to 31st January 1943 amounted to Rs. 34½ crores, raising the total proceeds to Rs. 145 crores since the Defence loan was first issued in June 1940. In addition there was a steady investment of new money in the rupee counterparts of the repatriated sterling loans. The total investments in Defence loans, counterparts and certain Provincial loans (raised to repay a part of the debt due to the centre) aggregated to Rs. 93 crores over the twelve months and to 267½ crores since the beginning of the war. "Apart from the greatly increased war expenditure in India", said the Finance Member,

the general economic situation, resulting from the war conditions, makes it imperative for every citizen to defer private expenditure to the utmost of his capacity in the common interest and to transfer the investible surplus to Government in the form of loans.

The necessary sterling required to repatriate the 2½ per cent. and 3 per cent. undated sterling loans was provided by the Reserve Bank. No counterparts were created this time and the entire rupee finance was raised in the first instance by means of *ad hoc* treasury bills issued in favour of the Reserve Bank and subsequently stray lots of the vested stocks as well as the market purchase of the 3½ per cent. stock were financed from balances. For the last and final stage of redeeming £58½ millions of the 3½ per cent. stock, the rupee finance was again in the form of *ad hoc* treasury bills. "That some £300 millions of sterling debt should have been repatriated since the outbreak of the war with so little disturbance of the money market", observed the Finance Member, "is a consummation for which the country may well feel gratified." The balance of sterling stock not yet redeemed amounted to £13 millions.

After referring to the funding of the Railway Annuities by the payment of a lump sum of £80 millions to His Majesty's Government, the vesting of Railway Debenture stocks of the face value of £20 millions, and the giving of one year's

notice for the redemption of three other such stocks, the Finance Member observed:

And thus India has completed the transition from a debtor to a creditor country and extinguished within a brief space of three years accumulations over decades of its public indebtedness to the United Kingdom.

Of the Rs. 400 crores raised so far for financing the various repatriation and funding operations, only 160 crores may be regarded as being still in the form of Central Bank finance.

SEPARATION

By S. R. D.

Without thee, Love, I'm like the sky
Whose brightness in the dawn
Hath been eclipsed by clouds massed high
That make it dull and wan.

Without thee, Love, I'm like a bird
That flies on broken wing;
My heart-strings are no longer stirred
By songs I loved to sing.

Without thee, Love, I'm like the wine
With all its flavour gone;
My home is like a sacred shrine
Where once a goddess shone.

Without thee, Love, I'm like a song
Of all its music shorn;
I'm like a yacht abandoned long,
Its sails to tatters torn.

Without thee, Love, I'm like a rose
To which no scent doth cling,
A poem that doth read like prose,
Because its rhymes don't ring.

Without thee, Love, I'm like a king
Who once a crown did wear;
My life, a harp without a string
To play a joyful air.

Anti-Indian Legislation in South Africa

AND so the Black Bill segregating Indians in South Africa has passed the third reading, in spite of universal protests against such discrimination. Not all our petitions and prayers and protests have been of any avail in dissuading the South African Government from rushing this hated measure through their legislature. Well may a member of the Council of Elders in India ask "of what use is India's membership of the British Commonwealth when Indians cannot get even bare justice in South Africa"?

There would appear to be no peace for our countrymen in that continent. Once again they are harassed by a new legislation seeking to make "unjust discrimination" "against a voteless minority" as Mr. Hofmeyr, Minister of Finance, observed the other day. For the new Bill, introduced in the House of Assembly by Mr. Lawrence, Minister of the Interior, seeks to impose restrictions not only on the occupation but even the acquisition of land by Asiatics in Natal and to reimpose for a further period the present restrictions on trading by Asiatics in Transvaal.

The Indian question in Natal, as Sir Raza Ali says, is entirely different from what it is in the Transvaal.

The Pegging Act of 1939, an unjust measure in itself, can never justify the introduction of a similar measure with regard to Natal, where Indians were induced to settle by large promises and where at one time they enjoyed rights of citizenship. Indeed, the Indian question in South Africa is practically a Natal question. Throttle the Natal Indians, and there will be no Indian question left.

The immediate provocation for the Bill was the Broome Report on Indian infiltration in Durban which revealed

that the total number of properties acquired by Indians in predominantly European areas in 1942 was 195 (purchase price £336,500; rateable value £241,200), the previous highest yearly total being 78 in 1939 (purchase price £99,480 and rateable value £81,620).

The Report itself advances the reasons for such acquisition of sites in European quarters by Indians at exorbitant rates. The abnormal conditions brought about by the war undoubtedly play some part,

The majority of the more wealthy Durban Indians are engaged upon trade. The facilities for trade are at present restricted, and a considerable amount of money that would normally be absorbed in trade is in consequence, seeking other avenues of employment. Many Indians, for religious and other reasons, decline all forms of investment that involve lending money at interest; and a great majority of them, as pointed out in the reports of many previous commissions, regard purchase of immovable property as the only desirable investment other than trade.

Europeans, on the other hand, with alternative forms of investment that appealed to them, are not driven by the abnormal present-day conditions to purchase immovable property to the same extent as Indians. The Commission was satisfied by the statistics produced by the City Council that the Indian property buying has increased to a greater extent than European and says that this is what one would expect.

Now, seventy per cent. of these acquisitions, as the Natal Indian Congress deputation says, are required for investment purposes and occupied by Europeans. And then most of the purchases are in areas contiguous to Indian areas where legitimate expansion should take place. That is but natural and legitimate.

The present agitation results from purchases in the old borough of Durban which in extent is 8,274 acres, of which Indians own 350 acres, being four per cent. Indian population is 25 per cent. and, therefore, the Indian average ownership in the old borough of Durban is infinitely small. The European contention is that 25,000 Indian population should confine within 204 acres, being the seven areas mentioned in the first Broome Commission report, paragraph 301. Eighty thousand Europeans claim remainder 8,274 acres. The proposed legislation is motivated by Indian acquisition since 1927, the Indian holdings increased from 204 to approximately 350 acres. Natal Indians are totally opposed to any discriminatory pegging legislation, whether temporary or permanent, and maintain that such legislation, must be preceded by the termination of the Cape Town Agreement, in terms of Mr. Hofmeyr's parliamentary speech on May 4, 1939.

Now that Agreement was the alternative freely agreed to by both the Union Government and the Government of India. Is it fair and just, asks Sir Raza Ali, for the Union Government to give a go-bye to the letter and spirit of that agreement, after having received all the benefits from it for the last 16 years?

The Indian community in South Africa is unanimous in protesting against this black act. According to the Natal Indian Congress Delegation, it is a measure which

violates and repudiates the Cape Town Agreement, the Atlantic Charter, the war aims of the Allies and the hopes of a new age.

The reactions in India, already sullen and discontented over a number of other problems, are most depressing. On this question, Liberals and Congressmen, Hindus and Muslims, irrespective of political or communal differences are one in their condemnation of a measure so completely at variance with the lofty declarations of allied statesmen. It is a measure which, in the opinion of several Agents-General of India,

would shatter the faith of those Indians who still advocate India remaining within the British Commonwealth.

It is extraordinary that even a statesman of the eminence of Field-Marshal Smuts, perhaps the most eloquent exponent of the new order in the post-war world, should have failed to rise to the occasion when confronted with a test of this kind. His contention that Durban is exclusively European was promptly challenged by Mrs. Ballinger who reminded him that it is a South African city and like all South African cities its wealth and development have been built by the combined efforts of a number of racial groups, of whom Indians form no negligible part. But of what avail are these protests? A handful of whites, who are deliberately engineering an agitation to make political capital out of the situation in view of the impending elections, have had their way, and the Government of South Africa are evidently bent on appeasing them. Strangely enough it is not the Boers so much as the Britishers themselves who are at the bottom of this mischief, as the Rt. Hon. Mr. Sastri, the first Agent-General from India reminds us. The white population in Natal, observed Mr. Sastri the other day at the Madras demonstration against the measure,

was almost entirely British and the extension of the measure, originally confined to the Transvaal, was being made at the instance of the Britishers. It was not, therefore, against the Boers that their anger must be directed, but against the Britishers themselves.

It is true that the Government of India have marked their protest against so arbitrary a measure. But apparently it

counts for little in the counsels of the Union Cabinet. "It merely serves to emphasise the helplessness of the Government and the people of this country," as the Indian leaders' appeal to the Field-Marshal has pointed out.

About the same time that the Black Bill was rushed through the Union Assembly, Mr. Churchill, the British Prime Minister, paid a well-merited tribute to the heroism of the Indian soldiers.

We have watched with admiration the splendid achievements of the 4th Indian Division in the battle of Maroth and in the recent victory at Wadi Akarit. . . . We take pride that India's fighting men should now share in the successes which have crowned the long uphill contest in which they have played so valiant a part.

Handsome tribute this! We hope Mr. Churchill does not intend this to be mere verbiage usual on a festive occasion, as he said of a similar tribute in another connection. Even while Indian troops are engaged in evicting Axis troops from Tunisia in order to make Africa safe for Field-Marshal Smuts and his fellow countrymen, it is extraordinary that the Union Government should persist in rushing this brazen act of racial discrimination through their legislature. No wonder that the Sheriff's demonstration in Bombay, presided over by Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, put on record its emphatic and indignant protest against such discrimination against a fellow unit of the so-called commonwealth:

The action of the South African Union Government is very reprehensible, at a time when Indian soldiers are bravely fighting and shedding their blood in all theatres of war, and specially in North Africa for the protection and defence of the South African Union itself. This meeting insists that Indians domiciled for generations in South Africa and other units of the British Commonwealth, should have complete and equal rights of citizenship with the rest of the population in those units.

At a time when Indian soldiers are fighting in North Africa and shedding their blood for the protection of South Africa, said the Rt. Hon. Dr. Jayakar, it was a national insult to Indians to pass legislation to restrict their trading rights and to acquire property.

If this kind of treatment were meted out to Indians in South Africa, it would be a futile experiment to make coloured people live under one commonwealth.

THE CHINESE INDUSCO

By MR. S. UPADHYAY

WARRING China is a marvel to the world. China's military exploits are a challenge to human energy and its technique of warfare is being copied by the world. For it is a mighty weapon in the arsenal of democracy to fight a superior aggressor. Of greater importance, though less advertised to the world, is the slow growth of new order behind the front. For years China has been struggling to make democracy real, translating the word into the new way of life. And democracy has really dawned in China. It is a living force and it guarantees freedom from wants in the midst of war. War, we know, is a drain upon human resources. The longer it lasts, the harder grows the life of the people. The world has evolved the method of simplifying war-time difficulties by eliminating the non-essential needs of life. This is rationing. Rationing works well in the countries that possess means of keying up production. Undeveloped countries have to depend upon local products in times of war. In order to prevent being starved into submission, local resources are to be reorganised on a new basis. China has done this through the medium of the Industrial Co-operatives Indusco. Thus the Chinese Industrial Co-operatives stand in a world where far richer peoples lost hope under infinitely lighter burdens, as a monument to a great nation's courage, ingenuity and endurance.

The story of the Industrial Co-operatives dates back to the early days of 1938. The year was the beginning of a great crisis for China. Japan had taken possession of maritime provinces and was planning further advance. Stript of coastal towns,

China was cut off from the world and denied all supplies. Continuous air raid had dislocated the chief centres of industries. It was the beginning of the warfare on the economic front by Japan. On the top of all these stood teeming millions streaming out from the occupied territory. They had to be fed and housed.

A small group of foreigners working in China sensed the crisis; they were keen on helping China out of the crisis. Of them Edgar Snow and R. Alley deserve special mention. Edgar Snow has done much to present the case of China to the world. His books on China are classic. R. Alley is no publicist. Alley is a humanist and hates war. For he had fought in the last war and experienced the horrors. He loves the Chinese people and lives to serve them in distressed times. He is a living example of the love of the individual being transformed into the love of humanity. He has discovered the highest truth in the service of the disinherited children of humanity. The war created an army of orphaned children. Alley has formed a colony of them.

The small group of men and women examined the problem and reached the conclusion: man-power and resources to be mobilised to build up new bases to help the prosecution of war. A programme of decentralisation was to be put in operation. For important industries were within the bombing range of Japan and decentralisation was the only proof against it. It would ensure safety as well as smooth working of the industries. The scheme was convincing though not easy

of realisation. It meant creation of new society in the process of war. In order to compel the attention of the Government, they issued a booklet—*Chinese Industrial Co-operative*. The authors of the plan knew the Chinese people. So they made the study concrete. The whole scheme was guided by the principle of co-operation and essential to its success was the co-operation of the workers. And co-operation was broadly based upon the principle of economic democracy. War-time industrial workers must have the morale of the army and conscious of the objective. The authors had faith in the workers. They knew industries could be developed and manned by the workers. The plan divided China into three parts. On the front would work the mobile industries, capable of being transferred behind the front in the event of occupation. Being mobile this would be run with water-power or hand-power. Between the front and the rear would stretch the second line. In this zone would grow up the semi-mobile industries depending upon local organisations in matters of transfer. Far away in the provinces of South-West, North-West, South-East would function the industrial co-operatives. This would form the centres of major industrial activities all over China. Training of technicians and manufacture of tools would be undertaken in the third zone. The publication of the scheme created sensation in China. Many eminent Chinese were determined to work it out. And the Chinese Government took it up and Alley was appointed adviser to the Industrial Co-operative. The aim of the scheme was two-fold: to build up economic resistance to ensure victory, and to help national reconstruction on co-operative

basis. This, in short, was the realisation of Dr. Sun Yat Sen's principle of people's livelihood. On the industrial co-operatives, Dr. H. H. Kung, Chief of the organisation, said:

The Chinese Indusco Co-operatives are not merely a war-time organisation. They must use this time to build up their strength so that they will be able to make the transition to a more fully mechanised state after the war.

On the principle of territorial division, the Chinese Industrial Co-operatives were brought into being. In the early days the Industrial Co-operatives faced a number of difficulties. China was bereft of all means of production. "By the spring of 1938, Japanese big guns and incendiary bombs had destroyed at least 80 per cent. of the Chinese industries." And Alley was not in possession of a single factory of a lathe to begin with. So the chief task was the speedy removal of tools from the threatened zones. At the same time to make the people conscious of the co-operative system, educational campaign was started. Organisers went round the villages and spoke on the *Indusco*. Thus they won the confidence of the people and the list of the volunteers mounted up. They were trained and entrusted with specific work. When the rescue work was over, the period of consolidation began.

The growth of the *Indusco* has been phenomenal. It has grown into a mighty national organisation. It has a wide network spread over 18 provinces, divided into 86 centres. At present the *Indusco* is engaged in a number of industries, the chief being textile, chemical, mining, machine and metal working. By the end of 1941, the co-operatives numbered 1,737 and the total membership was about 23,008. The general administration of the

Indusco is run by a Board of Directors, the Chairman being Dr. H. H. Kung. It is the highest governing body of the *Indusco*. Its functions are divided into (1) Field Work Department looking after organisation, engineering, and supply and marketing; (2) Promotion Department in charge of promotion, co-ordination, education and welfare, and research and statistics; (3) Finance Department in charge of accounting, auditing and loans; (4) the service and personnel registration under the Executive Adviser's Office.

The total capital of the *Indusco* is estimated at \$ 25,000,000. Government's contribution is 35 per cent. of the total and the rest has been raised by shareholders and Chinese banks. Of late a finance committee has been formed to secure the *Indusco* necessary capital.

Seven technicians are essential to the formation of a co-operative society. Administration of the society is run by a democratic machinery elected by the members. The organisation of a co-operative consists of (1) a general meeting which has the supreme authority, and elects, (2) a Board of Directors and (3) a Supervising Committee. The chief responsibility of the Board of Directors is to conduct the business efficiently and co-operatively, subject to the principles laid down by the general meeting. The Chairman of Board represents the co-operative in all dealings with the outside. The Supervising Committee is responsible for auditing the accounts and for supervising the work of the Directors generally to make sure that they always act for the best interests of the co-operatives. The general meeting decides on the division of profits at the end of the year, approves the election of new members, expels members when necessary, and fix the salaries and scale of wages to be paid by the co-operative. Profits are divided at the end of the year in the manner prescribed by the constitution of the *Indusco*:

Reserve	..	20—30 per cent.
Emergency or contribution to the C.I.C.	..	10 "
Bonus to staff	..	10 "
Common good fund	..	10 "
Dividend to members and workers	..	40—50 "

In each locality co-operatives are federated together; local federations are organised into the regional federation. The regional federations are combined into the National Federation.

The *Indusco* has done much to render relief to the disabled soldiers. There are wounded soldiers' co-operatives all over China. Its chief objective is to bring the wounded back to normal life. For them the co-operatives are running a specific type of trade. Thus they feel secure and are often married. To the education and well-being of the members the *Indusco* pays due regard. For the co-operatives exist to educate the people into the new way of life. This is the basic task of the *Indusco*. The co-operatives undertake the general technical education. Refugees are trained in huge numbers and stationed in various workshops. To build up an efficient corps of technicians youngsters are rushed through a special course. The co-operatives have a special programme to fight illiteracy in the backward provinces. There are primary schools to educate the children of the members of the *Indusco*.

The co-operatives are helping to develop collective sense among the people. Nurseries are run for the children of the members. A village centre is provided with reading room and library. Centres of co-operative production are constructed in the planned manner. There are colonies of the members round these. Much has been done for the protection of health and hygiene of the members.

Success of the industrial undertaking depends upon the efficiency of the personnel. So the *Indusco* maintains a high standard in the matter of selection and training. The present staff of the *Indusco* members is more than a thousand. They are all highly trained persons. Actual training begins in the village centres. There are mobile centres to speed up the work. The highest centre of training is in West China Union University.

Such in brief is the story of the growth of the Chinese Industrial Co-operatives. The *Indusco* is the people's road through war and peace—a road to victories of war and victories of peace equally.

Sterling Balances and Currency Inflation

BY DEWAN BAHADUR K. S. RAMASWAMI SASTRI

WE have been hearing much of late about sterling balances and about India's having been promoted from the position of a debtor nation to that of a creditor nation. Different experts in economics and politics have evaluated the situation in diverse and even conflicting and contradictory ways. But, as usual in all such interpretations of facts, we find an inadvertence to basic ideas and a tendency to confusion of ideas. The matter, however, seems to be simple and to lie in a nutshell.

The sterling debt due to Britain by India came into being owing to various causes which were mainly due to the fact that India was not properly and sufficiently industrialised and had to depend on Britain for the supply of her industrial needs. They were largely used to build up railways and irrigation works and other productive enterprises but to some extent in wrong ways also. It is the duty of a proper and efficient government to balance agriculture and industry and to confine international commerce to such finished products as are capable of easy and cheap manufacture in particular countries. But that will obtain only when there is a national government in a free country and there is also an international control of the universal economic life. Governments with divided loyalties will be like the husband with two wives described in Aesop's Fables.

The sterling debt was a great burden but was a price necessary to be paid for the purpose of the modernisation and the industrialisation of India. The deadly universal evil of war has made India a source of supplies for the benefit of the United Nations, and hence Britain and the United States of America which bought such supplies paid for the same in sterling in Britain, helped to wipe out the sterling debt and build up sterling balances there to the extent of about five hundred crores of rupees to the credit of India. This is what is called the repatriation of the sterling debt by building up the sterling balances which have converted India from the position of a debtor nation to the position of a

creditor nation! But the artificial value of sterling now prevailing has led to a diminution of the sterling balances to our credit, while other undesirable results are yet in prospect.

While sterling balances accumulated to the extent of about five hundred crores in Britain to the credit of India, the Government of India printed paper currency to the extent of several hundred crores to make payments in India—in lieu of such sterling payments—to the persons from whom war supplies were purchased by it for Britain and U.S.A. We may call it expansion or inflation as we like. The result has been a great rocketing of prices owing to insufficiency of goods due to the enormous purchases for military needs and owing to other causes as well. While a few rich men have become richer by reason of taking war contracts, men with fixed incomes have been hit very hard all round and even the agriculturists, who have reaped some benefit by the rise in prices, have been hit by the general soaring of the prices of all the necessities of life.

India is not in the happy position of Great Britain or U.S.A. These are countries which are industrially well organised and well developed. The pre-war unemployment has ended. There is plenty of employment for all; there is plenty of production; and the nation can be easily switched on from a war time potential to a peace time potential. But none of the factors exist in India to-day. There is as yet no planned economy at all. We are emerging in a chaotic way from the medievalism of an agricultural state of society. We do not want to imitate the over-industrialisation and the over-urbanisation of the vain and vainglorious West. But that is no excuse for our chaotic industrialisation or our currency follies. We have to balance agriculture and industry. We have to harmonise industrial arts and crafts and factory production and we have also to harmonise cottage industries and modern industries and large-scale factory industries. We have also to socialise certain heavy and key industries by making them State

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monopolies. We have to establish State socialism by evolutionary and Fabian methods, so that we may have capitalism controlled by the democratic State in the interests of the people in the place of uncontrolled and selfish capitalism and of destructive materialistic communism which are all that the West have evolved by way of social construction.

What then are we to do with the stored sterling balances and how are we to deal with the current inflation of currency in India? This is the question of questions to-day. Quite recently, such a cautious industrialist and politician and administrator and statesman as Sir R. K. Shanmukam Chetti, who can in no wise be regarded as a very forward politician and who is certainly not a politician of the so-called firebrand variety, expressed diverse fears about the possible fate of our growing sterling balances. But apart from the tenability of all his fears, there is a duty owing by all of us to the nation to deal with the balances in a sensible and patriotic manner.

We have also to remember that there might be, as in the last decade, a post-war period of slump and depression. There might be terrible unemployment and increasing poverty. The world is plunging along into morasses of boom and slump and no expert has yet been found to diagnose the disease or to apply the right remedy. Professor Vakil seems to look at the problem mainly from this point of view. It is after a careful and correct evaluation of all the possible factors of post-war life that we can settle the highly puzzling problems relating to the sterling balances, currency inflation, etc.

What we greatly and urgently need is machinery for our inevitable industrialisation (of the wise variety indicated above). If the sterling balances are kept in England in their present form, post-war Britain would be able to sell the machinery which we need at the rates dictated by her. We have not yet started in India our heavy industries such as the locomotive industry or the automobile industry or other vital industries. Why should we not have the option to buy in the cheapest market? Suppose we have to buy them from the U.S.A., we shall have to pay for such

purchases in dollars or in gold. Why should we not have the freedom to help at least a portion of the sterling balances in gold and dollar? Why should all our economic eggs be kept in one basket? Further, it is not unlikely that sterling might depreciate in relation to the dollar in the post-war world. We have also our own internal problem relating to the inexorable linking of the rupee to the sterling.

Further, we have, many debts still owing by India to English bondholders in the shape of loans to port trusts and municipalities. There are also diverse investments made by British investors in India. These can be paid off with a portion of the accumulated sterling balances.

If we take these wise steps, we have to decide also what we should do in regard to the currency inflation and our food shortage, etc. It is obvious enough that at least in regard to future purchases by Britain and America, we may require payment in rupees or gold or dollars to a large extent. Buyers cannot be choosers. Future currency inflation must be carefully watched and controlled. As regards the inflation or expansion (let us not quarrel over words) which has already taken place, we must not blindly resort to tapping by taxation alone or to tapping by compulsory saving schemes such as Government loans alone or to mere price control and rationing alone or to increased production alone. We shall have to adopt all these remedies in due and wise proportion.

The fact is that to-day the functions of the State are not merely law and order and defence along with taxation as the means for securing such ends. The Four Freedoms declared in the Atlantic Charter form the primary functions of the State. In India we have to achieve first and foremost a free federal democratic national government. We have to attain not only political freedom but also social and economic justice. We have to achieve the Four Freedoms. We have to work our social security schemes. We have finally to collaborate with all the united nations to ensure an international control of the economic life of all the peoples of the world in the best interests of them all.

MOSCOW HISTORY MUSEUM

BY MR. E. MINDLIN

BUILT on the historic site of the great Russian city, the Moscow History Museum faces the Red Square which has played so prominent a part in Russia's story. A dark mass of marble mausoleum stands out against Kremlin's ancient walls and when, on big public holidays, people march past they also pass this Museum. Here the development of the Russian State may be studied in more detail, and now relics of the past centuries have been augmented by exhibits illustrating the present war. The data on the Stalingrad epic alone will occupy several rooms. The members of the Museum staff who, until recently, concentrated mainly on ancient relics, have now become keen collectors of war-data—photographs, documents, weapons and other objects which have, in themselves, topical interest of news in daily papers. When anyone from the Museum is sent on an expedition, he visits the scene of yesterday's battles; hastens to Stalingrad's ruins, chooses trench-mortars which Germans recently fired at Russians, and staff-documents which bear the previous month's dates. He hurries out into the streets with his camera, records the impressions of the first days, while the towns people are returning home—returning to ashes and ruins. With their belongings hung over their shoulders, they go about searching for the spots where their homes stood six months ago. They make dug-outs to live in. Meanwhile, they rebuild the city. These first days of restored life, the first batch of bread baked here, the first mail-boxes on the walls of ruined houses and the first telegraph poles restored—these are things the History Museum wants to be recorded.

Then pictures must be made of cellar which was Von Paula's headquarters, of smashed German bunkers and of files of

prisoners. In a while the whole picture of the present Stalingrad will have changed; so the Museum workers must hurry to collect data that will give those who come after, some conception not only of how the struggle was fought, of signs of encirclement of Hitler's troops and their destruction, but also of the struggle for the restoration of Stalingrad.

Cases containing the Stalingrad exhibits fill the Museum's great entrance. We were shown a collection of peasant women's short, warm coats, shawls and blouses. But what, you will ask, has this to do with the Stalingrad epic? These were garments stolen from Russian peasants by Germans who wore them to keep out cold. Some of the Museum staff succeeded in snapping a number of German prisoners arrayed like this. Fine feathers, indeed, for those who called themselves Europe's conquerors, those who were to introduce a "New Order"! That is how they will look in the History Museum's new rooms to the Stalingrad epic.

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The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

A. B. C. TALKS. By C. R. Srinivasan, Editor, *Swadesamitran*. With Foreword by Dr. P. S. Lokanathan. The Swadesamitran Press, Madras. (Available of G. A. Natesan & Co., Re. 1-4.)

This is a collection of occasional addresses on Agriculture, Banking and Commerce. The talks cover a wide range of economic questions and Mr. Srinivasan's handling of problems directly bearing on the daily life of the people fully deserves the more permanent form now given to these discourses.

As editor of a popular vernacular daily, he has his fingers on the pulse of the common people, and is able to gauge their wants, their sufferings and aspirations with more than academic acumen. His plea for the extension of banking facilities to rural areas comes with the weight and experience of the President of the Madras Board of the Reserve Bank of India, who is fully conversant with the theory and practice of banking.

It would be idle to attempt, within the limits of this short review, a discussion of the many valuable suggestions and ideas which are so abundant in these talks, but one is struck with the very competent handling of problems which are apt to be considered the preserve of the specialists. Government's land revenue policy, rural credit and agricultural improvement, commercial banks and industrial finance are not exactly themes on which one could expatiate with eloquence or inspire ardour. But Mr. Srinivasan's lay sermons on these and kindred topics of practical and perennial interest to the citizen in his every-day life are distinguished by a terseness of style and common sense view of things that compel attention, and offer the readers "sufficient meat for their digestion," as Dr. Lokanathan puts it in his brief but trenchant Foreword.

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT IN THE DOMINIONS AND IN INDIA—LEGAL AND CONSTITUTIONAL BASIS. By T. A. Varadarajan, M.A., B.L., Madura. Published by the Author.

A brief—perhaps all too brief—statement of the essentials of Responsible Government in its legal and constitutional aspects with special reference to India. The distinction between the concepts of Self-Government and Responsible Government, the legal basis furnished by the Statute of Westminster of 1931, essentials of various Dominion constitutions in South Africa, Canada and New Zealand, the provisions of the Government of India Act, 1935 and the Instrument of Instruction as providing the key to the understanding and working of the Act are all touched upon. As the author rightly observes, the full realisation of Responsible Government depends on a spontaneous and healthy growth of conventions.

BENGALI LITERATURE. By Anandasankar and Lila Ray. Published by the International Book House, Bombay. Rs. 2.

This is the second book issued by the P.E.N. All-India centre and maintains the high standard and follows the plan already set out for the series of books on various Indian Literatures. Understanding the life and thought of a country depends on the knowledge and appreciation of its literature. The P.E.N. brochures serve a vital purpose and with considerable distinction. Bengali cultural foundations are clearly Buddhist and Prakrit; considerably influenced by the Vaishnava poets, Chandidas, Vidyapati and others; and followed by the Sakta poets. In later literature the names of Michael Madhusudan Dutt and Bankim Chandra Chatterji are names to conjure with. The great contribution to Bengali Literature and world thought by the Tagore family is fully dealt with. The anthology at the end of the book will be read with great interest by all lovers of literature.

HAIDAR ALI. Volume I. (1721-1779). By Narendra Krishna Sinha, M.A., Ph.D. Rs. 5. (Available at G. A. Natesan & Co.)

The author attempts to give a detailed and critical account of the career of Haidar Ali and bases his material upon an examination of contemporary sources of information, both indigenous and foreign. The first three chapters deal with the rise and the coming into prominence of Haidar Ali till his usurpation of power was almost complete in 1760, the episode of Khande Rao's suppression is next dealt with. The succeeding conquests of Haidar Ali and his difficulties with the Marathas are explained; and care is taken to point out that by the treaty of 1765, the Maratha offensive was rendered capable of being renewed at any time against Mysore in the region south of the Tungabhadra, and such an offensive was undertaken in the very next year. The British relations with Haidar in the years preceding the war of 1767-69 are shown to consist of hollow alliances and foiled diplomatic plots in which it was not Haidar that came out least successfully. The first Anglo-Mysore War is treated in considerable detail, particularly with reference to the negotiations with the Marathas concerning their proposed participation. It was the domestic revolution in the Peshwa's court at Poona that gave Haidar a welcome relief from Maratha troubles and leisure to devote himself to the conquest of Coorg and Malabar.

An evaluation of the sources of the information which should be useful for the student is made in the appendix on bibliography, which shows that full use has been made of records in the India Office, the Portuguese Archives, etc.

YARNS FROM INDIAN HISTORY. By B. V. P. Published by the Author, Ushas, 6th Main Road, Malleswaram, Bangalore, or *Sunday Times*, Madras. As. 10.

A collection of seven short stories, six of which have already appeared in the *Sunday Times*. This little book will be of special interest to young readers, the stories being based on historical incidents. The sketches give promise of interesting writing and well serve to while away a passing half-hour.

WE COVER LIFE. By L. K. Panjabi, G. S. Kalyanpur, & K. L. Panjabi. **LAST CORNER.** BY LITTLE MAN: both published by United India Publications, Lamington Road, Bombay 7, Price 8 as. and 12 as.

Three young journalists 'cover' life in a highly stimulating manner and should go very far indeed as authors. Some of the articles had appeared in the *Bombay Chronicle*.

Readers of the *Bombay Sentinel* would be familiar with the pungent comments of the Little Man. The book provides many interesting paragraphs on topical subjects of varied character covering incidents from March to September 1942.

LORD VISWANATH AND OTHER POEMS. By K. S. Rama. Published by the Author of Poets' Corner, Benares. Re. 1.

A collection of thirty poems on subjects ranging from a cuckoo to Lord Viswanath under the general title of Enlightenment Literature Series (Eng. No. 6.)

BOOKS RECEIVED

SCIENCE AND ETHICS. By C. H. Waddington. George Allen & Unwin, Ltd., London.

THE NATURE AND PURPOSE OF ECONOMIC ACTIVITY. (An Essay) by Professor V. K. R. V. Rao. University of Delhi, Delhi.

KAVYALOKAM. VOL. I. By P. Krishnan Nair, University of Madras.

THE EARLY MUSLIM EXPANSION IN SOUTH INDIA. By N. Venkataramayya, M.A., Ph.D., University of Madras.

RABINDRANATH THROUGH WESTERN EYES. By Dr. A. Afonso, M.A. (Cantab.). Kitabistan, Allahabad.

A SELECTION FROM THE SPEECHES AND WRITINGS OF Sachchidananda Sinha. Thacker Spink & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

UPADESHASAHASRI. By Swami Jogadananda. Sri Ramakrishna Math, Myslapore, Madras.

THE FALLING RUPEE. A study in War Finance and Inflation. By C. N. Vakil, University Professor of Economics, Bombay.

THE METAPHYSICS OF VALUE. VOL. I. By K. R. Srinivasa Iyengar, M.A., University of Mysore, Mysore.

SECRETS OF SPIRITUAL LIFE. By Dr. Mohan Singh, M.A., Ph.D. Published by S. Sher Singh, Kapurthala House, Lahore.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Leaders' Memorandum

AS we said in our last issue, Mr. Amery's speech in the House of Commons made the task of the deputationists well nigh impossible. And then the procedure suggested by the Viceroy precluded personal discussion on points which the deputationists wished to raise. That procedure was no less than this: on being conducted to the Viceregal presence, the deputation was to read out the memorandum, an advance copy of which had been submitted to the Viceroy already: whereupon the Viceroy was to read out the reply kept ready by him. This finished, the deputationists were to bow themselves out. Was ever negotiation carried out under such humiliating conditions? The deputationists wisely contented themselves with merely forwarding the memorandum and getting it with the Viceregal reply published simultaneously in the papers.

Urging the immediate need of facilities to explore with Gandhiji 'avenues for reconciliation', the Leaders' deputation, in their memorandum to the Viceroy, observed:

We are convinced that Gandhiji's assistance is essential for the restoration of goodwill and for a solution of the problem even for the interim period, including an adjustment of Hindu-Muslim claims. On the other hand, unpleasant as it is, we cannot help feeling that refusing to permit us to have any contact with Gandhiji now would be equivalent to a determination on the part of Great Britain that there should be no attempt at a settlement of the problem and no reconciliation between Nationalist India and Britain. Whatever may be the immediate administrative convenience thereof, we hope that His Excellency will not take up this attitude. . . .

We feel that though there is no present danger of Axis aggression in India, the strained relation between Government and people is fraught with grave evil and all that is possible should be done to replace it by a better feeling.

The situation is growing more and more serious every day and we feel that a government commanding the loyal and affectionate co-operation of all the people can be constituted for the period of the war only if we are permitted to talk with Gandhiji, consult him and obtain his support.

The Viceroy in a curt reply—arguing in a 'circle' as 'C.R.' stated in a Press Conference—turned down the leaders' request. "The matter can be considered further,"

he said stiffly, "only if certain assurances and guarantees are previously obtained from the Congress leaders in detention."

So long as the Congress policy remains what it is, there can be no question of any alteration in our attitude towards the Congress. I have already pointed out that neither from Mr. Gandhi nor from the Congress is there, or has there been, any suggestion of a change of mind or heart. They had the opportunity and have the opportunity still to abandon that policy.

With every respect for your good intentions and your anxiety to see a happy solution, I cannot agree to give special facilities such as you ask for contact with Mr. Gandhi and the Congress leaders while conditions remain as I have described them.

C.R. commenting on the Viceroy's reply to the delegation's memorandum said in the course of a statement:

His Excellency's refusal to alter his attitude towards the Congress and the policy of seeking to humiliate nationalist India are bound to drive hostility underground and into undesirable channels. But apart from that it is most unfortunate that His Excellency while admitting the necessity for a National Government, insists on a policy which means, in effect, that throughout the period of the war, with the economic conditions created thereby, there can be no such Government in India, and that we must be content with an administration like the present with no backing except that of force.

Mr. Jinnah's Tirade

Mr. Jinnah proved true to form at the recent session of the Muslim League at Delhi. With characteristic vehemence he denounced the Congress and Mr. Gandhi as attempting to impose an unwanted Hindu Raj on the Muslims. But he coupled this denunciation with an appeal to Gandhi to approach him rather than the Viceroy for any settlement. Mr. Jinnah himself cannot get rid of the steel frame mentality he brings to bear on the question of Pakistan merely to prop up the League.

But of what avail is it all if it is merely a stage managed show of Mr. Gandhi waiting on Mr. Jinnah and Mr. Jinnah abruptly breaking off negotiations with the publication of their correspondence with or without the consent of the other party? That has been the experience in the past. On the question of the League's co-operation with Government in their war effort, Mr. Jinnah was outspoken.

'It was thoroughly dishonest on the part of the British Government to say that the League was non-co-operating,' declared Mr. Jinnah.

The Muslim League said it could not co-operate. "You want me to come as a camp follower. What are the prospects for me? If I am defeated, Japan or Hitler will come. If I win, I am to be a camp follower and get a bakshish. Is this an incentive to co-operation? Can any honourable, respectable nation accept that position (cries of "no"). Therefore, really they have blundered and are blundering or don't want to part with power and are taking their chance as a gambler does, saying to themselves: If we win we will keep them where they are. If we lose, then after us the deluge."

Mr. Jinnah's comment on the black bill against Indians in South Africa was apposite.

There can be no doubt that this legislation is the blackest of its kind. That it should have been undertaken at this stage is amazing. On the one hand every unit of the Empire was asked to contribute to the war effort, and Indians were considered good enough to stand side by side with the whites in the battle-field, but on the other hand, this badge of the colour bar was the reward for one of the members who was contributing her share.

Mr. Dalmia's Move for a New Order

Mr. Ram Krishna Dalmia, the well-known industrialist and financier, is by no means content with his enormous enterprises connected with sugar and cement. He is contemplating other uses for his millions than merely to see them multiply. The ravages of war and the pitiful inhumanity of man to man has set him thinking of other means of alleviation than the mere improvement of material ends. In a thought-provoking pamphlet on *The War and After*, he denounces the present system of exploitation of the poor, and demands a new order:

"I feel," he writes, "that the causes of the present war are imbedded, in the accumulated mass of power, and pursuit of greed, particularly for luxuries, which modern civilisation has almost deified. There cannot be any doubt that man's acquisitive instincts will continue to play their role as far as the human world is concerned, but equitable distribution of wealth must be the criterion for the future, as also for the present.

Otherwise, poverty amidst plenty will continue to be the scourge of the world, and the instrument of war as the arbitrating power to keep peace between man and man, and man and country will once again and perhaps with a more disastrous effect, be involved in the future."

How are we going to utilise the shadow prosperity created by the war? At the present time many voices are raised for the development of schemes of economic and social advancement. Mr. Dalmia's panacea for the diseases of the world is typically Indian, in that it seeks a moral and spiritual basis for the new order. He has a world outlook transcending all narrow limitations of race or religion or nationality.

"I feel," he writes, "that there is great need for a revaluation of what we have hitherto considered to be unchanging verities and I intend launching a movement for universal brotherhood, with a movement to back it up from every corner of the world. I propose to name the organization 'One.' Though in working it out, difficulties, apparently insurmountable, will present themselves, there is nothing which cannot be accomplished with His blessings and guidance."

Mr. Dalmia undertakes to arrange, if necessary, a sum of one or two crores of rupees and even more for the purpose of furthering the scheme. What is more, he intends devoting his time, energy and "even sacrifice this perishable body" to attain the goal. Mr. Dalmia is a practical idealist, as evidenced by his vast enterprises in business; and the grandeur of his idea coupled with his earnestness must compel attention.

The Sind Pakistan Resolution

The Muslim League majority in the Sind Assembly, has by weight of its members, adopted a resolution, endorsing the Pakistan plan of the Lahore Session of the All-India Muslim League. So long as Pakistan was a party cry and the slogan of a communal organisation, it was one thing. But when it is forced down the throat of a legislature and presented with the imprimatur of a composite legislature of the Government, it assumes an importance which it does not intrinsically possess. The League has tactically scored against other parties in the Sind Assembly and naturally congratulates itself on its victory. The League Council, which met at Delhi under its re-elected President Mr. Jinnah, took the next inevitable move by calling on all other Muslim majority provinces to follow Sind's lead. It is a pointer to the Hindus, says Mr. Savarkar, President of the Hindu Mahasabha, who scents danger in this sinister move.

The resolution has also an importance of its own which must not be lost sight of. Here,

in this resolution, the Muslims have recorded definitely, through a legislature, their claim to be a different nation and have made it quite clear that their scheme of Pakistan demands that the Muslim majority Provinces are to be altogether cut off from the Indian nation, which they characterise as a sub-continent and no nation at all, and from the central Indian State, to which they mean to owe no subordination at all. In a way, it is desirable that this resolution should have been worded in such an outrageous but frank language, so that even those Hindus, who, through a process of mental self-deception, hoped against hope, in spite of clear warnings of the Hindu Mahasabha, that little concessions here and there would finally satisfy the Muslims and then bring about a lasting unity and willing agreement to join us as fellow-citizens of a common Indian State and an Indian nation, might be disillusioned.

Now the features of Pakistan depicted on the wall are so bold, that even he who runs may read. Only the blind and the cowardly can still indulge in believing that the deadly serpent may yet prove a coil of rope.

Paper for Public Consumption

Though Mr. Hoosain Imam's resolution in the Council of State suggesting the rationing of paper for consumers and recommending the formation of a committee to devise methods of economy was withdrawn, it is something to be assured that Government will endeavour to make available to the public as much paper as was possible under the circumstances. As a result of their endeavour, we are told, they expected to increase the public quota to 30 per cent. of the total available in the country. The fact is, lack of proper planning by the Government has resulted in great hardship to the public and the growth of the black market, both of which could have been avoided by a little pre-thought. In this as in so many other things, it is a pity that indigenous production was not stimulated as energetically as might be desired and the country was made to depend on foreign imports. It has taken a war of this magnitude to teach us the simple lesson of self-sufficiency. However it is never too late to mend. It is comforting to be told that a scheme of improved machine for hand-made paper, which is being tried in the U.P., would be tried in other provinces. In the meanwhile, we are glad to be assured that under the new scheme of distribution special regard will be kept of small newspapers which are the worst sufferers under present conditions.

Government and the Press

Governments in the Provinces as in the centre have never lacked means of wide and effective publicity. All the resources of the State are at their disposal and they can always marshal men and money to their hearts' content in their publicity campaign. Apart from an obliging press which seldom fails to give them their due share of publicity, they have their own specific organs through which to ventilate their views. It is therefore with no little shock of surprise that one read this intriguing statement in a recent issue of the *Fort St. George Gazette*, under the head, Supplementary Budget demands that

it is proposed to pay a sum of Rs. 2,000 per month to *Reuters* for the supply of their news to a Telugu journal, *Desabhimani*, so that it may be converted into a daily. The Government of India have been addressed for the supply of newsprint. This expenditure involves a new service and will be incurred in the current year.

When newsprint is so scarce and existing papers are receiving a diminishing quota, why this special subsidy to a weekly to enable it to function as a daily? This back-door procedure is an affront to journalism and is discreditable alike to the party that gives and the party that accepts. Is it fair to bolster up a venture of this kind from out of public funds? After all, will a tainted periodical carry the weight and importance of an independent member of the fourth estate? Surely good sense must teach the Government to spare themselves the trouble of bolstering up such questionable enterprises and avail themselves of the more straight method of resorting to their own official publications.

BOOKS RECEIVED

- WAR AND THE RUPEE. A Study in War Inflation. By D. Ghosh, M.A., (Cantab.), Bar-at-law, Baroda.
- INTERVIEWING JAPAN. By Adrienne Moore, Kitabistan, Allahabad.
- KHAGENDRAMANIDARPANA of Mangaraja. Edited by A. Venkat Rao, B.A., L.T., and Pandit H. Sesha Ayyangar, University of Madras.
- CONQUEST OF PRICES. By B. M. Sharma, M.A., Ph.D. With a Foreword by Dr. V. Shiva Ram, M.A., Ph.D. Upper India Publishing House, Ltd., Lucknow.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

The Soviet-Polish Rupture

THE news that the Soviet Government have broken off relations with the Polish Government in London is a sad commentary on the lack of understanding among the allied powers. It is unfortunate that steps were not taken earlier to adjust their relations. The worst part of it is that Goebbels' astute propaganda to sow discord among the allies so as to isolate them and deal with them more effectively would appear to be succeeding. Allied efforts should now be concentrated in checking such disaffection among them. The present rupture was over the issue of Polish insistence on investigation into German charges against the Soviets of having massacred, in 1940, ten thousand Polish officers. The British Government, who have given the rights of asylum to fugitive Poles and enabled a Polish National Council and a Polish Government to function from London, must find the new turn of events distinctly embarrassing. This is equally disquieting to the American democracy. For a rift in the ranks of European Allies, at a moment when great campaigns on the Continent are decisively on the cards, can only be of help to the enemy, who has undoubtedly been exerting his utmost to sow discord in their midst.

New Jap Offensive in China

A big battle is raging in the foothills of Taishan mountains in north Honan, where 40,000 Japanese are trying to dislodge the Chinese forces holding out in the mountains. The Chinese *communiqué* giving this news says that the Japanese offensive was launched on April 16. Several enemy columns are pushing towards Linhsin and Linchwan. Fighting is now going on in the vicinity of Linchwan.

The Russian Front

The supplement to the Soviet *communiqué*, dated the 26th April, says: On the central front one Russian unit broke into enemy trenches and in hand-to-hand fighting wiped out 70 German officers and men. South of Balkaleya (below Kharkov), men of another unit repelled an attack by German infantry.

Fighting in Tunisia

In spite of the stiff enemy resistance in Tunisia, both the First and the Eighth Army continue to advance though slowly.

The Allies are advancing on the whole length of the central and northern sector of the Tunisian front. On the extreme northern sector, French forces have reached a point nearly twenty miles east of Cap Serrat.

Cap Serrat is only forty miles in a direct line from Bizerta which puts the French little more than 20 miles from von Arnim's "Dunkirk" base. If this bridge-head goes, Italy will be faced with invasion.

Japanese Barbarities

President Roosevelt announced in a formal statement, on April 22, "the barbarous execution" by the Japanese Government of some members of the American armed forces who fell into the Japanese hands as "an incident of warfare." The statement received from him at Corpus Christi (Texas) was issued by the White House together with a note of protest from the State Department to the Japanese Government.

Duke of Connaught

The Duke of Connaught is dead. He died at Ottawa.

The Duke had been staying with the Governor-General of Canada and Princess Alice, Countess of Athlone, for several months. The Duke of Connaught, who was 28, succeeded to the title last year on the death of his grandfather, the First Duke, son of Queen Victoria.

Fate of Japan

Mr. Shigemitsu, the new Japanese Foreign Minister, in his first nation-wide broadcast, said, the war was rapidly reaching its climax. "All the nations involved have mobilized their total national strength and are looking ahead to the final battle." He said: The outcome of this battle will not only decide the fate of Japan but will also determine the rise or fall of East Asia for all time to come."



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



NATIONAL GOVERNMENT FOR INDIA

In the course of an article in *Current History*, Professor Walter Phelps Hall of Princeton University asserts that not Britain alone, but all the members of the United Nations have a stake in what takes place in India. In their name he suggests that Britain should

1. Recall the Viceroy.
2. Re-enter into negotiations with the Congress Party.
3. Request the aid of a mediation board on which there are American and Chinese members, to represent those United Nations most immediately concerned.
4. Permit the guarantee of India's post-war freedom to be not simply a British guarantee but one in the name of all the United Nations.

And to ask that India:

1. Rescind her campaign of non-co-operation.
2. Agree to accept the findings for the duration of the war, of the aforementioned United Nations mediation board.
3. Co-operate in every way, both civil and military, in the effort to drive the Japanese out of Burma and China.

Professor Hall says:

Although the cause of the United Nations shows signs of improvement in most parts of the world at present the reverse seems to be the case in India. . . . Indians no matter how much they may disagree among themselves, almost daily become more anti-British. This does not mean that they are pro-Japanese. But it does mean that they dislike Britain and are losing such little confidence as they antecedently had in that country's good faith.

After referring to the failure of the Cripps mission the writer asks, what next in India.

Prime Minister Churchill says he will make no more concessions. Leopold Amery, British Secretary of State for India, says there will be no further negotiations.

That the British would now find it difficult to reopen negotiations goes without saying. Such an act not only would hurt their pride, but it is conceivable that it might injure the war effort. On the other hand in both war and peace he who refuses to take a chance is lost. India very likely is lost to the British Empire after the war, no matter what course that conflict takes. Even the

smashing United Nations victory for which we hope will not hold India or the Empire. Too much water has gone under the bridge for that to happen.

But the role that India will play in this war is not yet determined; she may help or she may hinder the United Nations among whom she is so cavalierly enrolled as a charter member.

Despite what Churchill and Amery have said, one does not feel that all negotiations are forever impossible, observes the writer. For

Churchill has a blind spot in regard to India and so, too, has Amery. Both of them are imperialists by long training and conviction. Churchill has all his life been opposed to Indian devolution; but is it too late for him to modify that stand? After all, it is in the blood of British Tories to yield when they must: otherwise how could they have continued top dog so long?

A SCULPTOR'S TRIBUTE TO GANDHIJI

Mrs. Clare Sheridan, the famous sculptor, author and niece of Mr. Churchill, after paying a glowing tribute to Gandhiji, observes as follows in the course of an article in a British journal.

I have great love for India in my heart—India, a land which it has not yet been part of my destiny to visit. India means for me the cradle of Upanishads, soul of Bhagavat Gita. Above all, it is the homeland of the Buddha. I realise all the complexities of the problems and the conflicting ideologies.

Muslims, too, are my friends. I have lived for ten years in their midst—ten full years, not in a colonial town but in a semi-Europeanised village in a Sahara native village; my small daughter and I entrusting ourselves to their chivalrous protection enjoyed the hospitality of their homes and confidence of their secluded womenfolk. I observed fast on the Ramzan as strictly as their most fanatical believers in it, out of the conviction that in order to understand a people, one must share their lives. And in so doing, I have come to the conclusion that harmony, tolerance and brotherhood are in fact brought about through a certain quality of development.

If, for instance, in the Indian Muslim world and in Britain Gandhi's counterparts in spiritual evolution could come forward, India would lead the way as an example to a battered world of renaissance in spiritual values. God knows that we need this lead and India—yes, India—could do this for us.

A sculpture image of Gandhiji made by Mrs. Sheridan is now kept in the Bombay Museum.

COMMUNAL WRANGLES

Communal bickerings seem to have reached their highest pitch. And yet through these differences is taking shape a newer and more lasting unity. It could not be otherwise on the Indian soil, hallowed as it is by the dust of the feet of a thousand saints and prophets who devoted their lives to the promotion of human brotherhood, writes the *Prabuddha Bharata* and adds:

We do not know where religious intolerance had its birth. Perhaps it cannot be localized anywhere unless it be in the hearts of the perverted and the perfidious. They speak of Semitic exclusiveness. The Jews, for instance, believed that they were the chosen people of God. There are others who believe that the founders of their religions have uttered the final word. It is needless to have any dispute on that score. For though the essential truths, in a sense, have been finally revealed centuries ago, our hearts still walk in darkness, and we have to make fresh discoveries, each for himself.

The possession of a rich treasure does not matter much, so long as the key is not in our hands. The battle royal that is raging round the question of the superiority of any religion, is thus reduced to a nonsensical verbal warfare.

A fertile source of communal wrangles is an unquestioning faith in the literal interpretation of the scriptures and abandonment of intellect. If we plead for realization as the true essence of religion, we should not be understood to mean that reason should be discarded and faith in the scriptures be installed in its stead.

In all the essentials, and even more, we agree. And yet the pity of it is that we prefer to fight for the unessentials, because we do not care for the bases of our religions, but rather for the idols and ideologies that have taken possession of our hearts and social institutions. We care for things that can be best taken care of by specialists in other fields, and ruin our religions by confusing them with passing phases of life and society. We have to remember that the essentials of religion can be saved only by agreement among the different people to guard them zealously against all pollution. Religions stand or fall together.

It is the fundamentals that have been attacked by science and materialism, and it is a bold stand on fundamentals that can consolidate our ranks.

Thus studied from the standpoint of spiritual verities and tactical foresight we stand to gain by making a thorough search for the essentials in each religion. Nor is the task very difficult.

The materials are already at hand, and it is only the mental attitude that is lacking. Mysticism furnishes a common meeting ground. The science of comparative religion has analysed the different spiritual elements for us and sifted the permanent from the transitory. Marxism has sternly warned us against identifying ourselves with established social and political orders. Science has knocked the bottom out of our perverse philosophies. Dictatorships threaten to exploit our easy-going self-complacency. Driven thus literally from pillar to post we are left only with our God. Shall we still be found waiting in faith and fighting for worldly chimeras?

CONGRESS IN THE DOCK

The Government is determined not to release Gandhiji during the present war. Rather it is collecting data and all sorts of important reports and witnesses to "prove Gandhiji's and his Congress guilt," writes the Delhi correspondent of the *National Review*. This trial, however, is not to take place till "India fulfils her obligations in this war."

But the determination of the Viceroy to deal a crushing blow to the Congress, so that it becomes ineffective in creating any trouble for the Government in the present or future remains unshaken. The only way of escape for the Congress is to retrace its steps, i.e., Gandhiji should unequivocally declare that he withdraws his Civil Disobedience Movement and express regret on what has happened in India during the last six months. But there is not the least probability that a great leader like Gandhiji would do that, rather he with his colleagues will be prepared to face the law and accept its verdict unflinchingly.

BRITISH EMPIRE & THE NEXT WAR

Mr. Bernard Shaw, in an article in the *New Leader*, on Gen. Giraud, Vice-President Wallace, Mr. Churchill and Hitler says: "When the rival empires of Germany, Japan and Italy are crushed, agreement between the Russian-Chinese front and the Anglo-American front will dissolve at best into an agreement to differ and at worst into another world war. To Stalin and Chiang Kai-shek, the British Empire will be the last foe to be overcome. And their (the Tories') huge parliamentary majorities of anybodies elected by everybody may enable them, by appeal to the country, to restore party Government with their own party in power, heading for another war—this time British-American plutocracy against Russian-Chinese democracy and socialism."

INDIA'S PLACE IN ASIA

Discussing the proposed Council of Asia, Sir Alfred Watson, in an article in *Great Britain and the East*, expresses the opinion that "India will only be acceptable to her co-partners in the Council, if she comes to it speaking with one voice as a nation and not with half a dozen voices of disunited peoples and adds: "She cannot have any influence on the Council if her representatives at its sittings speak each for some divided fragment of a divided country."

Sir Alfred further observes that the Council will be largely concerned with military and naval means of checking aggressors and Indian politicians must realise they will not be welcome with "passive resistance and Civil Disobedience emblazoned on their banners." This veiled deprecation of Pakistan and other partition schemes is arousing interest in view of the author's past sympathies, but it is in line with the new tendency to stress Indian unity, revealed in the Viceroy's much-discussed Calcutta speech.

LIQUIDATING AN EMPIRE

Not long ago, Mr. Winston Churchill declared that he had not become first Minister of the Crown to liquidate the Empire. Commenting on this, the *Indian Social Reformer* writes that the British Empire, like all Empires, has two aspects.

The first one is the most obvious. The Empire of lands and peoples held in possession. That is the material aspect. The other is the ideals for which the Empire stands. This may be called the soul, while the former is the body of the Empire. When Mr. Churchill speaks of Empire, he is evidently referring to the body. He means to hold it and, we daresay it, he will hold. But the spiritual, the ideal aspect of the Empire, is already liquidating itself. The ideals taught by British statesmen and political philosophers have all but disappeared from the British Indian Empire. Collective fines which are at the present day levied only by the German Nazis in the territories occupied by them and on Jews, are a regular feature of the British administration in this country. They have been levied and collected with most success in this Presidency under Sir Roger Lumley who was in many other respects a model Governor. When Sir Hugh Dow, the Governor of Sind, dismissed his Chief Minister, Allah Baksh, because he resigned a title which had ceased to have any meaning for him, the Indian public dismissed the event as what was to be expected from a Civilian Governor trained in the ways of the bureaucracy. Sir John Herbert of Bengal is not

a Civilian Governor. He is an English public man with parliamentary experience. The Governors of the Presidencies drawn from English public life have always been credited with liberal notions of freedom and constitutional propriety. The story of the midnight interview and the resignation of the Prime Minister of Bengal, Mr. Fazlul Huq, is more reminiscent of the Middle Ages than of modern constitutional methods. Making allowance for the authoritarian tendencies of the Roman Catholic Church to which Sir John belongs, the demand made of Mr. Huq that he should repudiate the statement of a colleague on pain of dismissal, is not what one would expect from a British public man sent to this country to set an example of constitutional government. Next comes Sir John Hope of Madras, also a Catholic, who has openly adopted the method, reprobated in totalitarian regimes, of subsidising a newspaper. All three instances, so contrary to the spirit of British politics, are proof that British ideals are no longer inspiring British rule.

INDIAN PROBLEM

The British Government are very fortunate that Mr. Gandhi did not die during the fast: had he done so, the misunderstanding between our two countries might have well been beyond repair," says Prof. Laski, writing in *Reynold's News* on the fast and the Indian political situation. Prof. Laski adds:

"I frankly think",

that the Cabinet have made a wretched mess of the Indian problem. 'Too little and too late,' in Churchill's own phrase, is the perfect description of its policies. I think it is tragic that a Socialist party like ours should accept the breakdown over the Cripps proposals as final. For, to do so is to assume that reason is powerless before the problem, and that is abandonment of faith in the procedure of democracy.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

AN EXHIBITION OF CONTEMPORARY INDIAN PAINTINGS IN CALCUTTA. By Dr. Sunilkumar Chatterji. [The Modern Review, April 1943.]

WHERE KALIDASA EXCELS: *Sakuntala*—A Play of Nature. By M. A. Ruckmnn. [The Aryan Path, April 1943.]

COW PROTECTION IN MOGHUL INDIA. By Mr. Angelo Moses. [Journal of Indian History, Series No. 63.]

GANDHIJI'S FIRST ARREST AND ITS REPERCUSSIONS. By Dr. H. C. Mookerjee. [The Calcutta Review, April 1943.]

YAMA-PWE OR THE RAMAYANA PLAY IN BURMA. By K. B. Iyer. [The Triveni Quarterly, Vol. XIV. No. 4.]

ART IN INDIA—A Retrospect. By N. C. Mehta, I.C.S. [Prabuddha Bharata, April 1943.]

DIARY OF THE MONTH

April 1. Leaders' memorandum and Viceroy's reply published. Leaders refused facilities to meet Gandhiji.

—R. A. F. celebrates 25th anniversary of its birth.

April 2. Dr. Gilder, at present under detention, is elected Mayor of Bombay.

—*News Chronicle* declares "Amery must be replaced."

April 3. British Labour advocates international control for Colonies.

—Renault factories bombed by U. S. bombers.

April 4. First army occupies Cape Sewat. Nazi forces massed in South Russia.

April 5. Newsprint control order modified.

—Gen. Eisenhower asks Gen. de Gaul to delay his trip to French Africa.

April 6. Prof. Laski condemns Britain's Indian policy.

—India debate in the House of Lords.

April 7. Rommel in retreat: Eighth army advances north of Gabes.

—Broome report discussed in the S. A. Assembly.

April 8. Sir Raza Ali's appeal to Union Government.

—Mr. Willkie advocates liquidation of imperialism.

April 9. Begum Azad passes away. Mr. Hofmeyr condemns racial prejudice in South Africa.

April 10. Natal Indian Congress and Transvaal Indian Congress present petition to Union Parliament.

April 11. Bombay economists call for drastic measures to check inflation.

April 12. Allies occupy Sousse and Kairouan.

—Mr. Sumner Welles says that U. S. will not intervene in India issue.

April 13. Former Agents-General in India appeal to Field Marshal Smuts to drop anti-Indian Bill.

—Sir K. Nazimuddin accepts invitation to form ministry.

April 11. Field Marshal Smuts defends Restriction Bill in Union Assembly.

April 15. London meeting of Railway workers demands recall of Viceroy and immediate negotiation with India.

April 16. Great Jap battle fleet concentrated near New Guinea.

April 17. Trotsky's assassin sentenced to 20 years.

—Black Bill passes second reading in Union Assembly.

April 18. Allied attacks on Axis air-fields in North Africa.

—Enemy aircraft over London area.

April 19. Miss Pearl Buck criticises American lack of understanding *re* India.

April 20. Bombay Sheriff's meeting of leading citizens protest against the South African Bill.

April 21. Black Bill in South Africa passed into law.

—Commonwealth party in England urges resumption of negotiations and release of Gandhi unconditionally.

April 22. M.P.'s demand intervention in South Africa. Legislation against Indians. Mr. Amery declines.

—Federal Court invalidates Defence Rule 26.

April 23. Madras protest against S.A. Bill.

—Rt. Hon. Sastri indicts Union Government.

April 24. Sir Nazimuddin, Muslim League leader, forms new Bengal Cabinet.

April 25. Mr. Phillips discloses that he was denied facilities to meet Mahatma Gandhi.

April 26. Death of the Duke of Connaught at Ottawa.

—Jap raids on Burma.

April 27. Twenty-seven persons discharged in Calcutta following Gwyer judgment invalidating Defence Rule 26.

April 28. Mr. Fazlul Huq, speaking at Calcutta, discloses daily conflict with the Governor.

—Viceroy promulgates ordinance validating Rule 26 with retrospective effect.

April 29. Soviet-Polish rupture.

—British and American intervention for settlement.

April 30. Enemy planes over Assam town.

—Mr. Savarkar urges resistance to Pakistan.

INDIAN STATES

Hyderabad

LITERACY IN HYDERABAD

"Literacy in Hyderabad as compared with the other parts of the country is unsatisfactory and much leeway to progress in this direction should be made," observed Sir Gulam Mahomed, Finance Member of the Nizam's Executive Council, presiding over the annual prize distribution of the Osmania Training College.

Agreeing with the Sargent Committee's recommendations for giving decent salaries to the teaching staff, he felt that in Hyderabad State and in mofussil places teachers were mostly ill-paid.

The speaker also revealed that the Hyderabad Government is engaged in considering post-war plans in which education is receiving greater importance. He also emphasised the need for giving agricultural bias to education.

Sir Gulam, proceeding, said: "Some Governments insist on meeting the educational expenditure out of yearly revenues and while they are willing to borrow the capital for what they consider productive enterprises, they do not consider the educational expenditure 'productive.' But I feel convinced that the State expenditure on education is rightly planned and rightly administered and is thoroughly sound financial investment."

JAILS IN HYDERABAD

The latest Administration Report on jails reveals that the Hyderabad Central Jail has been extensively engaged in tailoring garments for the Supply Department of the Government of India. By the end of 1350 fasli, 456 convicts were engaged in this work and 2,21,296 garments had been tailored. The average jail population during 1350 Fasli showed very little change. There were 3,468 prisoners at the beginning of the year and 13,303 were admitted during the year. The reformatory activities continued as usual. The total gross expenditure on the Jail Department during the year, excluding expenditure by the P.W.D. on jail buildings was Rs. 6,62,468-12-5 as compared with Rs. 6,96,279-4-11 for the preceding year, a decrease of Rs. 33,810-8-6.

Mysore

MR. M. A. SRINIVASAN

Mr. M. A. Srinivasan is appointed as Minister in place of Mr. A. V. Ramanathan, who retired recently to take over the Dewanship of Bharatpur State. His Highness has also appointed as additional Minister Mr. Appaji Gowda, at present Chief Secretary to the Mysore Government, for one year as a temporary measure. The notification says: "Due to war conditions, the work of the Government has increased in several directions. The food situation needs constant vigilance. Post-war problems require careful study and planning from now. Of these, questions relating to industrial production, employment and training are of special urgency. Having regard to these considerations, the Maharaja is pleased to sanction the appointment of an Additional Minister."

MYSORE P. S. COMMISSION

The Mysore Government, have decided to appoint Mr. B. S. Puttaswami, non-official M.L.C. of Mysore City, as Public Service Commissioner in the State, fixing his pay at Rs. 1,000. It is further learnt that Government contemplate setting up the Commission on the model of the Madras Commission comprising of three non-official members under the chairmanship of Mr. B. S. Puttaswami, with a secretary.

THE NEW CHIEF JUSTICE

Replying to the luncheon party given in his honour on his appointment as Chief Justice of Mysore, Mr. Venkataramana Rao said that the greatest contribution of the British to India was the Rule of Law and impartial administration of the law. He said that it would be his constant endeavour to build up and uphold the independence of the judiciary.

NEW MYSORE D.P.I.

Mr. M. Sultan Mohiyuddin is appointed as Director of Public Instruction, Mysore State, *vice* Rajaswasktha A. R. Wadia, who has been permitted to retire on June 4 next.

Baroda

BARODA PRAJA MANDAL

The Government of Baroda have, following the passing of a motion by the Working Committee of the Baroda State Praja Mandal, on April 8 last resolving to "drop the resolution of August 18 last in so far as it relates to war efforts and the programmes outlined in the resolution", cancelled the notification declaring the Praja Mandal an unlawful organisation and attaching its premises, etc.

The Government have also ordered the release of all persons convicted for holding meetings and taking out processions without previous permission and the refund of fines imposed in such cases. Cases involving violence and relating to acts of sabotage are not included in this amnesty.

It might be recalled that on August 18 last the Praja Mandal adopted a resolution protesting against the war efforts of the State.

BARODA DEWAN'S GENEROSITY

About Rs. 1,20,000 was presented to Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, Dewan of Baroda, on April 13 by some of his friends on the occasion of his completion of 40 years of public life, says a Baroda message. Sir V. T. Krishnamachari has expressed his desire to utilize Rs. 60,000 of this sum for a building for the Maharani Chimanabai Maternity Home and Children's Welfare League. The remaining sum will be given to the Shri Padmavadevi Tuberculosis Sanatorium, Baroda.

LOAN TO AGRICULTURISTS

Government have placed at the disposal of the Agriculture Department a loan of Rs. 1,50,000 for cotton crop cultivation to be used in giving advances to members of the village cotton sale and marketing societies for promoting and financing cultivation of B.D. 8 and 1027 A.L.F. cottons.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

Representatives of the local mills and of the Baroda labourers met and decided unanimously that the present dearness allowance be increased so as to enable each worker to receive three annas daily or Rs. 5 for a month of full working days from the first of April 1942.

Travancore

LABOUR DISPUTES IN TRAVANCORE

There has been considerable industrial development in the State of Travancore and inevitably, there have been disputes between the workers and the employers. At present, such disputes can be settled only by reference to Government under the Trade Disputes Act. Procedure under the Act is not simple and is subject to delay.

It is therefore proposed to set up an Industrial Relations Board. An Industrial Relations Committee is to be set up for each industry, consisting of an equal number of representatives of employers and labour, and, in addition, a chairman who may be elected by both parties from amongst themselves or from outside.

The Board will be constituted from the members of these Committees and will chalk out the general policy underlying industrial relations in the State. It can also function as an appellate authority over the Industrial Committees. If the Board acts under the provisions of the Travancore Arbitration Act, any award made by it will be legally binding, or the decision can form a gentleman's agreement which will be adhered to by both parties.

DEARNESS ALLOWANCE

The Government of Travancore has sanctioned revision of the existing limit up to which dearness allowance is granted in the State so as to bring employees on somewhat higher pay also within its scope. The scheme which will be in force for the duration of the war provides the following allowances. The scope of dearness allowance has been extended to employees drawing pay or salary up to Rs. 50 per mensem, the existing rate of allowance being continued in the case of employees drawing Rs. 20 monthly and below and the rate being fixed at Rs. 3 per mensem in the case of employees drawing above Rs. 20 per mensem but not above Rs. 50. In the case of employees drawing pay or salary above Rs. 50 but not above Rs. 53 monthly, they may be granted such sum as allowance as would make the total emoluments equal to Rs. 53 per mensem.

Jaipur

REFORMS IN JAIPUR

The labours of the Jaipur Constitutional Reforms Committee, under the chairmanship of Rajasevasaktha S. Hiriannaiya of Mysore, have concluded. The Committee met for the first time on the 4th of November, 1942, and for the last on the 2nd of April, 1943.

The personnel of the Committee had undergone changes and expansion. There were in all thirty-two sessions of the Committee, and it examined thirty-four witnesses and received 3,273 written replies to the questionnaire.

Six members of the Committee, including the three Sirdars, chose to dissociate themselves and to keep aloof at the final stages of the Committee's labours, while a majority of ten members, excluding the chairman and two official members, but including the three Muslim members, appended their signatures to the Report as finally revised, subject to their right to write separate minutes on certain issues.

The Report is for the present a confidential document but it may be mentioned that the Committee is known to be in favour of a Legislative Council, and of a Representative Assembly more or less similar to the Mysore one.

Bharatpur

BHARATPUR STATE

One of the greatest boons bestowed upon the people by the founders of the Raj and the greatest services rendered by the people towards the Raj has been the introduction, on the part of the Raj, and the sincere support of the people towards the keeping up of the Ganga Mandir and Jama Masjid Funds, in the State. The construction of these magnificent buildings symbolises the perpetual unity between the Hindus and Mohamedans amongst themselves and towards the Government. In the past, present and the future, and that object has been achieved. There has never been in the history of Bharatpur any Hindu-Muslim tension worth the name. They have always stood together in trouble or in joy, whereas at other places this poisonous gas has produced calamitous effects.

Cochin

VILLAGE COURTS

The Government of Cochin have issued orders separating Panchayat Courts from Village Panchayats and designating them as Village Courts from April 28.

The Courts will be placed under a Registrar. Government have appointed Mr. P. D. Nandana Menon as the first Village Courts Registrar on a salary of Rs. 200—300.

Thirty-five Village Courts have also been created by Government with a strength of five members each under the New Village Courts Act just now given assent to by the Maharaja.

General

MERGER OF SMALLER STATES

A scheme of qualified merger of small Indian States (which owing to the slenderness of their individual resources and general aversion from neighbourly co-operation are unable to provide adequate amenities for their subjects) with neighbouring larger ones with whom they have geographical, economic and political affinities has been decided upon by the Crown Representative in concurrence with the Secretary of State, announces a *communiqué*.

The scheme is a sequel to the discussions initiated by H.H. the Maharaja of Baroda (to whom many of the small units in Western India and Gujarat are tributary) in the period preceding the 1935 Act. The proposals involved, *inter alia*, the discontinuance of tributary payments and the general assumption, subject to certain safeguards, by Baroda of the functions and responsibilities at present discharged by the Residents and Political Agents. A fresh approach has since been made on the lines of these proposals and on a wider basis with a view to affording to other larger States an opportunity to assume similar responsibilities in respect of units which have similar geographical, economic and political affinities with them.

The units to be attached (under the present scheme) collectively cover an area of 7,000 sq. miles with a population of 8,00,000 and an annual revenue of more than Rs. 70 lakhs.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

PLIGHT OF INDIANS

The two bright spots in an otherwise gloomy picture presented by the High Commissioner for India in the Union of South Africa in his report for 1941 are the passage of the Feetham Resolution through Parliament and the findings of the Broome Commission on Indian penetration into European areas since 1927, says a Press Note. The legislation on the lines recommended by the Feetham Commission some years ago relaxes to a slight extent the provisions of the Gold Law which prohibited Indian occupation on the Reef and gives the Indian community a small stake in the Transvaal, while the Broome Commission's report completely exposes the hollowness of the Anti-Indian agitation against "penetration" into European areas. The Broome Commission found that the main reason for Indians acquiring property in European areas without occupying it was the natural desire to obtain good investments. Where occupation had taken place, the most important reason was said to be the lack of housing and civic amenities in predominantly Indian areas.

In other respects the High Commissioner's report is largely a record of an uphill fight against legislative and administrative proposals which though not openly racial in character, threatens to operate chiefly against the Indian section of the community.

UNIVERSITY FOR NATAL INDIANS

A commission of inquiry has been appointed to explore the possibilities of a University and Technical College for Indians in Natal. A sum of £17,500 has already been promised by a Natal Indian, who wishes to remain anonymous, towards the realisation of this scheme. Government, have been approached for a like amount the request being strongly supported by the High Commissioner for India. Government are in sympathy with the proposal, and the Durban City Council has shown a sympathetic attitude to the request for a grant of land.

Ceylon

TEXTILE CONTROL ORDER

Mr. Salay Mahomed Ali Mohamed, Acting President of the Ceylon Textile Merchants' Association, in the course of a statement, says that the proposed action of the Textile Controller in Ceylon to withhold the issue of the licences to those Indian textile merchants who had temporarily closed their businesses after the Easter air-raid in Colombo is likely to be regarded in India as a measure savouring of class legislation.

His association, said Mr. Mahomed, had vigorously protested against the move of the licensing authorities. The proposed measure had come upon the Indian community in general and on members of the Textile Association in particular like a bolt from the blue, especially as it followed swiftly after the appointment of Sir Baron Jayatilake as Ceylon's Ambassador in New Delhi to secure the goodwill of India. If the legislation now contemplated receives the sanction of the higher authorities, said Mr. Mahomed, a large majority of the members of the Association would be ousted from the textile trade of Ceylon despite the fact that they had been in such trade for several decades.

A prominent Indian State Councillor described the new amendments made in Ceylon Textile control regulations a victory for Ceylon Indians. "We have scored the point and our grievances have now been removed", he emphasised.

The Executive Committee for Labour, Industry, and Commerce has introduced suitable amendments in the textile control regulations to avoid difficulties that may be experienced by Indian as well as other textile traders who suspended their business during April last. According to the new amendments, it is proposed to issue licences for all *bonafide* traders who were engaged in the business during the first week of January 1943.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

PARSI LEADER'S REPLY TO MR. ATTLEE

Professor P. A. Wadia, President of the Freedom Group, has issued the following statement:—

I am sure I am voicing the opinion of all self-respecting Parsis when I say that our community has never asked for any kind of special protection or privilege either from Mr. Attlee or from the Government of India. This offer of protection to the minorities is obviously intended to draw support from the reactionary elements in the minority communities for the perpetuation of British Rule in India. It may also be intended for foreign and especially American consumption as a mark of the anxiety of the Rulers to protect communities which have always desired to be left to themselves, in order that they may live in peace and harmony with the rest of their countrymen. Our interests are linked up with the interests of the country as a whole and no attempt at creating misunderstanding can ever deceive any but those who will not see.

COMMONWEALTH PARTY AND INDIA

Sir Richard Acland, leader of the newly-formed Commonwealth Party, in an interview, said:—

I want the immediate release of Mr. Gandhi and other Congress leaders and unconditional resumption of negotiations. The Commonwealth Party will use all its influence for the realisation of Indian independence in 1943.

I suggest that leaders of the United Nations should intervene for breaking the deadlock and the Viceroy should be more amiable in his approach to the Indian problem. The present trend of opinion in this country feels that the Viceroy's political approach is wrong because, for one thing he does not realise that great changes have taken place in Britain since he left it years ago.

AMERICA AND INDIAN INDEPENDENCE

In connection with Mr. Sumner Welles's letter in reply to Professor Ralph Barton Perry of Harvard, Mr. Amiya Bose, Secretary of the Committee of Indian Congressmen in Great Britain, has cabled to Mr. Welles.

Let the American President and the American Government guarantee Indian independence; so let Premier Stalin and the Soviet Government and Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek guarantee it. When the United Nations have guaranteed Indian independence, a miraculous change in the Indian situation will develop.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

SIR VIJAYA ON UNITY

Presiding over the U. P. Provincial Kshatriya Conference at Allahabad on April 24, the Maharajakumar of Vizianagaram, said:—

We cannot get freedom as a boon from Britain. We, Indians, must evolve it ourselves. We should forget and forgive each other and drop a veil over the past differences. We must all work together, Hindus, Muslims, Parsis, Christians and all should sink their differences and fight for a common cause—the freedom of India. We cannot blame the Britishers entirely, for the seed of separation had been in us Indians, from the very beginning. The Britisher had only fanned the spark into a flame for his imperialistic purposes. The evil of caste-ism had created watertight compartments in the ranks of Hindus themselves. If we are to attain self-determination, we must develop unity, discard separatist tendencies and one and all work as one man for the common cause.

SIR MD. YAMIN KHAN'S APPEAL

Speaking on the Finance Bill last month, Sir Mahomed Yamin Khan wanted the British Government to trust the country minus the Congress if Congress could not be trusted and hand over power to other interests.

If you have not won the confidence of the Congress Party, have you won the confidence of any other party? Your past actions have been such that we cannot accept your words *in toto*, that our freedom would be assured after the war. There should be a clear unequivocal declaration immediately of India's freedom, so that she could fight the war, as one of the United Nations, not fight it as a subordinate country, but fight for her own freedom and the freedom of other countries.

SIR NORMAN ANGELL'S HOPE

Sir Norman Angell, addressing the American Academy of Political and Social Science, pointed out that India has been offered Dominion Status, which carries with it the right to secede from the Empire. He said:

We may hope that there will be enough wisdom in London and Delhi to utilize the habits of co-operation, which 200 years' association of Britain and India may have produced and make use of that experience in post-war reconstruction.

THE NEW BENGAL MINISTRY

The Governor of Bengal has revoked with the concurrence of the Governor-General the proclamation bringing into force in Bengal the provisions of Section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935, which was issued on the 31st March 1943.

His Excellency has appointed the following as members of his Council of Ministers:—

(1) Khwaja Sir Nazimuddin, (2) Mr. H. S. Subhawardy, (3) Mr. T. C. Goswami, (4) Mr. Tamizuddin Khan, (5) Mr. B. P. Pain, (6) Khan Bahadur M. A. Muazzemuddin Hussain, (7) Mr. Tarakanath Mukerjee, (8) Khan Bahadur Nawab Musharraf Hussain, (9) Khwaja Shahabuddin, (10) Mr. I. H. Burman—Forest and Excise, (11) Khan Bahadur Halal Uddin Ahmed, (12) Mr. Pulin Bibari Mullick, (13) Mr. Jogendra Nath Mandal,

The new Ministers took oath of office on April 24.

In this connection a resolution condemning the unconstitutional action of His Excellency the Governor in procuring the dissolution of the Progressive Coalition Ministry and manœuvring into office a reactionary Cabinet, supported by a mere handful of Hindu deserters and European vested interests at a time when the urgency of the danger from the enemy demanded the co-operation and goodwill of all parties in the Province was adopted at a public meeting held at the Shradhananda Park recently. Mr. N. C. Chatterji presided and the speakers included Mr. A. K. Fazlul Huq and Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee.

INDIA AND THE PACIFIC CONFERENCE

Giving his impressions of the discussions at the Pacific Relations Conference Sir Mohamed Zafrullah Khan, said, at a press conference at Delhi last month that at the conference there was a "Round Table" exclusively devoted to India.

There was no doubt, said Sir Zafrullah, that judging from reports the United States and Canada most certainly, and the other participants, including Australia, and New Zealand quite sincerely, desired that the Indian question should be settled as quickly as possible and that even during the war it was possible and necessary to strive for that settlement.

THE CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY

Addressing the Convocation of the Calcutta University on March 13, Dr. Bidan Chandra Roy said:

One of the main functions of the University is to produce leaders of thought and action, workers dedicated to the service of the nation. The University is justly regarded as the citadel of truth, the home of that freedom of the spirit, which is true liberty, liberty to think, liberty to speak, liberty to teach. No votary in this temple, no alumni of the University could take his due share in shaping the new world to be unless he receives the benefits of a well-planned moral instruction.

The speaker regretted that in this country, a University teacher might be severed from the religious sympathies of the taught and must either be silent on the relations of man to a higher world or, if he discusses them, be suspiciously heard or imperfectly understood.

UNIVERSITY FOR RAJPUTANA

Early steps to secure a charter for the establishment of a university in Rajputana were recommended by the Committee appointed by the Board of High School and Intermediate Education, Rajputana (including Ajmer-Merwara), Central India and Gwalior, to consider the question of the establishment of a university for the areas served by the board. The Committee felt that the proposed university had large potentialities for useful service by the provision, in due course, of various technical, vocational and professional faculties for which ample facilities existed in the bigger States. It was resolved to secure a charter and start work for the incorporation of the university, which should come into being as early as practicable, possibly from July 1945.

SCHOOL BOOKS TO MADRAS CHILDREN

The Government of Madras have informed local bodies in the Presidency that in future previous sanction of the Government need not be obtained for incurring expenditure from the Elementary Education Fund on the provision of books and slates to poor pupils (Muslims and Scheduled Classes) reading in schools under their management if funds were available and the necessary provision was made in the budget.

THE FEDERAL COURT & THE DEFENCE RULE

The Federal Court has held that the Defence of India Rule 26, in its present form, went beyond the powers which the Legislature had thought fit to confer on the Central Government and was for that reason invalid.

In the course of the judgment, the Chief Justice Sir Maurice Gwyer said:

We recognise that our decision may be a cause of inconvenience and possibly of embarrassment, even though temporarily, to the executive authority. We regret that this should be so especially in these difficult times; but we express the earnest hope that greater care may be taken hereafter to secure that powers of this extraordinary kind which may affect, and indeed have affected, the liberty of so many of the King's subjects in India, may be defined with greater precision and exactitude, so as to reduce to as small a compass as possible the risk that persons may find themselves apprehended and detained without legal warrant. And we desire also to draw the attention of those who have the power of making orders of detention to what we have thought it right to say with regard to the obligation which lies on them to specify as clearly and accurately as they can the true grounds on which the order is made.

It may be mentioned that Gandhiji and the members of the Congress Working Committee and numerous Congressmen throughout the country have been detained under Defence Rule 26.

It is estimated that about 8,000 persons are undergoing detention under this Rule.

Following the finding by the Federal Court of India that Rule 26 (2) of the Defence of India Rules was invalid, Mr. J. Ahmed, Additional Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, has discharged 18 persons who were placed before him following arrest under that Section for alleged violation of order of the Commissioner of Police restricting their movements.

The Government of India have since passed an ordinance validating the action already taken under the Defence of India Rule 26 and amending the Defence of India Act accordingly. The Act, in other words, has been amended in a manner calculated further to enhance the arbitrary powers of the Executive and extend the scope for the abuse of such powers. The Ordinance also seeks to validate past actions taken under the Rule 26.

SICKNESS INSURANCE FOR INDIA

Professor Adarkar is at present engaged in working out a scheme of sickness insurance. It is likely his report will be based on replies to a questionnaire which is being sent out to various organisations and individuals interested in the subject.

The questions are likely to include workers' eligibility to receive benefit, the nature of contributions by both employers and workers' the extent and duration of cash benefits, the extent, nature and duration of medical benefits, conditions for receiving benefits, whether cash or medical, machinery for extending medical benefits, whether maternity benefits should form part of the sickness insurance scheme, funeral benefits to the family in the event of the insured person's death, possibilities of malingering or collusion between the doctor and the worker problems relating to financial organisations, whether there should be separate funds for each industry machinery for administration of benefits, incidence of sickness among industrial workers for any group, town or factory, possibilities of overlapping of the scheme with the provisions of Workmen's Compensation Act.

PROGRESS OF INSURANCE COMPANIES

48 out of some 150 Indian Life Assurance companies are members of the Indian Life Assurance Offices Association; these are financially strong and the business written by them represents over 35 per cent. of the total handled by Indian companies who, in their turn, have captured 90 per cent. of all the business in India. Some 15 years ago they wrote only 65 per cent. of the total. Pandit K. Santanam refers to this fact, among others, with justifiable satisfaction in his presidential address at the annual meeting of the Association held at Lahore recently.

ORIENTAL'S NEW BUSINESS

The amount of New Life Assurance Business written by the "Oriental" last year was as follows:

36,713 Policies assuring Rs. 9,51,27,864.

This represents an increase of Rs. 1,35,08,139 in the sum assured over the figure for the year 1941.

FISCAL AUTONOMY FOR INDIA

The sixteenth annual session of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry which met at Delhi on March 27, with Mr. G. L. Mehta, President in the chair, discussed, among other questions, post-war reconstruction.

The resolution on the subject emphasised that international plans and standards set up by highly industrialised countries for economic reconstruction would not be necessarily beneficial to India without important qualifications and reservations owing to the radically different conditions in which India is placed. In connection with schemes and proposals for the international regulation and distribution of raw materials of the world, the Federation made it clear that the producing country will have a prior claim on its products and it will be entirely free to determine the quantum of production of its own raw materials according to its own economic needs and requirements. "India will insist on claiming the right and liberty to utilise her own raw materials in the first instance, and no extraneous influence should be permitted to impede the country's normal economic development to the detriment of her agriculture and industry."

The Federation also emphasised that India should have full autonomy to determine her post-war economic policy, primarily in accordance with her own national interest and to collaborate with other countries on suitable terms.

POST-WAR INDIAN TRADE

Addressing the Manchester branch of Institute of Export, Mr. John Coatman said that the war had done a wonderful thing for India. It would be true to say that at its end India would be in a sounder financial position than any other country in the world.

The basic economic relations between British and India were largely complementary and as a Manchester man he hoped that Lancashire would do its utmost to maintain and develop its trade with India, keep a close touch with India's needs and produce what was wanted. India would prove a more important and valuable market for Lancashire goods than ever before.

WOMEN'S PAGE

WOMEN MECHANICS IN U.S.A.

For the important task of keeping necessary automobiles, busses, and trucks in the United States in operation for vital transportation services, women are being trained in large numbers to replace men as auto-mechanics.

They were first tested to determine their adaptability in a field which had formerly been considered solely man's territory. The tests were satisfactory, revealing that of 700 operations in a servicing system, about 500 can be performed by women, and that on 110 additional operations women can serve as mechanic's helpers. The training courses cover lubrication, servicing of wheels and brakes, electrical and cooling systems, and carburetor work.

Irreplaceable for the duration, these vehicles must be kept in operation, and women are filling a wartime need by learning to care for them.

WOMEN DOCTORS AND NURSES IN INDIA

35 Lady Doctors have been appointed to the Women's Branch of I.M.S. Recruitment is now suspended.

288 appointments have been made to the temporary cadre of the Indian Military Nursing Service since the outbreak of the war.

1244 candidates have been appointed to Auxiliary Nursing Service, including 239, who have volunteered for service overseas. This compares well with 5,000 fully trained nurses in the whole of India.

12,500 applied for training.

HINDU LAW REFORM

A public meeting convened under the auspices of the Bombay Presidency Women's Council, the Bombay Women's Association and other 17 women's organizations, held at Bombay on April 10, adopted resolutions supporting the principles of the Bill to amend and codify the Hindu law of intestate succession as recommended by the Rau Committee, and suggested that for securing uniformity of legislation the position of women in the so-called backward provinces should be raised to that of women in Bombay.

LITERARY

THE TRIBUNE

Mr. M. Subrahmanyam of the *Hindustan Times* has been appointed editor of the *Tribune* in succession to Mr. Kalinath Ray, who retired on April 16, after 25 years of service. Mr. Ray was entertained at a farewell tea party by Mr. P. L. Sandhi, Manager of the *Tribune*. Those present included Raja Nagendra Nath and Sir Manohar Lal, trustees of the *Tribune*. Sir Tek Chand, Mr. A. A. MacDonald, Provincial Press Adviser, and editors of local newspapers and news agencies and prominent businessmen.

In a signed article, published in the editorial columns, Mr. Ray bids farewell to all with whom he had been officially in contact all these years—the trustees of the *Tribune*, his colleagues and associates and the generous people of this province, the warmth of whose hospitality and friendliness, he says, had made him forget for the last thirty years that he was not born one of them.

TAGORE'S ENGLISH WORKS

In an article on "Memories of Tagore" in the *Manchester Guardian*, recently, Sir William Rothenstein reveals that shortly after the publication of "Gitanjali" in English, Robert Bridges, Fox-Strangways and others made an effort to secure the grant of an Oxford degree to Tagore, but "Lord Curzon, the then Chancellor, between whom and the Tagore family there had been friction over the Partition of Bengal, withheld his approval."

Sir William says the original sympathy and understanding between Yeats and Tagore grew subsequently cooler as Yeats began to feel that Tagore was wrong in publishing so many of his books in English when as a poet and a patriot he should have used only Bengali.

THE HITAVADA

We congratulate the *Hitavada* on its conversion into a daily, which was done as from the Hindu New Year's Day. The *Hitavada* is the oldest journal in Central Provinces and has to its credit a good record of public service. Its growth from a weekly to a daily has been slow and steady and has fully synchronized with the development of public and political life of the province.

MR. PHILLIPS' DISCLOSURE

Mr. Phillips, President Roosevelt's Representative in India, in a farewell chat with Press correspondents on April 25, made an important disclosure.

In reply to a question whether he had made an effort to meet Mr. Gandhi and Pandit Nehru, he said: "I should like to have met and talked with Mr. Gandhi. I requested the appropriate authorities for permission to do so and was informed that they were unable to grant the necessary facilities."

DR. M. D. D. GILDER

Dr. M. D. D. Gilder, a former Minister of the Bombay Government and at present detained with Mahatma Gandhi, was declared elected by a large majority as Mayor of Bombay on April 2.

The election was hotly contested. Of the four candidates, one withdrew before the election and the three others were Dr. M. D. D. Gilder, Mr. A. P. Sabavala and Dr. Sorab P. Mehta, son of the late Sir Phirozeshah Mehta. In the first counting, Dr. Sorab P. Mehta was eliminated and in the second, Dr. Gilder secured 61 votes as against 32 polled by Mr. Sabavala.

THE LATE MR. S. S. RAJAN

It is with deep regret that we have to record the death at the Government Hospital, Tanjore, of Mr. S. S. Rajan, the enterprising advertising consultant of Bombay. For over a decade Mr. Rajan held the field, as the most successful, though the youngest of Indian publicists. A year ago he returned to his village in the Tanjore district very much broken in health. Both at Madras and in the mofussil, he was under the treatment of devoted medical friends who spared no attention to alleviate his suffering. But in spite of all that care and affection could do, he succumbed on April 26, at the early age of 35. This must be a shock to his many friends who cherish happy memories of the charm of his company and conversation and his lavish hospitality in his quarters at the Ballard Estate in Bombay.

ASPIRIN

The symptoms of aspirin poisoning are detailed in text-books on pharmacology, but unfortunately our medical students and the public at large are not taught that this drug, mistakenly looked upon as a panacea and sold in bazaars, is far from being the harmless home remedy that it is said to be. Doses of over 15 grains are certainly not harmless, and even much smaller doses tend to interfere with proteid metabolism, about the results of which we, as yet, know so little. There is no reliable evidence that the increase in the consumption of aspirin has led to an increase of such diseases as arthritis, peptic ulcer, and arteriosclerosis, but, says the *Capital*, "while we strongly deprecate the tendency to describe the increased incidence of some pathological conditions to the overuse of aspirin, we heartily agree with those who consider that the public should be warned against the abuse of a drug that has its value as a sedative and in some specific conditions."

QUININE RATIONING

According to Government's quinine rationing scheme, allotments are made to each district in proportion to the local incidence of malaria. In each area a suitable allotment is first made to hospitals and public dispensaries for free issue to poor patients.

Chemists may sell quinine only in accordance with prescriptions signed by registered medical practitioners. Not more than 90 grains may be prescribed for any one patient, but not more than half of this quantity may be bought at any time. Prices have also been fixed for quinine supplied by Government.

It is officially stated that supplies should now be available at all hospitals, public dispensaries and retail distributors.

PEPTIC ULCERS IN THE ARMY

One of the commonest medical causes of discharge from the British Army is peptic ulcers. Most of these are old ulcers. The high incidence of the disease in the Army, said half a dozen doctors in the *Lancet* and *British Medical Journal*, is merely a reflection of its prevalence among civilians of military age.

ULTRA-VIOLET RAYS INSURE CLEANLINESS

Making use of the now well-known sterilizing properties of ultra-violet rays, a device has been developed in the General Electric Company's laboratories for use in sterilizing bathrooms of hotels. First put to practical application by the Hotel New Yorker, this sterilizing device consists of a number of ultra-violet ray generating tubes mounted in a portable unit.

After a guest clears out of the hotel, and the bathroom has been cleaned by conventional methods, the portable unit is wheeled into the bathroom and placed in operation for 10 minutes. It is then withdrawn from the bathroom and the door is sealed shut by a strip of Cellophane, insuring that the bathroom will remain sterilized until the next occupant arrives.

It is claimed that laboratory tests have shown that the Protecto-Ray, as the device is called, is more than 99 per cent. effective in killing airborne germs.

SPONGE RUBBER SUBSTITUTE

From the foam of a kettle boiling over in a U.S. laboratory, two experimenters obtained a substitute for sponge rubber that can be made from waste farm products.

This discovery was accidental, since according to the company announcing it, they were seeking a rubber substitute to be used in adhesive tape. In the pot was a mixture of special resins, acids from vegetable oils and other chemicals. Tests of the foam showed that at normal temperatures it is not so flexible or compressible as natural rubber, but it is said to be useful for lining tanks, airplane cockpits, helmets, and in seat cushions and de-icers for plane wings, and for stuffing hospital mattresses.

MILK CAN'T BE MADE

There are 101 substances in milk, and we know what they are, but no chemist has succeeded in putting them together so that they combine to form milk.

INDIA'S STERLING BALANCES

India has been suddenly transformed from a debtor to a creditor nation says the *Economist* because Britain shouldered such a large proportion of the cost of India's defence. However much accumulation of sterling may stimulate British exports, it will mean considerably more to India at a time when Indian reconstruction needs will be at the maximum. The assertion that India should use these balances for constructive purposes now is purely propagandist—no nation can now supply or ship goods to India. Whether sterling balances after the war will be convertible to other currencies to enable India to buy in the cheapest markets must depend entirely on the success of establishing a truly international exchange and trading regime.

The Federation's criticism of silver sales is also beside the mark. The silver which the British Treasury is now selling was bought before Bombay silver rose to its present inflated level. The fact that Britain may obtain Lend and Lease silver from the United States suggests further shipments from India are not contemplated.

THE KEYNES' PLAN

Keynes' plan for post-war "Bancor" currency was published last month by the British Government. It sets out proposals for an international clearing union "as a preliminary contribution to the solution of one of the problems of international economic co-operation after the war."

"Bancor" is international currency only in the sense that it is a unit of measurement for exchange values and a unit of accounting in books of the union. A private banker or trader will continue to do foreign business in terms of pounds or dollars or francs, but the fact that his Government can borrow "Bancor" from the union will enable it to provide him with foreign exchange at a stable price when otherwise it would have been unable to do so. Thus all exchange fluctuations due to speculation will be eliminated.

All the United Nations will be invited to become members of the international clearing union.

B.B. AND C.I. AND G.I.P. RAILWAYS

An extraordinary meeting of the general body of the B.B. and C.I. Railwaymen's Union held under the presidentship of Mr. S. H. Jhabwala adopted a resolution demanding a dearness allowance for railwaymen at a flat rate of Rs. 30 per month to all staff drawing upto Rs. 250 with a provision for automatic increase in the allowance at the rate of Rs. 1.8 per five points rise in the cost of living index.

The resolution deplored the attitude of the Railway Board towards the demands of the railwaymen and declared that in the event of the Board not making any announcement in regard to dearness allowance, a ballot on the situation arising from the failure of the Board to meet their demands and further action to be taken should be taken.

The executive committee of the G.I.P. Railwaymen's Union adopted a similar resolution.

RAILWAY PRIORITIES

The movement of foodstuffs should certainly be entitled to the highest priority; for, if the normal life of the community is not maintained, not only would war effort be seriously dislocated but there would be the grave danger of wide public discontent, said the Member for Railways in a recent broadcast. The system and policy of priorities should be carefully studied. Once the priorities are given, people should not have to wait for unreasonably long periods before they can get wagons. If the system of priorities should at all function satisfactorily, transport capacity must be developed to the optimum, and it is here that alternative transport facilities call for the fullest exploitation. requirements of the Defence Services in a total war have put a great strain on railway transport. But Government cannot ignore the fact that a serious situation has arisen in the country due to shortage of foodstuffs in various parts. Mere arguments, however plausible, are not going to satisfy the public or improve the situation, as the supreme need of the day is nothing but more wagons and more wagons for the movement of foodgrains and raw materials.

CLASSICAL DANCING

Without financial assistance from the State, it is impossible for classical dancing to survive, says Mr. S. Kirnan, in his broadcast talk. In what way is the assistance to be organised? One thing is that, to interpret modern life, a dancer must have much wider general knowledge than he has today. It would be an improvement if each of the universities instituted a department of dancing. The danger of special dancing academies is that they narrow the scope of education, the more so because a dancer has to begin his training when he is quite young. To be a really successful dancer, he must be more than a mere dancer. If this danger could be avoided in special academies, it would be helpful to send some of the best orthodox professionals there, on State scholarships, to experiment on new lines. They would learn something about other schools of dancing than their own, and also about folk dancing, which would broaden their minds. Then, to help these academies or university departments, it is essential that we should have a Central State Research Institute for Dancing.

TAMIL MUSIC SANGHAM

At the invitation of Dr. Raja Sir Annamalai Chettiar of Chettinad, a meeting of donors to the Tamil Isai Sangham was held at Chettinad House, Adyar, on April 20.

Raja Sir Annamalai explained that in order to promote Tamil music, it had been decided to register a society by the name of "Tamil Isai Sangham." He also announced that donations amounting to over Rs. 4,00,000 have been promised, of which Rs. 3,71,922 had been collected.

ORIENTAL ART IN NEW YORK

The endurance and stoicism of the Orient are conveyed in the recent New York show at the Associated American Artists Gallery of a group of water colours by Sarkis Katchadourian, Persian Artist, best known for his Indian cave paintings and his copies of Persian frescoes. In a style, both poetical and realistic, he interprets Hindu ceremonies and the life of India and her people. Typical is his "Holy Benares," which sparkles and glows like stained glass.

RANJI TROPHY FOR BARODA

Baroda won the Ranji Trophy Championship recently defeating Hyderabad by 307 runs. When the second innings was resumed, Hyderabad was faced with the task of scoring 338 runs for a win with 8 wickets in hand but the home team put up a poor performance against the bowling of C. S. Naidu and Hazare and wickets fell like ninepins for the addition of only 30 runs to the overnight total.

C. S. Naidu and Hazare were in good form when the overnight batsmen Ushaq Ahmed and Ibrahim Khan resumed their innings. Their wickets fell for the addition of 12 runs. When the Hyderabad skipper Mahomed Hussain took the crease the board showed 89 runs for 5 wickets. After breaking duck he was caught in the gully by C. S. Naidu off Hazare (1-6-1). Hyderabad's show continued to flag, only 16 runs being scored for the loss of the next 4 wickets, and the innings concluded with a total of 107 runs. The outstanding feature of the game was the bowling of C. S. Naidu and Hazare. Naidu took 5 wickets for 21 and Hazare 4 for 12.

The Nawab of Chattari, President of the Nizam's Executive Council, presented the championship cup to the winners.

SCORES

Baroda (first innings)	...	308
Baroda (second innings)	...	321
Total	...	629
Hyderabad (first innings)	...	215
Hyderabad (second innings)	...	107
Total	...	322

RICHARD SEARS

The death has occurred of Richard Sears, aged 81. Sears was the first of America's famous tennis players winning the First American National Championships when inaugurated in 1881. He remained a champion until 1888, when the title passed to Henry Slogum. Sears was also doubles champion of the United States from 1882 to 1887, inclusive. He came to England to play at Wimbledon and although failing to win the title—had the distinction of being the first American to reach the final stages.

INDIAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE

The close inter-dependence between industry and research was emphasised by Sir M. Visveswarayya, presiding over the sixth annual meeting of the Court of the Indian Institute of Science on March 28. Sir M. Visveswarayya observed that the main object of the institute was to promote industries by means of research. Since at the present time, Government had taken control of every activity in the country, they owed a duty to the public to explain their policies and justify their inaction in respect of three developments, namely, industries, industrial research for industrial peace-time needs and post-war reconstruction. Sir Visveswarayya added: "It is needless to state that industrial research will have no value or importance if industries themselves are neglected or starved."

The President then pleaded for the urgent establishment of a department of applied mechanics in the institute. Sir Visveswarayya argued the war that was going on being a mechanical engineer's war, if this institute was to be of material help for the effort or for safeguarding the defence of the country, this should be done speedily. Applied research should be materially strengthened and a research workshop added to form an integral part of both.

SUBSTITUTE FOR MICA

We understand that a substitute for mica, known as 'poelectron', the basic materials of which are a military secret, has been discovered by American scientists and may end American dependence on the sheet mica imported from India. The new material is the result of a year-long research by the General Aniline and Film Corporation, a former subsidiary of the German firm, I. G. Farben Industrie, and possesses the same quality as mica to resist heat and insulate against electricity.

SALT CONVERTED INTO SUGAR!

British farmers are converting salt into sugar, it is discovered, by putting down salt on land for a fortnight before sowing the sugar-beet crop. When crops are sent to the factory, the amount of sugar increased is equal to the amount of salt put down.

U.S. FILM AWARDS FOR THE YEAR

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 famine undergoing the blitz. James Cagney was cited as best actor for his performance in "Yankee Doodle Dandy," film-version of the life of the late American actor and playwright, George M. Cohan. 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. Charles Boyer received a certificate for the establishment of the French Research Foundation as part of the motion picture industry.

AMERICAN PICTURES IN WORLD LANGUAGES

A new method for simplifying language difficulties in the films has been introduced by Walter Gould, foreign manager of United Artists, motion picture producing company. Using Somerset Maugham's "The Moon and Sixpence" as a test picture, he has woven into the drama brief summaries and dialogue in Portuguese, delivered at key points by a narrator. Dubbing is considered clumsy; too many titles in a film are a constant distraction. The new method has a smoother flow.

CUT IN FILMS' CONSUMPTION

A cut in cinema films' consumption in Britain to 75 per cent. of 1942 consumption, as has already been done in the United States, is decreed by a Board of Trade order. But each copy of films will be given more screening, so that it is hoped that the cinema hours will not be reduced. The number of British pictures made will remain unaffected.

WILLKIE'S BOOK

We understand the Twentieth Century-Fox Film Company, of which Mr. Wendell Willkie is the Chairman, is at present considering making a film based on Mr. Willkie's "One World", of which nearly half a million copies have been sold within a fortnight of its publication.

A PEOPLE'S CAR IN BRITAIN

A plea to the British Government to prepare now to produce a "people's car" after the war, is made by Mr. Leslie H. Hounsfield, a past President of the Institute of Automobile Engineers.

He says that when private motoring resumes, masses of people will want cheap, quickly produced cars, and that plans should be ready to swing into production when the war ends.

Mr. Hounsfield, who designed the Trojan car and has a number of war-time devices to his credit, has planned a "people's car" with these novel features:

A taxi meter which will record the mileage to enable the revenue authorities to collect £1 per 1,000 miles, to cover road tax and insurance.

A bell which will ring when the speed exceeds 35 m.p.h. on a level road, and will light up a tail disc and also an indicator on the dash-board.

IN ENGLAND—NOW

Under the "Control of Motor Fuel Order, 1942", which became effective in England on December 4th, the police are empowered to stop motorists and call upon them to prove that the use of the car was necessary for the journey they were making. They have to prove that "other means of transport" were not reasonably practicable and not merely inconvenient.

PRODUCER-GAS VEHICLES

The War Transport Department has computed by actual tests that on a basis of 2,000 miles per month, a producer-gas operated vehicle saves Rs. 218, which means that a plant costing Rs. 1,000 could be paid for in about 4½ months and one costing Rs. 1,750 in about 8 months.

SALE OF UNUSED MOTORS

The U.P. Unregistered Motor Vehicles (Control of Disposal) Order, 1943, which extends to the whole of the province, has been, has been made to regulate the sale of unused motor vehicles.

BRITAIN'S PLANE OUTPUT

Sir Stafford Cripps, Minister for Air-craft Production, in a war commentary at Guildhall on April 20, disclosed that in the first quarter of this year, the total output of completed air-craft in structure weight was 55 per cent. more than last year in the same quarter. Heavy bomber output was even better. Taking that on the same basis it was three-and-a-half times as much in the first quarter of 1943 as in the first quarter of last year. There was an overall increase of 36 per cent. in weight produced per person last month compared with March, 1942.

The aviation industry was the largest single industry in the country comprising nearly 15,000 separate firms, said Sir Stafford.

"THUNDERBOLTS" IN AERIAL WARFARE

Reports from London indicate that American fighter planes, the Republic "Thunderbolts," may alter the picture of aerial warfare in the European Theatre by giving American bombers protection all the way to German targets.

The Thunderbolts, also known as P-47s, are the first high-speed fighters with sufficient range to make long flights and give Flying Fortresses and Liberators protection throughout the journey.

PAPER PARACHUTES

Paper parachutes for loads up to 50 pounds are replacing expensive parachutes of scarce silk and nylon. The U.S. Civil Air Patrol drops food, serum and other emergency supplies with tough, crepe-paper chutes made by the Dennison Manufacturing Company, a large paper-making firm.

THE WELLINGTON

The Wellington, a twin-engined long range bomber, which is now operating from India, has a wing-span of more than 86 feet and can fly as far as 3,200 miles without refuelling. Unlike most bomber types, it is entirely fabric covered and can carry a bomb-load of 4,500 lbs.

MOBILE SMOKE GENERATOR

A new mobile smoke generator, which vomits white clouds large enough to conceal whole cities, has been developed by the General Electric Company in the U.S. The process is still very secret.

PAPER CONSUMPTION

In his speech at the annual meeting of the Indian Paper Makers' Association in Calcutta, Mr. R. W. Mellor, Chairman, after reviewing the problems that confronted paper mills during the past year, welcomed the recent Government decision to release 30 per cent. of the total production of paper for civil consumption.

He said that the Ordinance issued by the Government of India in December last, restricting the consumption of paper by trade and industry and the public to 10 per cent. of the total production came as a shock to the country and caused repercussions, especially on various industries which used paper as their raw material, such as printers and publishers, and producers of journals and magazines. The production of fine paper in this country, however, was limited by the capacity of pulping plant and the number of paper-making machines which were already working night and day. Paper, being at the very basis of all administration, in peace or war, must be used for the most vital needs. The proportion now allowed for civil consumption, though only a fraction of the pre-war offtake, would help to keep industry and trade in full swing. Only recently a Government of India order reached the local mills permitting the release of the increased percentage of paper produced for civil consumption and he presumed that this order applied equally to all paper mills throughout the country.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY IN INDIA

The weekly journal "Nature" which is published by Macmillan says that the chemical industry of India based on petroleum, sugar and calcium carbide might prove far more economical than the one based on coal tar. The development on these lines necessarily involves much fundamental research and may appear to be speculative at the present time. But it seems to be more likely to lead to success than the one based on older and well-established methods. It would certainly be profitable for the younger chemists now being trained in India to devote some of their energy and skill to considerations of these problems.

GROW MORE FOOD

The Department of Agriculture of the Madras Province is doing intensive propaganda for improved crop growing methods and a number of useful concessions are offered to peasants. There is room here for mention of only a few of them, such as earlier supply of irrigation water to enable the growing of two crops of paddy on single-crop land, and permission to cultivate tank-beds, railway lands and lands around schools, churches, etc., revenue free. Four schemes for the multiplication of pure paddy seed on an extensive scale have been sanctioned and efforts are being made to store seed and manures for distribution. Loans are also given for buying seed and manure.

COFFEE PRICES

The coffee market has recently been irregular and prices have sometimes ruled high. Indeed, in the opinion of many people connected with the industry, far too high to be of ultimate benefit to it. The hope is expressed that carefully regulated releases from the pool may serve to check any further advance in prices during the next six or eight months that must elapse before the new crop comes into the market.

TOBACCO IN INDIA

Figures given in the "Report on the Marketing of Tobacco in India" show that in 1936-37, India was the world's leading producer with 1,497,000 acres yielding 1,375,000,000 lbs. of tobacco worth about Rs. 18 to 20 crores. Including the manufactured products, the total value was in the neighbourhood of Rs. 40 to 50 crores. The export trade was worth about Rs. 1 crore a year.

FOOD VALUE OF GRASS

An examination of the feasibility of processing grass and green leaves for human food, as one of the methods of relieving the food crisis in the country is suggested by Dr. B. C. Guha, Head of the Department of Applied Chemistry in the Calcutta University, in a press interview.

Dr. Guha states that he has had grass chops prepared in his laboratory and those who partook of it could not detect the constituent parts of the chops.

LABOUR EXCHANGES

We understand labour exchanges are to be set up in all the big industrial towns in India, according to the present plans of the Labour Department of the Government of India. They will be under the charge of the President of the National Labour Tribunal for the present. Under the scheme, both employers and workers will readjust their requirements with the exchange, which will act as a sort of service securing agency for workers and a labour finding agency for employers.

The period of training of the Bevin boys has been extended from 6 months to 9 months. Already under the scheme seven batches have been sent to the United Kingdom for training, some of whom have already returned to India and are employed in industry. The scheme is expected to remain in operation for the duration of the war and for 18 months longer, after which the whole question will be reviewed in the light of the circumstances then prevailing. The cost of the scheme is being borne by His Majesty's Government.

RECOGNITION OF TRADE UNIONS

It is understood that departmental examination has been completed of the amending legislation specifying conditions whose fulfilment should make it obligatory on employers to recognise trade unions. Thus any union which is registered, maintains a regular account and receives a certificate from the Registrar of fulfilment of the legal requirements, will be entitled to recognition.

Prolonged consideration was given to the proposal that any Provincial Government might also impose a condition requiring such a union to have on its rolls a certain percentage, not exceeding 30 per cent. of the workers, whose cause was espoused by the union. This proposal has been dropped as such a limitation would hinder the development of trade unions.

Another proposal for labour legislation concerns sickness insurance. Mr. Adarkar, Special Officer, is expected to make a report before the middle of July and the draft Bill may be ready by November for consideration of the Assembly during the budget session.

PAPER CONTROL ORDER

By an amendment of the Defence of India Rules, the Central Government has directed the following amendment in the Paper Control Order:—

No person who in any premises in British India carries on the business of selling goods by retail, shall provide any paper other than old newspaper for the packing or wrapping of those goods except in the case of foodstuffs or of an article which he has agreed to deliver at some place other than in or about those premises.

No person shall, in connection with, or for purposes of, any sale by retail or any delivery otherwise than in the case of wholesale distribution—(a) wrap or pack with paper any article which does not reasonably require any such packing or wrapping for its protection; or (b) use in the wrapping or packing of any article any greater quantity of paper than is reasonably required for the protection of the article, including such as is reasonably required for its safe transit if the article is to be sent by post, or otherwise despatched to the customer.

NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENTS

Representations were received from advertisers, advertising agents as well as from some small newspapers pointing out that the increase of advertisement rates by 50 per cent. as provided for in clause 12 (1) of the Newspaper Control Order, 1942, will cause them some hardship, says a press note. The Government of India have decided, after an informal consultation with the representatives of the newspaper and other interests involved, that some relief is necessary. They have, therefore, issued an amending notification changing the rate of increase from one and a half to one and one-third times the rates in force on February 20, 1943.

BERNARD SHAW'S DEMAND

George Bernard Shaw, requested to suggest a solution of the Indian problem, is reported to have declared that he had no positive contribution to make beyond stating that the King should order the release of Gandhiji and apologise to him for the mental defectiveness of his Cabinet which ordered his arrest.

Your Life Assurance

IS

A Living Force to your Family

By its very nature, Life Assurance is an active, continuing force—a living force in the thousands of homes who share its benefits.

This force has saved homes and prevented panic. In thousands of families, while other investments were collapsing, their Insurance money renewed courage and restored confidence.

Your stabilizing force is a vital necessity now more than ever to your family.

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A name you can trust:

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(Established in 1906)

UNITED INDIA LIFE BUILDING,
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OFFICIAL TRUSTEE TO THE GOVERNMENT OF MADRAS.

BRANCHES AND AGENCIES ALL OVER INDIA



*Babies love it
for its
Fragrance
and profuse lather*

It has been definitely proved that MYSORE SANDAL SOAP is an ideal soap for baby's complexion, its rich, pure, creamy lather penetrates the tiny pores without irritation and leaves a smoothness delightful to touch. Be sure that baby is washed from head to toe with MYSORE SANDAL SOAP—a purity product ensuring better health.

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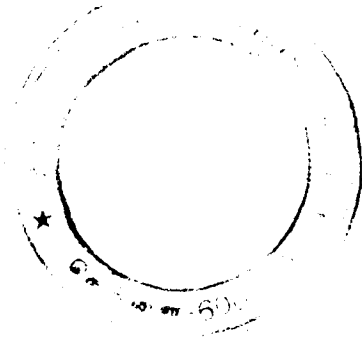
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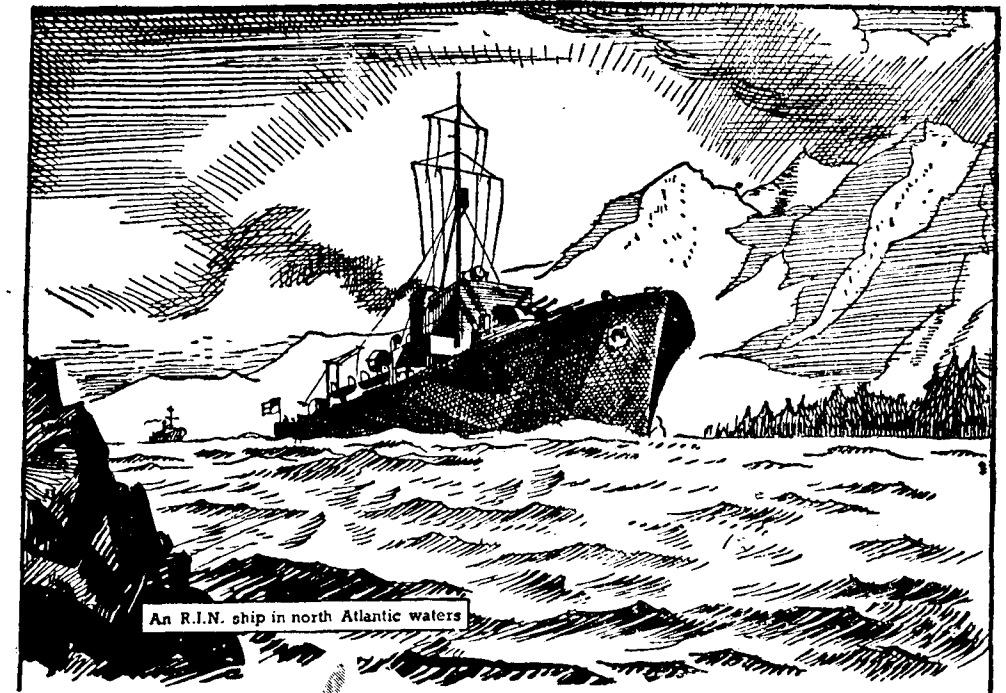
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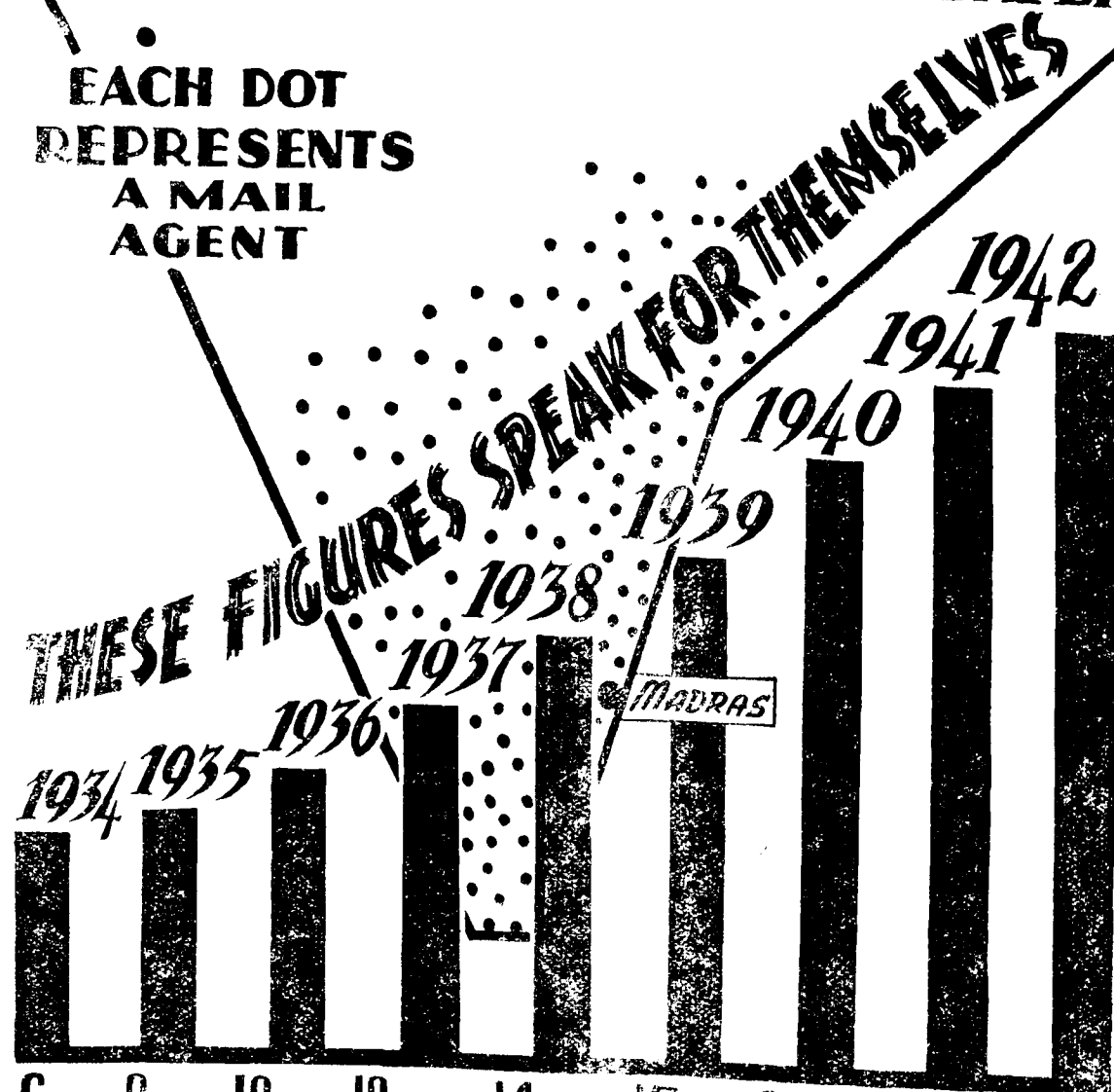
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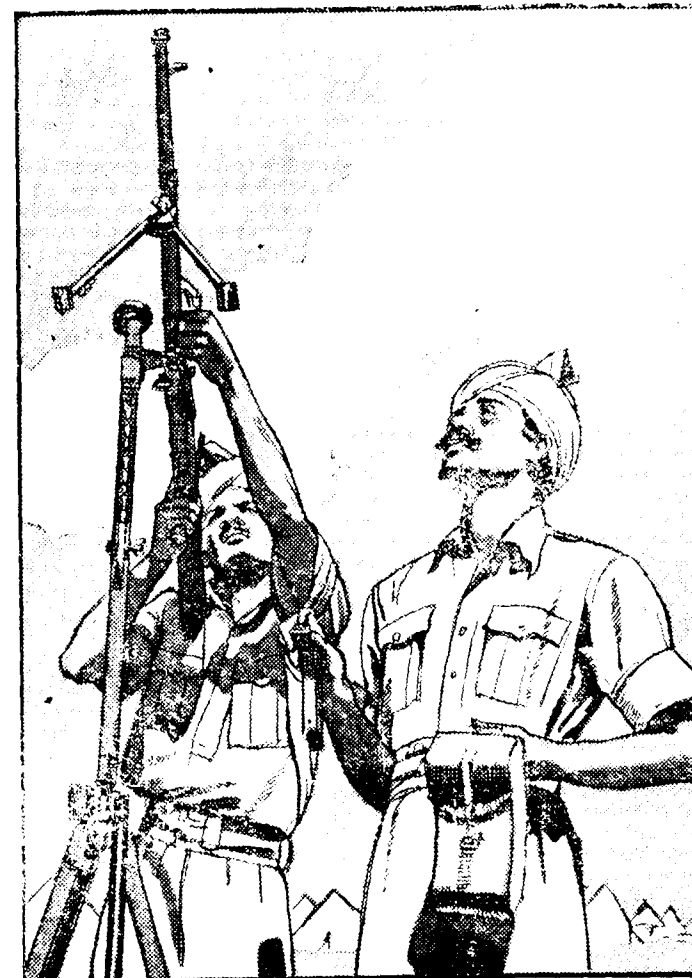
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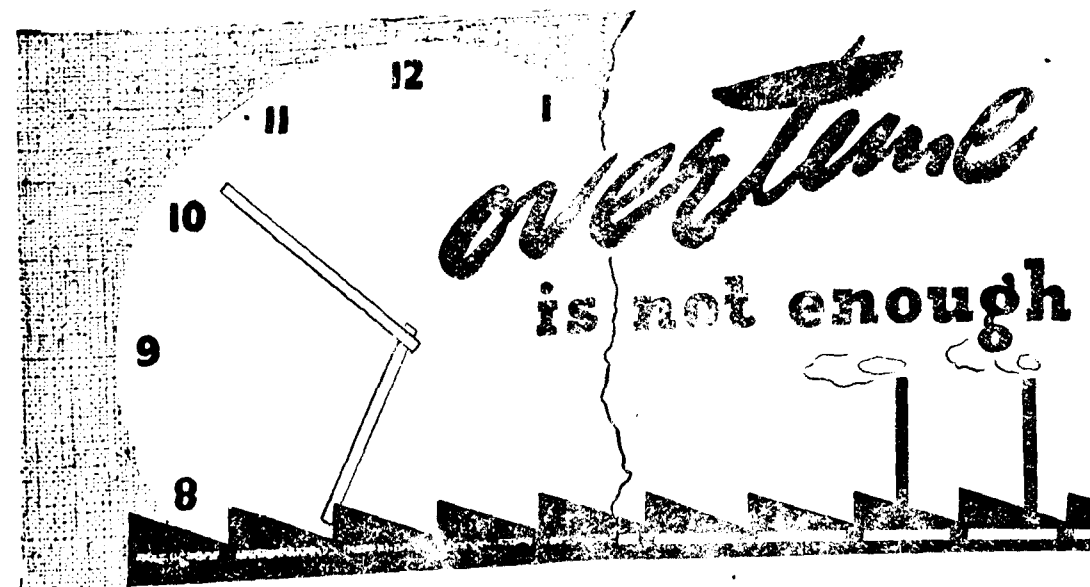
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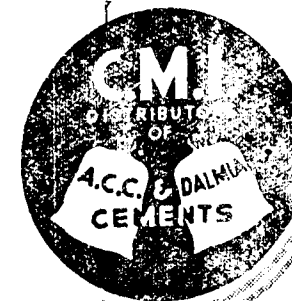
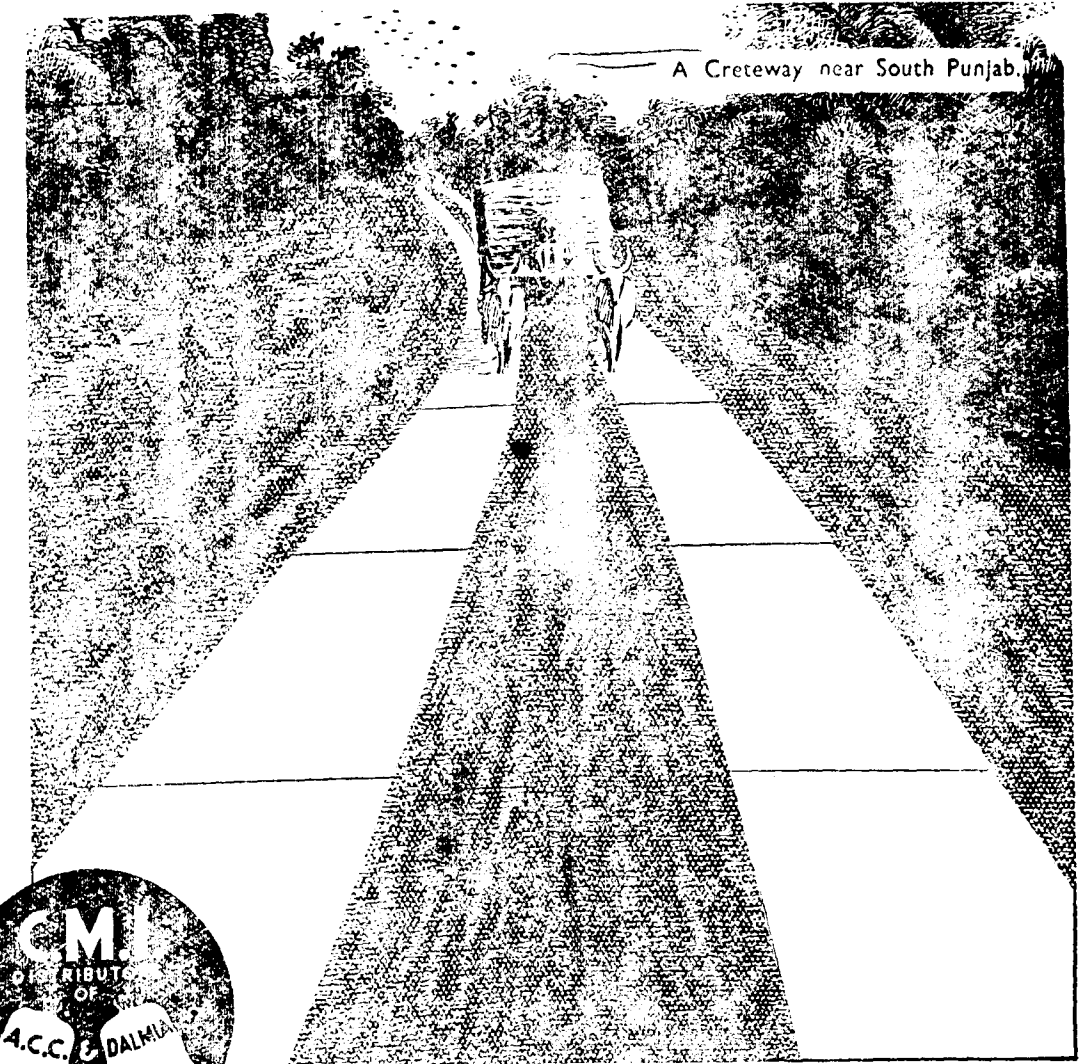
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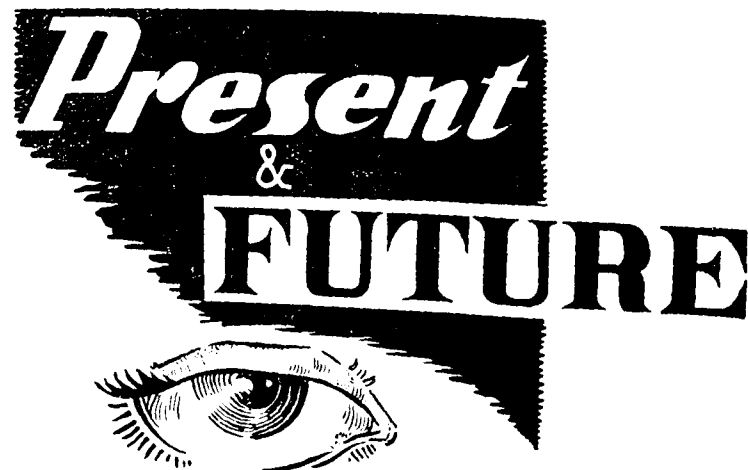
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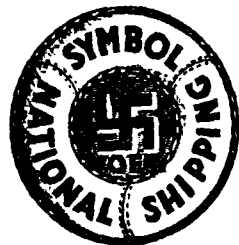
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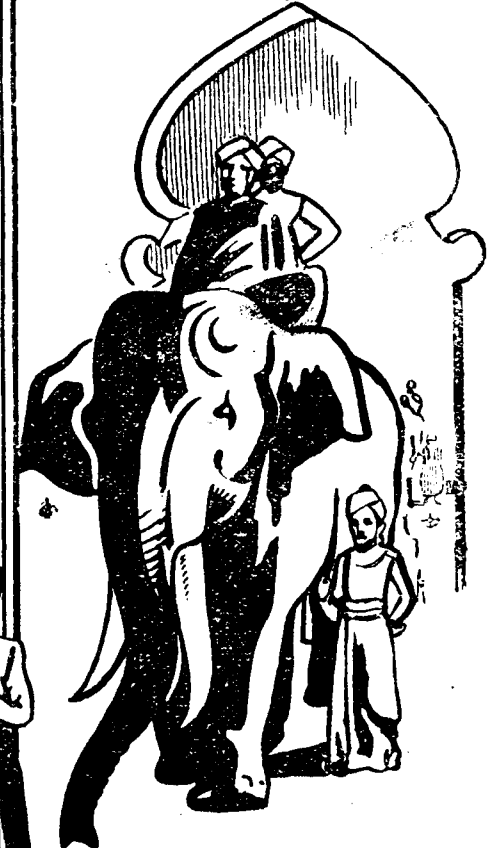
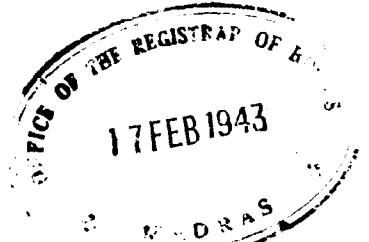
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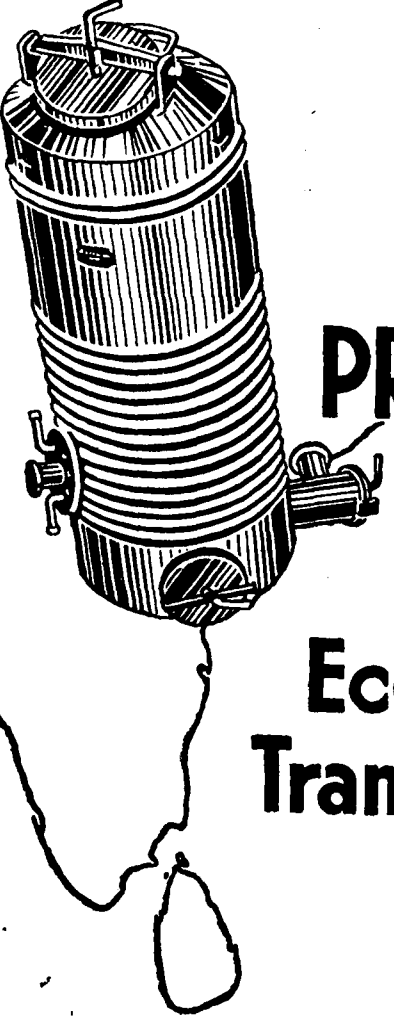
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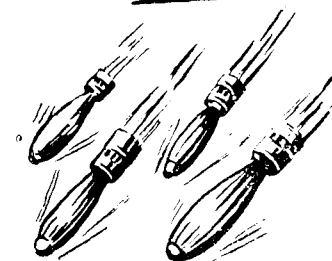
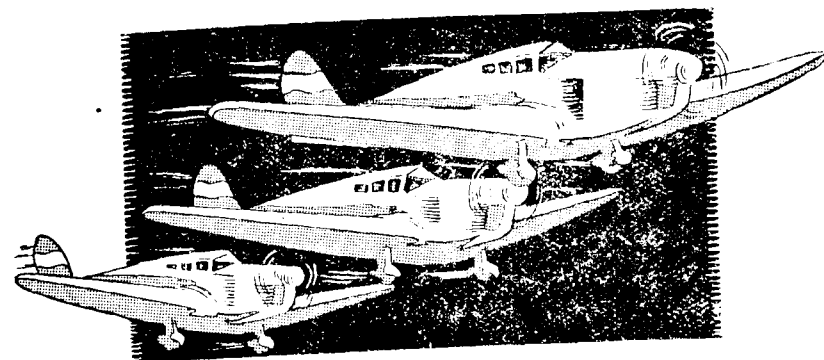
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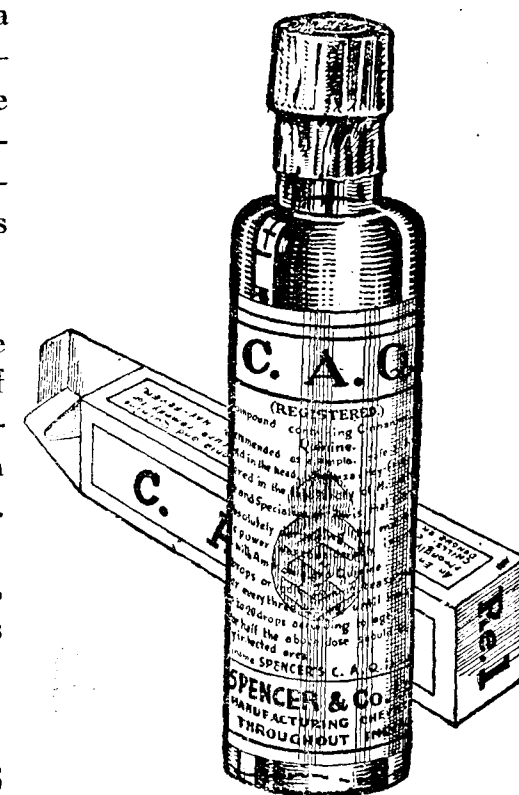
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[No. 6.

NATIONAL POLICY AND ALLIANCES

BY PROF. HARI CHARAN MUKERJI, M.A.

It is interesting to note how national and other interests sometimes necessitate a thorough change in the policy of a nation or a political party and compel it to form alliances with erstwhile enemies by breaking away from alliances with its trusted friends and allies. There is nothing like permanent alliances or grouping of powers except in the case of federations. The friends of today may be the enemies of to-morrow and *vice versa* and it is no wonder that it should be so, for national interests may not be always the same. What is beneficial to a nation at one time may be positively harmful at some future date and national interest is the only consideration which guides statesmen in forming alliances with others in picking out friends and foes.

The present relationship between the two democratic powers, who are standing as a bulwark against the encroachments of the Axis Powers and their novel political philosophy, is as intimate and cordial as possible. As a matter of fact since the first World War when they were comrades in arms, they are being brought closer and closer together. But though belonging to the same stock, they did not hesitate to fight most bitterly during the American War of Independence. Their relations also were as strained as possible

even so late as in 1865 when the Alabama incident occurred and served to revive once again the old animosities which had almost died down.

England and France were at daggers drawn since the beginning of history and it was the accepted policy of British statesmen in the 18th century to subsidise Prussia to harass France. It is doubtful if it would have been possible for Wellington to defeat Napoleon at Waterloo, had it not been for the timely help of Blucher. In those successive centuries, France was the enemy and rival of England. But with the beginning of the 20th century when Germany embarked upon her policy of colonial and commercial expansion, England and France forgot their age-long rivalry and were brought closer together in their attempt to resist this new menace to their political and commercial supremacy. The establishment of the *entente cordiale* marks the culmination of this policy. This close tie was only snapped when after her debacle, France was compelled to sign the armistice and passed more and more under German influence presumably against her better judgment and to her lasting shame and dishonour.

The present relations between Britain and Soviet Russia too afford another



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striking example of the truth of this remark. Czarist Russia's territorial ambitions in the East kept the Britishers on tenterhooks and things became perhaps worse when the Bolsheviks came into power; for not only those very ambitions were revived but their fanatical zeal to propagate their views was a source of constant anxiety to Britain. But the common danger which threatens them from Germany has forged new bonds of friendship and amity between them and they are staunchly collaborating with each other, though each has reserved its right to suppress the political ideas of the other within its own territory.

Similarly during the last Great War, England and Japan were allies and the latter was amply rewarded for her loyal support by being allowed to retain as the mandatory power many of the former German possessions in the Far East. So when she was carving for herself a vast territory in Manchuria out of the Chinese Republic, Britain not only looked on unconcerned, but even indirectly encouraged her in her robbery by partly justifying her conduct. But thus when Japan's greed was excited and she found her way to expansion in the Pacific blocked by Britain, she did not hesitate to insult and humiliate her when it suited her purpose and at last to declare war on her to drive her out of her Far Eastern possessions.

The relationship of Britain with China too is equally illuminating. They are now sworn friends pledged to fight shoulder to shoulder till Japan has been humbled and brought to her knees. They are two of the most important powers of the much-advertised 'A. B. C. D.' block. It is quite sure that China's power of

resistance would have been brought to a standstill by this time if the Burma Road, the only artery through which vital blood is pouring into her and keeping her alive in the form of munitions of war, had not been re-opened by Britain. But after all, her record in China is not at all an honourable one and the latter too has no reason to be grateful to her for past services. Her memories, perhaps, of the Boxer rising and the manner in which it was crushed may not have altogether faded. It was also by Britain that her people were emasculated and her ports were made free and her markets were dumped with British goods. Britain also did not raise her little finger to help her when Japan, after setting up the puppet state of Manchukuo, made her unprovoked and most shameless attack on her, overran and occupied her coastal regions, penetrating sometimes deep into the interior and perpetrated the worst brutalities on her innocent and helpless population and butchered them in cold blood. She looked on with folded arms awed perhaps, if we are to believe the testimony of British statesmen, by the sense of Japan's formidable strength and her own weakness due to unpreparedness. But the Indian National Congress, which has yet to learn modern diplomacy and studied apathy when its own selfish interests are concerned, did not forget its duty by China in the hour of her great trial and sent an ambulance as a token of help and her great unofficial ambassador, Pundit Jawaharlal, to assure her of her sympathy in her deep distress. But England need not hang down her head in shame for her criminal neglect, for, as stated above, it is expediency and self-interest and not

justice and lofty idealism which serves as the guide to statesmen in forming alliances with foreign powers and helping them in their need. But it is quite sure that the present dreadful contingency would not have arisen if British statesmen were dowered with a little more of foresight and less narrow selfishness and if substantial help had been sent to China at the very outset to give a quietus to Japanese schemes of self-aggrandisement.

Incidentally it may be remarked that what is true of nations is equally true of individuals and communities too. It is self-interest or the larger interest of the community which is the determining factor in forming parties and alliances with others. No one could have foreseen a year ago that a section of the Congressmen in Orissa would form a coalition with the Maharaja of Parlakimidi or the Hindu Mahasabhaites of Bengal would form an alliance with some of the stoutest champions of the Moslem League.

So from all this we arrive at the conclusion that in politics there is nothing like consistency or strict adherence to one rigid code of policy, except that of national welfare or of morals. It is expediency or the exigency of the moment which prompts us in grouping ourselves in new formations. Parties or alliances are formed and then are dissolved as soon as the need is over. We hear a great deal just now about the defence of democracy and the rights of the small nations but that is nothing else but political window-dressing. Britain, no doubt, in the present struggle has ranged herself on the side of the small nations of Europe whose independence is gone and whose territories are over-run by

Nazi hordes, but that is only because her own interests prompt her to act in this manner. She sadly requires the help of many of them, of the remnants of their armed forces as well as their mercantile marine, in resisting German aggression. Fighting for freedom and democracy is also a good catchword to enlist and exploit the sympathy and help of America. But she did not betray any over-anxiety to do the same when Abyssinia was invaded and when the republicans in Spain were fighting heroically with their backs to the wall. So far as India is concerned, Britain also has not passed this crucial test which would have immensely raised her prestige and created the world's belief in the sincerity of her motives and would have at the same time led to an immense accession of strength to her by releasing for her utilisation the vast 'frozen' resources of India's moral support. But up-till-now all efforts on the part of Indian publicists and statesmen have not been able to elicit a clear and unambiguous reply from men in authority in Britain, that the Atlantic Charter would be applicable in India's case also. It is only under the stress of the dire necessity of the present war, that tardy permission has at last been given to an Indian firm to manufacture bombers and training air-craft. But in releasing this news, Mr. Montague, the Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry for Air-craft Production, was constrained to remark that 'no political or imperial considerations would be allowed to interfere with India's war production'. This shows how suspicion still lingers and how Britain is not at all willing to afford opportunities to India to make herself self-supporting in

the matter of defence, though curiously enough this very inability is always urged as an argument against the grant of self-rule to her. In spite of Britain, India has found her golden opportunity of realising her ambition, partially at least during the present cataclysm and it is up to her to make the most of the present opportunity by boldly shouldering the responsibility of the defence of the country. It is a hard, cynical, selfish world in which we live and if we do not help ourselves, no one will come forward to help us. If we can make ourselves strong and completely self-reliant and can attain full

nationhood, Britain along with other nations will be only too glad to enter into an alliance with us as with an equal, casting off her present attitude of haughty disdain and apathy. But if we be still engaged in our endless mutual recriminations and hair-splitting discussions and allow this golden opportunity to slip through our fingers, our future lot may be infinitely worse than at present, we being subjected to a worse tyranny than we have up till now experienced, and Britain may be robbed of the brightest jewel in her diadem. But will good sense dawn on us as well as on our rulers? Time presses for an answer.

PAKISTAN

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

THE claim of the All-India Muslim League made in its Lahore Session (1940) that geographically contiguous units in India should be demarcated into regions so constituted, with such territorial readjustments as may be necessary, that the areas in which the Muslims are numerically in a majority as in the North-Western and Eastern Zones of India, should be grouped to constitute independent States, has raised a first class political issue. Dr. Ambedkar examines this claim in a thought-provoking book*, perhaps the first serious contribution to the subject. It does not matter whether one agrees with his conclusions; the important thing is that Dr. Ambedkar compels attention to his arguments.

Stated briefly, Dr. Ambedkar's thesis is that, as matters stand, it is in the interests of the Hindus themselves to agree to the

partition of India into Hindustan and Pakistan. But the Pakistan of Dr. Ambedkar's conception is a State the boundaries of which are so demarcated that it will be an ethnic state composed of a homogeneous community, *viz.*, Muslims. This involves two consequences, *viz.*, 1. Predominantly Hindu areas in Bengal and the Punjab, which are contiguous, should be separated from these two provinces and made part of Hindustan. If the Muslim League demurs to this re-drawing of the boundaries, Pakistan loses all moral claim; for the suggested re-drawing of the boundaries is based on the very premises accepted by the Muslim League. 2. Some shifting of population from Pakistan to Hindustan and *vice versa* is inevitable to meet the case of Hindus and Muslims, who are scattered in Pakistan and Hindustan respectively.

To follow Dr. Ambedkar's reasoning, it is necessary to analyse why he

proposes, or at any rate supports, so drastic a remedy as the partition of India, which certainly has been realizing its administrative and economic unity more and more at least since 1857. The answer is twofold: the Muslims and the Hindus are two peoples with social codes different from, and in many respects hostile to, each other; their history has not been such as to make them share each other's pleasures and sorrows. The will to live together, which is the essence of a nation, is lacking; they are in fact two nations. Secondly, the price the Hindus have to pay to ward off Pakistan and to induce the Muslims to live together with them in peace is too heavy for any sensible people to pay. That price, possibly, is a fifty-fifty representation in the Legislatures, the Cabinet, the Civil Services and all public bodies; rules to the effect that no action or treaty against a Muslim country, or laws affecting Muslim culture and religion, etc., shall be valid without the consent of 2/3 of Muslim Members of the Legislature; that Urdu shall be the national language of India, etc. Further, can a Hindu Central Government be ever able to trust a Muslim army to obey its orders, particularly against a foreign Muslim invader? A dependable army is better than a natural border. The resources of Hindustan, military and financial, are in any case sufficient to maintain it in decent comfort and security. Let us once and for all get rid of unwilling and troublesome neighbours and live in peace.

It is impossible not to feel on a superficial analysis that Dr. Ambedkar has made out a plausible case for Pakistan. But a deeper study makes one reflect. Is not Dr. Ambedkar's analysis an instance

of a hasty advocacy of the apparently convenient course? After everything is said against the possibility of Hindu-Muslim unity, which is the basic argument of Dr. Ambedkar, still the doubt lingers, "can it be that these two peoples who have lived side by side, who have helped to create a synthesis of culture—in language, literature and arts for centuries, should be unable to settle the sharing of political power to the satisfaction of both"? For that is the crux of the question: that the Muslims should feel as well as the Hindus that the legislation and administration are their common concern, in which both have a fair, not necessarily equal, share. This problem has practically been solved so far as the provinces are concerned: it is unsolved only so far the Central Government is concerned. Indeed, federation, as a political device, is precisely the method which enables the necessary uniformity in common matters to be achieved without sacrificing the diversity and the autonomy which are necessary for the security of cultural and territorial groups. The possibilities of the revision of the federal constitution in such a way as to limit the Centre more strictly and to restrict the supervisory powers of the Centre over the Provinces ought to be more fully explored before the great advantages of preserving the unity of India are sacrificed in order to satisfy the sentiments of leaders and groups. For it is a fact not always emphasised that India is one of the four countries (the others being the U. S. A., China, and Russia) blessed by Nature with a long stretch of country, a large population and sufficient natural resources to enable her to develop her national life on

*THOUGHTS ON PAKISTAN. By B. R. Ambedkar. 380 pp., Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay, 1941.

her own lines with the least interference from outside; this natural advantage she will be giving up by agreeing to the division of the country. A Muslim writer has proved that from the economic point of view, the Pakistan scheme is disastrous to the interest of Muslims themselves. Again, the days of small States are over; the history of Europe in the present century is ample warning in the regard; to create division where unity now exists is to invite certain trouble. Political writers are not all agreed on the soundness of the theory: 'one nationality, one State'; Lord Acton, for instance, differs from Mill in this respect; he holds that the presence of different nations under the same sovereignty is similar in its effect to the independence of the Church in the State, i.e., it helps to preserve the freedom of the individual by limiting the political sphere to the sphere which is common to all.

The gist of all these criticisms is only this: it is as yet uncertain whether the

things that divide the Muslims from the Hindus are stronger than the things that unite. That must be made certain. A change of leadership of the more important organizations in the country may alter the outlook of whole groups; witness, for instance, the unity that existed in the days of the Khilafat agitation. Again, all expedients ought to be canvassed to enable the Muslims to remain with the Hindus in India without loss to their self-respect and with ample safeguards for all their rights. The necessary atmosphere for this has been lacking in India for the past some years. It is necessary, we suggest, to explore possibilities in this direction before Dr. Ambedkar's thesis can be accepted. Every Indian should read Dr. Ambedkar's book; it stimulates the reader to think of alternative solutions to prevent the tragedy that is implicit in any scheme of dividing India into two or more independent States.

AIMS OF ALLIED PLAN

BY MR. WICKHAM STEED

[The significance of the American bombing of Japanese cities and the dramatic occupation of Madagascar by British troops is clear—that the initiative has definitely passed into the hands of the United Nations. Mr. Wickham Steed, the well-known British journalist, discusses the prospects of the War in the light of the offensive moves taken by the Allies in different quarters.]—ED. I. R.

THERE has been so much discussion of where and how Hitler's coming spring offensive will begin that people have rather overlooked the actual beginning of the spring offensive in Western Europe by British aircraft and by the aircraft of the United States in the Far East. Until now Great Britain and the United Nations had been more or less compelled to wait for the offensive moves of the enemy, to withstand them as best as they could,

and here and there to undertake operations that might be described as defensive offensives.

The essence of the German—and afterwards of Japanese—plan of campaign was to attack, and, as both Germans and Japanese meant to make war and had prepared themselves for it, they held the advantage of initiative.

What has happened in Western Europe and in the Far East suggests that

henceforth initiative is unlikely to be an enemy monopoly. Alongside of this air activity, we have now to set the equally daring raids by small British forces across the English Channel. For some time past the Germans have been jumpy about the possibility of British raids on the mainlands of Europe and have been nervously strengthening their coastal defences. Now they will be jumpier still and will rack their brains to guess where the next blow will be struck. I think we mean to keep them guessing.

Obviously, our forces are working to a well-considered plan. Two of its aims are to bomb the industrial centres of Germany so as to lessen her output for the Battle of the Atlantic and for the Russian front; and to keep German fighter aircraft engaged by day so as to relieve to some extent their pressure on Malta, Libya and Russia.

This plan is rendered possible by the growing mastery of the air which we have now gained in the West. In the 33 nights from March 20 to April 20, fewer than 200 enemy aircraft flew inland over Britain and dropped less than 300 tons of bombs. On one of these nights alone more than 300 British aircraft were out over Germany and on each six of those nights more than 300 tons of bombs were dropped; during one week it was 1,000 tons. While this has been done night by night, formations of British fighter and bomber aircraft have flown regularly by day over occupied France to smash up German aerodromes and war factories.

So I think it can fairly be said that in the air at any rate our spring offensive in the West has begun. Its effects may be gradual and cumulative. But, taken together with the magnificent exploit of

United States aircraft which set out from an unknown base, flew over and bombed Tokyo and other Japanese cities and then, according to some reports, went on to China, they should end by giving the enemy West and East the beginnings of a headache.

The great news that the Japanese homeland had got its first taste of war—and obviously did not like it has delighted our people no less than the people of the United States. We look upon it as the payment of the first small instalment of the heavy debt of punishment which is owing to Japan and will be paid in something more than full measures.

We feel too, that things are being got into pretty good shape in Northern Australia.

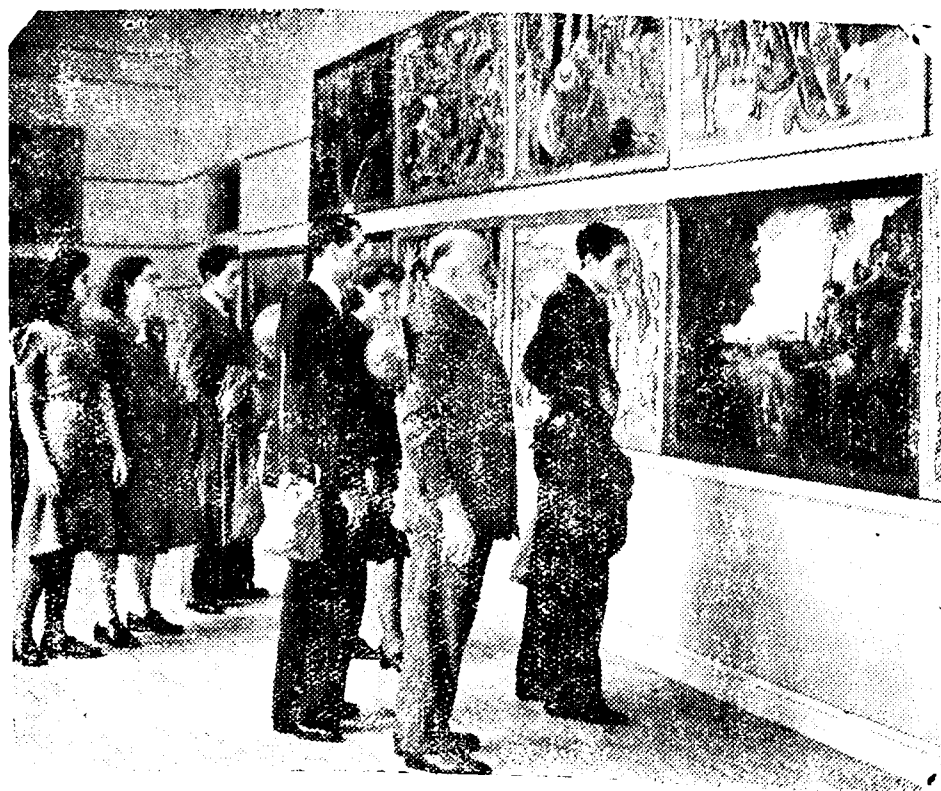
The question remains whether the Japanese can, and will, be stopped before they threaten India. General Wavell, the Commander-in-Chief, has issued a reassuring statement upon the defences of India, and Sir Stafford Cripps has said since his safe return to London that many Indian leaders have assured him that they will co-operate to the utmost in the defence of India. I still think, as I have said more than once, that Japan has spread her butter on too much bread and that the time will come when the vulnerability of her communications will place her distant forces in serious predicament.

Still, the Japanese have had more than enough success in the past 4-1/2 months to remind us that it would be folly to under-estimate their power for future mischief. With Laval at the head of the Government of Vichy France vomiting streams of hatred against Great Britain, it would be imprudent on our part not to reckon with further "collaboration" between France, Germany and Japan.

Not everybody may realise what I believe to be a fact, that people in Turkey are watching carefully to see whether there will be a Japanese attempt to cut British and American communications through the Indian Ocean, the Red Sea and the Persian Gulf; for the eyes of Turkey are wide open in at least three directions: North Africa, Bulgaria and the Caucasus. According to my information, Turkey will not hesitate to fight if she is attacked, but is naturally anxious that her supplies of war material

from overseas should be safeguarded against interruption. Thus no single point is unaffected by what happens at any other point.

One of the best features of Allied arrangements is the constantly growing co-ordination of strategy and resources at Washington and simultaneously or alternatively in London. By avoiding a dispersion of effort, the United Nations should be able to strike hard blows at the enemy even before the overwhelming potential superiority of their resources makes itself felt in every theatre of war.



BRIGHTENING THE SHELTERS

Destined for exhibition in large public air raid shelters, a large collection of paintings by young contemporary British artists is now on exhibition at a London art gallery. The photograph shows members of the Shelter Wardens choosing works for the decoration of their respective shelters.

ADULT EDUCATION

BY DR. B. V. NARAYANASWAMY NAIDU, M.A., B.COM., PH.D., BAR-AT-LAW

ADULT education has been described as an inclusive term embracing within its meaning continuation education, functional group education and folk schools or people's colleges. Briefly defined, adult education seeks to provide educational opportunities for adults in order to develop in them higher standards of thought and action than are now existing.

Historically, the real interest in adult education began in Europe with the attempts at democratic revolutions late in the eighteenth century, but the movement gained ground only with the zealous post-war schemes of social uplift and amelioration in the twenties of this century. It has been stimulated into great activity by the ideals of neo-democratic thought and endeavour. In India, for many centuries little or no interest was evinced in adult education either by the states or by private bodies and individuals. Traditional agencies for such education existed, however, in the bards and minstrels who sang of the glories of heroes, kings and empires in the village theatre, in Puranic narrations and in the religious discourses which were a common feature of our national life till recently. Village fairs and festivals and weekly markets were also other means used in the past for disseminating knowledge and information among all classes of people. And though few were strictly literate, a considerable part of the great learning and philosophy of the past was handed down orally through tradition from father to son or from master to disciple.

Two lessons of fundamental importance to adult education we can learn from

Indian educational tradition. Education in the past seems to have been considered from the point of view of the larger needs of the community itself rather than of the individual. In the complex living conditions of today we have very nearly overlooked this ideal. The second significant lesson of the past is that emphasis in education was placed not so much on literacy as on its real and ultimate benefits.

The adult education problem in India is different from the problem either in Europe or in America. In Europe and America, it is largely a problem of "continuation education", or, as the Americans call it, "continuing education", in which the primary interest of men and women concerned is in a vocation, but extends secondarily to their sustained educational progress. This would imply that in the West it is essentially a continuation throughout life of the opportunities for education generally provided in schools for the benefit of all. In India, the greater number of people are, owing to the paucity of opportunities afforded, still either illiterate or semi-literate; and continuation education of the Western type is not so emergent as general, liberal education in the fundamentals of living. The day of autonomous government has just dawned on our political horizon and the future of Indian democracy is in the hands of millions. If our political freedom is to be of use and if our economic status is to be improved, it is of imperative necessity that we should liquidate the illiteracy of our masses and stimulate their minds to think, and think in relation to their changing environment,

Elementary education, even if it is made universal and compulsory throughout India, can benefit only the coming generation; and it is but through the means of adult education that we can immediately improve the great majority of our people, of whom over 80 per cent. are still without a knowledge of the three R's. Our people need enlightenment not only with regard to the use of their political franchise but in every aspect of social and national existence. Almost all of them need, even like children, to be equipped for some special work in the community, and they have also to be taught to realise their own individuality and develop the capacity for citizenship. All told they know little or nothing of their place either as political or social entities of the nation. Hence they live now in a somewhat haphazard and selfish way, with no conscious regard for the rights of others and with no knowledge of the duties they themselves owe to those around them and to the state. Popular leaders of opinion have usually held unquestioned sway over these unsuspecting and simple people and often exploited them for their own selfish or clannish purposes. Ignorant and superstitious as they are, a good many of the masses have, unconscious of their tragic part, helped to transmit dread diseases and thereby spread death and disaster over the land. The masses have been indirect causes for the perpetuation of communal and class distinctions which none but the most sophisticated could attempt to justify. The men have even tyrannised over their women forgetting the great chivalry of our past. They have toiled long and hard and sweated with their blood just to eke out a bare and scanty

existence, knowing nothing of the great improvements science can effect or co-operation can bring. They have borrowed without thought and often been deceived into paying back with their all. The misery of our masses has been endless; and the tale of their wretchedness, if only we pause to hear of it, must melt the hardest heart among us.

Education is the most valuable means we have in our power for effecting a cure of the evils from which a greater part of our people suffer. By education I mean liberal education, which is itself a preparation for life. But there are those who, scared by the spectre of unemployment which stares many countries in the face, would wish that such education as we give the adults should be solely vocational, not general. Education may become useful from the material point of view; it often serves that purpose. But what we seek through education is that enlightened outlook on life by which alone can aggressive selfishness, rank hatred and disregard of others quit us giving place to love, generosity and co-operation. True education should lead us through individual improvement to communal and social good. True education does not exclude vocational education from its purview. It may well include it provided the ultimate benefit of such technical or professional training is also to broaden the vision of the people and enable them to think wisely and act in the best interests of not only themselves but society as a whole.

Let us examine the means we have in this country for securing the ends described above. The agencies for education in our land in the past were the Bards and Minstrels, the Religious Discourses,

the Story-tellers, the Village Theatre—Markets and Fairs and Festivals and Melas. These means of spreading knowledge have in modern times but a limited value; and the knowledge they were intended to convey may not now be either useful or acceptable. Of course, they may be adapted to our needs, but to produce a wide outlook on life so necessary to progress, and to stimulate curiosity and thinking, we have to give our masses an idea of the enormous changes which have overtaken the world in recent times and revolutionised life therein. To this end we can utilise one or more of the following agencies: Schools and Universities, Tax-supported adult education, private Technical, Commercial and Correspondence Schools, Social Institutions operated by religious or quasi-religious bodies, Schools organised by workers or employees of corporate bodies, Workers' Education Bureaus, Night Schools, Specia

Summer Schools or Refresher Courses, Urban and Rural Community Organisations, Libraries, Museums, Cinemas, Displays and Exhibitions, Recreation, Music, Arts and Crafts, Radio and individual enterprises.

Adult education may also be conducted by a large number of special institutions and organisations on a voluntary basis, apart from the schools and colleges.

With a gradual increase of general culture, with a little power of thought, better homes, better and brighter villages and cities, better and more happy citizens will follow, as day follows night. For raising the standards of our home life, for developing wiser and considerate citizens, for giving children the much-needed atmosphere for training in right citizenship, for improving the relationship between the home and the community, for the prosperity of our own land and the peace of the whole world, there is no more fruitful and noble means than education.

POLITICS AND LAW IN THE U. S.

BY DEWAN BAHADUR R. V. KRISHNA IYER, C.I.E.

THE corner-stones of the constitution of the United States as framed by its authors were (1) the limitations placed on different governmental agencies so as to prevent both usurpation and abuse of power; (2) the principle of the separation of powers by which each department was to act as a check upon the other or others; and (3) the doctrine of judicial review by which the courts were entrusted with the duty of interpreting and upholding the constitution. It does not contain detailed rules for the exigencies of the passing hour, but general principles for an expanding future with the result that it has maintained its

adaptation to the growing needs of an increasing and progressive population.

In this business of shaping the constitution to the needs of successive generations, the judiciary and particularly the Supreme Court has played an important part.

Nearly two-fifths of the book under review is devoted to the political role of the Supreme Court. The Court has acted as a bulwark of the constitution, delimiting the powers of Government as between the States and the Union, and the citizens against the Government. In doing so, it has

* POLITICS AND LAW IN THE UNITED STATES by D. W. Brogan. Cambridge University Press.

invalidated various Acts of the Federal and the State Legislatures on grounds not only of *ultra vires* but even of expediency, social utility and general welfare—a function more appropriate to a second chamber than to a court acting as an interpreter of the law.

The discontent against what has often been described as the “usurpation” by the Supreme Court of the powers of a legislative chamber came to a head when in a series of decisions, it invalidated the main parts of the New Deal Programme of President Roosevelt. This led to a Bill being introduced in the Senate which, among other things, would have enabled the President to pack the court by creating new judges on the analogy of the king's creation of new Peers to the House of Lords. But the Bill was not proceeded with as, even without it, the President was able to secure a majority of judges of his view in the Supreme Court. In the end, the Supreme Court has emerged out of the crisis unshaken in power, though slightly injured in prestige. It is, however, likely, as the author says, that the attitude of the Court to-day is to confine itself more to questions of law than to questions of policy.

In the United States, neither on foreign policy nor on domestic issues is there any well-defined alignment of parties. Moreover, the presence of a large proportion of emigrants among the population affects the complexion of parties. The author points out that “if by ‘national parties’ we mean parties with the same doctrines in all parts of a country attempting to carry out a programme in the interests of a group or groups pretty evenly distributed through the nation, the United States has no ‘national parties’ and never has had”.

A kind of permanent party line is provided only by the system of people uniting to elect one man as the President of the Union.

As the elected choice of the people, the President represents the general will as against the mere aggregate of particular wills represented in the Congress. He has and exercises a real power of veto over all legislation. He has a Cabinet who are entirely subordinate and responsible to him and are in no sense responsible to the Legislature. His constitutional powers have combined with the state of national emergency which has now existed for nearly ten years, to make him the sole symbol of the Government of the Union. The author points out how, for various reasons and mainly on account of the absence of well-defined parties and the residential qualification required of candidates for the Congress, the Congress does not provide a good field for a responsible Cabinet system.

Altogether, though the book deals only with one aspect of the constitution of the United States, *viz.*, the place given in it to the written law, it is exceedingly interesting and throws a flood of light on the suppleness and practical working of the constitution.

CONTRIBUTIONS

THE Editor solicits contributions on all topics of general interest, and in particular on subjects bearing on the political, commercial, industrial and economic condition of India. Short articles on topical subjects are preferred. Contributions accepted and published will be duly paid for.

It may be stated that a page of the Review takes in about 700 words.

All contributions and books for Review should be addressed to Mr. G. A. Natesan, Editor, *The Indian Review*, Esplanade, Madras.

INDIA IN PARLIAMENT

BY “POLITICUS”

THE India debate in Parliament was looked forward to with considerable interest both in England and in India, as Sir Stafford Cripps was to make a personal and detailed statement of his Delhi negotiations. The report of the abrupt break-down of the talks with the Congress and the consequent withdrawal of the British Government's offer had created a tense situation and the public in both countries awaited Sir Stafford's interpretation of events with evident curiosity.

DEBATE IN THE COMMONS

Opening the full dress debate in the House of Commons on April 28, Sir Stafford Cripps dwelt at some length on his recent mission in India and said that the moment of his visit was difficult for three reasons:

First because of the imminent approach of the enemy to India's shores; second, because an atmosphere of defeatism was showing in certain sections of Indian opinion owing to events in the Far East; and, third, communal differences regarding India's future Government had become more definitely crystallised. It was the need for clarification of the situation and consolidation of Indian opinion that compelled the British Government to decide that some positive step must be taken and taken quickly.

After describing the steps taken to meet the objections, Sir Stafford added: “It was impossible to go further with safety.”

The final break did not come on defence, said Sir Stafford, but on the form of the temporary Government to be in power until the end of the war. He told Indians he was prepared to remain in India until the new Government was formed. The only British members were to have been the Viceroy and the Commander-in-Chief, but Congress leaders felt they would not have the wide powers which they thought necessary for their successful participation in the Government. If these had been granted, he went on to declare, it would have created an “impossible situation”.

It was on this issue the final break came. I regret and His Majesty's Government regret most profoundly that our efforts have failed. . . . For the time being there is nothing further that we can do. We must be patient and Indian leaders can agree. For the moment we must concentrate upon the duty to do our utmost for the defence of India—a task in which our great American Allies have generously come forward to offer their help—a help which we and Indians alike welcome and appreciate.

Sir Stafford described the arrival of Col. Johnson's Economic Mission from the United States while he was in New Delhi as a “coincidence”. Col. Johnson, he said, saw Pandit Nehru and other Indian leaders in a purely personal capacity.

I wish to make it abundantly clear that there was no question of any American intervention, but only personal help of a very able and pleasant American citizen.

In the debate following Sir Stafford's statement, Mr. Gordon MacDonald (Labour) pointed out that an initiative had been taken and it would be a mistake to lose that initiative.

We must take advantage of the improvement in the atmosphere.

Sir George Schuster, a former member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, hoped that everything possible would be done to get really representative Indians to come over and accept the offer of the Prime Minister to sit with them in their War Councils and in the Pacific War Council. Everything possible should be done to get Provincial Governments back in office.

Other Liberal and Conservative members joined in eulogising Sir Stafford's work and hoping for further advance in the same direction.

Winding up the debate, Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, declared that the primary purpose of the Mission was to remove all doubt as to the sincerity of the British Government's purpose. The main object of the draft declaration, according to him, was to set India's suspicions as to British Government's intentions at rest.

He said:

Our ideal remains a united All-India. But we would sooner see India divided and free than keep her various elements for ever chafing against us and each other under a sense of impotent frustration. It is by making Indian statesmen conscious that a solution of the problem is their own undivided responsibility and not ours that both the right method and the right spirit are likely to emerge.

Sir Stafford Cripps flew thousands of miles to meet Indian leaders, but Indian leaders moved not one step to meet each other, said Mr. Amery. The Cripps mission had failed in its immediate object, but in the wider sense it had been far from failure. Mr. Amery went on to add that the resolution moved by the ex-Premier of Madras was a new hopeful initiative which would never have been taken but for Sir Stafford Cripps' visit.

Even more important, as evidence of the new approach, are the resolutions which were passed at the statesmanlike instigation of Mr. Rajagopalachari, ex-Premier of Madras, by the Congress Members of the Madras Legislature. By the first of these resolutions the All-India Congress was urged to waive its objection to the Moslem League claim for separation if eventually persisted in for the sake of removing every obstacle from the way of establishing a national administration.

By the second, the National All-India Congress Committee was requested to permit an approach to the Moslem League with a view to the re-establishment of popular Government in the Madras Province. It would appear that this patriotic and courageous declaration has met with the disapproval of the Congress President and Pandit Nehru. It may be that their attitude will be sustained by the All-India Committee which is to meet in the next few days.

The A. I. C. C. has since rejected Mr. Rajagopalachari's resolution by an overwhelming majority of 120 against 15.

Mr. Amery emphasised that the Government's anxiety to secure a wider and more active co-operation from the political parties of India in no way implied any lack of confidence in the Executive Government of India or the Viceroy. He said:

If the Congress Party was prepared to resume responsibility of Government in the Provinces to help in the prosecution of the war, Government was only too ready to let them resume office.

DEBATE IN THE LORDS

Opening the debate in the House of Lords the next day, the Duke of Devonshire, Under-Secretary of State for India, declared that the main object of the draft declaration, which Sir Stafford Cripps took to India, was to remove the Indian suspicion that the British desire for a prior agreement among Indian politicians was a device to postpone Indian self-government. He added: "I believe we have achieved a very valuable result in this direction." The Cripps mission, he added, has been wrongly interpreted in some quarters as an eleventh hour act of repentance in Britain brought about by the new situation in India.

It was nothing of the kind. It was actually the continuation of a policy consistently pursued by the British Government for many months, indeed years.

He told the House of the difficulties that arose over the question of the division of the responsibility of the Government of India and His Majesty's Government—how they were to be divided and apportioned; and concluded with an apologia for Cripps.

In modern practice the Commander-in-Chief in India is also the Defence Member of the Viceroy's Council, the one man who has functions and activities which may bring the two halves of his personality into active conflict. The Indian demand was that the functions and activities of the C-in-C. and Defence ministers should be divided, that his political function should be transferred forthwith to the Indian hands while his military activities should remain untouched. Any such separation would be a very long and complicated operation and one which at this critical moment of war would throw into utter chaos the whole gradation in India.

Lord Samuel (Liberal), however, viewed with great anxiety the provision in the proposals that any province was free to vote itself out of the Indian Union—this, he said, would lead to the necessity for raising national armies and he was

gravely concerned with the possible consequences of this policy. It would merely settle one minority problem and create a dozen new ones.

India must act as a unit and internecine conflict and war must be avoided. The Viceregal position means in fact he combines that of a constitutional monarch with that of Prime Minister and a separation of these two functions must be an essential part of any functional change in the constitutional state of India.

The air had been cleared and he most earnestly hoped that fresh endeavours would be made.

Referring to what he called "technical break-down", Lord Crewe (Liberal) thought it incredible to suppose that the Indian leaders—skilled and experienced men—could have believed that His Majesty's Government could possibly accept the abrupt and immediate change involved in their counter-proposals. The last word must rest as now with the Viceroy-in-Council. The Cripps expedition was not a wasted effort. India's constitution would work out well but it must take some time to reach full growth.

Lord Strabolgi said he was puzzled by the sudden failure of the mission when it seemed on the point of success.

We cannot leave things as they are. Canada was able to develop her system of Government slowly, but I do not think India can afford to-day to remain as it is.

Dealing with defence, Lord Strabolgi thought that the British Government should have seized with both hands the offer by leading Indians to organise their people for the defence of India. He was of opinion

that the new move should come from British and not from Indian politicians and that negotiations should be immediately re-opened.

Lord Simon the Lord Chancellor, winding up the debate, said:

While the mission did not succeed, it was not a final failure. It has demonstrated the sincerity of the British purpose to help India to achieve the goal of complete self-government.

Referring to Indian leaders' declarations that 'come what may, the Indian people would never accept Japanese domination', the Chancellor concluded:

It may be out of these trials and tribulations that more light will come and, when it does, nobody will have more reason to rejoice than the British Parliament.

CRIPPS ON HIS MISSION

In his broadcast speech on May 3, Sir Stafford referred again to the results what he called his "20,000 mile journey to India" and the report on his mission which he gave to the House of Commons. Summarising how matters stand, he said:

The British Government have finally and fully made clear their intention that India should have complete freedom and self-government the moment the war is over and as soon as Indians can, themselves, frame a new constitution. That is really a big thing. We have made clear to the world what, I am sure, is the desire of every one.

Then we proposed what we thought was the best way Indians could set about framing that new constitution, but we stated that if they did not agree with the method suggested, we would willingly consent to any alternative upon which they agreed among themselves.

No agreement was reached because some of the important elements in India wanted the British Government to go further in handing over complete power to India's majority community than we considered possible, consistently with our obligations to defend India and our promises to the great communal minorities.

Apart from these considerations, we had no reservations as to the amount of power we would transfer. That was made quite clear by our offer to transfer power completely the moment hostilities ended.

I am very sorry that our efforts did not succeed as we hoped. Nevertheless, I am sure it is all to the good that we should have made our intentions perfectly plain and that there should no longer be any questions concerning complete and absolute freedom for India after the war.

It would appear from this broadcast speech as well as the statements made in the Commons by both Sir Stafford Cripps and Mr. Amery, that they were more intent on carrying conviction to audiences in America and elsewhere than in attempting anything further to reconcile Indian opinion. Sir Stafford's criticism of the majority community is in strange contrast with his original attitude while in India. Mr. Amery's apologia is decidedly propaganda in the approved style for foreign consumption.

THE GOLDEN TEMPLE OF AMRITSAR OR THE POOL OF IMMORTALITY

BY MR. BERTRAM GODWIN STEINHOFF.

O never star
Was lost here, but it rose afar.
Look East, where whole now thousands are—
In Vishnu land what avatar?

Browning-Waring.

There's a Temple that stands in a placid
tank,
Fringed with lotus, and rushes lank,
And the dome of the Temple glows in
the sun,
Like a beacon light to the far horizon.

The spot, where that Temple stands today,
Was nameless to people who passed that
way;
Till one man came, as an old tale tells—
The gods like to work by miracles.

"I'll pitch my camp by this crystal pool,
Where the grass grows green, and the air
is cool"—

And guru Nanak, so they say,
Camped by that nameless pool that day.

A beggar woman had heard his name,
Though guru Nanak cared not for fame—
"Come," she said to her husband, "He
Will cure your limbs of leprosy."

"Rest here a while by this crystal pool."
The sun shone bright. The air was cool.
And the crippled man, with a leaden eye,
Gazed on the pool, and the cloudless sky.

When lo! a raven, with head bent down,
Dived in the pool, like a stone that's
thrown—

One second—and lo! it emerged again.
A snow-white swan without speck, or
stain.

"May the gods be praised for this goodly
sign!"

And the leprous man, who lay supine,
Crawled, struggled, bathed in the pool,
and he

Was straightway healed of his leprosy.

Then man and wife, rejoicing, cried:
"This is a holy place." They hied
To guru Nanak, breathless, to tell
The story of this miracle.

Then guru Nanak the pool surveyed,
And the first rude stone with his hand
he laid—
"Build now," he said, "a Temple here.
It shall bear fruit after many a year."

"A hundredfold; and this pool shall be
The Pool of Immortality—
Amrita-saras." It is there today
That pilgrims still tread their dusty way.

That nameless pool now's a sacred tank,
Where stone-steps slope from the sedgy
bank,
And light waves tremble the lotus blooms
And the green reeds topped with feathery
plumes.

That beacon heartens the pilgrim band,
Tramping footsore the hot road sand,
How hot the road, whatever its length:
'Tis there that they look for light and
strength.

But alas! it was not always so.
Long years of persecution, and of woe,
Trampled them down with sword and
flame—
Till the time was ripe—and another came,

Of power to tame, and skill to lead;
And he wrought a people of nobler breed,
A stalwart race—both strong, and meek:
The Granth is their Book—their name
the Sikh.

Where once was a waste, and the
darksome night
Housed the hyaena, and carrion kite,
Is a city, renowned throughout the land,
For silks of Kashmir, and Samarcand.

That Golden Temple is the history still
Of what one man of soul, and will,
Achieved by goodness of heart, and
what one
By arms enforced what the first begun.

Men make gods, and the gods make men,
But the gods elude all human ken,
And what we see, and what we hear,
Bounds our view of th' Eternal Sphere.

THE NATIONAL WAR FRONT

BY RAJA SIR MAHARAJ SINGH

IN India at the present time there are
two main dangers which beset the
civilian population. The first is the
possibility of a Japanese invasion by land,
sea or air, or by all three means
combined. The second is the possibility
of internal disturbances, of panic and of
apathy. I do not propose to deal at
length with the first of these possibilities.
I think that most of us are prepared for
Japanese attacks on India from the air
and by war-ships.

SELF-HELP

I now come to the second of my
dangers, *viz.*, the possibility of internal
disturbances. Indian leaders have rightly
foreseen this and have unanimously
condemned anything in the nature of
goondaism. Only in recent newspapers.
Mr. Gandhi, who on more than one
occasion has spoken on the subject, is
reported to have stated that the greatest
problem for persons to tackle, who go
from cities into villages with a construc-
tive programme for the amelioration of
conditions in the latter, will be to deal
with loot and dacoities. It will tax their
resources to the utmost. The non-violent
way is there but, he added, if this is
not clear to them, with the co-operation
of the villagers they should organise
themselves for defence against robbers and
dacoits. We have too long looked to
Government, he continued, to do this
elementary work for us. Government
cannot do much at this critical time.
The work has perforce to be done by
the evacuees—violently, non-violently or
both ways. There is force in what the
Mahatma says, especially in his insistence
that people should rely more on themselves

than on Government. There cannot
be, I think, any national front worth
the name unless Indian political leaders
of the different parties themselves carry
on a campaign among their followers for
self-help and co-operation.

THE ENEMY WITHIN

There is, it must be remembered, not
only the enemy outside but also the
enemy within the country. Apart from
Quislings, the latter is panic, rumour,
demoralisation and, last but not least,
apathy. We are painfully aware that all
these conditions are abundantly present.
The majority of our people are unfortu-
nately illiterate, and experience shows
that panic and rumour have a fruitful
field among them. But even among the
educated there are signs of panic which,
I imagine, are likely to increase if and
when Indian towns are bombed from
the air.

It was the same story in the War of
1914-18. We often heard news spread by
the timid and the nervous that the
Germans had actually landed in Bombay
and Karachi. Now, it is impossible to
stop altogether panic or rumour or
apathy. There are people, and always
will be, who are constitutionally pessimistic
and nobody can deny that the phases
and situations of the present world war
like its predecessor give ground from
time to time for depression.

FATALIST *versus* PANIC-MONGER

Personally I prefer the fatalist to the
panic-monger. The former believes in
the inevitable and does not bother much
about the future. He is often a man or
woman of a cheerful disposition, calm
and collected. His world is one of 'live

and let live'; for the future, so far as he is concerned, is predestined. The panic-monger is in a different category. He sees that people are frightened and adds fuel to the flames of fright. He even takes comfort from the fact that he is surrounded by the timid and the panicky. Criticism is second nature to him; for he finds it, as a statesman once said: "Much easier to be critical than to be correct." If he hears of an Axis success it is magnified; if he hears of an Axis failure it is minimised. He is quite oblivious of the fact that only twelve months ago he was making prophecies, fifty per cent. of which have proved incorrect. He is emphatically not the man to join in any national war front, for the future for him is already beyond hope and redemption. As best he is apathetic, at worst he is a serious nuisance. Well, let us leave such a man to himself in the hope that, since at bottom he is not a bad fellow, he will at any rate confine his feelings to the narrowest circle possible.

ANTI-NATIONAL

One thing is certain: fear and apathy will not save the situation. Many of us, indeed, have been critical and rightly critical of the attitude of Government in the matter of adequate preparations, both internal and external, for the defence of this country. We must, therefore, as Indian leaders have pointed out, increasingly rely upon ourselves. One way to do this is to stop communal bickerings. The Japanese are a strong and efficient people because they are united. The same remarks apply to the Germans. The Chinese people till recently were corroded with internal dissensions. Hence their weakness until Marshal Chiang Kai-shek in the present war succeeded in welding them into a unity hitherto undreamt of.

The future of our country does not lie with the Government of India or His Majesty's Government. It is in our hands if only we will seize the opportunity afforded by the approach of the war to India by closing our ranks and by

standing shoulder to shoulder with our fellow-countrymen, regardless of creed or caste. That man or woman is anti-national who at this juncture increases communal animosity by speeches or loose talk. That man or woman is anti-national who loses morale and causes others to do so. That man or woman is anti-national who, whatever his or her means, lives on the same scale as in pre-war times. That man or woman is anti-national who at this time ignores the fact that there is much suffering among the poor on account of the prevailing high prices. That man or woman is anti-national who is out to better himself at a time when the financial and economic structure of the world is in danger. That man or woman is anti-national who manifests race or colour or caste prejudice.

A Roman philosopher once said: "Fire proves gold, adversity proves men." Yet again, the greatest object in the universe is a good struggling with adversity.

—Broadcast.

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The Passing of A Great Tamil Scholar

—(o)—

THE death of the venerable Mahamahopadhyaya Dr. V. Swaminatha Aiyar at the age of 87 is an irreparable loss to Tamil literature. A great link with the golden age of Tamil literature, the Pandit represented in himself all that was most excellent in the culture and traditions of South India. A pioneer in many respects, he brought about a veritable revolution in Tamil literature. But for his untiring zeal and devotion to ancient learning such classic pieces of Tamil literature as Silappadikaram, Manimekalai and Purananuru would have been lost to a generation indifferent to the cultural inheritance of Tamil Nad.

The facts of his life may be briefly told:

The late Dr. Swaminatha Aiyar was born on February 19, 1855, at Uttamadana-puram, Tanjore District. He had his early Tamil education under Vidwan Meenakshisundaram Pillai and at Thiruvaduthurai Mutt. He was successively Tamil lecturer in Government College, Kumbakonam, Presidency College, Madras, and for some time Professor of Tamil in the Annamalai University. After his retirement, the title of Mahamahopadhyaya was conferred on him in recognition of his services to the cause of Tamil.

Even at the ripe old age of four score years, he was busy unearthing rare manuscripts or interpreting difficult passages from obscure classics. It was his indefatigable labours that brought to light the hidden treasures of Tamil literature. A rare type of a scholar, he combined in himself the profound learning of the old order of Pandits with the critical acumen and research methods of the

modern scholar. Long before our Universities thought of it, he began his laborious task of publishing well-documented editions of ancient classics in Tamil, richly annotated with the results of his own independent investigations.

Apart from his erudition and scholarship, Dr. Swaminatha Aiyar set a high standard of writing. His prose was simple, elegant and effective. In his more popular autobiography which has of late been appearing serially in a well-known Tamil weekly, he shows himself master of a racy and fluent style, easy to read and understand and totally devoid of the archaic manner so dear to old-world Pandits. It is a style apt for all discourse on subjects of weight and importance as well as on themes of lighter and homelier variety. As has been truly said:

"When the literature of the last sixty years comes to be assessed, there is no doubt that this period of Tamil Renaissance would be known as the epoch of Swaminatha Aiyar."

Remarkable for his learning and memory, the Pandit was no less remarkable as a teacher of youth. His literary activity continued right up to the moment of his death. His passion for study and his modesty, coupled with his great veneration for the Titans of an earlier era, evoked warm admiration from his own pupils. They in turn came to be no less devoted to him than he had been to his own teachers of an earlier generation. It will be long before such another could take his place in Tamil literature.



NATIONALISM

BY MR. G. N. SARMA, M.A.

NATIONALISM has been a potent factor in world history. Major historical incidents, such as wars and conquests, seem to have derived their origin from this mighty source. Other factors have, no doubt, been at work along with nationalism. History reveals the influence of economic forces which have combined with this more primary force. The emergence of economic factors makes problems of life complex and difficult of analysis. It is true that life cannot be purely either economic or political; it is a whole. The varied activities of man in all aspects of his life form a synthesis. This is true of life in general—of the life of a nation and of the life of entire humanity. It is possible, nevertheless, to detect the play of each individual force which has shaped history.

The "Revolutionary and Napoleonic Era" provides instances of intense activity of the national spirit. It assumed grim guise when war broke out between France and Germany. After the fall of the French Monarchy in August 1792, the national idea acquired an unprecedented force. But the Revolution which started as a herald of the national ideal degenerated into an aggressive propaganda. It sought to violate the very spirit to which it owed its abounding vitality. By a curious irony, however, it roused that spirit in the very act of violating it in all lands which were overrun by the armies of France.

"It was during these days of convulsive excitement," says Treitschke in his History of Germany, "that there first awakened in North Germany the idea of German

unity. It was in truth the child of sorrow, of historic yearning; but no less was it the child of poetical and political enthusiasm."

Professor Johannes Haller in his "France and Germany" remarks: "A healthy, national consciousness, on the basis of a common culture, was dawning in Germany at the end of the ancient Regime. What Napoleon did was to warp such a growth, to give a tremendous impetus to Prussianism, to create to some extent a Germany in his own image, "through blood and iron".

Napoleon's empire, "the febrile dream of an insane criminal", was shattered on the rock of national patriotism. LEIPSIC was truly the battle of the Nations.

The Great War, again, was "a repudiation of the idea that the strength and progress of European civilisation is largely derived from that variety of culture, which the national system maintains and an insolent assertion of the right of one single kultur to impose its methods and its hideous moral standards upon all".

It was evident, after the last war, that a corrective to aggressive nationalism must be sought in order to ensure permanent peace. The dream of a federation of the world attracted the minds of statesmen and seemed to add hope to a World weary of bloodshed. Nations appeared to have transcended their pettiness and to have fixed their vision on a larger world.

The world, however, was sadly disillusioned. Idealistic schemes proved unsubstantial no sooner than the plain facts assailed them. Grand projects like the League of Nations represented no permanent, deep longings, but the temporary despair of war-weariness.

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NATIONALISM

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Scarcely had the world time to contemplate on the origins and results of the war—much less to seek effective means to prevent its recurrence than it found itself plunged into the present war.

In the dreadful revelry which war is, under the sulphurous canopy and in the fires of death, the national instinct glows bright.

Stalin in his appeal of July 3rd, 1941, said "... the war against Fascist Germany could not be regarded as an ordinary war. It was not only war between two armies, but was a great war of the whole Soviet people against German Fascist troops".

"... Every nation which is threatened with invasion must create such a national army and must raise all workers in order that they should defend with their bodies their freedom, their honour and their country in the national war against German Fascism."

II

Is Nationalism, then, an accursed force, ever seeking to quench its illimitable thirst in draughts of blood, always plunging nations in war and its attendant evils, countless people thrown into the abyss of misery, the entire basis of life and civilisation rudely disturbed? An answer to this involves a reckoning of the numerous accretions which have gathered round Nationalism, and the determination of its ethics. What, then, are these accretions? These are, broadly, modern industrialism and the character of modern warfare.

Industrialism has created a world-market which implies unceasing competition and unabating rivalry in international commerce. No nation can consume all that it produces. It has to find markets for its surplus

goods. In any trade it is to the advantage of a particular group of manufacturers to minimise the competition of their rivals. Domestically, the minimisation takes the form of a protective tariff; abroad, the form of colonisation, of concessions in undeveloped countries, of favoured nation clauses in commercial treaties and the like. Modern colonial history reveals motives of profit to the colonising nation, however much historians might aver that empires were acquired in a fit of absence of mind. "It is found, in the classic phrase, that trade follows the flag. The power of the nation-state is exerted to obtain a market dominated by some special national-group. ... As power extends, nationalism becomes transformed into imperialism."

Imperialists attempt to hide the grossness of such a transformation by arguments of a civilising mission. Each nation assigns to itself a "mission" which it endeavours to spread over the world, and in the spreading of the mission, many parasites are fed. Says Julian Huxley, there is not one, but a multitude of "chosen peoples". Nations, races, tribes, societies, families—each and all claim for themselves their own peculiar, real or imaginary excellences. This common human failing may under circumstances become an epidemic and a devastating disease.

Similar search for world-markets generates rival imperialisms and war. Every nation has, therefore, to equip itself with the necessary instruments of fighting. This, in turn, begets a "competition in the armament of power". Security under conditions of fear and distrust can be insured only by an intense process of armament. Absolute security to a nation can come out only of a superiority

over all other nations in weapons of warfare. When a nation can claim such superiority, it sets on foot the dreadful game of war when,

Few, few shall part, where many meet.

III

Thus, in brief, is nationalism debased into imperialism by its alliance with economic forces. This transformation is a potent cause of War. Nationalism in its crude, militant form is a menace to civilisation. It is to be examined whether this is its essential feature or a temporary and therefore remediable distortion. This would involve an understanding of the concept of Nationality in itself and not in its present distorted condition.

Nationality is an elusive idea. It is subjective—"a condition of the mind, a way of feeling, thinking, and living—a spiritual possession". It is a form of corporate consciousness of "peculiar intensity, intimacy and dignity".

It is a stage in the progress of humanity. As such it possesses spiritual value. Without spiritual appeal it could not have won the allegiance of thinking men. What we at present see and condemn are, frequently, ossifications of outworn ideals. It cannot be denied that they embodied some grand moral purpose. This is true of every institution. An institution not only embodies the mind of the community, it points to something beyond itself—to which the community seeks to attain. As embodiments of present purpose and as beacon-lights for the future, institutions are no mean inheritance.

The nation is such an institution. It is a product of man's self-consciousness. It marks an advance over all previous forms of association. Distortions of such an institution were possible, because that to

which the nation pointed was lost sight of. Therefore man voluntarily shut himself in prison-walls and saw not what awaited him beyond. One good custom, therefore, could corrupt the world.

Rightly understood, nationalism logically leads to internationalism. Every aspect of man's corporate life has to be interpreted teleologically, that is, in terms of its ultimate purpose. The family, for instance, was not ultimate in itself. It led to the tribe which, in turn, pointed to the clan. The inherent nature of man, as having been made for the state, did not allow him to rest at that. He was to shape the Polis. Otherwise his natural longings remained unfulfilled.

The Polis,—the nation-state,—this likewise, cannot be said to form the end of man's development. It points to a higher stage, that of the federation of the world. The wars and struggles among states may be the pangs of its birth. The idealist sees some element of good in things evil and hopes to find some divine consummation out of that which others sneer at as the perversities of a blind fate. A divine plan slowly realises itself out of "the weariness, the fever, and the fret", which baffle the understanding of those of little faith.

In such a perspective, Nationalism loses all its sinister import. Far from being a force disastrous to mankind and civilisation, it points to internationalism as the goal of man's progress. Therein lies its justification and its ethical value.

What, then, is the future of the Nation-state? Mazzini foresaw that in the future evolution of the world-order "distinctions of country, sacred now, may possibly disappear". Under such a world order, the nations stripped of their exclusiveness, pride and aggression may remain, just as the forms of human association, which preceded the state, still exist. Even if they should dissolve in the ultimate and comprehensive world-order, they cannot be said to die; for dying they yet live. The many are not lost in the one any more than the notes in a melody.

THE ART OF DANCING

By MRINALINI SWAMINATHAN

A DANCER is invariably asked the question: 'What made you take up dancing.' This is, indeed, a most difficult question to answer; for in reality I can assign no particular reason. With real born dancers, dancing is not something that can be analysed and subjected to a thesis of so many words. It is a feeling, a command from some power within that directs the limbs and makes them move—at least so it has always been with me. Ever since I can remember, I have danced. The first actual incident I can recollect was when somebody carelessly left the record 'Invitation to the Waltz' in the Gramophone. All the family were out and I knew I was safe; my old ayah hesitatingly wound the gramophone and nearly scratched the record. The music started, and I remember clearly, feeling vastly excited at the tune, and unconsciously dancing to it. The record came to an end, and suddenly there was my mother in the door-way watching me intently. I was helpless. I expected a good scolding and then to be sent off to bed, but strangely enough she came and took me in her arms, and not a word was said. Bigger and bigger grew this urge as my years one after another piled themselves up. My own creations had exhausted themselves and I wanted to learn. Eurhythmic classes at school did not really teach me very much, and till I went abroad, I felt completely frustrated as far as my dancing was concerned. But once in Europe, I felt free to learn. Here dancing was encouraged and there was no stigma attached to it. It could be freely discussed and the irrepressible

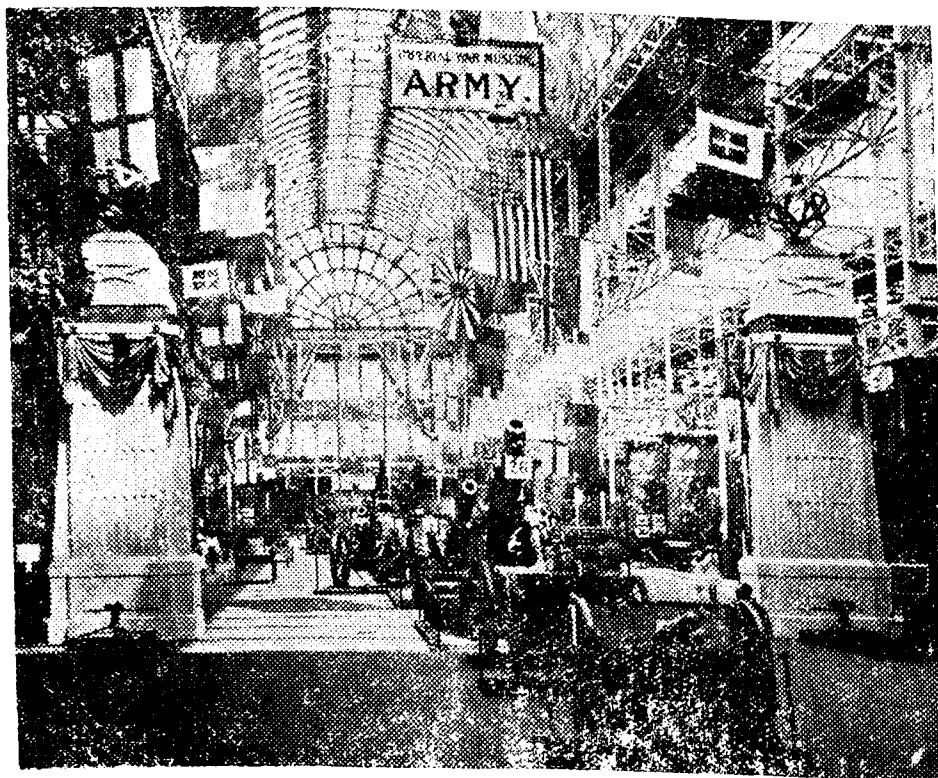
delights of rhythmic motion enjoyed. Here, indeed, was a wealth to pick from, and well did I enjoy the picking. Ballet, Greek, old and new, I studied and read as much literature and saw as many ballets as I could. In ecstasy I watched Dolin, Lichine, Markova, Baronova and a host of others, lose themselves in the spirit of the dance and I kept repeating to myself the words of Rumi: "Whosoever knoweth the power of the dance dwelleth in God." But still ballet did not completely satisfy my inner dreams of dance forms, and I did not know what I wanted till one day I came across, in a corner of the school library, a book, dust laden, and hidden in a corner, and I read on and on till it was late afternoon, and without my knowing it the sun set, and I heard my friends shouting for me wondering where I was and the book suddenly changed in a few minutes the whole course of my destiny and the man who wrote it was to have for years later, the greatest influence in my life—the book was Gitanjali and the writer Rabindranath Tagore. Though there was actually nothing of dancing in the book, yet I felt that here was the height of culture. The country in which this genius had been raised, was the embodiment of all I sought, not a country where superficial values were high but a country of truth and beauty—and above all, this was my country and it was my birthright to delve deep into its mystic knowledge, and all this was my heritage, and here only could I quench my unappeased longing, and form my ideal pattern of life.

And so I turned my face once more homewards, now realising that the wealth

of dancing and of true art lay in India, and to Santiniketan I went and from this deep well of learning, I drew and will for ever draw more and more inspiration.

In dancing the immense void between this world and the other is bridged in a moment. Dancing in India has always had a spiritual background. Though it has been used wrongly, yet now in India there is a tremendous renaissance where with education, which is entirely necessary, the art is being slowly lifted to its former

height and will in a few years be all that it has been in the glorious past and combine and merge itself with the future. Here is a living expression of religion, and it is up to every person, who aspires to be a dancer, to keep on striving to attain the ideal of complete beauty, the ideal of losing oneself into the realm of the infinite; for dancing is as manifold as the sky and the stars—it knows no barriers, no creeds, no dogmas—it allows the common body to merge into the divine.



WAR THEN AND NOW: GUNS FROM THE GREAT WAR

The Imperial War Museum in London houses a huge collection of exhibits showing what war was like in 1914-1918. There are guns and revolvers, shells and loaflets, placards found in German trenches, and a fine collection of paintings and photographs. Modern warfare seems to have made many advances on the old weapons which were regarded as so terrible twenty years ago. But the visitor to this museum is surprised to find how much in modern warfare is merely a development and not an innovation. This photograph was taken when the museum was in the old Crystal Palace, and shows a general view of the Army Section.

CONGRESS DECISIONS

I. CRIPPS' PROPOSALS

THE All-India Congress Committee began its session at Allahabad on the 1st May with a three-and-a-half hour sitting during which it heard a vigorous 90 minute speech from the President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, mainly explaining why the Working Committee could not accept the Cripps' proposals.

Referring to Sir Stafford's declaration that the initiative for a fresh attempt at settlement would not come from the British Government, Maulana Azad spiritedly retorted: "That initiative will not come from the Indian side either."

We went far in our efforts—in fact too far—to secure a settlement, but it is clear that the British Government have no trust in us. They are not prepared to leave our defence in our own hands. This is a question of national self-respect.

It would be wrong to say that we considered the Cripps proposals without having formed in our minds a picture of the solution of the communal and other questions. Our stand was clear. As far as the Cripps mission was concerned, we were considering the political issues only.

I emphasise here that we would have produced a successful solution of the communal and other questions within 20 hours of a settlement, if that settlement was reached with Sir Stafford Cripps.

Referring to the Japanese threat from the east, the Moulana said that only a slavish mind could imagine that Japan would give us freedom.

If any Indian says that we should welcome the Japanese, then, all that I can say is that his mentality is a slave's mentality, which can think only in terms of change of masters and never in terms of his own freedom. Our differences with Britain should not drive us to welcoming the Japanese or any other aggressor.

It does not matter if it is an 'active welcome' or a 'silent welcome'. I warn you especially against what I have termed 'silent welcome' to aggressors.

We will stand on our own legs. We can rely only on that freedom which we win with our own efforts. We will not tolerate any aggressor though he says that he is coming to give us freedom.

The official Resolution placed before the All-India Congress Committee by Pundit Govind Ballabh Pant called for complete non-violent non-co-operation with the invading forces and appealed to the people of India not to render any assistance to them. It ran as follows:—

In view of the imminent peril of invasion that confronts India, and the attitude of the British Government, as shown again in the recent proposals sponsored by Sir Stafford Cripps, the All-India Congress Committee has to declare afresh India's policy, and to advise the people in regard to the action to be undertaken in the emergencies that may arise in the immediate future.

The proposals of the British Government, and their subsequent elucidation by Sir Stafford Cripps have led to greater bitterness and distrust of that Government, and the spirit of non-co-operation with Britain has grown. They have demonstrated that, even in this hour of danger, not only to India, but to the cause of the United Nations, the British Government functions as an imperialist government, and refuses to recognise the independence of India, or to part with any real power.

India's participation in the war was a purely British act, imposed upon the Indian people without the consent of their representatives. While India has no quarrel with the people of any country, she has repeatedly declared her antipathy to Nazism and Fascism as to Imperialism. If India were free she would have determined her own policy, and might have kept out of the war, though her sympathies would, in any event, have been with the victims of aggression.

If, however, circumstances had led her to join the war, she would have done so as a free country, fighting for freedom, and her defence would have been organised on a popular basis, with a national army, control and leadership, and with intimate contacts. A free India would know how to defend herself in the event of any

aggressor attacking her. The present Indian Army is in fact an offshoot of the British Army and has been maintained till now mainly to hold India in subjection. It has been completely segregated from the general population, who can, in no sense, regard it as their own.

The essential difference between the Imperialist and the popular conceptions of defence is demonstrated by the fact that while foreign armies are invited to India for that defence, the vast man-power of India herself is not utilised for the purpose. India's past experience teaches her that it is harmful to her interest and dangerous to her cause of freedom to introduce foreign armies into India. It is significant and extraordinary that India's inexhaustible man-power should remain untapped, while India develops into a battleground between foreign armies, fighting on her soil, or her frontiers, and her defence is not supposed to be a subject fit for popular control. India resents this treatment of her people as chattels, to be disposed of by foreign authority.

The A.I.C.C. is convinced that India will attain her freedom through her own strength, and will retain it likewise. The present crisis, as well as the experience of the negotiations with Sir Stafford Cripps, make it impossible for the Congress to consider any schemes or proposals which retain, even in a partial measure, British control and authority in India. Not only the interests of India, but also Britain's safety, and world peace and freedom, demand that Britain must abandon her hold on India. It is on the basis of independence alone that India can deal with Britain or other nations.

The Committee repudiates the idea that freedom can come to India through the interference of or invasion by any foreign nation, whatever the profession of that nation may be. In case an invasion takes place it must be resisted. Such resistance can only take the form of non-violent non-co-operation, as the British Government has prevented the organisation of national defence by the people, in any other way.

The Committee would, therefore, expect people of India to offer complete non-violent non-co-operation to the invading forces, and not to render any assistance to them. We may not bend the knee to the aggressor, nor obey any of his

orders. We may not look to him for favours, nor fall to his bribes. If he wishes to take possession of our homes, and our fields, we will refuse to give them up, even if we have to die in the effort to resist him.

In places wherein the British and the invading forces are fighting, our non-co-operation will be fruitless and unnecessary. Not to put any obstacle in the way of the British forces will often be the only way to demonstrate our non-co-operation with the invader.

Judging from their attitude, the British Government do not need any help from us, beyond our non-interference.

The success of such a policy of non-co-operation and non-violent resistance to the invader will largely depend on the intensive working out of the Congress constructive programme, and more especially the programme of self-sufficiency and self-protection in all parts of the country.

In moving the resolution, Pandit Pant referred first to the Cripps mission and then to the lengthening shadow of aggression on India. Britain, it seemed, was not prepared to part with power, even at this grave moment. Britain refused to give India power to undertake their defence.

Short of our complete independence, we do not want any settlement with anybody.

We want nothing less than our freedom. We want to protect human liberty throughout the world. If Japan has designs on us we will not tolerate them. We will not be misled by any propaganda from Japan or any other nation. We have our weapon of non-violence and non-co-operation given to us by Mahatma Gandhi, and we will not bow down before any aggressor.

Pundit Pant commended the programme of self-protection and self-sufficiency. Our freedom is coming. Let us not be found wanting at this moment.

Dr. Rajendra Prasad seconding, declared that the veil had been torn away from the face of British imperialism by the Cripps' proposals.

II. C. R.'s. NEW MOVE

The A.-I. C. C., on, May 2, concluded its session after rejecting, by 120 votes against 15, Mr. C. Rajagopalachari's resolution acknowledging the Muslim League's claim for separation and passing, by 92 votes against 17, Mr. Jagat Narain Lal's counter-resolution opposing any proposal to disintegrate India.

The debate on these resolutions lasted about three hours, during which Mr. C. Rajagopalachari was supported by Mr. K. Santanam and was opposed by Babu Rajendra Prasad, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, Maulana Nuruddin Behari, and Mr. Yusuf Maherali.

The resolution sponsored by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and carried at the meeting of the Madras Legislature Congress Party, as recommendations to the All-India Congress Committee, ran as follows:—

(a) *All-India*.—The Madras Legislature Congress Party notes with deep regret that the attempts to establish a National Government for India to enable her to face the problems arising out of the present grave situation have failed and that as a result of this, Nationalist India has been placed in a dilemma. It is impossible for the people to think in terms of neutrality or passivity during an invasion by an enemy power. Neither is it practicable to organise any effective defence independently and unco-ordinated with the defence measures of the Government. It is absolutely and urgently necessary in the best interests of the country at this hour of peril to do all that Congress can possibly do to remove every obstacle in the way of the establishment of a national administration to face the present situation; and therefore, inasmuch as the Muslim League has insisted on the recognition of the right of separation of certain areas from united India upon the ascertainment of the wishes of the people of such areas as a condition precedent for a united national action at this moment of grave national danger, this Party is of opinion and recommends to the All-India Congress Committee that to sacrifice the chances of the formation of a National Government at this grave crisis for the doubtful advantage of maintaining a controversy over the unity of India is a most unwise policy and that it has become necessary to choose the lesser evil and acknowledge the Muslim League's claim for separation, should the same be persisted in when the time comes for framing a constitution for India and thereby remove all doubts and fears in this regard, and to invite the Muslim League for a consultation for the

purpose of arriving at an agreement and securing the installation of a National Government to meet the present emergency.

(b) *Province*.—Whereas the Province of Madras is seriously threatened with enemy invasion and practically all the districts are under daily expectation of bombardment and enemy landings, and life is consequently subjected to growing dislocation all round; whereas it is suicidal for the present, and disastrous for the future, for the people's elected representatives to remain passive and let the people suffer under these conditions all the incidents of the present autocratic administration, and also submit to aggression without participation in the defence of the Motherland, and whereas participation in defence is practicable only if the people are armed and organized to some extent and inspired for sacrifice; the Madras Legislature Congress Party voices the general feeling in this part of the country that there should be at this critical juncture a popular Government in this Province doing its utmost to secure the requisite conditions for the people to play their part. The Party is of opinion further that to facilitate united and effective action in this regard by such a popular Government, the Muslim League should be invited to participate in it. This Party, therefore, requests the All-India Congress Committee to permit this Party to take steps to this end, notwithstanding the general All-India policy followed by the Congress.

Mr. Rajagopalachari, moving the resolution acknowledging the Muslim League's claim for separation, referred to the bitterness caused by his move. The Congress, he said, should ask the League to meet it and thrash the matter out and come to a settlement. Could they afford to have a divided people in this country?

Mr. Rajagopalachari proceeded to quote from the Delhi resolution and from Mahatma Gandhi's article in April to support his claim that he was making no new concession.

The Delhi resolution said that the Working Committee could not think in terms of compelling the people in a territorial unit to remain in the Indian Union against their declared and established will.

Mahatma Gandhi had declared that if the vast majority of Muslims regarded themselves as a separate nation, no power on earth could compel them to think otherwise.

"The ghost of Pakistan is not going to kill you," he said. "The people of the Punjab were living in an area predominantly Muslim and they were still alive and kicking."

"Friends of the Punjab," he added. "Pakistan is only a ghost and I want to hold it by the beard and face it."

Babu Rajendra Prasad, opposing the resolution, said that the main purpose of the Madras resolution did not appear to be to pacify the Muslim League, but to have some sort of provincial administration.

There was no question of pacifying the Muslim League, which arose only since the talk of National Government.

I would like to emphasize that National Government is a mirage—it does not exist and has not been promised. It is futile to run after a thing that does not exist.

Pandit Nehru spiritedly declared his opposition to Mr. Rajagopalachari's resolution and supported Mr. Jagat Narain Lal's counter-resolution.

He opposed Rajaji's resolution for many reasons but chiefly because it was not intended to bring about any settlement, but the whole aim was that some kind of provincial administration should be established. He detested that objective.

III. Mr. JAGAT NARAIN'S COUNTER-RESOLUTION

Mr. Jagat Narain's counter-resolution opposing Mr. Rajagopalachari's move ran as follows:—

The A-I. C. C. is of opinion that any proposal to disintegrate India by giving liberty to any component state or territorial unit to secede from the Indian Union or Federation will be highly detrimental to the best interests of the people of the different States and Provinces and the country as a whole, and the Congress, therefore, cannot agree to any such proposal.

Mr. Rajagopalachari emphasized the futility of indicting a man responsible for a particular situation.

If the object was to do something to deal with that situation there was no use saying that the British people were responsible for the present position of India. We must set about undoing what they had done. This was a time and an opportunity which we could not get again for a hundred years. Did Shivaji wait till a perfect Government was at his command? We must take authority such as it was and work to perfect it and make it serve our purpose.

When his resolution was put to vote and lost while the counter-resolution was accepted, Mr. Rajagopalachari announced that he did not wish to move his second resolution, important though it was from the point of view of the Madras Presidency. He would not move it because there was no time, but he had not given it up and he wanted to warn the House that Madras might be cut off and no amount of talk of Indian unity would avail them thereafter.

Mr. Jagatnarain Lal's resolution was seconded by Mr. T. Prakasam.

Maulana Azad, in the course of his concluding remarks, declared that the procedure adopted by Mr. Rajagopalachari was wrong. The right procedure would be to get the representatives of both the organizations to discuss the question and come to an agreement.

"Even now," said the Maulana, I am prepared to call the Working Committee and ask them to nominate five representatives to meet five representatives of the Muslim League in order to come to a settlement.

He had always held, added the Maulana, that the attempt would be worth making even if it did not achieve success. Pakistan is against the spirit of Islam, declared Maulana Azad.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Abolish the India Office

RETIRED civilians and reactionaries have found a safe asylum in the India Office. Except under the leadership of a Lord Morley or an Edwin Montagu, the India Office has seldom been distinguished for courage or initiative. The whole of England may pulsate with a new life and India throb with new sensations. It makes no mark on the placid atmosphere of the India Office, which moves on its own axis, in its own indolent way. There are no live wires to stimulate that somnolent body into activity. It is content to plod on in its own dull, unimaginative and irresponsible way.

Year after year, the abolition of this useless appendage to His Majesty's Government was the theme of persistent demand in the old Congress. And now even the *London Times* has not a good word to say of it. It gravely suggests in a recent editorial comment that merging of the India Office in the Dominions Office would not only be an earnest of British sincerity but a step which, on administrative grounds, has much to recommend it.

Evacuees

In the course of a statement to the Press on the impression of their visit to Assam in connection with the problem of evacuation from Burma, Pandit Kunzru and Mr. Dam, Members of the Central Standing Committee, who accompanied the Hon. Mr. Aney, Overseas Member of Government of India, in his tour of inspection, have strongly criticised the treatment meted out to the Indian evacuees from Burma.

They declare that the story of the dangers and hardships, which the Indian refugees from Burma have had to face owing to the hostility of the Burmans

and the incompetence, indifference or callousness of the local officials in Burma, is heart-rending. Other reports go to support their indictment that "Indian refugees are treated in such a way as to humiliate them and make them feel that they belong to an inferior race". Mr. Aney as Member responsible for overseas Indians, expresses the opinion that the charge of discrimination was laid somewhat lightly. Nothing will be gained by mutual challenges and repudiation of allegations on either side. If the uproar created by the reports has helped to remedy neglect and ill-treatment of evacuees, it will be quite enough for the moment.

American Technical Mission in India

The announcement of the American Technical Mission in India was certainly received with some concern in industrial circles in this country. The long planned scheme kept secret, and sprung upon the people on a sudden, had aroused speculations as to the real intentions of the Government. Could there be anything in the nature of what is known as the "India Ltd." brand of foreign business enterprise in this country? Col. Louis Johnson and Dr. Grady have done well to disarm criticism by their frank statements. Says the American Envoy:

It is not here to introduce American capital. It is not here to build factories, or to bring in American industrial operations. It is not concerned with the commercial and economic relationships that may exist between India and the United States after victory has been won. It is here solely to put at the disposition of India certain great technical skills, so that production in this country may be increased, that industries may make the transition smoothly from peace time footing to war time footing, so that India may be able better to defend herself and better to contribute to the defeat of our common enemy.

Dr. Grady has no less categorically said that

America looks upon any help given to India as help given to the United Nations, which means that such a help in India's present needs will not place any obligation on India.

Such assurances are most welcome and have certainly given relief to people who had suspected some kind of exploitation.

Chittagong and Assam

The bombing of Chittagong and Assam, following the attempt on Vizag and Cocanada, brings the war directly to this country. Japanese success in Burma and their occupation of Akyab has put them in a position to face China on one side and India on the other, while the reported smashing of their fleet off the coast of Australia must deprive them of their power to strike in the Bay. This, one would expect, must give some respite to the Southern Peninsula. Whether this presages an invasion of this country *via* Burma one cannot say for certain. Such an attempt, as a contemporary observes, would prove a gigantic task, which it is doubtful whether the Japanese High Command will undertake. But it does mean one thing. It shows that the Japanese want to cut the alternative supply route between India and China *via* Sadiya in Assam, which is a railway terminus.

Gen. Wavell on the Defence of India

It is true that the Japanese scored a spectacular success both in the Far East and in the Pacific. Their initial triumphs in these areas were bound to create some uneasiness in allied countries. But the evidence of growing strength in allied quarters is increasing. It is common knowledge that every week that passes means additional security and strength to our cause. American and British help is coming on apace. It is heartening to be assured by General Wavell again that "the defence of India is undoubtedly growing very greatly in strength". Considerable reinforcements of all arms have arrived in this country, including very large numbers of anti-aircraft crews. "I can tell you," said His Excellency at a recent Press Conference in Delhi,

"that in two of our most important points, Calcutta and Ceylon, the scale of air defences is higher than anything that Singapore ever had, even at the maximum of its strength during the Malayan fighting." This assurance is most welcome as it is bound to have a tonic effect on the morale of the people, who are now seeing on every side ceaseless efforts made to add to the strength of our defences.

British Labour and India

The Labour Party Conference, which met last month in London, unanimously passed a resolution asking the British Government and the people to make further effort to reach a rapid and satisfactory settlement of the Indian problem. It is thus clear that though the Party has pledged its loyalty to Mr. Churchill's Government, not all members are satisfied with the way the Indian question has been tackled. Cripps' Mission cannot possibly be the last word. The failure of that Mission, said Mr. Gordon MacDonald, could be no excuse for making no further effort. Mr. Sorensen argued that the Indian people had the right to determine the form of Government under which they were to live.

If they preferred independence to our conception of Dominion Status, we must accept their decision.

The Party is evidently seriously disturbed by the continuance of the deadlock. It adopted the following resolution moved by Mr. Arthur Greenwood:

This Conference expresses its profound sympathy with the people of India in the danger now threatening them from Jap aggression. It hopes and believes that India will successfully resist any attack.

It reaffirms its considered view as to the right of the Indian people to decide their own destiny now explicitly recognised by the British Government and parties. It deeply regrets that the British Government's proposals did not lead to a settlement acceptable to the political representatives of the Indian communities.

In view of the grave situation which now confronts India, the Conference calls upon the British Government and the peoples of India to make a further effort to reach a rapid and satisfactory settlement.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

The Pacific Battle

THE Japanese navy, which had gained command of the Pacific in the absence of British control, was soundly trounced by American warships and aircrafts operating in and over the Coral Seas last month. A report from the Allied base said that the vast Japanese invasion fleet was smashed and the remnants were on the run.

After attacks by waves of dive-bombers, one aircraft-carrier rolled over and sank immediately. The second was bombed, torpedoed and set on fire from end to end and then sunk. The Japanese fleet was scattered. This is cheering news. A few more such operations will disperse the cloud of defeatism and presage certain victory for the United Nations.

Madagascar

The dramatic occupation of Madagascar by the British troops with the full approval of the United Nations is a strategic stroke. Like the American bombing of Japanese cities, it is symbolic of the new spirit of adventure and initiative that has come to play in allied tactics. The lesson of Indo-China is certainly not lost. The Allies' decision to occupy the island could not have been lightly taken. First, they had to gather the forces necessary effectively to carry out the operations. The second consideration that must have weighed with the Allies is the danger of completely alienating the French Government and their coming out more openly on the side of the Axis.

"We trust," said Mr. Churchill, announcing this dramatic *coup* in the House of Commons

that the French nation will, in time, come to regard this episode as a recognisable step in the liberation of their country including Alsace and Lorraine from the German yoke."

Corregidor

The surrender of Corregidor marks the end of organised resistance in the Philippines. It is generally estimated that there were about 7,000 men and women on the fortified islands when Corregidor surrendered, though the casualties inflicted by bombs and shells are not known. The survivors include some 3,500 marines and blue-jackets, who reached Corregidor when Bataan was abandoned on April 9.

Corregidor fought gallantly till it could fight no longer. By its determined and resolute resistance, it has added a fresh chapter of heroic endeavour. The fall of Bataan had already written down the doom of Corregidor. The breathing time that the last phases of the resistance in the Philippines left for the Allied nations to organise defences elsewhere will come to be appreciated only when the Eastern war enters on its further developments.

Churchill's Warning to Hitler

A stern warning to Germany that the use of poison gas by Hitler against the armies and the people of Russia would be treated by Britain exactly as if it were used against the British people, and that Britain would carry gas warfare on the largest possible scale against military objectives in Germany, was given by Mr. Winston Churchill, Prime Minister, in a broadcast to the British nation on May 10. Said Mr. Churchill:

I wish now to make it plain that we shall treat the unprovoked use of poison gas against our Russian ally exactly as if it were used against ourselves and, if we are satisfied that this new outrage has been committed by Hitler, we will use our great and growing air superiority in the West to carry gas warfare on the largest possible scale, far and wide against military objectives in Germany.

It is thus for Hitler to choose whether he wishes to add this additional horror to aerial warfare.

We have, for some time past, been bringing our defensive and precautionary arrangements up to date, and I now give a public warning so that there may be no carelessness or neglect.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- May 1. Fall of Lashio in Burma is reported.
- May 2. Hitler-Mussolini meeting at Salzburg is announced.
- May 3. A-I C. C. rejects Madras Resolutions by 120 votes to 15.
- Japs claim occupation of Mandalay.
- Rangoon docks attacked by U. S. A. bombers.
- May 4. C. R. explains his move to the Press Conference at Delhi.
- Sir Andrew Clow takes charge as Governor of Assam.
- May 5. Allied troops land in Madagascar.
- Vichy orders resistance.
- May 6. C. R. pleads for coalition Government and united resistance to Japs.
- Jap advance North-East along the Burma Road.
- May 7. Surrender of Corregidor.
- French resistance ceases in Madagascar.
- May 8. Jap forces enter Akyab.
- Naval war off Solomon Island.
- Viscount Gort is appointed Governor of Malta.
- May 9. Chittagong raided by Jap aircraft.
- Japanese fleet smashed north-west of Australia.
- May 10. Burma Government and Ministers move to India as their headquarters.
- Mr. Churchill warns Germany against the use of poison-gas.
- May 11. Enemy air raid in Eastern Assam town.
- Naval action off North Australia.
- May 12. Nazi offensive starts with two million men on the Donetz front in Russia.
- May 13. H. H. the Pope's broadcast to the Nations.
- May 14. Soviet advance towards Kharkov.
- Jap drive in Yunnan.
- May 15. Gen. Hartley is appointed Deputy Commander-in-Chief of India.
- Earthquake in Equador.
- May 16. Red Forces smash through German defences on the outskirts of Kharkov.
- Gandhiji meets Pressmen at Bombay.
- May 17. Chinese Forces launch counter-attack in Yunnan.
- Soviet fighting on 100 mile front.
- May 18. American troops arrive in Ulster.
- War debate in the House of Commons.
- May 19. Volcano in Hawaii quieted by aerial bombing.
- Japs bomb a village in Eastern Assam.
- May 20. Hur menace in Sind. Thirteen persons are killed along the Mirpur-Khipro Road.
- May 21. Dr. E. H. M. Waller, former Bishop of Madras, is dead.
- May 22. Major C. K. Nayudu is promoted to the rank of Lt.-Colonel in the Holkar Army.
- May 23. Mexico declares war on the Axis Powers.
- Evacuation of Kerch by the Russians. Bitter fighting in Kharkov area is reported.
- May 24. 100,000 Japanese launch a drive in Kihwa (capital of Chekiang).
- May 25. Wholesale executions of persons who opposed Hitler, take place in Germany.
- May 26. Nazi precautions against invasion of Norwegian coastal areas by the British are reported.
- May 27. Jap warning to Australia for joining her Greater East Asia Programme.
- May 28. Indore ruler appeals to President Roosevelt to intervene and arbitrate on Indian question.
- May 29. Mr. B. J. Wadia, retired Judge, appointed Vice-Chancellor, Bombay University.
- May 30. British Labour Party pledges loyalty to Mr. Churchill.
- May 31. Sir B. L. Mitter's term as Advocate-General is extended.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

WORLD WAR AND ITS ONLY CURE—WORLD ORDER AND WORLD RELIGION. By Dr. Bhagavan Das. Benares Cantonment.

In recent years, numerous thinkers have written on the subject of "A New World Order". And the present book is a welcome contribution to the subject by Dr. Bhagavan Das, the scholar, philosopher and publicist, who has already written profusely on questions relating to peace and social organizations.

According to him, the New World Order, if it is to bring permanent peace to the world, should be based upon the unity and inter-dependence of mankind as a whole.

He contends that the ancient Hindu system of social organization was based upon the fundamental division of men in accordance with their temperamental vocational aptitudes, that it was founded on sound economics and sociology, and that it was when the basis of that system changed from one of vocational aptitude of actual occupation into one of heredity and disunity, that disorganization and loss of high ideals began to beset Hindu society. "Let us, therefore, root out this sinful castism," he says, "and replace it by the ancient fourfold vocational scheme."

Not the least important merit of the book is its being replete with numerous quotations from important authors and public men, and this, while it shows the learning of the author, also makes the book a useful book of reference.

THE PROBLEMS OF EDUCATION IN BENGAL. By Probodh Chandra Sinha, Author of 'Sir Asutosh Mookerjee: A Study'. With a Foreword by Sir S. Radhakrishnan and an Introduction by Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee. Thacker Spink & Co., Ltd., Calcutta.

This is an informative book. It deals with the working of the secondary education system and with the deterioration of the educational situation at the present day and urges that any great and nationwide scheme of reforms should be undertaken by the Central Government and not under the auspices of the different provinces. With a great deal of theoretical fervour on the value of the building up of the individual citizen and after tracing the work of various Commissions of education and the out-turn of the Universities and also evaluating the Sadler Commission's scheme of Reforms in the field of Secondary Education, the writer of this book stresses the need for newer aims in Secondary Education and for a newer synthesis in culture. He pleads that India must once and for all discard the policy of religious neutrality in public education; but must teach the youths of different religions the real spirit of their respective education. The book has been praised as a very thought-provoking one by Sir P. C. Ray and by Sir S. Radhakrishnan and it covers a much wider field and applies to a much larger area than Bengal.

THE COTTON TEXTILE INDUSTRY (1941 ANNUAL). Rs. 8. Gandhi & Co., Publishers, 14/2 Old China Bazaar Street, Calcutta.

This Annual brings together in a compact form the many factors pertaining to the growth and development of the industry from its inception. During the past two decades, we have seen how the excise duty levied on the industry, the conflict between Indian and foreign textile interests, the problem of hand-spinning, the relations between the mill and the handloom industries, the demands of labour in cotton mills constituted the main themes on which enquiry was focussed. On all these items, the Annual has something fresh and stimulating to say.

GITA-SANDESH. By Ramdas. Second edition, Anandashram Series No. 4. Price As. 12.

Swami Ramdas deserves to be congratulated on the production of this substantial volume on the message of the Gita. He gives a lucid exposition of the central doctrines of the Gita. The Gita is the New Testament of the Modern Hindu. Active moral life, in society, with a godward vision is the central thesis of the Gita. Action must be turned into gold by the alchemy of jnana and bhakti. The Swamiji gives an elaborate account of the various paths that lead to self-realisation. He reconciles the yoga and the sankhya and points out the superiority of the doctrine of Karma yoga.

BOOKS RECEIVED

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EDUCATION IN INDIA in 1937-38. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

DECISION. By Lionel Curtis. Oxford University Press, London.

THE NEW YEAR BOOK, 1942. Edited by Guha Thakurta and Amal Ghatak. S. C. Sarkar & Sons Ltd., Calcutta.

GANDHI AND GANDHISM, Vol. 1. By Dr. B. Pattabhi Sitaramayya. Kitabistan, Allahabad. Rs. 2-8.

THE NEW CONSTITUTION AND AFTER. By Sir Shafaat Ahmad Khan. University of Madras.

EDUCATION IN INDIA in 1938-39. Manager of Publications, Delhi.

DEAR SIR: Being a between-the-lines book on Business letter writing. By K. D. Aga, B.Com. New Book Co., Bombay.

HEALTH AND HOW TO KEEP IT. By Capt. B. L. Rama, I.M.S. New Book Co., Bombay.

THE DEVELOPMENT OF HINDU ICONOGRAPHY. By Jitendranath Banerjee. University of Calcutta.

THE POLITICAL PHILOSOPHIES since 1905, Vols. II and III. By Benoy Kumar Sarkar. Motilal Banarsidass, Saidmitha Street, Lahore.

ECONOMIC CONDITIONS IN THE MADRAS PRESIDENCY. By A. Sarada Raju. University of Madras.

INDIAN STUDENTS LOOK AT WORLD AFFAIRS. Oxford Pamphlet, Oxford University Press.

JINNAH: THE GENTLEMAN. By G. D. Consul. Goyal and Goyal, Jaipur.

MEANING AND SPIRIT OF ISLAM. By Baba Govind Dass, Jaipur.

DEVELOPMENT IN RURAL KASHMIR. Rural Development Dept., Jammu and Kashmir Government.

MUST WE FIGHT? By Shahid Pravin. Pravin Publication, Calcutta and Bombay.

INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE SCIENCE OF CLASSIFICATION. By Bhupendra N. Banerji, M.A. Public Librarian, Allahabad.

THE QUEST AND THE FIND: A mystic play. By Wanderer. Published by Rai Bahadur N. Dey, Morning Side, Namkkum, P. O. Ranchi.

SCIENTIFIC CREMATION, 1942. By Jehangir B. Petit, Bombay.

NOTES IN A NUTSHELL. By Tanguturi Sriramulu. Vavilla Press, Madras. As. 8.

TREATIES, ENGAGEMENTS AND SANADS. By K. R. R. Sastri, M.A., M.L. Allahabad University. Rs. 10.

PAKISTAN EXAMINED. By Rezaul Karim, M.A., B.L. The Book Company Ltd., Calcutta.

ISVAR BUNAN or Science of Sciences. By Swami Abhedananda. Sri Sri. Dalgobinda Asram, Jagasti.

THE GROWTH OF RESPONSIBILITY IN SIKHISM. By Teja Singh, M.A. The Sikh Publishing House, Lahore. Re. 1-8.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



MADAME CHIANG'S APPEAL

In an article contributed to the *New York Times*, Madame Chiang Kai-Shek appeals to the West to think and treat China as an equal. There have been three stages in the treatment of the Chinese peoples by the Westerners, Madame Chiang pointed out. First, the Western exploitation of China; second, the Western sympathy and growing administration for the Chinese in their struggle against Japan since 1937; and third, the stage of active co-operation with China—the stage during which the Westerners learnt that Chinese victories in the Far East have been due to China's spiritual strength.

Pointing to the future, Madame Chiang said: "In the new world order that we are going to create, there must be no talk of superiors or inferiors. We must be equal—men and women of all races—pushing forward to a great ideal."

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Don't be deceived by the false term 'National Government,' warns Shri Mashruwala of the Gandhi Seva Sangh in a note in the *Harijan*.

"Admittedly, none of the political parties—including the Congress—expects that any 'National Government' that may be formed at present will have the right to put an end to the war irrespective of the wishes of Great Britain. It can only be the Indian branch of the British Government. It is self-deception to call such office-taking 'National Government'.

The name has already entrapped some of our legislators and many more of them

are yet willing to be entrapped. If we think closely instead of loosely, we will find that we cannot form a 'National Government' in the existing state of things."

CALL TO CHURCHILL

Dismiss Amery without delay, says *John Bull*, in an open letter to Mr. Churchill. Giving its reasons, the paper says:

He has proved worse than a failure. He has obstinately and blindly hampered the very real opportunities of gaining an understanding with India.

Not for him are the sane counsels of moderation and compromise. His stand is that of the autocratic Imperialist: "Accept my policy or go to the devil."

He is adamant alike in repelling the advances of Congress and ignoring the wise proposals of Sir Tej Sapru and other liberals.

Though the Japanese menace creates a new and urgent demand for settling our differences with India, he refuses to allow any new hope of securing not only the friendship of the Indian myriads, but their full co-operation in the war effort.

So Leopold Stennet Amery must be sacked. We cannot afford to tolerate his stubborn folly any longer. We cannot, indeed, afford to perpetuate any relics of the unfortunate past.

There is no disposition among the British people, continues *John Bull*, to bolster up a dog-in-the-manger Imperialism that for years has incited the resentment and active distrust of those who should be our willing allies.

We—the people—want their help in winning this war. We want it to save them from a worse tyranny than they have ever known.

We want it in securing a peace that will give to them a higher way of life.

I do not believe it will be necessary to *howl* to any one Indian sect. I am convinced we need not surrender our rightful interests or sacrifice our prestige.

The most imperative necessity is to erase the biggest blot on our history as a World Power, and we cannot do so unless we first remove those people in our midst who seek to impose a dictatorial system as unfair as it is unworkable.

Do that, and you will achieve one of the greatest aids to our victory and the peace we are determined to secure.

SCORCHED EARTH POLICY

In the discussions about a scorched earth policy for Indian defence, a certain confusion appeared from the first, says the *New Review*.

It was said that when Government owns factories and everything, the policy is all right; but that when individuals are the owners, it is all wrong and detrimental to the people at large. All agree that the immediate loss is the same in both cases; the discussion and the confusion arise about the far-reaching losses and the difficulty of reconstruction; when all is said, it boils down to a comparison between State capitalism and Private capitalism.

Let us visualize the task of reconstruction. When the Government is the sole owner, it can supply the raw materials free; when Government is not the owner, it is paid royalties; the difference lies between the amount of royalties and the value of the State buildings.

Again the labour (extraction and transport of materials, re-building, re-equipping, etc.) is to be paid for in both cases; the workers have to be kept at their task and supplied with the necessities of life and these can only be had from the national wealth. The State-employer may take it from other people (peasants and artisans) or from the workers themselves (by a cut in their real wages below the normal standards, which cut is the workers' sacrifice) as happened in Soviet Russia. Or Government may allow capitalists to undertake rebuilding and defray the expenses but would take back what it can by way of taxes to recover possible advances, interest on loan, etc. As to materials and machinery imported from foreign countries, they evidently must be paid by the nation in goods or services. So from the point of view of mere costs to the nation, there is little to choose between the two methods.

The choice is rather a matter of management, initiative and courage. In all cases a heavy sacrifice will be necessary; only tactful legislation can distribute it evenly among all classes; but, as past experience has shown, both State capitalism and Private capitalism can be very wasteful and very oppressive.

Nobody can deny that a scorched-earth policy is at best a most ruinous necessity and can lead to a century-long impoverishment. As little as possible should be destroyed; destroy what would help the enemy's military effort as long as he is in possession and not more; of this, only the military can judge.

THE ELEVEN COMMANDMENTS

What is the Japanese soldier like? Is he really efficient in the field? What is all this talk about ju-jitsu in the Japanese army, and does it make them better soldiers? These and other questions are answered by Hilda M. Oppenheim in the *Illustrated Weekly of India*.

The Japanese soldier has eleven commandments to observe. They are insisted on mainly from a health point of view and to a large extent they achieve their aim. Here is the list.

Spend as much time out-of-doors as possible. Bask in the sun and take plenty of exercise. Take care that your respiration is always deep and regular.

As regards meals, eat meat only once a day and as far as possible let your diet be eggs, cereals, vegetables, fruit and cow's fresh milk. Masticate your food carefully.

Take a hot bath daily and a steam bath once or twice a week if your heart is strong enough to bear it.

Put on roughly-woven underwear (cotton fabrics are preferable) and clothes. A comfortable collar, light hat of any material and well-fitting boots.

Early to bed and early to rise.

Sleep in a very dark and very quiet room with windows open. Let the minimum of sleeping hours be six and a half, and the maximum seven and a half.

Take one day of absolute rest per week as far as can be managed if in the field. On this day refrain from even reading or writing.

Try to avoid any form of passions and strong mental stimulants. Do not overtax your brain at the occurrence of inevitable incidents or of coming events. Do not say unpleasant things, nor listen, if possible, to disagreeable things.

Be married. Widows and widowers should be married with the least possible delay.

Be moderate in the consumption of even tea and coffee, not to say tobacco and alcoholic beverages.

Avoid places that are too warm, especially steam-heated and badly ventilated rooms.

People are apt to under-rate the Jap forces. This is a mistake. True, there are weak points in their armour, but it is always better to think your enemy really strong while looking for his weak points.

PUBLIC SERVICES IN INDIA

Prof. Sri Ram Sharma, writing in the *Twentieth Century*, puts in a plea for the reorganisation of the Public Services in India. So far, an attempt has been made to place the recruitment of the Indian, central, and provincial services alone on a regular basis. Public Service Commissions have been set up in all the provinces (sometimes two provinces having a joint Commission) for the purpose of conducting various examinations for admission into the Services. There is a Federal Public Service Commission as well under the Central Government.

Unlike the English Civil Service Commissioners, the Public Service Commissions in India have not been armed with enough independent powers for keeping out patronage either in recruitment, postings, transfers or promotions.

The organisation of the services at present is defective in several ways.

The salaries at the top are unduly high with the result that at the bottom they do not guarantee a living wage. The suggestion in certain quarters to bring down the highest salary to Rs. 500 a month is an indication of the interest in the problem rather than significant as its solution. Such a low salary would probably drive the Indians of the necessary calibre to other more lucrative jobs in the country. For the same work different salaries are paid to different public servants on various excuses—the accident of once having been recruited in England or being denationalized enough to keep one's wife or children or both in England. There does not seem to be any reason why public servants performing the same duties should be paid differently.

Patronage, says the Professor, is still rife to an extent now becoming rarer

elsewhere. There does not seem to be any reason why all recruitment to services should not be through the Public Service Commission and by competitive examinations.

A reorganization of certain services is necessary as also the bringing in of all servants within definitely organised categories. The guaranteeing to Anglo-Indians the right to nine per cent. of jobs in certain specified services seem to be a racial gift. The appointment of vacancies not only between various communities but between the various sections of certain communities seems to be a dangerous concession to particularism. Rules could be easily made for either delegating the power of the Secretary of State to the Governors or Governors-General and through them to the Public Service Commissions. The British element should disappear; if we need British experts, we should be able to recruit them on their terms ourselves. The reservation of vacancies for various communities, including Anglo-Indians and Muslims, prevents the state from getting the best recruits available and makes it impossible for a citizen to serve the State to the best of his ability. If reservation for certain communities has to be made, this should be done on some general principle and should only apply to recruitment and not to promotions.



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—Pt. Jawahar Lal Nehru.

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SOCIAL EVOLUTION IN INDIA

In the course of an article in the *Aryan Path* for May, Mr. John Barnabas attempts to prophesy the course of social evolution in India. He points out that India should learn from the experience of the West that lax morals are in the interest neither of the individual nor of the race.

In a study made in Bombay recently of 600 educated youths, it was revealed that 50 per cent. of the young women considered marriage not necessary since they could work and earn. All the women believed in birth-control while 88.3 per cent. of the men voted for it. The majority of the women and 50 per cent. of the men were against the joint-family system and insisted on freedom of choice. It is not unusual to find young women advocating the right of the maiden to motherhood.

There is evidence of a revolt against marriage as a lifelong tie. Though the law is still against such a turn, evidence is not wanting of the emerging of divorce provisions. The revolt against exclusive possession will also liberalise marriage.

The main factor that affects marriage and the family is the economic and the political order.

I may suggest that the progress of democracy on the one hand, and the increasing popularity of the socialist economy on the other, point the same way as feminism, individualism and changing sex concepts. With the spread of education among women, with the possibilities of profitable occupations for them, the age of marriage is rising; in other words, marriage and the family are not considered indispensable. On the other hand, the breaking up of the joint family is gradually throwing the burden of maintaining a family on the young man and so he has to wait for marriage till he is economically well-settled. But the sex urge will not wait to express itself only when he can afford a wife, and therefore extra-marital relations appear necessary.

America is now almost at the end of that phase of culture, which educated India is now entering upon in the sphere of marriage and the family.

Rural India must enter upon and pass through what urban educated India is experiencing. The speed of such a movement will depend upon the speed with which economics and politics move in India. If we want to know the future of marriage in India, we may with profit look at the America of the immediate yesterday and even of today. But there is in sight already a change backwards in the family concept of America. Romantic marriage almost ran riot there. Therefore American sociologists are recognizing that what the American family needs is not more individualism, more democratic freedom, but a better social philosophy.

NATURAL GROUPINGS

Mr. John Coatman, former Director of Public Information, Government of India, in an article in the *Manchester Guardian*, suggests the division of India into natural groupings as the best way out of the present deadlock. Let us look at the negotiations in India, he writes.

Broadly speaking, the Congress Party was primarily concerned with an interim settlement—a National Government now. The Moslems, the Hindu Mahasabha and the Sikhs were thinking chiefly of the long-term political organisation of India. Implicit in the Congress Party's policy is a unitary India with a parliamentary cabinet system controlled by the majority or federation based throughout on the same principles. The Moslems, Princes, Sikhs and certain others will not accept this arrangement.

What is the way out of the deadlock? Stated in broad outline, it is this, says Mr. Coatman:

Forget the present political map of India and realise that the provinces of British India are as irrelevant to a self-governing India as are the provinces of Roman Britain to the Britain of today. India is composed of territories inhabited by peoples differing in languages, traditions, cultures and religions. Maharattas, Sikhs, Moslems, Rajputs, Dogras and many other names recall great memories of proud historic achievements. Here are natural units of a self-governing India, and they can be made so within the terms of Sir Stafford's announcement.

When a constituent assembly is elected, he asks, what is to stop the delegates who will belong to these various peoples from meeting to draw up the boundaries of these natural units?

Rulers of Sikh, Moslem, Maharatta and other States will surely be able to co-operate on satisfactory terms with those of their race outside their own borders; and thus, at a stroke, some of the most intransigent elements of the Indian problem are resolved.

Here surely is an ideal for India. Hindu-Moslem antagonism could be swallowed up and so could other antagonisms, for Pakistan is not the only separatist movement in modern India.

Mr. Coatman goes on to add also that because of the great importance of Moslems for India's defence and in view of their general conditions, he would have a separate Moslem office and Cabinet minister at the Centre for Moslem interests. Inside the

British Commonwealth, this reversion to natural groupings and a road to the union of all India, he thinks, can be peacefully accomplished.

If this long-distance policy is possible, the immediate problem becomes manageable. The bases of present antagonisms between Hindus and Moslems crumble and they become two main members of one complex of kindred peoples.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION

In the *Prabuddha Bharata* for May, Dr. N. R. Dhar urges the importance of scientific and technical education in any scheme of national regeneration. With the rise of industrialization, specialists and research men and women would be needed and at the present moment most of our Indian universities are not well equipped for such purpose, nor is there any congenial atmosphere for the creation of new knowledge for making discoveries.

During the last 20 years numerous teaching and residential universities have been created in this country, but unfortunately as they are flooded by pupils who want degrees and not learning, the result has been most unsatisfactory. What is definitely wanted is that the college system teaching up to the degree standard should continue and those who want degrees may go to the college and study for a while, play games and attend social activities. The truly serious type of pupils wanting research and learning may go to the universities where only post-graduate work should be concentrated. The degree work should be taken away from most of these universities and be given to the colleges where there is more of *esprit de corps* and compactness necessary for discipline and development of personality. The continental idea of university, which is a conglomeration of really learned men as teachers and seekers of knowledge and truth as pupils, must be encouraged in this country for our national development and industrial progress.

During our lifetime, we have seen the magnificent progress which America and Russia have made in the realm of industry and commerce through the help of applied and pure science and engineering.

In India also after establishing technical universities and instituting research scholarships or national fellowships for research, if we devote ourselves whole-heartedly to the pursuit of applied science, then within a period of 20 to 25 years, India may, perhaps, attain the same standard of industrial prosperity as America or Russia.

CHINA'S PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

In an article in the *Atlantic Monthly*, Madame Chiang Kai-shek discusses China's plans for the future. She says:

It may not seem good sense to prepare architectural improvements while the house is still on fire, yet the United Nations realise that post-war conditions will bring problems demanding thought, devotion, and the practical application of idealism.

Madame Chiang declares that China is already discussing what is to be done in China to counteract the devastation of the war, and tells how the structure of Chinese life is to be evolved. "China," she says,

though harried by death and destruction, is giving careful thought to the perfection of the political and social system, with the idea of ensuring the greatest good for the greatest number. Chinese sages have observed: 'Only the very wisest or the most stupid never change.'

China will not tolerate foreign exploitation or the exploitation of one section of society by another within China. One individual will not be permitted to get rich at the expense of others and progressive taxation will protect the people's rights.

To give the people fuller and better opportunities for a well-rounded and happier life, a new kind of Chinese socialism is evolving based on democratic principles. This socialism is not a mere pale reflection of Western socialism, though it is adopting many of the good principles that the West offers, especially since most of the Western principles find their counterpart in the third of the principles envisaged by Dr. Sun Yat-sen, upon which all of China's ideology is based.

These principles are:

- (1) Nationalism, which means that there should be equality of all peoples, different races respecting each other and living in peace and harmony;
- (2) people's rights, which means that there should be four basic privileges—election, recall, initiative and referendum—under which people will live;
- (3) people's livelihood, which means that there should be clothing, food, housing and communications for all.

Madame Chiang affirms that China is recruiting the wisest Chinese intelligence available to ensure that political freedom.

BLACK-OUTS IN AMERICA

America does not seem to have full faith in black-outs. This is what *Science and Culture* says:—

"It has been pointed out that while creating new problems for the police because of the possibility of increased crime and traffic accidents, black-outs have been of questionable value from the military point of view. Nazi fliers, it is said, located English cities with the aid of radio beams. Moreover, parachute flares and incendiary bombs have largely annulled the effect of black-outs. On the other hand, the works of the police, the A. R. P. workers and firemen are greatly increased during black-outs, and continued reduction in social life for long periods tends to affect the morale of the people. An alternative to hinder the activities of enemy aircrafts has been suggested. Powerful search-lights, and wide-angle flood lights directed towards the sky, would confuse enemy aircrafts and would aid protecting aircrafts to shoot down the enemy. Preliminary tests carried out by the U. S. Army shows that even with a long viewing tube, pilots could not penetrate the glare to find important targets."

CONGRESS AND THE LEAGUE

The official organ of the All-India Muslim League, *The Dawn*, issued from Delhi, commenting on the Madras Congress Legislature Party's resolution, writes that the fate of the Madras recommendation in the A.-I. C. C. has been sealed.

Still the credit goes to Mr. Rajagopalachari for giving the right lead to the Congress at this turning-point in the history of India.

In recommending to the All-India Congress Committee to accept the principle of separation

of India, as demanded by the Muslim League and make a settlement with the latter to establish an interim Government in the Centre with a view to facing the danger of war with determination, the Madras Legislature Party has taken a sensible and realistic view of things—rather late. The Indian question cannot be solved by consistently ignoring the Muslims and trying to settle matters direct with the British Government as has been hitherto the policy of the Congress. Immediately after the declaration of the war, the League, having realised its full implications and dangers to the safety of India, had offered to co-operate with the Government in war effort; but, owing both, to the obstructive policy of the Congress and the over-eagerness of the Government to placate that party, the offer remained unaccepted. Had there been no differences among the Indian peoples both in respect of the future constitution of India and the distribution of power during the interim period, things would have been quite different.

INDIA IN PERIODICALS

GROWTH OF POPULATION IN BRITISH INDIA. By N. Sundarama Sastry. [The New Review, May 1942.]

ECONOMICS OF KHADI. By Dr. H. C. Mookerjee, M.A. [The Calcutta Review, March 1942.]

LIFE INSURANCE IN INDIA. By Amiya K. Sen. [The Modern Review, May 1942.]

THE CRIPPS MISSION. By Kunwar Sir Jagdish Prasad, K.C.S.I. [The Twentieth Century, May 1942.]

THE PHILOSOPHY OF SAIVA SIDDHANTA. By S. Satchidanandam Pillai. [The Vedanta Kesari, May 1942.]

WHAT MYSORE HAS DONE INDIA CAN DO. By K. S. Srikanth, M.A. [Prabuddha Bharata, May 1942.]

THE FUTURE OF THE FAMILY IN INDIA. By John Bernabas. [The Aryan Path, May 1942.]

THE WOMEN'S MOVEMENT IN INDIA. By Miss Wahida Aziz. [The Hindustan Review, March 1942.]

THE INDIAN PEASANT AND THE MODERN WORLD. By Sir Malcolm Darling. [The Asiatic Review, January 1942.]

INDIAN STATES

Hyderabad

SOUTH INDIAN ASSOCIATION

With a view to promoting *esprit de corps* among the South Indians and providing a forum for all the members to meet and discuss matters pertaining to their well-being, a South Indian Tamilian Association has been formed in Hyderabad.

THE NIZAM AS POET

H. E. H. the Nizam conferred the title "Imam-ul-Fani" (Authority on Poetry) on Nawab Fasahat Jung Bahadur Jaleel, a well known Urdu poet. H. E. H. the Nizam himself accepted the title of "Sultan-us-Shura" (King of Poets) at the request of Nawab Fasahat Jung.

A HARIJAN INSPECTOR

H. E. H. the Nizam's Government have sanctioned the post of an Inspector of Schools for the Harijans. The Inspector will be a Harijan.

Cochin

COCHIN COURTS AND INSTITUTIONS

The Dewan of Cochin has issued the following Press *Communique*:—

As a result of the recent war developments, the likelihood of an attack on Cochin without sufficient warning to enable persons to leave in time may be considered remote. The likelihood of any attack at all has diminished. Court and educational institutions will be re-opening on the usual dates and the Government hope that any person with work of business of any kind in the Cochin area who have left the place will return, so as to ensure that the normal life of the community is interfered with as little as possible.

COCHIN SECRETARIAT

In view of an improvement in reports on War situation, the Government of Cochin have decided to keep in abeyance the order to transfer the Secretariat and other public offices to Trichur, as announced in their earlier Press Note.

Mysore

TELEPHONES IN MYSORE

A circular issued to private subscribers of automatic telephones in Bangalore and Mysore cities by the Electricity Department of the Mysore Government says that, due to the present international situation, the demand for automatic telephones by the war services has considerably increased and that it has become necessary to disconnect telephones from private subscribers as occasion arises in view of the fact that it is not possible to meet the increased demand. While disconnecting the telephones, consideration will be paid to the requirements of public needs served by customers.

CONTROL OF SOUNDS ORDER

The Government of Mysore have published the Control of Sounds Order under the Defence of India Rules as applied to Mysore, prohibiting the sounding of sirens (including hooters in mills, factories, etc.) and of whistles or bells so as to be heard in any public place except for purposes of an authorised air-raid signal.

This order comes into force at once in the cities of Bangalore and Mysore and in the Kolar Gold Fields and Bhadravathi.

MYSORE RULER WEDS

The marriage of His Highness Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar of Mysore with Sri Thripurasundarai Ammanni Avaru, daughter of the late Lt. Balanaraj Urs of Mysore Royal family, was solemnised according to Hindu Vedic rites at the Mysore Palace on May 6.

PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL

The Government of Mysore have passed orders granting the Belur Minor Municipal Council the privilege of electing a non-official President from among its members.

Baroda

MEN IN DEFENCE SERVICES

The Baroda Government have granted concessions to medical men wishing to join the Defence services including grant of lien in Civil Department in the case of permanent Government servants, confirmation of probationers either on completion of period of probation or on the occurrence of substantive vacancies, counting military service for pay, promotion and pension in Medical Department, counting active service double for pay and promotion, preference for permanent appointment in the Medical Officer's cadre to those with approved military service, and permission to pensioners allowed to take up service in British India for war purpose to draw their pension in addition to their salary.

SCHOLARSHIPS FOR MUSLIMS

To encourage spread of education amongst the Muslims in the State, 20 scholarships amounting to Rs. 145 per month for both boys and girls have been sanctioned. They cover the studies in the College, the Kalabhavan and Secondary schools.

RELIEF TO VILLAGES

Owing to cultivation being rendered unsatisfactory as a result of the land being spread with sand by the floods of August 1941, the Government have granted certain concessions including remission of land revenue amounting to Rs. 3,277 in 5 villages of Baroda district.

FODDER TO AGRICULTURISTS

To meet the scarcity of fodder in the Okhamandal taluka on account of scanty rainfall, Government fixed rates for the sale of grass and other fodder purchased by the Government for giving to the agriculturists either in the form of tagavi or on cash payment in order to enable them to maintain their cattle.

Travancore

LITERACY IN INDIA

That Travancore leads the rest of India in literacy has been revealed by recent census figures.

The final figures of population and literacy for Provinces and States in India have been communicated by the Census Commissioner for India to the Travancore Government.

The population of the chief states are: Hyderabad, 16 millions; Mysore, 7½ millions; Travancore, 6 millions; Kashmir and Gwalior nearly 4 millions each; Baroda nearly 3 millions and Cochin nearly 1½ millions.

From the point of view of literacy, Travancore takes the highest place in India, the figures being 47.88 per cent., Cochin coming next with 35.43; Delhi 25.7, and Baroda 23.01.

Among the provinces, Madras, Bombay and Bengal have percentages of 18.01, 19.5, and 16.12.

The figure relating to literacy among women, that is 36 per cent. is even more striking, and Travancore has a higher relative place among the provinces and states in comparison even with literacy among men.

SIR C. P. IN MYSORE

Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer, Dewan of Travancore, was on a short visit to Mysore during the last week of May when he conferred with the officials of the State and had an interview with H. H. the Maharaja. The purpose of the visit, it is learnt, is to acquaint the Government of Mysore with the details of the constitutional talks recently held in New Delhi and to exchange ideas regarding future developments in so far as they affect Indian States.

Kashmir

KASHMIR STATE ARMY

His Highness the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir has sanctioned a scheme of reforms for the State army with a view to improving the status of officers and ameliorating the lot of all other ranks, states a Press Note.

The scheme which is being introduced forthwith provides for the revision of pay and allowances of State officers, combatant branch, Indian officers, combatant branches, including military transport and State band and other ranks, combatants. The General Staff Officer, first grade, will be of the rank of Brigadier and the rank of Colonel will be abolished from the date on which the present incumbents are promoted or become non-effective.

It may be noted that the army expenditure of the State for the current financial year has been estimated at Rs. 76 lakhs. The scheme will involve a new expenditure of about Rs. 3-3/4 lakhs annually. For the current year, His Highness has decided to meet the extra expenditure entailed by the scheme, which is beyond any utilizable surplus in the army budget, from his privy purse.

EXEMPTION FROM CUSTOMS DUTY

The Kashmir Government have decided to give favourable consideration to proposals for exemption from Customs duty of raw materials required for execution of war orders in cases where the levy of such duty would put tenders from the State at a disadvantage as against others.

PARACHUTE CLOTH MANUFACTURE

The Kashmir Government have completed arrangements for producing about 15,000 yards of parachute cloth per month in its silk weaving factories.

Indore

RULER'S APPEAL TO ROOSEVELT

The suggestion that the United States should intervene and arbitrate on the differences between India and Britain along with the Governments of China and U. S. S. R., is made by His Highness the Maharaja of Indore in an open letter to President Roosevelt.

"I suggest, therefore, that the Government of the United States should now declare itself willing to take its proper share in this work of arbitration along with the Governments of China and the U. S. S. R. Let us suppose that two representatives from each of these countries were to come to India now to analyse our problems and put forward a settlement that would be binding on Britain and India alike, then India which is divided and disaffected would take new heart, while Britain would be relieved of an immense burden.

As an earnest of my sincerity in making this proposal, I hereby declare that I would without question abide by any decision regarding my own State arrived at by such an international body of arbitrators, no matter what the consequence of such a decision might be.

Rampur

RAMPUR REVENUES

The State of Rampur looks forward to a revenue of over Rs. 65 lakhs in the financial year 1942-43; its expenditure has been estimated to exceed Rs. 68 lakhs. The Finance Minister has, however, assured the State's Legislative Assembly that as a result of certain adjustments, the deficit at the end of the year will be less than a lakh. So small a deficit need cause no alarm. Rampur's Army and Civil Defence estimates stand at nearly Rs. 14 lakhs as against the normal Rs. 5 lakhs.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

Burma

PANDIT KUNZRU'S STATEMENT

The Hon. Pandit Kunzru and Mr. A. M. Dam, M.L.A., members of the Central Standing Evacuation Committee, have issued a joint statement to the Press in which they say:

It is obviously necessary that the refugees, who arrive after undergoing nerve-racking experiences should secure consideration and sympathetic treatment from the evacuation officers, at least from Tammu onwards; but the evacuees with whom we talked were unanimous in complaining bitterly of the callous and insulting attitude of the evacuation officers and their principal subordinates and the harshness of the police at Tammu and Waksu which, we understand is about 14 miles from Tammu on what is popularly called the "Black" Road. The evacuees belonging to the upper classes were particularly indignant at the treatment meted out to them. It appears that the Indian refugees are treated in such a way as to humiliate them and make them feel that they belong to an inferior race.

We were told that the refugees were beaten by the police and sometimes by the Evacuation Officer at Waksu himself. These complaints, made by persons of all classes, which we have no reason to regard as untrue, reveal a state of affairs which has aroused justifiable resentment throughout the country. It cannot be too strongly condemned and should be put an end to immediately. We understand that the Administrator General, Major-General Wood, has been authorised to deal with questions relating to evacuation up to Kalewa. He recently visited Tammu and inspected the Kalewa-Tammu route. We trust, therefore, that he will lose no time in dealing vigorously with the situation which has been allowed to continue too long. We are afraid that Indians will not be properly treated so long as the present arrangements are continued and feel that officers of the Government of India should be placed in charge of the camps referred to above, so that all evacuation problems may be dealt with under the authority of the Government of India from Tammu onwards.

We think that there should have been only one route for evacuees of all races and classes. No distinction should have been made in this matter, but the Tammu-Pallel route, having been organised, it should never have been closed to Indians. It is, however, now being used by limited numbers of Indian refugees of good social position. Their selection depends on the Evacuation Officer at Tammu. This naturally gives rise to heart-burning and we think that this too is a question which should be dealt with by officers of the Government of India.

Ceylon

EVACUATION FROM CEYLON

Mr. S. Satyamurthi, M.L.A. (Central). President, Indian Overseas Association, writes:

The chapter of evacuation from Burma is nearly closing. The chapter of evacuation from Ceylon is just beginning. It is upto the Government of India to take immediate steps to facilitate the evacuation of Indians from Ceylon who desire to return to India except those whose services are required for essential war purposes in Ceylon.

The main difficulty of the Indian evacuees from Ceylon is in respect of exchanging Ceylon currency for Indian currency. I make the following suggestions:—

Profiteering in exchanging should be made an offence. A branch of the Imperial Bank of India should be established for the time being at Manamadurai. All Government treasuries should be instructed to exchange Ceylon money for Indian money. More trains should run in Ceylon for the conveyance of passengers to India and ferry services should run regularly every day between Talaimannar and Danushkodi. So far as Indian workers who are remaining in Ceylon are concerned they should be given sufficient food, at least 6 measures of rice a week. Their lives should be insured and their wages should be increased adequately to meet the increasing prices and the Government of India should in consultation with the Government of Ceylon make arrangements for the safety of the properties left in Ceylon by the evacuees.

Far East

RELIEF FOR INDIAN EVACUEES

An Indian Evacuees Relief Committee has been constituted with Mr. G. D. Birla as Chairman by the Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. The members include the Presidents of the Burma Indian Chamber of Commerce, the Nattukottai Chettiar Association, and the Burma Indian Association, Rangoon, and also Sir Purushottambas Thakurdas, Sir Shri Ram, Mr. Kasturbhai Lalbhai, Mr. G. L. Mehta and Kumararaja Sir Muthiah Chettiar.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

QUESTIONS OF IMPORTANCE

NEW SCHEME OF DEFENCE

A reorganisation of the three Army Commands in India has been carried out, it is learned, in order to ensure effective operation of the scheme of defence outlined by His Excellency General Sir Archibald Wavell, the Commander-in-Chief, in a recent broadcast. "It is our intention," said His Excellency, "to meet the possibility of invasion by mobility and attack and not by holding defensive lines. The defence of India will be based on the holding within striking distance of threatened points of mobile reserves which can move to meet and attack the enemy."

Accordingly, the three commands, the northern, eastern and southern have undergone a change both in character and nomenclature and have been transformed into fighting organisations.

CONGRESS AND THE LEAGUE

"I have no hesitation in endorsing Maulana Sahab's suggestion that the Congress Working Committee will nominate five representatives to meet the five representatives of the Muslim League when the latter so desire to do, writes Mahatma Gandhi in *Harijan*.

Gandhiji adds: "No one would be more glad than I, if with or without my endorsement the two can come together."

BURMA GOVERNMENT IN INDIA

A Press Note, dated 10th May, announced that owing to the restriction of the area outside the zone of military operations and the consequent impossibility of any civil administration continuing to function as such, the Governor of Burma, under orders from His Majesty's Government, has moved to India whither his ministers had preceded him.

UTTERANCES OF THE DAY

VICEROY ON NATIONAL WAR FRONT

In a spirited broadcast on the National War Front, H. E. the Viceroy said from All-India Radio, Delhi, on May 7:—

We must achieve unity and action and we must combine them in a spirit of attack. Passive defence, or masterly withdrawals, forced on us as they are at times do not win wars. Let us attack our work, attack the rumour-monger, attack the defeatist. We must make our front an attacking front and think always in terms of the offensive.

There is no one in India who does not know that, if all that we value is to survive, if hope is not to die, this war must be won. Every thinking man knows that with the resources which the United Nations have it can be won.

Whether it will be won or not depends on ourselves. So let us build the war front in India while there is yet time.

DR. RAJENDRA PRASAD'S PLEA

Dr. Rajendra Prasad, inaugurating a volunteers' camp at Wardha on May 1, referred to the A. I. C. C. resolution on War and said:

Britain during the last 150 years left us unarmed and unprotected and she is still not inclined to transfer real power for the defence of India. So we have no other alternative but to resist the enemy by non-violent non-co-operation according to the instructions of Mahatma Gandhi in case Japan or Germany invades India.

India is nobody's enemy and does not desire to encroach upon others' rights or territories. If Britain leaves India to herself, many of the strifes and disputes would soon end including the communal ones.

We want to end British Imperialist domination, but we do not wish to invite Japan and install her as our overlord to oust Britain. We want independence for which we have been struggling for 50 years.

We want a *panchayat raj* (democracy). The time for test has come when you will have to sacrifice to defend your homes, hearths, property and the country against foreign aggression.

You should not run away from your posts of duty, but play your part befitting your traditions and consistent with the principle of non-violence.

DR. SAPRU ON THE DEADLOCK

In the course of a statement to the Press, Sir Tej Bahadur deprecates the failure of the Cripps' Mission and adds:

I refuse to believe the story which has been put forward in certain quarters that the political parties concerned were not willing to assume responsibility. Whatever may be said by some unthinking persons about the danger of any Indian Cabinet entering directly into peace negotiations with Japan, I refuse to believe that men who would assume responsibility as a result of settlement with the British Government would betray their trust. . . .

Similarly, when some objections were raised to the transfer of the control of defence suggesting that a liberal distribution of arms for purposes of defence might endanger internal safety or might be a source of danger to the British connection, I thought and think that considerations of that character ought not to influence a courageous settlement of the Indian question. . . .

It is now being urged that nothing more can be done by the British Government as the initiative must now come from Indian political parties. This seems to me to be moving in a vicious circle. Sir Stafford Cripps concentrated in India on the Congress and the Muslim League, almost wholly to the exclusion of the other parties. I do not believe that either party will take the initiative. The result, therefore, will be that we shall stand where we have stood during the last two years and more, with the only difference that the sense of frustration will be keener and the tension between the communities all the greater than it was before. I greatly fear that if the deadlock continues, there may again be a conflict between the Government and one or other of the political parties with results which, in view of the present war situation, will not be anything but disastrous.

SIR CHIMANLAL'S PLEA

Sir Chimanal Setalvad in a statement published on May 7, criticising the Congress Committee resolution, says:

As I have often said, the charge-sheet of grievances that India can legitimately produce against England is grave and long but to refuse to co-operate actively with the British Government in defending the country when the enemy is at our very door, is absolutely suicidal.

We are not forgetting our differences with England. There will be time enough to settle them after the war is won. If the war is not won, the independence and freedom of India will recede into the background for how long a time one does not know. It is for our own sake now and not that of England that Indians must actively participate in the war effort.

I entirely agree with Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar that the Congress must arrive at a settlement with the Muslim League though the method adopted by him for that purpose was rather unfortunate.

UNIVERSITY CLASS IN JOURNALISM

The conclusion of the term of the Punjab University class in journalism was marked by an "at home" held in the lawns of the Law College when felicitations were offered to the University by Mr. F. W. Bustin of the *C. and M. Gazette*, Mr. Jang Bahadur of the *Tribune* and others on the success of the experiment. The course, which extended over six months, was attended by 36 students from different parts of India.

A large number of working journalists and some members of the University Senate responded to the invitation of the young trainees.

Khan Bahadur Mian Afzal Hussain, Vice-Chancellor, of the Punjab University, in a brief speech said that the journalism class had started well and he was glad that the experiment had proved successful during the first term. Mr. P. P. Singh, head of the Department of Journalism, thanked the Punjab Press for their co-operation in making the experiment a success.

DELHI UNIVERSITY REORGANISATION

Speaking at a press conference, Sir Maurice Gwyer gave an account of his three and a half years' stewardship of the University.

Sir Maurice's plans for the reorganisation of Delhi University based on the principles of a memorandum submitted by him nearly three years ago and accepted by the Government of India may have repercussions on other universities in course of time. His aim, briefly, is to create a university in the capital city worthy of India.

LAXMINARAYAN INSTITUTE

The Luxminarayan Technological Institute, constructed out of a princely donation of Rs. 34 lakhs, donated by the late Rao Bahadur D. Luxminarayan, Member, Council of State, will commence functioning from July next. Dr. Salatore of Calcutta has been appointed the Director of the Institute. The assets of the Luxminarayan bequest now stand at about Rs. 52 lakhs and this is the largest single donation received by the Nagpur University which controls the affairs of the Institute.

THE NATIONAL HERALD CASE

Mr. K. Rama Rao, Editor of the *National Herald*, was found guilty, on May 15, by Mr. F. L. Smith, District and Sessions Judge, under Section 500 I. P. C. (defamation) and sentenced to six months simple imprisonment and to pay Rs. 750 fine or in default to undergo three months further imprisonment.

The fine, if realised, is to be paid to Mr. C. S. Ledlie, Superintendent of the Lucknow Camp Jail, (now abolished) who is the complainant as compensation.

The assessors had returned a unanimous verdict of "not guilty".

The case was in respect of a news item published in the *National Herald* on August 24 1941, under the heading "Jungle Law in Lucknow Camp Jail" and an editorial "Jail or Jungle" published in the *National Herald*, dated August 26, 1941.

Immediately after the judgment had been pronounced, Mr. R. K. Bahadurji Counsel for Mr. Rama Rao, filed an appeal before Sir George Thomas, Chief Judge of the Oudh Chief Court, against the conviction by the Sessions Judge. The Chief Judge ordered Mr. Rama Rao to be released on furnishing two securities.

SIR JOHN BEAUMONT

His Excellency the Governor-General has been pleased to appoint the Honourable Sir John Beaumont, at present Chief Justice of the High Court of Judicature at Bombay, to be an Acting Judge of the Federal Court of India, in place of Sir Mohammad Zafrullah Khan, who has proceeded on deputation to Chungking as Agent-General of the Government of India.

PROHIBITION OF CONGRESS RESOLUTION

The Government of India have issued a *Gazette Extraordinary* prohibiting all printers, publishers and editors in British India from publishing the whole or any part of the resolution of the Working Committee of the All-India Congress passed at Allahabad relating to events in Rangoon and the probability of similar events in India.

LIFE INSURANCE AND WAR EMERGENCY

Doubts and anxieties are being expressed by a number of policyholders about the future of their life insurance policies in the event of enemy attacks or invasion of any part of this country.

The following is a summary of the position in regard to the policies issued by the United India Life Assurance Co., Ltd.:

The Company is liable to pay the full sum assured in the event of death, whatever be the cause of death so long as the life assured remains in India or Ceylon and is engaged in civil occupations. Only if the life assured should take up military service or leave India or Ceylon, certain restrictions begin to apply. But even in such an event the full sum assured will be payable if death should arise from natural causes not in any way connected with war. In the case of earlier policies however, there is not even any restriction with regard to going outside India or with regard to military service and the full sum assured is payable under any circumstances whatever be the cause of death.

Even in the event of enemy occupation of any parts of this country, the inability of the policyholder to communicate with the Head Office may not matter, in as much as the Company has got branches and collecting agents in almost every town and so long as premiums are paid to such branches or collecting agents within the due dates, there can be no fear of the policy lapsing. The Company will take the full responsibility for such payments and if the policy is maintained in this manner, the full sum assured will be payable in the event of death either by the Branch Office or by the Head Office after conditions become normal.

WAR DAMAGE TO FACTORIES

The following Press *Communique* has been issued:—

The War Risks (Factories) Insurance Ordinance provides that in respect of each claim the insured shall bear the first thousand or 20 per cent. of the claim, whatever is greater. To remove any doubts as to the significance of this provision, it is announced that its meaning is that in cases of damage amounting to Rs. 1,000 or less, no payments shall be made by the Government, the loss being borne wholly by the insured. While in cases of damage amounting to Rs. 5,000 or more, the Government shall pay an amount equal to 80 per cent. of the damage, the insured himself bearing the remaining 20 per cent.

YARN TRADE IN INDIA

The annual report of the Calcutta Yarn Merchants' Association for the year 1941, just submitted by Mr. H. K. Jhajharia, the Hony. Secretary of the Association, shows that during the year the Association made several representations to the Government of India and the Government of Bengal on various important problems relating to the yarn trade in the country, particularly with regard to the rise in price of yarn, supply of yarn to hand-loom weavers, recommendations of the Yarn Sub-Committee of the Textile panel, arbitrary assessment of Income-tax, etc.

The Association also sent its observations and suggestions to the Fact Finding Committee (Hand-loom and Mills) Government of India in the course of which the Association has suggested a complete overhauling of the industry.

WAGON SHORTAGE

The Committee of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has drawn attention to the acuteness of the wagon shortage. The Committee's suggestion to the Central Government to direct the Provincial Governments to set up Provincial Boards of Transport in which the commercial and industrial interests of the respective Provinces would be represented seems perhaps the only way of coping with the situation.

PRICE CONTROL COMMITTEE

For advising the Government of Bengal on problems relating to price control and food supply, a non-official committee consisting of representatives of various industrial and commercial organisations in the city has been formed at Calcutta at the instance of the Chief Controller of Prices, Bengal.

REVISED NEWSPRINT CONTROL ORDER

A *Gazette* notification says that the revised Newspaper Control Order, effecting a further reduction in the maximum number of pages of newspapers is to come into force on June 1, 1942.

WOMEN'S PAGE

WOMEN FOR INDIAN MEDICAL SERVICE

In a Press *Communique* dated January 13, 1942, the Government of India announced their decision to recruit to the Indian Medical Service for the duration of the present emergency a number of women medical graduates having experience in diseases of ear, nose and throat, radiology, pathology, ophthalmology, or anaesthetics. The Government are now pleased to announce their decision to dispense with the condition requiring experience in these special subjects. Women medical graduates, therefore, whether or not they have experience in any of these subjects, are now eligible for employment in the Indian Medical Service.

Mrs. NAIDU ON CIVILIZATION

Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, in the course of her inaugural address to the International Fellowship Meeting at Hyderabad, said:

To-day more than ever, in the history of the world, it is necessary for men and women to realise that civilization, culture, human progress, and peace lie not in differences and quarrels, not in the shifting of frontiers, not in cupidity that looks upon a map with the desire for annexation and exploitation, but in the sincere desire to come to an understanding between man and man and nation and nation. That is the only test of civilisation that is the supreme duty of the world to-day.

WOMEN'S NAVAL AUXILIARY RESERVE

The House of Representatives, Washington, by a voice vote, passed to the Senate legislation creating a Women's Naval Auxiliary Reserve open to any woman over 20. A measure creating a Navy Auxiliary Corps is already pending in the Senate.

WOMEN FOR MACHINE TOOL INDUSTRY

'The machine-tool industry must begin right now to consider the employment of women,' declared the President of the National Machine-tool Builders' Association, Mr. George Johnson, in New York.

LITERARY

LITERARY FACTS

Oliver Goldsmith sold the *Vicar of Wakefield* for £60.

Lloyd George received £100,000 for his *Memoirs*.

Shakespeare made about £30 a year out of his plays.

The Mss. of Hall Caine's *Life of Christ* was sold for £60,000.

Schubert received £5 for one of his songs.

Jonathan Swift was paid £200 for *Gulliver's Travels*.

Conan Doyle received £7,000 for *Rodney Stone*.

A. S. M. Hutchinson earned £30,000 for *If Winter Comes*.

Adam Smith received £500 for *Wealth of Nations*.

Morley was paid £10,000 for his *Life of Gladstone*.

Lady Oxford received £13,000 for her own life.

Thomas Gray received nothing for *Elegy Written in a Country Churchyard*.

K. M. JHAVERI

Dewan Bahadur Krishnalal Mohanlal Jhaveri is 75 years of age. This year he is entering in the 76th year of his career.

The *Bombay Samachar*, in recapitulating his services to Gujarati literature for a long period, reminds the readers of his work as the first President of the Gujarati Literary Conference and as author of a large number of works in Gujarati. Mention is made of his silent and selfless work in the cause of education in the Bombay University Senate and the Syndicate and Committees—a work which he is still continuing with unabated zeal and assiduity.

TELUGU HARIJAN

Mr. K. Narasayya, Editor, *Rayalaseema*, a Telugu weekly, got out the first edition of *Harijan* in Telugu at Tirupati on May 18. He secured the permission of Mahatma Gandhi to publish the Telugu version of *Harijan*. Mr. J. Sambasiva Rao is the editor and the first issue was distributed in the office of the *Rayalaseema* to a select audience, who assembled by invitation.

THE LATE SIR HENRY GIDNEY

Lt.-Col. Sir Henry Gidney, member of the Central Legislative Assembly, died recently in his New Delhi residence as a result of heat stroke. He had been in indifferent health for some time.

His death is a great loss to the Anglo-Indian community for whom he lived, worked, and died. He was a great fighter in their cause, both in the Legislative Assembly and outside. He was an uncompromising critic of the Government and a great friend of the underdog. Sir Henry Gidney was a very prominent figure in public life and served the interests of his community in various capacities. Although he was a medical man by profession, his knowledge of politics was great. He was a prominent member of the Indian Round Table Conference, the Joint Parliamentary Committee, and the National Defence Council and served on various Committees of the Central Legislative Assembly of which he was a member for a number of years.

Mr. G. C. NATARAJAN

Mr. G. C. Natarajan, M.B.E., Superintendent, Government Printing, Nagpur, C. P., has been granted leave preparatory to retirement from May 10, 1942. He belongs to a well-known family of Printers in Madras.

He went to the Central Provinces in 1923 as the Superintendent of the All-India Reporter Press, one of the largest presses in the Central Provinces publishing law books and journals, and continued in that capacity until 1928, when the Central Provinces Government appointed him Deputy Superintendent of the Government Press. Later, he became the Superintendent of the Press, he being the first Indian to hold this important post.

SIR ABDULLA HAROON

Sir Abdulla Haroon, M.L.A. (Central) died of heart failure on April 26 at Karachi. Sir Abdulla Haroon, who was 66, was President of the Sind Muslim League.

Sir Abdulla was a member of the All-India Muslim League Executive. He was a Minister of the Sind Government for some years.

THE AYURVEDIC SYSTEM

The need for a higher standard of education for those who received training in the Ayurvedic system of medicine and for bringing the system itself on a par with other systems to suit the present day conditions was stressed by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, addressing the Annual Convocation of the Government Ayurvedic School at Patna.

Urging those who practise the Ayurvedic system of medicine to keep a selfless ideal before them, Dr. Rajendra Prasad pointed out that one of the greatest needs of the system itself was the addition of surgery and its wide application. There was evidence to show that surgery was not unknown to the system in ancient days, but had suffered by neglect of late.

Emphasizing the need for research in the Ayurvedic system, Dr. Rajendra Prasad pointed out that the system could be enriched in various directions and made to serve the needs of the poor as no other system could. It was also necessary to incorporate in the system the result of researches in other medical sciences, which had proved to be invaluable in curing certain diseases such as quinine for malaria.

ENGLISH MEDICAL RELIEF TO RUSSIA

The English are sending nearly eight times as much medical relief to Russia as are the Americans and the situation should be reversed, said Lord Marley, addressing the Russian War Relief Conference.

"The United States is sending 164,000 dollars worth monthly while Britain is sending 1,200,000 dollars worth," he said. "There is no reason why you in America cannot supply ten times as much money for this purpose as the English do." Lord Marley asserted that the English were denying themselves food in order to send it to Russia.

VITAMIN C HELPS HEALING

Wounds heal poorly after an operation and are likely to break open when the patient has been getting too little vitamin C—the vitamin found in tomatoes, citrus fruits and other fruits and vegetables.

NEW FORM OF MALARIA

"Medicus" writes to warn his fellow practitioners of the advent to the Madras Presidency of an extremely virulent form of malignant malaria brought by refugees from Burma—European, Anglo-Indian and Indian, adults, and children escaping by land routes. In a number of cases, he says, drowsiness and unconsciousness comes on suddenly with very little fever and unless prompt and adequate quinine treatment is administered death from cerebral malaria ensues. He emphasizes the importance of early vigorous anti-malaria treatment in all cases of drowsiness or fever in persons evacuated from Burma without waiting for a report on microscope slides.

DRIED POTATOES

Dried potatoes for Indian troops abroad have proved so successful, both from the point of view of saving space in transport and overcoming perishability that the army food research people have turned their attention to other vegetables, which form such a large proportion of the Indian soldier's ration. Lady's fingers, brinjals and pumpkins have responded equally well. Dehydrated vegetables resume normal size ready for use when soaked in water for 24 hours. The experiment in making tinned milk started early last year has also been successful, and tinned milk is being produced in India for the use of troops abroad.

APPLE FOR TEETH

"An apple a day may keep the dentist away" seems to be the new version of the old slogan about the health values of apples. A fairly firm, chewy apple, taken in generous bites that require considerable chewing is more efficient than your tooth-brush in cleansing your entire mouth.

RURAL HEALTH IN BENGAL

The Government of Bengal have sanctioned a sum of Rs. 4,93,000 towards the cost of rural public health units in the Province. The sum will be distributed among 25 district boards which are in charge of these units.

INDIA'S WAR FINANCE

Reviewing India's war finance, the *Financial News* says that Indian economic life has become more acclimatized to war conditions. Decreased export competition and increased domestic demand have begun to offset the loss of foreign markets. Industrial development is impressive compared with previous years, but India's immense resources of labour and materials leave room for much greater expansion. The chief financial event of 1941 was the repayment or repatriation of practically the whole of external debt, thanks to the extremely favourable balance of payments which India has enjoyed throughout the war as her overseas trade has been well maintained in the circumstances while British Government's payments for war supplies have been ever increasing.

CUSTOMS GOLD UNIT IN CHINA

With effect from April, Customs Gold Unit which contains 88.8671 centigrams of pure gold and which is equivalent to one United States dollar and 20 Chinese dollars has been put into circulation, according to a decision of the Finance Ministry. The Customs gold unit may be offered for payment of taxes or used for any other transactions as valid Chinese currency. The Finance Ministry has instructed the Central Bank to put into circulation all Customs Gold Unit notes issued since the end of 1931.

BRITISH WAR SAVINGS MOVEMENT

The remittances under the scheme of the British War Savings Movement during March 1942 for purchase of Sterling War Loans amounted to £189,668 as shown by Bank returns.

The total so remitted inclusive of sums remitted through banks in Burma, is now £2,016,445. Sums invested following direct instruction to Home bankers out of overseas pay or other income in the United Kingdom are not included in these figures.

NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY

The cost of the Works Programme during 1942-43 is placed at Rs. 117.90 lakhs, out of which only Rs. 5,000 is under New Construction, the balance being under Open Line Works. The plant required for the treatment of water for locomotive purposes on the main line, Lahore, Karachi and Rohri-Sibi section is expected to cost Rs. 12.8 lakhs. About Rs. 2 lakhs are being provided for the remodelling and interlocking of the Lyallpore station yard. Under New Works the construction of a new locomotive shed is proposed at a total cost of Rs. 6 lakhs, out of which Rs. 2 lakhs are provided for next year.

MADRAS & SOUTHERN MAHRATTA RAILWAY

Out of a total provision of Rs. 92.39 lakhs for the Capital and Depreciation Fund Programme, Rs. 1.7 lakhs are allotted for the completion of improvements to watering arrangements at certain stations on the North-East line and Rs. 2½ lakhs for re-lining tunnels Nos. 11 and 12 on the Londa-Portuguese frontier section. Under new works the reconstruction of laterite bridges is expected to cost Rs. 5 lakhs.

A. R. P. FOR RAILWAYS

An ordinance issued by the Government of India provides for the constitution of air raid precautions services for railways to carry out measures for the protection of persons and property against hostile attack whether from the air or otherwise.

NEW RAILWAY LINE

Two hundred and twenty-five miles of new railway line were opened during last year, of which 84 miles were constructed in the province of Sind by the Government of India and the balance within Indian States built at the cost of the Durbars concerned.

AMERICAN RAILWAYS

The American Government have frozen all finished railway engines, and freight and passenger cars now in the hands of producers. Government have also taken over full control of future production and deliveries of railway rolling-stock.

HINDU ART

Dr. J. H. Cousins, speaking at Kotagiri on "Some Universal Ideas in Hindu Art", observed that the culture of India had within recent years become a subject of increasing interest beyond India, especially in America. The old idol that the arts of Hindu India began and ended in idol worship had broadened out to the scientific conception that, whatever was the express intention of creative art such as the religious intention in India or the aesthetical intention elsewhere, works of creative art made inevitable and intimate revelations of both the outer circumstances and the inner impulses and ideas of their area and period that had a continual and universal value in their contribution to human thought and knowledge.

INDIAN WAR MUSEUM

The Government of India, the *United Press* learns, have formed a Committee for the collection and organisation of exhibits for an Indian War Museum, to form a record of India's contribution to the war effort of the Empire. Provincial Governments have been requested to render all possible assistance to the Committee in the collection of exhibits. It is understood that it has been provisionally decided that exhibits be collected for the Museum as also for exchange with the Trustees of the Imperial War Museum in England and probably with similar organisations in other countries.

PADMAVAT

Love romances written by Muslim Sufi poets hold a unique place in Hindi literature. Of these, "Padmavat" by Malik Mohammad Jayasi is best known. It was written at the time when the political atmosphere was surcharged with fanaticism; it is, therefore, pleasant to note that Jayasi brushed aside the political and religious conflict and appealed directly to human feelings.

MASTER OF MINIATURE

Mr. C. R. Gunner, miniature artist of Egham, has painted on a grain of rice portraits of King George, Mr. Churchill, President Roosevelt, Queen Wilhelmina, King George of Greece, King Haakon of Norway and General Sikorski, the Polish Premier.

HINDU GYMKHANA'S MOVE

Welcoming the decision of the Bombay Hindu Gymkhana, Dr. P. Subbaroyan, President of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, in an interview with the *Associated Press*, said:

"I am glad to think that at least war conditions in Bombay have made possible for the Hindu Gymkhana to admit members of other communities, principally Muslims and Parsis as honorary members of their Club. The existence of communal gymkhanas in Bombay has been the real cause of communal cricket and the persistence of the Bombay Cricket Association to run the Pentangular but now that this has happened, I feel that the communities will now learn to play together which would eventually lead to the abolition of the Pentangular and the running of Bombay cricket on more rational lines. I congratulate the Bombay Gymkhana on the step they have taken as they have done a real service to Indian cricket."

C. L. BADCOCK—THE BATSMAN

South Australia, which a few seasons ago built up its side by securing players from other States, is suffering some severe losses now. Bradman's enforced absence is the biggest loss of all, and one not much less severe now is that of C. L. Badcock, who has returned to Tasmania, where he will take over the management of his father's farm near Launceston.

Badcock is only 27 now, so it is not too much to hope that when the war ends he will again be seen in first-class cricket. Whether he will return to South Australia, of course, remains to be seen.

GHAUS MOHAMMAD

In tennis, although it is difficult to judge anybody's absolute form in the absence of any international events, Ghaus Mohammad is more unbeatable today than he ever was before. He has not met Sawhney recently, but I do not think Sawhney could stand up to him in his present form. He won practically all tournaments he had entered during the last year.

POISON GAS

Mr. Churchill's warning to Hitler in regard to the use of poison gas lends additional interest to the disclosure that there has been a steady overhaul of Britain's anti-gas precautions in the last few months. Local authorities and Civil Defence Services have been busy checking and examining respirators issued to the civilians. For some time it has been the practice in most London boroughs to hold periodical inspections of gas masks. Great importance is attached to an invitation to the people to practise wearing their masks for a short time each day. More important, still is the slogan. "Always carry your gas mask."

If Germany ever decided to take the initiative in using gas, Britain could swiftly retaliate with some of the most deadly gases yet discovered.

SHORT WAVE BOMBS

Bombs detonated by short-wave radio from a distance of many miles have been used by the Russians, according to the Germans, who stated that when they entered the district round Viborg, they were subjected to this remote control form of attack from behind the Russian lines.

Mr. J. J. Denton, Secretary of the Television Society, was not surprised when he heard the news. He considers that the U. S. S. R., in some respects, is ahead of Britain in radio research. Bombs could be exploded from a distance of 100 miles, he believes, by a simple portable apparatus with a power of 10 watts.

ELECTRIC EYE TO SPOT SUBMARINES

On a recent inspection of one of the big Signal Corps stations in America, Secretary of War, Henry L. Stimson, reviewed the application of the electric eye. The eye sees more than 100 miles through the night and is used for warning the defending forces of the approach of enemy planes or submarines. Secretary Stimson operated the instruments at the coastal station, which registered the presence of American planes 60 miles out at sea. The instruments picked up a radio wave echo which hit the plane and then bounded back to the warning station.

CONTROL OF LENGTH OF FILMS

It is officially announced that no person shall produce or cause to be produced any cinematograph film, the length of which exceeds 11,000 feet or any trailer the length of which exceeds 400 feet and that no person shall exhibit or cause to be exhibited in any one show for public entertainment any trailer or trailers made in India, the aggregate length of which exceeds 400 feet:

Provided that the Central Government may, where it is satisfied that special circumstances exist, exempt from this prohibition any cinematograph film or trailer in respect of which an application in writing is made to the Central Government in the Department of Commerce before the 15th June, 1942.

RESTRICTION ON LENGTH OF FILMS

Consequent upon this decision, almost all the Bombay producers are reported to have been frantically busy revising their shooting script and scenarios in production to bring them down within the orbit of the maximum length sanctioned. The sanction will operate from the month of May.

LEW AYRES

It is announced that all films featuring Lew Ayres, former husband of Ginger Rogers, who has left for a conscientious objectors' camp, are being recalled from 150 cinemas in Canada. Cinema patrons in the United States are also threatening to boycott this star who appeared in the pre-war film "All quiet on the Western Front".

DR. PATHY'S HOME FRONT

Dr. P. V. Pathy, news-reel cameraman, is busy producing his latest short, *The Home Front*, for the Ama Film Unit at Salem.

Dr. Pathy and his colleagues shot a few rural scenes in the village around Salem, as also a few charming settings at the Modern Theatres Studio.

DIESEL OIL ENGINE IN INDIA

The War of 1914-18 gave a tremendous fillip to Diesel engine design and the cold starting type was introduced in the smaller sizes. These engines began to appear in India during the immediate post-war period. The design was made possible by extensive research in metallurgy and the increased accuracy of machine tool design and manufacture, which made practicable the production of fuel pumps and fuel injection equipment made to very fine limits. By this means it becomes possible to inject direct into the cylinder an accurately metered charge of Diesel oil at high pressure in the form of a very fine spray. In the smaller types, the initial movement to start the engine was carried out by hand. In the larger types, compressed air was passed direct into the cylinder. The blow lamp disappeared.

All the well known English manufacturers adopted the cold starting type and they were joined by a number of Continental firms, who began to take an increasing interest in the Indian market. The single cylinder-horizontal type continued to be the most popular.

These improvements in the design of Diesel engines were only made possible by the continuous research work carried out by the Oil Companies with the object of improving the quality of the Diesel oils supplied to the public.

PRODUCER GAS FOR MOTOR VEHICLES

Between 4,000 and 5,000 transport vehicles (buses and lorries) have been fitted with producer gas plants, the majority being in Madras, says a Press Note.

The Communication Department of the Government of India has been able to secure a quota of steel material to expedite this development by assisting makers of producer plants all over India to obtain their requirements. This steel material has been laid down at various points and will be drawn upon by manufacturers of approved plants under licences which have been issued to them.

Several Provincial Governments have drawn up regulations governing the general design, construction and fitting of producer plants to vehicles; others are expected to follow.

JAPANESE AIRCRAFT TYPES

The Japanese are known to have more than 30 types of navy and army fighters and bombers, reconnaissance aircraft and flying-boats. Six types appear to form the basis of their air equipment.

Reports from the Pacific area show that these six types have been most generally used: Nakajima T-97 army fighter; Mitsubishi 00 navy fighter; Mitsubishi T-97 army bomber; Mitsubishi T-96 navy heavy bomber; Mitsubishi T-98 army light bomber; Kawanishi T-97 navy long-range flying boat.

The Japanese aircraft types are known by serial numbers, which indicate the years in which they were produced. The Mitsubishi T-95 is a type built in 1935, the Nakajima T-96 in 1936, and so on. The Japanese have not made remarkable advances in design and consequent performance. In fact their aircraft in general do not compare with British or American technical standards. Their standard machine gun of 7.7 mm. calibre is equal to British .303 inch gun.

SPECIAL RUNWAY FOR B-19 TEST FLIGHT

A specially designed concrete runway was made at Clover Field, Santa Monica, Calif., for the test flight of the Douglas B-19, the world's largest bomber. The plane weighed 100,000 lbs. at the minimum and the existing flexible runways could not withstand such pressure. 3,870 ft. of length of the new runway of 200 ft. width was rushed to completion in 45 days. The bomber had taxied on the runway for several days before it was declared safe. It was constructed in 12½ ft. strips of 9" x 6" x 9" cross-section. Adjacent slabs were keyed together by tongue and groove made bolting "1" wooden strip to the steel forms, providing sufficient thickness of tongue and allowing spading of the concrete beneath it.

KARACHI AERO CLUB

The Karachi Aero Club has suspended its activities until the end of the war. A notification issued by the Club says that it is now engaged exclusively on essential flying for war purpose. It is not likely that ordinary civil flying will be resumed for the duration of war.

Mr. MELLOR ON PAPER INDUSTRY

With the practical cessation of imports of paper and the ever increasing requirements of the Central Government, the Provincial Governments and the Army, it is now established that there is a definite and considerable shortage of paper, observed Mr. R. W. Mellor, Chairman of the Indian Paper Makers' Association, addressing the annual general meeting of the Association at Calcutta.

The result was, said Mr. Mellor, that the allocation for general business and the printing and publishing industry had had to be curtailed. Here, wagon difficulties had often hindered paper distribution to the distributing centres all over the country.

Mr. Mellor emphasized the need for serious economy in the use of paper by every one—the Government, printers and publishers, industries which use paper, commerce and the general public alike. He referred to the newspaper industry which some time ago was successful in arranging a system of rationing its supplies of mechanical newsprint.

ALUMINIUM INDUSTRY

The uses of aluminium in war are many. The manufacture of aircraft in India has given a stimulus to this industry, the vital importance of which is now recognised by the Government and the business community in the country. For, India possesses valuable bauxite deposits to serve as a raw material for the industry and also facilities for the production of electrical power. The industry makes an important contribution to India's war supplies. The manufacture of aircraft and steel and generally mechanization of modern armies has greatly increased the demand for aluminium and established a clear case for making the metal available in the country itself. We welcome the starting of the aluminium industry in Bengal and in South India. This industry has a bright future in view of the vast natural resources at its disposal and the increased demand for metals of all kinds including aluminium. It is entitled to protection in accordance with the war-time fiscal policy of the Government.

IMPROVED RICE CULTIVATION METHODS

The Government of Madras have approved the proposal of the Director of Agriculture to introduce in the current year a scheme for the introduction of improved paddy seed and better cultural practices in rice cultivation on about six lakhs of acres in the Cauvery and the Godavari deltas in the Province at a net cost of nearly one lakh of rupees for a period of two years.

The Government have accepted a grant of subsidy of a quarter of the cost of the scheme from the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research.

RATNAGIRI MANGOES

Although the mango crop of the first flush in Ratnagiri was very poor, the second flush was quite normal and free from attacks of pests, and export of mango commenced at the proper time. As only mango from the Ratnagiri Taluka is exported to Bombay both by land and sea routes, the market is reported to be steady. At present over 1,500 parcels are sent away daily and it is expected that over three lakhs of rupees will be coming in for the Ratnagiri Taluka by the end of this month to the great relief of the ryots.

LAND REVENUE REMISSION

Remissions amounting to Rs. 11,288, which work out to 25 per cent. of the first instalment of the current year's land revenue, have been granted by the Indore Government in 48 villages in Jirapur Mahal of Mahidpur District, where crop conditions have been unsatisfactory.

GRAPE YIELD

Grape yield per acre in India exceeds that in most other grape-growing countries of the world. The prospect of India trebling the area under grapes is held out by the Agricultural Marketing Adviser. This would add nearly Rs. 70 lakhs to the agricultural income at present from that crop.

COTTON SEED FARM

The Government of Madras have sanctioned the proposals of the Director of Agriculture to run a seed farm of 500 acres for a period of two years for raising pure seeds of the Masipattam strain of cotton co3 and co4.

WORK, WORTH AND WAGES

The apparent incongruity of relationship between work, worth and wages as it exists in the present state of society is brought out in relief by Babu Sampurnanand, an eminent educationist, in the course of an article in the *Hindustan Times*.

It is ridiculous to assert that the worth of a scientist whose discoveries bring millions of rupees to a business syndicate is no higher than the salary his employers give him; it is no less ridiculous to assess the value of an idea which may, for all we know, revolutionize the world one day by the amount of royalty its author receives. There are infinite gradations in worth, but it is not possible to devise a parallel scale of payments. We are compelled to set up more or less arbitrary standards for the latter purpose and to adopt artificial schemes of classification which reflect but faintly the real merits of those who are forced into them. Pay should, in principle, correspond to the real needs of the individual in the circumstances in which the nature of his work places him, but at any rate it should as far as practicable bear some proportion to the labour involved in the work a man does. Unfortunately this does not suit those who have the management of the world's affairs in their hands; for where would they be if it were adopted?

ADVISER TO LABOUR WELFARE

Mr. S. Nimbkar, Labour Leader of Bombay, who was recently released from jail, has been appointed Central Adviser in Labour Welfare under the Labour Department Government of India.

The appointment is part of the plan, which Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Labour Member, has made for closer contact with industrial and other labour.

Mr. Nimbkar will tour the country, frequently maintaining touch with labour and using his influence to keep up their morale and help to prevent or settle disputes.

It is learned that an adviser on labour legislation will shortly be appointed. An expert on this subject from England is expected to be appointed.

COMMUNALISM IN SHELTERS

Believe it or not, we have seen in Calcutta boards marked "Air Raid Shelter for Hindus", "Air Raid Shelter for Muslims". It may be mentioned that it was not outside a Government institution. If this is not communalism in excelsis, what is it? asks *Whip*.

It is indeed, the journal adds, a sorry state of affairs when communalism goes to these lengths—in face of common danger segregation of communities. What is the big idea? Is it thought that if Hindus and Muslims took shelter under one roof, they would kill each other before a bomb could do its destruction?

As the war comes nearer the shores of India, we see some strange things in Calcutta illustrative of our miserable mentality and eloquent of our disunity. While the hour dictates a closing up of all ranks to face the common enemy, the little Jap who will need every ounce of our resistance, we cling to these foibles which disgrace us. The time has come for sterner thinking.

GANDHI ON SCORCHED EARTH

Asked whether he would resist the implementation of the scorched earth policy in regard to utility services, such as crops, food, water, etc., Mr. Gandhi, in an interview recently said:

"Yes, I would certainly resist because I think that it is ruinous, suicidal and unnecessary. Whether India believes in violence or non-violence, the Russian or the Chinese example would make no appeal to me. Because some other country resorts to such methods which I consider inhuman, it does not follow that I should follow it. If the enemy comes and helps himself to the crops which I may be obliged to leave because I do not choose to defend them, I do not mind taking the risk of the enemy fattening on my crops or quenching his thirst on my water."

But Mahatma Gandhi, however, made an exception in the case of munitions factories which, he said, may be destroyed. But, he added, in his scheme of things there would be no room for munitions and factories.

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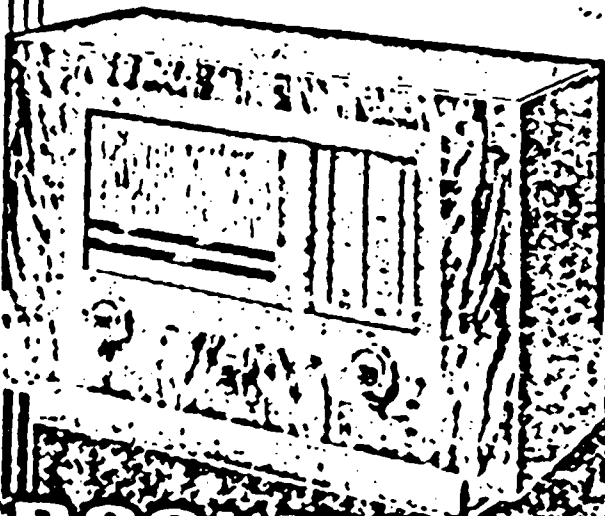
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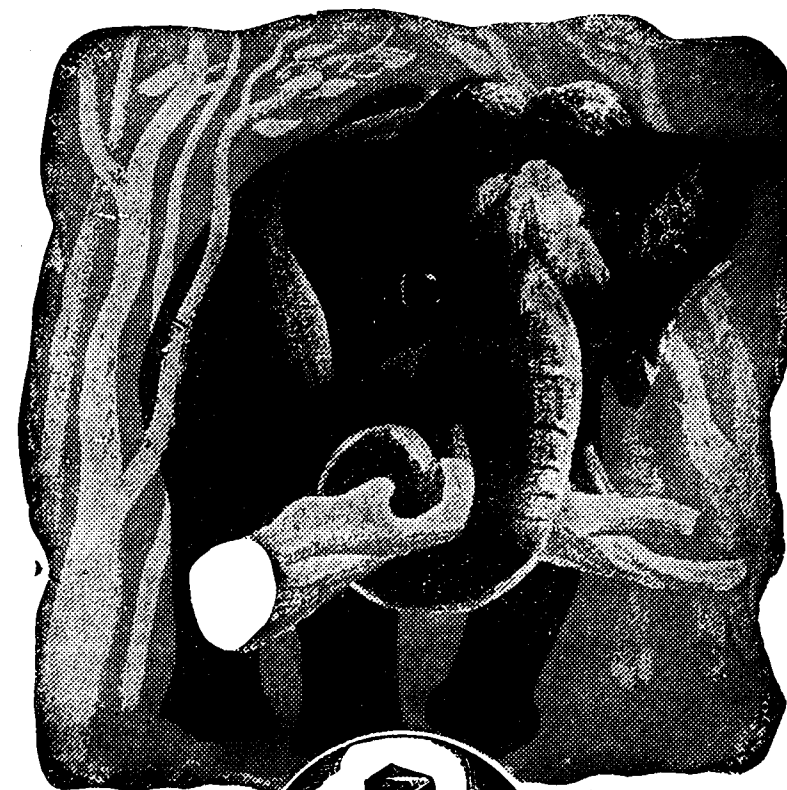
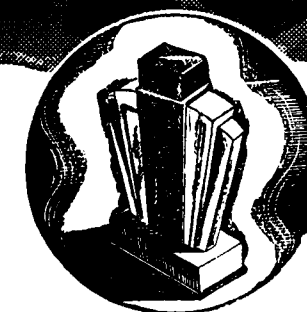
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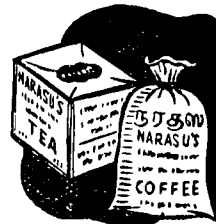
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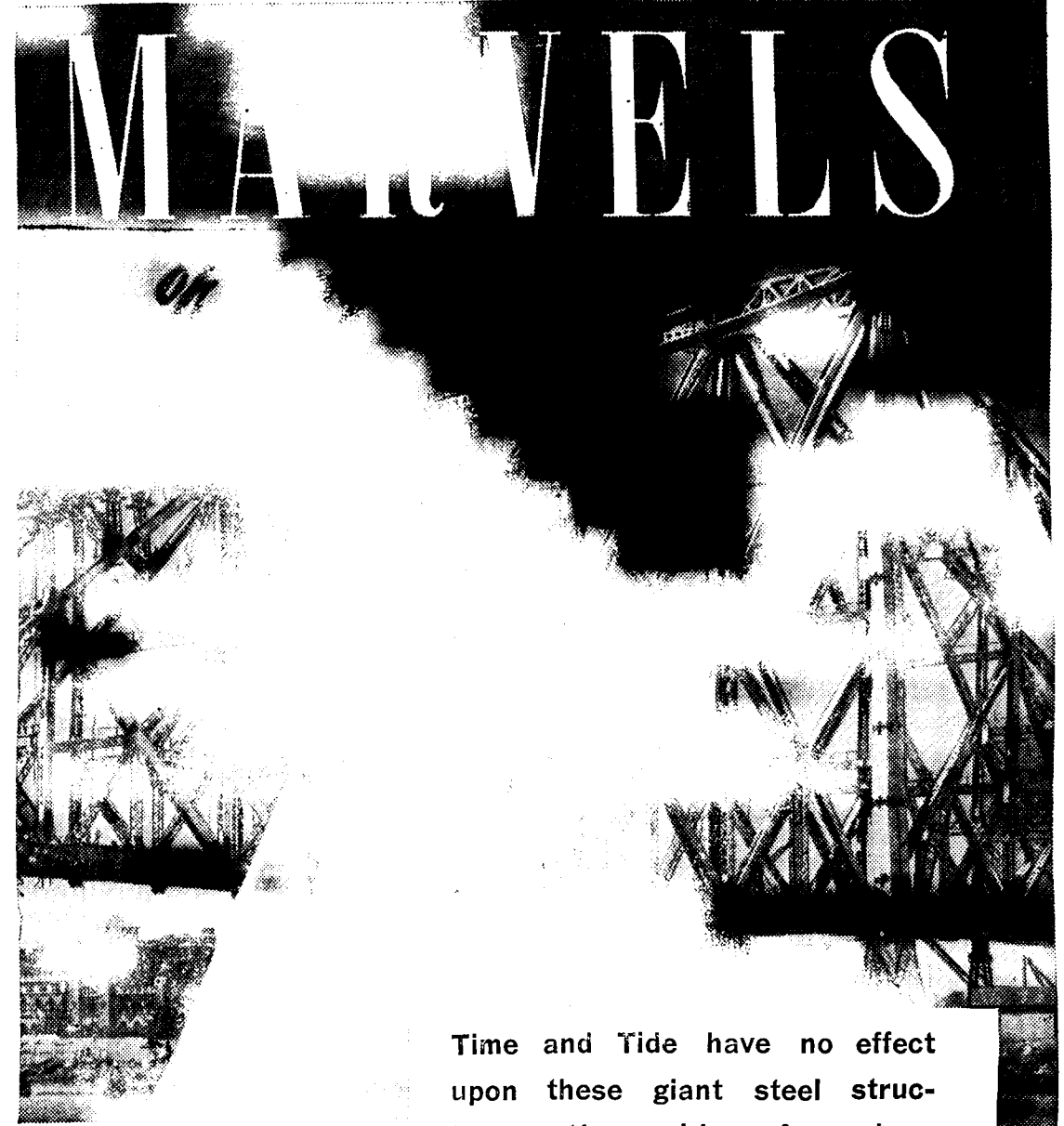
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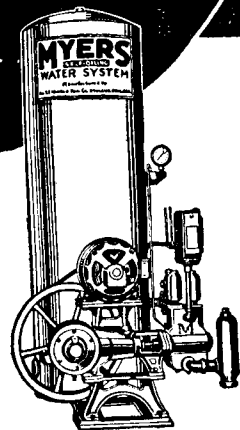
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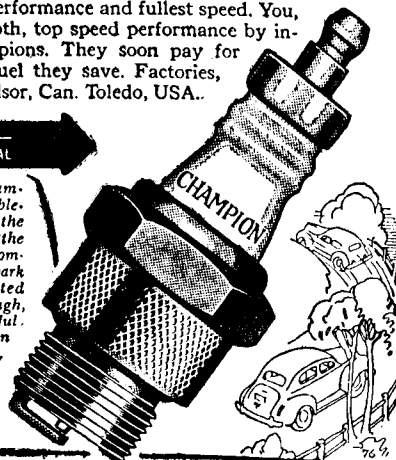
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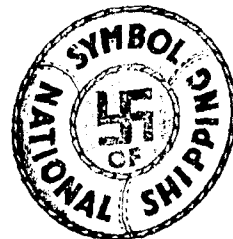
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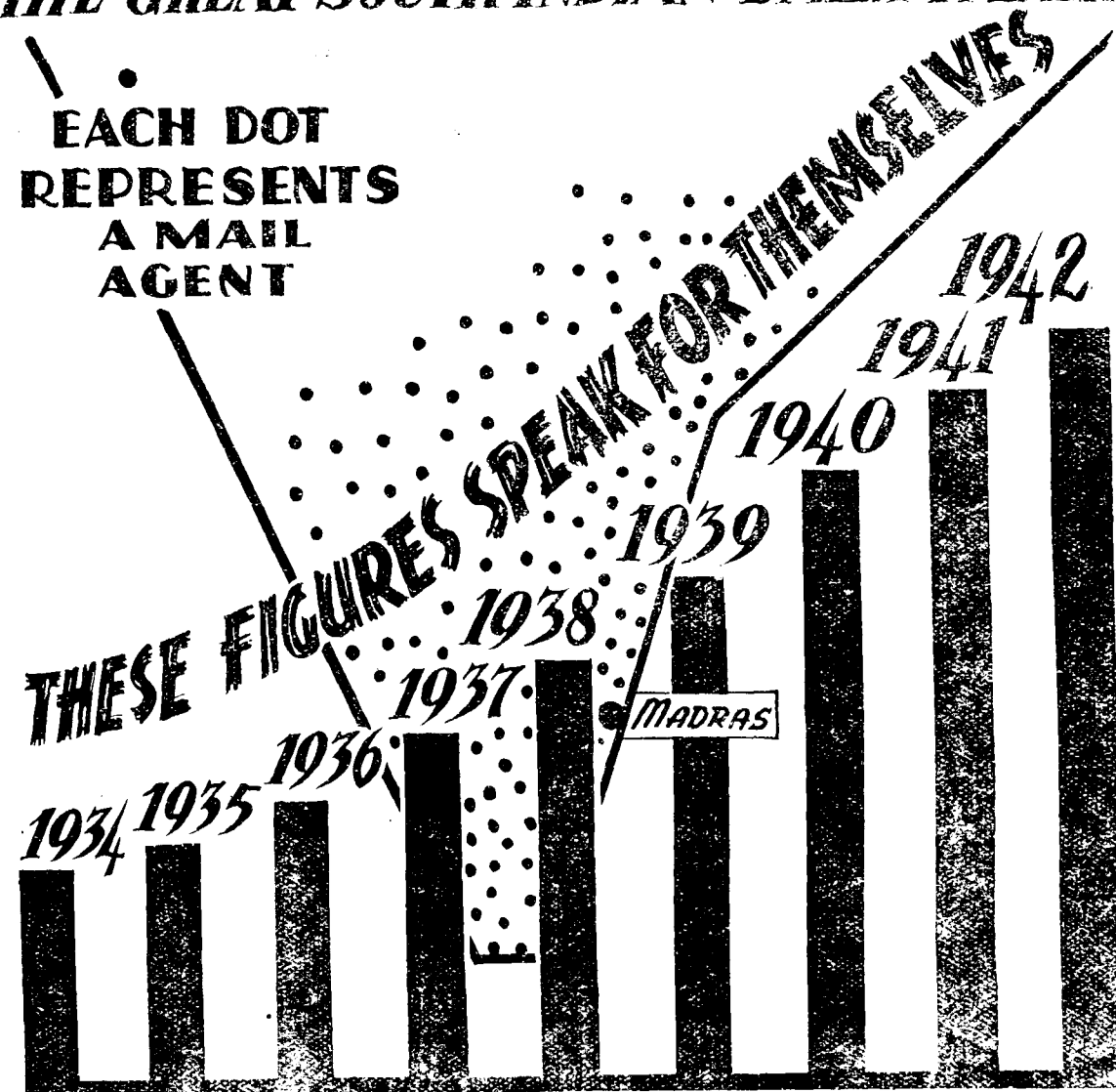
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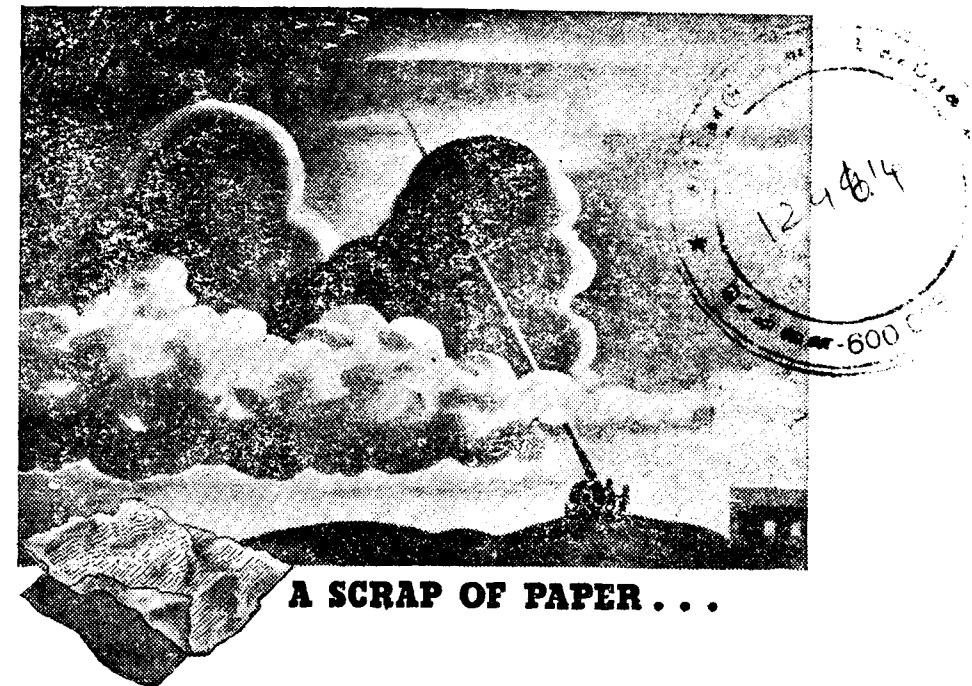
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