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SADHANA AUSADHALAYA

DACCA—(BENGAL)



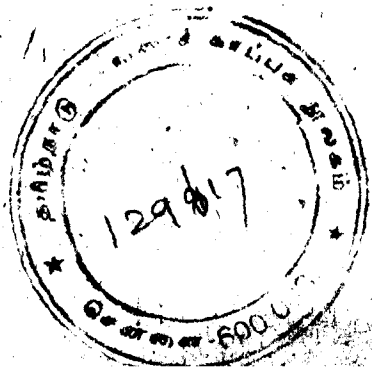
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45]

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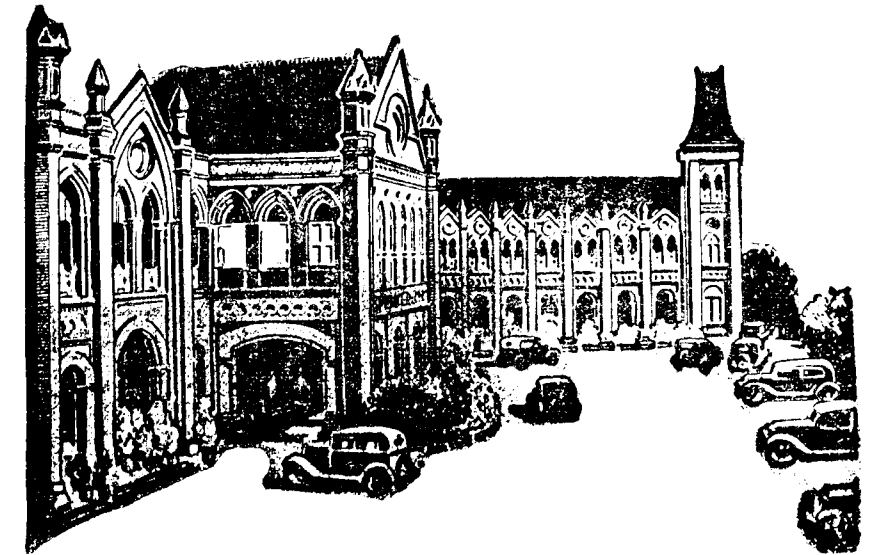
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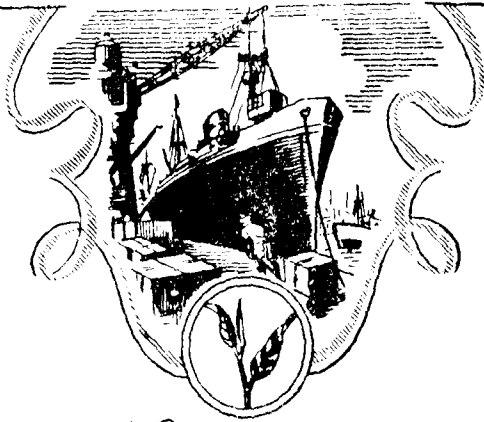
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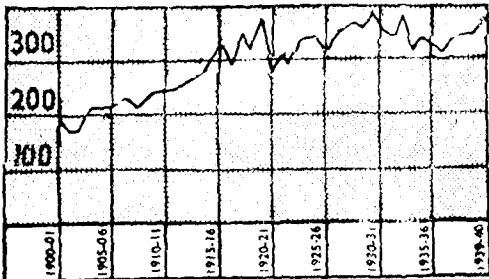
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.]

JULY 1944

[No. 7.

THE WAR

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LANDING OF THE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE
THE long-expected invasion of Europe began at dawn on the 6th June. It was announced officially in a brief *communiqué* issued by the Supreme Headquarters, Allied Expeditionary Force. The message ran as follows:

Under the command of General Eisenhower, Allied Naval forces, supported by strong air forces, began landing allied armies this morning on the northern coast of France.

By 7 A.M. that day, fierce fighting against the invasion forces in the area of Caen, about 12 miles inland and about 30 miles south-west of Le Havre, was reported by the German news agency which explained:

The combined landing operations of the Anglo-Americans, which were launched both from the sea and from the air against the European west coast early today, extended over the whole coastal sector between Le Havre and Cherbourg.

About 12 miles south-west of Le Havre the Allies dropped parachute troops, and at the same time landed troops from the sea in the coastal sector between the mouths of the rivers Orne and the Vire.

Strong enemy naval formations are now approaching this coastal stretch, whilst their naval escort is lying west of Boulogne.

Allied air and sea-borne troops, which landed on the coast of the Seine were soon reinforced, and amphibious operations on a large scale were simultaneously going on between the Seine estuary and the mouth of the Vire river into the Atlantic on a broad front. At the same time paratroops were dropped from

numerous aircraft on the northern tip of the Normandy peninsula; while the harbour of Le Havre was being bombarded, German naval forces were engaging allied landing craft off the coast. Simultaneously with the landing of air-borne troops in the area of the Seine estuary, strong allied bomber formations attacked the areas of Calais and Dunkirk. German air defences went into action. Thus began the long-expected invasion of Europe.

PLAN FOR THE LIBERATION OF EUROPE

Before the assaulting troops under the command of General Montgomery embarked, each man was handed a stirring Order of the Day from General Eisenhower. It stated:

You are about to embark upon the great crusade towards which we have striven these many months. The eyes of the world are upon you. The hopes and prayers of liberty-loving people everywhere march with you.

"The landing is part of a concerted plan for the liberation of Europe in conjunction with our Russian Allies," said General Eisenhower, broadcasting to Europe and the world through the B. B. C. "Those who have made common cause with the enemy will be removed."

The landing of the allied armies on the soil of France is undoubtedly the most gigantic military operation in the history of the world's warfare. Nothing like it was

ever attempted before and it was worthwhile waiting these four years to make sure of such a colossal armada. 4,000 ships and 11,000 planes were being employed at the very start. The number will doubtless swell as the campaign develops. Mr. Churchill revealed in the Commons that "obstacles which were constructed on the sea had not proved so difficult as was apprehended". But British sea power is supreme and German naval craft could not have much of a chance with the mighty British armada in the Channel. It is on land rather than on the sea that the toughest resistance is to be expected. There the battle will, in the words of Mr. Churchill, "grow constantly in scale and intensity for many weeks to come."

For facing the United Kingdom is a "wall" 1,800 miles in length and 30 miles deep covered with guns, machine-guns, anti-aircraft guns, pill-boxes, bunkers and forts. This "wall" stretches from the German-Dutch border in the north, along the coasts of Holland, Belgium and France, to the Spanish border in the south.

The Germans have had four years in which to perfect this so-called "impregnable" defence wall. The concentrated might of British and American naval, air and land power is today testing the truth of that claim. Time will show whether there is anything in that claim or it is yet another characteristic German "bluff" with which we have become familiar since war began. Anyway it is heartening to know that the United Nations are fully prepared to meet the challenge. Apart from the ardour and spirit of the troops going out on this great adventure, "nothing that equipment, science or forethought can do, has been neglected," said Mr. Churchill. "And the whole process

of opening the great new front will be pursued with the utmost resolution both by the Commanders and by the Governments whom they serve."

THE BATTLE FOR NORMANDY

As we go to press comes the welcome news of the capture of Cherbourg by the Americans. The fall of Cherbourg is perhaps the biggest prize of the invasion so far. It was first announced by the German News Agency in these terms:

In view of the enemy's crushing superiority, particularly in heavy arms and air power, it is to be assumed that the Americans have succeeded in taking possession of the town of Cherbourg.

The Agency added that German grenadiers fighting in close range combat were unable to prevent American tanks from penetrating into the city as they had run out of ammunition.

Final reports now available show that as the result of a street to street fighting, the allied forces have completely smashed the defences of Cherbourg and the port of Cherbourg itself is under a three pronged attack. Thus the Americans who had advanced from a line between Montebourg and Carentan are in possession of a valuable strip of the coast. Meanwhile General Montgomery's forces have marched on Caen on the Allies left flank. With the capture of the two launching sites in France, the Allies may be said to have made substantial progress. Thus twenty days after the initial assault, allied forces have established a firm beachhead, which includes almost the whole of the Cotentin Peninsula and a major port. Cherbourg's liberation came after a final day of fierce fighting in the north-western part of the city.

The tide has definitely turned and it is heartening to read General Eisenhower's

spirited order of the day to the crusading army:

But this is the year 1944. Much has happened since the Nazi triumphs of 1940-41. The United Nations have inflicted upon the Germans great defeats in open battle, man to man.

Our air offensive has seriously reduced their strength in the air and their capacity to wage war on the ground. Our home fronts have given us overwhelming superiority in weapons and munitions of war, and placed at our disposal great reserves of trained fighting men.

The tide has turned. Free men of the world are marching together to victory. I have full confidence in your courage, devotion to duty, and skill in battle.

We will accept nothing less than full victory. Good luck. And let us all beseech the blessing of the Almighty God upon this great and noble undertaking.

* * *

THE THREE THEATRES OF WAR

The allied landing was in itself a great and formidable performance. Since then there has been stiff fighting and the desperate resistance put up by the enemy has doubtless taken a heavy toll on either side. But it is clear the Allies have so far registered steady progress in all the three theatres during the month.

The Expeditionary Force which landed in France has established itself in Normandy. General Alexander's armies are sweeping up the Italian Peninsula and the new Russian offensive against Finland has met with phenomenal success. While this is so in Europe, Japan in the East has met with a major naval reverse in the Pacific and the course of the battle of Burma has also gone against her.

THE RUSSIAN ADVANCE

The third anniversary of the outbreak of the Russo-German war finds Russia in admirable spirit. Russia has no doubt bled heavily but she can look back with satisfaction to a series of victories. Stalingrad, Kharkov, Orel, Vyadma, Smolensk, Leningrad and Viborg are "so

many shining lights in the dark path she has trodden." The Red Army has launched a new offensive in the Vitebsk sector. This had been a stronghold of the Nazis guarding the gateway to White Russia and the cutting of railway between Vitebsk and Orsha, coupled with the capture of Minsk, the capital of the Soviet Republic of White Russia, seem to herald an irresistible summer offensive along familiar lines.

THE FALL OF ROME

It was just this second front that Hitler was dreading, that Stalin was urging and all the world was expecting. It would be well nigh disastrous if such an expedition had to be got up in a hurry without adequate preparation. That would be courting another Dunkirk and the United Nations were determined to avoid such a contingency. Nor could this be strictly called the second front. For already allied arms in North Africa had mopped out enemy forces from that quarter. Another front on the Italian mainland has for five months chased the enemy from pillar to post until on the 5th of June. Rome, the eternal city, fell into the hands of General Alexander like a ripe apple. The liberation of Rome was indeed the first great step in the ultimate liberation of Europe and the victorious armies are still marching northward, leaving little time or opportunity for the enemy to re-group his scattered forces. The losses on both sides were heavy, said Mr. Churchill, the Allies losing about 20,000 and the Germans about 25,000.

Since then the island of Elba, ten miles off the coast, has been occupied by them as another possible springboard for attack on the European mainland.

THE FAR EAST

In the Far East, allied success has been equally pronounced. The relief of Imphal by the allied troops is a great blow to Jap prestige. The Dimapur road has been cleared of any vestige of the enemy. Indeed the situation on the Assam-Burma border has completely changed for the better since the anxious days of April last. The Fourteenth Army has frustrated Japanese plans to isolate General Stilwell's forces and defeat the major allied objective to open the road to China. And in the process, it has inflicted severe casualties on the enemy to the extent of 110,000 killed. After a bitter ground assault for three days assisted by deadly bombing from the air, the Chinese 38th Division and Chindit troops completely captured Mogaung. As Sir Andrew Clow, Governor of Assam, declared: "British India can be regarded as liberated and our forces which were fighting in

Kohima and the Naga Hills are well into the Manipur State."

The second allied victory is the successful landing of American forces in Marianas in the Central Pacific and the losses inflicted on the Japanese fleet. This success may have far-reaching consequences on the progress of the Pacific war.

Thus the series of successes on all fronts has put a new spirit of confidence in allied ranks which has been truly reflected in the recent speeches of Mr. Churchill:

"Full victory may come this summer", predicted the Prime Minister. "It may be that events will occur in the next few months which will show us whether we are soon to be relieved of the curse which has been laid upon us by the Germans", said Mr. Churchill. "The end will be more terrible for our foes the longer their struggle continues."

Some Thoughts on Education After the War

BY LAURA GRAVELY, M.I.D., A.C.P., MONTESSORI DIP.

MOST people have at present a strong feeling that radical educational reform is needed after the war, but do not trouble to form clear ideas as to the direction and extent of the desired reforms. Yet the waggon of time proceeds, leaving behind all those who are not ready for the journey. We shall not be on the side of peace and progress if we accept pre-war standards in our educational institutions when victory is won. The need of to-day is a challenge to our imagination and ingenuity. Old ideals such as "play the game", "be brave", "endure", "do, and die and not reason why" are noble enough—except the last—but they need to be supplemented if we are to solve the problems awaiting us. And the need of to-day is for men and women who combine courage with imagination, strength with a sensitive heart.

We must face the fact that the unimaginative courage of good people has condoned and committed much evil, and the domination of strong, insensitive people has sown the seeds of which we are to-day reaping the bitter fruit.

The school of the future must do better than the school of the past. It must fit our children, not for the world as it is but for the world as it ought to be. Social and political reforms must be prepared by educational reform or they will lack foundation. Those of us who remember the period following the last war, so aptly symbolized by Galsworthy's White Monkey with the rind of a sucked orange in its hands, shudder at the thought of such hopeless disillusionment overtaking humanity once more.

Every parent and teacher, and indeed every decent human being, desire that after

this War all the nation's children, not only the privileged, shall be given an education which afford them the fullest possible development of body, mind and soul. We want them to learn, not only what will help them to earn a living one day, but *how to live*. This is our goal. We must not be satisfied with less. But how do we reach it? Which roads do we travel along to get there? As in the days of Pestalozzi, the school coach needs not only repair, it needs to be turned unto a new road.

The first imperative reform is one of educational outlook.—If we could once and for all make up our minds that the purpose of our education must be the growth of persons, whole persons, much would be gained. Any system we employ must be relevant to the child's physical, mental and spiritual development as well as the specific social need of our time. We must not allow ourselves for economy's efficiency's or sake to departmentalize the child, or concentrate only on certain aspects or fragments of his life. Education involves the whole process of living during twenty-four hours of the day—sleep, food, rest, play, as well as work; it involves an environment in which he is always at advantage. All our new schemes must be based on a recognition of this wholeness.

Evacuation must have taught many British teachers a new lesson about the needs of the children they taught, needs not confined to school subjects, but demanding personal relationship. For persons grow through relationship, in a community which gives them sufficient security and sufficient freedom to prove their worth.

The first consequence of this stress on children as persons—and whole persons—would be the *immediate abolition of large classes* in our schools. The mass of some forty children must necessarily be depersonalized to a certain degree and mechanical methods employed.

To begin at the beginning: One of the first reforms we should effect would be the *provision of Nursery Schools on a national scale*. This would secure a good foundation—good feeding and medical inspection at a critical time of a child's life—and would help to bridge the present

gulf between school and home. Treating children in wholeness and bringing them up in community—two of our most urgent reforms—are basic principles of the Nursery School.

Herbert Spencer, about eighty years ago, defined education as preparation for complete living. We accept this definition, adding that, while training for a complete life education must be a complete life. No child should be starved or thwarted at any stage in order to prepare him for the next, since the best possible training for the future is ever to live fully now.

This consideration has an important bearing on the curriculum. It is our aim that every child should enjoy rich and satisfying experiences in school, embracing such varied activities as exploring, understanding, the sensation of free vigorous movement, the handling, of all sorts of tools and materials, and the opportunity of working out his creative ideas. We must *free our children from a purely verbal education, for man learns not by memorising but by doing*. We must see that everything we try to teach is given personal relevance, becomes an integral part of the child's experience, accepted equally by his intellect and emotions. Such a *new, intelligent view of the curriculum would imply a new attitude to the examination system*. This unhappy, much debated system has arisen from a social system which has now been weighed and found wanting. When, as we hope will happen in future days, the balance between intellectual and manual workers is redressed, we shall no more find it necessary to put false value on intellectual achievement, and will be able to relegate examinations to their proper place in our schools—internal, non-competitive tests, applicable to certain types of intelligence and achievements only. There is too much of the highest value in human life which cannot be tested by examinations for the prominent position they have at present.

In his recent book "Christocracy", Middleton Murry visualizes the reorganization of Britain on a basis of true communities in which the interdependent members live peacefully together, aware of the infinite duty of each to all. Such democratic community life is largely realized

ACHARYA P. C. RAY

BY MR. LEHAR SINGH MEHTA

(Addl. Dt. and Sessions Judge, Udaipur)

in Denmark, the country of my birth, where it has been based on an original system of popular adult education on Christian principles in Folk High Schools, and has borne fruit in co-operative activities noted by all the world. To achieve this end Middleton Murry advocates among other things *free and equal primary education*. This would doubtless be a real advance towards healthy personal and community life and should not be difficult to realize.

When we come to rethinking post-primary education our task is much harder, yet not beyond solution if we agree to the suggested revaluation and discard the notion that a purely intellectual type of education is better than other types.

Our first reform here would be the raising of the school-leaving age to sixteen years at least, and we should like to continue what has been called "educational care" to eighteen. But before we discuss these plans, we must ask ourselves a question: What is post-primary education for? For the acquisition of culture or vocational training? Obviously for both. We must not forget that one of the main interests of the adolescent is the real world with its real jobs. His education should, therefore, centre in the conception of training for a useful function in the community, with real service at its roots. If he is brought up to think of work as service to the community, and studies the significance and implication of the function he is drawn to and fit for, he will as he carries out his project find his interests broadening into ever-widening circles linking him with all these other men of the community, and the world. He will acquire culture.

Provision must naturally be made for the boy or girl, fitted by aptitude for the function of handling abstract ideas, lest such ability be wasted. The community needs all types of men, the scholar as well as the farmer. In every case it is important that the pupil should know the full social significance of the job he is training for and come to view his work as opportunity for service.

Close contact with farm, factory and business would be needed, and all the

members of the community would be fellow-workers with the schoolmaster. The last years of school—sixteen to eighteen—would be considered as a kind of educational apprenticeship, spent partly in school and partly on the farm or in the workshop.

Such an apprenticeship would need financial aid, but that should not discourage us, since we are concerned with the development of personality, with human not economic efficiency.

Much of our thought and energy would be directed towards obliterating the distinction between hours spent in and out of school and in achieving harmony between them. In this we should seek full co-operation with the home. Our community school would be a centre of education for families. We would call on parents to contribute to the teaching in fields where they had special knowledge, and invite them to receive such instruction and help as we could give them in evening classes and clubs. In this way education would be freed from undue professionalism and the community life strengthened.

By providing opportunities, academic as well as practical in and out of school, we should seek to make of every child not only a bread-winner, but a live citizen, capable of playing his part with vision, vigour and courage in the life of his country and the world of his day. *The patriotism we should seek to foster would be the critical loyalty of developed individuals which acknowledges the interdependence of races of diverse gifts, not the exclusive nationalism which separates man from man.*

Believing that education is essentially a thing of the spirit, beginning and ending in religion, we would expose every child in our schools to "the purifying fire of religion" to use the expression of a modern mystic. Unless we have faith in human beings and love for them, unless our minds have come to grips with such great conceptions as the Kingdom of God and the Brotherhood of Man, we shall find these tasks beyond our strength. But all things are possible for him who believes.

SIR PROFULLA Chandra Ray, the last of Bengal's versatile giants, born in the 19th century, passed away, on Friday evening, 16th June, 1944, at the age of 83. The death of this great scientist, distinguished educationist and noted philanthropist not only creates a void in the public life of Hindustan, but removes from our midst one of India's greatest sons.

Life to Sir Profulla was a gallant adventure. He was born on August 2, 1861. Quite early in his life, at the age of 10, he came out of his village and joined the Hare School at Calcutta. After some time he went to Albert School, where he was unquestionably the ablest student. He passed the Matriculation Examination in 1879. Then he joined the Metropolitan Institution, founded by Pandit Iswar Chandra Vidyasagar. His success in Gilchrist Scholarship Examination offered him a unique opportunity to proceed to Europe. He entered Edinburgh University in 1882 and obtained the D.Sc. Degree in 1888, on a thesis on Inorganic Chemistry. Soon after this, the University Chemical Society elected him as its Vice-President. At the close of 1888, he returned to India and became Assistant Professor of Chemistry in the Presidency College, Calcutta. In 1916 he was appointed, in the Capital of Bengal, as the Director of the Chemical Laboratories in the University College of Science. In 1936, he was assigned the responsible post of Emeritus Chair of Chemistry in the Calcutta University. He was made a C.I.E. in 1911 and Knight soon after the last World War.

Sir P. C. Ray was a Scientist of international reputation. His researches undoubtedly were of the highest order. For several decades his pre-eminence in this field remained unchallenged. To him belonged the credit of raising India in the esteem of the scientific world. Possessed of bewildering intellect, he achieved conspicuous success in the discovery of mercurous nitrite. Again, he made a thorough study of the organometallic compound with the Scotsman's trick of success. He founded a school of investi-

gators, occupying perhaps the foremost place in our academic institutions. Who does not know that a stream of research work began to roll on and on and on from his Laboratory?

Sir Profulla did not pursue science in a mere academic spirit, though, of course, intellectually he was always bigger than his task. He was a powerful inspiration behind numerous industries. He wanted not merely a profession of industrialists but a nation of industrialists: a noble dream. He was the founder of Bengal Chemical and Pharmaceutical Institute, which is undoubtedly the foremost work of its kind in the East today. He urged repeatedly that with the excellent natural advantages in India it would not be necessary to depend on the imports of foreign countries in the matter of chemicals. It was his ceaseless endeavour, through sunshine and storm, that promoted the application of science for India's material progress.

He was never a man of ease. In his frail figure was centred a heroic spirit which knew no fear and counted no sacrifice too great. His ideal of life was neither rest nor cessation from struggle. Long years of failure would not sour him; age would not dull the edge of his blithe spirit. Perhaps none would hesitate to say that this doughty soldier and votary of the motherland, possessed of unquenchable passion for work, ought to be described as the Hero-Scientist. Like Newton, Darwin, Einstein, Raman and J. C. Bose, he had to wage many a tough fight to obtain recognition in the unknown region of science.

Sir Profulla was the man of very simple and frugal habits and was the very embodiment of the ideal of plain living and high thinking. His sweetness of temper endeared him to his friends and foes alike. In personal intercourse he was singularly attractive. Probably he never spoke a harsh word and was never guilty of an unkind deed. He was a well of Indian purity and truth—a well whose waters never served any growth save what was noble and

worthy. Neither egotism nor jealousy would affect him. Above all, he had the gift of inexhaustible good humour. He never exaggerated nor over-estimated. You can sit down at his feet and learn simplicity, unselfishness, candour, sincerity and honesty.

Though an eminent scientist, he was truly a religious man. His religious creed was like Holmes'. War and violence were opposed to his conception of religion. He raised his powerful voice, on more than one occasion, against race-hatred and religious bigotry. His vision was clear enough to see that science does not disturb religion and that the throne of God is to be seen in every molecule. His scientific researches did not lead him to materialism. On the other hand, they illumined, informed and intensified his faith in God.

Sir Profulla was a professional optimist. He is the spirit of high and noble comedy. He looked at life with that robust and wholesome optimism that keeps the vision true and mind sweet. But he was the kind of optimist who faced the world's pain and sorrow, saw it all, felt it all and was still full of faith and hope. In his faith there was no hint of trembling. It had wings more powerful than eagles'. It is of the late Lord Salisbury that he sometimes reminds one. Lord Salisbury, it was well said, was like the leader of a lost cause, resolved to fight on, though well assured that nothing but defeat awaited him. The ship may be doomed but we can still steer it. He would not carry the sunshine of his happy spirit into the soulless home of the forlorn.

His interest in education was of a comprehensive character. His life-long and intimate connection with the Calcutta University is rather admirable. As a member of numerous educational institutions, committees and faculties, he worked with infectious energy and singleness of purpose. He inspired thousands of young men to pursuits of higher intellectual attainments. He was a model professor and his record in this line cannot be easily beaten. Teaching was the very breath of his life. His devoted labours for the Indian School of Chemistry, the Indian Chemical Society and the maintenance of Research Fellowship in the University

College of Science, founded by Sir Asbotosh Mookerjee, will be long remembered with thankfulness. Besides, he was intimately associated with the National Council of Education, Viswa Bharti and Hindu University, Benares. Throughout his career he maintained the highest tradition of the ancient Indian Guru.

His scientific achievements are great, but his grateful countrymen will not forget his efforts to enrich India's social, political and economic life. He was a sturdy nationalist. His activities during Swadeshi movement and partition of Bengal and his bold attitude during the Punjab disturbances showed how genuine was his interest in the political advancement of India. He reiterated from hundreds of platforms that researches could wait, industries could wait, but Swaraj could not wait. He loved rural people after the fashion of philanthropists. He feels for the sorrow he sees. He helped, through thick and thin, the constructive programme of Mahatma Gandhi. He was an ardent propagator of Cottage Industries. He stood for the complete Civic and Political emancipation of women. When Bengal was overtaken by devastating floods in 1922 and appalling famine in 1943, he organised relief works perfect to a point. There was no public calamity in this country during his lifetime wherein he did not spend himself.

Sir Profulla was one of the most widely esteemed sons of the motherland, who played a dominant role for about half a century. He was our pride. He was our glory. His funeral took place on the banks of the holy Ganges, a few yards away from the spot, where Tagore's remains were cremated three years ago. Must we not believe that a thousand years hence, it will be said that Tagore and Profulla, whose ashes sleep side by side, were the two Indian giants, who in the middle of the 20th century, did most for the world's literature and for the world's science? They loom before us as in statues like some tall towers by the sea. The world was their country and to do good was their religion.

LAND MORTGAGE BANKS

BY MR. S. V. RAMAMURTI, C.I.E., I.C.S.

LAND Mortgage Banks can serve two purposes—one the negative purpose of removing an accretion of unproductive debt and the other the positive purpose of making land a means of creating wealth. The more indebted a person is, the greater is his liability to sink into debt like a man caught up in a patch of quicksand. By organised effort, he may be helped to save himself. The greater part of the achievement of Land Mortgage Banks has been in this direction. The War has itself helped to wipe out debt by the fact that produce which hardly left a margin over subsistence now pays well to cancel debt. It would be interesting to conduct a survey of rural indebtedness after the War so that the ground might be cleared for positive activities of Land Mortgage Banks.

Land, labour and capital are stated to be the three means of production. By long-term mortgage of land at reasonable interest, you can both keep the land and gain capital. What then is needed is an intelligent, energetic and fruitful use of one's labour, both physical and mental. I have recently met a young man who is a graduate of the Agricultural College who said that any one who could not make agriculture pay nowadays must be deficient in intelligence. What is easy now is also possible after the War, though with greater labour and foresight. The decrease in transactions, which is said to reduce profits, should be a cause for satisfaction and an opportunity for effort in a different direction.

Land improvement is bound to play an important part in the years to come after the War. We are all glad to see that

after the strain of five long years, the world is beginning to see the dawn of the end. We, in India, have been fortunate in having escaped physical contact with War though we have not escaped and could not have escaped the economic and other indirect effects of War. Our thoughts in this country as elsewhere in the world are turned to a quick and large-scale development of our economic resources. Science has been achieving new vistas of action. The *tempo* of men's minds has changed. The moral objectives of men are no longer consistent with a few living well, while the many lack the necessities of life. A new Science of Agro-biology teaches that the world can produce from land four or five times the amount it now does and can feed four or five times the present population of the earth, without any nation feeling the need to be conquerors or coolies. We, in India, have never sought to conquer unless it be in things of the spirit, as when we give our religion and culture to our neighbours in Asia. The resources of India are inexhaustible because the ever-living source of power, the Sun, blesses us more perhaps than in any other country with an equally intelligent population. With the advent of science, our agriculture should be the base of a new story of wealth through industry. Indeed I have often thought that every agricultural crop should pass vertically through industrial process into more and more mobile products for the use of man. While water intensifies agriculture, hydro-electricity helps industry. Both agriculture and industry can be developed in our waste spaces by intensive eradication of ill-health and

infertility. I trust that for the measures which the Madras Government are investigating to increase the wealth of this Province and thereby the social amenities which the people may enjoy, the full human resources of the Province will be available. No efforts of the Government can have the measure of success that is needed to help the whole people, unless all the people seek to harness their vision and energy for the purpose.

The credit that is based on land is as vital as the energy that is derived from water or the power that is derived from the Sun. Land, Water and Sun—*Pridhi-vyapasthejamsi*—are the major partners of the five elements that are at the basis of the world and take part in its growth. I trust that the economists of Land Mortgage Banks will take their share along with scientists and engineers in achieving the economic development that we dream of.

SOCIAL SECURITY IN INDIA

BY MR. M. H. SHAH, M.A.

RECENTLY considerable interest has been roused in the matter of improvement of social conditions of the people. In the campaign of economic and constitutional reforms, the social side of our life was not given its due place until recently. Of course, efforts were made to check child-marriages, to encourage widow-remarriages and so on but that was merely scratching the surface of social reforms. The vital issues were not touched.

The deteriorating conditions of the lower classes of the population drew the sympathy of the social workers and others towards them. The success of socialism added further support to the need of improving the condition of the above classes. Moreover, world wars demonstrated the importance of these in the national machinery. Slowly schemes for their benefit were evolved.

Social security is a phrase that gained currency as a result of these schemes. If every man is to do his best for himself and for the nation, he should be ensured security of service and livelihood. If he is left to himself in his struggle of life, there will

hardly be any stimulus to goad him to exert himself for the nation. Perhaps he may not be free from his struggle to fulfil his wants to devote himself to the other aspects of life.

One more reason can be adduced to the recent enthusiasm shown for schemes of social benefit. Man has reached a stage of civilization when it should be possible for him to devote a fraction of his time to the nobler activities of life—activities other than those of meeting his wants. The evolution of mankind should offer chances of better and higher type of life for mankind. What is the difference between a man in the stone-age and a man in the machine-age, if the latter has to waste all his time for providing himself and his family with the most elementary needs of life? Naturally therefore with the advance in civilization, man expects greater leisure. This expectation is made possible by the scientific discoveries, which offer devices of producing large stocks within a short time.

The aim of all social security schemes is the provision of security of income to the individual, i.e., of making it un-

necessary that anybody should ever be in want. Their aim is to make want unnecessary in any circumstances. The ideal is certainly very ambitious and laudable. With the disappearance of want, will disappear many other troubles which make life unhappy. Want is the root-cause of many evils as discontent is the cause of all progress. We need not enter here into the discussion of the fine shades of distinction between discontent and want.

The proposal to relieve mankind from want implies many things. First of all, want arises as a result of the absence of the source of livelihood, secondly, it is felt owing to the interruption or cessation of one's earnings, thirdly, want arises if one is not able to maintain one's family within one's regular income. These are the three implications with which the security plans have to deal.

Let us consider first one of them, want resulting from the absence of the source of livelihood. This implies either lack of remunerative employment, absence of earning members in the family or one's incapacity to engage oneself in any remunerative work. The first problem itself is very difficult. Is it possible to provide jobs to all those who are in need of the job? In other words, can we root out unemployment from this world? Social security demands this; whether we can do it or not. Every man must be ensured of his livelihood if he is prepared to work. Secondly, even if we can secure jobs for everybody, there may be families where there would be absence of earning members. Such families might include very old people, women and orphans. The question of women will not be so acute elsewhere as it has been in

India where traditions do not encourage women's labour, at least in the upper strata of society. Some sort of special arrangement will have to be made for them in the social security plan of India. The third group requires careful planning. The question of beggar relief has recently assumed much importance. This question will be solved if a solution of the third group is arrived at. This group will include all disables, infirm, old and orphans, along with children, students and others who are not of working age.

Coming to the second group, we have to face the difficulties of temporary unemployment owing to the interruption or cessation of one's work. It is difficult to check the changes in the volume of employment, trade or commerce. Hence it is also difficult to do away with the second difficulty in the social security plan. However it is possible to reduce its evils to the minimum, by a careful adjustment during the periods of transition. This will reduce the number of cases requiring help in this group. For the genuine cases benefit amount will have to be provided for the period of transition.

Coming to the third group, we find that the majority of our population lives in want owing to this factor. The *per capita* income of India is very low, the proportion of earners to dependents is also very high, and the size of the families is also large owing to the joint family system. All these factors perpetually keep the majority of Indians in want. With great struggle, they can make both the ends meet. Even in those countries where the *per capita* income is several times greater than that in India, want owing to the insufficiency of one's income is not absent. In fact there is a slow but a steady migration

of people from lower to upper classes and thus the increasing standard of life causes want. India's case is most pitiable in this matter.

Incidentally we may touch the population problem of India as it has very close connection with the standard of life and want. Leaving aside the controversy whether India is over-populated or not, we can say that there is great need of putting the check on the growth of our population and of utilizing our increased income towards raising our standard of life. The propaganda in this direction has not touched those who badly stand in need of it. The upper classes are found benefited by this propaganda with the result that population goes on increasing in the classes where it should not, and goes on decreasing in the classes where it should increase; thus lowering the general cultural level of the country. The lower classes stand in great need of limiting their families for their need to raise the standard of life is most urgent. Therefore in the social security plans for India, plans for balanced and reasonable growth of the population should find an important place.

To sum up, social security plans for India imply removal of unemployment, provision for temporary unemployment, beggar relief, old-age pensions, plans of reasonable and balanced population, growth and increase in the standard of living. No social security plans have been formally put forward for India. Of course, the items to be dealt by social security plans are discussed in one way or the other

by the various post-war reconstruction committees. It is time that they should be put together and a well-thought-out social security plan put forward for India.

We are familiar with the famous Beveridge plan. It would not be out of place to say here something about the object and methods of the plan. The object is to provide security of income through a scheme for compulsory insurance for which this plan divides the population into six groups, most of which are similar to those mentioned above. Certain common needs like medical treatment, funeral expenses, etc., are provided in common for all these groups, while the rates of benefit for various groups in various contingencies have been provided. Some such plan is necessary for India.

The greatest defect in India's economic structure is the uneven distribution of nation's dividend among various classes of population. India's *per capita* income being very low, it is necessary that it should be more evenly distributed. This fact deserves to be constantly borne in mind while framing social security plans, if these plans are not to fail on the bedrock of half-satisfied want.

Only the nucleus of ideas round which the social security is to be built in India has been provided here, in this article. Every idea requires to be studied and developed. Before closing, the urgency of social security plans for India and the need to co-ordinate efforts of various post-war reconstruction committees may once again be emphasized.

CONSUMPTION CONTROLS

BY MR. V. R. KRISHNA RAO, M.A., M.Litt.

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THE object of war economy is to direct available resources to the production of such goods and the performance of such services as are necessary for successful prosecution of the war. This is achieved by utilizing the unused productive capacity, consuming domestic capital, liquidating foreign assets, borrowing abroad and by diverting productive factors from peace time use to war purposes. As a result of the employment of the unused resources and of the competitive demand for labour, the civilian consumption will tend to increase and one of the first problems in war economy is to check this tendency. But it is not sufficient merely to prevent the civilian consumption from rising. A fully developed war economy implies a reduction of civilian consumption to liberate maximum resources for the war effort.

This object can be best secured by the curtailment of money demand by a combination of increased taxation, deliberate promotion of savings and restrictive measures on consumption, including the complete stoppage of imports and of production of certain category of consumers' goods. The margin of income, which could not be spent as a result of direct restrictions on acquisition of consumption goods, increases the volume of savings which could be used for war effort. The control of consumption is not only necessary for effective mobilisation of resources for war purposes, but it is essential for an effective enforcement of price control which has to be introduced to prevent rise in the cost of production and in the cost of living. It must be noted that no price control can be effective in the face of the rising demand

on dwindling supplies unless they are effectively aided by rigorous control on demand. Therefore the stricter the price control, the more rigorous must be the restrictions on demand.

These restrictions serve a very vital purpose. In the interest of war effort, it is essential to maintain the health, the efficiency and the morale of the civilian population and rationing and other methods of consumption controls are used to ensure an equitable distribution of the curtailed supplies such as foodstuffs, etc.

While the price controls cannot be effective unless there are quantitative controls over demand and supply, these price controls are necessary even after the imposition of quantitative controls. The price controls render the rationing effective in spite of the differences in income levels.

We shall now outline the methods of consumption control. The first stage of the curtailment of consumers' demands is marked out by sharp increase in direct and indirect taxes and by an encouragement of savings by the sale of war bonds and saving certificates. In some countries like England these measures have been supplemented by compulsory saving. In some other countries like U.S.A., a novel method of absorbing the purchasing power is adopted by means of encouraging the consumers to make instalment payments towards titles to durable goods such as dwelling houses, motor cars, etc., in the post-war period.

The most common method of keeping down the money demand of the consumers is the steep increase in taxation and in particular direct taxation. But sales taxes

are much more efficient than income-tax in withdrawing the purchasing power and have been adopted widely in the continental countries of Europe. There are serious limitations to the method of taxes, for the persons in higher income groups can maintain their level of consumption by dis-investment. This difficulty can be met by restricting supply or by limiting the individual demand by rationing of goods and services. The measures of the first kind are:—(1) total prohibition of the manufacture of a certain category of consumption goods, (2) restriction of the range and varieties produced, (3) limitation of output to a given percentage of pre-war output, (4) the prohibition of the use of certain raw materials and (5) restriction of the quantities released for the manufacture of consumers' goods. But control of production will not be alone effective. It has to be supplemented by measures which directly limit the consumers' demand. The measures adopted are:—(1) purchases under a licence, (2) sales taxes and (3) curtailment of consumers' credit.

The prohibition plus licensing of purchase represents the most extreme form of rationing and differs from the rationing of non-durable and semi-durable consumers' goods. The first is based on the assumption that the majority of the population can do without the commodity in question, while in the case of the latter category of the goods, it is assumed that they are indispensable for the health and efficiency for the whole population. For example, food and clothing fall under the second category. The extent to which the consumption of food can be reduced without undermining the health of the nation is extremely limited and in the case of India it is

obvious it cannot be reduced. Therefore the problem of food rationing is a problem of distributing short supplies in an equitable manner. Rationing is one form of consumption control and its effect on price depends on the degree to which it is co-ordinated with the other methods. Rationing, by itself, by limiting demand, makes it possible to maintain prices lower than would otherwise be.

Another method by which consumers' demand can be restricted is by allowing the ordinary market mechanism to function and by allowing the price of scarce goods to go up. The operation of free price market mechanism will lead to inflation and will effect very adversely the poorer section of the populations. That is why everywhere free price mechanism has been discarded in favour of controlled and rationed war economy.

Summing up, we may say that consumption controls are necessary to liberate maximum resources for war effort and these take the form of steep increase in taxes, both direct and indirect, deliberate promotions of savings either by voluntary or compulsory methods, controls of over-production and lastly rationing of goods and services.

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*, G. T., Madras.

LAGOONS AND BACKWATERS

By MR. L. D. RAMACHANDRA AIYAR

THE numerous and long backwaters that dent the West Coast of India off the Arabian Sea waters form the cheapest highway for traffic in the whole world. These are distributed among the States of Travancore and Cochin, but the former is lucky in having the maximum length of them. This is indeed fortunate for the progressive State, for 30 per cent. of the total value of Travancore's exports arises from cocoanut and cocoanut products, and backwaters form the sole means of transport. Manufacture of coir from cocoanut fruit husk is the major industry of Malabar.

The total mileage of navigation channels in India is 3,800, two-thirds of which are distributed between Bengal and Madras. The West Coast of the Madras Province claims a good deal of it.

Many tourists have yet to 'discover' the immense attractions offered by the palm-fringed lagoons and evergreen forests. The eastern boundary of the State abounds in mountain heights that wall in the State. Towards the west, the country undulates over hills of dense vegetation till it reaches the cultivated plains which skirt the backwaters and the Arabian Sea. The broad coast-belt for Travancore possesses nearly 150 miles of coastline within an area of 7,625 square miles—and the shores of the backwaters are covered with dense cocoanut plantations.

At some points, especially in the north, wherever feasible and without any prejudice to their use for navigation, backwater areas are reclaimed for

paddy cultivation which is extensively carried on.

The broad lagoons or backwaters forming the cheap highway for traffic from the extreme north as far south as Trivandrum, are connected by navigable channels along the entire littoral, with numerous streams and rivers flowing westwards towards the sea. These form the most characteristic feature of the West Coast. Extremes of temperature are unknown here—these two States constitute the Low Countries of India—and a warm humidity always prevails. Extensive canal system, connected with the backwaters, offer considerable water frontage of immense importance to merchants for transport of goods.

The most picturesque spot in this beautiful stretch is easily in the neighbourhood of Quilon, an important commercial town of Travancore State, where the tail of the backwash expands and loses itself into a grand eight-armed lake. This reminds the tourist of the celebrated Loch Lomond of the Scottish country.

Between Varkala—the seat of the famous shrine of Janardhana—and Trivandrum, the backwater canal worms across the ghats. There are two tunnels, each nearly a mile long, and the boat journey in and out of these is a thrilling experience.

Thousands of river craft of all kinds laden with cocoanut husk—the raw material feeding the fibre industry—ply their way across the waters. Swift-moving canoes of various sizes engage in

fishing and convenient houseboats, with roofs in matting and proof against all weather conditions, do a brisk trade in merchandise.

Numerous power-driven tugs and launches carry passengers bound for the many important towns that dot the water-ways. They run to scheduled timings and regular service is assured, except during the heavy south-west monsoon period, when it is not quite safe. There are a number of jetties at regular intervals in the neighbourhood of towns where, within the fifteen minutes or so allowed for the stop, the passenger can step across for a quick snack. Most of the motor boats have different classes of accommodation and the fare is certainly the lowest in the world, working out to about an anna for ten miles! The most enjoyable run is between Alleppey and Ernakulam, a distance of nearly 60 miles, and the journey is entirely across the blue lagoons extending to a breadth of over six miles at some places. A pleasure cruise in this route is as good as any in any part of the empire. Tourists who 'cover' West Coast without this experience miss a real treat. The rippling blue waters bordered by swaying palms, the 'islands' of coconut groves that peep out of the waters here and there, the passing boatmen's ditties and ribald jests, the fishing yachts with their mammoth dragnets, all cap an interesting holiday. Emerging out of the territorial waters of Travancore, the launch chug-chugs its way into Cochin, passing across the Cochin Harbour and Willingdon Island. The best tip for a cruise is a full moon night. The sunset deepens into twilight and the night clouds rising over the palms cast their long

grey shadows across the shimmering waters. Twinkling lights shine along the shore from the interminable chain of tea-shops and from the cottages come voices and merry laughter.

Many of the power-tugs have now been taken over by the military and are keeping a ceaseless vigil, patrolling the famous Cochin Harbour and the neighbourhood. The numerous backwaters, so eminently suited for surreptitious landing, are sufficient prizes to tempt any invader, but thanks to the preparedness evident wherever the writer went, the Jap has not an earthly to stir up trouble here. For, this once vulnerable spot of our long coastline is now ready to face and defeat any attempt at invasion.

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THE AMERICAN CHARACTER

BY MR. ARTHUR M. SCHLESINGER

[This question, posed many years ago by a Frenchman in America, has never ceased to be challenging. Why has an American come to be as he is? What are his instinctive reactions to life? How does he differ from the people of other lands? What, in fine, makes the distinctive American character? Mr. Schlesinger's discussion of this interesting thesis reproduced in that fine American Pocket Journal U.S.A. will be read with interest.—ED. I.R.]

MANY Europeans have tried to describe and appraise the American character, and the composite portrait that emerges deserves thoughtful consideration. The attributes most frequently noted are a belief in the universal obligation to work; the urge to move about; a high standard of comfort for the average man; faith in progress; the eternal pursuit of material gain; an absence of permanent class barriers; the neglect of abstract thinking and of the aesthetic side of life; boastfulness; a deference for women; the blight of spoiled children; the general restlessness and hurry of life, always illustrated by the practice of fast eating; and certain miscellaneous traits such as overheated houses and the passion for rocking chairs and ice water.

This inventory, so far as it goes, reveals qualities and attitudes recognizably American. But it doesn't go far enough. Not only is the list incomplete, but it fails to distinguish the significant from the trivial. What is more, little attention is given to the reason why this special combination of traits and attitudes is characteristic of the American people.

And yet the answer really is simple. An American is the product of the interplay of his Old World heritage and New World conditions.

The Old World heritage consists merely of that part of European culture which was shared by the people who settled in America. They and their ancestors were

artisans, small tradesmen, farmers, day laborers—the firm foundation upon which rested the superstructure of European cultivation. Shut out from a life of wealth, leisure, and aesthetic enjoyment, they tended to regard the ways of their social superiors with misgiving, if not resentment, and, by the same token, they magnified the virtues of sobriety, diligence, and thrift.

This, then, was the type of human breed upon which the untamed New World exerted its will. Other influences also affected the transplanted European. The act of quitting a familiar life for a strange and perilous one demanded uncommon qualities of hardihood, self-reliance, and imagination.

The conditions thus offered by an undeveloped continent fixed the frame within which the American character took form. Farming was the primary occupation. At first resorted to by the settlers to keep from starvation, it quickly became the mainstay of their existence. This apprenticeship to the soil made an indelible impression on the developing American character, with the following results:

First and foremost is the habit of work. For the colonial farmer, ceaseless exertion was the price of survival. Probably no legacy has entered more deeply into the national psychology. If an American has no purposeful work on hand, the fever in his blood impels him nevertheless to some form of visible activity. As one traveller

put it: "America is the only country in the world where one is ashamed of having nothing to do."

This worship of work made it difficult for the early Americans to learn to play and left them indifferent to aesthetic considerations. To the early American farmer, a tree was not a symbol of nature's beauty but an obstacle to be reduced to a stump and then quickly replaced with a patch of corn or vegetables. The cult of beauty, in other words, had nothing to contribute to the stern business of living; it wasn't "practical". The bias thus given to the national mentality lasted well into America's urban age.

On the other hand, the complicated nature of the farmer's job, especially during the first two and a half centuries of American history, provided an unexcelled training in mechanical ingenuity. These ex-Europeans and their descendants became a race of tinkers, daily engaged in devising, improving, and repairing tools and other things until they had the power and habit of invention.

The early American farmer's success in coping with his multitudinous tasks aroused a pride of accomplishment that made him scorn the specialist or expert. He was content to do many things well enough rather than anything supremely well. This was a marked contrast to the European custom of following permanent occupations which often descended from father to son. This versatility became an outstanding American attribute.

Distances that would have daunted the stoutest-hearted European deterred the early American not at all. Many families living on the coast of the Atlantic Ocean

migrated from place to place until the second or third generation reached the rim of the Pacific Ocean, some 8,000 miles away, and the next one began the journey back toward the Atlantic.

Geographic mobility accompanied a still more fundamental aspect of American life: social mobility. Instead of a graded society in which each class everlastingly performed its allotted function, Americans found that everybody might become somebody, that every man had the right to a free and fair start. The government existed principally as an umpire to supervise the game with a minimum of rules. The upshot is a conception of democracy rigorously qualified by individualism.

It would be a mistake to think of the American merely as a mechanism set in motion by dropping a coin in the slot. Foreign commentators have found it difficult, for example, to reconcile worship of the Almighty Dollar with the equally universal tendency to spend freely and give money away. The fact is that for a people who recall how poor their ancestors were, the chance to make money is like sunlight at the end of a tunnel. It is the means of living a life of human dignity; a symbol of idealism rather than materialism. Hence the American has had an instinctive sympathy for the underdog, and even persons of moderate wealth have gratefully shared it with the less fortunate, helping to endow charities, schools, hospitals, and art galleries.

The energy that enters into many of these movements is heightened by another national attitude: optimism. It was this quality that sustained the European men and women who with heavy hearts left

their ancestral firesides to try their fortunes in a strange and far-off continent.

It attains its most blatant expression in the national love of bragging. At bottom, this habit springs from a pride in a country of vast distances and mighty elevations, and from an illimitable faith in its possibilities of being great as well as big.

This facility for overstatement has given a distinctive quality to American humor. In the United States, humor has never been part of a general gaiety of spirit. It has had to break through a crust of life thick with serious purpose. Hence it has had to be boisterous and bold, delighting in exaggeration, incongruities, farcical effects, and the practical joke.

The period of urban and industrial predominance which has highlighted recent years of America's history is short as compared with the long impact of ruralism upon the American mind. But already several reversals of older attitudes are apparent.

One is the importance which Americans have come to attach to cultural achieve-

ment. The ancient prejudice against "useless" accomplishments could not long withstand the compelling opportunities offered by the city. In such centres are to be found the best schools, the best newspapers, the best churches, and virtually all the bookstores, libraries, publishing houses, concert halls, art galleries, and theatres. There, too, America makes closest contact with the vital thought of Europe, and as the urban influence became uppermost, Americans commenced to make contributions to scholarship, science, and literature. . . .

The American character, as we at present know it, is thus a mixture of long-persistent traits and newly acquired characteristics. Based upon the solid qualities of those Europeans who started life anew across the Atlantic, it assumed distinctive form under the pressure of adaptation to a radically different environment. Probably none of the traits may be described as peculiar to the American people; but the sum total represents a way of life which is unlike that of any other nation.

CHINA AND INDIA

BY DR. SIR S. RADHAKRISHNAN

CHINA and India have met and influenced each other for over two thousand years, but they always met as friends and partners in the pursuit of learning and the cultivation of virtue and not as exploiters and conquerors. This war has brought them closer and I have no doubt that in the decisive years following the victory they will work for an enduring peace and welfare of the world. They have passed through many sorrows and have

learnt from them a little understanding and tolerance, qualities that will be most needed at the Peace Conference. The earth is heaving and shuddering and the future is big with unknown things.

There is a suspicion that the war is yielding to its inherent cruelty, cruelty and narrowness of vision and the Allies are not all agreed on the objectives of the war except the one of crushing the enemy. On the questions of Poland, Yugoslavia,

India and the colonial possessions in the East, there seem to be strong differences among the Allies. The policy of let us defeat the enemy and leave the rest to chance of Providence will not work. It will be to betray the hopes of millions out of whose endurance, pain and death, victory is being won.

The principle of race equality, which was negated at the last Peace Conference, will have to be accepted. If the values for which China and India have stood for centuries are not a title to equality, the heroic resistance of China and the military achievements of India in the battlefield of Africa, Europe and Asia, at any rate, will compel recognition. The freedom of all nations and of races, the Balkan States

and the possessions in the East will have to be seriously considered and conceded. A world organization will have to be set up, backed by an international police force, if it is to be more influential than the League which fired only blank cartridges. Many of the key positions in the world will have to be internationalized, if we are not to repeat the blunders of the past; the progressive elements in the Allied nations, which are far in advance of their Governments, will have to control the Governments and see to it that the future is made safe in this noble enterprise. China with her age-long traditions of pacifism and tolerance will have a great part to play. With all my heart, I wish her well.

THE LONELY MOON

BY MR. B. G. R. KRISHNAMMA

One night in June,
The lonely moon
Peeped through my window pane,
And asked me why,
I sit and sigh,
For youth to come again.

"Are all the tears,
Shed through the years,
The heart break and the pain;
The faded gleams
Of vanished dreams
Worth having once again?

When I was young,
My heart it sung,
Brave songs of love and life,
Quite blind to pain,
To mist and rain,
My eyes saw not the strife."

"My friends and I,
With n'er a sigh,
Quaffed deep the wine of life.
At beauty's shrine,
We drank the wine,
We never saw the strife."

"The hand of fate,
Knocked at their gate,
And severed friendship's bond,
And once so gay,
Then gone away,
Into the strange beyond."

The spring of youth,
Of very truth,
Has long ago run dry,
And that is why,
I sit and sigh,
Fair goddess of the sky."

Aesthetics and Economic Welfare

BY MR. P. K. RAMANUJAM, M.A.

SOME eminent economists contend that Aesthetics and Economic Welfare are mutually exclusive and incompatible, that the one could be promoted only at the expense of the other. Calculating businessmen believe that while the evolving of a means of livelihood is an absolute necessity, the studying of an unproductive antiquity or landscape is an idle luxury. They ask with an air of grave concern, "Ought we not to love the grey and stern evidences of man's conquest of the material more than the picturesque evidences of his stagnation?" The materialistic age of smoke and steel has destroyed the natural environment of trees and shrubs and other objects that once used to stimulate the imagination of the poet and the antiquarian. Planned cities, massive buildings with their skyscraping, smoking chimneys, well laid-out broad roads, railway extensions have taken their place. Natural beauty has been killed as unproductive to give place to profit considerations. Verily, aesthetics and economic welfare are conflicting elements and the former can make no contribution to the latter. So sang our economic Pandits.

But Sir Josiah Stamp emphasizes his entire conviction that "indifference to the aesthetic will in the long run lessen the economic product; and the attention to the aesthetic will increase economic welfare". His conception of aesthetics includes historical, antiquarian and archaeological interests, natural beauty and amenity.

Analysing the contribution of aesthetics and its consequences, Sir Josiah finds,

that an appeal to the eye and the touch creates a sense of history and perspective. Objectivity and illustration create an excellent impression and knowledge of these objects more than a wandering in abstractions and descriptions. The interaction between sight and thought in giving birth to knowledge is best illustrated in the study of architecture. A visit to the Taj Mahal gives the best description of its beauty more than all the volumes that sing its praise. When we see the building, immediately our mind runs to think about it. We see at once that it is a monument exhibiting the condition of the times, civil history, social developments, folk-lore, ecclesiastical conditions, geology, art craftsmanship, and evolution of beauty, progress in mechanics and engineering and all the other problems that come as a revelation to us. Every bit of concrete reality that we see for ourselves can "teach us more of man, of morals, evils, and of goods than all the sages" and books can. Christopher Wren understood the truth of this contention when he stressed that objects of interests and beauty of architecture are conducive to the creation of a better public spirit and "communal *esprit de corps*". Sir Josiah concludes that a wider possession of historical perspective is essential to balanced judgment of social evolution—and this is essential to the wise development of democratic institutions and thus to sanity in economics—then objectivity and actuality are the main gateway to that sense of history we value so much".

The next proposition is, that man's productive capacity could be increased to

efficiency if his faculties are exercised in a balanced way. The maximum economic product will be at its best only if man gives himself to an all-round exercise of his faculties. One-sided and specialised activities tend in the long run to impair his efficiency and ultimately reduce the gain in the total output. It is here that the aesthetic figures pre-eminently as an essential element in a "balanced economic activity". Relieved from the dull monotony of his routine, one spends his leisure in varied minor activities and interests which act as a tonic to his nervous system. He seeks relaxation from the tenseness of his serious occupation in the parks that lie in his neighbourhood. Or he goes out on a holiday to visit some of the historic places that may catch his fancy. It is the lack of such facilities that makes him fatigued, less sagacious, more excitable and irritable. The diversion of his mind to certain definite objects and scenery secures his mind from a fit of aimlessness which naturally leads to demoralisation. Therefore both economic and humane considerations necessitate the preservation of places and objects of antiquity, beautiful areas and natural scenery, which are the sole contributors to mental rest and directly to physical fitness along psychological and physiological lines.

In some of the busiest towns where space is a precious economic factor, these considerations have not been ignored. The best has been made of the bad job. "Lungs", that is to say, open spaces adjoining the busiest streets have been beautifully laid out with flower beds, paths and seats. In some others, an artificial river passes along reflecting in its mirror the genius and skill of man in the tower-

ing domes of massive buildings. Still in others, some new extensions are garden cities which are the last word in health and comfort. What greater contribution could aesthetics make to solve the vexed questions of the health of the lower, middle and factory classes and the production of maximum economic goods?

The third consequence is the aesthetic as an ingredient in maximum human enjoyment. The production must be so distributed among a variety of commodities that the greatest total utility or satisfaction in consumption may be obtained. Man is not stagnant. Progress and civilization satisfy not merely old and primitive desires but also create and satisfy new ones that arise from education and cultivation of finer instincts. That community is richer which devotes its wealth to the satisfaction of a number of desires rather than spending its entire resources upon a few concerns of profit and business ends. We apply the same principle to the production of aesthetic wealth. Our aesthetic products should be so varied that the monotony of looking at one object may be avoided. We enjoy most where we witness a varied nature and environment. The law of Substitution has to be adapted to aesthetics too. A full and varied life gives maximum satisfaction, but with one essential difference. While an economic good is either used up or transformed into other goods for further production, aesthetic wealth is preserved. For, in preservation lies its consumption both by the present generation and by posterity. Ruskin believed that preservation was an act of education, the more valuable it became the longer it was preserved.

Therefore objects of natural and historical interest do have an important economic value and not to foster and protect their aesthetic value is an arid and short-sighted economic policy. Our civilization has suffered both morally and intellectually from a suppression of the aesthetic sense. Unless we exercise our aesthetic activity, the world is not glorious to us. Our education is not complete unless the finer instincts in us—the instinct to see and love nature and beauty—are given the fullest scope for development. When one perceives the beauty of anything he is exercising an activity of the spirit, whether it is a beauty of nature or beauty of art. When aesthetic and economic consider-

ations come into conflict, the former must naturally have the upper hand, for, private advantage must be sacrificed for communal benefit. So the conflict is really between private gain and public advantage. It will be a high form of socialism to relieve the individual of some private consideration for a communal advantage. Vandalism for business ends will not pay in the long run, even judged by economic tests. Our economists have to correct the modern political economy of quantity by a political economy of quality for, none of them have shown us till now the limits to public expenditure whether a beautiful city is an investment or an extravagance.

THE GOLD LOCKET

BY MR. DEVIDASS B. KAPADIYA

HIS Majesty. The Emperor Shah Jehan, had just finished dressing. He looked into the mirror, adjusted the magnificent diamond necklace and turned to his beautiful, tender wife, Arjuman Banoo, known to her subjects as Mumtaz Mahal. She sat fondling her pet—a milk-white kitten.

"So you were asking me about your new maid?" said the Emperor. "Arju, I somehow don't like that woman. She has such a nasty look, such intriguing eyes."

"But she is so obedient, so well-behaved," argued the queen passing her hand over the smooth back of her pet.

"Dangerous people usually are," answered the King. "One learns these things by experience with the world at large."

"But Your Majesty, she's so..."

"Well, well!" he returned good-humouredly. He approached her and

patted her affectionately. "Keep her if you insist on it." But, he raised his finger in warning, "be a little watchful. Being too trustful, as your extreme simplicity and innocence often make you do is rather unsafe. Especially with people of her sort." He ended with emphasis on her last sentence.

"You are so distrustful," fretted the queen. "You..."

"Beloved," he interrupted kissing her hand, "I must go. The people will be waiting for me." So saying, His Majesty left the apartment.

To-day was the day in the week when His Majesty gave audience to his subjects and imparted justice to those who appealed to him if they were in any way dissatisfied with the judgments of the Qazis of the court.

"Fatima!" called the queen,

The newly-appointed, buxom, middle-aged maid entered and bowed obeisance.

"Give this little darling some milk," ordered Her Majesty forwarding the milk-white kitten. The old maid bent forward to receive it, but owing partly to her size and partly to her overworked affectations of keeping at a respectful distance from the queen she missed the kitten which soon bounced off.

The queen threw a swift glance of displeasure at the old maid and went to fetch the pet herself. In one bound the kitten was out in the verandah. With astonishing alacrity, the queen followed it. The little pet disappeared behind a huge ivory flower-vase, peeped out from the other side and then sprang in the direction away from the queen, as if she was dodging Her Majesty at a game of hide-and-seek. With equal quickness the queen chased it. She had hardly placed her hand on its soft woolly back when suddenly a shrill feminine shriek at a distance attracted her attention. "Help, help!" the voice repeated.

Startled, the queen noticed on the distant steps of the palace-gate a female form lying on the ground and beside her in an assaulting and threatening posture stood a tall, lean man in full livery.

"Obviously the palace-guard," thought the queen. "But who could that woman be?" she wondered. And these thoughts flashed across her mind: "To-day is the day of appeals. Perhaps the woman has come with some appeal and is not being allowed in. But why?"

"Fatima," she said, "run and inform His Majesty through his servant that we would like to see him in the private chamber behind the durbar hall. Run, you

plumpy thing. Run. We are following you.

"But is it good for Your Majesty to. . ."

"Fatima!" the queen almost shouted.

The short, buxom maid disappeared with an awkward sprint. Her Majesty followed, the milk-white pet leading the way.

Soon the word was conveyed to the Emperor who rose from his magnificent throne bedecked with multi coloured precious stones. The appellants that consisted of peasants, merchants, clerks and people of all descriptions, stood up immediately.

The Emperor descended the steps and walked away indoors where stood the excited queen.

"Jahan-Panah," she said quickly, "I thought your doors were open to *all* for justice strong or weak, men or women!"

Yes, of course. But what's the matter, Arju?"

"Nothing. I saw from above a woman being refused entry into your court. She was being roughly-handled, thrown down. A woman, Your Majesty! Beside her stood your palace-guard staff in hand. That's all I could make out from a distance. I thought, Your Majesty with all the experiences with the world at large, had well chosen his palace-guards!"

The Emperor smiled at the sting in her last remarks and patted her affectionately, the magnificent diamond on his finger flashing with dazzling brilliance as he did so. He said, "My Arju, you look so beautiful when you are angry!"

"But that does not solve my question!" she returned impatiently.

"Of course, of course," he answered coolly. "I'll immediately send for him

He will be duly warned. It's quite unusual of him to have done such a thing for he knows *only too* well that to-day my doors are open to all alike—rich or poor, men or women."

The Emperor turned to go.

"Jahan Panah," pleaded the queen, "I'd like to be present when that woman's case is being heard. I feel strangely interested in it."

"Arju, your request is rather unusual. However, you may do so if you like."

The King returned to his throne, still wondering. He sent for the woman as well as the gate-keeper, Shamsheer.

Presently both entered.

"Shamsheer," roared the King, "did you refuse to allow her in?"

"Sire," the tall, lean Pathan with whiskers, Shamsheer Khan, said respectfully. "Sire, I thought the woman. . ."

"It's not for you to think," shouted the Emperor angrily. "Our orders are clear. They admit of no buts and no excuses. Everyone should be permitted and that is all. You have disobeyed our commands, Shamsheer, you shall get your due. Go." The Emperor raised his finger and pointed to the door. The Pathan with whiskers trembled. With his head down, he walked away backwards as was the custom of the Royal Court.

There was joy on the faces of the men in the durbar. A suppressed murmur of praise for the King ran from mouth to mouth.

"Woman," said the Emperor turning to the newly-arrived lady—muffled in a black sari, "You shall wait till we have dispensed with the cases on hand."

The lady without raising her head, folded her hands and bowed respectfully. The eyes of the people were instantaneously focussed on her. She stood nervously.

The appeals of the people were heard and justice was done. One by one, all departed not without casting a final glance of curiosity at the unnerved lady.

"Now, lady," said the Emperor, "let us hear your grievances. Arju!" he called, "Will you come here?"

The beautiful Mumtaz Mahal walked in with stately dignity and went straight to the lady in black.

"Sister," she said, raising the nervous lady's head with her dainty royal fingers.

It was a touching sight, the Empress of Hindustan addressing one of her poor subjects in so informal and intimate a manner. "Sister!" The word moved the heart of the poor woman; she felt embarrassed.

"What's your name?" continued the Empress. "What's your trouble? Oh, there's no vermilion mark on your forehead! So you are a widow in this bloom of youth! Tell us your story, sister. Speak. Don't fear. His Majesty will do you justice."

Tears flowed down the cheeks of the afflicted girl as these words revived her old memories. Her once lovely fair complexion was now almost pale and bore signs of long suffering. In answer she merely forwarded a little scroll with trembling hands.

The queen received it, passed it on to the Emperor, and patted the girl in an attitude of motherly protection.

The King glanced through the contents and raised his august head.

"Poor girl!" he said sympathetically. "So your name is Padmavati and you are the widow of one of our bravest soldiers who sacrificed his life fighting for us and helping us in securing the throne."

Mumtaz Mahal looked at the King and listened attentively.

"And now," the Emperor went on, "You are alone with your little son. And one, Mohammad Khan," he tapped his finger on that name in the scroll, "claims that you loved him and lived with him and on that account demands that you should continue to live with him. And the Qazi has decided the case in his favour because Mohammad Khan has proved the case by mentioning some marks of identification on the inner parts of your body."

The lady in black almost lifted her head with painful moist eyes as though she felt hurt at the mention of the last point.

"Well!" the Emperor looked at his astonished wife with a gesture of helplessness. "What can we do? The case is quite clear. The decision of my learned Qazi, considering the nature of the evidence, too is obvious. 'The marks on the body,' he hesitated to repeat these words, 'well, well, you see, that proves everything, doesn't it, Arju? How can you disprove it, girl? How on earth. . . .?'"

"But Jahan Panah," interrupted the Empress, "this is impossible. Absurd. Can't you see her face? With all your experiences with the outside world, can't you tell the guilty from the innocent? Can't you see? Can't you do some. . . ."

"Queen," answered the Emperor with the ring of a judge in his tone, "Justice depends on cut and dry facts."

"But I am sure. . . ."

"Personal conviction is a different thing," he cut in. "Justice wants facts."

He turned his eyes to the desperate woman and happened to notice a locket hanging on a black string round her neck. It was an oval-shaped locket of gold with a sword and a shield embossed on it. He stroked his short black beard thoughtfully for a while and asked, "What's that round your neck, Padmavati?"

"It's the souvenir of my late husband," murmured the woman, "Sire, my husband desired me to give it to my son when he grew up. He had said that it contains a message for my son."

"We see," returned His Majesty briefly and passed for a moment. And then as if a sudden inspiration had dawned upon him, he said, "So you always keep it nearest to you, on your body, don't you? You never part with it?"

"Never, sire!"

"And now, Padmavati, tell us have you any maid-servant in your service."

At this point the Empress swung her head majestically towards the Emperor and threw a queer gaze at him. He smiled.

"I had, sire," returned the woman in black. "She left my service only sometime ago."

"Can you describe her?"

"A short, stout, middle-aged woman with a somewhat dark complexion, sire."

"Ah! ah!" exclaimed the Emperor looking mysteriously at his wife. "Her name, Padmavati?"

"Jumna, Your Majesty."

"H'm!"

The Empress looked with amazement at her husband. "But what has that got to do with the case?" she asked irritated.

"Just a moment, queen." Shah Jehan drew close to his wife and added in a significant manner, "You will see. It's a matter of experience with the world at large, you know!"

"Well Padma," he went on, "what work did the maid do in your house?"

"Attended to my child and sometimes helped me in my bath, sire."

"We see. Now you may go. Our escorts will take you home. You should present yourself again on this very day next week. But remember," he added in his royal tone, "you'll stay in the inner chamber with Her Majesty, there." He pointed to the door of the inner chamber. "In there, do you see? No one will stop you. We will instruct our servants."

The girl with a curious mixture of anxiety and hope in her expression bowed respectfully and walked away backwards.

The Emperor with his hand round his beloved queen walked into the interior. He lowered his voice and spoke in her ear: "Arju, be watchful about that old woman of yours. See that she doesn't escape. And remember," he cautioned her, "don't let her be with you on the next appeal day when Padma will stay with you here. She shouldn't see Padma."

"But I don't understand you."

"Now, now," he patted her affectionately, "Don't be impatient. Soon you will."

* * *

On the next durbar day the house was full as usual.

In the inner chamber, Padmavati stood beside the queen who lay reclined on a soft couch which was framed in gold and studded with multi-coloured jewels. A dark thin damsel fanned Her Majesty while another held a gorgeous spittoon.

In the now-emptied durbar hall outside a man with a burly frame, wicked eyes and well-twirled thick moustache, was presently ushered in the presence of the King.

"Ah Mohammad Khan," said the King, "you resemble our Shamsheer so well! Tell us something about you."

The burly man paid the homage of the court.

"I am a soldier in Your Majesty's service, sire."

"We have summoned you here on a charge of theft," added the Emperor.

The burly man unconsciously raised his head and blinked. Instantaneously a painful tug from the club of a man in livery from behind reminded him that his head had to be kept low before the King.

In a sharp tone and swiftly the Emperor went on: "Mohammad Khan, you have stolen the gold locket of a woman named Padmavati. You know what punishments we give to our soldiers in such cases? Have you seen the minarets with the heads of cuprits on them? A head is too much a price to pay for a locket, Mohammad Khan!"

The burly soldier felt a cold shiver creeping over him.

"Have you anything to say in defence? Speak," finished the King.

"Sire," returned the accused respectfully, remembering the painful tug of the club and keeping his head low, "I swear

in the name of Allah, I don't even know a woman by name Padmavati. If I am permitted to say, sire, it's a false accusation placed before Your Majesty."

"Scoundrel!" thundered Shah Jehan with rage, "don't defile the name of Allah. You don't know Padmavati, eh! And you said before the Qazi that she loved you and lived with you!"

The Emperor directed a stern look at Mohammad Khan—a look which was not good for the culprit to see.

"Mohammad Khan," the Emperor went on, "scoundrels like you are a disgrace to my army. And now tell us who that stout old woman was whom you bribed for getting you information about the marks on Padmavati's body. Speak the truth."

The culprit felt shocked at this well-guarded secret being discovered by the Emperor. He shuddered.

"Truth never escapes Shah Jehan, do you hear?" added the King. The culprit's tone, when he spoke, indicated that he had realized that he was lost. "She was Jumna, my neighbour, sire," he added slowly.

"And is Shamsheer Khan, our palace-guard, anyway related to you?" continued the Emperor. "He bears such a striking resemblance to you."

"He's my brother, sire."

"So, so," returned the King, "That is why Shamsheer wouldn't allow the girl in. You three formed a wicked little gang—you, Shamsheer and Jumna! And we will certainly reward you well for the troubles you have taken!"

The Pathan with the wicked eyes, Mohammad Khan, trembled from head to foot at the sarcastic tone of the Emperor.

"Guards," went on the Emperor turning to four armed men, "Hold him well till we return."

Mohammad Khan stammered something and tried to throw himself on the Emperor's feet but the guards held him up.

The Emperor rose and swiftly went indoors.

"What's the matter, Jahan Panah?" inquired the queen eagerly.

"Nothing. I charged Mohammad Khan with having stolen Padma's gold locket," explained the King briefly, "and the poor fool blurted out that he did not even know a woman by that name. He pronounced his own doom, don't you see?"

The Empress looked at him admiringly while joy shone in the eyes of Padmavati.

"And now," said the Emperor without wasting time, "queen, we desire your Fatima to be called in here."

"But why, Jahan Panah?"

"You will see it soon," was the laconical answer.

And in a few moments Fatima was ushered in.

"Padma," said the King, "Can you recognize that stout woman?"

A gasp of astonishment escaped Padmavati, "Why, sire," she said "That is my Jamna!"

The Emperor turned with enraged eyes to the drooping Fatima.

"Faithless woman," he said severely. "you received bribes from Mohammad Khan and supplied him with the marks on your mistress' body. And, crafty wench, you thought that being nearest to the queen's person was the best way of avoiding any suspicion that might come

up later, eh! You thought that changing from Jumna to Fatima would do the trick!"

The Empress and Padmavati stood confused at the unexpectedly rapid turn the events had taken.

The Emperor ordered Jumna to be removed outside to where Mohammad Khan stood. Mumtaz Mahal with Padma behind her stood behind the curtains anxiously awaiting the result.

Presently His Majesty passed the following sentence in his typical stern voice of a judge: "Two pits shall be dug. One for Mohammad Khan and one for his accomplice, Jumna. Both shall be buried half in the pits and their upper half shall be perforated with arrows till the culprits are dead. And Shamsheer, our palace-guard, shall rot in prison for twelve years."

When the culprits were borne away the queen, followed by Padmavati, entered into the empty durbar hall.

"Padmavati," said His Majesty the Emperor Shah Jehan, "you know it's your gold locket that gave us the idea and saved you from infamy. It seems to us that that souvenir of an honest and brave soldier will act like a talisman for you and guard you against all evils and misfortunes. Preserve it carefully, girl. Now you may go. Our escorts will see you home. And remember, Shah Jehan is father to his subjects. His doors of justice are open to one and all alike."

A tear of joy and gratitude glittered in Padmavati's eyes.

"Long live Your Majesties," said she turning from one to the other of the royal couple, "I shall pray to God that Your Majesties' reign shall be known to

the future generations as a reign of Justice, Peace and Plenty."

And she turned to go.

"One thing more, Padmavati," added the Emperor, "in future be careful in selecting your maid-servants." He directed a significant look at the Empress who answered with a half-smile suggesting that she was alive to his implications.

And followed by the royal escorts, Padmavati departed.

With a "miau" Her Majesty's milk-white pet materialised, as it were, from nowhere. It raised its tail and rubbed affectionately against the royal feet. The Emperor looked down at it, then turned to his wife, passed his hand round her and released a graceful smile.

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The Post-War Depression and the Way Out*

By MR. P. S. NARASIMHAM, M.A.

—) O (—

OVER the greater part of the book, Mr. Shenoy covers familiar ground. The title of the book is rather misleading. More than three-fourths of the work deals with the problems of financing the war and of releasing enough real resources for the war effort; the post-war depression and the way out come in only at the end and are dismissed in less than thirty-five pages.

Mr. Shenoy's account of the factors that almost invariably lead the economy of a country into a depression in the post-war period is clear and precise. If, as soon as the war is over, all the war-time controls are relaxed, there is likely to be a scramble both for finished consumers' goods and of capital goods. This scramble is likely to be aggravated by the fact that individuals, *entrepreneurs* and banks alike will possess at the close of the war a large volume of liquid funds in the shape of treasury bills, war savings certificates, etc. But all this financial opulence is a dangerous mirage as it hides the real fact that though the country is better off in terms of money, it has been rendered much poorer in terms of real resources by the war effort. The post-war boom is, therefore, likely to be extremely short-lived. Soon wages, the prices of raw materials and the rates of interest will shoot up, many of the schemes of expansion initiated during the post-war boom period will turn unremunerative and be abandoned, and this will bring in its train the inevitable unemployment and depression.

* THE POST-WAR DEPRESSION AND THE WAY OUT.
By B. R. Shenoy, M.A., M.C. (Econ.), (London).
Kutubistan, No. 2, Allahabad

What then is the way out? Mr. Shenoy suggests two remedies. The first is a stiff capital levy which will eliminate all the fictitious wealth created by the war and thus prevent the emergence of a post-war boom by reducing the volume of liquid funds available for investment. Mr. Shenoy hardly stops to consider the disastrous psychological effect such a capital levy is likely to have just when industry is trying to recover from the shattering effects of the war. So far as India is concerned, the case against a capital levy would seem to be decisive. What we need is a quickening of the pace of industrialisation and a capital levy is most calculated to delay it by discouraging, for the time being at least, private enterprise. In a country with considerable undeveloped resources like India, all the extra money created by the war can be prevented from having any inflationary effect and be most fruitfully employed in achieving a corresponding expansion in industry and output.

The other remedy advocated by Mr. Shenoy is less controversial and is indeed accepted to-day by the economists and Governments alike as one of the basic principles of post-war planning. It is the continuation, for the entire period of reconstruction, of the war-time controls over consumption and investment. By the control of consumption, enough resources can be released for the production of the essential capital goods, and by the control of investment an unhealthy post-war boom can be prevented and the more important industries can be given a prior claim over the available productive resources.

Mr. Shenoy, one feels, has not emphasized adequately the fact that the problems created by a war and war-time expenditure are likely to be different in between countries which are already well developed,

JULY 1944]

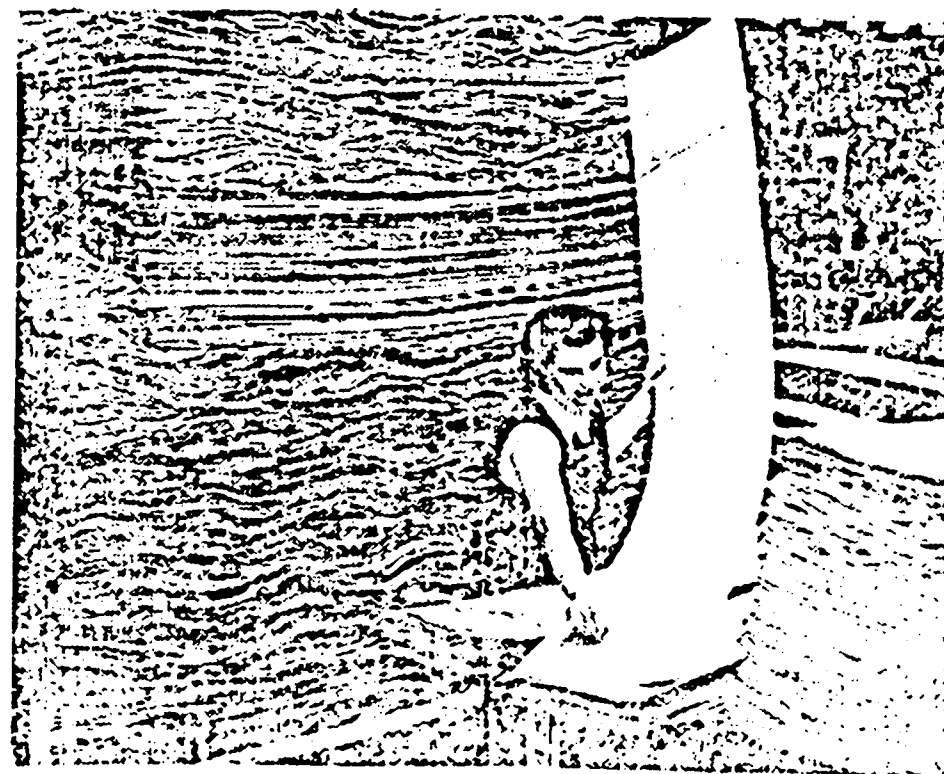
THE POST-WAR DEPRESSION AND THE WAY OUT

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and countries such as Canada, Australia and India, which have vast reserves of untapped resources. He thus maintains that "any attempt at economic expansion through the creation of credit, which does not correspond to an equivalent voluntary abatement from consumption, must necessarily lead to disaster" (p. 37), but it need not, when the additional money brings into employment resources hitherto undeveloped. Again, he holds that the additional output which can be secured in times of war by taking in the slack or idle resources would be greater in the richer than in the poorer countries (p. 48), but the margin so available must obviously be greater in the undeveloped countries with large reserves of unexploited resources such as Canada and India. There are also one or two

other points on which one would like to have more light. We are thus told in Chapter VI that on the cessation of hostilities a boom is bound to develop as a result of the scramble for goods by the consumers and for capital goods by the *entrepreneurs* in the capital goods industries. But is not this extra demand in the peace-time industries likely to be offset partly at least by the sudden cessation of the huge war expenditure by the Government?

It must, however, be admitted that, on the whole, Mr. Shenoy has given us a clear and readable account of the economic problems that are likely to arise both during the war and the period immediately following it, and the lines on which these can be solved.



FLYING PLY-WOOD

This picture shows plywood sheets, little more than 1/16 in. thick being inspected by a woman aircraft worker before being moulded and built up as the fuselage and the wings of the "Mosquito".

Prof. ALEXANDER FLEMING—DISCOVERER OF PENICILLIN



Penicillin, one of Britain's great contributions to modern medical science, is considered to be one of the most important discoveries of medicine. This discovery was due to the keen observation of a British bacteriologist, Professor Fleming, in 1929. It was not until 1940 that Professor Florey at Oxford obtained successful results in experiments with the drug, and in 1942 amazing cures were effected upon patients suffering from serious infections. Penicillin acts with ease and certainty, and with a rapidity which is spectacular and dramatic. When it is possible to produce large quantities of the drug, thousands of lives will be saved. The picture shows Professor Alexander Fleming, F.R.S., discoverer of Penicillin, at work in his laboratory at St. Mary's Hospital, Paddington, London. In front of him in glass dishes are specimens of the mould, from which Penicillin is extracted, growing in the cultural broth. Various stages of the growth may be seen.

GANDHIJI'S CORRESPONDENCE

—) O (—

DURING his detention in the Aga Khan's Palace, Mahatma Gandhi, who was supplied with many daily papers, wrote a number of letters, as occasion arose, explaining the position of himself and the Congress in general and the implications of the August resolution in particular. This was necessary in view of the adverse criticisms appearing in the press. The criticisms were made sometimes by responsible persons, both here and in England, and by persons in authority. But as all the leading Congressmen were in prison, they were left unchallenged by competent spokesmen of the Congress. Gandhiji thought it necessary that the case for the Congress should not go by default. He was, therefore, concerned mainly to correct and disprove the many misstatements and allegations against himself, his colleagues of the Working Committee and the Congress by interested spokesmen in this country and in England.

Further, shortly after Lord Wavell took over charge as the Viceroy of India, Gandhiji was in correspondence with him on the various issues bearing on the Indian political situation. He was also in communication with other Government officials, and copies of all his correspondence, which run to about 250 single-space typed foolscap sheets, including over a hundred pages, dealing with replies to the various charges made against him and the Congress in the Government of India's publication, "Congress Responsibility in the disturbances of 1942-43," have been circulated to leaders of public opinion and such others, who, in his opinion, might acquaint him with their views.

Of course, nothing definite could be known to the public and sometimes pressmen drew largely on their imagination. Gandhiji, therefore, thought it proper to give the public the full text of his correspondence with H. E. Lord Wavell. Accordingly, the letters were released to the press in the third week of June.

GANDHI-WAVELL LETTERS

The exchange of letters covers the period of February, March and April, 1944. The origin of the correspondence is the communication to Gandhiji of the notice

issued by Government informing him why he was detained. The main points of the Gandhi-Wavell letters may thus be summarized:

Gandhiji's letter, dated February 17, asserts that the Congress and himself are wholly innocent of the charges which an impartial tribunal could establish. He continues, "the spirit of India demands complete freedom and would resist Japanese yoke equally with British or any others." Warning high-placed British officials against self-satisfaction at the present state of affairs, Gandhiji says, "promises for the future are valueless". Present performance is the need of the moment if a bloodier war is to be avoided in future. Therefore real war effort must satisfy India's demands. Gandhiji explains the August 1942 (Quit India resolution) resolution by this test, and reiterates his friendliness for Britain.

In reply, the Viceroy refers Gandhiji to his speech made in the legislature on February 17 as setting out the Government's point of view and sends deep sympathy from himself and Lady Wavell on Mrs. Gandhi's death.

A large part of Gandhiji's next letter says how much he misses his wife and then passes on to the Viceroy's address to the legislature and after quoting part of it which refers to maintaining obligations to those entitled to them and the minorities Gandhiji says that he interprets this to mean that the Government will stand by those who owe the present position to the British and then adds, "the situation thus envisaged is hopeless."

Gandhiji next deals with the release of other prisoners and after referring to the Viceroy's statement that no one in jail need do more than consult his own conscience says that a resolution arrived at jointly cannot be withdrawn by individuals separately and that a prisoner is not in a position to consult his conscience. Gandhiji suggests that Lord Wavell's scheduled flights be interrupted to enable His Excellency to visit Ahmednagar (where the Working Committee members are detained) and the Aga Khan's

Palace (where Gandhiji was then detained) "to probe the hearts of your captives."

Replying to this letter, H. E. the Viceroy says:

I don't think it profitable to answer in detail the points raised in your letter, but I think it best to give you a clear statement of my views on the future developments of India and the reasons for your present detention.

The Viceroy re-affirms the Cripps offer of self-Government under a constitution of India's own devising, and adds: "I only seek the best means to implement it without delivering India to confusion and turmoil". The Viceroy says, much is to be done meanwhile in preparing India to take her place in the modern world and raising the standard of living of her population. Leaders of all parties can co-operate in helping the country towards the goal of freedom.

The Viceroy says that he takes the view that the Congress Party's present policy is hindering Indian progress to self-Government. The Congress refused to co-operate in war effort and called on the ministries to resign and at the greatest crisis passed a resolution calling on the British to leave India which could not have failed to have had a most serious effect "on our ability to defend the frontiers of India against the Japanese". He adds:

I do not accuse you or the Congress Party of any wish deliberately to aid the Japanese, but you are too intelligent a man, Mr. Gandhi, not to realise that the effect of your resolution must be to hamper the prosecution of the war. I was the Commander-in-Chief at the time and my vital lines of communication to the Burma frontier were cut by Congress supporters in the name of the Congress, often using the Congress flag.

The Viceroy says that he does not believe the attitude of non-co-operation represents the opinion of the majority of India, and concludes that the greatest contribution the Congress can make is to abandon non-co-operation and join in helping India forward not by a spectacular stroke, but by steady and hard work.

Gandhiji, in reply, dated April 9, says that co-operation requires equality and mutual trust. Congressmen have no faith in the competence of the Government to ensure India's future good, based as it is on the bitter experience of the past. The resolution implied self-suffering and not violence and anyone who acted against this had no authority of the Congress. The responsibility for what followed "the hasty arrest"

of Congressmen rests with the Government. Is it not high time, he asks, that you co-operated with the people of India through their elected representatives instead of expecting co-operation from them?

After reviewing the position in India to-day, Gandhiji concludes:

I agree with you that whilst you hold the views expressed in your letter under reply, the proper place for one like me is Government's prison, and unless there is a change of heart, view, and policy on the part of Government, I am content to remain your prisoner.

It is felt that it would be a tragedy if the bright and potential period of Mr. Gandhi's freedom should prove barren of political results through failure on the part of either or both parties to exploit the favourable opportunity.

Government desire Congress co-operation, and Mr. Gandhi has expressed his readiness to offer honourable co-operation. To this extent, there is common ground. Lord Wavell's demand for the abandonment of non-co-operation by the Congress is implicitly conceded by Mr. Gandhi's remarks: We are all friends of the British . . . If you can but trust, you will find us to be greatest helpers in the fight against Nazism. . . .

THE TOTTENHAM PAMPHLET

The release of the Gandhi-Viceroy correspondence was quickly followed by Government themselves issuing a book of 725 closely printed pages entitled "Correspondence with Mr. Gandhi". It contains Gandhiji's 78-page reply to the official pamphlet "Congress Responsibility for the Disturbances" of August, 1942, besides letters exchanged between him on the one side, and Lord Linlithgow, Lord Wavell, Lord Samuel and the Home Department on the other, during the period, August, 1942 to April, 1944.

In a letter written on July 15, 1943, to the Government of India replying to the Tottenham pamphlet, Gandhiji declares that what he calls the Government 'indictment' is:

A cruel misrepresentation of his stand;

Seething with phrases detached from their context and draped in mystery, and sentences impressed in order to make what is straight look crooked;

An attempt to twist impromptu replies to pressmen into definite statements; and

Full of unwarranted and mischievous deductions built on finding motives other than those that are apparent from his language; and paranthetical glosses and -distortions of truth.

Gandhiji quotes extensively from the *Harijan* to prove the baselessness of the charge of pro-Axis or defeatist tendency on his part. He goes on to add:

It is wrong to accuse the Congress of hindering war effort. Congress activity up to the night of August 8, 1943, was confined to resolutions only. The dawn of August 9 saw the Congress imprisoned. What followed was a direct result of the Government's action.

It is clear that but for the arrests, no such disturbances would have taken place as happened on August 9. The Government's action in enforcing India-wide arrests was so violent that the populace which was in sympathy with the Congress lost self-control. The loss of self-control cannot imply Congress complicity but it does imply that the power of endurance of human nature has limitations.

Gandhiji demands the withdrawal of the indictment and the release of detenus.

The Government know that the public in India seem to have distrusted the indictment and regarded it as designed for foreign propaganda. Men like Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, the Rt. Hon. Sastri and M. R. Jayakar have given their opinion that the "evidence" produced in the indictment is of no judicial value. Therefore, the Government should withdraw the indictment. I see from the preface to the indictment that the Government have in their possession "valuable evidence", presumably incriminating the detenus. I submit that, if the Government cannot safely divulge the evidence, they should discharge the detenus and bring to book those who, after discharge, may be caught in the act of committing or promoting crimes. With limitless power at their back, they need not resort to unsustainable accusations.

But Government reply that the pamphlet was published for information of the public and not for the purpose of

convincing you or eliciting your defence. It was supplied to you only at your own request and Government neither invited nor desired your comments.

I am accused that I would exchange Japanese rule for British. My non-violence is made of sterner stuff. Only a jaundiced eye can read such an emotion in the face of the clearest possible writings of *Harijan* that I would face all the horrors of war in order to end the horror of horrors which British domination is. I am impatient of it because I am impatient of all domination. I am in the grip of only one dominant emotion and no other—that is India's freedom.

Government state that "the pamphlet contains no material misrepresentation of general trend of your utterances during the

relevant period" and repeating that the disturbances are the "natural and predictable consequences of your declaration of an open rebellion and the propaganda which preceded it", refuse to publish the correspondence as requested by Gandhiji and to release the leaders.

The Mahatma writes again repeating the offer to meet Working Committee members and demanding reference of the indictment to an impartial tribunal.

As to "satisfactory assurances" about my "good conduct", I can only say that I am unaware of any unworthy conduct at any time. I presume that the impression Government have of my conduct is referable to the charges mentioned in the indictment, as I have succinctly called "Congress Responsibility for the Disturbances, 1942-43." And since I have not only denied the charges *in toto* but, on the contrary, have ventured to bring counter-charges against the Government, I think that they should agree to refer both to an impartial tribunal. Seeing that a big political organisation and not a mere individual is involved in the charges, I hold that it should be a vital part of the war effort to have the issue decided by a tribunal, & mutual discussion and effort are considered by the Government to be undesirable and—or futile.

Government refuse to arrange for a meeting between Gandhiji and the Working Committee members.

GANDHI-JINNAH LETTERS

The correspondence that passed between Gandhiji and Government regarding the interception of the letter to Mr. Jinnah is also published. Gandhiji says in the course of the letter:

I am sorry for the Government's decision. For my letter to the Quaid-e-Azam was sent in reply to his public invitation to me to write to him and I was especially encouraged to do so because his language had led me to think that if I wrote to him, my letter would be forwarded to him. The public too are anxious that the Quaid-e-Azam and I should meet or at least establish contact. I have always been anxious to meet the Quaid-e-Azam, if per chance we could devise some solution of the communal tangle which might be generally acceptable. Therefore the disability in the present instance is much more that of the public than mine.

GANDHIJI'S LETTER TO MAXWELL

On May 21, Mahatma Gandhi addressed a letter to the Home Member, Sir Reginald Maxwell, pointing out certain palpable inaccuracies and the latter's speech in the Legislative Assembly on February 15, 1943.

Gandhiji contends:

I have no reparation to make, for I have no consciousness of guilt. And there can be no

question of assurances for the future when I hold myself guiltless.

I cannot cancel the Congress rebellion which is of a purely non-violent character. I am proud of it.

I wish to repudiate nothing of what I have done or intended. I have no sense of repentance. For I have no sense of having done any wrong to any person.

The cry of "quit India" is intrinsically just... suppression of popular exuberance by a frightful exhibition of power is no defeat. Satyagraha knows no defeat. It flourishes on blows the hardest imaginable.

GANDHIJI'S REPLY TO LORD SAMUEL

In the course of a speech in the House of Lords in April, 1943, the Rt. Hon. Lord Samuel, the Liberal leader and philosopher, thought fit to echo the sentiments expressed in the Tottenham pamphlet. Writing to His Lordship under date May 15, Gandhiji observes:

The report distressed me. I was wholly unprepared for your unqualified association with the one-sided and unjustified statement of the Government of India against the Congress and me.

You are a philosopher and a Liberal. A philosophic mind has always meant for me a detached mind, and liberalism, a sympathetic understanding of men and things.

As it seems to me, there is nothing in what the Government has said to warrant the conclusions to which you are reported to have come.

And then he goes on to add:

The cry "Quit India" has arisen from a realisation of the fact that if India is to shoulder the burden of representing, or fighting for the cause of mankind, she must have the glow of freedom now. Has a freezing man ever been warmed by the promise of the warmth of sunshine coming at some future date?

Gandhiji makes it clear that

the disturbances that took place after the 8th August were not due to any action on the part of the Congress. They were due entirely to the inflammatory action of the Government in arresting Congress leaders throughout India and that at a time which was psychologically and wholly wrong.

The Government of India did not forward this letter to Lord Samuel.

GANDHIJI'S LETTER TO MIRA BEN

A document that, according to Mira Ben, "proves beyond a shadow of doubt that Gandhiji is cent. per cent. anti-Japanese" is among the correspondence published. It would appear that after the A.I.C.C. meeting at Allahabad, in April, 1942, Gandhiji

deputed Mira Ben to Orissa, for helping the Congress workers as a Japanese attack on the east coast was then hourly expected.

By a special messenger, she sent a confidential report, on which Gandhiji made out these points:—

(1) Complete non-co-operation with the Japanese; (2) no willing submission to the invader; (3) people shall handle nothing from Japanese hands.

Mira Ben sent a letter to Lord Linlithgow on Christmas eve calling upon him in view of this unchallengeable proof to refute all the false and slanderous propaganda carried on by the British Press then.

The Government did not take any action, which is characterised by Mahatma Gandhi as "squeamish".

Gandhiji wrote to the Government of India on February 26, 1944, protesting against "persistent charges and innuendoes against the Congress" and called upon the Government to publish the Mira Ben correspondence.

Sir Richard Tottenham, in reply, stated that the "Government have never at any time, either here or at home, charged the Congress with being pro-Japanese" and therefore the question of repudiation did not arise.

THE NEXT STEP

As we go to press (30th June) it is rumoured in Poona that Gandhiji has received a letter from H. E. the Viceroy in reply to his request that he should be allowed to meet members of the Congress Working Committee, or alternatively, that he should discuss the present situation with the Viceroy personally.

It is also stated that though the reply of the Viceroy is considered to be unfavourable yet as far as Gandhiji is concerned, it does not mean the end of efforts to establish personal contact with the Viceroy. Attention is also drawn to the fact that in reply to the address of a representative group of Congressmen in Maharashtra Gandhiji made it clear that the authority to launch civil disobedience vested in him by the August resolution lapsed with his imprisonment.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Release the Prisoners

IN a letter to the *News Chronicle*, Mr. Edward Thompson, the well-known commentator on Indian affairs, says: "Mr. Gandhi has been released as an act of compassion. His colleagues should be freed as one of policy."

Urging their release "for India's sake", Mr. Thompson says,

the prisoners are universally known public figures. Four years ago many were Cabinet Ministers and Premiers governing seven Provinces. Despite censorship, India's wretchedness has appalled the world and only Indians understand their problems.

Mr. Thompson also urges their release for the sake of the war and adds,

the prisoners cannot meet and are in ignorance of all that has happened since they went to gaol, and why? Are they to fester until we extort one side's apology made individually by men in separate confinement? And — some day — the prisoners will have to be released.

Mr. Thompson knows what value to attach to the protagonists of Government from the ranks of high-placed Indians and he has no hesitation in declaring that official representatives handpicked by alien power have hardly any influence in India.

He adds that the spokesmen of the Government of India lament that the war is waged on a background of sullenness and concludes:

Every one but ourselves knows that we have been judges of our own case and have controlled all means of expression. The White Papers on the disturbances and famine are among the least convincing documents.

The Paper Control Order

The newspaper control order restricting civilian consumption to 30 per cent. of the 1943 level is a stunning blow to the periodical press in India. 1943 was the fourth year of the war and already paucity of paper and high prices had brought down the level of consumption to bare sustenance. To impose a further cut of 70 is a cruel joke on the periodical press. The order has practically maimed many a journal and we shall not be surprised if it kills many others outright. The order will necessitate many journals giving up their cherished features which ensured their success. The *Indian Social Reformer*

of Bombay, a weekly of high standing, appears as a single sheet—that is the ridiculous plight to which this well-known weekly has been driven.

In war-time there may be need to economise paper consumption but this drastic cut of 70 per cent. is so sudden that many concerns are well nigh desperate. Are the Government sure that the maximum economy has been brought about in their own requirements? Have they done anything to promote local production, or to augment available supply? The public have a right to know that there is no waste in the shape of subsidies to worthless journals propped up in the name of propaganda at a time when the entire press is so hard-hit.

The fact is, the present scarcity should have been foreseen and steps taken from time to time to minimise the shock of a sudden cut to this ridiculous extent. If cut there must be in civil supplies, we endorse the suggestions put forward by Mr. B. M. Birla, President of the Indian Paper Mills' Association,

first to set apart at least 50 per cent. of the local output for civilian consumption, gradually increasing the quota to 75 per cent., and, secondly, to facilitate production through larger supplies of coal, better transport facilities, etc.

Judgment on Nagpur Journalists

In the ever-widening range of punishable offences, it is becoming difficult for the lay public to determine the exact border-line between what is legitimate and what is illegal. And yet ignorance of law is no excuse. The sentence delivered against the *Hitavada* and *Nagpur Times* for publishing a report from their Jubbulpore correspondent concerning detenus is a reminder to the public that they cannot be too careful in their efforts to keep within the safe side of law, when the frontiers of legality are being subjected to drastic revision in these days. The convicting magistrate was perhaps within his rights in penalising the papers for their complicity in the matter. But a newspaper, as Mr. A. D. Mani of the *Hitavada* pointed out, is worked in anonymity and it is practically impossible for the press to function if

members thereof are held severally responsible. When the declared editor is there to own responsibility for what appears in his paper there is no meaning in hauling up the subordinates.

The convicting magistrate set up a dangerous precedent when he went out of his way to say that a deterrent punishment was called for in order "to curb" what he called "the tendency to pry into Government secrets and divulge them." This is an unfortunate perversion of words. It is the business of the press, as a contemporary rightly points out, as the watch dogs of public life in the country, to seek, investigate and find out the whole truth about current happenings and activities of any consequence and it is wrong phraseology to characterise this tendency as "prying" or "eavesdropping".

Prof. Hill on the Poverty of India

It will be remembered that Prof. A. V. Hill, Secretary of the Royal Society, came to this country during the closing weeks of last year to advise the Government of India on scientific matters. An acute student of science, he came with an open mind, moved intimately with Indian scientists and returned home, after careful study and investigation of the condition of the people in different parts of the country.

Prof. Hill has seen and watched with pain and anguish the appalling poverty of the masses of India, and in a letter to the *Times* he renders an account of the causes of Indian famine. He says:

1. The mortality rate is four to eight times of ours. The expectation of life is 26 instead of 62.
2. Between 100 and 200 million are suffering from malaria yearly, and tuberculosis, cholera, smallpox, plague, guinea-worm, filarial infection, etc., take their own toll.
3. More than half the population are underfed and live on the verge of starvation.
4. Chronic malnutrition, acting with disease is producing a vicious circle of inefficiency.
5. Despite this, the population is increasing at about six million annually.

Prof. Hill concludes that "it is idle to talk of family limitation except as a long-term policy. The only hope of averting the tragedy is to get the co-operation of all men of goodwill in the whole-hearted development of India's resources by modern scientific methods."

The late Acharya Ray

The last of the great Victorian giants in India has passed away in the death of Acharya Profulla Chandra Ray. It is true he died full of years and honours and he had completely worked himself out in the service of science and the country. But that could be no consolation to his countrymen who will sorely miss the inspiration of his presence. In the death of Sir P. C. Ray, said Gandhiji who wished him to complete a century

the country has lost a very great scientist and an equally great philanthropist. He was also a great patriot and friend of the poor. His spartan simplicity was a pattern for all, but more especially for the student world.

That tribute sums up Sir Profulla's many-sided activities. A scientist of international reputation, he built up more than anyone else the foundations of scientific education in Bengal, especially on the chemical side and took steps for the establishment of industrial concerns based on scientific researches.

As a reputed scientist, as a founder of the school of Chemistry in India, as an author of the "History of Hindu Chemistry", as a maker of industry, Acharya Ray's name has become a household word throughout country. His indefatigable services to the cause of the suffering humanity—his relief works—his quiet philanthropic contributions are, in fact, valuable assets of our national life.

Gokhale aptly described him as a "scientific recluse". He lived the life of a typical sage of ancient India: but he represented the all-round progress of modern times. To the end he continued to be the ideal teacher, who inspired his numerous and far-famed pupils with a genuine urge for scientific research. He had been their friend, philosopher and guide.

Sir Profulla was a valued contributor to these pages in early years, and the Editor of this *Review* has pleasant recollections of hours spent in his company in the premises of the *Indian Review* during his visits to Madras. Sir Profulla, like Gandhiji, was versatile in his interests. He has left behind the example of a simple and austere life, selfless, pure and patriotic and completely dedicated to the service of his fellowmen.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

The Liberation of Rome

ROME fell on June 5. The fall of the eternal city is as distinct a stage in the triumph of allied arms as was Paris to the Nazis in the early stages of the war.

With the capture of Rome, the first Axis capital has fallen to the Allies and with it half of Italy.

Its capture comes almost exactly four years after the day, June 10, 1910, that Mussolini from the balcony of the Palazzo Venezia in the heart of the capital, announced his entry into the war and delivered his "stab in the back" to France. It comes just three weeks after Gen. Sir Harold Alexander launched his great new offensive across the Rapido river.

The liberation of Rome also frees the Vatican city, which the Germans took under their "protection" last October. For the past nine months, Rome has been under German rule. The Germans occupied it on the night of September 8-9 last year.

German Aid to Finland

The Finnish Government has officially announced that Germany had promised all armed help needed by the Finns for them to continue the war against Russia.

According to direct information from Helsinki to the newspaper, *Morgon Tidningen*, German troops have since entered Helsinki preventing the Finnish Government from taking independent action. As a consequence of this, the U. S. Government have broken off relations with Finland.

Italian King gives up Powers

King Victor Emmanuel, on June 5, signed a decree transferring his powers to Crown Prince Umberto, conferring Lieutenant-Generacy of the Realm on Crown Prince Umberto. Marshal Badoglio, Italian Prime Minister, signed a decree in confirmation.

King Victor made this promise on April 12. The promise provided for a formal transfer of power "on the day when the allied troops enter Rome." The Allies entered Rome on the 5th May. General Bencivenga assumed military and civil command of Rome on allied authority.

Plan for Post-war Peace

Mr. Churchill, answering a question in the Commons whether it was intended that all the Allies were to consider the world plan for post-war peace, said, "We hope that the arrangements to be made for the maintenance of international peace and security after the war will be subject of consultations at the appropriate time between all the United Nations." He gave the assurance that the Commons would be able to discuss the plan before it was finally adopted.

Governor Dewey as Republican Candidate

Governor Thomas Dewey of New York has been nominated at the Republican National Convention as the Republican candidate for the Presidency after Governor John W. Bricker of Ohio had announced his own withdrawal. Governor Dewey carried all votes but one which went to General Douglas MacArthur, Allied Commander, in the South-West Pacific.

The vote was 1,056 to 1.

Governor Bricker has been nominated Republican candidate for the Vice-Presidency.

Chinese Advance on Burma Road

The Chinese forces driving to re-open China's lifeline with the Allies are reported to be only five miles from Tengchung, the key town 20 miles west of the Burma Road and some 50 miles from General Stilwell's forces in Myitkyina. Below Tengchung, heavy fighting is in progress at a point where Chinese troops are six miles north-west of the Burma Town of Lungling. South-west of Lungling other Chinese forces are advancing on the Burma Road town of Mangshih.

Measures to Counter-flying Bombs

The latest German menace, or one of Hitler's secret weapons—the flying bombs—has been operating on an increased scale over South England for some weeks past. Several have been shot down into the sea or on the fields.

Measures for dealing with the flying bomb are being improved almost hourly. They have already been extraordinarily effective. When full facts can be released, the measure of success so far attained is expected to be staggering, says Reuter.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

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- June 1. Eire Elections—De Valera scores a big majority.
—Allies take Malakung in N. Burma.
—Sir A. R. Dalal is appointed to the Viceroy's Executive Council.
- June 2. The Pope broadcasts from Rome deploring war horrors.
- June 3. Sponsors of the Bombay Plan interview Mahatma Gandhi.
—Chinese capture Kaitov.
—Jap reverses in Kobima area.
- June 4. The 5th Army enters the city limits of Rome.
- June 5. King Victor abdicates. Rome falls.
- June 6. Allied invasion of France—Second Front begins.
- June 7. Allies' gigantic air assault on enemy positions in Europe.
—Further allied landings in west France are reported.
- June 8. Allies capture Viterbo, Vetrana and Tarquino in Italy.
—The King and Prime Minister visit General Eisenhower at headquarters.
- June 9. Signor Bonomi forms the new Italian Government.
—American heavy bombers attack Munich area.
- June 10. The Government of India accord sanction for starting automobile industry by the Birlas.
- June 11. Three Punjab Ministers resign their memberships of the League.
—Allies enter Carentan in France.
- June 12. Caen in France falls.
—Russian advance in Finland.
- June 13. Allies take Montebourg in France.
- June 14. Sir R. Maxwell is appointed Adviser to the Secretary of State for India.
—Heavy fighting in Normandy.
—Use of Dardanelles by Nazi ships—British protest against Turkish connivance.
- June 15. American super Fortresses bomb Japan.
—Gandhiji arrives at Poona.
- June 16. Sir P. C. Ray is dead.
—Allies capture Kidima.
- June 17. Allies land in Elba.
—Red Army reaches Mannerheim Line.
—Gandhi-Wavell letters released.
- June 18. New Italian Government formed.
—Nazis fall back on Cherbourg.
- June 19. Allies capture Tilly.
—Russians capture Viborg.
—Elba garrison surrenders—1,800 Germans taken prisoners.
- June 20. Russians capture Viborg.
—Big naval battle off Mariana Islands.
- June 21. Gandhiji's answer to Government pamphlet is released for publication.
—Maharaja of Parlakimedi, Orissa Premier, resigns from office.
- June 22. Allied troops in Imphal contact enemy forces.
—Allies enter Mogaung.
- June 23. Bobrinsk defences broken by Russian troops.
—Vitebsk, pivot of the German front in White Russia, isolated.
- June 24. Joint statement by U. S. Vice-President Mr. Henry Wallace and Chiang Kaishek issued.
—Disastrous accident in Shillong Tea Estate.
- June 25. Air attack on Marianas.
—Fifth Army takes over 36,000 prisoners.
- June 26. American forces enter Cherbourg.
—Indian troops in Rome received by II. H. the Pope.
- June 27. Fall of Cherbourg—Completion of first phase of battle for Europe.
—Privy Council holds A. I. S. A. to be a purely charitable concern.
- June 28. Gandhiji addresses Maharashtra Congressmen.
—Agreement between Germany and Finland.
- June 29. American advance on Saipon island.
—Henriot, Vichy Minister of propaganda, assassinated.
- June 30. U. S. breaks off with Finland.
—Allied army lands east of Orne estuary and occupy Cabourg.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

BRITISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDIAN STUDIES. By Sir Atul Chatterjee and Sir Richard Burn. Longmans, Green & Co. Since the days of Warren Hastings not a few Europeans, officials of the various services, missionaries and archaeologists interested in Indian antiquities have tried to probe into the mysteries of Indian philosophy, religion and literature and translated them into English for the benefit of the world outside. A striking feature of this noble work is the co-operation of British and Indian scholars which has continued uninterruptedly down to this day. This pamphlet is an interesting record of the results of this meritorious work of co-operation in the field of Indian research and antiquities—a common heritage of men of learning.

SOCIALISM RECONSIDERED. By M. R. Masani. Padma Publications, Ltd., Bombay. Re. 1.

In the two talks that comprise this book, Mr. M. R. Masani, ex-Mayor of Bombay and author of the picturesque little book—*Our India*—discusses the basic assumptions of socialism and the outcome of the overpraised experiment in Russia. The Revolution which promised so much and was such a resounding success in Lenin's day has gone off the rails since Stalin took charge of affairs. The Soviet is no doubt a powerful force to be reckoned with—as evidenced by its singlehanded defence against Hitler formidable engines of destruction—but it is no more the classless democracy of Lenin's dream. Mr. Masani, therefore, pleads for a modified form of socialism for India.

DIAMONDS IN THE DUST. By Douglas Lackersteen. Kitabistan, Allahabad. Re. 1.

Military experts and political commentators have said a lot about the fall of Burma. Mr. Lackersteen is content to give a pen picture of men, women and children who performed deeds of charity, courtesy and self-sacrifice in the course of evacuation no less meritorious and moving than the more dramatic incidents of war.

THE MAHABHARATA STORY. By Mr. S. Sitaramayya, Retired Assistant Meteorologist, Shenbagamir P. O., via Kodaikanal Road, S. I. Ry.

It has been truly observed that no work of imagination is so rich and so true as the Mahabharata in the portraiture of the human character, and that it is an encyclopaedia of the life and knowledge of ancient India. There must be certainly many who are anxious to be acquainted with the contents of this great and immortal epic; but the size of the book in the original and the English translation of it by the famous Dr. Roy is likely to frighten the reader who may be a busy man and yet anxious to know the story.

Mr. Sitaramayya's book in which he, very successfully indeed, presents the whole of the main story in one handy volume, including portions from the numerous speeches and dialogues that are inspiring and instructive, and the main incidents of the eighteen days' battle, must be quite welcome to the general reader.

ONIONS AND OPINIONS. By N. G. Jog. Preface by Robert Lynd. Thacker & Co., Bombay. Rs. 6-12.

This book which takes its name from the title to one of the essays is a collection of 25 pieces in "Cabbages and Kings" line. The topics range from Dictators and their shirts to cats and kisses. Though most of these tiny essays had appeared in newspapers from time to time, they have lost none of their charm and freshness by lapse of time. Mr. Jog has a fine sense of humour, and a sure and easy style gives distinction to his witty comments on the commonplaces of life. His is the type of writing that enlivens the pages of matter of fact journalism. Mr. Jog has succeeded in a very difficult task. His bright and vivacious sallies on the foibles of our kind are a real tonic in these war weary times.

THE NAYAKS OF TANJORE. ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY SERIES NO. 3. By V. Vridbhagirisai, M.A., M.Litt. Edited with introduction and supplementary notes by Rao Bahadur Prof. C. S. Srinivasachariar, M.A. Annamalai Nagar.

"The Nayaks of Tanjore" is a welcome contribution on the history of the Tamil country. Emperor Achyuta Raya of Vijayanagar put down the rebellion of his Southern Governor Vira Narasinga and appointed in his stead, his own brother-in-law as Governor of Tanjore. Sevappa, the new Governor, originated the dynasty of the Tanjore Nayaks in 1532 and it lasted till 1635, when as the result of the fall of the last Nayak in open battle against the neighbouring ruler of Madura, internal dissensions cropped up and led to the conquest of Tanjore by the Mahrattas, under Ekoji, son of Shaji Bhonsle. Achutappa and Ragnathra, the second and the third rulers, were the brightest jewels of the line and their successful administration was largely due to their Brahmin scholar-minister Govinda Dikshita. They were great conquerors and patrons of Telugu literature and Karnatic music.

The fact that the Nayaks of Tanjore were a Telugu dynasty of non-Brahmin rulers, right in the centre of a Tamil country, guided by Kannada Brahmins and helped by Muslim soldiers must be an eye-opener to the communal politicians of the present day who see India's political *moksha* only in vivisection. Mr. Vridbhagirisai has laid us under a deep debt of gratitude by his clear exposition of facts, correct chronology and sober judgment. Rao Bahadur Srinivasachariar has added to the value of the book by his helpful introduction and useful notes. The book has three appendices, a select bibliography and a map of Tanjore and her neighbours.

THE SCHOOLS OF VEDANTA. By P. Nagaraja Rao, M.A. Sayaji Fellow, Benares Hindu University. With a Foreword by Sir S. Radhakrishnan. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 38-35, Harvey Road, Bombay.

In this small book, Mr. Nagaraja Rao attempts an ambitious programme. He tries in a preliminary essay to vindicate the value of philosophy. He passes on then

to give a sketchy resume of the orthodox systems of Indian philosophy. Then comes a long chapter on Sankara, whose philosophy receives the most careful and adequate exposition of all the topics treated in the book. This is followed by a brief but provocative criticism of modern political and social ideals in the light of *advaitic* thought. The philosophies of Ramanuja and Madhva are then sketched somewhat summarily and in the barest outline. Three more brief chapters, one on the *Upanishads*, another on the *Gita* and the third on the *Vedanta Sutras* complete the book.

Mr. Nagaraja Rao's essays show not merely enthusiasm for his subject, but also wide reading and scholarship both in Indian and European thought. His writing is always clear and occasionally pointed. Sir S. Radhakrishnan in his Foreword says:

Mr. Nagaraja Rao gives us in simple and clear language the central features of the three systems. As an introduction to their detailed study, this book will serve a useful purpose.

BOOKS RECEIVED

BEVERIDGE EXPLAINED. By C. D. H. Cole. Vora & Co., Bombay.

RECORDS IN ORIENTAL LANGUAGES Book I: Perumpatappu Svarupam Grandhavari. Cochin Government Press, Ernakulam.

THE BRITISH PACIFIC ISLANDS. By Sir Harvey Luke. Oxford University Press, Madras.

THE INDIAN PROBLEM 1833-1935. By R. Coupland, C.I.E. Oxford University Press, Madras.

CHANDRAGUPTA MAURYA AND HIS TIMES. Sir William Moyer Lectures 1940-41. By Radha Kumud Mookerji, M.A., Ph.D. University of Madras. Rs. 4.

A HANDBOOK ON THE METHOD OF TEACHING ENGLISH written according to the revised syllabuses of Madras and Travancore. By Fr. Lazar, Superintendent, St. Joseph's Press. Mannalam, Travancore. Rs. 1-8.

SYSTEM OF FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION IN INDIA. By P. J. J. Pinto, M.A., B.COM., Ph.D. New Book Company, Bombay.

INDIA UNRECONCILED. A documented history of Indian political events from the crisis of August 1942 to October 1943. The Hindustan Times, New Delhi.

PUNJAB'S EMINENT HINDUS. Edited by N. B. Sen. New Book Company, Lahore.

THE YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO. Part II. By Nolini Kanta Gupta. Sri Aurobindo Asram, Pondicherry. Rs. 1-4.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



IQBAL AS AN INTERNATIONAL FORCE

In the *Calcutta Review* for June, Mr. Dev Prakash Nayar, M.A., discusses Dr. Iqbal as an international force, in the light of his teachings. He says:

He (Dr. Iqbal) has a right to be heard on international questions. Freeing himself very early from the narrow bounds of nationalism, Iqbal developed an international outlook. True, professing he was trying to establish Islamic values and to establish a Pan-Islamic order. But his interpretation of those values is so enlightened that his system must form the basis of any sound international order. For Iqbal was not a poet of the escapist type; but one who had pondered "long and deep on life."

According to Iqbal, the unit of society is the individual and the perfection of the individual is the centre of Iqbal's philosophy.

Iqbal regards 'Khudi' or self as a real and significant entity, which is the centre and basis of the entire organisation of life. The attainment of a profounder individuality, of a better realisation of self, should be the highest aim of man in every social system. And no wonder, since it is the individuals alone who lead to the progress of the social order which has otherwise a tendency to become static. The worst crime of dictators is the regimentation of the human intellect which puts an insurmountable obstacle in the path of progress.

The development of the individual still remains with him the first concern, but this full development can result only from the active membership of a community. The 'active membership' means the merging of individual selves in the service of great co-operative ideals and objectives which cements a collection of individuals into a genuine community. When such a creative unity of outlook has been achieved it becomes a source of unlimited power both for the individual and the community. Deprived of it the community becomes disorganised, feeble, dead. Who would question this to-day when international co-operation for certain broad principles is regarded as the first condition even for the continued existence of the world?

On the social side Iqbal preaches freedom and social equality. On the political side he would have no racial or geographical loyalties. "A saint, lost in God", he said, "is neither Eastern nor Western; my house is neither Delhi nor Isfahan nor Samarkand."

This tends to establish internationalism, where the basis of unity is belief in one God and respect for one another's personality. But if Iqbal rejects patriotism as an exclusive creed, which fails to give due recognition to the wider claims of humanity, he has the highest respect for it when it means love for the best that one's own country or group has achieved, the appreciation for one's own peculiar, cultural values and contributions as is visible in his 'Jawid Nama', 'Zinda Rood' and 'Zarb-i-Kleem', for example. This respect for the various cultures is a prime necessity. Not only is it simple wisdom to make use of what others have achieved instead of imposing a deadening uniformity on them, it is also necessary for creating a world order, since the various groups naturally love their various cultures so much that they will not accept a world order for long which does not ensure their cultural safety.

THE FUTURE OF THE NEGRO

Aryan Path has an interesting article on the above topic by Clifford Bax who writes that the Negroes have passed through four phases. First—and for many centuries—they lived on their continent, unmolested by the outside world and probably as happy as most men have been, perhaps rather happier. Then comes the period of capture, inhuman brutality, complete subjection; and, thirdly, the short period during which the black man was regarded as the essentially comic man, so that would-be humourists presented themselves as "nigger minstrels." And now, in our own time, the Negro has infected a large part of the world with his nervous and jerky dance-rhythms. . . . What, then, of their future as artists? asks the writer:

We know that the Negro can sing, act, dance and fight. Some people assure us, not very convincingly, that there is greatness in Negro sculpture: and Coleridge Taylor, a lonely figure, certainly wrote music with a highly personal idiom. But at present no Negro has achieved wide renown as a writer, and it may be that none ever will. The Carthaginians, a powerful and talented race, seem nevertheless not to have had any literary ability or even instinct. The Jews, again—though this point would be disputed by many—excel more in the presentation than in the creation of art. Every Irishman is a born actor, but it is the rarest thing in the world to find an actor who comes from Scotland. There is no reason, therefore, to assume that the Negro as the time of his liberation lengthens must of necessity become the equal of the White Man in every art and every science.

GANDHIJI'S RELEASE AND AFTER

Though Gandhiji's release might have been primarily actuated by his serious illness, it cannot be denied, says Mr. U. G. Rao in the *Asiatic Digest*, that the authorities must have at the same time entertained a fond hope that it might lead to some hopeful developments in the political sphere.

The famine, the food problem, the need for keeping up public morale while the enemy is knocking at the eastern door, the problem of securing the co-operation of the commercial, industrial and other important sections of the population in war-time needs and measures—all those must have led the authorities to conclude that what may be accomplished with ease by the people's trusted leaders becomes almost an insuperable task to an administration, divorced from popular sentiment.

But Gandhiji alone cannot go far in solving the communal or political problem, however inclined he may be to appraise Mr. Jinnah.

Suppose Gandhiji meets Mr. Jinnah soon after his recovery, and they discuss the whole problem of communal settlement. Up to certain stage Gandhiji may be able to carry on the negotiations by himself, but when it comes to a question of committing the Congress to any definite line of action, he will find it absolutely necessary to consult the Congress Working Committee and gauge their attitude.

Should talks with Mr. Jinnah give no indication of hope and should Gandhiji turn his attention to the problem of a political settlement, even here a stage will be reached when it will be impossible for him to proceed further unless he can have discussions with the members of the Working Committee.

No doubt, Gandhiji has been fully empowered by the well-known August resolution to carry on negotiations with H. E. the Viceroy for a settlement, but it is one thing to carry on negotiations and quite another to take decisions on behalf of the Congress. This latter, Gandhiji will never undertake without previously consulting members of the Working Committee. He is too democratic to arrogate to himself powers which rightly belong in the last analysis to the Congress Executive and deliberative bodies.

As most of the members of the Working Committee, whose advice Gandhiji may need at any time, are still in jail, a piquant situation is bound to arise sooner or later.

He will never agree to consult members of the Working Committee while they are still under detention. He may insist on their being released prior to any consultation and even earlier, and unless the authorities are agreeable, a deadlock will ensue. Moreover, it is likely that Gandhiji, who would certainly not like to be at large while his comrades are suffering in jail, may choose to go back to prison.

DRAMA IN INDIA

In ancient India drama was conceived as but a method of imparting knowledge to the people, says Pandit Taranath in the June number of *Prabuddha Bharata*. It was not meant to excite but to educate, not to entice but to 'elevate.'

The Indian drama as such was therefore not meant to be amusing. It was that which used amusement to reveal verities.

If the verities of life can be so well embodied in words as to picture in the mind of the hearer the life of the world as it is and as it ought to be, there then is a feat of the artist. Such feats are not dreams of mere rhetoric, but were actually realized by seers like Vyasa and Valmiki. But when times changed, it needed the introduction of what are called *drishya kavya*, meaning 'visible poetry', i.e., drama.

This was the origin of the drama in India. What then were the fundamentals of this great art then? The answer is not far to seek, when the function of the drama is to epitomize not only the world of actualities but also of the verities behind that govern them visibly or invisibly.

To the Hindu, knowledge, therefore, is that which enables him to see the transient merge in the eternal by his transcendental vision. Herein is his bliss and the urge of life, the conclusion of all philosophy and religion too. To accomplish this is the function of great teachers and the *raison d'être* of drama.

Drama, therefore, cannot logically be only the depiction of life as it is seen and lived on the surface.

The invisible other side as well, the undercurrent which life is oblivious of in pleasure and pain, should be suggested by it. Then only can drama expand vision. It can neither be picture-painting nor anything only didactic; the former has no lesson and the latter has no life. The one has nothing to teach and the other no appeal, having no touch with life.

Life being what it is—neither pleasure nor pain exclusively—drama too cannot be wholly comedy or tragedy.

The purpose of it, therefore, should not be to represent life as optimistic or pessimistic but visionful if not transcendental. For instance, what use has the common world of a Buddha or a Christ if it cannot have a glimpse of the glory of their renunciation? It is that vision of the resurrection that makes the cross a bed of roses. And no drama can have a mission for the commonalty which has not that vision.

THE INDIAN QUESTION

In an article discussing the Indian question, the U. S. A. Journal *Amerasia* says that the Hindu Mahasabha, the Indian Federation of Labour and Socialist Party are the only groups opposing political unity and denounces the Socialists' policy as "aimed at maintaining the present deadlock, sabotaging national defence and intensifying economic demoralisation." It says that Mr. Jinnah is facing pressure from the Muslim peasants and workers who are working to transform the League into a genuine popular organization with democratic control. This mass following favours a democratic progressive policy and has no fear about co-operating with the fellow peasants and workers in the Congress.

They are rallying to the idea of full self-determination within the larger framework of voluntary federation of autonomous States. Parallel to this development, many Congress rank and file members are coming to see that the granting of self-determination to Muslims would strengthen rather than disrupt Indian unity and make possible a far stronger and effective demand for a National Government.

The British shift on the issue of Indian unity is "perhaps the most convincing proof" of growing strength of the demand for a Congress-League agreement on the basis of Muslim self-determination. Formerly the British chiefly emphasized on India's divisions with the Cripps proposal "even opening the way for the secession not only of Muslim territories but also for Native States from the proposed Indian Union." Now the emphasis has shifted to the recognition of the 'natural' unity of India. Ethnic principles have once again been shaped to meet the political 'exigencies.'

The paper cites Lord Linlithgow's speech of December 17, 1942, and Lord Wavell's Assembly address on February 17, 1944, wherein both emphasized India's "geographical" unity and says:

This new line in British official utterances is generally regarded as marking withdrawal of the British support from the League and a bid to the third most powerful political group, the ultra-conservative Hindu Mahasabha whose leaders oppose all compromise with the Muslims, and have fought fanatically for a united India under the Hindu rule.

The *Amerasia* says that the British support to the anti-Congress Indian Federation of Labour is also in line with the current policy. It describes Mr. M. N. Roy as the "well-known political opportunist who has long since lost the respect of the Indian people."

Referring to the aftermath of the Cripps Mission, it says:

Though the primary blame for the present deadlock unquestionably rests with the British-controlled administration, the fact remains that the Congress policy is also at fault. It relied on unilateral negotiations and a negative policy of non-co-operation, instead of seeking to form a united front with all the other parties and issuing a positive appeal to people to rise in defence of their country.

The journal adds that the outstanding development during the 20 months of Gandhiji's imprisonment is

the growing trend towards unity. As far as the aims of various political parties and groups are concerned, there is almost an unanimous demand for the formation of National Government. . . There is also increasing evidence that the Hindus and Muslims will be able to reach an agreement on the basis of the programme of full self-determination for all nationalities within the framework of a free Indian Federation.

It says:

Against these encouraging developments, however, one must set the continued deterioration in the Indian economy, the bungling in administrative measures by the ruling bureaucracy, an atmosphere of frustration and bitterness which provides opportunities for dangerous work by the Fifth Columnists and Jap agents.

The release of Pandit Nehru and other leaders, "to permit Indians of all parties to come together to work for a common programme," is the single and most important step that can be taken to remedy the situation.

Despite the fact that leaders of both Congress and League still appear to distrust each other the rank and file of both the parties increasingly recognize that unity is essential if India is to win freedom and they are exerting pressure on their leaders.

Mahatma Gandhi's statement that he is anxious to improve relations between the Congress and the League "confirms the contention of all patriotic parties and groups in India that the release of political prisoners would have an immediate beneficial effect on the political situation.

INDIAN STATES

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Mysore

SURPLUS BUDGET FOR MYSORE

Mr. N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, presented the budget for 1944-45 in the Mysore Representative Assembly on May 29. The estimates reveal a revenue surplus of Rs. 1.93 lakhs after transfer of Rs. 103.57 lakhs to Reserve Funds. In 1943-44, Rs. 199.96 lakhs was contributed to the Funds. The closing balance of the Funds on 30th June, 1945, is estimated at Rs. 512.94 lakhs.

The State's revenue and expenditure will be affected by the Sivasamudram disaster, the Dewan said, but there has been no time to recalculate the figures for budget purposes.

The new taxation proposals are (1) increase in the rate of income-tax from Rs. 0.2-6 in the rupee to Rs. 0.3-0 in the rupee in respect of individuals, Hindu undivided families, unregistered firms, etc., if the income exceeds Rs. 1,50,000 and in respect of companies if the income exceeds Rs. 4,800 per annum; (2) increase in the rate of super-tax according to a graduated scale up to Rs. 0.3-0 in the rupee in the case of individuals, unregistered firms, etc., if the total income exceeds Rs. 50,000, in the case of Hindu undivided families if the income exceeds Rs. 75,000 and in the case of companies if the total income exceeds Rs. 10,000 per annum; (3) increase in the duty on tobacco; and (4) levy of excise duties of 2 annas a pound on betel nuts, coffee and tea.

MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS

The law relating to motor vehicles in Mysore is contained in the Motor Vehicles Act of 1928 and the Mysore Road Traffic and Taxes Act of 1935. To consolidate all laws relating to motor vehicles in the State, bring them into line with British Indian legislation and provide for reciprocity between Mysore and other Provinces and States in respect of registration of vehicles, driving licences, etc., the present Bill was prepared, after a thorough examination of the laws by a special committee appointed for the purpose. The House unanimously supported the Bill.

Hyderabad

NIZAM'S EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

A plea for the inclusion of representatives of the Andhra, Maharashtra and Karnatak Conference and the Ittihadus Muslims on the Nizam's Executive Council was made by Mr. Narayan Reddi, presiding over the Seventh Andhra Conference held at Bhongir.

Only a council representing the people, said Mr. Reddi, would be able to cope with the present situation particularly in the matter of food, and bring about an understanding between Hindus and Muslims.

Mr. Reddi also urged reduction of land tax and introduction of income-tax to meet the deficit, introduction of a Trade Union Act, increase of wages of labourers in proportion to the rise in prices of necessities of life and imparting of education through the medium of the mother-tongue to pupils at least in the secondary stage.

NO TAX ON HANDLOOMS

H. E. H. the Nizam has issued a firman prohibiting the collection of tax on handlooms in Jagir areas. This step will benefit handloom weavers in the Jagir areas of the State to the extent of Rs. 1,00,000 a year. A similar order is already in force in the non-Jagir areas of the State. With a view to encouraging Textile Industry in the State, Government have sanctioned four scholarships of Rs. 70 each per month from the industrial trust fund.

Dhenkanal

DHENKANAL REFORMS

The Political Department of the Government of India have appointed an Executive Council in Dhenkanal, an Orissa State, for better administration. The Ruler will be the Chairman and the Dewan and the Prime Minister will be the other two members. The latter has been authorised to carry on the administration of the State in the absence of the Ruler even without any consultation.

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Travancore

ELECTRICAL DEVELOPMENT

The availability of electric power in most places in Travancore with the completion of the Hydro-Electric Scheme and the very low rates of tariff now offered are expected to open up great possibilities in the industrial and agricultural development in the State. The progress so far made has been quite up to expectations.

If Mysore, which was the first in all India to generate electricity from water, had a Sir K. Seshadri Aiyar to initiate an Electric project, Travancore has been fortunate enough to secure the valuable services of a Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, but for whose drive, statesmanship and experience the Pallivasal scheme would not have been a *fait accompli*.

Jaipur

POSTAL SYSTEM

Jaipur, one of the oldest States, has been maintaining its own postal system all through the centuries within the State. Under a head post office situated in Jaipur, the capital, there are 10 sub-post offices and as many as 119 branch post offices which cater to the needs of the rural public. The postal charges in the State post office are lower than in British Indian post office, as for instance a post-card sells for $\frac{1}{2}$ an anna and a cover for $\frac{3}{4}$ of an anna. Money-order commission and registration and parcel fees are also lower than in British India.

Porbander

PORBANDER REFORMS

Under the proposed reforms scheme, 85 members will be elected from different communities, trade, commerce, and industries and these, along with six officials, will constitute the assembly. A panel of four members will be elected by the House from which the Maharaja will select two Ministers who will be members of the Council under the presidentship of the Dewan. These reforms are expected to be introduced shortly.

Baroda

THE NEW DEWAN

His Highness the Maharaja has appointed Shrimant Bhadrashilrao A. Gaekwad, Senior Councillor of the State, to act as Dewan.

Shrimant B. A. Gaekwad was born in 1826. He received his primary education in Baroda and at Christ College, Cambridge. He graduated with honours in Economics and Law in 1919. He was called to the Bar in 1922.

In September, 1922, he entered Baroda State service as a probationer in the Revenue Department, where he served as Vahivatdar in different talukas till the end of the year 1925. He was then transferred to the Judicial Department where he worked as a munsif. Later, he was sent to the Huzur Political Office as Assistant Manager. In 1928, he reverted to Revenue Department and worked as Personal Naib Suba, Baroda District. In 1930, he was sent to the Survey and Settlement Department as Extra Barshali Assistant and, in 1931, worked as acting Suba of Amreli District. He was then transferred to Navsari District as Suba.

In 1933, he accompanied His late Highness Sir Sayajirao Gaekwad to Europe as his chief officer and secretary. On his return, he served in various capacities such as Accountant-General, Huzur Kamdar, and Manager, Huzur Political Office. In 1939, he was appointed acting Karma Sachiv (Councillor), and was confirmed as Naib Dewan in 1940.

Bikaner

MR. H. K. KIRPALANI

"Mr. H. K. Kirpalani, Prime Minister, Bikaner State, has requested His Highness the Maharaja that owing to the excessive heat of Bikaner, which will continue for several months more and which he feels he will not be able to stand, he may be relieved of his office," states a *communiqué*.

"In the circumstances," the *communiqué* adds, "His Highness has had no alternative, but to accede to his request, and he greatly regrets that Mr. Kirpalani should have to leave Bikaner on grounds of health, just when he was settling down to work and, with his wide and varied experience, was beginning to be of much help in the State administration."

INDIANS OVERSEAS

Foreign Countries

INDIANS' RIGHTS OF CITIZENSHIP

"I consider it my first duty to see that Indians domiciled in foreign countries secure full rights of citizenship and I would strive my best to realise that", said Dr. N. B. Khare, Member in charge of Commonwealth Relations Department, Government of India, in a speech at Poona last month. The treatment meted out to Indians in foreign countries was most humiliating but this war, Dr. Khare thought, might bring a change in the attitude of white nations. Already America had repealed the Chinese Exclusion Act and he felt America would follow this up by repealing all laws against Indians. Similar feeling, he hoped, would spread to other nations concerned. Dr. Khare, was of the opinion that the future world could never hope for permanent peace unless nations decided to treat each other on terms of equality.

South Africa

NATAL ENQUIRY COMMISSION

Addressing the opening session of the Natal Indian Judicial Commission in Durban, the Chairman, Justice F. N. Broome, said: "At this very moment, the Free Nations of the world are engaged upon the most stupendous effort ever undertaken upon this earth. In the face of that great example, let there be no failure here in those same good qualities of tolerance, mutual understanding, co-operation, goodwill." Justice Broome said it was the intention of the Commission to bring the investigation to a conclusion with as little delay as possible for if the inquiry was unduly protracted their report may become stale before it was published. He appealed to the public to tender information as soon as possible. The Commission is appointed to inquire into all matters affecting the Indian community in Natal. Evidence heard from the Natal Indian Women's Association dealt mainly with the difficulties experienced by Indian girls in obtaining education, employment and transport.

U.S.A.

INDIANS AND U.S.A. CITIZENSHIP

A strong and effective move, urging the restoration of rights of the United States citizenship to Indians by enactment of appropriate remedial legislation by U.S. Congress, was made by nearly 150 leading American Missionaries and other residents in India.

The following memorial, signed by them, is being forwarded to the U.S. Congress:

"We, the undersigned American citizens resident in India are engaged in missionary and other work, strongly support a legislation permitting the immigration of Indians under quota and making them eligible for the United States citizenship and urge the immediate enactment by the Congress of appropriate legislation which will remove the discrimination against the nationals of India under the present immigration and naturalisation laws and which will grant to Indians the same status as has been granted recently by the Congress to the nationals of China."

East Africa

KENYA CROWN LANDS BILL

The following has been sent to *Reuter's* head office in London from the Nairobi Indian Congress on May 28.

"Kenya Highlands policy, whereby Europeans enjoy a privileged position, is being expanded further. A Bill amending the Crown Lands Ordinance is under consideration whereby the privileged European position, stated to be for administrative convenience, will become irrevocably a European monopoly. Even sale of shares to Indians by limited liability companies holding landed interest in the highlands, will now be subject to the consent of another exclusively European Board and to the Governor's veto. Implore Imperial Government to intervene before it is too late. The Select Committee on the Bill has a solitary Indian member against seven Europeans."

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

BRITISH DEBT TO INDIA

Explaining Lord Keynes' plea for the Indo-British Financial Settlement, Mr. G. D. Birla, one of the authors of the Bombay plan, says in the course of a statement to the press: that "it will shock the best friends of England since the suggestion amounts to pure and simple repudiation of England's debt to India".

Before the war, India was a debtor country not because India had ever borrowed money or goods from anyone but because she was unjustly saddled with the cost of the Burma, the Afghan, the Abyssinian and the Perak wars, and of the many expeditions like China, Persia, Nepal, Ceylon, Malaya, Java, the Cape Colony and Egypt.

From these, India had nothing to gain. When, therefore, India made a modest demand that her debt position should be examined by an impartial tribunal for an equitable settlement, people in England strongly resented it on the ground that India was trying to repudiate her 'sacred' debts. Now, India has repaid those 'sacred' debts.

But, when the time is coming for England to repay hers, a responsible man like Lord Keynes has set the ball of repudiation rolling. Lord Keynes would not put such proposals to any of the Dominions because they are all free. But if India is not free, it is not her fault, and for an eminent man like Lord Keynes virtually to suggest taking advantage of India's political subjugation is, to say the least, most unfortunate for Indo-British relations.

India bore all these tribulations patiently in the hope that, when the war was over, England would repay her debt which would help India in building up her productivity. If now England repudiates her debt, the bottom for the post-war construction planning is completely knocked out and a permanent seal on scarcity and misery is put.

India has been asked to trust England's political pledge so very often. Does Lord Keynes think that repudiation of a debt by a rich country to a starving one is the proper method to inspire such trust?

BRITISH COUNCIL AND INDIA

The Council for international Recognition of Indian Independence has issued the following statement:

The release of Mr. Gandhi will be welcomed by all upon humanitarian grounds, but will be meaningless and futile in the political sense, unless it is followed immediately by the release of all Congress leaders unconditionally and for the purpose of achieving political settlement for India. The United Nations need the free co-operation of the Indian people in their struggle against Fascist dictatorship. Mr. Gandhi should not be released because he is a sick man, but because Britain, the United States and Russia have recognised the imperative need for the full co-operation of the Indian people in the world situation of to-day. It is quite clear to all those who know the Indian situation and who have consistently urged that the power and prestige of the Congress in the heart of the vast mass of the Indian people must be recognised by those who would arrive at a settlement with India.

If the release of Mr. Gandhi is a prelude to full recognition of the Congress and a preliminary step to Indian independence, we welcome it as a most hopeful and statesmanlike act. It can, however, only have meaning for India and the cause of the United Nations if it is followed by political action leading to free India.

The signatories are Lord Strabolgi, Mr. William, G. Cove, M.P., Miss Vera Britain, Mr. George Catlin, Mr. Amiya Bose and Mr. Pulin Seal, Secretary of the Council.

INDIAN POLITICAL SITUATION

Speaking on the Indian political situation at the Conference of the Federation of India Students' Societies in London, Mr. R. Palme Dutt advanced his proposals for solution as follows: firstly, release of political prisoners following upon Gandhiji's release; secondly, review of the Indian situation by released Congress leaders with a view to coming to some settlement with the Indian National Congress; and, thirdly, Congress should be given the opportunity to mobilise the resources of India for solving domestic economy problems as well as the needs of defence.

PROF. HILL ON INDIA'S NEEDS

Prof. A. V. Hill, the eminent scientist and Secretary of the Royal Society who recently completed a tour of India, said in the course of a broadcast to Britain on May 2:

At present India is very poor, but she has a great future and wonderful opportunity, if things go right. No political magic will make things go right—only honest, hard work, intelligent planning, friendly co-operation all round and full use of scientific method. If things do not go right, rightful penalty may be in store. As the recent famine has shown, India's factor of safety is very low and if people will go monkeying about with politics instead of getting on with things that really matter to the ordinary simple man and woman such as health, food, education, employment, security and higher standard of life, then appalling disaster may follow when the population gets altogether too topheavy for the present methods of supporting it.

In order to raise the standard of scientific work in India, it will be necessary not only to improve the level of education all round but set up a certain number of first class institutions in various subjects where teachers and research workers of the future can be trained.

There is a great opportunity in India now for a bold, imaginative plan of national development based on modern knowledge of science and technology. It must start in India itself but we in Britain must be ready to help in its execution.

SIR FRANCIS LOW'S TRIBUTE TO INDIAN TROOPS

Sir Francis Low, Editor of the *Times of India*, in a broadcast speech from Bombay, said: "Let me pay a tribute to the men who have so vehemently resisted a major Japanese thrust against India. They are a mixed force of British and Indian services. They have been trained in a hard school. They are very different from the men who fought the Japs in Burma in the early stages of the war. If they are surrounded, they fight in their boxes, confident in the knowledge that they will be fed and munitioned from the air. If they are ordered to withdraw from the jungle to defend a vital spot, they will behave as the 17th Indian Division did—they will smash their way through road blocks, bringing their transport and supplies with them. Lord Louis Mountbatten rightly described the 17th Indian Division's breakthrough to Imphal from Tiddim as one of the finest battles of the war."

MR. B. M. BIRLA ON THE 15-YEAR PLAN

"The first essential for any successful post-war plan is that the Government of India should develop a sympathetic and national outlook during the period of the war," declared Mr. Brij Mohan Birla, in his presidential address at the first quarterly general meeting of the Indian Chamber of Commerce, Calcutta. He added: "The interests of the business community and the country are identical. There has never been any difference of opinion between the business community and the Indian National Congress on the fundamental objective of our national progress. We are nationalists in our outlook and the 15-year Plan owes its origin to a deep-seated desire for national economic welfare."

Mr. Birla opened his speech with a brief reference to the release of Mahatma Gandhi. He said: "The British Government by emphasizing that his release is purely on medical grounds have dashed all hopes of a change in his policy although we may be permitted to hope that the wise statesmanship shown by Lord Wavell in releasing Mahatma Gandhi will take him a step further and a way out of the *impasse* would be found out."

SIR F. K. NOON ON "FREEDOM"

Sir Firoz Khan Noon declared at a reception of the East Indian Association in London, on June 15, that the vast ambit of the Indian people had realised that so far as the freedom of their country was concerned, it was there for the asking. "The freedom of India is not going to walk over either to the Muslim League or the Congress, but they will have to walk over to receive it. Most people realise that the *impasse* is temporary. They know there will be not only no opposition from Britain but warm support to see India as an equal and free partner, which is one of the best hopes for the freedom of the world."

SIR GEORGE SCHUSTER'S CALL

Asked to state his view as to whether guarantees and pledges should be demanded of interned Congress leaders, Sir George Schuster, ex-Finance Member, said that he was able to appreciate the burden of responsibility which was resting on those concerned with the maintenance of law and order, but had confidence in Lord Wavell and hoped that, when the time came, the release would be granted without conditions.

Sir George expressed sympathy with those who wished to see British Ministers and Parliament show themselves alert, flexible and sympathetic towards India. He saw hope approaching now for the inception of a new phase in Anglo-Indian relations, and in that event, these qualities would be specially necessary. The present situation cannot continue indefinitely, he said, and sooner or later Indian leaders of all parties, those who are free as well as those under detention, would be needed to co-operate in working out the terms of a settlement.

PUNJAB PREMIER AND LEAGUE

The Hon'ble Malik Khizar Hyat Khan Tiwana, Premier of the Punjab, has been expelled from membership of the All-India Muslim League, and has been declared to be ineligible to become a member in future until the Working Committee of the League remove the ban against him.

This was the decision announced by the Muslim League Committee of Action in a lengthy statement issued recently.

The Committee decided that the statement he issued after his talks with Mr. Jinnah contained objectionable passages, which contravened the policy and programme of the Muslim League, and violated its constitution, rules, aims and objects, and he had, therefore, proved himself unfit to be a member of this sole national organisation of the Muslims of India.

SIR REGINALD MAXWELL

The India Office announces that Mr. L. S. Amery, the Secretary of State for India, has appointed Sir Reginald Maxwell, until recently Home Member of the Governor-General's Executive Council, to be one of his Advisers.

AIM OF MUSLIM MAJLIS

"The main reason why Nationalist Muslims consider it necessary to establish a separate organisation of the Muslims—the Muslim Majlis—is that within the Muslim League organisation, there is no room for persons who believe in the Complete Independence of India, an aim which has been dropped from and no longer forms part of the creed of the Muslim League, but which does constitute the political ideal of the Nationalist Muslims," says Sheikh Abdul Majid, M.L.A. in the course of a statement.

He adds: "According to us, there can be no freedom for Pakistan without the freedom of India. We look upon the freedom of India as the freedom not only of the various provinces of India, but of all the nations of the East. We demand that freedom unconditionally and immediately. But that is not the attitude of the Muslim League, which taboos all constitutional advance without its previous consent and approval. Therein lies the essential difference between our two view-points. None, however, is more anxious than we are to help a Congress-League settlement and an equally lasting Indo-British settlement on the basis of self-determination for India and its units. There is no reason why the Indian question cannot be settled on the basis of the Cripps offer, if the British Government is prepared to part with Power immediately."

MR. J. MEHTA'S APPEAL

Mr. Jamnadas Mehta told reporters at Montreal that the only answer to the Indian problem is for the democratic British people to investigate and undertake an active policy for undoing the mischief done by the British Government as the former could not comprehend how the Indian situation had worsened as a result of the British Government's Indian policy.

PAPER FOR EDUCATIONAL BOOKS

Resolutions requesting the Government of Madras and the Government of India to give first preference in the supply of paper to publishers of educational books, to make available a part of the paper production of the Mysore, Andhra Purnalur and Sirpur Mills for distribution in Madras were passed at a Conference of Publishers of school and college books held recently at Madras. The meeting also urged the authorities to control the use of certain sizes of paper and restrict their supply to publishers of school and college books, and to relax newsprint control so as to allow publishers to use newsprint for printing books. Mr. K. S. Appaswami Ayyar, retired District Educational Officer, who presided, said that if education was to be carried on efficiently during war-time, publication of books should be encouraged as much as possible. He also pleaded for the modification of the procedure now adopted for the selection of text books, and suggested the constitution of text book committees for taluks or other suitable areas of each district.

DR. B. C. ROY

The Calcutta University recently conferred the degree of Doctor of Science, 'Honoris Causa', on Dr. B. C. Roy at a special Convocation.

Speaking at the Convocation, His Excellency the Chancellor said that in conferring the degree the University had done honour principally to itself. It was appropriate to Dr. Roy's special gifts that the University should have chosen the degree of Doctor of Science for conferment on him.

PROF. CHINNASWAMI SASTRIAR

Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-Chancellor of Benares Hindu University, presided over a meeting held at the Mylapore Sanskrit College, Madras, to present the insignia of the title "Sastrā Ratnakara" to Prof. A. Chinnaswami Sastriar, Principal, College of Theology, Benares Hindu University. The title was conferred on him by Sri Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Peetam in recognition of his learning.

MASS EDUCATION IN INDIA

Addressing the East India Association at London recently, Mr. John Sargent, Educational Adviser to the Government of India, said: "I am old enough in Government service to realise that almost anybody who is not mentally defective and some of those who are, can produce a report of some kind. What matters and what is even more difficult in India than elsewhere is to translate the report into action. . . My experience in India has shown me that a report is only too often treated as an alternative to action."

Declaring that there are a very large number of people in India of all castes and communities and all shades of political opinion, willing to collaborate in any constructive effort, Mr. Sargent added: "If anything is to be done, it will have to be done without delay. So far as the Central Educational Advisory Board's Plan is concerned, there can be no half-way house between what is and what ought to be. It is all or nothing."

Mr. Sargent pointed out the report has had "a surprisingly good reception in India" from all quarters.

FREE MIDDAY MEAL FOR CHILDREN

The Executive Committee of Education of Ceylon proposes to extend the scheme for the free feeding of school children to assisted elementary English schools and Government and assisted English schools (other than elementary) after the Director of Education has been able to obtain figures from head teachers with respect to the number of children that go without a midday meal in their schools.

The Executive Committee has expressed the opinion that although the financial burden of the Central Government is bound to be heavy in view of war conditions and the food situation, the problem of building a healthy nation is a duty of the Government which cannot be neglected.

In the meantime, the Minister of Education will ask for a supplementary vote of Rs. 6,00,000 to meet the additional cost of a new scheme for providing a free midday meal to school children which was put into operation in May this year.

BENGAL AND ASSAM LAWYERS

The need for bringing to book cases of proved abuses of drastic powers given under emergent measures of legislation was stressed by Dr. Naresh Chandra Sen Gupta, presiding at the eighth session of the Bengal and Assam Lawyers' Conference held at Calcutta last month.

The Conference has appointed a committee to study and examine legislative and executive orders which in any manner curtailed or restricted the rights and civil liberties of the people and to take effective steps for their prevention. Dr. Naresh Chandra Sen Gupta, President of the Conference, will be Chairman of the Committee.

The Conference has also asked each Bar Association to form a committee of its own members for the purpose of safeguarding civil liberties.

By another resolution the Conference expressed the opinion that the Hindu Intestate Succession Bill should be dropped on the ground, *inter alia*, that the present time was inopportune for passing a legislative measure of such a controversial nature.

A. I. S. A. TO BE FREE OF TAX

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council gave judgment on June 27 in favour of the All-India Spinners' Association, which body with Mr. Gandhi as one of its trustees was instituted in 1925 by the All-India Congress Committee for the purpose of developing the village industry of hand-weaving, materials being supplied to poor people for spinning and weaving into cloth.

This was sold at a profit, the Commissioner of Income-tax claimed and it was upheld by the High Court of Bombay that profit was liable to taxation on the ground that the dominant purpose of the Association was political, and, therefore, not charitable and that its activities were not different from those of a trading concern. In allowing the appeal the Privy Council has also awarded the costs against Government.

WAR LOANS

Mr. N. B. Ahmad, Sessions Judge, Fyzabad, has set aside the sentence of one year rigorous imprisonment and a fine of Rs. 300 each, imposed on three persons, Sri Nath, Ram Dulare and Bhagwati Prasad, by a Sultanpur Magistrate under the Defence of India Rules.

The prosecution alleged that, when a party of revenue officials, headed by a supervisor, visited the appellants and asked them to invest in war loan, the latter not only refused, but assaulted the party.

The defence denied the charge of assault.

Allowing the appeal, the Judge observed that "It has never been the intention of the Government to realize war loans in this way, and if persons refused to pay anything, the authorities should have taken sufficient care to see that their refusal was not made the basis of any prosecution which might give an impression to the people that the loan was obtained by force".

FEDERAL COURT ON HABEAS CORPUS

The Federal Court recently unanimously allowed the appeals of four detenues against orders passed by the Patna High Court which dismissed the 'habeas corpus' petitions filed by the detenues or on their behalf. Their Lordships directed that the cases be remitted to the Patna High Court with a direction that the petitions be restored to the file and disposed of in due course of law, in the light of the decision of the Federal Court as to the nature and extent of the Court's power in the matter.

The detenues concerned are Basant Chandra Ghose, Mahant Dhanraj Puri, Asoke Kumar Bose and Baidya Nath Rai.

MADRAS DETENUS

The Government of Madras have abolished the practice of classification of political detenues. They will, henceforward, be classed in one class. Those who have hitherto been placed in Category Two will get the higher rate of daily personal allowance.

INSURANCE BUSINESS IN INDIA

The total new life insurance business effected in India during 1942 amounted to 178,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 12,83,00,000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 2,22,00,000 as compared with 200,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 39,51,00,000 and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 2,10,00,000 in 1941, according to the Indian Insurance Year Book for 1943. Of this, new business done by Indian insurers amounted to 1,69,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 36,17,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 1,91,00,000 as compared with 189,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 34,11,00,000 and having a premium income of Rs. 1,77,00,000 in the previous year.

The total new sums insured by Indian life offices in 1942 amounted to Rs. 37,89,00,000 as compared with Rs. 3,68,00,000 in the previous year. The total business remaining in force at the end of the year was Rs. 2,66,60,00,000 as compared with Rs. 2,56,13,00,000 at the end of the previous year. The total revenue income of the Indian life offices during the year amounted to Rs. 16,51,00,000 as compared with Rs. 15,69,00,000 in 1941.

In the course of a survey of the growth of insurance business in India, the Superintendent of Insurance draws attention to the warning issued 15 years ago by the then Government Actuary and warns against indiscriminate flotations of insurance companies, particularly life insurance companies.

Referring to the anticipated industrial regeneration in India in the post-war period, the report says, "it is an inevitable economic law that there is always a time lag, a fairly large one at that, between industrial activity and the consequent general rise in the economic level of the population. It is feared that this time lag itself, even if other things are satisfactory, may upset the calculations of some of the new company promoters." He also warns that, if the hope that the post-war period will witness a period of high degree of industrial activity and consequent prosperity is not actually realised to the large extent the hope is

entertained, the struggle for existence among the insurers may take an acute form and some companies established in the past and who are at present struggling on the margin of solvency may be caught in the vortex of competition and be pulled down".

Commenting on the requests made by insurers for permission to raise additional capital, the report gives a timely reminder that the purpose of the control of capital issues is not only to check inflation but also to ensure that investable funds are not lured into enterprises which appear to be transacted rather for the benefit of the promoters than for any advantage to the general public interest. The Superintendent of Insurance will, therefore, require to be satisfied that the above danger is not present before he can recommend to the Government any request for issues of future capital.

As a result of negotiations with Indian States a number of concessions, on a principle of strict reciprocity, have been obtained for insurers and provident societies registered in British India and transacting business in Indian States also.

INSURANCE TO COVER EXPLOSIONS

The Government of India have decided to amend the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance, 1940, so as to cover damages occurring as the direct result of any explosives or munitions or other dangerous thing required for war purposes, and which happens or is caused by or through or in connection with the manufacture, storage or transportation of any such explosives, munitions or other dangerous things, says a press note.

In view of the additional risk to be now undertaken, the rate of premium payable in respect of goods subject to compulsory insurance under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Scheme for the quarter beginning 1st July 1944 has been fixed at one anna and three pies per month or part of a month for each complete sum of Rs. 100.

INDIA AND THE LEASE-LEND AID

"The lend-lease aid we have sent to India has assisted and will assist the United Nations in gaining victories over the Axis. But, this aid has not flowed in one direction. India too has supplied what she can for the common war effort in many forms. Our forces in India have also received substantial reverse lend-lease from India," says President Roosevelt in his report to Congress on lend-lease operations for 1943.

He says: "Lend-lease exports to India from March 11, 1941 to December 31, 1943 totalled 81,94,52,000 dollars. Exports in 1943 were 70 per cent. greater than the combined shipments for 1942 and 1941.

"Our strategic policy towards India has been determined by the importance of India's strategic and geographical position in the Far Eastern part of the war. India is a major supply centre for the war against Japan. From India extends the air supply line into Indo-China. Furthermore, India is a military base for operations against the Japanese in Burma. Lend-lease exports of guns, ammunitions and other munitions to India for the British and Indian armies and navies amounted to 554 million dollars."

President Roosevelt then pays a tribute to Indian troops who "have seen service on widely scattered fronts in this war," and adds, "many more are preparing for the greater offensives to come against Japan."

POST-WAR TRADE POLICY

With the appointment of Mr. R. K. Nehru, I.C.S., lately Joint Secretary, Supply Department, as the Officer in charge of Post-war Reconstruction in the Commerce Department, the work of planning India's post-war trade policy has entered a new phase.

Mr. Nehru's work, generally speaking, will be to deal with all post-war problems relating to the Commerce Department. He has had considerable experience in the pre-war years with questions relating to India's foreign trade.

CLOTH DISTRIBUTION IN BOMBAY

The consumers of cloth in the Province of Bombay are expected to benefit by approximately Rs. 23 million as a result of the recent notification of the Government of Bombay in regard to the disposal of cloth produced by the ten mills in the province, distribution of whose production is controlled and also the goods that were frozen by the Provincial Textile Controller. The Bombay Government has laid down that they will distribute cloth, both frozen and those produced by the ten mills, to the dealers on condition that the dealers give an undertaking that they will sell these goods to the consumers at a price which does not exceed 14 per cent. above the ex-mill price in the case of cloth that was frozen and 10 per cent. above the ex-mill price in the case of cloth that is produced by the above-mentioned mills.

On the basis of the published figures for 1942-43, it appears that the ten mills in question can produce annually about 350 million yards of cloth. In the recent past the Provincial Textile Controller has frozen goods of several wholesale dealers in the city and the total of such frozen cloth is stated to be about 5,600,000 yards. The total yardage of cloth that will be available for the consumers under the above arrangement of the Provincial Government comes to 355,600,000. It may be noted that the above arrangement does not financially affect either the textile mills concerned or the dealers whose cloth was frozen as the textile mills will get their ex-mill price and the dealers will get their profit so far as the consumers are concerned. In one case they will get a benefit of 10 per cent. while in the other they will get a benefit of 6 per cent.

WORLD MONETARY CONFERENCE

India's delegation to the World Monetary Conference, which is to be held at Bretton Woods, New Hampshire, consists of Sir Jeremy Raisman, the Finance Member, Sir Chintaman D. Deshmukh, Governor of the Reserve Bank; Sir Theodore Gregory, Economic Adviser to the Government of India; and two non-officials, Sir Shanmukham Chetty and Mr. A. D. Shroff.

Women's Page

"KEWPIE WOMAN"

Rose O'Neill, the artist, poet and novelist who created the Kewpie Doll, died recently at the age of 70. Originator of the bouncing elfin sprite that became the world's most popular toy, she earned a place for herself as a serious artist but throughout the years was best known as the Kewpie woman. It was the Kewpie which brought Miss O'Neill a fortune enabling her to travel and work at leisure on her more significant creations.

The Kewpie originated as a tailpiece which the artist affixed to her signature on magazine illustrations. In 1913 she launched the Kewpie as a definite personality. Soon whole pages of them appeared in various magazines and at the end of the World War, toy manufacturers throughout the world were reproducing them in wood, cloth, bakelite and even ice cream and chocolate.

MRS. PANDIT ON RUSSIA'S FREEDOM

"The Soviet Union has stood for certain values which thinking people all over the world regard as necessary for the development of the human race. Today Russia fights not only to protect her homes but to safeguard these values without which her homes cannot exist," declared Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, presiding over the First All-India Congress of the Friends of the Soviet Union held at Bombay. Delegates from most of the Provinces and Ceylon attended the Congress.

MRS. CASEY ON DOMINION STATUS

"I hope that India will be free under the Commonwealth of Nations. We in Australia have Dominion Status and I can safely recommend it for India", said Mrs. Casey, wife of the Governor of Bengal, in a press interview at Calcutta, recently.

Mrs. Casey added, "I hope that after the war, India and other countries will be able to understand each other better. Post-war civil aviation will bring the countries nearer and all should profit by it."

MRS. ROOSEVELT'S APPEAL

Mrs. Roosevelt, in a special United Nations Day broadcast, declared that all the peoples of the world must be assured of the four freedoms. "If they are not, then none of the homes can be secure in the enjoyment of their freedom."

She said: "When the war is over and our men come home, they will have to join with the people at home in seeing that in their communities they exercise their citizenship to ensure the conditions for which they fought. If we decide to work for unity and freedom throughout the world, we must join with other nations, small and great, and find ways to friendship to bring about freedom for the people of the world. Gradually we must achieve everywhere a standard which we think is the minimum for human decency and gives people hope that they can grow and develop and have better lives in the future than they have had in the past. And that is the only sure way of working for peace in future."

TRAINED NURSES IN INDIA

"The alleged failure of the nursing profession to appeal to the right type of women in India is due far more to the attitude of the authorities responsible for the maintenance of hospitals and to the conditions in which, too often, probationers are trained and nurses expected to work, than to the alleged reluctance of educated Indian women to undertake the care of the sick." Major-General K. B. Hance, Director-General, I.M.S., declared this as his conviction, in the course of a speech welcoming Lady Wavell to the annual general meeting, of the Trained Nurses' Association, and in inviting her to open the meeting, he said: "As long as trained nurses are regarded, paid and housed as menials, it is not reasonable to expect that large numbers of Indian ladies will come forward to desire themselves to this work."

LITERARY

CEYLON'S OFFICIAL LANGUAGES

The Ceylon State Council passed a resolution for making Sinhalese and Tamil the official languages of Ceylon.

The original resolution as moved by Mr. J. R. Jayewardene mentioned only Sinhalese and read:

That with the object of making Sinhalese the official language of Ceylon within a reasonable number of years, this Council is of opinion that Sinhalese should be made the medium of instruction in all schools; that Sinhalese should be made a compulsory subject in all public examinations; that legislation should be introduced to permit the business of the State Council to be conducted in Sinhalese also; that a Commission should be appointed to choose for translation and to translate important books of other languages into Sinhalese; and that a Commission should be appointed to report on all steps that need be taken to effect the transition from English into Sinhalese.

The mover himself sought to add Tamil, but as permission was refused on the ground that he had not given notice of the amendment, another member moved the amendment, which was carried by a large majority.

BRITISH AUTHORS' APPEAL

28 British authors and journalists have addressed a letter to Mr. Amery, Secretary of State for India, urging the release of Congress leaders.

The letter says: "Recently the editors of 112 newspapers in India addressed a letter to the Viceroy urging that Congress leaders should be liberated in order to enable all Indian parties to make their contribution towards the ending of the deadlock and the establishment of a representative National Government."

As editors, authors and journalists, we desire to associate ourselves with the appeal of our Indian colleagues. Our satisfaction at the release of Mr. Gandhi would be complete if his comrades were free.

Among the signatories are: Vera Britain, Fenner Brockway, George Catlin, Victor Gollancz, Frank Horrabin, Laurence Housman, Julian Huxley, C. E. M. Joad, Harold Laski, Ethel Hannin and J. S. Priestley.

PERSONAL

SIR BARON JAYATILAKA

Sir Don Baron Jayatilaka, the Representative of the Ceylon Government in India, died on May 31, while on his way to Colombo from Delhi by plane.

Sir Baron Jayatilaka was ailing when he left Delhi by a special plane provided personally by the Viceroy Lord Wavell but died on the way. The body was taken to Colombo.

... Sir Baron Jayatilaka was a member of the Ceylon Legislative Council, and since 1931 till his death was member, State Council. He also had simultaneously the position of Minister of Home Affairs and Leader of the Council. A man of varied activities he was the President of the Young Men's Buddhist Association, Colombo, and of the Royal Asiatic Society, since 1938. His interest in Sinhalese classical literature found expression in his work, the "Life of Saravankara Sangharaja." He was also Honorary Editor-in-Chief of the Dictionary of the Sinhalese language.

To solve the food problem in Ceylon after the beginning of the war, he was appointed as special representative of the Ceylon Government in India a couple of years back.

THE LATE DR. LAGOUDAKIS

The world famous authority on leprosy, Dr. Socrates Lagoudakis, who inoculated himself with the dreaded disease in 1934, died on June 3 in Alexandria, aged 82. He was known as the man who never shook hands. Dr. Lagoudakis, who gave free treatment to lepers at his Alexandria colony, was a great scholar and a poet. In 1896 he ran in the Marathon at the Athens Olympic Games.

DR. A. APPADORAI

Dr. A. Appadorai, Professor of Politics, Loyola College, Madras, has been appointed Secretary, Indian Council of World Affairs, and is expected to take up his duties at New Delhi shortly.

"ELECTRIC SLEEP"

A group of California scientists reported to the American Psychiatric Association that sleep can be induced by electrical means as a method of treating mental troubles. Such repose is called electro-narcosis and is induced by electrodes and a mild current applied to the head. It starts with a mild spasm, followed by deep unconsciousness. Electric sleep can be maintained for seven minutes at a time. In more than 1,000 treatments without ill-effect, it worked better in curing or mitigating cases of schizophrenia than the use of electric shock, a previously tried method, had done alone. The originators of the treatment said it was as effective as insulin shock. They experimented on animals for many years to make sure the method was safe for human beings.

A NEW VACCINE

American scientists have developed a new vaccine which will prevent the spread of deadly gas gangrene, according to Dr. Richards, Chairman of the U.S. Medical Research Committee. Gas gangrene—a complication of war wounds caused by germs present in fertile soil—is a "deadly menace that confronts the armed forces when they are called upon to fight on the bacteria-contaminated soil of Europe."

Used in conjunction with penicillin, the new vaccine is expected to reduce deaths from gas gangrene to a negligible number. Long, hard study went into the preparation of the new vaccine. Already several companies are turning out rush orders of the vaccine.

FREE DISPENSARY IN MYSORE

Declaring open a free dispensary donated by Mr. M. S. M. M. Meyyappa Chettiar of Karaikudi in Cottonpet, Bangalore city, recently, Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda, Minister for Public Health in Mysore, announced that there was a possibility of the establishment of an Institute of Indian Medicines in Mysore in the near future. "India is a poor country and needs a cheaper system of medicine than is available now, if medical relief is to reach the rural parts", said the Minister.

GOAT'S MILK FOR DIET

Goat's milk, says *Indian Farming*, is very rich in fat, containing about 1 per cent. more fat than cow's milk, and its fat globules are smaller than those of either the cow or the buffalo and are therefore more easily digested. Goat's milk is alkaline, and cow's milk acid, in reaction—a difference of considerable importance for anyone with a weak stomach.

Cow's milk requires two hours for digestion and goat's milk 30 minutes, which means a saving of three-fourths of the work for the stomach. Of the 12 different mineral salts found in the three kinds of milk, viz., cow's, goat's and human, nine are to be found in goat's milk and only six in cow's milk.

Further, cow's milk contains very little iron, whereas goat's milk has from 7 to 10 times as much of that very important element, which is present in the blood of all warm-blooded creatures. Medical authorities have said that if cow's milk contained a little more iron, it would be the 100 per cent. perfect food.

There are only a few of the arguments brought forward in favour of the goat by the writer of the article, Mr. R. L. Kaura, Deputy Director of Veterinary Services, Orissa.

LIGHT DIET FOR PALPITATION

Palpitation is often simply the recognition of the normal beat of the heart in people who are nervous. If there is irregularity of the heart or if it skips a beat, it is best to seek medical advice. Diet is an important factor. Choose an easily digested diet and do not over-eat. Take only three meals a day and nothing between meals, writes *Good Health*.

SALT WATER AS SOAP

The Army can now wash in cold sea water with the aid of a new soap ingredient developed from petroleum by Dupont chemists. Mixed with other constituents in a proportion of about one to two, the new material removes dirt, oil and grease in any kind of water. Post-war variations of the formula will be available for household and other soaps.

LIQUIDATION OF STERLING BALANCES

The view that India is greatly exercised on the question of arriving at a satisfactory arrangement with His Majesty's Government for an orderly liquidation of our sterling balances at an early date and that the Indian delegation to the International Monetary Conference will miss no opportunity of pressing this point of view is expressed by Mr. A. D. Shroff, a Member of the Indian Delegation to the Conference. Interviewed by the Associated Press, Mr. Shroff said: "The International Monetary Conference which President Roosevelt has convened to meet on July 1, at Bretton Woods, is to consider a scheme for the establishment of an International Monetary Fund, the principles of which are reported to have been agreed to by the experts of important United Nations. Sir Jeremy Raisman, the Finance Member, assured the General Policy Committee of the Reconstruction Committee last January that 'the Government of India would take their decision on this important question as independently as any other United Nations'."

RESTRICTION ON BANKS

A notification in the *Gazette of India* has been issued fixing July 1, 1944, as the date on which the Indian Companies (Amendment) Act, 1944, shall come into force. The Amending Act received the consent of the Governor-General on March 7.

The Amending Act includes a new Section 277 H.H. prohibiting the employment of Managing Agents, and placing restrictions on certain forms of employment. Under this Section, no banking company whether incorporated in, or outside British India, shall, after the expiry of 2 years from the commencement of the Act, employ or be managed by a Managing Agent, or any person whose remuneration or part of whose remuneration takes the form of a commission, or share in the profits of the company, or by any person having a contract with the company for a period exceeding 5 years at any one time. It has, however, been provided that such a contract may be renewed or extended for a further period, not exceeding 5 years at a time if and so often as the directors think fit.

LOCOMOTIVES FOR INDIA

One hundred and forty-five Canadian-made locomotives will soon be in service on the broad gauge railways in India. Weighing 161 tons with tenders, these locomotives, known as the X-Dominion type, are a smaller version of the 288½-ton Mikados which keep freight rolling along Canada's supply-lines. In details, such as the tender, coupler and buffer, these follow the European style.

The locomotives are being constructed at two well-known locomotive works in Canada and it has been arranged with the Canadian Pacific Railway Company for their inspection. The Canadian Pacific Railway is not only responsible for checking the machining of parts, construction of boilers and tenders and erection of the locomotives but also have to arrange for their dismantling and re-erection on their arrival in India. For shipment each locomotive is dismantled and packed in 17 crates.

The contract, which started on July 3, last year, has progressed far enough and Mr. J. Marshall Watson, an erection engineer of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, is coming out to India to supervise the assembly and service testing of these locomotives at a railway workshop in this country.

T. A. FOR GOVT. SERVANTS

Travelling allowances for Government servants have been revised by the Government of Bombay in view of the increased cost of touring.

With a few exceptions, permanent travelling allowances of Rs. 80 a month and below have been increased by fifty per cent. Permanent travelling allowances of Rs. 80 have been increased by fifty per cent. Permanent travelling allowances of above Rs. 80 have been increased by 33½ per cent. subject to a minimum of Rs. 120 a month.

The mileage allowances for journeys by road and daily allowance rates have also been increased.

IMPROVEMENT OF TRANSPORT

To improve transport facilities, the Government of India, it is understood, have placed orders in America for over 20,000 railway wagons. A substantial number have already arrived in India and more are expected soon.

A GREAT MARATHA ARTIST

Probably more people were familiar with the Maratha artist, Rao Bahadur Mahadev Vishwanath Dhurandhar's work in printed form than they were with his name, but his death at age of 73 at Khar, near Bombay, robs us of one of the famous Indian artists of the old school.

During his career he had officiated as Director of the Sir J. J. School of Art in Bombay, painted some of the pictures in the New Delhi Secretariat and exhibited at India House, London, where one of his pictures was bought by Queen Mary.

Apart from his pictures which were placed on exhibition, however, he did much fine work as a book illustrator, working with Kincaid, S. M. Edwardes and Otto Rothfield, and also for Marathi, Gujarati, Hindi and mythological books.

INDIAN ART EXHIBITION

The first non-political Indian Art Exhibition of its kind in Britain, containing exhibits valued at more than £10,000, was opened by the British Artist, Mr. Augustus John, at the Alpine Club Gallery in London on Tuesday the 6th May.

Gandhara sculptures dating back to the second, third and fourth centuries, rare paintings, textiles, bronzes and ivories are included in the exhibition. It was organized by Indians with British co-operation.

Despite war-time difficulties, it is a representative exhibition of all-Indian art and includes specimens from Burma, Indo-China, Siam, Nepal and Tibet.

MUSIC FOR HEALTH

Mahatma Gandhi has chosen a new way to cure himself. Musicians—Hindu and Muslim—are singing him or hymning him into health. These bhajanas are in praise of God and have exercised curative effect on him. When Manohar Barve sang to him, Gandhiji told him, "Your music is good medicine to me. It will prove to be a tonic for my early recovery." Mr. Gulam Ali Khan of Lahore, a musician of repute, sang 'ustads' and Gandhiji wrote on a piece of paper (being in silence), "I like songs in praise of God." Here is a subject for original research—the effect of music on disease.

SWIMMING CHAMPIONSHIP

Several good timings were witnessed at the Bombay Provincial Salt Water Swimming Championships held at the Pransukhlal Maftlal Hindu Swimming Bath and Boat Club on the Kennedy Sea Face on May 27. Miss D. R. Nazir, an 8-year old girl, won both the 50 metres breast stroke events for juniors as well as for women in the excellent timings of 54 seconds and 55.1 seconds.

J. R. Jhabwala had little difficulty in winning 200 metres breast stroke for men though P. Kahn put up a good fight, while J. Jaglom won 100 metres free style for men in 6 minutes 10.8 seconds.

GALLANTRY AWARD FUND

Sir Gokulchand Narang, M.L.A., has constituted a special fund of Rs. 25,000 called the "Major Prannath Narang Gallantry Trust" to commemorate the career of his son as an officer of the Indian Army and particularly his death in action on April 17 last.

Among the objects of the fund is to encourage among young people without any distinction of caste, creed or colour a spirit of chivalry, service and sacrifice, keenness to run risks and do daring deeds in a lawful and noble cause.

TRIBUTE TO A FOOTBALLER

Rs. 3,800 was realised from gate-takings, donations and sale of programmes at the Nadkarni Cup final which was staged by the Western India Football Association as a mark of appreciation to the memory of that great-hearted sportsman and sterling full-back Sam Thomson, who lost his life while on duty with the Fire Services in the Bombay explosions of April 11. This sum will be handed over to his widow and two children, one of whom, incidentally, was posthumously born recently.

ALL-INDIA BADMINTON

The venue of this year's All-India and Inter-Provincial Badminton Championships has been finally allotted to Bombay under the management of the Bombay Provincial Badminton Association, announces the Honorary Secretary of the All-India Badminton Association, V. A. Madgavkar. The All-India Championship will be held some time in December.

RAMAN'S INVESTIGATIONS ON DIAMOND

Investigations on the diamond on which Sir C. V. Raman with his collaborators has been engaged during the past two years have been published as a sumptuously illustrated volume of papers by the Indian Academy of Sciences. These investigations reveal that the diamond is not a single chemical individual or a giant molecule as has hitherto been supposed.

Theoretical considerations based on the geometry of the carbon atom and of the crystals formed by their union indicate that there should be four kinds of diamonds possibly, the difference between them being either purely geometrical or both geometric and physical. The recognition of this fact enables many remarkable and hitherto ill-understood properties of the diamond to be satisfactorily interpreted and explained.

Direct experimental evidence for the existence of four kinds of diamonds is also forthcoming. Any actual diamond usually consists of a mixture, on a coarse or fine scale, of two or more of the theoretically possible varieties. This gives rise to observable variations in the physical properties of diamond, as for instance, the colour and brightness of the visible light emitted by it under the ultra violet lamp, its transparency in various regions of the spectrum and the strength with which it reflects X-rays. Variations of these properties can appear even within an individual specimen and are observed and recorded as luminescence patterns, ultra violet transparency patterns and X-ray photographs of the diamond. The striking resemblances and equally striking differences between these different kinds of patterns form a very interesting study and numerous examples of them illustrate the volume.

TOBACCO AND HEMORRHAGE

Dr. T. H. Herrick of the U. S. Department of Agriculture's regional laboratory at Peoria, Illinois, has discovered that rutin, a substance extracted from tobacco leaves, has a strengthening effect on fragile capillaries. Rutin is now being tested on diseases in which there is a tendency to hemorrhage and where high blood pressure causes a break in the capillaries of the brain or the eye's retina.

MAKING A SUCCESSFUL FILM

Charging that Hollywood's troubles reside in the "assembly-line" methods of its huge fantastically-run studios, producer Lester Cowan of Hollywood is trying to rescue it from its artistic difficulties, says Mr. J. Lex in a statement.

Cowan, it will be recalled, was the man who evolved the present system of Academy Awards. He wishes to show other studios that the only correct one way of producing pictures, is the "independent" way.

Explaining himself, Cowan said: "With unlimited money to spend, the big studios can buy an outstanding player, story or creator, but with any article which is bought easily, the big producers regard their purchase lightly. That is why high-priced novels, stage properties and often screen stars are often put aside without being used. He who wishes to make a film successfully must centralize it financially and geographically. To project new backgrounds, and new viewpoints on the screen the film should move away from Hollywood, where technicians and workers in all studio departments never seem to change their ideas. They work on one film, then move over to another studio and another film, but use their same technique and methods."

"Poverty", says Lester Cowan, "did many people a great deal of good . . . but riches never did help except financially. If some of these studios had less money to work with and fewer employees, they would of necessity turn out better films."

S. I. FILM CHAMBER

"The 5th Annual Meeting of the General Body of the Chamber was held on 27-5-1944 in the premises of the Chamber, 19-A, Woods Road, Mount Road, Madras. After the President's speech, the Annual Report for 1943-44 and budget for 1944-45 were adopted.

The following were elected as office-bearers for the current year:—

Mr. G. Ramabrahmam President; Messrs. S. Soundararajan, K. Subrahmanyam, B. N. Reddi and T. R. Sundaram—Vice-Presidents; Messrs. A. Ramiah and P. L. Narayana Iyer—Hony. Joint Secretary; Mr. L. L. Patel—Honorary Treasurer.

LEND-LEASE MOTOR VEHICLES

Lease-Lend motor vehicles will soon be operating to relieve congestion on railways.

In this connection, the Government of India communicated to the Railways to start bus traffic, where convenient, and to let the Government of India know their requirements so that arrangements may be made to import motor vehicles from America.

Railways have the option either to run the service departmentally or in conjunction with privately managed companies.

Other resources that are being applied to relieve the strain on railway is country cart service.

BOMBAY-AHMEDABAD TRUNK ROAD

The 500-miles Bombay to Ahmedabad Trunk Road is almost complete.

The road is ready for traffic between Bombay and Ankleshwar (Broach District) and between Borsad and Ahmedabad. The Baroda Government are speeding up the construction of the part of the road that falls in the State territory.

This road forms part of the Government's plan of synchronisation of road and rail communications with a view to lessen the pressure on any one of them.

BUS SERVICES IN MYSORE

During the discussion on the motor vehicle bill in the Mysore Assembly, some members referred to the serious restriction of bus services in the State owing to non-availability of spare parts and tyres and urged that Government should treat all bus services as essential services and give them priority for the supply of spare parts, tyres, etc.

Rajamantrapravina K. V. Anantaraman, Minister for Revenue and Finance, said that, owing to the present conditions, the Government were unable to meet all demands of the bus services for spare parts and tyres.

MOTOR INDUSTRY FOR INDIA

The Government of India are understood to have sanctioned the issue of capital for an indigenous automobile industry sponsored by the Birlas. The scheme contemplates the manufacture of motor cars, trucks and other automobiles in India.

AVIATION FACILITIES IN INDIA

Addressing the first batch of I.A.T.C. cadets on the occasion of their passing out parade in the Travancore University Stadium, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Vice-Chancellor, described it as one of the greatest significance for the present and future. He referred to the comparative unpreparedness of the British and Indian Governments in the matter of military and civil aviation, with the result we were today trying to find out if Universities could spare a few hands for the purpose of defence of the country at this juncture and for building up a scheme of civil aviation after the war.

PLANE PRODUCTION IN U.S.A.

President Roosevelt at a recent Press Conference said that the United States had produced more than 175,000 planes in about 3 years. In the first 91 days of 1944, 4,400 had been sent to America's Allies representing an average of 388 a week. Making public a report from the Foreign Economic Administration, President Roosevelt said that some doubting Thomases had scoffed at his pre-war predictions that the United States could produce 50,000 planes a year.

PROGRESS OF BRITISH AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY

The Minister of Aircraft Production, Sir Stafford Cripps, giving figures of the sweeping progress of the British aircraft industry during the war stated that 27,273 new aircraft were delivered from factories in the United Kingdom in the 12 months ended March, compared with 8,000 in 1939 and 15,000 in 1940.

"We are now producing 16 types of aircraft which were not in production in 1940 and further new types are due to come into production in the next 12 months," said Sir Stafford Cripps.

RECORD ATLANTIC CROSSING

Two Mosquitos—the first to fly non-stop from North America to the United Kingdom on the R.A.F. Transport Command trans-Atlantic route—have just been delivered after the crossing made in the fastest time yet achieved. They did 2,200 statute miles in take-off to landing times of 6 hours and 46 minutes, and 7 hours and 9 minutes respectively.

DEVELOPMENT OF ELECTRICITY INDUSTRY

The electricity industry in India was the subject of a question in the Commons when Wing Commander Grant Ferris asked what practical steps the Government of India were taking to encourage it and what long-term plans were envisaged.

Mr. Amery replied: "An additional capacity amounting to 200 watts had been supplied to India since the outbreak of war and further 150 watts are on order. The Government of India have the development of electricity supply in the forefront of their post-war reconstruction plans. They have already scheduled additional plants requirements for the addition of 560 watts to the existing capacity of public utilities and have further requirements under consideration.

"In addition, Provincial and State Governments are considering a number of important projects and the Government of India propose to set up a Technical Power Board to scrutinize and co-ordinate all schemes".

BENGAL HANDLOOM WEAVING

A scheme costing Rs. 50 lakhs, for the development of the handloom weaving industry of Bengal, is understood to be under the consideration of the Bengal Government. In the first stage the scheme proposes to organise professional weavers. Later, it will provide for the training in weaving of agriculturists, so that a large number of men may adopt weaving as a subsidiary occupation. The plan envisages the establishment of a chain of depots throughout the province.

USES FOR LINSEED OIL

Processes have been developed whereby linseed oil may replace castor oil in the manufacture of lubricants and brake fluid. It may be used in the textile industry, in the manufacture of insulating composition, and it is the base of many important plastics.

GOVERNMENT PERMIT CAPITAL ISSUE

The Government of India have given their consent for the capital issue for Mr. Walchand Hirachand's automobile manufacturing industry.

FARM MACHINERY FOR INDIA

Sir Firoz Khan Noon urged representatives of Britain's farm machinery industry to study the post-war Indian import market. "I would like to see a large number of small ploughs manufactured which would be worked by hand and sold in millions", he said, at a St. Albans farm implement demonstration arranged by the Minister of Agriculture and War Agriculture Emergency Committee: "If you can manufacture a small plough capable of being turned within an acre you will find a ready sale." Small engine-driven pumps for drawing water from wells not much deeper than 15 feet were also greatly needed.

CAUVERY-METTUR PROJECT

In connection with the "Grow More Food" campaign, the Madras Government propose to bring under irrigation an extent of about 40,000 acres of commanded but unirrigated land in the Cauvery-Mettur Project area of the Tanjore district. The Board of Revenue has reported that the easiest method of reclaiming the lands quickly is by the provision of field bothies and other irrigation facilities, such as (a) draining the fully abandoned tanks and lowering the F.T.L. of partly abandoned tanks, (b) provision of additional pipes and (c) conversion of field bothies into rear channels, etc., at an estimated cost of Rs. 1,50,000. The Government have sanctioned the expenditure and it is proposed to address the Government of India for a grant of half the estimated cost of the above works.

GOAT vs. COW

In view of the general shortage of cow's milk, the popularising of the goat, which is an economic producer of milk butterfat, is advocated.

Four or five goats can be maintained as cheaply as one cow and with a comparatively larger yield of milk.

In areas where fodder resources are limited and milch cattle do not thrive, the goat has very great possibilities, as it can flourish on a class of fodder on which other animals starve to death.

INDIAN LABOUR IN S. A.

Allegations were made by representatives of the Durban branch of the S. A. Trades Labour Council while giving evidence before the Natal Indian Judicial Commission to the effect that there is "serious exploitation" of Indian workers in Natal Trades Labour Council.

The evidence led to show that wages paid to workers on railways in the Durban Municipality and those employed in private enterprise were far below "any civilised living standard." The low earnings of the Indian population were described as the root cause of the deplorable living conditions and health of the majority of the Indian community. It maintained that wages paid in the clothing industry were higher than in the majority of the industries, ranging from £1 monthly for the first three months as learners to £14 monthly for qualified workers, exclusive of the cost of living allowance.

Mr. A. I. Kaje, member of the Commission, asked how Indians were responding to the trade union movement in view of their lack of education and the comparative novelty of the movement among Indians. Mr. J. C. Bolton, Chairman, Durban Branch, Trades Labour Council, replied they were responding very well.

NEW CHARTER OF RIGHTS

Delegates to the I. L. O. Conference on May 10, unanimously adopted a Philadelphia Charter of Rights recognised as 'solemn obligation' of the I. L. O. for bettering the lot of the common man. The Charter had the backing of all delegates from 41 nations present at the plenary session. There was no discussion on any of the ten points contained in the Charter and when the Chairman, Mr. Walter Nash, offered it for adoption, the delegates raised their hands enthusiastically.

"The Philadelphia Charter" affirms that all human beings irrespective of race, creed or sex have the right to pursue both their material well-being and their spiritual development in conditions of freedom and dignity and of economic security and equal opportunity.

Y.M.C.A. CENTENARY

The King has sent the following message of goodwill on the occasion of the Y.M.C.A. Centenary:

"I learn with interest and pleasure that the Y.M.C.A. is about to celebrate the Centenary of its foundation. As its Patron, I join its leaders and members in thankfulness to Almighty God for the world-wide services to youth which it has been able to render during the past 100 years. The record of what the Y.M.C.A. has achieved in the past and most notably in times of war justifies a confident belief that it will have a worthy and important part in the future rebuilding of national and international life."

NEW TASHI LAMA

The seven-year old boy Mu Shu Die (Peaceful Pearl) has been made Tashi Lama, thus becoming the spiritual ruler of a large part of Tibet.

Of the other two Lamas, the seven-year old boy who had been selected as the tenth incarnation of the "immortal" Panchan Lama of Tibet, was formally enthroned in February. The Panchan Lama is the religious head of the Buddhist Church in part of Mongolia.

The third is the Dalai Lama, the temporal ruler of Tibet, who also has some spiritual authority. In July, 1939, a six-year old boy was chosen as the reincarnation of the Thirteenth Dalai Lama. The Tashi Lama is the least exalted of the three.

THE VATICAN CITY

In theory the Vatican State centres round St. Peter's Church, which together with the adjacent Vatican buildings and St. Peter's Square, constitutes the Vatican City proper, also commonly called Peter's City. Actually the Papal domain covers an area of barely 108 acres.

The Pope, as religious head of over 300,000,000 Catholics, maintains strict neutrality, but the previous pontiff, Pius XI, whose principal Secretary of State for some years was the present Pope, was strongly anti-Nazi and made no secret of his dislike for the Nazi regime.

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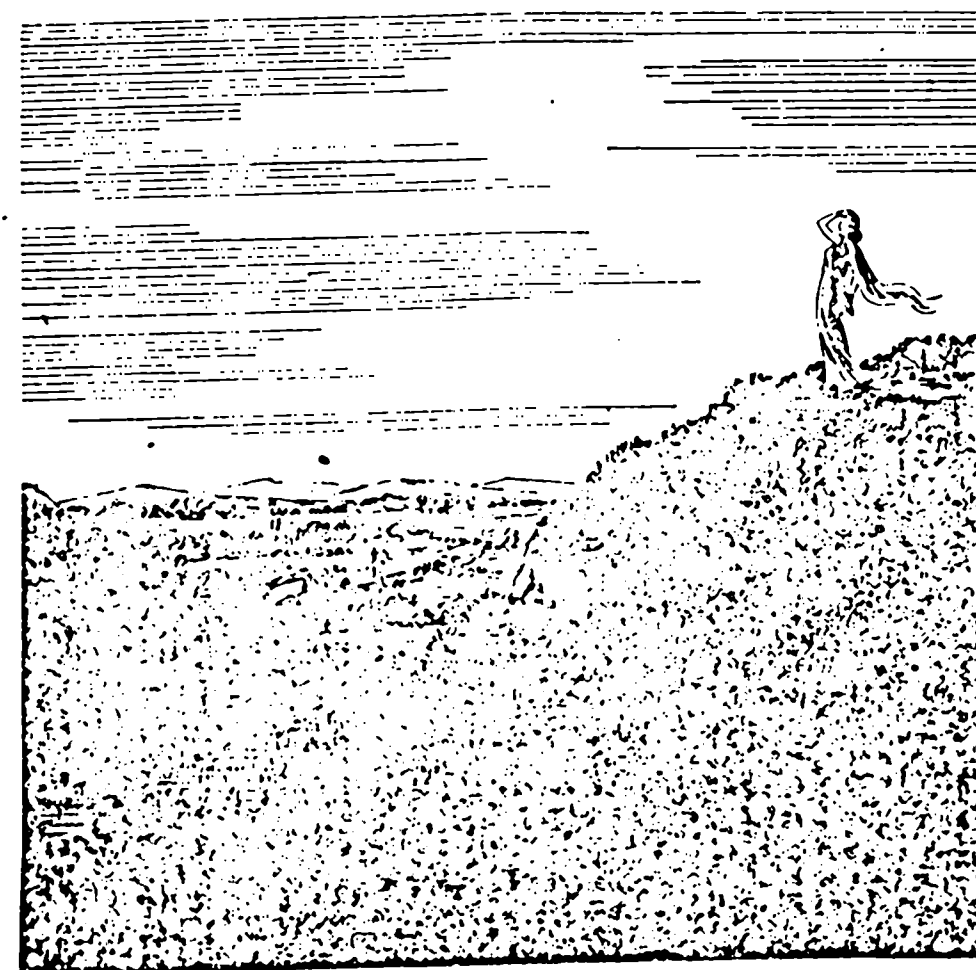
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Looking Ahead

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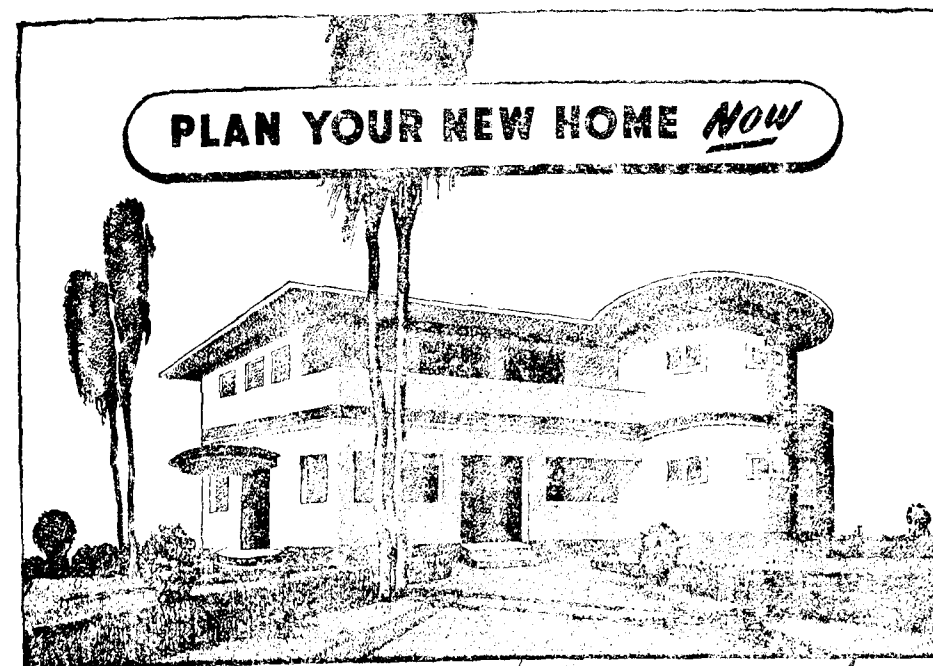
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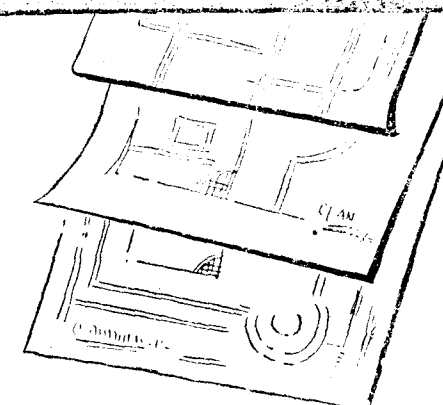
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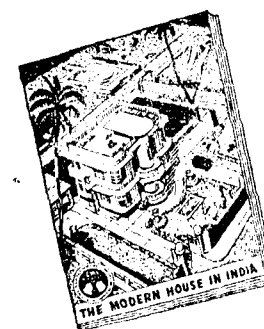
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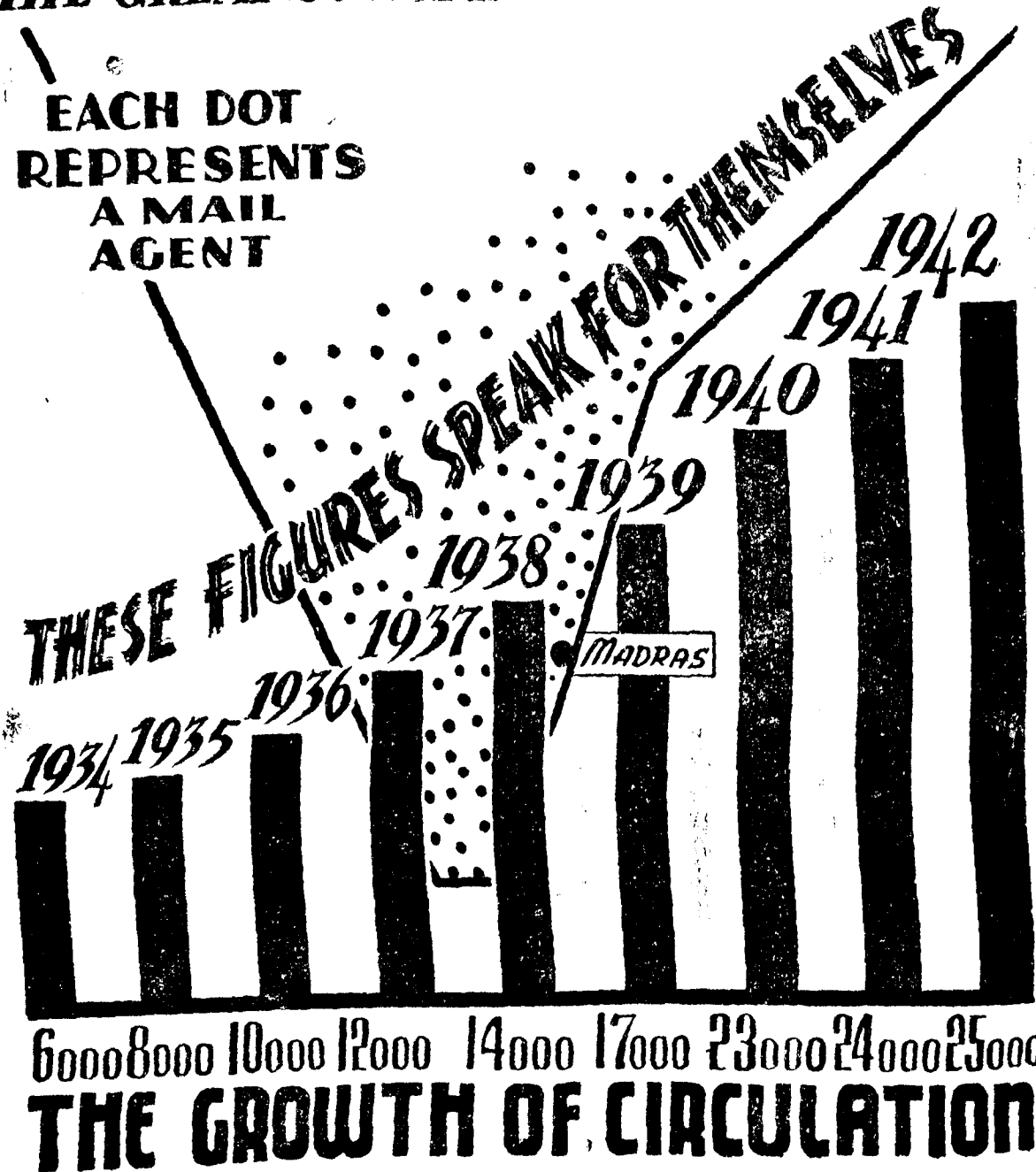
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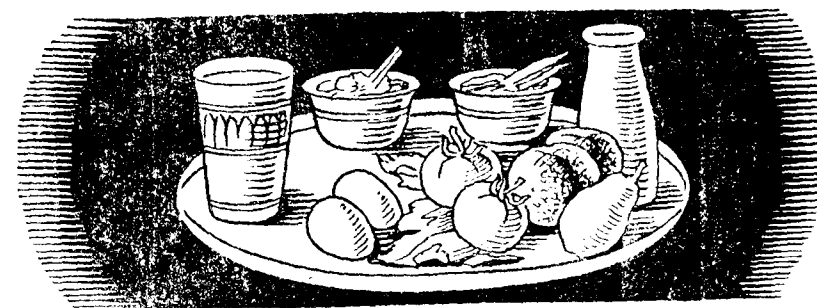
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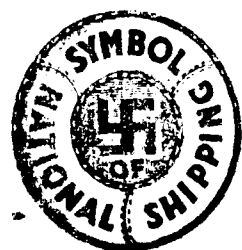
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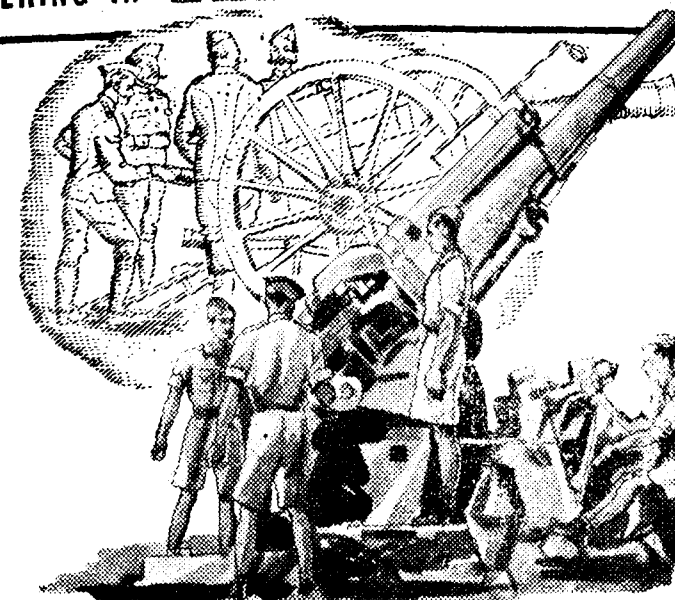
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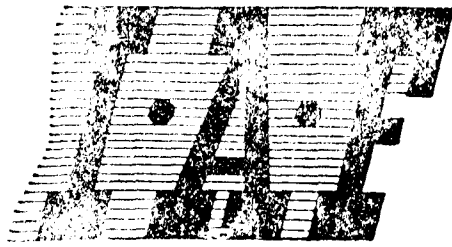
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45]

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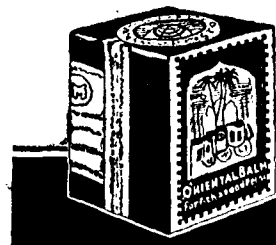
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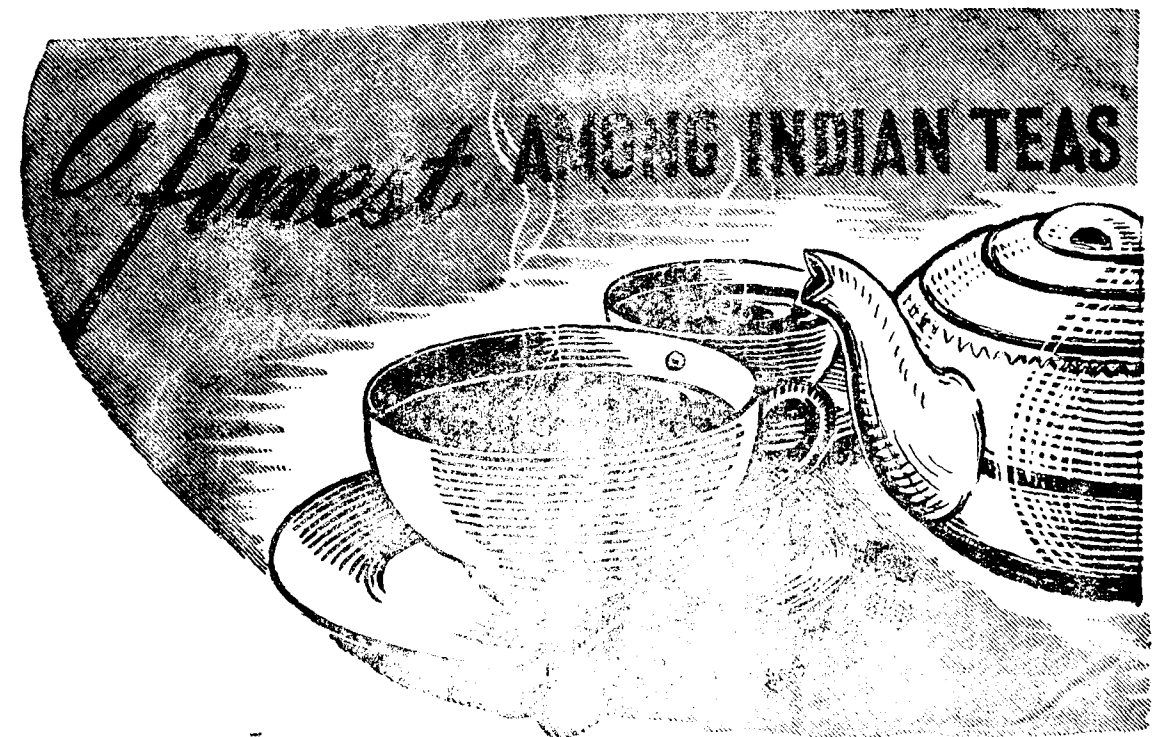
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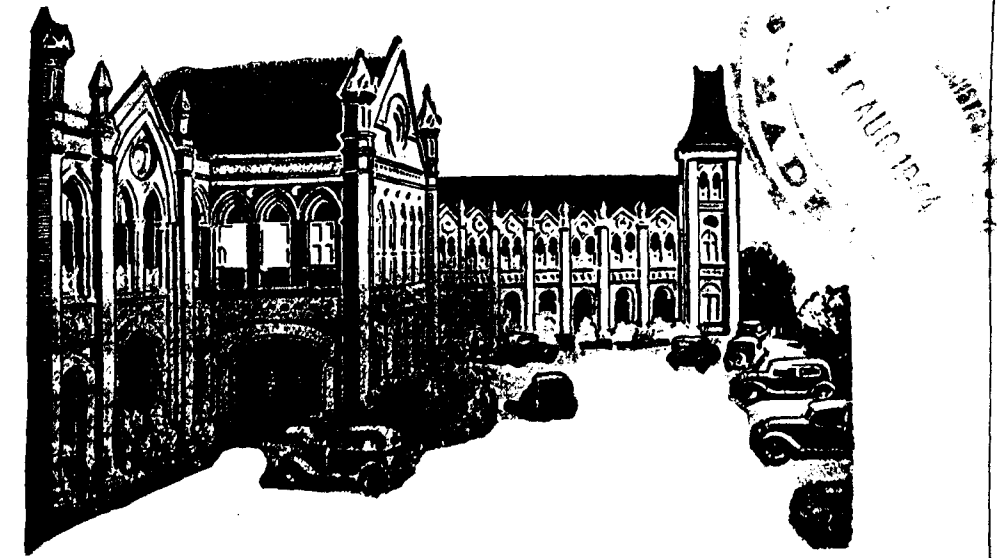
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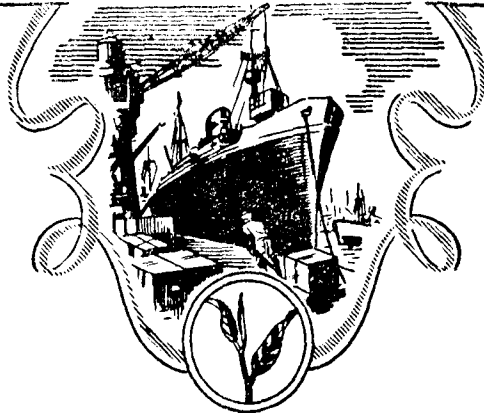
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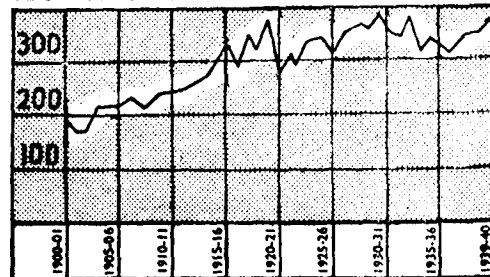
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A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.]

AUGUST 1944

[No. 8.

What will China be after the War

DEMOCRATIC OR AUTOCRATIC?

BY MR. WANG HAN-CHUNG

SINCE the end of Sian Coup immediately followed by the outbreak of the Sino-Japanese War in 1937 China has become so cohesive and unified that its unity stands out as a stupendous achievement after the disintegration of the last hundred years. The facts that the whole country is actually administered by a single government and that the whole nation is fighting the war under the leadership of a capable statesman and strategist look miraculous not only to the people in other countries but also to the Chinese themselves. During six years and a half of hard struggle with the Japanese the morale of the whole nation has never shown any relaxation, not even when the bogus and puppet regime of the Japanese creature came into shape in the occupied areas. There are some who are acquainted with the civil wars and party conflicts during the past years in China, but have neglected the fact that a tremendous change has gradually been going on during recent years; to such it will remain a riddle as to how China has attained the power to defy such a formidable enemy. They may also ask the question what will China be after the War—democratic or autocratic, and which form

of government will be more acceptable to the Chinese people? It is natural that such questions should enter into the minds of those who are familiar with democratic principles, and who consider them incompatible which one party rule in China. With a view to make the situation intelligible to such readers the author will try to give some fundamental points regarding the present position of China.

In the first instance, China is under the rule of a Government which was formed by one party, the Kuomintang, and this form of government has stood unchanged since its first establishment in 1928. There is no doubt that this form of government could be easily criticised and evoke opposition in China as much as in any other country. But after ten years of civil war between the Nationalists and the Communists and between the nationalists and the warlords obnoxious to the people, the former not merely won a victory and established a principle but laid the foundations of a unified China, and thus paved the way for engaging in a life-and-death struggle for freedom against Japan with the support of the whole country. The reader should

remember that it was no easy task to win the hearts of such a vast population as of China. It is recognized that the success of the Kuomintang is attributable more to its principles and policy than to its military strength, for military power alone could do nothing more than suppressing rebellions. It may be asked what is the policy of the Kuomintang? It may correctly be said that the rule of the Kuomintang is but a transitional phenomenon. All its policy and measures are directed towards Democracy which, in the strict sense of the word, should be shared by all the people whose life should not be adversely restricted by any social or economical conditions. Any person, under this ideal, stands equal to others before law. And in Dr. Sun Yet-San's words, as soon as most of the provinces in China attain autonomy, a democratic constitution will be promulgated under which the political power now in the hands of the Kuomintang will be handed over to the people. All the measures and steps taken to put this supreme ideal into effect are set out in detail in Dr. Sun Yet-San's speeches and writings in which little room has been left for dispute or misinterpretations.

Secondly, the higher offices in the National Government have been open to prominent leaders of all the political groups since the war broke out, and any educated person, as long as he can do something for his country, is welcome in the administration, irrespective of the party to which he belongs. This is how all the parties share the responsibilities of waging the anti-Japanese War and of the reconstruction of their own country under the leadership of the

Kuomintang. The other main reason which urges all the people to make sacrifices for their country can be attributed to the influence of the Three People's Principle laid down by the late Kuomintang leader, Dr. Sun Yet-San. Any foreigner who has lived in China for sometime will clearly see things as they are. But unexpectedly, there are a few who look differently at the situation. For example, Mr. Leland Stowe, the American War Correspondent, once said in an American newspaper that many patriotic Chinese students and intellectuals are opposed to the one party rule of Kuomintang in China. This is untrue. The observation can easily be disproved by the fact that most of the college students in Free China are either becoming members of the Kuomintang or joining the Youth Corps of San-Ming-Chu-I which is pro-Kuomintang. Few of them stand outside as unconcerned spectators. A further proof is provided to every foreigner resident in China in the activities of the new organisation of the People's Political Council in which a large number of non-Kuomintang party leaders as well as non-party politicians are seen working together and they are unreservedly taking an active part in war.

Apart from the visible factors in China there is a deep-rooted liberalism in the Chinese mind, which is likely to be neglected by observers from abroad. The Chinese people deeply infused with the thought of Confucius and Mencius do not find anything exotic in the theory of Democracy. It is obvious to every school boy who has ever read the Chinese Classics that the people forms the main pillar of a state, and that it is the people alone who makes

the state strong. A reflex of this democratic mind was provided by the fact that the greatest despot of Tsin Dynasty (221-207 B.C.) in Chinese history was overthrown. All the changes in the dynasties in Ancient China, if I am not mistaken, were due to the opposition of public opinion. If one says that the Kuomintang has disgusted the people because of its dictatorial spirit it will be much true in connection with Communist Party. Of many errors which have been repeated by the supreme Communist leaders the most obnoxious was the policy of terrorism, for the terrible persecution by the Communists in 1917 still lives vividly in the minds of the common people. A very large number of Communist leaders had to be successively expelled from their party when the war broke out. Many facts have now come to light which explain the apparent failure of the communists in China.

Communism cannot be accepted by the Chinese people. In as much as the economic conditions in China are not like those pre-Revolution Russia such a terrible experiment as a decade-long bloodshed is no less than committing suicide. The Chinese people know well that freedom and equality cannot be attained without national independence, it considers Communism impossible, impracticable, and cruel. They claim for freedom without as well as within. Owing to this the Ching Dynasty was replaced by a new republic in 1912. After forty years of experimenting with various forms of government since the Revolution in 1911 only a Democracy free from foreign

economic exploitation can appeal to the Chinese. I would not say that the Nationalists are above all criticism. But I would affirm that the success of the Kuomintang is largely due to the adaptability of its policy. Besides the Kuomintang's policy discussed above it should be remembered that a constitutional government is not an ideal suspended in the air, it is rather a touchable reality which is being put into force without cessation. As the supreme leader of the Kuomintang said in his address to the inaugural meeting of the Committee for the Establishment of Constitutional Government in China, which was held on November 12 in Chungking, what China needs is not only a good constitution but also the people's ardent support of the constitution and their ability to work it. All the members of the Committee are devoting themselves to the preparatory work for the establishment of a constitutional government which is to be inaugurated within one year after the termination of the war. The leaders lay emphasis not only on the adoption of a Constitution but also on its enforcement. And therefore a constitutional government broadly based according to the dictates of democracy will be brought into effect as soon as the time is ripe for it.

To sum up, the form of government in China after the war is beyond contention. The most satisfactory answer to any doubt on this point lies, it seems to me, within the pages of the history of the latest events. Time only will fully justify the present and bring the fruit of the future.

GANDHIJI'S LATEST

IN our last number reference was made to Gandhiji's request to the Viceroy to facilitate an interview with the members of the Congress Working Committee, or with His Excellency himself with a view to discuss the situation *de novo* and end the deadlock which has persisted since the failure of the Cripps mission. The text of the correspondence has since been published. In his letter of June 17 (1944), Gandhiji said:

Though there is little cause for it, the whole country and even many from outside expect me to make some decisive contribution to the general good. I am sorry to say my convalescence threatens to be fairly long. Even if I was quite well, I could do little or nothing unless I knew the mind of the Working Committee of the Congress. I pleaded as a prisoner for permission to see them. I plead now as a free man for such permission. If you will see me before deciding, I shall gladly go wherever you want me to, as soon as I am allowed by my medical advisers to undertake long distance travelling.

Instead of profiting by the initiative thus taken by Gandhiji, Lord Wavell who had, in his address to the Central Legislature, himself invited the Mahatma to co-operate with him in ending the deadlock, turned down the request rather curtly when he said in his reply of June 22:

In consideration of the radical difference in our points of view which appeared in our recent correspondence, I feel that a meeting between us at present could have no value and could only raise hopes which would be disappointed.

I am afraid that similar considerations apply to your request to see the Working Committee. You have recently made public your adherence to the 'Quit India' resolution, which, I am afraid, I do not regard as a reasonable or practical policy for the immediate future.

There was, however, one sentence in that letter which left a ray of hope:

If after your convalescence and on further reflection you have a definite and constructive policy to promote for the furtherance of India's welfare, I shall be glad to consider it.

Gandhiji who never let the grass grow under his feet, quietly took advantage of this "If" and was looking for a favourable opportunity to put forward his own "definite and constructive policy . . . for the furtherance of India's welfare."

The opportunity came with what is now known as the Gelder interview for the *News Chronicle* in the second week of July. Gandhiji, with an admirable sense of political realism, saw the rot that has set in with the continued stalemate in the country. In the past he never failed to take bold decisions when occasions demanded and he now seems to have quickly risen to the height of the present occasion.

I have no intention of offering civil disobedience to-day. I cannot take the country back to 1942. History can never be repeated. Even without authority of the Congress if I wanted to do it I could start civil disobedience to-day on the strength of my supposed influence with the masses, but I would be doing so merely to embarrass the British Government. This cannot be my object.

The Mahatma expressed himself in these words in his interview to Mr. Stuart Gelder, special correspondent of the *News Chronicle*. Further Gandhiji is willing to advise the Congress participation in a war time National Government in full control of civil administration coupled with a guarantee of Indian independence after the war. In Mr. Gelder's opinion the Government now has a better opportunity than at any time, since Sir Stafford Cripps landed in India, to put end to dealock and create a new India, which instead of being half-hearted

AUGUST 1944]

GANDHIJI'S LATEST

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or sullenly indifferent is enthusiastically on the side of Britain.

When pointed out that the Viceroy would want to know Gandhiji would influence the Working Committee members before His Excellency would permit a meeting with them, Gandhiji replied that history did not repeat itself.

The whole situation has to be reviewed anew. The point, therefore, for me is to discuss with the Working Committee to know how they react to the knowledge I have gained since my release. I have to take up the thread that was broken by the Government in 1942. I was the first to negotiate on failure to offer civil disobedience if I thought it necessary. I want to plead with the Viceroy. I can only do so when I know the Working Committee's mind.

Mr. Gelder revealed that he visited Delhi to give the Viceroy a complete account of his talk with Gandhiji at Poona. Gandhiji, however, felt it was not of much use. For, said the Mahatma:

The common talk among us is that whatever the Viceroy wishes personally, he has no authority in the political field. Mr. Churchill does not want a settlement. He wants to crush me, if he has been correctly reported. He never denied the report. The beauty of it for me, the pity of it for him is no one can crush a satyagrahi who offers the body, willingly for sacrifice, thus leaving the spirit free.

In Mr. Gelder's opinion in view of Mr. Gandhi's uncompromising pacifism, he would cease to function as adviser to the Congress after independence is gained.

The *News Chronicle* in an editorial commented:

Mr. Gandhi's latest gesture shows the way out of the deadlock. Obviously the prerequisite must be successful negotiations between Muslims and Hindus.

Subsequently the Mahatma handed over two statements to press representatives which, he said, were two sets of notes

prepared after discussion with an English journalist. One statement, said Mahatma Gandhi, was intended for publication after the journalist had communicated his impressions of Mahatma Gandhi to the Viceroy in Delhi and the other statement contained notes of talks, which the Mahatma gave to the journalist to discuss with anyone who cared to understand Mahatma Gandhi and how his mind was working.

The following are the main points in the two statements:

(1) Mr. Gandhi could do nothing without consulting the Congress Working Committee.

(2) If he met the Viceroy he would tell him that he sought the interview with a view to help and not hinder Allied war effort.

(3) He has no intention of offering civil disobedience. History can never be repeated and he cannot take the country back to 1942.

(4) The world has moved on during the last two years. The whole situation has to be reviewed *de novo*.

(5) Today he would be satisfied with a National Government in full control of civil administration.

(6) Mr. Gandhi would advise Congress participation in a National Government, if formed.

(7) After independence was assured he would probably cease to function as adviser to the Congress.

"The statements constitute my individual personal effort to end the deadlock" said the Mahatma to pressmen.

They are more addressed to the powers that be than to the people. If there is a hearty response, there will be no occasion for civil disobedience.

"I hold the 'Quit India' resolution to be absolutely innocuous", said the Mahatma.

The Gelder interview notes are in no way in conflict with the 'Quit India' resolution as I have interpreted it.

The question before me and before all India is how to implement the resolution at the present time, i.e., nearly two years after the passing of the resolution. The Gelder interview notes show the way how it can be done in a perfectly honourable manner.

Explaining the difference between his and Cripps' proposals, Mahatma Gandhi said:

My proposal is wholly different. The Cripps proposals were unacceptable to me for the simple reason that they contemplated almost perpetual vivisection of India and would have created an effective barrier against Indian independence.

The Mahatma told a United Press representative:

My plan contemplates an immediate recognition of full independence for India as a whole, subject to the limitations for the duration of the war to meet the requirements of the Allied operations. The Cripps plan, as I understand it, dealt more with the future than with the immediate arrangements.

"Moreover", added the Mahatma:

In my opinion the Cripps plan meant the dismemberment of India, the Indian States being set up as an all-extensive disintegrating factor.

Replying to the views expressed by British statesmen that Gandhiji's plan comes very near to the Cripps plan and that there is no difference between his plan and the proposals of the former Lord Privy Seal the Mahatma added:

But if my plan is considered by the British statesmen to be not very different from the Cripps plan, it should be all the easier for them to accept it.

As might be expected, there were criticisms of the Mahatma's new plan from different quarters. Answering the critics, the Mahatma contended that there was no conflict between the principles enunciated in the August Resolution and what he had now suggested in his recent interview.

He told pressmen in a further talk he had with them:

Some of my correspondents say that, under the influence of moderates and moneyed men, I have betrayed the cause of the country. If for nothing else for dealing with such critics, I am glad of the premature publication of the interview. I do not want to sail under false colours. The country as well as the Government should know me exactly as I am. I have never concealed the fact that I am a friend of everybody, moderates, moneyed men, Englehmien, Americans or any other, irrespective of caste, colour or persuasion. My belief and practice are directly derived from my non-violence. My non-co-operation is non-co-operation with evil, not with the evil-doer. Underneath my non-co-operation is my earnest desire to wean the evil-doer from the evil or harm he is doing, so that I can give him hearty co-operation. Again if I associate with so-called moderates or with moneyed men, I do so to seek their co-operation in the case I am handling. But I approach them with an open mind, so that I correct myself where I find myself in the wrong. I have known of no cause that I have espoused that has suffered because of such association.

Some critics have suggested that by my present attitude I am lending moral weight to the allied cause. They forget that my offer, such as it is, is conditioned upon the Allies, in this case the British Government, recognising full independence, qualified during the pendency of the war. I see, therefore, no conflict between the principles enunciated in the August Resolution and what I have now suggested. May I suggest to critics that they should wait till the British Government have spoken? The statements made by me were meant in the first instance for the Government, Mr. Gelder sprung a surprise. He has done so with the best of motives. After all, there is a higher power ruling all the actions of human beings.

"If the indication of my mind affords any satisfaction to the authorities, they should open the gates of the prison and let those who can speak with authority to pronounce upon my proposal or at least let me confer with them", said Mahatma Gandhi when

asked by the United Press Special Representative, in the course of his exclusive interview with Gandhiji, as to how Gandhiji proposed to fix the ratio of the League, and the Congress in the National Government.

Pleading for a dispassionate examination of his proposals on their merits, Mahatma Gandhi in a subsequent interview at Panchgani declared: "I should not mind a climb down if it resulted in the attainment of Independence." He denied that the favourable war situation had anything to do with his proposals

if only for the simple reason that in the flush of approaching victory my proposal was not likely even to receive a hearing.

He asserted that he had no sense of defeat in making his proposal and added that throughout his long public life he had not experienced a sense of defeat, heavy or otherwise.

Gandhiji said that he knew many Congressmen were labouring under a sense of frustration but even that frustration was momentary.

Victory, i.e., the independence of India as a whole is a certainty.

The Mahatma said that it might not come in his lifetime was a matter of indifference to him.

I can but work for it till the end of my life. Victory will come, when God wills it.

This invincible faith has been at the back of the Mahatma's mind when, at the risk of strong opposition even in his own camp, he expressed himself in favour of the Rajaji formula to bring about a Congress-League settlement. It was understood, that in deference to Mr. Jinnah's wishes, Gandhiji himself communicated to Mr. Jinnah, the Raja-

gopalachari formula for a Congress-League settlement. But what good are all efforts when the British Government are determined to sit tight? Both Lord Munster in the House of Lords and Mr. Amery in the Commons have refused to budge an inch from their privileged position. It was in view of the Viceroy's plea for co-operation that Gandhiji made what is considered by all as constructive suggestion. If it is not accepted "even as a basis for a friendly discussion" said Gandhiji, commenting on the debate in the Lords, "I must reluctantly come to the conclusion that the British Government do not want a fair solution of what I consider is a deadlock but what they may not consider as such."

However earnest I may be in my efforts to reach a solution, I know I can do nothing if there is no response from the British Government. How I wish that the bogey of communal differences had not been raised in the debate. I have contended, as I contend even now, that differences there must be so long as there is a ruling third party to exploit them. I have spoken what I feel to be the truth. The occasion is too serious for me to hide it.

The Commons debate is for me "a terrible pointer," said Gandhiji.

It confirms me in my opinion that the 'Quit India' resolution was no hasty cry, conceived in anger. To put the same in Parliamentary language it demands that India must be now governed by Indians chosen by her own people—not a cotery but the whole mass of the people without distinction of race, creed or colour.

It is a great pity that the Lords and the Commons have turned down my offer. The Allies will have their victory but the exploited races will not feel the glow of it. They will know that the seeds of another and deadlier war will be sown by that very victory. I ask myself the question "must rivers of blood flow for such an empty victory."

MY SPIRITUAL IDEAL

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

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THE subject is not an easy one to tackle. It involves an analysis and examination of a number of concepts. In the first place, what is meant by 'ideal'; and in the next place, what is meant by 'spiritual'? The word 'ideal' has many meanings, and I do not propose to go through all the possible meanings given in the dictionary. What it denotes in the present context is a standard of excellence.

Does it imply an objective which is capable of being attained or realised? To my mind, this is not necessary. It is something which should be sought or striven for, and furnishes a standard or pattern. The ideal may or may not be attainable. It does not cease to be an ideal if it cannot be attained. Perfection, for instance, may be suggested as an ideal. But it is hardly ever attainable. Even supposing that perfection is, or should be, the ideal, it does not carry us far, for it conveys no clear idea as to the contents of perfection. Perfection or ideal may relate to various matters and would depend upon the ends or objectives we have in view. It may be physical, material, moral, intellectual, æsthetic or spiritual. Absolute perfection in all things, qualities or attributes is hardly ever realised except in God. This again would carry us to the question of the nature of God. It may perhaps be sufficient to say that God is another name for all round perfection or perfection in all things.

Perfection is very often capable of being used relatively with reference to particular objects of contemplation or endeavour. A horse may be described as perfect if we have in view its shape, speed, endurance or capacity for carrying.

A subtle intellect capable of clear thought and analysis may be regarded as a form of excellence and as an ideal to be cultivated. A beautiful picture may be regarded as falling within the world of the ideal. A well-built athlete may be an ideal of physical beauty. Purity of life, character and conduct may be so high as to furnish an ideal to be followed or admired. There are many elements which enter into our conception of excellence of the standard and raise it to the level of the ideal.

When we speak of spiritual ideals, we have to form a clear conception of what is meant by 'spiritual'. We have to exclude physical and material things. To my mind, an ideal denotes an end and not a means. It refers to a state or condition to be achieved and not to the means of achieving it. *Prima facie* the words 'spiritual ideal' relate to character and conduct. Asceticism and self-sacrifice are not ends in themselves. Contentment, equanimity and peace of mind would be very desirable states of mind and worth cultivating. Active philanthropy, patriotism and various forms of altruistic conduct may be commended as falling within the sphere of spiritual ideals. The practice of *Yoga* or meditation would be a means to the attainment of mental equilibrium, but it is not an end in itself. My spiritual ideal would include altruism, bliss, *bhakti* or devotion, and the contemplation of perfection in the shape of divinity. It is not possible to attempt any further definition. (Contributed to a symposium compiled by Mr. Krishna Mangesh Talgeri, M.A., of Hubli.)

THE SOVIET EXPERIMENT

BY MR. T. R. VENKATARAMA SASTRIAR, C.I.E.

THERE is just now great admiration for Russia as a military power and there is revived interest among all sections in the history of her plans and achievements within the last two decades. Power is envied and admired, as often as it is hated and cursed. When it is turned against us, we curse it. Finland, Lithuania, Esthonia and Latvia curse the might of U. S. S. R. as an impediment to their freedom. When it is not turned against us, and even more so when it is ranged on our side, we give it unstinted admiration. Of its general tendency, thinkers have ever been critical, both in the East and in the West. "Power corrupts and absolute power corrupts absolutely" has now become a common saying. From Bana of twelve hundred years ago, we have a more comprehensive indictment:

Rajya-visha-vikarom-mada-karini khalu rajya-lakshmih.

Na silam pasyati, na dharmam anurudhyati, na satyam palayati.

That is, Regal Power, intoxicated by the poisonous effects of rule, does not observe established usages, pays no heed to the dictates of righteousness and does not respect its pledged word. A not inadequate description of modern international behaviour. All this notwithstanding, power, military power, impresses. Stories of peace-time achievements do not impress. We receive them with suspicion and incredulity. Now that they are attested by the display of superb military capacity and the winning of phenomenal successes, we are inclined to examine the history of the last twenty years of Russian plans and their execution.

I remember travelling with an English naval officer in the first fortnight after the German declaration of war on Russia. He estimated the duration of Russia's resistance to Germany at about six weeks. Hitler hoped to win the war in two months, before the advent of winter. These contemptuous estimates were soon disproved, but defeat still seemed inevitable and only a question of time. Things uncertainly dragged on for a time, and when at last the tide of war turned slowly in favour of Russia, there was no one that was not astonished, unless G. B. S. claims to be an exception. True, he always spoke of the ultimate success of Russia, but it may not be an unjust suspicion that he was not serious and was only exercising the Shavian privilege of walking on the other side of the road, apart from all others. At any rate, he was not taken seriously at the time. Now one is inclined to exclaim: "How lucky it was that no one knew the real strength of Russia!". If Hitler had not been, like all others, ignorant of her strength, he would not have declared war, and it might then have gone very hard with the Allies.

What distance separates the Czarist Russia from the Soviet Russia of Stalin! And yet it is a fifteen-year, a bare fifteen-year, plan that has made all the difference. True, there is much to be said against her methods pursued through the intervening years and much has been said and written. All that duly remembered, surprise, wonder and admiration still remain asking the question how all that could have been achieved in so short a period.

Hitler knew that he could not win on two fronts at the same time and could not be defeated in one. But he calculated on not being called on to fight in two fronts at the same time. Having disposed of the powers of the continent on the west, he thought of subjugating the east and possessing himself of all that he needed, oil and food, before he turned to the west again. But his calculations proved mistaken and his premature breach with Russia led him into the very thing that he wished to avoid. Thus does intoxicated power compass its own defeat.

Not only in war but also in diplomacy has Stalin shown his vision and skill. Britain and U. S. A. have come to see the need to recognise her and accommodate to her claims at least for the moment. In the unseen subtle trials of strength that go on all the time unremittingly in a warring international world, Stalin has been able to hold his own. He is wide awake to the trial of strength that awaits him at the Peace Conference at the end of the war, as awake as the Allies. That all of them are full of mutual suspicion and are sleeplessly at work in the disposition of forces for the peace table and after is not wholly concealed from the rest of the world.

The first two books* are the result of admiring labour. Mr. Hirlekar has made the leading Soviet authorities speak, including Stalin himself. About thirty of these leaders expound what has been achieved in Russia by the three five-year plans.

*SOVIET RUSSIA. Edited by Mr. K. S. Hirlekar, Popular Book Depot, Bombay.
SOVIET CAUCASUS. By Mr. David Tutaeff, India Publishers, Allahabad.
SOCIALISM RECONSIDERED. By Mr. Minoo Masani, Padma Publications, Bombay.

Mr. Tutaeff gives a history of a Caucasus from which Stalin hails and I guess the author too. The short history includes Prometheus and Jason of mythology as connected with the Caucasus and introduces us to an eleventh century Elizabeth and her Shakespeare. Queen Tamara is presented as a very able ruler who united Christians and Muslims under her impartial banner. But the real subject of the book is how Hitler planned to conquer the province for its oil and for the achievement of his project of meeting the Japs moving from the east somewhere midway in Southern Asia, and how it failed partly by the nerve and strength of Turkey against Germany's trial of both. One may describe the book as claiming that Caucasus has guarded the east from invasion by Germany. These two books issued by Indian publishers of Bombay and Allahabad indicate the widespread interest in India in Russian achievements. What one country has done another may also do. Is there anything that we can learn from their experience?

It is not easy to summarise. But something must be attempted to give an idea to the reader. The following may be gathered from these books:

Mortality has decreased by 40 per cent. Smallpox has been reduced by 96 per cent.; and typhoid by 71 per cent.; and diphtheria by 80 per cent.

Medical care and hospital service are free. There is provision made for age and disability. 10,800,000,000 roubles were spent on health services alone in 1937.

Unemployment is unknown. More workers are needed,

Agriculture has been mechanised, 80 per cent. tillage being by machines and harvesting by tractors. There were 6,350 service stations in 1938 with 153,500 tilling machines and 483,500 tractors. Yield in 1933 was 2,200 lbs., in 1937, it was 5,060 lbs. per acre, exclusive of seed, payments in grain for services and fodder. 18,800,000 families were prosperous.

Socialised industries were 99.7 per cent. of the whole. Large-scale industries have increased from 11 billion roubles of Czarist Russia to 100 billion roubles in 1938.

The growth from 1933 to 1938 is exhibited in crores as below: National income from 4,850 to 10,500 roubles; annual pay-roll from 3,495 to 9,642 roubles; wages from an annual 1,513 to 3,447 roubles. Educational provision in Czarist Russia for 7, 8 millions has now been improved to 34 millions now in schools and colleges. There is no village without a library. The proud claim is that hunger, poverty, ignorance have been abolished in Russia.

Racial and national animosities have been abolished.

Oil reserves have gone up from 900 million tons to 8,700 million tons.

No national debt. Payment readily made for all foreign commitments. Gold mining pays.

In nearly all industries originally very low in the scale, she is now first or second in Europe except in automobiles, fourth and third in coal.

Arctic circle is made habitable and Arctic Ocean has become navigable.

The first five-year programme was finished in four. The second put an end to exploitation. And the third has developed light industries, transport, communications and defence.

It is an impressive tale, for fuller details of which the reader must turn to the books themselves.

The third book merits careful attention. It is critical of the objectives and methods of Soviet Russia. Mr. Masani was an admirer of Soviet Russia previously. Even now he speaks highly of her achievements. But he has been disillusioned in regard to her objectives after his later visit in 1935. It seems to us that he has moved away from Russian communism farther than he at present realises. When the objectives themselves are brought under reconsideration, it cannot but be so. Mr. Masani himself says that he has in the book put more questions than he has endeavoured to answer. When his reconsideration is completed, he must tell us again what he would prescribe as the proper programme for our country. At present there is a certain conflict between his old and his new attitudes to communism which are not resolved, decisively, one way or another, in his own mind.

Non-violence has now become cardinal. It now takes a higher place in the mind of the author under the more recent influence of Mahatma Gandhi's thought. Without it, democracy and freedom now seem unrealisable. In 1927, the results attained by Russia were so impressive that the violence through which that result was attained was then overlooked. The liquidation of Kulaks and the oppositionists was not all after 1927. The changes noticed in 1935 did not immediately lead to re-examination. But hope still remained that the movement might correct itself. It required other changes in the author's outlook to lead him to undertake a re-examination of the whole matter. Gandhism, among other influences, has

produced this changed outlook. Still a struggle between the old and the new outlooks is in evidence and awaits resolution.

If non-violence is cardinal, the cautious hesitancy of social democrats in England is not discreditable to them if in their view a strong move along certain lines would lead to a violent clash between classes. If the inevitability of gradualness led to inaction, strong action may lead to violent revolutionary upheaval. To keep to non-violence and yet be dynamic is the problem. Again if the Russian movement should retain its international character, the complaint that it has become a subordinate branch of the Russian foreign office loses point as also the complaint that communists in all countries look to Russia for guidance. If, on the other hand, Russia should leave other countries to solve their own problems, the dissolution of the Comintern is a right step. Incapacity of democracies, the unreal character of the peoples owning the State and managerial revolution are confusing strains of thought which require to be cleared up by a considered statement of what we should aim at as the next step.

I am with the author in the importance that he attaches to democracy, freedom and non-violence. But at the same time, it must be added that the simple and intelligible objectives of food, health and education for all should not be allowed to fall into inattention. The unfortunate tendency in the world is to meet just claims with mere promises, without intending to pay any heed until they fall into a violent phase and then to meet it by suppression followed by fresh promises

with the same old cycle until suppression is felt likely to end in disaster. If the objectives are conceded, as they seem to be even in the industrialists' scheme, and steady unremitting efforts by legislative and executive action are in active evidence, there is no need to resort to violent revolutionary methods. Mr. A. C. Pigou has commended the steady revolutionary pursuit of socialist aims as a means of avoiding violent revolutions.

Every one will agree that Finland, Denmark, Norway and Sweden have shown how socialist ends may be attained by other methods than those of Russia and also how nations can prosper without exploiting others. Every one will also agree that such goodwill as there is among the members of the Labour Party in England is tempered by the idea pressed on them that their own superior standard of living is dependent on the possession and exploitation of other countries. Imperialism is in truth a demoralisation of the ruling country as much as of the ruled countries but how can we expect Imperialism revelling in its glory to recognise that fact.

Few have knowledge such as the author has of the Russian experiment derived from visits to Russia and an extensive study of books dealing with it. A fuller exposition of his views and their application to India may be expected. However it seems to me that in the conditions that existed in Russia, conditions of foreign aggression and internal strife encouraged by the aggressors, the course she took was inevitable with all its consequences. It may be that she must retrace her steps in certain directions and must introduce correctives as to things that

have gone wrong. She did wisely in dissolving the Comintern, as it seems to me. Other countries must consider their own problems in the light of their own conditions. We cannot have Stalins even if we wanted them. They are foreign to our genius and cannot grow in our soil. Steady and strenuous efforts to increase

production and promote just distribution by providing employment for all may be a wise enough immediate programme as far as our eyes can see at present. Planning beyond a point may be a leap in the dark. It is only as we get along that we can determine the exact road that we must traverse to reach our goal.

SIR P. C. RAY'S TESTAMENT

I HAVE often said in my addresses to young men that I became a chemist almost by mistake, my predilections being always towards history, biography and general literature. There is nothing uncommon in it. Huxley has told us that though he earned his name and fame as a zoologist, philosophy and history having laid hold of him in this eccentric fashion have never loosened their grip. The monograph on Hume in the English Men of Letters series amply bears it out. Lord Haldane, eminent as he was in the field of philosophy, shed lustre on his profession as a lawyer and shone with equal brilliance as a statesman. Such instances can be multiplied.

I confess I am a strange contradiction. Although I am generally credited with being an industrialist, yet from the dawn of my intelligence the ephemeral character of the phenomenal world has haunted me, a disregard for worldly effects has become my second nature. Thus the writer lacks the essentials of a successful industrialist or businessman, as he has always realised the force of the saying, *Arthamanartham Bhavaya Nityam*, that is to say:—"love

of money is the root of all evil". So the dominant note running through his life is: "Lay not up for yourselves treasures on earth; for where thy treasure is, there is thy heart also".

Any one who will take the trouble to go through these pages will, I hope, all the same find that there is a connecting link pervading my life-work and that activities are but part in a comprehensive piece. In other words, he will probably be convinced that I have not lived an aimless life.

It is unfortunate that in one's own memoir the frequent use of the first person singular cannot be dispensed with; one naturally lays oneself open to the reproach of egotism. An awful burden of responsibility has borne me down whenever I have to use it. Whatever field I have ploughed I have ploughed as an humble instrument in the hand of Providence: my failures are my own: to err is human. But my merits, if any, are to be attributed to the guidance of the All-knowing, Who chose me to be his humble instrument. After all, a

* Epilogue to Dr. Ray's "Life and Experiences."

Divinity shapes our ends. Lord Haldane in the closing words of his autobiography gives expression to his consciousness of this aspect in human efforts:

I have no sense of success on any very large scale in things achieved. But I have the sense of having worked and of having found happiness in doing so. Better that than mere honours and mere wealth, and mere esteem from men. For the happiness gained has a character in it of which nothing beyond can take the place. So far as external circumstances are concerned, I would not if I could take the chance of living life over again. A distinguished living statesman and man of the world once asked me whether, even with the aid of such knowledge as experience had brought, I would like to try to begin life anew. My answer was in the negative, "For", I added, we are apt greatly to underrate the part which accident and good luck have really played in the shaping of our careers and in giving us such successes as we have had." His rejoinder was to the same effect as my answer to his question. "I would not," he said, "myself try again, for I do not feel sure that good fortune, irrational as it has been, would attend me in the same way". The contingent plays a large part even in the best ordered lives, and we do well to ask of philosophy to teach us how to make ourselves detached from the circumstances it brings, whether happy or otherwise. The best that ordinary mortals can hope for is the result which will probably come from sustained work directed by as full reflection as is possible.

J. S. Mill, who is taken to be an agnostic (by some even regarded as an atheist) almost hints his belief in the doctrine of fatalism and predestination in the following passage:

Some are born rich without work, others are born to a position in which they can become rich by work; the great majority are born to hard work and poverty throughout life, numbers to indigence. Next to birth the chief cause of success in life is accident and opportunity. When a person not born to riches succeeds in acquiring them, his own industry and dexterity have generally contributed to the result, but industry and dexterity would not have sufficed unless there had been also a concurrence of occasions and chances which falls to the lot of only a small number... Energies and talents are of much more avail for success in life than virtues. In the situation of most people no degree whatever of good conduct can be counted on for raising them in the world without the aid of fortunate accidents.

All through my varied activities I felt the force of the saying: "I commit myself to Thee, O Lord! make me Thy agent."

I have ventured to say many things about the shortcomings of the Bengali with the fond hope that my timely note of warning will not be a cry in the wilderness. The Bengali has got many noble qualities and I am proud of my nationality and I glory in being a Bengali. In one essential aspect, however, he has proved to be a dismal failure, namely, in the art of earning his livelihood. The bread problem of the Bengali has been my obsession during the last forty years, and to my dismay I have been watching that in the land of his birth he is least able to stand the keen competition which faces him in every field. As I am writing these lines, I have been touring from village to village in my native district and keeping an eye on the boys and young men. Their stunted growth, and pale, anaemic, lacklustre looks bear ample evidence of malnutrition. Helplessness is writ large on their countenance. A spirit of defeatism pervades, they are daily sinking down into a despondent rut. When the manhood of a nation in the prime vigour of life is sunk in despair and struck with mental palsy there can be no hope for the future. And yet, in the evening of my life, I cannot afford to give up hopes.

As an humble educationist all through my life, it has been my painful duty to point out how the craze for university degrees has become an unfortunate source of many fatal drawbacks. The Bengalis are perhaps the worst victims of this craze and the result is, as Bernard Shaw puts it:—"A fool's brain digests philosophy into folly, science into superstition and art into pedantry." "Hence University Education."

It is only too true that "a learned man is an idler who kills time with study. Beware of his false knowledge. It is more dangerous than ignorance. Activity is the only road to knowledge." Let me echo once more with the great writer: "When a man teaches something he does not know to somebody else who has no aptitude for it, and gives him a certificate of proficiency, the latter has completed the education of a gentleman." And thus becomes a failure all his life.

I have not spared any pains to dissect the Bengali character and to lay bare its weak points. Like a surgeon I have plunged the lancet deep into the flesh so as to remove the morbid tissue and apply healing balm. The Bengali people, after all, is my people, its faults are my faults; and its many redeeming qualities are equally my own. I have thus a moral right to take any liberty I like with it.

History is being recast and remade before our very eyes. Not long ago the Chinaman and the Turk, "the sickman of Europe", were held up to public ridicule and contempt by the overbearing occidental and were cited as instances of effete and worn out races. Under the guidance of Heaven-born leaders, these people have at last been roused from their age-long slumber, have rejuvenated youth, to the amazement of an incredulous world.

There is no reason why the Bengali, or for the matter of that, the Indian, should lag behind and not fulfil his destiny. I almost hear the echoes of the organ voice of the author of *Arcopagitica*:

"Methinks I see in my mind a noble and puissant nation, rousing herself like a strong man after sleep and shaking her invincible looks."

From Vedic India to Concord, U.S.A.

By ARTHUR CHRISTY AND HENRY SEIDEL CANBY

"It would be a matter of deep interest," said Romain Rolland, the French critic, "to know exactly how far the American spirit has been impregnated, directly or indirectly, by the infiltration of Hindu thought during the 19th century. There can be no doubt that it has contributed to the strange moral and religious mentality of the United States."

So pronounced is America's interest in Asiatic teachings, even corrupted, that a Columbia University graduate in New York City recently earned his doctorate with a thesis entitled "Hinduism invades America."

It was during the Golden Age of American literature, 100 years ago, that Hinduism invaded America in earnest. Concord, Massachusetts, lies in the quiet New England farming country which the first seekers after religious freedom cleared from the New World wilderness. Here in the 1840's gathered the famous poets, authors, naturalists and philosophers who were to interpret the teachings of the Hindus to their countrymen. Here, in the severely classic wooden houses of the village the Bhagavat Gita, unlikely as it may seem, was read and re-read by Ralph

Waldo Emerson, known in midcentury America as the founder of a new faith; and the Upanishads were discussed in public "Conversations." Many Americans who gape at some of today's cults would be surprised to know how much, thanks to Concord Orientalism, the true teachings of Hinduism have had to do with the free thought they take for granted.

DESTINY OF MEN OF CONCORD

It was the destiny of the men of Concord—of Emerson particularly, and of his neighbours, Henry David Thoreau and Bronson Alcott of the "Conversations"—to break away from traditional Puritanism (which has been defined as "an uncomfortable personal relationship with an offended God") and to seek with open minds the meaning of the universe. Through the clamour of the bells of the established church and the din of the new steam engines their strong voices were clearly heard discoursing on Reality and the Over Soul. Hindu scriptures did not give them their philosophy; rather, their own experiences and institutions led them to the sacred writings of the East. Yankees though they were, they met themselves in Oriental literature; projected themselves into it; used it as an illustration of their own theory of how to treat books and history, and from the Eastern store borrowed expressions to give lustre to their prose.

Since two oceans and unnumbered years separated Concord from the India of the Vedas, the American philosophers were fortunate in living at a time when the translations of gifted European scholars were making Hindu teachings available in

the West. Various channels connected the publishing houses of Europe with Emerson's library in the little provincial American town and the achievements of men like Sir Charles Wilson and Henry Colebrooke are inseparable from the growth of Concord Orientalism.

Emerson was the sage, the pure intellect of the group. Although he had been ordained a minister, he was impelled, like any Hindu, to consider a negation of the personal attributes of God.

"I deny personality to God," he said, "because it is too little, not too much."

His indifferent God, ruling the world with an inexorable law called Compensation, was foreign in a predominantly Calvinistic land. He was not the Father of Christ.

"NATURE MAKES A BRAHMAN OF ME"

"Nature makes a Brahman of me presently", Emerson wrote. "Eternal necessity, eternal compensation, unfathomable power, unbroken silence, this is her creed."

Emerson's essay on "Compensation" and all that he wrote in his diaries indicate how far he had travelled from the theism of his time and how near he had come to the Karma of Hindu thinkers. "You think me a child of my circumstances. I make my circumstance."

And the doctrine of Maya finds faithful echo in his theory of "Illusion". In his attitude toward the illusion, however, East and West part. Where a Hindu might traditionally see in the material world only the absence of God, darkness and evil, Emerson looked upon it and found it good. At this point the American Transcendentalist diverged, but not before he had availed

himself freely of Hindu teaching. Eager minds, then as now, read and re-read his splendid rugged "Essays" and the mystic poems "Brahma," "Threnody," "Hamatreya," where he offered his solution of "the question schoolboys ask and philosophers fail to answer."

It was Emerson who first drew Thoreau's attention to the literature of the Orient. After reading Manu, Thoreau wrote:

"I cannot read a sentence in the book of the Hindus without being elevated as upon the table-land of the Ghauts. At this late hour, unworn by time it wears the English dress (Sir William Jones' translation) as indifferently as the Sanskrit. The great tone of the book is of much fibre and such severe tension that no time or accident can relax it."

A little mound of stones today marks the site on Walden pond where Thoreau repaired for several solitary years to seek the forest, to live in the shack he built for himself on the clear water's edge, to reflect, undistracted, until the distinction between the true values and the false should finally appear. As Buddha and the Bhagavat Gita recommended, he dwelt alone in a secret place without craving and without possessions. The Yogi wrapped in his contemplations is not a far cry from the picture Thoreau gives of himself sitting in his sunny doorway, lost in reverie, oblivious of time from sunset to noon, oblivious even of the songs of birds.

"I learned this at least by my experiment," he wrote, "that if one advances confidently in the direction of his dreams, and endeavours to live the life which he has imagined he will meet with a success

unexpected in common hours. He will put some things behind, will pass an invisible boundary; and he will live with the licence of a higher order of beings."

"Walden," once taken as the handbook of the British Labour Party, is the great record of Thoreau's experiment and the sum of his conclusions organized society.

"EVEN I AM A YOGI"

Thoreau never would have advocated the insanity of all men building Walden shanties; he recognized the Sankyha system as the only possible one for the mass of men. But as he said: "Free in this world as the birds in the air, disengaged from every kind of chains, those who practise the Yoga gather in Brahma the certain fruits of their works."

"To some extent and at rare intervals, even I am a Yogi."

Alcott was the third most conspicuous member of the Concord Orientalists. Instead of immersing himself in nature, like Thoreau, or brooding on and writing about the Over Soul like Emerson, he made his chief interest the universal scriptures of men.

Arranging for the translation of Edwin Arnold's "Light of Asia," he wrote in his diary: "The book will be read with surprise by most and raise curious questions in the mind of Christians generally."

He was right, and as a result of his enterprise 80 American editions followed the first printing of the English poet's rendering of the life of Buddha.

As Dean of the Concord Summer School of Philosophy, Alcott worked to promulgate mystic lore, American interest

in the Orientals needed a man who would work as a house-to-house colporteur, with his personal enthusiasm and brilliant talk in drawing rooms doing what the pen of Emerson and Thoreau could not do in the study and hermitage. Alcott was that man.

All three men were widely read in the Orientals before they published a single one of the books which were to have such a wide and liberal influence on American thought in the 19th century and which, in the case of "Walden" and Emerson's "Essay," have taken their places as classics in the language. The sacred books of the Hindus answered their probing questions in a way which Western writers never approached and they became to them a delight.

The Orientalism of the men of Concord had a marked influence on their great contemporary, Walt Whitman, the poet. Whitman told Thoreau that he had never read any of the Indian scriptures and asked to be told about them. But many scholars have noted ideas obviously arising in the Orient which pervade his important poems. And his famous "Passage to India" is a plan for uniting the intellectual life of the West with the spiritual life of the East. He drew his ideas to some extent from miscellaneous reading in which the Hindu classics were described; but more particularly at second hand from Emerson, who was the master; that contact, as he said himself, brought the pot of his genius to the boiling point.

EVIDENCE OF THE DIARIES

If it were necessary to look beyond their works, the diaries and tablets and journals of the men of Concord would furnish constant evidence of their enthusiasm for the Hindu classics,

Of the Bhagavata Purana, Emerson said, "Ah, there is a book to read on one's knees."

And again, "Milman's translation of Nala and Damayanti is nearer to my business and bosom than is the news in today's *Boston Journal*. I am admonished and comforted as I read."

Thoreau confessed, "I have never read a novel. They have so little real life and thought in them. The reading which I love best is the scriptures of the several nations, though it happens I am better acquainted with those of the Hindus, the Chinese and the Persians than of the Hebrews, which I have come to last. Give me one of these Bibles and you have silenced me for a while."

And Alcott, who lived, as one biographer observed, in a state of quiet ecstasy, described in his Tablets the project that was near his heart all his life:

"Very desirous it were, since the gates of the East are now opening wide and giving free commerce of mind with mind, to collect and compare the Bibles of the races for general circulation and careful reading."

After all the defence, Emerson, Thoreau and Alcott bestowed on the Orientals, there is poetic justice in recording the manner in which some Orientals have responded. Hindus in particular have appreciated the affinity between themselves and the Transcendentalists. Men like Mozoomdar and Maitra have found in Emerson a fresh interpretation of their ancient thought.

"Emerson translated into the language of modern culture," said Herambachandra Maitra, writing in the *Harvard Theological Review*, "what was uttered by the sages of ancient India in the loftiest strains."

We are told that on his death-bed Sankara prayed to be forgiven for frequenting temples, since by so doing he had seemed to deny the omnipresence of God. To that prayer the men of Concord would have given a fervent "Amen."

DEMOCRATIC INTERNATIONALISM

BY PROF. R. BHASKARAN

WE are told, and we can also see, that we live in a closely-knit world which goes on shrinking with every improvement in transport and communication. Nothing can happen anywhere in the world without affecting all the continents and every nation. Each human community influences, and is influenced by every other; no group of men exists in perfect isolation. This mutual dependence of nations and states is a fact so patent that it may be called a truism. Yet it urgently needs to be stated now, because the end of the war is not far away and we have to face the problems of peace.

Assuming that we plan for prosperity and peace and not for scarcity and war, it is necessary that national plans should be compatible with one another. Thus for the better world of tomorrow, we need a guarantee of universal peace and an overall scheme of reconstruction into which every national plan may be fitted without violence or injustice. No single nation, however powerful, can guarantee world peace, and no single nation, however honest, can be trusted to plan the welfare of the entire world. Only the constant and unselfish co-operation of the nations of the earth can make possible the new world order we desire.

But international co-operation on the scale necessary for our purposes is not easy to secure. The chief obstacle in our way is the stubborn spirit of nationalism which prevails all around us. An international outlook must become as powerful and popular as nationalism is today, if we are to move to higher levels of human life

and achievement. For the spread of such an outlook we need a preliminary and simple declaration of faith.

I do not suggest that nationalism is wrong or foolish, and I cannot believe that it is played out. But internationalism has a greater claim on our attention than we are disposed to admit. Not that internationalism is new or strange. Just as interdependence implies independence, internationalism implies nationalism; and historically internationalism is coeval with nationalism.

The sovereign nation-state is nearly 400 years old in Europe. It was created by dynastic rulers and became a law unto itself. Each state was jealous of its honour and keen in pursuit of its interests as it understood them. States, therefore, made war upon one another and devastated Europe. Then European states expanded overseas and colonial wars followed as a matter of course. When the thirteen colonies repudiated British overlordship, a new nation arose in the New World in a totally new way—the way of self-determination. Political independence became the hall-mark of nationhood after the French Revolution, and nations grew stronger and more self-conscious when dynastic rulers were replaced by popular leaders. After the war of 1914-18, the democratic principle of self-determination was applied in drawing national frontiers and so the world is today divided among sovereign national states. There are also large groups of people who have not achieved national sovereignty and are not yet capable of self-determination. These,

however, are on the road to political independence and self-determined nationhood under the guidance of one or other Western nation. Such is the context made for us by history and here nationalism is the ruling idea. Old nations are grateful to the nationalist spirit which has made them what they are; young nations have a lively appreciation of benefits yet to come with the attainment of mature nationhood.

Let us turn to the other side of the picture. A world of independent nations is an uneasy world of war, waste and want. This was noticed by ministers, kings and emperors centuries ago. The history of modern internationalism goes back to Sully, the French Minister who discussed a European Federation with his master, Henry IV, and with Queen Elizabeth of England. His was a grand design to end religious strife (what we would call 'an ideological conflict') and arrange the common defence of a Federated Europe under a council representing the nations of the Continent. Kings would renounce territorial ambitions and Europe would be defended by an international force.

Sully has put down in his memoirs an interview he had with the English Queen, who said that the execution of the plan by another means than that of arms would be very desirable, as this had always something odious in it; but she confessed that indeed it would be hardly possible to begin it in any other wise.

This is the central difficulty of the internationalist. How are the nations to be

persuaded to shed their antagonisms and to come together? If force is employed to compel nations to unite, the result is an empire and not a free commonwealth of nations. Sully hoped to persuade monarchs to join the Federation; now we have to persuade the masses to constrain their leaders to give up a too parochial patriotism.

In the midst of wars, there were also philosophers from the Abbe de St. Pierre to Immanuel Kant, who put on paper fine schemes of international organizations. Perpetual peace was discussed academically by high-souled thinkers who were unable to influence the rulers or the ruled. A brief practical attempt was, however, made by Czar Alexander, who initiated the Holy Alliance of four powers as the guarantor of international security. Very soon the alliance broke up on the question of intervention in Spain, much in the same way as the League of Nations was shaken by Italian and Spanish questions.

Briefly, the Fascist solution of the international problem is a world dominated by the Axis for the greater prosperity of the militarists. The conquered will serve their conquerors and no part of the world will be allowed to escape the yoke. This is a caricature of internationalism, the product of a monstrous national egotism. Socialist internationalism has few chances of converting the world because it does not allow for the genuine and valuable features of nationalism. We are left with a democratic internationalism which this war may promote and strengthen.—*Broadcast from Trichy.*

SERMONS IN STONES

RELICS OF INDIA'S ANCIENT CIVILIZATION

BY MISS WAHIDA AZIZ

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BEFORE the discovery of Mahenjodaro and Harappa in the Sind Valley, it was commonly believed that India owed the introduction of stone for architectural purposes to Asoka. The remains of the Buddhist architecture were taken to be the earliest examples, but this proves that there was a civilisation as early as the third millennium B.C., and that the people of India were building with brick and stone long before the coming of Aryans. It is possible that this civilization was swept away by the Aryan invasion, but this fact has not been established.

During the pre-Buddhist era, wood, not stone, was employed for purposes of architecture, and stone seems to have been used only for the foundations of buildings, or city walls and gates, bridges and embankments. When we examine the earliest examples of rock-cut temples, there is ample evidence that they were based on models more suitable for wood.

The oldest examples of the Buddhist pillars are those which Asoka set up in the 31st year of his reign, to bear inscriptions conveying the leading doctrines of the Buddhist religion. The most well-known of these pillars is the one which Firoz Shah Tugluk removed from Topra and set up in his Kotila in Delhi, without being aware of the original purpose of the pillar or its inscription.

A fragment of the other was found on the ridge north of Delhi, where it had been

set up by Firoz Shah in his hunting lodge and was re-erected in 1867. A complete shaft of one of his pillars was found in Allahabad, lying near the Fort, and then re-erected with a pedestal designed by Captain Smith. On this pillar, in addition to Asoka's inscription, is one by Samudra Gupta (A.D. 380 to 400), detailing the great deeds of his reign and the glory of his ancestors.

It has also an inscription in Persian to commemorate the accession of Jehangir. A few others exist in the Champaran district and one at Nilgiva in the Nepal Terai, bearing an inscription by Asoka, stating that it marked the birthplace of Buddha. A large fragment and a capital were found at Sarnath, bearing only a portion of a Asoka's inscription.

It is assumed that each of the pillars stood in front of some stupa or a similar building, but they have now disappeared. Six or seven of these had been traced in Sanchi, and an equal number at Amaravati. At the latter place, these pillars are frequently represented both inside and outside the rails. At Karle, one pillar still stands in front of the great cave surmounted by four lions, while two others are found right in front of the great cave at Kanheri. These are but examples of the time that contributed not a little to India's cultural development as a whole.

WHAT THEY SAY?

In these messages to his people and to posterity, Asoka gave an account of his

administration and of the public works he had done. He also made them the vehicle by which he taught the precepts of the Buddha. The practice of carving Buddhist sentiments in this manner on conspicuous objects was afterwards to receive a very wide extension, as is still visible in Tibet, in Central Asia, in China, and throughout the Buddhist world. In all, he issued as many as "sixteen missives, of which fourteen are found engraved in one corpus," in places as far distant as the extremities of the empire—at Girnar in Kathiawar, at Mansehra and Shahbazgarhi in the North-Western Frontier Province, and twelve of the same at Dhauli and Jaugada in Orissa.

A careful translation of the one at Kotila has become possible through the discovery of the method of writing and runs thus:—

Thus spake King Devanampia Piyadasi:—In the 27th year of my appointment, I have caused this religious edict to be published in writing. I acknowledge and confess the faults that have been cherished in my heart. From the love of virtue, by the side of which all other things are as sins, from the strict scrutiny of sin and from fervent desire to be sold of sin, by the fear of sin and by very enormity of sin; by these may my eyes be strengthened and confirmed (in rectitude).

The sight of religion, and the love of religion, of their own accord increase and will ever increase: and my people, whether of the laity (grihist) or of the priesthood (ascetics), all mortal beings, are knit together thereby, and prescribe to themselves the same path: and, above all, having obtained the mastery over their passions, they become supremely wise. For this is indeed true wisdom: it is upheld and bound by religion—religion which bestows pleasure.

The second edict which praises good-work in religion runs thus:—

Thus spake King Piyadasi:—In religion is the chief excellence; but religion consists in good work; in the non-omission of many acts; mercy and charity, purity and chastity; these are to me the anointment of consecration. Towards the poor and the afflicted, towards bipeds and quadrupeds, towards the fowls of the air and things that move in the water, manifold have been the benevolent acts performed by me. Out of consideration for things inanimate even many excellent things have been done by me. To this purpose is the present edict promulgated; let all pay attention to it, and let it endure for ages to come: and he who acts in conformity thereto the same shall attain eternal happiness.

A translation of the famous Sanchi Pillar Edict is:—

The Samgha of monks and of nuns has been made whole and entire, my sons and grandsons (continuing as long as the sun and moon endure).

Whosoever breaks the Samgha, be he a monk or a nun, shall be clad in white raiment and compelled to live in what is not a residence of the mendicants. For my desire is—what is it? that the Samgha may remain whole and entire and may be of long duration.

Asoka's great claim to be remembered by posterity lies in his enthusiastic and successful missionary enterprise. This it is which makes his reign an epoch, not only in the history of India, but in that of the world.

CAVE TEMPLES

The cave temples of India also throw much light and contain several of these sermons which possess Code of Morals. In cave No. 10 at Ajanta, there is an inscription in front of the great arch to the right side in Maurya characters of the first half of the second century before Christ. There is an inscription which records the excavation of the cave by a monk known by the name of Buddhahadra

who was probably the head of the sect. It also contains a sermon urging his followers for action in propagating the religion.

Similar inscriptions are found in the caves at Rajgir in Behar, once the capital of India which are of much historical interest. Of the whole group, the one named 'Lomas Rishi' is the best known because of certain valuable inscriptions it contains.

In Orissa, on the Khandagiri and Udaigiri hills, twenty miles from Cuttack and five miles from Bhubaneswar, there is another group of ancient caves, situated in the midst of rather picturesque surroundings. The two hills are honeycombed by cells and caves where Buddhist and Jaina hermits lived. These caves have also inscriptions which show how they lived and to which religious orders they belonged.

The Bagh caves near Gwalior, though simpler in design, contain many pillars on which sermons are carved. A distinctive feature of these viharas is that in the sanctuaries they have a dagoba instead of an image of Buddha.

The Brahmanical caves of Elephanta have similar stones, sculptured to give a lesson of the faith of the time. The three heads of Trimurti represent the Hindu trinity—Brahma, the Creator; Vishnu, the Preserver; and Siva, the Destroyer. The calm and serene face in the centre represents the Creator; it seems as if nothing could ruffle the dignity of this countenance. On its right is the profile of the Preserver, while the face of the Destroyer on the left is distorted with fury. The smile on the rage-distorted

face of the Destroyer is neither a smile of victory nor that of jubilation but rather the smile of a steadfast spirit who, faced with cruel and endless controversy, has, as it were, seized the serpent, the symbol of evil, and confronted it in full consciousness of his spiritual greatness. The history of these and many other caves is fairly continuous as they are rich in authentic inscriptions—true sermons in stones.

RAILINGS AND GATEWAYS

Not only the caves and temples have stone inscriptions carved or inscribed on them, even the railings and gateways have them, too. The Bharut, Sanchi and Bodh Gaya railings are most famous for their early sculptural remains and inscriptions in the post-Maurya and pre-Kusan periods.

Nearly all the bas-reliefs on the Bharut rails are inscribed not only with the names of the principal characters but they also give the title of the 'jataka' or legend found in the books now current in Buddhist countries. One of the Bharut inscriptions relates the story of the birth, while other describes the doctrines of the religion. The reliefs on the great gateway at Sanchi are also marvels of story-telling in decorative composition.

Though of much later date, the rails of Amravati are perhaps the last example of this kind, having well-nigh reached perfection in artistic merit. The style is an exquisite blending of Indian and Gandharan modes, but definitely with a stronger classical influence than anything of its kind found in India. They also bear a few inscriptions but they have not yet been deciphered.

Inscriptions and sermons are a special feature of the Moghal architecture in India. Nearly every building, place of worship and tombs have them in Arabic or Persian characters, either in the form of a 'tughra' or calligraphy. Both the Kufic and Nastalik scripts were in use during Akbar's time, the most renowned master being Mohammed Hussain of Kashmir who acquired the name of 'Zarrin-Kalam' or Gold Pen.

Few visitors to Agra are aware of the existence of a chapel known as Akbar's Church, though it is one of the oldest Christian places of worship in Northern India. It contains many inscriptions which are a faithful record of the first Jesuit Missions to the Court of Akbar, and give authentic accounts of how they were invited and when the church was constructed. Many quotations from Bible ending with the following are inscribed on a big marble slab put up in front of it. 'I. H. S.—Anno Mdcclxix.'

It also contains the remains of the notorious Walter Reinhardt, better known as General Sumroo, the husband of the famous Begum Sumroo of Sardhana. The following inscription is found on it:— 'Sumptibus. D. Walteri Reinhardt. Cure B. P. F. X. W.—S. J.'

Attached to the church is a small cemetery in which some of the tombs are perhaps older than the church itself and contain many stories bearing inscriptions.

In the same way, many other churches and temples, mosques and minarets, have sermons in stones in different forms, and it is difficult to deal within the narrow compass of this article, exhaustively or to give the minute details of the examples cited.

To a student of history and to a religious teacher and reformer, a tour of these caves, with their beautiful, and in their own way, unsurpassable, sculptures, carvings, and inscriptions, will provide not only an idea of India's cultural development as a whole, but with one of the most intelligent and interesting diversions he can think of.

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PALECI'S TORPEDO

THE STORY OF A BRITISH LAD'S SACRIFICE

BY MR. F. W. CORBETT

A TERRIFIC explosion rent the air. Professor Paleci put down his pipe, and ran towards his laboratory.

"What's up, Hughie?" he asked anxiously of his step-son, who came running from the opposite direction.

The lad pointed to the laboratory, and ran towards it, closely followed by his step-father.

The whole place was a tangled mass of ruins. Test tubes, bottles, scales, tables, and all the other paraphernalia of a laboratory lay smashed up, and scattered about in disorder. The roof was blown clean off, and the bare walls were full of cracks. The smell of burning chemicals filled the air, and as they looked on, the broken furniture burst into flames in half a dozen different places.

"An awful mess," said Hughie, looking up, "I wonder how it happened."

"I think that's easily explained," answered the Professor, after a while, "you know those experiments we were conducting?"

"Yes."

"Well, I had the mixture for the synthetic camphor on the table there, and just below was the jar full of chemicals we had mixed this morning for that other experiment."

"Yes."

"Well, by some accident one mixture must have fallen into the other. I remember now, that both contained chemicals that would explode on contact."

"Pity."

"No, it's not a pity," returned the Professor, grasping his short beard, "we are on the eve of a very important discovery; if such a small quantity of those chemicals could destroy this room, we have within our grasp the secret of an explosive of a

very high order, which will enable us to make the most terrific bombs and torpedoes. We must continue our experiments."

The work of rebuilding the wrecked laboratory was immediately taken in hand. Fresh plant and apparatus, and everything to help the Professor in his researches were ordered, and before the expiry of a month the new laboratory was in full working order.

A strange man was Professor Paleci. Silent, and often moody, he had established a reputation as a scientist early in life, and had many outstanding discoveries to his credit.

His labours often took him to England, where he met, and had married about seven years previously, a young English woman, the widow of a promising young naval officer.

Their married life was not a very pleasant one. The Professor spent most of his time with his experiments, and his young wife, cut off from all contact with her English friends, led a lonely life in their comfortable home in one of the remoter parts of Sicily, while her growing son was deprived of his education, that he may be of help to the Professor in his experiments.

The Professor now worked harder than ever. Carefully thinking out the chemicals he had used in the previous experiments, he gradually combined them in proportions to give the best explosive effect on contact, and soon, the secret of a most deadly explosive was in his possession.

Paulo Paleci, a sprightly young Naval Officer of about twenty-five, was surprised when he received an invitation from his taciturn uncle a few days later, to visit him on his lonely estate. Badly needing a holiday he accepted, and the Professor was pleased to see him at his door-step one morning.

"Oh, good morning, Paulo, glad you've come," he beamed, as he looked up from among an array of test tubes, "wanted to see you badly".

"I guessed it was some such thing," sneered the young man as he sank into a chair.

"Oh, that will do Paulo, let's talk of something else," interrupted the Professor with a gesture of impatience, "Business for instance. I have been reading in the papers about that new submarine of yours."

"Ah, I see," laughed the young man, "It's getting on first rate, thanks."

"Tell us all about it."

"That's a State secret."

"Now go on, Paulo, I am no spy; you see, I want to help you. For instance, I read that our Navy Department does not place much value on it, as it is too small to carry the usual torpedo, and a torpedo small enough to suit it is of not much use as an offensive weapon."

"Yes, returned Paulo evasively.

"Now, supposing I were to tell you that I have the secret of a new explosive that will make a torpedo small enough to suit your submarine, but capable of much greater execution than any existing torpedo?" and he eyed his nephew curiously.

"Can you, uncle?" exclaimed Paulo, enthusiastically, "tell me more about it, please do."

"First tell me more about your submarine."

The young man hesitated.

"Come on, I "am no spy," encouraged the uncle.

"Well, my submarine is perfect. Can do thirty to forty knots an hour, can move and manoeuvre about in any direction, can rise and sink like a fish in the water, and has an extremely tiny periscope which makes its detection even at close quarter well nigh impossible."

"What's the trouble about it, then?"

"The only trouble is that it is too small; it can only accommodate four, and cannot carry the present torpedo. We have been trying to build it larger, but find that we cannot at the same time retain the various advantages of the smaller type. So there it lies, a splendid vessel, but so far, useless as an offensive weapon."

"My new explosive can remedy that, Paulo; I think that with it we can make a torpedo tiny enough to fit your vessel but sufficiently powerful to blow up the biggest battleship afloat."

The young man sprang out of his chair.

"Indeed, tell us more about it, uncle," he exclaimed with delight, "and let me see some of the stuff if you have it handy."

The Professor briefly explained the secret of his discovery, and, going to a shelf produced two large glass bottles.

"These," he said, "contain only about twenty fluid ounces each, but that is enough to blow up this room, and to destroy everything in it."

"Let's try some of it, uncle," said Paulo, as he danced round the room in delight.

Emptying some of the contents of the two bottles into separate glass containers, uncle and nephew walked down the extensive and thickly wooded grounds in which the house stood. At its northern extremity was a little stream with high banks which separated it from the neighbouring estate. Several huge detached boulders lay scattered about the stream, and, after a little search they selected a suitable boulder to try the explosive on. In half an hour the two chemicals were arranged one above the other beneath the boulder, with an ingenious arrangement by means of which they could be made to unite by pulling a cord from fully five hundred yards away.

The explosion that followed was terrific. A huge slice of the boulder was blown clean off, and hurled against a tree about thirty yards away, bringing it down.

Fragments were scattered all over, and, after a few minutes little lurid tongues of flame burst out in a dozen different places, and burned fiercely for over a quarter of an hour.

"That's grand!" exclaimed Paulo, with delight, "we must see if we cannot use this explosive to make a torpedo to suit my submarine. We can blow up every British battleship in a few days."

A week later, the Rome papers reported the tragic disappearance of Paulo Paceli, the well-known young Naval Architect.

"The missing young man," ran the "report, left the works last morning on a trial trip in his new submarine, and has not returned. It is feared that he has met with some mishap."

Meanwhile, things were humming at the Professor's lonely estate in Sicily. Anxious to conduct his experiments in secrecy, Paulo had managed to travel in his tiny vessel, unobserved, and without mishap, to the estate, where it was carefully berthed in the little stream, and hidden among the trees.

A more elaborate laboratory, and a factory were soon set up, skilled workmen secretly engaged, and a series of exhaustive experiments conducted, but still success seemed as far off as ever. Nothing daunted, uncle and nephew, ably assisted by young Hugh Jenkins, continued their experiments, till at last, they had the satisfaction of handling one fine morning, a small and innocent looking missile, which perfectly suited their requirements.

The new torpedo was only four and a half feet long, with a diameter of just five inches, as against a length of sixteen feet, and a diameter of about fourteen inches in the smallest type of torpedo hitherto in use. It consisted of a light cigar-shaped steel casing, which was fitted tightly over a glass tube of similar shape, divided by a glass partition in the centre, into two compartments, each of which contained the component parts of the new explosive.

The fore part of the missile had a blunt nose, with a sharp steel pin or "striker" in the centre, which, on striking against anything hard, crashed against the glass partition, smashing it, and causing the liquids to combine and explode with terrific effect.

It was fitted with the latest type of gyroscopic rudders, which made it absolutely accurate at a range of two to three miles, one set of rudders steering it on its course, and the other keeping it at its correct depth in the water.

It required only forty pounds of the new explosive, as against two hundred to two hundred and fifty pounds carried by the ordinary torpedo, and its total weight was only about two hundred pounds, whereas the ordinary torpedo weighed nearly one thousand five hundred pounds. Nevertheless, it was so deadly in effect, that it could tear a huge hole in the side of the most heavily armoured warship, and sink it almost instantaneously.

Successive trials more than proved its effectiveness and accuracy, as huge blocks of granite arranged at the mouth of the river to represent ships, were reduced to atoms by being fired at from the submerged vessel at a range of over two miles.

"Let Mussolini declare war now," boasted Paulo one morning to his uncle, as they sped under the waters of the Mediterranean in their now perfected little submarine, fitted with a dozen of the new torpedoes, "If we were suddenly drawn into war, we need not worry about the size of our fleet. I can, singlehanded and unseen, account for at least a dozen of the best British ships, and then, turn up as from the dead, and present this little wonder to our beloved Duce."

Little did he dream at the time that he was soon to have the opportunity. The German invasion of Poland provoked the second world war, and events followed each other with bewildering rapidity. The collapse of France tempted the Duce to rashly enter the fray on the side of

Germany. The British fleet cautiously patrolled the Mediterranean, and often unsuspectingly passed the hidden little submarine lurking beneath its surface.

The Professor often suggested that they should strike at them and pop off one or two of the larger British warships. The world would be under the impression that they were sunk by mines or by accident, and they could safely return home to their hiding place in Sicily.

Paulo objected.

"Let us wait till a larger fleet goes by, and we can get at least half a dozen ships," he said.

The opportunity came at last. A huge convoy, escorted by a powerful fighting fleet, was reported to be making for Malta through the Sicilian narrows. Paulo and his uncle slipped down into the sea in their submarine. With them were young Jenkins and his mother. Jenkins had become such an adept at firing the torpedoes that he was well nigh indispensable, and the Professor, at the last moment, insisted that his wife also should accompany them, lest she should, in their absence, give information against them.

Carefully avoiding their own shipping, they steered southward towards the approaching Armada. Paulo and the Professor attended to the navigation of the vessel, while, in the next apartment, young Jenkins, with his mother, was in charge of the torpedoes, with the first missile in its tube, ready for discharge.

They had travelled over fifty miles without incident, and presently came across the British Armada. It consisted of almost all the larger British fighting ships then in those waters, with the usual complement of scouts, destroyers, etc. Through the lenses of their periscope, uncle and nephew watched the various vessels unsuspectingly pass them by, till at last, their hearts beat wildly as they approached one of the giant British battleships. Nearer and nearer they drew, till they were within easy range of the mammoth vessel.

"Here they come," exclaimed Paulo, as he quietly turned a couple of levers to reduce the speed of his vessel and steady her, "we'll soon pick them off one by one, and they won't be a bit the wiser as to how it happened."

Meanwhile, in the other apartment, the British lad knelt at his mother's knee.

"Mother," he cried, "can I, can we, help to destroy our grand fleet in which father worked and died?"

She looked up at him with tears in her eyes.

"No son, no, can we not do something to prevent this?"

"Yes mother, we can," said the lad with sudden determination, "we can blow up this ship at once, and perish in her for England's sake."

She leant forward and kissed her boy.

"Go son, go, do it quickly," she cried in despair, "or he'll be here to prevent you."

"Goodbye, mother dear, we'll die together then."

He had scarcely risen to his feet, when Paulo and the Professor entered the room.

"Hold on a minute," said the former, as they proceeded to the adjoining apartment, "I'm going to empty the water tank and raise her a bit. We must not miss this opportunity."

Jenkins waited till they had both disappeared. Then he rushed up and locked the door behind them.

"What's that for?" demanded the Professor, on realising what had happened.

"That you are both my prisoners in the name of the King," hissed the lad through the keyhole.

"Open that door, sir," roared the Professor, "none of your nonsense."

"I shan't; I'm heading this vessel straight for the nearest British warship, where I give her up."

"Will you open that door, you little hound?" again roared the Professor.

"Open that door, curse you, or I'll brain you," yelled Paulo, kicking wildly at the door.

"Shut up, you are my prisoners."

Another terrific kick at the door, which reverberated through the little craft.

"Stop that," cried Jenkins, "this vessel is mine as a prize of war, and you'll be damaging her."

Followed a succession of wild kicks at the door, which showed signs of collapsing.

"Stop that, or I'll blow this vessel up; do you understand", yelled the lad above the din.

"You dare not," roared the Professor, and another series of violent kicks at the door, to the accompaniment of wild threats nearly burst it asunder.

"You don't know British pluck, then," hissed the lad, as he rushed forward, and picking up a huge hammer, struck with all his might at the "striker" of one of the torpedoes. The "striker" drove in an inch or two, but the missile failed to

explode. Jenkins swung the hammer over his head to strike another blow, just as Paulo, with another terrific kick, burst the door asunder, and rushed in.

"Stop that, you fool," he yelled, seizing a heavy iron rod and rushing at the lad, "You'll blow——."

But it was too late. The hammer had already descended with great force on the "striker."

Those on the bridge of the nearest British battleship saw a huge column of water flung into the air at some distance ahead of them, and fancied that they saw something resembling a small submarine thrown bodily into the air, where it burst into fragments.

And, as they watched in surprise, the waters seemed to burst into flames all over the spot,——flames which burnt with a terrible intensity, and destroyed for ever the secret of one of the most diabolical explosives man had ever invented, and along with it, the mangled remains of four mortals, two of whom died that they may save our Navy.

GREATNESS OF SANSKRIT LANGUAGE

BY RAO SAHIB C. HAYAVADANA RAO

SANSKRIT LITERATURE AND THE WEST

A GREAT Anglo-Sanskrit scholar has described Sanskrit literature as representing "an independent civilization entirely different from that of the West." This, however, is a remark which is only partially true. Sanskrit literature enshrines, it is true, a civilization which is not only ancient but also independent in its origin but it is not so "different" from the Western because the Western has been largely modified by it. The constant intercourse that has existed between the East and the West, despite the many difficulties that have militated against its continuity through the ages, has enabled Sanskrit thought to influence the West. Hebrew

contact with India goes back to the 9th century B.C. The Iranians, after long separation, got into touch once again with their elder brothers of India, between the 6th and 4th century B.C. under the Achæmenid dynasty. Cyrus I actually ruled over the Gandharas and the Asvakas. The old Iranian inscriptions of Bahistan and Persepolis show Darius Hystapis ruling over not only Gandhara but also as far as the Indus. The army of Xerxes, who fought against Greece in 480 B.C. was actually made up partly of Indian regiments, drawn from Gandhara and the Indus. Herodotus gives us a fascinating picture of their dress and equipment. Alexander's invasion in 327 B.C. opened up a veritable

vista to the then Western world. The Greeks met at Takshasilā—modern Taxilla—for the first time Brahman Yogis, or “the wise men of the Indians”, as they called them; and were astonished at their asceticism and their strange doctrines. How Chandragupta cast off the Greeks and founded a new dynasty, the Mauryan and how this dynasty, under his son and successor, Asoka, became famous and lasted for nearly a century and a half (315 to 178 B.C.) and how it opened the way to greater intercourse between India and the outer world beyond, both in the rest of Asia and Europe, are matters of history. The Græco-Bactrian and Scythian (Saka) princes of North-Western India continued the tradition down to 20 B.C. after nearly two centuries of persistence in and about that region. The Gupta kings of Northern India, a national dynasty, reunited India under one rule, and kept up the connection with the rest of Asia and probably beyond it. It will be remembered that the famous Chinese pilgrim Hiouen Tshang visited India during the reign of Harshavardhana of Kanuj of this dynasty, about the beginning of the 7th century A.D. The Muslims were attracted to India and their first appearance about 1000 A.D. meant a new chapter in the history of that wider intercourse of India with the outer world which has meant so much for it.

This wider intercourse has, of course, led to mutual influence extending over many centuries while the idea that the Sanskrit drama was modelled on that of the Greek, as was once suggested by Weber, has now, few left to support it. It is of interest to note that Goeth's prelude to his *Faust* is modelled on that of Kalidasa's *Sakuntala*. In the domain of fables and fairy tales, the *Panchatantra* has had a wide vogue in Europe, through translations of translations, the first being made by an Iranian physician into Pehlevi about the middle of the 6th century A.D. This was done with Syriac, in about 570 A.D. and into Arabic, about 760 A.D. The Arabic version became the source for many others and these shaped largely the literature of the middle ages in Europe.

Buddhist stories have obtained a similar currency in Europe, particularly that of *Barlaam and Josaphat*, which dates back to a Greek version of the 8th century A.D. Josaphat is Buddha himself in a new guise. Arabs, again, introduced the Hindu Chess into Europe about 1100 A.D. and it has left its marks on mediæval poetry, on the idioms of European languages, on the science of arithmetic in the calculation of progressions with the Chess board, and even on heraldry. Beyond all, this game helped millions of people in Europe during the middle ages to spend their idle hours innocently. In the philosophical field, Hindu Philosophy has had considerable influence on the West. It is to-day admitted that there is “at least the historical possibility of the Greeks having been influenced by Indian thought through Persia.” Some sober writers have admitted the possibility of Pythagorus, if he did not visit India might “quite well have met Indians in Persia.” As almost all the doctrines ascribed to him were known in India in the 6th century B.C., we can realize what this should have meant, by way of Indian influence so early at that on Europe. There are, likewise, indications of Neo-Platonist philosophy having been influenced by the Sankhya system which flourished in the 1st century A.D. The lively intercourse that existed then between Alexandria and India should have contributed to this result. Both Plotinus (204-269 A.D.) and Porphyry (232-304 A.D.) manifestly bear marks of Sankhya and Buddhist thought on them. The influence of Indian philosophy on Christian Gnosticism (2nd and 3rd century A.D.) is to-day admitted to be absolutely “undoubted.” The whole of this philosophy seems based on the Sankhya doctrines. Bardesanes, perhaps the best known Gnostic of the Syrian school, obtained his information about India from Indian philosophers. His theory of a subtle ethereal body is nothing more than the *linga-sarira* of the Sankhya system. The whole of the Gnostic cosmogony is based

on that of the Buddhists. In modern times, we know what Schopenhauer and Hartman owe to Indian philosophy. Schopenhauer's famous utterance that the *Upanishads* had been the solace of his life and that they would be the solace of his death may be recalled with some relevance when we are talking of Indian influence on Western thought.

In the domain of what is to-day called comprehensively European science, Sanskrit influence has had equally great vogue. The invention of the numerical figures and the decimal system of reckoning dependent on those figures, the world owes to India. What these have meant to science and the advance of civilization, it is difficult to say. The development of algebra received special attention at the hands of the Sanskrit astronomer Arya Bhatta (born 476 A.D.) and his successors. Arya Bhatta carried it beyond the points attained by Greeks. The Arabs, a great nation of adventurers and a nation too who early attained maturity, acquired during the 8th and 9th centuries a knowledge of arithmetic and algebra from India and spread it westwards among the European nations. To the Arabs, the West owes no little for its civilization of to-day. Similarly in geometry, the *Yajur-veda*, the *Brahmanas* and the *Sulva Sūtras* evidence knowledge which is purely Sanskrit in character, and much anterior to the Alexandrian geometry of Hero, which dates back to the first quarter of the 3rd century B.C. In astronomy, too, the Arabs translated or adapted, in the 8th and 9th centuries A.D., the writings of Arya-Bhatta, whom they called *Arjehir*, and Brahma Gupta (whose work *Ahargana* they turned into *Arkand*) and carried them westward. The Arabs called the *Siddhantas* of the Sanskritists *Sind Hind*. When Latin translations of Arabic works on astronomy—based on the Sanskrit work—began to appear in Europe, many Sanskrit terms began to appear in them. When we remember that the Khalifs of Baghdad (7th century A.D.), renowned for their catholicity and culture, summoned to their courts repeat-

edly Indian astronomers, there can be no surprise at the westward influence of Sanskrit nations. Similarly, in medicine. The Khalifs of Baghdad, under whose influence Muslim civilization received its final development, during the 7th and 8th century A.D., caused several Sanskrit works on medicine to be translated. Among these were those of Charaka and Susruta, perhaps, the most valuable in the whole series of medical books known to Sanskrit, which were done into Arabic at the close of 8th century A.D. Charaka was the official physician during his time (1st century A.D.) to King Kanishka, the great patron of Buddhism. Susruta probably wrote about the 4th century A.D. Al-Razi, the most celebrated of the Arabic physicians who died in 932 A.D. quotes both Sanskrit physicians and he, in his turn became the chief authority until as late as the 17th century A.D. of Western European physicians. Similarly, Avicenna (*Ibn Sina*) the most illustrious of the Arabian physicians, surnamed the prince of physicians, a man of immense learning and extensive practice in his art during his days (980—1037), quotes Charaka approvingly. His work, known as the *Canon of Medicine*, was supreme in medical science in the West for centuries. So also does Serapion (*Ibn Sarafym*), another well-known Arabian physician. European physicians must have thought very highly of Charaka—as quoted in the Arabic works—for they mention him repeatedly in their Latin translations of the Arabic writers just mentioned. Quite late, in the last century, European surgery borrowed the operation of Rhinoplasty, or the formation of artificial noses, from India, where Englishmen first became acquainted with it.

The greatness of a language consists in its literature, in the ideals which that literature inspires and the high culture which it gives birth to. Judged from this standard, Sanskrit has much to its credit. Its literature is vast, while the range of that literature is comprehensive to a degree. The Vedic and the classical

periods carry us over something like three thousand years. At the very threshold of Sanskrit literature stands the *Vedas*, which contain lyrical poetry of the most refined type. Those who composed it show great skill in the handling of language and metre. That presupposes the cultivation of that language for centuries backwards, how many centuries backwards we are wholly unable yet to fix. It is possible such cultivation may go back to another thousand years. However that may be, a language which has such an antiquity to its credit, is entitled to rank as one of the greatest amongst the world's many languages. Judged from its content, it is equally great, the *Vedas*, the *Brahmanas*, the *Aranyakas* and the *Upanishads*, the *Vedangas*, the *Sutras* under the Vedic phase make an excellent of ground work. Under the classical period, fall a variety of great works. The great national epics of the *Mahabharata* and the *Ramayana*, the more modern epics and romances (Kavyas and Mahakavyas, such as the *Buddhacharita*, *Raghuvamsa*, *Kumarasambhava*, etc.), the dramas associated with the great names of Bhasa, Sudraka, Kalidasa, Sri Harshadeva, Bhavabhuti, Bhatta Narayana, Visakhadatta, Krishna Misra and a whole host of others come under this head. Later lyrical, descriptive and diadactic poetry also come under this head. Included in this class are works like Sridhara Dasa's *Sadukti Karnamrita*, of the 13th century which is a collection of good sayings described as "ear-ambrosia." It is remarkable because it collects together the verses of 446 different writers. Another of this type is *Sarangadhara Paddhati*, of the 14th century, which contains 6,000 verses culled from 264 different writers and works. Vallabhadeva's *Subhashitavali* is another such anthology, consisting of 3,500 verses ascribed to some 350 poets. A splendid

specimen of a longer poem, largely descriptive in character, is Kalidasa's *Meghaduta*, "Cloud Messenger", which describes the various places and objects over which the messenger, a cloud, will have to sail in an airy voyage. It has had a number of successful imitations. Among religious lyrics, Sankaracharya's *Ananda-lahari* easily stands first. It is a "wave of joy", a hymn of 103 stanzas in praise of the Goddess Parvati. The *Surya Sataka* of Mayura, a contemporary of Bana (7th century deserves mention in this connection). The *Khanda Prasasti* describes the *avatars* of Vishnu, while Bana's *Chandrika Stotra*, praises Siva's consort. Jayadeva's beautiful poem *Gita Govinda* is in praise of Sri Krishna. It has had a Kannada imitation in a contemporary of Chikka Devaraja of Mysore. In didactic poetry, Sanskrit has been famous. It has been the chief vehicle for inculcating the truths of the *Nitisastra*. This science of ethics was specially intended for inculcating right conduct in the art of Government. First among these is the *Rajanitisamuchchaya* attributed to Chanakya, the minister of Chandragupta. Another old collection is the *Kamadakiya Niti Sastra*, ascribed to Kamandiki, a disciple of Chanakya. Part of Bhartrihari's sententious couplets relate to *Niti* and are among the best he wrote. The *Niti Pradipa* of Vetala Bhatta is another. All these deal with politics and diplomacy in a manner which shows both knowledge and skill in the difficult art of practical politics. Nor can we ignore the famous tales of *Panchatantra*, or five books of which several resenscions exist.

This brief sketch ought to suffice to show in what the greatness of Sanskrit as a literary language and as the language of Indian culture has been capable of and why we should make the most of it, not only for our own benefit but also for the cultural advance of the world.

RAJAJI-JINNAH CORRESPONDENCE

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AT last the draft of the "basis for the terms of settlement between the Indian National Congress and the All-India Muslim League", formulated by Rajaji, approved by Gandhiji and presented to Mr. Jinnah as their "joint contribution to the solution of the communal problem" has been published. This attempt on the part of Mr. Rajagopalachari to bring about the settlement threatens to come to nought on account of Mr. Jinnah's refusal to personally take the responsibility of "accepting or rejecting" the formula for settlement—a formula too which had been approved by Gandhiji. The terms of the basis of settlement thus approved by Gandhiji are:

(1) Subject to the terms set out below as regards the constitution for Free India, the Muslim League endorses the Indian demand for independence and will co-operate with the Congress in the formation of a Provisional Interim Government for the transitional period.

(2) After the termination of the war, a commission shall be appointed for demarcating contiguous districts in the north-west and east of India, wherein the Muslim population is in absolute majority. In the areas thus demarcated, a plebiscite of all the inhabitants held on the basis of adult suffrage or other practicable franchise shall ultimately decide the issue of separation from Hindustan. If the majority decide in favour of forming a sovereign state separate from Hindustan, such decision shall be given effect to without prejudice to the right of the districts on the border to choose to join either State.

(3) It will be open to all parties to advocate their points of view before the plebiscite is held.

(4) In the event of separation, mutual agreement shall be entered into for safeguarding defence and commerce and communications and for other essential purposes.

(5) Any transfer of population shall only be on an absolute voluntary basis.

(6) These terms shall be binding only in case of transfer by Britain of full power and responsibility for the governance of India.

Mr. Rajagopalachari releasing his correspondence with Mr. Jinnah, of which the

formula formed a part, in a statement said that he had discussed the formula with Mr. Gandhi in March, 1943, during his 21 days' fast and he had not only approved it then but had authorised him (C.R.) to communicate it to Mr. Jinnah.

Mr. Jinnah, while willing to place the formula before the Working Committee of the Muslim League informed Mr. Rajagopalachari that he could not personally take the responsibility of accepting or rejecting it.

Mr. Rajagopalachari, however, thought that it was futile to allow Mr. Jinnah to place the formula before the League Executive if he himself could not wholeheartedly back it, and the negotiations were closed.

The release of the correspondence has naturally given rise to a lot of controversy in the press. The Hindu Mahasabha leaders and a few others have protested against the Congress attempt to appease the League; while others welcomed this new approach to resolve the deadlock.

I regard Rajaji's formula to be consistent with national integrity and, in my opinion, with the spirit of the Congress resolution. Under non-violence, national units cannot be forcibly held together,

said Mahatma Gandhi replying to criticisms. "I should be allowed to be the sole interpreter of Satyagraha of my conception which has held the field since 1908", adds the Mahatma, referring to a critic's statement that Gandhiji's action in supporting C. R.'s formula "has dealt the severest blow to satyagraha and the country will drift towards violence and anarchy."

Replying to his critics, Rajaji said: "If we accept the argument of the Mahasabha,

the result will be undoubtedly continuance of the deadlock and of British rule for all time."

The real question is whether a dependant status and authoritarian rule are better than a settlement under the scheme proposed. If the League and the Congress agree to this or to any other scheme not even the imperialism of British Tories can successfully resist the Indian demand for independence.

"I have used my utmost capacity and patience towards a settlement by private negotiations", said Rajaji plaintively.

It is now 2 years since I started work. Even though I had secured Gandhiji's unqualified personal support to the scheme and it conceded all that the Muslim League had demanded or could hope to claim before the bar of world opinion, I found Mr. Jinnah unwilling to give his personal support to it.

What could I do therefore by way of private negotiations and with whom was I to do it?

For all this pleading, Mr. Jinnah's only reaction was expressed tersely in a press interview: "I have nothing to say at present." It was a convenient pose and an escape from the strain of thinking and making up his mind. Evidently Mr. Jinnah is unable to make up his mind. It was suggested the League Council might take "informal notice" of the C. R. formula and Mahatma Gandhi was expected to write to the leader of the League to place the formula before the Working Committee. It is plain that this meaningless insistence on procedure is an index to the temper in which the question is approached on the League's side. That temper was fully evident in Mr. Jinnah's address to the Leaguers; and the League Executive has left the negotiations solely to the discretion of its leader. C. R. now realises that no good can come out of this half-hearted and even hostile attitude of the League's President and hence this abrupt termination of the negotiations. For the moment, unless something extraordinary happens, there is little likelihood of the

League accepting the formula in the face of Mr. Jinnah's non-chalance on a matter of such weighty import.

If Mr. Jinnah does not accept my suggestion or if the powers that be do not, I would consider it most unfortunate. That would show that neither of them wants India to be really free at this juncture and give India a full share in winning the war for freedom and democracy. I live for a cause and if I perish it is for the cause.

declared Mahatma Gandhi, in an informal chat, reiterating his faith in the destiny of a Free India.

Mahatma Gandhi said that it must be the duty of all fair-minded people to break what he called "the diabolical conspiracy to stifle India's aspirations."

C. R. in a statement issued on the 19th pointed out that the breaking off of his personal negotiations with Mr. Jinnah in regard to Congress League settlement did not mean the lapsing of the terms offered for a settlement.

A Congress-League settlement is still possible and if public opinion brings sufficient pressure to bear on the League and if there is a desire for ending the Hindu-Muslim deadlock and for emancipating the people of India from a status of subjection, a settlement is not only possible but even probable.

In a subsequent statement to the Orient Press, C. R. defends the procedure adopted by him in regard to the negotiations with Mr. Jinnah. He explains how he obtained Gandhiji's approval of the scheme and why it would be improper for him to submit it to the public while Gandhiji himself was not free. Finally he says that the scheme is by no means withdrawn on the plea of Mr. Jinnah's non-committal attitude.

What has been offered is the maximum that could be offered. In fact the demand in the League resolution of 1940 is completely conceded in the scheme now put before the public. The present provincial boundaries, which is the result of British administrative convenience, must be re-adjusted to fit in with self-determination for Muslim majority areas. When proper boundaries are fixed with due regard to the composition of the inhabitants, it would be wrong to lay the foundation of a new state depriving any part of the population of that region of the right to

vote on a constitutional issue on the ground of their religion. This would not be the way to assure minorities of full citizenship rights. At the same time, it may be noted that the votes of minorities cannot prejudice the League's claim because there will be a preponderant majority of Muslims in the area delimited.

As we go to the press, we learn that in deference to Mr. Jinnah's wishes Gandhiji has sent a communication to Mr. Jinnah officially conveying to him the Rajagopalachari formula for a Congress-League settlement. But the prospect of a settlement seems to recede with every fresh effort at rapprochement. Jinnah's answer, as reflected in his address to the League Council at Lahore on July 30, is by no means a friendly gesture. It is still as cantankerous as ever.

Mr. Rajagopalachari's formula, he says, is already a negation of and intended to torpedo the Muslim League's resolution of March, 1940 and when he says that his formula concedes all that the Muslim League had ever demanded by its resolution, it is the grossest travesty. First of all, where does he find any mention of 'plebiscite' of any kind in that resolution? Then why this ridiculous proposal of a plebiscite district-wise?

Mr. Jinnah added:

The procedure and method adopted is hardly conducive to friendly negotiations and the form is pure dictation as it is not open to any modification. This is not calculated to lead to fruitful results or a solution and settlement of the problem which concerns the destiny of a nation of hundred millions of Muslims and their posterity. As regards the merits of the proposal, Mr. Gandhi is offering a shadow and a husk of Pakistan, maimed, mutilated, and moth-eaten, and thus is trying to pass off as having met our Pakistan scheme and Muslim demand.

The rest of the speech is a fanatic outburst of ill-mannered gibes and petulant recriminations. This is not a hopeful atmosphere in which to conduct any negotiation for settlement. The fear is widely expressed that Mr. Jinnah will simply utilise Gandhiji's acceptance of the principle of Pakistan as the starting point for fresh demands. Whatever it may be, Gandhiji is determined to secure Mr. Jinnah's co-operation in pressing the demand for independence.

There is yet the last chance of some settlement in Mr. Jinnah's acceptance of Gandhiji's offer to meet him.

Gandhiji wrote from "Dilkush, Panchgani, on July 17 as follows:

Brother Jinnah,

There was a day when I could induce you to speak in the mother tongue. To-day, I take courage to write to you in the same language. I had invited you to meet me while I was in jail. I have not written to you since my release. But to-day, my heart says that I should write to you. We will meet whenever you choose. Don't regard me as the enemy of Islam or of the Muslims of this country. I am the friend and servant of not only yourself but of the whole world. Do not disappoint me.

I am enclosing herewith a translation of this letter in Urdu.

The League President replied as follows from H. B. "Queen Elizabeth," Srinagar, on July 24.

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

I received your letter, dated 17, here on the July 22 and I thank you for it.

I shall be glad to receive you at my house in Bombay on my return, which will probably be about the middle of August. By that time, I hope that you will have recuperated your health fully and will be returning to Bombay. I would like to say nothing more till we meet.

I am very pleased to read in the Press that you are making very good progress, and I hope that you will soon be all right.

In spite of all set-backs, the Mahatma's optimism does not seem to have deserted him. He is determined to press the Rajaji formula with renewed faith in its potency—"a contribution from two life servants of the nation of the communal tangle." He is by no means dismayed even by the Government's rejection of his offer. In a way the rejection, of the political formula he says

enables all parties to concentrate their attention on communal settlement. Whilst I had said and repeat that the presence of a third party effectively prevents a solution, it was never meant to convey that I would make no attempt at an honourable solution, even while the third party continued to dominate this land of ours. No one will be more pleased than I if we can pull through a solution which satisfies all parties.

INDIAN AFFAIRS

By "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

India Debate in Parliament

THE long-awaited India debate in both Houses of Parliament has just concluded. However much public opinion in India and a considerable section of the intelligentsia in England may be anxious to end the deadlock in this country, the authorities in England, judging from the trend of the debate, do not seem to care in the least for any sort of settlement of the Indian question. Indeed, the deadlock in India seems to suit them very well. Neither the urgency of war interests nor the insistent demands of the Indian people seem to have had the least influence in effecting any change in the mentality of the reactionary elements at home. In the light of Government's intransigence as evidenced by the speeches of the Under-Secretary of State in the House of Lords and of the Secretary of State in the Commons, it is clear the stalemate is bound to continue indefinitely. That is to say, conditions are bound to deteriorate if left to drift for themselves.

The Viceroy asked for constructive suggestions from Mr. Gandhi and the Mahatma, forgetting old scores, has magnanimously responded by taking up the thread of negotiations since the failure of the Cripps mission. He lost no time in putting forward his new scheme for a national government, and in his Gelder interview made it clear that the "Quit India" no less than the civil disobedience order was a thing of the past and can no more be revived. On another front, he bravely sponsored Rajagopalachari's formula for a deal with the Muslims. What more do they want of him? And yet Lord

Munster in the House of Lords indicts Mr. Gandhi for "still clinging to precisely that claim which wrecked the Cripps mission" while to Mr. Amery "the basis of Mr. Gandhi's proposals do not afford even a starting point for profitable discussion with the Viceroy."

No wonder that Gandhiji is profoundly disappointed. Referring to his offer, and the Lords' debate he says:

It is the most constructive suggestion that I could conceive of. If it is not accepted even as a basis for a friendly discussion and for permission to be given to see the members of the Congress Working Committee, who alone can speak with authority, I must reluctantly come to the conclusion that the British Government do not want a fair solution of what I consider is a deadlock, but what they may not consider as such.

How I wish that the bogey of communal differences had not been raised in the debate! I have contended, as I contend even now, that differences there must be so long as there is a ruling third party to exploit them. I have spoken what I feel to be the truth. The occasion is too serious for me to hide it.

If there was any hope that the Commons debate would prove less reactionary, Mr. Amery's speech set all doubts at rest, by its thoroughly unhelpful attitude. The S. of S. was content to repeat his usual slogan. Gandhiji is naturally "pained and amazed" and he expressed himself frankly disappointed.

The consensus of opinion in the House of Commons, therefore, is for me a terrible pointer. It confirms me, in my opinion, that the 'Quit India' resolution was no hasty cry, conceived in anger. To put the same in parliamentary language, it demands that India must be now governed by Indians chosen by her own people—not a coterie but the whole mass of the people without distinction of race, creed or colour. It is unfortunate that the House of Commons has once more missed the opportunity of making the issue between the Allied powers and the Axis powers a real issue of Democracy versus Autocracy, or the exploitation of classes or nations by a class or a nation armed to the teeth. My offer presented that issue in the clearest possible language that I could command. It was presented on behalf of all the exploited nations and races of the earth. It is a great pity that the Lords and the Commons have turned down my offer. The Allies will have their victory, but the exploited races will not feel the glow of it. They will know that the seeds of another and deadlier war will be sown by that very victor. I ask myself the question, "Must rivers of blood flow for such an empty victory?"

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The British Press on Gandhiji's Offer

The Indian question has returned to the forefront of press and public discussion in Britain. Once again, Gandhiji has given a dynamic lead which is becoming irresistible.

"Whatever comes out of Mr. Gandhi's generous offer to the Muslim League" states the *New Statesman and Nation*, "it makes at length a new departure in India for which everyone has been waiting since the failure of the Cripps mission".

"It removes the main stumbling block in the way of Hindu-Muslim agreement. . . . Now is the time for Lord Wavell and Mr. Amery to be helpful", says the *News Chronicle*.

In the opinion of the *Scotsman*, Mahatma Ganahi "is coming nearer to accepting the Cripps proposals."

Only the *Times* struck a discordant note, taking its clue from its Delhi correspondent.

But the *Daily Worker* condemns Mr. Amery for his "churlish indifference towards every move to end the Indian deadlock."

When Mr. Gandhi declares that 1944 is not 1942, that he has no intention of offering civil disobedience today and does not seek to control military affairs for the National Government recognises that military needs must be given precedence and that if he met the Viceroy he would aid and not hinder the war effort, then Mr. Gandhi, the pacifist, is making a tremendous contribution for a settlement.

There are not many western statesmen who would be willing thus to publicly correct their views or revise their policy with the object of conciliation. What more can the Government demand?

Reynolds News goes a step further. Mr. H. E. Brailsford writing in its columns points out that if Mr. Gandhi makes up his mind to act he does it boldly.

Few men in this too emotional world would be capable of a change of front so realistic and rational. It is hard to feel sure that Mr. Jinnah wants a settlement of any kind. So far he has declined to show his hand. In effect he has rejected Gandhiji's offer. It will be deplorable and discreditable to British statesmanship if the matter does end here. Britain cannot go on for ever using the extremism of the Muslim League as an excuse for postponing Indian settlement.

The Horniman Jubilee

Ever since he took charge of Sir Pheroza Shah Mehta's *Bombay Chronicle*, Mr. Horniman has been a great figure and a great force in Indian journalism. It is now some years since he started his present daily—the *Bombay Sentinel*. Both have flourished under the direction of its talented editor. There have been other great editors, Indian and Anglo-Indian, in this country who have shed lustre on their calling. But the special distinction of Mr. Horniman is that he trained a group of journalists who have upheld the bright Horniman tradition in Indian journalism. Mr. Brelvi of the *Chronicle*, the late Raghavan, Pothan Joseph of the *Dawn* and a host of others took their first lessons in journalism under Mr. Horniman. And then Mr. Horniman has proved himself more Indian in his outlook than many an Indian editor. No wonder that all the leading Journalists of India, irrespective of their political predilections, have joined in homage to the grand old man of the Press in India. An influential committee of journalists and leading men of Bombay with Sir Chimanlal Setalvad as Chairman is organising a fitting celebration on the occasion of his golden jubilee.

Muslims and Rajaji's Formula

It has been shown that the Rajaji formula frankly concedes all that Mr. Jinnah has asked for. And yet Mr. Jinnah is reluctant to endorse it. The League members, out of deference to their leader, have kept their individual views to themselves. But the bulk of Muslim opinion, including that of the Azads, Ahars and Momins is distinctly favourable to the settlement.

Soviet Interest in India

It is reported from Moscow that the Soviet Press is taking great interest in the Indian situation. For instance, all leading Soviet papers re-printed the United States report saying that President Roosevelt intends to discuss the Indian question with Mr. Churchill and quoting the President's Envoy as suggesting that the Atlantic Charter should be applied to India.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

By "CHRONICLER"

The Attempt on Hitler's Life

NEWS from the battlefronts of Europe and the Far East has almost been obscured by the dramatic events in Germany and Japan: the attempted assassination of Hitler and the resignation of the Tojo Cabinet.

The attempt on Hitler was made by the use of high explosives on July 20. Several members of his entourage were wounded. Hitler himself received slight bruises and a concussion but no injuries. This was the third attempt on his life, he said, in a broadcast talk soon after the incident.

For the third time an attempt on my life has been planned and carried out. If I speak to you, to-day, it is first, in order that you should hear my voice and that you should know that I myself am unhurt and well. Secondly, in order that you should know about a crime unparalleled in German history. A very small clique of ambitious irresponsible and at the same time senseless and criminally stupid officers had formed a plot to eliminate me and with me the staff of the German Wehrmacht Command.

Retribution was swift. The plotters were immediately arrested and shot. Hitler has used the occasion to strengthen his hold on the people. The revolt in the German army was also dealt with ruthlessly.

Though the crisis has for the moment been averted, the army revolt in East Prussia and the resignation of the Tojo Cabinet are the first tangible signs of the stress to which the two Axis countries are being subjected by the Allied offensives. They show that within both Germany and Japan, despite the iron hand of the totalitarian authorities, there are elements which clearly recognise the writing on the wall.

Mr. Churchill on the War

Mr. Churchill in his war report to Parliament, on August 2, declared, "I am increasingly led to feel that the interval between the defeat of Hitler and the defeat of Japan will be shorter, and perhaps much shorter than I at one time supposed."

The Liberation of France

During his recent visit to the liberated area in Normandy, Prime Minister Churchill had several conferences with General Montgomery.

The Prime Minister, addressing the R.A.F. men in Normandy, said: "There are grave signs of weakness in Germany. They are in a state of great turmoil inside, and none can measure the extent". Mr. Churchill added: "They are shooting each other. It might be that the fighting might come to an end earlier than we have the right to say".

The American Government have announced their decision to recognise the French Committee of National Liberation as *de facto* authority and Government in the liberated areas of France pending elections. In a message on Bastille Day, President Roosevelt said that he was confident that the French people would celebrate their National Day next year on French soil, "liberated both from the Nazis and the Vichy puppets." It is a welcome sign that at long last Washington has been able to make up its mind between Petain and de Gaulle.

Soviet Forces nearing Reich Border

The Red Army is believed to be now fighting on the immediate approaches to East Prussia.

While the nearest point on the map shows that the Russians are within some 40 to 45 miles of the original Reich border, there is reason to believe that in a number of sectors advanced Soviet units are very much nearer to it.

Soviet guns are lobbing shells into the outer defences of Kovno (Kaunas), the pre-war Lithuanian capital just over 40 miles from the East Prussian frontier. At the same time, Soviet tanks and motor cycle Storm Troops are pushing ahead on the highway within a few miles from the city.

Sensational advances are also registered on both sides of Brest Litovsk. By-passing the fortress on the north, the Russians are reported to be within sight of Warsaw.

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FOREIGN AFFAIRS

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Chiang's Pledge

Marshal Chiang Kai-Shek in a message to the nation on the seventh anniversary of the war against Japan said:

I hold myself responsible to the nation, fellow countrymen and the Allies to continue the war until victory has been attained and lost territory recovered. The Japanese drive in Hunan is five years too late, but it is no use ignoring the fact that the enemy has made rapid advances in his new drive and the situation is grave. I believe it will not be too long before the war in Europe is brought to a successful conclusion. All the facts indicate that part of Allied strategy (in the Pacific) has been carefully mapped out and is successfully unfolded.

Roosevelt Nominated

The Democratic Party Convention has nominated Mr. Franklin D. Roosevelt, Democratic candidate for a fourth term as President of the United States. Mr. Roosevelt received 1,086 votes compared to 89 votes for Senator Harry Byrd of Virginia.

Senator Alban W. Barkley, nominating President Roosevelt, declared amid wild cheers that his leadership was "unsurpassed if ever equalled in the annals of American history".

Seconding the nomination, Mr. H. A. Wallace, Vice-President, said: "President Roosevelt is a greater Liberal than has ever been. His soul is pure, he thinks big, he sees far".

Jap Retreat from Imphal

The battle for Imphal has ended in the victory of the 14th Army. The grandiose plan of the Japs to capture Imphal, and continue their thrust in India has been once and for all, blasted. The last remnants of the Jap Force retreating down the Tiddim Road is seeking shelter in the Chin Hills. There is no organised Japanese force whatsoever within 25 miles of Imphal.

Turkey breaks with Germany

Turkey has broken off diplomatic and economic relations with Germany. The Prime Minister of Turkey announced this at the meeting of the National Assembly on August 2.

M. Sarajoglu said that this decision did not mean that Turkey would enter the war and declared that that depended on the attitude taken by Germany.

The Soviet and the Poles

Events are moving rapidly in Eastern Europe, following the Soviet thrust against Warsaw. As the Red army approaches the Polish capital the Soviet Government have issued a statement on the same basis as M. Molotov's proclamation to the Rumanians. They give assurance that Polish sovereignty is to be respected, that there is to be no attempt whatsoever to alter the internal social order and that the only object of the military operations is the destruction of the German Army. This is at once valuable and significant. For it will be noticed that the Soviet Government are now dealing with the newly-formed Polish Committee of National Liberation, they have broken completely with the *emigre* Polish Government which is recognised both by London and Washington.

Finland's Move

It is officially announced from Helsinki that President Ryti has resigned and that he has been succeeded by Field Marshal Mannerheim who was appointed by a decree and not elected as is customary. M. Linkomies moved a resolution in Parliament that Field Marshall Mannerheim should be President. The decree also provided that what was called a great burden of functions on the shoulders of the President should be transferred to M. Linkomies.

In this connection *Reuter's* diplomatic correspondent wires that Finland has learned her lesson and is about seriously to sue for peace.

V. Four: Hitler's Weapon in Normandy

Hitler's latest Vee weapon—V Four—made its appearance on the Canadian front in Normandy and soldiers who saw it termed it "just another Gadget". V Four is a robot tank much larger than the pygmy tanks used unsuccessfully by the Germans in Italy. Unlike the Pygmies it has a driver who takes the tank as far as he can, gets out and directs it into the opposing lines by wireless. The tank is supposed to jettison a quantity of explosives, turn round and waddle back. Six tanks that exploded caused no casualties although the troops reported that there was considerable blast.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- July 1. Viceroy replies to Gandhiji that interview "could have no value."
 —Nazis evacuate Grodno.
 —Eighth Army takes Arezzo.
- July 2. Rommel's counter-attack against Tilly-Caen salient repelled.
 —Aaland Islands occupied.
- July 3. Sir M. Visveswaraya addressing the Science Institute, Bangalore, stresses the importance of applied research.
 —Bengal businessmen's appeal to Viceroy.
- July 4. Polotsk is captured by Russians.
 —Allies capture Ukhvul in Assam Front.
- July 5. World Monetary Conference turns down Indian proposal.
 —Hitler's address to Armament Chiefs.
- July 6. Mr. Churchill's address to the Commons *re* Flying bombs.
 —Roosevelt-de Gaulle talks in Washington.
- July 7. Americans raid Japan's Naval Base at Sasebo.
 —Manin Island in S. W. Pacific occupied by the Allies
- July 8. Conquest of Saipan.
 —Allies capture Caen.
- July 9. Correspondence between C. R. and Jinnah *re* Congress-League settlement released.
 —Gandhiji refutes Sind Minister's allegation of revival of civil disobedience.
- July 10. Fifth Army takes Volterra in Italy.
 —Second Army launches offensive in Normandy.
 —Lord Halifax is granted the title of Earl of Halifax.
- July 11. Government defeat in the House of Lords *re* Education Bill.
 —Red Army crosses into Latvia.
- July 12. Agreement with Germany *re* exchange of interned civilians is announced by Mr. Eden.
 —Gandhiji says that the C.R. formula is conceived in all sincerity and is a "contribution from two life-servants of the nation."
- July 13. Russians take Vilna.
 —New Government in Lebanon is formed.
 —Jap 18th Army is trapped.
 —Fifth Army takes Legatico.
- July 14. Russians capture Pinsk.
 —Japs reinforce Soviet border. Sudden suspension of Hunan drive.
 —Mr. B. G. Kher is released.
 —Lord Somers, chief Scout, is dead.
- July 15. U.S. forces converge on Leghorn.
 —Gandhiji's new programme released.
- July 16. Indian industrialists plead for review of policy by Government.
- July 17. Flying bombs over London area.
 —1,000 fortresses raid Munich.
- July 18. Americans take St. Lo.
 —Hitler escapes attempted assassination.
- July 19. Gandhiji, in an interview, explains that his proposals were not dictated by a sense of defeatism.
 —Russians cross Curzon line.
- July 20. Jap retreat from Imphal.
 —C.R. says that his formula has not lapsed with the breaking off of his personal negotiations with Mr. Jinnah.
- July 21. Democratic Party Convention nominates Roosevelt.
 —Hitler escapes attempted assassination.
- July 22. New Japanese Cabinet formed with Gen. Koiso as Premier.
- July 23. C.R. defends his procedure in regard to his scheme.
 —Gandhiji refutes Sind Minister's allegation of revival of civil disobedience.
- July 24. Two Generals die of wounds in the Berlin bomb incident.
 —King George visits Italy.
- July 25. Lords debate on India. Earl Munster stands by Cripps' proposals.
- July 26. Gandhiji expresses disappointment at the Lords' debate on India.
 —Goebbels tells the story of the army coup.
- July 27. Allied attack on Sabang; harbour installations destroyed.
 —India Government accepts U.S. invitation for talks *re* post-war civil aviation.
- July 28. Commons debate on India. Mr. Amery rejects Gandhiji's offer.
- July 29. Mr. Jinnah expresses his readiness to meet Mr. Gandhi.
 —League executive meets at Lahore.
- July 30. Mr. Jinnah, addressing the League Council, opposes plebiscite proposal in C.R.'s offer.
 —Gandhiji says that the C.R. formula is conceived in all sincerity and is a "contribution from two life-servants of the nation."
- July 31. Allies take Granville.
 —Russians capture Kovno, the Lithuanian capital.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

BEST STORIES OF MODERN BENGAL. Vol. I. Edited by Dilip K. Gupta and translated by Nilima Devi. The Signet Press, Calcutta.

Though Bengali literature is rich and vital, the authors with whom the world outside Bengal is familiar may be counted on one's fingers. Rabindranath in his English version easily takes first place in the public mind. To some extent Bankim Chandra Chatterjee and Sarat Chandra Chatterjee are equally well known. But there are scores of other authors whose works are intrinsically as valuable as those of the three illustrious writers of Bengal.

The enterprising publishers have made a praiseworthy attempt to present the best stories of modern Bengal in English—thus familiarising the English-knowing public with the rich treasures of Bengali literature. Here in the first of the two volumes promised we have a collection of twelve most representative stories written by authors well known in Bengal, but hardly recognised outside the province. By presenting a faithful and readable translation of these stories, the publishers have done a double service—one to the authors and the other to the public. While the authors are rescued from their comparative obscurity, the public are offered a sumptuous fare at once rich and varied in its entertainment.

SOME EMINENT BEHAR CONTEMPORARIES. By Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha. Himalaya Publications, Patna.

Dr. Sinha, Editor of the *Hindustan Review*, has had a long and distinguished career at the bar and in public life. Apart from public activity, he has filled high and responsible positions in the field of administration and education with great credit and distinction. Through half a century of varied activities, official and non-official, he has come in close and intimate association with many leading men in the country, particularly his eminent contemporaries in his own province.

From time to time he has had occasion to write of them in the press. What with his easy command of anecdotes and his racy reminiscences, the sketches were always delightful reading. In the present volume we have a collection of over a score of these studies which deserve careful reading. They reveal Dr. Sinha's wide sympathies and warm attachments and a quick observing eye and ready penmanship to express his critical appreciations. It is easy to see that Dr. Sinha's Beharee friends hail from different political parties and diverse communities; but party distinctions and communal differences have in no way affected the warm and generous nature of his friendships. Sir Ali and Hasan Imam, no less than Dr. Ganganath Jha or Justice Jwala Prasad equally share his unfailing appreciation. The volume incidentally shows the riches of the little province of Behar, in terms of its great men. Beharees will treasure this galaxy of great names, as illustrious as any in any area of the country. They owe a deep debt of gratitude to Dr. Sinha who has made many of them live again in these brilliant pages.

PIONEER WOMEN OF INDIA. By Padmini Sen Gupta. Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay. Rs. 4-12.

The twenty-five women selected for characterisation come from different communities and cover a wide field of achieved distinction. The sketches give an impressive picture of the courage and intelligence of those pioneers who have devoted their lives to the uplift of Indian womanhood. Among them are social and educational reformers like Pandita Ramabai, politicians like Mrs. Sarojini Devi, poets like Toru Dutt, Doctors, writers, musicians, dancers and even athletes like Leela Row. Altogether this brilliant series of sketches, which had originally appeared in the *Statesman* of Calcutta, deserve the more permanent shape given to them, with a Foreword from the pen of Mr. Jepson of the *Illustrated Weekly of India*.

DISTRIBUTION OF LEGISLATIVE POWERS IN THE FUTURE INDIAN FEDERATION. By M. Ramaswamy. With a foreword by the Right Hon'ble Viscount Sankey. Longmans, Green & Co., Ltd. Rs. 4.

A new constitution will have to be framed for India after the cessation of the present war. It is very likely to be federal. And one of the most difficult problems in the framing of a federal constitution is the division of powers between the centre and the units. In this book the learned author suggests that in the future federal constitution of India there should be only one list enumerating the exclusive and concurrent powers of the centre, the residue being given to the units. Besides being simple, this will satisfy Muslim opinion.

The author has drawn up a list of subjects over which the Federation will have powers. In making up this list, he has drawn extensively on the experience gained by the three great English-speaking federations. We feel that the Hindu Law of succession and property should have been placed in the federal list.

The book deserves to be read and studied by our statesmen and constitutional lawyers.

WHY PAKISTAN?—AND WHY NOT? By K. T. Shah. Pratibha Publications, Bombay.

This is quite a novel and attractive form of political writing modelled on the great dialogues of Plato. The knottiest problem of present-day politics is discussed without passion or prejudice and all the threads of ethical, political, economic, social and cultural aspects of Pakistan are drawn out in the course of a dialogue which is often piquant and always arresting. The characters are all imaginary and Professor Shah's dramatic exposition of a burning topic of the day is of absorbing interest. Apart from the seriousness and importance of the subject under discussion, the style and presentment add to the beauty and attractions of his treatment of a well-worn topic.

We welcome such a thought-provoking book at this hour when the air is filled with the echoes of Pakistan controversy.

KNOW YOUR FUTURE. Madam Haggai's Almanac. Thacker and Company. Ltd., Bombay. Rs. 8.

"Vibration is life and life is number in action". It is always interesting to study ourselves and understand the expression of everything that exists. Numerology is but one of the many branches of the science that helps us in such a study. In this attractive little almanac, Madam Haggai has successfully attempted to apply the science to the everyday life of the individual and had given us aspects of the months—June 1944 to May 1945. With the help of the book, it is possible for the average person to work out the most individualistic predictions to the nearest possible margin of correctness.

The almanac is very well got up and the title is snappy.

BOOKS RECEIVED

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OR PEOPLES' GOVERNMENT. By M. N. Roy. Radical Democratic Party, Calcutta.

TATA-BIRLA PLAN. Will it work? By B. T. Rana-dive. Peoples' Publishing House, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.

HEAVY INDUSTRIES IN BRITISH INDIA. A. I. M. O. Monograph. The All-India Manufacturers' Organisation, Bombay.

HINDUSTHAN YEAR-BOOK (1944). M. C. Sarkar & Sons, Calcutta.

SELECTIONS FROM SWAMI VIVEKANANDA. Advaita Ashrama, Almora. (G. A. Natesan & Co. Rs. 6.)

HISTORY OF GINGEE AND ITS RULERS. By Rao Bahadur C. S. Srinivasachariar, M.A. The Annamalai University, Annamalai Nagar.

KALI-WORSHIP IN KERALA. (Malayalam). By Dr. C. Achyuta Menon. Madras University, Madras.

CRITIQUE OF CHINA'S DESTINY. By Chen Pai-ta. Peoples' Publishing House, Bombay.

THE GREAT LITTLE WOMAN OF INDIA. By K. P. Thomas. Orient Illustrated Weekly, Calcutta.

THE FUTURE OF INDIA. Part III. By R. Coupland. Oxford University Press, Madras.

SOVIET RUSSIA. By K. S. Hirlekar. Popular Book Depot, Bombay.

GANDHI THE MASTER. By K. M. Munshi. Popular Book Depot, Bombay.

THE BETRAYAL OF FREEDOM. By Y. G. Krishnamurthy. Popular Book Depot, Bombay.

THE YOGA OF THE SAINTS. By V. H. Date, M.A., Ph.D. Popular Book Depot, Bombay.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



ONE-MAN RULE

The second number of *Hindusthan*, the high-class quarterly, edited by Sir N. N. Sircar, fully maintains the high standard set by the first. It has a valuable contribution from the pen of Sir Jagadish Prasad touching the abuse of Section 93 in the Provinces and the need to end this one-man rule in India.

This section, he says, has been so applied as to concentrate all legislative, administrative and financial powers in the hands of the Governors who have assumed to themselves the functions hitherto exercised by the Ministers. They control not only the whole of the Provincial administration (in the five Provinces of Madras, Bombay, U.P., C.P. and Bihar), but can make laws for all Provincial purposes, including taxation and supply.

In each of these Provinces there are official advisers appointed by the Governor and chosen from the Indian Civil Service. Out of eighteen Advisers only three are Indians; one each in the Provinces of Madras, United Provinces and Bihar. The vital departments of Finance and Law and Order are in the hands of Advisers drawn from the British section of the Indian Civil Service.

As under the Proclamation the Governor acts "in his discretion", he is not subject to the control of the Governor-General in Council but to the control of the Governor-General and the Secretary of State for India. The recent expansions of the Governor-General's Executive Council, which have given Indians a majority on the Council, have not affected the Governor's powers in the least.

He is now an autocrat, such as he has never been before, ruling over vast territories and populations with no Indian colleagues to shape his policy and with no legislatures to scrutinize his administration. The annual budgets involving millions of public money are framed and passed without any public discussion; numerous laws controlling the daily life of the citizen are enacted without public criticism; far-reaching schemes of post-war reconstruction, involving large financial commitments, are planned, without any reference to Indian public opinion, which has now no opportunity of making itself effective.

The elected representatives of non-Congress Hindus, of Muslims, of Indian Christians, of special interests like the universities, the landed and commercial

classes have been disfranchised for no fault of their own.

The total exclusion of all Indians, whatever their political creed, from partnership in the Governments of their provinces, and their powerlessness to influence administration and Government policy through their elected representatives, have produced a feeling of bitterness and disillusionment. The change to complete autocracy is all the more felt as, for nearly thirty years, these provinces had a legislature with an elective element, and for twenty years, a Government with a majority of Indian members.

The official view is that this retrogression is due to the folly of the Congress party resigning office in 1939 and its continued refusal to retrace its steps. The question that immediately arises is, whether there is no alternative to complete autocracy so long as the Congress party does not make its peace with the British Government.

Section 93 of the Government of India Act, under which these autocracies have been set up, is a very elastic section. It was not meant to perpetuate dictatorship but to safeguard the constitution. Under it, the Governor need not have suspended the legislature. He could have laid down that *vis a vis* the executive government it would function in the same manner as does the central legislature. The executive government could have been formed in a number of ways: non-official Advisers, a combination of official and non-official Advisers, Ministers with responsibility to the Governor. In short, Section 93 could have been used to preserve some aspects of popular Government. It has unfortunately been used to remove completely all vestige of it.

If the Proclamations are revoked, then too, there are alternatives which deserve consideration. It is the opinion of many competent observers that in the changed circumstances of today, it is quite likely that the majority party, in the event of its refusing to take office, will make no attempt to wreck a ministry which does not command a majority in the Legislature.

Even if such an attempt were made, it could be rendered ineffective under suitable conventions. Another possibility would be to establish Executive Councils responsible to the Governor by a slight amendment of the Act.

It would be unwise for Government not to explore the practicability of these various alternatives.

Hyderabad

NIZAM'S MESSAGE TO LAW CONFERENCE

The All-India Law Conference, organised by the Law Union, Osmania University, was opened at Hyderabad on July 18, Sir Abdul Qadir presiding.

A message to the Conference from H.E.H. the Nizam said:

There exists in my Dominions complete separation of the executive from the judiciary and this separation is one of the basic features of my administration. The High Court endowed with my charter enjoys a position of dignity and independence as the highest court in the State. A department for the study and teaching of law has been created in the Osmania University and has been contributing not only to the personnel of my Judicial Service, but also to the Bar, and the relations between the Bar and the Bench have remained cordial. Underlying both the administration and the study of law is the fundamental idea of the reign of law, which must be the foundation of every administration. I trust that in promoting the study of law and of its different aspects and in affording a medium for exchange of ideas this Conference will not only succeed in creating popular interest in an academic study of the law, but also result in full appreciation of its place in the life of the community.

Declaring the Conference open, the Nawab of Chhatari, President of the Nizam's Executive Council, said that the law, if it was to be an effective instrument in the governance of society, must be fundamentally a dynamic conception. Administered and interpreted in that manner and legislated under that conception, it can be the best means of social progress.

Nawab Alam Yar Jung Bahadur, Law Member of the Nizam's Executive Council, welcomed the gathering on behalf of Osmania University.

RATIONING IN HYDERABAD

Rationing has come into force in Hyderabad since June 11. The rationed articles are wheat and its products, rice, other millets and kerosene. Nearly 60,000 ration cards have been issued and 160 shops have been opened. As a preliminary to rationing, Government issued de-hoarding orders directing all dealers to declare their stocks of food-grains by June 8.

Mysore

AID FOR MINOR INDUSTRIES

A novel scheme for the solution of unemployment among educated classes has been sanctioned by the Government of Mysore who have framed rules empowering the Director of Industries and Commerce to grant loans for this purpose.

Under the scheme, the Director is authorised to grant loans to deserving persons who are Mysoreans by birth or domicile for the purchase of technical equipment, including cost of erection. Loans will also be advanced to meet losses in the early stages of production and even working capital in special cases. Grants will not exceed Rs. 1,000 and would in no case go beyond Rs. 2,000. Half the amount advanced will be treated as subsidy, the balance being loan, interest-free, repayable in equal monthly instalments spread over a period not exceeding five years.

MYSORE ELECTIONS

The Mysore State Congress swept the polls in the recent election to the District Local Boards and in some places even secured cent per cent votes.

Cochin

COCHIN BUDGET

A revenue of Rs. 218'69 lakhs and an expenditure of Rs. 202'09, leaving a surplus of Rs. 16'60 lakhs, are estimated in the Cochin Government's budget for the Malayalam year 1120—August 17, 1944 to August 16, 1945.

The actual revenue for the current year is Rs. 209'84 exceeding the budget estimate by Rs. 23'95 lakhs, while expenditure is expected to reach Rs. 190'88 lakhs, representing an increase of Rs. 28'95 lakhs over the budget estimate.

The budget for the new year includes increased allotments for education, public health and irrigation works.

The budget was presented to the Legislative Council on Monday the 24th July, by the Finance Member, Mr. P. P. Raphael.

Baroda

RESPONSIBLE GOVERNMENT

A demand for Responsible Government in Baroda, formed the subject of the main resolutions passed by the Subjects Committee of the Baroda Praja Mandal after about five hours of deliberation at Kathore recently. The resolution says that

in most of the Indian States there is a rule of autocracy prevailing and in some of these States an attempt has been made to make a show of giving constitutional reforms by putting up shadow legislatures. There seems to be no inclination to allow the people of Baroda to come into close association with the State inasmuch as the Executive Council and the Ministers selected by the Government have been made in no way responsible to the people or the Legislature. Consequently, the growth and development of the people have been retarded. Therefore this Conference emphatically demands the establishment of Responsible Government at the earliest possible opportunity and appeals to the people of Baroda to put forth all possible efforts to attain this goal.

The Praja Mandal Subjects Committee passed a resolution demanding immediate holding of fresh elections to the legislature, municipalities and local bodies in the State.

Another resolution extended full support to the "peaceful agitation for Indian independence" and declared unshakeable faith in the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi.

A resolution on the food situation in Baroda State demanded the introduction of rationing in all places having a population of 10,000 or more.

Bikaner

MR. PANIKKAR AS PRIME MINISTER

H. H. the Maharaja of Bikaner has appointed Mr. K. M. Panikkar as Prime Minister of the State in succession to Mr. K. Kripalani.

Mr. Panikkar has been associated with the Indian States for about 18 years during which time he has served not merely individual rulers and States but the entire Princely order through the Chamber of Princes, and its connected organisations as Deputy Director of the Special Organisation of the Chamber of Princes, and as Secretary to the Indian States' Delegation to the Round Table Conferences.

Travancore

POST-WAR SCHEME FOR TRAVANCORE

A 12-point programme for the post-war reconstruction of Travancore State was outlined by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, in an interview at Madras on July 1.

The programme includes the expansion of the present hydro-electric resources of the State, the expansion of primary and vocational education, the production of fertilisers and chemicals, utilisation and exploitation of soft wood and hard wood resources for the production of plywood and ultimately, rayon and artificial silk, the exploitation of the mineral sand of the State, which produces valuable rare minerals like ilmenite, monazite and zircon, the enlargement of industries, like aluminium, rubber products, china clay and porcelain, and the speedy inauguration of a cement plant for the purpose of cement-concreting the main roads of the State.

MADRAS—TRAVANCORE AGREEMENT

A general agreement between the Madras Government and Travancore State on the question of investigation into the possibilities of the development of hydro-electric power in Periyar and Cardamom Hills areas on the borders of Travancore was reached at a Conference between Mr. S. V. Ramamurthi, Adviser to the Governor of Madras and Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, with Engineers of the respective Governments.

Kashmir

HANDS OFF KASHMIR

"Even if lakhs of Jinnahs come to Kashmir, they cannot effect any change in local politics", declared Sheikh Mahomed Abdullah, President of the Jammu and Kashmir National Conference, addressing a crowded public meeting, referring to Mr. Jinnah's speech at the Muslim Conference session vehemently criticizing the policy of the National Conference.

Mr. Abdullah said: "I wanted Kashmir politics to be free from outside interference but unfortunately Mr. Jinnah willed it otherwise and brought the evil germs of British Indian politics here."

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

REPEAL OF THE PEGGING ACT

Interviewed by the Associated Press regarding the proposal to remove the Pegging Act in South Africa, Dr. N. B. Khare, the Commonwealth Minister, said:

This news is really heartening to Indians. The principle of segregation of Indian nationals by law, which gave Indians inferior status and against which the India Government were fighting, disappears.

The Rt. Hon Sastri observed in an interview with the press:

Our Commonwealth Minister, Dr. N. B. Khare, seems to be pleased with the new arrangement in Durban to replace the Pegging Act by an Ordinance of the Natal Administration. The principle that measures of discrimination against Indians, if they are not in the form of legislation, are not so objectionable was first countenanced by the Mahatma when he stipulated that immigration of Indians should be controlled or prevented by regulations made under the law and it is ungracious to dispute it after these years. The substantial results being disadvantageous to the Indian community, one fails to see what has in reality been gained. Moreover, in this instance, Union Legislation is abandoned, but Provincial Ordinance is substituted, is this anything more than face saving?

Whether, in the event, the new arrangement protects the Indian community from aggression, the future alone can disclose. If the Natal Indian Congress is really satisfied with the compromise we in India need not look behind it. As yet, however, nothing clear has emerged and it is too soon to rejoice. My experience of the way in which colour prejudice works out in South Africa does not enable me to be sanguine of the result.

East Africa

KENYA HIGHLANDS' POLICY

Commenting on the Kenya highlands' policy, which has been the subject of a protest by the Indian Congress of Nairobi, the Colonial Office states: The position of the Indian community in regard to the holding of land is not altered in any shape or form. The Land Control Bill deals entirely with the Kenya highlands, which the Indian community have never held. Since the principle was laid down about 1908, the highlands have been kept more or less exclusively for Europeans.

Australia

INDIA AND AUSTRALIA

Speaking at a tea party given in his honour by the Imperial Indian Citizenship Association, Sir Raghunath Paranjpye said that the Indian problem in Australia was not so acute as the Indian problem in South Africa. Still, there were several questions to be settled and he gave the assurance that he would do his best to promote the interests of India in Australia.

Australia, continued Sir Raghunath, had enormous importance in the present war and would have a great deal to say about the Pacific and South-East Asia settlement. He hoped that India also would have her say in that settlement.

Stressing the need for better social, cultural and trade relations between Australia and India, Sir Raghunath suggested the exchange of professors and students between the two countries. In conclusion, Sir Raghunath said that to discuss political questions between India and Australia or between India and any other country, the strength of representatives was directly proportional to the strength of the Government behind. "If we are free in our country, I think, we count more in another country than otherwise", he said.

U.S.A. and South Africa

CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS IN AMERICA

In a resolution moved from the Chair on Indians abroad, the Federation demanded that the Government of India should secure for Indians in the United States rights of citizenship, and negotiate a treaty of commerce and navigation with the U.S. Government so that Indian nationals might enjoy a status to carry on trade uninterruptedly in that country. The resolution also registered its emphatic protest against the Anti-Indian Pegging Legislation of the Union of South Africa as it was inconsistent with India's partnership in the British Commonwealth and repugnant to the basic ideals for which the war was being fought.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

INDIAN INDUSTRIALISTS' CALL

An earnest plea to the Viceroy for an immediate review of policy in order to explore the possibilities of a settlement in view of Mahatma Gandhi's declarations, is made by leading Indian Industrialists led by Sir Homi Mody, ex-Member of the Viceroy's Council. In a joint manifesto, the signatories urge the Viceroy to release the members of the Congress Executive, as, in their opinion, "there is no longer any reason for detention of the members of the Congress Working Committee." Following is the text of the manifesto:

In the recent correspondence between His Excellency the Viceroy and Mahatma Gandhi, the Viceroy, dealing with the request for an opportunity to meet the Working Committee of the Congress, stated that as the Mahatma had recently made public his adherence to the 'Quit India' resolution, which the Viceroy could not regard as a reasonable or practical policy for the immediate future, the permission sought for could not be granted. If the Viceroy's intention was that until the 'Quit India' resolution was definitely withdrawn, nothing could be done, the deadlock is bound to continue. If, however, the Viceroy's real concern was to have an assurance that the civil disobedience movement would not be resumed and that the war effort would not be obstructed, there has been a hopeful development this week which demands serious consideration. In an interview with Mr. Stuart Gelder, Correspondent of the *News Chronicle* of London, the Mahatma has categorically stated that he has no intention of offering Civil Disobedience to-day and that he cannot take the country back to 1942. He has further emphasised that his object is not to embarrass the British Government. We regard this as such a clarification of the situation as to call for an immediate review of policy on the part of the Viceroy, and we earnestly urge His Excellency not to miss this opportunity of exploring the possibilities of a settlement.

In view of this latest development, we feel there is now, no longer, any reason for the detention of the members of the Working Committee, and we hope, they will soon be set free. The Viceroy and the British Government will otherwise be inviting the criticism that they have no intention of moving towards a settlement and that they are determined to carry on, as they are doing, regardless of the country-wide feeling that their persistence in a purely negative policy is against the true interests of India.]

DR. MATTHAI ON 15 YEAR-PLAN

"The proper execution of the Fifteen-year Plan and the availability of sterling balances are very closely related. But the recent discussions in the International Monetary Conference make me doubt whether we would get those sterling balances at the time we need it. This means, the plan will not be achieved within the time of fifteen years as expected", said Dr. John Matthai, one of the authors of the plan, at an at home given by the Bombay Presidency Women's Council.

Speaking on the distributive aspect of the plan, Dr. Matthai said that this was a very vital question under the plan and was very much under the consideration of the authors. Giving his personal views on the question, Dr. Matthai said, that there were two ways of satisfactorily handling this question—firstly enabling each individual in the country to increase his earning capacity to the highest degree possible and secondly by making the necessities of life less expensive.

INDIA AND WAR AGAINST JAPAN

The cost of the war against Japan was the subject of a question in the Commons when Captain Gammans (Conservative) asked what proportion was borne by the Imperial and Indian exchequers respectively.

Mr. Amery's reply was: "The cost of operations that can be regarded as local defence of India falls on Indian revenues. Expenditure relating to the expulsion of Japanese forces from Indian territory obviously falls in that category. I am not in a position to translate the effect of this arrangement, in relation to the whole eventual cost of operations against Japan, into any specific proportions as between the British and Indian exchequers."

PRESIDENT ROOSEVELT'S OFFER

President Roosevelt is running for a fourth term. He announced this decision at a Press Conference at Washington on July 10. The President said:

Reluctantly but as a good soldier, I will accept and serve in this office if I am so ordered by the Commander-in-Chief of us all—the sovereign people of the United States.

For myself I do not want to run. By next spring I shall have been President and Commander-in-Chief of the armed forces for 12 years—three times elected by the people of this country under the American constitutional system.

From the personal point of view, I believe our economic system is on a sounder and more human basis than it was at the time of my first inauguration.

After many years of public service, therefore, my personal thoughts have turned to the day when I could return to civil life.

All that is within me cries out to go back to my home on the Hudson River to avoid public responsibilities and to avoid also the publicity, which, in our Democracy, follows every step of the nation's Chief Executive.

The President made his intention to seek re-election known in a letter to the Democratic Party National Chairman. President Roosevelt read the letter. In it he said:

If the people elect me, I will serve. I would not run in the usual partisan sense. But if the people command me to continue in this office and this war, I have as little right to withdraw as a soldier has to leave his post in the line.

C. R. ON HIS NEW FORMULA

"Every time the situation changes, our duties change; they do not remain always the same", said Mr. Rajagopalachari, justifying Gandhiji's offer to Mr. Jinnah and the British Government, delivering

the inaugural address to the Madras Presidency College Union Society on Monday, the 24th July.

The new offer, said Mr. Rajagopalachari, conceded the central demand of the Muslim League, self determination for Muslims in Muslim majority areas, and offered to co-operate with Britain in the war against Japan. In his view, if Britain accepted the offer now, when she and the Allies were winning the war, it would be an act full of moral potentiality.

American anxiety for a settlement in India, he said, was due to the fact that America was bearing the brunt of the war against Japan, and the friendship of a free nation for Britain was more precious than the loyalty of a subject nation.

Regretting that Mr. Jinnah had not expressed his personal opinion, Mr. Rajagopalachari felt that it was a good thing that Mr. Jinnah had "neither accepted nor rejected the offer." Whether Mr. Jinnah or the Muslim League accepted the offer or not, the offer was an expression of goodwill and a real contribution to a settlement.

SARDAR MANGAL SINGH'S PLEA

Presiding over the State Akali Conference held at Sangrur, Sardar Mangal Singh, M.L.A. (Central), said that Sikhs would always fight for the freedom of India shoulder to shoulder with the Indian National Congress and other progressive and patriotic elements of the country. At the same time, Sikhs would fight to safeguard the interests of their own community in the future constitution of India as "we do not want to be dominated by others nor do we want to dominate others".

The greatest need of the hour, Sardar Mangal Singh added, was to arrive at a satisfactory communal settlement on an agreed formula for the establishment of a National Government at the Centre.

PLEA FOR NATIONAL GOVERNMENT

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru has made the following statement in connection with Gandhiji's offer to the Government:

I verily believe Gandhiji has extended his hand of good fellowship and made constructive suggestions which, if pursued in the proper spirit, may bring about a solution of the deadlock. To Muslims, he has made the most generous gesture in recognising the right of self-determination—the one thing on which British opinion has laid so much stress. That there is bound to be a good deal of opposition in India to the offer need surprise no one; but at the same time, no one need despair of a solution being found on the basis of that offer to the Muslims. Once that is accepted and differences between the two communities are composed on a rational basis, there is no reason why a National Government, though not quite perfect in every constitutional detail, could not be established at this juncture—a Government in which no single party will have the upper hand, but including representatives of all important interests and accepting guidance in a collective manner of an Indian Prime Minister. Governments with composite Ministries should be restored in the Provinces now governed under Section 93 with much vaster powers in the hands of Governors than exercised by their predecessors during the past fifty years. Conduct of the war and military administration, according to Gandhiji, will be in the hands of the British Government.

The step taken in this direction will, in my opinion, resuscitate the faith of India in England. It is essential for every member of the British Parliament to remember that the question of reviving that faith is the most pressing need of the hour. We cannot live in the hope that some day post-war India will become free and get full Self-Government. Nor can we feel happy about a big post-war reconstruction scheme being taken in hand when duly constituted representatives of the people have no controlling voice in their shaping and direction. Nothing is more dangerous than to hold that political progress can safely be postponed until after rebuilding India's economic structure. No Indian with any intelligence will take such a proposition seriously and, indeed, this is a policy which is calculated to arouse the gravest suspicion in the Dominions.

In my considered judgment, it would be disastrous to allow personal prejudices against Gandhiji and the Congress or distrust of both to intervene and allow this opportunity to slip by. Promises there have been galore in the past but achievement has always fallen much short of promises. What is necessary now is to prove that India's Self-Government is not a vision of the future but a reality of the present.

I can only add that Mahatma Gandhi's recent suggestions deserve more serious consideration than has been given them. They must be examined and given proper constitutional form before reopening negotiations.

GANDHI'S LETTER TO DR. JAYAKAR

In view of the garbled and unauthorised version of Mahatma Gandhi's letter to Dr. Jayakar that has appeared in the press, Mr. Pyarelal, Gandhi's Secretary, has released the letter for publication. Gandhiji says in the letter written from Juhu on May 20:

The country expects much from me. I do not know how you feel about this release. I am not at all happy. I feel even ashamed. I should not have fallen ill. I tried not to, but failed at length. I feel that they will imprison me as soon as I am declared free from the present weakness. And if they do not arrest me, what can I do?

I cannot withdraw the August Resolution. As you have very properly said, it is innocuous. You may differ about the sanction. It is the breath of life for me. I am silent till 29th. Meanwhile shall I send Pyarelal to you? That too depends upon your health. I know you are none too well.

Gandhiji hopes that no deeper meaning would be read into the letter which was not meant, for publication and was necessarily brief.

SIR HOMI ON GANDHIJI'S OFFER

Sir Homi Mehta, commenting on Mahatma Gandhi's terms for settlement of the present deadlock, said:

I am all for the establishment of a National Government at the Centre. Mr. Gandhi has clearly promised to help and not hinder the Allied effort and that should conciliate the Viceroy, who is really and sincerely anxious for a settlement. As for independence after the war, I do not believe any thinking man would seek to defeat, delay or deny it. I have no doubt, but that the British Government are sincere in their promise to grant India freedom after the war. Even if it were otherwise, India is certain to reap the full benefit of the triumph of freedom's cause which 33 United Nations are championing to-day.

Sir Homi Mehta added that the release of the Working Committee members would create the right atmosphere for negotiation and would also prove to the world the *bona fides* of the Government.

BENARES UNIVERSITY

A donation of Rs. 1,00,000 by Raja Dhanrajgirji for establishing a chair in Indian Philosophy and Religion at the Benares University was announced at a public meeting held at Hyderabad (Deccan). This is in addition to the collections made by old boys of the Benares University which total Rs. 1,25,000. Raja Pannalal has donated Rs. 25,000.

Addressing the meeting, Sir S. Radhakrishnan said: "If our country is ever going to make a great impression, it will not be on account of her political pre-eminence or economic prosperity or other things but on account of the greatness of her philosophy and religion. From the beginning of our history, the impression that India made on both East and West has been in that direction."

Sir S. Radhakrishnan said that the Benares University stood for the fundamental concepts of Indian philosophy and religion.

SCHEDULED CASTE STUDENTS

The Government of India have sanctioned a scheme of scholarship for students belonging to the Scheduled Castes who wish to pursue their studies in scientific and technological subjects beyond the matriculation stage. The total amount awarded every year will be Rs. 3,00,000, says a press note.

The scheme which aims at improving the educational and economic conditions of Scheduled Castes will have immediate effect. The number of scholarships to be awarded and their amount has not yet been fixed, but the amount awarded will cover the entire cost of education, including fees, cost of books and in the case of residential scholars their maintenance charges. Some of these scholarships will be given for studies in India and some in foreign countries.

For courses commencing in 1944, applications are being called through Directors of Public Instruction, Superintendents of Education and Vice-Chancellors of Universities. All the scholarships in 1944-45 will be for studies in India.

THE B. ED. SC. DEGREE

Explaining the scope and purpose of the degree of Bachelor of Educational Science (B. Ed. Sc.), which is opened at Lucknow University this session, beginning from July 17, Mr. Kali Prasad, Reader in Philosophy, in a press statement, says:

"We hope to pave the way to an extensive scheme of educational reconstruction in the country. Whatever shape the future scheme takes, it will require a deep understanding of the school-going population—its abilities and disabilities. Such understanding must be based on a study of children through the technique of mental tests, laboratory experiments and clinical studies in psychology.

It is, moreover, necessary to estimate from an early stage the scholastic and vocational abilities of individual students, so that they may be rightly guided in the choice of their respective vocations. It is by these and such methods that necessary reforms may be introduced in the educational procedure of our country.

The classes will be held in the evenings and only trained graduates are eligible for admission."

BENGAL EDUCATION BILL

Mr. Jatindranath Chuckerbutty, M.L.A. (Bengal), has tendered to the Chief Minister the resignation of his office of Parliamentary Secretary to the Government of Bengal as well as his membership of the Ministerialist Coalition Party. The resignation has been sent in on the issue of the Bengal Secondary Education Bill.

In his letter to the Chief Minister, Mr. Chuckerbutty says, that "after the most careful consideration, I have come to the conclusion that it is no longer possible for me to support your Ministry in view of the feeling prevailing in the Hindu community against the Secondary Education Bill."

It may be recalled that Mr. Atul Chandra Kumar, another Parliamentary Secretary to the Bengal Government, resigned his office recently. The immediate issue on which his resignation was tendered was also the Secondary Education Bill.

BIG BRIBERY CASES

The observation that it was strange to think that cases were brought in respect of relatively small bribes when the town was full of stories of big bribes which went unpunished, was made by the Chief Justice of the Calcutta High Court, delivering judgment in a rule obtained by a petitioner who had been convicted of attempted bribery by the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Calcutta, and sentenced to six months' rigorous imprisonment.

The Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Lodge discharged the rule. A bottle of whisky, stated to have figured as part of the bribe, was directed to be sent to the Chief Medical Officer, British Military Hospital, Calcutta.

The petitioner, Ganendra Nath Roy, was the representative of a firm which had a contract to supply the Government with 16,000 canvas buckets. The buckets with 16,000 canvas buckets. The buckets were delivered in Calcutta and 10,005 were rejected. It was stated that the petitioner offered Conductor Brown of the department concerned Rs. 25 and a bottle of whisky to get the buckets accepted. He was ordered to go out of the office and eventually arrested and charged with these offences.

SIR C. P. ON PRIVY COUNCIL APPEALS

The view that there is no longer any justification for the continuance in far away England of the present-day jurisdiction of the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council was expressed in an address sent by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore and ex-Law Member with the Government of Madras, which was read at the All-India Law Conference, organised by the Law Union of the Osmania University, which was opened at Hyderabad on July 18, under the presidency of Sir Abdul Qadir.

Few could deny the remarkable contributions made by great judges and jurists of England to the evolution of legal doctrine in India, said Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, but there are many persons, both professional and otherwise, who now demand that the ultimate decision of Indian cases, civil and criminal, should be vested in Indian tribunals.

Referring to the establishment of the Federal Court, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar observed: "The Federal Court has come into being and both by its personnel and its output it has assumed a dominant place in Indian polity and bids fair to occupy a position in no way different from that of the Supreme Court of America not only as the expounder of the rights and obligations of the citizens and of administrative units but as the custodian and vigilant guardian of the Constitution."

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar also referred to the condition of lawyers in India and said the steady increase in the number of practising lawyers, the extremely unsatisfactory relations that exist between seniors and juniors practising in each court or in each jurisdiction and the desperate struggle for maintenance amongst the members of the junior bar driving them out of sheer need to rash departures from professional standards were a phenomena to which they could not afford to turn blind.

KUMBAKONAM BAR ASSOCIATION

The Golden Jubilee of the Bar Association was celebrated at the Porter Town Hall, Kumbakonam, under the presidentship of Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri. He unveiled the portrait of the late Mr. V. Krishna Aiyar, founder-president of the Association.

In the course of his speech, Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri observed that seniors should take greater interest in the welfare of the juniors, most of whom were languishing for want of support.

Mr. Sastri regretted the starting of a separate organisation in the name of Non-Brahman lawyers. This move, he said, was fraught with serious dangers to the future welfare of the profession. It was a tragedy that at a time when they were trying to patch up the splits and schisms in the body politic of the country, attempts should be made to create disharmony in the ranks of the foremost intellectual section of the community.

Mr. Sastri favoured the view of the late Chief Justice, Sir Coutts Trotter, who advocated lawyers suspending practice when they were in a mood to defy the law.

THE BEVERIDGE PLAN

So much has been written of the Beveridge plan that it is advisable to bring its salient features in relief. The Beveridge report fills more than 500 closely printed pages. Under the plan a male adult, so long as he is in work, will be called on to pay 4s. 3d. a week; a woman will pay 3s. 6d. to 3s. 9d. The individual will make this payment by buying a stamp from the local Security Office. Thus there is to be a flat rate of contribution for all.

An employer will have to contribute about 3s. a week for each employee to the security fund. Everybody will be insured against sickness, accidents and unemployment at the benefit rate of 40s. a week, if married, or 24s. a week if single or with gainfully occupied spouse.

Everyone will receive a basic retirement pension at similar rates—at 65 for a man and 60 for a woman. Anyone who goes on working beyond the pensionable age will have his pension increased when he finally stops working by 1s. or 2s. for each extra year of work.

Everyone will get a marriage grant up to £10 and a funeral grant up to £20; women will get a maternity grant of £4.

A man or woman who is disabled will receive a pension not exceeding £3 a week. For each child after the first, a married couple will receive 8s. a week.

A working woman who is having a baby will get 36s. a week for 13 weeks to make up for loss of earnings and to encourage her to stay away from work as long as is really necessary. A woman who becomes a widow will get 36s. a week for 13 weeks and, if she has no children, will be given training in a job. If she has children to care for, she will get a guardian's benefit of 24s. a week at the end of 13 weeks as well as children's allowances.

Anyone who is out of work for more than 26 weeks and can find no job in his or her old trade will be trained for a new one.

Finally, contributions will cover medical treatment at home, in hospital and at a rehabilitation centre. Anyone who goes to hospital, however, will have to pay 10s. a week out of his benefit, which he would otherwise be spending on food and heat and clothes at home.

That, in outline, is the plan which is being closely studied all over the world as an example of what a progressive Government could do to secure its people from sickness, unemployment and old age.

MYSORE INSURANCE RULES

The Government of Mysore has exempted, under a recent notification, insurance companies constituted, incorporated or domiciled in Mysore State but registered under the Insurance Act in British India from the provisions of section 64 of the Insurance Act. Before doing so, the insurance companies in British India will have to produce before the Superintendent of Insurance in Mysore at his office in Mysore the books the company is required to maintain. The Superintendent of Insurance in Mysore may nominate an actuary or auditor for examining these books. It is further stipulated that the Superintendent of Insurance in Mysore or his nominee will be given facilities for inspecting the books of the insurance company at its principal office in British India.

If the Superintendent of Insurance is satisfied that a British Indian insurance company has failed to fulfil these conditions, he is empowered to withdraw the facility after serving a notice on it.

The exemption given by the Government of Mysore corresponds to similar exemption given by the Government of India to the insurers in Mysore doing business in British India under section 64 of the Insurance Act. The reciprocal arrangements so concluded empowers the insurance authorities in British India and in Mysore to inspect the books of insurance companies irrespective of their place of registration.

TRADE BETWEEN U.S. AND INDIA

In the *Washington Times Herald* a correspondent writing under the heading, "Business with India", says that before the war both Germany and Japan sold more to India than the United States, and continues, "after the war both Japan and Germany will be out of world markets for some years to come."

The British Empire will have difficulty in absorbing much more of India's business than she does now. For one thing the British have a pretty huge reconstruction programme to carry out at home before they go plunging heavily of exports. For another they have political difficulties to settle with India. We have neither burden. And India need not fear us politically. We would not take it as a gift. Now is the time to start planning improvement in trade with India, and not doze along until the fine day when business balance sheets show British lead on us, even longer and clever Commissars of the U.S.S.R. are taking over the rest of trade that was once Germany's and Japan's."

QUOTA OF INTERNATIONAL FUND

The International Monetary Conference just reached a final decision unanimously on the most controversial question surrounding the plans for the International Monetary Fund, namely, the allocation of the quota of contributions to over 8,800 million dollar monetary fund.

Fifty per cent. of the gold earmarked for the International Monetary Fund will be stored in the United States in accordance with this decision. Forty per cent. will be stored in the United Kingdom, Russia, China and France and the remaining 10 per cent. will be allocated between other member States.

The final result is as follows (in millions of dollars):—United States: 2,750; United Kingdom: 1,300; Soviet Russia: 1,200; China: 550; France: 450; India: 400; Belgium: 225; Canada: 300; Australia: 200; Netherlands: 275; Brazil: 150; Czechoslovakia: 125; South Africa: 100.

The total of the fund is 8,800 million dollars, some 800 million dollars greater

than total contemplated when the fund was first planned. A number of countries have reserved the attitude of their Government, including France who, it is understood, feel their quota should be greater. The others making reservations were China, Egypt, India, New Zealand, Greece, Iran and Netherlands.

The other quota of allocations (in millions of dollars) include Iraq: 8; Iran: 25; Iceland: 1; Greece: 40; Ethiopia: 6; Egypt: 45; and Liberia half million.

The United States have a quota greater than Soviet Russia and the United Kingdom combined, the total of United Kingdom plus Dominion quotas is only some 800 millions short of the United States.

INDIA'S DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

India spent Rs. 715 crores on her defence and supply during the five years 1939-40 to 1943-44, according to figures available here. During the same period His Majesty's Government helped India with a sum of Rs. 926 crores under the terms of the financial settlement concluded in September 1939 between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government regarding the allocation of defence expenditure between them. The total defence and supply expenditure brought to account in India's books is thus Rs. 1,641 crores.

India's defence expenditure has increased from Rs. 50 crores in 1939-40 to Rs. 220 crores in 1943-44, while Great Britain's contribution has gone up from Rs. 4 crores to Rs. 345 crores during this five-year period.

India's total expenditure, civil and military, during the five years aggregated Rs. 1,005 crores. On the pre-war scale (1938-39 expenditure), the total normal expenditure for the above five years should be Rs. 426 crores. This extra expenditure of Rs. 579 crores should directly or indirectly be attributed to the war.

India's total defence expenditure of Rs. 715 crores represents an increase of Rs. 484 crores over the normal civil administration accounts for an increase of Rs. 17 crores. Direct demands on revenue have not increased much at all.

MRS. PANDIT'S VISIT TO BARISAL

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit was presented with several addresses of welcome at a public meeting in Barisal on July 24. Communists at Barisal exhibited bad taste and indulged in hooliganism when she rose to reply. This behaviour was highly resented by the audience. Mrs. Pandit refused to discuss politics with Communists.

Commenting on the incident, Mrs. Pandit said: "I have no grievance against those who resorted to this measure. I, however, like to point out that work is more effective than talk. The sufferings of Bengal have driven many people to the province with a desire to offer their services in some capacity. I am one of those who have come here with this purpose. This effort, though very small, has forged a link between me and the people of Bengal which cannot be easily broken and it is of little consequence whether I talk or not."

In an interview, on her return to Calcutta, Mrs. Pandit emphasised the need for co-ordinating the work of the different relief organisations. She had found a large number of destitutes in emergency hospitals and relief centres. As the aftermath of the famine was present all over the country, she could not agree that famine conditions were now over.

WOMEN AT PEACE CONFERENCE

"I was proud," says Mrs. Roosevelt, wife of the President of the U.S.A., "that our nation had women present at the Food Conference, and was glad that on our delegation at the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Conference we had not only women delegates but several women as observers. The observers were women with interests in special fields; they brought up points which otherwise would not have been given adequate consideration. I hope that, as more conferences are called, we will see an increasing number of women take their places with men."

I can remember when women first began to be a factor in politics in this country (U.S.A.) when it was generally said that "politics is no place for women." Men took off their coats and smoked big black

cigars and put their feet on the tables and drank liquor and insisted that their political gatherings would offend the ladies. (The ladies seem to be surviving, however!)

Perhaps women haven't accomplished all they might have in politics, but there is a good deal more social legislation than there ever was before women had the vote. When a question comes up which really arouses the women of this country, believe me, men know that women are now a real factor in politics.

My plea is not for women at a peace conference only. It is for women in every meeting which deals with post-war problems; more women among our State legislators, in our city governments; more women in Congress; more women in high appointive positions of responsibility. They will not be there to oppose men, but to work with men, to have a share in shaping the new world which, whether we want it or not, is going to confront us some day."

WELSH WOMEN'S PLEA FOR INDIA

A petition in Welsh, bearing thousands of signatures of women, urging the resumption of negotiations with Indian leaders, has been presented to the House of Commons. The House had to solve a delicate problem. A petition in Welsh had not been presented for a number of years. However, it was established that the petition could be accepted, if accompanied by an attested English translation. Mr. Clement Davis, President of the India Relief Fund, who presented the petition, translated it and it was accepted.

WOMEN AS JURORS

Among the persons summoned to serve as jurors at the third criminal sessions of the Bombay High Court, which began recently, were about 15 women. This was the first time in India that women made their appearance in court to serve as jurors. The High Court rules were recently amended to make it possible for women to be enrolled as jurors. Since then, about 80 women have volunteered services and have been put on the roll of persons liable to be called as jurors.

SIND JOURNALISTS' CONFERENCE

That the power of the Press was unlimited, that there was no limit to the amount of good or harm which it could do to society, and that, therefore, journalists should take care to see that their work resulted in human good alone, was the view expressed by Mr. S. A. Brelvi, when he opened the Sind Journalists' Conference, which met in Karachi on July 9.

After referring to the conditions of working journalists, and the agreements between the Editors' Conference and the Government of India, he criticized the new Paper Control (Economy) Order, and declared that there was no justification for such an order without consultation with the interests concerned. He hopes that as a result of a meeting to be held between representatives of the Press and the Government, the Order would be modified.

Concluding, he said: "School and university education is, no doubt, an asset in the making of a journalistic career, but no school or university can create a journalist. The best school for journalists is journalism alone, and we must jealously guard the standards and conventions of high journalism, and these must be maintained as high as possible."

"PERIODICALS PRESS ASSOCIATION"

Messrs. K. N. Chatterjee, Editor, *Modern Review*, and P. R. Srinivas, Editor, *Indian Finance*, have issued the following statement: "We convened, a meeting of representatives of periodicals to consider the Newspaper Control Order. The general sense of the representatives present at the meeting, was that this Order revealed certain important divergences of interest between the daily papers on the one hand and the periodical Press on the other; and that an All-India Association for periodicals must be formed for the safeguarding and strengthening of their special interests. We now wish to announce that it is proposed to form the Periodicals Press Association of India, and request that periodicals wishing to join the Association may kindly communicate to Mr. P. R. Srinivas, 116, Lower Circular Road, Calcutta.

DR. PREM'S PLANS

Though a member of the Common Wealth Party, Dr. Prem, who proposes to oppose the Secretary of State whoever he may be, at the next general election to Parliament, does not propose to stand on the Party ticket. "If I do that, it will become a Party issue and the Indian question which I want to keep at the front of the campaign may be submerged beneath domestic issues. If I stand as an Independent, I may get the support of all progressive parties."

H. H. AGA KHAN

H. H. the Aga Khan, who has been living in Switzerland in comparative seclusion during the past four years, in a special interview with Reuter gave this message to the people of India:

"I have full confidence that the British people will deal justly with such Indian wishes and claims which have general support from Indian opinion irrespective of faith and race."

Despite his stay in Switzerland, the Aga Khan is in constant touch by cable with his followers in India and Africa on matters connected with religious and social interest.

LATE MR. C. RAMASWAMI IYENGAR

A statue of the late Mr. C. Ramaswami Iyengar, founder of the Sri Ramakrishna Mission Students' Home, Mylapore, was unveiled by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar on July 4 on the Home grounds before a large gathering of citizens of Madras.

The statue, made in bronze at a cost of about Rs. 8,500, is the work of the late Mr. M. S. Nagappa who just completed it before his death.

MR. B. G. HORNIMAN

A Committee consisting of nearly 50 persons, including Mr. Nagindas T. Master (Mayor of Bombay), Sir Shantidas Askuran (Sheriff of Bombay), Sir Rahimtoola Chinoy, Mr. K. M. Munshi, Mr. Pranlal Devkaran Nanjee, Mr. Samaldas Gandhi, Mr. Robert Stimson, Mr. S. Sadanand and Mr. A. S. Bharatan, has been formed to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of Mr. B. G. Horniman's journalistic career.

NEW DRUG TO CURE CARBUNCLES

Discovery of a new powerful healing agent, useful in a variety of treatments where sulfa drugs and penicillin are not completely satisfactory, is reported in *This Week* magazine by science writer, J. D. Ratcliff. The drug, tyrobricin, was discovered by a French-born researcher Rene Fubos, at the Rockefeller Institute.

"This new drug is an unparalleled weapon against certain types of infection," Ratcliff reports: "It will never supplant the sulfa drugs or penicillin; yet it will do many jobs they cannot do. It cleans up a variety of soldier wounds, routs empyema, an infection of the chest cavity. It fights a long list of ailments causing mountains of grief.

"Tyrobricin won't kill all kinds of microbes but it is sure death for pneumonia, bacteria, streptococci bacteria and others. It is successful nearly 100 per cent. of the time in treatment of stubborn years-old ulcers, carbuncles and abscesses. It has turned in good results in cases where it was used to treat infected sinuses. When sprayed on operative wounds or applied to dressings, it minimises post-operative complications. It reduces fever, minimises swellings, eliminates need of frequent change of dressings."

TREATMENT OF T. B.

Dramatic news in the treatment of tuberculosis is the announcement by Drs. Richard Overhold and Norman Wilson of Boston that the technique of removing a whole lobe or a part of an infected lobe is now sufficiently perfected to be used in early cases of the disease. Such operations were formerly so hazardous that they were reserved as a last resort.

SURGICAL SIREN

The State Medical Society recently saw in New York an exhibition of a new surgical sound instrument which locates metals in human flesh, emitting a siren-like sound when it finds a piece of sharpnel or other substance embedded in the flesh. The sound of the siren rises up the scale as the instrument nears the metal and its use is so accurate that it is possible for a surgeon to tell in which direction a splinter of metal lies, thus saving long and dangerous probing with a knife.

DO THE LAZY LIVE LONGER?

The excessive worship of the great god Exercise will seem as weird to our descendants as the excessive piety of our ancestors now seems to some of us, observes Bruce Barton in *Herald Tribune Magazine*. George Jean Nathan quotes the exercise slaves as exclaiming: "Look at the animals; they take a lot of exercise." He himself has made certain research to determine the truth or falsity of that assertion, and he remarks: "The great majority of animals, as a matter of zoological record, take hardly any exercise at all. Furthermore, the particular species that do go in for exercise, are almost always those with the shortest span of life. The tortoise, the laziest creature on earth, enjoys the greatest longevity, 200 to 300 years. The elephant, a sluggish fellow, lives from 150 to 200 years. The swan, aristocratically languid, sometimes reaches the 102-year mark. . . . On the other hand, we find that such devotees of exercise as the dog die in from 10 to 15 years, the squirrel in from 10 to 12, the hare in from seven to eight, the mouse in from three to four.

NUTRITION RESEARCH

Nutrition in the international sphere formed the subject of a talk by Dr. W. R. Aykroyd, Director of the Nutrition Research Laboratories of Coonoor, at a medical conference held at Coonoor recently, under the auspices of the Christian Medical Association of India, Burma and Ceylon. He said that a permanent united nations food and agricultural organisation had been set up at Hot Springs and it would play an important part in guiding policies relating to nutrition and agriculture throughout the world.

MANUFACTURE OF FRUIT PRODUCTS

The manufacture of fruit products in India should be permitted only if the products are of a certain standard and their manufacture is undertaken under hygienic conditions.

This principle was accepted at a conference recently called by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research to consider ways and means of improving the quality of fruit products manufactured in India. The conference was attended by representatives of manufacturers of fruit products from all over India,

AN INTERNATIONAL BANK

Lord Keynes, speaking at the Monetary Conference, urged the immediate creation of an International Bank, and gave this explanation of the system of his proposed bank.

"Firstly, direct loans would be made by the Bank to member countries.

Secondly, the greater part of its capital would be used as a Reserve Fund to guarantee two types of operations:

(a) guaranteeing loans on the open market which would involve greater than ordinary risks to countries which could not afford to pay the normal extra high price for such extra risky loans;

(b) loans secured by the Bank on the open market for the purpose of passing on these loans, at special rates to member countries which presumably could not secure such loans in the ordinary way.

THE INDIAN BANK, LTD.

The net profit of the Indian Bank, Ltd., Madras, for the half-year ended June 30, 1944, after transferring sufficient amount to Contingent Fund, is Rs. 7,67,038-8-10. Adding—Rs. 48,226-15-5 brought forward from the last account, there is a total of Rs. 8,15,260-8-3, which the Directors propose to dispose of as follows:—

	Rs.	A.	P.
To pay as interim dividend at the rate of 10 per cent. per annum, which will absorb	...	1,45,000	0 0
To transfer to Reserve Fund raising it Rs. 32 lakhs	...	1,50,000	0 0
To carry forward	...	5,20,260	8 3

INDIAN BANKS' ASSOCIATION

A resolution appointing a committee to consider the question of forming an Indian Banks' Association in Bombay and in the event of general agreement to formulate proposals for a constitution for the Association was passed at a meeting of the representatives of the scheduled banks, etc., held at the office of the Indian Merchants' Chamber last month.

Sir H. P. Mody has been appointed President of the Committee and Seth Pranalal Devkaran Nanjee, Vice-President, Messrs. B. M. Bhargava and N. C. Khorana have been appointed Honorary Secretaries.

INCREASED EARNINGS OF THE RAILWAYS

The Railway Board's latest traffic returns show a continued increase in earnings, the figures of Class I Railways (Budget lines only) from the beginning of the financial year to May 10, showing an increase of Rs. 1'86 crores or 9'49 per cent. more than the actuals for the corresponding months of last year. These figures show that railways are continuing to improve on their operating performance.

The total number of broad and metre gauge wagons loaded has increased by 2'9 per cent. The tonnage lifted remains approximately the same but military movements are increasing at the expense of civil traffic.

CHECKING CORRUPTION ON RAILWAYS

The War Department, Government of India, have set up a machinery under a senior police officer, as a measure to "counteract corruption on railways." The authorities of the Bengal and Assam Railway have been taking special measures in this direction with the help of the watch and ward staff and special inspecting officials, and by deputing senior subordinate officials to work with the special police.

Thirteen cases of bribery and corruption were detected on this railway between November, 1942, and May, 1944, it is stated.

Unprecedented rise in inexperienced staff, release of many senior and trusted railway officials for important war work and the "enhanced incentive to circumvent the numerous restrictions placed on the movement of traffic", etc., it is pointed out—are factors which have led to an increase of such malpractices.

PAYMENT BY RAILWAYS

The Government of India have directed that a Judge of the High Court, nominated by the Chief Justice of the High Court concerned, should be the authority empowered to fix a fair and reasonable sum payable by railways in lieu of tax under the Railways Local Authority Taxation Act, 1941, so far as the Madras, Bombay and the Calcutta Corporations are concerned. In respect of other cases within the province, the District Judge will be the authority.

INDIAN SCHOOL OF MUSIC IN NEW YORK

An Indian School of Music has been founded in New York recently by Wasantha Wara Singh and has for its chief aim the development in America a better understanding of Indian Music and the furtherance of international amity through a cultural medium. The school is an outgrowth of the studio where Singh has been instructing Americans in Indian Music. Singh has been in America since 1909. He has made an album of records "Echoes of India." Together with Dr. Arthur P. Moore of Adelphi College, Long Island, he selected and wrote the material for a group of records, for Walter Toscanini, son of the famous conductor Arturo Toscanini to further Indian music. He has a constant round of music engagements in New York. Born in 1895 of Punjabi parents who had migrated to Ceylon, he was attracted by an American "Wild West" show in 1909 and joined it and went to America. At first an actor and dancer, he abandoned these callings for music.

ENTERTAINING INDIAN TROOPS

A new scheme to provide entertainment to Indian troops at a cost of Rs. 24 lakhs a year has been launched under the auspices of an Indian organisation at General Headquarters called the Fauji Dilkush Sabha. Under this scheme, it is expected to raise 20 concert parties in the immediate future to tour India and overseas.

Seventeen Indian concert parties staging regular programmes of music, dancing and drama in the various Armies and Commands in India and overseas have been organised in the last two years at an expenditure of Rs. 5,40,000, excluding travelling expenses.

SOVIET PAINTINGS EXHIBITED

An exhibition of posters and pictures depicting the defence of Moscow, Nazi atrocities on Soviet soil, the economic development of the U.S.S.R., works of famous Soviet artists, and the growth and development of music, cinema and the theatre opened at the New Delhi Town Hall last month under the auspices of the Friends of the Soviet Union.

NEXT INDIAN OLYMPIC SPORTS

The importance of physical training in the educational system of the country was stressed by Mr. J. Appaji Gowda Minister, for Education, presiding over the 15th anniversary celebrations of the Y.M.C.A. Summer School of Physical Education, held at Bangalore.

Mr. A. C. Das, Director of Physical Education, presenting the report of the institution, expressed the hope that the Government of Mysore would promote a State-wide scheme of Physical Education before long. He announced that Bangalore had been selected as the next venue of the All-India Olympic Sports scheduled to be held in February, 1946.

INDIAN CRICKETERS TO TOUR CEYLON

A tour of Ceylon by a selected team of Indian cricketers may take place early next year.

The Honorary Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India has received a letter from the Honorary Secretary of the Ceylon Cricket Association extending an invitation to the Board of Control to send a team of Indian cricketers to Ceylon. The letter suggests that five matches may be played in Ceylon, of which four should be two-day matches and one a three-day match *versus* All-Ceylon, the most acceptable time for the tour being within the period January to March, 1945.

CHESS CHAMPION DEAD

The death occurred recently at his residence in Sangli, of Mr. Vinayak K. Khadilkar (62), the well-known chess player. He was the first Indian to take part in a British Empire chess Championship, in 1924, and was twice winner of the All-India Chess Championship.

He won the Bombay Presidency Chess Championship on many occasions and secured the prize in the Ranade Chess Tournament at Poona, in 1940.

M.U.C. GOLD CUP

The M.U.C. Hockey Gold Cup (Madras) has been awarded to Khalsa College, Amritsar. The trophy as well as individual prizes were distributed on July 6.

SIR C. V. RAMAN ON DIAMONDS

Investigations on the diamond, on which Sir C. V. Raman with his collaborators has been engaged during the past two years, have been published recently as a sumptuously illustrated volume of papers by the Indian Academy of Sciences.

These investigations reveal that the diamond is not a single chemical individual or a giant molecule as has hitherto been supposed. Theoretical considerations based on the geometry of the carbon atom and of the crystals formed by their union indicate that there should be four kinds of diamonds, possibly the difference between them being either purely geometrical or both geometrical and physical. The recognition of this fact enables many remarkable and hitherto ill-understood properties of the diamond to be satisfactorily interpreted and explained.

Direct experimental evidence for the existence of four kinds of diamonds is also forthcoming. Any actual diamond usually consists of a mixture on a coarse or fine scale of two or more of the theoretically possible varieties. This gives rise to observable variations in the physical properties of the diamond, as for instance, the colour and brightness of the visible light emitted by it under the ultra violet lamp, its transparency in various regions of the spectrum and the strength with which it reflects X-rays. Variations of these properties can appear even within an individual specimen and are observed and recorded as luminescence patterns and X-ray photographs of the diamond. The striking resemblances and equally striking differences between these different kinds of patterns form a very interesting study and numerous examples of them illustrate the volume.

APPLIED RESEARCH

"Applied research is neglected in this country and wherever it is pursued, the attempt to connect it with industries has been of the feeblest kind. This defect can be remedied only if the Government openly identifies itself with a vigorous applied research policy", declared Sir M. Visvesvaraya, President of the Court of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, presiding, over the seventh annual meeting of the Court on July 8.

DANCES OF INDIA

News films are potential forces of propaganda and powerful mediums for dissemination of ideas and opinions to the mass of the people. The documentaries and film shorts produced by the Information Films of India from the cultural angle have opened up rich possibilities in the educational field.

"Dances of India" recently at Casino at Madras is a remarkably praiseworthy effort. Concise, cogent and informative these dance recitals remind one of India's superb cultural heritage in its pristine purity and classical grandeur.

This film 'short' portrays some of the essential features that go to make up the intricate and complex art of Bharata Natya. Like all great arts of Indian antiquity, the art of Bharata Natya has an aura of sanctity and is dedicated to Nataraja—one of the greatest avocations of Indian genius.

All these we find here rendered with grace and ease by Kumari Indrani and Srimati Shanta, both disciples of Pandanullur Meenakshisundaram Pillai. Kumari Indrani greatly excels in her Tillana recital. Srimati Shanta, endowed with a striking personality, renders some of the most beautiful 'adavus' of her art ending up with 'Thirmana'.

In the 'Kathakali' exposition (dance drama of Malabar) in the film short, in which the actors do not speak, but convey their ideas through hand-poses, gestures and vivid facial expressions and movements called 'Mudras' the story is narrated in songs accompanied by drums. The facial make-up, costumes and ornaments are very artistic although unusual and peculiar.

WAR PRISONERS' FILMS

Plans have been made to provide a hundred film programmes this year for Allied prisoners in Germany, under a recent agreement by which our men are being sent English and American films and German prisoners in the United Kingdom with see German-made productions.

Several programmes have already gone to Germany from Sweden and Switzerland and German pictures have already arrived.

PLANT FOR MAKING CARS AND PLANES

India after the war will have one of the biggest workshops of the world for the manufacture of motor cars, aeroplanes and different kinds of machinery with an authorised capital of Rs. 50 crores. Seth Ram Krishna Dalmia, a well-known industrialist of India, who went to Simla for discussing the development of post-war industry in India, stated in an interview, that he was arranging the establishment of a workshop on an unprecedented scale in the country equal to that found in America and Europe. It would be located on one of the country's biggest ports, where the requisite land was available.

He would be able, he said, to manufacture the cheapest and finest kind of machinery, motor cars, aeroplanes and other equipment urgently required in large quantities for the existing important industries of the country with an authorised capital of Rs. 50 crores. He felt that inviting subscriptions was not desirable, and it would not be much profitable for the public to invest at this time. Accordingly all the necessary funds would be spent by him for the time being. Preliminary arrangements were on hand and it was expected that the workshop would be ready at an early date after the war.

MOTOR INDUSTRY PLAN

The project of launching a motor industry in India has to be delayed until better conditions prevail. Though a company has been registered, the control on the construction of new buildings, the non-availability of plants and other equipment essential for starting the industry causes the delay.

The company is working under the name of Premier Automobiles, Ltd., with an authorised capital of Rs. 10,00,00,000. The industry will be started in Bombay because of transport facilities and the nearness to raw materials. In addition, the location of the industry in Bombay will facilitate the availability of a free market for skilled labour and also will make the problem of housing easier.

The Government of India have sanctioned the raising of a share capital of Rs. 2,25,00,000. Mr. Walchand Hirchand is the Chairman of the Board of Directors.

POST-WAR CIVIL AIR TRANSPORT

Further details of the Government of India's plans for post-war civil air transport were disclosed in the last session of the Assembly. These details were given at a press conference by Sir Mahomed Usman, Member for Post and Air Transport. These details are incorporated in a memorandum prepared by the Government and this, he said, will be placed before the Post-War Reconstruction Policy Committee. These plans provide for a net-work of air ports in important centres in India.

Three categories of air services are contemplated: they are the international Air Service linking India with important Capitals in foreign countries, an Indian trunk air service and essential lines between the Indian trunk air services. The plans contemplate the introduction of daily air service and the estimated annual mileage would be more than five times that before the war. The memorandum suggests that development of local air services should be left to local private enterprises, the Government assisting them with necessary ground organisation. The capital cost for the fleet of planes necessary is estimated at $1\frac{1}{2}$ crores of rupees.

Sir M. Usman told the Press Conference that the Government were preparing a further memorandum on the development of aerodromes and auxiliary services and this will also be placed before the Policy Committee.

NEW PLANE REPAIR SHOP FOR BENGAL

One of the biggest aeroplane engine overhaul plants in the world and the largest in the China-Burma-India theatre of war has been opened at an Air Service Command (U.S.A.A.F.) depot in Bengal.

The new plant will mean a great saving of time for the U.S.A.A.F. for major repairs to plane engines, which formerly had to be sent all the way to America, can now be carried out in India.

In the building housing the plants are reconditioned the giant engines of B-29 bombers—the Superfortresses which have already struck twice at the Japanese mainland.

AN ALL-INDIA HANDLOOM BOARD

We understand that the decision was arrived at, at a meeting recently held of representatives of the Government of India, members of the Handloom Committee of the Textile Control Board and representatives of Provincial and State Governments, to constitute an All-India Handloom Board. The main functions of the proposed Board will be to recommend to the Government of India what proportion of the yarn available from Indian production should be supplied to each Province and State interested in obtaining yarn for handloom weaving, to assist handloom weavers through recognised associations or Provincial or State authorities in obtaining dyes, chemicals, stores, etc., at fair prices, to consider the best means of marketing Indian handloom products, and to direct research and consider measures to improve production. It is suggested that the Textile Commissioner should be the Chairman of the Board.

TATA IRON AND STEEL COMPANY

The net profits of the Tata Iron and Steel Company, Limited, for the year ended March 31, 1944, after providing for income-tax, super-tax and excess profits tax and after setting aside a sum of Rs. 1,20,00,000 for depreciation, amounted to Rs. 2,86,29,145. With the amount brought forward from last year's account, Rs. 9,48,102 and income-tax deducted from dividends on Preference Shares (1942-43), Rs. 14,72,808, the total amount available was Rs. 3,10,44,550, out of which the Directors have transferred to the Reserve Fund, Rs. 57,00,000, being the approximate amount required for compulsory E. P. T. deposit, leaving a balance of Rs. 2,53,44,550.

The Directors have determined to dispose of this amount as follows: to shareholders: (1) A dividend of Rs. 9 per share on First Preference Shares, Rs. 4,50,000; (2) A dividend of Rs. 7-8-0 per share on Second Preference Shares, Rs. 52,08,642; (3) A dividend of Rs. 23 per share on Ordinary Shares, Rs. 80,50,000; (4) A dividend of Rs. 129-8-9 per share on Deferred Shares, Rs. 63,15,625; bonus to employees under Profit-Sharing Scheme, Rs. 44,67,738; Carry forward, Rs. 8,57,545.

DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURE

A plan for the development of agriculture and animal husbandry in India, involving a capital outlay of Rs. 1,000 crores, is suggested in a memorandum prepared for the consideration of the Advisory Board of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. The plan has been prepared by a Special Committee and has the immediate object of increasing production by 50 per cent. in the next ten years and by 100 per cent. in the next 15 years.

Besides capital expenditure, the plan provides for a recurring annual expenditure of Rs. 20 crores, an average total expenditure of nine annas per acre yearly, when all the cultivable areas have been brought under cultivation. The plan aims at securing an output of the right kind for every individual and improving his standard of living.

LOW INDIAN RICE YIELD

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, according to a Washington report, says that Indian rice yields generally are low compared with other countries. The pre-war Indian average was only 28 bushels per acre compared with 123 bushels in Spain (which claims to be the world's highest rice yield) and 48 bushels per acre in the U.S.

The Department observes that Indian agricultural experts are of opinion that yields could be increased substantially by applying ammonium sulphate, which can be produced in India at half the cost of imported fertilisers.

SEED FOR BENGAL RYOTS

As a measure of relief to the poorer agriculturists of the province, particularly in the deficit areas, who have eaten up their stocks of seeds, the Government of Bengal have directed district officers to advance loans to these agriculturists in order to enable them to buy seeds in good time for the next sowing. District officers have also been directed to help such agriculturists by procuring seeds for them through trade channels, or by requisitioning seed stocks of bigger agriculturists as far as possible.

BETTER CONDITIONS FOR WORKERS

Mr. Walter Nash, Chairman of the International Labour Office Conference held at Philadelphia, said that there will be new world wars, larger, longer and worse than the present one, unless leading nations took steps to improve the conditions of working people throughout the world.

"You cannot have peace with hunger and privation" Mr. Nash said, and added that the next step to better relations with workers was for the United States, United Kingdom and others to find a way to meet the workers of Russia. Beyond that he thought one most important step was for increased organisation of the workers in China and India. He said that the practice of capitalists of going to China and other cheap labour markets to produce goods for sale in high-priced markets "can't last if we want to avoid wars."

Mr. Nash cited the report that the average expectation of life in India was only 27 years compared with 64 in the United States and 67 in New Zealand. "No lasting peace can be written even by the strongest nations combined—the United States, Britain and Russia—as long as the ratio of 27 to 67 exists."

WORKERS' GROUP MANIFESTO

The workers' group at Washington issued the following May Day manifesto: "Winning the war is not the only concern of workers in the world, for whom military victory is only a means to achieve the real end. This gigantic struggle is for the salvation of mankind. A better world must be built wherein, all men and women will find the fullest opportunity to live a free, secure and dignified life. The very objective of the I.L.O. is to create the basis for that better world for which so many million soldiers and civilians are offering their lives. This lends exceptional significance in the traditional May Day celebration. . . . Workers and responsible representatives assembled in Philadelphia are fighting the hardest for the realization of the very ideals and aspirations for which workers 55 years ago demonstrated May Days: there is more freedom, more social justice, more happiness for common men and women in to-morrow's world".

MADRAS IN WAR SERVICE

Since the outbreak of war, no less than 322,479 men of the "non-technical" class have joined the armed forces from Madras Presidency and the Indian States of Travancore, Cochin, Pudukottah and Banganapalle.

The district with the highest record of volunteers is North Arcot which has produced 11 per cent. of the number. Second comes Malabar district followed closely by Tinnevely district and the States of Travancore and Cochin.

"Non-technical" recruits are those who join the forces without any previous training in the job they propose to undertake in the army.

Most of the men are now trained personnel in Madras Infantry, Engineer or Artillery units or have joined the Indian Signal Corps, I.A.M.C. or R.I.A.S.C. Of the total, approximately ten per cent. have been recruited for the Pioneer Corps, while regiments such as the Q.V.O. Madras Sappers and Miners and the 3rd Madras Regiment attract large numbers of men.

MONTGOMERY'S MAXIMS

General Montgomery's recipe for generalship is simple. According to Mr. Hanson Baldwin, it is:—

1. Have a good Chief of Staff.
2. Go for simplicity in everything.
3. Cut out all paper and train subordinates to work on verbal instructions and orders.
4. Keep a firm grip on basic fundamentals—the things that really matter.
5. Avoid being involved in details; leave them to your staff.
6. Study morale; it is a big thing in war and without high morale you can achieve nothing.
7. When the issue hangs in the balance, express confidence in the plans and in the operations, even if inwardly you feel not too certain of the outcome.
8. Never worry.
9. Never belly-ache.

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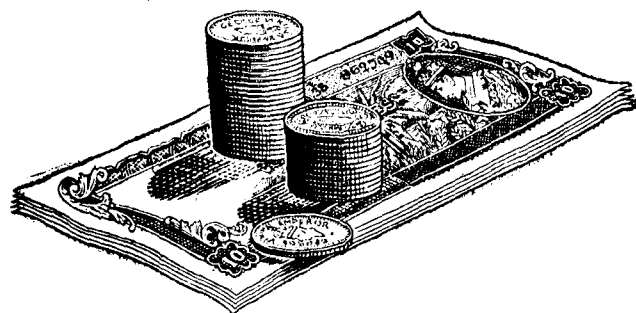
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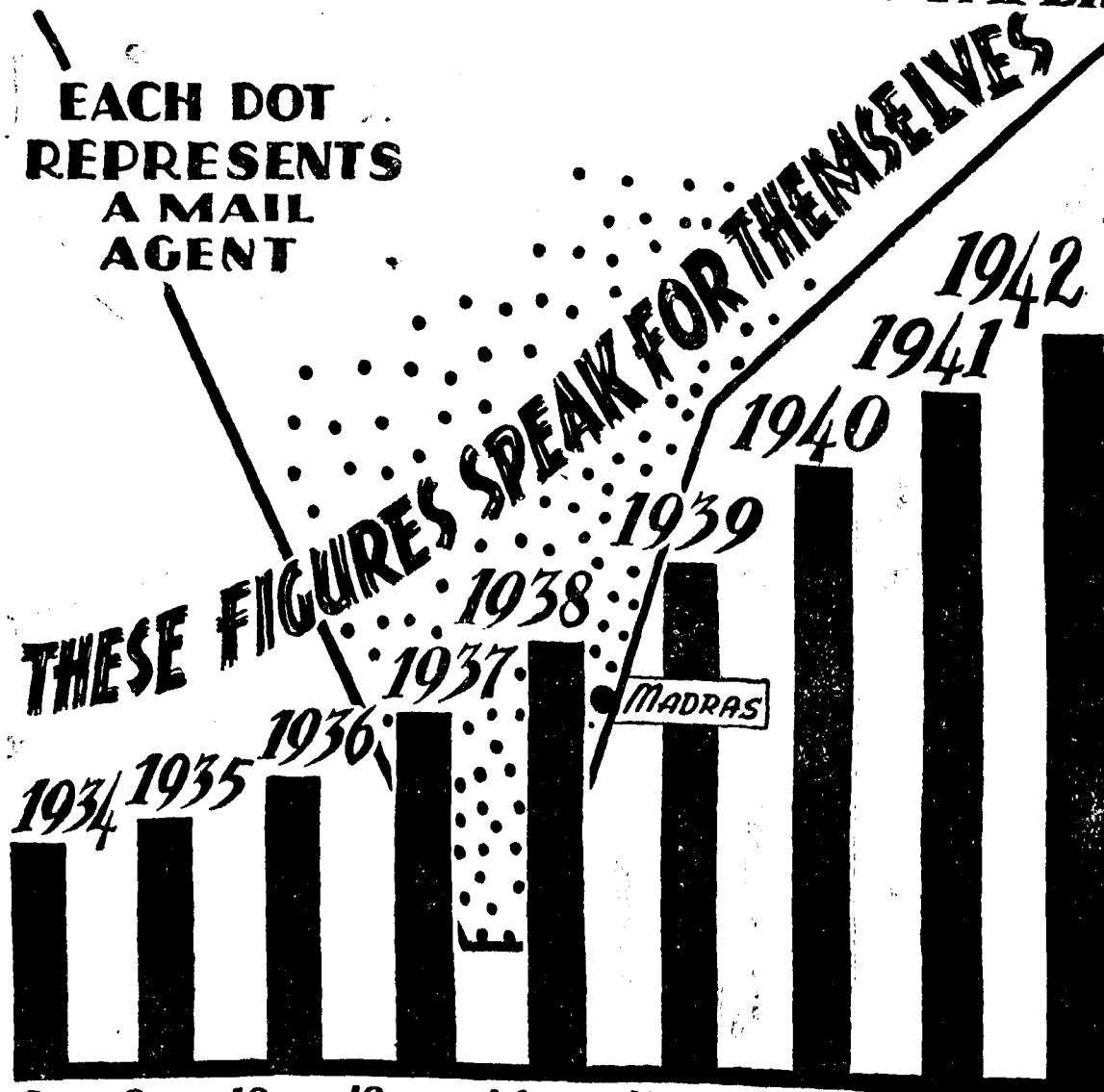
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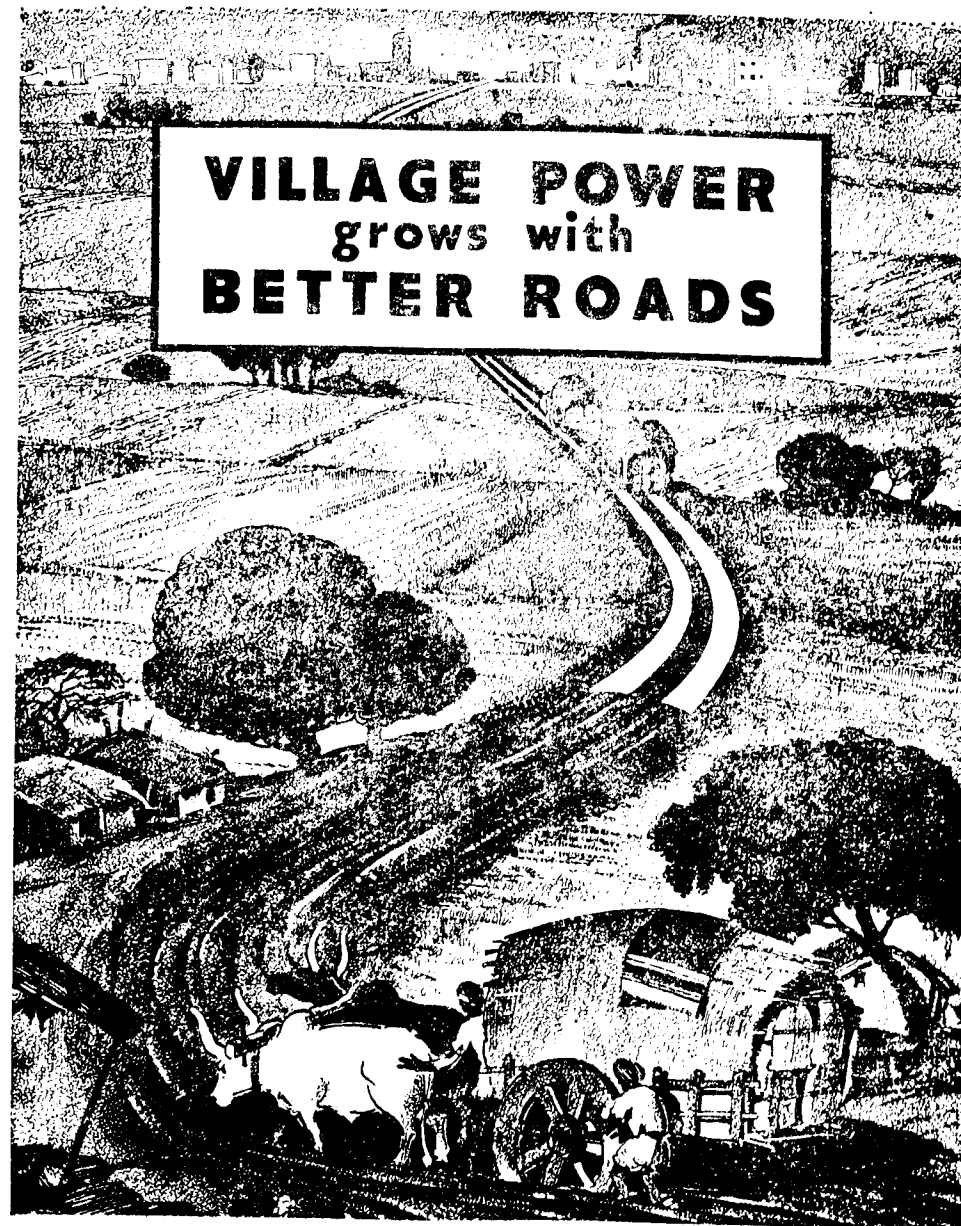
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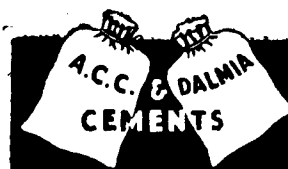
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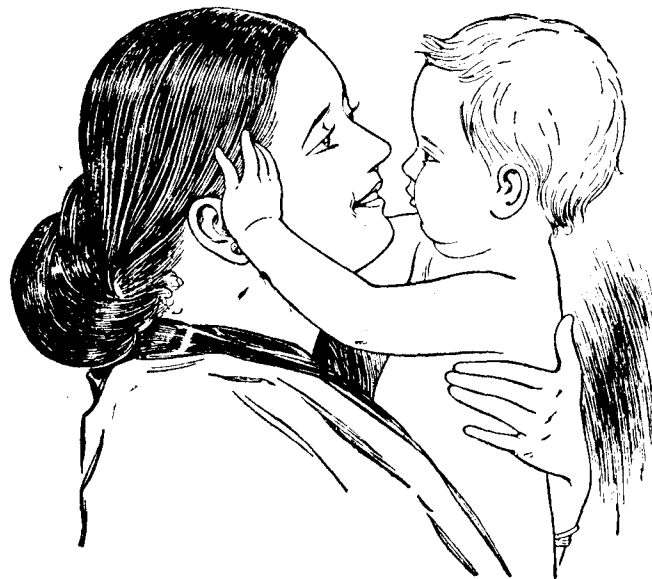
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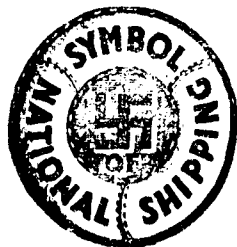
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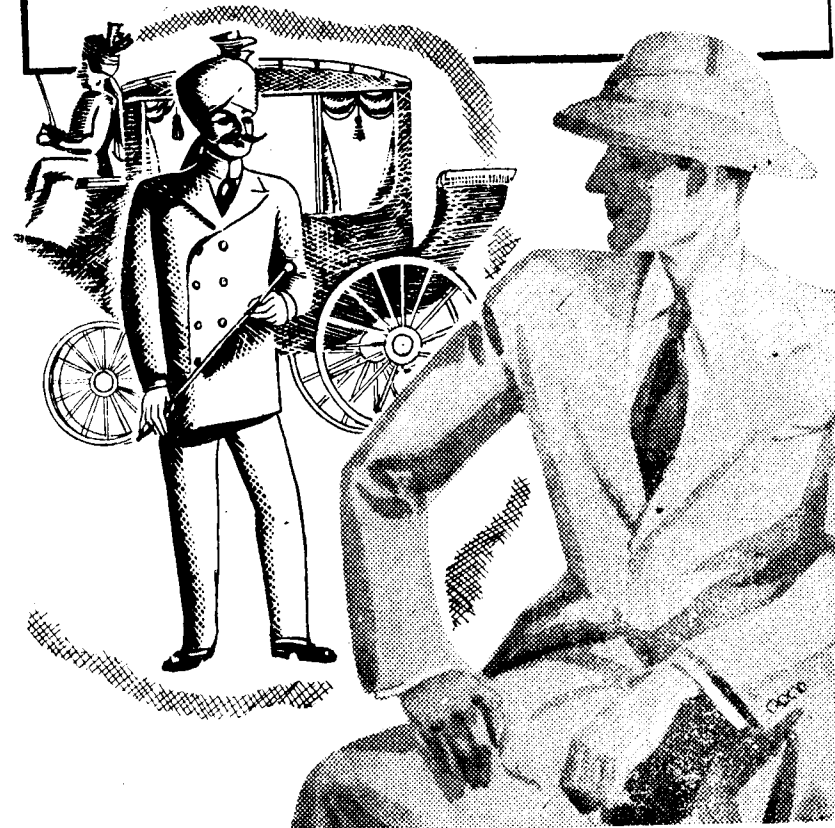
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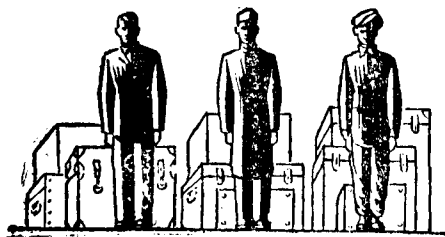
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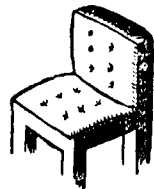
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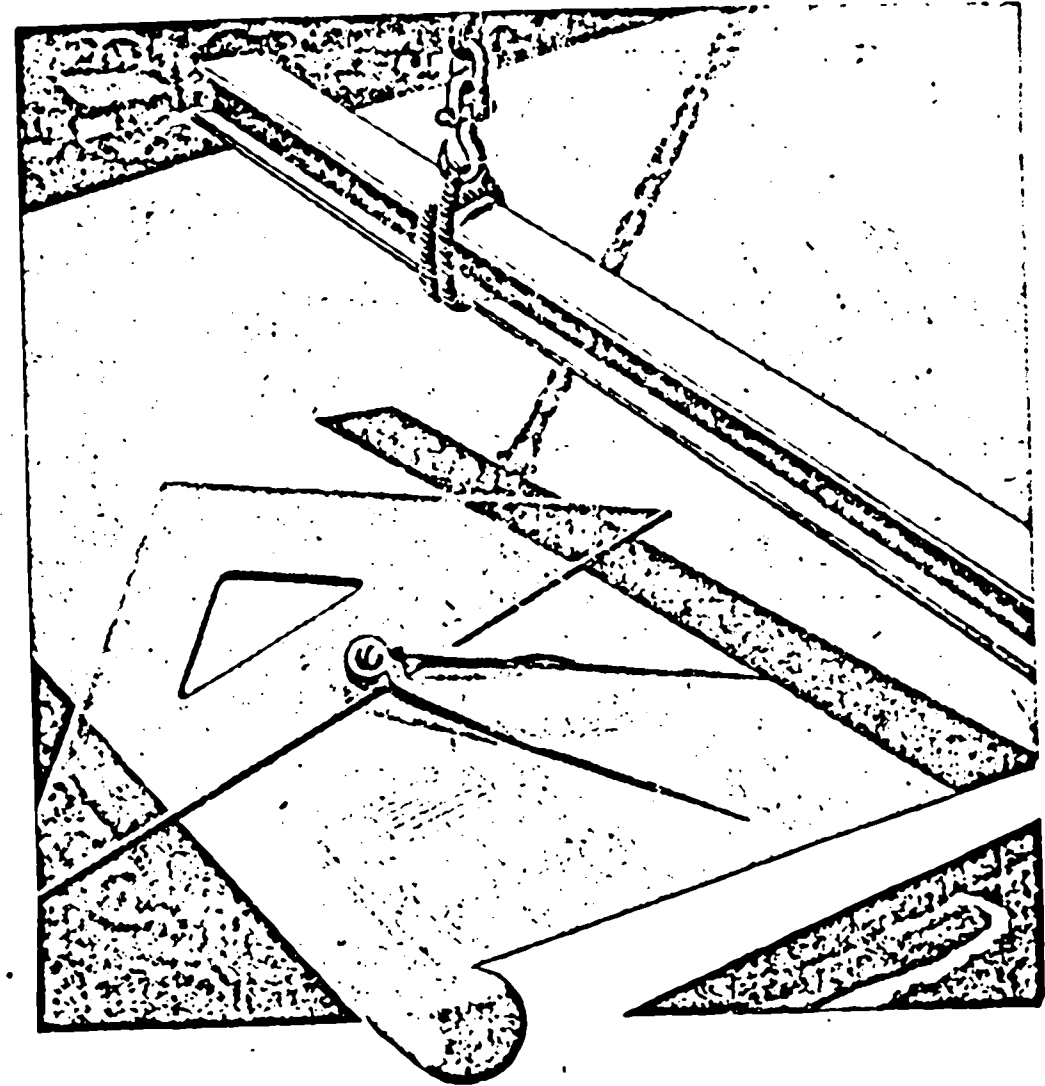


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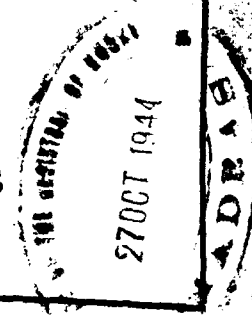
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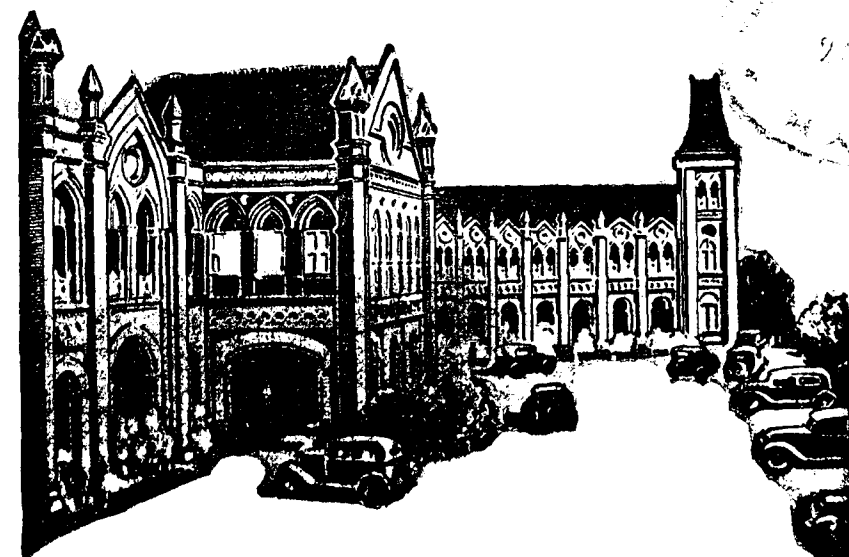
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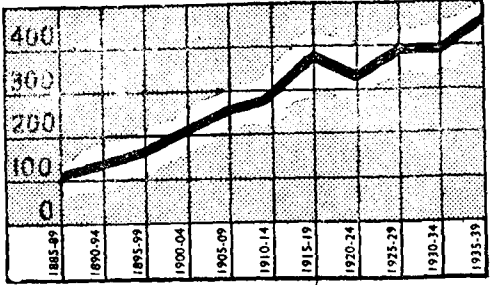
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 45.]

SEPTEMBER 1944

[No. 9.

BRITAIN AND HER DOMINIONS

BY PROF. HARI CHARAN MUKERJI, M.A.

— 0 —

THE outbreak of the present war demonstrated beyond any doubt the strong attachment binding the dominions with the mother country. It was so during the last Great War too. The help which has been rendered to the mother country has come spontaneously and has been of the most considerable nature both in men and money and materials and among all these dominions. Canada heads the list as the most developed and prosperous of them all as well as because of the fact that on account of her distance from the main theatres of war her homeland has never been menaced by foreign invasion and so she has been able to extend every help without any stint and without reserving anything for the defence of herself as has been the case with Australia. Canada has generously supplied the mother country with the sinews of war and Canadian contingents have been fighting in many theatres, particularly in Cassino and Anzis beachheads. Canada has been one of the main feeders of the R.A.F. as it is in Canada that the vast Empire organization for the training of airmen is located where on account of its distance from the European theatre of war,

the work has been proceeding without any hitch. She has also turned out innumerable tanks, aircraft and lorries which have partly kept the invading army in Italy well supplied with these things. Besides all this Canada is now the granary of the Empire and but for the foodstuffs supplied by her to Britain, she would have been faced with a very ugly situation. The help which has been rendered by South Africa has been also very considerable though it cannot compare with that rendered by Canada. Contingents of the South African army have borne their part in ejecting the Italians from Abyssinian soil, in occupying Eretria, in keeping Egypt free from German aggression and lastly in chasing the enemy away from North Africa. Field Marshal Smuts is one of the strongest pillars of the Empire and sometimes in his zeal and enthusiasm for demonstrating his love for the British connection has been betrayed into advancing certain preposterous claims about the part to be played by the Empire in a post-war world which even scandalised Mr. Churchill and called forth repudiation from him for this astute leader in spite of his vaunted plain-speaking has got common sense enough not to sow the seeds of dissension among the

Allies before the war has been gained. But such an indiscreet act on the part of a Dominion Premier is sure to show the strong bias of attachment which bind the mother country with the dominions.

Australia also on the outbreak of hostilities rushed to the help of the mother country and Australian contingents fought alongside British, Indian and South African troops in Egypt and Libya as well as in vainly trying to stem the tide of Japanese advance in Malay Peninsula and the Dutch Indies till the advancing tide of Japanese conquests menaced her own homeland and she was compelled in pure self-defence to withdraw most of her forces fighting overseas for the defence of the mother land itself. And since then Australian soldiers have been mainly fighting alongside the Americans in dislodging the enemy from New Guinea and the islands of the S.-W. Pacific. New Zealand also has helped to the best of her ability and her soldiers are even now fighting in the Cassino sector. All this testifies to the spontaneous help rendered by the dominions to the mother country and also testifies to the bond of affection that binds them all.

But though apparently all this presents a magnificent array of indisputable facts, signs are not wanting which distinctly point to the slackening of the bond also. Sceptics are inclined to doubt as how much of this spontaneous and overwhelming response was due to real attachment and how much to the sentiment of self-preservation and a firm determination to put down organised brigandage which disturbed the peace of the world and plunged it in this disastrous war. To the casual observer

it certainly appears that in the post-war world Canada and Australia and with her New Zealand also will drift farther and farther away from this present moorings and may join in a sort of Federation with the U.S.A. There has already been established diplomatic relationship between Canada and her great neighbour across the border and in many other spheres of national activity there has been the closest co-operation. Canadian statesmen have been openly critical of the shackles imposed by the British connection which have hampered her activities and have acted as a drag upon her attainment of full nationhood. The recent speech of Lord Halifax at Toronto in Canada dilating upon the benefits of the British connection and inviting her to join a sort of Imperial Federation after the war called forth angry rejoinders from the most eminent Canadian statesmen. The same attitude of the restiveness is revealed by Reuter's communication from Ottawa under date March 5th about the Provincial Federal Conference held in Easter to discuss about the British North American Act. The message contains the significant lines—"Without implying a hardening of Canadian affection for Britain it is regarded as a safe guess that Canadian opinion steadily is swerving away from willingness to have Britain exercise this power (of revision) over proposed constitutional changes. The Prime Minister Mr. Mackenzie King is known to look with disfavour upon this phase of British connection. Changes in the British North American Act would be necessary preliminary to any sweeping post-war reforms in Canada." Comment upon this is superfluous. The message, if anything, shows the impatience on the part of Canada to force her from tutelage and attain full nationhood.

In the case of Australia the same attitude is to be apprehended though she has not been so outspoken and critical as her sister dominion of Canada being entirely preoccupied first with the problem of saving her from Japanese aggression and when that menace was virtually over with the equally difficult and pressing problem of dislodging Japan from her footholds in the islands of the Pacific scattered all along her northern and north-eastern coast which unless accomplished would serve as springboards for future Japanese aggression against her. And in this act of ridding her of the dreadful Japanese menace she has been entirely helped by America who poured into her men and war materials in an unending stream which saved the situation and turned the tide of war. It seemed at one time with Japan knocking at her gates and Darwin bombed from day to day that the rising tide of Japanese invasion was going to engulf her. Things looked almost desperate and the mother country herself fighting for her very existence with her back to the wall could not send even a small contingent of troops or aircraft or tanks to save her. It was at this dark hour that America stood manfully by her and saved her from imminent peril. And when the war will be over, gratitude which does not count for much in international relations but even sound commonsense and a fear of the repetition of this dreadful episode will draw her nearer to America and farther away from Britain. The centre of gravity of the financial world has long been shifted from Lombard St. to Wall St. and her present financial arrangement with America must have still further reduced her financial strength. All British capital invested in America has been utilised for buying American war materials and how the dead weight of the Lend and Lease Act will be hanging from her neck like a mile-stone. With the loss of her Far Eastern possessions Britain has lost her lucrative eastern markets and her volume of export trade with India too is going to shrink very

much on account of keen American competition. Moreover, on conclusion of hostilities, Japan is likely to make a determined effort to regain her lost Indian market unless she is beaten to her knees and is reduced to the position of a third rate power. So Australia is not likely to receive any help from Britain, military or financial in case of future armed aggression against her or for the development of her vast undeveloped resources. This help will be forthcoming in ample measure from America and this prospect is likely to attract her more and more to her neighbour across the seas by detaching her more and more from the mother country.

So far as New Zealand is concerned she is sure to take her cue from her big neighbour and to follow her footsteps most faithfully for she cannot but do it.

So we find that of all her dominions, South Africa will perhaps be left to Britain. This will be mostly due to her distance from America as well as her distance from Germany and Japan. Her territories are not going to be invaded by these latter countries, nor like Canada she is irresistibly drawn to a closer relationship with America. But potentially she is not so rich as Canada or Australia and therefore her connection will not benefit the mother country very much nor that will be any compensation for the severing of her ties with Canada and Australia. Moreover we must not forget that in South Africa too there is the strong South African Nationalist party led by Dr. Malan opposed to British connection, which vehemently opposed the declaration of war against Germany. It cannot be predicted how things will shape themselves when this party with fresh accession of strength will once more come to power.

So ultimately India will be the only considerable possession left to Britain after the war and higher statesmanship demands that she should do everything in her power to placate her and follow a policy of conciliation towards her.

THE KILLING OF NIKUMBHA

BY THE RT. HON. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI

[What follows is a free translation of sarga 77 of the Yuddha Kanda* of Valmiki's Ramayana. The Rt. Hon. Srinivasa Sastri made it for one of his lectures on the poem. Kumbha and Nikumbha were sons of Kumbhakarna and met their fate in the war at the hands of Sugriva and Hanuman respectively. As a rule, the great rakshasa warriors were skilled in the use of the bow and arrow, and could also use their extraordinary physical strength, when driven to it, in close combat. The monkey chieftains had only stones and trees as their weapons, but when these were broken to bits by the enemy's arrows, fell back on the native force of their brawns and delivered powerful and often decisive blows with their palms and fists. The duel described in the present sarga was somewhat exceptional. Nikumbha did not begin with a shower of arrows, and Hanuman dispensed with the trees and rocks. As if by consent they closed in on each other without wasting time on preliminaries, and Hanuman won by superior strength and agility.]

WHEN Nikumbha saw his brother Kumbha stretched on the ground, he cast angry looks at Sugriva, as if he would burn him to ashes. Then he grasped his imposing mace, stupendous like the crest of the mountain Mandara. A gay garland wreathed it round. Its haft had metal bands wrought like the five fingers of a titan's hand. Round it ran a broad strip of gold, while diamonds and rubies studded it all over. Like the death-dealing rod of Yama it seemed, causing dismay to the monkeys and nerving the rakshasas with courage. Wielding the weapon, which rivalled in size the flagstaff of Indra, Nikumbha, of terrific aspect, roared with mouth yawning wide. On his chest shone a medal of gold; his arms were held by beautiful bracelets; lustrous pendants depended from his ears; a resplendent garland enfolded his neck. With these ornaments and with his club, Nikumbha assumed the threatening semblance of a vast cloud charged with lightning and thunder and shot with a vivid rainbow. As his giant arm twirled the club, the noise was like the bursting yell of the seven winds

of heaven, and the light resembled the Fire-god himself bereft of smoke. The vault above whirled around in the toss of Nikumbha's mace, as though Alaka, the city of the Gandharvas, performed rapid revolutions with her grand mansions and palaces, and the moon and stars and planets joined in the rotatory race. In fact the blazing jewels of the club were rendered the fiercer by the demon's consuming choler, and he struck terror into all hearts like the roaring and raging conflagration which makes an end of all created things when one yuga is succeeded by the next. So paralysing was the fear that the vanaras and rakshasas alike were unable to make the slightest movement. Alone among them all stood Hanuman in front of the rakshasa chieftain, with his broad breast bared to the fury of the attack. On that breast fell with fierce force the giant club of Nikumbha hurled by the giant's arm. That very instant, lo and behold! from the monkey-hero's rock-like breast there shot into the sky, making it one blinding blaze, a thousand meteors, the shattered fragments of the titanic club. Hanuman bore the shock firm and unmoved, as though he

* Translation of Sarga 77, Yuddhakanda.

was a towering mountain, standing firm and unmoved while an earthquake spread ruin all round. Then did Maruti, summoning all his strength, concentrate it into his clenched fist and bring it to bear with the violence of his divine father on Nikumbha's chest. Imagine a black cloud streaked suddenly with fierce lightning and riven with thunder's roar; so shook Nikumbha's huge frame and streamed with red blood in profusion. But the giant recovered soon and, grasping the unwieldy bulk of Hanuman with his powerful arms, lifted him off the ground, to the loud roar of exultant joy which rose from the rakshasa ranks.

This joy, however, lasted but for a moment, for at once with mighty blows of the fist Anjaneya freed himself, and throwing down the captor with main force, leaped on his prostrate body and pounded it mercilessly. Then with both hands he caught the enemy's neck, twisted it about and smashed his head on the rock, setting up at the same time a reverberant roar of triumph. When it was clear that the rakshasa had expired, the monkeys shouted with glee, the skies thundered with satisfaction, the earth rocked with joy, heaven rained fresh flowers, and consternation, stark and comfortless, seized the enemy hosts.

THE PROGRESS OF THE WAR

BY MR. S. M. ARANGOT

LIBERATION OF PARIS

PARIS has been liberated by a national insurrection, and the battle for the French capital is virtually over with the surrender (25th August) of the German Commander to the Commander of the Second French Armoured Division and the Commander of the French Forces of the Interior. This joyous deliverance of the city comes after four long years of serfdom and tyranny under the Nazi yoke, a sad experience, the like of which France has suffered on several occasions during the 1,500 years of her history, only to come out, after a brief spell, regenerate and revived, to take up once again her foremost place among the leading democracies of the world. Liberation of the city does not, however, mean that it is yet free from the horrors of war; German artillery is still operating in certain portions of Paris, laying down shells and blanketing the Allied advance column. Unmindful of this continuance of the German

threat, the residents gave a warm welcome to the liberators, led into the city in triumph by their leader General de Gaulle and joyously danced amidst actual fighting.

The redemption of Paris is a landmark in the history of human freedom, just as its eclipse cast a gloom over the whole civilised world for a time. It also heralds the birth of the Fourth French Republic, an event which emphasises the conviction that democracy is not a dead political ideal. Four years ago nobody dared to predict this historic event in the face of the stunning happenings of those days under the weight of the German *blitzkrieg*, when the banner of Liberty, Equality, and Fraternity was pulled down and the Nazi New Order was seen to have come to stay. Only one and one man, of all people in the world, knew that France would one day come up reincarnate and refreshed from the ashes of her misfortune. General de Gaulle, Chef du Cabinet Militaire in the Government of M. Reynaud

Broadcast from London, a message to the French Nation on June 18, 1940, four days after Paris was declared an open city and the Nazi hordes had marched into it. He asked: "Has the last word been said? Has all hope disappeared? Is the defeat final? No. Believe me, I speak with knowledge and I tell you that France is not lost . . . For, France is not alone. She has a vast Empire behind her. She can unite with the British Empire which holds the seas and is continuing the struggle. She can utilise to the full, as England is doing, the vast industrial resources of the United States . . . This war is not limited to the unhappy territory of our country . . . This war is a world war. In spite of all our mistakes, all our deficiencies, all our sufferings, there are in the universe sufficient means to enable us one day to crush our enemies."

These words uttered at a time when France's fortunes were at their lowest ebb are in marked contrast to what the French leader spoke in Paris on the 26th August: "France is a great nation, and she has rights which she will know how to make heard . . . After what has happened to France we shall not rest or be satisfied until we enter, as is only right, upon the enemies' own territories as conquerors. We are going to fight on to the last day—to the day of total and complete victory."

LIBERATION OF FRANCE

In the liberation of Paris as in that of France the initiative is allowed to the French Patriots and the French Army for whom the task assumes a religious and fanatical fervour; but the task is rendered possible by the irresistible march of the Allied armies from a small beachhead on the Normandy Coast to the very frontiers of Germany to which the Nazi forces are being driven from different directions. General Patton's tank forces are now having a sweep south-east of Paris towards the German frontier, having already reached Troyes on the Seine, and Reims seventy miles further north. Reims is only sixty miles from the Luxemburg border and the

historic battlefield of Sedan, the scene of the German break through into France in 1940.

Allied armies have captured a vast area of Occupied France comprised within the limits of the sea coast on the north, the valley of the Loire in the south and the Seine in the east. The southern portion of France is being simultaneously liberated by the French Forces of the Interior on the one hand and the Allied forces who landed on the southern coast in Riviera, and are fast progressing towards the north, towards Paris, towards the German frontier, and towards the Franco-Spanish border. Some of the most important cities of France have fallen into the hands of the Allies, cities like Marseilles, Toulon, Cannes and Toulouse, while Bordeaux is entirely in the hands of the French forces. No more does Vichy France exist; Petain and Laval are under arrest; and Allied Armies from the north and south, converging on the borders of Germany, have almost completed the liberation of France from Nazi yoke.

The most encouraging part of France's deliverance is the fact that it comes mainly from the American Army. Within a period of four years, America has moved from an attitude of cold indifference towards the war to one of warm enthusiasm for participation, a change in the angle of vision brought about partly by the persuasion of the German steel and fire, but mainly by the challenging bold stand taken up by Britain under the leadership of Winston Churchill. In the beginning American people, as a whole, quite definitely did not want to become involved in the war; once bitten twice shy was the prevailing temper at that time.

The progress of events on this theatre has been surprisingly rapid during this month, since at the beginning we had only just concluded the battle of Normandy and the battle of France was about to start. But from the nature of the events it is possible to state the Allied progress was deliberate and foreseen. General Eisenhower is seen moving his headquarters from

England to France, and issuing an inspiring message to his army; and General Montgomery is found repeating the right hook punch tactics which won him Cherbourg. The opening event was a renewal of the Second Army offensive south-east of Caen where Rommel had concentrated most of his armour to prevent a break through; there had been six panzer divisions on the Caen front as against three on the United States Army sector. The Germans thus offered the fiercest resistance to the British and Canadian advance down both sides of the road to Falaise. But the Allied attack did not last long. It was obviously a feint, as ten hours after it began General Montgomery sprang his real assault, a powerful armoured attack by General Bradley's First U.S. Army. This caught Rommel off his guard, and the American advance started on a forty-mile front between Lessay and St. Lo soon spread to the east, south and west with St. Lo as the pivot. Avaranches at the base of the Cherbourg peninsula was soon reached by General Bradley's troops and the western end of Avaranches-Caen line was burst open. The battle of Normandy was over and the battle of France began when the Allies reached Avaranches south of Granville where the Brest peninsula begins. The battle of France initially appeared to be an advance towards Paris and that from two directions, one in the north from the Caen front towards the Seine, particularly the port of Mavre, and the other in the south crossing Chartres and Dreux on the road to Versailles. The most remarkable event in the progress of the two armies was the encirclement and annihilation of the remnants of fourteen divisions of the German army of whom a very large number had been destroyed and not less than 25,000 fell into the Allied hands as prisoners. The city of Falaise itself fell on the 17th of August.

The drive towards Paris has now turned out to be a drive towards the German frontier. The British and Canadian forces are having a combined drive almost along

the coast towards this goal; the American army which drove towards Paris is also seen hurrying in the direction of the German frontier. But the nearest point to the German frontier has been reached by the spearheads of the Allied army which landed in South France (15th August and occupied the Cannes - Nice coast. The assault and landing on the south coast of France was bigger than the Normandy operation, and the airborne force was the largest ever dropped in any Allied invasion. This happened just seventy days after the Allied landing in Normandy.

THE RUSSIAN THEATRE

When Hitler's European fortress is being assailed from the west and crumbling under the weight of Allied blows and the convulsions of a French National Insurrection, the eastern theatre under the domination of Russian arms is painting a similar and yet more gruesome picture. With the opening of the month of August, we find the whole Russian front between the Gulf of Finland on the north and the Carpathians in the south on a tremendous move against the eastern walls of Hitler's fortress; a deep penetration into the Baltic republics by the Russian army, closing the gap on thirty divisions of the German forces under the command of Colonel-General Scherner; the opening of the battle for Warsaw, which started with the capture of Siedlce, a railway junction fifty miles to the east of the Polish capital, and Lukow, another railway junction fifteen miles south of Siedlce, by Marshal Rokossovsky's Soviet forces; a powerful Russian drive on Czechoslovakia in two directions, west of Delatyn, which is the entrance to Yablonica Pass, right up through the Carpathian Passes. The great Nazi fortresses and bastions like Brest Litovsk, Bialystok, Lwow, and Przemyal had already been encircled and reduced, and the German army was pulling out in order to make a stand on the Vistula, which is the last great natural barrier between Russia and Germany. The Russian army had, however, crossed the Vistula in one sector, w

three Russian armies from different directions were closing in on Warsaw. We could also see at the beginning of the month of August Marshal Koniev's men in the Tarnapol area in the south Crossing the Dniester, capturing Stanislawow and swarming into the Carpathian foothills where the right wing of the Russian offensive against Rumania had come to a halt. Here they were found in pursuit of the Hungarian troops into Hungarian-occupied Czechoslovakia.

As the month advanced events took a more definite shape. Of the whole Russian front, a particular section between Riga and Warsaw, a distance of 360 miles, was actually in flames as the Germans saw that the events on the Baltic sector would decide not only the fate of the thirty divisions of the German army encircled by a steel arc from Lake Pskov to Riga, but would also open the way for the Russian forces towards East Prussia. Warsaw is being subjected to a pincer movement, Marshal Rokossovsky battling for initiative on the eastern and north eastern approaches to Warsaw, and Marshal Koniev striking out vigorously from the bridge-head over the Vistula, south of Warsaw.

THE BALKANS

The most remarkable achievement for the Russian army during this month has been on the Balkan theatre in which Rumania has left the Axis camp and agreed to Russian terms, and the Russian army has reached the valley of the Danube. The Rumanian capital has been cleared of the Germans and the Danubian port of Galatz has been captured. Bulgaria is seeking peace terms from the Allies and according to the latest news German troops crossing into Bulgarian territory are being disarmed. Bulgaria is a state which had aligned herself with the Axis from March 1st 1941; but Hitler had never been able to persuade Bulgaria to declare war on Russia. Bulgaria, of all Balkan countries, had been the most sympathetic to the Soviet system, and the first to

demonstrate the conviction that henceforward Russia would be the dominating influence in south-east Europe. Yugoslavia has already got in operation a powerfully organised resistance movement and King Peter's new government has set at rest all controversy among the various Patriotic organisations. Yugoslavia is already a mine which has been set fire to, and the fire of rage against German domination which it started is already spreading to the other Balkan states. The German fortress on the Balkan side is already reeling and its crash must come when General Alexander starts a major operation with northern Italy as the base. The time for this great event is not far off; the Allied army under General Alexander has reached the Gothic Line of German defence and several spearheads have already crossed the Arno in their march towards the Po valley; but the creation of a separate command for the Adriatic, the visit of His Majesty the King, followed by a prolonged visit from Mr. Churchill, all these point the way to some startling military venture.

THE JAPANESE THEATRE

As a result of the Allied raid on Sabang and the almost complete capture of the Mariana group of islands Japan began to view the naval situation in the Pacific very seriously and the Tokyo radio stated: "The Japanese navy which is the means of protection of the very life of Japan will enter into battle only in waters comparatively close to the mainland." The Japanese Emperor called a meeting of his cabinet and exhorted his ministers to advice the people to be calm and be prepared for all sacrifices. In North Burma Allied troops captured Myitkyina early last month and followed it up with further advances towards Bhamo. Another Allied force is on its way from Mogaung to Mandalay along the railway, while a third army is marching from Indian borders and are fighting in Japanese-held Burma territory.

Position of Indians in South Africa

BY MR. MANILAL GANDHI

[In the following article, Mr. Manilal Gandhi, Editor of *Indian Opinion*, in South Africa, points out that the suspension of the obnoxious Pegging Act in favour of the Licensing Board does not afford the slightest relief to Indians resident in the colony. He complains that the principle of segregation is still there and the anti-Indian feeling worked up by a section of the Whites is bound to worsen the lot of Indians there. The Draft Ordinance to be passed by the Natal Provincial Council simply means that "the fate of Indians in Natal will be decided not by the Union Government but by the Natal Provincial Council for it gives a right of appeal against the decision of the Licensing Board to the administration who will have the final say".—ED. I. R.]

I FIND there is a great deal of misunderstanding among the people outside South Africa about the recently passed legislation known as the Pegging Act, which restricts the right of Indians in Durban of acquiring ownership of land and of residence and occupation and about the Draft Ordinance at present before the Natal Provincial Council, which provides for the establishment of Licensing Boards composed of two Indian members and two European members with a European Chairman having legal or judicial experience. The purpose of this Licensing Board will virtually be to decide which are areas predominantly occupied by Europeans and which are predominantly occupied by Indians. No person, other than of the class for which such areas are demarcated, will thereafter be permitted to reside there, and no Asiatic will be permitted to reside outside such areas without first obtaining a licence to do so from the Licensing Board. This Draft Ordinance is the result of an agreement arrived at between General Smuts, Prime Minister of the Union, and a few Congress leaders and a few Europeans, on their own. Neither the European members nor the Indian Congress members who were party to the agreement had consulted their respective organisations before doing so. The

impression created outside South Africa is that the above-mentioned Draft Ordinance, if passed, will be a distinct gain for the Indians in Natal. In fact, however, it will not be so.

The Pegging Act is a measure passed by the Union Parliament and though it is stated to be of a temporary nature it has virtually come to remain on the Statute Book. This assumption is fully justified by what has happened in the case of the Transvaal Asiatic Land and Trading Act, 1939, which was supposed to be an interim measure, but still remains on the Statute Book.

The Draft Ordinance is to be passed by the Natal Provincial Council, which means that the fate of Indians in Natal will be decided not by the Union Government but by the Natal Provincial Council for it gives a right of appeal against the decision of the Licensing Board to the administration, who will have the final say.

The Draft Ordinance lays down the policy of establishing class areas,—which amounts to segregation—in Durban, against which Indians in South Africa and the Government and the people of India have been fighting all these years and which brought about the Round Table Conference and the Cape Town Agreement of 1927. A handful of

Congress leaders backed by the High Commissioner for India have agreed to this measure being passed for the sake of a paltry material gain, *viz.*, the withdrawal of the application of the Pegging Act in Durban, thus restoring the right of acquiring properties for the purpose of investment. In other words, the segregation part of the Pegging Act has been achieved by the New Draft Ordinance.

There was a time when Congress unanimously condemned and rejected *in toto* the Pegging Act and went to the length of asking for the High Commissioner for India to be recalled. They have given no justification for their *volte face* beyond the fact that they believe that whether we like it or not, segregation has come to stay; that if we acquired properties at present we shall be able at a later stage to claim the right of occupation in properties owned by us. This is a defeatist and most humiliating attitude for responsible leaders to adopt and for any self-respecting Government to encourage. It has been reported in South Africa that the official circles in India have blessed the Pretoria Agreement.

It should be remembered that both the Pegging Act and the proposed Draft Ordinance are applicable to any part of Natal where it is deemed necessary. They are not restricted only to Durban. The futility of the supposed material gain can be seen from the fact that as soon as the Draft Ordinance was published the High Commissioner made an appeal to Indians to exercise the right, the Union Government has so generously restored to them, with great restraint lest the European public may

be agitated and the Pegging Act once again put into operation.

The Cape Town Agreement has long been treated as a scrap of paper by the Union Government and instances are not wanting to show how hopelessly the High Commissioner for India has failed to implement that agreement and to protect the rights of Indians in South Africa.

It will interest the people of India to know by way of contrast how the Chinese are asserting their rights in South Africa. The South African Press is strongly advocating the removal of the invidious colour bar in so far as the Chinese are concerned, because China, they argue, "is our powerful ally." The European Press has generally evinced sympathy for the Chinese and has sounded a note of warning to the European public to be careful not to antagonise a powerful ally which is so bravely serving the cause of democracy and human freedom.

I wish the public in India to know that *Indian Opinion*, which I am editing in South Africa, is subjected to strict censorship and is not allowed to go out of the borders of the Union.

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*, G. T., Madras.

HOW WE WILL DEFEAT JAPAN

BY MR. MAX WERNER,

Author of "Battle for the World" and "The Great Offensive"

TO bring Japan to abrupt and final defeat we must co-ordinate our oceanic war of movement in the Pacific with a big land war on the Asiatic mainland. We must reach and capture that zone along the Chinese coast from Canton to Shanghai whence decisive fighting against Japan can be accomplished. This zone of decision must include the hinterland and adjoining waters. It must be approached from two directions at once—from the Chinese mainland and from the Pacific Ocean.

A turning point in the war against Japan is at hand. From a military point of view this war, though already in its third year, is still in its preliminary phase. But as our forces concentrate in the Pacific it is being waged with intensified strength and, most important, with a new type of operations. The anti-Japanese-coalition is turning from a war of attrition to a war of military decision, and from local thrusts to a war of movement.

To calculate how the decision in the war against Japan will come about we must employ realistic imagination. This war is without precedent and cannot be waged according to any existing pattern. Never before has a war been fought in such gigantic spaces as those from Burma to Hawaii and from the Aleutians to Australia. Nor have modern war techniques ever before been used in these areas. This war demands a new kind of operational skill.

In 1944 American aviation is making tremendous strides. Our growing shipping

resources are becoming available for the war in the Pacific. Our sea power, with new and modern warships, is being turned increasingly in this direction. When the war in Europe ends, the greater part of the Royal Air Force and the British Navy will be transferred to the Far East. American and British divisions seasoned on African and European battlefields will be hurled against the Japanese forces. We may assume that by the end of 1944 the United States and Britain will have two-fold naval and fourfold aerial superiority over Japan. Our ground troops will be better equipped and our available reserves will be greater.

However, mere numerical superiority in the Pacific will not suffice. What matters there is not only the sum total of our strength but also the "how" of its deployment. And this "how" includes the type of operations and the "where"—the direction of the main blow.

Out of the specific conditions of the Pacific war theatre there have developed special kinds of tactics for every arms branch. These are being perfected and are reaching a high point of efficiency.

As instruments of the war of movement, air and sea power have the task of bridging spaces and of accelerating the tempo of operations. Combined with these into a unified war machine is land power, which acquires speed from sea and air power. Troopships carry an army which moves on the water with naval and air coverage of its own—a floating army with

wings. Close collaboration of the various arms branches establishes a three-dimensional war machine in the Pacific which can float, fly, march on the ground, advance on wheels, and fight under any conditions. Its teamwork must be perfect; ground forces capture bases for the air and naval forces; sea power becomes a floating bridge for land power; the air force extends the zone of action of both land and naval forces.

The decisive operations in the Pacific are the landings. Without them sea and air power are able only to carry out naval raids and attacks from the air. It is the ground forces which will pin down the ever-closing ring around Japan in firmly fixed positions, and force decisions at short distances until they land on the Japanese Isles.

From the Chinese coast, with the adjoining waters of the South China Sea, the Formosa Strait, and the East China Sea, the whole war theatre against Japan can be dominated. True, if the anti-Japanese coalition were to hold the whole line from the Aleutians to South-East Asia, running through the tip of Kamchatka and the Russian coastal provinces to the Chinese coast, the war could be brought closer to Japan and finished more quickly. But for the time being we must count on only those positions which are today politically and strategically within the realm of possibility.

The Chinese coast is a spring-board for the attack against Japan and from its shores we can control the enemy's vital communications. It offers the anti-Japanese coalition a broad continental base

for operations against Japan from the direction where she is most vulnerable. From this point the entire Japanese defence system can be unhinged.

The Chinese coast can give us naval and air bases from which to wage war against Japan from short distances. Formosa is Japan's Sicily and the Chinese coast is her Algiers. Here the junction of the Pacific front and the Asiatic land front against Japan can be effected. Seizure of the Chinese coast line will make possible a steady flow of supplies and troops to Chinese and hasten the military decision there.

Capture of the Chinese coast also would break the whole Japanese Co-Prosperity Sphere in half. The Japanese Isles would cut off from the vital raw materials in the south and also from the outlying southern defence positions of the new Japanese Empire, especially Singapore. The Japanese troops throughout Southern Asia would be cut off from their supply bases on the Japanese Isles.

Thus the "metabolism," the life-and-energy-sustaining process, within the Japanese Empire would be disrupted. It depends on two streams, raw materials going one way, military supplies the other. As Admiral Nomura put it in December, 1943: "Japan cannot exist by herself nor defend herself—her existence and defence are dependent on co-operation and interchange of materials in the East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere."

A glance at the map shows the state of Japan's land war in Asia and the possibilities such land war offers the anti-Japanese coalition. In China, Japan has

attained her major strategic objective. She has no highway across China, even from Shanghai to Canton. The lands she holds on the Asiatic continent are not connected. The Japanese armies throughout Asia must rely on sea routes that are exposed to attacks by ships, submarines, and planes. Burma, Thailand, and Malaya are islands, as far as the Japanese-held regions in China are concerned accessible only from the sea.

On the other hand, the Chinese forces are fighting against their Japanese opponents from short distances. The Chinese stand close to Hankow, Nanking, Canton, Hong Kong and Swatow—that is to say, close to the country's big railroad, administrative, and strategic centres, ports, and air bases. They all lie close in front of the Chinese and just behind the Japanese lines. The Japanese Army has been unable to throw any deep safety zone around these positions. The Chinese need only advance relatively short distances, from 40 to 200 miles, from some points they hold and they will recapture all of the country's vital military centers.

The mediocrity of the Japanese Army in large-scale fighting has been demonstrated in China. What it did not do proves what it cannot do. In the five and a half years of war since the occupation of Hankow the Japanese have chalked up no further successes worth mentioning, despite their hundredfold industrial and technical superiority. Their tactical skill has been inadequate and the war plans of their leaders have been based on miscalculations.

The opportunities and tasks of the coming campaign in Burma thus become clearer. This campaign is to establish

direct contact between the Anglo-American forces and the Chinese Army. While Lord Mountbatten has the task of outflanking the Japanese in South-East Asia, that of the Chinese offensive will be to break through to the three China Seas. If the Chinese Army alone was able to stop 30 Japanese divisions (almost three times as many as Japan has stationed throughout South-East Asia), it will be able in co-operation with the Allied fronts—even if it should receive only limited arms supplies—to take the offensive. The recent successful battle of Changteh showed what China's troops can accomplish with American air support.

A war of movement against Japan is possible everywhere, in the Pacific as well as on the Asiatic continent. The vast, over-extended Japanese possessions can be attacked from any point where counter-forces are concentrated. A Fortress Asia or a Pacific Wall, as counterparts of Hitler's Fortress Europe and Atlantic Wall, are non-existent. There is no dense Japanese defence within narrow confines. The Japanese defences offer exposed flanks everywhere. That is especially true of the Pacific area. But on the Asiatic continent, too, positional warfare is not inevitable. At present a kind of equilibrium is maintained there between the Chinese and the Japanese forces. But if Anglo-American forces enter the picture, that balance will be upset.

In a certain sense, the anti-Japanese coalition will repeat the Japanese offensives in reverse. It will proceed from China's interior to the Chinese coasts and from the periphery of the Pacific to the Japanese

Islands. What will matter, however, is not the recapture of territory but the military result—the collapse of Japanese defences. Japan sought economic conquest, not an ultimate military decision. Anglo-American strategy, in contrast, must seek a military decision, which would automatically bring in its wake the liberation of all areas robbed by Japan. To knock out Japan militarily, we do not need everything Japan holds. Nor do we need everything Japan needs militarily. We have to wrest from Japan only what we require for our advance in a chosen direction—which means air and naval bases. Therefore the struggle will be waged for a limited number of objectives picked by us.

The anti-Japanese coalition will hit Japan with everything it has; direct military blows, destruction from the air, and attrition of Japanese shipping and aviation. We will have powerful bombardment aviation in 1944, with bombers tremendously improved in performance. Air bombardment will show greater relative results against Japan than against Germany. One thousand tons of bombs dropped on Japanese cities will have a comparatively greater effect than the same number dropped on German cities. But Japan is better protected by long distances than Germany and, by using the mainland, has much vaster possibilities of relocating its industries.

To carry out destruction from the air we need air bases closer to Japan. Getting them will be a chief objective of our landing operations.

It will be approximately another year before we can concentrate our full forces in the Pacific, and another 12 to 18 months

before the decisive operations against Japan can be waged. In 1945 and the first half of 1946 great events may be expected in the last war theatre of World War II. We can envision how Japan will succumb.

Japanese aviation will grow increasingly weak and incapable of supporting and protecting ground and sea forces and of staying off the Allied air fleets.

Japan's Navy will be unable to maintain communications with outlying strategic positions and raw material regions. The Japanese Army will be crushed by the combination of crack Anglo-American troops and the masses of the Chinese Army.

Above all, the Japanese fighting forces will become over-extended and incapable of maneuver. War in the Pacific puts the defender at a disadvantage, while the attacker holds the odds. The defender, who wants to cling to positions, scatters his forces. The attacker, if he is able to rally large mobile masses for maneuver, is able to effect a deep break-through. We shall win because we shall have a motorized mass force available on the water, in the air, and on the ground. The Japanese defence lines will be ripped and Japanese fighting forces will be unable to ward off break-throughs in depth.

When the Japanese Islands are cut off from the southern colonial area and the Japanese Army is beaten on the Asiatic mainland, the defence of the Japanese Islands will become a hopeless undertaking. The Allies, in possession of the Chinese coasts as a land base, will be in a position to carry out landings on the Japanese Islands.

Admiral Nomura put it very succinctly when he said that Japan as a military power cannot exist if its Empire is smashed.—*Liberty.*

SRI AUROBINDO

THE GREAT YOGI AND PHILOSOPHER

By MR. K. BALASUBRAMANIA IYER, B.A., B.L.

THE story of Sri Aravindo's life reads like a romance. A thoroughly anglicised youth trained from boyhood in English public schools and graduating at Cambridge,



SRI AUROBINDO GHOSE

with English practically as his mother-tongue, his ambition was to qualify himself for the civil service and return to India as a full-fledged Indian civil servant. He narrowly missed his mark and came to India only to become the principal of a college at Baroda. But his innate fiery spirit and burning patriotism could not be suppressed by his Western education and English training. They were, on the other hand, nourished and fostered by it. He resigned his post and threw himself heart and soul on the side of the

'Extremist', of the Indian National Congress of those days. He became the renowned editor of the *Bandemataram* and thundered forth in its leading articles the surging thoughts of the rising generation of Bengal. One vividly remembers still the profound impression his leader entitled the 'Ardhodayayog' made on all youthful minds then. Early in life, he acquired an astonishing mastery of the English language and a profound knowledge of Greek and Latin, with a fair acquaintance with French, Italian and German. Soon he headed the revolt of the youth of Bengal and came under the severe notice of the Government as an arch conspirator and seditionist. He was for some time prisoner in the Alipur jail. Later, he found his abode at Pondicherry. Thenceforward began his wonderful spiritual career as a great Yogi and for more than thirty years now he shines forth as the world-famous sage, thinker and philosopher. He has been expounding the great philosophy of India and, experiencing in his own inner life, the great spiritual truths discovered by India's ancient seers. He is a great literary artist, and has been writing incessantly, both verse and prose. He has many standard works to his credit, his 'Magnum Opus' being the 'Life Divine' in three volumes and next in importance, 'the Essays on the Gita' in two volumes. His ashrama at Pondicherry has attracted many devout disciples and scholars. Many distinguished Non-Hindus like the late Sir Francis Younghusband

and the late Sir Akbar Hydari were influenced by his teachings. He has become now the founder of a school of philosophic thought and practical discipline. He has a great message of hope and deliverance for mankind and envisages the birth of a new world, full of spirituality and divine afflatus. It is indeed worthy of the great master and his teachings that his gifted disciples and admirers have published the two numbers of the Sri Aravindo Annual on the occasion of his seventieth and seventy-first birthdays on the 15th August, 1942 and 15th August, 1943. Eminent writers therein have sought to give to the reading public a very clear idea of his unique contributions to Indian philosophic thought, the inestimable value to us of his rich synthetic experience as a Yogi and his great literary merit as a poet of spirituality and as a master of English prose. One of his disciples acclaim him as a "modern Messiah who would give us the light that would show us the way out of the hopeless we have made of our life, torn as we are by communal, national and international feuds." Many have adverted to the distinct and distinguishing features of his philosophic thought and explained how he differs in certain respects from the other great philosophers and teachers of India and how he tries to improve upon them. The great Shankara and his well-thought-out and widely accepted doctrines fortified by his own spiritual experience, come in for much criticism at their hands. One writer while remarking that Shankara preaching renunciation of life and work was quite consistent in his philosophy adds

significantly a footnote "though his own extraordinary life of activity contradicted his own philosophy". Reading this, one cannot help feeling that Sri Aravindo leading the life of a recluse immured in the quiet of his ashrama, at Pondicherry, far from the madding crowd's ignoble strife is a faithful follower of Shankara's philosophy. The ideal of Sri Aravindo is, as it has been pointed out "to divinise the human, to immortalise the mortal and spiritualise the material".

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International Order & International Policing

BY MR. R. GALLETTI, I.C.S.

AT a public meeting recently held in Madras, the writer put forward certain ideas about world order which he believes to be both new and important. The press reported the speech; but the new ideas were left out of the report. It seems therefore desirable to have these ideas put forward in a place where readers familiar with the points already made by such thinkers as Wells, Angell, Lord Davies and Streit will be able to consider the new points at leisure. The writer's aim is to complete, and not merely to re-state, an argument which needs this completion before it can point the way to a practicable policy.

The argument may be resumed briefly as follows: Nations, which are treated as the individual units in international affairs, behave worse than individuals in any society. It is not grasped that the conditions required to ensure the good behaviour of individuals in other communities must apply to nations in the international community. The root of the trouble is that nations still claim, as individuals used to in uncivilized societies, the right to be judges in their own cause and to use force to assert their own private will—in short, claim "sovereign independence". Such a claim cannot be conceded without anarchy, whether it is made in a society of individual persons or in a society of individual nations. In civilized states similar claims made by individual persons have been denied, and order has been established by making force a public

monopoly, referring all disputes to impartial judges judging according to rules laid down by a competent law-maker which also determines the rules for the use of the public force, and using the public force to make good the decisions of the judges against any individual who refuses to accept them. Similar conditions must be brought into being in the world society if international order is to replace anarchy.

It is argued that the League of Nations, though worthy of support for want of something better, failed because, in the first place, there was no competent law-maker to lay down the rules of international good behaviour and international justice; secondly, there was no competent tribunal capable of handling all disputes between nations; and, thirdly, sanctions without force would not work and sanctions with force meant war, since there was no monopoly of public force against which individual nations would be unable to rebel.

When the inability of the League system to prevent the oncoming of a general war was becoming increasingly manifest, and some were disposed to argue that Collective Security could still be made effective if sufficiently organized, it was pointed out that to organize Collective Security as a Grand Alliance was excessively difficult, even if the peace-loving nations so organized could be trusted to be the stronger group and to remain peace-loving; that the bond between them—fear of the aggressor states—might dissolve before the greater fear of actual war; and that the forces at the disposal of the Alliance

would be dispersed and under many commands, so that the aggressor could destroy them piecemeal. (Hitler, in fact, counted on defeating his enemies one by one, and nearly did it).

It was argued by Streit and his followers that the defects of Alliances, Leagues and Confederations of states are not found in Federal Unions of peoples, which provide a strong central government and give it a monopoly of armed force within the limits of the Union. They argued that even if the Union were territorially scattered and its armed forces dispersed, the aggressor would have to reckon with the fact that the component parts could not make peace separately, and while he was striking down one part the Union would have time to mobilize all its power. Hence a Union of the principal democratic states would be a sure guarantee of world peace.

The argument seems to the present writer quite sound, assuming—which is a reasonable assumption—that the democratic states of the modern world will not themselves develop aggressive desires. But the writer would urge that from Streit's own argument further deductions and developments naturally follow; and he believes that if Streit's proposals are feasible, there is a possibility of an even sounder organization of public force for world order.

Streit rightly argued that it is an error to bind states; the course which works is to bind individuals. Burke said he did not know the method of drawing up an indictment against a whole people. Still less do we know the method of putting a nation in the dock or a state in the

lock-up. The coercion of states can be achieved only by war or by "unfriendly acts" little short of war, even if the coercing power is a Union with an overwhelming war potential. On the other hand, the argument of "Union Now" and the lessons of history show that peace and order are easily maintained when the public force has to deal only with the recalcitrance of individuals and no longer with organized armed force. The feudal potentates who were allowed to keep a large armed retinue were a menace to peace; the Moghul Viceroys and Chinese provincial governors had to be quelled, when they revolted, by warfare and not by mere policing, because the state was confronted by organized armed force. But when the state has once broken the power of such potentates, and taken from them finally the power to use organized private force against the public force, the state's public force can be used against individuals with effect and without fighting. To give another example, Chicago gangsters with armed gangs had to be fought; but once the state had asserted itself and broken up the armed gangs, police methods could be used instead of warfare on a small scale.

The notion which this writer put forward in the lecture already mentioned—a notion which does not seem to have been put forward before—is that the public force of the world to maintain world peace and order has to operate in the same way as the public force of states to maintain national peace and order; that is, it must be exerted against individuals and not against nations.

Proposals for a world peace force, such as those of Ely Oulbertson and those which seem to be in preparation in Washington and London, envisage armies under the control of a world authority to fight wars if need be. It is not to be said that such Peace Forces would not be effective; but the writer would say that they are a clumsy, doubtful and uneconomical way of doing what should be done by policing, in the same way as the same thing is done in the smaller unit under a state government.

What is the implication? This, that the individual members of state governments must be subject to a known international law; that the individuals who are the real breakers of the international law, whether they are private citizens or public officials or ministers of state, must be subject to arrest and prosecution and punishment for their offences; that the world police must, therefore, be able to operate freely within every country, as federal police operate freely within every state of a Union; that the local police must be bound to assist the world police, not to hinder them; and that the power of resisting the world police in the execution of their duty must not be left to the individuals composing a state government. So we get the following elements of a complete solution of the problem of world order: First, all armed forces under the control of national governments must be abolished, in all countries without exception (though for ceremonial purposes and the control of tribal and uncivilized areas small forces might be maintained with the assent of the world authority). Secondly, there must

be a World Authority with legislative competence in matters affecting world welfare. Thirdly, there must be World Courts to declare the law and decide disputes; preferably there should be many World Courts—courts of first instance in every important capital, courts of appeal in each continent, a Supreme Court of final resort. Fourthly, there must be a disciplined world police force, recruited from all the world, responsible only to the World Authority, acting only under its directions for the execution of the decrees of the world courts and the enforcement of the world law and having the power to investigate, to question, to search and to arrest individuals in any place where a breach of the world law is meditated, prepared or attempted.

Are these requirements Utopian? It is one thing to state what are the "necessary and sufficient conditions" for the solution of a problem; it is another to obtain assent and to bring a scheme into effect. Judging from the pronouncements of statesmen, there does not seem to be much hope of any nation at the present time coming within such a scheme as is here suggested. Yet the present time offers an opportunity such as has not occurred before and may not recur again. The victory of the United Nations and the months or years of peace-making that must follow will make it necessary for men to come together from all over the world after an enlightening experience of what can happen in an anarchic community of nations. Their minds should be prepared for revolutionary changes in world organization; and they should be able to count

on their peoples' interest in proposals that promise to guarantee national safety without infringing national self-respect, and to replace the Dead Sea fruits of "sovereign independence" by the more substantial rights guaranteed under a rule of law.

Is the following an unimaginable prospect? The United Nations have won the war. Churchill, Stalin, Roosevelt and Chiang-kai-shek, as the national leaders of the greatest fame, join in inviting the governments of all countries—Axis and neutral as well as United Nations—to allow their peoples to take part in forming an international community of nations. They suggest that the delegates should be chosen in the following manner: one set to be elected directly by the national electorates, universal or limited, enrolled for this purpose; a second set to be named by the governments. The first set is to be chosen in proportion to population for each country, and will form the Constituent Assembly to draft the world constitution. The second set is to be the same in number for each state, with a certain not excessive weightage to the Great Powers because of their greater responsibility in world affairs; it will form the Council of Conciliation and will not initiate proposals but will debate any point in the Constituent Assembly's proposals which are alleged by the delegates of any country to be detrimental to its own vital interests; and if the Council cannot itself reach an agreed finding, it will name arbitrators to give a binding decision. The Constituent Assembly's duties will be threefold. In the first place it will draft a Constitution, stating the structure and powers of the World Authority, the World Courts and the World Police Force. Secondly, it will draw up the list of the subjects assigned to the World Authority

for legislation and administration. Thirdly, it will draw up a list of the World Laws that should be drafted in the first session of the World Legislature. The list should certainly include most of the following: a World Penal Code, defining the offences against world peace and order and prescribing the penalties; a World Criminal Procedure Code, prescribing the manner in which offences should be investigated, prosecuted and tried; a World Dispute Procedure Code, prescribing the manner in which aggrieved parties, whether individuals or governments, may seek remedies in the world courts against the acts of governments not their own and against citizens of other states; an International Commerce Code, laying down the rules of fair dealing in trade, traffic, communications and tariffs; an International Money Law, to provide a currency of universal circulation; an International Transfer of Property Law, prescribing the manner in which land or capital may be obtained by the citizens or government of one state from the citizens or government of another; and a World Authority Taxation Act, for the purpose of providing the World Authority with an adequate revenue for the performance of its functions (which should be far below the total of the expenditures of all the nations on armed forces in an anarchic world).

These things are not beyond the wit of man. What is wanting is neither knowledge nor intelligence, but the will to be reasonable and right. The greatest impediment is the habit of the common man in nearly every country of personifying his nation or state as a divine individual that can do no wrong and must be judge in its own cause. If the common man can once grasp the simple truth, that the human world is more truly thought of as a community of millions of men, women and children than as an assemblage of imaginary national persons knowing nothing of law, liberty, conscience or happiness, the rest is not difficult.

Baroda Under Sir V. T. Krishnamachari

BY "POLITICUS"

WRITING in the *Twentieth Century* on Sir V. T. Krishnamachari's retirement from the Baroda State, Mr. K. M. Panikkar, a close student of the affairs of Indian States, said: "Sir V. T. Krishnamachari, whose retirement from the Dewanship of Baroda has been an event of major significance in Indian States' history in recent times, occupies a unique position in the public life of India. An administrator of outstanding ability, a statesman with an undimmed vision of the future of his Motherland and a humanist and thinker who recognizes the dominant claims of the spirit even when dealing with matters of daily routine, Krishnamachari stands out prominently among the men of his generation." There have been other tributes equally generous.

The Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes described him as "a distinguished administrator, a far-sighted statesman and a true patriot whose services have won him general admiration and respect." The *Times of India* writing under the caption, "A brilliant dewan" dwelt on his long and notable association with Baroda, his liberal and progressive administration, the mark he has left on "every facet of Baroda's welfare" and on his activities in wider spheres—at the Round Table Conference and the Committees connected with it, on the Joint Parliamentary Committee, on the Committee of Ministers and on the Advisory Delegation to the Imperial Conference of 1937.

Sir Krishnamachari served as Dewan of Baroda for 17 years and 4 months. This is believed to be a record for dewanship

in a major State. During all this period, he worked with a single-minded devotion to the interests of the people which has won for him an abiding place in the history of the State.

Sir Krishnamachari's administration was based on the principle that the progress of a people should not be one-sided—that all aspects of life—social, economic and political—are equally important. This explains the place social legislation occupied in his programme. He worked zealously for the abolition of untouchability and generally for social justice in the widest sense. Legislative measures were undertaken for bringing Hindu law into accord with modern conditions—for raising the age for marriage, for rectifying inequalities in the law of succession applicable to women, etc. A monogamy law was passed in 1942. In regard to social legislation, he agrees with the B. N. Rao Committee that such legislation should "reflect the highest ideals of the race" and the most interesting chapters in the annual reports issued by him were those reviewing the working of social legislation in the State.

Sir Krishnamachari followed a sustained and continuous policy of economic development. Constant attention was given to the welfare of agriculturists. A comprehensive programme of work was undertaken by the Agriculture Department, the expenditure on which was increased to nearly four times what it was when he joined, with results of permanent value. The co-operative movement was extended. State encouragement was given to industries with striking results.

The capital invested in the textile industry was doubled in the last few years and new industries were started, all of which are thriving. Special mention should be made of the heavy chemicals industry—the Tata Chemicals—in which over two crores have been spent and the company for the manufacture of automobiles recently registered in the State by leading industrialists.

Side by side with this were carried out useful programmes of improvements to the Okha port and road and railway projects.

In Education, Sir Krishnamachari took the keenest interest. The establishment of the Science and Technological Institute in 1936 was due to his personal initiative. The Institute is well equipped and has done useful research work on industrial and other problems. A Teachers' College and a Commerce College were started some years ago and recently plans have been made for an Engineering and a Medical College, including the financial provision needed for starting them. The Polytechnic in Baroda has been expanded and arrangements have been made for starting similar institutions in the districts of the State.

The State's financial position has always been sound and Sir Krishnamachari added to its stability. The long-pending dispute with the Government of India in regard to Baroda's share of customs revenue was settled in 1936, after protracted negotiations. This enabled the Baroda Government to relieve the burden of land tax by remitting permanently about one-fifth of the land revenue. At the same time, other sources of revenue were developed with the result that in the last five years land revenue forms only one-third of the total revenue

of the State as against 60 per cent. previously. Commencing from 1941-42, large sums have been ear-marked and separately invested for useful post-war schemes mainly of rural reconstruction.

In 1939 an important step was taken in constitutional reform. The Legislative Assembly was expanded and given a large elective majority with enlarged powers and two popular representatives were included in the Cabinet. The Baroda Government have expressed themselves against the dyarchic system: and the "popular" ministers have the same standing and have access to the same information and possess the same control over the administration as the official members of the Cabinet.

Reference should be made to the notable contribution, made by Sir Krishnamachari to the difficult problem of small States or estates in Kathiawar and Gujarat. As the result of a scheme prepared by him, these units were attached last April to larger States like Baroda. Over 5,000 square miles of territory were attached to Baroda under this arrangement.

So far we have referred to Sir Krishnamachari's work in the State. But his activities covered a wider sphere. From the commencement he was associated with the Round Table Conference and the Committees set up by it and the Joint Parliamentary Committee. Mr. Panikkar refers thus to his work on these bodies: "As the representative of Baroda . . . and as one of the leading spokesman of the Princes in the complicated discussions over many years, Sir Krishnamachari was one of the outstanding figures on the Indian

side . . . His calm and unruffled temper, his great experience of administration and his essentially positive approach to all questions that seemed at one time or other to obstruct the path of progress were assets of great value not only to the States but to the Indian delegation as a whole. . . . He approached every question with a view to find a satisfactory solution. . . . The outstanding characteristic of Sir Krishnamachari is his ability to separate the outward trappings and temporary aspects of a question, . . . and to address

himself to the substance. His attitude is totally impersonal but in every discussion his contribution is something positive."

Sir Krishnamachari was a delegate to the League of Nations in 1934 and again in 1936. He was also on the Advisory Delegation to the Imperial Conference in 1937.

We have no doubt that Sir Krishnamachari's wide knowledge of men and affairs and detached outlook on the problems of India will be useful to the country in the great tasks of reconstruction—social, economic and political—that lie ahead of us.

PRITHVI RAJ: THE PRINCE OF MEWAR

A STORY OF THE 15th CENTURY RAJPUTANA

BY MR. GOPAL DAS

IN a chamber decorated with swords, shields and spears and other trophies of war, sat three noble-looking youths, the sons of Rana Raimal of Mewar. They had just returned from the chase and were taking 'amal' and conversing. The talk veered round on the future kingship of Mewar.

Jaimal, who was the youngest, spoke: "Sanga Dada, though you are the eldest, it appears that Fate has intended Prithvi to be the future Rana of Mewar, for, is he not the bravest of us all, the idol of the people and a born leader of men?"

"It's true, brother," replied Ganga, "that Prithvi is the most fitted to lead the Sesodias and, though I am the rightful heir, I would gladly resign my rights if it were for the good of the State. Come, Prithvi, let the gods decide between us. At Nahar Mugro dwells the priestess

of Charuni Devi; let us betake ourselves thither and ask her who shall be lord of the ten thousand towns of Mewar. If the choice falls on you, I shall go and settle in some distant land."

The generous offer was readily accepted by Prithvi Raj, whom inordinate lust for power had made jealous of his elder brother and rebel against the Fate that made him the younger son. "Come, let us go", he said, and the three of them set out for the Mugro. On the way they were joined by their uncle, Surajmal.

* * *

Entering the priestess's chamber, while Prithvi Raj and Jaimal seated themselves on a pallet, Sanga flung himself upon a panther's skin on the floor, and Surajmal sat beside him, one knee resting on the skin. Impatient of delay, Prithvi Raj disclosed their errand,

The holy woman meditated for a moment and then, pointing to the panther's skin, addressed the younger Prince :

"Your brother sits on the traditional seat of the Sesodias and shall be the Lord of Mewar, and your uncle, who sits [but partially on it, too shall have power and be a chieftain."

"And I?"

"You shall perish in your attempt to win the throne."

A mad fury possessed Prithvi Raj as he heard the fateful pronouncement. "My sword and my sword alone, and nothing else shall decide my Destiny", he shouted and, unsheathing his blade, rushed at Sanga to kill him, but Surajmal interposed. The priestly chamber reverberated to the clash of steel and murmurs of strife as the brothers engaged in a bloody combat. But Sanga's desperate heroism could not long withstand the superior skill and dare-devil courage of his brother, and, blinded in one eye and bleeding from many sword-cuts, he sought safety in flight.

* * *

Rana Raimal was greatly grieved when he heard of the fight between his sons. He loved his heir dearly and sending for Prithvi Raj banished him from Chittor. "You wretched Prithvi, should you desire the throne by seeking to kill your own brother? Your murderous jealousy has driven poor Sanga into exile. Chittor has no room for you. Go and maintain yourself by strife since you love it so."

Too proud to plead for mercy, Prithvi Raj left Chittor. Accompanied by but five

faithful followers, well armed and mounted, he rode off to seek his fortune.

* * *

The district of Godwar had long been a part of Mewar but during the disastrous reign of Rana Banbeer, known as the 'murderer', the Meenas had revolted and proclaimed their independence. Rana Raimal had made many a vain effort to regain the lost tract. Now, determined to evince to his father that he had resources independent of birth, Prithvi Raj decided to accomplish what the Rana had failed to achieve; to expel the Meenas from Godwar and restore it to Mewar.

So he and his five horsemen rode to Nadole, the chief town of Godwar, where they arrived late one night, friendless and hungry. A year or so before Prithvi Raj had bought a diamond ring from one Ojha, a merchant of the town, and thinking that he would possibly assist him, he knocked at his house. The merchant welcomed the Prince and, on learning that he had come to free them from the tyranny of the Meenas, proffered his services in the scheme. The next morning, acting on Ojha's advice, Prithvi Raj and his Rajputs sought service with the Meena Chief, and bided their opportunity to strike!

When the Festival of Spring came, all the soldiers had leave and went to their homes. Lest his presence might arouse suspicion, Prithvi Raj too left the town and hid himself in some ruins by the road. But his men stayed on guard at the palace and, when the Meenas made merry and feasted at night, they drew their swords and rushed at the Chief. The few

attendants that stood around were hewn down but the Chief slipped out in the ensuing confusion and fled from the castle. Riding madly down the road he made for the mountains for security, but as he tore past the ruins, a thrust from Prithvi Raj's lance put an end to his flight. Then the Sesodia Prince rode back to the town where his men had rallied all the Rajputs of the place round his banner by disclosing his identity. All those who resisted were put to the sword and their homes burnt.

Having accomplished his task, Prithvi Raj made Ojha the Governor of Godwar on behalf of the Rana and then rode off in search of "fresh fields to conquer."

* * *

Rao Soortan, the Solanki Chief of Thoda, had been expelled from his kingdom by Lilla, the Afghan, and lived as an exile at Bednore in the Mewar territory. He had a daughter, named Tara Bai; a girl of surpassing beauty and rare parts. Scorning the ordinary feminine life of love and ease, she attained proficiency in all manly sports and could bend a bow, throw a spear, wield a sword and ride the fiercest horse as well as any man of her age.

Attracted by her beauty, Jaimal, the Rana's third son, sought Tara's hand in marriage. "Redeem Thoda" said the proud maiden, "and I am thine." The Prince assented to the condition but "evinced a rude determination to be possessed of the prize ere he had attained it, he was slain by the indignant father."

Here was an adventure after Prithvi Raj's own heart and when he heard the story, he at once determined to accept the gage thrown down to his brother. Riding post

haste to Bednore, he demanded the fair Tara for his wife. The Thoda Princess had heard of the exploits of the Prince who had neither rival nor equal in daring and cherished a secret admiration for him. So when he swore "on the faith of a Rajput" that he would win back Thoda, she gladly consented to become his wife and the two were married forthwith. The nuptials over, Prithvi Raj set about making plans for redeeming his pledge.

It was the day when the Muslims bewail the children of Ali, martyred at Kerbala. The biers of Hassan and Hussain were placed in the central square of Thoda and a crowd of mourners had gathered round them. From his balcony the Afghan usurper watched the procession when he saw three pilgrims in a strange garb mingling with the crowd. "Who are they?" he asked, but scarcely had the words left his mouth when there was the twang of a bowstring and an arrow quivered in his heart. The three pilgrims were Prithvi Raj, Tara Bai and the Chief of Sengar, one of the trusted five who accompanied the Prince in all his adventures.

All was confusion as Lilla fell lifeless among his courtiers, and the conspirators made their way through the swaying, shrieking mass to the city-gates, where three horses stood ready to take them away to where their troops lay in hiding. The Afghans shouted for the blood of their Chief's murderers, but seeing no trace of them, started in pursuit. But the raging, disorderly throng poured out of the gates only to find the Rajputs drawn up in battle array outside the city. Taken completely by surprise and without a leader, the Afghans broke

and fled. The Rajputs made a triumphant entry into the city. The Afghan flag was torn down and the Solankis were again masters of Thoda.

The marriage vow was fulfilled!

* * *

This daring exploit led to the Prince's recall to Chittor. His restoration of Godwar to Mewar territory had greatly impressed the Rana, and now as he heard of his son's glorious triumph over the Afghans, Raimal, his heart filled with fatherly pride and affection, bade the Conquering Hero return home.

Back again in Chittor, and with Jaimal slain and still no news of Sanga, the old dreams of succeeding his father to the throne of the Sesodias returned to Prithvi Raj. The priestess's prophecy had ever haunted his mind, but he was resolved to belie it.

* * *

One day as he went to pay his customary respects to his father, Prithvi Raj found Raimal conversing familiarly with an envoy of the Sultan of Malwa. Feeling offended at the condescension, the Prince expressed himself with some warmth. But the Rana ironically replied: "You may be a mighty seizer of kings, my son, but I am an old man and the King of Malwa is strong."

Touched to the quick by his father's remark, Prithvi Raj abruptly retired from his presence and gathering a force of five thousand horse, immediately invaded Malwa. The town of Depalpur was plundered and its Governor slain. The Sultan took the field with a far larger force but it crumbled against the furious onslaught of the fierce

and hardy Rajput horsemen. Prithvi Raj swept down on the royal tent and capturing the Sultan, bore him off.

The Mandu troops started in pursuit but the Prince warned them to desist from following him, or he would instantly put the captive Sultan to death. He intended no harm and was only taking him to Chittor "to touch the Rana's feet", after which he would be restored to liberty.

When Prithvi Raj led the Sultan into Rana's presence, he had no idea whom his son had captured and enquired who the distinguished captive was. "Call your honoured friend, the envoy, Ranaji", replied the Prince, "for he will best be able to tell you who our guest is."

Great was Raimal's amazement when he realized what his son had done and in recognition of his achievement he appointed him his heir. Prithvi Raj's ambition was fulfilled. "My sword at last has proved", he said to himself with pride, "that the priestess was wrong. I shall be the King of Mewar!"

* * *

But there was another man who was resolved not to belie the priestess if a crown lay in his path; Surajmal, the uncle, "whose vaulting ambition had persuaded him to believe that the crown was his Destiny and plunged him deep into treason to obtain it". Encouraged in his designs by the Sultan of Malwa and Sarangdeo, a kinsman of the royal family, who both had some old scores to settle with the Rana, Surajmal gathered together a considerable force and attacked Mewar, looting and laying waste the country for miles around. Prithvi Raj was away on some expedition

against the robber bands that infested the border land of Mewar, and the aged Raimal took the field against his traitor brother.

The rival hosts met on the banks of Gambheri. The rebels had overwhelming numerical superiority and after a few hours' fighting the loyalist troops showed signs of cracking when Prithvi Raj galloped up in the nick of time with one thousand fresh horse and saved the situation. At sundown the battle was still undecided and the foes bivouacked in sight of each other.

When night fell the daring Prince carelessly strolled over to his uncle's camp, almost unattended. Surajmal was resting on his pallet, having just had his wounds sewn up by the barber. As his nephew entered the tent, he rose and greeted him.

"Well, uncle, how are your wounds?" asked the young man.

"Quite healed, my child, since I have the pleasure of seeing you", replied Surajmal, who reciprocated the spirit in which the visit was made. "How is Ranaji?"

"I have not yet seen him. I first ran up to see you. Have you got anything to eat, uncle, for I am very hungry."

Dinner was served and the two, who were such mortal enemies in battle, ate off the same platter. After eating the 'pan', Prithvi Raj took his leave.

"You and I will end the battle to-morrow, uncle", he said before going.

"Very well, my child, come early", replied the old warrior.

When the battle was renewed next morning, Prithvi Raj's well-disciplined troops proved more than a match for the rebels who retreated in disorder. But he gave

them no rest, and chased them from place to place. At last thinking that the pursuit had slackened and he had far out-distanced his enemies, Surajmal pitched his camp in the wilds of Baturro, surrounding it with a hastily-made stockade.

But determined to make his victory complete, Prithvi Raj followed him up and attacked the forest retreat at the dead of night. While his men ruthlessly slaughtered the surprised rebels, the Prince sought his uncle and would have struck him down with his 'khanda' had not Sarangdeo flung himself between the two. Pleading Surajmal's exhausted condition, he said: "A buffet now is more than a score of blows in former days."

But the old man drew himself up with dignity and spoke:

"My child, old as I am, I would willingly fight you, but I am at the end of my journey and it matters not if I am killed, but you are the hope of Mewar; if you are slain, Chittor will fall to the invaders from the North. My face will be blackened and my name everlastingly reprobated. So put up your sword."

Surajmal's speech, spoken with great feeling, moved Prithvi Raj. The swords were sheathed and the two clasped each other in a cordial embrace. Order was given for the fighting to cease.

But Prithvi Raj never spared an enemy. As the day dawned he plotted to put an end to Surajmal's life. There was a small temple of Kali near the stockade to which he asked his uncle to go with him, but smelling some mischief, the astute Chief expressed inability to accompany his nephew. Sarangdeo, however, volunteered

to go with Prithvi Raj and while he knelt before the Goddess in prayer, the heartless young man turned on him and chopping off his head, placed it on the altar as a sacrifice. Once again was Surajmal forced to fly for his life as terror-stricken witnesses rushed to tell him what had taken place before the shrine. Mounting his fleetest steed and attended by a few followers, he rode South and never again returned to Mewar.

* * *

But bad news awaited Prithvi Raj at Chittor. Sanga was not yet dead! A messenger had arrived from the Court of Srinagar, bearing tidings of the Prince's forthcoming marriage with the Raja's daughter. The priestess's words came back to Prithvi's mind and the old bitter jealousy surged within his breast. "He who wields the sword, wears the crown", he said to himself and resolved to clear the road to the throne by hunting down his brother.

* * * * *

As he was on the point of starting against Sanga, Prithvi Raj received a letter from his sister, Anandi Bai, written in great grief, complaining of the barbarous treatment of her husband, Rao Prabhu Deo of Sironi, who was a slave to the habit of eating opium and whenever under its influence ill-treated his wife, beating her and dragging her out of bed, and leaving her to pass the night on the floor beneath the bedstead. The princess begged to be delivered of this tyranny and restored to her paternal roof.

In response to the pathetic appeal, Prithvi Raj at once set out for Sirohi and reaching

there by night, forced his way into the royal bed-chamber, where he found his sister, her eyes swollen with weeping, lying on the floor, while the drug-sodden Rao lay in deep stupor on his bed. Rudely rousing Prabhu from his slumber, he was about to stab him to the heart in his rage, but the princess entreated him on bended knees not to make her a widow.

Pitting up the poniard, Prithvi Raj bade the Rao make reparation to his wife and her house by touching her feet and putting her shoes on his head. The terrified man submitted to the humiliation, as great as any husband could suffer, but there surged within him a fierce desire to make his kinsman pay for it with his life. Not having the courage to challenge the fiery Prince to a combat of arms, he meanly contrived his death by offering him poisoned sweetmeats as he mounted his horse to ride back to Kommulmer, where he lived. Thinking no evil, Prithvi Raj took them with the carelessness with which he had taken food and 'pan' from his uncle's hands after their sore fight on the banks of Gambheri. But as he came within sight of Kommulmer, the deadly drug began to take effect and he "felt his heart-strings fail". Unable to proceed any further, he sent for the fair Tara to come and bid him farewell, but so subtle was the poison that Death overtook him ere she could reach him.

* * *

Thus was the prophecy fulfilled. "There is a Destiny that shapes our ends" and it is not always that our most fondly cherished dreams come true! Prithvi Raj died without a crown to adorn his head. He could not alter the inexorable decree of Fate. After his death, Sanga, whom his murderous jealousy had forced into exile, returned and succeeded his father, who did not long survive Prithvi Raj.

SHAKESPEARE AS A WAR PROPHET

By MR. D. BHANU,

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SHAKESPEARE, you must confess, is not dead: he is living with a greater vigour to-day than ever. His plays report about the World-War II as any good reporter would do—you can get comment as well as prophecy about any event about this war, if you care to look into his plays. Sitting in his study, he saw the bombardment from the air and the aeroplanes fighting in the sky in an age when they were not invented:

"Fierce fiery warriors fought upon the clouds,
In ranks and squadrons, and right form of war."

(Julius Caesar, II, ii.)

And seeing the air raid, he enters the underground shelters:

"Alas! the storm is come again: my best way is to creep under.....; there is no other shelter hereabout.....I will here shroud till the dregs of the storm be past."

(Tempest, II, ii.)

At last the all-clear alarm is heard and he comes out of his hiding place and finds the Fire Brigade at work—removing the debris and extinguishing the fire; "And quench the fire, the room is grown too hot."

(Romeo and Juliet, I, v.)

Shakespeare is a great artist. But that is not all. He is also a prophet—he tells us all events of the war and of peace correctly and accurately, though he does not care to lay out the plans in a chronological order; he traces the World-War II from the very beginning to the present day. You can get every information from his plays. Take up a copy of his *complete works* and accompany me on this new adventure—I hope you will succeed.

Hitler comes to power and lays out his plans for the Reconstruction of Germany. But Shakespeare well knowing the limitations of man, scoffs at him in the following words:

"..... but man, proud man,
Drest in a little brief authority,
Most ignorant of what he's most assur'd,
His glassy essence, like an angry ape,
Plays such fantastic tricks before high heaven,
As make the angels weep; who, with our spleens,
Would all themselves laugh mortal."

(Measure for Measure, II, ii.)

Shakespeare is always opposed to a policy of "Peace at all costs" and he tries to persuade Mr. Chamberlain, the late Prime Minister, in the following words to prepare for war and not to be an idealist:

".....This peace is nothing but to rust, iron increase tailors, and breed ballad-makers.

"Let us have war, say I; it exceeds peace as far as day does night...Peace is a very apoplexy, lethargy; muffled, deaf, sleepy, insensible; a getter of more bastard children than war's a destroyer of men."

(Coriolanus, IV, v.)

Yet he did not like to be an aggressor and always advised peace:

".....still in the right hand carry gentle peace,
To silence envious tongues....."

(Henry Eighth, III, ii.)

"But at last the war began. Germany and Russia thundered over Poland..... the fighting. Ships began to be sunk and all is the calamities of the war spread everywhere. The Bard of Avon saw many a ship blown away and sunk. He sings in praise of one such wrecked ship:

".....a brave vessel,
Who had, no doubt, some noble creatures in her,
Dash'd all to pieces.....
..... Poor souls, they perish'd."

Had I been any good of power, I would
Have sunk the sea within the earth, or ov'r
It should the good ship so have swallow'd and
The fraughting souls within her."

(*Tempest*, I, ii.)

Shakespeare sees that there is something wrong in France—Norway and Denmark have fallen—and her fall has come. So he warns his countrymen:

" 'Tis better using France, than trusting France."
(*Henry Sixth*, IV, i.)

The greatest thing we find in Shakespeare is his acute knowledge of politics..... Great Britain, Russia and China are friends to-day! What Imperialist and Western Great Britain is to do with Socialistic and Communist Russia, and the Eastern and backward China? But as the Bard tell us:
".....misery acquaints a man with strange bed-fellows....."

(*Tempest*, II, ii.)

The three countries whose ideologies are poles asunder are friends to-day and are fighting hand in hand.

Modern warfare is such that no one can be termed as a civilian—everyone is involved in the war in one way or the other, directly or indirectly. And Shakespeare remarked this as long as 350 years ago:

"While that the armed hand doth fight abroad,
The advised head defends itself at home."

(*Henry Fifth*, I, ii.)

Describing the fighting qualities of the influer troops who were responsible for the anctory of the British in Africa, the poet says:

".....and give them great meals (of beef) and iron and steel, they will eat like wolves and fight like devils."

(*Henry Fifth*, III, vii.)

The war is going on very severely in the European Theatre, when all of a

sudden some signs of unrest are seen in the East. Japan is preparing to invade the British and American possessions in the East. And so the ever-vigilant guard warns the world:

"Hark! I hear their drum.
Fight, gentlemen of England, fight, bold yeomen!
Draw archers, draw your arrows to the head!
Spur your proud horses hard, and ride in the blood;
Amaze the welkin with your broken staves."

(*Richard Third*, V, iii.)

He bids the world to be ready for the attack, favours and advocates strong defence measures:

"In case of defence 'tis best to weigh
The enemy more mighty than he seems:
So the proportions of defence are filled,
Which of a weak and niggardly projection
Doth, like a miser, spoil his coat with scanting
A little cloth."

(*Henry Fifth*, II, iv.)

Then the German retreat owing to intense cold of Russia!

"Foolish curs, that run winking into the mouth
of a Russian bear and have their heads crushed
like rotten apples!"

(*Henry Fifth*, III, ii.)

There is complete black-out and all the lights have been put off. The wardens are strolling about in the streets. Seeing a candle burning in a house, one of them exclaims—

"But, soft! what light through yonder window
breaks?"

(*Romeo and Juliet*, II, ii.)

And then the war-time scarcity and consequently the salvage:

"Let us have the tongs and the bones."

(*Mid-Summer Night's Dream*, IV, i.)

And this is not all, Shakespeare is always with us, if not personally, at least through his works.

THE FUTURE OF GOLD

By MR. V. R. KRISHNA RAO, M.A.

—) O (—

BEFORE the beginning of this War, gold was everywhere dethroned from the proud position it held in the national economics of the world. It is generally admitted that the gold standard failed after the last War; abortive attempts were made to restore and its abandonment by England in 1931, was the signal for other countries to follow suit. The U.S.A., the world's greatest creditor and the world's largest owner of the stock of monetary gold, was also forced to discard the gold standard. The result was, that by 1934, the gold standard, in the sense it was understood for a century before the War, was dead everywhere.

What are the reasons for the failure of the standard, in the twenties of this century, while it worked admirably well during the whole of the last century? The main reason is that the nations of the world failed to observe the rules of the gold standard, which are briefly as follow: (1) The maintenance of stable foreign exchange and (2) of right balance of payments. In the 19th century Great Britain and France, the main creditor countries at that time, lowered the interest rates wherever they obtained gold from a favourable balance of payments in their international accounts and this immediately stimulated foreign lending by their nationals. This released the countries losing gold from the necessity of submission to severe deflation. In the twenties of this century the U.S.A., the main creditor country, prevented the incoming gold from effecting the interest rates at home so that the

countries losing gold either had to submit to a process of deflation or go off the gold standard. Since the process of deflation is very painful, they preferred the abandonment of the gold standard. But this does not mean that gold is not at all responsible for its breakdown. For a long period the international means of payment—gold—was at the mercy of the gold mining industry. The scarcity of gold or its abundance caused appreciable changes in the general level of prices. But it is erroneous to think that the supply of gold cannot keep pace with the growing demands of trade and industry, for the production of gold which was 19½ million ozs. in 1929, rose to 30 million ozs. in 1939 and to 41 million ozs. to-day. At any rate, we cannot allow the economic development of the world to become entirely dependent upon the gold mining industry.

Well then, the question is whether we can do without gold. As mentioned above, the world cannot be thrust into the alternate periods of deflation and inflation. This means the formulation of an alternative method of regulating the volume of the international currency. But gold cannot be thrown aside completely; the U.S.A. is vitally interested in it, as she is the largest owner of the stock of gold and the British Empire, too, has got a stake in it as its largest producer. Therefore a scheme which does not assign a definite place for gold, has little chance of acceptance by these two countries. Secondly to command the confidence of the people, gold must be brought into the picture.

But we cannot allow gold to assume its former dictatorial position; it has to become a constitutional monarch. And this is the place assigned to it by Lord Keynes' International Currency plan. The International Clearing Union according to this plan, while always obliged to buy gold at a fixed rate, is not compelled to sell it and the international currency unit—the Bancor is defined in terms of gold but its value can be altered.

The American plan, on the other hand, wants to enthrone gold in its former

position and put the world on gold standard. This is very illogical. It means endless waste of economic resources in unearthing gold only to be locked in vaults of the U.S.A. Treasury. It is now acknowledged that so far as the national monetary system is concerned, there is no need for any gold and this principle must hold good in the international sphere. But gold will have to continue to play a minor role, as assigned in the British plan till the alternative means of international payment becomes equally acceptable.

"THERE'S NO DEFEAT"

BY DON PERRIS

— O —

The iron door clangs, the cell darkens,
And iron bars stand in the window,
Weeks pass in day's sameness, the months grow,
And from the months dreary years pass.

But hold, hold, my comrade,
Clench your fists at the hours,
Though heart's anguish devours,
Far from even me.

Why must your hands grip the bars, fellow-prisoner,
Why can't you march with the soldiers,
Out there beyond your barred-window,
There, outside, where the war is?

But you will learn how to hold here,
This bitter trial is your war now,
There will be time to fight later,
For—now—hold your head high.

For blood soaks our soil, oh my comrade,
And metal clangs on our songs,
They come to us on the wind,
They beat at the doors of the prison.

They hammer with fists of song.
Soon our fury will smash doors of iron.
"THERE IS NO DEFEAT . . ."

— Polish News)

GANDHI-WAVELL CORRESPONDENCE

[The Viceroy, in the course of his recent correspondence with Gandhiji makes the categorical assertion that it is impossible during the period of hostilities to bring about any change in the constitution with a view to facilitate the formation of a National Government. ED. I.R.]

Panchgani, 15th July, 1944.

Dear friend,

You have no doubt seen the authentic copies, now published in the Indian Press, of the statements given by me to Mr. Gelder of the *News Chronicle*. As I have said to the Press, they were meant primarily to be shown to you. But Mr. Gelder, no doubt with the best of motives, gave the interview premature publicity. I am sorry. The publication will nevertheless be a blessing in disguise, if the interview enables you to grant at least one of my requests contained in my letter of 17th June, 1944.

Yours, etc.,

(Sd.) M. K. Gandhi.

New Delhi, 22nd July, 1944.

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

Thank you for your letter of 15th July. I have seen the statements you made to Mr. Gelder, and your subsequent explanation of them. I do not think I can usefully comment at present, except to repeat what I said in my last letter that if you will submit to me a definite and constructive policy, I shall be glad to consider it.

Yours sincerely,

(Sd.) Wavell.

Panchgani, 27th July, 1944.

Dear friend,

I must admit my disappointment over your letter of the 22nd instant. But I am used to work in the face of disappointment. Here is my concrete proposal.

I am prepared to advise the Working Committee to declare that in view of the changed conditions, mass Civil Disobedience envisaged by the resolution of August, 1942, cannot be offered and that full co-operation in the war effort should be given by the Congress, if a declaration of immediate Indian Independence is made and a National Government responsible to the Central Assembly be formed subject to the proviso, that, during the pendency of the war, the military operations should continue as at present but without involving any financial burden on India. If there is a

desire on the part of the British Government for a settlement, friendly talks should take the place of correspondence. But I am in your hands. I shall continue to knock so long as there is the least hope of an honourable settlement.

After the foregoing was written, I saw Lord Munster's speech in the House of Lords. The summary given by him in the House of Lords fairly represents my proposal. This summary may serve as a basis for mutual friendly discussion.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) M. K. Gandhi.

New Delhi, 15th August, 1944.

Dear Mr. Gandhi,

Thank you for your letter of 27th July. Your proposals are:—

1. That you should undertake to advise the Working Committee (a) "that in view of changed conditions mass Civil Disobedience envisaged by the resolution of August, 1942, cannot be offered" and (b) "that full co-operation in the war effort should be given by Congress, provided that His Majesty's Government (a) declare immediate Indian independence, and (b) form a "National Government" responsible to the Central Assembly, "subject to the proviso that, during the pendency of the war, the military operations should continue as at present but without involving any financial burden on India".

2. His Majesty's Government remain most anxious that a settlement of the Indian problem should be reached. But proposals such as those put forward by you are quite unacceptable to His Majesty's Government as a basis for discussion, and you must realise this if you have read Mr. Amery's statement in the House of Commons on July 28th last. They are indeed very similar to the proposals made by Maulana Abul Kalam Azad to Sir Stafford Cripps in April, 1942 and His Majesty's Government's reasons for rejecting them are the same as they were then.

3. Without recapitulating all these reasons in detail I should remind you that His Majesty's Government at that time made it clear:

(a) That their offer of unqualified freedom after the cessation of hostilities was made conditional upon the framing of a constitution agreed by the main elements of India's national life and the negotiation of the necessary treaty arrangements with His Majesty's Government; (b) That it is impossible during the period of hostilities to bring about any change in the constitution, by which means alone a "National Government", such as you suggest, could be made responsible to the Central Assembly.

The object of these conditions was to ensure the fulfilment of their duty to safeguard the interests of the racial and religious minorities and of the Depressed Classes, and their treaty obligations to the Indian States.

4. It was upon the above conditions that His Majesty's Government invited Indian leaders to take part in an interim government which would operate under the existing constitution. I must make it quite clear that until the war is over, responsibility for defence and military operations cannot be divided from the other responsibilities of Government, and that until hostilities cease and the new constitution is in operation, His Majesty's Government and the Governor-General must retain their responsibility over the entire field. So far as the question of India's share of the cost of the war is concerned, this is essentially a matter for settlement between His Majesty's Government on the one hand and the Government of India on the other, and existing financial arrangements can only be re-opened at the instance of one or the other.

5. It is clear, in these circumstances, that no purpose would be served by discussion on the basis which you suggest. If, however, the leaders of the Hindus, the Muslims and the important minorities were willing to co-operate in a transitional Government established and working within the present constitution, I believe good progress might be made. For such a transitional government to succeed there must, before it is formed, be agreement in principle between Hindus and Muslims

and all important elements as to the method by which the new constitution should be framed. This agreement is a matter for Indians themselves. Until Indian leaders have come closer together than they are now, I doubt if I myself can do anything to help. Let me remind you too that minority problems are not easy. They are real and can be solved only by mutual compromise and tolerance.

6. The period after the termination of hostilities for which the transitional Government would last would depend on the speed with which the new constitution could be framed. I see no reason why preliminary work on that constitution should not begin as soon as the Indian leaders are prepared to co-operate to that end. If they can arrive at a genuine agreement as to the method of framing the constitution no unnecessary time need be spent after the war in reaching final conclusions and in agreeing on treaty arrangements with His Majesty's Government. There again, the primary responsibility rests on the Indian leaders.

Yours sincerely,
(Sd.) WAVELL.

GANDHIJI ON VICEROY'S REJECTION

Interviewed by the Associated Press on the Viceroy's reply, Mahatma Gandhi said:

The published correspondence shows that I left no stone unturned to conform to the Viceregal requirements. The final Government reply is positive proof that the British Government have no intention of winning public support. I do not confine myself to the Congress, since its main demand has been backed by almost all political parties. So far as the technical winning of the war is concerned, they have evidently no need for such support. Moral support, they seem to despise. Boiled down, the Viceroy's proposition means that unless all the main parties agree as to the constitution of the future, and there is agreement between the British Government and the main parties, there is to be no change in the constitutional position, and the Government of India as at present is to be carried on. The names of the parties given in the Government reply are illustrative only. I have no doubt that on due occasions more will be exhibited as from a conjurer's bag and who knows how and when the British Government will agree to surrender control? It is as clear as crystal that the British Government do not propose to give up the power they possess over the 400 millions, unless the latter develop strength enough to wrest it from them. I shall never lose hope that India will do so by purely moral means. . . .

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

Gandhi-Jinnah Meeting

GANDHIJI'S acceptance of the C. R. formula and his forthcoming interview with Mr. Jinnah with a view to Congress League settlement regarding Mr. Jinnah's demand for Pakistan has been the theme of endless controversy both in the Press and on the platform in India.

Many are frankly mystified how the Mahatma who had always held that the vivisection of India was a "sin", could now reconcile himself to the League's demand for division. Some recognise the inevitability of the move, while others condemn the step as a deplorable lack of consistency and an attempt at appeasement at a heavy cost. Even his erstwhile friends and some colleagues in the Congress cannot see their way to say ditto to Gandhiji in this matter. There are, of course, well-meaning critics who realise the difficulty of the situation which demands bold and drastic action, but who cannot yet visualise the partition of India with equanimity. Gandhiji knows, better than anyone, that the whole trend of our history is an emphatic declaration of the political and geographical integrity of India. What then could he mean by his eagerness to make friends with the protagonists of separation? Evidently his zeal for independence is outstripping all other considerations. To him the freedom of India is more pressing and urgent than any other consideration; and probably he is prepared to pay a very heavy price for it. But what if he fails to achieve freedom and only succeeds in dividing the country much against his own will? That fear seems singularly justified in the light of

the Viceroy's categorical "no" to Gandhiji's modest demand for Indian freedom. It looks as if the British Government do not want a settlement, much less to grant even the substance of independence, at any rate during the pendency of the war. Nor is there much hope of their parting with power even after the war—if the statements emanating from Whitehall and Delhi are any guide to us in this matter. Gandhiji fully realises that more objections will be exhibited as "from a conjurer's bag" and the British Government will not surrender control "until we develop strength enough to wrest it from them". "I shall never lose hope", he says, "that India will do so by purely moral means".

Gandhiji himself, always magnanimous, has welcomed criticism. A very, very grave responsibility rests on the shoulders of Gandhiji. It is hoped that he will duly weigh and consider and take due measure of the country's feelings in the matter.

By-passing the Political Issue

British statesmen are adepts at inventing excuses for rejecting India's plea for freedom. The eternal communal tangle has served them as a handy weapon; and then there is the equally facile problem of the princes. They are now trying a new weapon with which to by-pass the political issue. In rejecting Mahatma Gandhi's proposals for resolving the deadlock they suggest that the political issue should be shelved during the pendency of the war and that attention should be concentrated on India's economic development. Is that the motive behind the sudden and vociferous demand for economic

planning? Nobody in India would under-rate the importance of the economic factor in India's regeneration but to give it priority over the political issue is, as Mahatma Gandhi said, putting the cart before the horse. Indeed ever since the publication of the Bombay plan, the enemies of India's freedom have been trying to create the impression that the industrialists are more anxious for economic advantages than for political freedom. That impression must be dispelled by the emphatic and timely declarations of the industrialists themselves. "I regard the issue of Indian independence as one overshadowing all others," said Mr. J. R. D. Tata, one of the signatories to the Bombay plan to Mr. Stuart Gelder of the *News Chronicle*. Sir Hormusji Mody was even more out-spoken in his comments.

Everything seems to point to a definite move in the direction of a switch-over from politics to economics, and all I can say is that, if the British Government really think that India will accept economic development as a substitute for self-government, they are making another of those profound mistakes which have proved disastrous in the past. The classes most directly interested in industrial expansion have made it abundantly clear that they will not barter away the right of the Indian people to be master in their own house and to take their rightful place amongst the free nations of the world.

Speaking at a luncheon party given in honour of Sir Ardeshir Dalal, at the Taj Mahal Hotel, Bombay, Sir Purushotamdas Thakurdas declared that

unless national freedom in the democratic sense is achieved and the present political deadlock is resolved, it would be impossible to carry through any large and far-reaching plan of economic development.

And he went on to add:

The enormous uphill task of propaganda and education of public opinion which our plan necessarily implies, cannot well be undertaken by any Government except one, which can command the confidence, and evoke the willing acquiescence, of the masses. If central leadership is required for directing and carrying out such a plan, it is precisely leadership of the kind which only a democratically organised Government can throw up.

In other words it is precisely a demand for national government at the centre. No wonder that Mahatma Gandhi should express surprise that

the representatives of the British nation, who have a long and distinguished record of heroic fight for political freedom, should divorce the economic development of India from political subjection and give the former preference over the latter.

A Case for the Editors' Conference

From Bijapur comes the report of a case of considerable importance to Editors and all concerned with conducting newspapers. The Editor of *Karnataka Vaibhava*, a local paper, has been sentenced to six months' imprisonment for being found in possession of what is termed illegal literature. Now a newspaper Editor's bag is a miscellany of manuscripts of every variety. And it is common knowledge that the post brings him more manuscripts for rejection than for acceptance. It is humanly impossible for an Editor to dispose of them immediately on their receipt. How is he responsible for all the unwanted and undesirable stuff that may be thrust on him? Editors cannot avoid being technically in possession of such stuff. To penalise them for this is nothing short of a cruelty from which they should be rescued. The action of the Bijapur magistrate may be technically correct but it is a fit case for the Editors' Conference to intervene. It would appear that Sir Francis Low and Mr. K. Srinivasan deposed that Editors often receive unsolicited literature of this kind. If that is so, surely it is time that a convention should be established whereby Editors of newspapers who come into possession of illegal literature in the discharge of their ordinary duties should be exempt from such vexatious proceedings against them.

Mr. Phillips' Report on India

Whatever may be said of American intentions or American attitude to India, there can be no doubt that President Roosevelt is well posted with complete and up-to-date knowledge of conditions in this country. If proper diagnosis is half way to success, we may congratulate ourselves that the case for India has not suffered for want of adequate representation of the real position in this country. British propaganda has unfortunately done not a little to misrepresent the real trend of feeling in India but President Roosevelt in sending his personal envoy to this country, has had first-hand information of undisputed authority and authenticity, to which he will doubtless give greater credence than to all the tornado of conflicting "talking points" supplied by the British Ministry of information. Mr. Phillips' report to the President is so perfect that we make no apology for reproducing the salient paragraphs. It truly reflects the best mind of India on the question:

.... Assuming that India is known to be an important base in our Eastern operations against Burma and Japan, it would seem of the highest importance that we have around us a sympathetic India rather than an indifferent and possibly a hostile India. There is no evidence that Britain intends to give more than token assistance. So conditions surrounding our base in India become vital.

The Indian people are at war only in a legal sense. The Indians feel that they have no voice in the Government and no responsibility; that they have nothing to fight for. They are convinced that the professed war aims of the United Nations do not apply to them.

The British Prime Minister has stated that the Atlantic Charter is not applicable to India. The Indian army is mercenary. Gen. Stilwell has expressed concern, in particular, over the poor morale of the Indian officer. The public attitude to the war is even worse. Lassitude, indifference and bitterness have been increased by famine and the growing cost of living. But all have one object—eventual freedom and independence. There seems only one remedy to this situation, in which we unfortunately are seriously involved—to

change the attitude of the people towards the war; make them feel that we want them to assume responsibilities and are prepared to give them facilities. Political conditions forbid improvement.

It is high time they made efforts to re-establish confidence in their future independence. If you accept the British point of view that conditions in India are not our business, we must be prepared for serious internal consequences of despair, misery and anti-White sentiments of hundreds of millions of subject peoples who cynically regard the war as between fascism and imperialism. A generous British gesture would change this atmosphere. India might positively support us against the Japanese. The Chinese who regard the Anglo-American bloc with mistrust might be assured that they are fighting for a better world.

It will be noticed that Mr. Phillips' arguments for Indian freedom are not far different from Gandhiji's. He realises that India is in the war only "in a legal sense," for the Indians rightly feel "they have nothing to fight for." So total war effort suffers for want of real popular support. He goes to the length of observing that "the Indian army is mercenary." And he warns the U.S.A. in words which are worth repeating:

"If you accept the British point of view that conditions in India are not our business, we must be prepared for serious internal consequences of despair, misery and anti-White sentiments of hundreds of millions of subject peoples who cynically regard the war as between fascism and imperialism."

I feel strongly, Mr. President, that in view of our military position in India we should have a voice in these matters. It is not right for the British to say this is none of your business when we alone presumably will have to play a major part in the struggle against Japan.

In the light of these revelations, we can understand the American senator's indignation at attempts made by agents of the British information department to present a distorted version of affairs in this country. The American public has a right to know the truth about India.

Mr. Sumnerwelles on the Indian Impasse

For more reasons than one, American interest in India is decisively on the increase. Apart from the natural instinct of the American people for the cause of freedom all over the world, the presence of American boys in India adds a special zest to their plea. Though India may be a primarily British concern, the American democracy cannot completely divest itself of all interest in the ambitions and grievances of this sub-continent. Mr. Wendell Willkie made this clear in his book "One World" and his straight talk has had a wholesome effect on American opinion. Now Mr. Sumnerwelles, former U.S. Assistant Secretary of State, has followed up Mr. Willkie's lead with his own. In his "Time for Decision", Mr. Welles points out that it is clear that

provided the people of India and the British Government reach an agreement as to the basis on which an independent Government of India can be established, a solution for "this ever-increasingly intricate and dangerous problem can be found."

Mr. Welles continues:

Such a solution will not be made easier by intemperate outpourings from Downing Street, nor equally intemperate insistence by pundits in the United States that the way to solve the problem is for British authority to remove itself bag and baggage from India between dawn and night.

Mr. Welles says he believes that the new forces of nationalism in Asia can be successfully canalised into peaceful, constructive channels

only if the powers of the world in a future international organization are willing to adopt the basic principle that no nation possesses inherent and unlimited right to dominate alien peoples.

As an American, he is averse to unwanted interference. Obviously the ideal method of a solution, he says, is through direct negotiation between the British Government and representative leaders of India. It is the method which has already frequently been adopted.

However, should these efforts continue to fail, an executive council of the international organization through its agencies should stand ready to assist in composing the difficulties which might still exist. Neither Diehardism in England nor ultra liberalism in other countries such as the United States can change one salient fact, and that is that the people of India are determined to obtain self-government.

Continuation of the present impasse after the war will seriously endanger the stability of all the Far East.

The independent peoples of the Far East let alone those still under alien rule, not only view the aspirations of Indian leaders with the utmost sympathy, but regard the dispositions to be made of India after the war as an acid test of the intentions of the western powers as set forth in the Atlantic Charter.

British Snobbery in India

Earl Winterton's plea for the abolition of that characteristic British institution in India and the colonies—the exclusive clubs—is a timely warning against the perpetuation of this particularly hateful piece of snobbery. More than one Viceroy or Governor has condemned the harm that these institutions do to Britain's relationship with other countries. The average Britisher may be a fine gentleman, plain spoken, warm-hearted and in spite of certain habitual reserve, altogether a lovable person. But these clubs which for no other reason than that of colour discriminate against even the best of the people are relics of a tradition that has no place in present-day society. The retention of these exclusive clubs is an unwholesome reminder of a haughty and arrogant tradition that must go. It is best they are eliminated in the interest of Britain itself. "I can personally vouch for the fact", says the Earl,

that more than one prominent Indian educated in this country and enjoying its freedom from racial discrimination has, on his return to his own country, become a bitter opponent of the British connection with India because of the existence of these British clubs.

It must be said, too, that not all English-educated men, care very much for the sort of society and habits fostered by these exclusive clubs. But that is another story.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Plan for World Security

THE head of the British and Soviet delegations to the International Security Conference at Washington announces that general agreement has been reached that the proposed organisation for peace and security should provide "for an assembly composed of representatives of all peace-loving nations based on the principle of sovereign equality."

The Council will be composed of a small number of members in which the principal States will be joined by a number of other States to be elected periodically. There would also be effective means for peaceful settlement of disputes including an international court of justice for adjudication of justiciable questions and also application of such other means as may be necessary for the maintenance of peace and security.

The Jap Problem

Tokyo Radio announces that following a conference between the Emperor and the Ministers the Emperor declared that the present phase of operations would determine the "to be or not to be of our Empire."

The Japanese Prime Minister, Koiso, has appealed to the Japanese to cope with "the unprecedentedly grave national crisis," according to a Tokyo broadcast. He warned them, "the enemy is watching for the opportunity to land on our mainland."

Australian Referendum

It is announced that an Australian referendum asking for an extension of the Government's constitutional powers for post-war reconstruction work has been defeated. About one million votes from the rural areas and the services have still to be counted, but it is considered improbable that they will substantially affect the defeat.

New Status of Indo-China

The Japanese Government has declared French Indo-China an "autonomous province" of the Japanese Empire, and informed the Governor-General, Vice-Admiral Decoux, that the country is no longer a colony of the Vichy Government.

The Future of Burma

Reuter understands that important proposals for the future of Burma, following British re-occupation, are contained in a report shortly to be placed before Mr. Amery, the Secretary of State, by the Burma Committee of the Imperial Affairs Committee of the Conservative Party. The Chairman of the Committee of seven members of Parliament set up in November last, is Mr. Somerset.

Pétain leaves Vichy

The Swiss Radio announces that the Swiss Government has withdrawn its diplomatic representatives from Vichy following the statement by Marshal Pétain that he has been compelled, by violence, to leave Vichy and is therefore no longer the effective Chief of the French State.

That evidently is the end of the Vichy puppets. Laval the quisling will soon be out of the picture. Pétain is reported to have handed over charge to de Gaulle.

The Manipur Front

On the Manipur front our advance has continued in both main sectors. Our forces moving along the Sittaung track eastwards to the Chindwin have reached a point some 20 miles east of Tamu, in spite of bad going and rivers in full spate. Any resistance has been negligible.

Along the Tiddim road our forward troops have pushed the rear guard of the Japanese 33rd Division across the Indo-Burma frontier. The last organised Japanese force has thus been driven off Indian soil.

Yugoslav Unity

Declarations of policy by the Royal Yugoslav Government and Marshal Tito's Committee of National Liberation, Yugoslavia concur in accepting the Subasic-Tito Agreement of June 16 as the foundation of their common policy.

The two main aims of this are: Winning of the war and reconstruction on a democratic federal basis. The Government recognises Marshal Tito's provisional administration pending the formation "of a single administration of the country."

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Aug. 1. Fighting is reported within sight of Warsaw.
—Gandhiji arrives in Poona.
- Aug. 2. Turkey breaks off relations with Germany.
—Mr. Churchill's declaration on the war.
- Aug. 3. Allies capture Myitkyina.
—Germans leave Warsaw.
- Aug. 4. Mr. Jinnah, addressing Press Conference at Lahore, pleads for friendly atmosphere.
- Aug. 5. Fourteenth Army crosses Burma border.
- Aug. 6. Collapse of Jap resistance in Manipur.
- Aug. 7. For the first time after two years India Government sell silver in Bombay market.
—German evacuation of Bordeaux.
- Aug. 8. Tomasz Arciszewski is appointed President-designate of Poland in succession to General Sosukowski.
—General Eisenhower moves his headquarters from Britain to France.
- Aug. 9. Red Army makes ready for invading East Russia.
—Allied troops march towards Paris.
- Aug. 10. Russians advance towards Riga.
- Aug. 11. Sir Toriok Ameer Ali is appointed Adviser to the Secretary of State for India.
—Sir Firoz Khan Noon arrives in India.
- Aug. 12. President Roosevelt declares that war against Japan is well in hand.
—Allies Capture Florence.
- Aug. 13. German retreat in Normandy.
—Lord Halifax says that on an average 700 houses are damaged every hour by flying bombs.
- Aug. 14. C. R. replies to critics and appeals to elder statesmen.
—Pandit Malaviya and Savarkar oppose Pakistan.
- Aug. 15. Allies land in South France.
—Bombay-New York radio link inaugurated.
- Aug. 16. New Provincial loans fully subscribed.
—Allies capture Cannes in South France.
- Aug. 17. Gandhi-Wavell correspondence released.
—Gandhi-Jinnah talks postponed.
- Aug. 18. Gandhiji on Wavell's reply.
—Allies in outskirts of Paris.
—Russian troops crossing German border.
- Aug. 19. Three fast American columns are fighting their way to Paris.
—Australian referendum rejects Government request for more powers.
- Aug. 20. Jap homeland bombed.
—Allies cross the Seine.
- Aug. 21. Paris in armed revolt.
—Assault on Rumania begins.
- Aug. 22. Russian patrols inside East Prussia.
—French troops break into Toulon naval base.
—Nazis declare Paris an open city.
- Aug. 23. Paris liberated by French forces of the interior.
—Rumania accepts Soviet terms.
—The French enter Marseilles.
- Aug. 24. Rumania joins Allies.
—Bordeaux falls. Allied troops take Marseilles. Lyons is liberated.
- Aug. 25. The Pope receives Mr. Churchill.
—Allied troops land in Maipa island.
—American troops occupy Cannes.
- Aug. 26. Russians reach the Danube.
—Allies reach Rheims.
—German forces surrender in Paris.
- Aug. 27. De Gaulle shot at by French Fascists—the General not hurt.
—Laval arrested by Gestapo.
—Petain detained at Morvilard.
- Aug. 28. Soviets enter Hungary.
—Ten Governors confer with Viceroy in Delhi.
- Aug. 29. Anglo-Russian agreement for international security.
—Nazi troops withdraw from Bulgaria.
- Aug. 30. British take Amiens.
- Aug. 31. Russians enter Bucharest.
—Hungary asks for armistice.
—Gen. Montgomery made Field Marshal.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

NATIONAL GOVERNMENT OR PEOPLE'S GOVERNMENT. By Mr. M. N. Roy. People's Publishing House, Bombay.

Mr. M. N. Roy maintains that there are two Indias and that it is absurd to talk of *Indian* freedom. This time the contrasted Indias are the India of existing political parties and the India of the PEOPLE. He objects to a National Government during the war as it would imperil the chance of a People's Government after the war. Incidentally he notes the injustice to the Muslims involved in the immediate establishment of a National Government.

The supporters of Government inaction during the war may now add to the Muslim objection and the objection of the Indian States, the objection of the PEOPLE of India as represented by Mr. Roy. The Government should be grateful to this latest champion of their decision to do nothing during war-time.

THE BETRAYAL OF FREEDOM: A study in Nehru's political ideas. By Y. G. Krishnamurti. Foreword by Bhulabhai J. Desai. The Popular Book Depot, Bombay. Rs. 3.

In this small monograph, Mr. Krishnamurti discusses the meaning of freedom in the light of Pandit Nehru's ideas. Freedom is the one supreme passion of Nehru's life and he holds that "the plato-democracies have betrayed freedom and therefore betrayed man". Two great influences have moulded his thoughts and shaped his destiny: Soviet communism and Gandhi. But as the author rightly says:

We cannot pin Nehru down, either to Gandhism or Socialism. In more than one way he is strangely un-Gandhian. He is indifferent to religion because his heart is single and he is complete in action. Being a daring thinker, he is not afraid of speaking now from one pole of his being and now from another.

It is a thought-provoking book for all its rambling and discursive exposition of a well-worn theme.

FINLAND UNMASKED. By Otto Kunsinew. People's Publishing House, Bombay.

Finland's participation in Hitler's suicidal war will rank as the greatest misfortune that has ever befallen the Finnish people. This searching pamphlet traces the recent history of Finland and points out how its anti-Soviet policy for the past 25 years inevitably landed her in a conflict with Russia and how after a short respite was once again dragged into war as a subordinate but energetic associate in Hitler's imperialist gamble. We also get an account of Hitlerite Finland with its network of spies, its militarisation and its political and economic exploitation. It is plain that Fascist rule in Finland will not collapse unless it is overthrown by the organised effort of the Finnish people with resolute courage and supreme determination.

MINIMUM WAGES. By A. P. Singh. Published by Rai Sahib Ram Dayal Agarwala, Publisher, Allahabad.

It is a recognised fact that our factory or agricultural labour is very poorly provided for and that there is no system of any standardisation of wages in our country. In this pamphlet the author puts forth a powerful plea for comprehensive legislation on an all-India basis with the requisite sanction behind it for enforcement which would raise the lot of Indian workers from the present below-the-subsistence level. He says that the present scale of wages must be raised five times in the case of the lowest grade of labour and two or three times in the case of upper grades. He also elaborates the principles that should guide the fixing of minimum wages,

THE INDIA CHARTER. By Jehangir Framjee Kotewal. Foreword by S. A. Brelvi. Published by author, Garden Road, Saddar, Karachi. Rs. 10.

This is yet another earnest and praise-worthy effort to solve the ever-vexing communal question and end the deadlock. Mr. Kotewal's prescription may not be agreeable to all but it will be clear from a perusal of this volume of 450 odd pages that he has tried to face the issue squarely and attempted a solution which deserves sympathetic consideration.

The plan of the book is simple. It presents the principal political parties in the country and their creeds. The case for the British Government with their promise of Dominion Status and the communal problem from various angles are presented in the words of the respective protagonists. It traces the growth of Hindu-Muslim differences culminating in the demand for Pakistan. And it suggests a formula for national unity based on the communal formula leading to a solution of the political problem.

The main feature of the solution is the acceptance of Pakistan in principle, namely, "the grant of freedom to Muslim majority provinces to remain in or keep out of the Federation of United India, the concession of the same freedom of choice to Indian States and equal representation of Hindus and Muslims in all legislatures and public bodies and in the public services." The inter-communal relations will be governed by a treaty of perpetual peace, the treaty to remain in force for 25 years and renewable by mutual agreement. Another novel suggestion is a declaration of voluntary renunciation by non-Muslim minorities that they will refrain from exercising their votes though their representatives could be members of legislatures and minorities.

These and other suggestions are not likely to command general acceptance but they are the fruits of patient study and earnest endeavour to find a solution. Apart from everything, the book is a mine of valuable information presenting the case for each party in the words of their own authoritative spokesmen.

CHINA AFTER SEVEN YEARS OF WAR. Published by the Chinese Ministry of Information, Chungking, China, 1944.

On the 1st of July, 1944, China completed seven years of her struggle against Japan. It first treats of the constitutional movement in China from 1898 to the present day and details the draft constitution of May 5th, 1936. Chinese courage in the Burma jungles forms the subject-matter of the second chapter. Guerrilla warfare has been much developed and greatly helped even by ordinary civilians. The Chinese people have, however, borne patiently with all the worries and tribulations of the war and carry on the normal occupations of the life undisturbed. The war has increased the burden of the farmer, but has also given him further opportunities of useful productive work. The bulk of the people see in the future only an era of happiness and prosperity. Student life has become more hard-bitten.

War-time Chinese literature seems, from the account given of it, to be quite prolific and particularly interested in the development of the novel and in creating typical war-time figures.

BOOKS RECEIVED

THE MODERN CHINA. By Tan Yun-Shan. Kitabistan, Allahabad.

MARCHING MILLIONS. By Cyril Modak. Kitab Mahal, Bombay.

THE SOVIET CAUCASUS. By David Tutaeff. India Publishers, Allahabad.

24 RUSSIAN STORIES. By various authors. International Book House, Ltd., Bombay.

THE INDIAN VILLAGE. By K. S. Venkataramani, Swetaranya Ashrama, Mylapore, Madras.

ART FOR EVERYBODY. By Eric Newton. Published for British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

LONDON CALLING THE WORLD. By Frank Singeton. Published for the British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

MACHINES ON THE FARM. By L. F. Easterbook. Published by the British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

BRITISH CONTRIBUTIONS TO INDIAN STUDIES. By Sir Atul Chatterjee and Sir Richard Burn. Published for the British Council by Longmans, Green & Co.

ON YOUTH. By V. I. Lenin and J. V. Stalin. Peoples' Publishing House, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.

A NEW GERMANY IN BIRTH. By M. Kumaramangalam. Peoples' Publishing House, Sandhurst Road, Bombay.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE FUTURE OF BURMA

The future of Burma is discussed by Sir Alfred Watson in an article in the weekly review *Great Britain and the East*.

Emphasizing that after the economic damage resulting from ravages of war, Burma's whole economic structure will have to be rebuilt from the foundation, Sir Watson says, whatever qualities the Burmese may have, that will be a task far beyond their capacity. Britain will have to find large sums for rebuilding the country if Burma is to be set on its feet and much of that money probably will be irrecoverable.

The old forms of administration cannot be restored in their entirety, says Sir Watson, and the Burmese will need expert help in the creation of a new machine.

The best thing is to be outspoken now. War and its incidents expose a great deal of nonsense sometimes talked about Dominion Status for small nationalities unable, if left to themselves, to provide the essentials for making Dominion Status a reality, the essentials for making Dominion Status a reality, Burma is a case in point. It may so develop its institutions that concession of Dominion Status may be made with confidence. That time has not been hastened but made more distant by the events of war. For a long time to come, Burma will want careful nursing, if it is to be restored to health.

Changes in the form of Government are not the first consideration but the finding of plant that will be required for restoring to working the industries of Burma and equipment of land for efficient agriculture.

The most substantial financial help will be necessary at a time when the whole world will be competing for assistance in rebuilding the fabric of peace. It may well be that India, in its new-found prosperity will endeavour to secure a firmer hold upon the productive capacity of its neighbour. But any move in that direction will be unfair to the Burmese who, in these years of freedom, have developed the strongest prejudice against exploitation by Indians.

Sir Alfred Watson suggests that what money is immediately necessary will be sought from Britain and probably be forthcoming since it will aid export trade to the East. Burma's immense undeveloped resources must be used to enrich the Burmese and the Empire, he adds. Evidently Sir Alfred will have us believe that Burmans welcome exploitation by British capitalists. Their objection is only to Indians!

POLITICAL COOKERY

The *New Statesman and Nation*, some time ago held "Recipes of Menus of Political Cookery" competition for its readers. The following entry was awarded the First Prize:

Ingredients 2 or 3 religions, 500 million £5 riches, 1,000 jars of military pickle, a stiff penal code (previously beaten up—the stiffer the better), remains of feudal system from the melting pot, flavour of commercial interest (quantity as desired), 1 Viceroy.

How to make: Mix, but do not blend, the ingredients. Distribute riches unevenly, leaving large portions of poverty and uneducation, and keep all firmly under British Rule for 200 years. Cover with White Paper and cook in hot oven with Cripps. When browned off, be careful to shut all doors, as any breath of fresh air might spoil the hatch, which will now show a tendency to rise. Quell any rising, whether violent or not, by whipping briskly. Keep at fever heat a few months longer and the hatch will then be perfect. Serve with imperial sauce. Do not use any reasoning.

THE MORALE OF THE FORCES

Lord Wavell, Viceroy of India, declares, "The final deciding factor of all engagements, battles and wars is the morale of the opposing forces," in an article written before he became Viceroy in the *Sunday Times*:

"Better weapons, better food and superiority in numbers," says Lord Wavell, "will influence morale but it is sheer determination to win by whomever or whatever inspired that counts in the end.

Fine feathers may make fine birds but fine battleships do not necessarily make fine sailors or we could never have dominated the Mediterranean against the greatly superior Italian fleet. Study the men and their morale always. When things look badly from your point of view the best tonic is to think of the enemy's troubles; you may be sure he has them, too, and they may be worse than yours. Anyway, train yourself to think they are. As I wrote once elsewhere: "The last ounce of optimism is often better general reserve than many men."

SHAPE OF PAKISTAN

The strength of Pakistan claim, says the *Guardian*, lies in the distribution of population. Economic pattern is different and adverse to it.

Should the division be made on the principle of self-determination, the whip hand will pass into the hands of non-Muslim communities because fertile parts will fall to their share. Voters in the plebiscite are not likely to be far seeing and will go by the population test without realising the consequences. It is the border districts that will be met most by the perplexity both on grounds of population and economic resources. The population ratios are as follows: Muslims, are 71 per cent. in Sind, Baluchistan 87.5 per cent., N.W. Frontier 92 per cent. In the 17 Punjab districts, west of the Sutlej and Beas, Muslims range from 61 per cent. to 91 per cent. except Gurdaspur where they are slightly over 50 per cent. . . . Six eastern districts are overwhelmingly Hindu. In the disputed six border districts, neither Hindu nor Muslim nor Sikh is a majority community though the Muslims are the largest single group except in one instance.

The figures are as follows:

	MUSLIMS	SIKHS	HINDUS
Hoshiarpur ..	37	17	40
Jullander ...	45	26	18
Ludhiana ...	37	41	20
Firozpur ..	45	34	20
Amritsar ..	47	36	15
Gurdaspur ...	50	19	24

Sikhs have a difficult choice. They oppose the Gandhi-C. R. formula and have not thus far planned the alternative of a pact such as Mr. Jinnah has called for. Entire Pakistan cannot be an absolute Muslim Raj any more than the rest of India can be Hindu. The division can last only on the basis of well-defined pacts.

FORUM

Forum was born in August, 1943 and within the space of a year has come to occupy a distinct place in weekly journalism. Its trenchant criticism and its topical illustrations have made it quite popular among Indian readers. The annual number recently issued by its alert Editor Mr. Joachim Alwa has all the variety and attractiveness of an up-to-date weekly magazine. The special number publishes well-merited messages of congratulation from leading men from all over the country expressing appreciation of its achievements within so short a time. We offer our own congratulations to the Editor and wish this bright and vivacious journal a prosperous career.

FREEDOM FOR ALL

Mr. Wendell Willkie in a series of articles written for the American Press, outlines the policies he recommends for the Republican Party for the forthcoming Presidential election.

Mr. Willkie recommends a five-point Republican foreign policy.

Firstly, "the immediate creation of a Council of United Nations as the first step toward the ultimate formation of a general international organisation in order that directly or by representation all peoples of the United Nations may have a voice in the political decisions that are already being made in the world." Secondly, "we should emphasise that our sovereignty is not something to be hoarded but something to be used. The United States should use its sovereignty in co-operation with other powers to create an effective international organisation for the good of all." Thirdly, tariffs must be lowered and trade barriers replaced by reciprocity arrangements. Fourthly, world currency stabilization which is indispensable for the revival of world trade must be effected. Fifthly, and "finally, the Republican platform must state the conviction that contrary to what Mr. Churchill has said, our ideologies for which we fight have not become blurred for us in the course of fighting but have become clearer every day; and that, contrary to what Mr. Roosevelt has said, in becoming wiser we have not become more cynical. We know that the sacrifice of our men and women in this war has not been made simply in order to defend ourselves against brute forces. We are fighting a war for freedom. We are fighting a war for men's minds. This means we must encourage men's just aspirations for freedom, not only at home but everywhere."

END THE INDIAN DEADLOCK

The suggestion that Britain must take the initiative in seeking to end the Indian deadlock, for the initiative is not likely to come from India, was made in the *Spectator* recently by a contributor under the pseudonym "Z".

The writer, who has recently come from India, declares:

It is our business to use our best wisdom to bring Indian politics back to the plane of reason and commonsense. We are not going to succeed in doing this by merely repeating our offer of independence and calling upon the people of India to get together and frame a new constitution. We must bring them together.

In the Cripps scheme there was a plan for setting up a constitution-making body, immediately hostilities should cease. Nothing would conduce more to the restoration of good feeling in India than an announcement that a representative conference on these lines was to be brought together immediately.

THE PUPPETS OF EAST ASIA

From Inner Mongolia to Burma, Japan is now operating no fewer than six major puppet states in her East Asia Co-Prosperity Sphere, along with a number of second-rate side-shows, says the *New Statesman and Nation*. In November 1943, some of these puppet states gave a command performance in Tokio when the Greater East Asia Conference convened. Under the skilful direction of Premier Tojo, the dramatic personage included Premier Wang Ching-wei of occupied China, Premier Chang Ching hui of Manchukuo, Prince Varnaidya Voravarn (under studying for Premier Bipul Sorgram) of Thailand, President Jose Laurel of the Philippines, Premier Ba Maw of Burma and Subhas Chandra Bose, President of the Provisional Government of Free India with headquarters in Rangoon.

Japan's puppets have been drawn from three classes: the political malcontent, embittered toward his former government, who welcomes any opportunity to gain power; the desperate nationalist leader, often discovered as a political exile and given assistance or a haven; and, finally, what might be called the made-in-Japan puppet, the young student educated in Japan who contracts what to do. Asiatics is the most contagious of all Japanese maladies: pan-Asianism. In recent decades political conditions in Asia have enabled Japan to exploit all these sources.

Of special interest is the technique by which the puppets are "contracted" and groomed for their roles on the Greater East Asia stage. Here is where the Japanese "talent scout" steps in. Sometimes he is a Japanese Army Officer or Government official working either overtly or under cover in some troubled corner of Asia. Again the talent scout may be a businessman with official connections.

COLOUR PREJUDICE

In a letter headed "Colour prejudice", in the *Manchester Guardian*, Mr. H. S. L. Polak, London, says:

Economic, political, social and religious barriers may disappear. But one thing unchangeable is race associated with colour. If, therefore, this difference is emphasised, as it undoubtedly is, in parts of the Western world, we shall discover, before very long as they become more self-conscious and better organised, a tendency on the part of the non-White peoples to get together, in spite of former differences, and even enmities among themselves. At first, it will show itself in mutual sympathy, but later will take more active and aggressive ways for self-protection.

Mr. Gandhi has, of late, constantly emphasised the resentment of Asiatic and African peoples against what they still feel, rightly or wrongly, to be their exploitation by some White nations. There is doubtless much exaggeration in this assertion, but he is far from being alone in giving expression to this accumulated bitterness of feeling. It is a warning of which the world should take serious and immediate notice, lest an even greater calamity than the present should befall it.

THE INDIAN HOME

The *Roman-Urdu Edition* is a new venture of the *Indian Home* (Bombay), published for the first time last month. It has been sponsored chiefly by Capt. A. D. Yates and is primarily meant for the servicemen and their families; although it can be read with much advantage by all the Hindustani-knowing families in India. Its main object as of the English Magazine is, social reconstruction, and it is intended to be published, every month. There will be current social and civic information for the father, helpful articles about hygiene, child-welfare and domestic problems for the mother, and wholesome and amusing entertainment for the children.

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Hyderabad

THE NIZAM AND THE DEPRESSED CLASSES

"I do not recognize any community as high or low. I consider them all as equal inasmuch as they are human beings. Being educationally poor, they deserve greater consideration at the hands of my Government, especially in view of the fact that they form the bulk of my people in the State. I am pleased to hear that special attention is being paid to their educational advancement and general welfare so that they may take a proper place in a country", observed H.E.H. the Nizam of Hyderabad, replying to an address presented by the Depressed Classes.

The members of the Depressed Classes who met at a Conference earlier passed a resolution which expressed gratitude to H. E. H. the Nizam for granting them the Charter of their rights which is unexampled in the history of community's struggle for emancipation.

Kashmir

"NO PAKISTAN INSIDE KASHMIR"

A declaration that the Muslims of Jammu and Kashmir do not want Pakistan within the State, was made recently by Mr. Gulam Abas, presiding over the Session of the Muslim Conference. Mr. M. A. Jinnah, the Muslim League President, and Mr. H. M. Gazdar, the Sind Minister, were seated in the pandal among the distinguished visitors.

-Mr. Abas said that, so far as British India was concerned, the State Muslims favoured Pakistan and were prepared to offer sacrifices for achieving the same. He dwelt at some length on the two-nation theory and stated that the Hindus and Muslims had no common race, language or history.

Referring to the Kashmir State, Mr. Abas demanded the establishment of responsible government, the abolition of the law regarding cow killing, increased representation of Muslims in the Government services and the abolition of the law about apostasy among the Hindus.

Mysore

HOUSING FOR THE POOR

A scheme for providing at least 10,000 houses for the poor and middle classes in Bangalore City will soon be implemented by Government of Mysore, with a view to relieving the growing strain on housing in Bangalore. The Central Committee of the Economic Conference under the chairmanship of Pradhanashiromani N. Madhava Rao, Dewan of Mysore, after examining the scheme, has recommended the Government for acceptance, it is learnt.

The scheme, which will soon be implemented, envisages the formation of a joint stock company in which Government, City Municipal Council, large insurance companies, co-operative institutions, employers of labour like mills and factories, etc., will all have interest. The cost of the proposed scheme is estimated to be Rs. 1,00,00,000 and the capital invested is estimated to yield the company a 6 per cent. dividend. All houses will remain the property of Government or the Municipality and will be rented out at reasonable rates. The management will be with a Board of Directors with suitable Government control.

The Central Committee has recommended that 100 houses for middle class people in Bhadravati may also be constructed immediately and later on this scheme be expanded to the other industrial towns like Devangere and Arasikere.

PAYMENT OF WAGES ACT

Mr. H. B. Gundappa Gowda, Minister for Local Self-Government, Mysore Government revealed in the course of a reply to the discussion on the resolution brought up by Mr. M. Ramachandra Rao in the Mysore Legislative Council recommending to the Government the introduction of the Payment of Wages Act analogous to the one in British India, that Government had been considering the scheme and hoped to bring a Bill shortly before the Legislature. The Government, the Minister added, accepted the resolution. The resolution was put to vote and carried unanimously.

Travancore

TRAVANCORE BUDGET

Budget estimates of the Travancore Government for the coming financial year 1120 M.E., which were presented by Mr. A. Narayana Aiyar, Financial Secretary to the Government, at a joint session of the two Houses of the Travancore Legislature, on August 14, anticipate a revenue of Rs. 582'19 lakhs—peak figure never reached in the history of the finance of the State. This figure, it is also pointed out, is a modest estimate as revised estimate of revenue for 1119, which was placed at Rs. 489'41 lakhs has already been exceeded by about Rs. 15 lakhs.

Expenditure in the budget for the coming year is Rs. 428'83 lakhs charged to revenue, leaving a surplus of Rs. 103'36 lakhs which will be devoted to furthering of post-war plans. A sum of Rs. 32'5 lakhs out of this surplus is proposed to be immediately utilised for post-war reconstruction works and the balance of Rs. 70'86 lakhs will be credited to post-war reconstruction fund to be drawn upon in the future. Revised estimate of revenue for the current year 1119 is Rs. 489'41 lakhs and expenditure Rs. 364'08 lakhs.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan-President, presided over the joint session.

Recounting the measures already taken and proposed to be undertaken for the purpose of building up a fund of Rs. 10,00,00,000, the Dewan said that, two years ago and in fact before the Government of India appointed a Post-War Reconstruction Committee, the Travancore Government had set apart Rs. 50,00,000 in their budget as a nucleus for a post-war reconstruction fund. Last year a sum of Rs. 1,00,00,000 was also assigned for the same purpose and it was expected that, on account of a large increase in excise, custom, abkari and forest revenue and simultaneous increase of income-tax revenue, it would be possible to set apart over Rs. 1,50,00,000 this year.

In conclusion, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar emphasised that the Travancore Government would go ahead with the schemes, independent and irrespective of any all-India plan.

Baroda

RECONSTRUCTION FUND

"We expect an early victory, but let us not forget that after the victory we shall be faced with difficult problems, and readjustment of our economic life. Only if we have husbanded our resources will we be able to solve these questions in a satisfactory manner," declared Mr. B. A. Gaekwar, Dewan of Baroda, in his address to the Budget Session of the Baroda Legislative Assembly.

The receipts have been estimated at Rs. 3'95 lakhs, and expenditure at Rs. 3'94'26 lakhs. The revised estimates for 1943'44 are: Income Rs. 3'75 lakhs, and expenditure 36'8,18 lakhs.

Rs. 74'75 lakhs have been provided for war expenditure, which includes Rs. 44'15 lakhs for the post-war reconstruction fund. The total accretions in this fund will amount to Rs. 114'15 lakhs in three years. There is a general increase in the allotments to nation-building departments which amount to about Rs. 63 lakhs. Besides, a lump sum provision of Rs. 9 lakhs has been made for the administration of the attached areas. The Agricultural Department has been allotted Rs. 12,17 lakhs as against Rs. 7'38 lakhs in the revised estimates, the increased provision being made for new schemes.

Bikaner

FIVE-YEAR PLAN FOR BIKANER

A five-year programme of general development of the Bikaner State costing rupees two crores has been initiated by H. H. the Maharaja. Describing the main features of this programme, in a speech at a recent dinner given in connection with his investiture as Prime Minister of the State Mr. K. M. Panikkar said that in order to carry it out a Development Department had been created under an expert Development Commissioner, which had already begun to yield results, especially in relation to sheep-breeding and improvement of the quality of the famous Bikaner wool.

Part of the programme is a vast town-planning scheme prepared with the object of not only relieving congestion in the capital but of attracting as many people as possible to live, under better and more sanitary conditions.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

SUPREME COURT JUDGMENT

The refusal of Licensing Officer to grant licences to an Indian for two depots for storing, receiving and distributing laundry "on the sole ground of racial discrimination" is severely criticised by Judge President Hathorn at the Supreme Court when with Mr. Justice Broome concurring, he set aside the decision of the Durban Licensing Officer and the Durban Licensing Appeal Board, who refused to grant a licence to Mr. A. K. Philip, proprietor of a laundry in Durban.

Mr. Philip's application was refused by the Licensing Officer on the ground that he was not satisfied with the locality of the premises desirable for carrying on laundry business, and the refusal was upheld by the Appeal Board.

Giving judgment on the case brought up for review, Mr. Justice Hathorn said that there was no valid reason why the application should not be granted, especially as other laundry owners were granted depot licence in the same area.

Dealing with the Appeal Board's decision, Mr. Justice Hathorn said that it took into account its own knowledge of the amenities of the locality and considered that it was unsuitable as a depot for laundry.

I regard the reasons of the Appeal Board as mere window-dressing introduced in the case for the purpose of holding up what the members of the Appeal Board must have known was a hopelessly bad decision of the Licensing Officer.

The Appeal Board's decision is set aside as being capricious and the Licensing Officer is directed to issue the licence in question. The respondents are ordered to pay costs.

SETTING UP OF LICENSING BOARDS

It is learnt that the Natal Indians who had negotiated the recent Pegging Agreement with the Government are dissatisfied with the draft Ordinance Establishing Licensing Boards submitted to them by the provincial council authorities. They have now engaged legal services to prepare their own draft Ordinance which will be submitted to provincial authorities for discussion and negotiations.

U.S.A.

CITIZENSHIP RIGHTS FOR INDIANS

Congressman Emmanuel Celler labelled the Indian exclusion law "Echo of that totalitarian ideology we seek to crush" and called on the United States to erase from the statute books "malignant inferiority with which we brand the Eastern Hemisphere and Indians", addressing a public meeting in support of the legislation authorizing the United States the immigration and naturalization of Indian nationals.

Mr. Celler said such a legislation must be passed "if the sincerity of our war aims is to pass the test—placed before us by every oppressed people on this earth and who look towards the United States for justice and equality. Other speakers who responded to the invitation of India League in America were Clare Booth Luce, Senator William Langer, Louis Fischer, author, who advocated India's freedom in writings and lectures in America since he returned from India two years ago and Edgar Snow, author and correspondent.

East Africa

INDIANS IN EAST AFRICA

At a largely attended Conference of Indians in Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar, a resolution was passed protesting against and demanding the suspension of the Regulation restricting Indian immigration as a war-time measure. The resolution points out that Indian immigration in recent months has been insignificant, that from three to four thousand Indians are waiting to return to India, that the housing and food shortage alleged is purely artificial and that the Regulation is part of a concerted policy of the East African Governments against Indians in their territories. The following resolution contains:

This Conference is amazed and feels aggrieved that the Government of India should have given their consent to the Regulations so manifestly antagonistic to the interests of India and deplors that they should have given their consent without previously ascertaining the actual position of Indians in these territories with which they are not familiar and without fully appreciating the present and future implications of these Regulations on Indian immigration to Eastern Africa generally.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

ELECTIONS TO LEGISLATURES

The question whether elections for the Indian Provincial Legislatures should not be held at once—"as soon, that is, as the military situation renders it safe to release the interned Congress leaders"—is raised by the *Manchester Guardian*:

The Cripps offer provided for elections to be held immediately after the termination of hostilities and for a Constituent Assembly to be then elected by these Legislatures to frame a Constitution and negotiate a settlement of certain matters with Great Britain.

The correspondence between Mr. Gandhi and the Viceroy suggests no 'National Government' is likely to be formed before military operations cease. But with the end of the war coming into sight, a Constituent Assembly could get to work and might throw up leaders capable of achieving a Hindu-Muslim-Sikh settlement, of negotiating with the British Government and of choosing representatives to speak for India in peace discussions (for there may not be a formal peace conference).

What is above all things needful is to free Indian politicians from a sense of frustration, from a feeling of powerlessness and irresponsibility from a suspicion that they are being invited to argue, to plead and to advise on questions already decided behind their backs and to convince them that they have here and now practical and important work to do—the power and responsibility for the shaping of the Indian future.

PROF. ABDUL MAJID ON THE TWO-NATION THEORY

Prof. Abdul Majid Khan, a Nationalist Muslim of Lahore, has issued the following statement to the Press:

That Pakistan is not the be-all and the end-all of the Muslim Leaguers; that it is just a jumping-off ground and that once the theory of the two nations is accepted or acquiesced in, India will be turned into a veritable cockpit, where the flames of fanaticism will never be put out, is amply clear from the following extracts of the speeches of Mr. Jinnah.

(1) "The Punjab and Bengal are spearheads and United Provinces is the heart of Islam"—Mr. Jinnah's speech delivered on October 15, 1937, at Lucknow, before the 25th session of the All-India Muslim League.

(2) "I had an interview with Mr. Jinnah when it was pointed out to me that in the scheme of Pakistan, the north-western and north-eastern states would be connected by a corridor running along the northern border of United Provinces and Bihar."—Mr. Herbert Mathews in *New York Times* of February 6, 1943.

(3) "Two nations, confronting each other in every province, every town, every village, that is the only solution." "That is a terrible solution, Mr. Jinnah." "It is a terrible solution. But it is the only one." "Enlist India for freedom." by Edward Thompson (Edward Thompson interviewed Mr. Jinnah in 1939).

(4) "The Hindus cannot give you Pakistan. The utmost they will do is to withdraw obstruction with the reasonable chance of the Hindus getting their freedom and the Muslims getting theirs. The British Government can give Pakistan because they are in possession; and whether they make up their mind or not, or they go on camouflaging, evading and making excuses, we will have Pakistan. . . . The British Government has to get the wholehearted support of some party in this country, if not of all; but every party is kept at arm's length and dissatisfied."—Mr. Jinnah's speech at the Karachi session of the All-India Muslim League held in the fourth week of December, 1943.

C. R. AND THE NEW DEMAND

Mr. Jinnah's organ *Dawn* has in its issue of 6th August raised the new cry of "safety and solvency", over and above religion and community as the basis of the new Muslim states. Referring to the criticism of "our Hindu friends that the bounds of Pakistan have not yet been clearly delimited", *Dawn* observes that the obligation for doing so does not rest on the Mahomedans alone but jointly on the two communities who will have to sit together and mark the frontiers of the new Muslim sovereign state with such necessary adjustments as to make it economically self-supporting and nationally solvent, in the larger sense of the term embracing all aspects of sovereignty.

Mr. Rajagopalachari has been annoyed at this cry of *Dawn* and observes:

If it is now thought that the conditions for an independent state are lacking in the Muslim majority areas, it is good ground for advising the people at the time of the plebiscite to vote against separation or for withdrawing the demand altogether but it cannot become a reason for the extension of territory or for making other and fresh demands.

Utterances of the Day

MR. SASTRI ON THE PAKISTAN MOVE

A strong denunciation of Pakistan was voiced by the Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri at a public meeting held at Madras with Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri in the chair. "I hate Pakistan and I hate Pakistan to such an extent", said Mr. Sastri,

that I will not agree to it at all unless the British people have passed an act in Parliament and His Majesty has given his assent to it that there will be independence given to India.

I will not look at it, for, I know there are a great many things that British people can bring about to confound us and puzzle us and defeat us time and again, even though we agree to pay this price. Therefore I advise parties not to agree to pay that price at all, knowing that it is an evil. I feel so strongly against the steps being taken, without due consideration of the consequence and without the guarantee, before an evil step is taken, that the good we expect to counter-balance is certainly in the train marching towards us for us to welcome at the station.

Mr. Sastri said:

Some people ask what is the alternative? I have no alternative. What, if have no alternative? Have I not the right to say, 'This is wrong. It is likely to lead to ruin, while it will not yield the result we want. It would have taken from us something we should not have given.' I have a right to tell my countrymen that I will divide India, it will make her weak and disunited before other nations. It will ensure her subordination for ever and for ever your children will have to face daily all kinds of diplomatic and international and financial difficulties.

Mr. Sastri continued:

I insist upon saying that once we agree to Pakistan, however conditionally even when that condition is not fulfilled, we cannot withdraw it. We paid the price of an article to one party and we expect the article to be delivered by another party. We must all realise that however eminent, however fit to be worshipped as a demigod a man may be, it is not open for anybody to make an offer in the name of the country, unless he can carry the country freely and unhesitatingly with him in the offer. Upon the leader rests a great responsibility, a moral responsibility that he cannot shake off of previously assuring himself that even six million Sikhs will not oppose. I think it is a bad move on the part of Mahatma Gandhi to open negotiations with Mr. Jinnah on the footing that he took Pakistan with him as an offer. Now he says he is seeking to consult everybody. Subsequent consultation in such matters is no substitute for previous consultation.

At a later meeting Mr. Sastri suggested that the question of Pakistan be submitted to a board of arbitration, consisting of a Chinaman, nominated by Gen. Chiang, a Frenchman and a judge of the Supreme

Court of America, to be nominated by President Roosevelt, with the American as its head.

Mr. Sastri added that much as he hated Pakistan, he would be willing to abide by the award.

Asked what he thought of Rt. Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri's suggestion that the question of Pakistan be submitted to an impartial tribunal consisting of representatives of France, China and the United States, Sir Sivaswami Aiyer said:

I do not myself like the idea of submitting the fate of our country to the irrevocable decision of arbitrators who cannot be expected to have adequate knowledge of the conditions and difficulties of the question.

MR. HULL ON JOINT USE OF FORCE

The United States Secretary of State, Mr. Cordell Hull, repeatedly stressed the use of force, if necessary, to preserve peace after the war, when he formally opened the International Security Conference at Dumbarton Oaks on August 21.

It is our task here to help lay the foundations upon which, after victory, peace, freedom and growing prosperity may be built for generations to come. The forces of savagery and barbarism almost succeeded in enslaving mankind because the peace-loving nations were disunited.

These forces of evil now face utter defeat because at long last their intended victims have attained the unity and armed power which are now bringing victory to us. The lessons of earlier disunity and weakness should be indelibly stamped upon the minds and hearts of this generation and the generations to come. So should the lessons of unity and its resultant strength achieved by the United Nations in this war.

Peace, like liberty, requires constant devotion and ceaseless vigilance. It requires willingness to take positive steps towards its preservation. It requires constant co-operation among the nations and determination to live together as good neighbours in a world of good neighbours. Peace requires the acceptance of the idea that its maintenance is a common interest, so precious and so overwhelmingly important that all differences and controversies among nations can, and must be resolved by resort to pacific means. But peace also requires institutions through which the will to peace can be translated into action.

These foundations must support arrangements for peaceful settlement of international disputes and for the joint use of force if necessary to prevent or suppress threats to peace or breaches of the peace.

Political

MR. T. R. V. SASTRI ON "THE DISASTROUS STEP"

The Government are obviously determined to maintain the *status quo* at least for the duration of the war, writes Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, opposing the division of the country.

The demand for the establishment of a National Government in India has been met by the plea of Hindu-Muslim differences and the absence of any one who can take over the Government on behalf of a United India. In order to get rid of this, the plea of Hindu-Muslim differences, C. R. desires to secure their unity at any cost, even at a cost that well-nigh abolishes Unity. An extreme section of Muslims headed by Mr. Jinnah ask for the dismemberment of India as their irreducible price for assent to *Unity*. Mr. Jinnah has dismissed C. R.'s proposal as a trap set for him. Apparently further concessions are under contemplation.

C. R. says in effect: Sacrifice all you can to secure unity, or, you will not solve the Indian problem for many a long day. Most people feel that the result will ultimately be: You have sacrificed all you can, and much that you should not sacrifice, and still you have not secured your objective. The Minorities and the Indian States are already threatening to take the place of Hindu-Muslim differences to block our path to a solution.

To many who are dumb-founded by the Mahatma's ascent, it seems that the major disaster that a division of India would constitute will pursue us for all time, and at every turn when we are confronted by insuperable difficulties in the future as the result of this division, we shall wring our hands and exclaim in anguish: "How did so many good men agree to so obviously disastrous a step?"

I have a suspicion that there is still in the background a lingering hope that when the time to take a decision arrives, Pakistan will not materialise,—side by side with a resignation that, if it did, it could not be helped. Pakistan is disastrous to Muslim interests as much as to the interests of all others and the Muslims would be unwise to insist on it. But insist on it they will, in their present mood, whatever the consequences. And the consequences will be, I am afraid, irretrievable disaster.

Whether in internal administration of our affairs or in our relations with other countries, India divided will never be the power that we hoped she would become in the post-war international world. The Mahatma saw more truly and clearly when he declared it to be sin to contemplate or agree to a division of India.

By a series of false steps, since the rejection of the Government of India Act, 1935, to go no further back, we have landed ourselves in the present situation and this last step is taking us further forward along the same line. Things seem to be swiftly moving with the inevitability of a Greek tragedy towards a pre-appointed catastrophe.

SIR M. V. JOSHI ON THE C. R. PROPOSALS

Sir M. V. Joshi, a former President of the All-India Liberal Federation, in a statement on Mr. C. Rajagopalachari's proposals for communal settlement says:

Pakistan is by now not a matter of reasoning with the Muslims of India, but has become a matter of sentiment with them. Any attempt therefore to convince the Muslims that they cannot uphold Pakistan on grounds of reasoning is not likely to induce them to change their attitude. Some formula was therefore to be found out, which may possibly become a common platform for discussion between the two communities. From that point of view, Rajaji's formula is one such as to give a ground for further discussion between the two communities. It is easy for the Hindu Mahasabha or rather communally-minded Hindus to assert that Hindustan is for the Hindus; at any rate, they will be the preponderating majority, not necessarily riding roughshod over minorities, but being in the majority, will carry weight as a majority community. But neither the Hindu Mahasabha nor anybody else can give a common platform for a further useful discussion.

A Muslim crying for Pakistan is as much entitled to his sentiment about it as any Hindu communalist may be about Hindustan.

If a community therefore asserts its right to self-determination in a particular way, there must be some way of meeting that sentiment and satisfying the same.

DELHI CITIZENS' SUPPORT

One hundred and four pleaders, advocates and barristers of Delhi (Hindus, Muslims and Christians) have signed a joint statement expressing their desire for the success of the forthcoming Gandhi-Jinnah meeting on the basis of self-determination.

The statement, among other things, pledges their support for the efforts of the two leaders to achieve Congress-League unity, to break the deadlock and to win the National Government.

MADRAS CONGRESSMEN'S VIEW

Mr. C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar, M.L.C., in a statement to the United Press, says:

An informal meeting of Congressmen numbering about 60 was held in the Madras Mahajana Sabha Hall at my instance. There was a free and frank discussion on the communal formula of Mr. C. Rajagopalachari and the coming Gandhi-Jinnah meeting. Everybody expressed complete confidence in Gandhiji's leadership.

AMERICAN PROFESSORS FOR INDIA

The possibility of American professors coming out to this country to lecture in the leading universities in India on American history and civilization and in some fields of science, is envisaged in a letter received by the Calcutta University from the Chairman, Distribution Committee, Watumull Foundation, U.S.A., forwarding a circular announcing the offer by the Foundation of a fellowship and ten scholarships to graduate students of Indian universities.

The University has been informed that it may take some time for applications to reach the United States and for the committee of selection to decide on them. But the Foundation is hoping to send in the meantime one or two American professors to lecture in the leading universities of India. One professor will lecture on American history and civilisation and the other on some field of science depending on the person who will be available.

The Syndicate of the Calcutta University, it is understood, has informed the Chairman of the Distribution Committee of the Foundation that the university would be glad if both the lecturers visited the university.

SACRED HEART COLLEGE

The establishment of the Sacred Heart College at Thevara is one of the greatest war-time achievements in the field of education in Cochin State. The spacious and beautiful buildings of the College, which were constructed in 1948-44, satisfy, in the words of the Madras University Commission, "all requirements demanded" by the University.

In addition to the usual courses of study, the College provides instruction for the degree of Bachelor of Commerce, newly introduced by Madras University. Attached to the College, which is ideally situated on the coast, are a big hostel and extensive playgrounds. The College has been established by the Syro-Malabar Carmelite congregation, which also maintains 7 High Schools and 10 Middle Schools.

ALAGAPPA CHETTIAR'S MUNIFICENCE

Within the short period of a year, said the Vice-Chancellor, Dr. Lakshmanaswami Mudaliar, in his recent address to the Madras University, Dr. Alagappa Chettiar has already given donations for the cause of education to the extent of over 12 lakhs of rupees. "Besides these large donations, with true insight into the needs of the less fortunately circumstanced of his countrymen, he has given a donation of a lakh and fifty thousand to the Cochin State "Feed the Children Fund", placed a lakh of rupees at the disposal of the Maharajah of Cochin for charity and war effort, has made a further contribution of more than a lakh of rupees for war charities in this Presidency, endowed a sum of rupees fifty thousand for the benefit of labourers in the Cochine State and another rupees fifty thousand for amenities to labourers besides smaller donations to various worthy objects. To the Madras University, he has already given a sum of rupees three lakhs to the Technological College started by the University at the beginning of this academic year, a gift that was as spontaneous as it was free from all conditions. It is to me a matter of pride that this large donation was contributed for the first time by an *alumnus* of this University."

NEW COLLEGES FOR BOMBAY

Eight new colleges may be started in the near future in the Bombay Presidency to meet the increasing demand for higher University education. Applications for affiliation have been received by the Bombay University and local inquiry committees have been appointed by the University to report and make recommendations.

Of these colleges, two will be exclusively for science, four arts and the rest for science and arts combined. One of the colleges which will be exclusively for women will be opened at Poona. Ahmedabad, Bijapur, Nawsari, Belgaum and Kudal are some of the other centres where colleges will be opened.

The new colleges are expected to avert overcrowding in Bombay colleges.

LEVY OF ESTATE DUTY

The Federal Court, by a majority consisting of the Chief Justice and Justice Sir S. Varadachariar, held that the Federal Legislature has no power to make a law providing for the levy of "estate duty" of the nature and with the incidence of the estate duty under the English Law. They further held that the levy of estate duty of the kind above referred to is not a matter included in any of the lists in the Seventh Schedule to the Government of India Act.

Justice Sir Zafrullah Khan found himself unable to express any opinion on the questions referred to the Court.

The Federal Court will, therefore, make a report to the Governor-General in accordance with the opinion of the majority.

"NO RE-ARREST OF MEN ONCE ACQUITTED"

An important decision was given by the Karachi Chief Court recently, when it ruled that accused persons once acquitted by one court could not be re-arrested even if a re-trial was ordered by a higher court.

Of eight accused in the Pinjrapore bomb case, four had been sentenced by a Special Court, set up under the Criminal Courts Ordinance, and four others acquitted. On appeal, the Federal Court invalidated the proceedings and ordered a re-trial. On this, the re-arrest of the acquitted persons was ordered by a Karachi Court. This order was recently quashed on appeal by the Chief Court.

JUDGMENT IN TIRUKOILUR CASE

The Sessions Judge, South Arcot, has delivered judgment in the appeal filed by Messrs. Rajagopal Pillai and Venu Chetti of Tirukoilur, against their conviction on the charge of exhorting the public to disobey Government orders. The appeal has been allowed in the case of Mr. Venu Chetti and in the case of Mr. Rajagopal Pillai, the conviction has been confirmed, but the sentence reduced to three months' R.I.

CR. LAW AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

War-time conditions have inevitably provided opportunities for defrauding Government on a large-scale and a number of cases have unfortunately occurred in which dishonest persons have not been slow to take advantage of these opportunities, says a Press Note. Government consider it their plain duty to take every possible step to prevent these practices and bring the offenders to book and it has been brought to their notice that the ends of justice have been seriously obstructed by the ability of offenders so to dispose or conceal their ill-gotten gains, as to avoid their eventual, recoupment to Government and thus render it more difficult to substantiate the charges against them. After full consideration and consultation with Provincial Governments, it has been decided to take special powers to prevent the disposal or concealment of property procured by means of certain offences and the result is the Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance, 1944, promulgated recently, which provides powers to attach or "freeze" assets of the kind under consideration. Government fully recognise the exceptional nature of these powers. They believe, however, that they are justified by the emergency, and the provision of the Ordinance have been drawn with care to provide safeguards. The powers of attachment are strictly limited; their exercise has been placed in hands of the courts; and there is full provision for appeals.

"BHARATA DEVI"

A notice under sub-Section 3 of Section 7 of the Indian Press Emergency Powers Act, 1931, has been served on Mr. S. V. Swami, publisher of *Bharata Devi* demanding a security of Rs. 2,000 to be deposited with the Chief Presidency Magistrate, Madras, for publishing an editorial in the issue of *Bharata Devi*, dated June 23, 1944, which, it is alleged contained objectionable matter described in Clauses B (B) of the sub-Section 1 of Section 4 of the said Act read with sub-Clauses A, E and F of the Clause 6 of Rule 84 of the Defence of India Rules.

I. L. O. & SOCIAL INSURANCE

The following is a summary of the Social Security Proposals submitted by the Permanent Secretariat of the International Labour Organisation by the 26th I. L. O. Conference held recently.

According to the proposals, sickness benefit should not be paid for the first few days but if sickness re-occurs within a few months a fresh waiting period should not be imposed. This rate is justified by the saving in benefit and administrative expenses which result from the exclusion of insignificant illness and which enables a higher benefit or one of longer duration to be paid in cases that involve substantial loss of earnings. It is suggested that benefits should preferably be continued until the beneficiary is fit to return to work, dies or becomes invalid. If, however, it is considered necessary to limit the duration of benefit, the maximum period should not be less than 26 weeks for a single case and provision should be made for extending the duration of benefits in the case of specialised diseases such as tuberculosis which often involve lengthy though curable sickness.

A woman should have the right to leave her work six weeks before and for six weeks after her confinement and during that period should be entitled to maternity benefit. This proposal is in conformity with the Childbirth Convention of 1919. The benefit is made conditional not only on absence from work but also utilisation of health services provided for mothers and infants.

A handicapped person should be expected to engage in any occupation which may be reasonably indicated for him, having regard to his remaining strength and ability, his previous experience and any facilities for training available to him. A person following a training course should receive provisional invalidity or unemployment benefit if he is otherwise qualified for it. A person for whom no such occupation can be indicated should receive invalidity benefit.

Old age is, from social insurance standpoint, a special case of invalidity. It is the age at which unemployment, if it occurs, is likely to be permanent and

invalidity becomes so prevalent that to prove it at every stage is superfluous. Mingled with this attitude is the human consideration that aged persons ought to be enabled to rest from their labour after a long productive life.

NATIONAL INSURANCE COMPANY

The Annual Report of the National Insurance Co., Ltd., Calcutta, for the year ending December 31st, 1948, shows excellent progress.

New business written for the year was double that of previous years and amounted to 10,772 policies assuring a sum of Rs. 2,83,35,789.

In spite of this record business, the expense ratio remains low at 27.5 per cent. This, said Mr. J. Chaudhuri, Chairman of the general meeting of shareholders, "is due to the careful presentation of our field organization during the previous years when little business was obtainable and thus when the flow was re-established our organization was ready to deal with it with a minimum of expense."

The net annual premium of the company was Rs. 14,42,719-6-0 and the total interest income on investments was Rs. 17,94,277-7-0.

The life fund now stands to Rs. 4,19,31,271-8-5, which is an increase of Rs. 32,38,821-8-4 over the previous year.

THE UNITED INDIA

The United India Life Assurance Co., Ltd., has registered a record new business in 1948 amounting to Rs. 1.73 lakhs, which is 112 per cent. in excess of the previous year's figure of Rs. 84 lakhs. The total premium income, Life Assurance Fund and business in force figures also recorded substantial increases, being Rs. 38, Rs. 1.85 and Rs. 8.05 lakhs respectively as against Rs. 32, Rs. 1.64 and Rs. 6.74 lakhs of the previous year. During the year claims by death and maturity were respectively Rs. 6.01 lakhs and Rs. 5.88 lakhs and out of this total of Rs. 11.85 lakhs, Rs. 8.50 were paid during the year itself, which speaks very well of the promptness of the Company in the disposal of claims.

INDIA'S TRADE AFTER WAR

Interviewed in connection with the view recently expressed by an American businessman that India's own war-accelerated industries would be in a position to supply most of India's fundamental manufactured goods after the war, and that the United States and other great manufacturing powers would have to concentrate on the development of new scientific and manufacturing fields, Sir Homi Mody, one of India's prominent industrialists, told an A.P.I. reporter:

There is no doubt that India is set fair for a considerable economic development after the war. It would, however, be too optimistic an assumption to make that the whole of the industrial war-gains will survive. A number of small and subsidiary industries, which have been newly created or expanded, to meet the demands of the Fighting Services, will not be able to withstand competition when normal conditions are restored, and their establishment on new foundations will need much capital equipment. In the matter of heavy industries also, the world shortage of capital goods will stand in the way of a rapid industrialisation of the country. For some years, therefore, Indian demand is bound to outstrip productive capacity, and we shall continue to need a large volume of both capital and consumer goods. The position must change after a few years, however, and a stage will be reached when the whole character of our trade with other countries will undergo a transformation, and as Mr. McCorkle has said, the great manufacturing nations of the world will be forced to concentrate on the development of new scientific and manufacturing fields. India will still be a large importer, but her requirements will be largely confined to speciality goods, or to articles the manufacture of which is not possible in the country, or is not justified by the size of the home market. In these circumstances, I think it would be a hasty generalisation to talk of any startling changes in the trend of India's trade in the immediate future.

Dr. John Matthai, Director of Tata's, said that the statement of the American businessman needed qualifying. He added:

The general belief, to which Mr. McCorkle gives currency, that the war has tremendously accelerated India's industrial progress is a proposition which, to say the least, would need a lot of proving. While it is true that certain established industries have increased their production in response to war demand, several new industries, of fundamental importance to the country, which had been projected before the war have, under the stress of war conditions, been either abandoned or been unable to reach completion. My personal view is that, on a careful

balance of the various factors in the situation, it will be found that, unlike countries such as Canada and Australia, the war has been more a hampering than an accelerating influence in India. I agree, however, with Mr. McCorkle that India has sufficient potential capacity to supply her basic manufactured needs.

But the development of this potential capacity, in the near future, will depend on the amount of hard thinking and planning, and concerted effort, which the Government as well as the people of the country can bring to bear on the problem. It needs, above all, a willingness to pull together in the national interest, of which one wishes there were more signs than at present.

INDIA'S POST-WAR OPPORTUNITIES

"No task will be too small to demand my attention," said Mr. S. K. Kirpalani, Indian Trade Commissioner in New York, giving an assurance that while in America he would give his unstinted service to Indian businessmen.

Mr. Kirpalani, who was addressing the Muslim Chamber of Commerce, added: "I am prepared to answer inquiries and give such assistance as lies in my power regarding definite orders you place for goods in America, and I will, of my own accord, give all available information regarding trades, cottage and village industries."

Mr. Kirpalani pointed out that the decade after the cessation of hostilities would be most important to India. Unrivalled opportunities would be presented for building heavy industries. She should put forward a complete programme for obtaining capital goods, though other countries might compete.

UN R R A'S TRANSPORT

The United Nations' Relief and Rehabilitation Administration is to create its own independent shipping organization for the transport of relief to Europe, an authoritative spokesman said recently. Britain will provide the majority of the vessels.

Britain and the U.S.A. are also in complete agreement on the necessity for creating an international transport organization committee to take control of transport in the liberated countries and fulfil the UN R R A's transport needs. Only the military will have authority to countermand the committee's orders.

AIM OF KASTURBA MEMORIAL

Mahatma Gandhi presided at a meeting of the trustees of the Kasturba National Memorial Fund held in Poona. Addressing the meeting Gandhiji observed in the course of his speech that he knew that critics were not wanting who considered his association with moneyed men as a sign of weakness unworthy of a votary of truth and non-violence. The speaker, on the other hand, considered such association as essentially a sign of his non-violence. His many friends knew well the motive for his association with them. He received money from them for his many constructive activities some of which were also supremely humanitarian. They allowed him to put his hands into their pockets for the All-India Spinners and Village Industries Association and for basic education as defined by the Hindustani Talimi Sangh and other similar causes. So far as he knew, they had nothing to gain by his association with them. His contact with them took place after they had proved their success as businessmen. His mission was to convert capitalists not into mere friends and patrons of the millions of the unemployed but willing sharers of their goods with them.

Further, he had observed that some had doubted whether the funds collected would not be used for political ends. He had no hesitation whatsoever in giving the assurance that he had no such idea in view. The All-India Spinners' Association and the other bodies just referred to by him, even though initiated by the Congress, had no political character about them.

This memorial movement, Gandhiji added, had been initiated not by the Congress or Congressmen but by non-Congressmen and for a purely humanitarian purpose. In a higher sense no great act done by an Indian, whether politician or not, could be without political significance. He had in mind the activities of Indians in the field of literature and science and philosophy.

A discussion followed Gandhiji's speech and his definition of the object of the Memorial Fund was unanimously agreed.

WOMEN AND RECRUITMENT

"Help us to help you by giving us the jobs we are fitted and ready to hold, that is the attitude of the progressive women of India, to the Government of India," Begum Shah Nawab, head of the women's section of the Information Department, told the press in New Delhi.

The Begum Saheba believes that recruiting for the three men's fighting services and for the W.A.C.I's and the nursing services has been and still is to some extent hampered by ignoring the part women play in all these matters.

Lack of right propaganda or of any propaganda among Indian women in regard to the war has led to a negative or an adverse attitude on the part of a great many Indian women towards the part their menfolk are taking in the defence of India," she said. "Their influence has been dangerously underrated by the authorities," she added.

"Caste and seclusion operate to some extent to prevent Indian girls from becoming nurses, but the unsatisfactory conditions in some of the Indian civil hospitals is a far greater inhibiting factor. Prominent and influential Indian women have not been given the positions they ought to occupy in the administration, and the lead they might have given to the country has been lost."

Begum Shah Nawaz, who after 20 years of work has at last succeeded in getting the Government of India to recognise the fact that less than two per cent. of Indian women now live in seclusion, has ideas about women that would be regarded as advanced in London or New York.

WOMAN ELECTRICAL ENGINEER

India's first woman Electrical Engineer, Mrs. A. Lalitha, B.E., (Honours) of the Madras University, took her degree at the convocation held recently.

She was a student member of the Institute of Electrical Engineers having practical training in E.I.R., workshops. She hails from a family of Electrical Engineers. Mrs. Lalitha is the daughter of Professor Pappu Subba Rao.

JOURNALISM IN INDIA

A note of warning against vulgarisation and commercialisation of newspapers and their utilisation for subserving personal or pecuniary ends was sounded by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Vice-Chancellor of the University of Travancore, while inaugurating a series of lectures by Mr. C. R. Srinivasan on "The Principle and Practice of Journalism" at Trivandrum under the auspices of the University.

The Dewan proceeded to deal with the possibilities of journalism in India and the dangers to which it was exposed on all sides by recent developments. The danger that threatened British journalism, he said, was that of the newspaper proprietor with his economic or trade interests exercising a stranglehold on the editor making his paper no longer an index of public opinion.

"Many are the miracles of modern age. Of them all, I should think the greatest is the modern newspaper" observed Mr. C. R. Srinivasan, Editor of the *Swadesamitran* of Madras, in the course of his first lecture. Tracing the origin and development of the daily Press as well as the ancillary services associated with newspaper production of to-day, Mr. Srinivasan observed that power was vested in the Press merely as the Agent and Attorney of the people. However much commercialisation might spoil the pitch laid by the pioneers, the fact that the Press continued to render social service unhampered remained a redeeming feature.

"DICTIONARY IN FOUR SCRIPTS"

The first volume of the "Great English Indian Dictionary", by the International Academy of Indian Culture, Lahore, has been published. The dictionary will appear in monthly fascicules. It will contain equivalents in all the main Indian languages for every word of the English language, literary, technical and semi-technical.

Every word appears in four scripts—Devanagari and Bengali for Northern India, and Canarese and Tamil for Southern India.

The publication of the dictionary will cover a period of ten years.

LORD HARDINGE

Lord Hardinge of Penshurst, former Viceroy of India, died at his home in Kent on August 2, at the age of 86. He is succeeded by his son Sir Alexander Henry Louis Hardinge, who was Private Secretary to the King until last year. Lord Hardinge had been ill for some time, and had not been conscious for some time.

Lord Hardinge entered the diplomatic service in 1880 and was stationed successively at Constantinople, Berlin, Washington, Sofia, Bucharest, Paris and St. Petersburg. In 1906, he became Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and four years later was made Viceroy of India in succession to Lord Minto. When he returned from India in 1916, he again took up the post of Permanent Under-Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and was British Ambassador in Paris from 1920 to 1923. Lord Hardinge, who was brother of the 3rd Viscount Hardinge, was raised to the peerage in 1910.

THE LATE MR. JOHN MORRIS

Mr. R. John Morris, the 43-year-old Far Eastern Manager of the United Press of America, died in Bellevue Hospital, New York, after falling from the window on the 12th floor of the *Daily News* building, where the United Press has its world headquarters. Under the window at the end of the corridor on the 12th floor was found a long-hand note addressed to the United Press Vice-President and General Foreign Manager, Mr. Joseph Jones, asking that Mr. Morris' wife and mother be notified.

Mr. Morris returned to New York in the Spring from the Far East where he had been Manager since 1934.

When the Pearl Harbour blow fell, Mr. Morris was in Hongkong where he covered the early stages of the attack on that city as well as the warfare in Singapore and Java. He was among the last correspondents to leave Bandoeng, Java. During the last 18 months, he was working from New Delhi and Chungking. He had established the United Press service in India.

Mr. Morris scored an outstanding beat on the Stafford Cripps offer.

ARTIFICIAL LIMBS MADE OF GLASS

Artificial arms and legs, part glass and part plastic, have been developed to replace lost limbs of American soldiers, the Associated Press reports. They are literally glass limbs, being made of individual strands of fibre glass so fine they are invisible singly. The glass imparts most unusual and desirable qualities.

The limbs are made in laboratories of the Paramount Rubber Company. The fibre glass is strong, with a tensile strength of 40,000 pounds per square inch, and is said never to squeak. It holds bolts or metal attachments firmly and resists termites and other insects, water, body acids, surface wear and changes of heat and cold. Finally, the glass limbs are given plastic coatings to simulate the colour of flesh.

One great advantage, engineers say, is that of speed of moulding. It takes an experienced craftsman 12 hours to sculpture a knee-to-ankle limb of English willow. A glass and plastic leg can be moulded in 15 minutes.

QUINIDINE

Quinidine—vital in the treatment of certain types of heart disease—has been found to be present in synthetically produced quinine. This is an important discovery, for quinidine is a very scarce drug; it is used not only in the treatment of heart diseases, but also in the treatment of malaria, particularly for patients who experience a toxic effect from quinine.

Quinidine was formerly obtained in very small quantities from quinine after a tedious process of isolation. If, however, the new discovery makes it possible to produce quinidine in large quantities, it will prove of the greatest value. Experts are busy drawing up plans for the large-scale production of quinidine.

CURE FOR GOITER

A new treatment for patients with goiters enlarged by over-active thyroid was discussed by Dr. E. B. Astood of Harvard University before the American Society for Clinical Investigation. Thiouracil medicine was used in nine cases. The daily dose of this medicine was discontinued after six or eight months. Two to eight months later, there was no sign of the return of the disease.

MEASURES TO CONTROL AND CHECK DISEASE

The Committee appointed by the C. P. Government under the Chairmanship Dr. R. I. Tuli, Director of Public Health, to investigate the problem of leprosy has found that the Province has roughly a population of 75,000 lepers as against only 12,500 mentioned in the Government of India's 1931 census report. The Committee has found that the incidence of leprosy is higher among the so-called low castes.

Poorer economic conditions, leading to greater insanitary and unhygienic conditions of living, and the poorer state of nutrition are probably playing a part in this, says the Committee.

The Committee suggests a large number of measures to control and check the disease under the headings of isolation of patients, the opening of special leprosy clinics, the training of special medical staff, an invitation to the Government of India to locate in the C. P. the Leprosy Institute of India, suggested by the Central Advisory Board of Health and Co-ordination between Government and voluntary organisations.

VITAMIN K GIVEN WITH ASPIRIN

During the past year evidence has been accumulating that aspirin, if taken regularly over a long period of time, may cause a shortage of the clotting substance—prothrombin—in the blood and thus lead to nose bleeds or hæmorrhages. It was found that taking Vitamin K, which stimulates the blood coagulation mechanism, prevents such hæmorrhages. Recently Dr. Harry Neivert of the College of Physicians and Surgeons, at Columbia University in New York, reported before the New York Academy of Medicine that the administration of Vitamin K, along with the usual doses of aspirin, prevents the secondary hæmorrhages generally occurring on the sixth or seventh day following the removal of tonsils or adenoids. This suggests that wounded men in the armed forces who may require aspirin for easing pain should also be given Vitamin K to prevent oozing of wounds as a possible slowing up of the healing process.

MONETARY CONFERENCE DECISIONS

The International Monetary Conference reached a final decision unanimously on the most controversial question surrounding plans for the international monetary fund, namely, the allocation of the quota of contributions to the over eight thousand million dollar monetary fund.

The final result is as follows: United States: 2,750 (million dollars); United Kingdom: 1,300; Soviet Russia: 1,200; China: 550; France: 450; India: 400; Belgium: 225; Canada: 300; Australia: 200; Netherlands: 275; Brazil: 150; Czechoslovakia: 125; South Africa: 100.

The total of the fund is 8,800 million dollars, some 800 million dollars greater than the total contemplated when the fund was first planned. A number of countries have reserved the attitude of their Government, including France, who, it is understood, feel their quota should be greater. The others making reservations were China, Egypt, India, New Zealand, Greece, Iran and Netherlands. The other quota of allocations (in millions of dollars) include Iraq: 8; Iran: 25; Iceland: 1; Greece 40; Ethiopia: 6; Egypt: 45; and Liberia, half million.

Whereas the United States has a quota greater than Soviet Russia and the United Kingdom combined, the total of United Kingdom plus Dominion quotas is only some eight hundred millions short of the United States.

The International Monetary Conference rejected a proposal to allow the occupied and devastated countries to make reductions in their gold contributions to the international monetary fund. The issue, one of the most hotly debated in the Conference, had given rise to many eloquent pleas by delegates from Russia and France.

NEW PROVINCIAL LOANS

A *communiqué* issued by the Reserve Bank of India says:

The six provincial loans, of Bombay, Madras, the Central Provinces and Berar, the United Provinces, Sind and the Punjab, remained open until the close of Tuesday, 15th August, 1944, and were fully subscribed after a call on the underwriters for the balances not covered by public subscriptions.

IMPROVEMENT OF INDIAN RAILWAYS

Work has started on the Railway Board's scheme for the expansion of the communications system of Indian Railways. This is apart from the 16-crore plan for the development of the tele-communications system under the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

The Railway Board's scheme includes the establishment of wireless communications connecting most important railway centres with Delhi and with one another. When completed, this will prevent the complete isolation of railways, which occurs if for any reason the telegraph or telephone system breaks down. The scheme also includes improvement of the tele-communications system, estimated to cost two and a half crores of rupees.

For the purpose of the scheme, the Bengal and Assam Railway, which is in the operational zone, is treated as separate from the rest of the Indian Railway system. Work on improving the communications on this Railway is being done by the military authorities and already the tele-communications system is growing so fast that the visitor is apt to get the impression that telegraph poles are more numerous than trees in the region.

For work on the tele-communications system on the rest of the railway system, the Railway Board has sent an officer to England to secure quick execution of indents for machinery. Along with material, the Railway Board expects to get the services of about half a dozen experts in the working of the most modern tele-communications system in the West. These experts are to work in India on a contract for one year. To look after the cypher and code work on the wireless system, a number of women are being trained. These women are mostly the wives, daughters or sisters of railway employees.

For the travelling public, the improvement in the communications system will be reflected in an improvement in the train service. When tele-communications between pairs of stations are more efficient and quicker, two trains might well be run in little more time than at present taken to run one.

HINDU CLASSICS

J. Mascaros, Spanish orientalist from Majorca, where he said the first Institute of Oriental Studies was founded in the thirteenth century, stressed the need for really first-rate English translations of Hindu classics as a means towards better understanding between the East and the West, addressing a joint meeting of India Society and the Royal Society of Literature recently.

Deploring that so few Englishmen of letters considered it worth while to learn Sanskrit, Mascaros said that full insight into oriental culture cannot be obtained by the bulk of people in the West unless a generation of scholars did for Sanskrit what the Great Elizabethans did for Hebrew and Greek. Translations by Indians were, he opined, "sorry and sometimes amusing reading." The finest work done by Rabindranath Tagore is his own poetry and Kabir's and it was a pity he did not translate Hindu classics as it might have done a lot of good.

According to Mascaros, only a romantic approach could reveal the treasures of Hindu art and literature and it would be fatal to study them from the standpoint of European classics. Even simple Sanskrit words like "Samsara" "Veda" "Dinamani" and thousands of others are full of poetic beauty. Hence scholarly accuracy in translation is incapable of rendering justice to the original text. The creative imagination of a poet is necessary for the purpose, but translations at present available are so poor that none has been rightly considered fit for inclusion in either the "Oxford Book of English Verse" or Prose.

HONOUR TO SOUTH INDIAN MUSICIAN

To congratulate Vidwan K. Varadachariar, a leading South Indian musician, on the conferment of the title of Sangeetha Sastra Visaradha by the Maharaja of Mysore, a reception was held on 20th August at Egmore.

The Hon. Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Ayyar, who presided, said that few could excel Mr. Varadachariar in the science and technique of Carnatic music. Men of his ability served as beacon lights to many.

INDIAN CRICKET

That India is going to be a very formidable opponent in International Cricket when the war is over is the view expressed by Joe Hardstaff, the Notts and England cricketer, in a letter to 'Plum' Warner, Deputy Secretary of the Marylebone Cricket Club, London.

Hardstaff has seen enough of Indian cricket both as a member of Lord Tennyson's team which toured this country in the winter of 1937 and as a member of one of the fighting units stationed in this country ever since war broke out. It may be recalled that in March this year, Hardstaff scored a brilliant hundred in the Red Cross Fund match played at Bombay.

Mr. Warner in his letter to Board of Control for Cricket in India says that he had a letter from Hardstaff a few weeks ago, in which he had stated that cricket in India was of a very high standard, there being some really tip-top players and he thought that when the war is over India is going to be very formidable opponent in International matches. Mr. Warner concludes by saying, "I am not surprised at what Hardstaff says from what I saw of your cricketers in England on various tours, and I am thinking particularly of some of your batsmen, and of Amar Singh, that great all-round player, whose death at an early age was so sad. May cricket continue to flourish in India."

SPORTS STADIUM AT POONA

Poona is to have a sports stadium, an institution somewhat similar to the Brabourne Stadium in Bombay. Its location will be near the junction of Tilak Road and Shankarshet Road, on a site now known as Hirabag, and, embracing an area of fifteen acres, it will provide seating accommodation for approximately 20,000 spectators, as well as residential accommodation for about 75 persons, in addition to facilities for many types of outdoor and indoor games and sport, such as Cricket, Lawn Tennis, Football, Hockey, Golf and Boating. This stadium will belong to the Club of Maharashtra, Ltd., and building work in connection with it will commence shortly.

PROF. S. CHANDRASEKHAR

Not a few Indian intellectuals have found a congenial home in the U.S.A. and are engaged in scientific and industrial pursuits. Prof. Chandrasekhar, who has recently been honoured with the Fellowship of the Royal Society of London, is only 33 years of age.

His election to the Fellowship of the Royal Society is one the series of notable academic and scientific distinctions he has already achieved. As in the case of the late Mr. Ramanujam, the F.R.S. was preceded by the distinction—unique for an Indian—of the Fellowship of Trinity College at Cambridge. Last year, the New York Academy of Sciences crowned his work on stellar dynamics by the award of a coveted prize. A list of the Universities, and of the learned societies in Europe and America, which had honoured Professor Chandrasekhar by an invitation to lecture before them, and shown their appreciation of his contributions in one way or other, would be a lengthy document. The Harvard University was one of these, and the lecture course, he delivered at that great centre of learning, resulted in an invitation to join the staff of its well-known Astronomical Observatory.

Professor Chandrasekhar, however, preferred the position he now occupies at Chicago, in view of the opportunities which it gives him of being in constant contact with the work of an active group of astronomers, at a number of observatories, including that at Yorkes.

RESEARCHES IN THE ATMOSPHERICS

An Atmospheric Research Committee has, it is learnt, been recently formed under the aegis of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, Government of India, to conduct researches in upper air problems. It is stated that these researches may prove very useful in meteorological predictions, including control and guidance of agricultural operations and medium range predictions of floods.

Dr. Meghnad Saha, Palit Professor of Physics, Calcutta University, is the Chairman of the Committee and its members include Dr. C. W. B. Normand, Prof. Bhabha (Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore), Dr. Kothari (Delhi University), Dr. S. K. Bannerjee, Dr. S. M. Isaque (Aligarh University) Prof. S. Bhagabantham (Andhra University) and Dr. K. Ramanathan Meteorological Department, Government of India.

A MUSICAL FILM

India's cinema distributors are about to release *Arturo Toscanini* the first documentary musical film of its kind. Filmed by the Motion Picture Division of the United States Office of War Information, the picture features the NBC Symphony Orchestra under the direction of Toscanini in a performance of the overture to Verdi's *La Forza del Destino*.

Other selections which the first-night audience at "The Lighthouse" in Calcutta saw and heard on August 11, included Verdi's *Hymn of Nations* as sung by the Metropolitan Opera tenor Jan Pierce and the Westminister Choir of Princeton, New Jersey.

Bombay cinema-goers, as well as audiences in other parts of India, will be able to see this unusual film shortly. *Variety*, official publication of the American motion picture trade, calls it "... a stirring film ... the sound track is clear, with the chorus and orchestra in fine blend." Not only does the picture symbolise Allied unity, but it depicts Maestro Toscanini's long battle against Fascist tyranny.

CINEMA IN SOUTH INDIA

The first anniversary of the Cine Technicians' Association of South India was celebrated at the Rangaswami Memorial Hall, Thyagarayanagar, recently when Mr. K. Ramnoth, retiring President, reviewed the progress of the cinema industry during the past year.

Mr. Ramnoth expressed the view that, judged from either the number of films released or the quality of production, there was not much for South India to be proud of. On the other hand, he said, the record was poor and disappointing. While in 1941 as many as 45 pictures were produced, in 1944 only so few as seven pictures had been released. And most of those seven pictures had taken two years and more to produce. Such a rate of progress, no one interested in the cinema industry would consider as satisfactory or creditable.

On a critical examination of the position, Mr. Ramnoth said, it would be found that those mainly in charge of the industry had done little for its development; they seemed to have no use for new talents, new stories or technique.

CARS USING ROADS IN BRITISH COCHIN

The Government of Madras, after consultation and in agreement with the Government of India and the Government of Cochin, have directed that the arrangements made in September, 1943, for the issue of composite licences for motor cars using the roads in British Cochin, Willingdon Island and the municipalities of Ernakulam and Mattancherry should, with effect from 1st July, 1944, be made also for motor cycles used in the same areas, subject to the condition that the composite tax collected at 1½ Madras rate should be distributed between the different authorities as follows:—

Madras Government, 80 per cent; Municipal Council, Ernakulam, 30 per cent; Municipal Council, Mattancherry 80 per cent; Cochin Harbour authority, 10 per cent.

Government have also directed that three-eighths of the full Madras tax should be collected from the holder of a Cochin composite licence for a motor cycle who desires to take out the ordinary Madras licence permitting the use of the motor cycle on public roads in the Madras Presidency outside British Cochin.

MOTOR CAB TARIFF

The Bengal Government, in exercise of the powers conferred by Rule 89 (2) (e) of the Defence of India Rules, authorised the imposition of a surcharge of annas 8 per trip in excess of the fare prescribed under Rule 179 of the Bengal Motor Vehicles Rules. It has now been found that the object of the measure has not been fulfilled. Drivers still refuse to take long distance fares, resulting in inconvenience to the public. To put matters on a satisfactory footing, Government have decided to abolish the existing surcharge of annas 8 and to introduce a revised rate of taxi fares with effect from August 15, 1944, on the following basis.

Rupee one for the first mile or part of a mile and annas 2 for every ¼th of each subsequent mile:

A notification has been issued in the *Calcutta Gazette* to give effect to this order.

POST-WAR CIVIL AVIATION

The Government of India, it is announced, have accepted the invitation of the U.S.A. to take part in bilateral discussions of an informal and exploratory character with various Governments on Post-War Civil Aviation development, and have deputed Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai (leader), Sir Gurnath Bewoor and Sir Frederick Tymms to undertake these discussions, which began last month.

The broad aims which the Government of India wish to see achieved are as follows:

(1) They seek a world-wide international agreement on a fully reciprocal basis, which will assure the freest possible development of international air navigation and air transport for the benefit of the peoples of the world as a whole, and with due regard to the rights and interests of all.

(2) They endorse the principle, already accepted by the British and American Governments, of freedom of flight and freedom to land for re-fuelling and other non-traffic purposes for all civil aircraft, including regular air transport services, on a non-discriminatory basis.

(3) They consider that the grant of commercial rights, that is, the right to carry traffic to and from another country, is better negotiated and agreed to on a universal reciprocal basis rather than by bilateral agreements.

(4) They endorse the principle, generally accepted, of the right of each country to reserve internal air services and to determine the agency for the operation of its own internal and external air services.

(5) They also endorse the principle, which is again generally accepted, of the reservation of "cabotage" traffic, that is, traffic originating in and terminating in the territory of one country, including its colonies and dependencies. For this purpose, it is accepted that India, in common with the Dominions of the British Commonwealth, is a separate country.

(6) The sovereignty of every country over the air above its territory and over the aerodromes in its territory must be fully recognized.

(7) The establishment of an international body, whose function would be to implement the provisions of the international agreement, and, in particular,

(a) To promote the development of air transport in the interests of the world as a whole, and to ensure that the interests of the people both of the most powerful and of the smallest countries are secured;

(b) To ensure the safe and orderly development of air navigation by the co-ordination of technical systems and rules.

TECHNICAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The employment of a greater number of Indian technicians and scientists in industrial concerns, as [the utilisation of the raw materials of this country, would greatly depend upon the researches carried on by scientific workers here was advocated by Sir Azizul Haque, Commerce Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, addressing the annual general meeting of the Geological, Mining and Metallurgical Society of India held at Calcutta on August 19. Sir Cyril Fox presided.

The Commerce Member emphasized the absolute importance of throwing open to qualified scientists and research workers suitable avenues of profitable employment in industrial concerns in this country and drew special attention to the fact that if the right type of persons was to be attracted to this line it was essential that the question of their remuneration for such work should be considered as an integral part of our post-war scheme of industrial development.

He referred to the effort that had been made so far for the industrial development of India for safeguarding the interests of this country in the post-war period.

FUTURE OF MACHINE TOOL INDUSTRY

Several requests have been received to the effect that the Machine Tool Mission headed by Sir William Stanier which is now in India should discuss and advise on the post-war development of the machine tool industry in this country, says a press *communiqué*.

While the purpose for which the Mission has come to India is to examine how the best use can be made of the machine tools with which ordnance factories, the defence services and the railways have been equipped for war purposes, the Mission are willing to examine the progress that has been made in machine tool manufacture in India and they will consider whether they can advise on how this industry can be developed on sound lines.

DITHANE—INSECTICIDE AND FUNGICIDE

A new method of rendering plants immune to the ravages of insects and fungi is reported from New York. The discovery, which may prove to be of far-reaching importance to farmers and vegetable-growers, is a chemical compound known as "dithane," and its full name is diethylenesodiumdisdithiocarbonate.

It is claimed that dithane, when it is sprayed directly on the ground, is absorbed by growing plants and causes death to all attacking insects. Recent field tests, it is said, have demonstrated dithane is equally effective in combating plant fungus. In one area fields sprayed with dithane are said to have yielded a potato crop exceeding by 25 to 100 bushels in an acre, the yield of fields sprayed with ordinary fungicides. The new chemical is described as harmless to plants and non-toxic to man. It would probably be available commercially shortly.

WASTE LAND FOR CULTIVATION

A proposal for an order under Rule 80B of the Defence of India Rules in order to increase the cultivation of food and fodder crops on the waste land in the province, is now under consideration of the Government of Bengal.

Rule 80B, *inter alia*, provides that the Central or a Provincial Government may require any person in possession of waste land to bring it under cultivation for the purpose of growing any specified crop, and that if such person fails to comply with the order, the Government can settle that land with any other person for the same purpose.

GRASS AS FOOD

Speaking at the Food-Education Society's Conference in London, 70-year old V. J. Branson, who lives on grass, advocated the value of grass as food and said that he had been asked by the War Office to instruct commandoes how to eat grass. "I cycled to Scotland to do so. It took me eight days and I ate grass on my way", he said.

Mr. Branson would not disclose whether he succeeded in inducing the commandoes to take to grass-eating.

INCENTIVE IN PEASANTS TO WORK

Mr. Horace Alexander, in an article entitled "Planning for India," in the *Manchester Guardian*, says: "What is needed is a real incentive to working in the minds and bodies of millions of Indian peasants. The Peoples' Plan goes to the root of the matter by demanding the nationalisation of the land as the first step forward. Whether or not that is politically possible in the immediate future, it can be fairly confidently stated that none of these plans will get out of paper into the soil unless and until, the peasants see themselves freed from their present burdens of indebtedness and of incredibly complex land tenures, leading often to wholly uneconomic fragmentation of holdings while the vicious circles of malaria, ignorance, debt and fatalism hold people in a deadly grip."

The writer adds: "It is idle to propound schemes looking to huge increases of industrial workers have some incentive to put their whole heart into the work. Better housing, better food, higher wages will help; social security, and some kind of partnership in industry will also be needed."

MR. DANGE'S APPEAL TO BR. WORKERS

At the London Trades Council meeting at which 470,000 London's workers were represented, Mr. Dange, President of the A.I.T.U.C., speaking presented a picture of the chaotic economic conditions in India and urged upon the British workers the need for taking steps so that political change could be made possible and they could handle Indian problems. He said, "Indian workers are whole-heartedly anti-Fascist. They have faith in victory and in the future. Only a Government that has the confidence of the people can carry on effective rationing and price control. That means the Indian National Government." He ended with a confident note that "during and after war, the international working class will be so powerful that India will be liberated."

MADRAS CITY EXTENSION

The Government have approved tentatively the proposal of the Corporation of Madras to extend the limits of the city to include certain portions of surrounding areas, as recommended by the Commissioner, and approved by the Council on April 11. The area includes portions of Adyar, Guindy, Sembium, Old Mambalam, Kodambakkam, and Aminjikarai. The object is to relieve congestion in the city, and effectively to control public health in these areas incidentally safeguarding the health of the city from infection.

LORD SOMERS

Chief Scout, Lord Somers, died at his home at Eastnor Castle, Hertfordshire, on July 14. He was 57.

Lord Somers joined the Scout movement 25 years back and in 1941 was made Chief Scout in succession to Lord Baden-Powell. Lord Somers was formerly Captain in the 1st Life Guards serving throughout the last war.

TWO MORE V. C.'S FOR INDIAN SOLDIERS

Two more Indian fighting men, a jemadar and a sepoy, have won the V. C. They are the Indian Army's ninth and tenth V. C.'s of this war.

The Ninth Indian Army V. C. is Jemadar Abdul Hafiz, Ninth Jat Regiment, who wins the award posthumously for gallantry near Imphal. He is the first Muslim to win the V. C. in this war.

The Tenth Indian Army V. C. is Sepoy Kamal Ram, Eighth Punjab Regiment. He wins the award for bravery in Italy.

MR. SADANAND'S APOLOGY TO GANDHIJI

In reply to Gandhiji's letter of July 18 Mr. S. Sadanand writes as follows in the issue of *Free Press Journal* on July 22: "My apologies are due to Gandhiji for:

- (1) Not accepting his amends to the Nationalist Press unreservedly, and
- (2) for suggesting in the *Free Press Journal* that he had been deflecting from his path by Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, Mr. Bhulabhai Desai, Mr. K. M. Munshi, Mr. G. D. Birla and other public men of their school thought.

I ask Gandhiji's forgiveness for the offence that I have given him."

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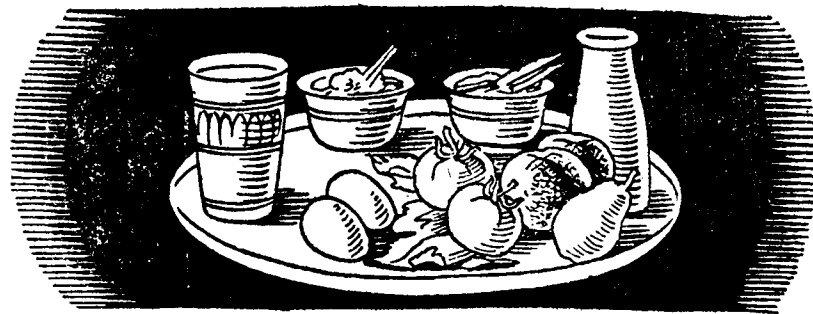
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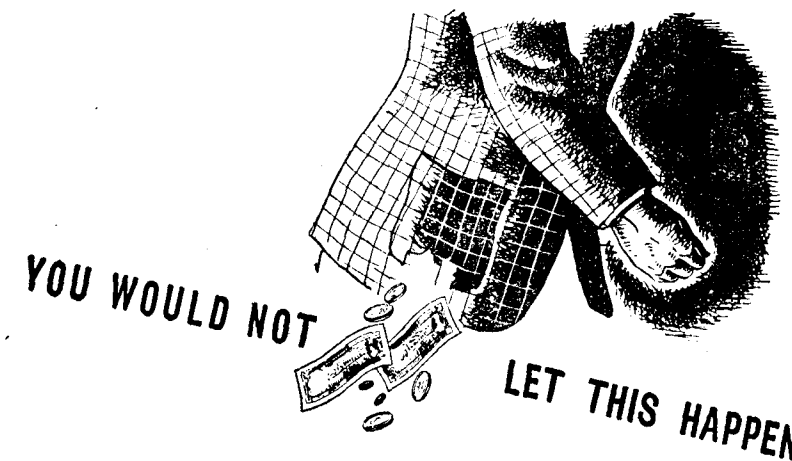


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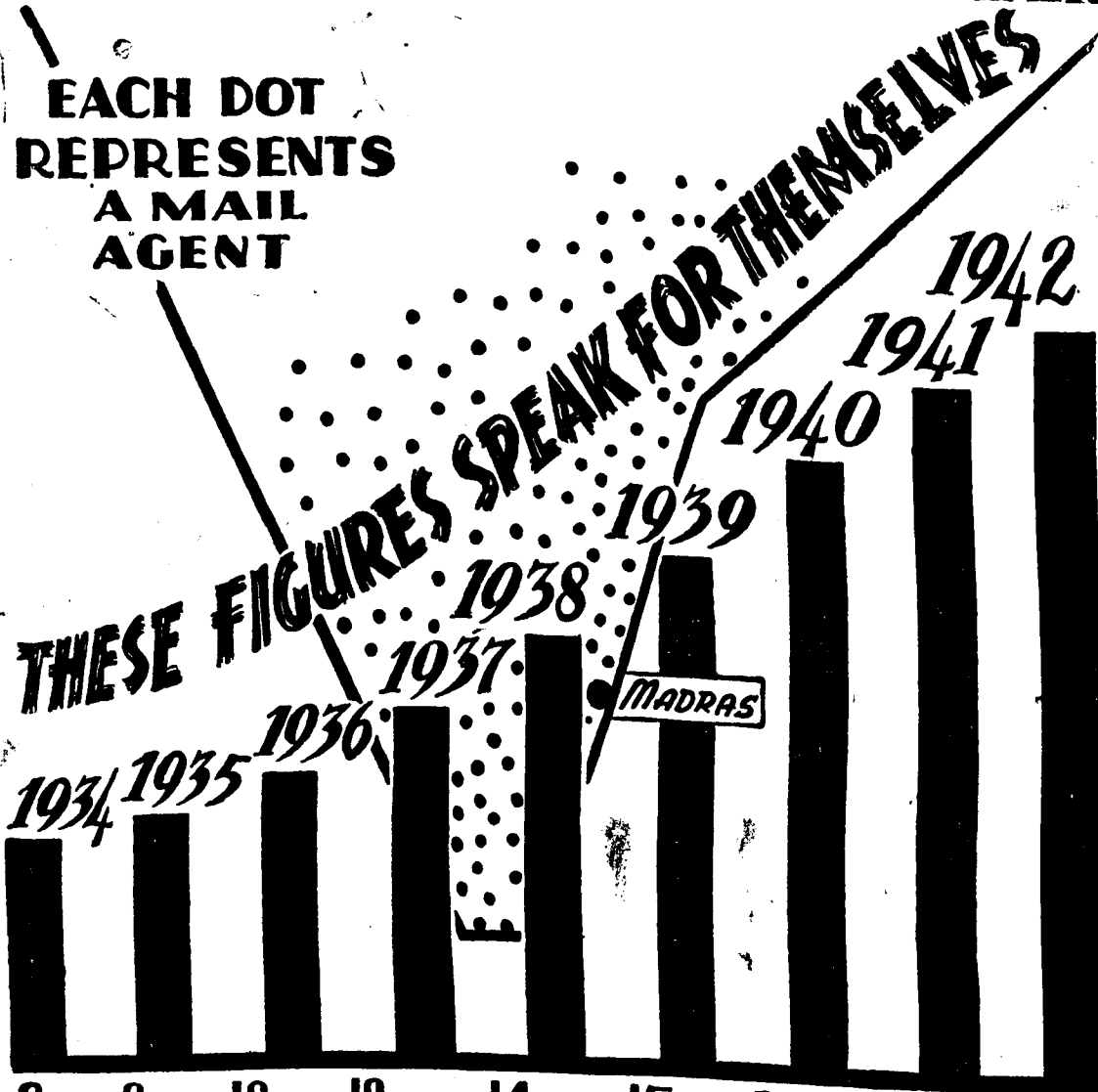
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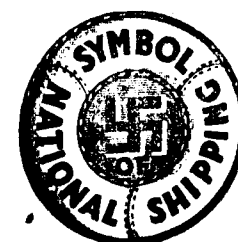
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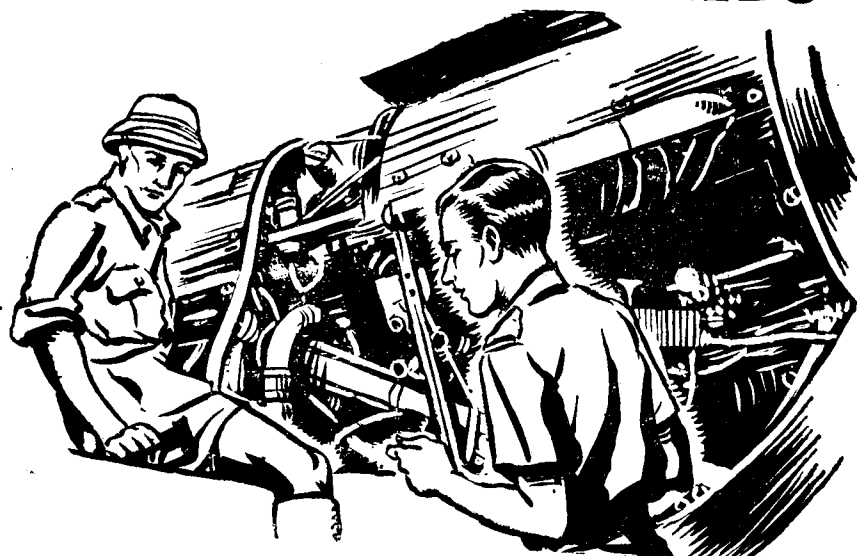
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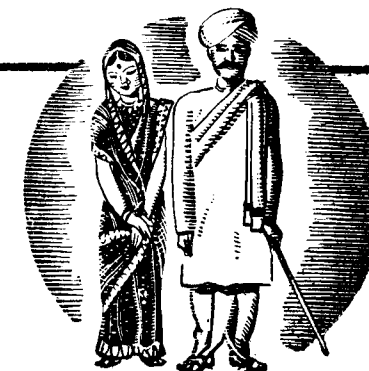
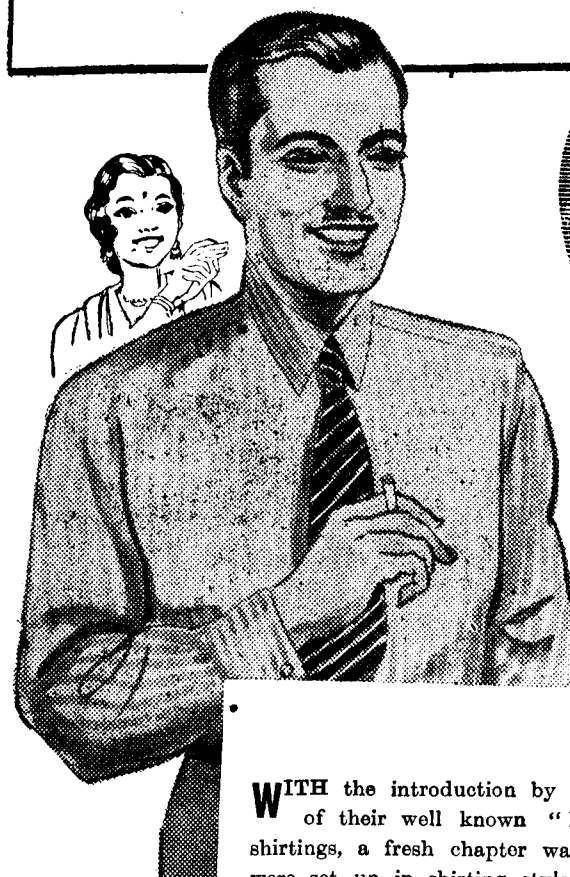
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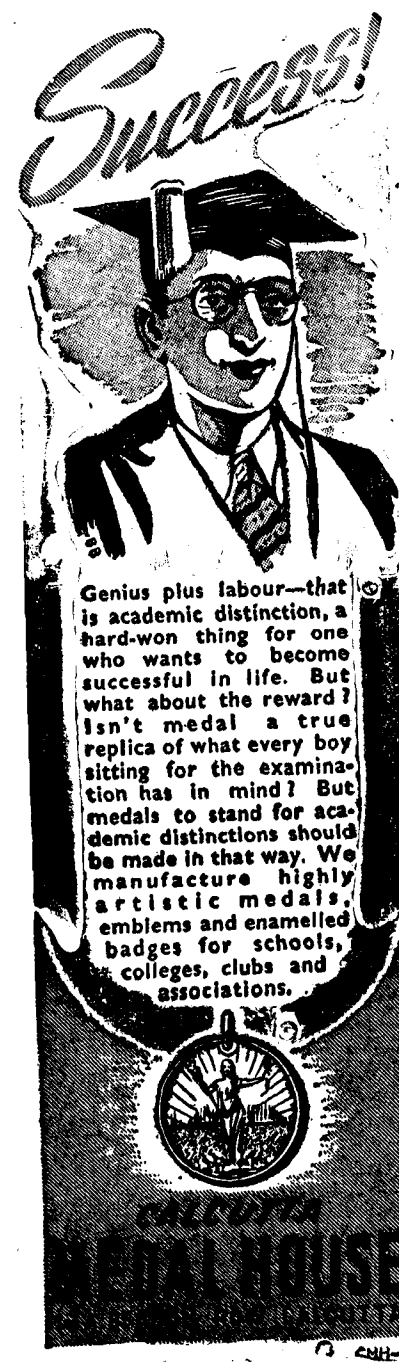
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