

# INDIAN INFORMATION

COMPLIMENTARY

A black and white illustration of two men in a field. The man on the left is wearing a turban and a light-colored shirt, looking down at something in his hands. The man on the right is wearing a cap and a light-colored shirt, pointing his right arm towards the horizon. They are standing in a field with some vegetation.

7. No. 163 July 1, 1945.  
Fortnightly by the  
Information Officer,  
Government of India.

PRICE  
4  
ANNAS

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO  
PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS



For rigorous service with his master on the Eastern Front, "Jim," a 12-year-old Labrador owned by Major Inchbold Stevens, has won the right to wear the 1939-43 Star.

Vol. 17 No. 163. INDIAN INFORMATION July 1, 1945.

## MAIN CONTENTS

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities.

**FORMAT:**—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:**—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Issued Fortnightly by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India.

|                                                                    | Page    |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|
| Quick Reference Guide to Provincial Governments                    | 2 to 33 |
| Lt.-Gen. J. B. Hance on the Tuberculosis problem in India          | 34      |
| Outwitting the U-boats: Training in "Killer" Group Tactics         | 41      |
| 27th V.C. of the Indian Army                                       | 44      |
| C-in-C. Visits Indian Troops in Middle East                        | 44      |
| Recruitment of War Service Candidates to Indian and Burma Services | 45      |
| Post-War Strength of Royal Indian Air Force                        | 48      |

**COVER PAGE:** The drive towards Rangoon—Capt. K. P. Kaisy of Lahore (right) outlines the plan of attack to Subedar Bachan Singh of Ludhiana.



On a visit to troops in Thazi, east of Meiktila (Burma) Gen. Sir Oliver Leese congratulates Jem, Bakhtawar Singh, 12th Frontier Force Regiment, on his winning the M.C.

## VICTORY IN BURMA: TRIBUTE TO INDIAN TROOPS

"I have never called upon an Indian formation to carry out a job which has not been achieved willingly and efficiently in the shortest possible time. The endurance of the Indian soldier has been immense both as regards battle conditions and climatic conditions," says Lt.-Gen. Sir Oliver Leese, commanding Allied Land Forces, South East Asia, in a letter to the Commander-in-Chief in India, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, thanking him for the part played by the Indian Army and India Command in the reconquest of Burma.

"I had already seen a great deal of your infantry both in Africa and in Italy. In this campaign once again they have fought magnificently throughout, if I may say so. This reflects the greatest credit on training organisations in India," continues Gen. Leese.

After mentioning the fine work of the Indian Armoured Corps, Indian Artillery, Indian Sappers and the R.I.A.S.C. among other corps, Gen. Leese writes: "As you know, we have all been greatly impressed by Royal Indian Navy

landing craft crews. They have handled their craft gallantly and have maintained them efficiently."

Gen. Leese pays a special tribute to the skill and determination of Gen. Slim, 14th Army commander—"he is a fine soldier"—and to Lt.-Gen. Frank Messervy, Fourth Corps commander. Of the divisional commanders in the 14th Army and the 15th Corps he says: "They have been quite magnificent."

Thanking G.H.Q. (India) for their part in the campaign, Gen. Leese concludes: "I would like to express the debt which I, my staff and the whole of Allied Land Forces owe G.H.Q.(I) for the great support you have given us throughout. We realise the tremendous calls we have made on you for personnel, equipment, shipping and all other paraphernalia of war—all at very short notice.

"You have always helped us and I can assure you that your headquarters has played a great part in our victory. Thank you also for the advice and help which you personally have given me ever since I took over."

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.



## QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

In reply to a questionnaire issued recently by the Principal Information Officer, Government of India, the Provincial Governments have furnished information relating, among other things, to their composition and legislative activities in the last year. The information supplied by them is set forth in the following 30 pages.

The date given under the name of each province is the date on which the information was drawn up by the Government concerned.

### GOVERNORS OF PROVINCES



H. E. Sir Andrew Clow (Assam)



H. E. the Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey (Bengal)



H. E. Lord Wavell.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.



H. E. Sir Thomas George Rutherford (Bihar)



H. E. Sir John Colville (Bombay)



H. E. Sir Henry Joseph Twynam (Central Provinces and Berar)



H. E. Sir Arthur Oswald J. Hope (Madras)



H. E. Sir George Cunningham (N.W.F.P.)



H. E. Sir Maurice Garnier Hallett (U. P.)



H. E. Sir William Hawthorne Lewis (Orissa)



H. E. Sir Bertrand Glancy (Punjab)



H. E. Sir Hugh Dow (Sind)

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

## QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO

| PROVINCE                                                 | BENGAL<br>(24-11-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|----------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Governor .. ..                                           | The Rt. Hon'ble Richard Gardiner Casey, C.H., D.S.O., M.C., Assumed Charge January 22, 1944; Retires January 21, 1949.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Governor's Secretary .. ..                               | A. E. Porter, C.I.E., I.C.S.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Chief Secretary to Government .. ..                      | J. R. Blair, C.I.E., I.C.S. (on leave); (Offg.) Chief Secretary, H. S. E. Stevens, C.I.E., M.C., I.C.S.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Ministry (composition, political complexion, etc.) .. .. | Coalition: Formed April 24, 1943; Personnel:<br>(1) Khwaja Sir Nazimuddin, K.C.I.E. (Muslim coalition); Chief Minister; Portfolios: Home and Civil Defence Co-ordination.<br>(2) Huseyn Shaheed Suhrawardy (Muslim coalition); Portfolio: Civil Supplies.<br>(3) Tulsi Chandra Goswami (Hindu coalition); Portfolio: Finance.<br>(4) Tamizuddin Khan (Muslim coalition); Portfolio: Education.<br>(5) Barada Prosanna Pain (Hindu coalition); Portfolios: Communications and Works.<br>(6) Khan Bahadur Saiyed Muazzamuddin Hossain (Muslim coalition); Portfolio: Agriculture including Rural Reconstruction.<br>(7) Tarak Nath Mukerjee, M.B.E., (Hindu coalition); Portfolio: Revenue including Evacuation and Relief.<br>(8) Khan Bahadur Nawab Musharruff Hossain (Muslim coalition); Portfolios: Judicial and Legislative.<br>(9) Khwaja Shahabuddin, C.B.E. (Muslim coalition); Portfolios: Commerce, Labour and Industries including Post-War Reconstruction.<br>(10) Premhari Barma (Scheduled Caste coalition); Portfolios: Forest and Excise.<br>(11) Khan Bahadur Maulvi Jalaluddin Ahmed (Muslim coalition); Portfolios: Public Health and Local Self-Government.<br>(12) Pulin Behary Mullick (Scheduled Caste coalition); Portfolio: Publicity.<br>(13) Jogendra Nath Mandal (Scheduled Caste coalition); Portfolios: Co-operative Credit and Rural Indebtedness.<br>(1) Khan Bahadur Mohammad Ali (Muslim League).<br>(2) Nawabzada K. Nasarullah (Muslim League).<br>(3) Abdullah Al-Mahmood (Muslim League).<br>(4) Serajul Islam (Muslim League).<br>(5) Khan Sahib Mafizuddin Ahmed (Muslim League). |
| Parliamentary Secretaries .. ..                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 12)

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

## PROVINCIAL GOVERNMENTS

| PUNJAB<br>(5-5-45)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | ORISSA<br>(18-12-44)                                                                                                                |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sir Bertrand James Glancy, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.C.S.; Assumed charge April 7, 1941; Retires April 6, 1946.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Sir William Hawthorne Lewis, M.A. (Cantab.), K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., I.C.S., J.P.; Assumed Charge April 1, 1941; Retires April 1, 1946. |
| G. M. Brander, I.C.S.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              | C. L. Bryson, I.C.S.                                                                                                                |
| (Officiating) C. V. Salusbury, C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed April 20, 1945.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | R. A. E. Williams, I.C.S.; Assumed Charge April 21, 1944.                                                                           |
| Unionist; formed December 30, 1942; Personnel:<br>[A Unionist Ministry with the late Sir Sikander Hyat Khan as Premier was formed on April 1, 1937. Sir Sikander died on December 26, 1942, and the other Ministers resigned. One, Lt.-Col. Malik Khizar Hyat Khan Tiwana, was then summoned to assist the Governor in the formation of a Ministry. All the former Ministers were included and a new Minister added. He was later dismissed by H.E. the Governor and two other Ministers were appointed. The present Ministry was, therefore technically formed on December 30, 1942, but virtually it is a continuation of the former Unionist Ministry with a new Premier.]<br>(1) Lt.-Col. Nawab Malik Khizar Hyat Khan Tiwana (Muslim-Unionist), Premier.<br>(2) Chaudhri Tika Ram, M.B.E., (Hindu-Unionist) Minister of Revenue.<br>(3) Sir Manohar Lal (Hindu-National Progressive) Finance Minister.<br>(4) Mian Abdul Haye (Muslim-Unionist) Minister of Education.<br>(5) Sardar Baldev Singh (Sikh-Punjab United Sikh Party) Minister of Development.<br>(6) Khan Bahadur Nawab Sir Muhammad Jamal Khan Leghari (Muslim-Unionist) Minister of Public Works.<br>(7) Major Nawab Ashiq Hussain (Muslim-Unionist) Minister of War Planning. | Advisers to the Governor:<br>S. L. Marwood, C.I.E., J.P., I.C.S.<br>G. K. Gokhale, C.I.E., I.C.S.                                   |
| (1) Khan Bahadur Sheikh Faiz Muhammad, M.B.E. (Muslim-Unionist); (2) Sardar Jagjit Singh Man, M.B.E. (Sikh Punjab United Sikh Party); (3) Rai Bahadur Thakur Rairudaman Singh (Hindu National Progressive). Four posts are vacant.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | No Parliamentary Secretaries.                                                                                                       |

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 13)

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

| PROVINCE                                                  | ASSAM<br>(8-11-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|-----------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Governor .. .. .                                          | Sir Andrew Gurlay Clow, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Assumed Charge May 4, 1942; Retires May 3, 1947.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Governor's Secretary .. .. .                              | Reginald William Godfrey, I.P.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Chief Secretary to Government .. .. .                     | Harold George Dennehy, M.A., C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed April 1, 1939.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Ministry (composition, political complexion etc.) .. .. . | Coalition; formed August 25, 1942; Personnel:<br>(1) Maulavi Saiyid Sir Muhammad Saadulla, M.A., B.L., Prime Minister; (2) Maulavi Munawwar Ali, B.A., LL.B.; (3) Khan Sahib Maulavi Modabbir Hussain Chaudhuri, B.L.; (4) Khan Bahadur Maulavi Sayidur Rahman, M.A., B.L.; (5) Maulavi Abdul Matin Chaudhuri, B.L. (Muhamaddan); (6) S. J. Hirendra Chandra Chakrabarti, B.A. (Caste Hindu); (7) Miss Mavis Dunn, B.A., B.T., B.L. (Indian Christian); (8) Dr. Mahendra Nath Saikia, L.M.P. (Scheduled Caste); (9) Nava Kumar Datta (Caste Hindu); (10) S. J. Rupnath Brahma, B.L. (Tribal Plains) (Appointed Minister on August 28, 1942). |
| Parliamentary Secretaries .. .. .                         | No Parliamentary Secretaries.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 14)

| SIND<br>(7-11-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | BOMBAY<br>(1-11-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sir Hugh Dow, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Assumed Charge April 1, 1941; Retires March 31, 1946.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | The Rt. Hon'ble Sir John David Colville, G.C.I.E., T.D., Assumed charge March 24, 1943; Retires March 23, 1948.                                                                                                       |
| Dermont Campbell Barty, M.A., I.C.S.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               | David Symington, C.I.E., I.C.S.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| S. Ridley, I.C.S.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | Dr. Herbert Tower Sorley, M.A., D.Litt. (Aber.) I.C.S., Appointed November 18, 1943.                                                                                                                                  |
| Coalition of Muslim League and Hindu Mahasabha Assembly parties. Formed on October 10, 1942. Personnel:                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 1. Sir Henry Foley Knight, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.<br>2. Sir Charles Holditch Bristow, C.I.E., I.C.S.<br>3. Godfrey Ferdinando Stratford Collins, C.S.I., C.I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S.<br>4. I. H. Taunton, C.I.E., I.C.S. |
| (1) Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, B.A., LL.B., K.C.S.I., (Muslim League) Premier; Portfolios: Finance, Revenue Department, excluding Agriculture, Forest, Excise and Rural Reconstruction, Registration and Co-operative Societies being subjects allotted to General Department.                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| (2) Rai Sahib Gokaldas Mewaldas Rochlani (Hindu Mahasabha) Portfolios: Public Works Department, and Local Self Government being a subject allotted to General Department.                                                                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| (3) Pir Illahi Bakhsh Nawazali, M.A., LL.B. (Aligarh) (Muslim League); Portfolios: Agriculture, Excise, Forests and Rural Reconstruction being subjects allotted to the Revenue Department, Labour, being subject allotted to Political and Miscellaneous Department and Education being a subject allotted to General Department. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| (4) Dr. Hemandas Rupchand Wadhwani, M.B. B.S. (Bombay) (Hindu Mahasabha) Portfolios: Medical and Public Health, Veterinary, Civil Defence and Air Raid Precautions and Industries being subjects allotted to the General and Home Departments.                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| (5) Muhammad Hashim Gazdar, B.E. (Bombay) (Muslim League); Portfolios: Home Department (excluding Civil Defence and Air Raid Precautions), Legal Department and Political and Miscellaneous Department (excluding Labour) and General Department except such subjects of that Department as have been assigned to other Ministers. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| (1) Khan Bahadur Allah Bahsh Khudadad Khan Gabole, J.P. (Muslim League); (2) Syed Nur Muhammad Shah Muradali Shah, J.P. (Muslim League); (3) Mrs. Jenubai Ghulamali                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 15)



| PROVINCE                            | MADRAS<br>(19-10-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|-------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Governor .. .. .                    | Capt. the Hon. Sir Arthur Oswald James Hope, G.C.I.E., M.C., Assumed Charge March 12, 1940.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Governor's Secretary .. ..          | Post held in abeyance.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Chief Secretary to Government .. .. | J. B. Brown, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Appointed June 1, 1944.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Governor's Advisory Council .. ..   | Advisory Council formed October 30, 1939; Present Personnel:<br>(1) Sir Hugh Hood, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S.<br>(2) Sir Norman Strathie, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.<br>(3) T. Austin, C.I.E., I.C.S.<br>(4) G. W. Priestley, C.I.E., I.C.S.                                                                                              |
| Legislative Assembly .. .. .        | Total Seats 215 (42 vacant).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Legislative Council .. .. .         | Total Seats 55 (17 vacant).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Party Analysis* .. .. .             | LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: Congress 135; Justice 12; Anglo-Indians 1; Muslim League 12; Europeans 3; National Democrats 2; and Independents 8: Total 173.<br>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: Congress 21; Justice 4; Muslim League 1; National Democrats 2; Independents 7; those who have not intimated their party affiliation 3: Total 38. |
| Population .. .. .                  | 49,840,564.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Capital, Population .. .. .         | Madras: 7,77,481.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Summer Capital, Population .. ..    | Ootacamund: 29,850.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Receipts and Expenditure† .. ..     | Receipts: Rs. 30,20,73,700.<br>Expenditure: Rs. 30,19,97,100.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Legislation .. .. .                 | See pages 24 to 30.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |

\*The word "Party" or "Group" has been omitted in some cases.  
†Estimated ordinary Revenue Receipts and Expenditure on Revenue Account for the current year.

| UNITED PROVINCES<br>(24-10-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | CENTRAL PROVINCES<br>AND BERAR<br>(26-10-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Sir Maurice Garnier Hallett, B.A. (Oxon.), G.C.I.E., K.C.S.I., I.C.S.; Appointed December 6, 1939; Retires December 6, 1945.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | Sir Henry Twynam, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed October 2, 1940; Retires October 1, 1945.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Idris Wyn Lewys-Lloyd, O.B.E., I.C.S., Appointed October 1, 1944.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | G. Burgess, O.B.E., I.C.S.; Appointed January 23, 1942.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| William Christie, C.I.E., M.C., I.C.S., Appointed February 16, 1944.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | T. C. S. Jayaratnam, C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed March 1, 1942.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Advisory Council; formed November 4, 1939; Personnel:<br>(1) Dr. Panna Lall, M.A., B.Sc., LL.B., (Cantab); D.Litt. (Agra); Bar-at-Law, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S., Portfolio: Development.<br>(2) Sir T. Sloan, M.A. (Glasgow), K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.C.S.; Portfolio: Home.<br>(3) A. G. Shirreff, B.A., J.P., I.C.S.; Portfolio: Revenue.<br>(4) Sir A. W. Ibbotson, M.A. (Cantab), J.P., C.I.E., M.B.E., M.C., I.C.S., Portfolio: Supply. | Advisory Council; formed November 11, 1939; Personnel:<br>(1) Sir Geoffrey Pownall Burton, K.C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed November 11, 1939.<br>(2) Henry Challen Greenfield, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed November 11, 1939.<br>(3) Anthony Lockhart Binney, C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed January 3, 1944. |
| Total Seats: 228.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Total Seats: 112.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Total Seats: 58 to 60.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 | No Legislative Council.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: Congress 147; Muslim League 36; Independent 24; Unattached 21.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: Congress 14; Nationalist 13; Independent 8; Unattached (including 11 who have not intimated party affiliation) 24; Total 59 (excluding President).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| 56,346,456.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | 16,822,584 (Excluding States).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Allahabad: 2,60,630.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | Nagpur: 3,01,957.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| El Naini Tal: Hot weather population 21,313 (Municipality and Cantonment).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Pachmarhi: 6,696.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Receipts: Rs. 24,29,39,300.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Receipts: Rs. 8,08,31,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Expenditure: Rs. 23,91,00,600.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | Expenditure: Rs. 8,05,37,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| See Pages 30 and 31.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | See Page 31.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

| PROVINCE                                                                                                                                                       | BIHAR<br>(9-11-44)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Governor .. .. .                                                                                                                                               | Sir Thomas George Rutherford, K.C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Assumed Charge April 24, 1944.                                                                                                                                                             |
| Governor's Secretary .. .. .                                                                                                                                   | D. H. Crofton, M.B.E., I.C.S.; Appointed February 15, 1944.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Chief Secretary to Government .. .. .                                                                                                                          | J. W. Houlton, C.I.E., I.C.S.; Appointed April 18, 1944.                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Governor's Advisory Council .. .. .                                                                                                                            | (1) E. C. Ansorge, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Assumed charge April 10, 1943.<br>(2) R. E. Russell, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Assumed charge November 4, 1939.<br>(3) Y. A. Godbole, C.S.I., C.I.E., I.C.S.; Assumed charge December 20, 1943.           |
| Legislative Assembly .. .. .                                                                                                                                   | Total Seats: 152.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Legislative Council .. .. .                                                                                                                                    | Total Seats: 30.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Party Analysis* .. .. .                                                                                                                                        | LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: Congress 96; Bihar Nationalist Coalition 25; Muslim Independent 19; Unattached 7; Vacant 5; Total 152.<br>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: Congress 10; Bihar Nationalist Coalition 12; Unattached 6; Independent 1; Vacant 1; Total 30. |
| Population .. .. .                                                                                                                                             | 37,985,581 (1941 Census).                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Capital, Population .. .. .                                                                                                                                    | Patna; 196,435 (1941 Census).                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Summer Capital, Population .. .. .                                                                                                                             | Ranchi; 62,562 (1941 Census).                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| Receipts and Expenditure† .. .. .                                                                                                                              | Receipts: Rs. 9,77,85,000.<br>Expenditure; Rs. 7,56,46,600.                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Legislation .. .. .                                                                                                                                            | See Pages 32 and 33.                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| *The word "Party" or "Group" has been omitted in some cases.<br>†Estimated Ordinary Revenue Receipts and Expenditure on Revenue Accounts for the current year. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

| PROVINCE                                           | N.-W.F. PROVINCE<br>(4-4-45)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|----------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Governor .. .. .                                   | Sir George Cunningham, K.C.S.I., K.C.I.E., O.B.E., I.C.S.; Appointed March 2, 1937; Retires March 1946.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Governor's Secretary .. .. .                       | Capt. O.C.B. St. John, I.P.S.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Chief Secretary to Government .. .. .              | Lt.-Col. D. G. H. De la Faurge; Appointed November 7, 1941.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Ministry (composition, political complexion), etc. | Congress; formed March 16, 1945 (after a no-confidence motion was carried out against the Muslim League Coalition Ministry formed May 25, 1943). Personnel:<br>(1) Dr. Khan Sahib, Premier (Congress).<br>(2) Khan Mohammad Abbas Khan, Minister of Industries (Congress).<br>(3) Qazi Attaullah Khan, Minister of Education (Congress).<br>(4) Dewan Bhanju Ram Gandhi, Minister of Finance (Congress). |
| Parliamentary Secretaries .. .. .                  | Not yet appointed.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Legislative Assembly .. .. .                       | Total seats: 50.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| Legislative Council .. .. .                        | No Legislative Council.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| Population .. .. .                                 | 30,38,067.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| Capital, Population .. .. .                        | Peshawar; 173,420.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Summer Capital, Population .. .. .                 | Nathialah; Not known.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Receipts and Expenditure .. .. .                   | Receipts: Rs. 2,67,49,000.<br>Expenditure: Rs. 2,79,73,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Legislation .. .. .                                | See Page 33.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

| PROVINCE                                                                                                                                                      | BENGAL<br>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Parliamentary Secretaries (Contd.)                                                                                                                            | (6) Rasik Lal Biswas (Scheduled Caste).<br>(7) Syed Abdul Majid (Muslim League).<br>(8) Khan Sahib Hamiduddin Ahmed (Muslim League).<br>(9) Banku Behari Mondal (Scheduled Caste).<br>(10) Khan Bahadur A. F. M. Abdur Rahman (Muslim League).<br>(11) Fazlur Rahman (Muslim League).<br>(12) Mesbahuddin Ahmed (Muslim League).<br>(13) Rai Sahib Anukul Chandra Das (Scheduled Caste).<br>(14) K. C. Roy Chowdhury (Nominated).<br>(15) J. N. Gupta.                                                                                                                                                                     |
| Legislative Assembly (Lower House) ..                                                                                                                         | Total Seats: 250.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Legislative Council (Upper House) ..                                                                                                                          | Total Seats: 63.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| Party Analysis* .. ..                                                                                                                                         | LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: Government Coalition: 108; European Group 25; Unattached 2; Congress (Bose Group) 22; Nationalists 13; Congress (led by Mr. Kiran Sankar Roy) 27; Scheduled Caste in Opposition 12; Krishak Proja 13; Ulama Group 10; Progressive Assembly 17; Total 249.<br>(Hon'ble Speaker is not included).<br>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: Bengal Coalition 29; Europeans 5; Nationalists 5; Congress Parliamentary Party (Bose Group) 5; Progressive Coalition 5; Congress Parliamentary Party (Orthodox) 6; Unattached 4; Total 59.<br>(Three seats are at present vacant and the Hon'ble President is not included). |
| Normal dates of Assembly Sessions ..                                                                                                                          | LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: No normal dates of sessions.<br>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: No normal dates of sessions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Population .. ..                                                                                                                                              | Not given.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Capital, Population .. ..                                                                                                                                     | Not given.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Summer Capital, Population .. ..                                                                                                                              | Darjeeling: 25,900.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| Receipts and Expenditure†                                                                                                                                     | Receipts: Rs. 21,97,44,000.<br>Expenditure: Rs. 30,13,78,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| Legislation .. ..                                                                                                                                             | See Page 16.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| *The word "Party" or "Group" has been omitted in some cases.<br>†Estimated ordinary Revenue Receipts and Expenditure on Revenue Account for the current year. |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |

| PUNJAB<br>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         | ORISSA<br>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)  |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| Parliamentary Private Secretaries:—<br>(1) Syed Amjad Ali Shah, C.I.E., O.B.E., (Muslim-Unionist); (2) Sardar Gopal Singh (American), M.B.E. (Depressed Class-Unionist); (3) Bhagat Hans Raj (Depressed Class-Unionist); (4) Sir William Roberts, Kt., C.I.E. (Christian-Unionist); (5) Mian Sultan Mahmud Hotiana (Muslim-Unionist); (6) Rao Bahadur Ch. Suraj Mal (Hindu-Unionist); (7) Sardar Lal Singh, M.Sc., LL.B. (Sikh Punjab United Sikh Party). |                                    |
| LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: No Upper House.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | No Council.                        |
| LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (Lower House).<br>Total seats 175 including the Speaker.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Total Seats: 60.                   |
| LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: Government Supporters: Unionist Party 75; Punjab United Sikh Party 17; National Progressive 4; Opposition: Congress Party 33; Muslim League Party 23; Unattached 22.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | Not Given.                         |
| Budget Session mid-February to mid-April; Summer Session, mid-June to mid-July; Autumn Session, mid-November to first week of December.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   | January-March and August-November. |
| 28,418,819 (1941 Census). <i>British Territory</i> .                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | Not given.                         |
| Lahore: 671,659 (1941 Census).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | Cuttack; not given.                |
| Simla: 18,349.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            | No summer capital.                 |
| Receipts: Rs. 1,24,56,51,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             | Receipts: Rs. 2,56,96,000.         |
| Expenditure: Rs. 1,22,72,14,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          | Expenditure: Rs. 2,67,32,000.      |
| See Pages 17 and 18.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      | See Page 19.                       |

| PROVINCE                                                                                                                                                                 | ASSAM<br>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5)                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Legislative Assembly (Lower House) ..                                                                                                                                    | Total Seats: 108.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Legislative Council (Upper House) ..                                                                                                                                     | Total Seats: 22 (of which four are nominated).                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| Party Analysis* .. ..                                                                                                                                                    | <p>LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: Assam United Party 59; Assam Nationalist Coalition Party 11; Congress 30; Independent 6; Hon'ble Speaker 1; Vacant 1; Total 108.</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: There is no party division in the Council.</p> |
| Normal dates of Assembly Sessions ..                                                                                                                                     | February-March, and November or December.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| Normal dates of Council .. ..                                                                                                                                            | February, March, September, November and December.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Population .. .. .                                                                                                                                                       | 10,930,388.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| Capital, Population .. ..                                                                                                                                                | Shillong: 38,192.                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| Summer Capital, Population .. ..                                                                                                                                         | No Summer Capital.                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| Receipts and Expenditure† .. ..                                                                                                                                          | <p>Receipts: Rs. 4,51,71,000.</p> <p>Expenditure: Rs. 4,62,11,000.</p>                                                                                                                                                               |
| Legislation .. .. .                                                                                                                                                      | See Pages 19 and 20.                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p>*The word "Party" or "Group" has been omitted in some cases.</p> <p>†Estimated ordinary Revenue Receipts and Expenditure on Revenue Account for the current year.</p> |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| SIND<br>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           | BOMBAY<br>(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7)                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Parliamentary Secretaries (Contd.)<br/>Allana, J.P. (Muslim League); (4) Muhammad Yusif Khan Bahadur Khair Muhammad Khan Chandio, J.P. (Muslim League); (5) Seth Lolulmal Rewachand Motwani, J.P. (Hindu Mahasabha)</p> <p>Total Seats 60.</p> <p>No Legislative Council.</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY—Muslim League 30, Congress 10, Hindu Independent 9, Azad Muslims 3, Hindu Mahasabha 3, Europeans 3 Independents 1. One seat is vacant.</p> <p>NO UPPER HOUSE</p> | <p>Total seats 175.</p> <p>Total Seats 30.</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY: Congress 86; Muslim League 23; Independents 13; Independent Labour Party 13; Progress Party 11; Peasants and People's Party 6; Peasants and Workers' Party 4; Democratic Swaraj Party 4; Total 160 (plus 15 seats vacant).</p> <p>LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL: Congress 8; Muslim League 3; Liberals 1; Independents 8; Progress Party 1; Democratic Swaraj Party 3; Total 24 (plus 6 seats vacant).</p> <p>Note: Except the Congress Party there are no regular parties formed in the Council. Members other than Congress members, however, indicated their affiliation to the parties as shown above.</p> |
| February-March and August-September.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| No Upper House.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| 45,35,008.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                | 2,08,49,840.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| Karachi: 3,86,655.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Bombay: 14,89,683.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| No Summer Capital.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        | Poona: 2,37,560.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| Rs. 7,97,27,000. ]<br>Rs. 7,97,04,000.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    | <p>Receipts: Rs. 24,89,56,000.</p> <p>Expenditure: Rs. 24,88,70,000.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| See Pages 20, 21 and 22.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  | See Pages 22, 23 and 24.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |



PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION—

Principal Acts Passed by Legislatures, Governors' Acts, Bills Introduced

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                                | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BENGAL</b>                                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Bengal Finance (Sales Tax) Amendment Act, 1944 (Bengal Act I of 1944) (28-3-1944).                                 | To amend the Bengal Finance (Sales Tax) Act, 1941, in order to raise the rate of tax leviable under the said Act from one quarter to one half of an anna; but at the same time provision has been made to exempt from tax "the poor man's cloth."                                                                                       |
| The Bengal Non-agricultural Tenancy (Temporary Provisions) Extending Act, 1944 (Bengal Act II of 1944) (27-5-1944).    | To extend the operation of the Bengal Non-agricultural Tenancy (Temporary Provisions) Act, 1940, for one year more from May 29, 1944, pending the introduction of permanent and more comprehensive legislation on the subject.                                                                                                          |
| The Bengal Orphanages and Widows' Homes Act, 1944 (Bengal Act III of 1944) (23-6-1944).                                | To provide for the better control and supervision of orphanages and widows' homes and marriage bureaux in Bengal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>BILLS</b>                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Bengal Secondary Education Bill, 1944 (Introduced in the Legislative Assembly).                                    | To provide for the regulation, control and development of secondary education.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The Bengal Diseases of Animals Bill, 1944 (Introduced in the Legislative Council).                                     | To provide for the prevention of contagious diseases amongst animals in Bengal.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Coroners and Criminal Procedure (Bengal Amendment) Bill, 1944, (Introduced in the Legislative Council).            | To amend the Coroners Act, 1871 and the code of Criminal Procedure, 1898, in order to dispense with the inquiry to be held by the Coroner or by a Police Officer in cases of deaths caused by enemy action unless the Provincial Government so directs.                                                                                 |
| The Hindu Women's Rights to Property (Bengal Agricultural Land) Bill, 1944. (Introduced in the Legislative Council).   | To extend the operation of the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937, to agricultural land in Bengal, with retrospective effect, in order to give widows the full measure of the benefit which the framers of the Act contemplated, and to protect transactions already entered into on the faith of the Act with certain savings. |
| The Bengal Destitute Persons (Repatriation and Relief) Bill, 1944 (Introduced in the Legislative Council).             | To make special provision for dealing with persons wandering about in a destitute condition as a result of the prevailing economic distress.                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Bengal Alienation of Agricultural Land (Temporary Provisions) Bill, 1944. (Introduced in the Legislative Council). | To provide for the restoration to 'rai-yats' and under-'rai-yats' of agricultural lands alienated by them during the year 1943 as a result of the prevailing economic distress.                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Bengal Embankment (Amendment) Bill 1944. (Introduced in the Legislative Council).                                  | To further amend the Bengal Embankment Act, 1882, so as to give Collectors power to have necessary repairs done to a private embankment where considered necessary without taking charge of its future maintenance and to recover the cost thereof from the people benefited by the work.                                               |

PROVINCIAL LEGISLATION—

By Provincial Governments and Ordinances Promulgated by Governors

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                              | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PUNJAB</b>                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Punjab Maternity Benefit Act 1943. (15-11-1943).                                 | To regulate the employment of women in factories for certain periods before and after confinement and to provide for the payment of maternity benefit to them.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax (Second Amendment) Act, 1943.. (15-11-1943). | To make clear that it is not necessary for assessing authority under Section 18 of the Act to call for a return when the current valuation list is to be amended.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| The Punjab Tobacco Vend Fees (Amendment) Act 1943. (17-11-1943).                     | To effect certain amendments in the Act which have become necessary as a result of the imposition of a central excise duty on tobacco.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| The Sugarcane (Punjab Amendment) Act, 1943. (25-11-1943).                            | To amend the Indian Sugarcane Act, 1934, in its application to the Punjab with a view to protecting the growers of sugarcane to provide for the better organisation of cane supplies to sugar factories and to prevent unhealthy competition between them.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Punjab Trade Employees (Amendment) Act, 1943. (6-1-1944).                        | To remove certain difficulties brought to light in the working of the Punjab Trade Employees Act, 1940, by amending the Act, so as to empower the employer to take overtime work from his employees subject to certain restrictions and by omitting sections II and 14 (2) which empower an employer to impose fine and require notice from the employee before quitting service, respectively.                                                    |
| The Punjab Court of Wards, (Amendment) Act, 1944. (11-4-1944).                       | To make it obligatory for a decree holder to file a certificate of his having notified his claim under section 26, in order to continue a suit or resume or institute execution proceedings against a ward and to make it clear that no suit or execution proceedings shall be maintainable to set aside or modify the order of a Deputy Commissioner fixing a date for payment of a claim or regulating the order in which claims are to be paid. |
| The Epidemic Diseases Punjab (Amendment) Act, 1944. (11-4-1944).                     | To empower a Deputy Commissioner to issue regulations as to medical inspection and disinfecting water supplies etc. in a district threatened with an outbreak or epidemic disease.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The Punjab Land Preservation (Chos) (Amendment) Act, 1944. (11-4-1944).              | To apply the principles of the Land Preservation (Chos) Act II of 1900, to the whole Province and to empower the Government to require land owners to take positive measures necessary to arrest erosion, failing which the Government shall have the power of executing those works themselves.                                                                                                                                                   |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                           | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>PUNJAB</b>                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1944. (11-4-1944).                         | To remove certain minor discrepancies and defects in the text of the Act of 1941, which have come to light in the course of its administration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The Punjab Pre-emption (Amendment) Act, 1944. (15-5-1944).                        | To add a new section to the Act to restore the status quo in the case of pre-emption suits wherein the vendee seeks to improve his position by means of a voluntary acquisition of right of property made after the institution of the suit.                                                                                                                                      |
| The Colonization of Government Lands (Punjab) (Amendment) Act, 1944. (27-5-1944). | (i) To amend section 27 of the Act so that in future in the absence of any provision to the contrary in the relevant statement of conditions nothing in section 24, 25 and 26 shall apply to a scheduled tenancy.<br>(ii) Imposition of certain restrictions on the rights of alienation in respect of and rule of succession to certain proprietary rights acquired by a female. |
| <b>BILLS</b>                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Government Bills pending before the Punjab Legislative Assembly</b>            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The Punjab District Boards Bill.                                                  | To repeal the District Boards Act, 1883. The proposed Bill gives full liberty to the Boards to elect non-official Chairmen, and extends their life to five years. A provision has also been made for prompt discharge of executive duties by the Executive authority.                                                                                                             |
| The Punjab Electricity Duty Bill.                                                 | To levy a duty on electrical energy consumed for lights and fans and other appliances.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Punjab Alienation of Land (Amendment) Bill.                                   | To remove number of defects which have been revealed in the actual working of the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, 1900, and of making a number of consequential amendments which were not carried out when the amending Acts of 1938 and 1940 were passed.                                                                                                                         |
| The Punjab Agricultural Produce Markets (Amendment) Bill.                         | To remedy certain defects and to make other suitable provisions which have been found to be necessary in the light of experience.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The Acquisition of Land (Punjab Amendment) Bill.                                  | To exempt compensation awarded under the Land Acquisition Act from attachment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Punjab Cotton Ginning and Pressing Factories Bill.                            | To provide for the licensing of ginning and pressing factories in order to eradicate the malpractices of mixing, watering, adulteration with seed etc., prevailing among certain cotton producers.                                                                                                                                                                                |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                               | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ORISSA</b>                                                                                         |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Hindu Women's Rights to Property (Extension to Agricultural land in Orissa) Act, 1944 (8-4-1944). | To give the Hindu women in the province of Orissa the same rights in respect of agricultural land as they enjoy under the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937, in respect of other property.                                                                                   |
| The Bihar and Orissa Motor Vehicles Taxation (Orissa Second Amendment) Act, 1944 (8-4-1944).          | To exempt from taxation the road rollers and plants owned by the local and public authorities in North Orissa.                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The Orissa Legislative Assembly Members' Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Act, 1944 (26-4-1944).   | To increase the salaries of M.L.A.'s from Rs. 75 to Rs. 100 a month and daily allowance from Rs. 2-8 to Rs. 10 during the continuance of war and six months thereafter.                                                                                                               |
| The Central Provinces Tenancy (Orissa Amendment) Act, 1944 (26-4-1944).                               | Construction of the period of one month laid down in section 85 (2) of the Central Provinces Tenancy Act, 1898, to mean a period of one month from the date of service of the notice on the tenant for ejectment on account of arrears of rent.                                       |
| The Orissa Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1944 (3-5-1944).                               | To give the Commissioner of Hindu Religious Endowments power to modify or cancel schemes concerning certain endowments in North Orissa just in the same way as he can modify or cancel a scheme settled by himself under the Orissa Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1939. |
| The Madras Estates land (Orissa Amendment) Act, 1944 (26-4-1944).                                     | To extend the period prescribed U/S 172 of Madras Estates land Act, 1908, for filing applications for revision of records of rights from two to four years and to provide a special commission to hear revision application after they have been heard by the Revenue Commissioner.   |
| The Orissa Legislative Assembly, Salaries and Allowance (Temporary Repeal Act, 1944 (27-7-1944).      | To stop payment of salaries and allowances to Speaker, Deputy Speaker and members of the Assembly for so long as Proclamation under Section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935, remains in force.                                                                                |
| <b>ASSAM</b>                                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Assam Hindu women's rights to Property (Extension to Agricultural Land) Act, 1943 (7-12-1943).    | To extend the operation of the Hindu Women's Rights to Property Act, 1937, and the Hindu Women's Rights to Property (Amendment) Act, 1938, to agricultural land in the Province of Assam in order to give better rights to women in respect of agricultural land.                     |
| The Assam Debt Conciliation (Amendment) Act, 1943 (9-12-1943).                                        | To amend the Assam Debt Conciliation Act, 1936, in order to make it possible to enforce agreements on the heirs of debtors and also to enforce attendance of creditors before Debt Conciliation Boards.                                                                               |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>ASSAM</b>                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                                            | <b>1944</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The Assam Maternity Benefit Act, 1944 (Act I of 1944) (14-1-1944).                                     | To regulate and to provide for maternity benefits to women workers in certain classes of employment.                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| The Assam Nurses', Midwives' and Health Visitors' Registration Act, 1944 (Act II of 1944) (27-3-1944). | To provide for the registration and better training of nurses, midwives and health visitors in Assam.                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The Assam Finance Act, 1944 (Act III of 1944) (30-3-1944).                                             | To fix the rates at which agricultural income shall be taxed under the Assam Agricultural Income-Tax Act, 1939.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Assam Local Board Elections (Emergency Provisions) Act, 1944 (Act IV of 1944) (30-3-1944).         | To provide for the postponement of Local Board Elections.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| The Assam Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Act V of 1944) (6-4-1944).                                  | Further to amend the Assam Municipal Act, 1923, in order to empower Municipal Boards to issue licences for short-term cinema shows, dramatic performances, circuses, variety shows etc.                                                                                               |
| The Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Act VI of 1944) (6-4-1944).                   | Further to amend the Assam Motor Vehicles Taxation Act, 1936, in order to exempt the extra weight of the Producer Gas Plant fitted to a motor vehicle from taxation and to reduce the tax for vehicles propelled by this form of fuel by 50 per cent.                                 |
| The Assam Dadans Act, 1944 (Act VII of 1944) (8-4-1944).                                               | To gather information about, and settle claims in respect of, dadans or advances to cultivators on crops.                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>SIND</b>                                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Bombay Finance (Sind Second Amendment) Act, No. XXVII of 1943 (19-8-1943).                         | To rectify with retrospective effect, the omission in Sind Act II of 1943 which provided for the levy of duty on energy consumed for lights and fans in respect of industrial undertakings but omitted to levy duty on energy consumed for industrial power, and also domestic power. |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                                            | <b>1944</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The City of Karachi Municipal (Amendment) Act, No. I of 1944 (25-3-44).                                | To restrict the power of the Corporation to alter names of streets and public places vested in the Corporation.                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Bombay Local Fund Audit (Sind Amendment) Act, No. II of 1944 (25-3-44).                            | To remove certain practical difficulties which the Audit Department had experienced in working the Bombay Local Fund Audit Act, 1930.                                                                                                                                                 |
| The Bombay Local Boards (Sind Amendment) Act, No. III of 1944 (25-3-44).                               | To widen the franchise for the Local Board elections and bring it into line with the franchise prescribed for the Assembly elections in the territorial constituencies.                                                                                                               |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                 | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SIND</b>                                                                                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Bombay Finance (Sind Amendment) Act, No. IV of 1944 (25-3-44).                                      | To discontinue the levy of duty on electricity consumed for industrial purposes.                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The Sind Police Rifles Force (Amendment) Act, No. V of 1944 (28-3-44).                                  | To make certain acts not specifically mentioned in the Act punishable and to make certain offences cognizable.                                                                                                                                                     |
| The Sind Medical Act, No. VI of 1944 (28-3-44).                                                         | To constitute a separate medical Council for Sind and to provide for the registration of medical practitioners.                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Bombay District Police (Sind Amendment) Act, No. VII of 1944 (30-3-44).                             | To provide for the appointment of the Principal of the Central Constables (Recruits) Training Schools established in the Province and invest him with power to punish officers subordinate to him.                                                                 |
| The Bombay Co-operative Societies (Sind Amendment) Act, No. VIII of 1944 (30-3-44).                     | To provide that the dispute between a society and a surety of an officer, etc. of the society shall also be decided by arbitration.                                                                                                                                |
| The Sind Shops and Establishments (Amendment) Act, No. IX of 1944 (1-4-44).                             | To vest Provincial Government with power to appoint a Chief Inspector and to make some minor amendments.                                                                                                                                                           |
| The Sind Suppression of Hur Outrages (Amendment) Act, No. X of 1944 (7-4-44).                           | To extend the life of the Act by one year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The City of Karachi Municipal (Amendment) Act, No. XI of 1944 (5-4-1944).                               | To discontinue for the period of war the publication of quarterly accounts of the corporation in the official Gazette with a view to effect economy in paper.                                                                                                      |
| The Bombay Town Planning (Sind Amendment) Act, No. XII of 1944 (8-4-44).                                | To remedy certain defects in the Bombay Town Planning Act, 1915, which came to notice in the working of the Act.                                                                                                                                                   |
| The Sind Deti Leti (Amendment) Act, No. XIII of 1944.                                                   | To remove certain defects which came to notice in the working of the Act.                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The Sind Money-Lenders Act, No. XIV of 1944 (Assented to by the Governor-General on 27-5-44)            | To regulate the transaction of money-lending in the province and to provide for the registration of money-lenders.                                                                                                                                                 |
| The Hakim and Vaidyas Act, No. XV of 1944 (Assented to by the Governor-General on 5-7-44).              | To raise the standard of practice in Indian systems of medicine in the province by giving Hakims and Vaidis necessary training on modern lines and thereby raising their status.                                                                                   |
| The Bombay Municipal Boroughs (Sind Amendment) Act, No. XVI of 1944 (21-8-44).                          | To abolish the system of joint electorate introduced by Sind Act XV of 1940.                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Bombay Local Boards and Bombay Municipal Boroughs (Sind Amendment) Act, No. XVII of 1944 (21-8-44). | To amend the Municipal Act in order to provide that only such persons as actually possess the appropriate qualifications under the Assembly franchise on the date with reference to the Municipal or local Board roll is prepared should be included in the rolls. |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                    | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>SIND</b>                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The Karachi Small Causes Court (Amendment) Act, No. XVIII of 1944 (24-8-44).               | To amend section 29 of the Karachi Small Causes Court Act and to state more clearly the extent to which section 94 of the Civil Procedure Code shall be applicable to that Court.                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>BILLS</b>                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| Bill No. XI of 1944.                                                                       | To make better provision for preventing the adulteration of foods and the sale of such foods. It is proposed to repeal the Bombay Prevention of Adulteration Act, 1925, and to enact in its place a more comprehensive and effective measure.                                                                                                                                                  |
| <b>BOMBAY</b>                                                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The Arnold Marriage Validating Act, 1943 (Bombay X of 1943) (2-12-1943).                   | To validate the marriage solemnized in good faith but without authority between Albert Charles Arnold and Gwendoline Ethel Scanlon.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Bombay Betting Tax (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bombay XI of 1943) (12-12-1943).             | To provide for the increase of a totalisator tax and a betting tax to 10 per cent in each case.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The Bombay Weights and Measures (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bombay XII of 1943) (16-12-1943).   | To make it obligatory on traders to produce for inspection before the Inspectors all weights or measures or weighing or measuring instruments kept on any premises used for trade whether such weights etc., are used or are in their possession for use for trade or not.                                                                                                                     |
| The Bombay Entertainments Duty (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bombay XIII of 1943) (28-12-1943).   | To increase the rates of duties under the Bombay Entertainments Duty Act, 1923.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The Bombay Increase of Stamp Duties Act, 1943 (Bombay XIV of 1943) (23-12-1943).           | To increase by a surcharge of 50 per cent the stamp duties leviable under the Indian Stamp Act, 1899.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The Bombay Increase of Court Fees Act, 1943 (Bombay XV of 1943) (23-12-1943).              | To increase by a surcharge of 25 per cent the fees leviable under the Court Fees Act, 1870.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Bombay Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bombay XVI of 1943) (19-12-1943). | (a) To give arbitration awards or liquidators' orders the status of a decree, and<br>(b) To provide for a summary procedure for settlement and recovery of the defaulted instalments in respect of debentures guaranteed by Government of land mortgage banks and to take precautionary measures provided in Chapter XI of the Bombay Land Revenue Code, 1879, for the recovery of these dues. |
| The Bombay Public Conveyances (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bombay XVIII of 1943) (17-1-1944).    | To make the Act applicable to cycle rickshaws.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                                                         | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BOMBAY</b>                                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The Bombay Legislature Members (Removal of Disqualifications) (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bombay I of 1944) (29-2-1944).                             | Not to disqualify a person for election or continuance as a member of either Chamber of the Bombay Legislature by reason only that he holds or accepts any office in the service of the Crown in India certified by the Government of Bombay to be an office created for a purpose connected with the prosecution of the war.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| The Bombay Land Improvement Schemes (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bombay III of 1944) (28-3-1944).                                                     | (a) To empower the Board to make regulations for carrying out the objects of the scheme;<br>(b) To prescribe a penalty in addition to the liability for the cost of maintenance and repair of works so that cases of failure to maintain and repair the work should be as few as possible.<br>(c) To extend the scope of the existing Section 25(1) to cover schemes subsidized by the Provincial Government or by any trust and schemes necessary in the interest of members of His Majesty's forces, either serving or retired and of their dependents. |
| The Bombay Finance (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bombay IV of 1944) (4-3-1944).                                                                        | To extend the life of the Bombay Finance Act of 1932 by one more year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Bombay Rent Restriction (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bombay V of 1944) (24-3-1944).                                                               | To extend the life of the Bombay Rent Act of 1939 by one more year.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Bombay Non-Urban Labour Housing, Sanitation and Provision Shops Act, 1944 (Bombay VI of 1944) (16-4-1944).                                  | To provide for the opening of provision shops for and regulating the housing and sanitary conditions of non-agricultural labour in areas outside the municipal and cantonment limits.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The Bombay Rents, Hotel Rates and Lodging House Rates (Control) Act, 1944 (Bombay VII of 1944) (8-5-1944).                                      | To regulate the supply of accommodation whether residential or non-residential, furnished or unfurnished and with or without board in certain areas in the Province and in particular to provide for controlling the rents or rates chargeable for such supply of accommodation and for preventing in certain areas eviction from the accommodation supplied.                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| The Bombay Growth of Food Crops Act 1944 (Bombay VIII of 1944) (20-5-1944).                                                                     | To provide for regulating the cultivation of crops with a view to growing more food crops in the Province.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The City of Bombay Municipal Corporation (Extension of Term) Act, 1944 (Bombay IX of 1944) (9-6-1944).                                          | To extend the life of the Corporation for a further period of two years i.e. till April 1, 1947.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The Mussalman Wakf, Bombay Public Trusts Registration and Parsi Public Trusts Registration (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bombay X of 1944) (3-7-1944). | To dispense with the publication in newspapers of the lists and statements of sums standing to the credit of the trusts' administration funds to save paper and cost of publication.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                                                      | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BOMBAY</b>                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The Bombay University (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bombay XI of 1944) (3-8-1944).                                                                  | To provide that casual vacancies shall be filled only for the residue of the term of office of the persons who have ceased to be members and that the casual vacancy of an elected Fellow shall not be filled if it occurs within six months preceding the date on which his term of office expires. |
| The Bombay Irrigated Crop Regulation Act, 1944 (Bombay XII of 1944) (23-8-1944).                                                             | To provide for the maximum cultivation of and the maximum use of water in, lands under command of irrigation works in the Province and for increased cultivation of food crops in such lands.                                                                                                        |
| <b>MADRAS</b>                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The Madras Local Boards (Second Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XIX of 1943) (5-10-1943).                                                   | To provide for the appointment of executive officers in panchayats notified by the Government and to define the duties and powers of such officers.                                                                                                                                                  |
| The Madras Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XX of 1943) (13-10-1943).                                                | To amend the principal Act to facilitate the recovery of sums due to co-operative societies in Orissa from members of such societies who are residing in this Presidency.                                                                                                                            |
| The Madras Proprietary Estates' Village Service and Hereditary village-offices, (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXI of 1943) (15-10-1943). | To allow a minor registered as heir to a village office under the two principal Acts, a period of five years from the termination of his war service to qualify for the office.                                                                                                                      |
| The Madras Prohibition (Suspension) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXII of 1943) (3-11-1943).                                                         | To provide for the suspension of the operation of certain provisions of the Madras Prohibition Act, 1937, in the districts in which it was in force and the revival of the Madras Abkari Act, 1886, in those districts.                                                                              |
| The Madras Pawnbrokers Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXIII of 1943) (6-11-1943).                                                                     | To regulate and control the business of pawnbrokers in the Presidency by licensing pawnbrokers and fixing the maximum rate of interest chargeable by them.                                                                                                                                           |
| The Tambaram Tuberculosis Sanatorium (Regulation of Buildings) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXIV of 1943) (22-11-1943).                             | To provide for the control of the construction of buildings in the neighbourhood of the Government Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Tambaram, and for the exclusion, modification, or restriction of enactments relating to public health from or in such neighbourhood.                                   |
| The Andhra University (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXV of 1943) (3-12-1943).                                                            | To remove the prohibition imposed by section 26(c) of the Andhra University (Second Amendment) Act, 1942, in the case of vacancies in seats on the Syndicate and the Finance Committee to which nominations are made by the Chancellor.                                                              |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                           | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MADRAS</b>                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The Andhra University (Second Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXVI of 1943) (3-12-1943).         | To omit the reference to Ganjam in the Andhra University Act, 1925.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| The Madras University (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXVII of 1943) (12-12-1943).              | To enable the Madras University to institute, maintain and manage colleges and laboratories of its own outside the limits of the University and to confer degrees and other academic distinctions on students who have pursued approved courses of study in such colleges and laboratories and passed the prescribed examinations.                                |
| The Madras Elementary Education (Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXVIII of 1943) (23-12-1943).   | To amend section 34(i) of the Elementary Education Act to make it clear that exemptions from the water and drainage, lighting or scavenging tax under the Madras District Municipalities Act or the Madras City Municipal Act should not be taken into account when determining the education tax levied under that section.                                      |
| The Criminal Tribes (Madras Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXIX of 1943) (23-12-1943).          | To substitute the expression "notified tribe" for "criminal tribe" in the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, to enable the Government to issue a notification applying certain provisions of the main Act and not necessarily all its provisions to persons addicted to the commission of non-bailable offences and also to amend the main Act in certain other respects. |
| The Madras Restriction of Habitual Offenders Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXX of 1943) (23-12-1943).     | To provide for the application of the provisions of the Criminal Tribes Act, 1924, to individual habitual offenders so that, where necessary, restrictions may be placed on the movements of such offenders or a duty laid on them to notify their residences etc., as provided in that Act.                                                                      |
| The Madras Debt Conciliation (Second Amendment) Act, 1943 (Madras Act XXXI of 1943) (31-12-1943). | To authorise the Government to direct (a) that a Debt Conciliation Board should not receive fresh applications after a specified date and (b) that the applications received after a specified date and not disposed of before the date referred to in (a), should not be proceeded with.                                                                         |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| The Madras Estates Land (Temporary Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act I of 1944) (3-1-1944).        | To provide for the temporary assignment subject to certain conditions, of ryoti land situated in an estate and not already in the possession of a ryot or tenant, for periods ranging from 3 to 5 years for the purpose of raising food crops, during the present emergency.                                                                                      |



| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                            | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MADRAS</b>                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The Madras District Municipalities and Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act II of 1944) (17-2-1944).     | To provide for the removal of difficulties experienced in the administration of district municipalities and local boards in cases where the Chairman or Vice-Chairman or the President or the Vice-President is not likely to exercise or discharge some or all of his powers and duties.                                                                                                |
| The Madras City Municipal and District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1944. (Madras Act III of 1944) (28-2-1944). | To amend the Madras City Municipal and District Municipalities Acts so as to make it clear that the deduction of 10 per cent made from the gross annual rent of lands and buildings, when assessing them to property tax, should be allowed only in respect of the building and not in respect of the site on which it stands or the adjacent lands occupied as an appurtenance thereto. |
| The Madras Public Health (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act IV of 1944) (28-2-1944).                                | To make separate provision in the principal Act for the treatment and control of leprosy which is now regulated along with other infectious diseases.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Madras Hindu Religious Endowments (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act V of 1944) (7-3-1944).                     | To provide for the abolition of temple committees, the appointment of Assistant Commissioners to discharge certain duties now performed by Temple Committees and the grant of additional powers to the President of the Board to improve its working.                                                                                                                                    |
| The Madras Local Boards (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act VI of 1944) (23-3-1944).                                 | To amend section 80(i) of the main Act to empower district collectors to require landholders in proprietary estates to furnish lists of the lands held by them in the fasli years 1350, 1351 and 1352 for the purpose of fixing the rent value of such lands for the triennium comprising fasli years 1353, 1354 and 1355.                                                               |
| The Madras Commercial Crops Markets (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act VII of 1944) (24-3-1944).                    | To provide for the postponement of the elections to market committees for the period of the present war in view of the labour and expenditure involved in the preparation of electoral rolls and holding of elections and also of the present acute shortage of paper.                                                                                                                   |
| The Madras District Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1944. (Madras Act VIII of 1944). (27-3-1944).                  | To enable the Government to direct such of the municipal councils as are levying the property tax at comparatively low rates to raise the tax to a reasonable level.                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                                                      | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MADRAS</b>                                                                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The Madras Regulation of the Sale of Cloth (Repeal) Act, 1944 (Madras Act IX of 1944) (25-4-1944).                                           | To repeal the Madras Regulation of the Sale of Cloth Act, 1937, with effect from April 1, 1944, as the labour involved in the administration of the Act was out of all proportion to the revenue derived from the licensing fees levied under it.                                                                                                                    |
| The Madras General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1944. (Madras Act X of 1944) (25-4-1944).                                                      | To amend the main Act (i) to provide that dealers whose annual turnovers are between Rs. 10,000 and Rs. 15,000 should pay sales tax at the rate of Rs. 8 per month and those whose turnovers are between Rs. 15,000 and Rs. 20,000 should pay at the rate of Rs. 12 per month, and (ii) to withdraw the exemption from tax, of sales of bullion and specie.          |
| The Andhra University (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act XI of 1944) (1-7-1944).                                                              | To amend section 15, class III, clause (4) of the main Act to enable the headquarters of recognised secondary schools in areas which originally formed part of the Ganjam district but were transferred to the Vizagapatam district consequent on the formation of the Orissa Province, to take part in the election of two members to the Senate of the University. |
| The Madras Tobacco Taxation of Sales and Licensing (Repeal) and General Sales Tax (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act XII of 1944) (1-7-1944). | To repeal the Madras Tobacco (Taxation of Sales and Licensing) Act, 1939, and to exclude all forms of tobacco from the provisions of the Madras General Sales Tax Act, 1939.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act XIII of 1944) (3-7-1944).                                              | To amend section 36 of the main Act to enable the Tirumalai-Tirupati Devasthanams Committee to establish and maintain a first grade residential college at or near Tirupati.                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Legal Practitioners (Madras Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act XIV of 1944) (14-7-1944).                                                   | To amend the main Act to provide for the constitution, where necessary, of a committee of legal practitioners (i) for any taluk, at any place other than its headquarters or (ii) for two or more taluks.                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Andhra University (Second Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act XV of 1944) (1-9-1944).                                                       | To amend the main Act to give the Maharajah Saheb of Jeypore a right to nominate two members to the Senate and the Chancellor a right to nominate on the recommendation of the Maharajah two members to the Syndicate.                                                                                                                                               |
| The Andhra University (Third Amendment) Act, 1944 (Madras Act XVI of 1944) (24-9-1944).                                                      | To amend section 22 (ii) of the main Act so as to enable the Academic Council to co-opt members from the staff of University colleges also.                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                           | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MADRAS</b>                                                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The Perundurai Tuberculosis Sanatorium (Regulation of Buildings) Act, 1944 (Madras Act XVII of 1944) (23-9-1944). | To provide for the control of the construction of buildings in the neighbourhood of the Tuberculosis Sanatorium at Perundurai and for the exclusion, modification or restriction of enactments relating to public health from or in such neighbourhood.                                                                                                              |
| <b>BILLS</b>                                                                                                      |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The Madras Village Panchayats Bill, 1940.                                                                         | To make better provision in a separate enactment for the administration of village affairs by panchayats.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Madras Local Boards (Second Amendment) Bill, 1941.                                                            | To remove panchayats from the scope of the Madras Local Boards Act, 1920, and confine the operation of the Act to District Boards and to make certain other amendments to the Act either for the purpose of removing certain difficulties encountered in working the Act or for the purpose of improving the administration of District Boards.                      |
| The Madras Industrial Disputes Bill, 1942.                                                                        | To make provision for the promotion of peaceful and amicable settlement of industrial disputes by conciliation and arbitration.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The Annamalai University (Second Amendment) Bill, 1943.                                                           | To amend the principal Act so as to secure the more efficient working of the Act, the main changes being abolition of the Academic Council, alteration of the constitution of the Senate so as to make it a more representative body, grant of effective powers to the Vice-Chancellor, etc.                                                                         |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| The Madras Forest (Amendment) Bill, 1944.                                                                         | To amend the Madras Forest Act to enable the Government in certain cases to place a private forest or waste land under the control and management of an officer appointed by the Government and to make provision for the successful preservation of game in reserved forests and the regulation of the felling of standing trees on lands outside reserved forests. |
| The Madras City Improvement Trust Bill, 1944.                                                                     | To provide for the constitution of a Board of Trustees for the improvement and expansion of the City of Madras by opening up congested areas, laying out or altering streets and by framing and executing improvement schemes.                                                                                                                                       |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                     | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MADRAS</b>                                                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Madras Irrigation Works (Repairs, Improvement and Construction) (Amendment) Bill, 1944. | To amend the main Act (i) to make the landholder liable only for so much of the cost of the irrigation work constructed by the Government on his lands, which is proportionate to the extent of the lands in his estate served by the work and to limit his liability to an amount which would yield a net return of 4 per cent and (ii) to make provision for cases where an irrigation work is intended to serve partly lands situated in two or more estates and partly ryotwari lands. |
| The Madras Estates Land (Amendment) Bill, 1944.                                             | To amend section 3(2) (d) of the main Act so as to make it clear that where a grant as an <i>inam</i> is expressed to be of a named village, the area which forms the subject matter of the grant should be deemed to be an estate although it did not include certain lands in the village of that name which have already been granted on service tenure or been reserved for communal purposes or the like.                                                                             |
| The Madras District Municipalities (Property Tax Validating) Bill, 1944.                    | To validate the levy which had already been made by municipal councils of property tax on lands used exclusively for agricultural purposes in accordance with the provisions of sub-section (2) of section 81 of the main Act instead of under sub-section (4) of that section.                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Madras General Sales Tax (Second Amendment) Bill, 1944.                                 | To amend section 14 of the main Act so as to empower inspecting officers to enter the place of business of a dealer and seize accounts, registers and other documents if necessary, and to authorise gazetted officers specially empowered by the Government to search premises other than those used for the conduct of business where there is reason to believe that true account books etc. are secreted and to seize them.                                                            |
| The Malabar Tenancy (Amendment) Bill, 1944.                                                 | To amend section 51 of the main Act to define clearly the scope of that section in regard to rent or <i>michavaram</i> payable in kind and to provide for a fair and equitable way of determining the money equivalent of the commodities specified in the section, during the period of the war in view of the abnormal rise in their prices.                                                                                                                                             |
| The Madras District Municipalities (Second Amendment) Bill, 1944.                           | To amend the main Act to provide that the governing body of a college maintained by a municipal council and affiliated to a University shall exercise in respect of the teaching staff and establishment of the college, the powers of appointment, control and punishment.                                                                                                                                                                                                                |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                                       | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |
|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>MADRAS</b>                                                                                                                 |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The Madras Irrigation Cess (Amendment) Bill, 1944.                                                                            | To amend the main Act so as to make it clear that the water cess levied under the Act is not a tax on land, but a fee levied for the water supplied or used for the irrigation of land.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The Madras Prevention of Begging Bill, 1944.                                                                                  | To provide for the prevention of begging in mofussil areas and to commit offenders in certain cases to workhouses or special homes.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>UNITED PROVINCES</b>                                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The United Provinces Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1943 (26-11-1943).                                                       | To avoid discrimination in regard to security of appointment and conditions of service between certain educational officers of the Municipal Board and the other employees of the Board who enjoyed such security under section 68 of the U.P. Municipalities Act, 1916.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The United Provinces Sugar Factories Control (Amendment) Act, 1943 (1-12-1943).                                               | To secure three main objects: (1) to extend the operation of the Sugar Factories Control Act, 1938, which was due to expire on June 30, 1944, upto June 30, 1947, (2) to set up a committee to advise the Government regarding the suitability of the various varieties of cane so as to bring about an all round improvement in sugarcane cultivation. (3) to provide that cane grown in the reserved area of a factory shall not be sold without the permission of the Cane Commissioner to another factory. |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                                                                   |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The Co-operative Societies (United Provinces) Amendment Act, 1944 (18-3-1944).                                                | To impose an obligation on the employer to make deductions from the salary of his employees who take loans from Salary Earners' Co-operative Societies.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The Police (United Provinces Amendment) Act, 1944 (26-7-1944).                                                                | To provide for the punishment of withholding of increments or promotion on the subordinate police force.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The United Provinces Fire Service Act, 1944 (26-7-1944).                                                                      | To give responsibility to Provincial Government for the adequacy and efficiency of the peacetime fire-fighting organisations in the towns of Agra, Allahabad, Benares, Cawnpore and Lucknow and any other town to which the Act may be applied.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The United Provinces Nurses, Midwives, Assistant Midwives and Health Visitors Registration (Amendment) Act, 1944 (31-7-1944). | To improve the status and conditions of service of the nursing profession and to secure for them wider representation in the Nurses and Midwives Council.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>UNITED PROVINCES</b>                                                                                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Court Fees (United Provinces Amendment) Act, 1944 (27-9-1944).                                     | By section 49 (1) of the third schedule of the Arbitration Act, 1940, the provisions of the Code of Civil Procedure had been repealed and thus the reference to paragraph 17 and 20 in Article 18 of schedule II of the Court Fees Act had become irrelevant. By this Act the reference to paragraph 17 and 20 C.P.C. has been substituted by a reference to the Arbitration Act, 1940. |
| The United Provinces Town Improvement (Amendment) Act, 1944 (6-10-1944).                               | To provide for better representation of various interests in the Cawnpore Improvement Trust.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| <b>CENTRAL PROVINCES AND BERAR</b>                                                                     |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Central Provinces and Berar Finance (Annual) Act, 1944 (I of 1944) (26-3-44).                      | To continue the operation of certain taxation Acts, and to provide for the levy of a surcharge on court-fees and stamp duties and increase in entertainments duty with a view to secure additional revenue to the Province and to check widespread inflationary tendency.                                                                                                               |
| The Central Provinces and Berar Regulation of Couching Act, 1944 (II of 1944) (26-3-44).               | To prohibit the practice of couching of cataract by persons who are not registered practitioners or by persons who do not possess qualifications entitling them to be registered as such.                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| The Central Provinces and Berar Motor Vehicles Taxation (Amendment) Act, 1944 (III of 1944) (29-3-44). | To change the basis of taxation on goods vehicles partly to check inflationary tendency and partly to meet changed conditions.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                          |
| The Central Provinces and Berar Municipalities (Amendment) Act, 1944 (IV of 1944) (9-6-44).            | To penalise public begging within the municipal limits and to make it obligatory upon municipal committees to maintain poor-houses.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
| The Central Provinces and Berar Prohibition (Amendment) Act, 1944 (V of 1944) (7-8-44).                | To empower Government to exclude a particular area from the operation of the Central Provinces and Berar Prohibition Act, 1938 (VII of 1938).                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The Berar Land Revenue Code (Amendment) Act, 1944 (VI of 1944) (4-9-44).                               | To enhance the maximum rate of jaglia and Mahar cess to enable Government to recover the increase sanctioned in the emoluments of jaglias and Mahars to meet the increased cost of living.                                                                                                                                                                                              |
| <b>BILLS</b>                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Nagpur Improvement Trust (Amendment) Bill, 1944.                                                   | To remove certain doubts regarding the powers of the Nagpur Improvement Trust to undertake schemes for expansion and development within the municipal limits; to provide for powers in respect of sewage disposal and to remove defects revealed by the operation of the principal Act.                                                                                                 |

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                                             | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BIHAR</b>                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Bihar Entertainments Duty (War Surcharge Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bihar Act VIII of 1943) (5-11-1943).             | To combat inflation by imposing a surcharge not exceeding the amount of the tax payable under the Bihar Entertainments Duty Act, 1937, and of approximately 25 per cent on all court-fees and stamp duties leviable respectively under the Court Fees Act, 1870, and the Indian Stamp Act, 1899, as in force in Bihar, and to increase the fund created to provide money for Post-war Reconstruction. |
| The Bihar Court-fees (War Surcharge Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bihar Act IX of 1943) (5-11-1943).                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Bihar Stamp (War Surcharge Amendment) Act, 1943 (Bihar Act X of 1943) (15-11-1943).                             |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| <b>1944</b>                                                                                                         | <b>1944</b>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
| The Bihar Local Self-Government (Temporary Extension of Term of Office) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act I of 1944) (3-2-1944). | To secure power to postpone for the duration of the war all general elections in District Boards by extending the term of office of members of District and Local Boards.                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
| The Bihar Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act II of 1944) (5-2-1944).                                          | To empower officers other than the Collectors of districts to dispose of appeals in rent commutation cases under section 40 (6) of the Bihar Tenancy Act, 1885.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                       |
| The Jharia Water-Supply (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act III of 1944) (14-2-1944).                                  | To repeal a provision of the Jharia Water-Supply Act, 1914, which experience has shown to be unnecessary and a source of uncertainty.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| The Bihar Agricultural Income-tax (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act IV of 1944) (10-3-1944).                         | To fix a uniform basis for exemption from taxation under the Bihar Agricultural Income-tax Act, 1938, by removing the existing provision regarding exemption on acreage basis and to raise, in view of the high prices of food crops, the multiple of the rent or cess valuation on the basis of which the assessee may have his income calculated.                                                   |
| The Jharia Water-Supply (Second Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act V of 1944) (23-4-1944).                             | To enable the Jharia Water Board to invest its surplus funds in Government securities or in other securities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Bihar Sales Tax Act, 1944 (Bihar Act VI of 1944) (29-5-1944).                                                   | To levy a tax on the retail sale of goods with a view to supplement the revenues of the province and to provide adequate funds for schemes of the nation-building department which may be undertaken as a part of Post-War Reconstruction.                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Bihar Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act VII of 1944) (27-6-1944).                                      | To empower municipalities to impose a tax on bicycles.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The Bihar Provincialisation of Roads and Hospitals Act, 1944 (Bihar Act VIII of 1944) (30-6-1944).                  | To empower Government to take over and provincialise selected roads and hospitals now vested in local authorities for the efficient maintenance of communications in the Province and for the provision of adequate medical facilities to the people of the province.                                                                                                                                 |

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

| Title of Act or Bill and date of Assent or Introduction                                            | Object or Objects                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>BIHAR</b>                                                                                       |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Bihar Local-Self Government and Cess (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act XI of 1944) (21-7-1944). | To fix the rate of cess on annual profits at the present maximum rate of one anna on each rupee of such profits and to increase the cess income of District Boards by raising the rate of local cess on the annual value of lands to a minimum of one anna and six pies on each rupee which may be increased by the District Board or by the Provincial Government to two annas on each rupee and to empower Government to prescribe the minimum expenditure to be incurred by District Boards on objects within their competence. |
| The Patna University (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act IX of 1944) (29-7-1944).                     | To make amendments in the Patna University Act, 1917, rendered necessary by the enactment of the Utkal University Act and to make provision for the retention of the existing strength of the Senate and the Syndicate of the Patna University.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The Bihar Co-operative Societies (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act X of 1944) (4-8-1944).           | To introduce a scheme extending the activities of the Bihar Provincial Co-operative Bank on the lines adopted by the Credit Agricole d'Egypt under which advances of improved seeds, manures, and implements and advances, against the pledge of produce, will be made to cultivators on a large scale.                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
| The Bihar Local Self-Government Laws (Amending) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act XII of 1944) (18-9-1944).     | To exclude the application of local laws relating to local self-government and the jurisdiction of local authorities from cantonments and at the same time enable such local self-government functions as may be desirable to be carried on in those areas.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| The Bihar Tenancy (Second Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act XIII of 1944) (23-9-1944).               | To encourage the landlords to settle on temporary emergency wartime lease as much of surplus lands as possible by providing that occupancy and non-occupancy rights shall not accrue therein so as to promote the Grow More Food Campaign.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |
| The Chota Nagpur Tenancy (Amendment) Act, 1944 (Bihar Act XIV of 1944) (23-9-1944).                |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>N.-W.F. PROVINCE</b>                                                                            |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| The N.-W.F.P. Legislative Assembly (Members' Allowances) (Amendment) Act, 1944 (25-3-1944).        | To authorise the Parliamentary Secretaries to draw the daily allowance permissible to other M.L.A.s during the session of the Legislative Assembly.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                |
| The N.-W.F.P. Entertainments Duty (Amendment) Act, 1944. (25-3-1944).                              | To provide for the withdrawal of the concession of issuing duty-free complimentary tickets by the management as well as by the lessor of the building.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.



Lt.-Gen. J. B. Hance reading his paper on "Tuberculosis Problem in India" at the third Tuberculosis Workers' Conference in New Delhi.

## LT.-GEN. J. B. HANCE ON TUBERCULOSIS PROBLEM

**I**N a paper read at the Third Tuberculosis Workers' Conference held recently in New Delhi, Lt.-Gen. J. B. Hance, C.I.F., O.B.E., K.H.S., I.M.S., Director-General of Indian Medical Service, explained the importance and the gravity of the "Tuberculosis Problem in India."

Here is the full text of his paper:—

The present conference has been convened to enable tuberculosis workers to compare and to discuss in particular the results of their observations over a period of four years, and to take note of the progress in the field of tuberculosis work in general. I am not personally qualified to take part in either field of deliberation, but I think it is of importance at present, when the whole field of present health provision and future development is under critical and authoritative examination, that the problem of tuberculosis should be examined against the background of the health of the country as a whole.

Tuberculosis is but one fact—albeit a large and important facet—of the diamond (in the case of India I fear the black diamond) of public health, and in discussing the future setting of

this important facet it is desirable to examine it in relation to the stone as a whole. I propose therefore to invite your attention for a few moments to the existing provision in personnel and institutional facilities in India in comparison with similar provision in Western countries and especially in the United Kingdom and the United States.

Taking doctors first: There are on the medical registers of India some 47,470 medical men and women. Allowing to those who are practising in areas outside British India which do not possess a medical register it may be estimated that there are in all some 50,000 doctors spread over the sub-continent. This gives a doctor population ratio of one doctor to 8,000 of population.

In the United Kingdom the ratio is slightly under 1 to 1,000 and in the United States, I believe, 1 to between 750 to 800 of population. With the development in the West of technical assistance to relieve the doctor of other than purely medical duties it is possible, and indeed likely that a smaller doctor population ratio will meet the needs of the countries concerned; but

even so, taking a doctor population ratio of 1 to 1,500 as not unreasonable, 270,000 doctors are required to bring India into line with modern requirements.

Regarding Nurses the position is far worse. There are approximately 7,000 trained nurses in India, with a nurse population ratio of 1 to 56,000. In the United Kingdom, the ratio is 1 nurse to 300 of population and in the United States it is higher. Assuming 1 nurse to 500 of population as reasonable 800,000 nurses are required to meet India's needs.

This estimate is of course aside from requirements in public health nurses, who as yet are non-existent in this country and whose place is taken, in so far as it is occupied at all, by the health visitor. There are approximately 800 health visitors in India giving a health visitor population ratio of 1 to 500,000 or 1 health visitor to 1,977 sq. miles of the country. On the basis of 1 health visitor to 5,000 of population (conservative enough in all consciousness) no less than 80,000 health visitors or public health nurses are required, bringing the total requirement of trained nurses up to 880,000.

### Institutional Provision

There are approximately 5,000 trained midwives in India bearing a midwife population ratio of 1 to 80,000 or 1 midwife to 316 sq. miles. On a basis of 1 midwife per 100 births 100,000 are required. Thus, in the field of nursing (trained nurse, public health nurse and midwife) the aggregate requirements are 980,000 or in round figures one million.

It is, of course, possible that with the rationalisation of the training of this class of personnel the aggregate number can be reduced and that by giving compulsory training in midwifery to every trained nurse the ratio of one midwife per 100 births can be achieved with an *ad hoc* provision of less than 100,000.

I would also direct your attention to the fact that there are in all 75 qualified pharmacists in the country, or 1 to 5,300,000, and that on a doctor-pharmacist ratio of 3 doctors to 1 pharmacist, 90,000 of this class of ancillary personnel are required.

Turning now to institutional provision, it is estimated that in order to provide satisfactory medical service, 7 hospital beds per 1,000 of population are required, which would mean provision in the sub-continent of 2,800,000 beds. There are actually in existence, it is estimated,

between 73,000 to 74,000 hospital beds of all kinds, or a ratio of 0.24 beds per 1,000 of population.

It is therefore against this general background that the problem of tuberculosis has to be considered and the provision for its solution dovetailed into the general provision for the health services of the country.

First of all what is the tuberculosis problem in India? What is its magnitude, and what are the general lines of approach towards its solution?

### Public Enemy No. 2

Tuberculosis is a major and increasing public health problem. It is, in fact, Public Enemy No. 2, Public Enemy No. 1 being malaria. Statistics of morbidity and mortality in India are notoriously inaccurate, the method of their collection is archaic and the margin of error consequently very large. Nevertheless they do form an indication from which broad trends in morbidity and mortality may be inferred; and from a study of them it would seem that malaria is responsible for an annual death rate of one million.

If a "death incidence" ratio of 1 to 50 be postulated (as I am advised, by informed opinion, is reasonable) the implication is that there are at any given moment 50 million persons in India, i.e., 1/8th of the population who are suffering directly or indirectly from the effects of malaria.

Turning now to tuberculosis: surveys, urban and rural, carried out by Dr. Benjamin, the present Technical Adviser of this Association, and others, and also estimates made by the late Dr. C. Frimodt Moller show that mortality figures in cities give a tuberculosis death-rate of from 200 to 450 per 100,000 of population. Investigations have also shown that in small mofussil towns the infection rate is nearly as high as in the larger cities, and that though it is less in the villages, it is nevertheless considerable and tending to increase.

### Major Health Problem

Analysis of these surveys make it legitimate to infer, on a conservative estimate that the annual death-rate from tuberculosis is 500,000 or half a million per year. Experts also consider that a "death-open case ratio" of 1 to 5 is on the conservative side, so that it may safely be assumed that there are at least 2,500,000 active cases of tuberculosis in the sub-continent of India.

When we consider that the Bengal famine which shocked and horrified the world, and for the mitigation of which charitably minded public



all over the world subscribed vast sums of money, was responsible for an increase in the death-roll of some 780,000, i.e., only about 75 per cent of the steady annual loss from malaria and only a little more than the steady annual death-roll from tuberculosis, one is able to put into proper perspective the appalling drain on the health of the community caused by these latter two diseases, which, unfortunately, have not the dramatic qualities of a famine or an epidemic of cholera, small-pox or plague. As causes of mortality the latter three epidemic diseases fall into insignificance besides the steady drain of malaria and tuberculosis.

It being admitted, therefore, that tuberculosis is a major health problem, and the size of it being roughly known, what are the lines of approach to its solution?

They are six:

- (1) Measures of community welfare.
- (2) Case detection.
- (3) Isolation and treatment of open cases
- (4) Rehabilitation.
- (5) Health education and propaganda.
- (6) Legislation.

#### Anti-tuberculosis Measures

Taking the first, certain public health authorities are apt to give precedence as an anti-tuberculosis measure to the importance of housing and environmental sanitation. They substantiate their argument by pointing to the fact that in England the death-rate from this disease had shown remarkable improvement before Koch discovered the *Bacillus Tuberculosis* and they ascribe this improvement to the awakening of public consciousness in matters of housing and environmental hygiene which characterized the latter half of the 19th century.

I have even heard it argued that as a short-term measure this should be the main line of approach to the attack on tuberculosis. I cannot personally accept that argument; but in any case, as I have indicated, the question is one more of general environmental hygiene than of special anti-tuberculosis measures and need not detain us further.

The next three methods of approach, viz., detection of cases, and their isolation and treatment and rehabilitation are inter-dependent and may eventually be considered together. Suitably co-ordinated they form what may be described as a 'shuttle-service' between four fixed stations; the home of the patient, the tuberculosis clinic,



A nurse at the Lady Linlithgow Sanatorium, Kasauli, persuades a tuberculosis patient to put away his paper and have the two-hour afternoon sleep which is the rule of the Sanatorium.

the sanatorium and the rehabilitation or ex-patients' colony.

Open cases are detected by an organised system of home visiting and contact examination. This takes place from the clinic and, given sufficiently early detection and diagnosis, many patients need never progress beyond the clinic stage. Longer established, or less fortunate, cases would require sanatorium treatment, after which some of them may return to their homes—contact being maintained with them by the system of organised home visiting referred to above. Others, again, may be returned from the sanatorium to the clinic for continued ambulatory treatment in that institution. Yet others, restored from more extensive disease may require temporary or permanent rehabilitation in ex-patients' colony.

#### Approach to Problem

It will be seen that the whole theory of this approach is the detection and closure of the open case; and however great the influence in the improvement of environmental hygiene may be on the control of tuberculosis—and it is unquestionably very great—no approach to the problem on these lines alone can, in my opinion, be considered adequate—even as a short-term objective—when we reflect that every open case closed means the removal from danger of at least 5 other individuals. It may therefore be

accepted that the clinic, the sanatorium and the rehabilitation centre are necessary planks even in the short-term platform; and that their provision must dovetail in as an integral part of any general health programme.

On what scale should this provision be? It is estimated that there should be one clinic to every 50,000 urban population and one for every 100,000 rural population, and that some of the latter must be mobile. The long-term implication, on the assumption that 15 per cent of population of the country is urban and 85 per cent is rural, is therefore 1,200 urban and 3,400 rural clinics; and assuming 2 doctors per clinic, 9,200 out of our estimate of 270,000 doctors will be required for clinic work in tuberculosis alone.

Taking hospitals, it is estimated that a minimum hospital bed provision is one bed per death. This means half a million tuberculosis beds exclusive of clinic provision; and, on the assumption that in a tuberculosis institution one doctor can satisfactorily attend to 100 patients and one nurse to 10 patients, 14,200 of the 270,000 doctors and 50,000 out of the 800,000 nurses are required for tuberculosis work alone. Again, assuming a minimum of 2 health-visitors per clinic we shall also require 9,200 health visitors for tuberculosis work, or 11.5 per cent. of the total provision estimated on that general public health programme.

#### Need for Trained Personnel

It is therefore obvious, even supposing that all the money necessary to build all the institutions were immediately available, that even then they could not be established because the necessary personnel to staff them is not available. It is trained personnel which is the chief obstacle to health progress in general, and anti-tuberculosis measures in particular; and it follows therefore that it is towards the reduction of this shortage, and the production of the maximum of trained personnel in the minimum of time, that our short-term endeavours, in general health and tuberculosis provision alike, should primarily be directed. What is wanted, and immediately wanted, is trained personnel and to provide them, more teachers. In my view, it is to the early production of teachers of the requisite calibre—and it must be high—to train health personnel that our short-term efforts should be directed.

It is also obvious from the figures, even approximate as they are, that I have given that a rationalisation of health provision is required,

especially in the short-term; and that a cardinal feature of this rationalisation must be the reasoned integration of tuberculosis provision into that made for health measures as a whole.

Finally, let us consider the measures necessary in the rationalisation of anti-tuberculosis work. They are, first of all, the establishment of certain minimum standards. Minimum standards in institutional accommodation and minimum standards of courses of instruction.

As far as institutions are concerned they are at present being established on every standard from the primitive and totally inadequate (all too frequent) to the decorative and lavish. Provision is apt to be limited to structure and to take little account of staff and equipment, whereas, as we all know, medical progress depends primarily on the quality of the staff, secondly, on the provision of the necessary equipment to enable that staff to function at full efficiency, and thirdly and lastly, upon the housing of the staff and equipment in buildings providing the maximum amount of facility and the minimum amount of façade. Minimum standards of accommodation will, I understand, be the subject of your deliberations during this conference, and it is hoped that with your authority such standards may be laid down and accepted.

Hardly less important is the standardisation and co-ordination of the course of instruction. It is hoped that the day is not far off when every university possessing a medical college will establish a Tuberculosis Diseases' Diploma. A scrutiny of the syllabus with a view to securing a rough uniformity of standards is an important function of the Tuberculosis Association of India, and one which it should be prepared to undertake and which it is hoped would be welcomed by the academic bodies concerned.

#### Location of Institutions

The next important step of rationalisation of tuberculosis provision is the undertaking of surveys and the location of institutions where most needed. The days when climate was considered a prime factor in the treatment of tuberculosis cases are over, and the influence of climate, although by no means negligible has now been put in its proper proportion.

It is far more important that there should be adequate institutional provision where the incidence of the disease is heaviest and where

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 38)



## TREATMENT OF STARVING SICK DESTITUTES

### Indian Doctors Devise New Method

**W**HAT is known as the "F" treatment of famine cases has been devised by Indian doctors for treating cases of inanition caused by starvation in the Calcutta famine of 1943. This is the new device of administering protein hydrolysates to destitutes who suffer from inanition.

The cases admitted from streets of Calcutta into hospitals could be divided roughly into three groups: (a) those suffering from inanition due to starvation only, (b) those suffering from inanition due to combination of starvation and disease, and (c) those showing relatively little inanition, but suffering from acute disease.

#### New Treatment

The new treatment lies in the administration of peptone glucose intravenously by means of injections given best with the help of Hayes' Pattern transfusion set. The screw cap of the bottle is removed and the cork of the transfusion set (previously washed and sterilized) fitted on to the bottle. The bottle is inverted and hung up and the clamps on the rubber tubing is adjusted till fluid comes out in drops (60 per minute) from the bottle. The latter is then introduced into the veins and the fluid is allowed to go slowly, an injection of 200 c.c. taking an hour to administer.

More rapid administration is not tolerated well. 400 c.c. is the maximum daily dosage recommended, preferably in two doses, one in the morning and the other in the evening. The effect, is often immediate and lasts about 24 hours. The cases generally need as many as three injections on three consecutive days.

A study of the various methods followed for such preparation led to the conclusion that a properly prepared enzymic hydrolysate would be the cheapest and best product for parenteral therapy in the circumstances and it was found that vegetable proteolytic enzyme papain which is readily available in large quantities at a cheap cost answered the requirements and was used. Its optimum temperature of action is 50°C. and its reaction products had been found to be free from histamine. Having selected papain the choice of the substrate necessarily fell on meat proteins as its action on casein and vegetable proteins is more limited.

The protein hydrolysate which was used was the papain digest of meat. The digestion

is conducted at 50°C. for 24 hours. The extent of digestion is then tested by determination of formal titre, total solids and total nitrogen. A fractional analysis of the product is also made. Values obtained are used as guides for standardisation of the product. The undigested proteins and meta-proteins which are usually small in amount and which are likely to provoke allergic reactions, are removed by repeated heat coagulation at pH7. During the preparation bacterial contamination is avoided. The final product is mixed with glucose and sodium chloride so as to give a mixture containing 5 per cent. glucose and 5 per cent sodium chloride. The mixture is then sterilised and tested before issue, biologically on cats for toxicity, bacteriologically for sterility and immunologically for allergic reaction.

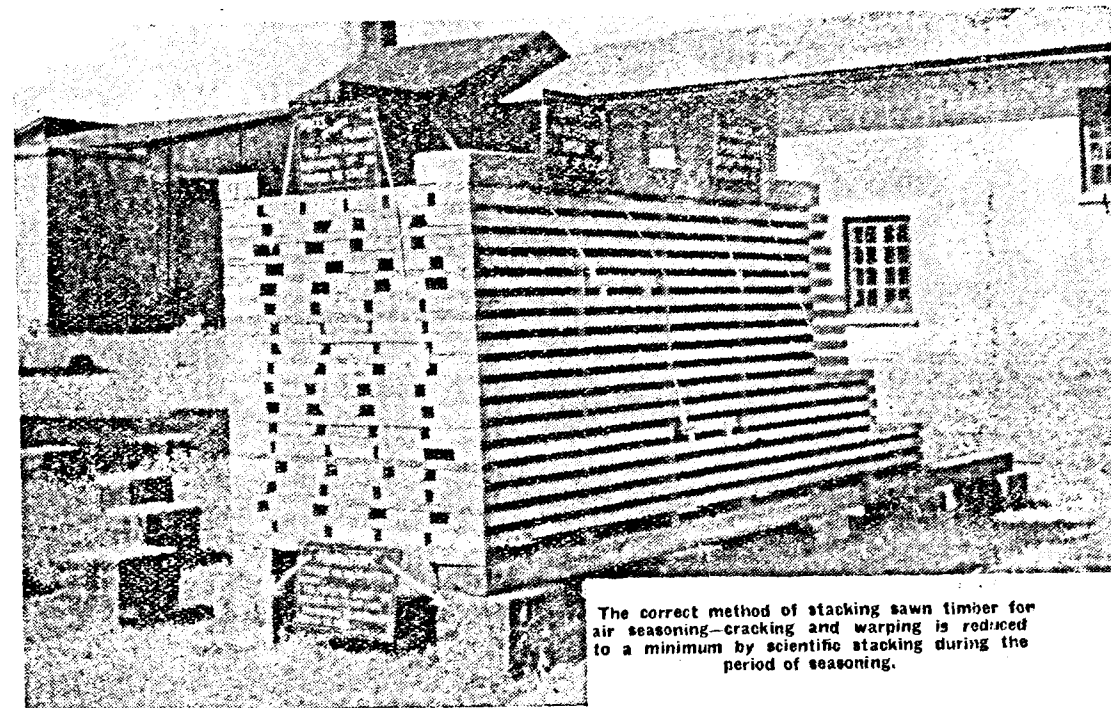
Just as glucose is administered intravenously as a means of supplying predigested carbohydrates, so hydrolysed proteins are injected for supply in the nitrogen needs of a patient. In cases of starvation the nitrogen needs are more urgent than in the normal subject. In the former where body proteins are being rapidly broken down it is absolutely essential to administer proteins to save life. Even if sufficient glucose is given to meet the calorific needs it will not ensure continuance of life in any period. This view has been fully confirmed by the results of administration of glucose alone to advanced starvation cases.

### TUBERCULOSIS PROBLEM

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 37)

the institution is really accessible to the patient. While the hilltop sanatorium serves and will continue to serve most useful function the rational approach to the short-term programme is, undoubtedly to avoid the hilltops and to go for the enemy where he is strongest.

Ladies and gentlemen, I have detained you over long with my reflections, but if I have succeeded in securing the consideration of the problem of tuberculosis, in its due proportion, within the framework of health provision as a whole and, as a result of that consideration, rationalisation of the approach to the short-term problem, my object has been achieved and your time, I hope, has not been wasted.



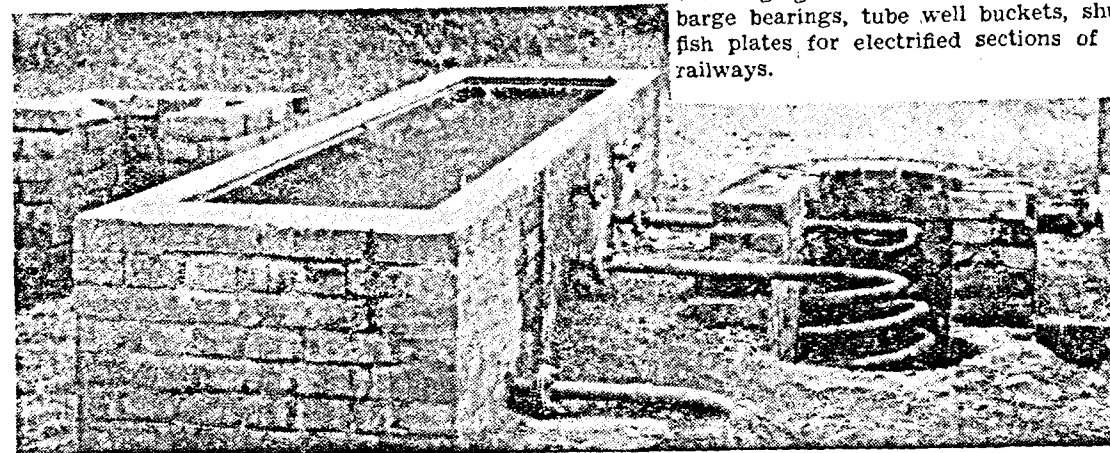
The correct method of stacking sawn timber for air seasoning—cracking and warping is reduced to a minimum by scientific stacking during the period of seasoning.

### COMPREGNATED WOOD

That compregnated wood of good strength and possessing other favourable properties can be produced from inferior Indian timbers has been shown in the Indian Forest Leaflet 77, recently published by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

The leaflet describes work done on improved wood produced by lamination and compression, that is, compregnated wood, and the results of tests on the strength and other properties.

The uses of the material are varied and many; they range from aircraft propellers to textile mill accessories and for the needs of the electrical and chemical industries. Material prepared at Dehra Dun has been tested with encouraging results for aircraft propellers, river barge bearings, tube well buckets, shuttles and fish plates for electrified sections of main line railways.



Cheap masonry tank for treating timber with hot creosote—a simple but effective apparatus (designed at the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun) for treating sawn timber and poles required for military constructional work.

## POST-WAR RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

An experiment in rural development has been undertaken in Virar village near Bombay. With a grant of Rs. 10,000, a new all-concrete village house—the type intended for the returned soldier—a permanent grain silo capable of standing all weather conditions, a concrete double-track in the main village street for bullock carts, clean and hygienic concrete platforms for the village market, a concrete floored verandah and room for the village Dharmashala (rest house), lamp standards and sign boards, cycle parking blocks, concrete surface drains, all-weather concrete single tracks for secondary village roads specially designed for bullock carts, cycles and pedestrians, a concrete approach to the village well and a hygienic drinking-fountain have been provided.

These pictures show (left) the concrete grain silo (below left) the water fountain and (below, right) single concrete track two feet wide—for use in all weathers by bicycles, etc.

## OUTWITTING THE U-BOATS: TRAINING IN "KILLER" GROUP TACTICS

**I**N a special anti-submarine school at an Indian port young officers of the Royal Indian Navy are being trained in one of the most thrilling and vital phases of sea warfare—the "killer" group tactics that have played so large a part in defeating the U-boats.

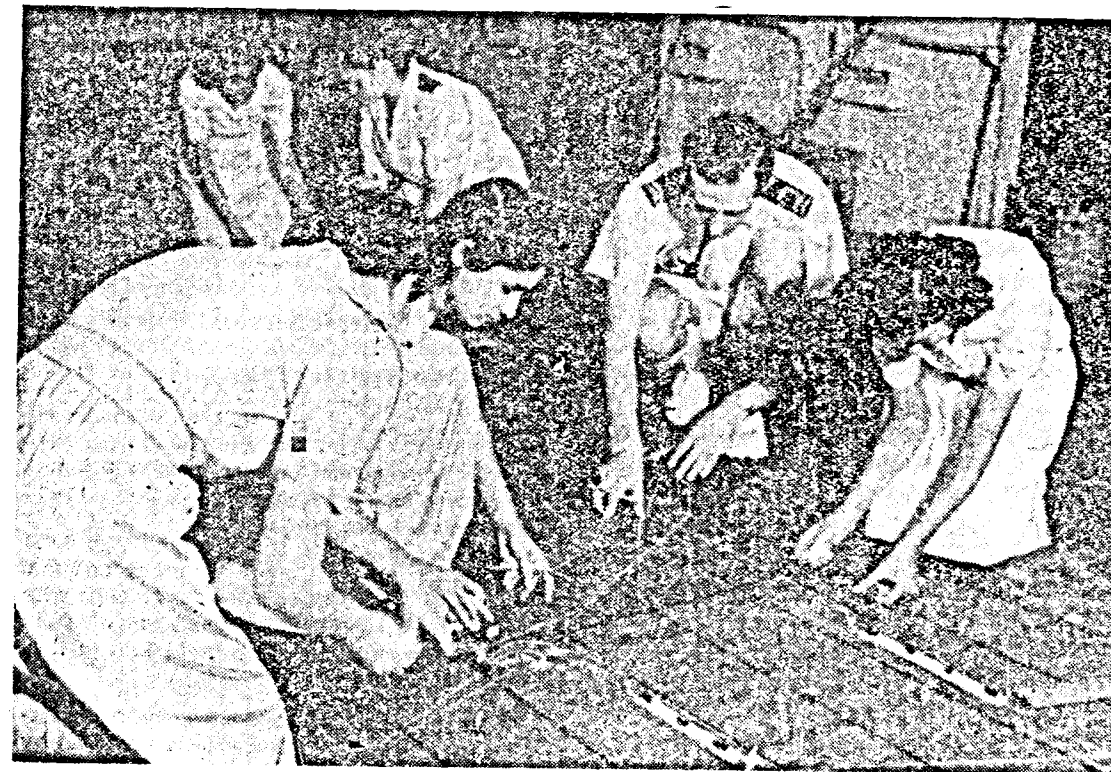
This training establishment is modelled on the Royal Navy's famous Western Approaches Tactical Unit. With the aid of ingenious equipment future commanding officers of H.M.I. escort vessels practise their skill in foiling submarine attacks on convoys.

"Make your mistakes here, and you will not make them at sea", the Director of the school, Lieut.-Commander A. F. King, R.I.N., tells the officer trainees. "When you are protecting convoys, more than half the battle is team work."

On a linoleum floor representing part of the ocean are miniature ships formed up as merchant vessels in convoy with their escorting warships. Submarine and surface raiders are there too. During the exercises "enemy" movements are determined by the Director, who plans the weather, visibility and time of day; also the speed, size and starting point of the convoy. On the other side of a canvas screen, with navigation charts in front of them, sit the officer trainees, each in command of an escort vessel. Their job is to destroy the "enemy" and see the convoy through, making split-second decisions to counter the U-boat packs.

At sea average visibility from a warship's bridge is seven miles. Each officer has a peephole in the screen, giving him an equivalent view of the imaginary ocean. A W.R.I.N. on

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 44)



In an anti-submarine school at an Indian port R.I.N. officers are trained in tactics employed in the protection of convoys. Here, models representing a convoy and an escorting warship are manoeuvred in accordance with the officer trainees' decisions.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

## FIRST WRIN FROM ASSAM



**Third Officer Bimala Sen**

**T**HIRD Officer Bimala Sen, W.R.I.N.S., is probably the first woman from the Assam valley to serve in the Women's Royal Indian Naval Service. She is the wife of Flying Officer D. K. Sen, of the Royal Indian Air Force, and daughter of the late Mr. G. K. Goswami, a prominent personality in Assam.

Third Officer Bimala Sen joined the W.R.I.N.S. on general service terms in November, 1944, on a direct commission. She speaks with appreciation of the course of instruction given to W.R.I.N. officers in H.M.I.S. *Feroze*, the R.I.N. shore establishment at Bombay, where she learned about the navy and had a brief cruise at sea.

Her girlhood was spent in the seclusion of her home, and it was not only with the intention of doing her bit in the war effort that Third Officer Sen enlisted.

"I wanted to see more of my country and to meet women from other parts of India and of the world," she said. "I have not been disappointed; for I have seen a good deal of India, and I have learned that personal contact teaches more than anything you can learn in books about people and their ways."

## W.V.S.(I) SCHOOL AT DAGSHAI

**A** course for W.V.S.(I) members, the first of its kind to be held in India, to which members have come from Bengal, Bombay, C.P., Delhi, Orissa, the Punjab and the U.P., was held at the W.A.C.(I) School at Dagshai by kind permission of the W.A.C.(I) Directorate and inaugurated by Lady Colville on June 1, 1945.

In welcoming members Lady Colville spoke of the splendid work that was being done by the W.V.S. in India and hoped that the pooling of knowledge together with the valuable ideas which they would receive from the interesting series of talks that had been arranged would be helpful in solving the problems connected with W.V.S. activities in their particular province.

Lady Colville said how very indebted the W.V.S.(I) were to their President, H. E. Lady Wavell, who took such a deep interest in the activities of the Women's Voluntary Services and she paid a special tribute to key workers who had been loaned by W.V.S., United Kingdom.

Indian Women were coming forward to join the W.V.S. in larger numbers and Lady Colville hoped that their support would increase because although work for the Fighting Forces was very important, the W.V.S.(I) must also keep in touch with activities on the civil side which would need our increasing support.

### Short-Term General Service

Mrs. Westropp, Hon. Organizing Secretary, H.Q., W.V.S.(I), New Delhi, who had just returned from England said that since the inception of the W.V.S.(I) the growth of the work had been tremendous and the results achieved were something of which the W.V.S.(I) might be justly proud, but now that the centre of war activities had moved to the East the W.V.S.(I) would have to exert still greater effort and find leaders from among their members to cope with the needs of freshly conscripted men from industry who would require a great deal of help from the W.V.S.(I).

With this object in view a scheme for short-term general service had just been launched by which members of W.V.S.(I) now in India would be able to do W.V.S. work away from their home branch—provided that they could be spared from local activities. Expenses would be met and Mrs. Westropp made a special appeal

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

for volunteers as soon as possible. The W.V.S. in the U.K. were recruiting for the W.V.S.(I) but the number for work in India would not be large.

While in England Mrs. Westropp spent much time at H.Q., W.V.S., London, and had also visited the London Regional Clothing Depot for bombed-out families which was stocked with gifts from all over the world including India and she had also visited a sub-depot which had clothed 2,000 homeless people in one week. The London Borough of Hackney had been adopted by the County of Shropshire as a re-bombing depot to which many truckloads of furniture and household utensils had been sent in addition to a donation of £3,000.

### Post-War Work

Mrs. Westropp concluded by saying that the post-war work of the W.V.S.(I) must preserve flexibility which was so all-important in an immense country like India having such varying conditions, customs, peoples and creeds and that the W.V.S.(I) should be welded into a yet more solid all-India organisation in which the W.V.S.(I) should endeavour above all else to spread the spirit of service which meant taking an active part in any sphere of social advancement in which the Women's Voluntary Services could help—every member of which had engraved on her heart the motto, I Serve.

Other speakers on the Course were: Lady Bird, M.B.E., Publicity and Public Relations; Miss Biswas, Work of Indian members in Bengal; Miss Christensen, W.V.S. Canteen Services; Miss Clarke, Recruiting for W.V.S.; Mrs. De, W.V.S. work in hospitals; Mrs. Dunford, W.V.S. work in U.K.; Mrs. Eastley, M.B.E., J.P., Training for War-separated Families' work; Maj.-Gen. Elliott (Director of Welfare) Services Welfare work; Miss Mary Gray, O.B.E., W.V.S. work in Forward Areas; Hon. Esme Glyn, W.V.S. Administration; Mrs. Halsall, Services Information Bureau; Lady Hutton, Director (Welfare) I.R.C.W.S., Hospital Welfare; Junior Commander Ruegg, War-separated Families—Army; Mrs. Wordsworth, Parcels Packing Depots; Member of D.M.S. Staff, Health and Hygiene in Canteens and W.A.C.(I) Staff Lecturer, Careless Talk.

### SOFT COKE PRICE REVISED

In consultation with the Coal Control Board the Central Government have decided to reduce the price of soft coke from Rs. 19 to Rs. 17 per ton with effect from June 1, 1945, said a Press Note issued by the Government of India, on May 25.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

## RELEASE OF INDIAN PERSONNEL

**H**IS Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom have now stated that an immediate start is to be made in implementing the War Office Release Regulations, simultaneously with a re-allocation of British manpower for the war against Japan.

The Government of India have carefully examined the problem of release, in so far as it affects the Indian Army and Women's Services, India. This examination shows that a large proportion of Indian ranks wish to continue to serve.

The Government desire to assure such personnel that they will be permitted to do so, so long as they can be usefully employed, and that special provision has been made in the Regulations for this purpose.

At the same time there is a proportion of personnel which is desirous of release. Provided that such personnel are eligible for release under the terms of the Regulations, the Government of India have decided that they may be released in accordance with the Regulations and subject to over-riding operational necessity, and that the release of the appropriate groups may begin at the same time as those for the British Army. Orders to implement this decision have been issued to the authorities concerned.

In announcing this decision the Government of India desire to emphasise that it does not mean that there is to be any reduction in the effort against Japan. Owing to the late expansion of the Indian Army, the numbers of eligible personnel in the early age and Service Groups are not large, and can be replaced so long as the intake of recruits is maintained.

The continuance of adequate recruitment is, therefore, essential.

### ALUMINIUM CONTROL

A Press Note issued by the Supply Department, Government of India, on June 8 stated:

By a notification in to-day's *Gazette of India* the Aluminium Control Order, 1943, has been cancelled. Control will still be exercised over aluminium—semi-manufactures (including sheet, circles and wire) and aluminium ingot under the Non-Ferrous Metals Control Order, 1945.



## NINTH GURKHA V.C. OF THIS WAR

FOR making five lone charges against the Japs holding the hill feature "Snowden East" on the mainland north-east of Ramree Island in the Arakan, Rifleman Bhanbhagta Gurung, 2nd Gurkha Rifles, of Phalbu village, Gorkha district, Nepal, has been awarded the Victoria Cross.

The ninth V.C. to be won by a Gurkha during this war, this is the second awarded to his regiment and the 27th to the Indian Army.

Rfn. Bhanbhagta Gurung was second-in-command of a section engaged in a company attack on "Snowden East" near Tamandu. On approaching their objective the section was pinned to the ground by very heavy fire and suffered casualties from a tree sniper, 75 yards away.

Unable to deal with the sniper from his lying position, Rfn. Bhanbhagta Gurung calmly stood up and shot him. The section then advanced but were once more pinned down by the Japs.

### Captured the Objective

Without orders Rfn. Bhanbhagta Gurung immediately charged forward under a devastating hail of bullets, killed the two occupants of a foxhole with grenades and rushed on again and bayoneted a Jap in another foxhole.

Disregarding point-blank machine-gun fire, Rfn. Bhanbhagta Gurung charged again and cleared a third foxhole and then pushed on to liquidate a fourth with bayonet and grenade. He then went for the machine-gun himself.

Doubling forward, he leapt on to the roof of the bunker in which the gun was sited and hurled in two smoke grenades. Partially blinded and burnt, two Japs emerged only to be cut down by the Gurkha's kukri.

Rfn. Bhanbhagta Gurung next crawled inside the bunker, killed the machine-gunner and captured the weapon. When three Gurkhas of his section came up he consolidated the newly-won position and with his little party repelled an enemy counter-attack with heavy loss.

"Rfn. Bhanbhagta Gurung has shown bravery and a disregard for his own personal safety that was beyond the call of duty. His courageous clearing of five enemy positions was in itself decisive in capturing the company's objective," says the citation.

## C.-IN-C. VISITS INDIAN TROOPS IN MIDDLE EAST

The Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, visited units and camps in Basra and Cairo on his way from India to England.

The C.-in-C. had a 20-hour working day at Basra, where accompanied by the Area Commander, Brigadier Hinchcliffe, he went round unit camps. On learning that troops were embarking for India that evening he paid them a surprise call after dinner, visiting them in the lower decks of their ship.

### At Cairo

At Cairo, Gen. Auchinleck visited the two main Indian reinforcement camps and rest camp. He also went to the Indian Armoured Corps Training Centre watching the men at their classes and at practical demonstrations, and spent two hours at the Indian General Hospital.

His Excellency concluded his day's programme at the Star of India, the new leave hostel for Indian troops in the centre of Cairo. On asking the guests how they liked the hostel he was met with broad smiles as one and all replied, *bahut acchha*.

The C.-in-C. remarked that the hostel was one of the best he had seen in India or anywhere else.

## ANTI-SUBMARINE SCHOOL

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 41)

the other side of the screen keeps him informed of happenings outside his range of vision—information which at sea he would obtain by signal from other members of the escorting force. In addition, an officer and staff of W.R.I.N.S. collect and transmit signals to and from the officers behind the screen as if they were actually engaged in convoy duty.

When the "game" with all its tense situations is over, the officers sit round the linoleum floor and see what they and the "enemy" have done. The Director points out mistakes and explains how they could have been avoided.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

## RECRUITMENT OF WAR SERVICE CANDIDATES TO INDIAN AND BURMA SERVICES

A Press Note issued by the Federal Public Service Commission on May 31 stated:

Recruitment of war service candidates to certain Indian and Burma Services will shortly be started. The persons eligible to be candidates on grounds of nationality and domicile and the Services for which they are eligible are as follows:

European British subjects of non-Asiatic domicile:—

Indian Civil Service (including Indian Political Service).

Indian Police.

Burma Civil Service Class (I).

Burma Police (Class I).

Burma Frontier Service.

British subjects of Indian domicile or descent and subjects of Indian States:—

Indian Civil Service (including Indian Political Service).

Indian Police.

British subjects of Burma domicile or descent:—

Burma Civil Service (Class I).

Burma Police (Class I).

Burma Frontier Service.

### "War Service"

Candidates for the Indian services must have been born on or after August 2, 1915 (or August 2, 1917, in the case of the Indian Police) and must have rendered "war service". Candidates for the Burma services must have been born on or after August 2, 1915 (or August 2, 1917, in the case of the Burma Police, (Class I). Candidates for the Burma services of European descent and non-Asiatic domicile must have rendered "war service", and among candidates of Burma descent or domicile preference will be given to those who have rendered such service.

In respect of British subjects of Indian or Burma domicile or descent and subjects of Indian States, wholetime service of any of the following kinds has been recognised as "war service":

- (i) service of any kind in a unit or formation liable for service overseas or in any operational area;

- (ii) service in India or Burma under Military, Munitions or Stores authorities with a liability to serve overseas or in any operational area;

- (iii) all other service involving subjection to Naval, Military or Air Force law;

- (iv) a period of training with a military unit or formation involving liability to service overseas or in any operational area;

- (v) service in any Civil Defence Organisation specified in this behalf by Central or Provincial Government;

- (vi) any service connected with the prosecution of the war which a person is required to undertake by competent authority under provision of any law for the time being in force;

- (vii) Such other services as may hereafter be declared as war service for the purposes of this definition.

Detailed regulations governing recruitment to these Services—including nationality and domicile, age, educational and 'war service' qualification required of candidates—together with information about the number of vacancies, conditions of service, etc., are contained in a descriptive leaflet entitled "Indian and Burma Services" (I.B.S. 1).

### Recruitment Arrangements

Special arrangements have been made, in collaboration with the Service authorities both in this country and in the United Kingdom for bringing the recruitment arrangements to the notice of all interested persons serving in the Armed Forces and to arrange for their attendance for purposes of selection at convenient centres as and when military exigencies permit. The arrangements described below apply to intending candidates not serving with the Armed Forces.

Copies of the leaflet referred to above, and application forms, may be obtained from the

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, 10, Underhill Lane, Delhi. Instructions to candidates about filling in the application form and the address to which it should be sent when completed will be found in the form.

Applications for the Indian Services have to be received within six months of the date of issue of the recruitment regulations or of a candidate's becoming qualified, whichever is later. Applications for the Burma Services have to be received within six months of the issue of the recruitment regulations but only from candidates who are qualified in all respects on the above date of issue. Applications will be acknowledged.

Military officers released for service with the Civil Administration under Special India Army Order No. 12/5/44 desiring to compete for these Services will have to apply in the same way as other 'war service' candidates.

#### Preliminary Selection

Eligible candidates may in due course be summoned to attend for preliminary selection at an appropriate centre. They may thereafter be required to attend for final selection in London, India or elsewhere according to their nationality and the Service or Services for which they have applied. Neither preliminary nor final selection will include any written tests of an academic nature and no entrance fees will be charged.

Government Departments and other employers are asked to give candidates every possible facility for attendance at preliminary or final selection. Long distance travel for selection in London will be by special ferry service of transport aircraft at expense of Government.

Candidates required to attend for final interview may be required to undergo beforehand a special medical examination.

Candidates whose selection has been finally approved will receive an offer of appointment.

#### "WAR-RESERVED" VACANCIES

A Press Communique issued by the Home Department, Government of India, on June 1 stated:

Recruitment of candidates with approved "war service" to fill "war-reserved" vacancies in the Indian Civil Service and the Indian Police will shortly begin and will be carried out on the basis of the pre-war ratios between British and Indian recruits.

When recruitment to these Services was suspended, in order that young men joining His

Majesty's Forces might not be at a disadvantage as regards their chances of eventually being appointed, it was announced that all the vacancies which would consequently remain unfilled would eventually be filled by candidates with "war service".

The Secretary of State wishes to make it clear that his decision to maintain the pre-war ratios between British and Indian recruits in filling "war-reserved" vacancies has been taken as it is in accordance with the principle underlying the reservation of these vacancies for those who have rendered "war service." It in no way prejudices his decision on the question, which he has under consideration of the policy to be adopted in this matter in filling post-war vacancies.

"War-reserved" vacancies include both vacancies which have accrued up to the present time and those which will accrue up to the end of the war with Japan. It is also intended that vacancies in the Indian Political Service which accrue during the war should be filled from among "war service" candidates appointed to the Indian Civil Service.

The arrangements for the resumption of recruitment have been so designed as to ensure that, so far as possible, all eligible candidates, whether they are in His Majesty's Forces or in civil occupations and wherever they may be, will have substantially the same opportunity of being considered for appointment. These arrangements are described in detail in a pamphlet containing the Recruitment Regulations and information as to numbers of vacancies and conditions of service, copies of which may be obtained by civilian candidates on application to the Secretary, Federal Public Service Commission, 10, Underhill Lane, Delhi.

Special arrangements have been made to enable those serving in the Forces to obtain copies of the pamphlet through Service channels.

The pamphlet shows that provision is made for the contingency that service under the Secretary of State for which candidates are invited to apply may be terminated prematurely as a result of constitutional changes. This contingency would affect not only new recruits but also such of the present members of the Indian Civil Service and the Indian Police as are serving at that time. The precise terms to be granted in such event to present members of these services have not yet been settled but they will be no less favourable, considered as a whole, than those applicable to new entrants.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

#### COLONIAL SERVICES

Another Press Communique issued by the Home Department, Government of India, on June 1 stated:

The Colonial Office announces that general recruitment for Colonial Services is now being resumed on a large scale. There will be at least 4,000 vacancies to be filled during the reconstruction period including a limited number open to women. Most of the vacancies will be for technical appointments. Candidates may apply either for permanent or for contract appointments.

Particulars regarding terms of recruitment and full directions for making applications are given in leaflets which can be obtained from the Colonial Office representative who will be shortly opening an office at 10, Underhill Lane, Delhi.

#### INSTRUCTIONS FOR ARMED FORCES

Royal Indian Navy, Indian Army and Royal Indian Air Force Instructions issued on June 1 announced recruitment on a considerable scale for appointments in the United Kingdom Civil Service, senior branch of the Foreign Service, Colonial Service and for services in India, Burma and the Sudan.

Europeans of all ranks born on or after August 2, 1915, are eligible for the Home Civil Service and Foreign Service provided they have the necessary educational qualifications and satisfy certain conditions as to nationality. Entrance will be by competitive examinations, specially modified in view of the lack of opportunity for study during the war.

Further details and copies of the regulations for entry into the Home Civil Service and Foreign Service may be obtained from unit offices.

There is no written examination for the Colonial Service. Appointments will be made by competitive selection based on record and by personal interview. Appointments will be divided into two categories. Those in Group A include administration, agricultural, educational, forestry, medical, police and veterinary appointments besides a number of posts open to women. Engineers, inspectors of works and other appointments come under Group B.

Leaflets giving full particulars concerning those groups are being distributed to all units by the Director of Army Education, G.H.Q., India, who is also circulating further information on each class of appointment to Education Officers.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

British subjects of European descent and of non-Asiatic domicile are eligible for appointments in the Indian Civil Service, Indian Political Service, Indian Police, Burma Civil Service, Burma Police, and Burma Frontier Service. The first three services are also open to British subjects of Indian descent or domicile and subjects of Indian States and the last three services to British subjects of Burma descent or domicile.

#### INCOME-TAX AND E.P.T. (VALIDITY OF NOTICES) AMENDMENT ORDINANCE

A Press Note issued by the Central Board of Revenue on May 24 stated:

The Income-tax and Excess Profits Tax (Validity of Notices) Ordinance, 1944, provided *inter alia* that no notice under section 22(1) or 22(2) or 34(1) of the Income-tax Act and section 13(1) or 15 of the Excess Profits Tax Act published or issued whether before or after the commencement of that Ordinance shall be called in question on the ground that a period insufficient in law within which to carry out the requirements of the notice had been specified therein.

The promulgation of that Ordinance became necessary as it had been held by a High Court in a certain case that the notices issued to the assessee did not technically allow the full period of time provided by the law for compliance therewith. The forms of Notices issued were, in fact, the same as had been used for many years by the department and there was, therefore, a risk that considerable revenue would be lost on a purely technical ground. The relevant forms of notices have since been amended so as to ensure full compliance with the time-limit prescribed by law as interpreted in this case and the Ordinance has therefore virtually become a dead letter.

The possible effect of application of the Ordinance as worded has however given rise to some misgivings in the public mind, and fears have been expressed that under its protection Income-tax Officers might with impunity and for ever give less time to assessee for complying with notices than the provisions of the Income-tax Act allow. It is to remove such misgivings that the Income-tax and Excess Profits Tax (Validity of Notices) Amendment Ordinance, 1945, has been promulgated and the result will be that notices issued by Income-tax Officers after the promulgation of the Ordinance will not be valid unless they allow the full time for complying therewith laid down in the Indian Income-tax Act.

47

## BURMA VICTORY: RAILWAYS' CONTRIBUTION

Sir Edward Benthall, Member for War Transport, Government of India, has sent a message to Lieut.-Gen. Sir Wilfrid Lindsell, Principal Administrative Officer, praising the organisation which lies behind the supplying and maintaining of the forces which have brought about the Burma victories.

"The fall of Rangoon is a suitable occasion to express the admiration we in the War Transport and Railway Departments feel for the magnificent organisation you have built up behind S.E.A.C.," he says. "We are in a good position to see some part of the Q work operating and to appreciate your difficulties. Their solution certainly has been a very fine achievement."

General Lindsell has replied: "We in the armed forces realise to the full that our efforts would have been impossible but for the work of the War Transport and the services of India's railways, ports and other transportation agencies."

"The very happy relations existing between us and the War Transport and Railway Departments are a sure indication of the success of our continued efforts for the final conquest of Japan."

## AFRICA AND 1939-43 STARS FOR FREED WAR PRISONERS

Liberated prisoners of war are entitled to the award of the Africa and 1939-43 Stars under exactly the same conditions as other servicemen.

The 1939-43 Star is awarded for service in certain campaigns, including Burma, North-West Frontier, New Guinea, China, Iraq and France, between specified dates.

To qualify for the Africa Star one must have been on the strength of a unit or formation in one of the following commands between the dates appropriate to that command:—

North Africa (Egypt, Libya, Cyrenaica, Tripolitania, Tunisia) from June 10, 1940, to May 12, 1943; Abyssinia (including the attacks on Moyale, Elwak, and Kassala) Italian Somaliland and Eritrea, June 10, 1940 to November 27, 1941; British Somaliland, August 4, 1940, to August 19, 1940; Malta, June 10, 1940, to May 12, 1943.

Those entitled to the Africa Star are not eligible for the 1939-43 Star.

## POST-WAR STRENGTH OF INDIA'S AIR FORCE

It has been represented to the Government of India that an announcement of policy regarding the post-war size of the Royal Indian Air Force would not only give a sense of security to the officers now serving in that Force but would also stimulate recruitment by indicating to the young men of India the future possibilities of a career in that Force after the war.

The Government of India have carefully considered this matter and have come to the conclusion that the occasion is opportune for an announcement.

### Ten Squadrons

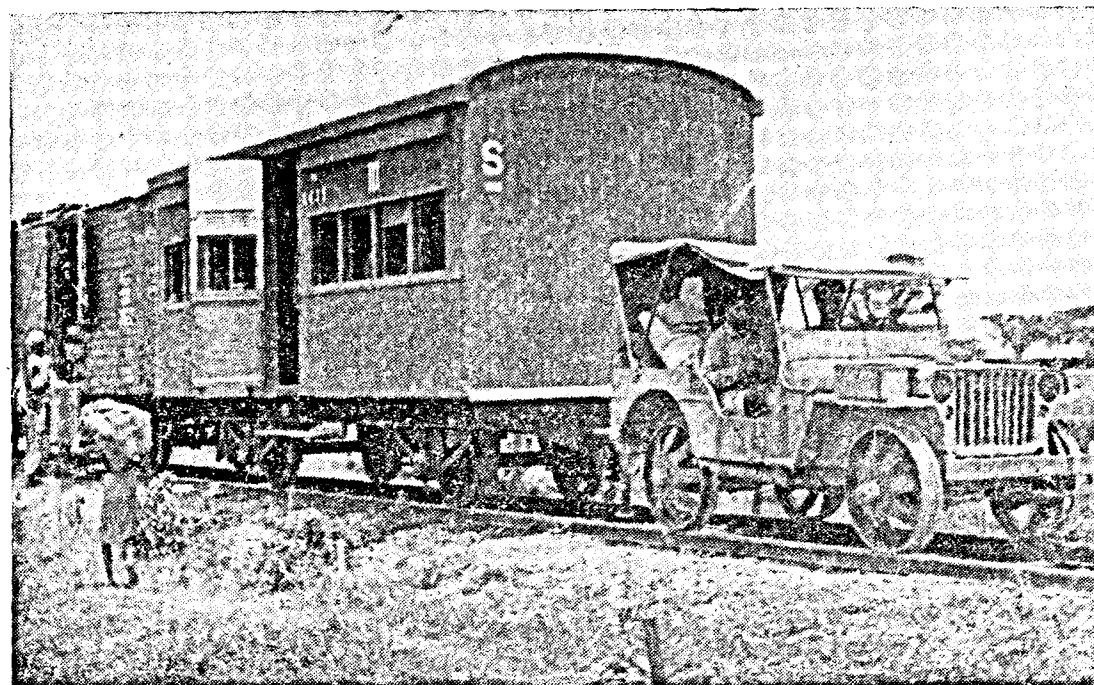
The pre-war strength of the Royal Indian Air Force was one squadron only. The force has been steadily expanding during the war. The Government of India are now pleased to announce that it is their intention to maintain after the war with Japan the Royal Indian Air Force at an initial strength of not less than 10 squadrons plus the necessary training and other ancillary units required to provide a fully balanced force and to ensure adequate scope for a career to the permanent personnel of all ranks.

The Government of India wish to emphasise that this is only an initial minimum strength which will be expanded as rapidly as conditions permit and as personnel becomes available. They trust that this announcement will result in an increased flow of suitable Indian candidates for flying duties in the Royal Indian Air Force.

The Government of India take this opportunity of appealing to the educational institutions of the country, the youth of India and the general public to do all they can to assist in recruitment for the Royal Indian Air Force and they are confident that with the support of all concerned the number of Indian personnel required to maintain the Royal Indian Air Force at the strength now announced will be forthcoming.

The Sirohi Darbar and the public of the State have generously contributed a further sum of Rs. 40,000 to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.



On the re-opened Burma railway a jeep tows rail carriages carrying war supplies for troops at Waw, about 50 miles north-east of Rangoon.

## JEEP "TRAINS" RUNNING ON BURMA FRONT

JEEP "trains" manned by sappers of an Indian field company have come into their own on at least one sector of the Burma Front.

East of Pegu the road goes as far as Waw, 12 miles from the Sittang River, and then stops. But running along an embankment is the single track railway to Moulmein. With some abandoned rolling stock and six jeeps fitted with rail wheels the Indian field company, whose training had envisaged almost everything but operating a railway, took on this job.

### "Sittang Passenger"

Opening the line as they advanced with the infantry, the sappers came to a broken bridge with Japs in strength on the other side. Rafts were built on an all-night shift and taken along the line to the break.

The sappers launched them under heavy mortar fire and carried across 15 tanks. Next day the Japs were routed by the tanks and a battalion of the 2nd Punjab Regiment.

The Sittang bridge was the next objective. Rail jeeps were ferried over after the tanks and

with rolling stock captured on the other side of the break, were soon carrying everything forward even to a battery of 25-pounders.

I have just travelled up on the "Sittang Passenger," writes an Indian Army Observer. It consisted of a jeep in front, one third class coach, three covered goods wagons and another jeep behind facing backwards in readiness for the return journey (there are no turntables). We averaged ten miles an hour with a halt while the train was split in two to cross over a weak bridge.

The most popular "up" train is the "Ration Express". The most popular "down" was a "Leave Special" which took 150 men on the first lap of their journey to India.

## FOR WELFARE OF INDIAN SOLDIERS

The Maharaja of Surguja has generously contributed a further sum of Rs. 12,000 to His Excellency the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the welfare of Indian and Allied soldiers.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 1, 1945.

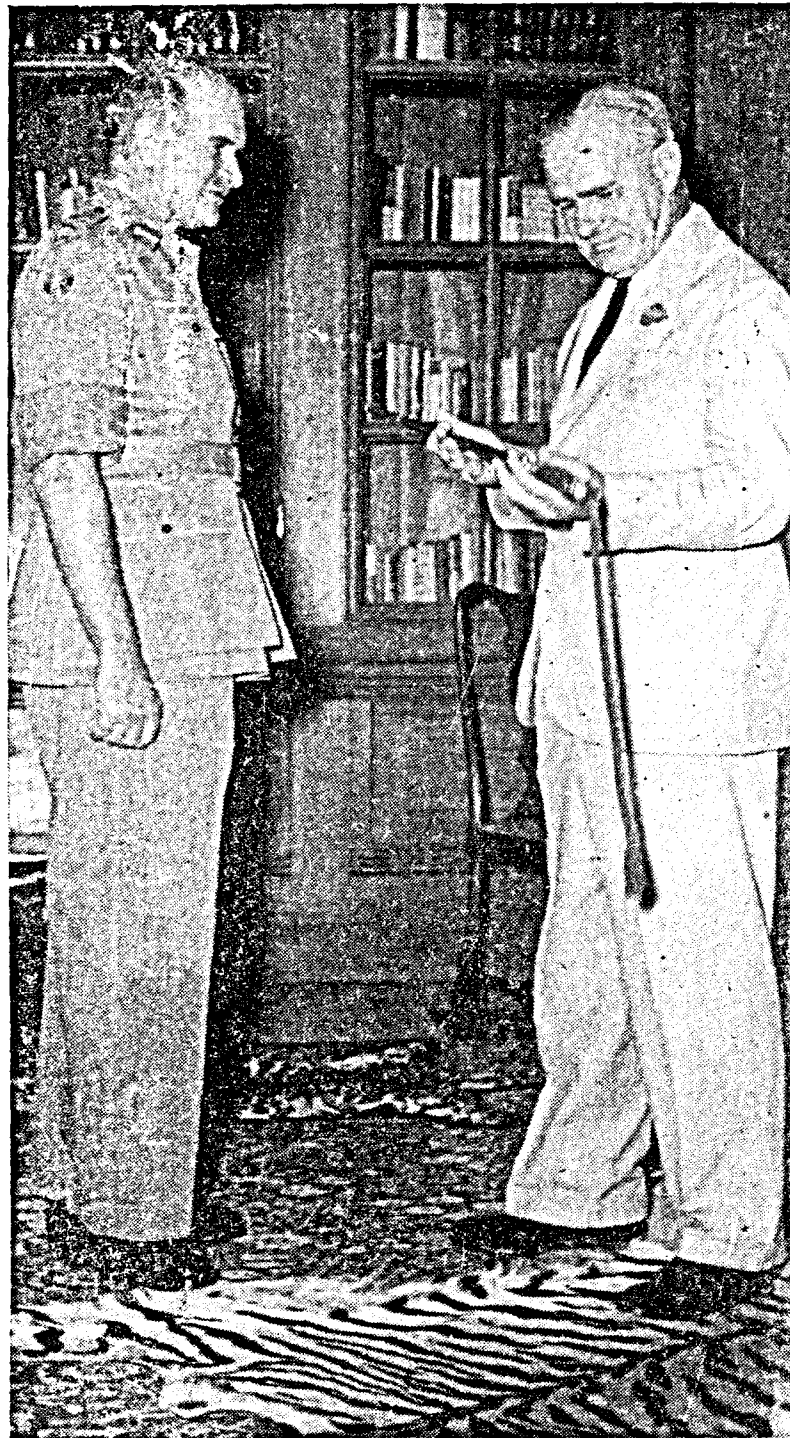


## 14TH ARMY'S GIFT TO VICEROY

Wrenched from a Japanese officer in close hand-to-hand fighting in one of the grim Burma battles before Rangoon fell, a Japanese officer's sword now rests in the study at the Viceroy's House.

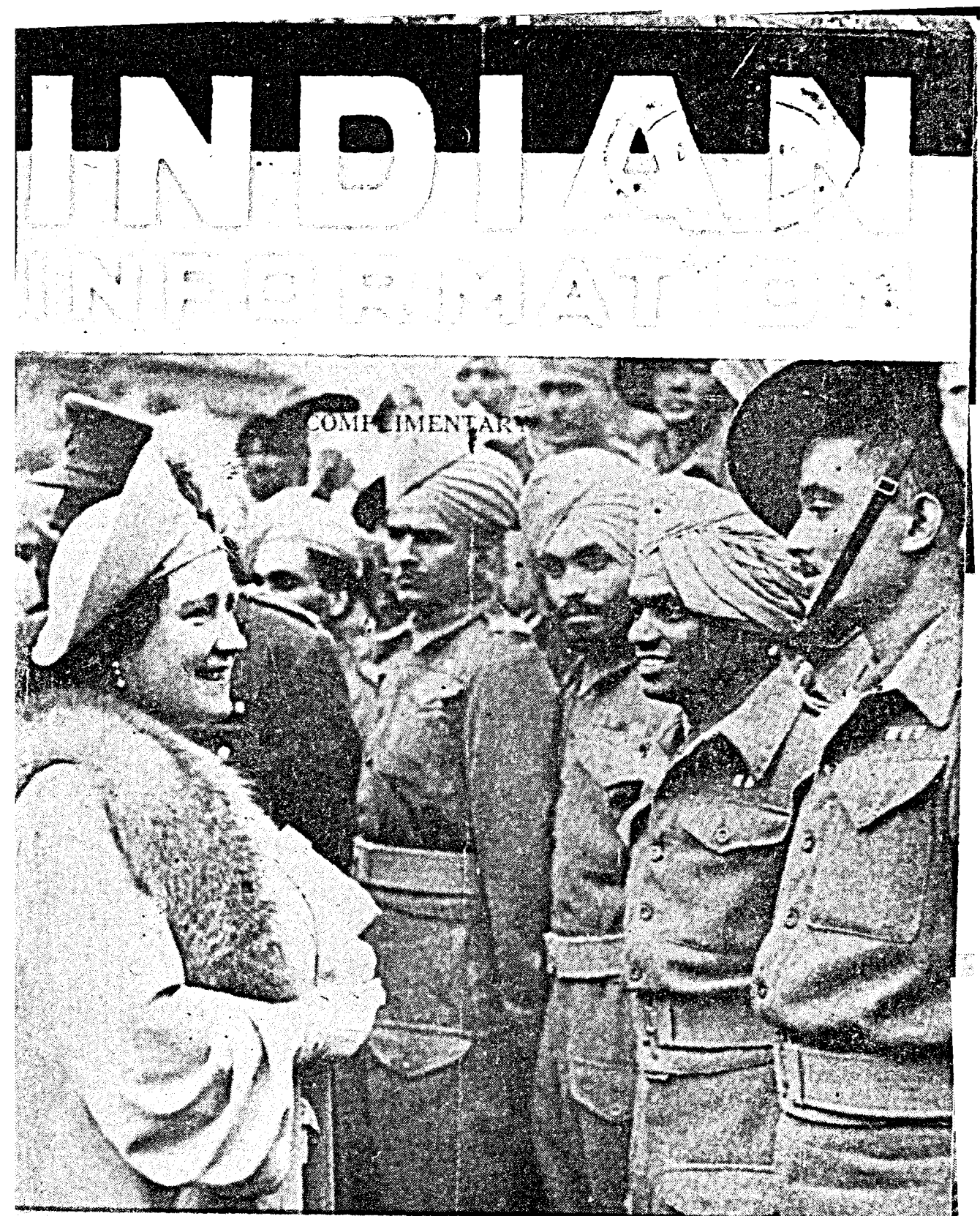
A gift from the 14th Army to the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, it is a token acknowledgment of the part he, as Commander-in-Chief in India from 1941 to 1943, played in the Burma theatre of operations and of the vital role of India and the Indian Army in the reconquest of Burma.

The sword was presented recently by Lieut.-Gen. Sir William J. Slim, Commander of the 14th Army, at an informal ceremony at the Viceroy's House. It is believed to be hundreds of years old and is probably a family heirloom. Of plain steel, it is sheathed in a metal scabbard which carries a dent caused by a bullet.



Lord Wavell examines the Jap officer's sword presented to him by Lt.-Gen. Sir William J. Slim.

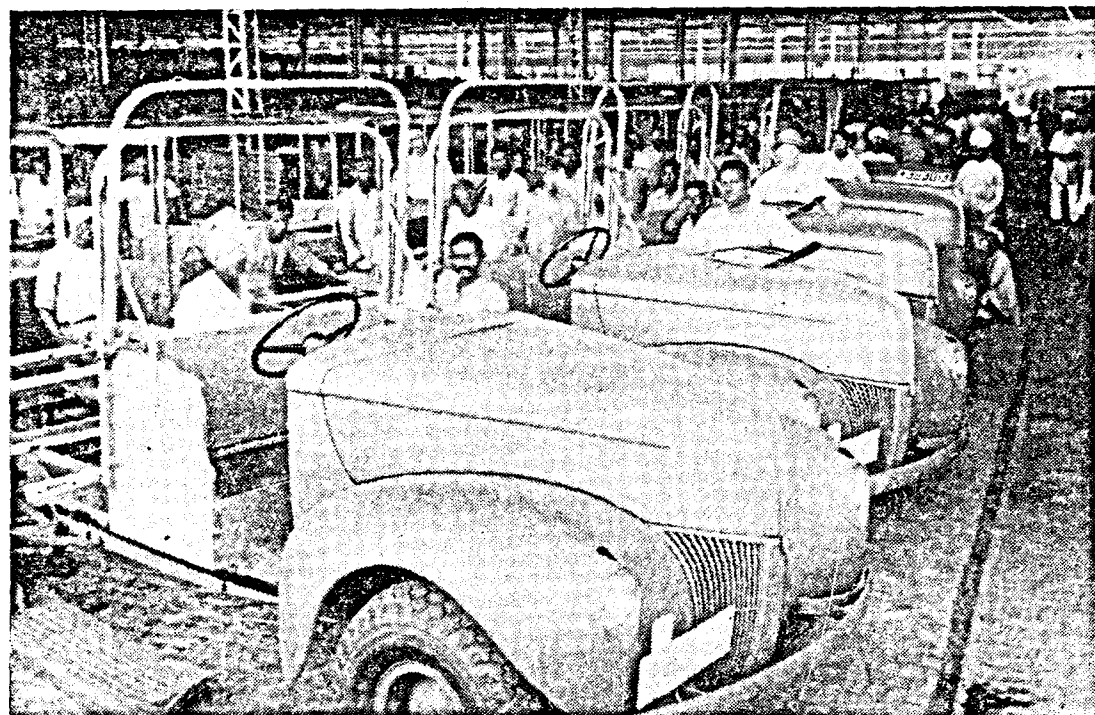
Issued fortnightly by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India. Printed in India by E. G. Tilt (General Manager) at The Civil & Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore: Communications for the Editor should be addressed to the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India, Lahore, and not to the Printers.



Vol. 17, No. 164 July 15, 1945.  
Issued Fortnightly by the  
Principal Information Officer,  
Government of India.

PRICE  
4  
ANNAS

LEADERS' CONFERENCE • INDIA'S  
PART IN FIFTH YEAR OF WAR



Motor lorries for the Defence Services being built at an Indian railway workshop.

Vol. 17 No. 164. INDIAN INFORMATION July 15, 1945

## MAIN CONTENTS

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities.

**FORMAT:**—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:**—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return: since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Edited by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India.

|                                                       | Page      |
|-------------------------------------------------------|-----------|
| Viceroy-Gandhi Correspondence                         | 54        |
| India's Part in the Fifth Year of War                 | 57 to 102 |
| Sir Curunath Bewoor on Civil Aviation                 | 103       |
| India and world trade: Mr. B. N. Adarkar's radio talk | 106       |
| War Risks Insurance Schemes                           | 109       |
| Import of Processed Foodstuffs                        | 111       |
| Wages of Railway Employees                            | 113       |
| Gratuities for War Service                            | 114       |

**COVER PICTURE:** Their Majesties the King and Queen gave a garden party recently to freed prisoners of war at Buckingham Palace. Picture shows Her Majesty with Indian soldiers



## LEADERS' CONFERENCE MEETS AT SIMLA

**H.** E. the Viceroy presiding, the Leaders' Conference met at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, on June 25 to discuss the proposals of His Majesty's Government, which, as His Excellency announced in his broadcast on June 14, were designed "to ease the present political situation and to advance India towards her goal of full self-government."

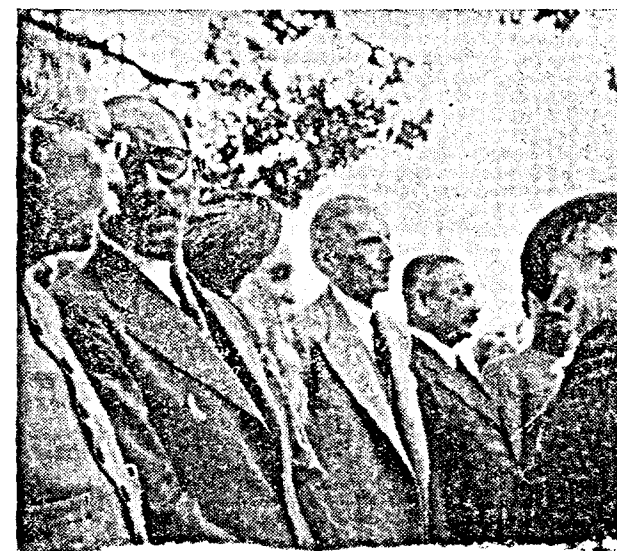
In his opening speech, Lord Wavell said:

"Before we begin on the agenda of this Conference, the outcome of which will have a momentous influence on the destiny of India, I feel there are a few words I should say to you.

"First, I welcome you all as men who by character and ability have risen to leadership in your provinces and parties. I have called you together from all parts of India, at this critical moment in her history, to advise and help me in advancing India towards prosperity, political freedom and greatness. I ask you to give me that help in a spirit of broad co-operation towards the good of India as a whole.

"It is not a constitutional settlement, it is not a final solution of India's complex problems that is proposed. Nor does the plan in any way prejudice or prejudice the final issue.

*Their Excellencies Lord and Lady Wavell received the invitees to the Leaders' Conference which was held in Viceregal Lodge, Simla. These pictures show: (above) His Excellency shaking hands with Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Congress President (left) and Mr. M. A. Jinnah, Muslim League President (right). (Below) Lady Wavell in conversation with Master Tara Singh, Sikh Leader.*



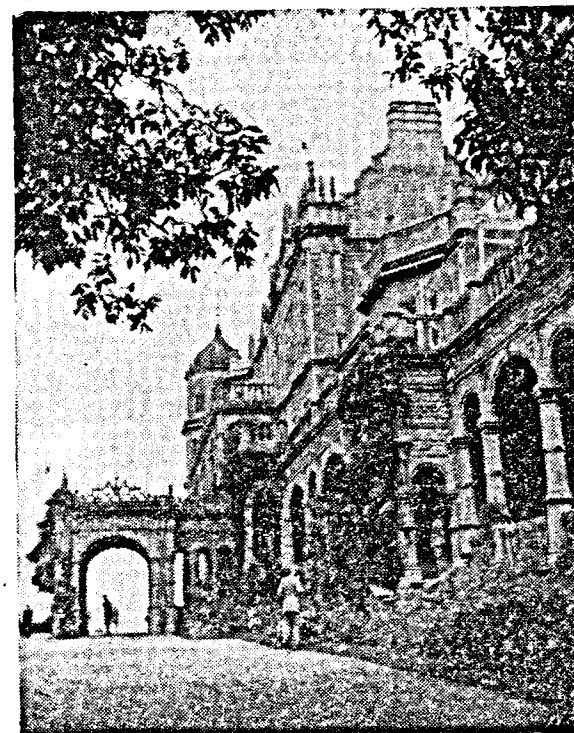




(Left) The Viceroy greets Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar, ex-Premier of Madras. (Below) Mr. M. K. Gandhi (marked x) surrounded by Pressmen and members of the public after his interview with the Viceroy on June 24.



Maulana Abul Kalam Azad with Malik Khizar Hyat Punjab Premier. Tiwana,



A view of Viceregal Lodge, Simla, the venue of the Leaders' Conference.

But if it succeeds, I am sure it will pave the way towards a settlement; and will bring it nearer.

"The statesmanship, wisdom and good will of all of us is here on trial, not merely in the eyes of India but before the world. I said in my broadcast that on all sides there was something to forgive and forget. We have got to rise above the level of old prejudices and enmities, and of party and sectional advantage; and think of the good of India, the good of 400 million people; and how we can best combine to implement these new proposals made by His Majesty's Government for the advancement of India, now and in the future. It will not be easy, and unless we can place our deliberations at a high common level, we shall not succeed.

"You must accept my leadership for the present. Until there is some agreed change in the Constitution I am responsible to His Majesty's Government for the good government and tranquillity of India. I will endeavour to guide the discussions of this Conference in what I believe to be the best interests of this country.

"On the column which stands in front of the Viceroy's House crowned by the Star of India, are engraved these words: 'In Thought

Faith, In Word Wisdom, In Deed Courage, in Life Service, so may India be great.' They will make a good guide for our Conference."

A Press Note issued on June 25 stated:

"The Conference assembled at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, at 11 a.m. Their Excellencies met and talked to the delegates on the lawn outside the Conference Room. At 11-20 the delegates moved into the Conference Room, and the proceedings began with the Viceroy in the chair. His Excellency made a short opening speech. He then made a statement on the procedure he proposed for the conference and announced that he had appointed Sir Evan Jenkins, his Private Secretary, and Rao Bahadur V. P. Menon, the Reforms Commissioner, to act as Secretaries to the Conference.

"The Conference then took up the discussion of the general principles of His Majesty's Government's proposals. The discussions continued until 5 p.m., when the Conference adjourned until tomorrow."

The Conference reassembled at 11 a.m. on June 26. By 12-30 p.m. it had reached certain provisional conclusions, and the delegates expressed a wish to confer among themselves. The Conference accordingly adjourned until 11 a.m. on June 27.

On the following day, the Conference met at 11 a.m. and at 12 noon adjourned until 11 a.m. on June 29, to enable the delegates to continue their private discussions.

The Conference reassembled at Viceregal Lodge at 11 a.m. on June 29 and adjourned at 12-15 p.m. to meet again on July 14, to enable the delegates to consult further.

## VICEROY'S TELEGRAMS TO MR. M. A. JINNAH

H. E. the Viceroy sent the following telegram to Mr. M. A. Jinnah on June 16:

I have now received your telegram to me of 15th June. I am grateful for your assurance of co-operation. My broadcast was a very simple statement of the proposals and my intention is to deal at the Conference itself with any points requiring clarification. I do not think it advisable to enter into detailed discussions before the Conference meets. I would therefore prefer to adhere to date for opening of Conference on 25th and hope that you will attend. Perhaps you could arrange for your Committee to meet in Simla. I shall look forward to seeing you on 24th. As your telegram has been published I am sending this to Press.

(CONTINUED ON PAGE 105)

## VICEROY-GANDHI CORRESPONDENCE

**T**HE following correspondence has been exchanged between H. E. the Viceroy and Mr. M. K. Gandhi.

**Telegram dated June 14, 1945, from H. E. the Viceroy to Mr. M. K. Gandhi:**

You may have heard my broadcast this evening. The text and that of the Secretary of State's simultaneous announcement in Parliament will appear in newspapers to-morrow.

2. I hope you will agree to attend the Conference which I have proposed. I have suggested eleven a.m. on 25th June at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, for the first meeting.

3. If you accept my invitation I should welcome a discussion with you before the opening of the Conference and suggest subject to your convenience three p.m. on the 24th June at Viceregal Lodge, Simla.

4. I have arranged to make a bungalow called Armsdell available for you in the hope that you will accept.

**Telegram dated June 14, from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy:**

Have read in Viceregal broadcast my name mentioned as an invitee. I have repeatedly made clear that I represent no institution. Therefore I must not attend as representing Congress. That function belongs to the Congress President or whomsoever he nominates. I send earliest intimation in order avoid misunderstandings or misconception.

**Telegram dated June 15, from the Viceroy to Mr. Gandhi:**

Thanks for your telegram of 14th. Whatever the technical position may be I shall value your help and hope you will accept invitation which was telegraphed to you last night. As regards representation of Congress perhaps you will kindly let me have your final views after further consideration and any consultations you think necessary. I know you will appreciate the importance and difficulty of the task I have undertaken and do all you can to help.

**Telegram dated June 15, from Mr. Gandhi to His Excellency:**

Received kind wire of invitation. For reasons given in my wire sent you last night I have no place in your Conference. As an individual I can only tender advice. May I then

say that there are no caste and casteless Hindus who are at all politically minded. Therefore the word rings untrue and offensive. Who will represent them at your table. Not Congress which seeks to represent without distinction all Indians who desire and work for Independence. Hence the existence of Hindu Mahasabha claiming to represent Hindus as such. I apprehend that even that body will disclaim representing caste Hindus. Moreover, broadcast seems rigorously to exclude use of word Independence. Accordingly it seems to me to demand revision to bring it in line with modern Indian thought. I suggest publication of our wires.

**Telegram dated June 16, from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy:**

In reply your kind wire of yesterday am posting letter.

**Telegram dated June 16 from His Excellency to Mr. Gandhi:**

Many thanks for your telegram of 15th June. I have also seen your statement in today's newspapers.

2. As regards your attendance at the Conference I will await your letter referred to in your telegram of June 15th which I have just received.

3. I assure you, term "Caste Hindus" was not used with offensive intention. Meaning is that there should be equality between Muslims and Hindus other than members of Scheduled Castes. Subject to this exact composition or Council would of course have to be decided after discussion at conference.

4. On question of independence I invite your attention to Secretary of State's speech to Parliament on 14th June as published in Indian Press. Following is relevant passage BEGINS. The offer of March 1942 stands in its entirety. That offer is based on two main principles. First, no limit is set to India's freedom to decide her own destiny whether as a free partner in the Commonwealth or even without it. Second that this can only be achieved under a constitution or constitutions framed by Indians to which the main elements are consenting parties. ENDS.

5. It would not be practicable to modify the terms of my broadcast. It is only a simple statement of the proposals approved by His Majesty's Government, and my intention is to deal at the Conference itself with any points requiring clarification. I do not think it advisable to enter into detailed discussion before the Conference which I hope as you do yourself

will be held in a friendly atmosphere and without party bitterness.

6. As you suggest I am releasing our telegrams to the Press.

**Letter dated June 16, from Mr. Gandhi to H. E. the Viceroy:**

Dear Friend,

I thank you for your telegram of yesterday received at 3.45 p.m. My second telegram acknowledging your kind telegraphic invitation evidently crossed yours. I am sending you this letter in reply, instead of wiring, because I am anxious that you should understand my position thoroughly. However, I am sending you a wire intimating the despatch of this letter. For ready reference, I am enclosing herewith a copy of my press message (appeared in newspapers of June 16), which was issued yesterday in the morning. I would like you to go through it.

### Mr. Gandhi Explains

While it is true that my position is technical, the reality of it is truer. My official and legal connection with the Congress was deliberately, and with the consent of the All India Congress Committee, severed in order to enable me all the better to serve the common cause. This position therefore cannot be changed at will. In the forthcoming official conference, I can have no official position. My presence in it will change the official colour, unless I become an official representative of the Congress. But if you think that my help is desirable and that without being a member of the conference I am likely to be useful, I shall make it a point to be at your service before and even during the conference proceedings, assuming, of course, that the Working Committee wishes likewise.

I want to cite an analogy. You may have known the late Deenabandhu as C. F. Andrews was affectionately called by us. He severed his official connection with the Cambridge Mission and the Church in order to serve religion, India and humanity better. The position he occupied as a valuable link between India and England, whether official or non-official and between all classes and parties, grew as days went. If I can, I would love to occupy such a position. It may never come to me. Man can but try.

You have suggested further consideration and consultation, both of which I have done. I am within an easy distance of Yervada Central Prison, where Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel and Shri Shankarrao Deo were recently transferred from Ahmednagar Fort. Almost

immediately after their discharge from the jail yesterday they motored to Panchgani and are still with me. I have shown them all the necessary papers and they concur with me in what I am writing.

In the task you have undertaken, of which I hope I fully appreciate the difficulty and delicacy, you certainly need the assistance and goodwill of all the parties you can. The Congress help you naturally cannot have without the Congress being officially represented at your table. The first and also perhaps the main purpose of the discharge of the remaining members of the Working Committee will be frustrated unless you secure the presence at your table of the President of the Congress or whomsoever he and his Committee may appoint for the purpose. If my supposition is correct, my immediate advice is that you should invite the President of the Congress. I expect that the ban on the Congress has been or will be lifted to the extent it still exists.

I am,  
Yours Sincerely,  
M. K. Gandhi.

**Telegram dated June 17, from the Viceroy to Mr. Gandhi:**

Thank you for your letter of 16th June. I understand your position. I am looking forward to seeing you on 24th and hope means may be found for you to take part in proceedings of Conference. I shall be grateful if you will communicate following message to Maulana Abul Kalam Azad from me. Message Begins. I invite you to attend or to nominate duly authorised representative to attend Conference at Viceregal Lodge Simla at 10-30 a.m. on Monday 25th June. Accommodation will be arranged for representative if required. Message ends. I have not released your letter or this telegram to the Press, but have no objection to their being published.

**Telegram dated June 17, from Mr. Gandhi to His Excellency:**

Deeply appreciate your wire received yesterday evening. In order regularise procedure and facilitate despatch of work without disturbing number of Members Conference I suggest immediate invitation to Congress President attend Conference or depute Congress nominee. If fixity of parity between Caste Hindus and Muslims unchangeable religious division will become officially stereotyped on eve of independence. Personally I can never subscribe to it nor Congress if I know its mind. In spite of

having overwhelmingly Hindu membership Congress has striven to be purely political. I am quite capable advising Congress to nominate all non-Hindus and most decidedly non-Caste Hindus. You will quite unconsciously but equally surely defeat purpose of Conference if parity between Caste Hindus and Muslims is unalterable. Parity between Congress and League understandable. I am eager to help you and the British people but not at sacrifice of fundamental and universal principles. For it will be no help. If you desire text yesterday's letter earlier I can telegraph contents.

#### Invitation to Congress President

Telegram dated June 17, from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy:

Many thanks your prompt reply to my letter of 16th. But in absence of reply to my wire even date you will admit Congress position and mine remains uncertain. Hence I must not even on your behalf invite President without acceptance of my necessary amendment. You will not and cannot according to your wire of 16th let Conference discuss the question. Therefore to my great regret I have taken no action on your wire under reply. Working Committee has not still been called. Private telegraphic communication tardy. Time appears to be against date fixed by you. With all my willingness to help I hope you will appreciate unavoidable delay. I suggest your altering date and clarifying issue raised by me and if clarification satisfactory sending your invitation directly for avoiding delay. Should inform you Congress Premiers are held up pending Working Committee's decision. I am not releasing these communications pending final decision. But in this you shall judge.

#### The Immediate Question

Telegram dated June 18, from the Viceroy to Mr. Gandhi:

Thank you for your two telegrams of yesterday. I think Maulana Abul Kalam Azad should have my invitation as soon as possible, and have accordingly telegraphed it to him at Calcutta.

2. Mr. Amery's statement in Parliament and my broadcast constitute terms of reference to Conference which I still hope will assemble at Simla on 25th. I clearly cannot change my broadcast and I have already told you I do not think it desirable to discuss its details before the Conference. None of the persons or parties concerned is expected or required to accept or reject the proposals now. The only immediate

question is whether the proposals are worth discussing at the Conference and it is to that question that an answer will be most helpful.

3. I still think the Conference should assemble on 25th. It may last some time and delay before it begins will not improve prospects of success.

4. I am releasing your letter of 16th June my telegram of 17th June your two telegrams of 17th June and this telegram to Press.

Telegram dated June 18, from Mr. Gandhi to the Viceroy:

Grateful for your prompt, frank and full reply also for directly inviting Maulana Saheb. Members being free at Conference to accept or reject proposals clears ground for invitees to attend Conference. This leaves them free discuss pros and cons at Conference. My objection to inevitability of parity between Muslims and Caste Hindus stands. If that view incapable of being altered by British Government my advice Congress will be not to participate in formation Executive Council. Congress has never identified itself with Caste or non-Caste Hindus and never can even to gain independence which will be one sided, untrue and suicidal. Congress to justify its existence for winning independence of India must remain for ever free to choose best men and women from all classes and I hope always will. That it has for sake of conciliating Minorities chosen men to represent them though they have been less than best redounds to its credit but that can never be pleaded to justify or perpetuate distinction based on caste or creed. Hindu Mahasabha is the body claiming to represent solely Hindu interests. Subject to Working Committee wishes I shall hope present myself Simla on 24th instant but owing to my strong views you can cancel the engagement without least offence. I expect this wire and reply if any will be published. Leaving for Poona Tuesday, 2 p.m.

Telegram dated June 19, from H. E. the Viceroy to Mr. M. K. Gandhi:

Thank you for your telegram of 18th June. I am glad you think ground is clear for invitees to attend Conference. I shall expect to hear further immediately after the meeting on 21st June. I am sure you appreciate that success of Conference depends on a spirit of goodwill and co-operation among all concerned. As you suggest I am releasing these telegrams to the Press.



Punjabis of a famous Indian Lancer Regiment go into action against the Germans in Italy.

## INDIA'S PART IN THE FIFTH YEAR OF WAR

INDIA's contribution to the Allied cause during the fifth year of war (1943-44) reflected the greatest martial effort in the nation's history. Throughout the year Indian fighting men were constantly in action against the enemy at sea, on land and in the air, and at home Indian industrial energy reached new heights of production and efficiency.

India's oldest service, the Royal Indian Navy, and her youngest, the Royal Indian Air Force, have again performed feats which are a constant reminder of the versatility of the Indian fighting man and of the wide front which India today presents to the aggressor. The Indian Army, fighting in some of the war's most decisive battles, has distinguished itself with a skill and gallantry which have won the admiration of the world.

On the Burma Front Indian troops, faced with a large-scale invasion of their own country for the first time in the history of the

Indian Army, joined with their British comrades of the 14th Army in throwing the Japs back across the border with heavy losses in a succession of victories in the jungles and mountains of the worst campaigning country in the world. In Italy Indian divisions, operating in the famous Fifth and Eighth Armies driving the Germans from Cassino and Rome, for months exerted a steady pressure on the retreating Germans which culminated in the smashing of the Gothic Line and the opening up of the Lombardy Plain.

#### New Honour and Glory

In the land fighting India paid a heavy price in casualties; many a brave warrior today rests in the war cemeteries of Italy and Burma. But Indian fighting men also earned for her new honour and glory; six more Victoria Crosses were won by the Indian Army and in Italy the King-Emperor himself visited Indian battle formations and watched them in action against the enemy.



The Indian Army's achievements have not been confined to the field of battle. Indian soldiers appeared also in the struggle against hunger and pestilence; during the Bengal famine army units went to the remotest villages with food and medical supplies and saved thousands of lives. The army in India has not been content to lift the shadow of famine; it has introduced a programme of its own to see that the presence of thousands of servicemen in India does not prejudice the supplies to the civil population. Large quantities of food have been produced by the army for its own use.

The services have been of value to the community in other ways. Soldiers helped clear the locusts from north western areas and restored communications after the Kangra Valley cloudburst; men of all the services played a notable part in the Bombay docks disaster, saving many lives in dangerous rescue work and salvaging large quantities of material.

The start of the fifth year of war coincided generally with the division of Eastern Army into the Eastern Command, India, and the 14th Army of South East Asia Command. India

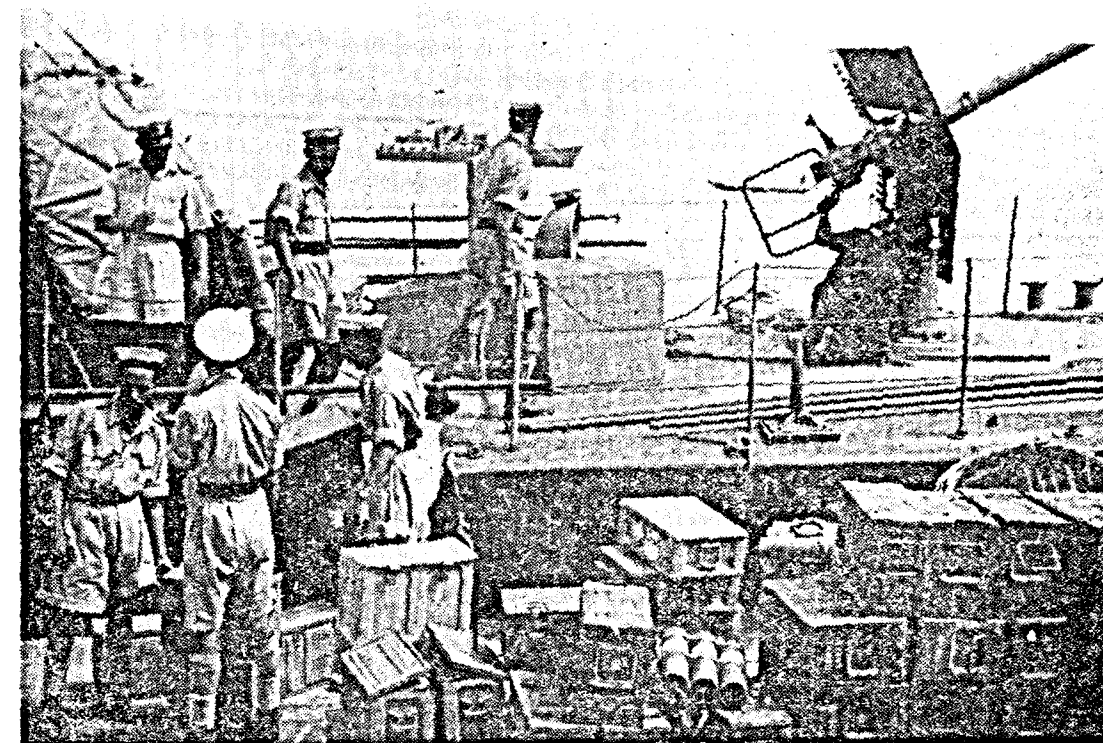
Command was relieved of the responsibility of the conduct of operations on the eastern frontier and has consolidated its effort as a training base for offensive action against the Japanese by forces operating under the South East Asia Command.

On the home front Indian skill and ingenuity in arsenal and workshop have matched the gallantry of Indian fighting men on the field of battle. Vast quantities of war supplies have been turned out and great stocks of material have been handed over to the Allies in various parts of the world. India has the stupendous task of helping to equip, supply, organize and train the forces which will play a decisive role in destroying Fascism in the East. Training establishments of all kinds all over the country have been still further developed to provide a great school for victory.

As the sixth year of war begins India's war potential is greater than ever. With her fighting men seasoned and tried and her industrial resources still expanding, she is firmly established as the springboard of the eastern campaign.



Capt. Raghuji Singh, of the Lancer Regiment gives orders to his troop commanders before the attack.



Ammunition being taken on board a ship of the Arakan Coastal Forces at a forward base.

## THE ROYAL INDIAN NAVY

**I**N 1943-44 the Royal Indian Navy's development has been increasingly influenced by the immense build-up of Allied naval power in the eastern theatre preparatory to major operations against the Japanese. This factor has shown itself in all spheres of naval work and especially in training and organisation, a circumstance in keeping with the India Command's importance as a base for the future assault on enemy-held South East Asia.

In ships and men the Royal Indian Navy is now twenty times its size in September 1939. This expansion has represented a great achievement, particularly in view of wartime difficulties in obtaining ships, equipment, and skilled instructional staff. Development has proceeded apace during the year, combined with a well-planned policy of consolidation, and today the Service is better equipped than ever to play its part in the struggle with Japan.

Operational duties at sea have called for the provision of convoy escorts, anti-submarine

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945.



O.Tel. K. N. Nair (of South Malabar) member of the radio organization which maintains communication between observation posts and ships shelling enemy positions.

patrols, constant minesweeping and collaboration by R.I.N. Coastal Forces with other Services fighting the Japanese on the Burma seaboard.

During the year well over 1,750,000 miles were steamed by His Majesty's Indian ships of all classes. Of this total, escort duties on the coastal and ocean passages accounted for the largest share, being carried out every day of the year and keeping Indian warships at sea 85 per cent. of their time. Convoys escorted comprised vessels of many nations carrying troops, war supplies and valuable merchandise across the seas, particularly to India itself for the development of our resources to fight the Japanese. For security reasons, details of these operations cannot be given, but it may be said that Indian warships have taken their full share in ensuring the conveyance by sea of supplies for our troops engaged in Burma.

Escort work in areas where enemy attack is likely to develop at any time calls for the highest efficiency, and this quality has been consistently displayed by officers and men, not forgetting the Engine Room Staff, who do not often figure in the limelight but without whose skill and devotion to duty India's Navy could not operate unremittingly on the high seas.

Such news as can be made public serves as a reminder that India's Navy is always "on the job." During the year, for instance, details were released of the sinking of an enemy submarine in the Indian Ocean by three warships of the Royal Navy, Royal Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy. For H.M.I. ship's part in the successful operation her commanding officer was mentioned in despatches. Good work was done by H.M.I.S. *Bihar* in rescuing 191 survivors from a sunken merchant ship at night. For several days the survivors were made as comfortable as possible on board, officers and ratings giving up their cabins and bunks for the women, children and aged.

#### Protection of shipping

While the bigger ships of the Royal Indian Navy were engaged in the protection of our shipping and coastal waters, the little ships of R.I.N. Coastal Forces carried the fight to the enemy by bombarding targets on the west coast of Burma, intercepting Japanese supply ships and covering seaborne landings by Allied troops on the Japanese flank in the Arakan. The term "armed motor launch" gives only a vague idea of these little ships' hard-hitting qualities and the audacity with which they range far and wide in Burma coastal waters.

From December 1, 1943 to April 1, 1944, they steamed more than 30,000 operational miles on 43 separate missions, firing 26,000 shells at the enemy from point blank range along 250 miles of Japanese-held coast. From the Naaf estuary to the Irrawaddy delta there was hardly a bay or inlet of any size not visited by them in search of targets and sometimes to bombard enemy installations. Direct support was lent to General Slim's 14th Army, and moral supremacy was established over the Japanese in Burma waters. The little ships had to face shelling by shore batteries and attacks by aircraft. So skilful was the handling of the vessels that—apart from the impact of bomb-splinters thrown up by near misses—no damage was suffered in all these air attacks. Enemy shore batteries were even less successful in their attempts at retaliation.

During the year awards made to officers and men of the Navy included two D.S.Cs., 5 D.S.Ms., one M.B.E. and 18 mentions in despatches.

#### Training Facilities

A feature of the Indian Navy's wartime expansion has been the remarkable growth in training facilities, which have also been made available to officers and men of other Navies. During the 12 months a Directorate of Training came into existence at Naval Headquarters under the control of a senior naval officer lent by the Royal Navy and holding the rank of Commodore. A complete overhaul was made of training policy and syllabuses, and special attention was paid to standards in instruction.

The number of new training establishments started since 1939 has now risen to sixteen. An important forward step was taken by the commissioning of H.M.I.S. *Feroze*, which trains officers in all branches of the Reserves, while the flotilla of training ships operating in Indian waters provides them with a measure of sea-going experience. Officers of the permanent cadre undergo training with the Royal Navy in the United Kingdom. Early in 1944 the largest of all the Navy's training establishments, H.M.I.S. *Akbar*, began work as initial training centre for newly joined ratings. Previously such recruits had been trained in Bombay in Castle Barracks and the veteran warship *Dalhousie*, while communications ratings were trained in H.M.I. Signal School. Recruits to the Seamen Branch receive all their shore training in H.M.I.S. *Akbar*, while men of other branches, after a short period, proceed elsewhere for specialised instruction.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

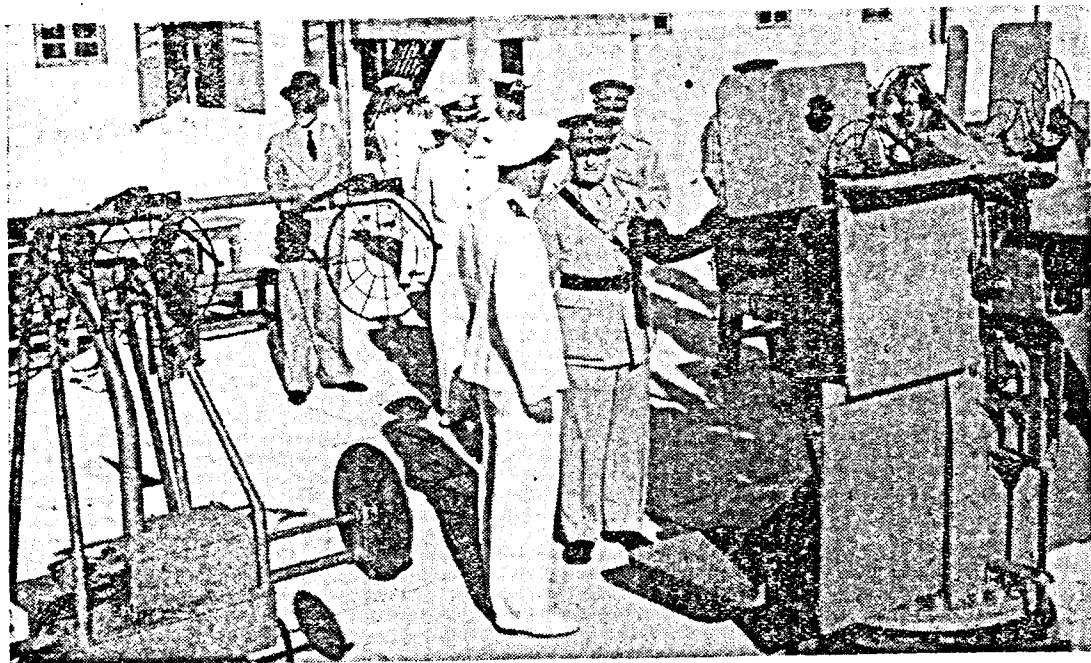


H.M.I.S. "Bihar" takes a heavy sea over her bow.



(Above) Rescued and rescuer shake hands. Capt. T. J. Mills (left) of Sydney (Australia) Captain of the sunken ship, was rescued by Petty Officer Fazul Ahmed of Rawalpindi (Punjab). (Left) Survivors rest on the quarter deck of H.M.I.S. "Bihar" after their ordeal.





Lord Wavell at the High Angle School which forms part of H.M.I.S. "Himalaya," R.I.N.'s Gunnery School, during his visit to R.I.N. Training Establishments at Karachi.

In 1943 the new Gunnery School at Karachi was opened by Vice-Admiral J. H. Godfrey, Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy. Accommodation hitherto available in Bombay had been cramped, but the new school is a magnificent building with the latest equipment for teaching the theory of gunnery and the most modern weapons of their type for practical work. Among the class rooms are some for ordnance artificers, the men who see to the repairing and maintenance of warships' guns, while in another part of the establishment are facilities for training and practice in anti-aircraft gunnery.

#### Civnaval Centre, Pilani

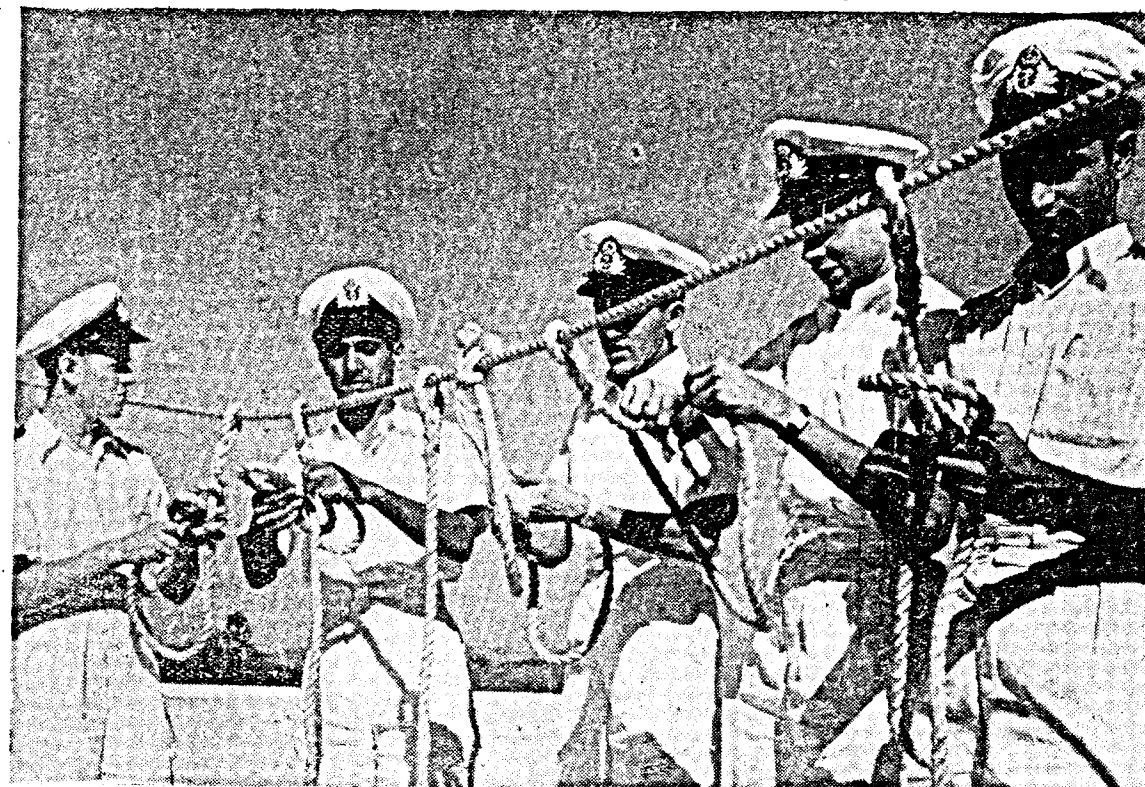
Situated in the heart of Rajputana at Pilani, Jaipur State, is the Civnaval Centre, run jointly by the Labour Department of the Government of India and the Navy's Training Directorate to turn out artificers and shipwrights. The building and some of the machinery have been lent for the duration of the war by Mr. G. D. Birla, and the six months' course is based partly on the syllabus of the Royal Navy's Mechanical Training Establishment at Chatham. Science students from all over India are under instruction at Pilani, and on completion of their course pass out to H.M.I.S. *Shivaji*, the Royal

Indian Navy's new Mechanical Training Establishment near Poona.

During the year details were made public of the work done by the R.I.N. Landing Craft Wing. This trains crews for landing craft as well as beach parties, and the centre where instruction was first given developed into what was then the largest naval establishment in India. Because the Navy could not itself provide all the many naval officers and ratings required, volunteers were obtained from the Indian Army, and under the guidance of R.I.N. instructors they became sailors. At combined training centres located on the coast of India these naval officers and ratings, in conjunction with Indian troops and the R.A.F., are training strenuously in amphibious warfare. This comprises all kinds of offensive action, from small raids to large assault landings. Special formations called Beach Groups move supplies across the beaches. India has raised and trained her own Beach Groups, the personnel of which is 90 per cent. Indian.

H.M.I.S. *Bahadur* and H.M.I.S. *Dilawar* at Karachi have continued their fine work of training boys for a Naval career. Here, as elsewhere in the Navy, great attention is paid to physical training. The two establishments were amalgamated during the year, H.M.I.S. *Dilawar* becoming a tender to H.M.I.S. *Bahadur*.

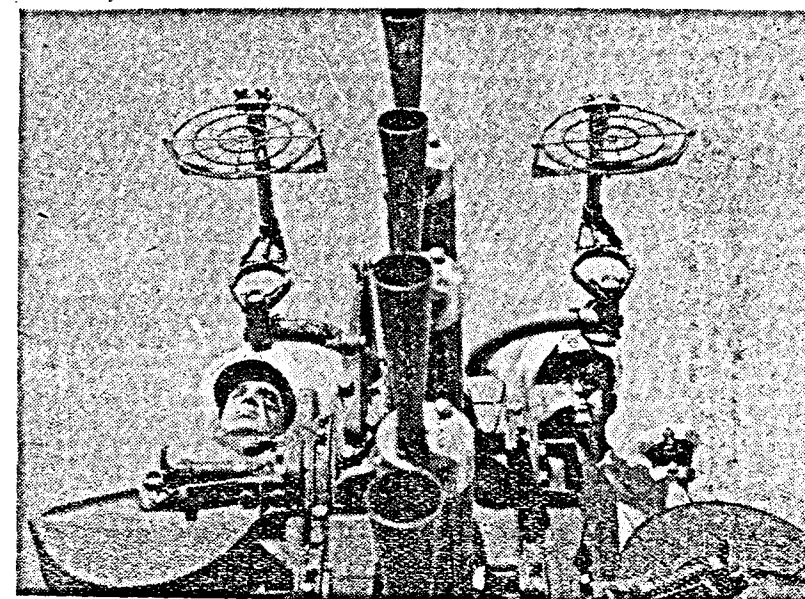
INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945.



Instruction in a wide range of subjects—seamanship, navigation, gunnery, signals etc.—is given in H.M.I.S. "Feroze," R.I.N. Officers' Training Establishment. Here, new entrants receive instruction in knots and splices.

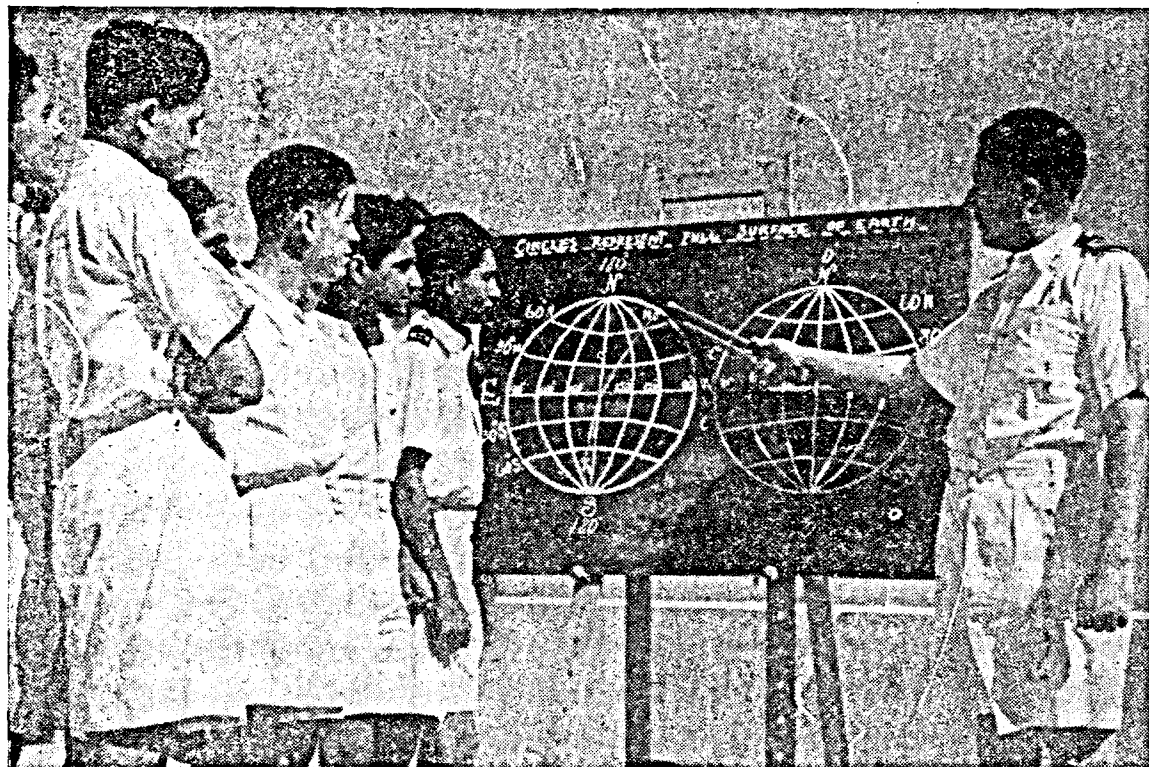
The Naval Wing of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) has got well into its stride. W.A.C.(I.) personnel were first employed by the Royal Indian Navy in June 1943, and in December a Naval Wing was started, with distinctive, smart uniform based on that of the W.R.N.S. It is now doing a splendid job at Indian ports and Naval establishments, releasing men for service afloat by taking over secretarial and signal work.

Naval W.A.C.(I.)s are also helping to train officers and men under instruction in H.M.I. Gunnery School. Well equipped and comfortable hostels have been started for the Wing, whose officers are trained in H.M.I.S. *Feroze*, while the auxiliaries learn their



Learning to operate a multiple anti-aircraft gun.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945.



A lecture on navigation.



Instruction on the compass.

duties in H.M.I. Signal School. Naval W.A.C.(I)s have first-class opportunities of fitting themselves for civilian employment when the war is over.

Ratings of all branches of the Royal Indian Navy may now be selected for commissions in the Royal Indian Navy Volunteer Reserve. Promotion is direct to the rank of temporary Sub-Lieutenant, R.I.N.V.R.

Welfare activities have expanded greatly, and a variety of amenities are provided for ships and establishments. These include ratings' clubs and rest houses, libraries and shore canteens, wireless sets and gramophones.

The Royal Indian Naval Benevolent Association, started in March 1943 to assist officers and ratings in



Rear-Admiral A. R. Rattray who was promoted to flag rank recently.

times of hardship or distress, has been doing valuable work, fully justifying the faith of its founders. His Excellency the Viceroy and Provincial Governors have helped the Association with handsome donations. Facilities for workers in H.M.I. Naval Dockyard have also been increased and now include medical treatment for their families, this branch of welfare work being under the control of an officer on special duty.

A number of provinces and districts have "adopted" Indian warships, providing the men with extra comforts and maintaining contact with them by frequent correspondence. Interest in the Navy has thus been stimulated in parts of India far from the sea, and firm bonds of friendship have been forged between the public and the sailors who serve it. This link was further strengthened by visits paid by parties of naval officers and men to provinces in the interior.

In August it was announced that Commodore A. R. Rattray, C.I.E., R.I.N., had been promoted Rear-Admiral, hoisting his flag in Bombay. This promotion to flag rank restored to the Royal Indian Navy a distinction it last held 260 years ago.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

## THE INDIAN ARMY

INDIA'S two-million volunteer army continued to expand during 1943-44, though the number of men required and coming forward is now inevitably much reduced. There is still a shortage of officers; each of the three services is still far short of requirements.

Technical recruitment during the fifth year of war dropped by approximately 43 per cent. as compared with the fourth year. The average monthly intake was 7,785, compared with 13,665 in the previous year. The main problem was again to secure educated personnel, especially clerks.

Measures taken to improve recruitment included propaganda and intensive advertisement; closest liaison with educational institutions and provincial educational authorities; improvement, where necessary and possible, in the terms and conditions of service of technicians and enrolled trainees; training of clerks under the Labour Department Technical Training Scheme; introduction of a special class of combatant clerks with liability for services only in India but outside field service areas; employment of W.A.C.(I) clerks in lieu of male clerks wherever possible; and lowering the minimum age limit of enrolment for clerks and certain matriculation zone trainees to enable boys to join immediately after leaving schools.

Recruitment of non-technical personnel for the Defence Services showed a considerable drop over the previous year. The intake in September 1943 was 32,782 and dropped steadily to 29,191 in July 1944. The average monthly intake was 27,833.

A high intake was maintained from the non pre-war classes, in particular from Madras Presidency, which contributed a large proportion of the requirements for labour in the shape of the Indian Pioneer Corps and unskilled labourers for provincial civil labour units for service at military works in the India Command and overseas theatres.

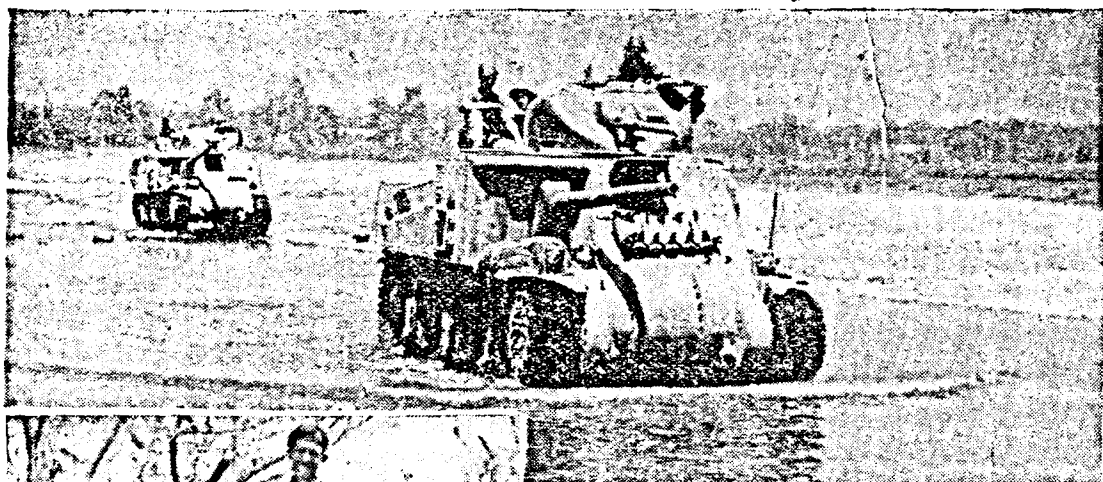
### Indian Armoured Corps

It was a momentous year for the Indian Armoured Corps. It saw the long, difficult period of waiting over and the I.A.C.'s tank brigades, at last equipped with the most modern armoured fighting vehicles, in action on the Burma front.

Through the months of April, May, June and July squadrons of the 7th Cavalry were in continuous action in clearing the Japs from the Imphal plain. The regiment's tanks were the

65





*Tanks going upstream on the Imphal Front.  
(Left) These men of an Indian Tank Unit  
in Burma were among the first to go into  
action against the Japs.*

this work with the Fourth, Eighth and Tenth Indian Divisions in some of the toughest fighting in Italy have been three famous regiments of the I.A.C.—Skinner's Horse, 6th Lancers and the Central India Horse.

#### Indian Artillery

The beginning of the fifth year of war saw in being a well-organised Indian Artillery. A few units had been in action in Burma and the Middle East and the Indian Mountain regiments were veterans of the North-West Frontier but the majority of the regiments of all types had still to receive their baptism of fire. In the fifth year of war that all-important deficiency was removed.

In the autumn of 1943 and the spring of 1944, Indian Field Regiments, made up of men from all parts of India, took their places in the Arakan and Assam beside their British brother gunners and showed how well they had mastered the intricacies of modern gunnery. Indian Anti-tank and Light A.A. units were also in action for the first time—but unfortunately the enemy failed to provide the number of targets they would have liked and the men often turned with great success to supplementing the operations of the infantry.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

But the Mountain Regiments experienced no lack of targets. No mountain side was too steep, no jungle too thick, no valley too swampy to prevent their guns being hauled into position by their sturdy mules.

Despite many months of boring inactivity—for as the year advanced Jap aircraft became increasingly retiring—many Indian Artillery units, whose role was to defend vital areas from attack by air or sea, maintained a high standard of readiness for action.

Latest development in the Indian Artillery is the introduction of medium batteries. The first of the new Indian medium gunners, mainly Rajputs and Madrassis, are now training hard somewhere in India and being initiated into the service of the 5.5 inch gun.

#### Indian Signal Corps

At the outbreak of the war when the Indian Army was small and, except on the Frontier, depended for its static communications largely on the Posts and Telegraphs Department, the total strength of the Indian Signal Corps was 4,321. Today its strength stands at over 50,000.

In addition to campaign requirements, hundreds of Signal Units have been raised to provide communications inside India itself easing the pressure on the Posts and Telegraphs Department already strained to the limit by the demands of India's evergrowing war machine.

A feature of recent recruiting to the Corps has been the large increase in the proportion of Madrassis rising from 12½ per cent. to 40 per cent. The Madrassis have rapidly taken their full share in the Corps and have done extremely well.

Today Indian Other Ranks are operating and maintaining the most modern and complicated types of equipment. In the four Indian Signal Training Centres at Jubbulpore, Bangalore, Rawalpindi and Sialkot Indian signalmen are training in the trades which before the war were the preserve of the B.O.R. The result has been that the Indian Signal Corps has been able to meet all the demands made on it for signal units.

Although their main job is technical, signalmen must be ready and able to fight when the occasion requires it. Men of an Indian divisional signals gallantly defended the divisional headquarters against attacks by the Japanese somewhere in Burma.

In February 1944 when the Japs attacked in Arakan they had behind them an unbroken

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,



*At work with wireless signal equipment at a  
signal training centre.*

chain of land successes. But this time to our infantry went forth the order, "No withdrawal." The revolutionary instrument of air supply, forged to meet the special needs of the Burma theatre, was brought into full use. The battle was joined and the Army of India stood and fought the Japanese. After eight weeks of bitter fighting our men knew that, man for man, they were better than the Japs.

So that when the Japs crossed the Chindwin to launch their "invasion of India" our infantry met them with a new confidence. A decisive battle was fought at Kohima, where the Japs had reached a point threatening our vital road and rail supply lines. The fighting was of a ferocity rarely seen in this war. After six weeks of ding-dong fighting up and down the steep hillsides the Japanese Army around Kohima was not merely defeated but annihilated.

In Italy three Indian Infantry Divisions—the famous Fourth, Eighth and the Tenth—

first to break through the Jap positions north of Imphal and effect the junction with armoured units of 33 Corps advancing south from Kohima. The tanks were able to assist decisively in dislodging Japs from strongly entrenched commanding features up to 6,000 feet above sea level. The 45th Cavalry also distinguished itself in these operations.

As reconnaissance regiments probing the enemy's defences and returning with information vital to the formation of the commander's plans the I.A.C. has played a valuable part in the Italian campaign. Actively employed on

won universal recognition as among the best troops of the Fifth and Eighth Armies.

In the development of the complete supplying of armies from the air which has revolutionised the war in the Burma jungle the R.I.A.S.C. played a large part. The year saw a considerable expansion in the Corps' Air Despatch Training Depot, where officers and men learn the latest lessons in this highly specialised work acquired in our most recent operational experience.

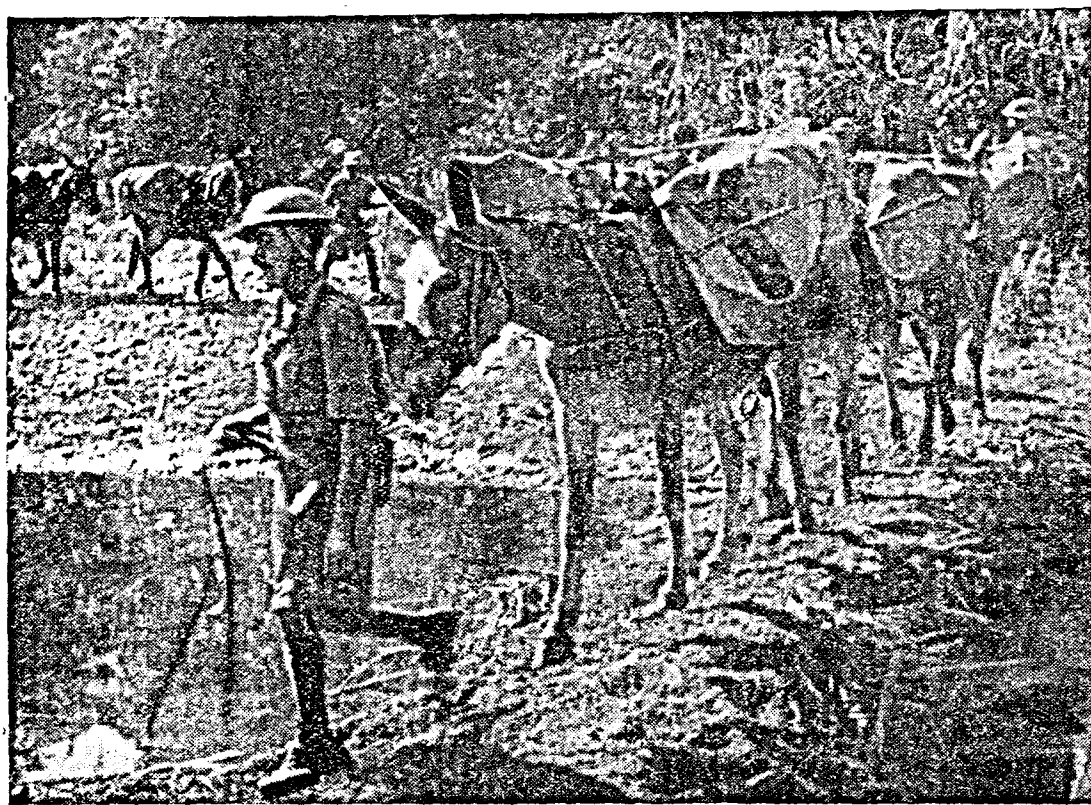
In its supply operations the Corps has taken particular precautions to avoid any drain on civilian food sources. Wheat is imported in so far as soldier's consumption of wheat exceeds the amount he would have consumed as a civilian. Since rice cannot be imported the ration scale for rice has been cut to a maximum of one pound per day, the balance being made up from *atta*.

Army dehydration plants continued to work at full pressure during the fifth year of war,

making the most economical use possible of all available food sources. Army dehydrated products included goats' meat (both *hakul* and *jhatka*), fish, potatoes, onions, vegetables and dried fruit.

The Corps transport men, drawn from many Indian classes, have frequently been called upon to fight as front-line troops. In Italy a party of pack-mule drivers marched 63 miles in 36 hours, delivered their loads at the front-line, and then took up their rifles and joined the battle. In Arakan, Manipur and Assam R.I.A.S.C. men have, driving all types of vehicles from jeeps to ten-tonners, gone on delivering goods through every conceivable difficulty of terrain and weather.

The war in the Burma jungle set the Indian Army Medical Corps some of the toughest problems service medical authorities have had to face anywhere.



Through jungle, rivers and leach-infested swamps of Burma the R.I.A.S.C. with the aid of tough mule companies do their job.



The morning round—the Sister accompanies the duty doctor on his visit to patients.

The incidence of malaria—after the Japs our biggest enemy—was reduced among troops in Assam by at least 50 per cent. An important innovation here was the creation of a new type of hospital unit sited well forward and designed solely for the treatment of malaria cases.

The whole machinery for the evacuation of casualties from the forward areas has been overhauled. Burma sets some unique problems in this branch of medical work now being increasingly tackled by the use of air ambulances. Some thousands of casualties have been speedily and comfortably transported by air from the fighting line to base hospitals in a matter of hours instead of days or even weeks. Special staffs for speeding the work of evacuation have been set up, with well-appointed ambulance trains and ships at their service.

Mobile Surgical Units, extensively used in recent operations, have proved an outstanding success. Further progress has been made in providing facilities for physiotherapy and rehabilitation designed to hasten the recovery of men suffering from bone and joint injuries. Adequate supplies of penicillin, the new healing drug, have been secured for the army, and important work has been done in the field of nutrition which may have far-reaching effects on the health not only of the army but of the entire Indian nation.

At the outbreak of war the Army Veterinary Service, unlike most other branches of the army in India, was being rapidly reduced. This reduction continued until 1912, when the campaign in Burma compelled the army to revert to animals, leading to the expansion of the Army Veterinary Service to an extent never before known in India.

Of the many problems that had to be faced perhaps the most serious was the shortage of veterinary officers and Indian Army Veterinary Corps personnel and lack of training facilities. A training centre was provided by the formation in October, 1942, of the Indian Army Veterinary Corps Centre. This has steadily expanded and today comprises the Training Regiment, the Officers' Training School, the Army Veterinary School and the School of Farriery; it provides military and technical training for all officers and other ranks of the Royal Army Veterinary Corps and Indian Army Veterinary Corps as well as specialized training for officers and men of units with animal transport.

The recruit spends four months in the training regiment of the I.A.V.C. Centre. Veterinary Assistant Surgeons also undergo a course of training at the I.A.V.C. Centre. To meet the ever increasing demand for qualified veterinary personnel emergency commissions in the Indian Army Veterinary Corps are now granted to graduates and licentiates of recognised veterinary colleges in India. Serving veterinary assistant surgeons are also eligible for selection after one year's service; many have already been commissioned.

#### Army Veterinary Service.

To provide animal transport units with personnel skilled in the care and management of animals the Army Veterinary School gives courses of instruction in animal management, veterinary hygiene and first aid. The Army Veterinary Service is responsible for the health of all army animals, ranging from carrier pigeons to elephants and including horses, mules and donkeys, camels, cattle and buffalos, sheep and goats, pigs and rabbits, pigeons, fowls and ducks.

Every month 200,000 tons of stores pass through Indian Army Ordnance Corps Depots located all over India. They are made up of 300,000 items, as compared with 40,000 before the war.

Field activities of the Corps have developed during the year with the further supply of field parks, which are in fact small ordnance depots on wheels, mobile cinemas and mobile laundries.

An enormous saving to the war effort is being effected by the introduction of repairing machinery and the salvaging of stores which would otherwise have been thrown on the scrap heap. Further wastage has been cut by intensive education in the art of packing the widely varied classes of stores handled.

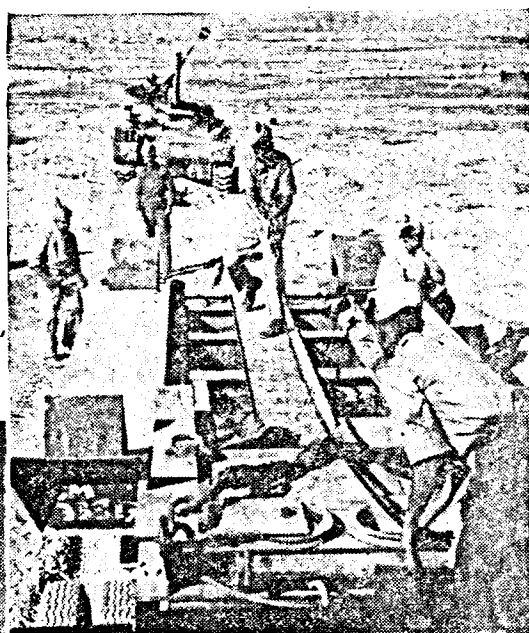
### I. E. M. E.

A specialist training centre has been instituted for each main class of stores where officers, storekeepers and storemen, both military and civil, receive intensive training in the identification, storage, care and preservation of the great variety of stores in each class.

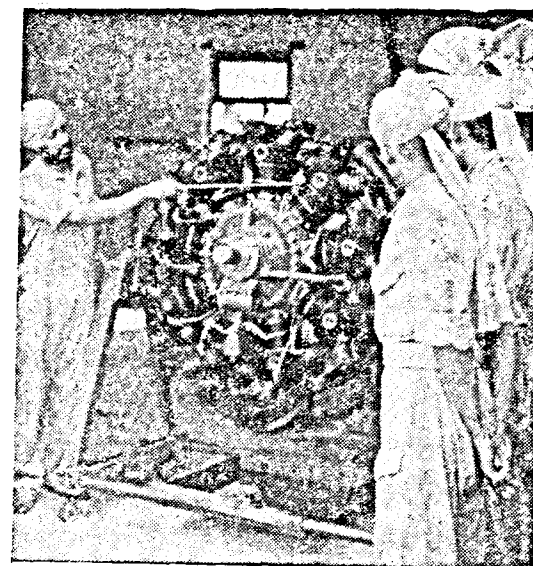
Today the I.E.M.E.'s strength stands at over 2,500 per cent. of its pre-war level, when it was known as the Workshop Branch of the

I.A.O.C. It embodies approximately 1,800 officers and 80,000 other ranks with some 20,000 civilian craftsmen of all trade. The floor-space occupied by the Corps static workshops now near five million square feet.

Inside these workshops I.E.M.E. craftsmen apply their skill to an extraordinary variety of repair and maintenance work. Not only do they repair all fighting vehicles, load carriers, cars and motor cycles but also compasses,



(Right): Men of an I.E.M.E. Recovery Unit unwind the cable to winch a disabled tank on to the transporter. (Below): The damaged tank being winched on to the transporter.



Trainees being taught the working of radial engines.

watches, surgical instruments, optical instruments, cinema apparatus, wireless and signalling equipment, small arms of all types, A.A., field and coast defence armament and even bullock-carts.

Three Corps recruit training centres have been established to cope with 1,000 new craftsmen a month. Here equal stress is laid on training the recruit as a soldier as in his craft. With the opening of the Indian Officers' Training Centre at Quetta the opportunity now exists for the recruit to take his place alongside young engineers from Indian universities and become an I.E.M.E. officer.

Outstanding work has been done on all three fronts in which the young Corps has been engaged—North Africa, Italy and Burma.

Through the Burma jungle from Arakan to Kohima the men of the I.E.M.E. carried out many outstanding feats of recovery, local repair and improvisation, without proper tools and often within sight of the enemy.

### Indian Army Corps of Clerks

For efficient administration in the Indian Army, whether it is fighting in Italy, Burma or Greece, or keeping up the flow of supplies and reinforcements from India itself, much depends on the Indian Army Corps of Clerks. Back at base and up in the forward areas officers and men of the Corps are playing their part in keeping the war machine running smoothly.

In 1939 the I.A.C.C. numbered about 800 all ranks, equally divided into two wings, British and Indian. They formed, in the main, the clerical staffs of Army commands, districts and various military establishments in India. A few clerks were also serving with various schools of instruction, embarkation H.Q.s and hill depots.

With the outbreak of war a vast expansion took place. To meet new and insistent demands for trained clerks personnel were taken from static formations and replaced by temporary non-combatant personnel, learner clerks from British units in India and by Anglo-Indians specially recruited.

In the early stages of this expansion only fully trained clerks were provided to meet demands. This procedure depleted static formations leaving few experienced men to carry on the work and at the same time train learner clerks. To meet this difficulty it was decided that reinforcements for formations overseas should consist of sergeants only. This in actual practice represented only the "war intake" of personnel as most of the permanent cadre had received higher acting promotion.

The training of British clerks is the responsibility of the formations to which they are attached. Indian clerks receive a thorough grounding in their duties at a training school formerly at Ranikhet and now at Dagshai.

All classes of Indians are admitted into the I.A.C.C. The Indian cadre itself was militarised in August 1942 and in consequence military training in addition to clerical training is included at the training school.

### Indian Pioneer Corps

Men of the Indian Pioneer Corps have been everywhere in all the campaigns in which India's fighting troops have been involved. Only a few years old, the Corps has nevertheless a record of service of which it may well be proud.

Recognition of their increasingly important role has now been officially accorded them by the formation of a combatant wing of the Corps. All pioneer companies now in the Middle East and Mediterranean Commands and certain companies in Paiforce are being transferred to the new wing and combatised. The extent to which this new scheme is to be implemented in the India and South-East Asia Commands is under examination.

Originally recruiting only Pathans, Punjabi Muslims and Sikhs, the Corps now enlists Madrassis, Chamars, men from Bombay, Bengal, Central Provinces, Bihar and Orissa. Hillmen



from Nepal have also joined up to form porter companies, whose help in Burma has so long been a notable factor.

In Burma the work of the Pioneer Corps has in fact been invaluable and constant tribute has been paid to their amazing fortitude and endurance under difficult and often dangerous conditions. No matter what the weather and how long the job the Pioneers continue with their task of building roads and airfields, laying railway lines, clearing jungles and carrying supplies to front-line troops.

### Indian General Service Corps

Speaking 13 different languages and hundreds of dialects nearly 55,000 combatants and non-combatants of the Indian General Service Corps are to-day serving in all theatres of war. They serve over 2,000 units and formations. More than 1,600 of them are prisoners of war.

The Corps came into being in November 1939 to provide a reservoir of men ready to tackle the many and varied jobs which modern war creates but which do not come within the sphere of specialist corps. Many wartime units grew up under the aegis of the I.G.S.C., such as the Indian Observer Corps, Coast Defence Battalions, Garrison Companies, Intelligence Corps and censor units; in the raising of these units 11,000 men were trained and permanently transferred away from the I.G.S.C.

The I.G.S.C. supplies personnel to formation headquarters and the many miscellaneous units which have no training centre or depot of their own, such as prisoner of war camps, reinforcement camps, reception camps, transit camps, movement control units, stationery depots, beach groups, etc. The Corps' introduction into the army of the Adrema system of printing various forms has saved the Government of India a great deal of clerical manpower.

### Indian Observer Corps

Technical theme of the Indian Observer Corps' year was the stepping-up of the process of switching from the outworn static system to mobile wireless air-reporting companies. Coupled with this was the further evolution of mobile W/T Control Units.

In some cases the first warning of Japanese advances in Arakan and Assam was received from the front-line posts of the mobile W/T Observer Companies. Many forward posts had to withdraw during the enemy's advance but though the technical equipment is heavy and

difficult to move through the jungle a surprising quantity of it was got away safely and the rest destroyed.

Many tales could be told of the exploits of these posts—all of them under the command of junior lance-naiks with neither military experience nor background. First aware of the enemy when fired on, one post in Arakan managed to destroy its equipment and withdrew successfully to the Ngakyedauk Pass. On their way they came upon a Jap machine-gun post firing on villagers. Approaching within 100 yards through scrub they opened fire and drove the enemy from his gun.

A Bengali lance-naik walked 44 miles to collect spares to keep his set "on the air". Another post, after passing full messages and then destroying all its equipment, walked westwards for five days before linking up with our forces.

### Indian States Forces

Indian States Forces were more in the lime-light during the fifth year of the war. The Jodhpur Infantry distinguished itself as part of the beach landing group at Salerno and, although not actively engaged in fighting the enemy, earned high praise by its steadiness and hard work in supplying those in the front-line with necessities of war and acting as stretcher bearers on their return journeys. Nearer home the Bikaner Ganga Risala—usually known as the Bikaner Camel Corps—having done efficient work in rounding up Hurs during the troubles of 1943, were employed on the important task of locust control and destruction in North-West India.

The 1st Patiala Infantry has distinguished itself in the war against Japan; its Commanding Officer, Colonel Balwant Singh, was decorated with the C.B.E. The Tripura State Unit is employed against the Japs in a harassing role, a task for which the Tripura Rifles are eminently suited and which they have carried out with marked success. The Bikaner Bijay Battery has been actively employed in the Arakan and around Kohima and has come fully up to expectations; the Hyderabad Field Battery has been engaged in the Imphal operations.

Some States Forces field companies have been employed on maintenance works in the jungles of Eastern India and another is training for active operations. Although States Forces have produced three animal transport companies only one of them, the Jaipur Pony Company, has so far been actively employed

against the Japs; the other two have been doing good work on the North-West Frontier. In the past cavalry were the arm of the States Forces which attracted most attention; modern war has changed that and it is hard to find a role for the five Indian States Forces Cavalry Regiments which have been mechanised and have spent several years' training in the hope of being employed in an operational role.

Baroda instituted and has maintained with staff from its State Forces a Driver Mechanics' School for the Indian Army. The scheme whereby State Officers would be granted emergency commissions superimposed on their State Commissions has been put into effect and with one or two exceptions all State Officers serving with Indian States Forces units under the Crown are now emergency commissioned officers of the Indian Land Forces.

Recruiting from States has gone on steadily; for the first four and a half years of the war approximately 300,000 recruits from States have been enlisted for the various services in India.



H. H. the Nawab of Bahawalpur State chatting with a patient in an Indian Military Hospital in Rome when he visited his Regiment, the Central India Horse, in Italy.

## THE INDIAN AIR FORCE

INDIA'S youngest service has written a page in its short history during the fifth year of war which will remain a shining example and inspiration to the officers and men of the Indian Air Force of the future.

For the first time full use was made of I.A.F. squadrons in offensive operations on the Burma front, and how well they carried the flag of the Allied Nations cannot be better expressed than in the words of Air Marshal Sir John Baldwin, Air Commander of the Third Tactical Air Force, under which the I.A.F. squadrons operated. "The air and ground crews of the I.A.F. have made a magnificent contribution to our success" he said. "You and your pilots have earned honour and glory. When victory is won, India will owe a great debt of gratitude to her flying sons of the Indian Air Force."

The squadrons operating against the Japanese were largely employed in direct support of the Land Forces. Flying aircraft which are type for type the same as those used by the R.A.F. on similar operations, their duties included bombing, ground strafing with cannon and machine-gun fire and all forms of tactical and photographic reconnaissance. Their Vulture Vengeance dive-bombers pounded enemy strong-points hidden in the hills and jungles, and their





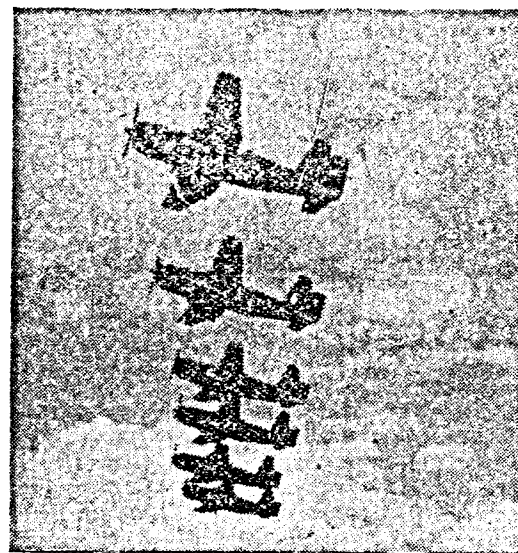
An R.I.A.F. pilot photographed before taking off from an airfield in Assam.

Hurricanes flew by day and night to reconnoitre Jap positions for the Army. Their ground attack planes ranged deep into Burma, smashing enemy movement wherever they have found it, and their Hurricane fighters gave escort to troop-carrying and supply-dropping Dakota aircraft and Allied shipping.

Operating from the most forward airfields on the Burma-Assam front, the I.A.F. squadrons distinguished themselves in both the Arakan and Imphal areas. Their support of the Land Forces in the defence of Kohima and Imphal was invaluable. They helped to inflict irreparable loss on Japanese troops and vital enemy supplies and supply routes. They kept up their devastating attacks on the fleeing Japs, giving them no respite, and causing considerable numbers to surrender. One I.A.F. light bomber squadron in Arakan completely demolished the enemy's most important jetty which he used for building up supplies during the monsoon ready for the campaigning season. In February, when the battle of Butkidaung was at its climax, the pilots of one squadron were averaging four sorties a day. Some made as many as six daily. It was Indian pilots in Vultee Vengeances who covered the attack of 14th Army tanks when they first went into action.

#### Photographic Reconnaissance

The photographic reconnaissance squadrons took tens of thousands of air photographs of enemy troop movements, jungle hide-outs and gun positions. These contained most valuable information for the Army. On one day alone a squadron took 250 photographs and within 24 hours the photographic section had made 1,500 prints for study by Army commanders and Intelligence officers.



A Vultee Vengeance Dive-Bomber Squadron flying in formation over the Arakan.

During the operational season the I.A.F. squadrons did upwards of 7,600 sorties amounting to 10,500 hours, and dropped more than 1,000 tons of bombs, an outstandingly creditable record for the numbers of light bombers and fighter aircraft on operations. This fine record was not only due to the ability of the pilots but to the high standard of aircraft serviceability maintained by the hard-working ground crews, a fact which resulted in a low casualty rate and high morale. A highlight in this record, too, was the squadrons' close and successful co-operation with the Army who were not slow in expressing their appreciation of the unfailing help given by the I.A.F.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

F.O. Jagdish Chandra Verma of Karachi.



Wing Commander Arjan Singh, D.F.C., who, as Officer Commanding of a Hurricane Squadron, did very useful work in Burma, photographed in the cockpit of his machine.

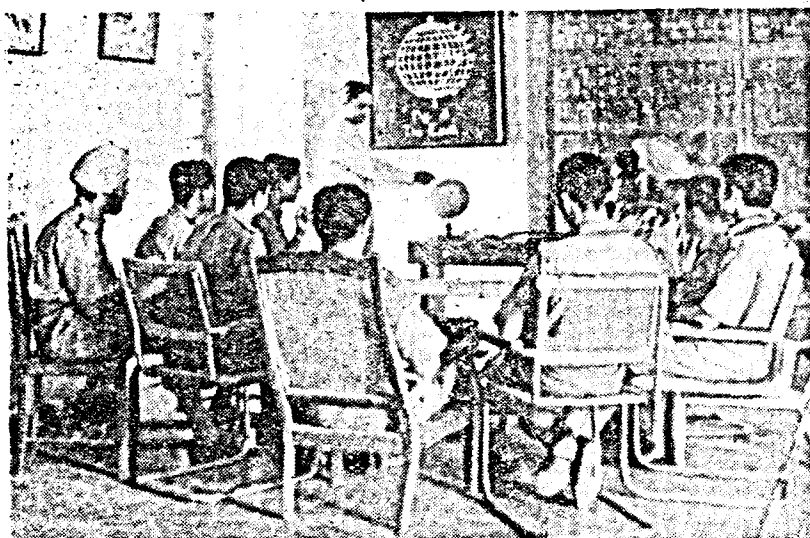


F.O. D. G. Shore, M.B.E., I.C.S.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

During the campaign the first award of the D.S.O. to an I.A.F. officer was announced. This went to Squadron Leader Mehar Singh, 29 year-old pilot, commanding a Hurricane Squadron operating over Arakan. Later, three awards of the D.F.C. were made—to Squadron Leader Arjan Singh, Flying Officer D. G. Shore and Flying Officer J. C. Verma. These awards were not only an honour for the officers receiving them but for the service as a whole.

While I.A.F. squadrons were helping to blast the Japs from India's eastern borders, other squadrons were employed on "watch and ward" duties on the North-West Frontier, a



A navigation class at an R.I.A.F. Training Centre.

delicate and important task which they have now done efficiently since it was first entrusted to them exclusively in the late spring of 1941. The "policing" of the Frontier is a valuable introduction to operational work on the Eastern Front. It gives the crews confidence in themselves and in their aircraft which could not be so easily acquired by normal methods of training. The co-operation of the I.A.F. units employed with the ground forces was on the highest level.

The training of aircrew and ground personnel, both technical and administrative, was kept up to the same standard of excellence set by the Royal Air Force wherever in the world its training establishments are to be found. Although hundreds of men passed through the instructional centres, which are located far and wide throughout India, there was ample room for many more. Suitable recruits for aircrew were particularly difficult to find.

Flying training at the Elementary Flying Training Schools, the Service Flying Training School and the Operational Training Unit (which provides the final phase in aircrew training) was carried out on modern type aircraft, including the Harvard, Hurricane and Vengeance. In addition, training was commenced on the new American elementary trainer—the Cornell. During the period under review the two operational training units which existed were consolidated into one unit where all I.A.F. fighter training, fighter reconnaissance training and light bomber training is undertaken. Pilots

destined for ground attack squadrons are given a specialist course at a Low Attack School. Wireless operator air gunners are trained at an Air Gunnery School and "crewed up" with pilots at the O.T.U.

A new school was opened for the training of flying instructors. This caters for R.A.F. and I.A.F. pilots and is implementing the policy of providing Indian instructors for Indian pupils where possible.

#### Ground Training

Thousands were recruited to the ranks for training in the numerous technical and non-technical schools for ground duties. After an initial disciplinary course recruits are posted for instruction in one of the many trades in the I.A.F. or prepared for Service administration.

The training of Indian flight mechanics, which formerly was done by the Director of Civil Aviation, was taken over by the R.A.F., and schools for the technical and administrative training of both junior and senior N.C.O.s were opened. These have provided improved methods and greater facilities for fitting young non-commissioned officers for leadership and technical administration. Indian instructors for Indian pupils are provided. Each technical school has a special course for instructors and nearly one-third of the instructors in these schools are now Indian.

The Indian Air Training Corps, which was inaugurated in early 1943, is now functioning at

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 16, 1945,

nine universities. The scheme was originally designed for stimulating recruitment to the technical trades of the Indian Air Forces, but in October 1943 its primary aim was altered to that of finding suitable candidates for the General Duties (Aircrew) Branch of the I.A.F. It is designed to assist students, who may consider joining the I.A.F., by giving them a three months' course in technical and non-technical Air Force subjects. Whenever it can be arranged trainees are given flights to test their reactions and suitability for flying. The yield of suitable recruits for the Service was not up to expectations, but it is hoped that through the reorganisation and extension of the scheme, better results will be achieved.

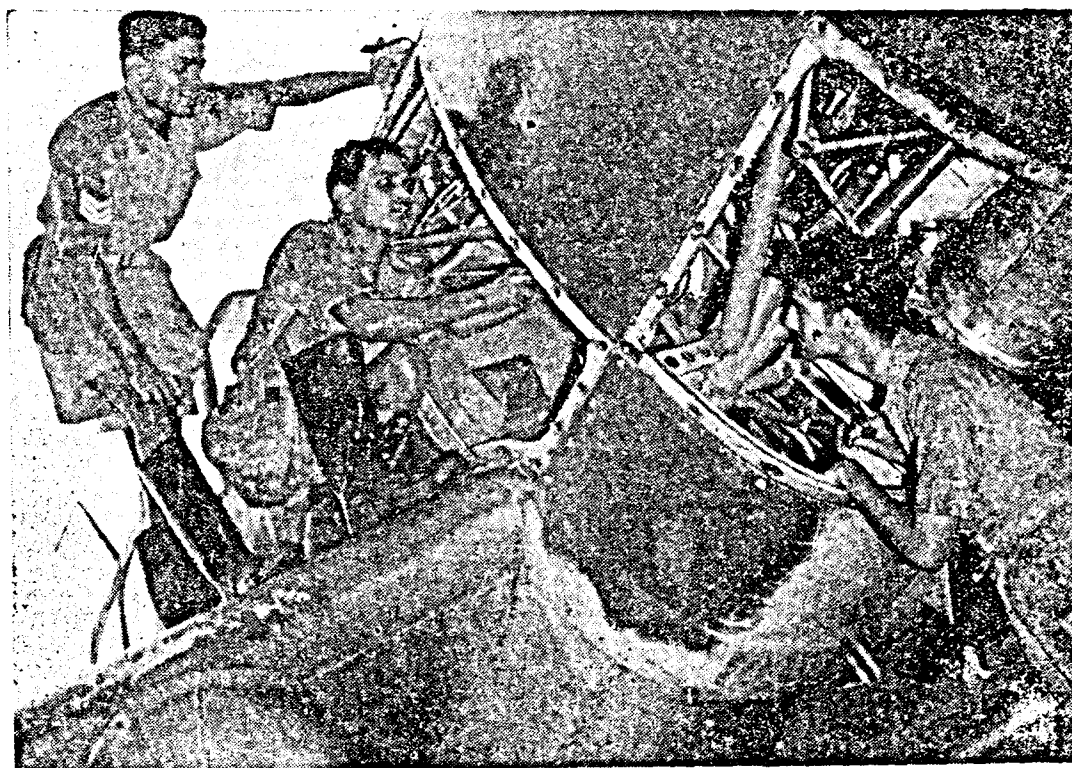
#### New Command Formed

The formation in November, 1943, of the Air Command, South East Asia, under the Supreme Allied Commander led to a change in the organisation of Air Headquarters, India Command, and a re-statement of the responsibilities of the Air Officer Commanding.

The Air Officer Commanding continued to be responsible to H.E. the Commander-in-Chief for the control and administration of the Air Forces allotted to the N.W. Frontier and he was given more specific responsibilities for the development, administration, terms of service, recruitment and selection of personnel of the Indian Air Force, in accordance with the policy of the Government of India. These latter responsibilities which devolved upon the A.O.C. marked a new and important stage in the development of the Indian Air Force. A considerable share of the appointments in the newly organised Air Headquarters was allotted to Indian Air Force Officers.

In March, 1944, Air Vice-Marshal M. Thomas, C.B.E., D.F.C., A.F.C., arrived from England to become Air Officer Commanding, India Command.

The opening of a register for permanent commissions in the Indian Air Force was announced in July. Wartime serving officers who were not more than 27 years of age on the date



Gumbooted and wet, Indian ground crew check up on the inside of an aircraft on a rain-swept airfield in Assam.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 16, 1945,

of commissioning are eligible to have their names included in the register for consideration. The number of permanent commissions which may be granted after the war will largely depend upon the size and general composition of the post-war Indian Air Force.

The welfare of Indian airmen and enrolled followers received close attention. A Welfare Staff Officer was appointed to advise the Senior Welfare Officer and a number of I.A.F. welfare officers were posted to different parts of the country to take care of the comfort of I.A.F. personnel in their areas. Canteens, books and periodicals, sports, entertainment and numerous other amenities were provided. With effect from November 1, 1943, temporary increases in the basic rate of Indian Air Force pensions came into force. The I.A.F. Benevolent Association was helped considerably by the munificent gifts of several Indian Princes and prominent citizens.

#### Aircraft Maintenance

Beginning with the assembly of one aircraft in 1941, the aircraft industry in India during the fourth and fifth years of war developed into a network of Civil Maintenance Units under a separate Directorate General of Aircraft formed in October, 1943. It is engaged on the repair and maintenance of Service aircraft which is done by the Ministry of Aircraft Production in the United Kingdom.

The network of units covers India and includes ordnance factory units specially set aside for aircraft work. The work is allocated to them on the basis of estimates and forecasts furnished by Air Command, South East Asia. They have been engaged on repairing aero-engines, propellers, gun turrets, radio instruments, motor transport, barrage balloons, signal equipment and numerous other air force items.

Although planning on the manufacturing side was handicapped owing to lack of capacity, production of a wide range of spares and items of equipment for the Air Forces in India has been established. This has been achieved despite the two major obstacles of shortage of machine tools and lack of technical personnel. Steps are being taken to overcome these difficulties.

Hindustan Aircraft Ltd., in South India, which changed over in 1942 from the manufacture of aircraft to servicing, has been fully engaged on the repair and maintenance of aircraft for the United States Army Air Force.

## INDIA—A MUNITIONS AND SUPPLY BASE

INDIA is now rising to her full stature as a supply and production base. Expansion schemes conceived before the magnitude of the Eastern war could be foreseen but now bearing fruit on a scale which fully ratifies the original programme have helped Indian industry forward at a pace never achieved in peacetime. The war production schemes which the country is now realising have laid a foundation for many future developments, the influence of which will be felt in India for many years.

Good progress has been made in the scheme for doubling the capacity of the Steel Corporation of Bengal by the introduction of duplexing. Exports of pig iron to U.K. were maintained whenever shipping was available and for the production of ferro tungsten a temporary plant was improvised. Schemes regarding special steels, including stainless steels and steels for the R.A.F., are progressing satisfactorily; equipment for heat treatment is being installed and efforts are being made to meet the demands for special steel which are needed in India. Production of ferro silicon has continued at the Mysore Iron and Steel Works. High tensile steel wire has been successfully manufactured and is now used for urgent demands.

#### Non-ferrous Metals

The production of aluminium has continued and another producer has started production of alumina from indigenous bauxite. Both the producers are expected to go all out for maximum output which will not only meet India's defence demands but will also cover her essential civilian needs.

Non-ferrous semi-manufactures are being produced in ever-increasing quantities and there has been a distinct improvement in the quality of output, coupled with a reduction in the cost of production. Special attention is drawn to the progress made by the industry in connection with the production of seamless copper tubes of smaller diameters which, although restricted in capacity at the moment, is a pioneer enterprise with a bright post-war future. Progress in connection with electro-deposition and crucible manufacture has been maintained.

After many initial difficulties a small lead smelter is now producing lead from indigenous ores and the quality of the output is extremely

satisfactory. Antimony smelting in India is also progressing, although many difficulties are being met with, not only in connection with the actual smelting process but in the winning and transportation of ore.

For the modernisation and expansion of ordnance factories in India, to enable them to produce modern types of weapons and ammunition on the large scale required by the army a commission was sent to India known as the Chatfield Commission. The Chatfield plan involved the expansion of all existing ordnance factories and the installation of the new types of plant and machine tools necessary for the production of all types of modern weapons and ammunition. The plan also provided for the erection of a new factory for the manufacture of high explosives, including a plant for the production of toluene and the expansion of the cordite factory. The implementation of the Chatfield plan was started just before the outbreak of war and is now in full swing.

#### Roger Mission

Soon after the outbreak of war it was realised that India had to play a larger part in the production of armaments than had been anticipated under the Chatfield plan and, to coincide with the Eastern Group Conference in the autumn of 1940, a Ministry of Supply Mission led by Sir Alexander Roger was sent out from U.K. to examine the possibility of further expansion of armament production in India. The mission eventually reported that, with the exception of empty shell and to a limited extent of empty fuzes, no civil capacity existed in India for the production of armaments.

To meet H.M.G.'s requirements for expansion of armament production in India the Mission accepted plans, prepared by the authorities in India in consultation with the Mission's experts, for 21 new projects for armament production. This provided schemes for expansion of production, e.g., of alloy steel for guns and small arms, gun forgings, bayonets, light machine-guns, gun carriages, shells, fuzes and primers, high explosives, cordite, toluene and motor benzol, etc.

#### Eastern Group Plans

Before the Chatfield and Eastern Group plans could be fully implemented Japan came into the war. This was quickly followed by the fall of Malaya, Singapore and eventually Burma. Owing to the menace to Bengal consequent on the fall of Burma the Government of India decided that no new ordnance factory

should be installed in Bengal and, further, that any of the projects already planned in Bengal under the Chatfield plan and E.G. plan which had not been installed should be transplanted elsewhere. This policy gave rise to the Transplantation Plan, which involved the building of five new ordnance factories and the expansion of two of the factories under the E.G. plan. The plan comprises a number of new projects for the further expansion of India's capacity for the production and maintenance of armaments.

Further expansions in fact became necessary after the Transplantation plan and a new series of projects was started, 29 in all, of which 19 have since been cancelled, leaving 13 to be completed. Included in these further expansions are projects for the maintenance of imported types of artillery equipment, maintenance of aircraft instruments, production of packages for ammunition, production of light type respirators, etc.

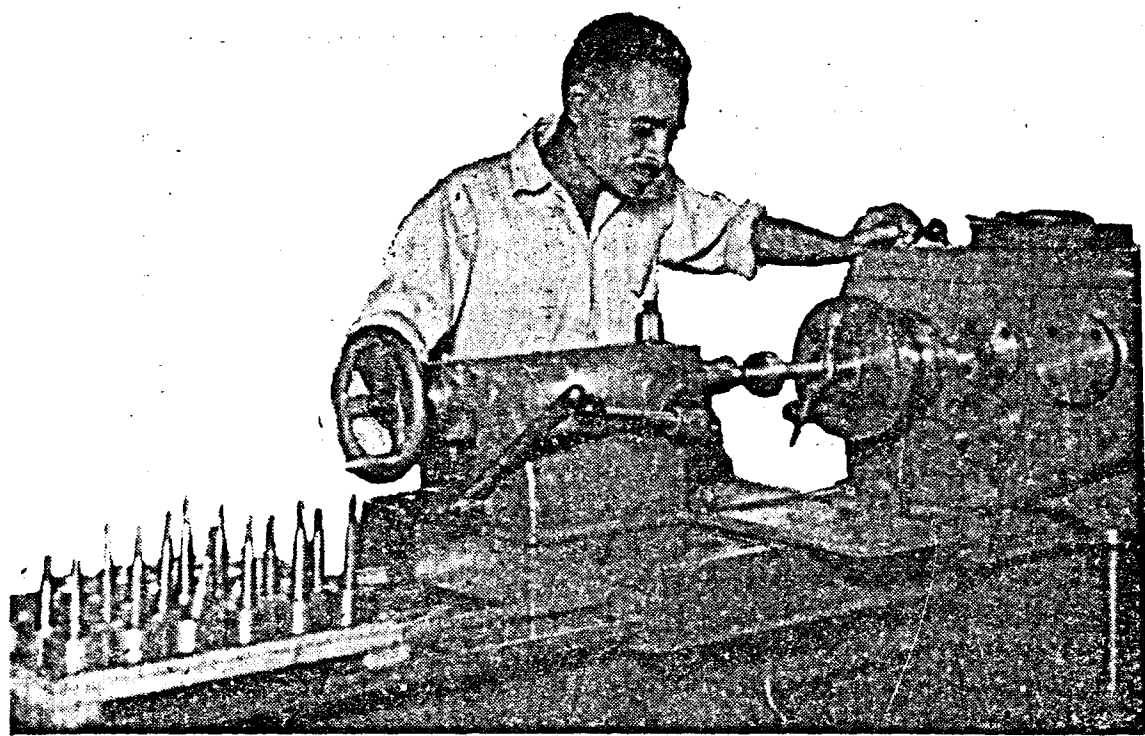
From the time of the Chatfield plan arrangements were made to use, for the production of armament components, civil capacity suitable for this work. Under this scheme, for purposes of security, planning was on a quota basis, the principle observed being that not less than 50 per cent. of the components of each store required should be produced in ordnance factories.

#### Civil Armament Industry

Following the outbreak of war the quota plan was relaxed and railway and civil workshops were employed to a greater extent in making good the deficiencies in ordnance factory capacity for the production of armament components. With the object of reducing capital expenditure on new projects this policy was developed still further under the E.G. plan. As a result of this policy three complete railway workshops were allocated to armament production while the manufacture of components for ammunition, e.g. empty shells, empty fuzes, components for mines, mortar bombs, grenades, etc., was developed in a wide range of civil and railway workshops throughout India by an organisation known as the C.A.P. Division.

From mid-1943 onwards, however, this policy has been reversed and, consequent on a reduction in the target, which has liberated certain capacity in ordnance factories, armament work is being backloaded from railway and trade workshops on to ordnance factories, thus liberating railway capacity for the main-





Chasing shell plug thread gauges in an Indian Railway Workshop producing munitions.

tenance of railways and trade capacity for the production of consumer goods.

Some ten complete new factories have had to be built and equipped with plant and machinery. The equipment of the factories involved the importation of thousands of machine tools and plant items, together with the ancillary electrical equipment, transformers, switchgear, etc. To operate the newly constructed factories major schemes had to be carried out for water supply, electric supply, sewage disposal, etc. New road and railway communications had to be laid down and constructed; to house the personnel necessary to operate the factories vast housing estates have had to be built.

The completion of the projects has been affected by shipping losses of important key plant, to overcome the effects of which extemporisation has had to be used to a large degree pending receipt of replacements from the U.K. and the U.S.A.

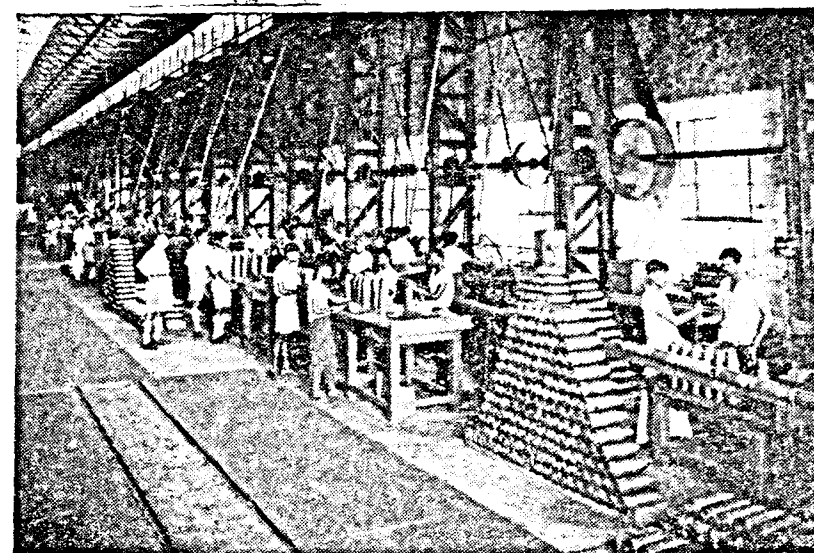
Notwithstanding the difficulties, mid-1944 marked what was virtually the completion of the Indian Ordnance Factories Expansion Plan, as at present visualised, and, whereas before the war India had only six ordnance factories, there are now no fewer than 16. In

addition the Ordnance Factories Division controls three large installations for the production of motor benzol and toluene. The staff and labour force has risen from 15,000 in 1939 to over 100,000 in 1944; even this does not take into account the large numbers of staff and workmen employed on the production of components for armament stores in railway and trade workshops.

#### Machine Tool Manufacture

Considerable steps have been taken towards the improvement of the quality of machine tools manufactured in India. This improvement is being achieved by a close rationalisation of the types of machine tools manufactured by each firm, which enables each to concentrate on the development of one or two special types. Further progress has been made with regard to the manufacture of machine tools of British design. The issue of statutory maximum prices of machine tools has made it necessary for the manufacturers to bring production methods on to more efficient and economic lines. The machine tool industry in general is becoming more stabilised.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,



Shells ready for final inspection  
Shells on right foreground are  
ready for the pressing of the  
driving band.

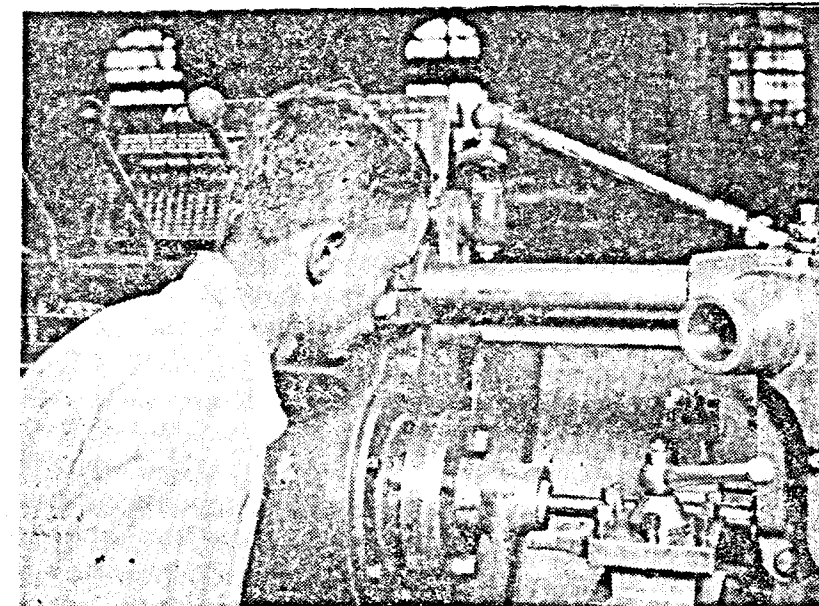
Production of armoured vehicles by the utilization of indigenous armour plate has become well established and numerous general purpose trucks have been adapted for various roles. The programme has included substantial deliveries of armoured carriers.

Demands for structural steelwork have been greater than in any previous year and fabricated output, which has now risen to about 10,000 tons a month, will be maintained throughout the

year, subject to steel supplies. After completion of the original floating dock, a repeat order from the Admiralty for another dock of the same type was received and this was now well in hand, over 50 per cent. of the materials having already been fabricated.

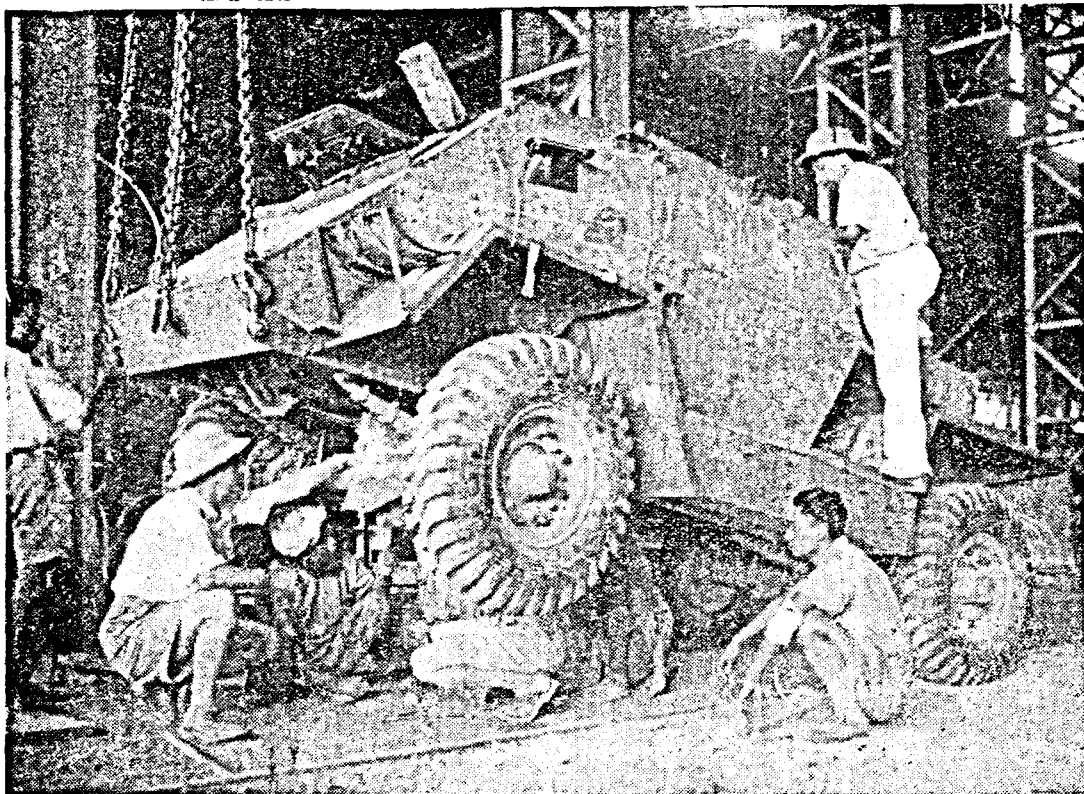
The expansion of bolt, nut rivet production is still continuing, although there have been delays in supply of imported plant and machinery for their production. In spite of

Machining of hand-grenades on  
Capstan lathe.



INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,





An armoured carrier undergoing completion inspection in an Indian Railway Workshop.

drawbacks production is expected to be nearly treble the pre-war level by the end of the current year.

An appreciable amount of new production has been achieved by the encouragement and education of small firms both directly through the medium of the Director-General, Munitions Production, and indirectly through the Provincial Directors of Industries. A survey has been made of steel castings production in India and a rationalised plan of production has now been agreed on. Encouragement and education of the newer and smaller firms has resulted in an appreciable increase in production and should by the end of 1944 increase the output to nearly double the pre-war figure.

Production of ammunition and weapons has continued to expand and new high levels of output have been attained. Various new types of small arms ammunition, gun ammunition and explosives have been produced, including screening and coloured smoke shells, anti-tank mines, anti-personnel mine flares, smoke generators

and plastic explosives. A repacking programme undertaken on behalf of the U.S. forces involved the repacking of some 400 million rounds of S.A.A. Arms production has increased and much work has been undertaken in this direction, including the conversion of large numbers of American rifles for use by the Chinese forces.

In addition to armament work the ordnance factories have been able to extend considerable assistance to other departments. Large orders have been carried out for manufacture of maintenance tool kits and spares for the D.G.(A.). Orders of considerable magnitude have also been carried out for the Director, Shipbuilding and Repairs, in connection with the repair of vessels of the R.N., R.I.N. and merchant services.

Some of the most striking increases in armament production are as follows:—

Rifles.—11 times pre-war output

Bayonets.—20 times pre-war output.

Small Arms Ammunition.—More than 4 times pre-war output

Guns and Carriages.—20 times pre-war output.

Gun and Mortar Ammunition.—35 times pre-war output.

Grenades, Mines, Bombs, Pyrotechnic Stores.—Most of these were not made in India before the war.

Instruments.—50 times pre-war output.

### Aircraft Repairs and Maintenance

The Directorate General of Aircraft, with its headquarters at Calcutta under the Department of Supply, was set up on October 18, 1943. India has been divided into six circles, each under a Circle Officer, who is responsible for surveying the capacity within his Circle. The main functions of this Directorate General are to look after the R.A.F. in India by purchase or manufacture of parts and also to see to the repair and maintenance of aircraft, aero-engines and other components. In 1943 alone indents from the R.A.F. for 13,270 different items of manufacture were accepted. During the last six months the manufacture of 10,000 aluminium and 5,000 plywood Hurricane tanks and 3,000 Spitfire tanks has been completed. Experimental tanks of a new form of construction developed by Indian scientists have also been successfully made.

The maintenance and repair of aircraft is attended to at the 18 Civil Maintenance Units set up in different parts of India and work is allocated to them on the basis of estimates and forecasts furnished by the Air Command, S.E.A. These Units are engaged on repairing barrage balloons, signal equipments, aero-engines, propellers, etc. Average monthly output of a few stores is, for example, 2,000 aircraft dashboard instruments, 300 magnetos, 1,500 aircraft accumulator (replating) and 200 aircraft sets. One unit is specially engaged on the assembly of aircraft and its average monthly output is 70 aircraft.

An Officer on Special Duty has been deputed to England to recruit technical personnel and a scheme to train the locally available labour has been started. Shortage of machine tools has been taken up with H.M.G. The Directorate General of Aircraft in this country is engaged on the performance of the same duties performed by the Ministry of Aircraft Production in the United Kingdom.

In the first four years of the war the output of tailored items of clothing made by ordnance clothing factories to meet authorised

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

demands rose from the August 1939 figure of 100,000 items to an average of ten million items a month in 1942-43 (with a peak of over 12 million items fabricated in March, 1943).

In the fifth year of the war the ordnance clothing factories were called on to supply just under seven million items a month. During this year one ordnance clothing factory was turned over completely to parachute work and another has been split into two—one factory for clothing and one for parachutes. There are now eight ordnance clothing factories fully employed on fabrication of tailored items of clothing and necessities. Demands for hospital clothing, prisoners-of-war clothing and clothing for Chinese troops decreased, but the ordnance clothing factories met the requirements of the U.S. Forces in India. Australian military and civil clothing was sent to Australia and an increased quantity and variety of items were supplied to the R.I.N., R.A.F., I.A.F., and the uniformed women's contingents. Battle dress for the South-East Asia and India Commands was produced in olive green and for the Middle East in khaki.

### Leather Supplies

The production of all tanneries capable of making leather to Government's standard is still being controlled. Owing to general shortage of hides arrangements have been made to control the movement of hides and to see that the requirements of the controlled tanneries are being met as far as possible. To check inflation ceiling prices have been fixed for the different types of leather required for the defence services and exports are being severely restricted to make available all possible supplies of leather for the requirements of the country. These measures were responsible for the production of 29.36 million lbs. of bark-tanned leather and 16.46 million sq. ft. of chrome upper leather during 1943 as against 25.38 million lbs. of bark-tanned leather and 15.18 million sq. ft. chrome upper leather in 1942.

The production of all types of footwear during 1943 amounted to 13.21 million pairs as against 16.42. The fall in 1943 may be ascribed to reduced demands of shoes, canvas, brown rubber soled. During 1942, 10.30 million pairs of these shoes were produced but during 1943 production had to be reduced to 6.57 million pairs.

Assembly of vehicles, imported in knocked-down condition from Canada and U.S.A., continued throughout the fifth year of war at a rate exceeding ten times the pre-war output and

amounting to thousands monthly. Also assembly arrangements were undertaken for a large quantity of vehicles for the U.S. Army. Many thousands of composite wood and steel bodies, including special armoured cars and carriers, field artillery tractors, etc., were completely produced in India. Actual deliveries to the army and air force in this year approximated the total of the previous four years' deliveries.

### New Oil Pipe line

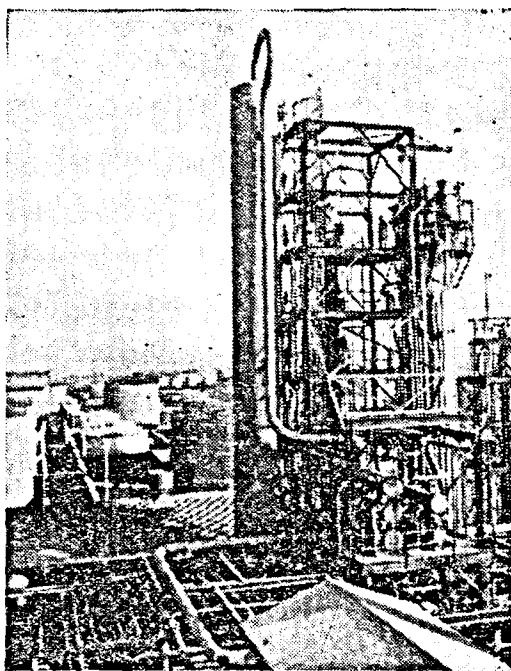
The new pipe line which has been laid in India for the transport of petroleum to our operational armies came into operation in July 1943 and is now pumping almost 12,000 gallons per hour and more. The operation of this pipe line has afforded great relief to railway and sea transport.

In May 1944 a test well, one of the three points at which drilling was undertaken by the Attock Oil Co. in consultation with and under the directions of the Department of Supply, struck oil in commercial quantity at 6,900 feet. The well has been shut in and preparations are being made for handling the oil as expeditiously as possible, but preliminary reports show that this crude oil is substantially different from that obtained from the company's main producing field. It is, therefore, likely to be some considerable time before we can obtain the benefits of refined products from this new find.

Towards the end of 1943 a serious shortage of coal began to develop and energetic steps had to be taken to maintain sufficient coal supplies, necessitating the appointment of a Coal Commissioner who has been attached to the Supply Department since June 1. The Coal Commissioner has set up an organisation in Calcutta. Regional Coal Controllers in charge of production and distribution have been appointed in the principal coalfields.

Large orders have been placed abroad for stores and machinery. In particular arrangements have been made with a firm of American contractors for large-scale development of open cast mining principally in railway collieries. It is hoped that the plant from America will arrive at the beginning of next year. Meanwhile plant made available by the army has permitted work to begin on extensive quarrying operations, some of them containing seams up to 100 feet thick.

Raisings in the first six months of 1944 compared favourably with those in the corresponding months of last year but continue to be considerably short of requirements.



An Indian oil refining plant.

In the fifth year of the war the shipbuilding industry has been further expanded and yards are working to full capacity in building ships for the R.I.N. Indian craftsmen, formerly trained in the construction of only the traditional types of wooden country craft, have been found in increasing numbers to meet the expanding needs of the industry and have taken in hand mine sweepers, anti-submarine patrol boats and assault craft as well as smaller craft such as life boats and dinghies. Wooden barges for carrying cargo in the ports are being built in large numbers.

Another branch of this industry, and possibly an even more important one, is the work done in repairing ships. Many ships of all types damaged by enemy action, by bomb, mine or torpedo, were repaired and made seaworthy—repairs which had never before been undertaken in India.

The approach of the war to the shores of India made another demand on shipyards in that merchant ships plying in these waters had to be defensively armed against enemy attack by surface ships, by submarine or from the air. This defensive arming has greatly increased in fire power during the year and when merchant ships touch at Indian ports they are fitted out

with the necessary armament. For protection of gun crews, the bridge, etc., a new form of armour has been developed in India and hundreds of ships have been fitted out during the year. The possibility of enemy action has made necessary the creation of a salvage organisation and men and ships in peril along India's thousands of miles of coast-line can now be rescued by this means.

Great though their efforts were, established ship repair and shipbuilding firms alone could not have met the demands made during the past year. Many firms with no previous knowledge of ships have now been incorporated into the industry and smaller firms able to carry out subsidiary work such as machining have also contributed their quota. Moreover, established firms have been expanded by the import of new machines from the U.K. or U.S.A. From the same sources has also come much important material, chiefly steel.

### Foodstuffs

Large quantities of dehydrated potatoes and vegetables were supplied. Fresh potatoes and vegetables required for the manufacture of these products were specially grown for the purpose to avoid strain on civil requirements. Considerable quantities of sugar, tea and ghee were also supplied. Some quantities of gur were used in place of sugar and a considerable quantity of vanaspati (hydrogenated vegetable oil) in place of ghee. Approximately 50 per cent. of the total production of hydrogenated oil in India is being taken by the defence forces. Certain quantities of dried and canned fruit were obtained from the N.-W.F.P., where a high speed fruit canning factory has been installed at Government expense with a daily output of 46,000 cans. Dehydrated meat is now manufactured at various factories erected by the Government. The manufacture of biscuits *shakarpara* continued at a peak level.

### Technical Training Scheme

Nearly 77,500 young men have so far been trained as technicians under the Technical Training Scheme initiated by the Labour Department in 1940. These have been supplied to the Armed Forces, ordnance and munitions factories and civil industries as armature winders, carpenters, fitters, electricians, instrument mechanics, draughtsmen, painters, surveyors, turners, wireless operators, Air Force mechanics, engine artificers and for numerous other trades.

The first training centre was established at Lahore in January, 1941, and by the end of the year 299 centres had been established with a training capacity of 24,277. Of the 2,676 trainees passed out during the year 2,502 joined the Armed Forces. With the opening of 95 new centres in 1942, 30,900 had passed out to join the Defence Services and civil factories. In February 1943 there were as many as 409 centres with a training capacity of 47,064.

Two new types of training, namely special preliminary training for the R.I.N., which ordinarily accepts as artificers educated men with technical knowledge and experience, and training of clerks for the Defence Services were started during 1943. After training, which is voluntary and lasts six months to a year, a trainee becomes a grade III tradesman and is provided with a job. In addition to free training every trainee receives a stipend from Government varying from Rs. 24 to Rs. 45 per month.

As civil industry was not absorbing persons trained under the Technical Training Scheme on a large scale the Department of Labour set up a Standing Advisory Committee to adjust the Technical Training Scheme to meet the war-time needs of civil industry.

### Bevin Training Scheme

For the industrial development of a country like India the need for trained men for supervisory jobs was realised and the Bevin Training Scheme was inaugurated in 1941 with the object of giving higher technical training to Indian artisans in the U.K. at His Majesty's Government's expense.

The value of the scheme is immense to the individual trainee and to India's industrial progress. Of the 640 boys so far sent to the United Kingdom 460 have returned after completing their training and have been employed mostly in ordnance factories and private engineering firms.

In 1943 it was found necessary to train also a large number of men as aircraft mechanics for civil maintenance units and 25 additional trainees were accordingly sent with each batch. As the training period of six months was insufficient for trainees to get the maximum benefit, having regard to the nature of the work they would undertake on their return to India, it was decided in February 1943 to increase the period of training to eight months generally and to a longer period in special cases.



## SERVICEMEN'S WELFARE

**M**UCH interest has been shown in servicemen's welfare during the past year. Many problems regarding welfare have been settled and the serviceman's well-being is now the responsibility of a large organisation.

At the beginning of the fifth year of war a division of welfare responsibility took place between G.H.Q.(I.) and the newly formed South East Asia Command. G.H.Q.(I.) continues to be responsible for the welfare of British troops within the India Command and for Indian troops wherever they may be serving; all British troops serving in the South East Asia Command are now the responsibility of Headquarters, Allied Land Forces, S.E.A.

In order that there might be no breakdown in the supply of welfare goods to troops serving within the geographical limits of India and in Burma the Directorate of Welfare agreed to continue to supply and finance S.E.A.C., from the welfare point of view, up to the end of March, 1944, but from that date onwards Head-

Withdrawn from the frontline for a rest, these jawans of a Punjab Regiment sing and make merry, watched by interested Italian peasant women and children.

quarters, 11th Army Group (now A.L.F.S.E.A.) took over full responsibility for British troops in its command and is now, on the British side, financially independent.

E.N.S.A. has been operating in India since November, 1943, and is responsible for the provision of all "live" entertainment for British troops. By September, 1944, E.N.S.A. had a dozen parties touring India, with a total of 152 artists.

An organisation has been set up in Calcutta named *Fauji Dilkhush Sabha*, which is responsible for the provision of "live" entertainment for Indian troops, both in India and overseas. Apart from the Controller, who was formerly the Inspector of Army Welfare, the staff of *Fauji Dilkhush Sabha* is composed entirely of

Indians and it is hoped that this will result in the provision of entertainment which will be fully understood and appreciated by Indian troops. *Fauji Dilkhush Sabha* has 23 parties operating in India and four overseas.

In May, 1944, a new scale of amenity buildings and furniture for units was authorised, which provides for more space and better equipment for canteens, recreation rooms, quiet rooms and cinemas. Similarly a new scale of accommodation, furniture and crockery was sanctioned for authorised leave camps in India. This resulted in considerable improvement in the standard of leave accommodation available for British troops but the total accommodation available was insufficient to meet all demands in 1944. Consequently plans have been put in hand to make as much additional accommodation as possible available during 1945 in order that all troops in India may be able to obtain 28 days' leave during that year.

At Christmas, 1943, a monetary grant per head for the purchase of extra Christmas fare for both British and Indian troops was authorised in India and gifts in kind were sent to all Indian troops serving overseas. Funds for the Christmas gifts scheme were provided by donations from the Viceroy, Provincial Governors and the Indian public. These were to be supplemented, if necessary, by Government funds. In 1943, however, donations totalled 13 lakhs and covered the entire cost of the scheme.

The Army Welfare Organisation in India has been considerably expanded during the past year and by May, 1944, there were 79 Army welfare officers working in the field, in addition to a General Headquarters "pool" of 11 officers. The A.C.E.S. depots at Bombay and Calcutta have continued to buy and distribute large quantities of vernacular literature for Indian troops in India and overseas.

### Inter-Services Public Relations Directorate

Indian troops have a comprehensive newspaper and periodical service provided by the Inter-Services Directorate of Public Relations, which during the year has considerably developed the circulations of some of its Service publications. *Jang ki Khabren*, the bi-weekly newspaper, now has a circulation of 153,000 and *Fauji Akhbar*, the veteran weekly for Indian troops, which is published in five languages, totals 50,500. *Weekly Commentary*, a news review, totals 53,600 and *Contact*, the India Command newspaper for British troops, totals 51,600 bi-weekly.

The Directorate also produces the India Command weekly *Victory*, which has become an established institution; *R.I.N. Log*, a monthly

journal for the R.I.N. (circulation 1,400), *I.A.F. Journal* (2,000 monthly), *Journal of the Air Forces* (9,950 fortnightly), *Gurkha Samachar*, *Indian Army Review* (monthly), *Watan* (Baghdad, weekly 8,000), *Sandes* (Italy, weekly, 6,000), *Indian Overseas Digest* (fortnightly, 2,500) and other publications for Indian troops wherever they may be serving. In Cairo completely original editions of *Fauji Akhbar* and *Jang ki Khabren* circulate 10,500 and 2,000 copies respectively and *Indian News Review* prints 2,500 copies weekly.

The Directorate's publications during the fifth year of war reached a total circulation of three-quarters of a million. In addition the Directorate produced "The Tiger Kills", the second volume of the "Tiger" series which began with "The Tiger Strikes".

### Broadcasting Programmes

Broadcasting for Indian troops has now been developed as one of the most active welfare services of the Indian Army. For Indian soldiers, who may not always be able to read newspapers or books, the wireless has been a special boon and full advantage of the opportunity thus provided has been taken. The Indian programmes are arranged by the Inter-Services Directorate of Public Relations in collaboration with All India Radio.

Indian Servicemen in India, Burma, Ceylon and overseas now have a programme to themselves each day from the Delhi station of All India Radio. Broadcasts for Indian troops are also made from Colombo, Baghdad, Beirut, Teheran, Bari (Italy) and Cairo.

Ten minutes are daily devoted to purely local entertainment for troops from selected areas. The man from the Punjab has his *dholak ke geets* and *mahiya*s and the men from the N.-W.F.P. have their own Pushto items; the *Poorbees*, South Indians and Mahrattas also have their own features. In addition special martial songs are prepared and broadcast in the men's own dialects. These are particularly popular. Thus almost every Indian in khaki is assured of entertainment suited to his individual taste.

The men can also peep into their homes, villages or towns by means of special messages broadcast for them. Individual messages for men overseas are sent to All India Radio by their relatives and friends and are then "featured" in the programmes. In addition general messages intended for groups of men from particular areas are delivered over the air by retired soldiers or prominent men from those areas.



News concerning towns, villages, welfare associations, village *panchayats*, unions, cattle, fields and other domestic affairs, gathered by recruiting and liaison officers and correspondents, are also broadcast. Announcements about pay and family allowances are made and there are also war commentaries which give the soldier a clear background to the various operations.

There is still a heavy demand for wireless sets, although 4,831 lease-lend sets have already been distributed to British and Indian units. An order for 8,000 more sets was placed in the U.K. at the beginning of 1944; 3,000 of these will arrive in India shortly.

### Indian Servicemen's Interests

The counterpart for Indian troops of the Soldiers', Sailors' and Air Force Families Association in England is the District Sailors', Soldiers' and Airmen's Board in India which looks after the interests of Indian Servicemen and their dependants. This organization has been greatly extended and put on a whole-time paid basis. District Boards now exist throughout India wherever enlisted numbers warrant them. They are the responsibility of the civil, provincial and district authorities but so vital to the morale of the services is contentment on the home front that the cost of the salaries of secretaries, clerks and welfare workers is now borne by Defence Estimates.

Further, the Army provides a large number of civil liaison officers, who are closely affiliated



An Indian soldier in Italy broadcasts a message home from the frontline.

with Provincial and District Boards, to assist and advise in matters affecting family welfare. *Fauji Sevadarinis* (Indian Military Women Welfare Workers) have been employed in certain districts to contact female relatives of absent servicemen who might be reluctant to ventilate their grievances to male welfare workers.



There are many factors which affect morale but are not the immediate concern of the Directorate of Welfare, e.g. training, pay, pensions, travel facilities, leave, canteens, accommodation and mails. To ensure co-ordination of effort and to effect improvement a Morale Committee was formed under the chairmanship of the Adjutant General in India. This committee meets every third month and all Directors whose work has any bearing on morale sit as members.

This year saw great developments in the policy of the educational training of British troops in the India Command and of Indian troops in India and overseas. Primary education was continued with Indian troops with greater intensity; with British troops the "proficiency certificates of education" were abolished and attention concentrated more on the individual needs of the soldier. Through the medium of correspondence courses the requirements of the individuals for training in all stages, academic and technical, in a variety of subjects were satisfied.

Wartime education, based on the system which had been perfected in the U.K., was developed. This aimed at increasing the knowledge of men about current affairs and inculcating a sense of their duties and responsibilities as citizens. To provide material for discussions pamphlets on current affairs are issued and wartime education handbooks for British and Indian troops and a basic handbook for use in Indian Army training centres are in course of publication.

The emphasis on wartime education, the main object of which is the raising of morale, resulted in the placing of educational training under the control of the Adjutant General. The increased responsibilities of the Army Educational Corps necessitated large expansions of staffs at G.H.Q. and formation headquarters and the establishment of a Directorate of Army Education as part of the Directorate General of Welfare, Education and Resettlement.

### Directorate of Resettlement

The Directorate of Resettlement was formed in March, 1944. It has formulated a scheme for assisting in the re-employment of ex-servicemen on demobilization. A central employment agency is to be set up for assisting officers to obtain civil employment. Services Employment Bureaux will also be established under Services Employment Officers and will be located in heavily recruited areas throughout India. This organisation will, it is hoped, meet the needs of all ex-service exchanges (which will have ex-servicemen as joint managers) and

D.S.S.Bs. A scheme for resettlement of W.A.C.(I.) personnel is also being evolved.

Plans for consideration by Provincial Governments concerning the employment of ex-servicemen in rural and urban areas are under preparation, though these schemes obtain their significance only by being fitted into the framework of post-war planning undertaken by these Governments for the welfare and well-being of the total population. Schemes for resettling and training disabled men are also under preparation.

### Vocational Training

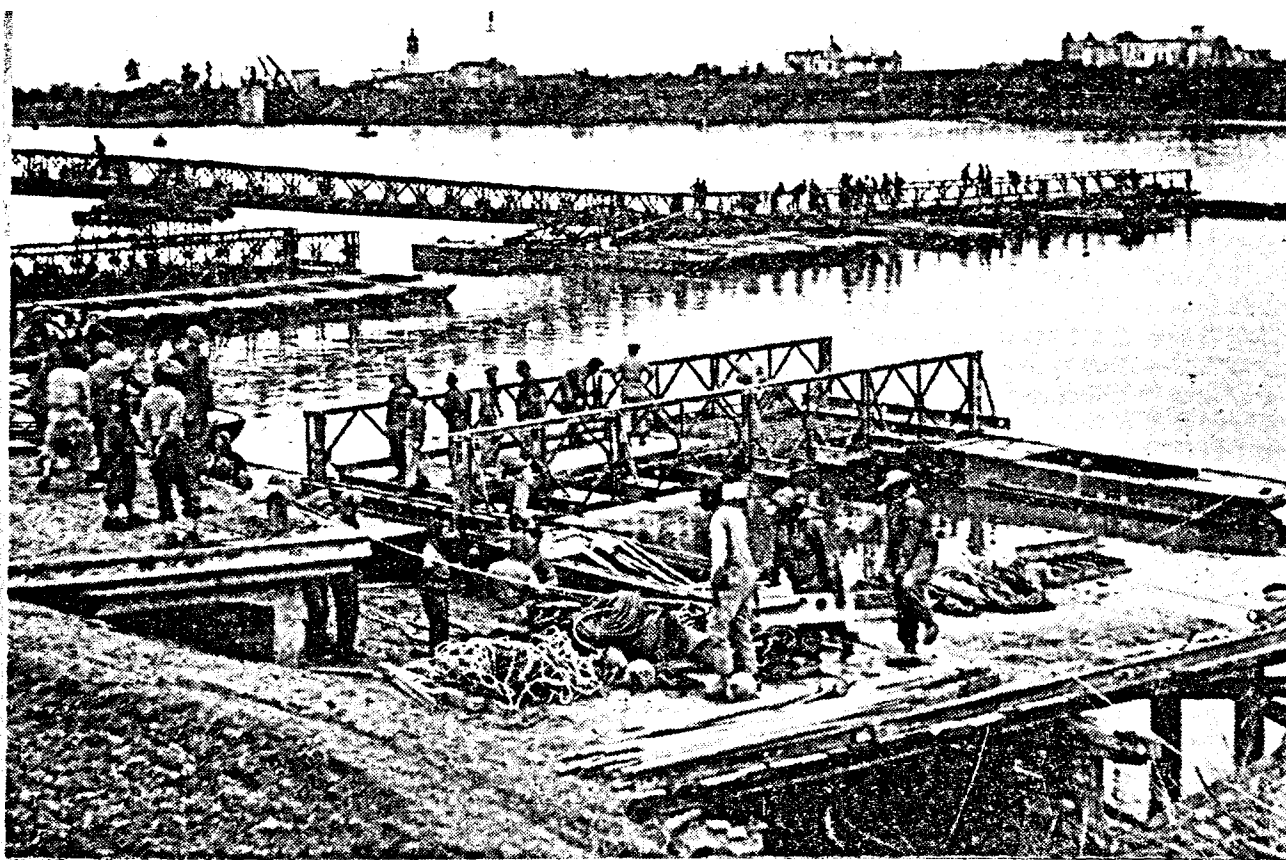
Civil Training Centres controlled by the Department of Labour are now fully occupied with the training of service personnel and civilian war workers and a good proportion of their present capacity will be retained for peacetime vocational training. This capacity, which at present is estimated to be 30,000 places, will become available for the post-war vocational training of service personnel awaiting demobilisation.

Information regarding types of employment which will be available after the war and for which training should be devised is being obtained from the Department of Labour. Meanwhile, action is being taken to cater for the majority of agriculturists serving in the Indian Army and who will doubtless wish to return to the land. To give visual and practical demonstrations of improved village conditions, and increased productivity of the soil, which are possible by the use of scientific methods and devices, exhibition rooms and demonstration plots have been, and are being, established at 33 selected training centres in the India Command.

A further stage has now been reached through the ready co-operation of the U.P. Government in the provision of agricultural training by civil instructors at nine selected training centres in the U.P. and at two civil institutes.

The duration of courses in training centres will be from three to four months. They are designed to introduce students to one or two specific agricultural subjects only. Courses at civil institutes will be more thorough and will last for ten months. At the end of their training men will be available for employment in connection with exhibition rooms and demonstration plots in their own units and will form a nucleus of trained instructors who will be utilised during the armistice period for training men in active units prior to their demobilisation.





Indian and British engineers of the 8th Army spanned the River Po (north of Ferrara, Italy) with a floating bridge 1,378 feet long—the longest military bridge in Europe. This bridge enabled the 8th Indian Division to chase the routed Germans. Picture shows a stage in the construction of the bridge.

## ENGINEERS' WORK

INDIAN and British Engineers have played a part in the fifth year of war which entitles them to a chapter to themselves. Their more spectacular achievements have been the building of new roads on the eastern frontier, without which the forces advancing on the Japs could not have moved, but a great deal of less obvious though equally important work has been done in rear areas.

This has involved large engineer constructional works, on which both the Military Engineer Services and a large number of units of the Corps of Indian Engineers have been employed. The M.E.S. now totals 1,000 officers and 11,000 subordinates controlling civilian contractors; the total strength of the Corps of Indian Engineers, not including the Transportation and Survey branches, now totals 140,000 men.

Reviews of the Engineer organisation have been carried out from time to time to ensure that it was correctly balanced with the army as a whole and that it was the most suitable to

meet the requirements of this theatre of war. Reorganisations have been and are being carried out, the main effect of which is to increase the number of troops skilled in the operation of mechanical plant, particularly road making and airfield constructional plant. The provision of skilled personnel to erect and run power stations, oil pipelines, refrigeration and other electrical and mechanical plant has also been of the greatest importance and adjustments to meet these requirements are constantly being carried out.

The fifth year has been one of steadily increasing effort on the part of the M.E.S. to construct installations and services to equip India as a base for offensive operations. During the year the monthly output of work has risen from approximately Rs. 4½ crores to Rs. 7 crores (£3,400,000 to £5,250,000). In all work to the value of Rs. 80 crores (£60,000,000) was carried out. A part of this output has been done by the Central and Provincial P.W.Ds., who, besides continuing their work on airfield construction, have taken over a share of the work involved in the construction and maintenance of army projects.

Whereas in previous years the main effort had been concentrated on airfields, during 1943-1944 an increasing proportion of the available resources were involved in the construction of depots, camps, hospitals, etc. At the beginning of the year under review there were under construction about 13,200,000 sq. ft. of covered storage accommodation, domestic accommodation for 150,000 men and hospitals for 16,000 beds. Now, at the beginning of the sixth year, there are under construction 23,000,000 sq. ft. of covered storage accommodation, camps etc. for 213,000 men and hospitals for 40,000 beds.

In the category of major high priority works alone the following have been completed and handed over to the users: Six divisional areas at a cost of Rs. 300 lakhs; three coastal craft bases costing Rs. 70 lakhs; eight hospitals costing Rs. 90 lakhs; four brigade areas costing Rs. 50 lakhs; 12 depots costing Rs. 490 lakhs; and six training centres costing Rs. 200 lakhs. During the nine months from October 1943 to June 1944 the Assam Access Road from Siliguri to North Salmara on the Brahmaputra, involving seven major river crossings, was constructed up to a standard capable of taking 180 vehicles a day in all weathers. The original programme of the construction of No. 3 Reserve Base at Panagarh was completed and handed over and work has been proceeding steadily on expansion by 100 per cent.

## Airfield Construction

Of the 71 airfields under construction at the beginning of the fifth year of the war 33 have since been completed to original standard ordered and 14 completed to a reduced standard. In addition to work on these 71 airfields the following was also undertaken during the year: Stepping up of seven airfields for very long range bombers—approximate cost Rs. 737 lakhs (about 78 per cent. completed); stepping up of 14 airfields for two squadrons of heavy bombers—approximate cost Rs. 400 lakhs (about 70 per cent. completed); additional items of work at 27 airfields costing Rs. 650 lakhs (about 60 per cent. completed). Work under the L.T.P. has been planned at 46 airfields.

The fifth year of war saw the final stages of the great eastern road schemes on which for so long Indian and British engineers have toiled. The new roads into Burma will remain, long after hostilities have ceased, as a reminder of the first great effort which had to be made towards the reconquest of Burma—the opening up of new routes through the mountain and jungles along which armies could advance.

India will in fact derive a rich dividend from the magnificent roads which have been constructed on her Eastern borders. Had it not been for the war and the absolute necessity for opening up the wild and almost impassable country between Assam and Burma it is doubtful whether the roads which now span the area would have been completed 50 years hence. In this bewildering maze of mountain and wellnigh impenetrable jungle Indian and British Army engineers, aided by tea planters, Naga hillmen and other local tribesmen, have opened up new trade routes, established new industries and vastly improved the internal communications of a region which in the past had largely lacked these means of progress.

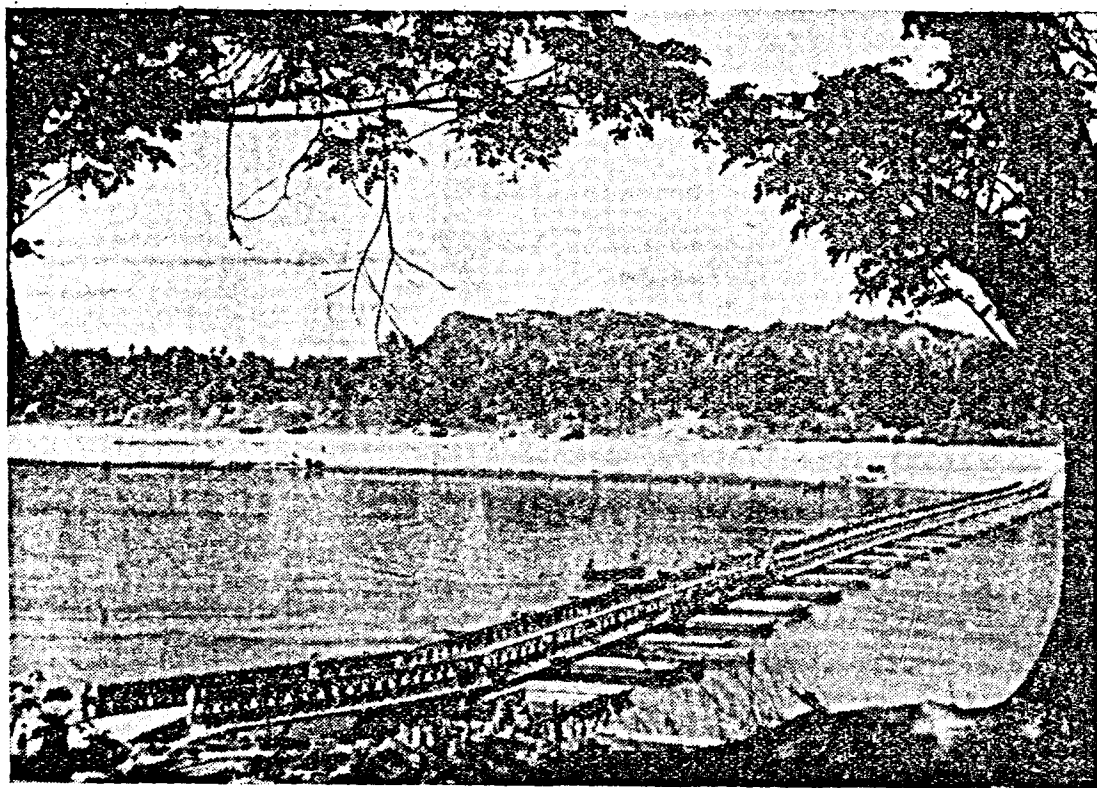
## Roads in Burma

Only the unfortunate evacuees who had to make their way on foot through the jungles and over the mountains to India when Burma was invaded can truly appreciate the magnitude of the task which confronted the men who made the roads. Bulldozers, pneumatic drills, dynamite and picks and shovels were used in the fight to drive a road where no road had previously existed. Thousands of soldiers and many thousands of coolies worked day and night to open new supply lines.

The first of the new war highways was the Manipur Road from Imphal which has grown from a poorly surfaced track ten feet wide into a 30-foot well-banked double highway which sweeps majestically for 132 miles over some of the wildest country in the world. Behind the making of this road—and indeed every other road in this little known and sparsely populated region—is a story of magnificent endeavour against almost insuperable odds.

## Work on Ledo Road

Equally famous is the Ledo road, to-day a wholly American project. It was Indian and British engineers who were responsible for its inception, reducing range after range of precipitous hills and tangled jungle to an engineering formula of roads and bridges. The engineers received invaluable assistance from the Indian Pioneers and from tea planters and their labour force as well as labour units from the Indian States. The area is highly malarious and the jungle was so thick that visibility was reduced to five yards. When American construction units joined in the task the Indian Engineers continued working on the road and are justly proud of the fact that they helped make the



A Bailey bridge across the Chindwin. This is the biggest floating Bailey bridge in any war area.

highway down which General Stilwell's men marched to victory against the Japs in the Hukawng Valley.

Throughout Assam in the past three years mile after mile of virgin country has been conquered and a network of good motor roads is growing day by day in the Naga Hills and across the Burma border. In pre-war days roads suitable for motor traffic were completely unknown in these regions and the roads which did exist conformed more to the specification of the former king of Assam—that they should be six elephants wide. Only elephants could have negotiated them during the monsoon, when they were a morass of mud, while in the dry season they become choked with thick, blinding dust.

#### Construction Marvels

To-day those conditions are part of the past. A network of good motor roads runs north, south and east through Assam and into

the Chin Hills. Other roads have been constructed through East Bengal and the Arakan, all of them carrying vital supplies to the forward areas. During their construction old ideas went by the board; time did not permit of leisurely, peacetime methods. Typical of the instructions the engineers received was one given to a road expert who was given a month to survey the Tamu road and a year to complete it throughout its length of 70 miles—he had previously worked on the Glencoe road, in Scotland, which is 36 miles long and which took three years to survey and seven years to build.

Already the strategic importance of these roads and the far-sightedness of the authorities who ordained that they should be built are evident. As our soldiers march along them to victory in Burma they give thanks for the sheer determination and ability of their comrades of the Indian and British Engineers who toiled to make these modern construction marvels possible.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,



W.R.I.N. Auxiliaries of Naval Headquarters, New Delhi. They are (L. to R.) Shanti Bose (Calcutta), Zarina Nath (U.P.), Elsie Paul (Madras), Margaret Benjamin (Dehra Dun), Kamala Pattabhi (Madura), Ruth Paul (Ootacamund) and Sylvia Ambat (Madras).

#### THE W.A.C.(I)

When Japan came into the war at the end of 1941 and overran the Far East it was evident that an immense new war effort in which every possible pair of hands must be used was urgently needed if the country was to be saved from invasion. Accordingly the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) was launched from the Adjutant General's Branch on April 9, 1942, with the primary object of releasing men for the services.

There was no time for preliminary training. The smartness that any corps gains from recruit training centres had at that time to go by the board. Girls went straight from civilian jobs into army appointments for which they had the necessary qualifications. Each one of them took over from some man. Some of them instantly became officers; it was considered that women who were doing work equivalent to that of a service officer should have his rank.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

To-day there are over 10,000 women in the W.A.C.(I.), many of them filling high staff appointments. Throughout India the girls in khaki and white are working side by side with the men of the fighting services. All three services—Navy, Army and Air Force have their own wing of the W.A.C.(I.).

Now the war situation is considerably easier. The enemy has been halted on India's borders and is being driven back. In Europe the Germans are retreating on all fronts. But the war is not yet won; there is still a long struggle ahead in the East. More and more women are needed to help the fighting services. To-day there is time to give them a preliminary training before they take up their service life.

#### Recruit Training Centres

Recruit training centres are now being opened in each of the five commands to serve as a bridge between civil and military life. Correct dress, drill, saluting, a knowledge of service terms, together with lectures on hygiene,

current affairs, colloquial English and other useful subjects are part of the course. At the end of the course some girls are posted direct to units, others go to various centres for specialised training.

Recruitment for the W.A.C.(I.) is voluntary and is open to any British subject or subject of an Indian State. Although many more women are needed the figure of 10,000 already enlisted is considered a satisfactory beginning.

The vast size and numerous peoples of the great sub-continent of India may be realised when it is known that in the W.A.C.(I.) there are 27 different nationalities speaking as many different tongues. Nowhere in the world is a women's corps so diversified.

### Naval Wing

Members of the Corps are serving in all climates, from the North-West Frontier to the most southerly areas and from Chittagong to Karachi. Women who in peacetime crowded the cool hill-stations are to-day working, with only a short break for leave, in permanent warm weather stations.

Owing to the nature of the country, its climate and vast population, the duties they perform differ in some respects from those of women's war services in other parts of the Commonwealth. Few women are working on gun-sites or driving vehicles, although those who are doing so have won the complete admiration of their male colleagues, and W.A.C.(I.) women are given no form of domestic work. Otherwise their work is materially the same; so are their discipline, drill and parades.

Duties are many and varied and frequently require a high degree of expert knowledge. On the Army side there are draughtswomen, laboratory assistants, storewomen, telephonists, modellers and photographers, cypher operators and stenographers. Many women are filling specialist appointments at G.H.Q. and elsewhere.

From Karachi to Cochin and east to Chittagong the Naval Wing girls, trim and cool in their white summer uniforms, are rendering invaluable aid to the R.I.N. They are to be found at all the major ports, deciphering code messages, working intricate type machines, whose secret mechanism transforms an ordinary message into code, and carrying out general administrative duties.



W.R.I.N. Auxiliaries do cypher work under the supervision of an officer.

In H.M.I.S. *Himalaya* at Karachi the girls are doing useful and interesting work at the gunnery training school. Among their duties are keeping the records on the firing range during practice shoots.

### Air Wing

Busy at various establishments throughout the country are the Air Wing girls. They do not wear R.A.F. uniforms or badges but they can be distinguished by the blue eagle they so proudly wear on their shoulders.

Many of these girls are doing highly specialised work. They are plotters and tellers in air operations rooms and photographic interpreters in units interpreting pictures taken on aerial reconnaissance. Others work in intelligence units. Some have highly responsible jobs controlling the movements of planes. Many Air Wing girls are doing secretarial work, some as personal assistants to high-ranking R.A.F. officers.

The W.A.C.(I.) owes a great debt to its first Chief Commander, Lady James, wife of Sir Frederick James, M.L.A. Her foresight, organising ability and hard work launched the Corps on its successful career; ill-health compelled her to retire at the end of 1943.

### C-in-C's Tribute

For eight months her place was ably filled by Mrs. M. E. Douglas, wife of Col. W.A.G. Douglas, I.A.O.C., now a prisoner of war in Malaya, who carried on until the Countess of Carlisle, the present Chief Commander, arrived to take up her appointment. Wife of the 11th Earl of Carlisle, Lady Carlisle was a senior officer of the A.T.S. in England, serving in that Corps for five and a half years before coming to India. Getting to work immediately on her arrival in July, she has already acquired a wide knowledge of her vast command.

The W.A.C.(I.) is proving a great unifying factor in Indian life. All loyal subjects anxious to do their bit are admitted to the Corps without distinction of race or creed. They live and work amicably side by side, united by a common purpose—the winning of peace and security. With realization of the imminence of the Allied all-out attack against the Japanese more and more women are joining the Colours. In the words of the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, "they are definitely helping to win the war".

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945.

## INDIAN DIVISIONS IN ACTION

With the close of the fifth year of war ten divisions had been announced as serving in the field. Against German or Jap, steeled by battle and seasoned by hardship, they have been notable weapons in the Allied armoury.

The 4th, 5th and 8th Indian Divisions are now household words throughout the Empire. The 4th fought all through the North African campaign and crossed the Mediterranean to continue the struggle in Italy. The 8th was the first in Italy, the 5th the first Indian Division to fight both in Africa and Burma. The 10th Indian Division was during the summer of 1944 referred to for the first time as fighting in Italy.

The Burma campaign brought to the world the news of six more Indian Divisions. The 3rd (Wingate's Chindits), 7th, 17th, 20th, 23rd and 26th gained notable successes, particularly the 7th, whose stand in its "Administrative Box" at the Ngakyedauk Pass gave the Japs their first real reverse, and the 17th, which had previously fought in the 1942 withdrawal from Burma and again fought off the Japanese from Tiddim to Imphal.

Others played a less conspicuous but no less gallant part. Each was one more reminder to the world of Indian skill in battle and bravery in the field.

### Chindit Expedition

Men of the 3rd Indian Division—Wingate's Chindits—have written new pages in military history with their airborne invasions of Jap-occupied Burma.

The Chindits first went into Burma as long range penetration troops in the famous expedition led by the late Major-General Charles Orde Wingate. They went over 200 miles inside Jap territory, moving and striking with a silent success that earned for them the title of "The Phantom Army."

Another expedition on an even more ambitious scale began early in 1944. In the region of the Chindwin American troops moved in along the only good line of retreat open to the Jap forces while the Chindits were flown in to a secret landing field 200 miles in the rear of the invaders.

"This airborne invasion, a brilliant operation of great magnitude, was accomplished with



◆  
Maj-Gen. Wingate (holding stick) reaches road-head at last. A jeep was waiting to take him back to Headquarters from where he had started three months before.  
◆



such clockwork precision and amid such secrecy that the whole force had been behind the Japs eight days before their presence was discovered.

Major-General Wingate was killed in an air crash shortly after this secret move. The inspiring example he set lived on among the men he trained and, under the command of Major-General W. D. Lentaigne, the Chindits continued to disorganise the lines of communication along which the Japs have been trying to escape.

### The "Fighting Fourth"

Leaving India in July, 1939, the Fourth Indian Division disembarked in Egypt the following month. When Italy entered the war after the defeat of France the task of holding the Middle East against much larger Italian forces fell to this most famous of all the Indian formations.

It soon established itself; within two months the Division had smashed Graziani's columns and turned east to tackle the Italian Army in Italian East Africa. The battle of Keren will live for ever as a memorial to what the gallant men of the "Fighting Fourth" accomplished in that grim and desolate area.

Returning to the Western Desert the Division proved itself as capable in defence as in attack and many times helped to hold up Rommel's cocksure forces. When the tide turned at El Alamein the men of the 4th Indian Division were there to trounce the hordes against whose onslaught they had previously fallen back. Later, when the British advance took the 8th

Army to the borders of Tunisia, the Division was there again to help in driving the Germans back to Tunis and finally out of North Africa altogether.

In Italy the Division fought on the Orsogna Front until transferred to the Cassino region, where it participated in bitter fighting. September 1944 found it still in Italy, relentlessly pushing back the stubbornly resisting Germans.

In the earlier days of the war the 5th Indian Division was marching hand in hand with the Fighting Fourth. Arriving in the Sudan in September, 1940, the Division saw much severe fighting in Eritrea and North Africa. It helped to take Keren and, nearly two years later, joined in the stand at the El Alamein line which saved Egypt and the Suez Canal.

The Division left Africa for Iraq and later returned to India. It then turned its attention from Germans to Japs, moving up to the Arakan, where it fought a magnificent action in relieving the hard-pressed 7th Indian Division and reopening the Ngakyedauk Pass.

### 5th Indian Division

As the Japs pushed towards Imphal early in 1944 reserves were suddenly needed urgently. When it was decided to move the 5th Indian Division to the Assam-Burma border time was so precious that the whole Division, with guns, transport and stores, was moved by air within ten days—one of the most remarkable airborne operations of the war. So successful was the move that the Division was in action 400 miles away before the Japs discovered that they had left the Arakan.

The Division helped in the successful defence of Imphal and then went over to the attack with the rest of 14th Army. Its most recent achievement was the re-occupation of Tiddim.

The 7th Indian Division made famous the term "Administrative Box"—using this technique in the Arakan it applied the first check to the attempted Jap invasion of India.

For 16 days the men of the Division were cut off in the Ngakyedauk Pass while Jap artillery and bombers tried to hammer them into submission. Aircraft maintained a daily flow of supplies to the besieged troops, who fought so ferociously that at least 1,000 Jap dead were counted around the perimeter of the "Box". Continual sorties were made and gradually the Jap forces were whittled down until it became possible to send men of a Scottish Regiment to fight a way out.

The siege was lifted when troops of the 5th Indian Division pushed through from the western end of the Pass. The Japs now became the attacked and were gradually prized out of the positions they had secured earlier, their plans for an invasion of India from the Arakan completely dissipated.



Men of the 10th Baluch Regiment in Italy being briefed before setting out on patrol duties.

Once again Indian and British troops had proved that man for man they were superior to the Japs, who, despite their fanaticism, were outfought and outmanoeuvred by the gallant garrison.

### 8th Indian Division

The 8th Indian Division was formed in October 1940 and went to Iraq. It took part in the Persian campaign of August 1941, when it advanced through Khorramshahr to Ahwaz. It then became part of the Persia-Iraq garrison. In June 1942, one brigade was rushed to North Africa to help stem Rommel's advance on the Nile; this brigade fought gallantly but was cut up at El Alamein.

When the Allies landed in Italy in July, 1943, men of the 8th Indian Division were among them. From that time onwards they have been steadily fighting their way through Italy and have had a part in most of the major battles fought on Italian soil; their ability as mountain fighters has made them invaluable.

The 8th Indian Division first gained fame in Italy by cracking the German line along the Trigno River. The Germans withdrew to the Sangro River, where the Division gained an even bigger triumph—after making their first crossing on November 28 they had completely overrun the defences by December 1 and the much vaunted German winter line was broken.

Since then the 8th Indian Division has gone on from success to success, fighting not only a formidable enemy but terrible weather conditions, ranging from snow and blizzards to torrential rains. It has been in the line since the start of the Italian campaign.

### 10th Indian Division

The 10th Indian Division has fought five campaigns in three years—Iraq, Syria, Persia, North Africa and Italy.

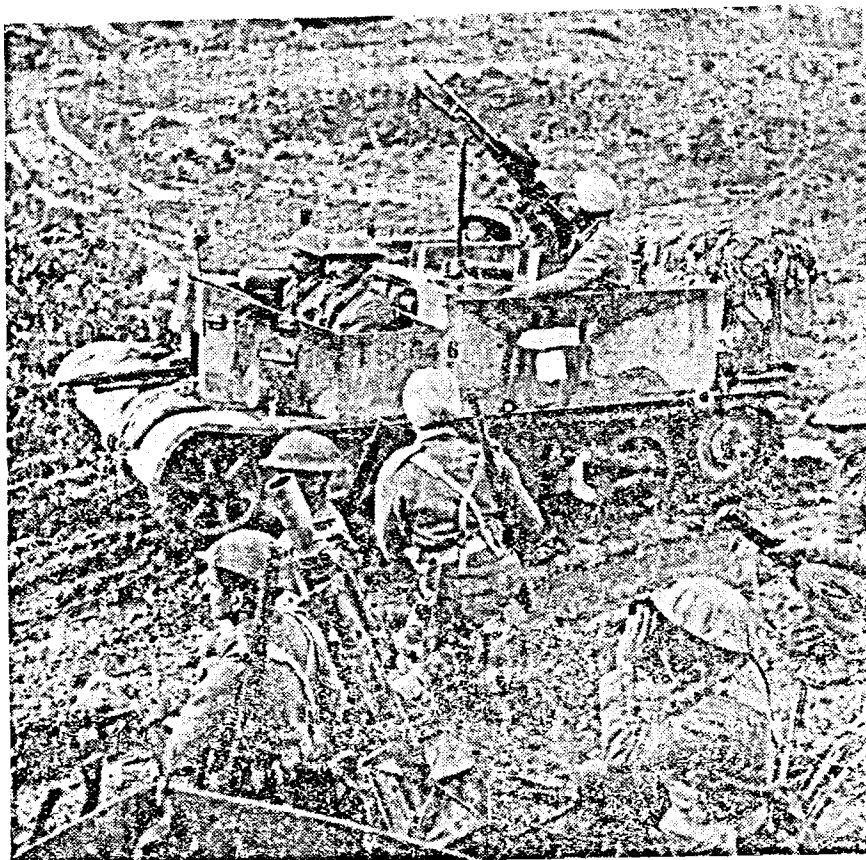
Formed in 1941 at Ahmednagar, its first action was in Iraq, where it helped to quell the Nazi-inspired revolt. Under the command of Major-General W. J. Slim—now Lieut.-Gen. Sir William Slim, the 14th Army Commander—it went to Syria to crush the Vichy resistance and in Persia soon afterwards one brigade helped the 8th Indian Division to capture the South Persian oilfields, the rest of the division quickly defeating strong opposition in the Pal Tak Pass.

It was during this campaign that British and Russian troops met for the first time. These operations removed the German threat to Iraq and Persia, the air route to India was made secure and a new supply line to Russia was opened up.

Major-General T. E. Rees then took over command of the division and led it to North Africa, the division making a record-breaking trek from Baghdad to Knightsbridge, Cyrenaica—1,500 miles in 14 days. The division shared much bitter fighting in North Africa and suffered considerable casualties in the struggle against Rommel's Afrika Korps.

Arriving in Italy in April, 1944, under the command of Major-General D. W. Reid the Division moved to the Adriatic Sector and captured the ports of Ortona and Pescara. It was then switched to the Central Sector, where its mountain warfare training has proved of inestimable value.

The 17th Indian Division was in the withdrawal from Burma in 1942. Most of its battalions are regular units.



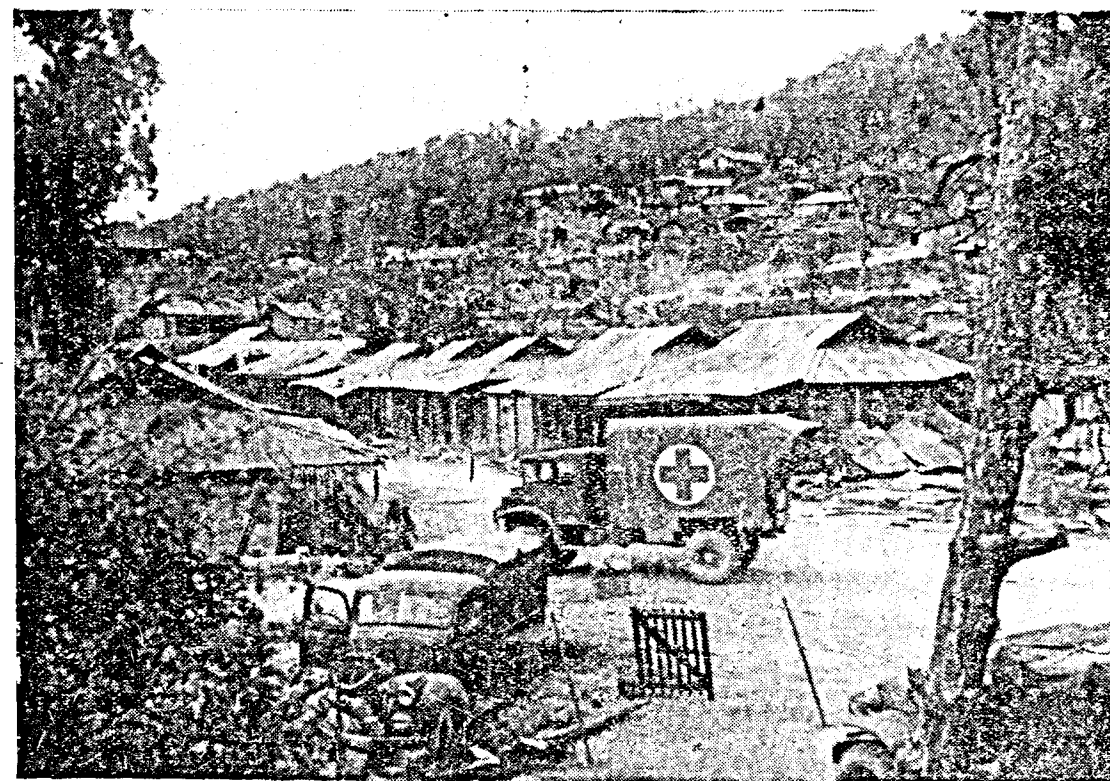
A Bren carrier manned by Indian troops moves under cover of mortar fire on the 8th Army Front in Italy.

When the Japs began the invasion of the Assam-Burma border country as a prelude to their much-boasted "March on Delhi" early in 1944 their strategy envisaged the cutting off and piecemeal destruction of the 17th Indian Division. The Jap radio announced that the Division was "in the bag"; on the contrary it was moving back in its own good time, making an orderly withdrawal from Tiddim towards Imphal.

The Division's columns were under fire the whole way and they had many casualties. But they inflicted double their own losses on the Japs, finally arriving at Imphal with 90 per cent. of their transport intact—a masterly achievement.

They arrived at Imphal in time to help the garrison there. Major-General D. T. Cowan, the Divisional Commander, said for all the world to hear: "We are the better troops and every man in this Division knows it. The moment we have the Jap on the move we have got him."

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,



The Naga village of Kohima.

As the Japs surged forward towards India early in 1944 the 20th Indian Division was given the Tamu area in which to check them. The Division covered the River Chindwin and the Kabaw valley, displaying superlative skill in conducting that most difficult of military operations, a slow withdrawal.

Gradually the Division moved back as the enemy crossed the Chindwin, paying a heavy price for the privilege—so eager were the Japs to get to Imphal that they were mown down by our men as they withdrew at their own pace. Perhaps the Japs never realised that the 20th Division was dictating the trend of events and that plans had been made for the withdrawal to cease when the Shenam Saddle was reached.

On arrival at the Shenam Saddle the 20th Division dug in and awaited the Japs, who soon found they had reached the limit of their advance. For weeks afterwards they suffered heavy casualties in a war of attrition fought from positions of the 20th Division's own choosing.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,



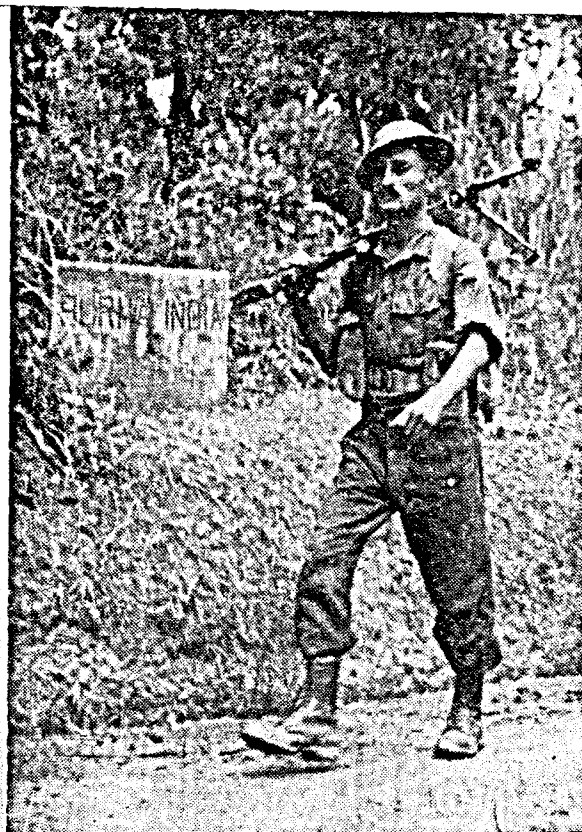
Supplies for Arakan troops which had arrived by water being transferred to lorries.



## THE FIGHTING IN BURMA

(Right) An Indian Bren gunner of the 6th Indian Division passed a boundary stone marking the Indo-Burma border.

(Below) Jem. Sher Mohd. of the 10th Baluch Regiment outside a captured Jap bunker.



Making good use



of their famous kukri the Gurkhas cut their way through the jungles of Burma.



Troops passing through Imphal-Kohima Road

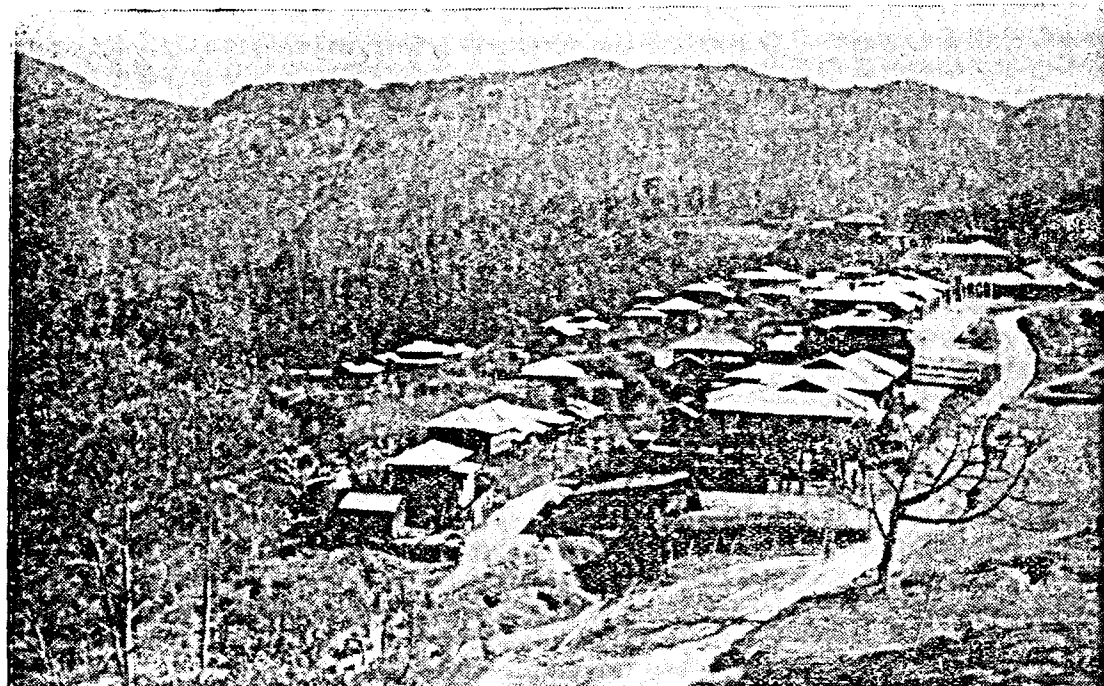
This picture shows the aftermath of the bitter fighting. The trenches in the

foreground were used by Japs.

A mortar detachment of the 11th Sikhs on Imphal Front about to bomb an enemy position.







The Tiddim village.

When the time came to resume the offensive again, after the opening of the Dimapur-Imphal Road, the 20th Division moved out to push the Japs back across the Chindwin and make them pay as heavy a price as a defeated army as they had done in their invasion march.

The 23rd Indian Division has been moving up and down the Burma-Assam Front ever since the Japs first appeared there.

For well over two years the Division has lived and fought among the hills and valleys around the outskirts of the Imphal plain. Keeping a watch on the Chindwin the Division played its part in the general delaying tactics that were adopted against the Japs as they prepared for the siege of Imphal and Kohima.

#### Epic March from Tiddim

When the 17th Division began their epic march from Tiddim, the 23rd Division covered the tail end of the columns as they went through, repulsing several Jap attempts to get at and destroy the transport of the retiring 17th.

Now the 23rd are busily employed in the offensive operations being conducted by 4 Corps and 33 Corps with the object of completely destroying the retreating Japanese.

The 26th Indian Division has had an arduous role to play while fighting in the Arakan. It is the only Indian Division to fight two campaigns on this front and has not been north of Chittagong for nearly two years.

All the Arakan fighting in 1943 saw the 26th Division engaged. Early in 1944, when the Japs started their push to India by way of the Arakan, it was the 26th Division that held them, inflicting on the invaders their biggest defeat of the war up to that date.

#### Stern Fighting

Two battalions of the Division temporarily joined the 5th Indian Division and helped in the forcing of the Ngakyedauk Pass to relieve the 7th Indian Division, who were besieged in their "Administrative Box" at Sinzweya. Stern fighting to the west and south-west of Buthidaung followed.

Everywhere the men of the 26th Division have had to maintain constant vigilance against a wily and determined enemy. In difficult country their role has been of vital importance as they guard one of the highways into India. The Division assisted materially in the first real setback the Jap aggressors experienced in the Burma fighting.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

## DEVELOPMENT OF CIVIL AVIATION

MANY thoughtful people have recently prepared and published plans for making a better and more prosperous India. We have had what is known as the Bombay Plan devised by certain industrialists of India. We have had also the People's Plan and the Congress Plan. During the last two or three years, the Government of India have undertaken the task and made considerable progress in preparing a large and comprehensive plan for the development of India immediately the war is over.

The objectives aimed at in all planning cases are more or less the same. In his address to the Central Legislature, His Excellency the Viceroy thus described the objective of Government Planning. "Our great aim", he said, "must be to plan for economical and social development so as to raise our standards of living and general welfare. We must lift the poor man of India from poverty to security, from ill-health to vigour, from ignorance to understanding. Our rate of progress must no longer

By Sir Gurunath Bewoor

A Broadcast from A.I.R., Delhi, on June 16, in the series, "Building a New India".

be at bullock cart standard." The main objective to be achieved by any plan should be the attainment of a higher standard of living, high and steady employment and conditions of economic progress and development.

Where does Civil Aviation come in this planning?

For the proper development and functioning of the life of the people of any country, an adequate and efficient system of communication is a vital necessity. Neither administration nor trade nor industry can function efficiently, neither social nor cultural relations develop or expand materially without such a system. Such a communication system is needed for the conveyance of the spoken and written word and for the conveyance of men and materials. For the former, we need a reliable, rapid and widespread system of posts, telegraphs and telephones. For the latter we need an equally reliable, rapid and widespread transport system by road, rail, sea and air.

Of these, airways are the latest form of transport and communication. The aeroplane

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

cuts across hills and valleys, rivers and oceans and travels straight from origin to destination. It attains speeds which neither road nor rail nor sea transport can approach. It cuts transit time often to a fraction of what it takes by road, rail or steamer. No country which aspires to develop socially, industrially, commercially and culturally, no country which aspires to take its proper place in communication matters in the international field can afford to neglect this latest and fastest means of communication.

It is sometimes urged that air transport is a luxury service. That is a profound mistake. From the point of view of the defence of the country air transport and air forces are absolutely vital, as the present war has shown. A well-established and extensive civil air transport service provides a large reservoir of trained and experienced personnel for defence. Leaving aside this aspect even, air transport is essential to develop India industrially and economically in competition with other advanced countries and thus secure for her people a higher standard of living.

In the years preceding the present war, the development of air services within India was for a variety of reasons comparatively slow and limited. In the year 1938, the total mileage flown by Indian regular air services operating within the country was about 1½ million miles. The number of passengers carried was just over 2,000 and the weight of mails carried was about 245 tons. The conditions created by the outbreak of war have not only prevented any expansion of civil air services but even those in existence have had a hard struggle to continue owing to non-availability of aircraft, spare parts, air crews, etc.

#### Air-Minded Age

As during World War I, so during the present world war, the impetus given by war requirements has resulted in rapid and varied developments in the manufacture of aircraft and in methods of navigation. Governments and businessmen have become air-minded. The practical advantages gained in the disposal of business, Government and private, through personal consultations rendered possible by the smooth, comfortable and rapid transit afforded by air services have become obvious.

The end of the war will result in a release of large equipment and manpower and will therefore see a very rapid development of air services throughout the world. Due to India's geographical position, many of the world routes will pass through this country. India must, therefore, be prepared to meet the needs of such routes and services and to participate in the

operation of such services. Apart from such world routes, India's own extent of territory makes her peculiarly suitable for the development of internal air services.

Plans for the development of civil air transport have been prepared by the Posts and Air Department of the Government of India. These provide for services on the basis of one daily return service between the principal cities of India and of those of the adjoining countries of Ceylon, Burma and Afghanistan. They constitute a route mileage of 11,200, involving approximately a flying mileage of 8 million. The capital investment of operating organisations is estimated at Rs. 3 crores and the annual cost of operation at over Rs. 2½ crores.

#### Plans for Development

A plan for the development of external air services from India to U.K., to the Near East, to China and to East Africa has also been prepared, involving a capital investment of operating companies of about Rs. 3 crores and annual operating cost of nearly Rs. 3 crores. It is anticipated that in the case both of internal and of external services Government assistance may be necessary to cover, in the initial period, the anticipated losses in operation.

The operation of air transport services requires the provision of aerodromes, aids for air navigation, aircraft and air crews. The plans prepared provide for a total of 111 aerodromes and landing grounds.

The total cost of the construction of new aerodromes and the adoption of the existing aerodromes for civil air transport and the construction of allied works, such as air port buildings, hotels, rest houses, quarters, aerodrome and air route lighting, radio station buildings, is estimated to be about Rs. 15½ crores. The equipment and installation of radio stations is estimated to cost about Rs. 60 lakhs.

#### Training Necessary

To operate the aerodromes and air routes, the existing staff of 34 officers and 110 subordinates will have to be increased to some 140 officers and over 1,000 subordinate staff. The internal services plan will require about 35 aircraft of suitable sizes, 60 to 70 air crews, and about 400 to 500 engineers and skilled mechanics. The external services contemplated would require 16 to 20 large transport aircraft, 30 air crews and a total personnel of approximately 1,600.

The chief difficulty in the development of air services of India will be manpower and it is therefore necessary to provide for education and

training. The plans prepared provide for a training institution which will give extensive and practical training to pilots, navigators, radio operators, aerodrome officers and ground engineering staff. It is also intended to encourage the further development of flying clubs, and the total estimate for training and education is Rs. 40 lakhs capital and Rs. 32 lakhs recurring. There are other costs involved in the central supervising and controlling establishment.

These plans may at first sight appear to some as somewhat modest and inadequate when compared with the plans of advanced countries, like the U.S.A. and the United Kingdom. The plan as contemplated, however, represents an expansion nearly six times the prewar operations. The main objective aimed at is a plan which consistently with the resources in men and money likely to be available for India, can be achieved within a few years after the war and which will provide services which within about 10 years, will pay their way and not be a burden on the general taxpayer.

It would be possible to plan more routes and more services, if money was no consideration. Apart from the plans already prepared, Government confidently anticipate development by private agencies of local and regional services which, while providing for local needs, will act as feeder services with the main trunk routes.

#### Government's Policy

The policy of the Government of India with regard to the development of civil aviation has been stated clearly on more than one occasion. That policy is to develop civil aviation with Indian capital under Indian management and to afford training and opportunities for employment to Indians.

Recently the Government of India have also stated their policy regarding the agency by which air services of India will be established and operated. That policy is to promote the development and expansion of air transport services, internal and external, generally by a limited number of sound and reliable private commercial organisations with their own capital and operated normally on commercial principles.

In selected cases Government will take a financial interest but not a controlling interest. The object of this is to ensure that while having Government guidance in their management the companies will operate freely on a commercial basis. The fact that the general policy of Government is to permit operation of air services

by private enterprise does not preclude Government from themselves undertaking any particular air transport services. It is necessary to provide for this, because there may be cases in which private enterprise is not coming forward to operate a service which Government may consider necessary in the general public interest.

#### Licensing Board

There will be an air transport Licensing Board established by Government and without a licence granted by this Board no Indian air transport service, internal or external, will be permitted to operate. The object of licensing is solely to ensure the safety and reliability of services, eliminate uneconomic competition, prevent the exploitation of public, conserve and utilise the national resources for the benefit of the country as a whole and to promote the development and expansion of air services on right lines and in the right directions.

In view of the very nature of air transport services, the whole of India must be considered as one territory, and regulations made for licensing and operation must be such as will be uniform throughout the country. As a result of discussions undertaken with representatives of Indian States, the Government of India are confident that it would be possible to secure an agreement which would enable the policy to be implemented in practice in a spirit of friendly co-operation so as to secure a rapid and orderly development of air transport services, internal and external, for the benefit of India and its people as a whole.

These plans for civil air transport services can only be put into operation after the war with Japan has ended because India is vitally concerned in the war against Japan and is an important base for operations for that war. All our resources in men and materials must first be devoted to win the war against Japan.

#### Preliminary Investigations

Though all possible preliminary investigations and preparations are being made, the implementations of the plan will, therefore, depend upon the Government in power at the end of the war but I feel sure that the advantages from a political and commercial point of view of a co-ordinated, extensive and efficient air transport service within India and with certain countries outside India will be so large and so clear that no Government in power could hesitate to make available the necessary resources, the effort and the manpower to implement the plan.

## NEWSPRINT QUOTA INCREASED

It has been decided by the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies that with effect from July 1, 1945, the present newsprint rations of newspapers whose pre-control annual consumption was over ten tons be raised to the level of their average monthly consumption during July-December 1942, said a Press Note issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, on June 20.

It added: The newspapers with smaller pre-control consumption are already enjoying 150 per cent. of their average monthly consumption or import quota during July-December 1942.

On being represented that newsprint reels are damaged to quite a large extent in transit due to defective packing, the Government have further decided that newsprint to cover wastage in the form of reel ends and cuttings produced in the process of printing newspapers, to the extent of 5 per cent. of the total newsprint used in any calendar month in the case of machines using newsprint in reels, will be allowed outside the ordinary ration.

The general increase which is at present allowed to newspapers over and above the quantities specified in their permits is withdrawn with effect from July 1, 1945, and for the period subsequent to June, 1945, permits will be issued for the effective ration and will include the general increase.

## VICEROY'S TELEGRAM TO MR. M. A. JINNAH

(CONTINUED FROM PAGE 53)

Telegram dated June 17 from His Excellency to Mr. Jinnah:

Thank you for your telegram of 16th June. May I take it (a) that you and others invited who are Members of Muslim League will attend Conference on 25th but (b) that you will wish to consult your Working Committee when proposals have been made clear to you at Conference. I suggest that long adjournment of Conference might be most inconvenient to others attending and that your Committee might meet in Simla before the end of June. I would do my best to arrange travel and accommodation. But accommodation is very difficult and if Members of your Committee can stay with friends to greatest possible extent I shall be obliged.

# INDIA'S ROLE IN INTERNATIONAL TRADE

## Mr. B. N. Adarkar's Broadcast

"THE problems of commercial policy will soon take their rightful place on the agenda of post-war reconstruction and it is high time that Indian exporting interests began to organise themselves either in the form of Export Groups or in other ways with a view to making a determined attempt to retain and consolidate the gains made during the war," said Mr. B. N. Adarkar, Assistant Economic Adviser to the Government of India, in a talk broadcast in the series, "Building a New India," from All India Radio on June 2.

"There has been a tendency in the past," Mr. Adarkar said, "to regard international trade as of relatively minor significance to India as compared with her domestic trade. It is often urged that the internal trade of India is 17 to 18 times as large as her foreign trade. Similarly, it is pointed out that in comparison to the size of her territory and population and the enormous wealth of her natural resources, India's contribution to the total trade of the world is very small. In 1938, according to the statistics, compiled by the League of Nations, India contributed only 2.6 per cent. of the world's imports and 3.4 per cent. of its exports.

## Per Capita Income

"The significance of international trade in the national economy of this country could be considered from yet another angle, namely, the per capita value of foreign trade in relation to the per capita national income. It is well known that the per capita income in this country is extremely low: it was only Rs. 67 before the war and out of this only a little over Rs. 5 were earned by production for export.

"If export and import are taken together, the per capita share of total foreign trade comes to only a little less than Rs. 10 in the case of India, while it is Rs. 370 for the U.K., Rs. 113 for the U.S.A., Rs. 100 for Germany and Rs. 70 for Japan. Of all the important trading nations of the world, China and Russia are the only two countries having a smaller per capita foreign trade than India.

"What is the significance of these figures from the point of view of policy? Do they mean that India can afford to pursue an isolationist policy in regard to international trade, or that she need not adapt her domestic economic policy to the needs of international collaboration? I think any such inference will be not

merely fallacious but dangerous in the extreme. Whatever the percentage share of India in the total world trade, there is no doubt that India has a very important part to play in the world economy. Indeed, but for the enormous resources in manpower and materials which India placed at the disposal of the United Nations during the present war, their entire war effort would have been very seriously crippled.

"Apart from the fact that even in peacetime, India holds a virtual monopoly of several key commodities of world commerce, such as jute, shellac and mica, during the war when the alternative sources of supply were blocked, she was the only important source of supply in the East for several vital commodities, such as piece-goods, iron and steel, sugar, kapok, pepper and oilseeds. Apart from this, the doctrine of autarchy or isolation can hardly be in accord with India's own basic economic needs.

## International Co-operation

"In the first place, whatever the size of her home market or the extent of economic development she is able to achieve, India will continue to depend on the export trade for the disposal of some of her primary commodities: commodities like jute, short staple cotton or shellac which occupy a pivotal place in the national economy of the country will have to suffer a very severe shrinkage in production, if the foreign markets are lost.

"Secondly, India's industrialisation will tend to increase rather than decrease her dependence on foreign countries. It is futile to hope for any substantial or rapid progress in the development of Indian industries without the help of foreign capital goods or technical skill.

"It is, moreover, wrong to imagine that the accumulation of large sterling balances has made India self-sufficient in respect of capital resources. There is a limit to the amount of sterling balances which Britain can allow to be utilised year by year even in purchases to be made in the sterling area, while so far as our requirements from the dollar countries are concerned, the purchasing power of sterling balances will depend on the state of Britain's balance of payments with those countries. Responsible opinion in this country now holds that our progress in industrialisation is likely to be greatly hampered if it is to depend entirely on the yearly liquidation of sterling balances.

"In these circumstances, it is not unlikely that India may have to depend to a very considerable extent not merely on foreign capital goods and foreign technical skill, but also on foreign capital. So long as this is so, India has no alternative but to seek the solution of her economic problems along the lines of international co-operation rather than of autarchy or isolation.

"It is as necessary in India's own interests as in the interest of the comity of nations that she should take due account of any repercussions which her policy is likely to produce on the welfare of other nations. This means that India must be prepared to renounce as a matter of normal practice the use of all those instruments of economic nationalism such as blind protectionism, competitive depreciation of currency or discriminatory trade arrangements, which were productive of so much hatred and ill-will among nations during the inter-war period. Indeed, this should be the first basic principle underlying any commercial policy for the post-war period.

## Exports and Imports

"Apart from this broad principle, the probable direction of India's foreign trade in the post-war period will also have a vital bearing on her commercial policy. During the last two decades, and particularly during the war, we have travelled some distance towards the goal of industrialisation and are now planning for a much faster progress in that direction after the war. If these plans materialise, both the composition and direction of our exports and imports will undergo certain important changes.

"On the export side, the primary commodities will steadily lose their relative importance, as we shall probably be able to find a market for them at home, and their place in the export trade will be taken by manufactured or semi-manufactured articles. On the import side, the most important part of the trade will consist of capital goods and other articles of industrial use. While the markets for our manufactured articles will lie in undeveloped countries, our requirements of machinery and other capital goods will have to be found elsewhere. In other words, our foreign trade will tend to be more and more of multi-lateral character, our export trade in manufactured articles being confined mainly to Eastern markets, and our requirements of capital goods being obtained from the industrialised nations of the West.

"This kind of triangular trade is possible only if the leading nations of the world are prepared to trade on that basis and since a

system of multi-lateral trade is of advantage to India, it naturally follows that India's commercial policy in the post-war period should be such as to help a revival of that system. Throughout the recent discussions on international commercial relations, multi-lateral trade has been accepted as the ultimate goal of policy, though expert opinion is still very sceptical as to whether it will at all be possible to re-establish multi-lateral trading except after a long transitional period after the war.

## Indian Exporting Interests

"While a well-conceived commercial policy on the part of the State is a necessary prerequisite of trade expansion, it must also be supplemented by some organised effort on the part of the businessmen themselves. In the pre-war period when our exports consisted largely of primary commodities which were mostly in keen demand in the world markets and were generally admitted free of duty in foreign countries, the export trade could be left to look after itself without much detriment to the interests of the country.

"A time is soon approaching, however, when we shall have to rely more and more on exports of manufactured articles and as competition, particularly from the Western industrialised countries, is bound to be keen in respect of such articles, Indian exporting interests will have to make a much greater effort now than was required of them in the pre-war period.

"In the U.K., the U.S.A., and the Dominions, the exporting interests have long been preparing themselves for an all-out export drive and special organisations have been set up to study the requirements of export markets. No such activity is yet visible in this country. What is required is concerted action on the part of individual export traders to adopt improved quality standards, improved methods of packing and better trade practices, as well as intensive research into the special requirements of the market with which each trade is concerned. The machinery of Export Group which is being extensively used in other countries could with suitable modifications be adopted in India also, provided the commercial interests in this country are determined to consolidate the easy gains they have made during the war.

"For nearly six years now, India's trade relations with European countries have been in suspense. These countries have now been liberated and may be trading with the outside world on normal basis within a few months. Considerable effort and watchfulness will be



required on the part of Indian exporting interests if they are to re-establish their pre-war position in these markets. The trade with South-East Asian countries which are in a sense India's natural markets will also call for similar planning.

"In this connection, it seems necessary to sound one note of warning. It is an unfortunate fact that prices in India are at present completely out of parity with those in other countries, and it is by no means certain that exporters are aware of the serious danger involved in this disparity. Wholesale prices in the U.K. as measured by the Board of Trade Index have risen by about 71 per cent. above the pre-war level, while the rise in India, as indicated by the Economic Adviser's Index is more than twice as much. This rise in prices, combined with the existence of large hoards of purchasing power and the accumulation of replacement and restocking demand creates a very favourable prospect for the import trade, but on the other hand, it constitutes a serious handicap for the export trade.

"It is true that exporters themselves have no control over the domestic cost structure, but even so, they can do their part in organising the trade in such a way as to keep down the margins charged by middlemen and in offering the foreign consumer some compensation in other ways, say, in the form of improved grading and standardisation. The continuance of the present high prices when the low price countries are again able to resume their trade is likely to do incalculable harm to the export trade in the country."

## WAR TRADE OF BRITISH INDIA

The 16th and 17th series of the publication "Statutory and other Notices issued by the Government of India and the Reserve Bank of India regarding matters relating to the trade and commerce of British India in connection with the war," covering the period, June 1, 1943 to August 31, 1943, and September 1, 1943 to November 30, 1943, respectively, have been issued by the Economic Resources Board recently.

The publication, which is intended to facilitate reference, reproduces statutory and other notices concerning imports and exports, finance, trading with the enemy and the control of enemy property, control of newsprint, iron and steel, petrol, machinery, tools, tea, rubber, etc., control of prices, house rents, wages, freights, hoarding etc., production, supplies, labour, insurance, transport, designs, etc.

## PRIVATE TRADE WITH FRANCE AND BELGIUM

A Press Note issued recently by the Commerce Department, Government of India, stated:

Belgium is no longer an enemy territory due to its reoccupation by the Allies.

The notification which declared France as enemy territory is also being cancelled.

The Government of India have issued notifications permitting all commercial and financial dealings with persons and concerns in Belgium and France. The previous notifications which restricted business correspondence with these countries to ascertaining facts and exchanging information only have been cancelled. Thus private trade with France and Belgium is permissible, but it is subject to the existing export, import and exchange control regulations in force in British India as well as in those countries.

Properties belonging to persons and concerns in France and Belgium, which have already been vested in the Custodian of Enemy Property in India, Bombay, will continue to remain so vested, but monies arising from transactions now authorised with France and Belgium will not vest in him and an exemption order to this effect has also been issued.

## INDIAN EXPLOSIVES ACT AMENDED

By an Ordinance promulgated and published today in the *Gazette of India* the Indian Explosives Act, 1884, which regulates the importation, stowage, handling and transport of explosives, has been amended in the interest of the public today, said a Press Note issued by the Labour Department, Government of India, on June 1.

It added: Section 14 of the Act gave wide exemptions. The amending Ordinance now promulgated provides that the Centre will be the only authority which can grant relaxations from the provisions of the Act. The Centre will now be in a position to lay down conditions under which relaxations can be granted.

Another defect which exists in the Act is that it does not require any report of an accident to be made to the Central Government or a technical authority and that it makes no provision for an inquiry by Government experts. The amending Ordinance makes due provision for inquiry and technical investigation into accidents by Central Government experts.

## WAR RISKS INSURANCE SCHEMES: FREE COVER FOR NEXT QUARTER FOR EXISTING POLICIES

A Press Communique issued by the Commerce Department, Government of India, on June 21 stated:

"In view of the improvement in the war situation, the Central Government have had under consideration the question of either giving free cover or reducing the premium payable under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Ordinance.

"The Central Government have now decided that all policies expiring on June 30, 1945, issued under the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Scheme shall, without the payment of any further premium, be deemed to be effective for the quarter ending on September 30, 1945. For the quarter ending on September 30, 1945, premium shall, however, be payable on new policies which are either taken out for the first time or are taken out for an amount in excess of the amount for which free cover is provided as above, at the rate of one pice per month for each complete sum of Rs. 100 in respect of goods liable to compulsory insurance, and at double that rate in respect of goods that are voluntarily insurable.

"As regards the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Scheme, the Central Government have decided to waive payment of the instalment of premium due on September 1, 1945, under all policies of insurance issued under this Scheme for Factories and Inland Vessels in respect of which all instalments of premium upto, and inclusive of, the quarter ending on August 31, 1945, have been paid by the due date. Premium shall, however, be payable on all new policies and supplementary policies taken out in respect of properties becoming insurable on or after September 1, 1945, but before December 1, 1945, at the rate of one-fourth per cent. of the insurable value as laid down in the Commerce Department notifications No. 2-W.R.I.(F)/45 and No. 4-W.R.I.(F)/45 dated March 3, 1945."

### Scope of New Changes

This announcement, which may be regarded as inaugurating the policy for the inevitable transition from war to peace, is a landmark in the history of war risks insurance in India.

The war risks insurance schemes were started under the stress of war. The Goods Insurance Scheme was started in October, 1940, and the Factories Insurance Scheme in May, 1942.

The advent of war in Europe six years ago brought out with grim reality the increasing dangers to which people and property were subject as a result of air raids, bombardments and other acts of war by the enemy. Although these dangers from that theatre did not actually materialise so far as India was concerned, yet the rapid developments which followed the outbreak of hostilities on the Continent engendered a feeling of alarm and nervousness in mercantile circles in the country, which, if unchecked, would have done considerable harm to the even flow of wartime trade and commerce.

As insurance companies were not in a position to cover land war risks, commercial interests approached the Government of India for the introduction of a commodity war risks insurance scheme. The Government, after careful consideration of the representations of the various commercial interests and being satisfied that it was essential, in the interests of ensuring normal trade during the war period, that merchants should be enabled to insure their goods against land war risks, evolved a scheme under which the Central Government undertook the liability of insuring against land war risks in respect of business goods. This was the origin of the War Risks (Goods) Insurance Scheme.

### Factory Insurance Scheme

The outbreak of the war in the East and its approach to the very borders of India brought to the forefront the question of insuring factories. Even before, in the wake of the introduction of the goods insurance scheme, commercial bodies had pressed the need for the introduction of a similar scheme to provide cover against war risks to (a) factory plant and machinery and (b) all immovable property. It was felt that a countrywide scheme covering all kinds of immovable properties would be impracticable; it was, therefore, decided to undertake the liability of providing cover against war risks only to factory plant and machinery, factory buildings, and some other Allied properties.

The rate of premium for the Goods Insurance Scheme was originally fixed at half-anna per hundred rupees per month. It was progressively increased to three annas for the quarter ended July 30, 1942, since during that quarter the scheme was extended to cover damage by denial measures. It remained at that

level for a year and thereafter was progressively reduced to one anna for the quarter ended June 30, 1944. There was a slight increase by a pice, in the subsequent two quarters, as the scheme was then extended to cover risk of damage by accidental explosion. Although in the quarter ended March 31, 1945, a further one pice was added to meet the cost of freight equalisation and free marine war risks cover scheme, the rate was actually lower at one anna. The rate for the current quarter ending June 30, 1945, has been further reduced to nine pies.

The total cover given under the Scheme amounted to Rs. 198.33 crores as on April 15, 1945. The maximum total cover in some of the previous quarters exceeded Rs. 400 crores.

The rate of premium payable under the Factories Insurance Scheme was 4 per cent. of insurable value during the first insurance period (2 years) and 1 per cent. during the second and ½ per cent. during the third period of one year each. The total cover given amounts roughly to Rs. 420 crores.

#### War Risks Insurance Fund

Although a War Risks Insurance Fund is kept separately for account purposes, ultimately it merges in Central revenues. The ultimate financial liability, however, in the case of insufficiency of the Fund to meet the actual demands for compensation for loss or damage falls on the general revenues. Thus, the Central Exchequer is burdened with the entire potential liability under the schemes, which in case of wholesale damage would have been colossal.

The risks originally covered did not include damage occurring as a direct result of precautionary or preparatory measures taken with a view to denying facilities to the enemy. This risk was subsequently included when the war in the East approached the borders of India. The scope was further widened in the light of the experience of the Bombay Docks explosions, so as to cover damages occurring as a direct result of any explosion of munitions etc. required for war purposes.

In these two respects the Indian schemes go beyond the scope of the British Commodity Insurance Scheme, the Business Scheme, the Private Chattel Scheme and the War Damage Act.

On account of the cessation of hostilities in Europe and the receding of the war in the East far away from the borders of India, it has been possible to give free cover for the

next quarter to goods and factory properties already insured. But, war risks are not entirely over: as long as the war in the East continues and India is to be a major base of operations for this war, damages through explosions of munitions etc. will continue to be a possibility. Therefore, it has been decided that in respect of the new policies that are required to be taken out, under the two schemes some premium should be charged. But, in the light of the changed war situation and the claims experience of the past, the premium rates have been fixed at the nominal figure of one pice per hundred rupees per month for the quarter ending September 30, 1945, in respect of goods and at the existing rate of ¼ per cent. of the insurable value for the remainder of the current insurance period, in respect of factories becoming insurable on or after September 1, 1945, but before December 1, 1945.

#### BEVIN TRAINEES RETURN FROM UNITED KINGDOM

Twenty-two technicians belonging to the 11th batch of Bevin trainees have returned to India after completing their training in the United Kingdom.

The batch consists of 12 technicians trained in aero-engine maintenance and repair, 9 in aircraft assembly and repair work and 1 in open ore mining and maintenance of mining equipment.

Among the returned trainees, 7 are from the Punjab, 3 each from Madras and Bombay, 2 from the United Provinces, and one each from N.-W.F.P., Sind, C.P. and Berar, and Delhi. There are also 2 trainees from the Indian States, one from Hyderabad and one from Travancore State.

Under the Bevin Scheme 637 technicians have so far returned to India after completing their training in the U.K. and 151 are under training.

#### TECHNOLOGICAL EDUCATION

The Higher Technological Education Committee, appointed by the Government of India to set up a Higher Technological Institute in India, has appointed a sub-committee to prepare a detailed scheme in this connection. The sub-committee will submit its report about September 1945.

## IMPORT OF PROCESSED FOODSTUFFS

It is officially confirmed that more infant milk foods, condensed and powder milk, more cheese, jams and marmalades and larger supplies of tinned meat, fish and other processed foodstuffs, will be available for civilian needs in India during the current year than during the previous two years.

To facilitate the import of processed foodstuffs, supplies of which had been suddenly cut off as a result of wartime restrictions and heavy diversion of shipping for imports of grain, and to secure control over their distribution and prices, the Central Food Department introduced, sometime ago, its Foodstuffs Import Scheme.

#### Import Advisory Panels

Four Food Import Advisory Panels presided over by the Regional Food Commissioners of the respective regions, were constituted at the main Indian ports, the main functions of which are to: (a) advise the Central Government about the quantities and varieties of processed foodstuffs required by the region served by them for each half year. (b) distribute the import quotas allotted to their port on the basis of their advice to selected wholesale importers; (c) select the retailers through whom the goods are to be distributed; (d) recommend the wholesale and retail prices at which the foodstuffs are to be sold and (e) generally to take all necessary steps to ensure that there is equitable distribution at reasonable prices.

While the distribution of infant milk and certain patent foods, which are generally sold by druggists, is the concern of the Industries and Civil Supplies Department of the Government of India, the Food Department controls under the Panel scheme, all other imports of processed foodstuffs.

#### Import Programme

The food import programme for each calendar year is framed six months in advance on recommendations made by the Panels and forwarded to the High Commissioner for India in London for submission to the London Food Council and the Combined Food Board, Washington. It is therefore emphasized that all demands for imports of foodstuffs should be placed before the London Food Council for approval before issuing any import licence, as that body has the necessary information about the overall demand and supply position and is

in the best position to ensure equitable distribution amongst Empire countries, at least in the case of important foodstuffs in short supply.

Wholesale importers are expected under the scheme, to distribute only to selected retailers who in their turn must sell at fixed prices to the consuming public in reasonably small quantities at a time.

## MUSTARD OIL FOR BENGAL

The meeting convened by the Central Food Department to consider the question of supplies of mustard seeds and oil to Bengal was held in New Delhi on June 20 under the Chairmanship of Mr. B. R. Sen, Food Secretary, Government of India, and was attended by Regional Food Commissioners of the Eastern and North-West Regions and U.P., representatives of the Bengal, Punjab and U.P. Governments and of the Commerce Department of the Central Government.

Tentative conclusions reached include the supply of 20,00,000 maunds of mustard seed and 9,50,000 maunds of oil to Bengal from U.P., enforcement of a pooled price for mustard seeds by the Bengal Government from a very early date and assistance to be given by the Central Government to Bengal in the movement of mustard seeds and oil from the exporting provinces. In addition to supplies from U.P., the main exporting area, Bengal will continue to receive allotments from the Punjab, C.P. and Rajputana States.

With the establishment of a new division in the Central Food Department, inter-provincial movements and prices of edible oils and oil seeds is now a responsibility of the Food Department, and it is felt that it should now be possible to plan a better distribution of this commodity than has been possible in the past. It is considered likely that a Basic Plan for oils and oilseeds might begin to operate from the next crop year.

## PRICES OF KEROSENE TINS REDUCED

With effect from June 1, 1945, the Government of India have authorised a reduction in the selling prices of new 4-gallon Black Plate Kerosene tins from As. -[12]8 to As. -[12]-. The price of 4 gallon Bright Plate Kerosene tins remain unchanged, said a Press Note issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India.

## PRICES FIXED FOR UMBRELLAS, KNITTING WOOL, TOBACCO AND RAZOR BLADES

**H**ERE are the latest notifications issued by the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance relating to the sale of umbrellas, knitting wool, Eveready Flashlight cases, pipe smoking tobaccos, razor blades, etc.

About fourteen lakh umbrellas will be on the market at controlled rates within the course of the next few weeks. The Controller General of Civil Supplies, Government of India, has approved the maximum retail selling prices chargeable by a dealer in respect of umbrellas of 8 ribs, 25" long. For this purpose umbrellas have been divided into four classes, viz., A, B, C and D, according to the material used, and their retail selling prices range from Rs. 4 (D class) to Rs. 8 15/- (A class). Each umbrella will have its price either marked or printed on it.

Profit margins have also been fixed in respect of umbrellas for ladies and children and superior classes of umbrellas. The retail selling prices, worked out on the basis of sanctioned profit margins, will be printed on these umbrellas.

These prices have so far been made applicable to the Provinces of Bombay, Central Provinces, Bengal, Assam, Bihar and part of the United Provinces. Similar prices of umbrellas manufactured for other parts of the country will be approved by the Controller General of Civil Supplies shortly.

The prices of certain brands of knitting wool have been revised. The maximum retail selling price to consumers are:—Wendy wool plain 3 and 4 ply Rs. 14-8 per lb., Wendy wool plain Sock Rs. 14-9 per lb., Clipper Baby wool Rs. 14-8 per lb., and Wendy Super Botany wool Rs. 15-15-0 per lb.

The maximum selling prices of Eveready 2-Cell Standard Flashlight Cases, No. T.423 and No. T.830 complete with bulb but without cells have been fixed.

The price for Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Karachi, Cochin or Delhi, at which an importer may sell these flashlight cases to a wholesale dealer has been fixed at Rs. 1-12 per case. The

wholesale selling prices, in other cases, have been fixed at Rs. 2 per case; and the maximum retail selling price at Rs. 2-6 per case.

The wholesale and retail selling prices of Messrs. Marcovitch and Co. Ltd.'s Black and White tobacco and Messrs. Godfrey Phillips Ltd.'s Sweet Cut and Grand Cut Smoking Mixtures have been revised. Wholesale and retail selling prices have also been fixed for several more well-known brands of pipe smoking tobaccos such as Afrikander Mixture, Balkan Sobranie Smoking Mixture, Four Square Tobaccos, John Cotton Smoking Mixture and Dunhill's Standard Mixture and My Mixture.

The manufacturers' selling price to wholesale dealers and also the whole-sale selling prices in other cases of Handy Soap per dozen packets of 1 lb. each, manufactured by Messrs. Bharat Tiles and Marble Ltd., Bombay, have now been reduced by 50 per cent.

The importers' issue price and maximum whole-sale selling price in other cases of Vita Brand Razor Blades have been fixed. The retail selling price of these blades per packet of ten has been revised to As. -9/- at ports and As. -10/- elsewhere.

## TOILET ARTICLES

In view of the improved supply position and in pursuance of the general policy of gradual reduction in prices, it has been decided to reduce the prices of toilet articles. This decision was taken at a recent meeting of the Toilet Articles Panel held by the Controller General of Civil Supplies, Government of India, at Bombay.

Profit margins will be reduced from 70 to 50 per cent in the case of toilet articles, from 50 to 40 per cent in the case of toilet accessories and from 150 to 100 per cent in the case of perfumes containing spirit. Revised schedule of prices worked out in accordance with these reduced profit margins will be published shortly. Revised prices will come into force with effect from July 1, 1945.

## WAGES OF RAILWAY EMPLOYEES ADVANCED STUDIES OVERSEAS

**T**HE total amount of wages paid to railway employees earning less than Rs. 200 per month, was Rs. 32,41,37,030, according to the Annual Report on the working of Payment of Wages Act, 1936, for 1942-43.

The provisions of the Act applied to 8,06,301 workers including 96,000 workers employed by railway contractors. The Report states that during the year under review 2,890 cases of delay in payment of wages, as against 3,866 in the previous year, were discovered. The Railway Administration took steps to avoid this infringement and at the end of the year the position had considerably improved. Inspectors of Railway labour inspected 7,047 railway establishments, 209 contractors' establishments, 278 paymasters' offices on class I railways, as compared with 7,051, 203 and 233 respectively, in the previous year.

### Staff Benefit Funds

During the year under review 199 cases, as against 150 in the previous year, were detected in which the requirements of law were overlooked in imposing fines. All such fines were refunded on the advice of Chief Conciliation Officer and Supervisor of Railway Labour.

The Report mentions the existence of staff benefit funds to which were credited the proceeds of fines imposed on railway employees. On all those railways which had no staff benefit fund the proceeds of fines were utilised for providing facilities for the education and recreation of the staff and on schemes of sickness and maternity benefits.

The total number of cases in which fines were imposed was 12,808 as against 13,276 in the previous year. The total amount of fines came to Rs. 8,029-2-6 as against Rs. 12,393 in the previous year.

## U.K.C.C. OFFICES IN INDIA TO BE CLOSED

It has been decided to close Indian offices of the U.K.C.C. as soon as conveniently possible. Alternative arrangements are being made by the Department of Commerce for the procurement of supplies for Russia which has formed the bulk of the Corporation's work in India, said a Press Note issued by the Commerce Department, Government of India, on June 7.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

**T**HE Government of India have been receiving numerous inquiries from students who are desirous of proceeding overseas for further studies, and it appears that there is some misunderstanding in regard to the procedure to be adopted, said a Press Note issued by the Department of Education, Health and Lands, Government of India, on June 5.

It added: The Government of India are anxious to do more than has been done hitherto to provide advice and guidance to such students in regard to suitable courses of training abroad and as to qualifications which they would require for admission to such courses. They have therefore asked the Provincial Governments and universities to establish Students' Advisory Bureaux to afford such advice and guidance. Pending, however, the establishments of these Bureaux, the Government of India are prepared to receive applications from students direct, but preferably through the university or College at which they last studied.

Applications must be submitted in the form prescribed in the brochure "Information for Students desiring to proceed Overseas for Advanced Studies (1945)," copies of which are available on payment of As. 3 in stamps or cash from the Manager of Publications, Civil Lines, Delhi, and not from the Department of Education, Health and Lands, or the Secretary, Selection Board, Overseas Students, as has been stated in some newspapers.

### Assistance for Admission

The Government of India will be glad to give such assistance as is possible to students in securing admission into suitable institutions abroad. They have, however, been receiving warnings from Great Britain as well as from the U.S.A. that there will be great pressure on universities and senior technical institutions this year and that consequently only well qualified students who apply early are likely to secure admission. In any case, the British and American universities have suggested that students approaching them for admission should have completed a graduate's course of an Indian University.

Applications and inquiries regarding passage priority should be addressed to the Defence Department, Government of India, those in regard to dollar exchange facilities to the Reserve Bank of India and those in regard to passports to the district authorities.



## GRATUITIES FOR WAR SERVICE

**T**HE Government of India have decided with the approval of the Secretary of State, that war gratuities shall be paid to the personnel of the Royal Indian Navy, the Indian Army, and the Royal Indian Air Force.

Gratuities will be payable at rates varying according to rank. In the case of women's Services, gratuities will be at two-thirds of the rates for the corresponding male ranks. Full details of the rates will shortly be published in R.I.N. Fleet Orders, Indian Army Instructions, and R.I.A.F. Instructions.

The rates vary, in the case of officers, from 70 shillings per month for each month of war service in the case of an Admiral, General or Air Chief Marshal, to 25 shillings per month for each month of war service in that of a Midshipman, a Second-Lieutenant or a Pilot Officer.

As a typical instance, a Lieutenant, R.I.N. or an Indian Army Captain, or a Flight-Lieutenant, R.I.A.F., will receive 35 shillings per month for each month of war service. Where a gratuity calculated in sterling is paid in rupees, the conversion rate of 1s. 6d. to the rupee will apply.

### Special Rates

Special rates apply to honorary commissioned officers in the Indian Army and British other ranks of the Indian Army.

In the case of V.C.O.s, I.O.R.s and corresponding ranks the rates range from Rs. 10 per month for each month of war service for a Risaldar-Major or Subedar-Major to Rs. 1-12 per month in that of an Able-Seaman/Ordinary Seaman, Lance-Naik/Sepoy or Aircraftsman. The rates of gratuities for I.O.R.s bear the same proportion to their pay as the rates of gratuities for B.O.R.s bear to their pay.

Individuals who have held rank higher than their substantive rank will qualify for higher rates of gratuity based on the substantive or war substantive rank held on the date of release or demobilisation, or, if more favourable, on the highest paid rank held during the war for a period or periods amounting to not less than six months in all. Where service has been both in the ranks and as an officer the gratuity will be calculated separately for each period of service.

In the case of personnel not released or demobilised, the date upto which war gratuity is payable will be decided later. The date on

## BIRTHDAY GREETINGS TO H. M. THE KING-EMPEROR

The following messages have been exchanged between H.E. the Viceroy and His Majesty the King-Emperor:—

From His Excellency the Viceroy:

On behalf of the Princes and people of India, the Viceroy with his humble duty, begs to offer Your Majesty India's most loyal and heartfelt greetings and her warmest good wishes for the long life and prosperity of Your Majesty.

From His Majesty the King-Emperor:

I sincerely thank you, the Princes and people of India for your kind congratulations on the celebration of my birthday.

which gratuities will be paid to those individuals who continue to serve after the cessation of hostilities will be announced later.

These gratuities are in addition to any other release benefits and any measures for resettlement of ex-servicemen and women which Government have approved or may later sanction. It is proposed to exempt them from Indian income-tax and legislation to that end will be shortly introduced.

## SCARCITY OF ACCOMMODATION IN LONDON

There is now in London and the provinces generally an acute shortage of accommodation and the position is likely to worsen during the next three months.

In recent weeks businessmen and private persons arriving from India have found it extremely difficult to secure accommodation on the spot and have applied to the High Commissioner for India, London, for assistance. While the High Commissioner is always ready to help, it is not practicable for him to secure accommodation in all such cases.

People desirous of visiting London or provinces should, therefore, in their own interest, arrange for their accommodation definitely in advance of their departure either direct with hotels or through agencies willing to arrange for advance hotel booking in London, or otherwise, like arranging with friends.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

## MILITARY ACADEMY AS INDIAN WAR MEMORIAL

### Sudan Government's Gift

**A** sum of £100,000, placed at the disposal of the Viceroy by the Sudan Government in 1941 in recognition of the services rendered by Indian troops in the defence of Sudan territory, is to be used in connection with the scheme for a Military Academy in India, on the lines of West Point in the U.S.A., which was announced last month.

The Academy, which will provide for the education and basic training together of future officers of the Royal Indian Navy, the Indian Army and the Royal Indian Air Force, is regarded as the most suitable form which the proposed Indian National War Memorial can take.

A Committee to prepare a scheme has been set up under the chairmanship of the Commander-in-Chief in India. Its members include the Chief of the General Staff, the Flag Officer Commanding the Royal Indian Navy, the Air Officer Commanding, India, the Secretary, War Department, Government of India, the Educational Adviser to the Government of India, two members chosen from Indian States and four educationists.

### Keren Victory Recalled

It will be recalled that when Lord Wavell, then Commander-in-Chief, Middle East Forces, launched his gallant onslaught against the Italian Empire in East Africa towards the end of 1940, Indian troops played a prominent part in the defence of the Sudan against the Italians and subsequently advanced to achieve the decisive victory of Keren and the conquest of Eritrea.

To mark the admiration of the Government and people of the Sudan for their exploits, £100,000 was offered to the Viceroy to be used for purposes connected with India's contribution towards the common war effort.

The Government of India, in consultation with the Government of the Sudan, have now decided that the gift should be incorporated in the scheme for a military academy and should be devoted to one particular feature of it, so as to keep alive the name of the donors and the spirit of the gift.

INDIAN INFORMATION, JULY 15, 1945,

## RECRUITING OFFICES TO HELP FIND JOBS FOR EX-SERVICEMEN

Recruiting offices all over India now have an additional responsibility, according to a special Indian Army Order. Henceforward these offices will, in addition to their normal work, also act as employment agencies and assist ex-servicemen to secure work in civil life.

This is a temporary measure. Resettlement of demobilised personnel in civil life is a civil responsibility and the civil authorities propose to set up a network of employment exchanges throughout the country.

Nine such exchanges already exist, others are to be opened and all will be in full operation by early in 1946. Pending the completion of these arrangements recruiting offices have stepped in to fill the gap.

Those who have already left the Services and require assistance in finding civil employment should apply to the nearest recruiting and employment office. They must be in possession of their discharge certificates. District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Boards will also help and form a link between demobilised personnel and recruitment and employment offices.

Finding civil employment for ex-officers, members of women's services, disabled persons and those with technical qualifications is the concern of existing regional employment exchanges. These exchanges are located at Delhi, Karachi, Bombay, Cawnpore, Calcutta, Dhanbad, Lahore, Nagpur and Madras.

## SIR HOMI MEHTA LEAVES ON WELFARE MISSION

Sir Homi Mehta, who has been invited by H.E. Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India, to tour the Middle East and Europe to report on welfare arrangements for Indian troops, left Bombay on June 3, on the first stage of his journey.

He was accompanied by his son, Mr. Mani Mehta, Secretary of the Bombay War Gifts Fund, who will act as his personal assistant, writes an Indian Army Observer.

A number of friends were at the airport to wish Sir Homi a safe journey and presented him with the traditional garlands.

115

## INDIAN INFORMATION



Thousands of tons of scrap from the North African battlefields were brought to India and converted into war material for use against the Japs.

## DOMESTIC ARTICLES FROM "AERO SCRAP"

**V**ALUABLE metal is now being recovered from obsolete and unserviceable aeroplanes and is being diverted to cast-ware industry under the name of "Aero Scrap."

The metal recovered is a light weight hard alloy with aluminium contents of approximately 90-93 per cent. It has found extensive use in the cast-ware industry and is being successfully employed for manufacture of domestic articles such as trays, plates, forks, spoons, mugs, ash-trays, picture frames, etc. Wardrobe fittings like coat-hangers, hooks, mirror frames, etc., office equipment such as blotters, pen holders, inkpots, trays, paper-weights, electric table lamps and miscellaneous fittings, such as door-handles, water taps, fan blades, regulator covers, window frames and fasteners, etc. are also manufactured from aero scrap.

Experiments are in progress for the manufacture of door and window frames and fittings,

Regd. No. L-5060.

carriage and wagon fittings for railways as well as office and household furniture. Recently, 'fillers' or trees required for the manufacture of boots and shoes have been produced with success from aero scrap.

A large number of firms are engaged in the production of these and similar articles and it is expected that this metal will replace to a great extent other more expensive metals at present in short supply, thus enabling the Indian Industry to meet the demands of common utility articles for civilian consumption to a greater extent than has so far been possible on account of war emergency.

Aero scrap for experimental or manufacturing purposes is being distributed by the Controller of Supplies (Disposals) at Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Cawnpore, Karachi and the Deputy Controller of Supplies (Disposals) at Lahore, against demands received by them.

## INDIA'S BIGGEST MILITARY DAIRY FARM

Extensions now under way at the military dairy farm at Pimpri, near Poona, will, when completed, make it the largest of its kind in India, writes an Indian Army Observer. The farm now has nearly 4,000 buffalos, and more are expected shortly.

The military dairy farms at Kirkee, Pimpri, Caldicott and Kalyan have all been expanded considerably to meet wartime demands. In 1938, the Kirkee farm produced a mere 3,500 lbs. of milk per day which was sufficient to meet military requirements in those days.

Today, these four farms are together producing over 35,000 lbs. of milk or nearly 20 tons per day. In addition, they daily produce 3,500 lbs. of butter and 500 lbs. of cream—figures ten times greater than their pre-war levels.

The farms maintain a high standard of cleanliness and hygiene at every stage of milk production. At the entrances to these farms there is a foot-bath containing antiseptics through which all in-coming animals have to wade to prevent the contagion of foot-and-mouth disease.

Cattle are inoculated against rinderpest and tuberculosis. All milk is pasteurised before despatch and it is the boast of the farms that the longest interval between milking a cow and the delivery of its milk to the farthest military units is six hours.

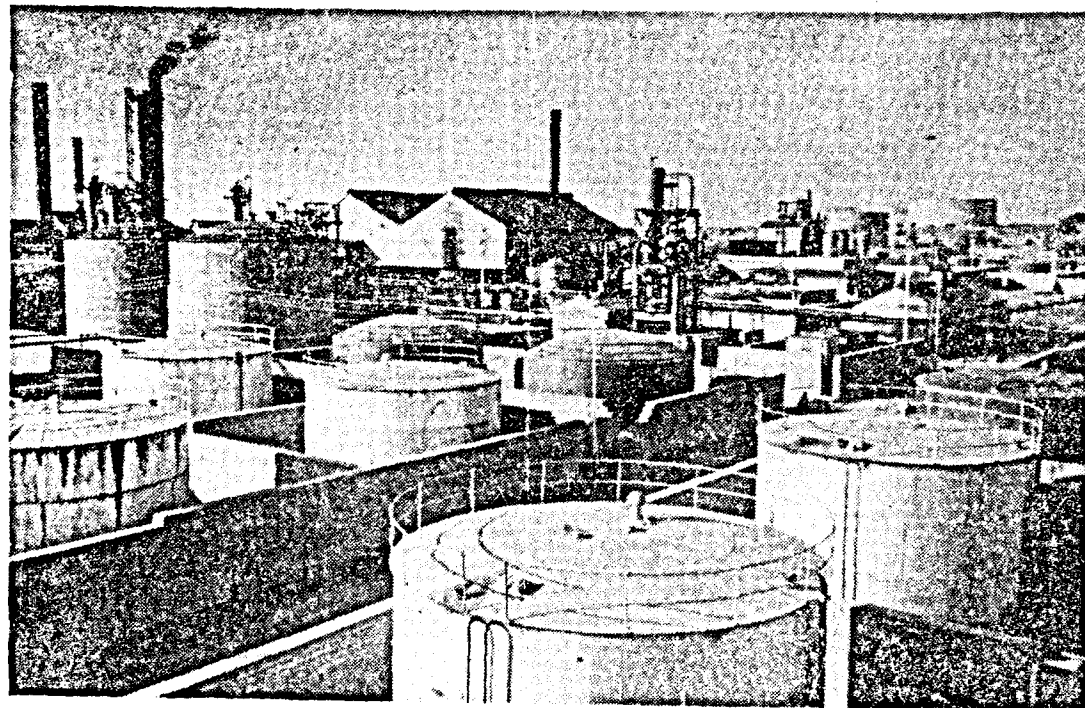
Published by P. D. Murti, Information Officer, Government of India. Printed in India by E. G. Tilt (General Manager) at The Civil & Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore: Communications for the Editor should be addressed to the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India, Lahore, and not to the Printers.



Vol. 17, No. 165 August 1, 1945.  
Issued Fortnightly by the  
Principal Information Officer,  
Government of India.

PRICE  
4  
ANNAS

VICEROY'S STATEMENT AT  
LEADERS' CONFERENCE



Refinery process tanks at an Indian oil refining centre.

Vol. 17 No. 165. INDIAN INFORMATION August 1, 1945.

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities.

**FORMAT:**—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:**—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Edited by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India.

MAIN CONTENTS

|                                                   | Page |
|---------------------------------------------------|------|
| Times More V.C.s for the Indian Army              | 119  |
| Gen. Auchinleck's visit to Indian Troops in Italy | 122  |
| Indian Observer Corps Stands Down                 | 124  |
| Burma Victory: Lord Louis Thanks India Command    | 125  |
| Sir M. Azizul Haque's Tribute to Indian Seamen    | 127  |
| Civilian Passages to U. K.                        | 130  |
| I.L.O. Conference                                 | 134  |
| Viceroy's Indian Comforts Fund                    | 140  |
| Lt-Gen. F. A. M. Browning                         | 141  |

COVER PICTURE: Pathan Signallers of a Punjab Regiment in Burma keep Battalion H.Q. in touch with an attack.

## VICEROY'S STATEMENT AT LEADERS' CONFERENCE

**A**DDRESSING the Leaders' Conference which met at Viceregal Lodge, Simla, on July 14, H.E. the Viceroy said:

"I must give the Conference an account of what has happened since we adjourned on June 29. As you know, my original intention was that the Conference should agree upon the strength and composition of the Executive Council, and that thereafter parties should send me lists of names. To these lists I would, if necessary, have added names of my own, and attempted to form on paper an Executive Council which might be acceptable to His Majesty's Government, myself and the Conference. I intended to discuss my selections with the leaders, and finally to put them to the Conference.

"Unfortunately, the Conference was unable to agree about the strength and composition of the Executive Council, and on June 29 I undertook, with the approval of the Conference, to endeavour to produce a solution not based on any formula agreed in advance. I asked the parties to let me have lists of names, and said I would do what I could to produce a solution acceptable to the leaders and to the Conference.

### Provisional Selections

"I received lists from all parties represented here except from the European Group, who decided not to send a list, and the Muslim League. I was, however, determined that the Conference should not fail until I had made every possible effort to bring it to a successful ending. I, therefore, made my provisional selections including certain Muslim League names, and I have every reason to believe that if these selections had been acceptable here they would have been acceptable to His Majesty's Government.

"My selections would, I think, have given a balanced and efficient Executive Council, whose composition would have been reasonably fair to all the parties. I did not find it possible, however, to accept the claims of any party in full. When I explained my solution to Mr. Jinnah he told me that it was not acceptable to the Muslim League and he was so decided that I felt it would be useless to continue the discussions. In the circumstances, I did not show my selections as a whole to Mr. Jinnah, and there was no object in showing them to the other leaders.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.



Lord Wavell.

"The Conference has, therefore, failed. Nobody can regret this more than I do myself. I wish to make it clear that the responsibility for the failure is mine. The main idea underlying the Conference was mine. If it had succeeded, its success could have been attributed to me and I cannot place the blame for its failure upon any of the parties. I ask the party leaders to accept this view, and to do all they can to ensure that there are no recriminations. It is of the utmost importance that this effort to secure agreement between the parties and communities should not result in a worsening of communal feeling. I ask you all to exercise the greatest possible restraint.

### The Next Step

"I have now to consider the next steps. I must remind you that whatever happens the first two of the three tasks mentioned in my broadcast—the prosecution of the war against Japan, and the carrying on of the administration and preparation for post-war development—must be performed by the Government of India for the time being in office. It will be my duty to see that these tasks are performed with the greatest energy that I can impose and I cannot permit any hindrance to them.

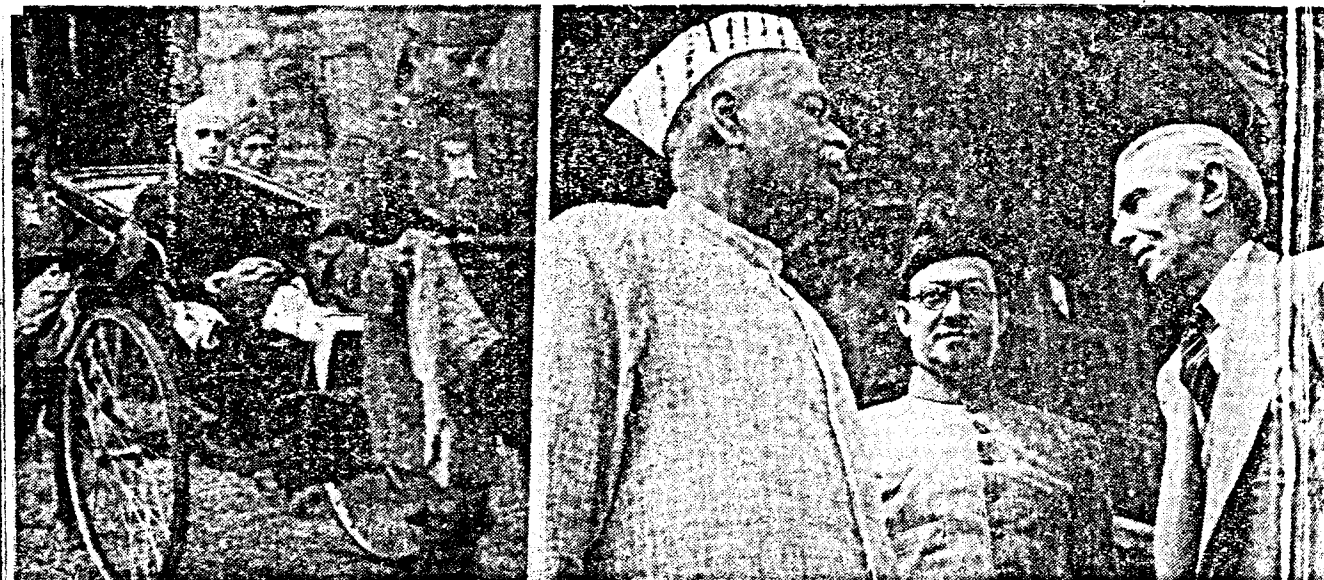


"I propose to take a little time to consider in what way I can best help India after the failure of the Conference. You can all help best by refraining from recriminations. The war against Japan must be carried on and law and order must be maintained; and until I see my way more clearly than I do now, it may be difficult, perhaps impossible, to suggest any new move. No Government can carry on under the daily prospect of change or dissolution. I have to secure the stability and day-to-day efficiency of my Government and it would be impossible to enter upon continuous or even frequent political discussions of this kind. Whatever decisions His Majesty's Government may take in the near future must therefore in all probability hold good for some little time.

"I thank you all for the help you have given me and for the restraint, patience and understanding you have shown. Do not any of you be discouraged by this setback. We shall overcome our difficulties in the end. The future greatness of India is not in doubt."



Mr. Gandhi leaving Viceregal Lodge, Simla, after his interview with H. E. the Viceroy on July 11.



Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru leaving Viceregal Lodge after his interview with Lord Wavell on July 2. (Right) Mr. M. A. Jinnah, Muslim League President, with Pundit Govind Ballabh Pant, ex-Premier of the United Provinces, and Mr. Hossain Imam (centre).



Sepoy Namdeo Jadhao, V.C. (centre) with Sepoy Mahadu Malawde (left) and Sepoy Parsu Purluke, the two soldiers who owe their lives to the new V.C.

## THREE MORE INDIAN V.C.s FOR ARMY

THREE more Indian V.C.s have been announced. They are the 28th, 29th and 30th V.C.s to be won by men of the Indian Army in this war.

The winners of this coveted honour are Sepoy Namdeo Jadhao, 5th Mahratta Light Infantry, Lt. Karamjeet Singh Judge, 15th Punjab Regiment (posthumous award) and Sepoy Ali Haider, 13th Frontier Force Rifles.

Sepoy Namdeo Jadhao, 5th Mahratta Light Infantry, who won his V.C. for gallantry in Italy, was always regarded as "different" in the little Mahratta village of Nimaj, in the heart of Maharashtra, in which he was born and grew to manhood. He was reserved, restless and dissatisfied with the narrow life of the village.

Under the influence of an elder brother, a devotee of a Hindu sect which worships Krishna, he thought of religion

as a vocation, but his deep-rooted restlessness prevailed.

Namdeo Jadhao then tried industry and got a job in a sugar factory. He worked hard and was paid well, but he remained unsatisfied. He returned to his native village still lacking the career that would express his character. Sometimes he swam in the River Pravara and visited the village temples.

Eventually, he sought the advice of the village elder, Dada Patil. The old man urged him to join the Indian Army, saying it would make a man of him. That was how Namdeo Jadhao came to serve with the 5th Mahratta Light Infantry in 1941 at the age of 20.

In the Army he worked well, passed his education examinations and took a specialist signals course. After serving in various parts of India his battalion moved to the North West Frontier, but Namdeo Jadhao's desire for change prevailed again. He applied for active service and was switched to a battalion about to sail for Italy.

The announcement of the award coincided with the tercentenary celebrations of Shivaji, the famous Mahratta warrior king.

Namdeo Jadhao's wife and little daughter and mother (his father died some years ago) are hoping that, now that he has seen the world and proved himself, his restlessness will leave him and he will come back to Nimaj. After he has finished fighting, they hope he will settle down and take up his father's work as a cultivator, aided by the substantial monetary grant that goes with the award.

#### Lt. Karamjeet Singh Judge

For successive acts of superb gallantry and "dominating the entire battlefield" around the outskirts of Myingyan, Central Burma, Lieut. Karamjeet Singh Judge, 15th Punjab Regiment, of "Sunder View", Kapurthala State, has been awarded the Victoria Cross posthumously. He is the Indian Army's 29th V.C., the fourth Sikh to win the award during this war and the second V.C. of his battalion.

Concealed enemy bunkers in the reverse slopes of broken and untankable ground constantly shelled and machine-gunned our infantry. Undaunted, Lieut. Karamjeet Singh Judge time and again dashed forward to recall tanks to deal with bunkers which they had not seen and which he personally indicated to them.

Leading one infantry charge after another, he wiped out ten Jap positions which had been battered by the tanks. Finally he was mortally wounded but his men went on and cleared the area.

"This young officer had already proved himself an outstanding leader of matchless courage," says the citation. "In this, his last action, he gave a superb example which will live for ever in the minds of the men he led and in the annals of the battalion."

#### Sepoy Ali Haider

The Indian Army's 30th V.C. has been won by Sepoy Ali Haider, 13th Frontier Force Rifles, of Shahu Khel village, Kohat district. He is the first Pathan V.C. of the war and is the second soldier of his regiment to win the supreme award.



Lieut. Karamjeet Singh Judge.



Sepoy Ali Haider.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

During the crossing of the Senio river in Italy on April 9, 1945, Sepoy Ali Haider's section came under heavy fire. Only three men including himself managed to get across and all further advance was arrested.

Without orders Sepoy Ali Haider charged a German post 30 yards away, destroyed it with a grenade and took four prisoners. Although seriously wounded he tried to charge a second post but was again wounded; although weakened by loss of blood he crawled forward and in a final effort threw grenades, rushed the post and silenced it.

Taking advantage of this success the rest of Sepoy Ali Haider's company charged across the river and established a bridgehead.

#### "SUPREME DEVOTION TO DUTY"

"Such superb courage, supreme devotion to duty and presence of mind as was displayed by Naik Fazal Din when suffering such grievous wounds can surely seldom, if ever, have been equalled," said the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, in a message congratulating the 10th Baluch Regimental Centre on the posthumous award of the Victoria Cross to Naik Fazal Din, the second soldier of the regiment to win the V.C. during this war.

The C-in-C. regretted that this gallant N.C.O.'s inspiring leadership, which was undoubtedly responsible for the final success of the action, should have cost him his life. He also sent his personal greetings and sympathy to the relatives of the hero.

#### MAIL FOR INDIAN TROOPS OVERSEAS

Surface mail letters and postcards to troops serving overseas will be accepted at inland postal rates but will be conveyed to destinations by air without any extra charge. As these mails are carried by air after surcharged air mails have been loaded, it is essential that the weight of letters prepaid at surface rates should be kept to a minimum.

This arrangement renders the use of the As. 6 air letter, the As. 8 air mail letter and the As. 4 air postcard for writing to troops overseas unnecessary. Letters weighing one ounce or less from troops serving overseas, addressed to destinations in India will be carried by air free of charge.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## V.C. AWARDS: INDIA SECOND TO BRITAIN

With the award of the Victoria Cross to Sepoy Ali Haider, 13th Frontier Force Rifles, the Indian Army has 30 V.C.s to its credit out of a total of less than 150 awarded during this war.

India stands second only to Britain in the number of V.C.s won by Empire forces during this war. Out of 634 V.C.s awarded in the last war, Indian troops won eleven.

How the Indian V.C.s have been won is largely the story of our victories in Africa, Italy and Burma.

From January, 1941, when 2/Lt. (now Major) Premindra Singh Bhagat, Indian Engineers, won the V.C. at Gondar, Abyssinia, to the final defeat of the Axis in Africa, four V.C.s were won by the Indian Army.

#### In Italy

The tale of gallantry was taken up in Italy by 20-year-old Sepoy Kamal Ram, 8th Punjab Regiment, and five other heroes. Particularly noteworthy was the bitterly-contested crossing of the Senio river when, on April 9, 1945, Sepoy Namdeo Jadhao, 5th Mahratta Light Infantry, and Sepoy Ali Haider together added two more V.C.s to the mounting total.

In Malaya, in 1941, the Indian Army showed what it could do despite tremendous odds. The V.C. won by Lt.-Col. (now Brigadier) A. E. Cumming, 12th Frontier Force Regiment, was a tribute not only to a gallant officer but also to the tenacity and heroism with which the Indian Army fought to stem the tide of Jap aggression in the east.

The Burma campaign further demonstrated the heroic quality of the Indian Army. Up to the end of 1944 two officers and ten men were decorated with the supreme award including three V.C.s to Chindits—Major F. G. Blaker, 9th Gurkha Rifles, Capt. M. Alkmand, 6th Gurkha Rifles (both posthumously) and Rifleman Tulbahadur Pun, 6th Gurkha Rifles.

This year in Burma seven awards have been won, the latest being that by Lieut. Karamjeet Singh Judge, 15th Punjab Regiment (posthumous).

121

## GEN. AUCHINLECK'S VISIT TO INDIAN TROOPS IN ITALY

"YOUR Division's name has become well-known all over the world because of your valour and hard work you have won such resounding successes."

This praise by the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck was expressed to Sikhs, Pathans, Dogras, Punjabi Mussalmans and others serving with the 8th Indian Division during his recent visit to Indian troops in North Italy.

At the same time he issued a word of warning that the fighting was not over.

"After you have had your leave in India," he said, "one thing remains to be done and that is to settle the score with the Japs. There is still a hard war ahead of you, but it will not prove so hard for you who have seen some of the toughest fighting of this war in Italy."

### Enthusiastic Welcome

A wave of satisfaction passed through every unit when the Commander-in-Chief declared that he hoped soon to see them in India. At the end of his speech the men raised their various battle cries and, lining the road as he left, gave him a rousing send-off.

Gen. Auchinleck, who had an enthusiastic welcome through his two-day tour on May 28 and 29, was visiting Indian divisions for the first time in the theatre in which they have earned so much distinction.

These Indian units which have proved themselves unbeatable for valour, on this occasion proved that they were equally good in smartness of turnout and drill. They were in full regimental array and military bands accompanied them.

Apart from formal ceremonial parades, the C-in-C. walked miles to visit units in their lines and men in hospital. He shook hands and chatted with thousands of officers and men, having a special word of praise for particular units which had distinguished themselves.

A fitting climax to the tour was provided by a unique ceremony in which the 1st battalion of the 5th Royal Gurkha Rifles and the Royal Fusiliers took part. These battalions have been close comrades throughout the fighting in Italy and to mark their 20 months' friendship the 15th Royal Gurkha Rifles presented to their friends of the Royal Fusiliers

a silver kukri. The presentation was preceded by a march-past in review order before the Commander-in-Chief.

While Gen. Auchinleck inspected troops, Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Defence Member, Government of India, who accompanied him, visited units and chatted with officers and men, making the fullest inquiries into the troops' welfare and amenities and informing them of the Government's plans for their resettlement in civilian life after the war with Japan is over.

### WELCOME IN GREECE

Arriving in Greece from Italy, General Auchinleck had a great reception not only from Indian troops but also from the civil population of Salonika.

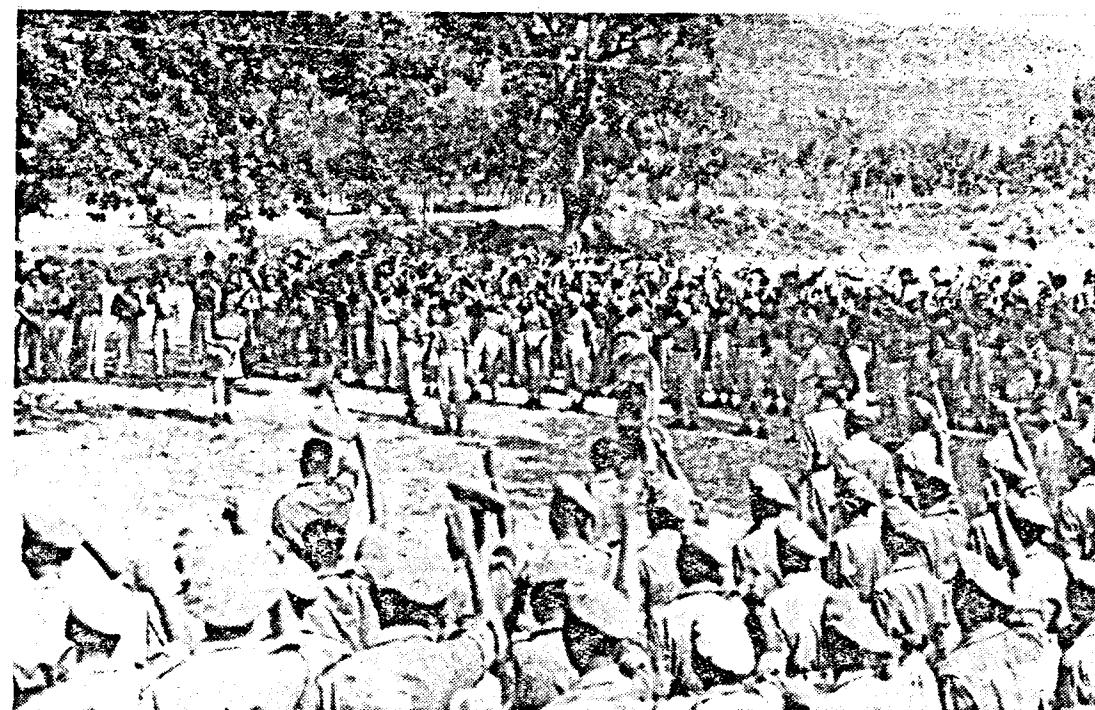
Crowds lining the streets applauded both him and the marching troops who have won the respect of the Greeks by their smart turnout and correct behaviour, writes an Indian Army Observer.

Speaking to British gunners attached to an Indian formation at a ceremonial parade, the C-in-C. recalled the days when "we were hanging on by our eyelids at Alamein" and the situation was saved by columns composed largely of artillery. Gen. Auchinleck said the Infantry was first-class but could have done nothing without the backing of first-class artillery.

Following a busy morning at Taranto where he inspected a base hospital, reinforcement camp and returned prisoners of war, His Excellency had two long days flying and motoring in the Salonika area. He saw practically all units widely scattered as they were. As in the case of the Indian divisions which he had inspected in Italy, he was much impressed by the fitness and smart appearance of the troops.

At a party given by the General Officer Commanding he met many local notabilities and later dined with an Indian cavalry regiment.

From Salonika General Auchinleck flew to Athens and spent the night with General Scobie, leaving early next morning for Cairo. After an afternoon's shopping in the bazar he was the guest of Indian Public Relations at a housewarming party. The following day the C-in-C. had another long day's motoring and walking inspecting Indian units in the Suez Canal zone.



General Auchinleck, C-in-C., recently visited the 8th Indian Division near Perugia (Italy) and received a great ovation from the troops. Here, men of an Indian Infantry Brigade cheer the C-in-C. at the end of his address to them. (Below) Argyll and Sutherland Highlanders' Pipe Band precede the C-in-C. between lines of cheering troops.



INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.



## INDIAN OBSERVER CORPS STANDS DOWN

WITH the removal of the Jap menace from the air the Indian Observer Corps has been ordered to stand down after being on active service since the early days of the Burma war.

Formed in 1940, the Indian Observer Corps was incorporated in the R.A.F. defence system and a chain of warning posts extended from Assam, through Calcutta and down the East coast to Pondicherry. The I.O.C. was the only warning system available until 1942 when the first radar coverage was installed.

The Corps quickly expanded and assumed new responsibilities. By 1944 it formed a continuous chain of wireless posts stretching from Manipur down the eastern side of Bengal to the Arakan. It was this chain which gave the first warning of the Jap advance over the Chin Hills.

### Invaluable Contribution

Many of the posts were overrun by the enemy but others withdrew successfully with their equipment. There are many stories of men returning to their units after being captured by the enemy. When the Jap advance had been halted the Corps was quick to reform and has since advanced with our forces into Burma.

For its share in the victory over the Japs the Corps has been congratulated by Maj.-Gen. G. E. Stratmeyer, formerly commanding Eastern Air Command, South East Asia, in a letter to Air Marshal K. R. Park, Allied Air Commander-in-Chief, South East Asia.

"The work of the Corps' personnel," wrote Gen. Stratmeyer, "has always been of the highest standard, and although the very nature of the task has prevented spectacular accomplishments and individual recognition has been slight, this in no way detracts from the fact that the contribution of the Indian Observer Corps to the main effort has indeed been invaluable."

### Air Marshal Park's Tribute

Joining Gen. Stratmeyer in congratulating the Corps on its achievements Air Marshal Park added: "I take this opportunity to express my own appreciation and that of my entire command in this splendid contribution which the Indian Observer Corps has made to our joint effort against the enemy."

The Corps is now being reduced from 8,000 personnel to 1,000. The men thus released will be absorbed into other arms of the Service.

## SIR HOMI MEHTA'S VISIT TO ITALY

Displaying remarkable energy and great enthusiasm 74-year-old Sir Homi Mehta, who arrived in Italy on June 7 to inquire into welfare arrangements for Indian troops, has made an exhaustive tour of nearly all Indian units scattered over the Italian mainland. He rounded off his visit with a long interview with Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, Supreme Allied Commander, Central Mediterranean Forces, writes an Indian Army Observer.

"I have visited almost all places in Italy where Indian units, rest camps and Y.M.C.A.s are situated," said Sir Homi at the conclusion of his tour. "Whatever may have been the conditions in the past the present state of affairs is to promote the interests of Indian soldiers."

"There is not much room left for grousing, and amenities available for the British Tommy and Dominion troops are equally shared by Indian troops. This results in a very desirable fraternisation among them."

"During my tour I talked with as many *javans*, V.C.O.s and N.C.O.s as possible. I found that Indian troops desired to stay longer in this country. I also found that Indian troops are trying to master the arts of agriculture by meeting Italians and speaking their language just as fluently as if they had been in Italy many years."

Dressed like a soldier except for his head-dress, Sir Homi travelled by staff car, lorry, transport plane and bomber. At night he slept under canvas. He was accompanied by his son, Mr. Mani Mehta, who acted as his secretary.

At the suggestion of Field Marshal Alexander, Sir Homi Mehta will visit the Fourth Indian Division in Greece on his return from England before proceeding to the Middle East.

## CLAIMS FOR DAMAGES CAUSED BY ITALIANS IN ETHIOPIA

A Press Note issued by the External Affairs Department, Government of India, states:

On August 4, 1944, it was announced that persons, other than enemy aliens, who were permanent residents in Ethiopia on September 11, 1935, had been enabled by a Proclamation of the Emperor of Ethiopia to file claims for damages caused by the Italians during the years of occupation. December 9, 1944, was announced as the last date for the filing of these claims with the Governor-General of the province or Governor of the Ethiopian district in which the claimant was resident.

The Emperor has now issued a further Proclamation extending for an unspecified period the date for the filing of such claims.

## Burma Victory: Lord Louis Thanks India Command

"Now that nearly the whole of Burma has been cleared of the enemy, I want to express to you personally and to all ranks under your command my great appreciation of the great and successful efforts they have made towards the attainment of the success," says the Supreme Allied Commander, Lord Louis Mountbatten, in a personal letter to the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck.

"You and all those under you have had to overcome many difficulties," writes Lord Louis Mountbatten. "You have had to receive into India a large number of personnel and vast amounts of stores. You have had to mount our forces for the amphibious operations which have been undertaken."

"I am aware of the great strain this has been on the economic resources of India and in particular on the transport services, but you have met all our demands and I do realise that this has only been possible by the devoted and united efforts of all serving under you."

Thanking Lord Louis Mountbatten for the "very generous way" in which he has expressed his appreciation of India Command's efforts, Gen. Auchinleck says: "We all, including that huge army of men and women not in uniform, without whose aid we of the Fighting Services could do little or nothing, are greatly encouraged and sustained by your appreciation."

"You can be sure," concludes the C-in-C. "that we shall go on putting out our full effort until final victory is yours."

## NUFFIELD TRUST'S GIFT TO BRITISH TROOPS IN INDIA

British servicemen and women in India Command will benefit by a substantial monetary gift from the Nuffield Trust.

The grant, which is to be spent on the welfare of British service personnel of all ranks, will be devoted to schemes recommended by Army Commanders.

The Commander-in-Chief in India, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, has written to the Chairman of the Nuffield Trust, expressing on behalf of India Command appreciation of the gift.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## U. S. TRIBUTE TO R.I.A.S.C.

Outstanding support given to the 85th American Division by B Indian Pack Transport Group, R.I.A.S.C., during operations in Italy early this year has gained high praise from the United States Fifth Army and congratulations from General Sir Claude Auchinleck, Commander-in-Chief in India.

A message of appreciation from the Fifth Army headquarters reads:—

"The task performed by your group in support of the 85th American Infantry Division over one of the most difficult terrain sectors yet encountered by the Fifth Army is symbolic of the co-operative spirit and unity of effort towards which we have worked in the past two years."

"The fact that British troops were left in place to support the 85th Infantry Division assisted greatly in enabling the army to support other units with our limited Italian pack transport companies. The assistance and the commendable support given by your Group have contributed significantly to the successful support of the army."

The C-in-C. in India has commented: "A fine tribute and I am proud to read it."

At the time it was working with the 85th (U.S.) Infantry Division B Pack Transport Group consisted of Nos. 2, 12, 17 and 26 Indian Mule Companies.

## NEW INDIA COMMAND SHOULDER SIGN

To indicate the close integration of the three Indian armed services, of which he is Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck has approved a new shoulder sign to be worn by personnel holding inter-service appointments.

Apart from the C-in-C's personal Staff and secretariat there are certain directorates at Defence Headquarters in which the Royal Indian Navy, the Indian Army and the Royal Indian Air Force work in the closest co-operation. Personnel of these directorates will be entitled to wear the sign.

The sign is to be known as the India Command sign. It takes the form of a shield made up of vertical stripes of dark blue, red and light blue, the colours of the three services, on which are superimposed in gold the anchor of the R.I.N. the crossed swords and crown of the Indian Army, and the wings of the R.I.A.F.



Captain Sir Jagaddipendra Narayan, Maharaja of Cooch Behar (left) who is serving with a Cavalry Regiment in Burma.

## COOCH BEHAR RULER SERVING IN BURMA

Now serving on the Burma Front is 29-year-old Capt., the Maharaja of Cooch Behar, H.H. Sir Jagaddipendra Narayan, K.C.I.E., 7th Cavalry, who is a liaison officer with an advanced headquarters in Burma.

"My relatives and friends are on active service and I have been longing to proceed on active service as well", he told an Indian Army Observer. "In 1941, I had intended to go to the Middle East but with the outbreak of war with Japan I could not leave my State."

Educated at Harrow and Cambridge "Captain Cooch," as he is known in the Army, ascended the *gadi* in 1923 on the death of his father. Well-known in cricket circles in India,

he captained the Bengal team for the Ranji trophy in 1944 and 1945. Polo and tennis are his other games.

He joined the Indian Army in 1938 and since has been training with the 7th Cavalry. He is also Colonel-in-Chief of the 1st Cooch Behar Regiment. "Capt. Cooch's" younger brother, Major Prince Inderjeet Narayan, is also serving on this Front.

The airgraph service from India to Canada and Newfoundland has been terminated with immediate effect. Airgraphs addressed to these countries which have already been accepted at the counter of a post office or have already been posted by the senders direct to the Airgraph sections at Bombay and Calcutta will, however, be disposed of as usual, said a Press Note issued by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs on July 2.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## "INDIAN SEAMEN SECOND TO NONE IN VALOUR"

—Sir M. Azizul Haque

"INDIAN Seamen have a most proud record of their achievements and glory for centuries past. In this war they have again proved that they are second to none in their patience, in their enduring power, in their valour and in their heroism."

With these words, Sir M. Azizul Haque, Member for Commerce and Industries and Civil Supplies, Government of India, welcomed over 500 Indian merchant seamen as they stepped ashore at Bombay.

The regal reception—and it was just that—arranged in their honour was a fitting tribute to these men of India's merchant navy who for the most part had spent between four and five years in German prison camps. They had come home, and this to most of them meant Calcutta and the many places in East Bengal, where so much of the merchant marine has had its origin.

They were glad to be back, to be free to walk among their own kind once more, for it had been a long and weary road, with much privation and humiliation at the hands of their Nazi captors.

In the graceful time-honoured gesture of welcome, girls placed garlands round the necks of the men. This lent a picturesque touch to the impressive scene of hundreds of tables laid for tea on the station platform.

Clad in dark brown, Service style battle dress, issued to them by the British Red Cross while they were still in captivity, these men bore surprisingly little evidence of the ordeal through which most of them had been by the manner of their capture and the definitely lean and hungry years between.

### Sea Dramas

Quarter-Master Abdul Majid (Pachoy village, Tipperah district, East Bengal), was taken with his ship in the Indian Ocean six days after leaving India's shores, and, after three and a half months' roundabout voyage, to a prison camp in North Germany, where he was doomed to spend the whole of his four and half years of captivity. Food was never plentiful but, as he explained to an Indian Army Observer, towards the end in Germany it became as scarce as one small piece of bread and a little soup once every 24 hours.

What worried him most was the loss of his two last war medals, "one gold and one silver".

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

They were taken away from him by Nazi guards. He has since been given a certificate in London which entitles him to replacements.

There was an infinite variety of sea dramas—some were in ships torpedoed under them; others were captured by raiders; while yet others were torpedoed and rescued by the enemy, who in turn were torpedoed, the men being adrift in darkness, only to be picked up by an enemy ship.

The scenes of the capture varied from the Indian Ocean, the Mediterranean and the Pacific to what was to become enemy-occupied territory such as Greece.

Two of the men, Roman Catholics, were wearing crucifixes. N. J. De Costa, a Goanese steward who was captured off Panama by a German raider in 1941, had his crucifix given to him by a French priest, fellow prisoner in the prison camp, while another Goanese made his from bits of glass found in the camp.

Among the first to greet the men was Khan Bahadur M. Fazlul Karim, Shipping Master in Bombay, and also a Bengali. The entertainments were arranged to spread over three days, including a tea party and concert at one of Bombay's leading hotels, distribution of gifts and sightseeing.

## TO PREVENT EVASION OF RAIL PRIORITY RULES

The Government of India have broadened the scope of Defence of India Rule 46 (2) (d) to counteract the evasion of railway priority orders, said a Press Note issued by the Railway Department (Railway Board) on June 13.

It added: It was discovered that some merchants were evading priority orders by mis-declaring goods, thereby securing them higher priority of transport, even if it involved the payment of a higher freight.

As this resulted in evasions of the priority orders meant to secure the movement of essential goods in the interests of the public, the Government of India have amended Rule 46 (2) (d) of the Defence of India Rules so as to bring within its scope acts, such as evasion or priority orders, which would be prejudicial to "the maintaining of supplies and services essential to the life of the community."

127

## "SCRAPING UP THE SCRAP"

### Salvage on Indian Railways

THE many ways in which Indian Railways are "making do" and salvaging scrap are outlined in the Bulletin on Reclamation of Materials recently issued for the guidance of railways by the Standards Office of the Railway Board. By "scraping up the scrap", the railways are able to keep traffic moving without using scarce material more urgently required for war industries.

Although the coiled springs that support railway carriages cannot nowadays be replaced when they are broken, the traveller is spared the resulting discomfort by means of a cast iron adapted fitted between two broken parts.

The steel tyre that has safely carried passengers or freight for two or three hundred thousand miles might be considered to have earned honorable retirement; not so—it may be re-born as part of leaf spring and carry freight many more thousands of miles.

Tool steel contains valuable ingredients which war has made very scarce, so new tools are a luxury; and the man on the track must beat his pensioned-off rails into crowbars and the man in the workshop must save even the smallest fragments of his old tools and use them for providing cutting tips for new tools made of less scarce material.

"Gather up the fragments that remain that nothing be lost" is as apt to-day as it was 2,000 years ago. Even soot and charcoal dust have their uses and can be made into a tolerable paint which, though of little aesthetic merit, has some value as a protective covering for steel work.

### HEALTH VISITORS' COURSE

The next course for the training of tuberculosis health visitors under the auspices of the Tuberculosis Association of India, New Delhi, commences in October next in the Model Clinic, New Delhi.

The course covers a period of training and instruction for eight months, the last two of which will be in the Lady Linlithgow sanatorium, Kasauli. No fees will be charged for the training. Men and women, who have studied up to the matriculation standard, or who are trained nurses, are eligible for admission.

## JODHPUR RAILWAY IN BATTLE DRESS

THE Jodhpur Railway, in common with other Indian railways, has gone all out to help the war effort.

Bayonets have been manufactured by the thousands, shells by the hundred thousands. Many thousands of pick-axes have been made by improvised methods.

The Railway has assembled 33 locomotives and erected 539 wagons for the Bengal and Assam Railway. Large numbers of doors and windows and other wood work as well as other materials have been manufactured or repaired for the R.A.F. and the U.S. Air Force. Eleven locomotives, four boilers, one rail car and 439 wagons were released for use overseas and seven heavy goods locomotives were lent to the Bengal and Assam Railway.

### War Works

In 1943, the Jodhpur Railway undertook the design, erection and maintenance of the Wagon Assembly Plant at Hyderabad (Sind). Since October last this plant has been turning out on an average 27 completely erected wagons per day.

The Railway constructed war works costing over Rs. 5,00,000 and laid 10 miles of track for these. Seven officers and 170 other staff have been spared for military duty.

A reclamation scheme initiated by the Railway in 1942 enabled the utilisation of 30 tons of scrap per year, thereby saving this amount of raw material.

### Technical Training

A Government of India Technical Training Centre was started in the Jodhpur Railway's workshop in July, 1941 as a civil centre. This was later converted to a Civil centre and 283 persons were trained by the end of last year. Instruction is given in fitting, welding, boiler-making, tinsmithing, carpentry and moulding.

The Railway's employees contributed, up to September last, Rs. 5,352 to the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund, Rs. 1,38,510 to the Defence Savings Provident Fund and Rs. 16,352 to the Jodhpur Railway War Work Party. During 1941-42 and 1942-43 Rs. 4,00,000 was contributed by the Railway for the purchase of aircraft.

## RAILWAY ENGINES FLOWN TO BURMA

Dismantled, loaded into transport planes and flown to Burma, a number of small but powerful locomotives are now busy hauling wagons along railway lines only recently recaptured from the Japs.

As the 14th Army advanced down the railway corridor towards Mandalay thousands of square miles of territory were liberated and it became imperative to re-establish railway communications quickly.

It was no easy task that the Transportation Troops (Indian Engineers) set out to perform. Locomotives and rolling stock had been destroyed by Allied fighter-bombers and retreating Japs.

Soon the jungle alongside railway tracks echoed to the busy sounds from improvised fitting shops and blacksmiths' hearths. Battered rolling stock was being reconditioned in wagon assembly lines which bore little resemblance to their well-equipped counterparts in India.

The problem of providing locomotives appeared insuperable until it was found that some had arrived in India for the U.S. Army. These were immediately made available for the use of the 14th Army and despatched in sections by air.

### SHORT TERM GENERAL SERVICE FOR W.V.S.(I)

In order that the fullest use may be made of the services of W.V.S.(I.) workers, a scheme has just been completed by which members of the Women's Voluntary Services who either live in remote places where their services cannot be fully utilized or can be spared by their provincial or branch organization can volunteer for short-term general service of not less than three months duration in India or Burma.

While such workers will remain non-salaried in accordance with W.V.S.(I.) principles all expenses will be met to include first class rail facilities, Dearness Allowance where applicable, accommodation, rations, camp kit where necessary etc. It is hoped that all W.V.S.(I.) workers who are in a position to help will get into touch with their nearest W.V.S.(I.) office as soon as possible.

The scheme is open to all European, Indian and Anglo-Indian members and all workers employed under these special conditions will perform duties comparable with those of Welfare Officers and will carry officer status.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## Transfer of Singbhum Railway Workshops to Tatas

THE E. I. Railway workshops at Singbhum were transferred on June 1 from the Indian State Railways to Tatas for the manufacture of boilers and locomotives. The first boilers are expected to come out of the workshops by the end of the year.

The manufacture of boilers is to be followed as soon as possible by the manufacture of locomotives. Government will buy a guaranteed number of boilers and locomotives from Tatas, and if the company is able to produce more, Government will purchase such additional production in preference to imports.

Government are obtaining for the project more than Rs. 30 lakhs worth of machinery, mostly from the U.K., on very high priority.

The transfer of the Singbhum workshops to a private enterprise is a landmark in the development not only of Indian railways but of planned enterprise on a commercial scale for establishing in the country an industry to which Indian public opinion has always attached great importance.

In a message to Tatas on the occasion of the formal handing over, the Chief Commissioner of Railways expresses his confidence that these works will before long occupy a high and honoured place in the industrial organisation of the country. He offers the best wishes of Indian Railways for the success of the venture.

### FURTHER ISSUE OF 3 PER CENT. DEVELOPMENT LOAN

A Press Communique issued by the Finance Department, Government of India, on July 1 stated:

As it appears that there is a steady demand on the part of institutional investors and the market generally for a long-term investment, the Government of India have decided to create a further issue of 3 per cent First Development Loan, 1970-75 for Rs. 30 crores.

The securities will be available for sale on Government account by the Reserve Bank of India through the usual procedure for the sale of counterparts and special issues at prices to be ascertained from the Bank.

129



## CIVILIAN PASSAGES TO U.K.

### Working of Priority Scheme

**T**HREE hundred and seventy-two civilians sailed to the United Kingdom in May 1945 under Defence Department's Priority Passage Scheme, of whom 173 were males and 199 women and children. The number in April 1945 was considerably larger, viz. 913 (353 males and 560 women and children).

The corresponding figure for the Military for May was 1,388 (1,029 males and 359 women and children) in cabins, apart from 3,681 on troopdecks. Nearly 65 per cent. of those travelling in cabins and 50 per cent. of those travelling on troopdecks were persons proceeding to the United Kingdom on repatriation after long service overseas. Enquiries made in the Defence Department indicate that prisoners of war recovered from the Japanese get first priority on the military side and class A releases come second. Military demands are likely to rise considerably when the lower release groups are reached.

### Empty Berths

The military backlog of women and children awaiting passages at the end of May was 1,300. On the civil side the total number of persons who had been allotted priorities but who had not been able to secure accommodation before the end of May was 1,555. Although shipping conditions are not likely to return to normal until some time after the cessation of hostilities with Japan, the authorities expect that the number of civilians who will be able to sail in July will be substantially large.

It is correct that ships some time sail from India with empty berths. This is unavoidable due to two reasons. Firstly, some berths are reserved for passengers embarking from a port en route to the United Kingdom. The number of berths to be left vacant for this purpose is regulated by London. Secondly, the number of women and children that may be carried on a ship is, under Ministry of War Transport Rules, limited either for reasons of safety or because of sanitary arrangements. The remaining accommodation has to be filled by males only; and if any portion of it cannot be utilised, owing to the shortage of single males amongst civilian passengers, it is surrendered to the

Military who try to fill it before the ship sails. The number of berths so surrendered have been very small in the past.

Shipping accommodation for passengers to the United Kingdom is available on hired transports and also on commercial ships. All vessels are controlled by the Ministry of War Transport. The authority of the Civil Passage Controller is confined only to issuing priorities, according to which passengers sail within the total number of passages that may be available from time to time.

Accommodation in commercial ships is normally allotted to the Defence Department for civilian passengers but has seldom exceeded 100 berths a month. As regards hired transports, when space (as distinct from troopdeck accommodation) becomes available, the Sea Transport Organisation calls upon the various authorities to submit their demands. The Army demands are placed by the Quartermaster-General and the civilian demands by the Civil Passage Controller. On the civil side the demand is based on the first five categories in the Priority Schedule and the number of persons going on key-leave, both officials and non-officials, together with their families.

In so far as families are concerned, the Army in its demand only includes the families of those who are going home on repatriation, release or duty. The family of an officer proceeding on leave has to wait its turn and at the present time the period is about 10 months. If the number of berths available exceeds the demand, the surplus is divided equally between Military and Civil; and to that extent persons in the lower categories can get away. Accommodation was found for 500 civilian passengers in categories below category V in April, but the number was only 64 in May.

### AIR MAIL SERVICE TO MUSCAT

With effect from June 26 an air mail service to and from Muscat has been introduced. Air mail correspondence for and from Muscat will accordingly be accepted. No superscription is necessary, but the Indian inland rates of air mail fee and postage will be payable on correspondence from India to Muscat and vice-versa viz., at the rate of one anna per tola or part thereof on letters and packets, and half anna per post card, in addition to ordinary postage.

Air mail correspondence for foreign countries will also be accepted at Muscat at the rates of air mail fee and postage applicable from India for the respective destinations.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## IRRIGATION AND POWER DEVELOPMENT

### India's Post-War Schemes

**A** PART from special priority schemes connected with the training of personnel and other urgent measures such as buildings required for the five years plan, special attention will be given in the immediate post-war period to the development of roads, irrigation and electric power. These schemes will serve to provide employment both for ex-Service personnel and displaced war workers and will absorb large quantities of basic materials. They will therefore assist very considerably in ensuring a smooth transition from a war to a peace economy.

Lt.-Gen. Sir Thomas Hutton, Secretary of the Planning and Development Department, Government of India, recently visited the Punjab, the Central Provinces, Madras, Bombay, Bihar and Orissa and will shortly visit Bengal and the North-West Frontier Province. The object of these visits is to ascertain the progress made in detailed planning and to assist those provinces which have not yet submitted their plans.

### Technical Staff

Detailed discussions have also been undertaken with the provincial heads of departments on the various issues that arise and on the financial problems involved.

In view of the favourable course of the war, special attention has been given to the schemes that might be carried out in the immediate post-war period to ensure that no delays occur and that the schemes selected are suitable to the conditions that are likely to arise.

Among the various problems which were discussed in this connection were finance, the provision of technical staff and the supply of machinery and materials such as steel, cement, coal and timber.

The most serious difficulty likely to be experienced in most provinces is in respect of technical staff and this question is having the earnest attention of both the Central and Provincial Governments.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## U. S. INDEPENDENCE DAY GREETINGS

The following message was sent by the Secretary, External Affairs Department, Government of India, to the Commissioner of the United States of America to India, New Delhi, to mark the celebration of American Independence Day (July 4):

On the occasion of Independence Day, I offer the greetings of the Government of India to all Americans in India, military and civil. I should like to take this opportunity to say what a pleasure it has been to have so many of you here in India.

The last historic months have seen the victorious conclusion of the war in the West and I trust that the same unity of purpose which has brought us this great success will lead us rapidly to victory in the East.

### American Commissioner's Reply

The Commissioner of the United States of America to India replied:

The cordial greetings of the Government of India on our national holiday are, I am sure, sincerely appreciated by all Americans in India. We are grateful, moreover, for the hospitality shown us, the reflection of which in the years to come cannot but enhance the friendship already existing between India and the United States.

I share your hope that victory achieved yesterday in the West—to which the gallant troops of India so greatly contributed—will through further joint effort, to-morrow be won in the East.

## CONTROL ON COAL MINING OPERATIONS

The Government of India, in consultation with the Coal Control Board, have decided to take steps to set up a machinery to control the opening and reopening of coal mines, said a Press Note issued by the Supply Department, Government of India on July 4.

It added: Large numbers of small pits and quarries have been started in recent months which drain away coal mining labour from established collieries and, with inefficient methods, produce only inferior classes of coal.

## INDO-U. S. TRADE

THE W.P.B., America, has permitted private trading in jute and jute butts. For the first quarter of 1945, it has allowed a total of 96,500 bales or 193 million yards or burlap to bag manufacturers throughout the United States for conversion into permitted jute bags. The order which required processors and owners of sunn hemp to report their stocks, has been revoked. Shellac has been thrown open to private trading. Import authorisations for Indian wool, including wool from Tibet and Afghanistan, are to be given freely. It is understood that the W.P.B. have issued import permits for 51,000 bales of Indian cotton. Imports of semi-tanned goat and sheep skins from India is to be resumed.

These facts regarding the current business trend in the United States are included in a report by the India Government Trade Commissioner in New York on 'Present and Post-War Trade Possibilities between India and the U.S.A.'

Discussing the position and prospects of Indian commodities in the U.S.A. market, the report states that moderate business has been done in sunn hemp, and small shipments have arrived from India. The demand in America for this commodity is fairly keen. Very little business is being transacted in shellac. There have been some arrivals latterly, which have, however, failed to relieve the tight situation in seed lac and T.N. grades, which are urgently required for bleaching purposes. Demand for Indian wool is very keen in America. American importers are also interested in doing business in Indian cotton.

## INDIAN BUSINESSMEN IN AMERICA

As a result of a representation personally made to Mr. N. R. Pillai, Secretary, Commerce Department, Government of India during his recent visit to America, by the Indian Chamber of Commerce of America, New York, the Agent-General to the Government of India at Washington has been advised, at the instance of the Commerce Department, to give all possible assistance for securing priority of air travel to those Indian merchants of America who would like to visit India for renewing or establishing business contacts and the urgency and importance of whose business require quick travel by air.

132

## INDIA AND THE MIDDLE EAST Market for Indian Textiles

THE Middle East according to the India Government Trade Commissioner in Alexandria, "should provide a good market for Indian piecegoods, now that Japan's competition is likely to be eliminated for some years. In view of the introduction of a great variety of Indian piecegoods, whose quality and workmanship have been well-commented upon, we might hope that a fair portion of the Indian trade in piecegoods will continue after the war. To bring this about, concentrated action is necessary to see that Indian goods are supplied according to samples and specifications and manufacturers pay special attention to name for themselves."

The varieties of cotton textiles which will find, according to his report, a good market in the Middle East countries are: grey goods, such as sheetings, grey printed, grey mulls, grey voils and other grey fancy goods; dyed goods, such as dyed poplin, dyed cambrics, dyed drill, dyed satin and dyed voil; yarn dyed goods such as striped poplin and striped shirting, and white shirting and white mulls.

Discussing the export prospects of different Indian commodities to the Middle East countries, the report concludes that the trade in jute manufactures has well developed and as India has a virtual monopoly we may expect it to continue.

## TRADE WITH ITALIAN AND FRENCH OVERSEAS TERRITORIES IN AFRICA

Persons and concerns in India can now carry on private trade with the Italian as well as French Overseas territories in Africa, but such trade is subject to the existing export, import and exchange control regulations in force, said a Press Communique issued by the Commerce Department, Government of India,

A notification in the Gazette of India dated June 30, 1945, announces revised selling prices of steel which are lower than the existing prices. These have been fixed after careful consideration of the developments likely to take place in the next few months and it is not proposed to make any further downward revision before April 1946.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S FINANCES

### Provisional Figures for 1943-44

A statement published on June 30 shows provisional figures of the Central Government's receipts and disbursements during 1943-44. The figures are almost final and there may be some small variations in the accounts due to minor adjustments made later.

The total revenue during the year amounted to about Rs. 250 crores after taking into account the contribution from railways (Rs. 37½ crores), the net surplus of the Posts and Telegraphs Department (Rs. 9 crores and payment to Provinces of their share of Income-tax (Rs. 19½ crores), while the total expenditure amounted to about Rs. 440 crores of which Rs. 358½ crores was on Defence Services. The net revenue deficit is thus Rs. 190 crores against Rs. 92½ crores shown in the revised estimates.

As compared with the revised estimates, revenue was worse by Rs. 4½ crores mainly under Corporation Tax (Rs. 12 1/3 crores), Salt (Rs. 2½ crores) and the net surplus from the Posts and Telegraphs Department (Rs. 1½ crore) partly offset by increased revenue under Income-tax (Rs. 3½ crores) and from contribution from railways (5 1/3 crores).

### Defence Expenditure

Defence expenditure increased by about Rs. 96 crores, but there was a reduction of about Rs. 3 crores in Civil expenditure (mainly under Civil Works) and the net deterioration in expenditure was only Rs. 93 crores.

Permanent debt shows a net increase of Rs. 241½ crores during the year, but as this includes about Rs. 37½ crores of different loans created during the year but kept with Government there was a real increase of Rs. 204½ crores. This is composed of the proceeds of loans (Rs. 202 crores) and of counterparts (Rs. 38 crores) set off partly by the repayment under various Debt Redemption Schemes (Rs. 16½ crores), discharges (including conversion) of 4 per cent Bonds, 1943 (Rs. 1½ crores) and ordinary discharges (Rs. 4 crores).

The increased loan receipts during the year were utilised partly to fill the gap caused by the revenue deficit and partly to reduce the balance outstanding under Floating Debt by Rs. 154 crores.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## EXCHANGE OF BURMA CURRENCY

A Press note issued by the Finance Department, Government of India, on June 26 stated:

With effect from May 1, 1945, a new currency issued by the British Military Administration, Burma, has been introduced in the liberated territory of Burma. These notes, along with those current before the enemy occupation of Burma in 1942, are legal tender within Burma only and arrangements have been made by the British Military Administration for the exchange in Burma of the *bona fide* holdings of travellers proceeding to India into Indian currency.

Civilians who, for any reason, are unable to take advantage of these exchange facilities will be allowed to exchange Burma notes of the denominations of Rs. 5, Rs. 10 and Rs. 100 and B.M.A. notes of all denominations for Indian currency at par at:—

- the treasuries at Imphal and Aujal;
- the sub-treasuries at Margherita and Cox's Bazaar.
- the Imperial Bank of India, Chittagong; and
- the Reserve Bank of India, Issue Department, Calcutta.

For amounts not exceeding Rs. 100 in B.M.A. notes there will be no formalities. For amounts upto Rs. 500 in Burma notes and between Rs. 100 and Rs. 500 in B.M.A. currency the production of a certificate signed by any Civil Affairs Service (Burma) Officer will be required, but for amounts in excess of these sums one signed by a Senior Civil Affairs Officer, the Political Officer at Margherita or the Government of Burma Representative at Calcutta will be necessary.

The Pudukottai Darbar have generously contributed a sum of Rs. 10,000 to H. E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund to provide amenities for Indian troops who have fought in the European War.

133

## I.L.O. CONFERENCE TO MEET IN SEPTEMBER

THE next (twenty-seventh) Session of the International Labour Conference will be held in or near Paris and will open sometime in September 1945, said a Press Communiqué issued by the Labour Department, Government of India, on July 4.

It added:

The precise date and place of the Session will be published later. The agenda is as follows:

- I. Director's report. (Social problems of the immediate post-war period with special reference to Europe—future policy and programme of the International Labour Organisation).
- II. The maintenance of high levels of employment during the period of industrial rehabilitation and reconversion.
- III. Welfare of children and young workers. (First discussion).
- IV. Matters arising out of the work of the Constitutional Committee.
- V. Minimum standards of social policy in dependent territories. (Supplementary provisions).
- VI. Reports on the application of Conventions. (Article 22 of the Constitution).

### Delegates

The delegates representing each member State at the Conference include two Government delegates, one Employers' delegate and one Workers' delegate. Advisers can be appointed for each group according to necessity and circumstances.

The duty of nominating the personnel of the entire Indian Delegation rests with the Government of India who, under the terms of the Treaty of Versailles, have undertaken "to nominate non-Government delegates and advisers chosen in agreement with the industrial organisations, if such organisations exist, which are most representative of employers or work people as the case may be."

An association will be regarded as representative of employers only if it includes among its functions that of dealing with the interests

of employers as such (e.g. regulating conditions of employment).

Employers' and workers' organisations wishing to make suggestions relating to the nomination of non-Government delegates and advisers may submit panels of names of their nominees to reach the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Labour as early as possible and, in any case, not later than August 5, 1945.

Allowances (on a scale which can be ascertained by application to the Department of Labour) will be granted by Government to defray the expenses of the delegates when finally nominated.

## JURISDICTION OF SPECIAL TRIBUNALS

A Press Note issued by the Legislative Department, Government of India, on July 3 stated:

The Criminal Law Amendment Ordinance (which provides for the setting up of special tribunals for the trial of bribery and other offences) as it stands, renders the revisional powers of the High Court exercisable in relation to cases tried by a Special Tribunal but bars appeals from its decisions.

The denial of a right of appeal has evoked public criticism and an amending Ordinance promulgated today removes this bar. It allows appeals to the High Court from the decisions of Special Tribunals to the same extent to which appeals from decisions of Sessions Judges are competent under the Code of Criminal Procedure. The amending Ordinance also eliminates the obligation to include in the personnel of a Special Tribunal a military member and permits of the appointment of an officer with magisterial experience.

### Offences Under D.O.I. Rules

The jurisdiction of the Special Tribunal has also been extended to enable them to try offences under the Hoarding and Profiteering Ordinance and the Defence of India Rules. It is, however, not proposed to invoke this extended jurisdiction save in respect of serious offences committed by black-marketeers and others engaged in anti-social activities in the field of control.

Opportunity has also been taken to render all bribery and corruption cases triable by the Special Tribunals. At present they are so triable only when committed in certain specified circumstances.

## PRICES FIXED FOR AMERICAN TIMEPIECES, LANTERNS, ELECTRIC BULBS AND ARTIFICIAL SILK FABRICS

THE Government of India in the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies have, by notifications issued under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance, regulated the sale of Westclox Raven and American timepieces, Dietz and other imported lanterns, electric bulbs and artificial silk fabrics, etc. The notifications are:

With effect from July 1, 1945, the maximum selling prices of Westclox Raven and American timepieces have been fixed at Rs. 7 for sale by an importer to a dealer and Rs. 9 retail. Actual packing charges incurred by the importer may be added to the above prices if the sales are in quantities smaller than a case lot.

For the purpose of determining the sale prices of Dietz and other imported lanterns Dietz lanterns (other than USCO brand) the Controller General of Civil Supplies has sanctioned an addition to the landed cost of a sum representing 10 per cent. of the landed cost where the sale is made by a dealer who imported the article to a wholesale dealer or an agent; 17.5 per cent. of the landed cost where the sale is made by a wholesale dealer or agent and 30 per cent. of the landed cost in other cases. If the sale and delivery are made elsewhere than at a port an addition of 20 per cent. of the landed cost may be made by a wholesale dealer or an agent and 35 per cent. of the landed cost by the seller in other cases. Freight and packing charges should be borne by the consignee in each case.

The manufacturers' issue price to dealers for Elmi locally produced electric bulbs, the importers' issue price to dealers for bulbs imported from U.K. and the manufacturers' or Government Stockists' issue price to dealers for all bulbs imported from U.S.A. and all bulbs of other local producers, shall mean prices f.o.r. by goods train at any railway station in India, at the buyer's option.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

The wholesalers' price to a retailer shall be 12 1/2 per cent. than the specified maximum retail price in the case of bulbs imported from U.S.A. and 15 per cent less in all other cases.

A seller is permitted to add to the specified maximum prices the sales tax, terminal tax or other local cess or tax actually paid by him or, as the case may be, the proportionate part of it.

The price at which importers may sell to wholesalers, the wholesale selling prices and also the retail selling prices have now been fixed for Eveready bulbs No. 1161 (2.5 volts) 1162 (3.8 volts) and 1163 (6.2 volts) and Westinghouse bulbs of the same voltages. The retail selling prices of these bulbs range from Annas 6 to Annas 8.

The maximum retail prices of the following brands of cigarettes have been fixed:—De Reszke Virginia, Rs. 0-14-0 per tin of 50, Cavenders Navy Cut Rs. 0-5-0 per packet of 10, and Rs. 1-10-0 per tin of 50, and Abdulla Imperial Preference cigarettes Rs. 1-4-0 per tin of 50.

The profit margin for Emery Powders (Grain) has been fixed at 50 per cent. of the landed cost less 12 1/2 per cent. of the total when the article is sold by an importer to wholesale dealers, agents or retail dealers. In cases not specifically provided for, the profit margin has been revised to 50 per cent. of the landed cost provided that where the article is sold by the importer to an industrial user or consumer the maximum permitted addition shall be 30 per cent. of the landed cost.

For the purpose of determining the maximum sale price chargeable by a dealer in respect of imported artificial silk fabrics the Controller General of Civil Supplies has sanctioned an addition to the landed cost of a sum representing 10 per cent. of the landed cost where the sale is made by a dealer who imported the article to another dealer; 15 per cent. of the landed cost where the sale is made by any other dealer to another dealer and 35 per cent. of the landed cost in any other case.



Octroi and other local cess actually paid by the seller may also be added if the article is sold or delivered at a place other than a port. Freight and packing charges are included in the percentages of profits as specified above and should be borne by the consignee.

All dealers in a large variety of articles ranging from artificial silk yarn and thread to Zip fasteners in the Fort and Harbour, Mandvi and Bhuleshwar Municipal Wards of Bombay City have been directed to mark the selling price on every such article exposed for sale. The prices have to be marked on the articles so that they can be easily seen and read by a customer and have to be written in English, Hindustani, Marathi or Gujarati. A price list, to be written in ink, has also to be maintained in a book with numbered pages. The prices marked on the articles and entered in the price list should be within the limits permitted by or under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance.

The articles to which the above directions apply are artificial silk yarn and thread; boot and metal polishes; cutlery; cycles, cycle spare parts and accessories; clock-time-pieces and watches and parts thereof; cartridges; crockery; camphor and camphor powder synthetic; enamelled ironware; fountain pens and parts of fountain pens; grindery; glassware; hand-knitting wool; haberdashery; incandescent mantles; kerosene oil lamps; lead pencils; pure and artificial silk fabrics; photographic negatives and printing papers; razors and razor blades; slate pencils; steel pens; silk yarn and thread; spectacle frames; sanitary fittings; sports goods; toilet requisites; typewriters and parts of typewriters; typewriter ribbons; tinned and bottled provisions; travelling requisites; thermoses and thermos flasks; umbrellas and parts of umbrellas; wine, spirit and liquors; woollen fabrics; wireless receiving sets and parts of wireless receiving sets and wireless bulbs; woollen and worsted machine knitting yarns and Zip fasteners.

All producers of art silk fabrics were directed to furnish on or before June 30, 1945, to the Deputy Controller General of Civil Supplies (Headquarters) 1st Marine Street, Fort, Bombay, detailed information in a prescribed form as regards various particulars relating to the business carried on by the producers.

These particulars included information regarding the total number of looms in October 1941, in October 1944 and at present; number of looms engaged in the production of artificial silk fabrics; number of looms

in possession for the producer which have been diverted to production of fabrics other than art silk such as cotton, woollen etc.; number of looms in possession of the producer which are not in use; quantity of artificial silk yarn required by the producer every month for looms now engaged in the production of art silk fabrics; and the quantity of artificial silk yarn acquired by the producer and consumed during the period, December 1, 1944 to May 31, 1945.

### PACKING OF FOOTWEAR

In a Press Note issued on January 13, 1945, one of the relaxations granted by the Government of India in the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies from the provisions of the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1944, in respect of packing of footwear was that boots and walking shoes, full slippers, court shoes and sandals priced at Rs. 6-8 per pair or more, could be packed in boxes of board, provided no other paper was used in making the boxes or was inserted inside the box and provided that no separate label was affixed to the box.

It has now been decided to allow the following further relaxations from the restrictions on the use of paper, provided the box used for the purposes of packing the above varieties of footwear is made from strawboard:—

(i) 3/4 inches wide strip of paper may be pasted on the edges for the purpose of holding the strawboard pieces together.

(ii) Paper which has been printed on or written on completely on both sides may be used for inside lining.

(iii) A label not exceeding 4 inches by 2 1/2 inches may be affixed to the box.

### PACKING OF CLOTH

By a Notification in the Gazette of India, the Government of India is pleased to direct that, save in accordance with a general or special permission of the Textile Commissioner, no manufacturer of cloth shall pack cloth except in bales containing not less than 1,450 yards nor more than 1,550 yards. This does not apply to cloth intended for export, said a Press Note issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, in June.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## AMENDMENTS TO PAPER GRINDERY: STOCK POSITION TO BE DECLARED EACH MONTH

THE Government of India have, by a Notification in the *Gazette of India Extraordinary* made certain amendments to the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1944. The more important of these amendments are:—

(i) General permission has been given to associations, societies and other institutions to consume a quantity of paper not exceeding 50 lbs. per year, for the printing and distribution of annual reports, agendas of meetings, balance sheets and accounts etc.

(ii) General permission has also been granted to print pocket diaries not exceeding 4 inches x 3 1/2 inches but providing one page to a date instead of the existing requirements of providing for not less than three dates to a page.

(iii) Hand-made paper has been excluded from the provisions of the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1944, excepting those applicable to newspapers and periodicals.

(iv) The Paper Controller, India, has been authorised to permit in suitable cases consumption of paper by printing presses and manufacturers of articles from paper in excess of their quarterly quota subject to adjustment in subsequent quarters.

The powers delegated to the Paper Controller, India, have in most cases also been delegated to the Provincial Paper Controllers.

A further Notification amending the Paper Price Control Order, 1944, has been issued which prohibits the stocking of unlabelled paper for sale. So far only the actual sale of unlabelled paper was prohibited.

### CONSUMER GOODS (CONTROL OF DISTRIBUTION) ORDER

By a Notification in the *Gazette of India*, the Government of India have amended the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order, 1944. According to the new amendment the term 'importer' shall include buying agents, indentors and manufacturers' agents, so that the obligations imposed on importers by the Order shall also apply to them, said a Press Note issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, on June 8.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

A Press Note issued recently by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, stated:

It appears that the information required by clause 8 of the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order, 1944, is not being furnished by a majority of grindery producers in India. This clause makes it incumbent on such producers to give to the Controller General of Civil Supplies by the 15th of each month all information regarding the description of grindery produced in the preceding calendar month, the quantity so produced, its cost of production, and how it is proposed to dispose of it.

The Footwear Controller, India, who is now exercising all the powers of the Controller General of Civil Supplies in respect of grindery and to whom all such information shall have to be furnished in future, desires to warn all producers that failure to follow the provisions of the order will render them liable to prosecution.

### 'Grindery' Defined

The term 'grindery' includes all materials, except leather, used in the manufacture of footwear such as shoe bills, iron headed rivets, iron spear rivets, brass-plated spear point rivets, wire nails (panel pins), thread wire wood heel nails, iron grip tacking wire, wire for lasting, stappling and slugging wires brass and iron screw wires, brass nails (1/2" x 3/4"), tip nails 5/8", 3/4", 7/8", heel and toe tips, hob nails pengate, shoe protectors and studs of various types, machine tacks, square shank blue cut tacks, reel threads No. 40 and No. 30, black, brown and white, No. 2, black, brown and yellow, No. 20 assorted colours, sewing needles used in various machines used in boot and shoe manufacture, hemp or jute twine, black sewing threads 00 and 000 and No. 12, linen thread white and grey, 4, 6, 8, 10 and 12 cords, cotton thread 4, 7 and 10 cords, heel balls, beeswax, wax shellac, rapid and carnauba waxes, dextrine and other shoe cements, various types of heels, sand papers and other abrasives, shoe eyelets, boot hooks and shoe buttons, brass head and iron shank nails, wooden shanks, heel attaching and heel building nails, copper or nickel plated bifurcated rivets, button rivets, press buttons, brass and nickel plated shoe buckles, zip fasteners for boots and shoes, cork composition for filing stains and polishes.

137

## NEW WELDING FLUX FOR ALUMINIUM

A new type of flux suitable for the welding of aluminium and its alloys has been evolved in the laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. It is claimed to be superior to expensive imported brands of fluxes.

The welding of aluminium and its alloys presented many difficulties. The use of specially compounded fluxes was recommended but they involved the use of chemicals which were either not available in the country or were available in very limited quantities. Investigations carried out in the laboratories of the Council led to the formulation of a basically new type of flux. Tests carried out have established the suitability of the new flux and its superiority over imported brands of fluxes.

The new flux is described in an article appearing in a recent issue of the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research*. A non-technical note gives details regarding cost, equipment required and capital and recurring expenses for producing the flux on a commercial scale.

### Essential Oil

Silica fibre suspensions required for galvanometers and other scientific instruments which were being imported hitherto can now be produced in this country, according to a technique which has been developed in the laboratories of the Government College, Lahore. Full details for drawing the fibres, coating them with gold or silver and mounting them are given in an illustrated article appearing in the *Journal*. Details of the equipment necessary for preparing suspensions either as a business proposition or as a laboratory fine are also given.

The story of how the essential oil industry in Mysore was established by two Scotchmen is told in an article appearing in the *Journal*. The Scotchmen obtained a few pounds of genuine Linakoe oil seed from Mexico and selected a place about 11 miles from Bangalore for propagating the plant. The result is large plantations in the suburbs of Bangalore and a modern well-equipped distillation plant which yields about 7,000 lbs. of oil valued at about Rs. 20,000. The oil is used extensively in the perfumery industry. The oil produced in Mysore is claimed to be superior to the Mexican oil in that it is lightly coloured and has a higher fixative value.

### DID YOU KNOW THAT—

The highest maximum temperature recorded in India was 127 degrees F at Jacobabad on June 12, 1919.

Kanjarapalli, Travancore, has on the average 169 rainy days in a year against 162 days at Cherapunji which records the maximum annual rainfall.

The heaviest rainfall recorded in the plains of India in one day was 39 inches at Dharampur (Surat district) on July 2, 1914.

On July 23, 1930, Karachi recorded 7.86" of rain which is in excess of its annual average rainfall of 7.62".

The broad lines on which a national patents trust for India should be established are discussed in the editorial of the *Journal*. The experience gained with the Industrial Research Utilization Committee of the Council, it is pointed out, has indicated the need for a more comprehensive all-India organisation to safeguard public interest and at the same time to promote industrial advancement of the country.

Another article appearing in the *Journal* describes the occurrence of penicillin-like antibiotic substances in a number of fungi of the *Aspergillus* group forming a part of the National Collection of Type Cultures housed in the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore.

### IMPORT OF KEROSENE FROM U. K.

When the Hydari Mission were in the United Kingdom in March, they discussed with His Majesty's Government the possibility of obtaining more kerosene for the use of the civil population in India, said a Press Communique issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, on June 3.

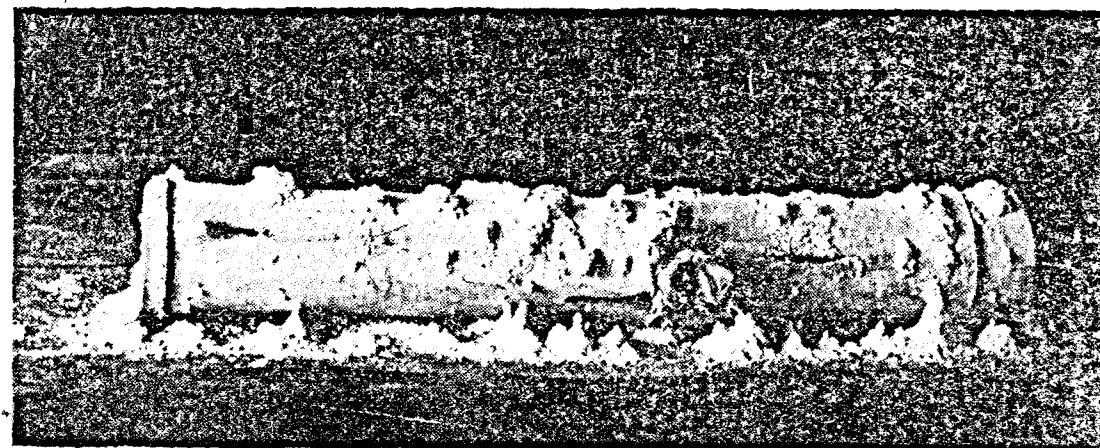
It added: Owing to the demands of the war in the west, His Majesty's Government were not then in a position to give the assistance for which the Hydari Mission asked, but it is now possible to say that additional imports of up to 10,000 tons per month will be arranged with effect from July 1. From that date the supplies of kerosene available for the market will thus be increased above the present level, which has been based on 50 per cent of the 1941 trade.

## PROTECTION OF BAMBOOS AGAINST BORERS

A new method for the protection of hollow culms in bamboos with internodal injection of creosote and fuel oil and another for impregnation of hollow culms with solutions of inorganic salts, etc., are among the various protective methods described in a bulletin entitled "A Note on the Insect Borers of Bamboos and Their Control", published by the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun.

With the enormous demand for bamboos, their protection against insect borers has become of great importance as serious losses have been caused by these borers. The bulletin (which is illustrated) summarises information on the control of the insect borers with special reference to the bostrichidae (known as *ghoon*) the most important family. The bulletin opens with notes on certain qualities of bamboos and, after giving a brief account of insect borers, proceeds to the subject of control measures.

The two new methods which have been described in the bulletin have been found entirely satisfactory, both in efficacy and practicability, and one of them, the internodal injection method, was adopted as the standard, by the Ordnance Department for large-scale work.



This is what happens to bamboo attacked by "Ghoon" insect.

## IDENTIFICATION OF BURMA COMMERCIAL TIMBERS

To provide keys for the identification of Burma commercial timbers the Forest Research Institute, Dehra Dun, has published a Record entitled, "The Identification of Burma Commercial Timbers" as it is expected that with the re-occupation of Burma there would arise a need for one such guide-book.

The Record includes the necessary information that is required for identifying timbers in the field. It starts with preliminary notes on the general properties and gross structure of the wood, supplemented with drawings. It also gives keys for the identification of timbers, descriptions of different species and their photomicrographs.

It includes only those features which are of distinguishing value and can be seen with the naked eye or with a hand-lens. For the quick identification of a particular timber, a low power photomicrograph has been provided opposite the anatomical description of each timber.

Telegraphic communication is now available with Luxemburg but restricted to state telegrams and press telegrams at the rates notified in the Post and Telegraph Guide, current edition, said a Press Note issued by the Posts and Telegraphs Department.

## VICEROY'S INDIAN COMFORTS FUND

**“W**ITH the opening of the route to Geneva sufficient supplies have gone forward to last Indian prisoners of war in Germany till September 1945”, states the Report of the Viceroy's Indian Comforts Fund for the quarter ended January 17, 1945.

During the period under review a total of 1,11,583 Indian food parcels were packed and despatched besides other amenities, e.g., hair oil, educational books, special comforts for Sikhs, etc.

Some 230 prisoners of war were “serviced” and 1,100 Indian food parcels were sent to welcome Indian prisoners of war under repatriation at reception units in C.M.F.

Indian staff and Indian General Hospital received special gifts of woollen and other amenities, including special gifts at Christmas.

### Indian Seamen

Seamen's bundles numbering 8,631 were issued. The Indian Comforts Fund has helped by meeting the expenses of entertainment to 3,230 seamen. £150 were granted to Glasgow alone, where 1,200 were transported for a full day at Coatsbridge at Christmastide. At Liverpool, the Commissioner visited every ship to invite seamen to the Birkenhead Institute, where in all 1,600 men assembled in two days. Indian trainees on their regular visits for sightseeing, took luncheon provided by the I.F.C.

The 80th Indian Pioneer Company received £10 from the Fund for celebration of Christmas and gift bags for children.

The total number of woollen garments produced by the Wool Department during the quarter was 42,372. Large donations were also received from benefactors.

### Amenity Packs

H. E. the Viceroy donated Rs. 20,000 for an initial issue of amenity pack to Indian troops. The Army Comforts Depot sent 870 packs for that sum. These were despatched in two consignments in January 1945, and contained washing and writing materials, games, books and other conveniences.

140



The store and packing room in India House in which food parcels are packed regularly by Indian ladies for Indian war prisoners.

Visitors to the Fund included the wife of the Yugoslav Prime Minister, the wife of the Turkish Ambassador, the Bishop of Rangoon, General Sir Mosley Mayne (Military Secretary, India Office), Col. A. Wakeham (A.A.G. Welfare, India Office) and Miss Whittington (War Organisation Liaison Officer), who has just returned from Italy, where she saw wounded Indian soldiers in hospital.

At the end of January 1945, the balance in favour of the Fund was £22,382 of which £4,754 is Indian Red Cross money for prisoners of war. A sum of £1,655 was received during January from the Ministry of Aircraft Production as our quota from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund for the quarter ended September 30, 1944.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

## FIRST COLONEL OF INDIAN PARACHUTE REGIMENT



Lt.-Gen. F. A. M. Browning

**A**S a tribute to the newest branch of India's armed forces Lieut.-Gen. F. A. M. Browning has been appointed first Colonel of the Indian Parachute Regiment. The King has approved his honorary appointment “in order to help promote and maintain a true regimental spirit.”

Lieut.-Gen. Browning, a noted sportsman, flier and yachtsman, was chiefly responsible for organising Britain's airborne forces. He commanded British paratroops on the Normandy and Arnhem operations. This year he joined the staff of Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia, as Chief of Staff.

Lieut.-Gen. Browning is a favourite among Indian parachutists. During a visit to one of their camps he arrived during a festival and promptly entered into the spirit of the occasion. He joined in the dancing and the festivities, earning the reputation of being a “regular fellow” among the rugged soldiers of the skies.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 1, 1945.

Indian parachute battalions are still relatively new but they already have a notable record. One battalion, fighting as infantry, helped to turn back the threatened Japanese invasion of India in 1943 by blocking the road to Imphal.

Indian paratroopers participated in their first parachute operation last month when a battalion was dropped at Elephant Point in the battle for Rangoon. Although the Indian paratroopers encountered only minor Japanese opposition they proved that the airborne fighters are prepared for any task.

### Practice Jumps

At present they are continuing their training and new recruits are being toughened up. All these men wear the maroon beret of the parachute regiment and blue and white wings over their right pocket, earned after seven practice jumps.

Indian paratroopers are volunteers from every regiment in the Indian Army. After preliminary training they spend a week in a converted hangar learning the tricks of parachute jumping.

Then one morning they are handed parachutes and marched into a Dakota. For most of them this is their first flight.

## L.M.S. (AMRITSAR) RECOGNISED FOR EMERGENCY COMMISSIONS

In a Press Note dated June 16, 1945, the Government of India announced their decision to recruit candidates possessing the qualification of L.M.S. (Amritsar) as Emergency Commissioned Officers in the Indian Medical Service.

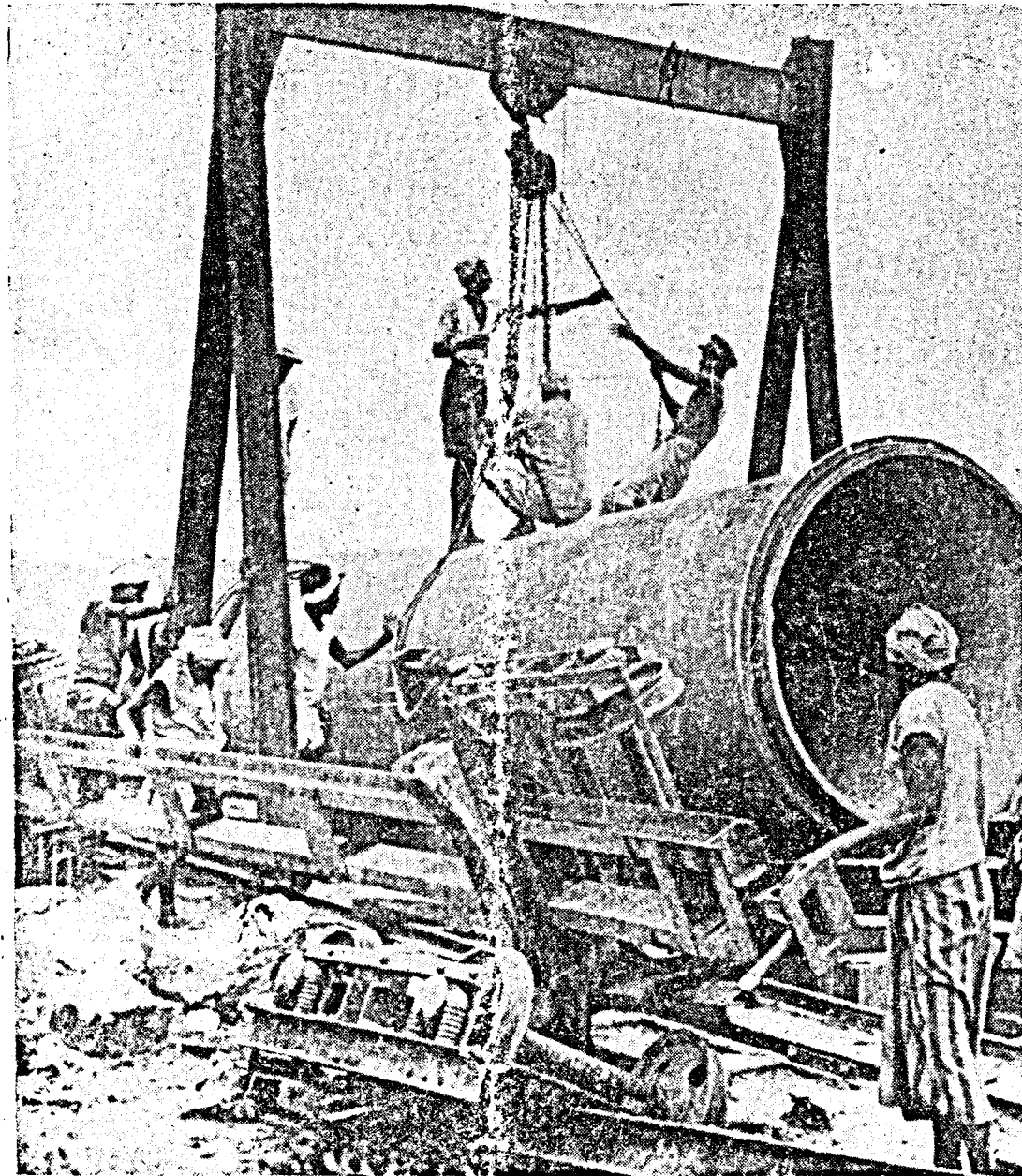
Government are now pleased to announce that candidates possessing L.M.S. qualification of the Punjab State Medical Faculty obtained at the Women's Christian Medical College, Ludhiana, will also be eligible for recruitment to the Emergency Cadre of the Indian Medical Service, said a Press Note issued by the Director General, Indian Medical Service on June 20.

Another Press Note issued on the same date stated:

The Government of India have sanctioned, as a wartime measure, the recruitment as Emergency Commissioned Officers in the Indian Medical Service of candidates possessing the qualification of L.M.S. (Hyderabad).

141





### RANGOON WATER SUPPLY—

*Water for liberated Rangoon was ensured by the rapid reconstruction, by Indian and British engineers working with civil labour, of the City's Gyobu reservoir. The work entailed the laying of a new pipeline. Here, a pipeline section is being linked with another.*

Published by P. D. Murti, Information Officer, Government of India. Printed in India by E. G. Tilt (General Manager) at The Civil & Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore: Communications for the Editor should be addressed to the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India, Lahore, and not to the Printers.

# INDIAN INFORMATION

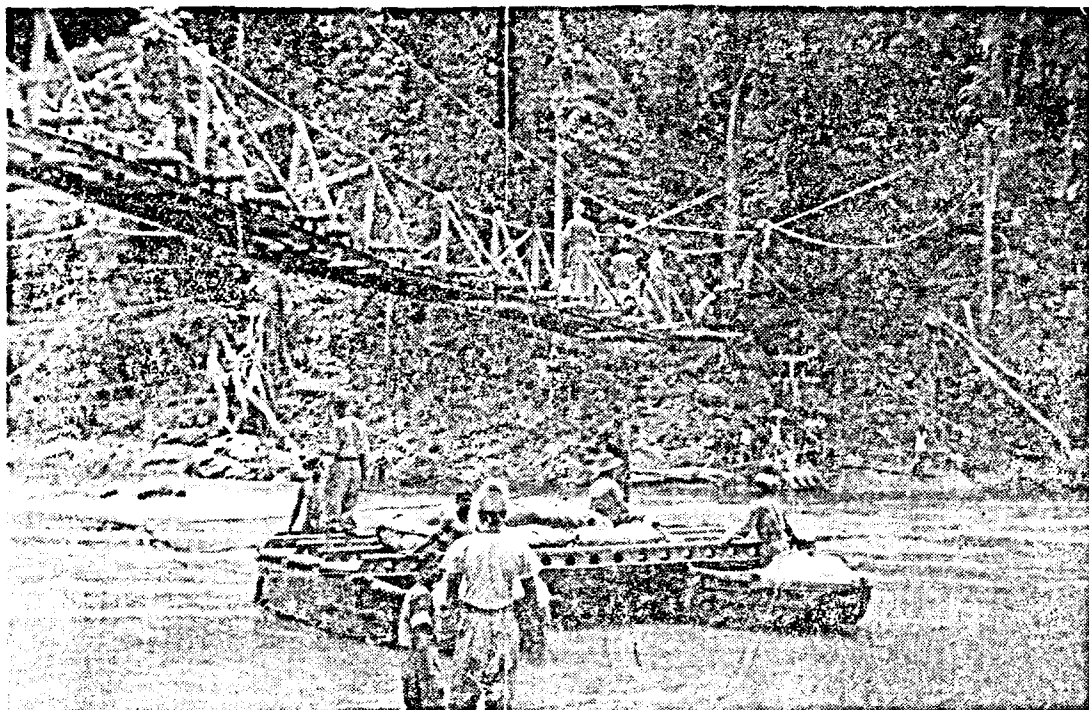
COMPLIMENTARY



Vol. 17, No. 166 August 15, 1945.  
Issued Fortnightly by the  
Principal Information Officer,  
Government of India.

PRICE  
4  
ANNAS

U.N.R.R.A. MISSION IN INDIA.



A suspension bridge built across the Thaukyegatchaung, on the Mawchi Road about 150 miles north-east of Rangoon, by a Madras Sappers and Miners Field Company.



The U.N.R.R.A. Mission arrives in India. U. S. and Government of India officers received the Mission at the Willingdon Air Station, New Delhi. Picture shows (L. to R.) Mr. Rajaram Cogate, Mr. George Grey and Mr. C. Stewart Mason, members, and the Hon. Francis B. Sayre (fifth from left) Head of the Mission.

## TRIBUTE TO INDIA'S CONTRIBUTION TO THE U.N.R.R.A.

"I am happy to have the opportunity, through the kindness of the Press, to express to the Indian people the grateful appreciation of U.N.R.R.A.—the United Nations Relief and Rehabilitation Administration—for their substantial participation in its work," said the Hon. Francis B. Sayre, Head of the U.N.R.R.A. Mission, which is now in India, in a statement to the Press at Simla recently.

He added: "If to-day the peoples of the world would go forward, humanity and not national self-interest must come first. No matter what techniques may be devised to safeguard the peace of the world, security cannot be built upon human distress. The road to peace and reconstruction must be over the bridge of relief and rehabilitation.

"So monumental is the need today, so worldwide the problems, that only through the closest kind of international co-operation can progress be achieved. Bringing relief to stricken victims of war through international

co-operative effort is one of the intensely practical ways of building for peace. U.N.R.R.A. is, in fact, the first operating United Nations organization actually at work.

"India, as a member State, has generously promised a contribution to U.N.R.R.A. How can India be of maximum help in this great international work without doing injury to her own people or to her own economy? It is to answer that question, in consultation with Indian Government officials, that our U.N.R.R.A. mission has come to India.

"We have no thought of taking from India goods or foodstuffs of which the Indian people are in real need themselves. Instead, our object is to find surplus goods which India has produced beyond her needs and arrange for their procurement by the Indian Government through ordinary and normal channels, sending these surpluses to those liberated territories where they will go furthest in meeting human needs.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

143

Vol. 17 No. 166. INDIAN INFORMATION Aug. 15, 1945.

### MAIN CONTENTS

**AIMS:**—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities.

**FORMAT:**—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS:**—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Edited by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India.

|                                                            | Page |
|------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| More Wheat Imports for India: Food Member's Statement      | 147  |
| Mr. S. Lall on Employment Service in India                 | 150  |
| Regional Labour Commissioners                              | 152  |
| International Industrial Committees                        | 153  |
| Indo-African Trade                                         | 156  |
| Working of Priority Passages Scheme                        | 158  |
| Indian Waterways Experiment Station                        | 162  |
| H.E. Mr. R. G. Casey's Broadcast on the Position in Bengal | 170  |
| R.I.N. Instructor Branch                                   | 174  |
| Indian Army Battle Casualties                              | 179  |
| C-in-C's Tour of Kangra Valley                             | 183  |

COVER PICTURE: Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck inspecting Hyderabad Lancers in Cyprus





Mr. Francis B. Sayre with Mr. N. R. Pillai,  
Commerce Secretary, Government of India.

"1945 and 1946 will be crucial years for U.N.R.R.A. Already, by the end of June, U.N.R.R.A. had shipped to Europe 1,250,000 long tons of relief goods, and this pace will be vastly increased through succeeding months. Through its shipment of relief goods, through its sending of technicians and experts to help meet distress situations, through its medical and public health work, through its care and repatriation of millions of displaced persons, U.N.R.R.A. is hard at work along many fronts.

"Just as it has required the collective action of the United Nations to smash the enemy, so it will require the unstinting and co-operating efforts of all nations and of all men to lay solid foundations for an enduring peace.

"U.N.R.R.A. sets the direction and marks the way forward. It is good to know that the

Indian people, looking forward, are taking a vital part in this work."

The Mission, besides the Hon. Mr. Francis B. Sayre, U.N.R.R.A.'s Diplomatic Adviser consists of Mr. R. V. Gogate, an Indian resident of America, and Mr. G. Stewart Mason, both of the U.N.R.R.A. Bureau of Supply, and Mr. Grey.

They arrived in New Delhi from Cairo by air on July 10, 1945, and were received at the Willingdon Air Port by Mr. R.K. Nehru, Joint Secretary, Commerce Department, other officers of the Government of India, Maj-Gen. Vernon Evans, Chief of Staff, U.S. Forces, India-Burma Theatre, and Mr. Douglas Flood, Secretary of the American Mission.

#### Preliminary Discussions

The Mission held informal preliminary discussions on July 11 regarding their work in India with Mr. N. R. Pillai, Secretary of the Commerce Department, and the Supply Department and left for Simla, accompanied by Mr. N. R. Pillai, Mr. Nehru and other officers of the Commerce Department.

The main object of the Mission is to explore possibilities of purchases in India of essential commodities which this country can spare and which are needed for the relief of countries freed from the enemy.

India's contribution to the Administration, as approved of by the last budget session of the Assembly, amounts to Rs. 8 crores. The Mission may purchase in this country within this sum, in which case the purchase amount will be credited towards India's contribution. If it so chooses and conditions here are favourable, it may purchase even more, in which case the purchases will have to be paid for from the funds of the Administration.

#### WHO'S WHO IN THE MISSION

Born in South Bethlehem, U.S.A., on April 30, 1885, the Hon'ble Francis Bowes Sayre was Adviser in foreign affairs to the Siamese Government (1923-25) and jurisconsult to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Siamese Government (1925 to 1930). He negotiated, on behalf of Siam, new political and commercial treaties with France, Great Britain, the Netherlands, Spain, Portugal, Denmark and Sweden in 1925, and Norway and Italy in 1926, abolishing extraterritoriality in Siam, and also the treaty of arbitration with Great Britain in 1925.



The members of the Mission photographed at a meeting with the Hon. Sir Muhammad Azizul Haque, Commerce Member, Government of India. The meeting was held at Ava Lodge, Simla, the residence of Sir M. Azizul Haque.



The Commerce Member in conversation with Mr. Sayre.





Mr. Rajaram V. Gogate.

He was a Director of the Harvard Institute of Criminal Law from 1929 to 1934, and trustee of the Massachusetts State Training schools, with supervision of juvenile delinquents of state, from 1932 to 1933. He was appointed by President Roosevelt as Assistant Secretary of State in 1933 and served for six years under Secretary Cordell Hull, under whom he established and administered the American trade agreements programme.

#### Escape from Corregidor

Representing Siam, he was a member of the Permanent Court of Arbitration at The Hague, 1925-34. President Roosevelt appointed him, in 1939, United States High Commissioner to the Philippine Islands. There he was caught by the Japanese invasion in 1941, and for two months lived with the American

troops on Corregidor. In February, 1942, acting under orders from President Roosevelt, he made good his escape from Corregidor by submarine.

In 1943, he was appointed Special Assistant to the Secretary of State and Deputy Director General for the U.S. Office of Foreign Relief and Rehabilitation Operations.

He became Diplomatic Adviser to U.N.R.R.A. in 1944.

Mr. Sayre married, in 1913, the daughter of President Woodrow Wilson.

He is the author of *Experiments in International Administration*, (1919); *Cases on Labor Law*, (1922); *Cases on Criminal Law*, 1927, abridged edition, 1930; *Siam Treaties with Foreign Powers*, 1920-27; *Cases on the Law of Admiralty*, 1929; *America Must Act*, 1935; *The Way Forward*; *The American Trade Agreements Programme*, 1939; *The Protection of American Export Trade*, 1939.

#### Mr. Rajaram Gogate

Mr. Rajaram V. Gogate was born on June 23, 1895, at Indore, in a Ghitpawan Brahmin family. After three years of college studies, he proceeded, in 1919, to Japan in connection with business. In 1920 he reached the U.S.A. and entered the University of California, where he took his B.A. Degree in 1921 and M.A., in 1922. He taught for one year in a rural school in 1923, and attended the Education Conference at San Francisco along with Miss Hansa Mehta, the daughter of Sir Manubhai Mehta. He represented India as one of the 14 elected members of the Governing Board of the World Federation of Education Association. He was appointed University Scholar, Howard University, with a stipend to specialize in the field of education (1923-24), and received the Master of Education Degree in 1925.

During 1925 he served the Education Department of the State of Maine as a lecturer on international problems and practices. In the same year he went to England as an officer of the World Federation of Education Association to participate in its biennial convention at Edinburgh. He travelled on the Continent to study social and education conditions and returned to the U.S.A., being appointed "macy fellow" at Columbia University for 1926 and 1927.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

He completed Ph.D. studies, passing the written examination, but, due to certain unavoidable conditions, could not complete the doctoral dissertation. He was offered a Professorship at N. J. Law College to teach social ethics and served in that capacity from 1926 to 1930. In 1929 he attended the Geneva Convention of the World Federation and in 1930 taught philosophy and Education Courses at Indiana University. He was selected Principal of Beverly Academy, in New York, by the State Department of Education, and served as Head of that Academy in 1930-32. Thereafter he joined the faculty of the City College of New York to teach Philosophy and Sociology (1933-37). From 1938 to 1942 he was Professor of Sociology at Bucknell University in the State of Pennsylvania, and from 1942 to 1944 served as Agricultural Economist in the U.S.A. Department of Agriculture in charge of the India Desk.

In 1944, he was called in to U.N.R.R.A. to work on British Dominions and Indian matters. He has come to India as Adviser to Mr. Sayre and Liaison Officer of U.N.R.R.A. to explore supply procurement matters. In 1941 he was admitted to American citizenship. His wife and three daughters are American by birth.

#### Mr. George Grey

Mr. George Grey, who was educated at New Mexico State College, and the George Washington Law College, was formerly assistant Legal Adviser to the High Commissioner to the Philippines. He is Assistant Secretary to the Mission.

Mr. G. Stewart Mason, Scottish Solicitor, is a graduate of Oxford and Edinburgh Universities. He spent some years in Canada, the last five with the Dominion Government and latterly as Special Assistant to the Controller of Supplies. He joined the U.N.R.R.A. last year as Negotiator.

#### FOOTWEAR PRICES REDUCED

Ceiling prices of *chappals* and smaller sizes of Indian pattern *Juties* have been reduced from July 15, 1945 said a Press Note issued by the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies, Government of India, on July 17. Dealers are advised to check up the prices marked on the footwear with the amendments to the Footwear Control Order 1945 issued in the *Gazette of India* of June 9.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## MORE WHEAT IMPORTS FOR INDIA

100,000 Tons a Month

"THE question of India's requirements of imported wheat for the current year has been under the constant examination of His Majesty's Government and the Government of India for the past few months," said a Press communique issued by the Food Department, Government of India, on July 6.

It added: "Despite the heavy strain on the shipping of the United Nations imposed by war in the West and in the East, and the needs of war-devastated European countries, shipments of wheat to India during the first few months of this year have been continued.

"As a result of the latest review, H.M.G. have undertaken to load during the next six months, July to December, 1945, supplies of wheat to India at the rate of 100,000 tons a month.

"The Government of India have expressed their gratitude to H.M.G. for this increased assistance which, in the existing straitened circumstances of world supply and the difficult shipping position, they especially appreciate. This will materially help to maintain the stability of Food Administration in India throughout the year."

#### Food Member's Statement

In connection with this announcement the Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava, Food Member, has issued the following statement to the Press:

The actual quantity of imports required to balance India's food economy from year to year, or even quarter to quarter, must be judged and decided in the light of many uncertain and varying factors, e.g. (i) harvests in India might vary from year to year to the extent of two or three million tons of foodgrains, (ii) change in demands owing to changing diet habits, (iii) increase in the population, (iv) the spread of urban rationing has reduced the factors of insecurity which previously caused hoarding and black markets on such a wide scale, (v) during war the shipping position cannot be assessed much in advance, (vi) the harvests in other parts of the world cannot be predicted long in advance.

The only logical course is, therefore, to maintain the closest possible touch with His Majesty's Government, which not only allocates

shipping, but also has to support India's case before the Combined Food Board at Washington, which allocates world surpluses.

There has been constant examination of the position through personal contacts and periodical reviews of India's import requirements in the light of the known stock position and the known results of the various harvests. The result of all these reviews has been that, since imports began on any scale in 1943, there has never once been an interruption in the flow though the volume has varied according to the availability of shipping.

This year the situation has been especially complicated by (a) the failure of the wheat harvest in Australia, which has involved a greater burden on sea transport, since ships have to bring the wheat over far greater distances, and, (b) the decision of the Allied High Command at the end of last year to carry out two major offensives, simultaneously in the East and in the West, with a view to speeding up the end of the war. This naturally imposed enormous extra demands on shipping. In view of these difficulties, I feel that we have got the best that we could hope for during the last six months of this calendar year.

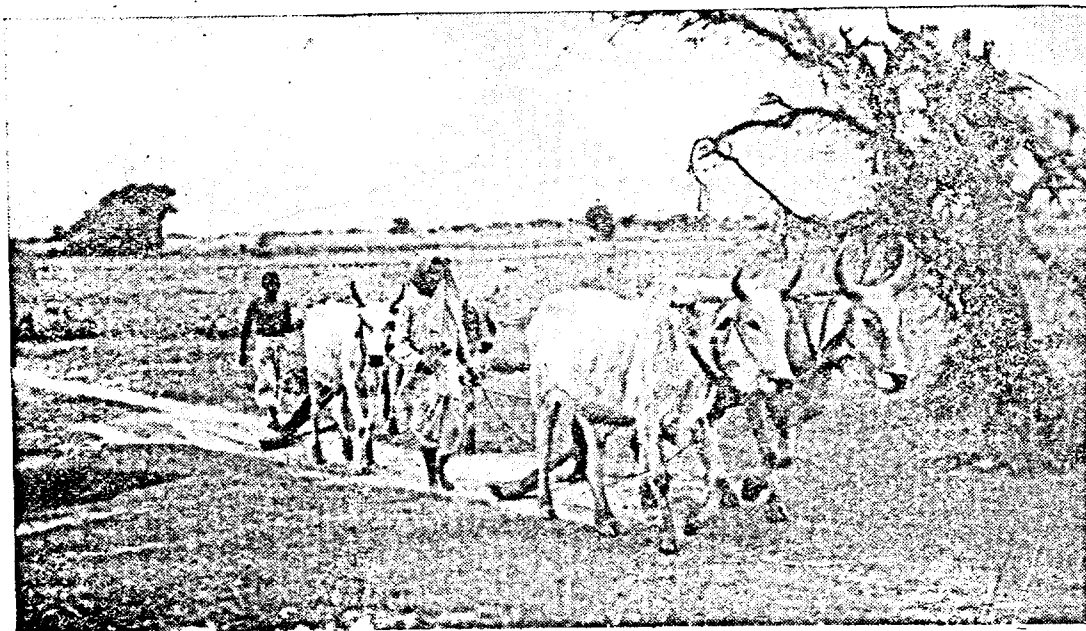
Incidentally, the alteration of our source of supply, from Australia to North America, has enabled the Canadian Government to complete the

sending of their free gifts of 1,00,000 tons of wheat, so generously made at the end of 1943. There is at present no scope for using this wheat directly in relief of famine in Bengal, which was the original intention, but it will materially reduce the average price at which wheat can be made available to deficit areas.

#### Local Wheat Production

The local wheat production, on a conservative basis this year was originally estimated at 10.3 million tons as against 9.7 million tons last year. Since the compilation of these forecasts, reports show that the prospects of the wheat crop in the Punjab are much better and perhaps the size of the local crop this year will prove larger than the present estimate. With a relatively better crop and the scale of imports now promised, we hope that we should not only be able to implement our accepted price and food policy but also be in a position to build up an adequate central reserve.

A serious wheat shortage, which developed in certain parts of Northern India in the early months of this year as a result of unsatisfactory procurement in the main wheat growing areas, was promptly and effectively met by the movement of large quantities of wheat by special trains. A considerable portion of these were imported stock held in reserve at our Karachi Depot.



Off for the day's work in the fields.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## INLAND FISHERIES

In furtherance of their food production campaign, the Government of India have placed Rs. 28,000 at the disposal of the Bengal Government to meet the cost of the Inland Fisheries Training Scheme, Calcutta, for the second course which began on August 1, 1945. Out of this amount Rs. 14,000 is the grant from the Government of India towards the training scheme and the balance of Rs. 14,000 will be recovered, in due course, from the participating Provinces and States. The above grant is for a complete course of six months.

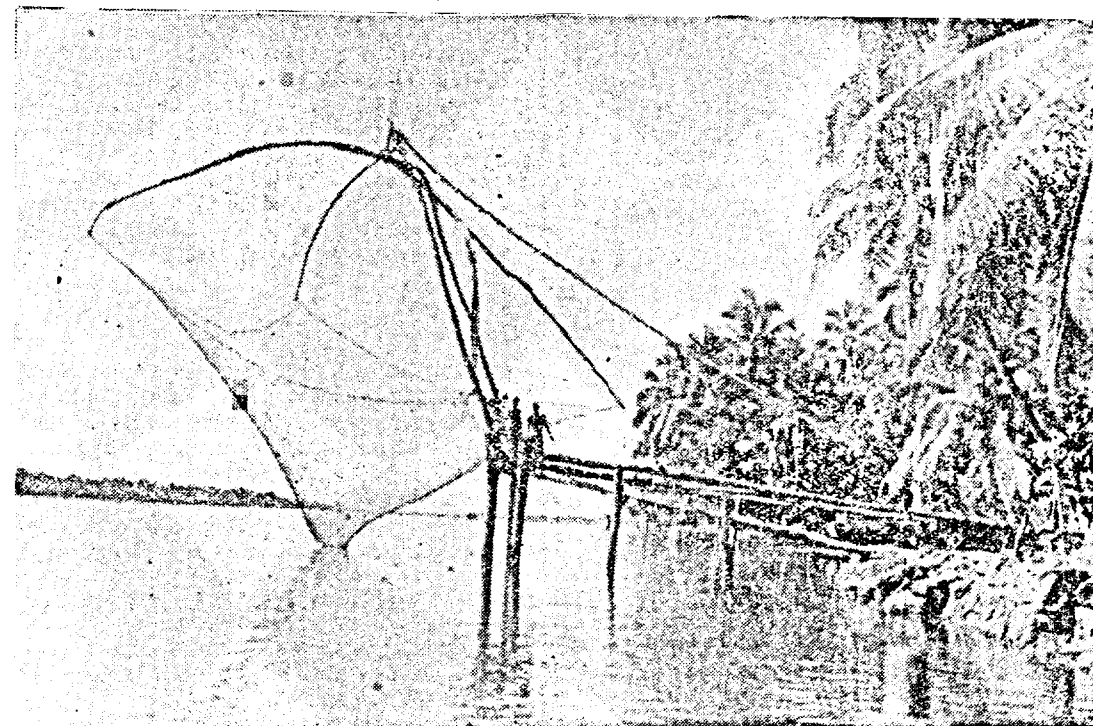
As regards reservation of seats, the Government of India have agreed that five seats may be allotted to Bengal, two to Bombay, one each to Punjab, U.P., Bihar, Orissa, Sind and Assam Provinces; two each for Hyderabad and Jaipur States; while Cochin, Mysore, Kolhapur Regency Council, Nandgaon Darbar, Cooch Behar Darbar, Sonepur Darbar, Patna State and Baroda will have one seat each, making a total of 25 trainees. The Government of India have also agreed to the training of five officers of the Bengal Fisheries Department free of cost.

## BALANCED DIETS

The difference in the present cost of a 'balanced' diet as compared to pre-war years in the principal rationed towns of their respective areas is the subject of a communication addressed by the Central Food Department to Provincial Governments and State Administrations. It is felt that on the basis of replies received, the Planning Section of the Department would be in a position to assess the food requirements of the people, and formulate a plan for raising nutritional standards in the country.

According to the Nutrition Advisory Committee the composition of a 'balanced' diet for an adult per day in ounces is: cereals 14, pulses 3, vegetables 10, fruits 3, milk 10, sugar and gur 2, vegetable oil or ghee 2, fish and meat 3 and egg 1.

As regards the last two items, a corresponding increase in the milk offtake is recommended for those who do not take meat and eggs.



Fishing in Travancore.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## EMPLOYMENT SERVICE IN INDIA

### Mr. S. Lall's Broadcast

"WE hope that the Employment Service we are establishing will eventually develop into a permanent service covering all categories of employment-seekers and that it will promote full employment and higher living standards for the people of India," said Mr. S. Lall, Additional Secretary in the Labour Department of the Government of India, in a talk on "An Employment Service in India" broadcast on July 14 from All India Radio, Delhi.

Mr. Lall said: "This is entirely a new experiment for India in the field of administration. Before the war, one could hardly have thought it possible or practicable to set up an Employment Service in this country. Yet, today, we can no longer afford to do without it."

"An Employment Service, as its name indicates, is a service for employment. I would like to emphasise the word 'service.' An Employment Service must be so organised as to render effective service. Unless it is animated by the spirit of service, it cannot be a success."

#### International Principles

Explaining the functions of an Employment Service, Mr. Lall quoted from the recommendations made on this subject by the International Labour Conference held in Philadelphia in April 1944.

He said: "The essential duty of the Employment Service should be to ensure, in co-operation with other public and private bodies concerned, the best possible organisation of industrial, agricultural and other employment as an integral part of the national programme for the full use of productive resources."

"The Employment Service would be responsible for:

- (i) collecting and making available information concerning labour supply, employment opportunities and other information of value in promoting rural employment;
- (ii) assisting workers to find suitable employment and employers to find suitable workers;
- (iii) assisting in developing and in determining the scope of training and re-training courses;

- (iv) developing methods to facilitate the transference, where necessary, of workers from one occupation or area to another;
- (v) helping to achieve the best possible distribution of manpower within each industry and area;
- (vi) assisting public and private bodies in planning the location of industry, public works, housing projects, social amenities, and other social and economic measures.

#### Closest Co-operation Necessary

"It is important that there should be the closest co-operation between the employment service and other authorities whose activities affect the employment situation, including authorities charged with responsibility for accelerating or slowing down public works in accordance with the current state of employment and unemployment."

"The first and foremost task of the Employment Service is to find out in advance, so far as possible, the scope and character of employment available in the transition from war to peace. This will necessitate a series of factual studies for the collection of all relevant information regarding the persons likely to be seeking work and the employment opportunities likely to be available. Such information is absolutely indispensable if we are to plan the maximum use of our productive resources on a scientific basis. It will enable us to explore the entire field of available employment and to gauge the variations in the level of employment."

#### No Guarantee of Employment

Mr. Lall emphasised that an Employment Service did not guarantee or ensure employment. He said: "This is beyond its scope. The success of an employment service depends, fundamentally, upon the volume and scope of employment available in the country. An Employment Service can, however, serve as a barometer of employment and can give timely warning when the level of employment is falling low. It can certainly give an indication of the localities and the categories of labour which will be adversely affected by the decline in employment. It can also help Central, Provincial and States Governments to phase their development schemes and to direct their economic policies towards achieving a higher level of employment."

"But apart from the collection of statistical data, the Employment Service requires an efficient mechanism to bring the available workers to the available jobs promptly and satisfactorily. This mechanism is a co-ordinated system of Employment Exchanges spread all over the country and functioning as an organic whole."

"This is important because Employment Exchanges functioning in isolation and in an inchoate manner will not achieve the effective disposal of available manpower. This was the experience of the United Kingdom and other countries which have done pioneering work in the field of Employment Service. It applies equally here because, as we all know, employment transcends Provincial and State barriers"

#### Employment Exchanges

Referring to the functions of Employment Exchanges, Mr. Lall said: "Briefly, the main function of the Employment Exchange is to bring together employers and employment-seekers. I must, however, emphasise here that the success of Employment Exchange service does not merely depend on its mechanical efficiency. The human element must ever receive its foremost attention. We are, therefore, endeavouring to build up an organisation that will help and advise the workers and the employer in the solution of their employment problems."

"Although the Exchange deals primarily with the workers and vacancies in its own area, yet, from the economic point of view, it serves a more important purpose. By facilitating the necessary mobility of labour, both occupational and geographical, it helps to bring about a proper adjustment of labour supply and demand."

#### Efficient Clearing System

"In India we are proposing to organise an Employment Exchange machinery consisting of a Central Exchange, Regional Exchanges, Sub-Regional Exchanges, and a large number of Employment Information Bureaux. The Employment Information Bureau will act as a supplementary channel for communicating information, advice and guidance to employment-seekers on all matters connected with their employment, will be a link between the employment seeker and the Sub-Regional Exchanges within its area and will act as a provincial clearing-house."

"Suppose that a Sub-Regional Exchange cannot secure a job for a particular worker or a worker for a particular job, it will approach the neighbouring Sub-Exchange; but failing

this, it will report to the Regional Exchange. If the Regional Exchange fails to find the worker a job through its Sub-Regional Exchanges, it will pass on the information to the Central Exchange."

"Thus, the first effort is to secure local employment. Failing this, the next effort is to secure employment within the Region or Province and, finally, in any part of India. It will be evident that the Regional Exchanges and the Central Exchange, in particular, must maintain a highly efficient clearing system of unemployed workers and vacant jobs."

"Since the object of the Employment Service is to secure the most effective organisation and disposal of productive resources, it is essential that workers should not be allotted to jobs haphazardly. We must make sure that we find the right man for the right job."

"For this purpose we propose to establish an advisory service which will give expert advice and guidance to workers in the selection of suitable employment. This would ensure that the necessary skills are available and are distributed satisfactorily among the various branches of production."

#### Lack of Skilled Workers

"The deficiency of skilled workers in India was brought prominently to notice during this war. In order to meet the needs for technicians required for the Defence Services and industry engaged in war-production, it became necessary to set up hurriedly a number of Technical Training Centres. It is not enough for us to rely on this achievement because, in the post-war period, industrial expansion in India will again be faced with the bottle-neck in the supply of suitable skilled workers."

"As a safeguard against this contingency, the Government of India have appointed a Committee to consider the adjustments necessary in the Technical Training Scheme to meet the post-war needs of the country. The Committee is representative of all the important interests concerned, and has already formulated proposals for consideration by the Central and Provincial Governments."

"The point I wish to emphasise here is that we must now definitely abandon haphazard schemes of technical training. We must all of us—Central Government, Provincial Governments, Employers' organisations and Workers' organisations—consciously plan and work together to ensure that our workers are given the training that they need and that is essential for our future industrial progress."

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.



"It must not be thought that the work of the Employment Service ends with the bringing together of the employer and the employment-seeker. After it has placed the employment-seeker in suitable employment, it will be its duty to see that his interests are properly watched and safeguarded and that his adaptation to his new surroundings is facilitated. This would require the setting up of what is known as a 'follow-up' service.

"These are, in broad outline, the main functions of an Employment Service. We have now the beginning of it in India. An integrated Employment Service is being set up. Its scope for the present is limited to the resettlement and employment of demobilised members of Defence Services and discharged war-workers. It will be unwise to extend the scope of this organisation to cover all categories of employment-seekers as the employment opportunities that are likely to be available during the transition from war to peace will be limited.

"But as the field of employment is enlarged through the execution of post-war development schemes, the employment service will also progressively extend its scope. We hope that the employment service we are establishing will eventually develop into a permanent service covering all categories of employment-seekers, and that it will promote full employment and higher living standards for the people of India."

## HOLLAND AND NORWAY NO LONGER ENEMY TERRITORIES

Holland and Norway, being in Allied occupation, are no longer enemy territories, a Press Communique issued by the Commerce Department, Government of India, on July 13 said.

It added: As business correspondence with these countries will thus not be subject to the enemy trading regulations, the Government of India have cancelled the notification under the Defence of India Rules relating to carrying on of business correspondence with Holland.

Any such correspondence will be subject to postal regulations, announcements regarding which will be made by the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, from time to time.

Facilities for carrying on private trade with persons and concerns in Holland and Norway do not, however, yet exist.

## APPOINTMENT OF REGIONAL LABOUR COMMISSIONERS

Three Regional Labour Commissioners—Mr. D. G. Jadhav, Dr. Seth and Mr. Abu Talib—have been appointed by the Central Government at Bombay, Calcutta and Lahore respectively for administering their new machinery which has been set up to deal with industrial relations in industries and undertakings in the "central sphere." The organisation is under Mr. S. C. Joshi, the Central Government's Chief Labour Commissioner at the headquarters.

The new set-up also includes a Deputy Labour Commissioner at New Delhi, 9 Conciliation Officers and 24 Labour Inspectors (central) located at various centres throughout India, and one Central Inspector of Industrial canteens.

Industries falling in the "central sphere" are (1) all industrial establishments owned or controlled by the Government of India; (2) Federal railways; (3) mines and oilfields and (4) major ports.

### Functions of the Organisation

The Chief Labour Commissioner and his officers will be in charge of conciliation, welfare and the operation of certain labour laws in these industries. Their functions include assistance in the formation and maintenance of voluntary machinery in industrial establishments, prevention and settlement of trade disputes and maintenance of information regarding wage rates and conditions of work. They will promote good relations between employers and workers, and will also examine welfare measures and give advice to employers and Government on these measures.

As the Chief Labour Commissioner's organisation will be responsible for conciliation in all Federal railways, existing machinery under the Conciliation Office (Railways) and Supervisor of Railway Labour ceases to have separate existence.

The officers under the Chief Labour Commissioner are being invested with statutory powers of conciliation under the Trade Disputes Act, 1929. They are also being empowered as supervisors of Railway labour and as inspectors under the Acts relating to payment of wages and employment of children in Federal railways and major ports. The Assistant Labour Welfare Advisers appointed by the Central Government at various provincial centres will be redesignated as Conciliation Officers and work under the Regional Labour Commissioners.

## I.L.O. TO SET UP INDUSTRIAL COMMITTEES India to Participate

"THE Governing Body of the International Labour Organisation, have decided to set up, within the framework of the Organisation, International Industrial Committees with a view to providing specialised machinery to consider the problems of certain of the major world industries," said a Press communique issued by the Labour Department, Government of India, on July 9.

It added: "The Committees will be tripartite, comprising representatives of Governments as well as of employers and workers, subject to the right of each committee to appoint bipartite sub-committees or to arrange for parts of its meetings to be bipartite. The responsibility for appointing the employers' and workers' members of the Committee has been left to the Governments, who will make the appointments in agreement with the principal organisation of employers and workers having a substantial membership in the industry concerned. Each Committee will include a delegation of the Governing Body comprising an equal number of representatives of the Government group, the Employers' group and the Workers' group.

"The Committees will be set up, in the first place, in the following industries: (a) Inland transport (all forms of transport, including air transport, except maritime transport, which is covered by the Joint Maritime Commission); (b) Metal Trades (Sub-Committees may ultimately be set up for various branches of the metal trades, e.g. shipbuilding, aircraft manufacture and automobile manufacture); (c) Coal Mining; (d) Textiles (sub-committees may ultimately be set up for various branches of the industry); (e) Iron and Steel Production; (f) Petroleum Production and Refining; and (g) Building, Civil Engineering and Public Works.

### Group Representatives

"India has been invited to participate in all these Committees, except the one on Petroleum Production and Refining. All the Committees on which India has been invited to be represented are worldwide in scope.

"The International Labour Office have now asked the Government of India to obtain the

views of the employers' and workers' organisations concerned on the question of the number of representatives of each group and send it to them so as to reach them not later than July 15, 1945. The office has invited attention to the fact that some limitation of the number of employers' and workers' representatives, whose expenses will be paid by the International Labour Office, will be necessary. The Governing Body considered a suggestion that a maximum of two members for each country and each group would, in general, be appropriate, but it postponed its decision on this point in order to enable Governments to consult the wishes of the organisations concerned.

"Employers' and workers' organisations were invited to send their views relating to the number of members to be sent to the Secretary of the Labour Department and also submit the names of representatives whom they liked Government to nominate."

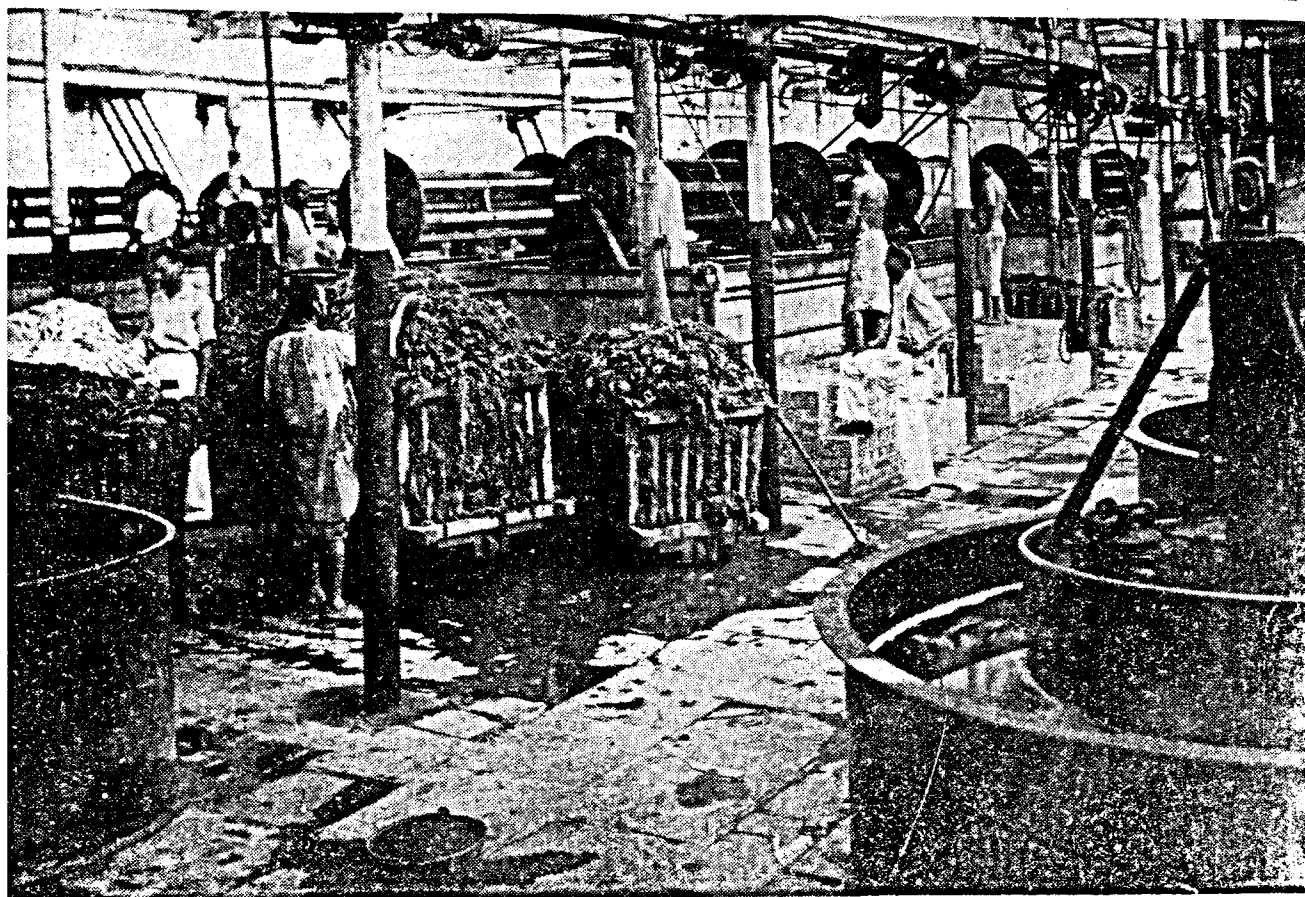
### I.L.O. Conference

It has now been decided to hold the 24th session of the International Labour Conference in Paris. The session will open on October 10, 1945, and will probably terminate on November 7, 1945, says a Press Note issued by the Labour Department, Government of India.

## PAPER AND BOARD PRICE CONTROL

By a notification issued on July 14, 1945, the Government of India have amended (1) the Paper Price Control Order, 1944, (ii) the Paper Control (Prices of Board) Order, 1944, and (iii) the Paper (Prices of Imported Paper) Control Order, 1944, so as to enable any authority empowered in this behalf by the Central Government to exercise powers conferred on the Central Government by each of these Orders, said a Press Note issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, on July 13.

It added: Notifications have also been issued empowering the Provincial Governments and the Chief Commissioners to authorise any officer to direct the maintenance of records relating to paper or board, to inspect books and documents, to enter and search premises in which any transaction connected with paper is carried on, and to seize paper or board in respect of which there is reason to believe that a contravention of the relevant Orders has been or is about to be committed.



This woollen mill manufactures worsted yarn.

## SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH IN INDIA

**G**EOPHYSICAL methods of prospecting mineral ores and oil resources have assumed great practical importance in U.K. and U.S.A., particularly in the latter country, and spectacular results have been obtained through the application of these methods. Instances of large scale mapping of ore beds in India, by the application of geophysical methods are few, and for this reason, the results obtained by a party of the Survey of India on the manganese beds in Parsoda area (Central Provinces) by the use of the gradiometer, reported in a recent issue of the *Journal of Scientific and Industrial Research*, are of more than usual interest.

In the area surveyed, a manganese reef has been successfully located. The pattern of the profiles, and the magnitude and depth of the sub-surface bodies, have been determined. In alluvial areas of the type surveyed, where no outcrops are available to indicate what is below, geophysical methods are of particular

value. They provide valuable preliminary indications, and save the expense of sinking random pits. Definite information regarding configuration and depth of the sub-surface body are obtained by one or two borings.

### Rhodesian Kurchi Bark

Investigations carried out in the chemical laboratories of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, have shown that the principal alkaloids of the Indian *Kurchi* bark and those of the bark of the African variety, *Holarrhena febrifuga*, obtained from Rhodesia, are qualitatively the same, although there are differences in the quantities present. Concesine, the chief alkaloid, is present in a higher concentration in the African bark; in fact, the latter is a much better source of concesine than the Indian species. *Holarrhena febrifuga* is employed extensively by the natives of Rhodesia as an anti-malarial with beneficial results, and in view of the similarity between

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

the Indian and African barks as regards the make-up of their principal alkaloids, it is surprising that *Kurchi* bark has never been tried as an anti-periodic. The possibility that *Kurchi* bark may also prove useful as an anti-malarial has been suggested in an article appearing in the Journal.

### Indian Woollen Industry

The story of the Indian woollen mill industry, starting from the seventies of the last century up to the present time, is given in an interesting article appearing in the Journal. India has a hoary tradition for hand-spinning and hand-loom weaving of wool, but the application of power to the manufacture of woollen goods started only about 70 years ago when indigenous enterprise began to compete with imported rough quality rugs required by the Indian Army. From then on, there has been a steady growth, and despite difficulties due to the highly seasonal character of the demand and competition from Japan, the Indian industry has made good progress. It has been able to meet a considerable part of the requirements of the Army in the present war.

After a brief account of the range and variety of the woollen goods manufactured in India, the article describes the processes of manufacture—sorting of raw wool, carding, spinning, weaving, finishing and other operations. In discussing the future of the industry, it is pointed out that unless there is a perceptible increase in the purchasing power of the people, there is little scope for any substantial expansion of the industry.

### Industrial Progress in U. K. and U.S.A.

A brief account of the wartime industrial developments in U.K., U.S.A. and Canada is given in another article. British ingenuity has been responsible for spectacular and far-reaching discoveries of the type of penicillin and polychlorinated biphenyls. Their production on a manufacturing scale has been developed in U.S.A.

There has been a phenomenal growth, both in the range and quality of industrial products during the war years. How very startling such growth has been will be clear, when it is mentioned that the output of atebirin which was 1,200 tons in 1939, had risen to 600,000 tons in 1943. Several novel industrial processes, e.g., production of aluminium from clay, synthetic rubbers, have been developed. A few of these developments are indicated in two tabular statements included in the article.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## Development of Minor Iron and Steel Industries

Questions relating to the post-war development of the hardware, hollowware, haberdashery, enamelware, cutleryware industries and industries dealing with the manufacture of surgical instruments, steel furniture and fittings were discussed at a recent meeting of the Iron and Steel (Minor) Panel in New Delhi.

After considering the current position and organisation of these industries the Panel decided to issue questionnaires to firms manufacturing stores covered by the industries. It was also decided to form zonal sub-committees, from the members of the Panel, in Bombay, Calcutta, Madras and Lahore.

The function of these committees will be to give the widest publicity to the questionnaires among manufacturers so that the maximum possible information could be made available to the Panel to decide upon the line of action to be taken to develop these industries to their full capacity.

### MAXIMUM PRICE OF INDIAN MADE PURE SILK FABRICS

The maximum price which a producer of Indian made pure silk fabrics may charge, with effect from August 1, 1945, has been fixed by the Central Government so as not to exceed the cost of raw silk utilised in the production of the fabrics by more than the amount representing the specified maximum manufacturing charges and profit per square yard, according as the fabric is made of filature or *charka* silk and woven on powerlooms or on handlooms, said a Press Note issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, on July 20.

It added: The permissible maximum manufacturing charges and profit per square yard are: filature silk when woven on powerlooms Rs. 1-12; when woven on handlooms Rs. 2, and *charka* silk when woven on powerlooms or on handlooms Rs. 2-4.

In the case of fabrics with dobby and jacquard borders, the producer may make an additional charge of Annas 6 per running yard of fabric. In the case of fabrics with gold or silver thread woven into them, the producer may make an additional charge not exceeding the actual cost of gold or silver thread utilised, plus Annas 8 per running yard of fabric.

155

## INDIA AND THE EAST AFRICAN TERRITORIES

### Post-War Trade Prospects

"**B**ESIDES cotton piecegoods, there are quite a large number of miscellaneous commodities which are known to be manufactured in India on a fairly commercial scale, and for which there are reasonable prospects of capturing a larger share of the East African markets. Although the demand on India in respect of many of these articles can, at present, be called a temporary one, having been created by abnormal circumstances arising out of war conditions, it can reasonably be hoped that, once Indian products have gained popularity in these markets, India should be able to retain for herself a much improved share of the trade even in the post-war period."

Thus, observes the India Government Trade Commissioner, Mombasa, in his report on the "Prospects of Post-war Trade between India and the East African Territories" comprising Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar.

The report advises manufacturers and exporters in India "not to ignore the existing opportunities for building up their trade connections with East African markets. They should not relax their efforts to keep in close touch with importers in these areas with a view to transact as much business as is possible under the present conditions, and with the more important object of securing a permanent footing for Indian trade during the post-war reconstruction period."

#### India's Trade

In spite of export and import restrictions, the report observes, India has been able to increase her percentage share in the import trade, between 1938 and 1942, from 4.2 to 21.6 in Kenya and Uganda, from 4.7 to 45.5 in Tanganyika and from 9.6 to 25.0 in Zanzibar. The value of import trade from India during the period rose from £442,472 to £2,994,777 in the case of Kenya and Uganda, from £161,902 to £1,680,000 in the case of Tanganyika and from £93,733 to £260,973 in the case of Zanzibar.

A wide range of commodities previously obtained from Japan and continental countries are now imported from India. In 1942 India supplied 88 per cent., 93 per cent. and 72 per cent. of the cotton textile imports of Kenya

and Uganda, Tanganyika and Zanzibar, respectively. The East African Territories, according to the report, constitute a large market for Indian cotton piecegoods. Japan was the largest source of imports before the war. When that country entered the war, these territories had to look mainly to India for their textile needs. The Indian textile industry, on its part, did not neglect this favourable opportunity.

#### Advice to Indian Manufacturers

Discussing the prospects for different Indian commodities in East African markets, the report observes that, in respect of grey sheetings, India's export trade with East Africa will continue, since only Japan is likely to be a serious competitor in this product. Trade in grey drills will also remain in the hands of Indian manufacturers. As regards bleached varieties, it will not be possible to retain the gains of the war period.

Printed khangas offer a good line of business; but this line of trade should be properly investigated according to market needs. In regard to prints other than khangas, although India got a chance of trading in this line for the last four years, Indian manufacturers have not studied the actual requirements of this market and have not yet standardised their goods.

"Unless Indian manufacturers pay special attention to the requirements of these markets," observes the report, "it is apprehended that business in this line might slip away from their hands in the post-war period."

As regards dyed goods, a few varieties have been standardised and there is every possibility of the business remaining in Indian hands provided they turn out standard qualities. India is doing at present very good business in coloured goods, but the manufacturers have not yet fully studied the designs that are popular in these markets.

There is a very good chance for business in cotton blankets, the chief suppliers of this article being Holland and Japan before the war. Indian manufacturers can capture the post-war trade in cheap ready-made mosquito nets which Japan used to supply in thousands of bales before the war.

Under existing conditions, art silk fabrics of Indian manufacture are finding ready sales in these markets. But there is not much

likelihood of India retaining this business in the post-war period, when the main producers resume their supplies.

The report observes that, besides piecegoods, there is a reasonable scope for post-war trade in respect of a number of miscellaneous Indian commodities.

A very wide range of leather manufactures, such as suit cases, attache cases, school bags, dog collars, money purses, belts, "chappals", document and writing cases, is in demand. Some consignments of better quality Indian cutlery have already entered the East African markets and the articles are gradually gaining popularity. As supplies of safety matches from Europe have been entirely eliminated, there are good prospects of India capturing a substantial share of trade in this commodity both now and in the post-war period.

India is also likely to capture a fair share of the market previously enjoyed by Germany and Japan in the supplies of building hardware and other building materials. There is scope for India also in the hosiery trade previously enjoyed by Japan. There is good scope for trade in confectionary. Cheap quality ready-made clothing, such as shirts, knickers, etc., are in popular demand. There is wide scope for expanding this trade in the post-war period. Indian brushes could find a market in East Africa provided prices are competitive.

#### Prospects of Other Goods

Indian toilet soaps are popular. There is ample scope for expansion of the export trade in this article in the post-war period. There is a good demand for finished leather of superior quality and trade in this line, especially for the manufacture of boots and shoes, has been growing up at a rapid pace during the latter period of the war. Provided the quality of the leather supplied is maintained, continuance of India's post-war trade relations with East Africa in this commodity may be expected with confidence. Indian coir mats and matting have gained popularity; there is good scope for expansion of the export trade in this commodity. There are also ample outlets for the trade in sports goods.

The report finally mentions that a number of Indian commodities were imported into East Africa even in the pre-war period. These were shellac, yellow and red ochre, linseed oil, iron and brass bolts, brass door and window fittings, cotton waste, jute webbing, cotton twine, cotton rope, cotton canvas, all kinds of acids, padlocks, galvanised iron and brass. These commodities, it says, will continue to be imported in the post-war period.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## 30 Million Gallons of Petrol

### Saved Every Year

#### Use of Producer Gas in India

The use of charcoal gas in motor vehicles in India saves over 30,000,000 gallons of petrol a year, all of which would have had to be brought to this country by sea. This is a record achievement which is probably without parallel among the United Nations.

Before petrol rationing was introduced in 1941, 535 buses and 41 trucks were running on gas, all of them in the Province of Madras, which was the pioneer in this field and which still leads in the producer gas drive with a total conversion of 4,981 vehicles, 4,627 of which are actually in operation at the present time.

#### Model Plants

Nearly 50 different model plants, all made by Indian labour from Indian materials, have passed the prescribed official gas purity, power and road tests. The value of the plants fitted up to the end of April 1945 was Rs. 3 crores.

From November 1944 to April 1945, the average number of installations was 616 a month, the total number of conversions to producer gas up to that time being 21,123, of which 19,758 were on transport vehicles.

On April 30, 1945, 18,353 motor vehicles were actually in service on producer gas, including 10,337 buses and 6,866 load lorries, the remainder being motor cars and motor cabs.

These figures reflect the effort of the War Transport Department to conserve as much petrol as possible for war purposes of high priority, by getting an increasing number of motor vehicles to operate on charcoal gas.

#### PRICES OF LOOM PICKERS

The Government of India have directed that no person shall sell or offer to sell ordinary loom pickers used in the textile industry for a price which exceeds a sum representing (1) in the case of pickers imported from outside India, their landed cost increased by 20 per cent. thereof; (2) in another case the cost of production increased by 33 1/3 per cent. thereof, provided that the price charged shall in no case exceed the rate of Rs. 210 per gross.



## WORKING OF PRIORITY PASSAGES SCHEME

### Defence Member Explains Position

"THE criticism which has been carried on in the Press here against the authorities in India, so far as the passages to England are concerned, is placed perhaps not on the right shoulders. The responsibility and the control of all shipping rests on His Majesty's Government, and unless we get more ships allotted to us from England for the purpose of carrying more British women and children from India, I am afraid it is not within the power of the Government of India to help the British community here."

Thus observed the Hon. Malik Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Defence Member to the Government of India, at a meeting held on July 20 in New Delhi between representatives of the Central Government and those of the European Association, the Associated Chambers of Commerce and the National Service Advisory Committees.

Explaining the position, Sir Firoz said:

"At the present moment there are two types of ships which come to India and go back with passengers. The first type are the transport ships hired from the British companies and which are used almost entirely for bringing troops out from England to India. On the way back, these troop ships are meant primarily for taking back to England the British troops who are to be sent home on release and repatriation and leave.

#### Demand on Troop Ships

"According to a recent decision of His Majesty's Government, the British soldier's tour abroad is, if possible, to be reduced to three years and four months. Since that scheme came into force the demand on the troop ships for British officers and troops who have to go back to England has been greater than ever, particularly since March last, which coincided with the time civilian passages to England were handed over to the Government of India. Since then, naturally, there has been a great deal of criticism and discontent among the British public living in India for the shortage of passages available.

"But I hope you will realise that this decision of His Majesty's Government to take back British troops who have been serving abroad was based on very strong public opinion in England particularly expressed in Parliament. That is a decision which is to be implemented, and the primary claim on these troop ships going back to England is for the troops. But if there are any passages available on these troop ships, after these military requirements have been met, they are utilised for the families of British officers and men and for civilian passengers in equal proportions.

"As a matter of fact, the figures of the number of women and children taken away from this country for the Army and the civilians are rather interesting. With regard to the families it is interesting to note that, on the service side, that is the war services side, roughly one woman or child travels to every 16 males; whereas on the civilian side 6 women or children travel to one male. Moreover, on the civil side more women and children have been given passages than the men.

#### Accommodation in Commercial Ships

"In addition to that there are certain small cargo ships which have a certain amount of accommodation for passengers. These are by permission of His Majesty's Government at the disposal of the Government of India. These passages have, on the average, been about 100 per month, except in the month of July when we had a windfall and got about 750 more passages.

"Therefore, what you can always be certain of is only the passages on these small commercial ships which are at the disposal of the Government of India.

"The accommodation in commercial ships is normally allotted exclusively to civilians. By arrangement with the Military authorities, the Government of India have been able to secure a certain amount of space in transport ships for high priority civilians and these civilians are those that belong to categories 1 to 5 and the Key Leave people.

"Now categories 1 to 5 consist of men going on Government duty, persons going on medical certificates, persons travelling in the national interest and Britishers who have been recruited on contract to come out to serve in India and whose contracts have finished and

were sent back. These are the first 5 categories on our old priority list which are put before you plus the Key Leave people. They have practically taken up all the accommodation which has been available on these troop ships.

"After the demands of the high priority service personnel and civilians for accommodation in hired transports have been satisfied, any surplus space is divided equally between the military and the civil low priority passengers.

#### Control of Priorities

"I understand that, until the spring of this year, the amount of spare space available was sufficient to meet the demands and civilian passengers could rely on sailing within two months of application and were getting away in order of application, regardless of relative urgency. In February last, at the instance of the Secretary of State, the Government of India assumed control of passage priorities in order to ensure that people sailed in order of urgency and passages were not given to those who were travelling merely for pleasure. Complaint has been made that, since the Government of India assumed this control, civilians have experienced more difficulty in securing berths than before.

"This is not a true statement of the situation. The assumption of control by the Government of India happened to coincide with a greater call on available shipping by the armed forces of the Crown. In this connection I would remind you that some 5,000 British ships have been sunk during the war—and this has by no means eased the shipping situation.

#### Allotment in July

"At the present time, owing to the re-deployment of our fighting forces for the war against Japan, coupled with the enormous demands for the return of service men to their homes under the new home leave scheme, the Ministry of War Transport have had to take up, on behalf of the Army, Navy and Air Force, practically all available shipping space. In this connection I would remind you that the releases from the fighting forces are worked out on a global basis and must be co-ordinated with the other theatres.

"We were lucky in July in that an unexpectedly large allotment of cabin and standing accommodation was placed at our disposal because the Army had arranged to accommodate a number of junior military officers in the

troop decks. This means that this month we have been able to get away, to tell you exactly, 854 civilians in hired transports; and we expect, owing to a windfall of commercial accommodation, to get another 750 away in commercial vessels.

"To give you some figures during the months of April, May, June and July, we have managed to secure and embark 3,134 civilians in hired transports and commercial vessels. This is an average of nearly 800 a month. Applications for passage priority amount to approximately 1,200 souls each month. Adding 600 men, women and children as the Key Leave quota, this brings our monthly commitment to the neighbourhood of 1,800. Of this number 700 to 800 account for priorities 1 to 5 and Key Leave. On the 31st of July our total commitment, including those who have been on the waiting list for some time, will be about 1,600.

"But although we have been lucky in July, I am warned by those in touch with the shipping situation that the outlook is gloomy for the next two months at least. I quite realise the situation that most Europeans who have been working in Calcutta and Madras want to get away from here in the cold weather, and the cold weather to England, from their point of view, is not so welcome as a visit in the summer. But still those who are very keen on going home, the situation for them may improve in October.

#### Pressure During Summer

"On the other hand, it must be realised that the troops also want to get away in the summer. Therefore, the pressure on shipping accommodation during the summer has of necessity to be greater than it is in the winter. There is, however, a hope that the situation will improve, partly because the Army authorities hope to repatriate large numbers of officers by air. They hope to carry away about 10,000 people by air every month (officers and troops of all ranks) from October next.

"But, on the other hand, I like to warn you that, as the number of ships in the Eastern theatres of war increases, the number of troops wanting to go back is also likely to increase. Any hopes that may be raised on account of these extra air passages for England for troops may not be fulfilled when the time comes.

"Subject to the exigencies of the war against Japan, the amount of shipping space available for civilians from October onwards will remain, so I hope, at the figure sufficient to cope with all demands. But you must remember that no

guarantee in this respect is given, and even if I give any guarantee, it will not be worth the paper it is written on; because the shipping is not in my control and depends entirely on what is done in England; and they are depending on the shipping situation and the war situation in the whole world. It is not correct to say that they are not desirous of helping the European in this country; but I know, and I have had talks with Lord Leathers on this subject last year and this year, and I realise the great difficulty in which he is placed to find shipping for various purposes.

### High Priorities

"I should like to say a word about the high priorities. As you know, these include persons going to the U.K. on Government duty and in the national interest, as well as those who have been recommended by a Provincial Medical Board for early passage to save life, for reasons of permanent impairment of health. These medical categories are giving us considerable anxiety. In February last, the average number going home on medical-certificate averaged 15 a month. In June we issued priorities to 142 souls in categories 2 and 4. In May the number was approximately 100. These were not all invalids, the numbers include attendants and members of the invalid's family. The point I wish to make is that the indications are that the number of persons securing medical certificates is on the upward trend, and if this continues without a corresponding increase of shipping space, the number of Key Leave sailings is likely to suffer.

"You will, I hope, have realised that, while the Government of India can issue priorities for sea passages, we are dependent on the war situation for sufficient shipping space to convert our priorities into actual berths. We are of course, bringing all our influence to bear on His Majesty's Government to allocate more space to civilian needs. The claims of the European community in particular are, I can assure you, receiving the constant and sympathetic attention of the Government of India.

### Suggestions Welcomed

"The schedule of priorities now in use was drawn up in consultation with the European Association and the Associated Chambers of Commerce, copies of which are before you. If any member of this Conference has any constructive suggestion to offer for its improvement, I shall welcome it. I know that you are capable of making constructive and useful suggestions. Therefore, whatever you say will be most welcome.

"Finally I should like to say that we have here General Sir Wilfred Lindsell, Principal Administrative Officer of the G.H.Q. (India). We have also the D.Q.M.G. (Movements and Transportation) and we have Sir John Nicholson, representative of the Ministry of War Transport, who controls all shipping, and we also have other officers dealing with the work in the Defence Department.

"But I think if any of you wish to make any remarks with regard to what I have stated or with regard to the release of the army and the civilian passages, you had better let the Army officers go and we can deal with the priority list later on. My remarks are now open for discussion."

## CIVILIAN PASSAGES SCHEME DISCUSSED

The Hon. Sir Firoz Khan Noon, Defence Member, presided over a meeting held in New Delhi on July 20, 1945, to discuss the working of the Priority Passage arrangements, and to consider what steps, if any, could be taken for accelerating civilian passages to the United Kingdom in future, said a Press Communique issued by the Defence Department, Government of India, on July 21.

It added: Apart from representatives of the Government Departments concerned, and of the Army and the Ministry of War Transport, civilian interests were represented by delegates from the Associated Chambers of Commerce, the European Association, and the National Service Advisory Committees. Representatives of the National Christian Council of India, Burma and Ceylon also attended.

### Important Points

The following are the important points which emerged:

The Government of India undertook to issue each month in future a Press Note, giving details, according to each category, including Key Leave, of the number of passengers listed in the preceding month, the number of new applicants registered, and the number of passengers still on the waiting list.

It was agreed that, in future, applicants would not be restricted to applying for priorities only if they intended to sail within three months of the date of application. They would be encouraged to signify their desired time of departure at any future date.

Strong representations were made on behalf of sick persons who, having been allotted categories II and IV, have not been accepted by

captains of ships, who, under the law, are the final authority in this respect, in steamers sailing to the United Kingdom. Assistance was offered by the Ministry of War Transport and the Military authorities and the Government of India also promised to help.

Figures were produced indicating that a very appreciable improvement had taken place in July regarding the number of civilians to whom berths had been allotted. A warning was sounded, however, that, owing to circumstances outside the control of the Government of India, it was unlikely that the same progress regarding passages to the U.K. could be maintained during August and September.

### Additional Shipping

Thereafter, however, should no unforeseen circumstances develop, it was anticipated that sailings likely to be available in the concluding months of the year would, to a very large degree, ease the situation. Efforts will continue to be made to secure additional shipping to clear the present congestion.

The meeting was informed that Government were giving their attention to the requirements of rail travel across India in connection with civilian embarkations.

It was agreed that homeward bound commercial ships would in future be exclusively reserved for civilians, subject to military exigencies.

The military authorities undertook to scrutinise closely in future all applications for passages for nurses accompanying military families and to ensure that accommodation was provided only for *bona fide* nurses of non-Asiatic domicile.

### Priority Categories

It was pointed out that the Priority Passage Department are now supplying to the Deputy Representatives of the Ministry of War Transport, in ports other than Bombay, with regional lists of civilian passengers, so that, in the event of last minute civilian cancellations, the local shipping or travel agencies can fill such vacancies with the next names on the list.

It was explained that, in cases in which there has been delay in allotting a priority and the delay was not due to the fault of the applicant, a higher position within the priority is given on further application, in accordance with the date of the original application.

On the discussion of the list of priority categories it was stated by Government that

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

category VI (Education) is now sub-divided as follows:—

- (a) Children between 12 and 16 going to the U.K. for education, and who normally have secured vacancies in educational institutions.
- (b) Children between 8 to 12 going to the U.K. for education.
- (c) Adults going to the U.K. for higher education. Applications must be supported by proof of admission to a University, Technical Institution, etc.
- (d) Children between 6 and 8 going to the U.K. for education.

It was agreed that males in category VI (c) would be expected to travel in troopdeck accommodation until the shipping situation was easier.

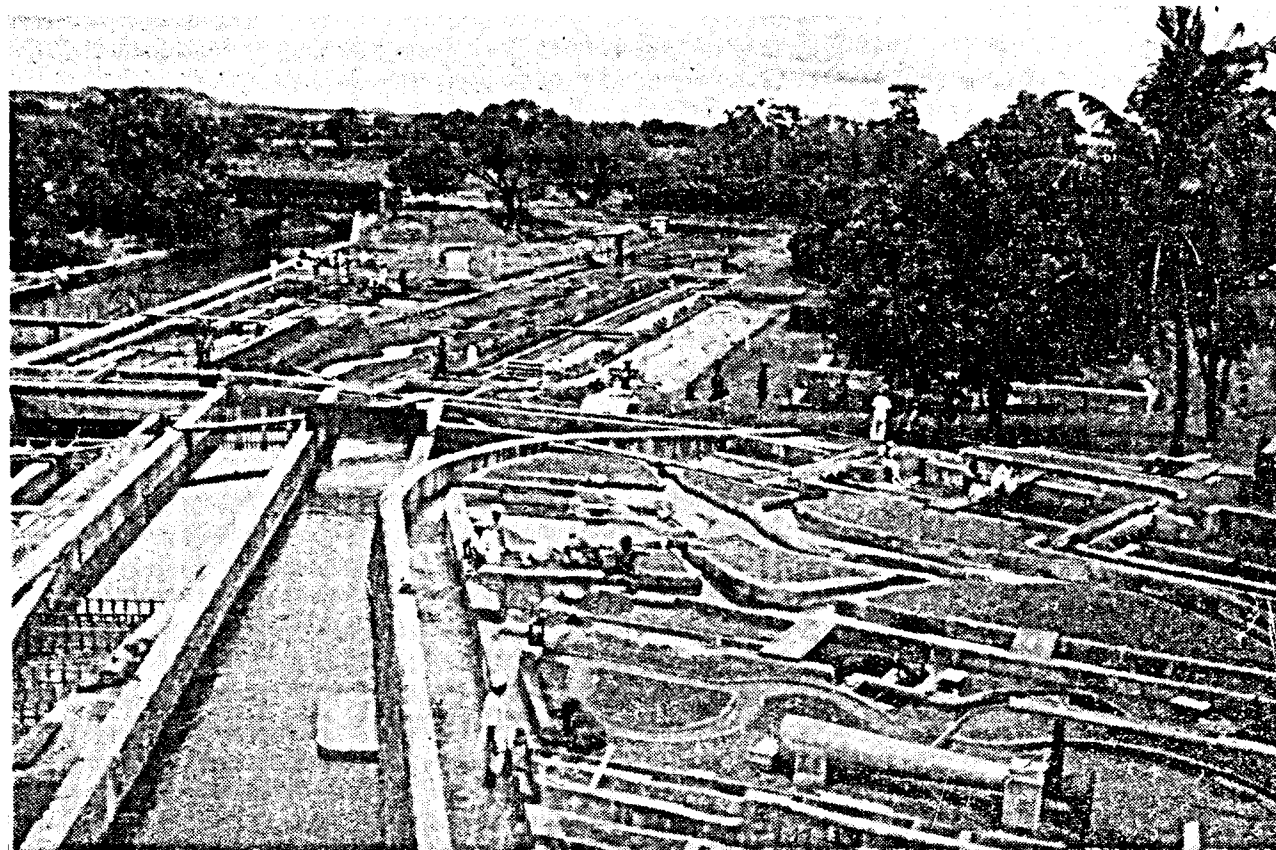
The Defence Department observed that from now onwards it should be possible to deal with straightforward applications for priorities within ten days of receipt in Delhi.

### Releases from the Forces

The National Service Advisory Committees' representatives took the opportunity of urging that adequate releases from the Forces were essential to the effective operation of the Key Leave Scheme. Government had lately authorised National Service Advisory Committees to recommend releases to enable firms to operate leave schemes, but the results to date were discouragingly meagre. This was regarded by the non-official civilian community as a very serious matter, and the Government of India were asked to continue to do everything possible to enable releases to be made to the extent required.

After the representatives of the National Christian Council had expressed their views on the question of passages for missionaries wishing to proceed on furlough, the meeting expressed general satisfaction with the existing priority list and desired no change.

It was suggested by the Hon. the Defence Member that, unless the necessity disappeared in the meantime, it was desirable that further meetings between Government and representatives of the civilian community should take place at periodical intervals. It was tentatively suggested that the next meeting to discuss this matter would be held in New Delhi at some date in October.



Part of the Indian Waterways Experiment Station at Poona. Picture shows some of the permanent demonstration models. (Below) Lake Fife which ensures a constant water supply to the Station.

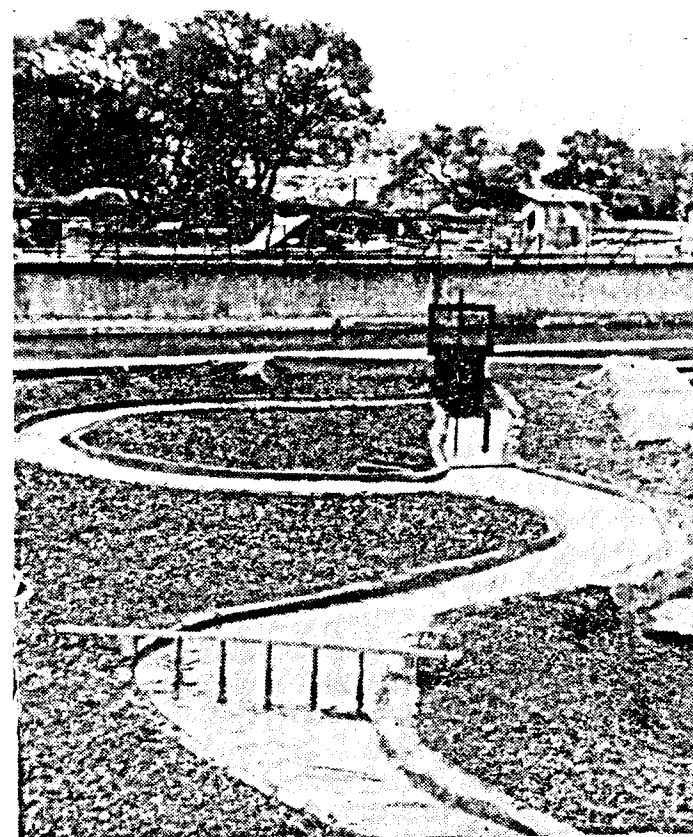
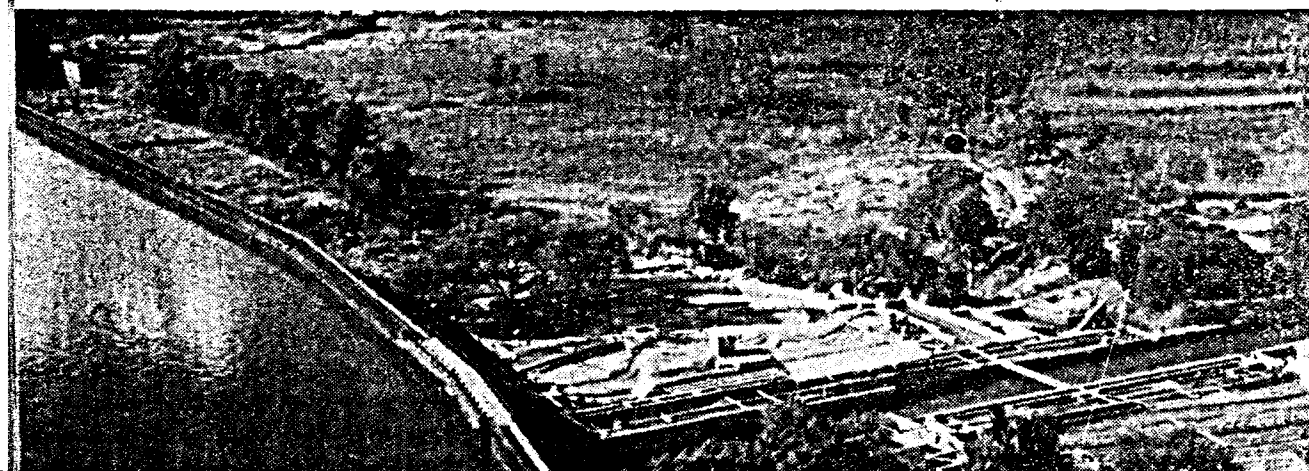
## WATERWAYS EXPERIMENT STATION AT POONA

Eleven miles from Poona at the foot of the Khadakwasla Dam on Lake Fife is the Indian Waterways Experiment Station, the first and only one of its kind in India. By a process of trial and error, investigations are carried out here with the aid of small or semi-large models to solve problems, both basic and specific, concerning irrigation and river training.

This Station, which was taken over by the Government of India eight years ago, was es-

tablished in 1919 under the Bombay Government by its present Director, Mr. C.C. Inglis, who was then Executive Engineer, Special Irrigation Division.

In its early days it was situated at Hadaspar where model experiments to study hydro-dynamic problems of irrigation in the Bombay Presidency, especially in connection with the Sukkur Barrage scheme and Deccan canals, then under construction, were undertaken. By 1925 the discharge available at Hadaspar was found insufficient for carrying out experiments at the Station. New models were constructed at Khadakwasla where exceptional facilities existed. In 1934 the Station



By cutting off one of its meanders, the Malaprabha river, represented by this model, shortened itself by one mile.

was finally transferred to Khadakwasla.

An outstanding feature of the Station is that there are 11 independent sources of water supply, the discharge of each of which can be kept absolutely constant and for which no pumping is required. The water is free from sand and is normally clear except during the floods in July to September. The temperature of the water is constant throughout the day and varies very little with change of season.

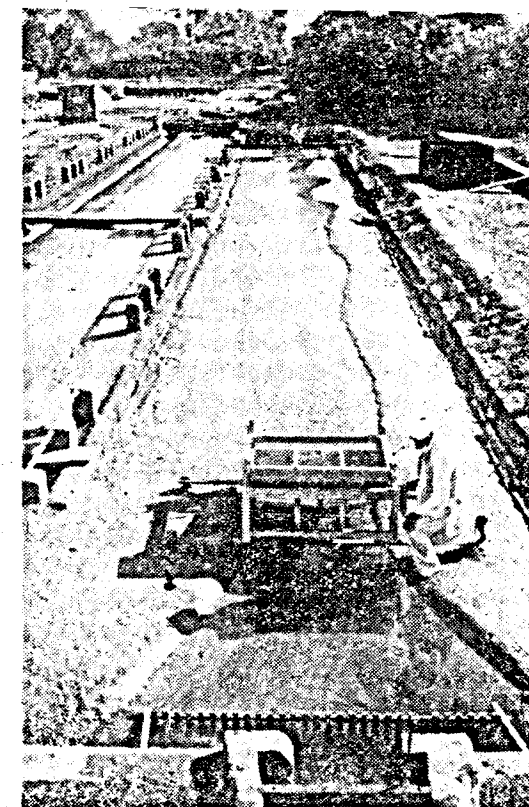
The Station comprises an area of 16 acres. Twelve models are normally under investigation at the same time and old models are constantly scrapped to make room for new ones. In addition there are some 20 permanent demonstration models.

Over a hundred important investigations involving nearly two thousand experiments have been carried out at the Station during the last eight years. These include the protection of bridges over rivers and the prevention of excess sand entering irrigation canals. The results of these investigations have found practical application.

Other subjects of research in which useful results have been obtained are the factors determining the size and shape of river meanders, the relations between rainfall and run-off, the

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

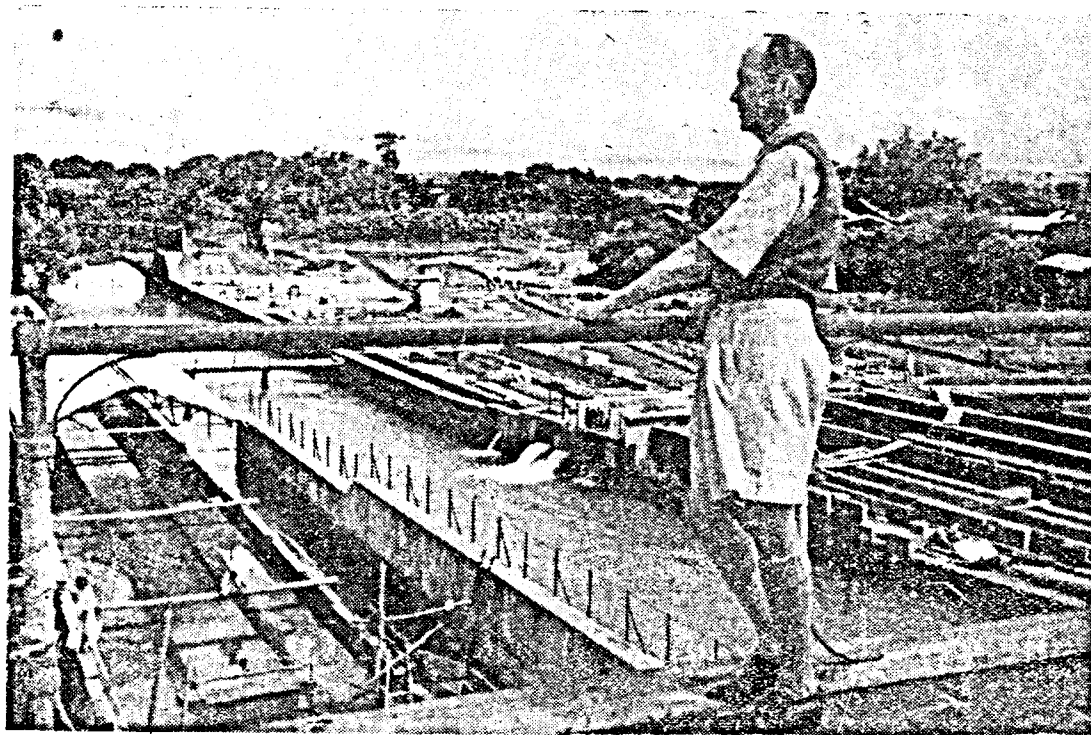
## STUDY OF MEANDERS—



Investigating factors affecting meanders. (Below) Rao Bahadur Jogelkar, Deputy Director of the Experiment Station, explains the dissipation of energy in the design of a fall.







Mr. C. C. Inglis, Director of the Waterways Experiment Station, standing on the Khadakwasla Dam.

effect of silt washed into rivers when hill denudation occurs and the rate of silting of reservoirs. A number of important principles have been established in connection with the value of attracting, deflecting and repelling spurs and islands for controlling rivers.

#### Engineer Ku's Visit

An interesting visitor to the Station in recent times was Engineer Ku of the National Resources Commission of the Government of China who consulted the Director on one of China's oldest problems, the excess of silt in the Yellow River, the "Sorrow of China" Yellow River. The Director could only suggest that the sole solution of the problem lay in preventing the silt entering the river in the first place, in other words in land conservation by afforestation, terracing and other methods.

A reminder of China and its rivers hangs on the wall of the Director's study in the shape of a framed quotation from the Chinese sage, Lao Tze: "There is nothing in the world more soft and weak than water, yet for attacking things that are hard there is nothing that surpasses it, nothing that can take its place."

## SOIL CONSERVATION

INVESTIGATIONS carried out at the Indian Waterways Experiment Station, Poona, and described in the Station's Annual Report (Technical) for the year 1943, have revealed that denudation can be effectively prevented by soil conservation.

This remedy will not only increase the productivity of the country, but also go far to prevent the building up of river beds with consequent bank erosion and floods which in turn have adverse effects on the health of the people. In the past the only remedy for rising beds and flood damage in India has been to build embankments. This policy, it is pointed out, can only delay the time when the river will build up, to such an extent that it will eventually burst through its embankments and change its course.

Experiments conducted at the Station have demonstrated that if the charge of bed material entering a river exceeds what can be carried with the slope available, it leads to accretion and development of wide sandy beds and meandering. The Kosi River is a striking

example of a river which is continually changing its course due to an excess charge of sand. At one time the Kosi is believed to have flowed into the Brahmaputra and later into the Ganges far to the East; but it is certain that it flowed into the Mahanada. It is now moving westwards towards Darbhanga. Since 1892, it has moved westwards at an average rate of translation of about one mile per year.

The damage and devastation resulting from the Kosi is enormous and is directly due to denudation in the hills. All the rivers of the Punjab and Sind have been slowly, but steadily, building up their beds, and the lowest excavations at Mohenjo-Daro showed that 5,000 years ago that town was on ground 35 feet below the present ground level. The breach in the Damodar Left Embankment in 1943 is another case.

From the point of view of Forestry and agriculture, denudation of soil results in damage and loss of soil fertility and productivity. It has almost always been due to overgrazing, or to disafforestation for cultivation and for obtaining supplies of firewood.

The Punjab was the first province in India to tackle the question on sound lines and much has already been done there in the way of demonstration and propaganda.

#### River and Canal Problems

The worst denudation is, however, occurring in States on the Northern border of India, where control is difficult. Investigations described in the Annual Report of the Indian Waterways Experiment Station, show that much of the damage in the hill areas can be set right by well-maintained terracing, wind-screens, hedges to exclude animals, and by planting trees and grass. In the areas with flatter slopes, terracing yields excellent results provided adequate waste weirs form part of the lay-out.

During the year under review, 19 investigations were in progress at the Station, of which 10 were specific in character and 9 basic. The Report describes a number of investigations relating to river and canal problems, e.g., training of rivers, prevention of scour, control of sand entry into canals, and heavy run-off from small catchments. It also describes some basic studies in the use of attracting spurs and islands for training a river, transportation of pebbles in flumes, ripples and waves on the bed of rivers and canals.

## BANK OF ENGLAND NOTES

The authorities in the United Kingdom have declared Bank of England notes of £10 and over as no longer legal tender after May 1, 1945, said a Press communique issued by the Finance Department, Government of India, on July 19. They have also restricted the export from England of £5 notes by travellers.

The Government of India are prepared to give a final opportunity to holders of Bank of England notes of £5 and over to obtain payment for these, notwithstanding the fact that they may be guilty of an infringement of Notifications No. F. 2(13)F/41 of October 4, 1941, or a contravention of a prohibition under the Sea Customs Act.

The Reserve Bank of India will accept for collection at any of its offices in India Bank of England notes of £5 and over from August 1 to August 15, 1945 (inclusive) and no legal action will be taken against persons tendering such notes within this period for any contravention of the relevant notifications or prohibition; but after this period such notes will only be accepted provided persons are in possession of the appropriate Customs declaration form.

Full particulars regarding the method of surrendering these notes may be obtained from any bank authorised to deal in foreign exchange in India, or from any office of the Reserve Bank of India.

Failure to take advantage of this offer will render the holders liable to loss, as permission to export such notes from India will not be given.

#### CENTRAL GOVERNMENT'S ACCOUNTS

The Central Government's monthly accounts for April, 1945, show that, excluding periodical adjustments and the transactions of Railways and Posts and Telegraphs, expenditure in that month exceeded revenue by Rs. 18½ crores against Rs. 17 2/3 crores in April, 1944.

Revenue was actually better by about Rs. 6½ crores than in the corresponding month of the previous year but Defence expenditure increased by Rs. 6½ crores to Rs. 29 2/3 crores. Net receipts from Railways were better by Rs. 1½ crores.

There has been an increase of about Rs. 51 crores under Permanent Debt during the month.

## DEALERS TO EXHIBIT THE PRICE LIST OF GOODS IN STOCK

**T**HE maximum selling prices of certain brands of cigarettes, gramophone needles, camphor powder and other articles have been fixed by notifications issued by the Industries and Civil Supplies Department, Government of India, under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance. One notification directs dealers in arms and ammunition, bicycles, etc., to mark the goods exposed for sale with the selling price or to exhibit a price list showing the prices of each class of goods held by them in stock. Here are the notifications.

In supersession of all previous notifications issued in this connection, the Controller General of Civil Supplies has directed all dealers in the following articles to mark the goods exposed for sale with the selling price and to exhibit a price list showing the prices of each type or class of goods held by them in stock:

Antenna wire, arms and ammunition, boot polishes, cigarettes, crockery, cycles and cycle spare parts, electric goods of the following description, namely, bulbs, torches, battery cells and cases, fountain pens, galvanized iron buckets and drums, gramophone records and needles, imported sheet glasses, Japanese staple fibre yarn and artificial silk yarn, leather, Milkmaid sweetened condensed milk, photographic materials, radio tubes and accessories, razor blades, silk fabrics pure or artificial or mixed other than those made in India, sissoo timber, sports goods, surgical instruments, hospital appliances and hospital furniture, synthetic camphor and camphor tablets, tinned provisions imported under the Panel Scheme, toilet requisites, vacuum flasks, vegetable seeds, watches, clocks and timepieces, wines and liquors, and woollen fabrics.

The prices should be written legibly in English or local language of the district on a piece of paper and attached to the articles or pasted on to the outer packing of the article as the case may be. The price list should be written in ink in a book with numbered pages wherein the articles are to be arranged as far as possible in appropriate groups and in the alphabetical order.

Dealers who sell wholesale and retail should mark on the article and enter in the price list

both wholesale and retail prices. Those who are exclusively wholesalers or retailers should mark and enter only the wholesale or retail prices as the case may be. The prices marked or exhibited shall be within the limits permitted by or under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance or any other law for the time being in force.

All producers of umbrellas have been directed to mark, on every umbrella produced by them, the producer's price as well as the retail price. These prices should be within the limits permitted by or under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance.

To determine the maximum sale price chargeable by a dealer in respect of imported artificial silk fabrics, the Controller General of Civil Supplies has sanctioned an addition to landed cost of a sum representing 10 per cent. of landed cost where sale is made by a dealer who imported the article to another dealer; 15 per cent. of landed cost where sale is made by any other dealer to another dealer and 35 per cent. of landed cost in any other case.

Octroi and other local cess actually paid by the seller may also be added if the article is sold or delivered at a place other than a port. Freight and packing charges are included in percentages of profits as specified above and should be borne by the consignee.

For the purpose of determining the ex-factory price of locally made surgical instruments, hospital appliances and hospital furniture, the Controller General of Civil Supplies has sanctioned additions to the cost of production of these articles of a sum representing 10 per cent., 7½ per cent. and 10 per cent. respectively of the cost of production in each case. The maximum retail prices of these articles are to be calculated by adding to the ex-factory price a sum representing 50 per cent., 40 per cent. and 50 per cent., respectively of the ex-factory price in each case. A minimum rate of 12½ per cent., 10 per cent., and 12½ per cent., respectively of the maximum retail price should be allowed by a seller as discount on the retail price when the sale is made to a retail dealer.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

As regards imported surgical instruments, hospital appliances and hospital furniture, additions to the landed cost of these articles of a sum representing 50 per cent., 40 per cent. and 50 per cent., respectively of the landed cost in each case, have been sanctioned to determine their maximum retail prices.

When the article is sold to a dealer, the seller shall allow a discount at the minimum rate of 12½ per cent., 10 per cent., and 12½ per cent., respectively of the maximum retail selling price.

The maximum retail selling prices chargeable by a dealer in respect of Players No. 3, Three Castles, Bachelor C.T. and Capstan Navy Cut Medium cigarettes have been fixed at Rs. 2-8, Rs. 2-6, Rs. 2-4 and Rs. 1-14 respectively for 50 cigarettes inclusive of container. For Three Castles 25 cigarettes and Bachelor C.T. and Capstan Navy Cut Medium 10 cigarettes the prices are Rs. 1-3, As. 7 and As. 6 respectively inclusive of container.

The maximum retail selling price of His Master's Voice or Columbia steel gramophone needles has been fixed at As. 12 per box of 100 needles.

The maximum selling prices for U.S.P. Camphor Powder and B.P. Camphor Powder have been fixed at Rs. 4-13 per lb. for sale in original packing by an importer, and Rs. 5-6 per lb. in other cases. These prices are f.o.r. port of entry and inclusive of packing charges.

All dealers in wines, spirits and beers were authorised by the Controller General of Civil Supplies sometime back to refuse to sell a bottle of wine, spirit or beer bottled in India to any person who did not give a similar empty bottle, unless he paid annas six as the price of the bottle or deposited that sum with the dealer to be refunded to him when the bottle was returned. This authorisation does not now apply to dealers in the Punjab Province.

The maximum wholesale and retail selling prices of Heinz baked beans (20 oz. tins) and of Macaroni, Spaghetti and Vermicelli in packets have been fixed.

The upcountry retail selling prices of Macaroni and Spaghetti in 16 oz. packets have

been fixed at As. 13 and As. 13-3 per packet respectively. The upcountry retail selling price of Heinz baked beans (20 oz. tin) is Rs. 1-3. Dealers at hill stations are permitted to add 5 per cent to these maximum prices.

All places within a distance of 100 miles from Bombay, Calcutta, Madras or Karachi shall be deemed to be "ports" and all other places regarded as "upcountry".

Profit margins for sale by importers to wholesale dealers or agents, by importers to retail dealers in cases not specifically provided for, have been fixed for wood working tools such as cutters, power-driven mortise cutters and saws.

## DRUGS CONTROL ORDER

A Press Note issued by the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies, Government of India, states:

The Government of India have directed that where contravention of the Drugs Control Order takes place by any person who is employed by, or acts for a manufacturer, importer, wholesaler or retailer, the liability for such contravention shall lie not only upon the person employed but also upon the employer, unless the latter proves that he has taken due diligence to prevent such contravention and upon the person who had the charge of the place where such contravention took place.

Any person contravening the Order shall be punishable with imprisonment for a term, which may extend to three years, or with fine or with both.

Another Press Note states:

As wholesale chemists in certain parts of India find difficulty in supplying drugs to retailers, carriage paid, at the present prices, an amendment to the Drugs Control Order gives wholesalers the alternatives of charging either the existing wholesale price inclusive of freight and packing charges, or retail price less 17½ per cent. freight and packing forward.

The charge does not apply to scheduled pharmaceutical chemicals for which the existing margins will continue.

## POSTAL SERVICE TO OVERSEAS COUNTRIES

### Air Mails to U.K.

Ordinary civilian air mails from the United Kingdom for India (i.e., those paid for at the rate of 1s. 3d. per half ounce for letters and 7d. each for post cards), which till recently had been carried partly by sea and partly by air, will now be carried all the way by air, subject to aircraft capacity being available after priority requirements have been met. Air letters prepaid with 6d. postage will continue invariably to be carried by air throughout.

Outward air mails from India to the United Kingdom will continue to be carried by air throughout as at present.

The postal service to Norway has been restored under the following conditions: (i) The service is for the present restricted to non-illustrated post cards and letters, weighing not more than one ounce, on personal matters, or on business matters limited to ascertaining facts and exchanging information. (ii) No registration or insurance facilities are available.

The maximum weight limit of letters and letter packets destined for Norway has been raised to 4 lbs. Packets containing printed papers, including newspapers and periodicals, and commercial papers not exceeding 4 lbs. in weight can also be admitted in post at the usual printed and commercial papers rates of postage for transmission to Norway. Printed papers service is restricted to (i) newspapers and periodicals mailed direct by the publisher to another publisher, agent or subscriber; and (ii) other classes of printed paper post mailed direct by publisher or commercial firm. Business correspondence is still confined to ascertaining facts and exchanging information.

Private and commercial telegrams in plain English or French or in any one of the authorised commercial codes are now admitted to and from Italy with the exception of the following provinces: Aosta, Bolzano, Cuneo, Fiume, Gorizia, Pola, Sondrio, Torino, Trento, Trieste, Udine and Zara.

Commercial telegrams are restricted to those ascertaining facts and exchanging information. Rates are as notified in the current edition of the Post and Telegraph Guide.

The postal service to Denmark has now been resumed. The service is for the present restricted to (i) non-illustrated post cards and letters, weighing up to one ounce, on personal matters or on business matters limited to ascertaining facts and exchanging information; and (ii) packets containing printed papers, including newspapers, periodicals and commercial papers, up to a maximum weight of 4 lbs. The usual printed and commercial papers rates of postage will apply in respect of such packets. The printed papers service is limited to:

- (a) newspapers, periodicals and commercial papers mailed direct by the publisher to another publisher, agent or subscriber; and
- (b) Other classes of printed paper post mailed direct by the publisher or commercial firm.

No registration or insurance facilities are available.

Telegrams to and from Yugoslavia are now admitted, but restricted to (i) Government telegrams of British Empire (except Ireland), Yugoslavia, U.S.A. and U.S.S.R., in code, cypher or any plain language; (ii) all other Government telegrams in any plain language; (iii) private telegrams in plain English or French, commercial telegrams being restricted to those ascertaining facts or exchanging information.

Commercial codes are prohibited. Rates are as notified in the current edition of the Post and Telegraph Guide.

Mail communication with the Dodecanese Islands of Carpathos (Scarpanto), Casos (Kaxo), Symi (Simi); Rhodes (Rodi), Alimnia (Limniona), Kharki (Calchi), Laros (Lero), Patmos (Patino), Lipsos (Lisso), Arki (Archi), Gaidaro Kos (Coo), Nisyros (Nisiro), and Kalymnos (Calino) has been resumed. The service is for the present restricted to the following classes of postal articles:

- (1) Letters and packets weighing up to 4 lbs. and non-illustrated post cards;

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

- (2) packets containing printed papers including newspapers, periodicals and commercial papers up to a maximum weight of 4 lbs.

The following conditions will apply in respect of these postal articles:

- (i) Communications should be confined to personal matters or business matters limited to the exchange of facts and information;
- (ii) printed and commercial papers may be prepaid at the special rates usually applicable to such articles;
- (iii) printed papers service is limited to newspapers, periodicals and commercial papers mailed direct by the publisher to another publisher, agent or commercial firm and to other classes of printed paper post mailed direct by publisher or commercial firm.

Registration facilities are available but not the insured, air mail, money order or parcel post service.

## POST OFFICE CASH CERTIFICATES

A Press Note issued by the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, states:

Some Post Office Five-Year Cash Certificates of various denominations purchased during the period April 1917 to June 5, 1935 have not yet been discharged. As interest or bonus on these Cash Certificates has ceased to accrue, they should without further delay be presented for discharge, preferably at the post offices from which they were purchased, or at any other post office doing Savings Bank work, if it is not possible to present them at the respective post offices of issue.

Claims in respect of Cash Certificates, which have been lost or destroyed or the holders of which are dead, will be duly investigated and met, if proved to be in order.

It will expedite settlement of claims, firstly, if, at the time of claiming payment on lost or destroyed Cash Certificates, the holders furnish, as far as possible, details of the Certificates and state the circumstances in which they were lost or destroyed, and, secondly, if the heirs of the deceased holders submit with their claims the proof of their title to the Certificates.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## AIR MAIL SERVICE

A Press Note issued by the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, on July 18 said:

Tatas' Karachi-Madras-Colombo air mail service now operates daily instead of only five times a week.

Arrangements have also been made for the carriage of surcharged public air mails by various special air services operating daily on the following routes in India:

- (i) Delhi-Allahabad-Calcutta;
- (ii) Delhi-Jodhpur-Karachi;
- (iii) Delhi-Lahore-Gujrat-Chaklala-Fateh-jang-Peshawar;
- (iv) Delhi-Colombo (Direct);
- (v) Delhi-Jodhpur-Ahmedabad-Bombay;
- (vi) Bombay-Nagpur-Calcutta;
- (vii) Calcutta-Ranchi;
- (viii) Calcutta-Vizagapatam-Bangalore (or Madras) Colombo;
- (ix) Karachi-Bombay-Bangalore-Colombo.

All the above services operate daily, and surcharged air mails can be sent by them. The public are accordingly advised to post their air mails every day at the earliest possible hour, and mails will be sent by the first available service unless the surface route is more expeditious. The frequency of these services and the places of their intermediate halts are liable to alteration without notice.

The rates of air mail fee chargeable on inland articles, sent by any of the services either singly or in combination, are shown in Clause 154-A(2) of the Post and Telegraph Guide (current edition).

The Board of Trade of His Majesty's Government have approved of a programme to manufacture and export from the U.K. 200,000 wireless receivers for the next 12 months. U.K. manufacturers are being licensed to manufacture within this overall programme.

As wireless receivers are not now subject to Export Control in the U.K., it is no longer possible to direct supplies to any particular destination. The only method, therefore, by which importing countries can obtain a share of this export production programme would be, it is reliably learnt, by contacting British manufacturers with regard to their requirements.

169



## BENGAL CONTINUES ON THE UPWARD PATH

—Mr. R. G. Casey

"It is some time since I last spoke to you over the wireless. I think that it is now time that I should tell you again about the principal developments in our affairs that have taken place in recent months so that you should know the position of the Province as I—the Governor—see it", said the Rt. Hon. R. G. Casey, Governor of Bengal, in a recent broadcast from A.I.R.

Referring to the food problem in the Province, Mr. Casey said: "The problem of food is the principal problem of Bengal in wartime, and it is always foremost in my mind and in the minds of those concerned. However, I am glad to be able to tell you that the Bengal food position is easier now than it has ever been in the 18 months that I have been in the Province. This has not come about by chance, but by an infinity of work and thought by those immediately concerned with the problem.

### Reserves of Rice

"The achievement as regards rice in 1944 was, I think, remarkable. We purchased over a million tons of rice—that is over 270 lakhs of maunds. We started 1945 with well over half a million tons of rice in the hands of Government. Procurement and offtake in the first six months of 1945 have been just about what we calculated they would be, and the net result is that we have considerably more rice in our hands now than we started the year with.

"We have so far procured almost as much rice and paddy this year as last, and the quality has been appreciably better this year, owing to better organization and closer supervision.

"One thing has been becoming increasingly clear over recent months—and that is that, whilst the bulk of our rice reserves are perfectly good now, they will not continue to remain good, however good our storage is, unless we can achieve greater turnover. To this end, we are letting the Government of India have something like 100,000 tons of rice to help them out in other parts of India that are less well placed than ourselves, and by arrangement between the Government of India and His Majesty's Government on a loan basis for Ceylon.

"We cannot adopt a dog in the manger policy. India helped us out last year—and we are now confident that our position is such that we can help out our fellow men elsewhere without endangering our own position.



H.E. Mr. R. G. Casey, Governor of Bengal.

"A factor of some importance in our rice position is that we are to receive something in the neighbourhood of 40,000 tons of rice from Assam during the coming months."

Turning to the subject of cloth, His Excellency said:—

"It would be foolish to pretend that the situation is or can be satisfactory. Even if we had not suffered from profiteering and black-marketing, we should still have to face a very serious shortage of cloth. Cloth is in short supply all over the world. There is an all-India shortage arising from shortage of coal, labour and imported supplies. The hardships involved are considerable, though I would remind you that Great Britain, for example, and many other countries in the world, have also been very hard hit and might themselves talk of a 'cloth famine.' We are not the only sufferers in the world as it is to-day.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

"As to our share of the cloth available, I will confine myself for the present to saying, that the needs and claims of Bengal are being constantly and strongly pressed upon the Government of India.

"The present position is that we are getting as much cloth distributed as possible under an interim scheme of distribution to those who are most in need. Arrangements are in hand to introduce regular cloth rationing throughout the Province as soon as possible. However, it must be realised that the introduction of cloth rationing is no simple matter if it is to work reasonably smoothly and with reasonable fairness all round. With the extremely small trained and reliable staff that the Government can command, the business of coping with tens of crores worth of goods of a wide variety of types and qualities cannot be worked out and got going in the relatively short time that we have been at it. Government fully realises the importance of the matter, and all concerned have been and are working day and night to get cloth rationing organized and introduced.

"Meanwhile the interim scheme of equitable distribution of cloth is working, both in Calcutta and in the mofussil. I would like to thank the many people connected with the Ward Committees in Calcutta who have done a very great deal of good and public-spirited work.

"As regards other essential supplies the situation is briefly this. The salt position is quite good. Sugar is in perpetual short supply. Kerosene is short and, although I have heard that India hopes to receive rather larger quantities than before, I believe that things will not improve quickly in this regard. The mustard oil position, though not entirely satisfactory, is improving. All the commodities of which we are short are produced outside Bengal, and we are trying hard to better the position."

### On the Upward Path

His Excellency then explained the various measures taken by the Bengal Government to increase the food resources of the Province particularly in regard to fish, milk and vegetables and said:—

"In general I think it can be said with truth that the Province continues on the upward path. In proof of this it is encouraging that there has been a constant decline over the last nine months in the amount of distress in Bengal. Although this is encouraging, it has not lulled us into any false sense of security. We have

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

been working hard to improve our Governmental machinery for the relief of distress.

"Improvement in public health is also encouraging. The total mortality rate continues to decline towards the pre-war average. It is still however appreciably above normal owing very largely to the continued and severe prevalence of malaria. The supply and distribution of anti-malarial drugs is now, I hope, on a sound footing. The stock of mepacrine is now sufficient to meet an epidemic comparable to that of 1944, if unfortunately this should come about.

"I would very much like to see considerably greater facilities for the thorough treatment of tuberculosis and leprosy, both of which affect the Province in an important degree. To this end we propose to establish a tuberculosis sanatorium in Asansol sub-division and we are going ahead with the creation of a leper colony for 500 lepers in Bankura district as a preliminary to a more intensive attack on both these dread diseases as soon as possible."

### Administration of Province

Speaking of the administration of the Province, Mr. Casey said:—

"There is yet another problem which has a bearing on all others. This is the efficiency of the administration and its organisation to cope with the exacting and increasingly complex tasks which the Government of a densely populated Province nowadays involves.

"One of the first things that struck me when I came to Bengal was that the machinery of administration of the Province was unsuited to the constantly increasing stress and pressure of Government under modern conditions.

"Over a year ago, I wrote to Sir Nazimuddin as follows:—'To speak frankly, as a newcomer to Bengal but from a fairly wide administrative background, I have been appalled at what seems to me to be the haphazard and unco-ordinated system of administration that has grown up in Bengal—with consequent wastefulness and inefficiency. However one views the future, I feel that it is a task of great urgency and importance to put our administration on a sound footing.'

"Sir Nazimuddin's Ministry shared these general views—and a strong and experienced Committee under the Chairmanship of Sir Archibald Rowlands—who is now Finance Member of the Government of India and whose services we were fortunate to secure—was appointed to examine the present system of administration and its organisation. I believe that the

171

Rowlands Report, which we made available to the public recently, will be of very great benefit to Bengal.

"I notice that comment has been made on the Rowlands Report that it would have the effect of curbing the initiative of Ministers and of increasing the powers of the Civil Service. Such comment can only be the result of misunderstanding as to what the Rowlands Committee has recommended.

"The real purpose of the Rowlands recommendations is to untangle the many knots that the administration has got into over past generations, to place unfettered responsibility for policy on the Ministry and to create conditions under which the various services can proceed to work out and implement the policy decided upon by Government without the appalling impediments and delays that now exist.

"I promise you that there will be no curbing of proper ministerial initiative at all. Quite the reverse. My aim is to endeavour to create conditions under which things can be done and not merely interminably talked and written about.

#### Drive Against Corruption

"Incidentally the Rowlands Report made a number of recommendations for action to be taken against corruption in Bengal. On a previous occasion I told you of my strongly held views on this subject. Every day in the week money is being offered and accepted to defeat the ends of justice or to obtain unfair advantages for somebody. The offering and acceptance of bribes is an evil which cuts at the root of good government. These recommendations are now being studied with a view to their implementation.

"Even before the Rowlands Committee reported, the Bengal Government issued detailed instructions to their officers as to how to cope with the various forms of corruption. These instructions have had some result although nothing like as much as I had hoped. The Bengal Government will prosecute this campaign vigorously. I am confident that all public-spirited individuals will give their approval and assistance. Unless the public conscience is aroused and without the active and disinterested assistance of the public any official action is severely handicapped."

Concluding, His Excellency said:

"Well—summing up—I believe that Bengal as a whole is in a much better position now than

it was 12 months ago, although there is a very great deal still to be done before we can begin to be satisfied. You should not forget that, for this improvement, thanks are very largely due to the loyalty and hard work of the administrative staff of the Province—shorthanded and in very difficult conditions—who have carried on with such a considerable measure of success.

"When you criticise you should remember, for example, that the Civil Supplies Department is a vast business with a turnover of about Rs. 80 crores a year, which has been improvised with remarkable speed by a mere handful of people. I do not say that you should not criticise either this or any other Department of Government, but when criticising it is as well to bear in mind both sides of the picture.

#### Tribute to A.R.P.

"I would also like to take this opportunity of paying a tribute to the A.R.P. services which are now being largely disbanded following on our great victories in Burma. The A.R.P. services were a vital insurance of our safety. When put to the test they acquitted themselves with great credit. I very much hope that the efforts which my Government are making to place these men in other suitable employment will succeed.

"I have covered a fairly wide field this evening, but clearly I cannot deal in a short broadcast with all the many matters that are in hand or in prospect. I have had to leave out many things—but I wanted you to know what the position is as regards the principal things. Some of what I have had to say to you tonight will be good news to you—some not so good—but, good or bad, I have told you frankly how matters stand.

#### An Appeal

"One thing is very clear and that is, as I have said before, that there is still a very great deal to be done. Speaking for myself, I long for nothing more than to see Bengal gaining the ground which I believe she has lost, for many reasons, over a long period of years, and to see the Province no longer one of the major problem areas of India. I have now seen enough of Bengal to know that this Province has really great potentialities—provided they are used. Every one of us in Bengal has a part to play in the interests of the Province. Let each of us play his part with vigour, honesty and goodwill—and I have no doubt at all that Bengal will go far—and fast."

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.



### INDIAN DIVISION WON TWO V.C.s IN ONE DAY

Worldwide congratulations have been sent to the Eighth Indian Division, the "V.C. Division" of the Italian campaign.

Behind the announcement of the award of the Victoria Cross to Sepoy Ali Haider, 13th Frontier Force Rifles, is the story of a remarkable achievement.

Not only was it the Division's fourth V.C. in the 19 months they fought in Italy, but it was the second to be gained on the same day—April 9—when the Division stormed the Senio river. The other was that of Sepoy Namdeo Jadhao, 5th Mahratta Light Infantry.

All the four V.Cs were gained by sepoys.

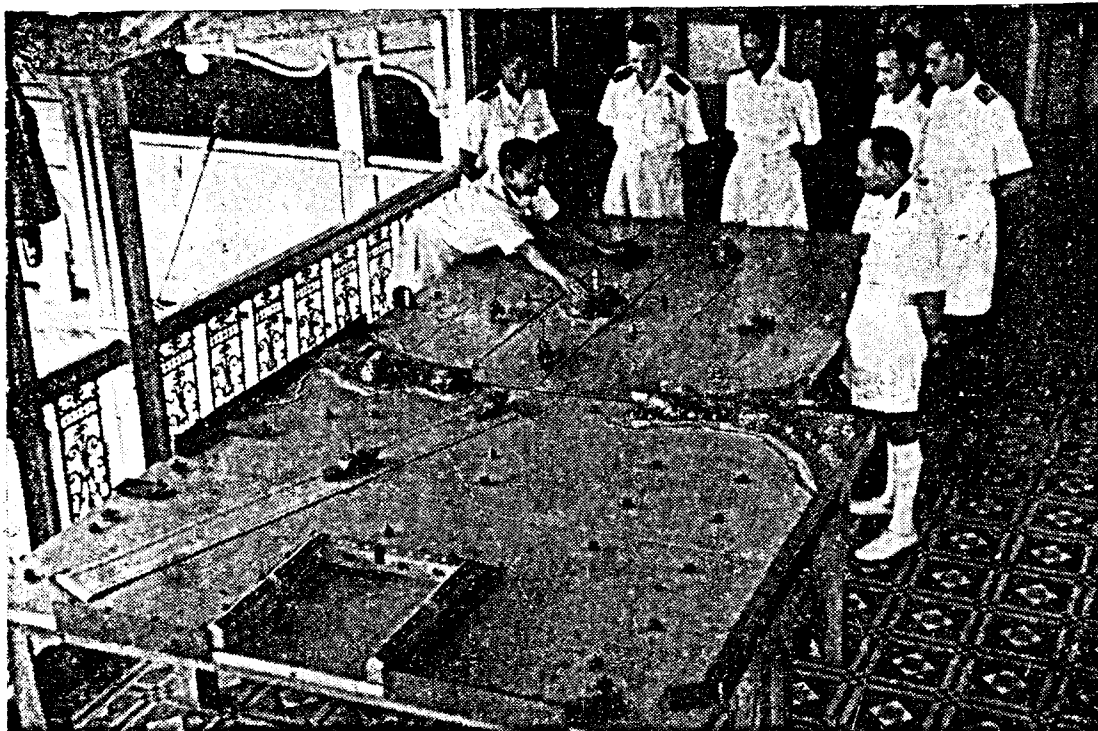
During the campaign, the Eighth Indian Division inflicted 21,000 casualties, including 6,000 prisoners, representing the infantry strength of seven German divisions. In

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

Sepoy Ali Haider (right) who was awarded the V.C. for gallantry in Italy. With him is Sepoy Namdeo Jadhao, V.C. who also won his award in the same battle.

addition to four V.Cs the Division were awarded, for the Italian campaign, more than 650 decorations and many hundreds of mentions in despatches.

Messages were sent to the Divisional Commander, Major-General Dudley Russell, by Field Marshal Sir Harold Alexander, Supreme Allied Commander, Italy; General Mark W. Clark (U.S.A.), Commander, 15th Army Group; Lieut.-Gen. Sir Richard L. McCreery, Eighth Army Commander; Lieut.-Gen. Sir Bernard C. Freyberg, V.C., Commander, New Zealand Expeditionary Force; and many others.



Using a model of a typical harbour, Lieut. N. Krishnan, D.S.C., R.I.N., explains a simple problem of navigation to recruits for the Instructor Branch. (Right) An R.I.N. midshipman using a sextant.

## R.I.N.'S INSTRUCTOR BRANCH

**F**IRST batch of recruits to the newly-formed Instructor Branch of the Royal Indian Navy has recently undertaken advanced technical and mathematical instruction of R.I.N. officers undergoing specialist training.

The Instructor Branch is also responsible for the general supervision of all educational work in the Navy and will ensure that educational facilities for officers and ratings are available wherever they are required.

Ratings in the Service have always had access to educational instruction in their leisure hours, and the R.I.N. has more than 200 schoolmasters (Headmaster Lieutenants, Commission-



INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

ed Warrant Schoolmasters and Chief Petty Officer Schoolmasters) who hold training classes and voluntary classes in all shore establishments and in some ships at sea.

The classes are extremely popular and well-attended.

### Officers of the Branch

Officers of the new Branch rank as Instructor-Lieutenants and Instructor-Lieutenant-Commanders of the R.I.N.V.R. Their uniform has distinction cloth of light blue between the gold stripes.

They are recruited from candidates between 30 and 40 years of age, who have been trained in a recognised university and have taken an Honours degree or equivalent in Mathematics, Physics or Engineering (Mechanical or Electrical).

The first batch of Instructor officers consists of Indian graduates with considerable teaching experience and all except three in the Instructor Branch and Schoolmaster Branch of the Royal Indian Navy are Indians.

## CORVETTES FOR ROYAL INDIAN NAVY

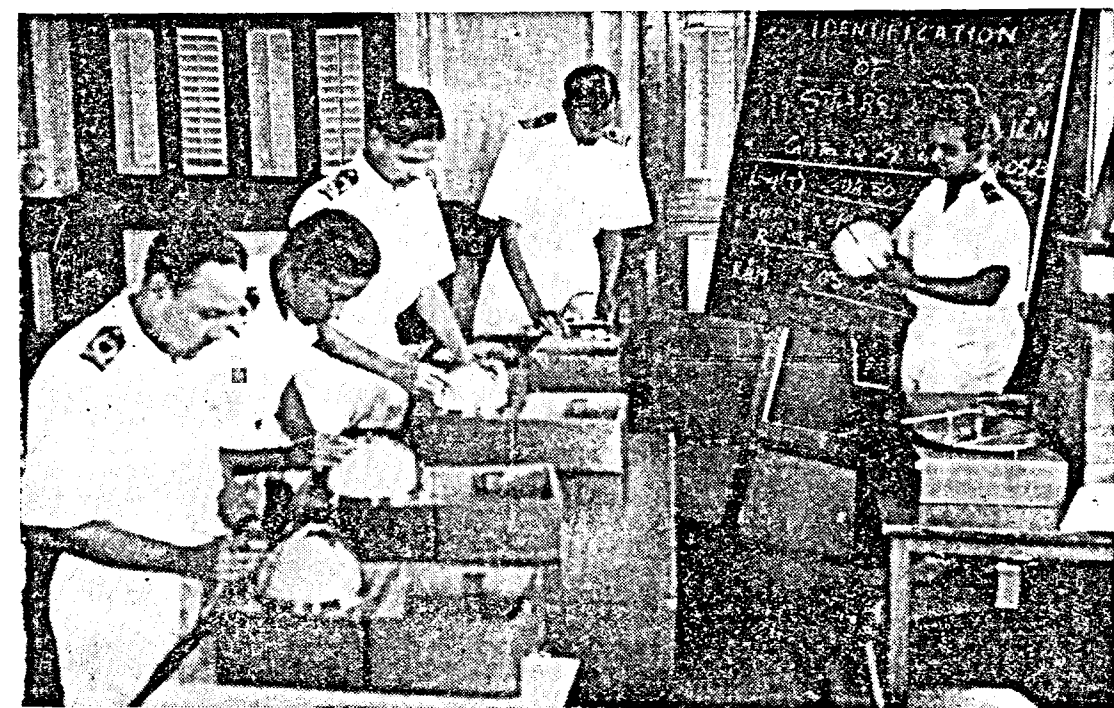
Corvettes of the famous "Flower" class, which proved their worth time and again in the Battle of the Atlantic, are in service with the Royal Indian Navy.

Bristling with armament for use against submarines and aircraft, corvettes represent one of the classes of escort vessel built during the present war to protect merchant shipping on ocean passages. They are equipped with the latest scientific devices for locating submarines and were dreaded by U-boats waiting for Allied convoys in the Atlantic.

One of the corvettes belonging to India's Navy is H.M.I.S. *Gondwana*, named after the territory ruled by the ancient Gond kings in the Central Provinces.

Her Commanding Officer is Commander W. N. M. Faichney, D.S.O., R.D., R.I.N.R., who has had considerable service with corvettes of the Royal Navy. He was awarded the D.S.O. for sinking a U-boat in 1940, when in command of one of the first corvettes to be built for the Royal Navy during the present war.

(Continued on page 176)



Recruits to the R.I.N. Instructor Branch take a lesson in "Identification of stars."

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.



## HOME-MAKING COURSE FOR W.A.C.(I) OFFICERS

"YOU are making history this morning," said Lieut.-General Sir Noel Beresford Peirse, the Welfare General, when in the presence of Controller Ranga Rao, who deputised for the Countess of Carlisle, Director W.A.C.(I.) and Brigadier J. R. Birchall, Director of Army Education, he inaugurated a W.A.C.(I.) home-making course, on July 16. The course is being conducted at the Lady Irwin College, New Delhi.

"This is the first course sponsored by the Army Education Directorate for W.A.C.(I.) officers in India and it is significant that the subject should be home-making," he continued.

W.A.C.(I.) officers from every Command in India were present. The course includes a diversity of subjects connected with the running of a modern home.

### Lesson in Cookery

Junior Commander Mackay, lent by the North West Army, will conduct classes in civic education; Misses Deulkar and Doongagi, members of the Irwin College staff, will give most of the technical instruction; and the Health Department is also helping.

Controller Ranga Rao, in an invigorating talk to the officers, spoke of the vital influence which the science of home-making will have on the future of India.

"If the world needed a better type of human being where would you begin the evolution of such but in the home," she said.

General Beresford Peirse and the other visitors watched the first lesson in cookery, given to the class of officers by Miss Deulkar.

### R. I. N. CORVETTES

(Continued from page 175)

H.M.I.S. *Gondwana* has been adopted by the Gondwana Club at Nagpur. Serving in her are two officers whose homes are in the Central Provinces—Sub-Lieut. C. M. Reilly, R.I.N.V.R., of Amla, near Pachmarhi, and Midshipman M. G. Deodhar, R.I.N.V.R., of Baismbhara, Akola District.



Mrs. Lakshmi Parmeshwarsing

### FIRST GURKHA W.V.S. WORKER

MEET smiling 29-year-old Lakshmi Parmeshwarsing, probably the only Gurkha member of the Women's Voluntary Services. Although she is married and has two children, she has for about nine months spent four days a week working in the military hospital at the regimental centre of the 7th Gurkha Rifles at Palampur.

She reads and writes Gurkhali and Urdu, understands English and knits. She uses her exceptional language qualifications by writing letters for Gurkha and Indian patients in the hospital, and also teaches them to knit. In addition she helps in the library.

With a shy smile she will tell you that she owes a great deal to the regiment, and this is her way of repaying the debt.

Daughter of a subedar, she was born in the regimental lines, and between the ages of five and twelve was educated at the 7th Gurkha Rifles school, then at Quetta. Now she is the wife of Jemadar Parmeshwarsing, who is also serving with the 7th Gurkha Rifles.

She was congratulated for her fine work when the Commander-in-Chief in India, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, visited the hospital during his recent tour of the Kangra Valley.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.



### W. A. C. (I): ALL—

Private Yakub Khan of Jullundur, with her three daughters who are all in the W.A.C. (I). Pte. Yakub Khan is a telephone operator; her eldest daughter, Sgt. Sylvi Khan, helps to run an indent depot, and Ptes. Veda and Caroline drive ambulances for the British Military Hospital, Jullundur.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## WACS OPERATE "WONDER" MACHINE

Eleven Indian W.A.C.(I)s have been put in charge of some of the most complicated and delicate tabulating apparatus in the world—the Hollerith machine—which is being used at R.A.F. Headquarters at New Delhi.

I spoke to the warrant officer-in-charge, Miss L. Awasthi, of Delhi, writes an Indian Army Observer. She understands the machines perfectly and is evidently very keen.

As I walked around with her she showed me how the innumerable gadgets on the Hollerith work. "It is much too complicated for me to explain," said an R.A.F. officer accompanying us.

There were buttons, switches and levers. This tabulating system saves hours of labour by sorting out and filing the records of the various personnel in the air forces.

This particular job is entirely a W.A.C.(I) affair; these were the only W.A.C.(I)s serving with the R.A.F. who work this machine.

## NEW RED CROSS MESSAGE SERVICE

A Red Cross Postal and Cable Message Service has been started for correspondence with free, uninterned civilians only in Japanese-occupied Burma, Malaya, the Dutch East Indies and the Philippines and their relatives in India.

Persons wishing to send a postal or cable message to their uninterned relatives in those territories can obtain details and an application form from the Red Cross Postal Message Bureau at Bombay (Prince of Wales Museum, first floor), Madras (Banqueting Hall, Government House) or Calcutta (9, Old Court House Street).

The above service is additional to the existing Red Cross Postal and Cable Message Services to Japan, Korea, Formosa, Occupied China, Shanghai, Hongkong, French Indo-China and Thailand.

By an amendment of the Paper (Prices of Imported Paper) Control Order, 1944, the Government of India have fixed the wholesale ceiling prices of imported white and coloured Bristol Boards at 11 annas 7 pies per lb. and 12 annas 7 pies per lb. respectively, said a Press Note issued by the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies, Government of India, on July 20.



Lt.-Col. S. R. Macdonald.

## UNIQUE GURKHA HONOUR FOR LT.-COL. S. R. MACDONALD

THE only European ever to be awarded the Gogindara Mokshia—the Nepalese Life-saving Medal—is Lieut.-Col. S. R. Macdonald, of the 1st Gurkha Rifles, who recently returned from Katmandu after being personally decorated by the Maharaja of Nepal.

Col. Macdonald saved a lance-naik of the Nepalese Contingent from drowning in the river at Nasik in Bombay Presidency last August.

He was in Burma when he was ordered to go to Katmandu as the guest of the Maharaja for ten days. At the presentation ceremony the Maharaja told Col. Macdonald that he was the first European to receive the medal.

The green and yellow ribbon, worn on the right breast, attracted the attention of the Commander-in-Chief in India, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, during his recent official visit to the Kangra Valley, and he congratulated Col. Macdonald on the award.

Col. Macdonald, who is 53, has completed 30 years' service, 28 of which have been with the 1st Gurkha Rifles. He is retiring shortly and intends to go to Co. Kerry, Ireland.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## ANNIVERSARY OF CHINESE INDIAN ARMY BATTLE WAR OF RESISTANCE CASUALTIES

A Press Note issued by the External Affairs Department, Government of India, on July 6 said:

The following message was sent by the Secretary to the Government of India, in the External Affairs Department, to the Commissioner of China to India, New Delhi, on the occasion of the eighth anniversary (July 7) of the beginning of China's War of Resistance:

"Once again it is my privilege to convey to you, and through you to the members of the Chinese Forces and other Chinese in India, the greetings of the Government of India on the anniversary of the Chinese War of Resistance.

"With the annihilation of the enemy in the West, victory in the East cannot be long delayed; to which victory China's indomitable endurance and sacrifices will have made such a magnificent contribution."

### Chinese Commissioner's Reply

The Commissioner of China to India replied:

"I write to thank you and, through you, the Government of India, for the greetings you have been good enough to convey to me on this eighth anniversary of our War of Resistance.

"I share your opinion that, with the annihilation of the enemy in the West, victory in the East cannot be long delayed. I look forward to the day when India, after contributing her part to the final overthrow of the enemy, will collaborate with China in the task of reconstruction.

"I have conveyed your message to the Chinese Forces and community in India."

## INDIAN HISTORICAL RECORDS COMMISSION

The Government of India have been pleased to appoint Mr. Mohibul Hasan Khan, M.A., of the Royal Asiatic Society of Bengal, on the Research and Publication Committee of the Indian Historical Records Commission as an Associate Member in place of Mr. C. W. Gurner, C.S.I., I.C.S., for a term of five years with effect from April 23, said a Press Note issued by the Education, Health and Lands Department, Government of India, on July 11.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

INDIAN ARMY battle casualties from the outbreak of war on September 3, 1939, to February 28, 1945, totalled 149,225. This figure does not include 5,835 other ranks of the Hongkong and Singapore Royal Artillery.

These figures are given in a statement issued by G.H.Q. (India), which covers every theatre of war in which Indian troops have played a part—from the United Kingdom in the west to Hongkong in the east.

The total of 149,225 is made up as follows: killed 15,291; wounded 50,705; missing 10,371; prisoners of war 51,802; believed prisoners of war 21,056.

The greatest number of casualties (62,175) occurred in Malaya shortly after Japan's entry into the war; the figure is made up largely of prisoners of war (38,860) and believed prisoners of war (20,196). Killed numbered 285, wounded 807, missing 2,027.

Next to Malaya is Burma with 40,468. More than half (24,178) of the casualties were wounded; killed numbered 8,128; missing 7,389, prisoners of war 763.

Third in the list comes Italy, with 22,497, of which the great majority (17,314) were wounded; killed totalled 4,255. Missing and prisoners of war were 467 and 461 respectively.

### In North Africa

In North Africa casualties numbered 15,248, with more than half of this total (9,792) prisoners of war. Killed numbered 1,299, wounded 3,738, missing 419.

The severity of the fighting in Sudan and Eritrea is indicated by the number of wounded (4,017) and killed (731). The only other casualties in this theatre was one prisoner of war. In nearby Somaliland nine were killed and 28 wounded.

Paiforce (Iraq and Iran), through which ran a vital lifeline to Russia, cost 72 killed, 96 wounded and one missing; in Palestine and Syria 86 were killed and 287 wounded. Total casualties in Greece were 314, made up of 38 killed, 216 wounded, 60 missing.

(Contd. on Page 182)

## TROOPS' CONCESSIONS New Regulations

**U**NIFORM concessional treatment for all troops in the India Command will be effected by the abolition, from August 15, 1945, of "semi-concessional areas".

Following the occupation by the Japanese of Malaya and Burma, when the threat to India was very strong, it became necessary to concentrate troops at places likely to be threatened. The troops, excluding static formations, in those areas were given certain concessions although not on the full field service scale.

These semi-concessional areas include Bengal, Bihar and Orissa in the area of the former Eastern Army, and the former Madras District and the former Deccan Independent Area in Southern Army.

The concessions which apply to these areas at present are: disability and family pensions (including death gratuities) as for field service; certain postal concessions; free remittance of family allotments and free casual remittances; exemption from cantonment taxation and certain municipal taxes; payment of insurance premia of Indian ranks through public accounts; free rations for officers; and free issue of cigarettes or tobacco.

With the removal of the threat to India it is now considered to be undesirable to continue the distinction between troops in semi-concessional areas and other troops in the India Command who are also on a war footing.

Uniformity will be achieved by withdrawing the concessions given at present in semi-concessional areas and replacing them by certain concessions admissible to all troops throughout the India Command.

### Postal Concessions etc.

Special consideration has been given to the free issue of rations to officers but as their pay includes an amount on account of rations it has not been possible to continue this concession on an All-India basis. Free rations were abolished in Ceylon as from December 1, 1944.

The concessions which will extend throughout the India Command from August 15, 1945, include some of the "semi-concessions". They are as follows:

**Postal concessions:** V.C.Os, Indian other ranks and enrolled non-combatants, two free double post cards per man per month, inland

mail (concessions for British, Indian, Dominion and Colonial troops have already been announced).

**Family allotments:** Free in the case of all Indian troops, including those on the peace system of pay accounting. British other ranks already have these facilities.

**Casual remittances:** Free in the case of Indian troops who make regular family allotments. British other ranks already have these facilities.

**Insurance:** Payment free or remittance charges of insurance premia through public accounts in the case of V.C.Os. and all other ranks.

**Cigarettes:** Free issue of 50 cigarettes or 2 ozs. of tobacco per head per week to British troops.

## POSTAL FACILITIES FOR INDIAN EX-PRISONERS OF WAR

Indian prisoners of war, who have been released by our victory in Europe, are being given special postal facilities, on reaching Britain, to communicate with their next of kin in India.

Immediately a former prisoner arrives at the Indian Prisoners of War Reception Headquarters in the United Kingdom, a "safe arrival" cable, is sent to his next of kin. The news is also flashed to the man's regimental centre, depot or record office, who at once issue to his next of kin a free air letter to enable them to write to him.

The man is also given a free air letter to write home via his regimental centre. On receipt of this letter by the centre, the correspondence is forwarded to the man's home and another free air letter is enclosed for a reply to be sent to Britain.

As a result of these arrangements Indian ex-prisoners of war speedily hear from their relatives, news of whom they may not have had for many years.

About 10,000 "safe arrival" advices have been despatched and an equal number of air letters issued to released prisoners of war. About 20,000 free air letters have also been sent to the next of kin.

The service does not end there. When a former prisoner reaches Bombay, he is given a free "arrival postcard" to inform his relatives that he has reached India and will soon be home.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## TEA PLANTERS PRAISED BY LORD MOUNTBATTEN

**T**HE importance of the work done by the Indian Tea Association Labour Force in the construction of vital roads and airfields in Assam was recently acknowledged by Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia.

On the transference of Assam from South East Asia Command to the India Command he has written to the Commander-in-Chief in India, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, expressing appreciation of the "sterling work" carried out.

"This Force," he says, "has provided a large proportion of the labour required for the construction of the Manipur and Ledo roads and for almost every airfield and major project in Assam. They have worked cheerfully and well under the most trying conditions and have contributed very materially to our success in Burma."

### Gen. Auchinleck's Tribute

The advance guard of the Force in early March, 1942, consisted of only one planter and 100 labourers from his own estate. By the end of March, 1942, the total at Manipur Road was 28,500 men, and in October, 1942, the Force numbered over 82,000. The strength still stands at about 67,000 men. "When these figures are considered," writes Lord Louis Mountbatten, "the magnitude of the effort is apparent."

Associating himself with Lord Louis Mountbatten's expression of appreciation, Gen. Auchinleck says, "I know well the value of the services of the Force from the early days when the operational responsibility rested on the India Command, and I know that I can rely on the continued assistance of your Association in our combined efforts for the final conquest of Japan."

To these messages the Indian Tea Association has replied that it has been glad to have had the opportunity of playing such an important part in the operations on the Eastern Frontier.

The postal service to the Dodecanese Islands has been extended to the remaining Islands of Astypalaea (Stampalia), Tilos (Piscope) and Castelrosso with effect from August 1.

INDIAN INFORMATION, AUGUST 15, 1945.

## Scholarships to Persian Students

A Press Note issued by the External Affairs Department, Government of India, on July 11, 1945, said:

One result of the Persian Cultural Mission's tour of India in March-April, 1944, was a desire to broaden and strengthen India's contacts with Persia, particularly in the sphere of cultural relations.

In furtherance of this aim, the Government of India have granted in all 17 scholarships to Persian students—6 at the Aitchison College, Lahore; 4 at the Agricultural College, Lyallpur; 2 at the Indian Forest College, Dehra Dun; and 5 at the Delhi Polytechnic, 3 in Engineering and 2 in Textiles.

The scholarships at the Aitchison College have not yet been accepted, owing to difficulties attaching to boys of school-going age leaving Persia to attend the College. The remaining 11 scholarships, have, however, been accepted, and all but one of the students—a candidate for the Delhi Polytechnic, who is expected later—have arrived in India.

It is hoped that it will eventually prove possible to make reciprocal arrangements for Indian students to study in Persia.

## SHIPPING ARRANGEMENTS FOR HAJ PILGRIMAGE

To enable Indian Muslims to proceed to the Hajaz for the ensuing Haj pilgrimage, the Government of India have decided to allot ships to carry a limited number of pilgrims this year, said a Press communique issued by the Commonwealth Relations Department, Government of India, on July 22.

It added: Owing to urgent war needs, it is not possible to provide ships to carry a larger number. As far as possible, all necessary precautions will be taken for the safe voyage of pilgrim ships, but the possibility of danger from enemy action cannot be entirely eliminated. The Government of India, therefore, wish to make it clear that those who choose to proceed on the pilgrimage by sea do so at their own risk.

Instructions for securing passages will be announced soon for the information and guidance of intending pilgrims. Enquiries, if any, may be addressed to the Haj Booking Officer, Government of India, New Delhi.



## EDUCATION CENTRE FOR TROOPS IN RANGOON

Indian and British troops in Rangoon now have their own education centre where, in spacious, well-lit rooms, they can keep abreast of current affairs. They can also borrow books on practically every subject or read them in the centre.

This centre, the most forward of its kind, is in Fytche Square overlooking one of Rangoon's parks. Requisitioned rooms have been redecorated and made comfortable for the troops.

In one corner of the room for British Troops is a large notice board on which election news is prominently displayed. In another corner are pictures from the battle front, and items of general interest from all parts of the U.K. Pamphlets and books on questions of the day

are immediately available.

In charge of the Indian section is Risaldar Magan Singh, of Kasinpur Kehri village, Meerut district. In the big room he supervises are books and wall maps of the Burma and Pacific fronts. Lectures are given and lessons in English are also arranged.

### INDIAN ARMY CASUALTIES

(Continued from Page 179)

Of the 499 casualties sustained at sea there were 378 killed, three wounded, seven missing and 111 prisoners of war. The combined total for France and the United Kingdom is 319, made up of four killed, eight wounded, one missing, and 306 prisoners of war.

The details given do not include those for Indian other ranks serving in the Hongkong and Singapore Royal Artillery. They were: In Malaya, 1,511 missing and 2,498 prisoners of war; in Hongkong, two killed, 1,404 missing 420 prisoners of war.



Jawans of a Punjab Regiment in Burma learn Arithmetic and English from their Company Commander, Major John Smith.

## C.-IN-C. SEES GURKHA RECRUITS

### Tour in Kangra Valley

The first tour of inspection in the Kangra Valley by a Commander-in-Chief in India for nearly 20 years was recently completed by Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck. The last official visit was by Field Marshal Sir William Birdwood in 1927.

Flying to Amritsar Gen. Auchinleck made a round road journey of nearly 500 miles to visit the regimental centres of the 1st, 4th, 7th and 10th Gurkha Rifles.

During the three days he spent with them the C.-in-C. saw Gurkha recruits at every stage of their training and also met many men who have taken part in fighting in the Burma and Mediterranean theatres. He showed particular interest in recruits taking specialist courses for wireless operators, motor transport drivers and motor crews.

### At Dhangu Camp

At Dhangu Camp, an offshoot of the 4th Gurkha Rifles regimental centre at Bakloh, the C.-in-C. saw men undergoing a strenuous post-basic training in river and jungle warfare. At Tanda Camp, a similar offshoot of the 1st Gurkha Rifles regimental centre at Dharmasala, he praised a parade of men ready for drafting to a training division before going on active service.

At the comparatively new centres of the 10th Gurkha Rifles at Alhilal and the 7th at Palampur Gen. Auchinleck showed great interest in the swimming pools, constructed by recruits, which are fed by fresh water from nullahs. At these centres, too, he visited rehabilitation centres organised by the regiments for men wounded in action where the men are able, through occupational therapy, to recover the use of shattered limbs and torn muscles.

### Visit to Italian Officers

At each centre His Excellency presented gallantry awards at ceremonial parades and in the evenings dined with the officers in their messes.

The C.-in-C. also visited a large prisoner of war Camp at Yol, where he met a high-ranking Italian officer who was in North Africa at the time His Excellency was Commander-in-Chief of our forces opposing the Italians in the Western Desert.



Gen. Auchinleck met an Italian Colonel prisoner of war during his visit to the Yol P.O.W. Camp.

With the help of an interpreter Gen. Auchinleck discussed with the Italian officer the pros and cons of the campaigning in the North African desert.

The camp holds more than 11,000 Italian prisoners of war, of which the great majority are officers.

After inspecting battalions of Indian troops employed on guard duties Gen. Auchinleck made an exhaustive tour of the camp. He was introduced to several Italian officers who assist in running it.

He spent some time in the lecture room, where prisoners are preparing to take university degrees, and in the extensive library of books in Italian to which they have access.

His Excellency also saw the improvised stage on which theatrical performances are given nearly every night by groups of prisoners and visited art studios where others, some of them famous artists, pursue their interest in painting and sculpture.

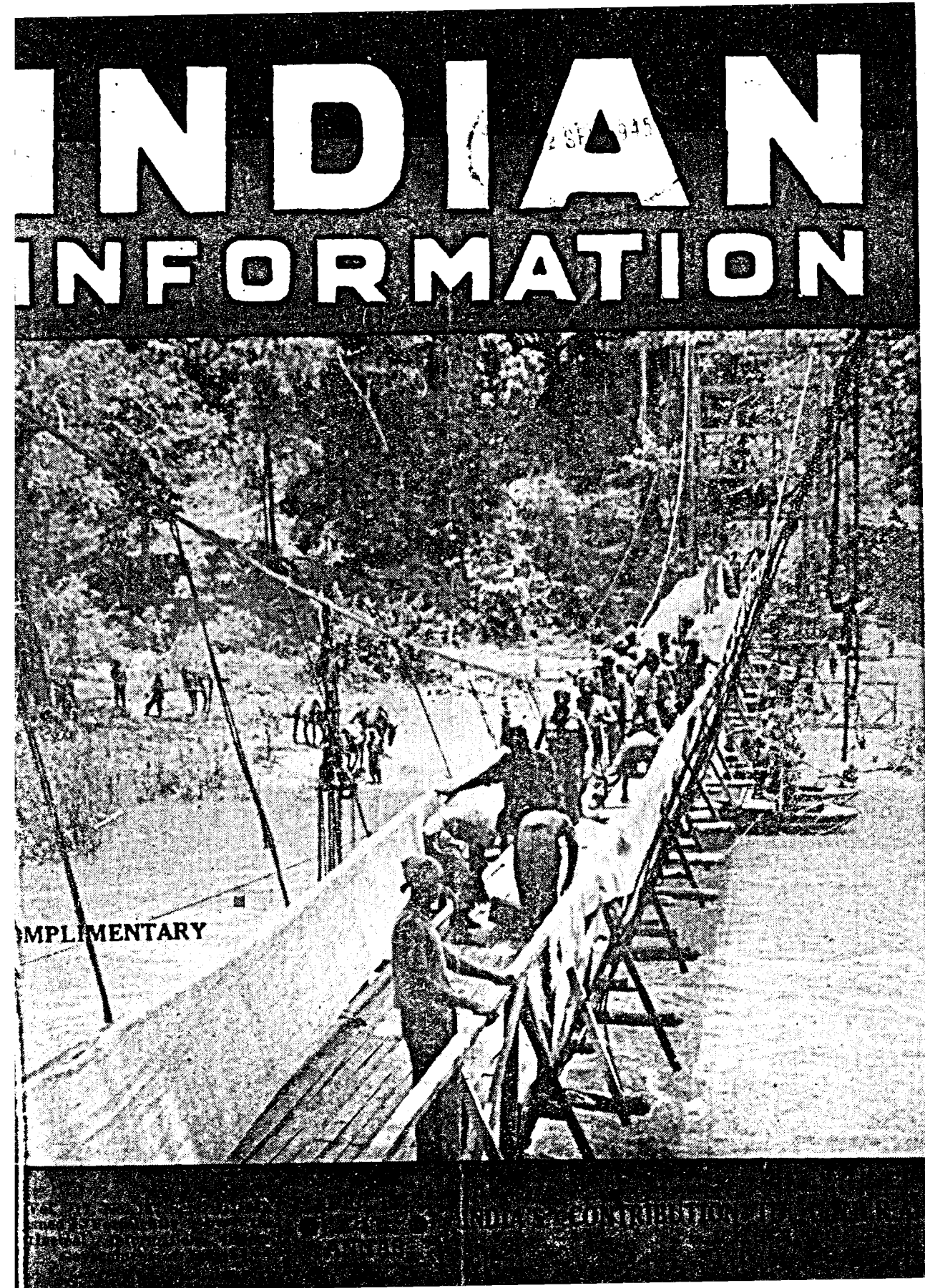
The C.-in-C. also visited Italian other ranks and officers in their quarters and in a canteen he had a cup of coffee with his former adversaries. Later he inspected the lines where the men have employed their leisure time in gardening.



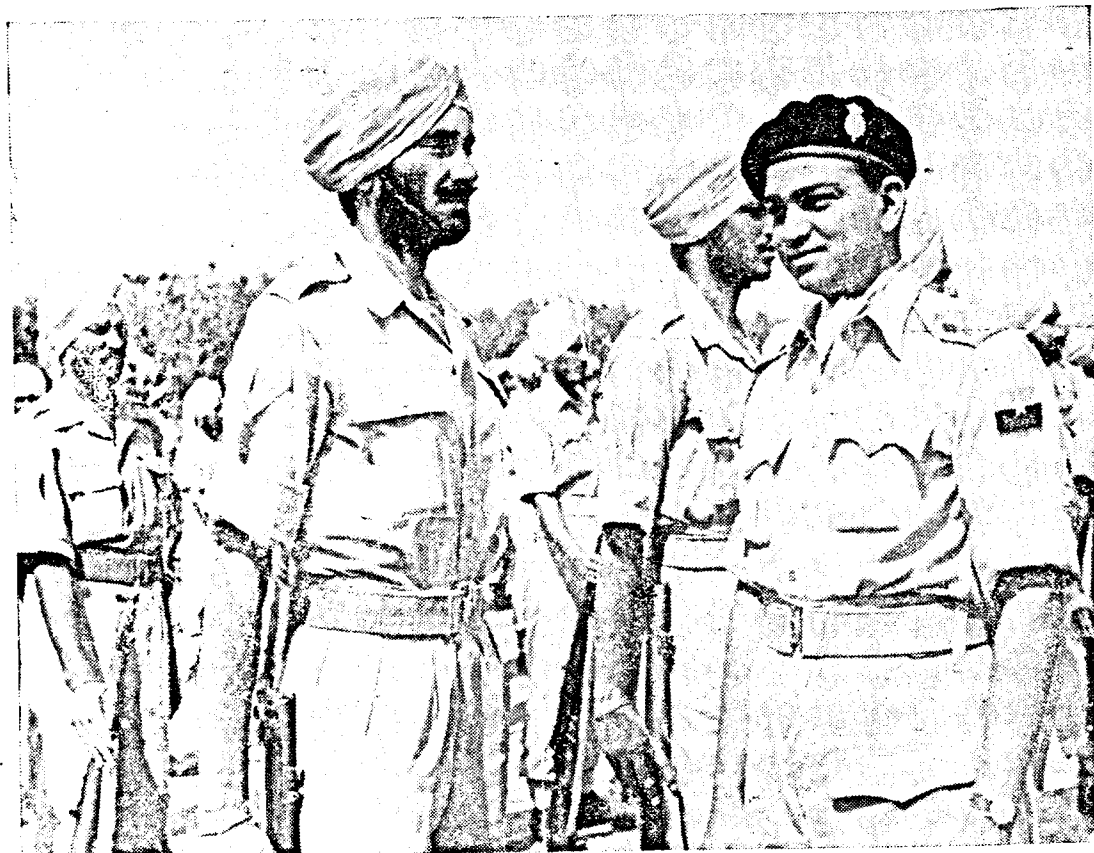
**JAP SWORD FOR C-IN-C.—**

A Jap sword being presented to Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck by Lieut.-Col. Sher Ali. The sword was captured in Burma by a battalion of the C-in-C's own regiment, the 1st Punjab.

Published by P. D. Murti, Information Officer, Government of India. Printed in India by E. G. Tilt (General Manager) at The Civil & Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore: Communications for the Editor should be addressed to the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India, Lahore, and not to the Printers.







The Maharaja of Jaipur inspecting men of the 10th Indian Division near Trieste, Italy.

Vol. 17 No. 167. INDIAN INFORMATION Sept. 1, 1945.

## MAIN CONTENTS

**AIMS** :—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities.

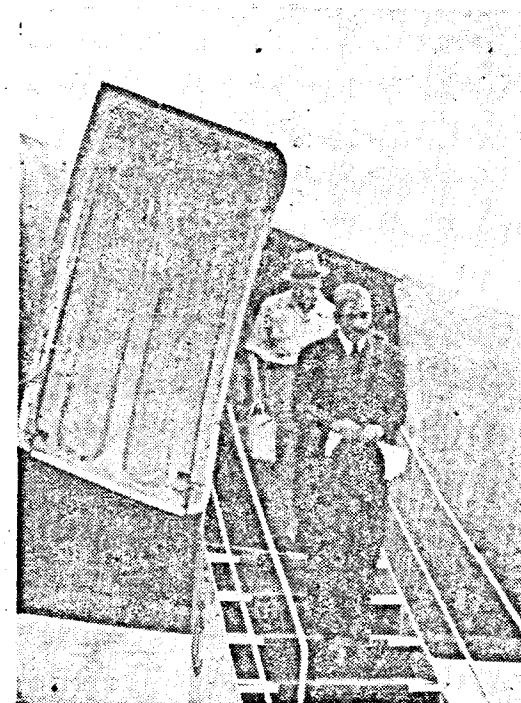
**FORMAT** :—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** :—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Edited by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India.

|                                                                       | Page |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|------|
| The Hon'ble Francis Sayre on U.N.R.R.A. and its Mission               | 187  |
| Food Member's Tribute to Famine Commission                            | 190  |
| Sir S. S. Bhatnagar on the Role of Scientific and Industrial Research | 191  |
| Defence Expenditure in 1943-44                                        | 195  |
| Indo-American Post-war Trade                                          | 205  |
| Indo-Canadian Wartime Trade                                           | 208  |
| Sir Azizul Hucue's Address to Advisory Committee on Seamen            | 209  |
| Story of the Bengal Pilot Service                                     | 214  |

**COVER PICTURE**: A suspension bridge built by Madras Sappers and Miners across the Thaukyegat chaung, north-east of Rangoon.

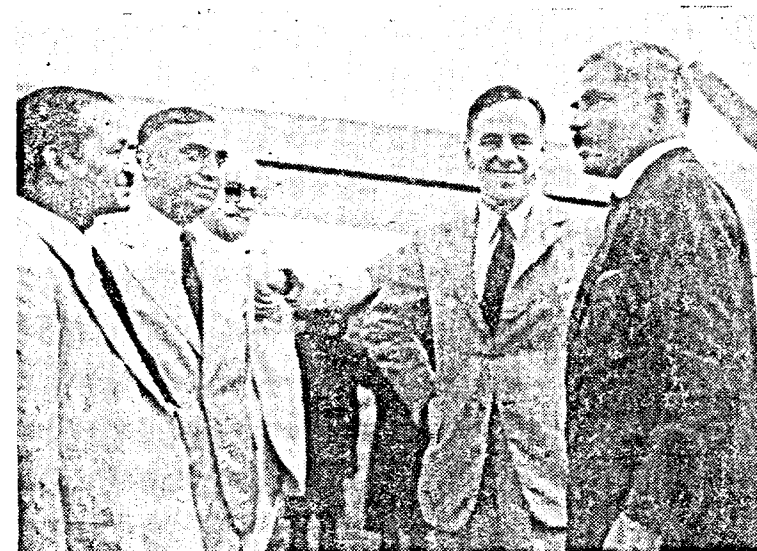


Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar alighting from the plane at the Delhi aerodrome.



The Supply Member with Sir Sultan Ahmed.

The Hon'ble Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Supply Member, Government of India, who led the Indian Delegation to the San Francisco Conference, returned to Delhi by air on July 31. He was received at the aerodrome by the Hon. Sir Sultan Ahmed, Member for Information and Broadcasting, Government of India, and others.



(R. to L.) Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Mr. A. A. Waugh, Sir Robert Targett, Mr. S. A. Venkataraman and Sir S. S. Bhatnagar.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.



## TEA, COTTON, JUTE AMONG SUPPLIES TO BE MADE BY INDIA TO U.N.R.R.A.

### New Delhi Discussions

A Press Note issued by the Commerce Department, Government of India, on August 1 stated:

During their visit to New Delhi, which lasted from July 10 to 29, the U.N.R.R.A. Mission, consisting of the Hon. Mr. Francis B. Sayre (Chairman) and Messrs. Mason and Gogate (Members), held discussions with the Government of India Departments on questions connected with supplies from India and the procedure for the procurement of supplies.

### Government's Policy

On both these questions, the views of the Government of India, which were agreed to by the Mission, formed the basis of the conclusions which resulted from the discussions.

As regards supplies, while expressing their sympathy with the humanitarian aims of the U.N.R.R.A. and their readiness to render all possible help for the relief of distress, Government indicated that their policy was that purchases should be restricted to those goods, whether raw or manufactured, which were not in short supply and could be safely spared without causing hardship to the Indian consumer or adversely affecting the Indian economy.

### Not a Complete Picture

It was made clear during the discussions that the whole question of supplies would have to be reviewed periodically and the results of the present discussions should not be regarded as disclosing a final or complete picture of India's supply possibilities.

It was further emphasized that every endeavour should be made to regulate the purchase of relief materials in India in a manner which would best serve the economic interests of the country.

In the light of these considerations, the list of requirements of raw materials and manufactured goods presented by the Mission was examined and, after discussion, it was

agreed that the following goods of the approximate quantity and value mentioned below could be supplied to U.N.R.R.A.:

| Commodity         | Approximate Quantity | Approximate value (In lakhs of rupees) |
|-------------------|----------------------|----------------------------------------|
| Pepper            | 1,000 tons           | 15                                     |
| Tea               | 2½ million lbs.      | 22                                     |
| Raw Cotton        | 9,000 tons           | 125                                    |
| Cotton Waste      | 500 tons             | 3                                      |
| Raw Jute          | 10,000 tons          | 50                                     |
| Linseed           | 5,000 tons           | 17½                                    |
| Peanuts           | 70,000 tons          | 225                                    |
| Coir Yarn         | 150 tons             | 11                                     |
| Jute Manufactures | 20,000 tons          | 200                                    |

### Procurement Procedure

As regards the procurement procedure, it was decided that all purchases for or on behalf of U.N.R.R.A. in India should be made by the Government of India. It is the policy of U.N.R.R.A. to operate through the national purchase agencies to prevent dislocation of the national economy which might result from purchases by any other method.

The procedure laid down, in consultation with the Mission, provides that orders shall be placed on the Government of India after allocation has been made by the Combined Board, where necessary, and the Government of India shall be responsible for the purchase, handling and storage of the goods until they are finally loaded on the vessel.

### THIRD SESSION OF U.N.R.R.A. COUNCIL

The third session of the Council of the U.N.R.R.A. was held in London on August 7. The Far Eastern Committee is also meeting in London during the Council session.

The Government of India was represented at the meeting by the Hon'ble Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, Agent-General to the Government of India in Washington. Sir David Meek, Deputy High Commissioner for India in London, and Mr. W. B. England of the Office of the High Commissioner for India, London, were his alternatives.

Mr. Ahmad, Second Secretary to the Agent-General to the Government of India, Washington, was the Secretary of the Delegation.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## U.N.R.R.A. AND ITS MISSION

THE new world into which this war has flung us demands a new approach. Our twentieth century science and technology have confronted us with a categorical imperative. Our very lives depend upon our finding ways that are practical to supplant the outworn, static national isolationism of the 19th century with the dynamics of the 20th century international co-operation and interdependence.

By the Hon'ble Francis B. Sayre, Head of the U.N.R.R.A. Mission.

A Broadcast from A.I.R., Delhi, on July 27

If we try to build international peace and reconstruction, as we did before the war, upon national self-interest, no amount of pious aspiration for peace—no amount of extravagant good will be sufficient. History demands of us a new orientation—one that is global.

The way forward is clear. Humanity and not national self-interest must come first.

### Relief and Rehabilitation

But to-day, in the wake of the most destructive and disastrous war in history, we are confronted by a suffering humanity. There has never been anything like it before. Lasting security, no matter what overwhelming force may be at one's command, cannot be built upon hunger and destitution. The road to peace and reconstruction must be over the bridge of relief and rehabilitation.

The problem of relief to-day is necessarily one of world-wide scope. The needs are too gigantic and the problems of meeting them too complex—too far-reaching in their international ramifications—to permit their solution by any nation acting alone.

It has been estimated that in the 18-month period following the cessation of hostilities, Europe's needs exclusive of the Soviet Union may amount to approximately Rs. 300 million; and Asia's needs may be in excess of these. Obviously U.N.R.R.A. can meet a fractional part of these monumental needs. The peoples of the liberated nations in Europe and Asia intend themselves to take care of the great

bulk of their needs from their own indigenous resources.

U.N.R.R.A.'s assistance will represent probably less than two per cent. of the total relief and rehabilitation needs of the United Nations throughout the world. But this two per cent, while moderate from a financial viewpoint, is all-important, in that it represents relief supplies brought to people in particular areas where the destitution and need is most acute,—supplies in many cases unobtainable through ordinary channels because of world shortages of shipping and of supply. There must be shipments of seed, fertilizer and basic farm and fishing equipment, to enable destitute peoples to rehabilitate their food-supplying resources. Public utilities and smashed transportation systems present additional problems. Meanwhile, the millions of refugees and displaced persons who have been torn from their homes to serve as slave labour in Hitler's war machine must be assembled, fed and repatriated to take their rightful place in their homeland's re-constituted economy.

Very clearly, the only possible means of achieving such far-flung and monumental tasks is through the closest kind of international co-operation and through some well-planned international organisation. It was to meet these fundamental needs that representatives of the 44 United and Associated Nations met at the White House in Washington on November 9, 1943 and signed the basic agreement which called U.N.R.R.A. into existence. Immediately thereafter they adjourned to Atlantic City to hold the first U.N.R.R.A. Council meeting which would establish the fundamental policies and formulate the programme which U.N.R.R.A. must follow. U.N.R.R.A. thus became the first operating United Nations organisation actually functioning and at work.

### U. N. R. R. A.'s Composition

The organisation of U.N.R.R.A. is comparatively simple. The Council, which is U.N.R.R.A.'s governing body, is composed of one representative for each of the 44 member States. Each member State has one vote. India is a full fledged member, and was ably represented by Sir Girja Shankar Bajpai, both at the Atlantic City and at the Montreal Council meetings and on various U.N.R.R.A. committees.

The Council elects the Director-General to carry out the policies and programmes which it formulates; and the Director-General appoints such staff as is necessary to carry on the work. Upon this staff are men and women of almost every United Nations nationality. At the first Council meeting in Atlantic City, ex-Governor

Lehman of New York was unanimously chosen as Director-General.

At its first meeting, the Council laid down certain fundamental principles. First and foremost, U.N.R.R.A. is organised, not to import into liberated territories all the help they need, but to help people to help themselves. The bulk of the relief work in each country must be carried on by its own people.

U.N.R.R.A. is not a pauperizing agency. The fundamental objective is to help stricken people to their feet so that they can themselves produce relief goods and care for their relief needs. For instance, the importation of seeds and fertilizer and spare parts for agricultural machinery may mean more in the way of practical and far-reaching relief than large continued importations of food.

### Emergency Job

In the second place, U.N.R.R.A.'s task must be organized as strictly an emergency job. U.N.R.R.A. has neither the resources nor the means to engage in long-term, economic reconstruction. This vital task must be the work of other organisations. U.N.R.R.A.'s sole function is to do an emergency job—to help destitute victims of war so far as possible to overcome hunger sickness and physical want, and to help them get the wheels of industry and trade started once again.

In the third place, U.N.R.R.A. must never intrude itself in areas where its services are not desired. As soon as territories have been liberated from Axis armies, U.N.R.R.A. offers its relief services, but only at the request and with the consent of the military; and after the area has passed from military to civilian control, again U.N.R.R.A. offers its services only at the request and with the consent of the civilian government or recognised national authority.

Finally, U.N.R.R.A. is first and last a humanitarian organisation. The Council at Atlantic City laid it down in ringing terms that the distribution of relief and rehabilitation "in all its aspects" shall be "without discrimination because of race, creed or political belief". U.N.R.R.A. exists to meet, so far as possible, human need; and such factors as race or creed or political belief must never be allowed to determine the amount or the nature of U.N.R.R.A. relief.

U.N.R.R.A. is hard at work on many fronts. Until the end of June, U.N.R.R.A. delivered to liberated countries in Europe over one million and a quarter tons of relief supplies, valued at

some Rs. 769 million. These supplies came from every corner of the world, from Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, the United States and the United Kingdom. During the remaining months in 1945 these deliveries will be vastly accelerated. Our programme calls for the delivery between now and the end of the year of some 4 million tons, valued at over Rs. 2,700 million.

The need in Asia is probably even greater than that in Europe, and as soon as a supply port can be opened up in China it is U.N.R.R.A.'s hope to pour relief goods into China in increasing quantities. Already U.N.R.R.A. has a mission in Chungking, working out, in close co-operation with Chinese governmental officials, carefully planned programmes for relief activities in China.

In the Philippines U.N.R.R.A. promised a one million dollar emergency relief programme as soon as American troops drove out the Japanese and opened up the necessary ports. Already more than half of this has been shipped and U.N.R.R.A. representatives are now on their way to Manila to work on plans for additional relief.

### Gigantic Task

Do you catch something of the picture of the gigantic task which U.N.R.R.A. is seeking to perform? Reaching out to every corner of the world, U.N.R.R.A. is seeking contributions of surplus supplies to help to their feet peoples, through no fault of their own, made destitute by war. It seeks from member States, not supplies of which its own people are in need, but those produced in excess of the people's need which may prove a God-send to stricken peoples perhaps on the other side of the world. U.N.R.R.A. then undertakes to arrange for the transportation of such surplus supplies, in so far as shortages of shipping permit, to those areas where they will go farthest in meeting human need.

It is a world embracing task of uncommon difficulty, impeded and hindered by shortages of supplies, shortages of shipping, difficulties of inland transportation, political difficulties, military difficulties, and operational headaches. Nevertheless, U.N.R.R.A. is going forward. It is achieving and will achieve its humanitarian international task in spite of every difficulty. I rejoice that India is taking so vital a part in this supremely important task.

Our U.N.R.R.A. mission has come to India, first, to express to the Indian people our appreciation for the assistance which they are giving

in this great work. Second, our Mission seeks through discussions held with Indian Government Officials to ascertain what commodities India can best spare without dislocating its own economy or draining away resources needed by her own people.

Following our discussions, arrangements will be made for the procurement of such commodities by the Indian Government itself, so as to help relieve the needs of stricken people in the liberated territories elsewhere. I fully realise the needs of the Indian people themselves. I fully realize the conditions which the Indian people are facing. In our conversations here, we have made no requests for commodities which are in short supply or needed by the people of India.

To me it is inspiring that India, in spite of her own need, wants to participate in U.N.R.R.A.'s great humanitarian adventure. It is fresh evidence of the growing spirit of close international co-operation. The peoples of the world are beginning to realise that their highest national interests are served by seeking with steadfastness of purpose the common welfare of humanity.

### U.N.R.R.A. MISSION LEAVES INDIA

The members of the U.N.R.R.A. Mission left India for Cairo by air on July 29, except Mr. Gogate, who will remain in this country for some time to complete the work of the Mission.

Mr. Sayre, Head of the Mission, after stopping at Cairo for a couple of days, will proceed to London to attend the third meeting of the U.N.R.R.A. Council.

### MANUFACTURE OF VEGETABLE OIL

A Press Note issued by the Food Department, Government of India, on July 27 stated:

A notification published in the *Gazette of India* today prohibits the manufacture of any vegetable oil product which does not fulfil *inter alia*, the following conditions:—

- (1) It shall not contain any harmful colouring or flavouring matter.
- (2) It shall not have a moisture content of more than 0.25 per cent.
- (3) Free fatty acid shall not exceed 0.25 per cent.
- (4) Its taste shall be free from staleness or rancidity, and,
- (5) its melting point shall be between 31°C to 41°C.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## INDIA'S NUTRITIONAL REQUIREMENTS

"P"RODUCTION targets based on satisfactory estimates of the existing and potential production and the nutritional requirements of the population should be set up by provinces and States in close collaboration with the Government at the centre. In carrying out this task, due allowance must be made for all the factors in the situation." Thus states the Report of the Sub-Committee on Nutritional Requirements set up by the Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Indian Research Fund Association.

Nutrition workers in the country hold that the welfare of the people is so dependent on good nutrition, that Government must assume responsibility for assuring it by all the means in their power.

It is idle to suppose that any easy and immediate solution for a problem affecting 400 millions of people, for the most part poverty-stricken and illiterate, can easily be found. But at least a beginning can be made by the vigorous development of public health nutrition work and the formulation of a good policy which is based on the science of nutrition.

### Production Targets

Hitherto, the food policy had been concerned mainly with the supply of the minimum quantities of cereal grains needed to sustain the population at a low level of nutrition. It is necessary that consideration should be given to all the foods which are needed to make up a well-balanced and satisfactory diet, which is essential for the maintenance of good health.

The Committee further recommended that food and agricultural authorities should, in all their activities, strive towards one goal—the provision of a satisfactory diet for the entire population; that, as an immediate policy, emphasis may be laid on an increase in the production of fish and vegetables; that attention be paid to the education of the public to popularise the alternative cereals to rice, and to schemes for covering the special needs of "vulnerable groups," e.g. school-feeding, provision of milk to expectant and nursing mothers and young children etc., and that, as a long-term policy, untiring effort over a considerable period of years be made to attain the production targets, which indicate the direction in which advance should be made.

## FOOD MEMBER'S TRIBUTE TO FAMINE COMMISSION

At a party given by the Hon'ble Sir J. P. Srivastava in New Delhi on August 7 to Sir John Woodhead, Chairman of the Famine Commission, the Food Member paid a tribute to the members of the Commission on the completion of their tremendous task and their monumental work on the Indian food problem.

The Hon'ble Member said:

Your report on the Indian food problem is a monumental work. I use the word 'monumental' advisedly.

Your report on the Bengal famine which was published in May last, dealt mainly with the history and causes of the great famine of 1943—a famine which you were careful to point out resulted from a complicated series of events unparalleled in Indian history. I think I can safely say, from the Press reactions to that part of your report, that there has been a general recognition of the courage and realism with which you surveyed the Bengal disaster and analysed the causes that led to it.

Your final Report dealing with the food problem in India as a whole has just been received and will, I understand, be in the hands of the Press in two or three weeks' time. You have surveyed food administration in India during the war and made recommendations on the policy to be worked after the war. You have discussed the problem of population, which you estimate is likely to increase by 100 million in the next 25 years, and its bearing on food supply and have attempted to define the problem of nutrition. You have also examined agriculture in the country, its land tenure problems, agricultural prices, rural credit, rural employment—to see to what extent it is organised to be capable of realising the possibilities of developing agricultural production by the application of scientific knowledge and technical resources.

### State Responsibility

Finally, you have dealt with the question of State responsibility for providing food for the people. Since the establishment of British rule in India, the only responsibility clearly recognised by the Government in this matter of food has been to protect people against famine.

In the conditions created by the war it has had to be recognised that one of the fundamental duties of the Government is to see that

people get both an adequate quantity of food and a balanced diet, matter to which I made a reference in the course of my speech in the third food debate in the Central Assembly in November last. It was necessary that the whole food economy of India should be authoritatively examined in the light of this new obligation of the Government.

One of the most valuable parts of your work has been to work out the implications of this responsibility in the improvement of food production and nutrition in the country. If India is to take an honourable place among the progressive nations of the world, she must try and build up a healthy and vigorous people. I have no hesitation in saying that your Report, which brings out the problems involved in their true proportions and perspective, will help to lay the foundations of this great national endeavour.

## RICE POSITION IN INDIA IMPROVES

All reports tend to confirm that, as regards rice, India is now on a strong wicket. Bounteous nature and control measures effectively applied by the Provincial and Central Food Administrations have converted Bengal—the famine area of 1943—into a surplus rice province in the current year.

Large stocks of paddy to be harvested in August–September will be available for export to deficit areas in India, and one report suggests that the U.P. Government has already accepted an offer of 25,000 tons at a price to be fixed after negotiations between the two governments.

In view of the improved rice position, the Central Food Department has been able to increase the rice quotas of Bombay and Bihar by 10,000 and 5,300 tons respectively, and, for similar reasons, Travancore has agreed to surrender 38,000 tons from its present rice stocks to meet the urgent demands of other areas.

Meanwhile, storage construction progresses steadily and arrangements have been made for the procurement and storage of a Central rice—paddy reserve in C.P. amounting to about 70,000 tons in terms of rice.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.



The laboratory of a South Indian leather factory, where tests are carried out and materials analysed.

## THE ROLE OF SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH

**“THE real spirit of scientific research contributes more to international understanding than anything else. It drives away dogmas narrow ideas of autonomy and wrong notions of racial and religious superiority just as light succeeds in banishing darkness.”** said Sir Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar in a recent broadcast on “The Role of Scientific and Industrial Research” from the Delhi Station of A.I.R.

**Sir S. S. Bhatnagar's Broadcast** birth rate, which sounds ominous, India can produce enough to feed her teeming millions and more, provided her raw materials and agricultural, and industrial resources are properly harnessed for her economic prosperity.

“Even a short step towards better living will influence the birth rate in the right direction, and the two processes—decreasing birth rate and increasing prosperity—if pursued skilfully and scientifically, will put India on an ascending curve of material progress.

“Our inability to come to a satisfactory decision amongst ourselves over the political issue,” said Sir S. S. Bhatnagar, “is extremely disheartening; but it has never shaken my faith that a new India is in the process of making and that nothing can stop it. This belief is the outcome of a growing conviction in me that in spite of a constant reported increase in her

“Our country is now in the grip of a struggle between medievalism and modernism. I wish this struggle could enter every phase of our activity, in politics, in science, in agriculture, in industry and in our social life so that we may emerge from this strife into a new life full of

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.



hope and vigour and into an honoured place in the comity of civilised nations. Nothing can help us more in rapidly modernising ourselves than the pursuit of scientific and industrial research on a really extensive scale.

"Scientific and industrial research in this country is a virgin and fertile field of study. India's raw materials and resources have not even been properly surveyed and, although one is reasonably certain that nature has been benevolent to us in her gifts, we do not have even a rough quantitative idea of the possibilities of developing our basic industries.

"The Geological Survey, the Botanical, the Zoological, the Agricultural and the Forest Survey are all commendable as far as they go at present, but they require considerable strengthening and a quickening of pace. Not until then can there be a change in the outlook of workers in this field which is necessary for any real development.

"Incomplete and ill-conceived surveys are like small quantities of quinine prescribed by shy and inexperienced doctors to patients suffering from chronic malaria. They do not eradicate the disease. The dormant trouble persists, even though the treatment advocated gives some sort of satisfaction to the family and friends of the patients who begin to feel that something is being done after all. The application of science to Indian problems must not continue to be so miserly or ill-conceived.

### Hydro-Electricity

"There is a growing concern that India does not possess sufficient quantities of some of the more important raw materials, such as petroleum and cooking coal on which the U.S.A., the U.S.S.R., and every other modern industrial State have built their economy. These fears can be allayed only by either our geologists and prospecting engineers establishing new avenues and new resources, or by our scientists developing methods of providing substitutes or of prolonging the lives of our present finds by judicious physico-chemical processing.

"The paucity of our resources for thermal generation of power irresistibly suggests the need for harnessing our water-ways and rivers for generating hydro-electricity. It is a pleasing sign to note that the Government has, at long last, moved in the matter and indigenous and foreign experts are now engaged on projects for rapidly developing the Sone and the Damodar valleys in order to obtain more power for Indian industry and Indian agriculture.



Sera and vaccines for Army and civilian use are produced at the Central Research Institute, Kasauli. Picture shows vaccine ampoules being sealed with a blow pipe.

"Another fuel in which India is deeply interested is food. Thermodynamically speaking, the final balance of intake and output of energy by an animal body is similar to that of a heat engine, and it is necessary to correlate the calories of energy supplied by a food with the work which an animal is capable of doing.

### Role of Vitamins

"The chief oxidisable components of foods are carbohydrates, fats and proteins. Science has discovered that small quantities of matter such as vitamins also play an important role in animal nutrition and metabolism. Thus it has been possible, by the aid of scientific and industrial research, to prepare food material and drugs which have succeeded in banishing a number of deficiency diseases such as rickets, neurosis, scurvy, and, to some extent, tuberculosis, and even diabetes, which has recently been reported to yield positive results with vitamin B.

"India needs not only more food but better food. If science is given a chance in a really

big way, India can make substantial and useful contributions in this field. Hardly any steps have been taken yet to utilise all our existing sources. There are huge quantities of tapioca and sweet potato starches which have been hardly touched. The use of molasses for cattle feeding has attracted little attention and a huge scope exists for scientific research on fodders.

"When scientific and industrial research gets into stride and a national outlook dominates, all our administrative machinery will have to be diverted to the solution of these important problems which were considered as of no priority in the past.

"There is no wonder that these and other minor causes led to the terrible famine of 1943. Factors such as corruption, hurricanes and floods, loss of rice owing to the Japanese occupation of Burma and presence of foreign troops and, above all, our ever-rising population cannot be ignored; but the basic fact remains that science had not been harnessed by us for the production of sufficient food. Nor were movement controls and the utilisation of all edible products scientifically explored. Not enough money is available even now for such investigations. The people and the Government are just beginning to wake up to realities, and we may hope for an early improvement.

### Political Parties and Planning

"It is essential that the politically active parties in the country should devote more attention to subjects which involve a thorough knowledge of economics and applied science. Recently, Press reports have appeared to show that patriotic organisations in the country are going to take more interest in the problems of development and planning and that Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru is actively engaged in reviving his Planning Committee. I have no doubt that both scientists and economists will rise to the occasion and will give a helping hand to those who are trying to solve these problems.

"In post-war reconstruction there will be a great demand for more houses. Our housing problems in India are somewhat different from those in Europe and America. In these countries, science has already determined the standard of housing that will enable people to live healthy lives. Attention is now being concentrated there to apply scientific knowledge to the design and construction of better houses at less cost. Science is entering the house as well as the kitchen, and problems of ventilation without draft, provision for letting in the vital rays of the sun and cutting of the harmful rays and the removal of drudgery from house

and kitchen work are being successfully tackled.

"In this country we are just beginning to realise that housing has a scientific aspect. Patriotic societies interested in village welfare work have done useful work by providing cheap cottages for workers. While wholeheartedly commending their very laudable efforts, I cannot help feeling that these workers are not in touch with the new materials and designs which have been evolved in other countries. They are not in touch even with the scientific work which has been done in this country, and it is necessary that there should be a meeting ground so that their enthusiasm may carry science into the poor man's house.

### Cellulosic Wastes

"The Council of Scientific and Industrial Research is devoting some attention to the utilisation of cellulosic wastes in this country for making cheap building boards and to the problem of water-proofing straw, wood and other constructional materials and to rendering them proof against white ant attacks. From paucity of laboratory space and monies, more intensive work has not been possible, but the Council is seriously considering the question of setting up a building research station and a road research organisation.

"Other departments of the Government, such as the War Transport Department, are co-operating with us. I have no doubt that the use of raw materials available in this country and the utilisation of new products produced by research in other countries and in India can be of great assistance to the social worker and the Government in their attempt to provide cheap houses for the villagers and labour-saving houses for the citizen. Ignorance of facts should not be allowed to come in the way of our progress.

### Health and Medicine

"On the question of health and medicine, nobody could object to the use of indigenous medicines. Some of the Indian drugs now feature in the world pharmacopoeia. We should, however, use the resources of science to raise these medicines to their proper place. There have been great advances in therapeutics, maternity and child welfare, surgery and the rehabilitation of the injured. One has just to recall such names as penicillin, DDT and sulphonamides to realise how very rapidly the science of drugs is advancing.

"Howsoever costly national health schemes may be, no Government can afford to allow things as they are and I have no doubt that such schemes will eventually pay their way. Co-operation and co-ordination between the Scientific and Industrial Research and the Medical and Health Departments will have to be special features of the India to come. In the past, such liaison has been superficial and therefore somewhat unreal.

"The organisation of fundamental and applied research in the new India will have to be on a realistic basis. I agree with Sir Richard Gregory that 'it is no longer possible or desirable to separate pure and applied research workers into teams of "Gentlemen" versus "Players" in the sense in which these words are commonly used. They must continue to be dependent and inter-dependent on each other.

### Research in Universities

"Enlightened industrialists in England and America are great believers in fundamental research and even a severely practical firm such as the I.C.I. have decided to put up a laboratory for fundamental and speculative research. This type of research will, however, continue to flourish as in the past mainly in their University laboratories and our Universities must be provided, in the new India, with sufficient funds so that they can cope with the great task that lies before them.

"Scientific research has been starved in most Indian Universities for want of money and support from authorities. The whole outlook on scientific work requires a drastic change. My experience has shown that the Indian Universities have done well under some Vice-Chancellors and badly under some others. The selection and election to these important offices should not be determined on communal and narrow provincial considerations. The best men of the country should be given the task of improving and guiding our University life.

### Industry and Research

"Industry itself is becoming research-minded and it is to be hoped that expenditure on research will soon be rendered income-tax free, so that research association laboratories may spring up in this country in large numbers. A network of national laboratories will have to be spread all over the country so that every phase of our industrial activity may receive the most up-to-date and expert advice.

194

"Steps have already been taken to bring into being a Central Glass and Ceramic Research Institute at Calcutta, a Central Fuel Research Station at Dhanbad, a National Chemical Laboratory at Poona, a National Metallurgical Laboratory at Tatanagar and a National Physical Laboratory at Delhi.

"Many more research institutes for specific industries will have to be brought into being. Amongst those under active consideration may be mentioned a Central Food Technological Institute, a Building Research Laboratory, a Road Research Institute, a Shipbuilding Research Laboratory, a Radio Research Institute, and many others which are described fully in the report of the Shanmukham Chetty Committee which was appointed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research.

"An extensive programme of agricultural research has been proposed by the Agricultural Research Council, and they have recommended the establishment of a large number of commodity laboratories which will deal with agricultural products of economic interest.

### Basic Industries

"I will now turn to our basic and heavy industries and their position in a new India. There is sometimes a tendency to lay the blame on the scientist for the non-existence of basic industries in India. As far as the establishment of these industries is concerned, the onus lies on the industrialists and the State. The scientists can suggest where to look for machinery, material and technical talent, but very little is required by way of research in the initial stages, as all that is needed has already been accomplished.

"Research will be of help after these industries have been brought into being. They are, however, essential, as the results of many researchers cannot be applied on a large scale unless the heavy engineering and the basic chemical industries exist in this country. No applied research can yield spectacular results unless the basic and heavy industries help in the utilisation of much research on a really large scale.

"According to Sir Joseph Barcroft, 'the progress of science is incalculable, the wind bloweth whither it listeth, but we can rely upon its continuing to blow, and if, as a minimum, we assume that it will continue in its present direction, we may project the past into the near or less near future.'

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## RS. 774 CRORES DEFENCE EXPENDITURE IN 1943-44

### Military Accounts Committee

#### Meeting

The Military Accounts Committee, which examines, on behalf of the Central Legislature, the Appropriate Accounts of the Defence Services, began on August 8 its examination of the accounts relating to the year 1943-44 under the chairmanship of the Hon. Sir Archibald Rowlands, Finance Member, Government of India. The members of the Committee are Maulvi Mohammad Abdul Ghani, Pandit Lakshmi Kanta Maitra, Kumar Hajee Ismaiel Ali Khan and Sir Cyril Jones, Secretary, Finance Department.

The total expenditure in India (including capital expenditure) on account of Defence Services and supplies during 1943-44 amounted to Rs. 774 crores compared to Rs. 565 crores in 1942-43 and Rs. 289 crores in 1941-42. India's share of this expenditure amounted to Rs. 327 crores against Rs. 259 crores and Rs. 95 crores in the previous two years. The rest of the expenditure was, in accordance with the financial settlement, borne by His Majesty's Government.

The actuals of effective expenditure for the year exceeded the budget estimates by almost 100 per cent, the chief reasons for this large variation being the unexpected course taken by the war which resulted in the Japanese invasion of India towards the end of the year and certain unforeseen adjustments on account of motor vehicles imported from Canada.

### Supply Department's Activities

The Committee met on August 9 and concluded its examination of the Appropriation Accounts of the Defence Services for 1943-44. It paid special attention to the activities of the Supply Department.

There has been a progressive decline from 1943-44 in the value of contracts for war supplies placed by this Department. This is due partly to the improvement in the war situation and partly to the Government's decision to release capacity to the maximum extent possible for civil production to maintain the internal economy of the country.

Following the progressive reduction in the volume of war supplies, closer liaison is being

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

established between the Supply Department and other Central Departments and other Provincial Governments to achieve reconversion to peace production. Larger quantities of steel and cement have been released for civil use and the wartime restrictions on imports of capital goods, machine tools and other items required from overseas for civil production in India have been eased very considerably.

Various measures have been adopted to increase the production of coal in the country among which are the recruitment of a labour force of 30,000 men, a special depreciation allowance on new equipment necessary for the maintenance or increase of coal production, an E.P.F.-free bonus when production exceeds a target figure and the mechanisation of 'near-surface' coal quarrying, financed and operated by Government.

### UNIVERSITY GRANTS COMMITTEE

The Government of India in the Department of Education, Health and Lands, have set up a University Grants Committee consisting of the following persons:

(1) Sir Mirza Ismail, K.C.I.E., O.B.E., Prime Minister, Jaipur State (Chairman); (2) Mrs. S. N. Ray, M.L.A. (Central), Member; (3) Sir V. N. Chandavarkar, M.A., Barrister-at-Law, M.L.A., (Central), Member, and (4) Dr. W. A. Jenkins, D.Sc., C.I.E., I.E.S. (Retd.), Member. One of the Assistant Educational Advisers to the Government will be the Secretary of the Committee.

The Committee has been appointed for a period of five years and will deal, in the first instance, in a consultative and advisory capacity with the Universities which are central subjects, viz, Aligarh Muslim, Benares Hindu and Delhi Universities.

The Committee will make enquiries and recommendations regarding (i) the lines on which the Universities should develop, (ii) the additional amounts in the form of grants-in-aid from public funds required for them, and (iii) the co-ordination of their activities with a view to avoiding unnecessary overlapping.

195

## GURKHA SOLDIER'S "EPIC" V.C.

### Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung

INDIA'S 31st V.C. of the war has been won by Rifleman Gurung, 8th Gurkha Rifles, of Dakhani village, Tanhu district, Nepal, for "gallant and extreme devotion to duty in the face of almost overwhelming odds" at Taung-daw, on the west bank of the Irrawaddy.

Lachhiman Gurung has, in fact, revived the memory of the great hero of the *Ramayana*, a venerated Hindu epic in which Lakshman, the warrior prince of ancient Hindustan, stayed fighting on the field of battle, even after he had been seriously wounded, until he fell unconscious.

At a critical time, when his company was being subjected to determined Jap attacks, the fingers of Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung's right hand were blown away by a grenade and his face and right arm were severely injured. He carried on firing his rifle with his left hand, remaining alone at his post, waiting with perfect calm for each attack for four hours afterwards.

### Fanatical Attacks Repulsed

Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung's platoon was surrounded for three days and two nights. Inspired by his courage, his comrades held their posts and beat back every attack; out of 87 enemy killed 31 lay in front of the position held by his section.

Before attacking, the Japs hurled innumerable grenades at the position, two of which were picked up and hurled back by Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung as they fell. It was while holding a third grenade that he was seriously wounded.

Disregarding his injuries, he loaded and fired his rifle with his left hand and maintained a continuous and steady rate of fire as the enemy, screaming and shouting, formed up shoulder to shoulder to rush the position. Wave after wave of fanatical attacks were thrown in by the Japs, but all were repulsed with heavy casualties.

"At the worst moments of the action I repeatedly thought of my namesake in the holy book," said Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung afterwards.



Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung, V.C.

As he rests now in hospital at Moradabad, (U.P.) Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung has one regret—he will never be allowed to fight again.

His right hand has been amputated and the sight of his left eye is gone as a result of wounds suffered in the action which won him the supreme award. But the little Gurkha—he is short even for a Gurkha—is still undaunted and wants to carry on.

Barely five feet tall, the 28-year-old V.C. had been in action just two months when he was wounded and had to fall out of line. His face puckered with worry as he told me how he wanted to fight on, not only for his own sake, but also to make up for his four brothers, who had had to stay back home to till the lands, writes an Army Observer.

Before joining up about four years ago, Lachhiman Gurung promised his brothers that he would "do enough" for everybody. His erect bearing and the quiet, determined look in his face immediately mark him as a worthy member of a great fighting race.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

His right hand gone, he saluted by bowing stiffly. He is shortly to go to an artificial limb expert and then to an eye specialist for an operation which may restore his sight.

Talking of his boyhood he recalled the evenings when he used to hear the family priest reading out extracts from the Holy *Ramayana* in which is recorded the epic of his namesake, Lakshman, who established the heroic tradition of valour in battle which Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung has so faithfully imulated.

### C-IN-C.'s CONGRATULATIONS

Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, C-in-C. has sent his "warmest congratulations" to the Maharaja of Nepal, on the award of the Victoria Cross to Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung. "This further V.C.," says the C-in-C., "the tenth to be won by Gurkhas in this war and the first by his regiment, gives me as well as the whole Indian Army the greatest pleasure."

To the Officer Commanding the 8th Gurkha Rifles, Gen. Auchinleck has wired, "I send the battalion my heartiest congratulations on the award of the V.C. to Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung. Please convey my personal congratulations to him."

In a message to the Commandant, 8th Gurkha Rifles Regimental Centre, His Excellency says of Rifleman Lachhiman Gurung: "His sheer courage and magnificent single-handed effort in the face of almost overwhelming odds was undoubtedly the main cause of the defeat of the enemy. I am delighted that he survived to receive his reward—the highest any soldier can be given."

### FIRST MADRASSI PARACHUTISTS

The first all-Madrassi unit of parachutists of an airborne formation have just completed their training and today they are proudly displaying their wings, to earn which they jumped seven times, including once by night and twice fully equipped.

"Their average performance has been fully up to the standard of others," says the I.R. Commandant.

This unit, together with Maharattas of the same formation, has successfully competed with infantry battalions as regards smartness of turn-out and arms drill.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## BOY HERO OF BURMA



### Norman Richardson

A boy hero of the evacuation of Burma is today being trained in the Royal Indian Navy to hit back at the Japanese.

Norman G. Richardson, who is now learning to be a sailor in H.M.I.S. *Dilawar*, the R.I.N. boys' training establishment at Karachi, brought three of his brothers and sisters to safety over 100 miles of the land route from Burma when the Japs were overrunning the country in May 1942. He was then only 13½ years old.

His mother, Mrs. A. M. Richardson, of Lashio, had died at Nathkaw in the Hukawng Valley but Norman Richardson took charge of the family. He carried an 11-months-old baby until it died a week later. At each camp he secured rations for his party before going back several miles to help his aged grandmother.

For his devotion and high sense of public duty, Norman Richardson received the thanks of the Government of India from Mr. M. S. Aney, Member of the Viceroy's Executive Council.

197



## FOOD AND CLOTHES FOR WAR PRISONERS

### Work of Indian Comforts Fund

**T**HAT more than 2,000 returned Indian prisoners of war in Britain have been "serviced" by the Indian Comforts Fund and that the organisation has been in touch with other possible channels of evacuation via the Mediterranean area is revealed in the quarterly report of the Fund, covering the period January 29 to April 28, 1945.

23,000 Indian food parcels were packed for Indian prisoners of war during the period January 29 to February 24, 1945; while during the war altogether 1,672,579 Indian weekly food parcels have been packed, including 813,415 by the British Red Cross.

Released Indian seamen of the Merchant Navy reaching Britain are receiving a complete civilian outfit from the Ship-wrecked Mariners' Society. Leave parties of returned P.O.W's, while in London, visit India House each week and are shown the work of the Fund. They express gratitude for all that has been done for them during their captivity.

### Work at India House

Bevin Boys who visit London regularly after arrival to see the sights are given lunch by the I.C.F. and are shown the work at India House.

The report discloses that, since D-Day, more Indian seamen have been in British home waters than before. In and around the ports of Liverpool and Glasgow there have been generally anything from 2,000 to 4,000 seamen in each case.

During the period under review, the Fund supplied 9,643 seamen's bundles. It also helped by meeting the expenses of entertainments to 1,099 seamen at Birkenhead, Glasgow and Coatbridge.

Books, hair-oil, gramophone records and other articles that could not be sent to Geneva recently were diverted to the camps in Britain. The welfare of the Indian General Hospital concerns the Fund closely.

The Food Packing Centre was closed down on May 1, under instructions from the War Organisation Red Cross and St. John. Mrs. Amery in a personal letter to all workers thanking them for the splendid work they have done for India, says:

"There is one thing I want you always to know and that is how infinitely worthwhile every hour of your work has been. No one can tell how far-reaching will be the kindly thoughts you have packed with your parcels, often in weariness and always with skill and cheerfulness, not only to the prisoners of war in their dark hours, but to the better understanding between us all in the future."

### Woollen Garments

The Reception Unit was supplied with 3,000 next of kin clothing parcels during the quarter. On receipt of information from the Reception Unit that they had received sufficient (11,000) for all purposes, no more despatches were made, leaving a small reserve of 250 parcels for emergencies. The department then proceeded to pack woollen garments for the Indian troops of the 14th Army.

Purchases of woollen material up to £6000 have been made and consignments are being sent down to the Army Comforts Depot at Reading for despatch. Following Lady Wavell's request in August last for help with woollen garments in the field, 27,000 gifts were received in December and 23,000 in April—record months in themselves—each exceeding the total number of gifts received during the whole of 1943-44.

The balance in favour of the Fund on April 30, 1945, was £24,590, of which £10,296 is Indian Red Cross money for prisoners of war. A sum of £741 was received during April from the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund as the quota for Indian Comforts Fund for the quarter ended December 30, 1944.

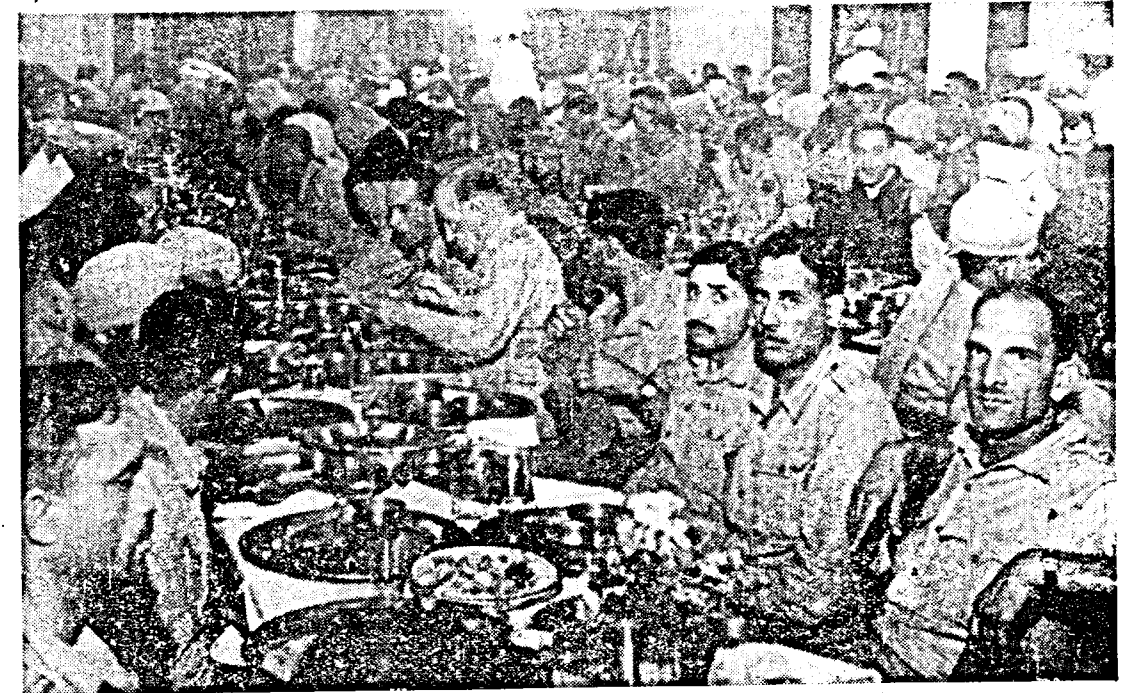
### PRISONERS' NEXT OF KIN MUST GIVE ADDRESSES

Next of kin of prisoners in Jap hands should ensure that their addresses are notified to the appropriate authority, says a note issued by the Adjutant-General's Branch at G.H.Q. (India).

Unless the correct authority is aware of relatives' up-to-date addresses, information regarding prisoners cannot be passed promptly.

All next of kin resident in India or Ceylon of prisoners of war and individuals reported missing, and of those believed to be prisoners, should ensure that their addresses, stating clearly their relationship, are registered with the appropriate authority.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.



Sir Seth Hukamchand gave a dinner to V.C.O.s repatriated recently from German prisoner of war camps, at the Yeshwant Club, Indore.

## WELCOME TO RETURNING PRISONERS OF WAR

V.C.O.s arriving in India after being prisoners of war in Europe are being given an enthusiastic welcome. Parties have been lavishly entertained at Mhow, their first stop after disembarkation at Bombay, and recently many of them were given a great reception at Indore, in Holkar State.

The Resident for Central India, Col. Campbell, was "at home" to the men at Residency Hall. Visits to the textile mills of Indore were arranged and each V.C.O. received gifts of cloth.

One party of 160 V.C.O.s accompanied by Maj.-Gen. R. A. Savory, of G.H.Q. (India) and Brig. Filose, of Mhow, attended a tea given by the Resident at Daly College. A sight-seeing tour of Indore was arranged for the evening, followed by a dinner given by Sir Hukamchand at the Yeshwant Club, which was attended by over 300 guests.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

Welcoming the V.C.O.s, the Resident paid a tribute to their gallant service. The Prime Minister of Indore, Raja Gyan Nath, said that it was the wish of the Maharaja of Holkar that no effort should be spared in entertaining troops who have served the country so gallantly, and who have made such a valuable contribution to the victory in Europe.

The V.C.O.s' appreciation was expressed by their senior officer, who said that the warm welcome they had received had already made them forget the terrible sufferings and privations they had undergone during their imprisonment in Germany.

### Rs. 4,50,000 FOR TROOPS' AMENITIES

H.E. the Viceroy has sanctioned a grant of Rs. 4,50,000 from the War Purposes Fund to the Commander-in-Chief, Allied Land Forces, South-East Asia for amenities for British Indian and Colonial troops under his command.

199



Nawab Mushtaq Ahmed Gurmani

## DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF RESETTLEMENT

**T**HE Governor-General in Council is pleased to appoint, for a period of five years, Nawab Mushtaq Ahmed Gurmani as Director-General of Resettlement and Employment in the Department of Labour, said a Press communique issued on July 14 by the Labour Department, Government of India.

It added: The Director-General will be the head of the Resettlement and Employment Organisation. He will supervise, co-ordinate and direct the work of both the Central and Regional Sections of the Organisation and will maintain close contact with the Departments of the Central Government and with the Provincial and Indian States Governments with a view to bringing about co-ordination of measures connected with resettlement and employment. Although the primary function of the Organisation will be to facilitate the resettlement and employment of demobilised members of the Armed Forces and discharged war-workers, it is hoped that it will develop into a permanent employment service closely integrated with the economic policies directed towards achieving full employment and higher living standards for the people of India.

200

## COMMITTEE TO CONSIDER V.C.O.'s STATUS

The Committee which is considering the reorganisation of the Indian Army after the war, under the presidency of Lieut.-Gen. Sir Henry Wilcox, K.C.I.E., C.B., D.S.O., M.C., has been examining, on general lines, the question of the future status of the Viceroy Commissioned Officer.

The Committee has made considerable progress in its examination of the matter in its relation to the larger question of the organisation and composition of the army, and, after taking considerable evidence, has reached certain general conclusions.

The Commander-in-Chief has decided that, in order to continue the examination of this important subject in greater detail, it is necessary to set up a Supplementary Committee for the special purpose of carrying to a conclusion the work already done by the Reorganisation Committee.

### Personnel

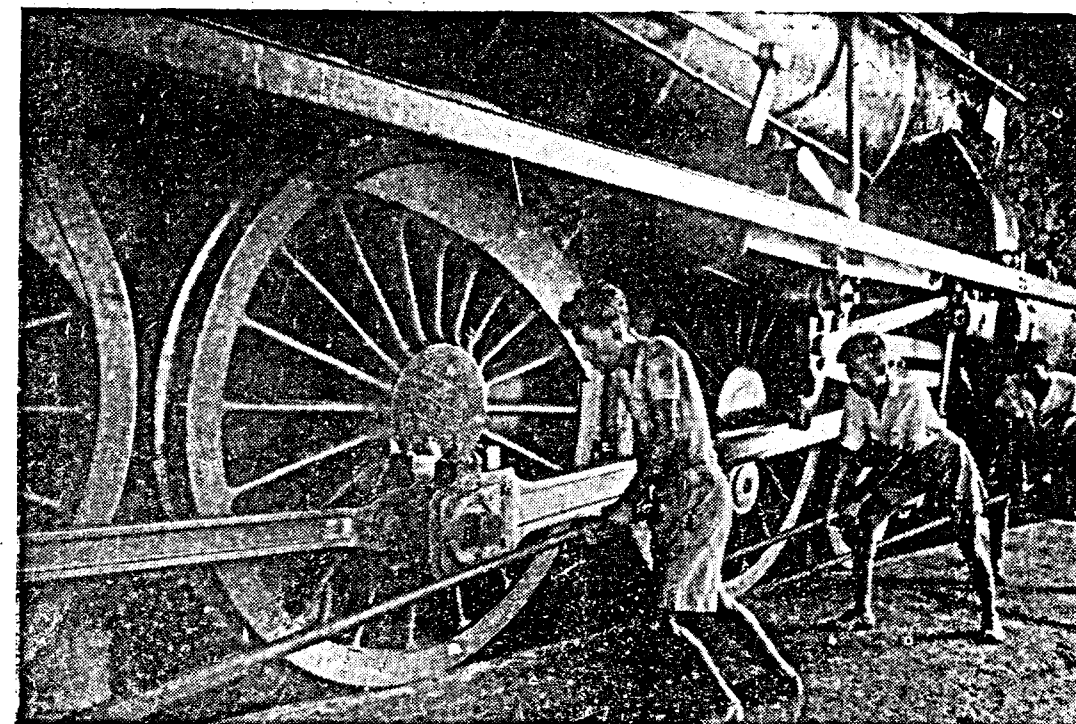
This Committee, which will be called the "Committee to enquire into the status and future of the Viceroy Commissioned Officer of the Indian Army," will begin its work at the point reached by the Reorganisation Committee, and will consist of Maj.-Gen. H. R. Briggs as President, Col. Mohd Akbar, R.I.A.S.C., as Deputy President, and Lt.-Cols. S. J. H. Green, 13th Frontier Force Rifles, and J. N. Chaudhuri, 16th Light Cavalry, and Major Kumaraman-galam, Indian Artillery, as members.

It will be assisted by an advisory panel of Viceroy Commissioned Officers, representative of all the major branches of the Army and of the classes chiefly enlisted in the Army.

The Supplementary Committee will take evidence from officers and all ranks of the Army and from members of the public, and will consult any authority whose evidence or opinion is likely to help in arriving at a satisfactory solution of the problem.

The servants and the public of the Manavadar State have generously contributed a sum of Rs. 1,722/- to H.E. the Viceroy's War Purposes Fund.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.



A locomotive overhauled in an Indian railway workshop is undergoing the process of 'wheeling'.

## RAILWAY ROLLING STOCK PROGRAMME APPROVED

**T**HE Railway Standing Finance Committee met on July 23 and 24, under the chairmanship of Mr. A. C. Turner, Financial Commissioner of Railways. They approved of a rolling stock programme involving a total expenditure of Rs. 23.57 crores in 1946-47, out of which Rs. 19 crores represented throw-forward.

The new items, the aggregate cost of which is estimated at Rs. 4.57 crores, are: 20 locomotives; 181 boilers; 983 carriages; 219 wagons; and 1 steamer. Out of these, 14 boilers and 128 carriages are additions, and the remaining are all on replacement account.

The construction of carriages is subject to the availability of timber and also of underframes, except where stock will be built on old underframes. Priority will be given to lower class stock. Of the 1923 carriages (in terms of four-wheelers), 128 will be electric multiple-unit suburban stock and 765 ordinary lower class stock.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

Among other items which the Committee approved were the machinery programme for 1946-47 involving Rs. 217 lakhs and the exercise of Government's option to purchase the Sara-Sirajganj Railway in September 1946.

### Earnings and Expenditure

The Committee were informed of the latest position of Railway earnings and expenditure, which showed that the latest estimate of gross earnings of all budget lines for the financial year ending March 31, 1945, is Rs. 215.09 crores, Rs. 29.60 crores more than the actuals for the previous year and Rs. 0.55 crores more than the revised budget estimate. The total approximate ordinary working expenses up to the end of February 1945 were Rs. 90.24 crores.

For the first three months of the current financial year ending June 30, 1945, the gross earnings were approximately Rs. 56.18 crores, which is Rs. 5.90 crores more than the actuals for the corresponding period of the previous year. The total approximate ordinary working expenses for April amounted to Rs. 8.23 crores, which is Rs. 1.13 crores more than the actuals of the corresponding period of the previous year.

201

## SEA AND AIR PASSAGE FROM INDIA

**A** Press Note issued by the Defence Department, Government of India, on August 7 stated:

As there still seems to be some misunderstanding, the procedure to be adopted by those desiring sea or air passages ex-India is explained below:

Applications for priority sea passages to the United Kingdom must be made on Form "A", copies of which are obtainable from travel agents or direct from the Civil Passage Controller, Defence Department, New Delhi.

As regards Key Leave (sea or air) officials should apply through the normal official channels. Non-officials should apply to the National Service Advisory Committee of their area. Families of persons granted Key Leave, whether by sea or air, are entitled to sea passage on the same priority. Families can sail in advance if desired and if shipping is available.

### Sea Passage to U.S.A.

Applications for sea passages to the United States of America should be made, in the first instance, to the Civil Passage Controller who will send the necessary forms for completion. After allotting priority, the Civil Passage Controller will submit the forms to the U.S. Transportation Authority. Passages for civilians to the United States of America are at present very limited.

Applications for sea passages to Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Egypt and the Persian Gulf, by or on behalf of persons travelling on Government duty, should be made through official channels to the Civil Passage Controller.

Persons travelling on private business should apply to a travel agent.

Applications for air passages ex-India (other than Key Leave) for passages for business reasons should be made to the Civil Secretary, Air Priorities Board (India), New Delhi, through the Commerce Department or Department of Industries and Civil Supplies. Others may apply direct.

Applications from the families of Service personnel should be made to the nearest naval, military or Royal Air Force Headquarters.

All civilians intending to leave India are advised to get into touch with a travel agent

or shipping company's agent as early as possible after deciding to apply for a passage. The function of the agents is to provide passage tickets, baggage labels and general assistance, also advice regarding baggage scales, censorship, money, etc., and to call passengers to the port of embarkation.

The chain of responsibility in the allotment of sea passages to the United Kingdom is as follows:

The Civil Controller allots priority on application. The Deputy Civil Passage Controller, Bombay, maintains a waiting list in order of priority and serial numbers. The Sea Transport Authority notifies the Deputy Civil Passage Controller, Bombay, when shipping space becomes available. On receipt of this information the Deputy Civil Passage Controller, Bombay, sends the requisite number of names from the top of his waiting list to the Shipping Company's Agent who is operating the vessel. The shipping Company's agent arranges, either direct or through a travel agent, to call passengers to the port of embarkation. Normally, 10 days embarkation notice is given to passengers.

Inquiries regarding the allotment of priority should be addressed to the Civil Passage Controller. All other inquiries should be addressed to travel Agents. These firms are in constant touch with the Deputy Civil Passage Controller, Bombay; and with the Sea Transport authorities and are consequently in the best position to advise passengers regarding their chances of embarkation and to arrange berthing requirements.

### CIVILIAN PASSAGES TO U.K.

Three hundred and seventy civilian passengers sailed to the United Kingdom, during June last, under Defence Department's Priority Passages Scheme, said a Press Note issued by the Defence Department, Government of India, on August 1.

It added: Two vessels which were to have sailed in that month were detained in connection with war requirements until the first week in July. Consequently, a number of high priority passengers who normally embark in the month of allotment were detained until the first week in July.

(Continued on page 203)

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## POSTAL SERVICE TO LIBERATED AREAS

**H**ERE are some of the latest notifications issued by the Director General, Posts and Telegraphs, Government of India:

Numerous inquiries are being received about postal services to territories recently liberated by the Allies.

It is obviously impossible to avoid an interval between the liberation of a territory and the establishment of communications with it. Arrangements for postal link-up in such cases are made as speedily as possible and a number of media are employed to inform the public as soon as communication is established, including postal notices and Press and radio announcements.

Such announcements have already been made about mail communications with Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Greece, Holland, Italy, Luxemburg and Rumania.

In the case of Burma, the Philippines, Guam, the Dodecanese Islands, the Channel Islands, Finland, Norway, Denmark and Yugoslavia, arrangements for resuming postal communication are under way and the resumption of service is expected to be notified shortly.

Postal service to countries not mentioned above will, it is hoped, be resumed with the least possible delay.

With effect from July 12 the rates of postage on air mail correspondence posted in India for members of His Majesty's Forces serving overseas have been reduced. The reduced rates of postage are shown below:—

Post cards, 9 pies (Free if posted by His Majesty's Forces); letters (including air letters) not exceeding 1 oz. in weight, 1 1/2 annas; letters exceeding 1 oz., but not exceeding 1 1/2 ozs, 6 annas and letters weighing more than 1 1/2 ozs, 6 annas for the initial weight of 1 1/2 ozs, plus 6 annas for every additional 1/2 oz. or part thereof.

The use of the 6 annas Air Letters, 8 annas half ounce Air Mail Letters and 4 annas Air Mail post card by civilians for writing to troops overseas is no longer necessary.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

Mail communication with the Island of Luzon, Leyte, Samar and Mindoro in the Philippines and Guam in the Marianas Islands has now been resumed. Letters

and post cards, both registered and unregistered, may be sent to these places. The route is via the U.S.A. Onward transmission from the U.S.A. may be subject to delay. No insurance service is available. Such articles for the Philippines and Guam should be produced for censorship at stations where mails for the U.S.A. are produced.

The Airgraph Service to all countries and Forces included in the scheme will terminate with effect from August 1, 1945. Airgraphs will not be accepted at the counters of post offices after July 31, 1945. Airgraphs should not be posted by senders direct to the Airgraph Sections at Bombay and Calcutta after that date.

The Air Portrait Service, being essentially a part of the Airgraph Service, will also terminate with effect from August 1.

Restricted surface mail communication to Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania is now available. The service is confined to unregistered letters and printed and commercial papers of a maximum weight of 2 oz. and post cards. Business and financial communications will be confined to ascertaining facts and exchanging information.

With effect from August 1, 1945, press telegrams to Czechoslovakia are admitted at the rate of seven annas per word, subject to the usual restrictions.

### CIVILIAN PASSAGES TO U.K.

(Continued from page 202)

During June 1,061 priorities were issued and on the last day of the month the waiting list comprised 2,142 persons of whom 567 were high priority passengers, 922 were in category VI, 252 in category VII and 401 in category VIII.

Owing to an unexpectedly large allotment of shipping space during July, the waiting list showed a substantial reduction on July 31.



## AIR MAIL SERVICE

Air mail articles for those parts of Belgium, Bulgaria, Finland, Greece, Holland, Luxemburg and Rumania, to which mail communication is available, are now accepted by post offices in India subject to the same restrictions as are applicable to surface mails for those countries, said a Press Note issued by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, on July 21.

It added: Such articles for Bulgaria, Greece and Rumania will be carried by air up to Egypt, and those for Belgium, Holland and Luxemburg up to England, and thence onwards by surface route. Articles for Finland will, however, be carried throughout by air.

The rates of air mail fee and the superscription required are given below:

| Name of Country. Superscription             | AIR MAIL FEE                                                           |         | Per Post Card inclusive of ordinary postage. |
|---------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------|----------------------------------------------|
|                                             | Per half oz. for letters and packets, in addition to ordinary postage. | Rs. As. |                                              |
| Bulgaria, Greece, India-Africa .. Rumania.  | 1 2                                                                    | 8       |                                              |
| Belgium, Holland, India-England. Luxemburg. | 1 2                                                                    | 8       |                                              |
| Finland. India-U. K.-Finland.               | 1 5                                                                    | 9       |                                              |

The air mail fee chargeable on correspondence for Cyprus has also now been reduced to 14 annas per half ounce for letters and packets, and 4 annas per post card (in both cases inclusive of ordinary postage).

A blue air mail label should be affixed to the top left-hand corner of all air mail correspondence.

The Channel Islands, being now in the occupation of His Majesty, cease to be treated as an enemy territory under the enemy trading and enemy property regulations in force in this country, said a Press Communique issued by the Commerce Department.

It added: Correspondence can now be carried on with persons and concerns in the Channel Islands, subject to the postal regulations, announcements regarding which are being made by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, from time to time.

## MILITARY OFFICERS FOR CIVIL EMPLOYMENT

### Recruitment to be Discontinued

Under the scheme for short-term reinforcement of the civil administration which was announced in the Home Department Press communique dated July 25, 1944, three series of tests were held at Dehra Dun for the selection of military officers for temporary civil employment, said a Press Note issued by the Home Department, Government of India, on July 31.

It added: The methods by which these officers were selected for civil employment were outlined in a subsequent Press communique issued on January 17, 1945. As a result of the three tests mentioned above 142 volunteers from the Defence Forces were finally selected for employment in civil administration. 68 of these officers were Indians and 74 Europeans.

In view of the start of demobilisation and the decision to resume permanent recruitment to the vacancies reserved in the Indian Civil Service and Indian Police for war service candidates, it has been decided to discontinue the recruitment of military officers for civil employment under the short-term reinforcement schemes.

## CONTROL OF COMMERCIAL MOTOR CYCLES

A Press Note issued by the War Transport Department stated:

The Government of India have issued the "Commercially Imported Motor Cycle Control Order, 1945", in the *Gazette of India*, dated July 28, 1945, to control the sale and distribution of motor cycles that will be imported into this country commercially after the coming into force of this Order.

When received, the motor cycles will be distributed through importers assisted by dealers and sub-dealers for specified areas. The maximum retail price of the motor cycle will be fixed by the Central Government.

In view of the acute shortage of motor cycles, it is proposed to issue these only to essential users chosen from both officials and non-officials. Persons desiring to purchase these motor cycles should apply to the Provincial Motor Transport Controller concerned.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## INDO-AMERICAN POST-WAR TRADE

"I suggest that India's plan for industrial rehabilitation and new development be translated immediately in terms of a list of types of machinery required. This list should be put in the hands of a purchasing agency which has full authority, subject to the advice of competent consulting engineers, to make purchases of capital goods as opportunities arise".

Thus observes Mr. S. K. Kirpalani, Indian Trade Commissioner in New York, in a report on "Post-war Trade Possibilities between India and the U.S.A."

After discussing the possible trend of production and foreign trade in the U.S.A. in the post-war period, on the basis of information available in the last quarter of 1944, just prior to the Presidential election, he comes to the following conclusion on the availability of capital goods for India and the manner of getting them:

### Technical Details

"Industrialists and manufacturers here find business so brisk that they are most reluctant to take time out for furnishing technical details on the off-chance of orders materialising after a delay of three or six months. They are not interested in that kind of business, when capital goods can be sold in this country at attractive prices, so to say, over the counter. So far as I have been able to observe, industrialists and manufacturers in this country are prepared to sell capital goods for cash down".

Mr. Kirpalani thinks that large quantities of used surplus equipment are likely to come on the market. "It will be second hand in the sense that it has been used", he says, "but it will be in first class trim and will represent the latest in scientific developments".

No particular programme of priorities would appear to have been evolved by the U.S.A. Government or the sellers themselves for sale of used machinery. But on new machinery, observes Mr. Kirpalani, there are priorities. Some of these are *ad hoc* priorities given by the United States Government for orders of countries with which they have trade treaties or for whom special privilege programmes have been approved. For the rest, priorities will be arranged in the sequence of orders by manufacturers.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

The demand is so keen that the entire allocations of manufactures are immediately taken up on priority basis. Mr. Kirpalani cites one instance in this connection—that of a new type of injection mould for plastics, in which every one of the 650 units allocated for the first quarter of 1945 had already been taken up on a priority basis. In view of this consideration it is his opinion that, if India is to wait for new machinery, the chances of getting something worthwhile in the near future seem to be very remote.

### Consumer Goods Position

Generally speaking, observes Mr. Kirpalani, American industrialists and manufacturers do not consider business with India an attractive proposition, particularly as there is a terrific home demand in prospect, and there is good solid business obtainable with Russia, China and the South and Central American neighbours. Therefore, he recommends that, for such capital goods as are intended to be obtained from America, India must approach the American market for spot purchases.

Even in respect of consumer goods, Mr. Kirpalani is of the opinion that, in view of trade prospects internally and certain business booked with foreign countries, the prospects of the U.S.A. entering into trade commitments in India would appear to be very restricted.

As wages and cost of production in America are high, he says that "it should not be assumed that machinery and equipment of comparable quality cannot be obtained cheaper elsewhere, provided, of course, it is available elsewhere by the time India requires delivery."

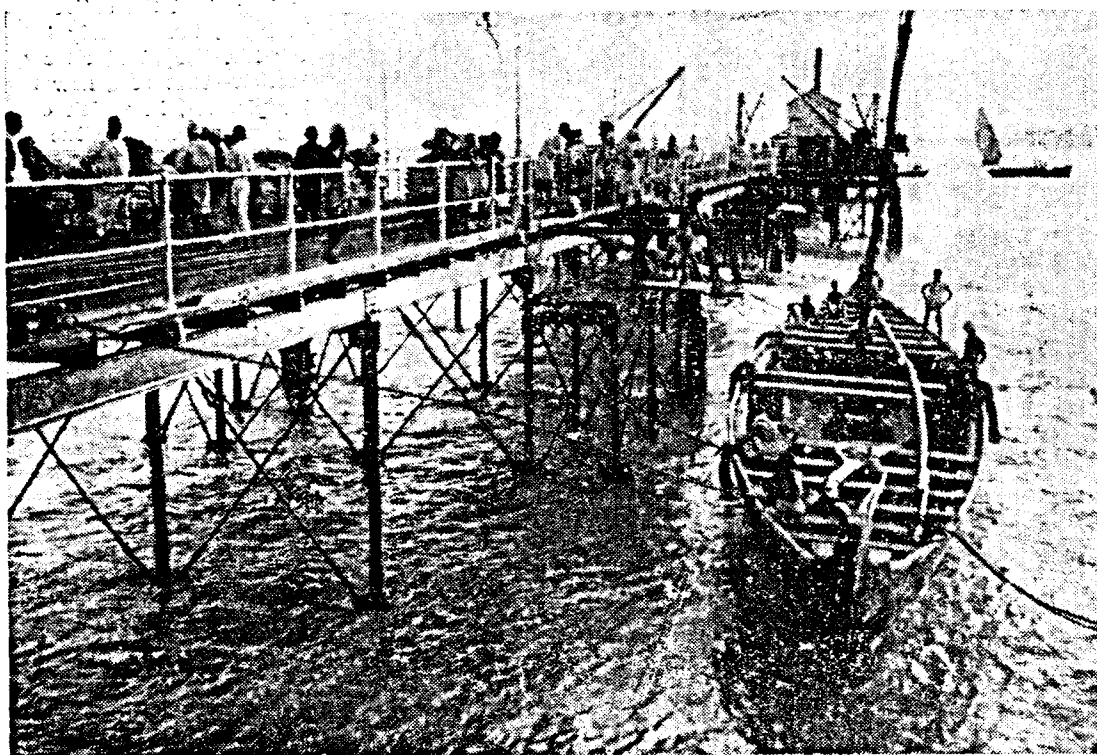
### Prospects of India's Exports

Examining the prospects of India further developing its export trade with the U.S.A. in the post-war period, Mr. Kirpalani observes that this trade is very largely in raw materials, the principal commodities being burlap, jute, wool, cotton, shellac, mica and manganese ores. His views on the prospects of individual commodities are given below.

There is a great shortage of burlap at present and the burlap market in the U.S.A. is a tight market. For the next four or five years after the end of the war in Europe, prospects of burlap import from India should be definitely bright, if prices rule at a reasonable level.

There is also a shortage of jute yarns. American jute yarn mills, however, are greatly

205



Manganese being loaded into lighters at an Indian port.

agitated over their future prospects because of yarn manufacture being developed in Calcutta on a large scale and in quality comparing favourably with American manufactures.

There is a very keen pent-up demand for all coverings and it will be several years before this demand is fully met. America is most anxious to get as much wool as India can spare. For the present, however, the use of carpet manufacturing wool—Indian wools are used solely for carpet manufacture—is restricted to some extent by the limited production of jute yarn required for backing of carpets.

America does not require any long staple cotton from India. Of the short staple cotton that is imported, 80 per cent. goes in the manufacture of worsted cloth. There is a keen demand for Indian short staple cotton. In the immediate post-war period, when the shipping position becomes easier, a fairly brisk demand for this variety is anticipated.

There is a keen demand for shellac, for the manufacture of all manner of paints, varnishes, veneers, etc.

The post-war prospects of the mica trade should be bright. Indian mica will be required

for very heavy production programmes of all manner of radio and electronic equipment.

Not much is known about the future prospects of the trade in manganese ores, which is moving at present under the U.S. Government purchase programme, but a substantial demand for many years after the war may be expected.

#### Hides and Skins

It is expected that the demand for raw calf and small kips will increase to a much greater extent than the available supply. It is estimated that, in the immediate post-war period, America would consume at the rate of 4 million skins a year. The overall outlook for sheep and lamb skins is much brighter than for other types of leather. The domestic use of these skins, for several years to come, is expected to continue at levels higher than in any pre-war years, although there may be a temporary drop with the end of the war in Europe.

It is anticipated that there will be a decline of about 20 per cent. from the 1934-38 yearly average in the total world exports of raw goat and kid skins. Besides the U.S.A., the U.K.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

will probably be the only other large consumer of these skins in the immediate post-war period. The U.S. average requirement is estimated at 37 million kids which represents 60 per cent. of the estimated world exportable surplus.

There is an established trade between India and the U.S.A., in cashew nuts and the demand in the post-war years is likely to rise considerably.

There is not much prospect of building up a good trade in Indian walnuts.

During the war, there has been a serious shortage over the whole range of spices, more especially in ginger and cinnamon. Certain South American countries have expressed a desire to build up a direct trade with India in the post-war period in these commodities.

There is expected to be a good demand for Kashmir *Namdahs* and Bangalore *Druggets*. Travancore and Cochin coir mats also are likely to have a good demand. There is a keen demand at present also for Mirzapur thick pile woollen carpets and there should be a bright market for them after the war. Amritsar woollen carpets are losing ground; popular taste is veering strongly in favour of Persian carpets.

#### Miscellaneous Goods

There is a fairly keen demand, now, which may be expected to persist in the immediate post-war period, for various kinds of miscellaneous goods like Indian paints, crewel, embroidery, cheap sports goods, ivory and metal curios, ornamental brassware, Kashmir woodwork, Kashmir shawls and bed spreads and Indian chutneys and condiments.

Discussing the prospects of developing the export trade of Indian silk manufactures with the U.S.A., Mr. Kirpalani thinks that a lucrative trade could be built up in this commodity in the immediate post-war period, on account of the elimination of Japanese silk manufactures from the American market.

He says in this connection: "In spite of the development of rayon and nylon fabrics, about 70 per cent. of the superior silk production of Japan used to be imported in the U.S. market. Some of this trade may well be captured by Indian silk, particularly if it is block printed in the styles we know as Bombay prints. Samples of Bombay print silks, Kashmir embroidered silks and Mysore silks with patterns woven in, which I have shown informally to people here, have evoked a strongly favourable response. If fairly large and representative sample consignments of these various kinds of silks could be

sent over during the next year or so, they would, I feel confident, capture a good market.

"Another fabric which is likely to command favour here is the Benares and Surat gold and silver saree cloth. I suggest that the Directors of Industries of the various Provinces and Indian States concerned be approached to arrange for sample consignments and, what is more, establish regular production with a view to capturing good markets here. Establishment of regular production is essential, for if sample consignments result in large orders being placed which are either unduly delayed or cannot be delivered, the reaction on trade circles interested in the import of these luxury articles from India will be most unfortunate".

#### SURPLUS STORES AVAILABLE FOR THE MARKET

The Board of Trade have drawn up a detailed list of goods which they think are likely to become surplus and be available for the market.

This list includes the following generic heading of goods:—abrasives, agricultural machinery and implements, anti-gas stores, asbestos goods, asphalt pitch tar etc., basketware, billiard tables, boats, bolts, nails, screws, etc., boxes, chests and packing cases, building and constructional engineering plant and materials and contractors' plant, builders' materials, canteen equipment (gas electric or solid fuel) including refrigerators, chains and mooring gear, chemical plant, cinematograph and photographic equipment and miscellaneous instruments, clothing and textiles, cordage, cranes and lifting appliances, dehydration plant, diving gear etc., domestic cooking appliances and hardware, electric lamp bulbs, engineering and electric stores, field cooking equipment, fire appliances, furniture, office and domestic, gas metres, goggles, hairdressing equipment, hand tools, hydrogen plant internal combustion engines, kegs and drums, locomotives and rolling stock, laundry machinery, medical supplies, model aircraft ships and tanks, musical instruments, optical and survey instruments, paint etc., paper, stationery and office requisites, petroleum products, radio and radio test gear, rubber hose, service footwear and leather equipment, typewriters and office machinery, weighing, sports goods, steam engines, stretchers, telephone and telegraph apparatus and equipment, typewriters and office machinery, weighing machines, scales and weights, wheeled vehicles and spares, workshop machinery and plant.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## INDO-CANADIAN WARTIME TRADE

**"T**HE total value of trade between India and Canada during 1944 amounted to a record figure of over \$202 million, an increase of more than \$51 million over 1943. The total Indo-Canadian trade in 1944 was, in value, nineteen times more than that registered during 1938." Thus observes the report of the India Government Trade Commissioner, Toronto, for 1944.

India's position in Canada's foreign trade during 1944 was, according to the report, third in order of importance, both in regard to total imports and exports as well as total trade. India has thus come to be, it says, the third most important source of supply to Canada and also the third best customer for Canadian goods.

The balance of trade between India and Canada, which, before the war, was invariably and largely in favour of India (the ratio between imports and exports during 1938 being nearly 4 to 1), has rapidly risen since 1941, states the report, in favour of Canada and the ratio between imports and exports during 1944 was almost 1 to 7.

While the total value of Canadian exports to India has rapidly increased since 1941, until during 1944 it amounted to almost 87 times the corresponding figure for 1938, the value of imports from India has steadily grown, the total during 1944 being almost 3½ times that recorded during 1938.

### Value of Imports

The total value of imports from India during 1944 was 2½ times more than the value of the total trade—i.e., imports plus exports—during 1938 between India and Canada.

The report, which examines the question whether this spectacular expansion is likely to be permanent, reaches the following conclusion:

"There is no doubt", it says, "that Canada's present exports to India are swollen with shipments of war materials, although it is somewhat difficult to say if the percentage of such exports to India corresponds to that estimated by the Canadian Minister for Trade and Commerce for the total Canadian exports, namely, 75 to 80 per cent. or even more. However, assuming that 80 per cent. of the present Canadian exports to India come under the

category of "wartime business", and further assuming that such exports will be completely eliminated before or after the cessation of hostilities, it is apparent that the balance of 20 per cent. that may come under the category of "regular peacetime exports" will still amount to a great deal more than what was ever shipped to India before the war.

"As a matter of fact, careful scrutiny of the items entering into Canada's wartime exports will show that at least some of these products may very well become regular peacetime exports. On the other hand, when account is taken of wartime industrial and agricultural developments, both in India and Canada, it becomes equally apparent that India may easily buy from Canada, not only increasing quantities of consumer goods (including electrical goods and appliances), but also perhaps machinery, plant, factory equipment, implements and other similar items."

### Trade Inquiries

What about the post-war prospects of India in the Canadian market? Will wartime gains be wiped out? Here is the answer given in the report:

"As regards wartime imports from India into Canada", it says, "their general structure and nature is not exactly on all fours with that of wartime exports. It is true that some Indian products, such as manganese and chrome ore, that have found their way in increasingly large quantities into Canada during the war, may probably be termed "wartime business." But these products had always been imported into Canada before the war and, equally, are likely to be required after the war is over.

In other words, if proper care is taken, India need not necessarily lose this trade when peace returns. Similarly, India has, during the war, built up quite a fair-sized export trade with Canada. Here again, there seems no reason why India should not succeed in retaining this trade after the war. In addition, there seems fairly good prospects, unless something unforeseen happens, of India being able to replace at least a part of the pre-war imports from Japan into Canada, both in manufactured and semi-manufactured goods.

During 1944, there were trade enquiries from Canadian business firms for the following and other Indian products: Cane and rattan, carpets and rugs, coir mats and matting, foodstuffs, vegetable oils, chrome ore, shellac, gums and lac, spices and chutneys, nuts, jute and jute manufactures, lace goods, leather, mica, nuxvomica, jewellery, sports goods, textiles, and wool.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## SOCIAL INSURANCE FOR INDIAN SEAMEN

### Sir M. Azizul Huque's Address

**A** meeting of the *Ad hoc* Advisory Committee on Seamen was held in New Delhi on August 4, to consider, *inter alia*, the question of instituting a social insurance scheme for seamen, setting up a National Maritime Board, regulation of hours of work, recruitment, holidays with pay and clothing.

The Hon'ble Sir M. Azizul Huque, Commerce Member, Government of India, presided.

The following were present: The Hon'ble Mr. N. R. Pillai, Secretary, Commerce Department; Mr. S. R. Zaman, Joint Secretary, Commerce Department, Mr. M. Armstrong, Director of Seamen's Welfare, Prof. B. P. Adarkar, Deputy Secretary, Labour Department, Mr. R. S. Mani, Mr. M. Rahman, Officer on Special Duty, Mr. L. W. Balcombe (Representative of Calcutta Liners Conference), Mr. A. Orr Deas (Representative of Calcutta Liners Conference), Mr. M. A. Master (Scindia's) Lieut.-Commander Aftab Ali (Indian Seamen's Union, Calcutta), Mr. Mohiuddin (Indian Quartermaster's Union, Calcutta) Mirza Akhtar Hasan (National Seamen's Union of India, Bombay) and Mr. Chandrika Prasad Srivastava, Research Officer, Labour Department and Secretary of the Committee.

### Commerce Member's Speech

Addressing the meeting, Sir M. Azizul Huque, said:

Gentlemen, I welcome you most heartily on behalf of myself and on behalf of the Government of India. We are deeply grateful to you that, in spite of the very short notice, in spite of your multifarious engagements, at a time when the temperature is making us feel what the Delhi climate is, and at a time when travelling is none too comfortable, you have been good enough to come and meet us here.

You are probably aware of the various steps that we have so far taken with regard to the problems of Indian seamen. We have been for some time past trying our best to tackle the immediate problems—problems connected with wages, amenities, comforts both within and outside India, for our seamen. We have also taken up the question as to how seamen fare in the different countries both while on

shore and while on ship. We have now been able to organise a strong Welfare Directorate. I do not propose to go into the details of all the different measures, as I had opportunities to speak about them in full detail at the last Assembly session. Suffice it to say that we have been doing our best in these matters.

And yet, while tackling these immediate problems we have not lost sight of some of the other outstanding problems, both immediate and long-range ones. For some time past, as you are aware, our attention has been drawn to the question of the improvement of the conditions of employment of our seamen generally. But a detailed examination of the question had to be held in abeyance for some years past due to the conditions of war. Now that the war in the west is over, and we hope and pray to God that the war in the East may soon be over, we have decided to take up all such questions as actively as possible.

### India's Maritime Traditions

It was felt that even at the initial stage, and before Government was able to formulate its views on all the complicated questions, it would be very great advantage if we were able to associate the representatives of the various interests concerned in a joint deliberation. We have therefore decided to constitute for the time being this *Ad hoc* Advisory Committee. Though the Committee is for the time being an advisory one and the responsibility for taking decisions on the important matters that lie ahead will be Government's, I would make it quite clear to you that we will give earnest consideration to your views in all such matters.

From the point of view of the number of seamen employed, India ranks as one of the most important maritime countries of the world. The traditions of the Indian seamen go back to centuries past. On repeated occasions in the past Indian seamen have proved their merit and worth. In the present war also, they have by their valour, courage, fortitude, determination and patience in times of difficulty, proved that whatever the circumstances may be they are second to none in their devotion to duty.

I am sure you will agree with me that this vast section of people deserve our most sympathetic consideration, and I believe in future years, not only those whose interests are directly concerned, but the community at large, here and abroad, will remember with gratitude the services which seamen generally, including Indian seamen, have played to maintain the economic life of every country in the world.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.



The conditions of employment of seamen in other countries are admittedly superior to those obtaining in India. Great Britain, the United States, France, Belgium, Norway, all have their social insurance schemes for seamen. They have other measures for dealing with questions of health of seamen. We have nothing of the kind in India. The conditions of employment of seamen of other countries are regulated by statutes or by maritime boards. In India there has not so far been any such regulation. Considering the immense increase in State activity in other directions, we cannot possibly pursue a policy of isolation or *laissez faire* in India, nor can we allow things to drift, nor can we wait till they are moved by sheer force of competition, or in such circumstances as are found governing the conditions of employment of seamen in some cases.

### Important Point

I would like to draw special attention to one very important point. For years past the question of employment of labour generally and of seamen particularly has been assuming more and more an international character, and this is bound to continue. Indian seamen are employed with the seamen of other countries. But the fact that Indians are employed on much too inferior terms is regarded as not fair. Moreover, as you are aware, the I.L.O. has adopted 13 conventions on ten different subjects with regard to the employment of seamen, and of these India has so far been able to ratify only three conventions.

Obviously, therefore, we are lagging behind other countries and as the world thoughts and world activities are moving forward, I do not think we can wait any longer and remain behind the line which has been taken by other countries and other nations. The merits of the case also justify taking some active action in this matter.

I would like to draw attention to the fact that the Joint Maritime Commission of the I.L.O. in January last adopted as the basis for discussion the International Seafaring Charter embodying the minimum conditions of employment for the post-war period.

This Charter demands, *inter alia* standard minimum wage rates for all seamen irrespective of colour or creed, continuous employment, eight hours' work a day, special provision for essential work at sea, 40 hours a week in port, overtime pay, social insurance, etc. This Charter will be discussed at the Maritime session of the International Labour Office, possibly in January, 1946.

To examine in detail the questions that are likely to be taken up at this Conference the I.L.O. have called a preparatory technical meeting in October next. The Government of India propose to have themselves represented both on the Committee and in the Conference. I mention all this to show the urgency of the task lying ahead of us. We are going to act as quickly as possible in all these matters.

### Some Inherent Difficulties

I admit there are some inherent difficulties in tackling these problems. I admit that there are special problems which face us in India. I shall probably be confronted with arguments plausible and reasonable, and I do realise that our circumstances are such as have no parallel in other countries. All the same we are to start our work almost immediately, and it would be for this Committee to advise Government as to how this should be done.

There can be no doubt that we propose to base our policy on a careful consideration of all the factors that will be brought before us by the various interests present here to-day. The Agenda has been circulated to you. You will come across problems on which your advice is solicited, and I do hope and trust that you will be with us in our efforts to better the conditions of Indian seamen.

I thank you once again for coming, and I do hope and trust that our deliberations will be crowned with success and that our seamen will be benefited by our combined judgment and experience.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SEAMEN

The *Ad hoc* Advisory Committee on Seamen will consist of:

Chairman: The Hon. Sir Muhammad Azizul Haque, Member for Commerce and Industries and Civil Supplies.

Mr. S. R. Zaman, C.I.E., I.C.S., Joint Secretary, Commerce Department.

Professor B. P. Adarkar, M.A., (Cantab.), Deputy Secretary, Labour Department.

Mr. L. W. Balcombe (Representative of Calcutta Liners' Conference).

Mr. A. Orr Deas (Representative of Calcutta Liners' Conference).

(Continued on page 211)

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## I.L.O. CONFERENCE ON MARITIME QUESTIONS

A Press Communique issued by the Labour Department, Government of India, on July 25, stated:

A Preparatory Technical Conference on Maritime Questions will, it is learnt, be convened by the International Labour Office from November 15, 1945, to prepare the ground for a maritime session of the International Labour Conference to be held early in 1946. The place of the Conference will be communicated later.

The terms of reference of the meeting are: To consider, with a view to the formulation of international minimum standards, the following subjects:

- I. (a) Wages: hours of work on board ship, manning.
- (b) Leave.
- (c) Accommodation on board ship.
- (d) Food and catering.
- (e) Recognition of seafarers' organisations.
- II. (f) Social insurance.
- (g) Continuous employment.
- (h) Entry, training and promotion.

The consideration of these subjects will include the preparation of preliminary drafts of possible international regulations.

The items listed under II are included provisionally and will not be dealt with unless the meeting considers that sufficient progress has been made in the preliminary consideration of them by two special committees which are being set up to examine and report upon them in accordance with the resolution of the Joint Maritime Commission.

### India Invited

The Government of India have been invited to nominate one delegate each to represent the Government, and shipowners' and seamen's interests. Each of the delegates may be accompanied by advisers, and the Government of India have decided that each non-official delegate should be accompanied by two advisers.

The delegates and advisers representing shipowners and seafarers will be nominated after consultation, and in agreement with, the national organisations respectively concerned (including the organisations of officers as well as ratings). It will considerably assist and expedite the final

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

### PRIME MINISTER'S MESSAGE OF THANKS

The following announcement has been issued from 10, Downing Street:

The Prime Minister wishes to thank all his many friends and well-wishers in this country, the Empire and abroad who have been kind enough to send him messages of congratulation on his assumption of office. He much regrets that owing to pressure of work he is not able to reply to them all. He hopes, however, that they will accept this message as an expression of his gratitude for their good wishes.

nomination of non-Government representatives if a panel of names is recommended to Government.

Shipowners' and seamen's organisations wishing to make suggestions relating to the nomination of non-Government delegates and advisers may submit panels of names of their nominees to reach the Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Labour as early as possible and, in any case, not later than August 25, 1945.

The Government of India will pay to the non-official representatives, when finally nominated, travelling expenses and allowances on the scale admissible to non-official delegates to the regular sessions of the International Labour Conference.

### ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON SEAMEN

(Continued from page 210)

Mr. M. A. Master (Representative of the Indian National Steamship Owners' Association).

Lt. Commander Aftab Ali, M.L.A. (Bengal) (Indian Seamen's Union, Calcutta).

Mr. Mohiuddin (Indian Quartermasters' Union, Calcutta).

Mirza Akhtar Hasan (National Seamen's Union of India, Bombay).

Mr. Chandrika Prasad Shrivastava, Research Officer, Labour Department (Secretary).

Mr. M. Armstrong, Director, Seamen's Welfare, Government of India, is also a member of the Advisory Committee on Seamen.

## PRICES OF TOILET ARTICLES, MOTOR SPIRIT AND KEROSENE FIXED

**T**HE Government of India in the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies have, by notifications issued under the Hoarding and Profiteering Prevention Ordinance, regulated the sale of toilet articles, motor spirit and kerosene, wines and liquors, imported cycles, etc. The notifications are:

The maximum selling prices per lb. of two folds spun silk yarn have been fixed as follows: 60-s, Rs. 27; 80-s, Rs. 30-8; 120-s, Rs. 37-8; 140-s, Rs. 40; and 210-s, Rs. 45. For single fold yarn one rupee less per lb. should be charged.

For the purpose of determining the maximum price which a dealer may charge for any Indian made pure silk fabric, the Controller General of Civil Supplies has sanctioned the addition to the price at which the producer sold such fabric one anna per rupee of the producer's price where fabrics are sold to a dealer, and of As. 3-6 per rupee of the producer's price in any other case.

The maximum wholesale and retail selling prices of a few items of toilet articles have been revised. Some of these revised prices are: Dubarry's Face Powder (standard) Rs. 1-15 per unit retail price at port; Brylcream (small jars) Rs. 1-3 per unit, retail, at port and elsewhere.

With effect from July 24, the prices of motor spirit and kerosene have been fixed which show decreases of one anna per gallon in the case of motor spirit and As. 5 per bulk unit of 8 Imperial gallons in the case of both superior and inferior qualities of kerosene. Among the reasons for this satisfactory state of affairs are the reduced cost of imports as a result of lower War Risks Insurance on cargoes and reductions in A.R.P. expenditure and War Risks Insurance in this country,

Some of the previous notifications relating to the maximum prices chargeable by dealers in respect of imported wines and liquors have been consolidated, and the prices of some more varieties, such as Portuguese brandy and wines, have been fixed.

Profit margins for some more articles, such as full rolls and cut lengths of leather belting, Hair belting, Cotton belting, V. Ropes, V. Belts and all types of belt fasteners and belt laces, for sale by importers to wholesale dealers or agents, by importer to retail dealers and in cases not specifically provided for, have now been fixed.

The profit margins sanctioned for wholesale and retail sales in respect of imported cycles for which maximum selling prices had not been fixed by the Central Government in their notification dated August 19, 1944, have been cancelled by the Controller General of Civil Supplies. Maximum prices of these imported cycles also have now been fixed.

Manufacturers of butter have been informed that they shall adhere to the prices of butter of their respective packings current on July 3, 1945, and no further increase in the prices of butter shall be brought about without the previous sanction of the Controller General of Civil Supplies.

The maximum wholesale and retail selling prices of some more proprietary brands of washing, toilet and carbolic soaps, soap flakes, soap chips, etc., manufactured by the Tata Oil Mills Company, Ltd., Swastik Oil Mills Ltd., Godrej Soaps, Ltd., Calcutta Chemical Company Ltd., Nasco Ltd., and Lever Brothers (India) Ltd., have been fixed. The maximum retail prices of certain brands of soaps have now been fixed per cake instead of per unit of three cakes. The selling prices of some brands of soaps distributed by the United Traders Ltd., have also been fixed.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## CONSUMER GOODS (CONTROL OF DISTRIBUTION) ORDER

A Press Note issued by the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies, Government of India, on July 31, stated:

By a notification published in the *Gazette of India* dated July 21, 1945, the Central Government have re-issued the Consumer Goods (Control of Distribution) Order, 1944. The revised notification incorporates all the amendments which were made from time to time in the former Order.

The Order applies to the following articles, whether imported or indigenous, namely, wines, spirits and liquors; lead pencils; slate pencils; toilet requisites; boot and metal polishes; steel pens; fountain pens and parts of fountain pens; pure and artificial silk yarn and thread and fabrics; hand knitting wool, woollen fabrics; umbrellas, and parts of umbrellas; enamelled ironware; kerosene oil lamps, incandescent mantles, zip fasteners; razor blades; cutlery; electric ceiling and table fans; typewriter ribbons; wireless receiving sets and parts of wireless receiving sets and wireless bulbs; cycles, cycle spare parts and accessories; photographic negatives and printing papers; clocks, timepieces and watches and parts thereof; cartridges; crockery; spectacle frames; lenses and other optical goods; sanitary fittings; sports goods; grindery; camphor and camphor powder synthetic; thermoses and thermos flasks and woollen and worsted weaving and machine knitting yarn. More articles can be added to the schedule as and when necessary.

The Controller-General of Civil Supplies has powers to fix ceiling prices of any of these articles. He is also authorised to direct importers or producers to sell scheduled articles to specified dealers.

### Instructions for Importers

The Order requires the importers to furnish to the Controller-General details of consignments of scheduled articles expected by them and how they propose to dispose of them, within one week of their receiving intimation of the despatch of the consignment. They are also required to give within two weeks of arrival details of goods actually arrived and their landed cost.

Except as directed by the Controller-General, importers are not at liberty to dispose of such scheduled articles within 21 days from

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

the latest date on which any of the items of information required to be submitted to the Controller-General after the arrival of goods in this country is received in his office. If within this period the Controller-General does not issue any disposal instructions, the importer then may dispose of the articles in such manner as he thinks fit, subject to the other provisions of the Order.

Producers of scheduled articles are also required to furnish details of their outturn, cost of production and proposals for disposal to the Controller-General every month.

To secure compliance with the Order, the Controller-General may authorise any one to enter and search any premises or to inspect any documents. The courts may forfeit any articles in respect of which the Order is contravened.

### Delegation of Powers

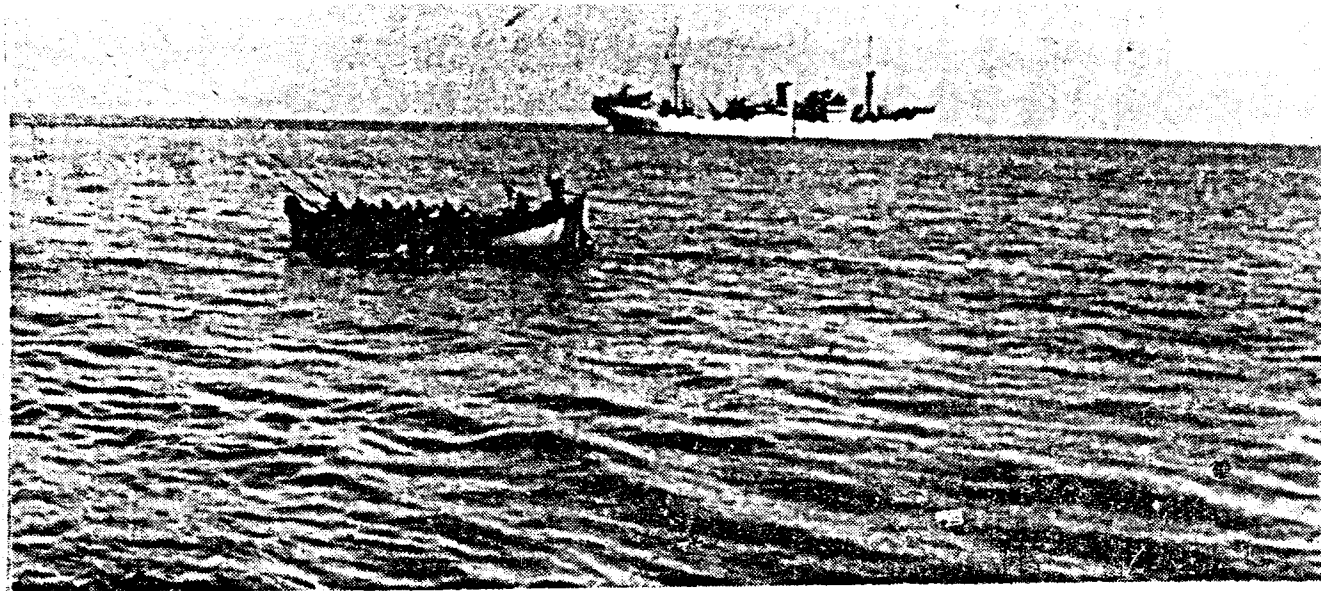
Two notifications under this Order have also been published in the *Gazette of India* of the same date. One of them gives powers of the Controller-General regarding entering and searching of premises and inspecting of documents, asking for information regarding business etc., to the Director of Civil Supplies, Ajmer-Merwara; the Director of Civil Supplies, Punjab; and the Director of Food Supplies, Baluchistan. These powers are exercisable by these officers in their respective Provinces.

The other notification delegates all the powers of the Controller-General in respect of grindery to the Footwear Controller, and in respect of artificial silk yarn to the Provincial Textile Commissioner, Madras, (for Madras Presidency only).

## PRINTING OF CALENDARS AND DIARIES

The Government of India in the Department of Industries and Civil Supplies have, by a notification published in the *Gazette of India*, on July 30, amended the Paper Control (Economy) Order, 1944, so as to permit the printing of:—

1. Calendars covering a period of 12 months containing a weight of paper not exceeding 4 ounces per calendar as against 2 ounces permitted at present; and,
2. Desk or table diaries not exceeding 8 3/4" X 5 1/2" with not less than two dates on one page.



A pilot being rowed out by Indian lascars.

**A**LLIED supplies through India's Eastern Gateway of Calcutta for the war against Japan recall that India's busiest eastern port is served by the world's most dangerous navigable river.

Through six years of war, the Bengal Pilot Service, who are responsible for the piloting of all ocean-going vessels on the Hooghly between Calcutta and the open sea, have been moving innumerable merchant ships, ships of war, men and supplies with quiet efficiency, making a silent but solid contribution to speeding Allied supply lines.

#### Most Dangerous River

The Service harks back to the days of the East India Company, and has a tradition of nearly 300 years on the river.

Pilots take ships out as far as the sea, some 130 miles from port, and bring ships in from the same distance.

Fogs during December to March, squalls, locally known as norwesters, which often reach hurricane force just before the monsoon, the monsoon itself and bores or tidal waves which fall with terrific onslaught, have been known to snap anchor cables like carrots, are common seasonal occurrences. But the river has acquired its reputation as the most dangerous for navigation because of the rapidly varying channels, the numerous bars or shoals of sand, like hurdles across the river and the constant movement of sand and silt which is

## STORY OF THE BENGAL PILOT SERVICE

ever changing and altering the width of the channels.

In peacetime, losses, if they occur, can be colossal, because of Calcutta's

rich import and export trade: in wartime such losses would be immeasurable in terms of men, money or Allied strategy.

#### Tribute to Indian Seamen

Additional responsibilities have thus fallen on the Bengal Pilot Service, many of whom, it is said, are often working more than 24 hours at a stretch to cope with war demands, in many cases taking a ship down river to sea 110 miles away and transferring immediately afterwards to another bound for Calcutta.

While waiting for ships at sea, the pilots remain on board a pilot vessel which is stationed here. In this lonely spot, they are taken out by motor boat or rowed out by Indian Seamen to whose intrepidity and skill in handling the boats from the pilot vessel in all weathers, day or night, the pilots pay high tribute.

Up to some distance from the sandhead, pilots steer a course by compass as well as by buoys marking the channel. Then begins the gingerly progress up the river taking bearings from transit marks and Semaphore stations on the way.

The Calcutta Port authorities maintain, of course, efficient river services, such as the

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

River Survey Department, which surveys and marks the river and issues daily reports of the depth of water over the different bars and other points, dredgers to keep the channels open, Semaphore stations to signal changes of tide of more than three inches, buoys and transit marks. But, as the common saying among the pilots goes, no one can truthfully say he has learnt all that there is to know about the river.

Take the bars of which the Hooghly has an unusually large number. These can be crossed only at certain states of the tide, depending both on the draft the vessel draws and the depth of water. A pilot takes a ship over as many bars as he can on one tide, but has frequently to stop and wait for nearly High water to cross the next one. But safe anchorages are few. So the speed of the ship, the rate of rise or fall of the tide, the time it will take to go from one bar to the next safe anchorage, all enter into the complicated calculation of what "margin" the pilot can allow over each bar.

The draft of the vessel increases with the load, and during the war, ships are always loaded to capacity. Even in peacetime, as the ship-owner expects a ship to take as much cargo

as she can, a minimum margin of safety alone is allowed.

So, the pilot calculates to inches, and often he takes his ship over the bars judging the clearance accurately to a few inches.

Although the river is broad, most of it is shallow and big ships can only move in a narrow channel, so narrow in some places that it is not much wider than the ship's beam. Then there are bends and at these points pilots steer a course to keep to the inside of the bend where the water is deepest.

#### Highest Proficiency Demanded

With modern improvements and better ships to handle, older pilots sometimes fancy that the river is not so dangerous to navigate, "as in their days." But it still takes an Officer of the Bengal Pilot Service at least 20 years before he is promoted to the highest grade which qualifies him to take charge of the big vessels that visit these waters.

The Hooghly, therefore, exacts the very highest proficiency, and the Bengal Pilot Service



These Indian lascars of the Bengal Pilot Service put out to sea in all weathers night or day to meet ships.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.





Piloting on the Hooghly—the world's most dangerous river.

has always maintained the most rigorous standards which make the Service one of the most famous in the world. The East India Company started the Service in 1668 when six young men were sent out as apprentices to learn the navigation of the river. More were sent out from time to time. In 1858, it came under Government Control. Now it is a Central Service under the Commerce Department of the Government of India.

A young officer, before he is selected, must have put in at least three years on a foreign-going vessel, and must have obtained a Second Mate's certificate. He spends his next five years training and appearing for a number of tests. If he passes all these, he becomes a Mate Pilot on the Hooghly with the privilege of taking charge of very small ships. It takes him ten years and more of examinations to become a Second Master Pilot and 20 years to reach top rank as Branch Pilot, when he can take complete charge of a big vessel.

216

For many years recruits were entertained from the British Training Ships, *Worcester* and *Conway*. More recently the Service has also been thrown open to Indian officers and many of the latter who have joined hail from the Indian Training Ship *Dufferin*.

#### Hooghly's Role in Present War

The "greying" waters of the Hooghly during the war have seen many turns of fortune. They have seen the steady outflow of men and material from India to the Middle East, to the Persian Gulf and many other places. They have seen the evolution of the grand strategy of Lease-Lend and the arrival of gradually mounting supplies to "rev" up Indian production. Increasing supplies have also reached China through the Hooghly.

With victory in Europe, they have witnessed the beginning of the end of the Far Eastern war, and the still greater exertions which the

(continued on page 217)

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## R.I.N. WIRELESS STATIONS' VITAL ROLE

**D**AY and night, from wireless stations manned by the Royal Indian Navy, messages vital to the conduct of operations in South East Asia are transmitted to the Admiralty and to ships at sea.

The success of anti-U-boat measures in the Bay of Bengal and Arabian Sea has depended in no small degree on the speed and accuracy of Indian wireless operators in various shore stations.

The station at Bombay is one of the largest in the East and acts as a link between the Admiralty and the South West Pacific theatre. The greatly expanded station at Calcutta has coped with a 400 per cent. increase in traffic in the past two years. Chittagong, where more than a hundred R.I.N. communications ratings were working during operations, has been a forward wireless link with warships operating down the Burma coast and with convoys ferrying supplies to the 14th Army and the 15th Indian Corps.

#### H. M. I. S. "Talwar"

Stations in other Indian ports handle much wireless traffic affecting the movements of coastal convoys and warships of the Royal Indian Navy protecting them. The Naval wireless stations at Aden and at Bahrein, in the Persian Gulf, are staffed by R.I.N. personnel and share the responsibility for the safe arrival of ships bringing men and material to the invasion springboard which India has now become.

The most modern equipment has been installed in these stations, and base wireless workshops maintain them at a high level of efficiency. H.M.I.S. *Talwar*, the Royal Indian Navy's fine modern Signal School at Bombay, has become the combined signal training centre for the East Indies Station.

#### EDINBURGH COURSE IN FORESTRY

Students for the Edinburgh course in Forestry must have the minimum qualifications of a second class in the Hons. B.Sc., or the equivalent. The subjects must include Botany, Zoology, Chemistry and Physics of which two only ordinarily have been taken in the degree examinations with all four subjects in the Intermediate.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 1, 1945.

## BURMA INTELLIGENCE CORPS

A conversation between Lord Wavell and Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith three years ago resulted in the recovery of Burma being made easier by the creation of a new unit, the Burma Intelligence Corps.

After the retreat in 1942, Lord Wavell, then Commander-in-Chief in India, and Sir Reginald Dorman-Smith, Governor of Burma, had a series of meetings. In one conversation Lord Wavell spoke of the lack of men fighting to re-enter Burma who could speak to the inhabitants in their own language. Arising from this, it was decided to form a Burma Intelligence Corps.

Playing a gallant part in the retreat from Burma with General Alexander was the Burma Auxiliary Force, a territorial unit of educated Burmese, Karens, Anglo-Burmese, and Britons domiciled in Burma. They fought as gunners and infantrymen; they knew Burma and, in addition to English, at least one of the indigenous languages. It was from them that the Burma Intelligence Corps was recruited.

Officers and men were given special training in intelligence duties, interrogation and patrol work, and, thus equipped, were diffused through the units going into Burma.

Members of the Corps went everywhere. They took part in thousands of patrols and hazardous missions by air and sea; with their knowledge of the countryside and the language they were invaluable.

No men have been happier than the members of the Corps at the return to Burma. It was a fitting reward for one man with a British battalion to find himself billeted in his own village.

#### BENGAL PILOT SERVICE

(Continued from page 216)

present phase of the war demands. Then, after the war, the revival of export and import trade and large shipments of vital machinery, goods and services for India's post-war industrial plans afford no promise of abatement of traffic.

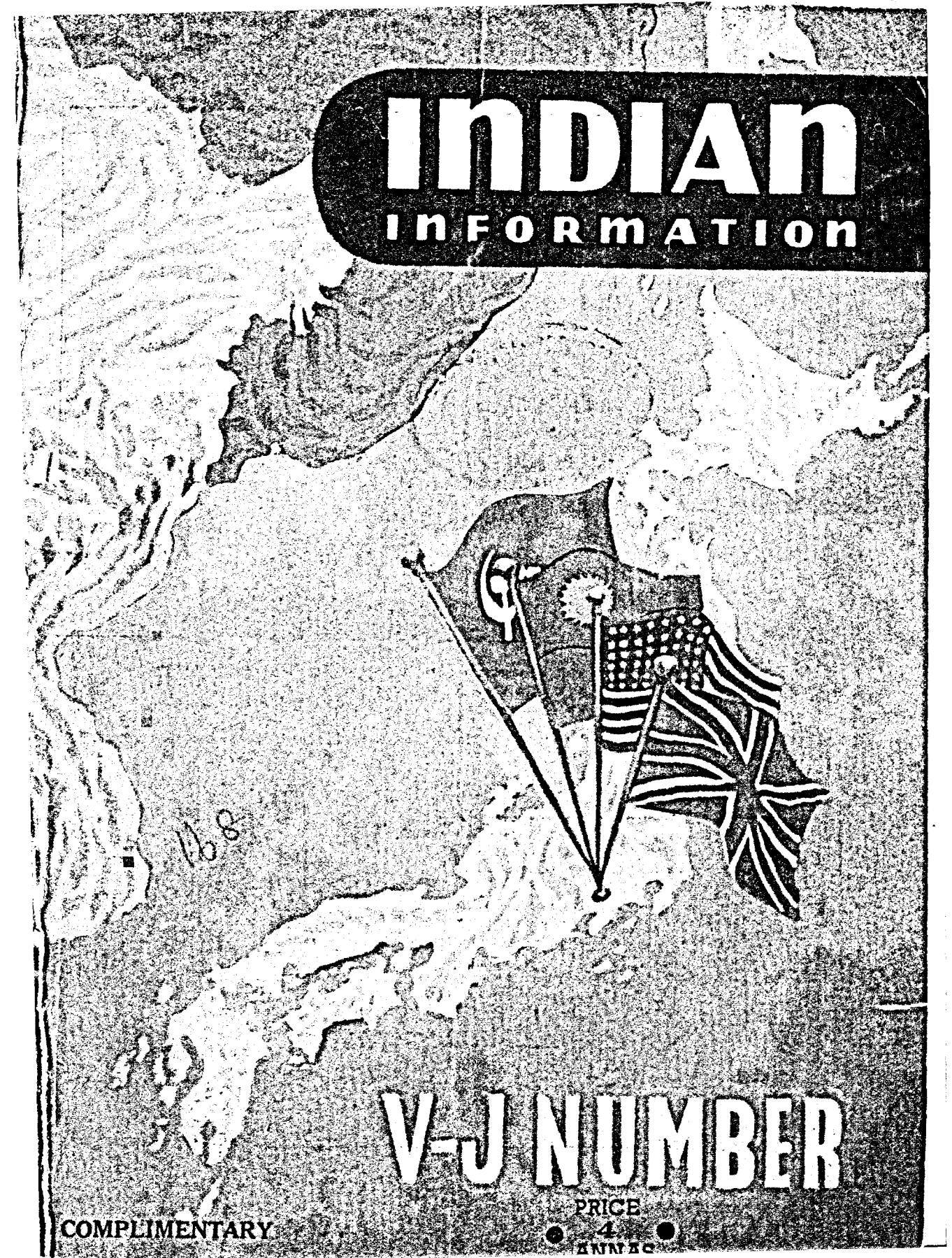
Millions of tons of shipping are thus confided to the care of the Bengal Pilot Service on a vital line of supply, who in war years have cleared double and often treble the number of ships they have cleared in peacetime.

217



Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia, shaking hands with a V.C.O. at Rangoon Docks during his recent visit to Rangoon.

Published by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India. Printed in India by E. G. Tilt (General Manager) at The Civil & Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore: Communications for the Editor should be addressed to the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India, Lahore, and not to the Printers.







M. E. the Viceroy attended a thanksgiving service held at the Church of the Redemption, New Delhi, on August 15. The Bishop of Lahore preached the sermon. Picture shows Lord Wavell talking to the American Commissioner, the Hon. George Merrel, after the service.

Vol. 17 No. 168. INDIAN INFORMATION Sept. 15, 1945.

**AIMS** :—To provide a condensed record of the main peace and war activities of the Government of India, together with some outstanding facts about the British Government's war activities.

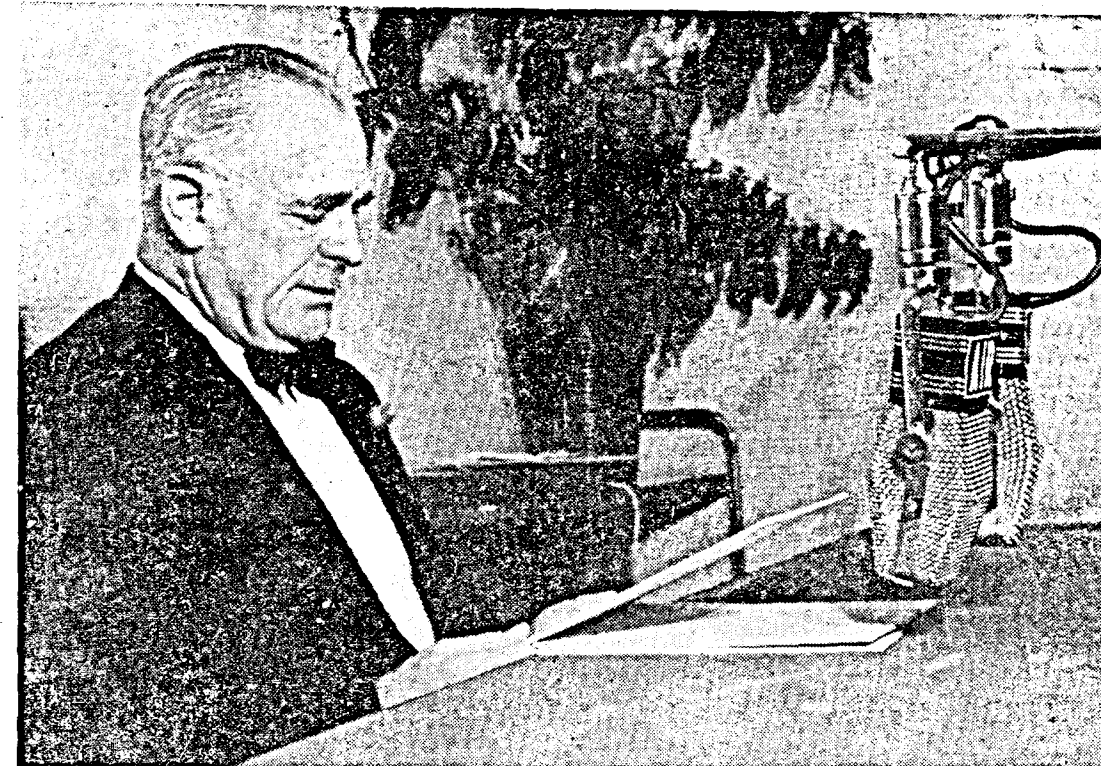
**FORMAT** :—Headings, sub-titles and bold face passages are inserted to facilitate reading but they should not in themselves necessarily be considered as expressions of official opinion or emphasis.

**CONTRIBUTIONS** :—Many MSS. are submitted to us which we regretfully return; since everything published in INDIAN INFORMATION emanates from an official source it follows that non-official contributions cannot be accepted.

Edited by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India.

## MAIN CONTENTS

|                                                 | Page |
|-------------------------------------------------|------|
| India's Part in the Production Battle           | 224  |
| Indian Steel Industry                           | 227  |
| How India Helped America                        | 240  |
| Railways' Contribution to Victory               | 247  |
| The Tools Which did the Job                     | 253  |
| Sir S. S. Bhatnagar on War, Victory and Science | 264  |
| Food is a Weapon of War                         | 279  |
| Six Years of Successful War Finance             | 293  |
| Mystery Force of the Chin Hills                 | 304  |
| Gallant Defence of Kohima                       | 309  |
| R.I.N.'s All-out Effort Against Japan           | 320  |
| R.I.A.F.'s Part in War                          | 325  |
| Chronology of War in the Far East               | 332  |



H. E. Lord Wavell broadcasting from New Delhi over A.I.R. network on V-J Day, August 15.

"THE greatest and most destructive war in history has been ended by the unconditional surrender of the Eastern aggressor, Japan, who has suffered the same well-deserved fate as the Western aggressor, Germany," said His Excellency the Viceroy in a broadcast message to the people of India on V-J Day, August 15, from A.I.R., Delhi.

"Japan, with her insensate ambitions and militarism, was a real, close and deadly menace to India; and her defeat is in a special sense India's victory. I think there are comparatively few who realise the peril in which India stood during the summer of 1942, or have fully appreciated what the consequences of a Japanese invasion would have been.

"Japan's record of aggression has been long and wanton, beginning in 1931 with the seizure of Manchuria from an older, wiser, but militarily weaker nation. Six years later, when she saw that the League of Nations was powerless or unwilling to force her to disgorge her prey, she attacked Shanghai, the heart of the

## JAPAN DEFEATED

### Viceroy's Broadcast

same neighbour, to encounter this time the stubborn resistance of an enduring people, a resistance which, to the glory of China, has continued ever since until this victorious end. A few years later Japan in her arrogance decided to play for the dominance of the Eastern world; she struck the assassin's treacherous blow at Pearl Harbour while still pretending to negotiate, and invaded Malaya by the territory of another weaker power, whose country she had occupied under no other pretext than that of superior strength.

"For a time all went well with Japan. Her successes in Malaya, at Singapore, in Borneo, Java and Burma brought her within striking distance of Australia and of India whilst both were still unprepared. She overran and subjugated the Philippines.

"But that was the end of her triumphs. The United States unrolled their immense and impressive military strength; the British, hard pressed as they were in the western theatre, drew reinforcements from it for the defence of



India; the Australians were grimly resolute to defend their country by the best means, that of counter-attack. The Japanese advance was stayed and then driven back gradually but relentlessly, and with great loss. Japan's dream of the Empire of the East, perhaps of the world, lasted little more than one year. In her complete disregard of one of the great symbols of man's progress towards higher things, the International Red Cross; in her brutal treatment of war prisoners, of civilian internees, and of the peoples of the countries she occupied, Japan has shown that she wears the trappings of civilization over a barbarian's soul.

"The myth of Japanese naval and military supremacy has also been completely exploded. Her boasted navy, handled with little skill, was out-fought and destroyed piecemeal; her air force was shown to be much inferior both in men and material to the Allied Squadrons; her land forces, once their tricks were learnt and countered, were decisively defeated. The warriors of India have shown themselves in skill and physique better men and finer fighters than their half-civilized enemy.

#### Day of Deliverance

"Today marks our deliverance from many and great dangers. Let us then remember first our fighting men who saved us—our soldiers, our sailors, our airmen—of whom India may well be proud. They came in their thousands from the Provinces and States of India, from the borders of Afghanistan to the shores of the Indian Ocean. Their ranks were swelled by the gallant soldiers of our old and loyal friend, Nepal. Today the valour and skill of the Indian Army is acclaimed all over the world. Let us also remember our Merchant seamen who faced such dangers to keep open our main line of communication. Let us remember those who fell in our defence in the words of a famous Greek epigram written nearly 2,500 years ago, of which the following is a translation:—

*'If these had not been steadfast, smoke and fire*

*Had risen from our city to the sky;*

*Freedom for us, their sons, was their desire,*

*Themselves they chose among the brave to die.'*

"Let us remember too the toilers in the factory and in the field who through these hard years have sustained us and our armies. Let us remember the efforts of the A.R.P. workers,

the railwaymen and others who so well played their part. India can indeed claim a large share of the victory both in the West and in the East. To all those, whether in high office or humble duty, officials and non-officials, women as well as men, who have contributed to the victories by their steadfastness, courage and hard work; to the Princes of India who have made such a notable contribution—to all these I give grateful thanks on behalf of India for having brought this country safely through the great crisis. I give thanks also on behalf of India to our helpers and allies, to Britain whose people never lost hope in the darkest hour, to the United States of whose magnificent services in the common cause we in India know so much, to the stubborn people of Russia, and to our indomitable neighbour China. We owe a debt of deep gratitude to the great war leaders of these countries, and to their peoples.

"And now what of the future? Peace will bring no easy solution of our many problems, political, social, and economic. We have endured nearly six years of war, and there are many who are strained and weary. But we cannot yet afford relaxation: remember that our real tasks are still ahead. Our gratitude to those who saved us, to the rank and file of our fighting forces, to our peasants and workers, must be shown not in mere words but in action to improve their lot. May we be given courage and understanding to use bravely and wisely the peace they have won for us."

#### ARMY COUNCIL'S TRIBUTE TO THE SERVICES

A message from the Army Council to "all ranks of His Majesty's Armies," says:

"Fighting in the most trying conditions of climate and terrain the forces engaged refused to be daunted by natural obstacles or by difficulties of supply. In the face of temporary enemy superiority they never lost faith in their success, and their faith had already carried them far in their advance to liberate the British and Allied territories enslaved by Japan. Now the enemy has forestalled his own destruction by a timely surrender.

"To all men and women serving in the Armies, whatever their race or creed, the Council sends this expression of admiration and gratitude for their contribution to the common victory."



#### The King Congratulates Empire Armed Forces

His Majesty the King Emperor has sent the following message to his Navies, Armies and Air Forces throughout the Empire:

"The surrender of Japan has brought to a victorious end the war which has engaged our full fighting strength all over the world. I send my heartfelt congratulations to the men and women of my Navies, Armies and Air Forces throughout the British Commonwealth and Empire. Through the long years of the grim struggle with our enemies in the West and in the East your unflinching resolution and indomitable courage in the face of manifold adversity have earned you the eternal gratitude of your countrymen. Many of your comrades have fallen in the fight. With you I grieve for their loss, for the suffering of the wounded and for the sorrows of the bereaved. With you I look forward to the safe homecoming of those who have had to endure captivity. By God's mercy the forces of evil have been overthrown. But many tasks remain to be accomplished if the full blessings of peace are to be restored to a suffering world. It is the duty of each one of us to ensure that your comrades have not died in vain and that your own hard won achievements are not lost to the cause of freedom in which you undertook them. On behalf of all my peoples I thank you. God bless you all. George R.I."

In a cable to the Commander-in-Chief in India, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, the King has thanked all ranks of India Command for their message of loyalty on the occasion of the Japanese surrender.

The King's message read:

I heartily thank you and all ranks of the armed forces of the India Command for your loyal message on the termination of the war against Japan, whereby final victory over our enemies has been granted to us. George R.I.

—V—

#### "MOST GLORIOUS PAGE IN INDIA'S HISTORY"

The following message has been sent to H.E. the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, by the Secretary of State for India, Lord Pethick-Lawrence:

"At this moment, when the Allied cause has achieved its final triumph in the defeat of Japan, it is my privilege to convey to you the congratulations of His Majesty's Government on the truly magnificent part which India has played.

"We in this country are deeply conscious of the vital contribution which the armed forces of India, the Princes and the people as a whole have made, not only on battlefields but in workshops and factories, which have transformed India into a great arsenal and fighting base.

#### Unsurpassed Gallantry

"The unsurpassed gallantry and endurance of the Indian forces throughout this long and bitter struggle are beyond all praise and will stand recorded as a most glorious page in India's history.

"Those who have made the supreme sacrifice in this greatest world struggle for the triumph of right over might are not here to rejoice with us today in this moment of victory, but their names are remembered with thankfulness and pride.

"India with her allies has crushed the aggressors. Now we face the great task of restoring the stricken world and of building the universal structure of peace."

The Viceroy has sent the following telegram to the Secretary of State for India:

The Government of India are deeply grateful for the congratulations of His Majesty's Government on India's part in the war conveyed to them in your telegram of 15th August.

Throughout the struggle the Princes and people of India have had nothing but admiration for the determination and courage of the British people, which sustained us during the darkest days and without which our own efforts would have been unavailing. We shall hope to work in the same spirit of mutual help in the reconstruction work of peace.

—V—

### **"ALL FORCES HAVE ACQUITTED THEMSELVES SPLENDIDLY"**

The following telegrams have been exchanged between the Viceroy and the Supreme Allied Commander, South East Asia Command:

**From the Viceroy**

My warmest congratulations to you and to all the Forces under your command on the triumphant victory over Japan. The fighting in Burma has been long and hard, and all who have taken part in it have acquitted themselves splendidly.

**From the Supreme Allied Commander**

I am most grateful to you for your message of congratulation on the defeat of Japan in which Indian troops have played such a memorable part.

Your message is being passed to all forces in S.E.A.C.

—V—

### **INDIA THANKED FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION**

The following telegrams have been exchanged between the Viceroy and the Governor-General of Australia.

**From the Viceroy**

On behalf of India I send your Royal Highness and the Government and people of Australia heartiest congratulations on final victory over Japan. Australia's magnificent war effort has been an inspiration to us all.

**From the Governor-General of Australia**

The Government and people of the Commonwealth of Australia and myself warmly reciprocate India's congratulations upon the defeat of Japan and are grateful for your tribute to the war effort of the Australian nation. We would like to thank India for its contribution in men and munitions to the victory over the forces of aggression.

222

### **"AN INSPIRATION TO THE EMPIRE"**

The following messages have been exchanged between the Viceroy and the Governor-General of Canada.

**From the Viceroy**

On behalf of India I send the Government and people of Canada heartiest congratulations on final victory over Japan. India has greatly admired Canada's splendid contribution to the common cause.

**From the Governor-General of Canada**

I thank you for your telegram of 16th and desire on behalf of the Government and people of Canada to reciprocate most heartily the kind congratulations which you conveyed to them. India's magnificent contribution has been an inspiration to the Empire and the Allied Nations.

—V—

### **"INDIA HAS WON PLACE AMONG GREAT NATIONS"**

The following telegrams have been exchanged between the Viceroy and the Prime Minister of New Zealand.

**From the Prime Minister of New Zealand**

As we in New Zealand rejoice today in the end of six years of war we are conscious that a new era has opened for the people of India. By their huge contribution of the man effort and natural wealth the Indian people have won their place among the great nations of the world.

The Government and people of New Zealand rejoice in India's growth in power and prestige for they know that it will be used to promote the security and the welfare of all peoples and the wider spreading of human freedom. Peter Fraser.

**From the Viceroy**

I am most grateful for your message. India has admired the splendid war-effort of New Zealand and greatly values the goodwill of her people.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

### **F. M. SMUTS' MESSAGE**

The following telegrams have been exchanged between the Viceroy and Field Marshal Smuts.

**From Field Marshal Smuts**

Warm congratulations on V-J Day with its final victory for the cause for which our Commonwealth and Empire have made such efforts and sacrifices. Best wishes for the peace so dearly purchased.

**From the Viceroy**

I am most grateful for your message. India reciprocates your hope that the peace for which Commonwealth and Empire have fought so hard may be well used.

—V—

### **TRIBUTE TO GURKHAS**

The following telegrams have been exchanged between H. E. the Viceroy and His Highness the Maharaja of Nepal.

**From H.H. the Maharaja of Nepal**

While giving expression to hearty congratulations I feel happy to tell Your Excellency that Nepal which has done its mite participates in the rejoicings at the final victory which has brought this world war to a happy termination.

**From H.E. the Viceroy**

I thank Your Highness most sincerely for your message of congratulations on the surrender of Japan and take this opportunity to express my deep gratitude for all the assistance so freely given by Nepal throughout the grim struggle which has ended in the final overthrow of our enemies. The friendship and steadfastness of the people of Nepal and the skill and courage of her renowned Gurkha warriors have contributed in no small measure to this glorious victory.

—V—

### **"MAGNIFICENT SPIRIT AND GREAT STEADFASTNESS"**

The following message has been addressed by the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, to all personnel of the fighting services in India Command:

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

"I thank you all for the magnificent spirit and great steadfastness you have shown in these six long years of war. It is these qualities which have achieved victory. There is much still to be done before the conditions of peace can fully return. I wish you all possible happiness and prosperity in the future."

The Nawab of Bhopal, Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes, has sent the following congratulatory message to the Commander-in-Chief in India:

"On behalf of the Princes of India I offer you our heartiest congratulations on the final and decisive victory. We fully realise how much the Commonwealth and the world owe this event to your personal contribution and to the gallant forces under your command. We trust that in the peace to follow the gallant services of the armed forces of India, including the States, will receive their due recognition."

In his reply Gen. Auchinleck says, "I am sure that the whole British Commonwealth, no less than India herself, realise the great part played by the Rulers of the Indian States in bringing about final victory. I would like to express to all of them who have contributed so much to the Allied cause my personal gratitude for the help and support I have at all times received from them."

—V—

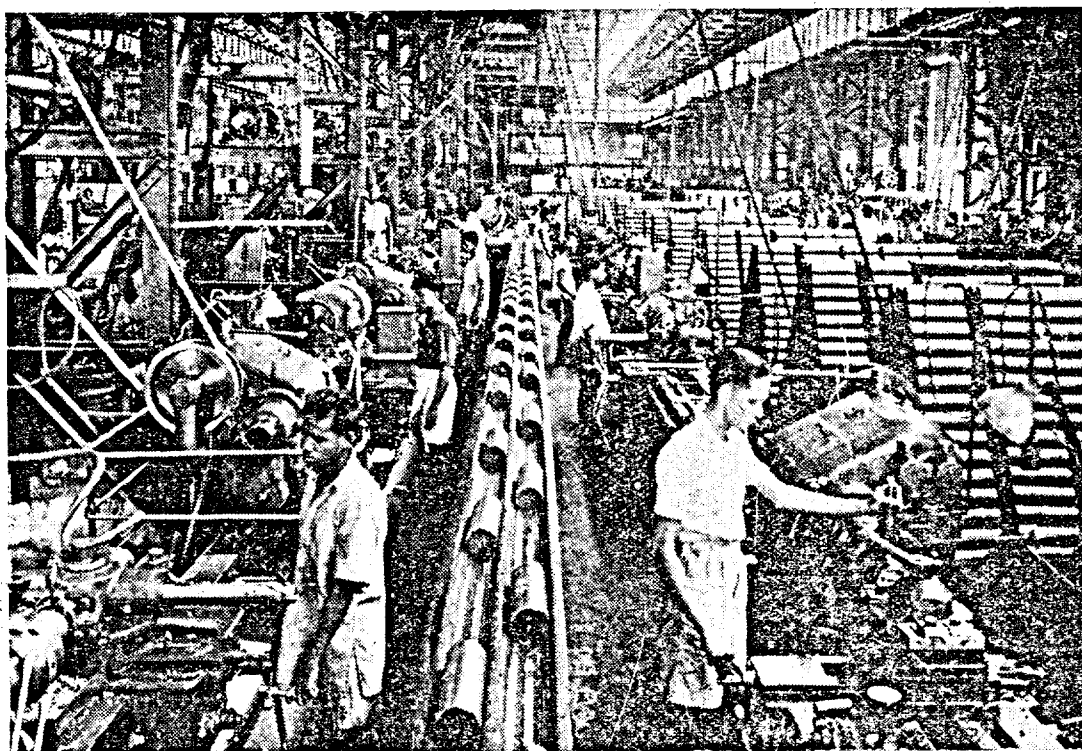
### **CHINA THANKS INDIA**

"On this happy occasion of the end of the war with Japan I send Your Excellency my hearty congratulations on this great victory which has been made possible to so large an extent by the steadfast endurance and courage of the Chinese people. I earnestly hope that the links of closer friendship and mutual understanding between China and India which have been forged during this war will be maintained to strengthen and secure the peace," said H. E. Lord Wavell in a message to Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek.

Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek has replied:

"I thank Your Excellency most sincerely for your congratulations upon the Allied victory over Japan. In the course of our long struggle with the enemy the Chinese people have received generous sympathy and assistance from the leaders and people of India, for which we are deeply grateful. I am firmly convinced that our two peoples, bound together by their common ideals of peace and justice, will forever maintain their good neighbourly relations and close co-operation in the years to come."

223



Indian Railway Workshops Produce Munitions—Shells in the right hand chute have been finish bored and are being sent to the Inspection Bench.

## INDIA'S PART IN THE PRODUCTION BATTLE

**I**NDIA'S wartime output of ammunition has doubled, trebled, and quadrupled and increased, under certain items, 30 to 50 times.

Some of the striking increases recently recorded were: rifles, 11 times pre-war output; bayonets, 20 times pre-war output; small arms ammunition, some 4 times pre-war output; guns and carriages, 20 times pre-war output; guns and mortar ammunition, 35 times pre-war output; and instruments, 50 times pre-war output. In addition, India produced a number of ammunition items which were not produced before the war e.g. grenades, mines, bombs, pyrotechnics stores, etc. Among the more important items of the armament stores produced in quantity were: 6-pounder gun carriages, tripods for light machine guns, anti-aircraft gun sites, binoculars, stereoscopes, clinometers and telescopes.

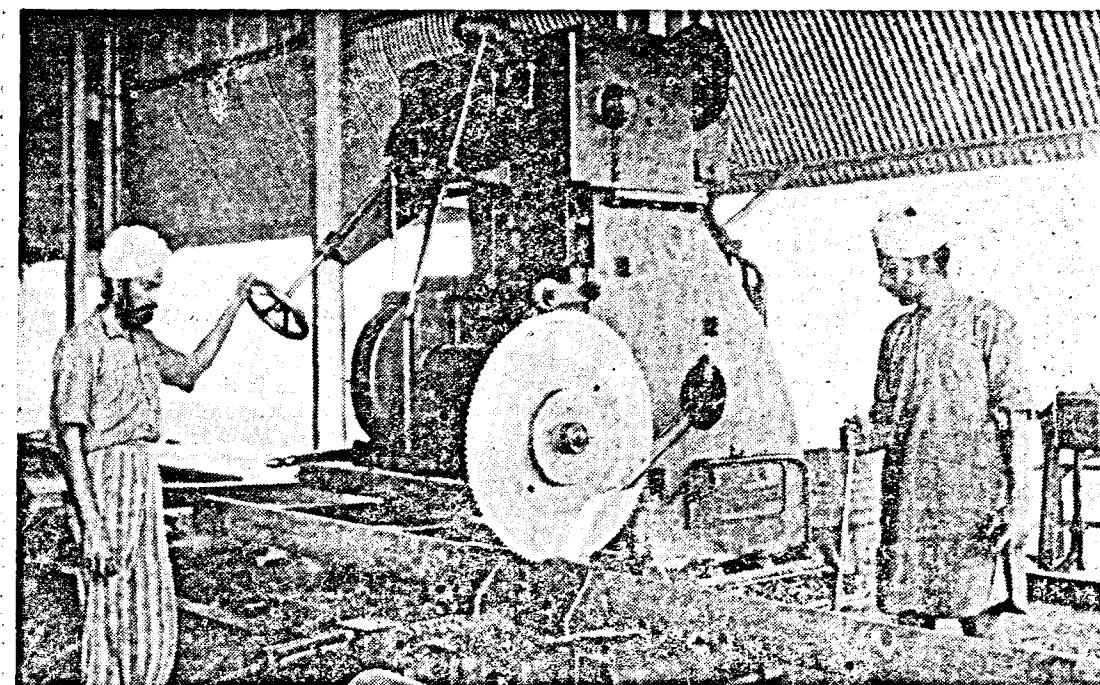
In other words, the ordnance factories in India manufactured everything hurled at the

enemy, by hand, rifle, mortar and gun, dropped on his head from the air, thrown at his submarines from the decks of ships, or left under a few inches of dirt to smash the tracks of his tanks. The civil workshops maintained a constant output of the many components which make up these projectiles.

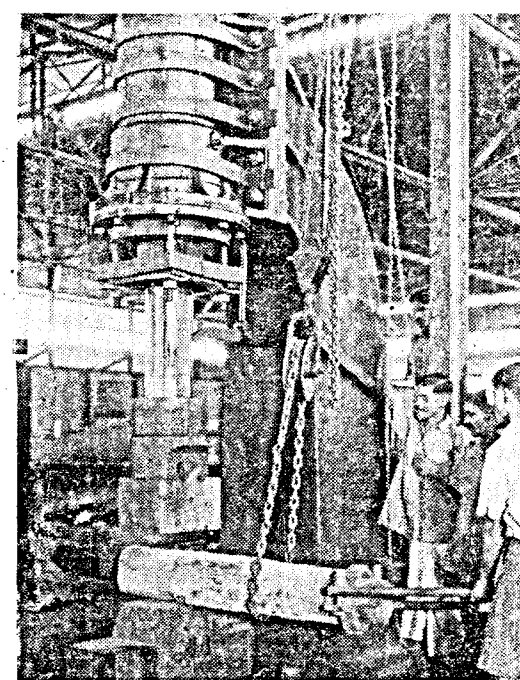
A number of ancillary industries which were mobilised and expanded turned out thousands of tons of steel, brass and other metals required to make the projectiles—paints and lacquers to finish them, containers to pack them in, and explosives of various types which gave the projectiles their devastating punch.

To become the most strategic base of the United Nations in Asia, India's ordnance factories and civil workshops rose to their full stature and lined up with the arsenals of the Allies in the battle of production. The story of this achievement is a complex story of all-round expansion and mobilisation of industries

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



A vertical saw cutting a shell bar. (Below left) A one-ton pneumatic hammer is used for forging hot mill screws. (Below right) Assembling noses on to the punches of 4.5" shells.



INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



—a story of battle over deficiencies in the industrial system, over raw materials, over men and machines.

It begins from the beginning of the war when India had just a few ordnance factories constituting her specialised munition industry. They were producing a good many things essential for the Army. But with the change in the technique of warfare, it was necessary to bring about changes in the character of their production. After the fall of France, the Commonwealth countries found themselves standing alone to face a ruthless, well-armed enemy. India could no longer depend on Britain, who herself, with her factories, subjected to continuous bombing, was forced to look on other units for the vital needs of life. Shipping difficulties experienced in the first few years of war and the Japanese advance to the borders of India, were some of the other factors which goaded the planning and expansion of the ammunition industry.

#### Chatfield Plan

The first plan to be implemented was the Chatfield Plan. It was intended to expand all existing ordnance factories and to instal new types of machine tools necessary for the production of all types of modern weapons and ammunition. It also provided for a new factory for the manufacture of high explosives, including a plant for the production of Toluene and the expansion of the cordite factory.

Post-Chatfield measures comprised a number of projects introduced subsequently. Most important of these was a project for the expansion of India's production of small arms ammunition by 12 million rounds per month. The Cordite Factory, the Metal and Steel Factory and ammunition factories were also expanded.

It was soon realised that India had to play a larger part in the production of armaments than had been anticipated under the Chatfield Plan. In 1940 a Ministry of Supply Mission from U.K., led by Sir Alexander Roger, visited India to examine the possibility of further expansion. The Mission accepted plans prepared by the authorities in India, in consultation with the Mission's experts, for 21 new projects, including projects of alloy steels for guns and small arms, gun forgings, bayonets, light machine-guns, gun carriages, shells, fuzes and primers, high explosives, cordite, Toluene and motor Benzol.

With the entry of Japan came the Transplantation Plan involving the building of five new ordnance factories and the expansion of two of the factories under the Eastern Group Plan. It comprised a number of new projects for the further expansion of India's capacity for the production and maintenance of armaments. Under the Ordnance Factory Expansion Plan a new series of projects was started. These included projects for the maintenance of imported artillery equipment, the maintenance of aircraft instruments, production of packages, production of higher type respirators, etc.

Thus the ordnance factories in India have undergone a three-fold expansion since the commencement of the war. Factories have risen where there were just waste lands, and a new army of technicians has been trained to work them. Large plants have been operating for the manufacture of Toluene and Acetone. Then there are plants for nitric acid, for the concentration of sulphuric acid, and for cordite. India has been well on the way of attaining self-sufficiency in the manufacture of high explosives. T.N.T. and the Composition Exploding, which is described as 50 per cent. more sensitive than T.N.T. have also been manufactured.

#### Engineering Side

On the engineering side a new steel works for the production of alloy steels was brought into production. New rolling mills were installed. A 2,000-ton forging press for guns, including anti-aircraft guns, was brought into operation. New types of shells, including various armour-piercing anti-tank types have been produced. A plant was also installed for the manufacture of light machine guns. Steel factories, specially expanded for the purpose, have provided steel suitable for the latest type of field guns and barrels, ammunition and bombs.

For this production drive, thousands of tons of steel work for the new industrial buildings were fabricated, and machine tools and plant together with ancillary equipment was obtained to equip the factories.

Of equal interest is the human side of this story of bombs and guns. The strength of labour force employed in Ordnance factories rose from 15,000 in 1939 to 100,000 in 1944—a six-fold expansion, excluding the large numbers of staff and workmen employed on the production of components for armament stores in Railway and trade workshops. Factory training schemes,

launched to train workers for skilled jobs, turned out about 50,000 workers, managers, supervisors and tool setters, highly skilled and semi-skilled artisans.

Major schemes of water supply, electric supply, sewage disposal, etc., were carried out and new roads and railway communications were laid down to operate the newly constructed factories. Arrangements were made for housing the factory personnel. At one of the larger projects, the Housing Estate provided accommodation for 13,000 staff and 12,000 workmen and their families—the total strength of some 45,000 to 50,000 persons, equivalent to the population of a medium-sized provincial town in India.

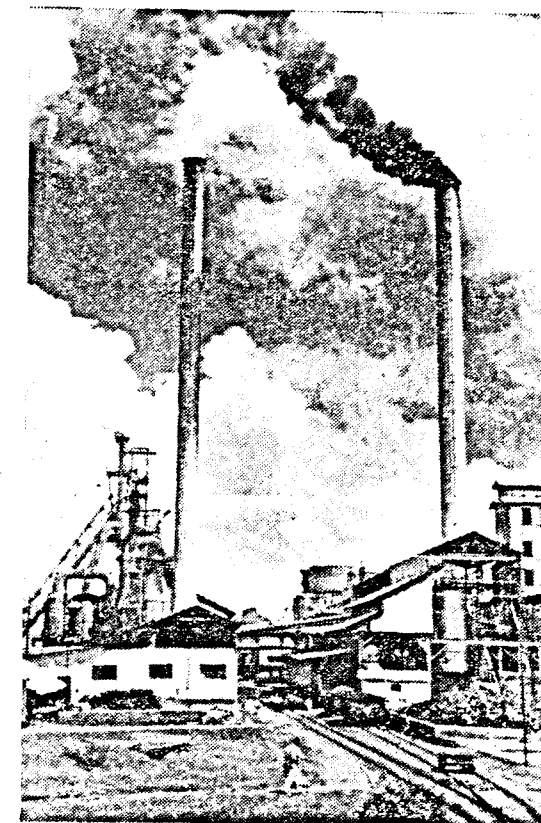
#### Engineering Workshops

The attainment of high figures of finished ammunition in ordnance factories was greatly assisted by the development of capacity in trade and Railway workshops which manufactured components. The Railway workshops produced 4.5-inch howitzer and 25-pounder shell forgings. Orders for no less than 437 items normally manufactured in ordnance factories were placed on these workshops. These included empty shells, empty grenades, fuzes mines, A.P. shots, fused components, bayonets, release boxes, pontoon ends and centres. At the outset of the war there were about 600 workshops known to be available. At the peak period the Director-General of Munitions Production was using 1,500 Engineering Workshops—840 for general engineering items, over 300 for small items and 345 plus 20 railway workshops for ammunition components.

#### Production of Shell Gauges

A number of railway engineering shops embarked on the production of shell-gauges and the manufacture of hand-grenade bodies. From the railway workshops came a stream of vehicles, bodies, including armament vehicles, firing platforms, trench mortars, gauges for munitions manufacture, machine-tools, S.A.A. tools, grenade bodies and components etc.

Some workshops were entrusted with the manufacture of empty fuzes for high explosive shells. The jute industry also provided a "feeder service" for munitions parts. The mills concentrated on the manufacture of base plates and transit plugs for shells, cast iron for defence uses and component parts for armoured vehicles. Their average production rose to 200,000 per month.



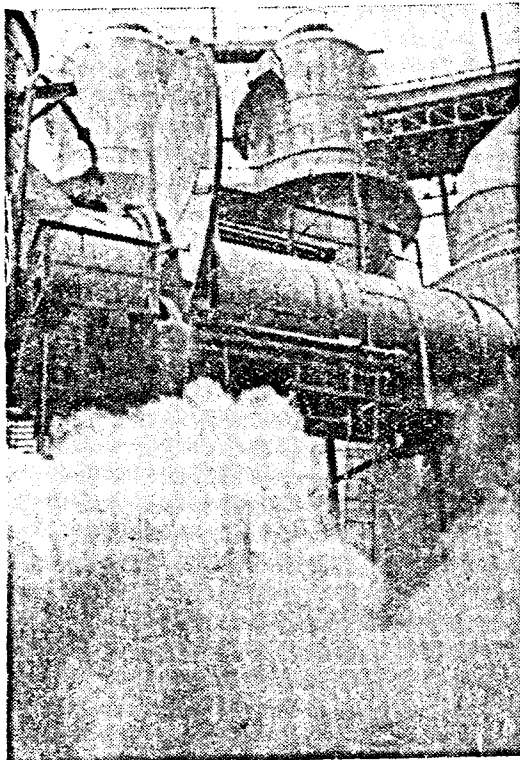
The Mysore Iron and Steel Works.

## DEVELOPMENT OF INDIAN STEEL INDUSTRY

It was a war of steel, and Indian steel was at war both in the defensive and offensive stages of operations against the Axis Powers.

India produced steel for rails which carried troops and munitions to the front lines. She manufactured armour piercing steel, bullet-proof steel and steel for armoured fighting vehicles, which served the soldiers and sailors in the thick of the battle. Then there was steel for various items ranging from the smallest to the biggest, all necessary for warfare—steel for barbed wire, for metal cutting tools, for surgical instruments, and steel for cranes, bridges, floating docks and ships.

It is the contribution of an industry which has undergone remarkable development during



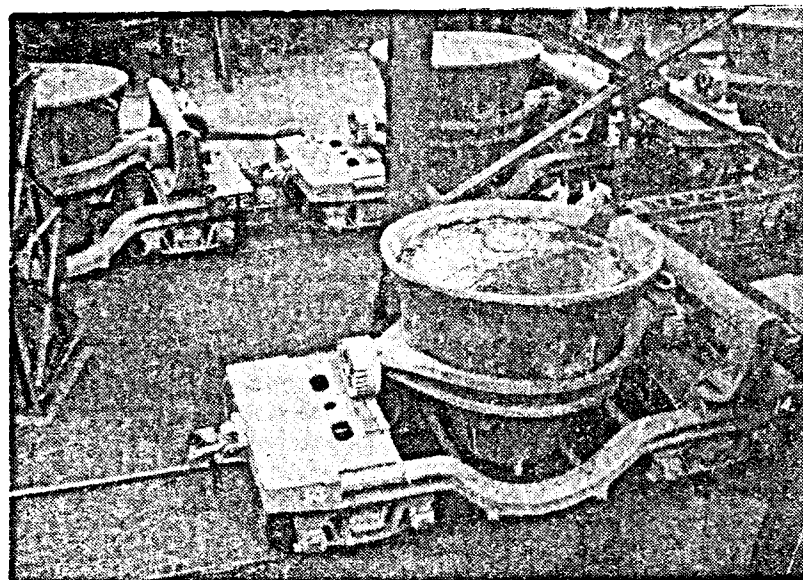
Blast furnace stoves and gas main of an Iron Works.

the war. Up to 1912, India was dependent upon imports from abroad for practically all her steel requirements. In 1938-39 the import figures were reduced to 162,000 tons as compared with 915,000 in 1927-28, and production rose to 935,000 tons. As a result of war demands, production of steel rose to about 1,400,000 tons in 1941.

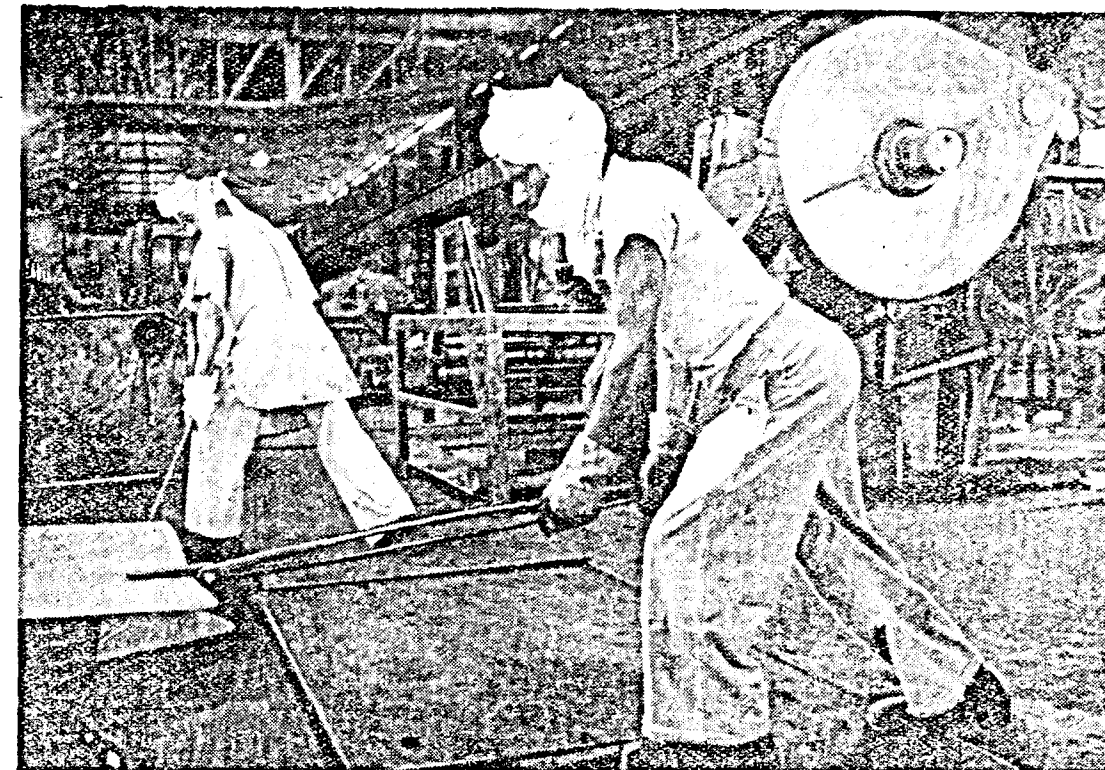
The industry was equipped not only to produce larger and still larger quantities of steel but also to develop special steels, including stainless steel and steel for the R.A.F. Equipment for heat treatment was installed and efforts were made to meet the demands for special steels which were needed in India. A scheme was introduced to double the capacity of the steel Corporation of Bengal. Ferro-Silicon was produced by the Mysore Iron and Steel Works. High Tensile Steel wire was successfully manufactured and used for urgent demands.

For the manufacture of high grade steels required for modern weapons and to produce non-ferrous alloys, the Ordnance Factories dealing with these activities were expanded and modernised. These factories produced steel for the latest type of field guns and bombs, anti-aircraft guns, as well as materials for ammunition for these weapons and for air bombs etc.

At the Tata Steel Works was installed a new Perrin Process Plant which gave an additional output of about 200,000 ingots per annum. In 1942 Tatas installed a Blast Furnace, one



This double railway track is in constant use for moving the molten products from the blast furnaces.



Tongsmen at work in the sheet mill. The men muffle their faces to protect themselves from the savage heat given off by the sheets of red hot metal.

of the largest and most up-to-date in the world, with a daily production capacity of 1,700 tons.

The Wheel Tyre and Axle Plant of the same concern gave a steadily increasing output and assisted in providing transportation facilities in adjacent theatres of war.

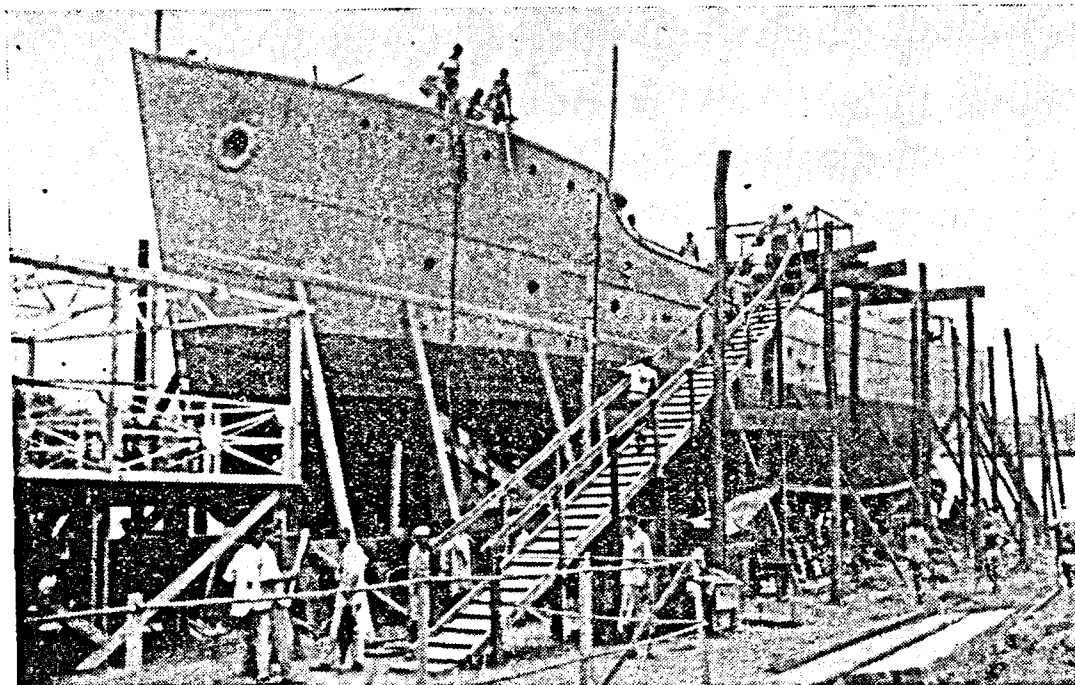
The industry undertook not only the routine production of structurals, rails and galvanised sheets for supply to the Army and for Government's expansion programme, but also a large tonnage of special bar for the production of shells.

#### Armour Plate

Tatas produced a bullet-proof armour plate, made of special alloy steel, which has stood the severe firing tests demanded by the British armour plate specification. There are countries which have been producing steel for many more years than India but have not yet manufactured armoured plate—so vitally required for the fabrication of armoured fighting vehicles.

From the Tata Steel Company came a special steel for the electrodes employed in the welding of Tata's armour plate, a special alloy steel for manufacturing shearing blades, high speed steel for machine tools, and bullet-proof plates for Howitzer shields and gun turrets on armoured fighting vehicles. They also produced thick proof plates of special alloy steel composition for the proofing of armour piercing shot, plates to withstand the attack of a two-pounder shot and nickel-chrome steel rounds for the production of 18-pounder and 25-pounder armour piercing shells.

Other useful varieties of steel supplied by the same concern were: high carbon steel for the manufacture of mint dies, nickel steel plates for gun carriage mountings, special quality steel for cartridge cases and for rifle and machine gun magazines, a special high alloy nickel manganese non-magnetic steel for service helmets, trawler bed plates of cast iron for shipbuilding and plates of varying thickness for Admiralty Floating Docks, the construction of which was undertaken in India. One such dock was suc-



cessfully completed last year and a repeat order for another dock is well in hand.

The contribution on the side of structural steel included section bars, plates, black and galvanised sheets and piling bars for supply in the Middle East, carbon and alloy spring steel bars, rails of all sections for building light rails for Decauville tracks, steel billets for drawing into telegraph wires and into barbed wire for defence purposes.

Production of high grade quality steel was undertaken. Some 20,000 tons of ferro-manganese were manufactured for the U.S.A. A successful welding technique for the electric and gas welding of Chromemolybdenum Steel required in the manufacture of aircraft was also developed.

Allied to the main steel industry were a number of industries engaged in turning out steel into specialised products of various sizes and shapes. Barbed wire, galvanised wire, telegraph wire—wires of every description—came from Messrs. Indian Steel Wire Products. They also made rods, nails, bolts, nuts and rivets for British Forces. The Agrico Ltd. manufactured eyed tools, such as hoes, pick axes, railway track tools and felling axes which were in great demand.

230

A vessel, built of Indian steel in an Indian shipyard, ready for launching.

## SHIPBUILDING INDUSTRY

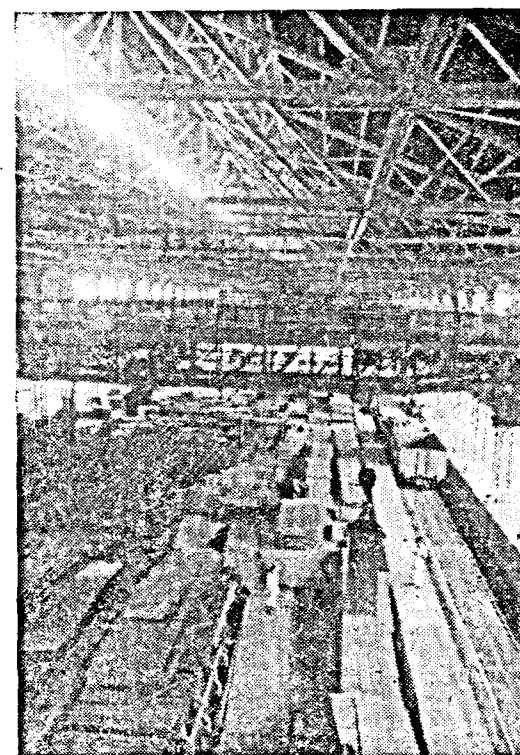
Over 6,000 Allied Ships  
Repaired in India

**M**IDWAY between the Middle and the Far East lies India. This unique position in the map of the world enabled this country to play an important role in the naval struggle which was being waged, in the earlier years of the war in the Mediterranean, round the southern and eastern coasts of Africa, the Indian Ocean and Australia.

While ships of the Royal Indian Navy were operating against the enemy on the high seas, at home Indian shipyards were organised and expanded to build new ships and to succour Allied ships damaged by enemy action.

According to the latest available figures, these shipyards have repaired over 6,500 ships of the United Nations representing a tonnage of 38.84 millions. Many of these ships were damaged by enemy action, bomb, mine, or torpedo. The industry also dealt with the require-

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



Steel plates for shipyards being transferred by electro-magnets to trucks for despatch.

ments of merchant ships calling at Indian ports in respect of defensive equipment, including plastic armour. Up to the end of January 1945 approximately 5,825 tons of plastic armour were manufactured.

Towards the end of 1939 Germany produced a fresh weapon of war, the magnetic mine. But only a few months later this secret weapon had been mastered by the method now widely known as 'degaussing.' Indian docks and shipyards, where a large volume of the work involved was undertaken, and the Electrical Industry in India played an important part in overcoming this menace.

### Building Activity

In addition to repairs and defensive equipment hundreds of ships have been built in India and the building activity covers a wide range from steel minesweepers and anti-submarine patrol boats down to 16-foot dinghies. Wooden barges for carrying cargo in ports have also been built in large numbers along with the normal production of country-craft. The new construction programme of the Royal Indian Navy itself was undertaken from India's own resources.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

Before the war, Indian shipyards were equipped to deal with only peacetime transit repairs to ships proceeding to and from European and American ports. This activity was limited to the repair and maintenance of a small number of ships in Indian waters. Building activity was similarly confined to the construction of small crafts such as river steamers, steel flats, etc. and country-crafts.

India had, no doubt, a long and illustrious tradition of shipbuilding. But to meet modern war demands the shipbuilding industry could not be confined to simple sailing by the sheer force of the sea breeze. The problem was indeed a complex one. For modern warfare the navy required self-driven and self-propelled ships working on steam and diesel engines. To turn out new and modern ships the steel worker, the engineer and India's age-old carpenter had to join hands and a new tradition was created in Indian shipyards.

### Wartime Development

The Industry's wartime development dates back to the early days of the war and, in June, 1942, a Directorate-General of Shipbuilding and Ship Repairs was formed to control and expand the industry and to enable it to meet the heavy demands placed on it by war. To do this, existing workshops and shipyards had to be expanded, new capacity found and equipped and a sufficient supply of labour secured. Several new firms with no previous knowledge had to be incorporated in the industry and the assistance of similar firms able to carry out subsidiary work, such as machining, had to be enlisted. Supplies of essential machinery and of much important material, chiefly steel, were obtained from the U.K. and the U.S.A.

Today, the capacity of about 56 firms is devoted to shipbuilding and ship repairs. Schemes of assistance to firms to the value of Rs. 111 lakhs have been sanctioned by Government.

Supply of skilled labour was a serious problem from the beginning. Attempts were made to solve it by the dilution of existing labour. Evacuee labour was also absorbed and the training of likely men as mechanics and skilled tradesmen was also undertaken. About 52,000 men of various trades and grades were distributed among firms whose capacity was devoted to shipbuilding and ship repairs. In addition, there are about 800 Italian prisoners of war working in the naval and commercial ship repair yards.

231

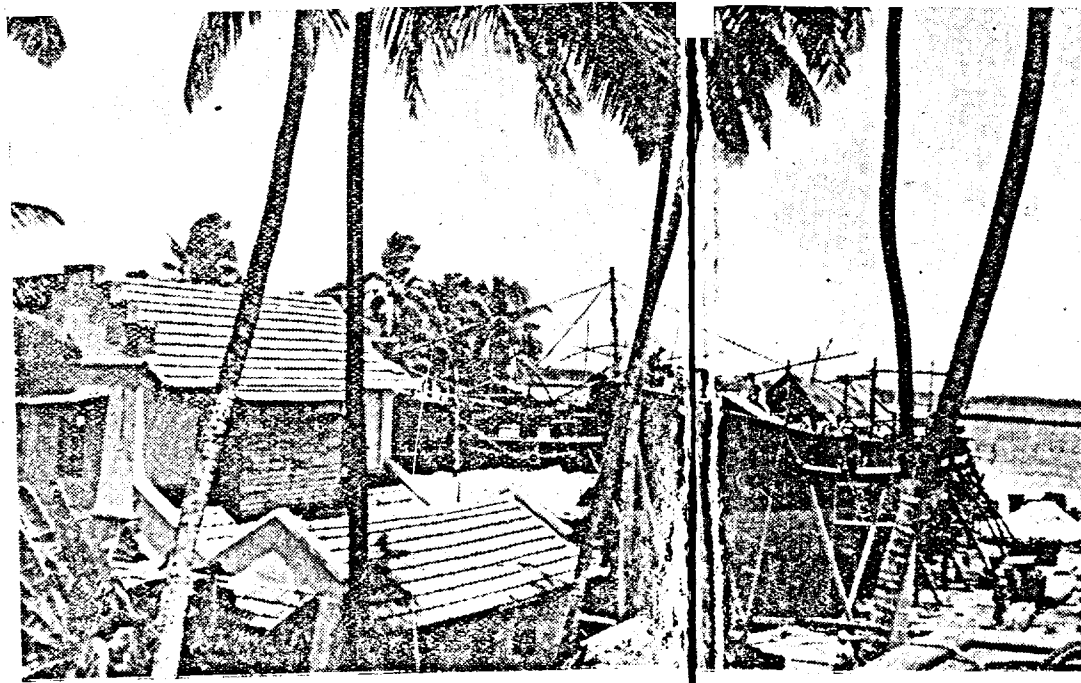




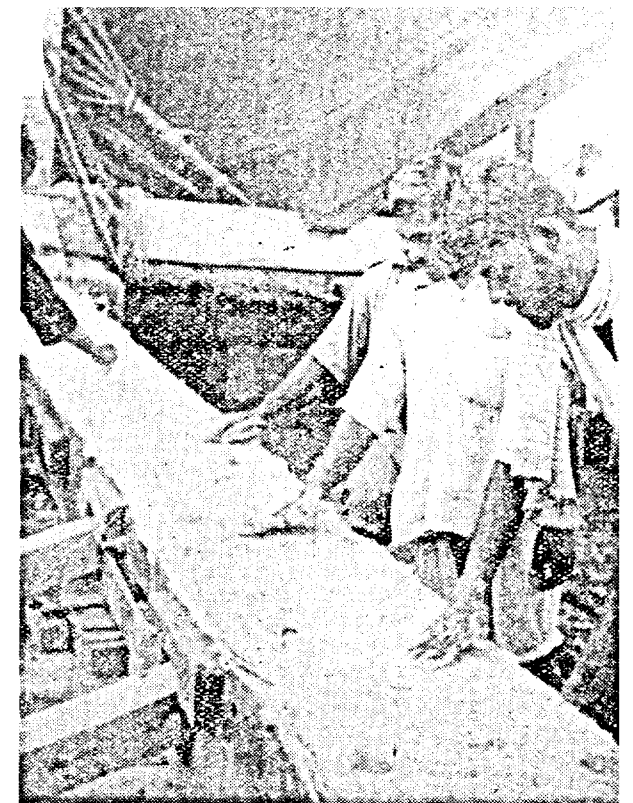
Indian shipyard workers rig the scaffolding round the skeleton of a warship under construction.  
(Below) Platers at work.



## THE BIRTH OF A WARSHIP—

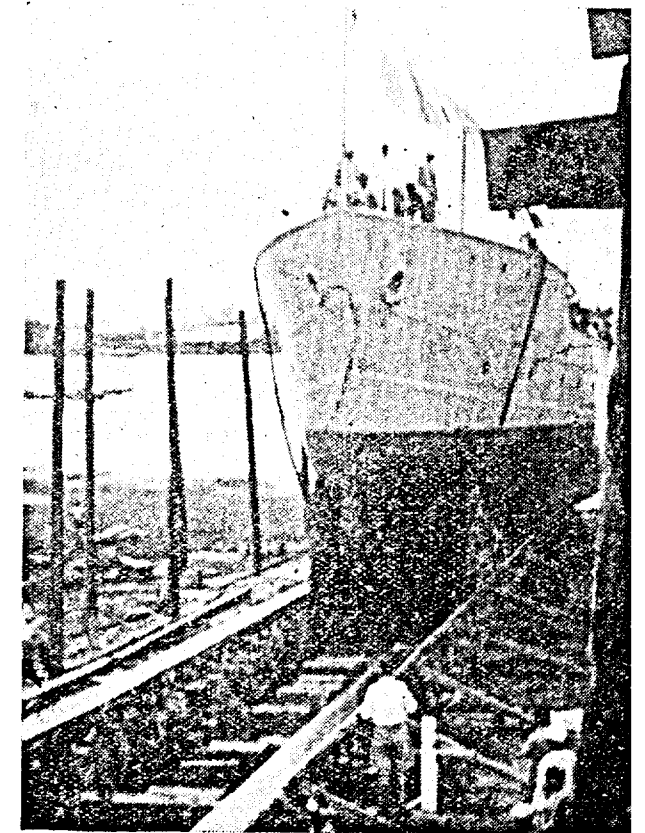
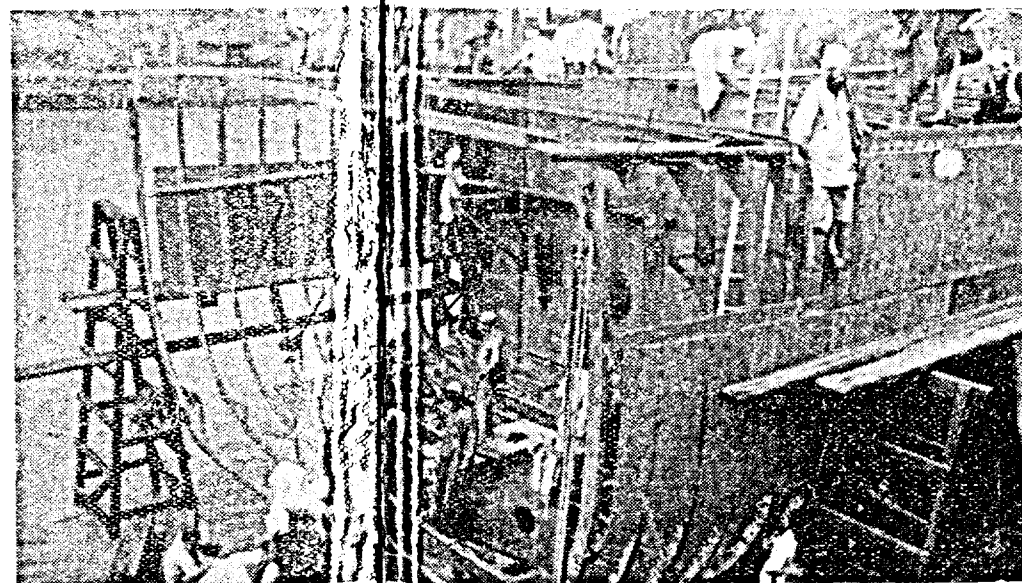


A peaceful palm-shaded birthplace for a warship.



Greasing the slipway to facilitate the launching of the vessel. (Below) H.M.I.S. "Travancore," the largest sea-going vessel built in India, going down the slipway.

A Basset trawler under construction.



## INDIA, A SUPPLY BASE FOR UNITED NATIONS

**T**HROUGHOUT the war India was a major supply base for the war effort of the United Nations.

She helped the United Nations in two ways. Firstly, she began to manufacture a very large proportion of Defence requirements ranging from shirts to ships, from buttons to bridges, from goggles to guns, and not only for her own but for all countries of the Eastern Group. This increased manufacturing capacity was responsible for replacing imports, thus relieving other countries for war production.

And secondly, she maintained a regular supply of her vital raw materials to countries which were engaged on producing weapons of war for the United Nations.

### Eastern Group Supplies

Millions of yards of textiles and numerous other items were sent to 15 different countries of the Eastern Group, i.e., Australia, South Africa, Southern Rhodesia, Kenya, Uganda, Tanganyika, Northern Rhodesia, Nyasaland, Zanzibar, Burma, Ceylon, Hong Kong, Malaya and Palestine. Their war requirements comprised over 50,000 articles out of which India supplied over 37,000.

Egypt got telephone line equipment, bedding valises, steel hutting, nails, binding wire, telephone stores, rolled steel joints, mild steel sheets and angles, wire nails, reinforcement bars, steel tanks, road rolling plants, soft timber, steel nuts, black and galvanised steel wire, electric fans, army wire-mesh road track with pitches, road-making plants, steel sheets for bitumen containers and bridging cribs.

Supplies to South Africa comprised buttons, hooks and eyes, cotton textiles, sand bags, etc. Sulphuric acid was supplied to Mauritius. The railways in Tanganyika were supplied with various types of broom brushes and items of uniform for railway employees. Vehicles and spare parts were sent to Iraq. Cotton textiles, coloured goods, jute dressed leather, and leather manufactures went to Kenya and Uganda, and fabricated sheet buildings to Palestine.

India's supplies to the United Kingdom consisted of textiles, cotton jute union canvas, cotton canvas and yarn, mock lino cloth, tossa

jute canvas, cotton duck and sandbags, boots, biscuits, golden syrup, anti-mosquito cream, coconut shells, etc.

India was the only source of some strategic materials, like mica, for the United States—and the principal source of others. The United States depended on her for jute and burlap. Almost a quarter of American metallurgical manganese was exported from the Central Provinces and was used in the U.S.A. for the production of both carbon and alloy steel. Ilmenite was an important ferrous material for which America depended to a large extent on India. Again it was Indian beryl, which was used in the U.S.A. in the production of beryllium-copper alloys for aircraft manufacture and other war industries. Animal skins supplied from this country were used in making wind and rain-proof garments. Coir was used in making fenders for ships and talc served as an insulator in radio and radar equipment.

Besides exporting natural rubber to the United States, India co-operated with America in importing some synthetic rubber and in exporting natural rubber to the U.S.A. In addition to providing a great volume of war requirements and her own supply needs, India was able to make 11,500 tons of rubber available to the Allies at a time when every pound of rubber was of the utmost value.

### Reciprocal Lend-Lease

Through reciprocal lend-lease arrangements, India furnished supplies to American soldiers stationed within her borders. The cumulative amount of this help was worth 411,376,000 dollars on January 1, 1945, and 516,720,000 dollars on May 31, 1945.

In 1944, India supplied the American armed forces with about 78,000,000 yards of cotton cloth. In the current year she supplied the United States and Chinese Forces with 70,000,000 yards of which 50 million were for the American Forces. Other supplies to the Americans and Chinese comprised tents, handkerchiefs, towels, sheets, underwear, battle dress, canvas, flanellette, mosquito netting, muslin and waterproof covers. These miscellaneous supplies came to a total of 35,000,000 yards.

Other reciprocal aid which India gave to the United States has been in the form of work on buildings and airfields, stores, rations, transport facilities, telegraph and telephone facilities and water and electric services.

In the Eastern hemisphere war supplies to the value of Rs. 25,000,000 were placed in India by the National Government of China through their purchasing agents, the Pekin Syndicate Limited. The items ordered included several million yards of cotton cloth for uniform etc., a substantial quantity of cotton yard, rubber hose, tyres, chemicals, vehicles, ready-made garments and various miscellaneous stores. Most of the purchases were made through the Department of Supply who rendered every assistance in matters of negotiations, placing of indents, transport, etc.

India was the third largest consigner of war supplies to Australia, the other two countries being the United Kingdom and the U.S.A. Cotton textiles items, e.g. twill and drill, constituted the majority of supplies made to Australia. Some other important items supplied were beeswax, jute goods, etc.

Over 5,000 tons of vital war materials were sent from India to Russia during the first six months of 1944. Russia received quantities of gunny bags, tossa canvas, jute ropes, tea, pepper, tin, wolfram and silk, shellac and hides. In addition, approximately 80,000 surgical instruments of indigenous production were supplied to Russia from India.

Throughout the war the Allies were dependent on India for the supply of mica, a mineral of great strategic value, which, due to its fine insulating qualities, was indispensable in the

making of modern high power motors for aeroplanes. India's 70-year old mica industry has produced the largest quantity of mica for the United Nations. The demand for mica was so great and so urgent that it was given a high air priority.

Some of the finer qualities of the more urgent consignments were transported by air from India to Great Britain and the United States of America. The only other important sources of supply of high quality mica open to the Allies were in Brazil and Russia. Other producing countries were Canada, Madagascar, and the Argentine, none of whose output is comparable to that of India. The United States alone received the bulk of its mica supply from India and Brazil, and by far the largest proportion of this from India.

### Supplies to Middle East

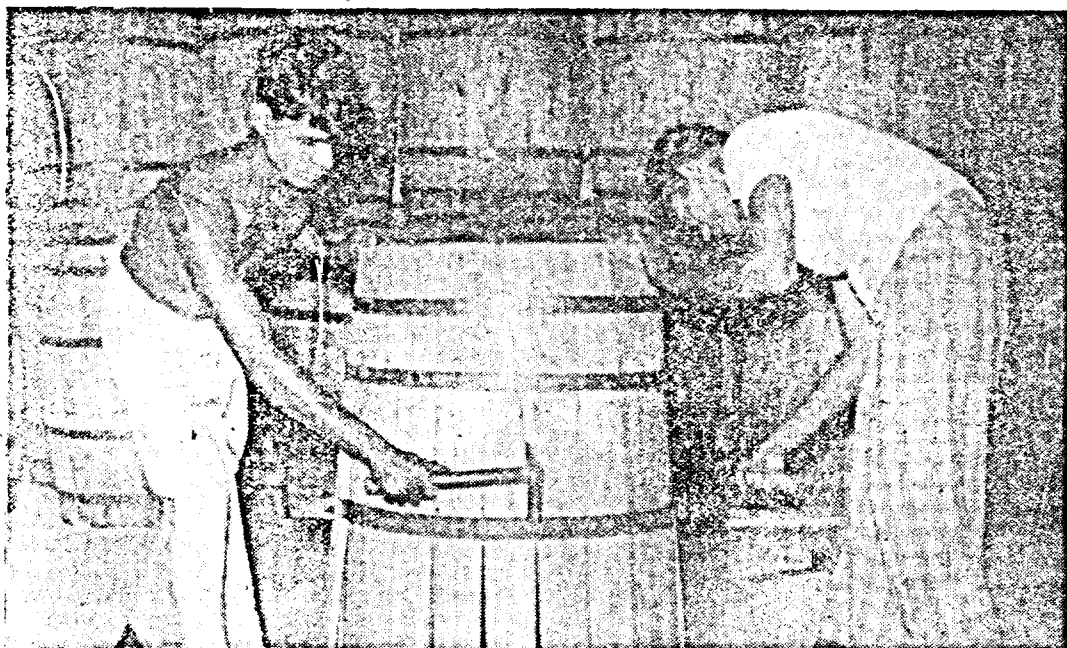
During the North African campaign, India was wholly responsible for the supply of bulk stores to the Middle East—from railway wagons to landing craft and electric torches to trouser buttons. Steel was supplied from Indian workshops for the provision of water supply in the arid, waterless desert and the length of the water-pipes alone would reach many thousands of miles.

At one time India was solely responsible for the supply of rolling stock, locomotives, trucks, sleepers, wagons and all ancillary equipment.



The Saddlers Shop of the Harness and Saddlery Factory, Cawnpore, where all classes of equipment are made for the defence services





Timber workshops in Travancore have supplied thousands of teak barrels for the Supply Department. These pictures show barrels being hooped.



From her naval yards came many assault and self-propelling landing craft, which played an important part in the provisioning of Allied troops along the North African coast and in spectacular raids on enemy-occupied villages.

Indian manufacturers developed new industries to meet the vast needs of the armies overseas. Examples of new products are electrical cables of many kinds, electric fans and water valves and pumps.

An outstanding contribution to the Middle East campaign was the supply of dry batteries and cells. Communication between aircraft from air to ground and vice versa depended largely on the efficiency of the batteries the planes carried. Shipments to the Middle East from the United Kingdom by the long Cape route impaired the batteries' effective life; arrangements for the production of a particular type of batteries required for the R.A.F. were, therefore, begun in India during the latter part of 1941 and since then millions of cells have been supplied for the R.A.F. alone.

The Battle of El Alamein, it is said, was

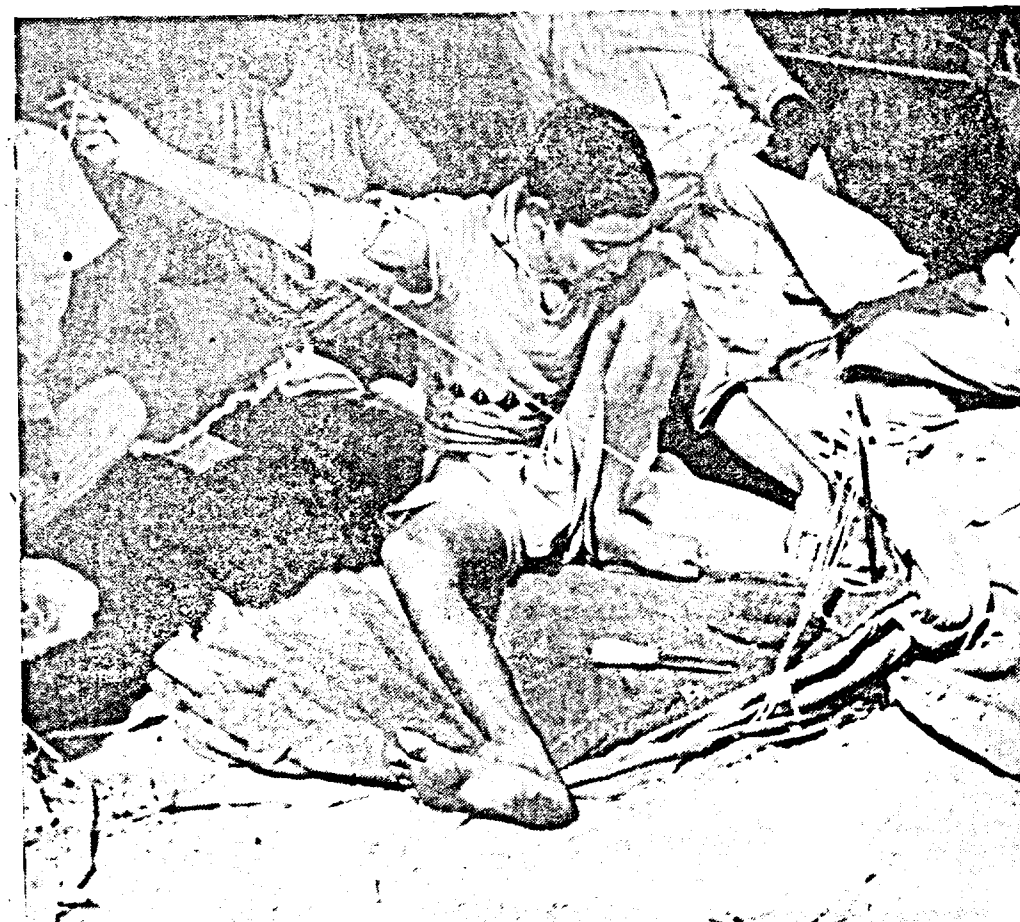
largely won through effective camouflage. Large quantities of camouflage paints, nets and hemp were despatched from India.

A certain type of mountain gun which was used with marked success in the Eritrean campaign was "adopted" by India and she undertook full responsibility for the maintenance of these guns.

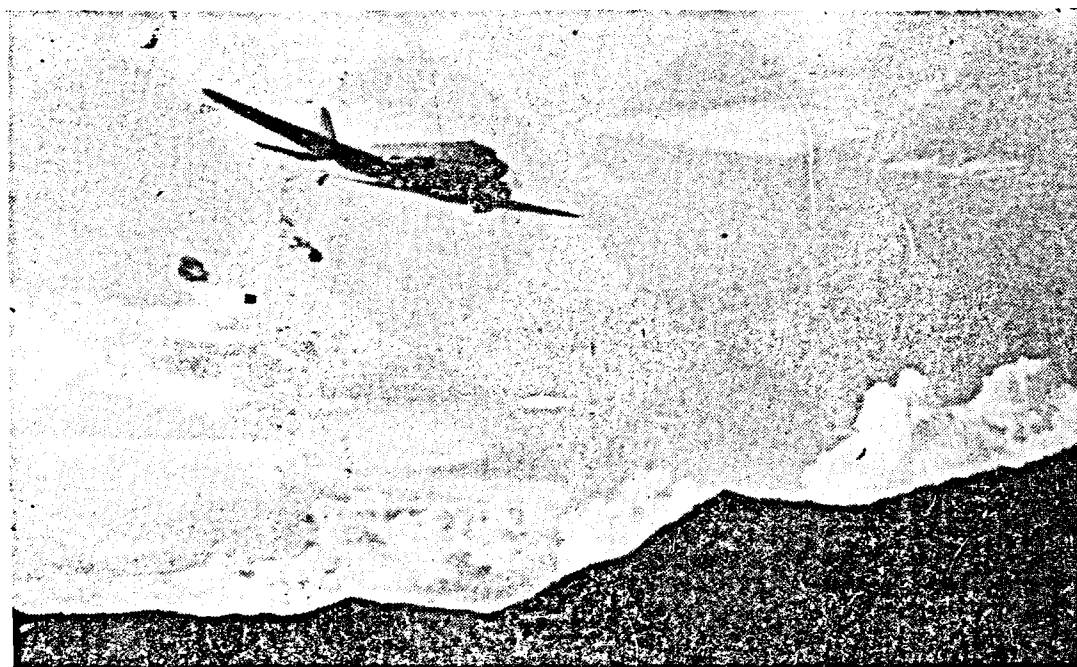
Nearly 90 per cent of the tents which protected the troops from the torrid heat, the canvas and ground sheets which kept the pernicious sand out of the tanks, planes and motor vehicles went from India. Indian pattern tents gradually replaced other pattern tents in the Middle East, while troops wore clothes made in India and, to a lesser extent, walked in boots supplied from Indian factories.

Among medical stores, equipment and comforts for troops in North Africa, India supplied over 50,000 stretchers, over 1,000,000 blankets, 250,000 mosquito nets, 1,500,000 water-testing tablets, and 160 tons of anti-mosquito cream, to say nothing of 336,000 ounces of castor oil, 1,500 different items of medical stores were supplied from India.

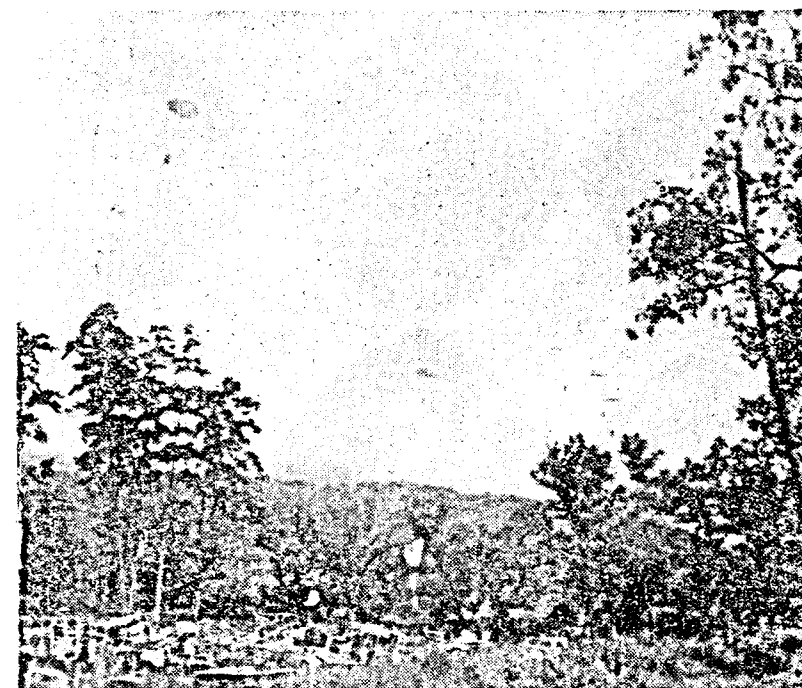
A Muchi (shoe-maker) sews rope into tents for the army. He does the heavy hand-sewing, quilting, reinforcing and splicing of the rope for the tents.







Transport plane swoops over and drops supplies to forward troops on the Burma Front.



Parachutes carrying supplies often get entangled in trees, bushes and telephone wires. Here is a typical scene after supplies aircraft had been over this area.



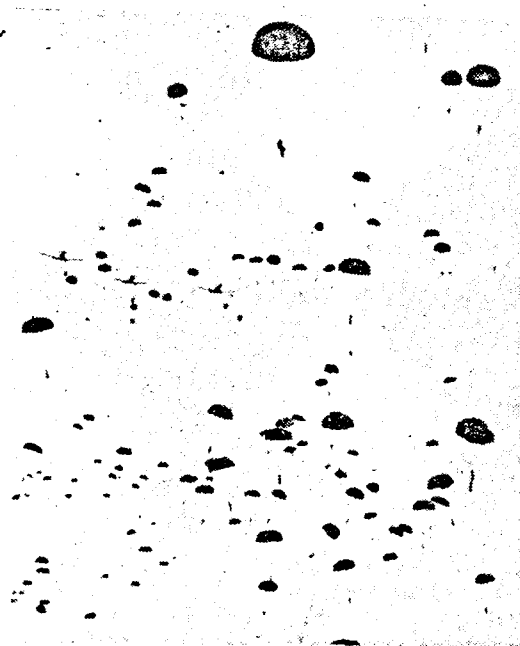
Men of the 7th Division retrieve supplies in the 7th Division area.

## PARACHUTES OVER BURMA

It can now be revealed that India was a major source for the production and supply of parachutes which featured prominently in the Arakan and Burma campaigns.

The last nail into the Japs' Rangoon coffin was driven by men of the Indian Parachute Regiment. According to the latest available figures, India has produced for the Allied forces over 36,000 silk parachutes required for a surprise landing of this kind, about 4 million cotton parachutes and 400,000 hessian parachutes for dropping supplies.

The story goes back to 1941, when production of silk parachutes was first undertaken in a factory at Cawnpore. By the middle of 1942, a specially designed air conditioned ordnance parachute factory was erected at Cawnpore. This factory was laid out to produce 1,000 parachutes' canopies per shift per month, the connected harness and packs being produced in the Harness and Saddlery Factory in the same city.



Paratroops and supplies dropped from transport aircraft float down to the earth.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

The special machinery required was ordered from America, but most of it was irretrievably damaged en route by enemy action. Fabrication was, therefore, carried on by improvised methods with such machines as were available in this country. Certain special machines have since been received from America.

Extensive use was made in the Burma campaign of cotton parachutes for dropping supplies, not only to troops but also to civilians. During the rainy season, when the lines of communication were not intact, vital supplies and equipment were parachuted by Allied planes.

The mobility conferred on forces supplied by air was one of the most potent factors which enabled the Commanders in the field to impose their will upon the Japanese, and so to defeat them at Myitkyina in the Arakan and at Imphal, to drive the Japanese from India and to press on into Burma. The figure for the total quantity of cotton parachutes produced in India for this purpose runs into 4 million.

Production of cotton parachutes was started in India early in 1942 with a target figure of 2,000 per month. By June 1942, a capacity

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

for 5,000 per month had been established in existing Government Clothing Factories. To keep pace with increasing demands, the capacity continued to expand during 1942, and an outturn of 21,000 per month was given for the first nine months of 1943. In December 1943 over 40,000 were produced and plans were made for the complete conversion of two ordnance clothing factories into parachute factories, each to produce an outturn rising to 100,000 parachutes per month by September 1944. Approximately equal numbers of containers for use with these parachutes have also been produced in India.

India has also produced about 4 lakhs of hessian parachutes for supply dropping. These are relatively uneconomical in use, but they performed a very useful function in an operational emergency early this year.

## NATIONAL DEFENCE COUNCIL

The Nineteenth Session of the National Defence Council will be held at the Viceroy's House, New Delhi, on October 2, 3 and 4. His Excellency the Viceroy will preside.

## HOW INDIA HELPED AMERICA

**M**ANY of the products which India has shipped to the United States during the past few years have played a vital role in the successful prosecution of the war against Germany, Italy and Japan. India has been the only source of some strategic materials for the United States—and the principal source of others, writes Mr. William L. Batt, Vice-Chairman of U. S. War Production Board in charge of International Supply.

At the same time, he continues, India through reverse Lend-Lease has furnished American troops stationed within her borders with a huge amount of material and provided them with invaluable services.

### India, World Source of Mica

Mica is perhaps the most strategically important product imported by the United States from India. When estimates of wartime mica requirements began to be compiled early in 1942, it was apparent that stocks in the United States would provide for only a fraction of our annual consumption. Early in 1942, the American War Production Board and the British Ministry of Supply laid plans for stimulating a world production of mica sufficiently large to meet the war requirements.

To purchase the entire Indian output and to stimulate production to the highest possible level, there was set up in India a



Mica miners at work. (Below) The cutting of mica to the required shapes is done mostly by women and children.

joint Mica Mission under the control of the British Ministry of Supply, but consisting of three United Kingdom and three United States



members. A similar United States purchasing commission was set up in Brazil.

From the early days of the electrical industry, India has been the principal world source of mica. Even with important production increases achieved from other sources during the war, India today furnishes over half the supplies available to the United Kingdom and the United States. The United States alone received the bulk of its mica supply from India and Brazil, and by far the largest proportion of this from India.

### Essential to War Production

Unique in its insulating properties and high dielectric (non-conducting) strength, mica is essential to the war production programme. It is used in aircraft magnetos, aircraft and tank spark plugs, radio and radar condensers and tubes. Radio and radar products account for about 65 per cent. of strategic mica used.

Jute, the world's principal bagging material, is another product for which the United States depends on India and which is all-important to the war effort. The United States imports both burlap and raw jute from

India, but no sacking. One-half of India's burlap is exported to the U.S.A. and sewn into bags, which are used for the transport of food. These bags are indispensable to the feeding of American troops and civilians.

It is interesting to note that since V-E Day, they have also become indispensable to the feeding of the people of liberated nations since the wrecked European ports have few facilities for unloading bulk cargoes.

Before the war the principal usage of raw jute in the United States was in spinning carpet yarns. Substantial quantities were also used for wrapping twine and electrical yarn. But after our sources of Manila and sisal fibre were cut off by the loss of the Philippines and the East Indies, it became necessary to limit the use of jute and to schedule a very substantial programme for the production of jute rope.

Sacking, which is sewn into bags in Indian mills, is not, as pointed out above, imported directly by the United States. It is shipped to such coffee, sugar and wool producing countries as Haiti, Cuba and Australia. These countries in turn export their products in Indian-made bags.



Jute being sorted by women.

There are other products for which the American war effort is dependent on India for large supplies. For instance, almost a quarter of American metallurgical manganese, a mineral absolutely essential for the production of both carbon and alloy steel, is imported from the Central Provinces. A large portion of American carbon and alloy steel goes into making such military equipment as aircraft, ammunition and tanks.

When manganese arrives in the United States from India, it is made into ferro-manganese. Later, the ferro-manganese is melted along with pig and scrap iron and made into steel. During the melting process, it serves as a desulphurizer and deoxidizer. A small portion remains in the finished product, adding strength to it.

Ilmenite is an important ferrous material for which America depends to a large extent on India. About 20 per cent of our ilmenite comes from India; once here, it is made into titanium pigments which are necessary for painting warships and other battle equipment.

Beryl, which is used in the production of beryllium copper alloys for aircraft manufacture and other war industries, is shipped to the United States from India. So are various animal skins used in making wind and rain-proof garments; coir, used in making fenders for ships; talc, which serves as an insulator in radio and radar equipment; lac, from which shellac is made; and tea.

### Rubber

Since the war began, the United States has received 6,000 long tons of rubber from India and has been allocated 1,560 more. This does not seem a huge amount when one considers that the total United Nations supply last year was 200,000 long tons. But every ounce of rubber has been precious since the Japanese overran the Dutch East Indies and Malaya. All rubber in Allied hands has been carefully controlled and allocated. Last year, for instance, seven tons was imported by the United States from El Salvador.

Natural rubber is precious for a good reason. The tensile strength of synthetic rubber is lower than that of the natural material and shows less resistance to high temperatures. Therefore, large truck and bus tyres require substantial percentage of natural rubber. Even passenger car and small truck tyres will need a small percentage for cementing operations. Natural rubber continues essential in varying proportions for the manufacture of hundreds of war and non-war products: tank treads, fuel cells, cable covering, footwear, hose and belting among them. Synthetic rubber has neither the required thinness nor durability needed for surgeons' gloves, nor the

requisite dielectric properties or physical strength for field wire.

Besides exporting natural rubber to the United States, India is co-operating with us in importing from America some synthetic rubber and components for synthetic conversion for use in products where natural rubber would otherwise have been used. As a result India will be able to export more natural rubber to the U.S.A.

India has aided America's war effort not only by exporting vital materials to us, but by furnishing supplies to our soldiers stationed within her borders. She does this through reverse Lend-Lease, in keeping with the agreements between the United Nations for the pooling of war resources. The cumulative amount of reverse Lend-Lease to United States forces in India was worth 411,976,000 dollars on January 1, 1945, and 516,720,000 dollars on May 31, 1945.

### Parachute Fabrics

In 1944, India supplied American armed forces with some 78,000,000 yards of cotton cloth; in 1945, she supplied both United States and Chinese forces with 70,000,000 yards. Fifty million of these were for the American forces. In both years, supplies for Americans and Chinese included tents, handkerchiefs, towels, sheets, underwear, battle dress, canvas flannel, mosquito netting, muslin and water-proof covers totalling some 35,000,000 yards. The balance of the supplies was in the form of parachute fabrics.

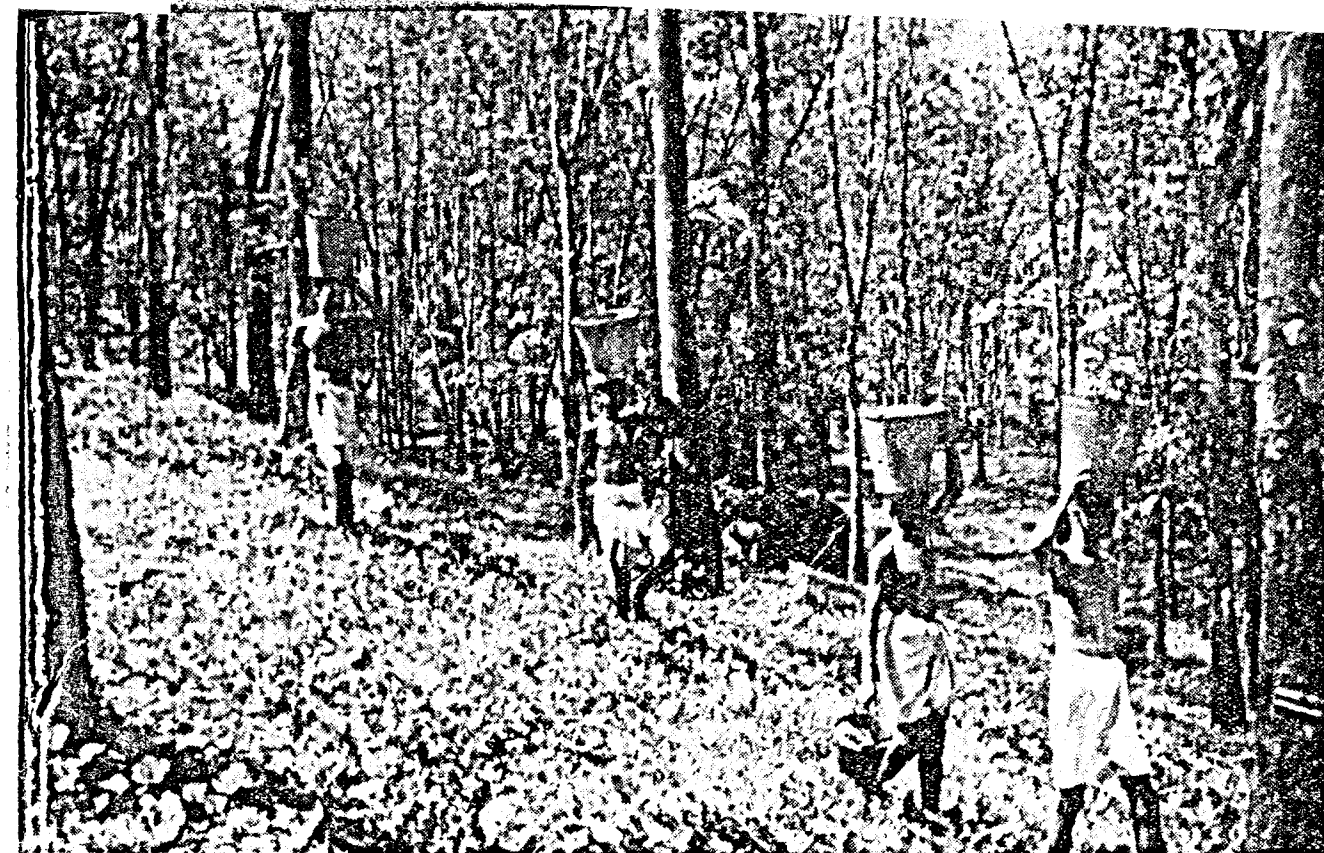
Other reciprocal aid given to the United States during the war has included work on buildings and airfields, stores, rations, transport facilities, telegraph and telephone facilities, and water and electric services.

It must not be forgotten that the Indian railroad from Calcutta to Assam has carried war material to fields from which it is flown to China.

The American people have been kept informed of the important contributions that the Indian people and India's industries have made in the war against Fascist aggressors in the West and East. The war years have marked the first time in history that the United States has been at all dependent on India and she has served us well.

The American people are grateful to the people of India for helping to bring the war to a successful conclusion, so that the fruits of a lasting peace may be shared by all men.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



## INDIA SOLVED ALLIES' RUBBER PROBLEMS

Tappers on an Indian rubber estate returning to the factory with their pails of latex.

THE sudden and unexpected loss of Malaya and the Dutch East Indies presented the United Nations with probably the greatest single problem of the whole war. Faced with the loss of over 90 per cent. of the crude rubber-producing areas in the world and with stocks sufficient to last for only a year or so with the greatest care and conservation, the Allies were left with the problem of finding some substitute from which to make tyres for Army and civil vehicles, tanks and armoured cars, aeroplanes, etc., and for all the other countless purposes for which rubber was essential to the extent of nearly one million tons a year.

The way this problem was solved is the story of the establishment of the American synthetic rubber industry.

Although India played no part in the production of synthetic rubber, as one of the few remaining crude-producing countries in the hands of the Allies the measures taken here to increase production and conserve utilisation were of the utmost importance.

The first steps were conservation measures prohibiting the use of rubber for various purposes and restricting its use in the manufacture of those items still considered essential for either military or civilian purposes. The acquisition and sale of rubber was placed under strict control and, shortly afterwards, Government arranged to buy the whole rubber crop.

Tyres and other items of civilian use were strictly rationed, whilst luxuries like hot water bottles, tennis balls, golf balls, etc., disappeared altogether. Government Factories for the manufacture of reclaim were established and reclaim was substituted for crude rubber to a great extent. For the purpose of producing reclaim, scrap rubber was necessary and large quantities of unserviceable tyres and other rubber scrap were collected.

In order to make maximum possible contribution to war supplies, existing factories were expanded and new factories were established for the manufacture of special tyres for the army, aircraft tyres, special types of hose, electric





Moplah women rubber tappers. The woman on the right is wearing a huge rain hat in local use.

cables, and a very substantial volume of war goods was produced as a result—including such items as ground sheets, battery boxes, pontoons, river crossing equipment, life belts, specialised waterproof clothing, jungle fighting boots, flame-throwing equipment, etc. etc.

In addition, essential civil requirements were fully met, although, before the rubber emergency, India had depended to a large measure on imports for the bulk of her requirements of industrial and general rubber goods.

In 1942 a Rubber Production Board was created and active measures concerted to stimulate production of rubber from the Indian plantations on the West Coast. Maximum yields in previous years were exceeded in each year after the outbreak of the Japanese war and increased quantities of crude rubber were obtained. In addition, the collection of wild rubber in the Assam frontier districts and other parts was undertaken and the rubber so collected provided, in a great measure, the whole of the crude rubber required to produce rubber footwear for military requirements,

Research and experimental work on alternative sources of rubber was also undertaken by the Government of India, including a project for the cultivation of *Cryptostegia grandiflora* rubber plant which, although giving signs of promise, did not come into production early enough to be worth continuing.

As a result of these measures, India was able, in addition to providing a great volume of war requirements and her own civil needs, to make 11,500 tons of rubber available to the Allies at a time when every pound of rubber was of the utmost value.

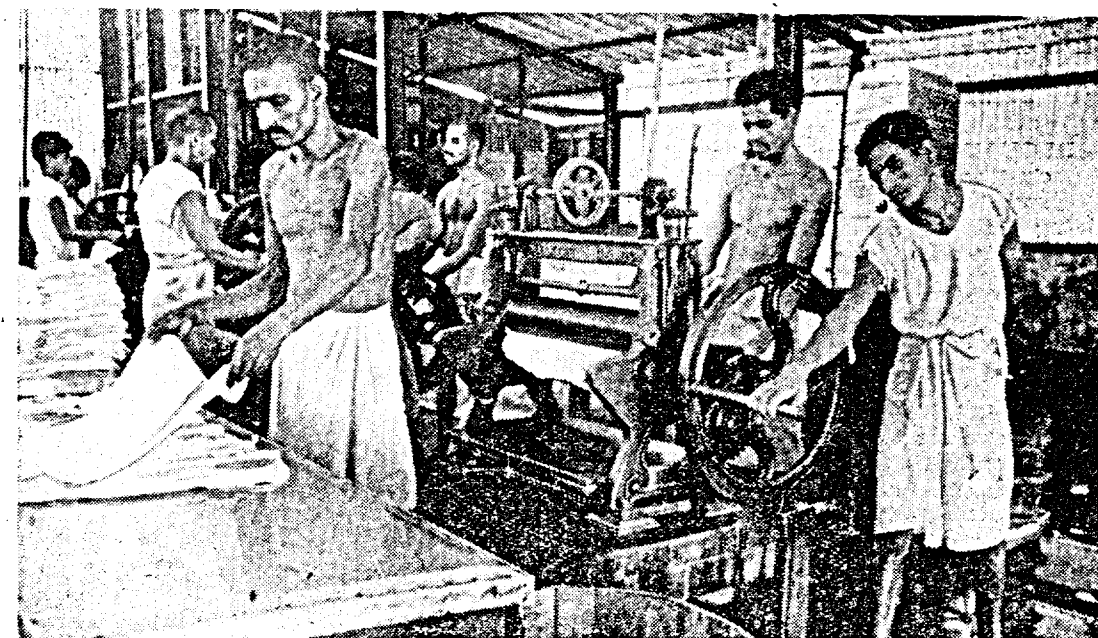
### Synthetic Rubber

Finally, India arranged to convert her industry to the use of synthetic rubber, to be supplied from the U.S.A., in order that the vitally-needed crude rubber could be made available to the Allies for those purposes for which synthetic is not suitable.

The surrender of Japan will doubtless relieve the industry from the necessity of carrying out this conversion in full and if the prospects of immediate rubber from Malaya and the Dutch East Indies materialise, this should result in almost immediate relief to civil consumers in such matters as tyres for their motor cars, real rubber in their footwear, and the return of such items as tennis balls, golf balls, etc.



The latex is brought to the factory where it is weighed and strained through mesh strainers to remove impurities.



Latex, which has coagulated into a spongy white substance, is rolled through a succession of smooth rollers into thin white sheets. (Below) Hanging up sheets of rolled latex to drip for an hour before being placed in the smoking chamber where they remain from 4 to 9 days.



## CLOTHING SUPPLIES FOR ALLIED FORCES

**T**HROUGHOUT the war India was the principal source of clothing supplies for the armed forces of the Allies which were fighting defensive and offensive campaigns in Europe, Asia and Africa.

The Ordnance clothing factories have supplied nearly 400 million tailored items to the Defence Services of the Commonwealth countries and their allies based in India.

These factories had to keep pace not only with the ever-increasing demands of the forces but also with the changes, improvement in patterns, designs and modifications of clothing stores required. In the fifth year of war, for example, there was a significant increase in demands for hospital clothing, prisoners of war clothing and clothing for Chinese troops.

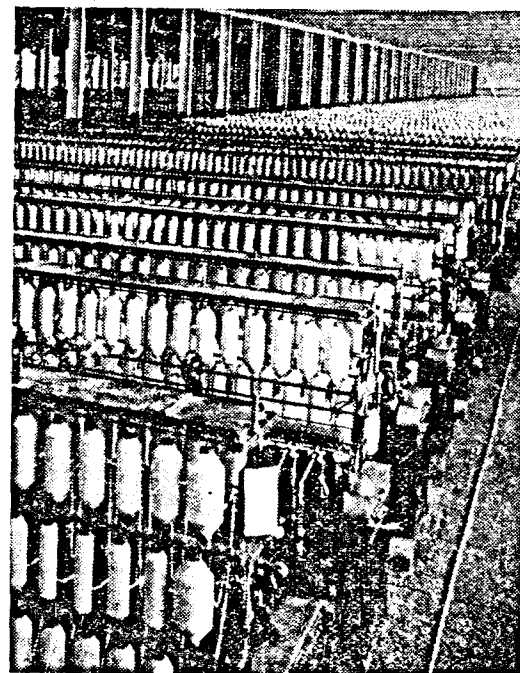
### Ordnance Clothing Factories

Military and civil clothing was sent to Australia and an increased quantity and variety of items was supplied to the Royal Air Force, Royal Indian Air Force, Royal Indian Navy and uniformed women's contingents. The battle dress for the South East Asia and India Command was produced in olive green and that for the Middle East in khaki.

In this year, i.e. the fifth year of war, the ordnance clothing factories supplied, on an average, seven million items a month. They received from indigenous sources, accounted for and converted some 215 million yards of textiles, over 5,000 million yards of sewing threads and over five million buttons into 80 million tailored items of clothing.

In the 52 months—August 1914 to November 1918—42 million tailored items were produced. As against this in the 52 months of World War II—September 1939 to December 1943—298 million tailored items were produced. The increased output in this War, of course, followed an increased demand, but was only made possible by better organisation. There was a fifty-fold expansion of Indian mass production in wartime from two million garments in 1939 to 113 million garments in 1943—an expansion seven times as great as that achieved in the last war.

Every item produced was indigenous, except for replacement and replenishment of special sewing machines which were imported. The



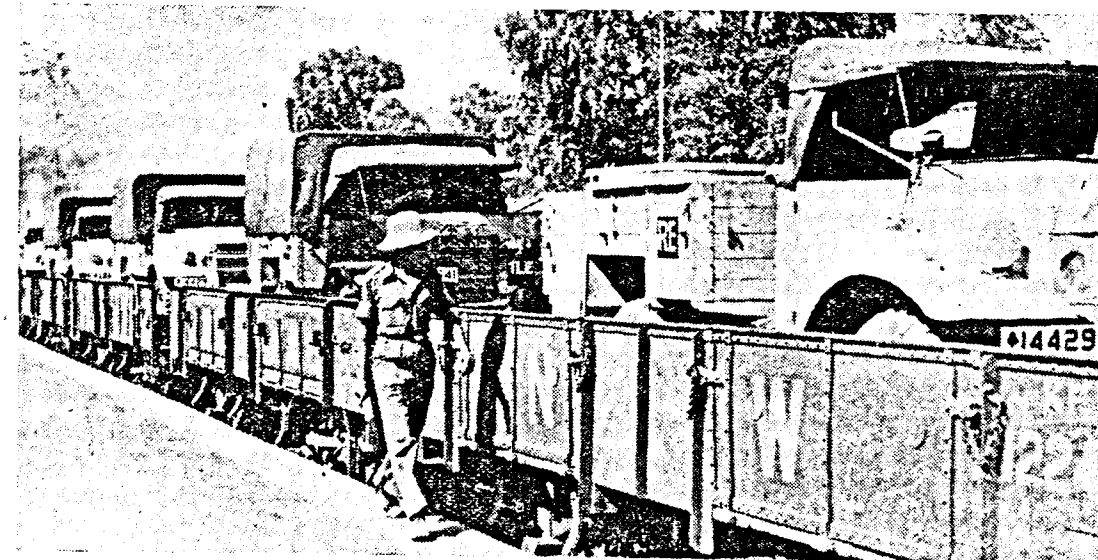
The Roving Frame section of a South Indian spinning mill.

bulk of production consisted of uniform clothing and head-gear, woollen as well as cotton and oilskins. There was also a considerable load of tailored items which falls outside the definition of clothing.

Among these other items may be mentioned, firstly, parachute production which was organised in the middle of the war by building one new factory at Cawnpore and by switching over two of the existing clothing factories in the Punjab from the clothing proper. These items also include a heterogeneous class of tailored items for which the clothing factories were the medium of supply. These included flags of many kinds, a quarter of a million of which have been produced in a year; mosquito nets for barrack camp and bivouac for which demands have been met to a total of 2½ million nets a year; cloth bags of all kinds by the million, etc.

The clothing factories also manufactured cotton bandoliers for small arm and mortar ammunition, oilskin containers for scientific stores used in amphibious warfare, special working clothing for the men in the Indian dairy farms and the explosive factories.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



Railways transport munitions of war. Here lorries are loaded into railway wagons for service overseas.

## RAILWAYS' CONTRIBUTION TO VICTORY

**T**HE Indian Railways have gone all out to speed victory. More than 50,000 technical personnel trained in 50 trades for the Armed Forces and the Labour Department; more than 1,400 miles of line laid in military depots and airfield sidings; more than 1,200 miles of track sent overseas; ambulance trains, shells, bombs, armoured cars, pontoons, hand grenades, bayonets, other items too numerous to name, and turned out in their thousands—that is the job the Railways have done for others even while they have strained to do their own.

Railway engineers have undertaken a large number of special works for the Fighting Forces, one of which is the construction of military bases served by railway sidings. Over 1,400 miles of military sidings and 70 miles of permanent and 153 miles of temporary sidings for airfields have been constructed. This work has involved much engineering and transportation effort in the carrying out of surveys and in the building and laying of permanent way, together with large numbers of turnouts or points. The Railways have delivered more than 12,000,000 tons of material for the construction of airfields.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

Work on a very large reserve base in South India involving 72.96 miles of track and nearly 41,000,000 cubic feet of earthwork was completed within about 20 months. Work on another large reserve base involving 62.95 miles of track and 2,500,000 cubic feet of earthwork was completed within about seven months.

### Military Movement

Without the proper functioning of the railway system an army is unlikely to be in the right place at the right time with sufficient forces, declared Field Marshal Wavell. Military movement in terms of special trains has increased 30 times since the start of the war, and the trend is still upward. The Railways have been carrying more than 1,162,000 tons of essential stores and 550,000 military passengers every month. The main problem in military traffic is the enormous distances involved—stores for the troops on the north-eastern front had to travel 800 miles on an average. Ships had to be unloaded, re-loaded and sent away from the ports as quickly as possible.

Keeping the ports clear was one of the Railways' biggest tasks. Inward and outward military freight movement, which ran into hundreds of thousands of tons a month, was one of the biggest problems. About 30 special trains a day had to be accurately timed and some even had to make the journey from Karachi to Ledo, a distance of 2,760 miles.



A troops special—Indian Railways have run thousands of special trains to carry defence personnel.

Twenty trains are required to move the personnel of one division and a further 48 trains to move its vehicles, guns and stores. Often the Railways had to make moves of this sort at a moment's notice.

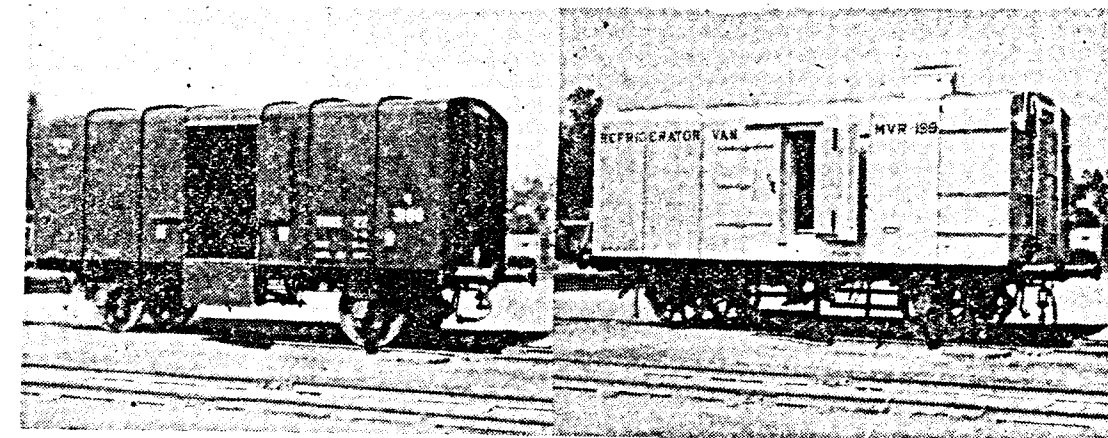
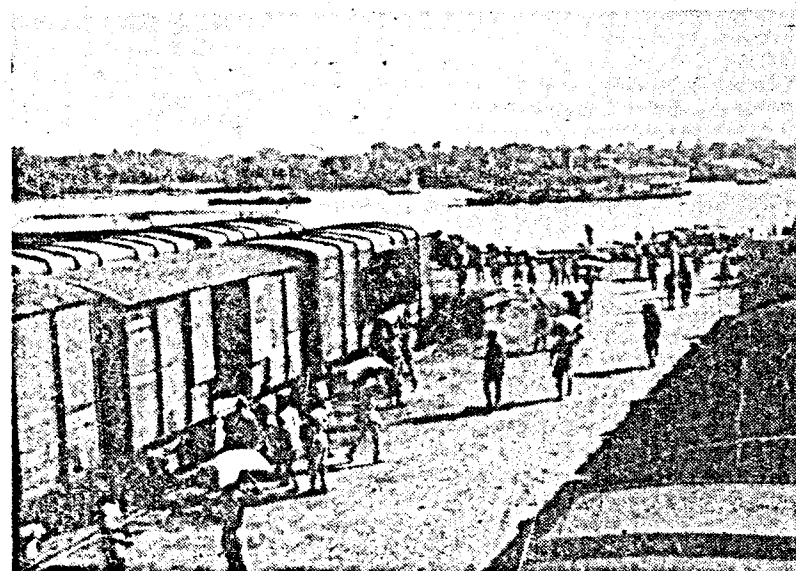
To maintain the campaign in Burma, and the lift over the "hump," stores had to be moved sometimes 1,800 miles across India, transhipped from broad to metre gauge, and from rail on to river flats, and lastly from river flats to rail again before proceeding to final unloading points. At one time 15,000,000 wagon miles

per month were being covered in maintaining these points alone.

During the Japanese offensive in April 1944, three divisions were moved into the fighting zone by rail, river and air, without disturbing the maintenance arrangements.

Japan's entry into the war brought about a large exodus of the population in the east coast areas, and the Railways evacuated 1,000,000 passengers by special trains from Calcutta and elsewhere. Hardly had this traffic

Bags of rice being unloaded on to boats and launches at a river siding in Bengal for distribution in the interior.



Railway Refrigerator Vans: (Left) A wagon before conversion and (Right) after conversion into a refrigerator van.

subsided when they were confronted with the problem of refugees from Japanese-occupied countries. One railway conveyed, on occasion, 3,000 to 6,000 refugee-passengers per day, and ran 132 special trains between February and June, 1942.

Various kinds of rolling stock have been constructed in the railway workshops for the use of the Fighting Services. Ambulance coaches have been built, and ordinary stock has been converted into ward cars, military cars and kitchen cars.

#### Travelling Blood Bank

A notable instance of improvisation is the transformation of a tourist car into a blood transfusion coach in which the Army Transfusion Service toured the country and collected blood from voluntary donors. The Railways have converted broad gauge wagons into refrigerator vans to transport army imports of frozen meat from ports to consuming centres. These imports assisted in the supply of meat for the Army, which previously depended entirely on supplies from Indian sources.

The railway staff throughout the country spontaneously responded in men and money to the cause of national service. Officers and men joined active military service and were drafted to departments directly connected with the war. They gave their spare time to A.R.P. duties and volunteered as Civic Guards. Railwaymen and their families tended refugees and evacuees, and have been running hundreds of free canteens for troops passing through stations.

## INDIA'S TRAFFIC ARTERY

WHEN war broke in the West in 1939, the Indian Railways were emerging from the effects of the general depression. Personnel had been reduced to a minimum and the amount of rolling stock maintained at the lowest economic level. The Railways' initial task was to move the Indian Army overseas and to keep it supplied. Later, they were called upon to provide engines and rolling stock as well as personnel for building and maintaining railways overseas.

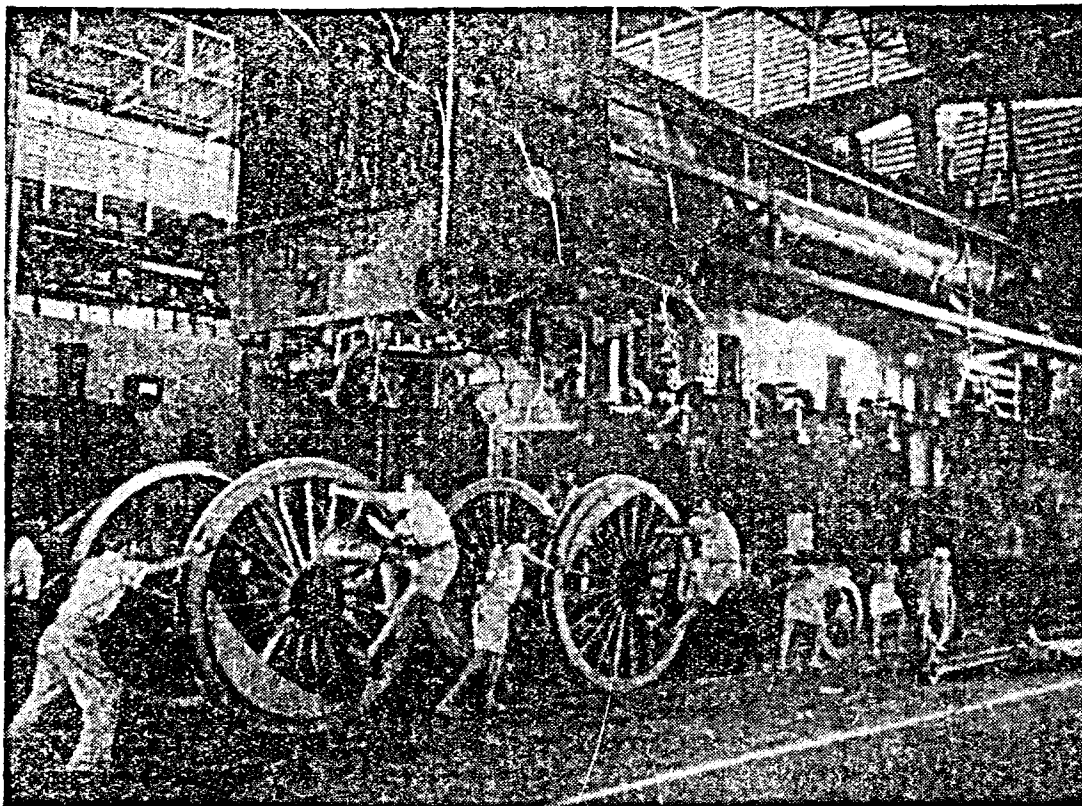
The entry of Japan into the war completely altered the picture. Railway activity had to be switched over from north-west to north-east India to meet the changed direction of military operations and to bring in the thousands of refugees from Burma and Malaya. Supplies to China had also to be maintained.

#### Civilian Traffic

All this had an inevitable effect on train services for civilians. Passenger services had to be curtailed and rigid control introduced on goods traffic.

More than 40,000 separate items of stores—ranging from a pin to a boiler—are required for operating the railways. With overseas supplies of materials largely cut off and some of their own shop capacity given over to war production, Indian Railways have had to face most serious difficulties. Yet they carried during the war a much heavier load than previously.





This engine having completed its regular 160,000 miles since its previous overhaul has been dismantled and completely overhauled in an Indian railway workshop. The wheels have been turned and the axle boxes relined with bearing metal, where necessary, and are being moved into position to receive the locomotive frame when lowered by the crane.

In 1938-39, 45 million passengers travelled 1,525 million miles each month; in 1944-45, 80 million passengers travelled 3,000 million miles. In 1938-39, a train generally had eight to ten carriages; in 1944-45, it had 13 or more, but not all of them were available for civilian passengers.

In 1938-39, the Fighting Services required only 29 special trains to run 9,000 miles each month; in 1944-45, they needed 920 such trains to run a million miles.

In 1938-39, 10 million tons of goods were transported each month over 1,850 million miles; in 1944-45, 11½ million tons of goods were carried over 2,500 million miles.

It was impossible for the Railways to meet the largely increased demands without a considerable development of line capacity, large increases in stock, and more locomotives and rolling stock. India's needs of the last two, however, could only be considered after those

of more important operational areas, so a start was made with improving line capacity and securing and training the staff that would be required.

Lines were doubled and quadrupled, additional crossing stations, loops and sidings provided, yards improved, new watering stations opened and better coaling arrangements made for engines. Communications by means of telephone and telegraph were extended and radio services were established; train control systems were expanded to ensure the quickest possible movement.

To deal with additional traffic, the intensive use of available locomotive power became necessary. Before the war, goods engines went into shed after an average run of 120 miles; this mileage was improved to between 250 and 350. Passenger engines in pre-war days made a round trip of 250 miles before going to shed; the wartime average was between 500 and 600 miles.

The loads on trains were stepped up to the maximum limit and new techniques introduced to improve the standard of locomotive maintenance. A passenger train carried 32 per cent. more load than before the war, a goods train 8½ per cent. more.

Indian Railways have secured world records in the movement of rolling stock. One railway registered an average of 95.4 wagon miles per wagon day on its metre gauge section in a recent month. The average load of a broad gauge wagon was raised from 52 to 74 per cent. of a wagon's maximum capacity, which is higher than the relative figures of certain leading American railways.

The Railway Priority Organisation, which came into being in April 1942, was introduced to meet the greatly increasing demands on rail transport. It has three main functions. The most important is quick movement, in order of their importance, of commodities essential to the war effort and civil needs; the second is the elimination, as far as possible, of wasteful movement; and the third function is the co-ordination of rail with other forms of transport.

Considerable traffic was diverted from railways to coastal steamers and country craft. In some areas goods were denied transport by rail between certain points and forced on to the sea route. Wherever there were suitable roads and road transport, traffic was diverted to them. Some railways started their own road transport services to prevent bottlenecks in the movement of special military traffic. One such carried 160 tons of coal brought to tea gardens, and returned with the tea from the gardens. This relieved two important transshipment points of supply to the Burma Front.

## RAILWAY EARNINGS

The total approximate gross earnings of the Budget lines Class 1 Railways for the month of July 1945 amount to Rs. 18.34 crores, i.e., Rs. 37 lakhs more than the actuals for the corresponding month of the previous year and Rs. 363 lakhs more than the actuals for the corresponding month of 1943-44. Compared with the last year, coaching earnings decreased by about Rs. 2 lakhs and goods earnings increased by about Rs. 37 lakhs during the month.

The decrease under coaching earnings is mainly due to less military personnel, military stores, short distance passengers, and parcel traffic. Earnings from goods showed a general increase in all commodities except in the case of oil seeds, mineral oil, Salt and metals. Cotton, Wheat, military stores, coal and general goods showed increases of about 2, 3, 5, 10 and 19 lakhs respectively.

## TELE-COMMUNICATIONS DEVELOPMENT

THE war brought about an expansion in the activities of all Departments and public utility concerns. The Posts and Telegraphs Department was no exception. Its work multiplied manifold in all spheres of its activity. Its greatest achievement, however, lies in the field of tele-communications development. War had caused a tremendous increase in telegraphic and telephone traffic, which had to be met by an expansion of facilities.

In 1942-43, therefore, Government decided to increase these facilities and sanctioned Rs. 1 crore for the development of tele-communications. The plan then formulated was found quite inadequate to meet even the demands of the Defence Services on the telephone and telegraph system. As a result a new Rs. 8 crore plan was formulated. This new plan meant the development of tele-communications for the Defence Services during wartime, as also a doubling of existing civilian circuits.

A new branch of the Posts and Telegraphs Department was created to deal with this new plan and a Tele-communications Development Board, invested with full powers, was set up, with the Director-General himself as chairman. This Rs. 8 crore plan again was found to fall considerably short of requirements and it was considered inadequate to cope with the phenomenal rise in traffic. A new Rs. 16 crore scheme was then sanctioned and undertaken. This new scheme involves the construction of a number of principal routes linking up major cities in India with inter-connections radiating between larger and smaller centres.

### India's Road System

Before the Rs. 16 crore Scheme was undertaken the development of telegraph lines in India was mostly along railways. This was mainly due to the fact that, previously, India had very few good trunk roads and reliable mechanical transport was not available. During the last 20 years, however, there has been considerable improvement in India's road system, and it is obvious that, with the new 400,000-mile road plan in the offing, this improvement is bound to continue during the post-war period.

Mechanical transport is at present better developed and more reliable. The maintenance

of routes along roads is now much simplified, and, as a matter of fact, repairs of breakdowns on road routes are much quicker than for routes along railways. A radical departure was, therefore, made from the previous policy when the tele-communication scheme was being planned and most of the lines that are now being built are along roads. Another, and an equally important, reason for this departure is that it is necessary for any well-planned tele-communication system, which is carried on overhead wires, liable to interruption by cyclones and other forces of nature, to have alternative routes built up so as to prevent complete isolation of any centre.

### Transcontinental Routes

Thus, routes, which can be called "trans-continental," and which the Road Board calls "National Highways" are being built, linking up the major cities in India. For instance, the line from Bombay to Delhi, to be completed shortly, is being erected along the Bombay-Delhi trunk road and, when completed, will not only provide three alternative routes, but will also double the number of telegraph and trunk circuits existing before the war between these two cities.

The route from Calcutta to Delhi is being constructed along the Grand Trunk Road, and when completed, will provide three alternative routes between these two places and increase the number of circuits considerably. The other four main lines being constructed are between Bombay-Karachi, Bombay-Calcutta, Bombay-Madras and Madras-Calcutta, and all of these lines are being constructed along roads except parts of the Bombay-Karachi route, where no road exists. With the completion of these routes there will be available, including the channels already existing, for the use of the public 6 trunk and 9 telegraph circuits between Bombay and Karachi, 6 trunk and 11 telegraph circuits between Bombay and Madras, 9 trunk and 10 telegraph circuits between Bombay and Calcutta and 3 trunk and 9 telegraph circuits between Calcutta and Madras. All these main routes are under construction and in the majority of cases, almost complete.

Nor have the needs of Northern India and Southern India been forgotten. Lines are under construction between Delhi-Lahore, Lahore-Karachi and Lahore-Peshawar, increasing the pre-war facilities manyfold. In Madras area the lines being constructed will not only provide alternative routes linking up the city of Madras with places like Bangalore, Coimbatore, Trichinopoly and thence stretching southwards to Ceylon, but, in most cases, will also more than double the existing facilities.

252

The requirements of big business in Bombay also finds a place in the Scheme. With the completion of the construction of the lines Bombay will have outlets, both trunk and telegraph, in almost all cases double that existing before the war, to Surat, Ahmedabad, Akola, Nagpur, Poona and other places.

This large increase in the number of tele-communication channels, which is expected to take place when the Scheme is completed, has been made possible not only by the construction of new lines but also by the extensive application of that modern wonder of tele-communication engineering "Carrier Working."

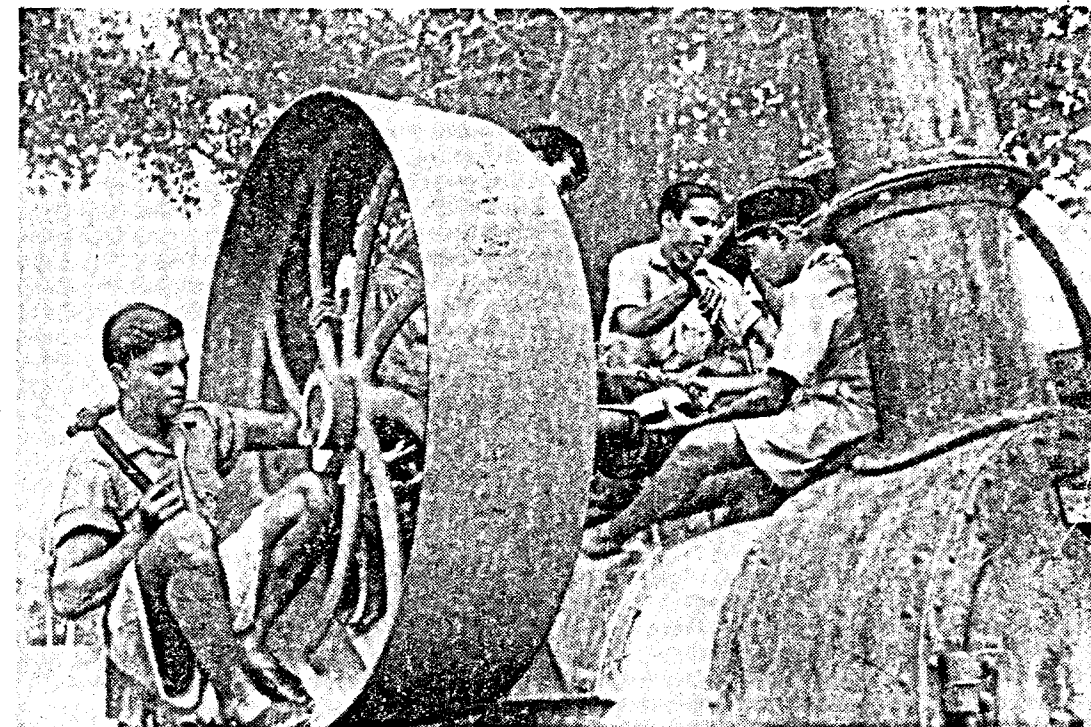
It will not, perhaps, be out of place to explain here what a carrier system means. Carrier working can be stated to be the application of the principles of radio broadcasting to telephone trunk circuits. In essence a carrier system is a group of small wireless transmitters and receivers at each end of a pair of wires. Each transmitter is tuned to a different wavelength and has a corresponding receiver at the other end permanently tuned to it. The transmitters, however, instead of, "going on the air," send the waves over a pair of wires which "carry" all the wavelengths simultaneously. The installation of carrier systems has made it possible for every pair of wires being erected under the Scheme, to work simultaneously three speech and 18 telegraph channels.

### Automatic Telephone Facilities

So much for the long distance communication that will become available for the general public when the Scheme is completed. The scheme, however, goes further than this and provision for over Rs. 1 crore exists for improving and increasing the automatic telephone facilities in a number of places in India like Delhi, Lahore, Nagpur, Cawnpore, the coal fields in Bihar, etc. It is also proposed, under the Scheme to install a number of small automatic telephone exchanges in the smaller towns.

It is over three years since the Posts and Telegraphs Department undertook the scheme with the able assistance of Officers, N.C.O.s. and men of the Royal Signals and the Indian Signal Corps. Much has been done during this period, but if the effect of the expansion, so far as the general public is concerned, has been meagre, the reason is that the requirements of the Fighting Services had to be met first. The effect of the increase on the tele-communications facilities being provided under the scheme is, however, being felt slowly but nevertheless surely and, by the end of this year, facilities available for the general public should have increased considerably.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



South Indian trainees assembling a steam roller at a technical training centre in Travancore.

## THE TOOLS WHICH DID THE JOB

INDIAN labour's contribution to the war effort is second only to the achievements of India's armed forces. Indian workers have maintained a steady flow of war materials—ranging from shirts to ships, from buttons to bridges and from goggles to gups.

In the new and expanded Ordnance Factories where their strength has risen from 15,000 in 1939 to 100,000 in 1944, they have produced everything hurled at the enemy by hand, rifle, mortar and gun; dropped on his head from the air; thrown at his submarines from the decks of ships; or concealed underground to smash the tracks of his tanks.

In the Steel Factories they made rails to carry troops and munitions to the front line, armour-piercing as well as shell-proof plates which served the soldiers in the thick of the battle, and steel for hundreds of items required for warfare and for equipping the armed forces.

And in the small village workshops they employed their traditional skill in making blankets, camouflage nets, pith hats and numerous other items—so simple and yet so valuable for the troops.

In the tropical jungles the soldiers required cotton clothing and equipment woven from cotton yarn. Tarpaulins were required to cover their supplies; and tents not only for shelter but also for use as hospitals. Cotton was also required for large quantities of mosquito nets for the troops. Indian weavers, both in the mill and handloom industry, produced millions of yards of textiles for these purposes.

### Cotton Equipment

Ninety thousand workers in Ordnance Clothing Factories have kept the Armed Forces supplied with tailored items of clothing. In March 1943, when India was the nearest supply base for armies in the Middle East, they fabricated over 12,000,000 items. In the fifth year of war they accounted for and converted some 215,000,000 yards of textiles, over 5,600,000,000 yards of sewing threads and over 500,000,000 buttons and numerous minor components into 78,941,597 tailored items of clothing and necessaries.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

253

The war created new opportunities and opened new avenues cutting across the traditional grooves of employment. Jewellers accustomed to gold and silver tried their hands at drawing fine lengths of copper for motors and dynamos. Watch makers applied their knowledge to the repair of the more complicated aircraft instruments which guided the pilots in the fathomless ether. Tailors stitched cotton and silk into parachutes for dropping supplies and equipment.

Skilled labour in out-of-the-way places was harnessed to the economic system of the country. Craftsmen whose forefathers probably made swords and scimitars were engaged in the manufacture of surgical instruments and cutlery for war supplies. To quote another instance of this remarkable industrial metamorphosis, a skilled worker made a spring of a watch out of a piece of a hoop of iron.

### Small-Scale Industries

The owner worker of the smaller industrial unit, with his headquarters in the village, assumed a new importance in the national economy. This happened as a result of orders which were placed on small-scale industry to increase the output of country-made goods for war supplies as well as for general consumption. In 1941-42 direct war orders to the value of Rs. 498 lakhs were placed with small-scale industry. In 1942-43 additional orders to the value of Rs. 610 lakhs were placed. As in China, this industry extended employment and dispersed production, at the same time relieving larger factories for other work. The cottage workers supplied millions of yards of camouflage nets. They made pith hats which could be counted not by numbers but by miles. The handloom weavers, plying their shuttles according to age-old customs, wove the utility *dosuti* or double yarn, used for making tents or tentage cloth, gauze cloth, muzri, buntings and various woollen fabrics.

India is a vast reservoir of unskilled labour, and this category of labour made a tremendous contribution to the war effort. Unskilled workers made roads not only for operational purposes in advanced areas but also for the large numbers of refugees who streamed into India after the Japanese occupation of Burma. Their most important contribution was the construction of a net-work of airfields undertaken after the entry of Japan in the war and completed in record time. In the earlier stages it took them just 60 days to convert jungles and barren tracts into runways—and this in spite of the invasion panic of April 1942.

The construction of modern airfields, even of the type required for fighters and light bombers, was a large engineering project. India was

not a fully mechanised country and even the job usually done by bulldozers had to be tackled by the large mass of labour. Labourers who used to do earth work, road, bund and canal construction, were collected from all over India. Labourers were brought from Cochin and Travancore, from Patiala and Nabha; Oriyas and Santals from Bihar and Orissa came along too. Local labourers from tea gardens in Assam and Nagas from the hills were also utilised in large numbers.

At the peak of this work, nearly a million labourers were at one time employed, and even now large numbers of labourers are regularly working on the maintenance and improvement of airfields constructed in Eastern and Southern India.

The wartime story of Indian labour is not merely a story of more work and more wages. These six years of war have been years in which much has been done to evolve a progressive labour code and to bring about healthy industrial relations. The basis for this progress was already there. From 1919 onwards i.e. since the establishment of the International Labour Organisation, a number of Acts have been placed on the Statute Book to ensure the welfare of labour. International conventions have been recognised and these recommendations have resulted in one kind of action or the other e.g. regulation of hours of work in the factories, mines and on railways, the minimum age for industrial employment, Workmen's Compensation and Maternity Benefits.

### Horizons Widened

The second World War has widened the horizon. With the increasing large-scale industrialisation came the urge to increase the productive efficiency of millions of Indian workmen. Labour welfare became the corner stone of official labour policy. The State has assumed this responsibility and the problem is being tackled in its broadest sense. The object is not only to improve conditions of life and work but also to aim at long-range ideals like social security. Much progress is being made by legislation, persuasion and by putting before employers the ideals of healthy industrial relations.

Early in the war, machinery was set up to advise Government on the welfare of labour, and Mr. R. S. Nimbkar, a prominent labour leader, was appointed as Welfare Adviser. A number of officers were also appointed in the provinces to explain Government's policy to workers and

employers and to bring to the notice of Government the scope and extent of welfare measures undertaken in different zones.

The Central Government have recently appointed a chief Labour Commissioner at New Delhi and three Regional Labour Commissioners at Bombay, Calcutta and Lahore, to administer their newly set up conciliation machinery. This organisation deals with industrial relations in industries and undertakings in the "Central Sphere" comprising industrial establishments owned or controlled by the Government of India, Federal Railways, mines and oilfields and Major Ports. The new organisation is in charge of conciliation, welfare and operation of certain labour laws in these industries.

Its functions include assistance in the formation and maintenance of voluntary machinery in industrial establishments, prevention and settlement of trade disputes and maintenance of information regarding wage rates and conditions of work. It is also intended to promote good relations between employers and workers, examining welfare measures and giving advice to employers and Government on these measures.

### A Vexed Question

One of the most vexed questions of Indian labour since the advent of the war was the maintenance of the worker's pre-war standard of life. The problem arose due to the shooting up of commodity prices and difficulties in obtaining food supplies at reasonable rates. The Central Government, through its welfare machinery, urged the employers to open cost price grain shops and canteens in their undertakings. There has been a good response to this appeal. The number of industrial concerns where arrangements have been made to feed the workers at rates cheaper than those prevailing in the market has been steadily increasing.

One of the weakest spots of Indian labour is labour employed in coal mines—well known for its illiteracy, poverty and squalor. In January 1944 the Governor-General promulgated an ordinance levying a cess on all coal produced in British India and thus constituting a Fund for expenditure on welfare measures and amenities for coal miners. The intention is to improve the lot of the miners, to provide them with well-planned and clean houses, medical facilities, education and sanitary conditions of life.

It will not be long before the various schemes intended to secure these objectives are implemented. The Advisory Committee constituted under this ordinance has already approved two schemes for neat and clean housing estates

in the Jharia and Raniganj coalfields. According to tentative plans prepared in the Labour Department, these houses will be designed to provide living space of two rooms with front and back verandah, kitchen, wash place and courtyards for each family. The estates will be laid out to give a density exceeding 20 houses to an acre so as to provide adequate amenities, open spaces, grassy plots and playgrounds.

It is also proposed to appoint a town planner to plan the co-ordinated development of coalfield areas. Miners will be provided with shower baths at the pithead so that they can get clean of coaldust before going home after their day's work. Expenditure is being incurred from the Fund on anti-malarial measures in the coalfields and the unit engaged on this work has already brought under larval control more than 150 sq. miles in the coalfields.

It has been decided to open one Central and two Regional hospitals as well as maternity and child welfare centres in each of the two main coalfields, and necessary arrangements will similarly be made in outlying fields. A Coalmine Welfare Commissioner has been appointed at Dhanbad to ensure the speedy execution of these plans for the betterment of the miners.

Indian labour is also looking forward to measures of social security in the post-war period—measures which will guarantee income and employment security in the event of sickness, maternity or accident. To achieve these ideals the State has prepared a scheme with the help of Professor Adarkar and two experts from the International Labour Office. While this scheme will deal with only a few aspects of the problem, Government have also decided to formulate a general plan of social security covering questions like minimum wage, unemployment insurance etc.

### Social Security

Before preparing this plan, however, it is necessary to collect all possible data on the existing labour conditions in India. An Investigation Committee is already on the job and is collecting this data, which will be utilised by a Planning Committee, to be subsequently appointed, to formulate a plan of social security.

Among the legislative measures introduced during the war is the War Injuries (Compensation and Insurance) Act, which imposes on employers a liability to compensate workers sustaining war injuries. Prompt payment of such compensation is ensured by the provision for compulsory insurance of employees with the Government against such liability.



Yet another factor which has played a significant part in the initiation and formulation of progressive labour policies is the institution of a Labour Conference, which has now emerged as a Tripartite Organisation representing the Central and Provincial Governments, the Indian States, the employers and the workers. This is an important development, closely on the lines of the International Labour Organisation. The Conference, in years to come, may become a full-fledged industrial council, so strongly recommended by the Whitley Commission on Labour 13 years ago.

### Employment Exchanges

Through this institution, Indian labour and capital are learning to talk to each other instead of talking at each other. It has provided opportunities for full and free contact between the employers and employees on controversial issues including those relating to wages and dearness allowance. It has passed resolutions for planning ahead. At one of its sessions the Standing Committee of the Tripartite Conference recommended that Employment Exchanges should be established to deal with problems arising out of demobilisation of skilled and semi-skilled workers on the termination of hostilities.

In pursuance of this decision 10 Employment Exchanges, similar to those functioning in other industrial countries of the world, have already been established and are assisting employers in finding technical personnel for their undertakings as well as helping the personnel to find employment. The scheme will soon expand into a network of 71 Employment Exchanges to deal with the broader question of Resettlement and Re-employment of demobilised soldiers.

### Adjudication of Disputes

To maintain war production at a steady level, it was found necessary to impose certain restrictions on labour. It was essential that some system should be devised to ensure that disputes, when they arose, were settled without the necessity of resorting to direct action. Accordingly, in 1942, the Central Government, under the Defence of India Rules, took power to refer industrial disputes to "adjudication" with the provision that the adjudication award should be enforced by an order of Government.

This procedure has proved useful in the prevention and early settlement of industrial disputes. The number of strikes has remained at a low ebb—and where strikes have occurred their duration has been small. There has been

no case of any strike or lock-out during the pendency of adjudication procedure, and both employers and employees have been willing to abide by the procedure as well as by the decisions of the adjudicator.

This principle of compulsory arbitration has been useful to labour. There has been no need for labour to waste its efforts by going on strike in order to obtain certain advantages from employers. During the war there has been no case in which the workers, after a long, arduous, painful, wasting struggle, extending over months together, had ultimately to surrender to the employers and to go back to their old conditions or conditions much deteriorated. In many cases in which the adjudication procedure was applied labour was given what it was struggling to get and a majority of the strikes ended in favour of labour.

### Essential Services

Another wartime measure was the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, promulgated in 1941, requiring the workers to stick to their jobs. At the same time it provides for fair terms of employment to workers employed in Essential Services. Shortly after the outbreak of war it became evident that, in order to utilise the technical personnel available in the country to the best advantages in the war effort, Government should take power requiring industrial undertakings to release technical personnel for employment in factories engaged on work of national importance. The National Service (Technical Personnel) Ordinance was accordingly promulgated in June 1940 and a number of National Service Labour Tribunals were constituted to take over persons into national service.

Among other wartime achievements are the schemes launched by Government to provide India with skilled technicians. Two schemes, complementary in their aims, have been working. One is known as the Bevin Boys Scheme, after the British Minister of Labour who was responsible for offering young Indians from the working classes opportunities of training in England.

Under this scheme, about 800 technicians have been sent to England, in batches picked from factories in India to receive training in specialised engineering trades along with British workmen. Many of these technicians, commonly known as Bevin Boys, have returned to India and have been engaged on important war jobs and inspection and supervisory work.

Some of these skilled workers have secured employment in the various technical branches



Trainees at work in the smithy.

of the civil and defence industries and are earning on an average more than four times the salary they were drawing before they left India. Some of them have been appointed as Commissioned Officers in the Corps of Indian Engineers. Others have been employed as instructors in technical training centres or hold technical posts in the Army.

### Important Feature

An important feature of this training abroad is that it also includes a course of lectures on the working of trade unionism and industrial organisation in Great Britain. The Trade Union leaders in India, although they have done much good work for the welfare of labour, are mostly outsiders—lawyers, politicians, journalists and social workers. The Bevin Boys who have and will return to India with an understanding of trade union principles abroad, may provide a nucleus of genuine trade union leadership.

The other scheme is the Technical Training Scheme which provides opportunities of training in India. The scheme was launched primarily to meet the urgent demands for semi-skilled workers so keenly felt with the sudden outbreak of war. Since its inception the scheme has provided more than 80,000 technicians to the Army and civil industry.

## TEA LABOURERS' VITAL CONTRIBUTION IN ASSAM

**D**WELLING in the valleys of Assam are thousands of Indian labourers who have made a vital contribution to the victory in the East.

At a time when Japan was threatening to invade India, a large number of these workers was called upon for the construction of vital roads and airfields in Assam. In 1942-43 a special "Shadow Labour Force" was created and made available from the tea estates of Assam and Bengal. This enabled the gardens not only to continue supplying large contingents of labour to an increased number of defence projects, but also ensured that the contingents supplied would consist mainly of settled labour already inured to conditions in the Province, leaving newly imported labour to accustom itself to the more suitable and comfortable conditions of garden life. To create this Force, labour was recruited intensively from outside the Province in areas which normally send labour to tea districts.

### Immediate Response

This Force provided a large proportion of the labour required for the construction of the Manipur and Ledo Road and for almost every airfield and major project in Assam. The advance guard of the Force in early March 1942 consisted of one planter and 100 labourers from his own estate. By the end of March 1942 the total at Manipur Road was 28,500 men, and in October 1942 the Force numbered over 82,000.

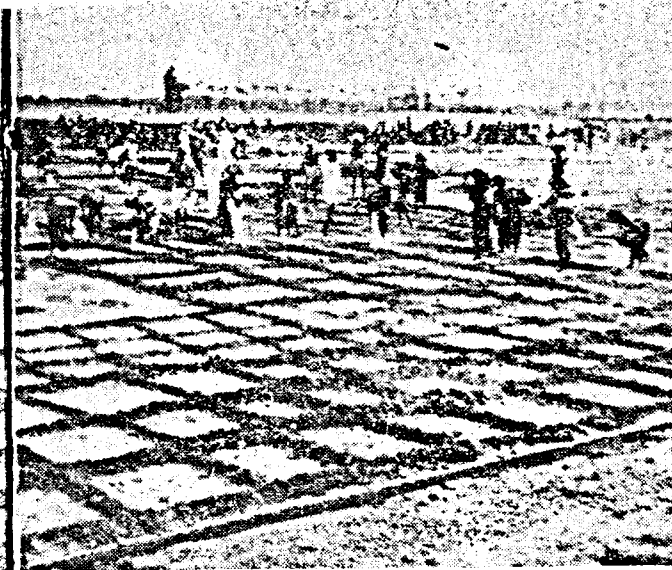
The exodus from Burma in the spring and summer of 1942 produced the first of many emergency calls on the tea industry for labour. Every effort of the industry would have been in vain if the workers themselves had not co-operated willingly. Time and again volunteers were called to assist in road and aerodrome building, often far away from their homes, and the labourers' response was always immediate. Their work has been appreciated by Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck. In a recent message to the Indian Tea Association he said: "They have worked cheerfully and well under the most trying conditions and have contributed very materially to our success in Burma."

In the early part of 1941, the tea garden labourers rendered valuable assistance to the stream of refugees from Burma. They acted in the unfamiliar role of porters and stretcher-bearers under the most appalling conditions.

(Continued on page 260)



a defenders land and take off while hundreds of white-clad labourers work day and night to enlarge an aerodrome. (Right) Curing the



concrete surface.

## JAPAN WAS BOMBED FROM INDIA

### Airfields for American Planes

INDIA has played a vital role in the many-sided air attacks directed against Japan. Hundreds of airfields, rapidly constructed in this country after Japan's treacherous attack on Pearl Harbour, provided the bases from which American giant Super-Fortresses and B-29's took off to bomb Japan's stronghold in Burma.

These bases also played a part in the first land-based assault on the Japanese mainland—the industrial centre of Yawata—for the planes took off from Indian airfields on the preliminary stage of their journey to the bases in China, from which the raid was made.

### Swift Planning

The story of the creation of the vital air bases is a story of swift and joint planning by the British Army, the U.S. Army, the engineers of the Central P.W.D., and the engineers of certain Provinces and States. It is also a story of concentrated work by many thousands of Indian labourers.

Before these air bases were laid down India's eastern frontiers were practically undefended and there was no protection from the air. Aeroplanes were not many, but the operation of even these few was seriously hampered by the absence of airfields. India had only the small beginnings of a civil air service on the Imperial Service route across the country with

various branches running into it, and this had to be developed into the vast network of airfields necessary for the operations against Japan and for maintaining the supply route to China.

Some existing airfields had to be extended and adapted so that they would be able to support the take-off of the huge American Super-Fortresses which were to operate from them. The normal 2,000 yards long strip had to be lengthened and, where necessary, strengthened. In addition, taxiing strips, standings for aircraft and technical and domestic accommodation for many men had to be constructed at each field.

### Sources of Labour

Such a big engineering project was undertaken in a country which is not fully mechanised. Bulldozers and such like were not available, and the construction of the airfields had to be tackled mainly by using vast masses of labour.

The Central P.W.D., the agency which carried out the biggest share in this construction work, employed no less than 600,000 Indian labourers at the peak period.

Labourers who used to do earth work, road, bund and canal construction, labourers who previously found insufficient occupation in agriculture, were collected from all over India to supplement those available in the vicinity of the airfield sites. Labourers were brought up to Assam from Cochin and Travancore, from Patiala and Nabha. Urias and Santals were also used, and the Gorakhpur labourer, who was already used to periodical journeys to distant places for work of this nature, came along too. Local labour from tea gardens and Nagas from the hills were also utilised in large numbers.

working days and that without the assistance of any mechanical plant except some steam rollers and concrete mixers—the latter only sufficient to mix one-third of the cement required.

At the peak period, the Central P.W.D. had under construction at one and the same time, a large number of airfields under the administrative control of one Chief Engineer in five different provinces and two States—with a spread over covering nearly the whole of India, and completed in all 83 airfields. On each field tons of materials were used, including stone, cement, timber, bricks and coal, most of which had to be brought over long distances. The movement of these vast quantities of materials was a big problem. Hundreds of bullock carts were used, alongside fleets of modern motor transports, to carry supplies from the railway sidings, which were laid down, to the airfields.

### Expansion of Central P.W.D.

To cope with the work the Central P.W.D. was required to set up a vast organisation. In 1941 the Central Circle of this Agency was constructing, on behalf of the Director of Civil Aviation, a few airfields designed essentially for civil air services but in which the R.A.F. were also interested. Immediately after Japan's entry into the war three new circles were created, two in Calcutta for Assam and Bengal and one in Bombay for Southern and Western India. Staff of all grades and plant was secured from Provinces, States and local bodies, but the requisite staff was never fully available.

As the airfield construction programme further expanded, a third circle was set up in Calcutta and another in Madras. At this stage, May to August, 1942, the U.P. and Hyderabad P.W.D. also took up construction.

A little later, airfields in Assam became the responsibility of the M.E.S. who took over from the Central P.W.D. so as to release the Central P.W.D. staff for more intensive work in Bengal. One division of the Central P.W.D., however, remained in Assam. The services of some engineers who evacuated from Malaya and Burma were also enlisted.

By the summer of 1942 the Central P.W.D. had a Chief Engineer, 5 Superintending Engineers and 32 Executive Engineers engaged on constructing airfields in Bengal, Bihar Orissa, Madras, Bombay and Sind and in Mysore and some other States, and the senior supervisory staff were continuously flying from one airfield under construction to another to secure the maximum supervision in the minimum time.



A Cochin State labour unit engaged in aerodrome construction. The men work to music; the man to the left is beating a tin-can drum.

It was no uncommon sight to see some of these primitive peoples putting one of their men to watch over a small heap of their belongings, including bows and arrows, while they turned to work on airfield construction, using such modern appliances as were available. Labour, not mechanical equipment, made these airfields and made them in record time.

Despite the invasion panic of April 1942, a jungle was turned into runways in about 60

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

Fortunately, some of the senior officers of the Central P.W.D. had previous experience on airfield work which enabled them to get a flying start, and, with the help of Air Ministry drawings and specifications, technical instructions on runway designs and construction were issued as early as February 1942, though work had, of course, been pushed on vigorously before that.

A typical instance of rapid expansion is provided by the fact that, in March-April, 1942, a Sub-Division in Madras expanded into a Circle with 5 Divisions, to meet an airfield construction programme of 16 airfields each costing an average of Rs. 50 lakhs. Its activities covered Mysore State as well as Madras Presidency.

The Central P.W.D. not only constructed the airfields but also took over responsibilities for their maintenance. Sub-divisions were created to deal primarily with maintenances. This has been particularly necessary where the airfields were occupied and were being used for active operations against the enemy, as was the case with the majority of those constructed by the Central P.W.D.

Another agency which considerably assisted the Central P.W.D. in carrying out this huge project of airfield construction was the Public Works Department of the U.P. Government.

## ASSAM TEA LABOUR'S WAR EFFORT

(Continued from page 257)

and, on one route, volunteer gangs of garden labour maintained portage and stretcher services when all other forms of labour had broken down or had become exhausted. To quote the annual Report on the working of the Tea Districts Emigrant Labour Act for the year 1942-43, "the service and sacrifice given and made by the industry in this connection has earned the praise of the Military Commanders in Assam and the gratitude of a large number of humble wayfarers who travelled to safety over roads and tracks made by the tea garden labourers with few mechanical aids."

Reports have also been received about the exemplary behaviour of the labour force under the stress of air raids at the end of October 1942. In spite of the fact that there were a few casualties among the tea garden labourers there was no sign of panic and no attempt to leave the area. After the raids, a large proportion was willing to return to work.

## BURMESE LEADERS' TRIBUTE TO INDIAN TROOPS

Generous acknowledgment of Indian troops' great contribution to victory and their part in the liberation of Burma has been paid by Burmese leaders, writes an Army Observer.

U. Kyaw Myint, Barrister-at-Law and formerly a member of the Indian Legislative Assembly, said: "The part they played in the Burma campaign has been magnificent. They fought under the most trying conditions against a tenacious and fanatical foe."

"The people fully appreciate the extent of India's effort. The war has shown that India can produce one of the most formidable armies in the world. Such an army is imperative for the future peace of the world."

Maj-Gen. Aung San, Commander of the Patriot Burmese forces, said: "Indian troops have fought in many places in Burma side by side with Burmese guerillas. We wish them good luck."

U. Ba Lwin, a prominent educationist, said: "India and Burma are united for ever through the common struggle."

Mr. Justice Mya Bu said: "The part played by Indian troops in various theatres, particularly in Burma, is such that they have made an added contribution to the strength of the British Empire and thus to the cause of world peace."

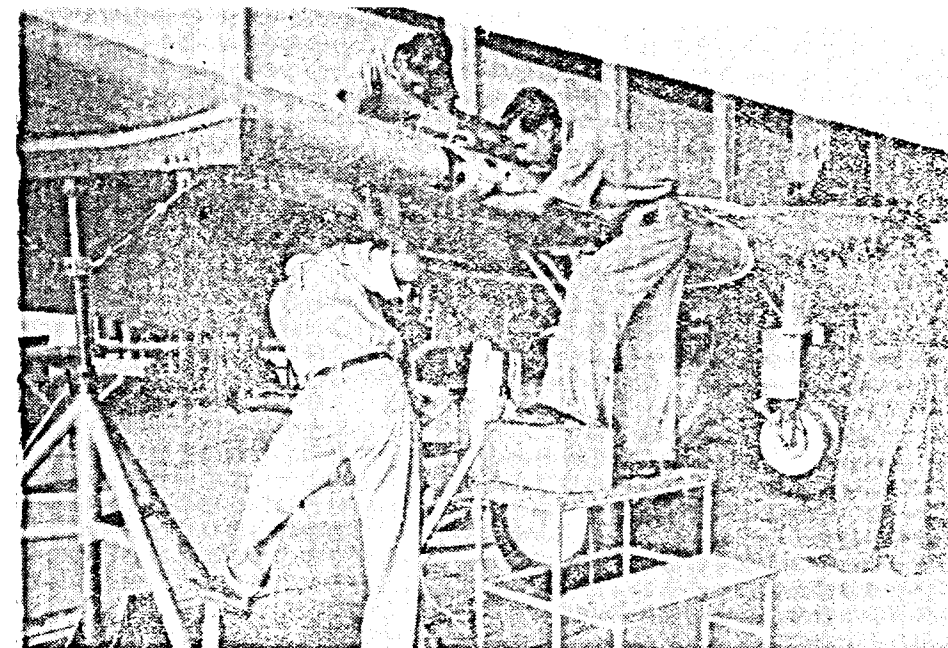
## INDIAN SOLDIERS IN VENICE

Indian soldiers are enjoying themselves in Venice. They have their own hostel—formerly a tourists' luxury hotel—overlooking the city's beautiful lagoon, where they can spend leave free of charge.

Indian food is served, and the men have the finest quality sheets for their beds and running water in their rooms. An Italian orchestra plays at mealtimes.

Bathing parties are arranged and sightseeing tours are conducted by Havildar-Major Mardan Ali, 2nd Punjab Regiment, of Garhanabih, Gujrat, Punjab, who was sent to Venice as an official guide by the education branch of the 10th Indian Division.

Each day Havildar-Major Mardan Ali is to be seen conducting convoys of gondolas containing laughing, happy jawans rubbernecking along the famous Venetian waterways.



Installing armament and landing gear in a fighter at an Indian aircraft repair and maintenance factory.

## MAINTENANCE AND REPAIR OF AIRCRAFT

HUNDREDS of Allied planes operating in the eastern theatre of the global war required constant attendance, and their maintenance and repair was a vital war job which India's young aircraft industry was called upon to tackle.

The Directorate-General of Aircraft, functioning through 18 Civil Maintenance Units set up in different parts of India, was thus engaged on work corresponding to that of the Ministry of Aircraft Production in the United Kingdom.

The Units worked on the basis of estimates and forecasts furnished by the Air Command, South East Asia. They were engaged on the complete overhaul of service aircraft, repairing barrage balloons, signal equipment, aero-engines, propellers, turrets, wireless instruments, M.T. vehicles and many other items of air force equipment.

By the end of May 1944, these Units had repaired a considerable number of aircraft and aero-engines besides carrying out a large amount of aircraft modification and inspection work. The average monthly outturn of a few important items was, for example, 2,000 aircraft dash-board instruments, 3,000 magnetos, 1,500 replated aircraft accumulators and 200 wireless sets. The Mathematical Instruments Office alone repaired more than 58,000 instruments.

One Unit was specially engaged on the assembly of aircraft and its average monthly outturn rose to 70 aircraft.

In addition to Civil Maintenance Units a number of civilian firms all over India were engaged on repair work and their output increased every month.

The salvage of worn-out parts and the recovery by plating, etc. has played a large part in increasing the output from repair. A Unit was specially formed to dismantle obsolete aircraft and recover any serviceable or repairable spares which could be absorbed in later types of aircraft or which could be used in the repair and manufacture programme.

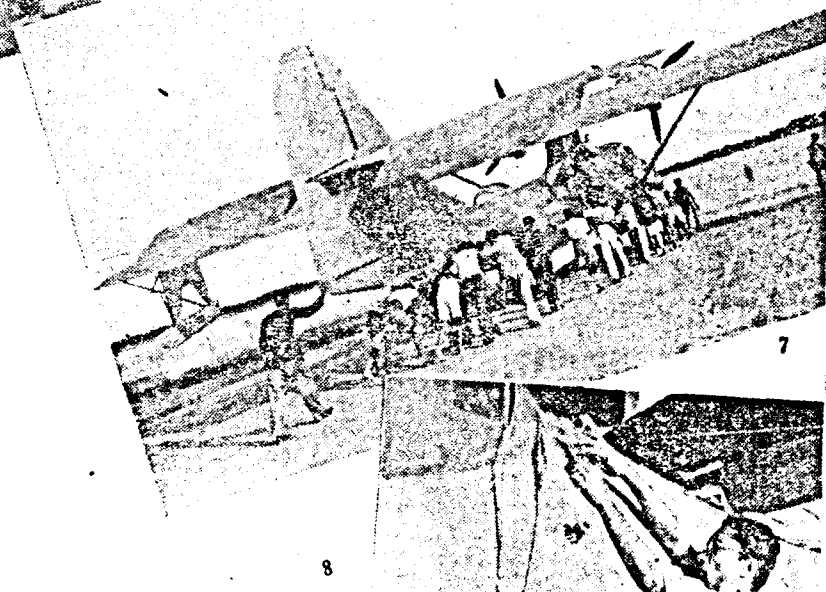
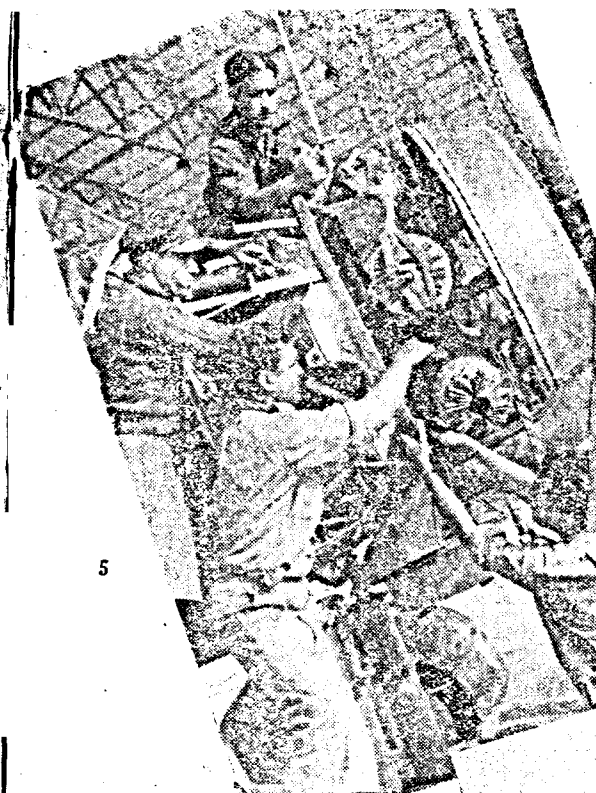
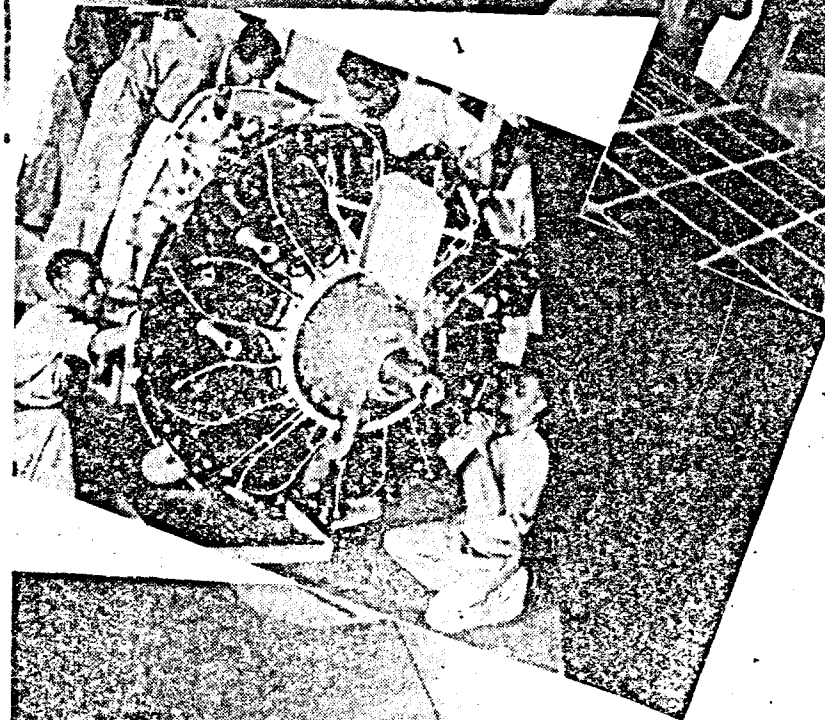
### Production of Spares

Despite difficulties on the manufacturing side, the production of a wide range of spares and equipment for the air forces in India had been established. During 1943 alone, indents from the R.A.F. for some thousands of different items were accepted. The manufacture of 10,000 aluminium and 5,000 plywood Hurricane tanks, and 3,000 Spitfire tanks was completed some time ago.

Experimental tanks of a new form of construction developed by Indian scientists and employing indigenous material were successfully made.

Hindustan Aircraft Limited in South India, which changed over in 1942 from the manufacture of aircraft to servicing was fully engaged on the repair and maintenance of aircraft for the U.S. Army and Air Force.





## IN AN INDIAN

1. Interior of fuselage being riveted.
2. Engines being installed on fighter 'plane.
3. Adjusting release mechanism of parachute flare in a Catalina flying-boat.
4. Electric heat-treat furnaces. Heat-treating increases the strength of steel parts and reduces their weight.
5. Installing Bristol engine on Lysander aircraft.

## AIRCRAFT FACTORY

6. Chief Instructor (left) of aero-engine assembly section explains the mechanism of the engine.
7. A Dutch Catalina being towed to the launching ramp.
8. Aircraft engineers inspect a Catalina hull.
9. Examining the engine of a Catalina patrol boat.

## WAR, VICTORY AND SCIENCE

**H**APPILY the war is now over. Lest we in India forget the role of science in this decisive victory and relegate the scientist to a position of want and neglect, I propose to repeat once again the oft-quoted words of the Preacher:

"There was a little city and few men within it; and there came a great king against it and besieged it and built great bulwarks against it;

"Now there was found in it a poor wise man and he, by his wisdom, delivered the city; yet no man remembered that same poor man.

"Then said I, Wisdom is better than strength: nevertheless the poor man's wisdom is despised, and his words are not heard."

It appears, however, more than likely that the role of science in winning the peace is going to be even more spectacular and successful than its achievements in winning this war, and that science may at last expect to get better consideration at the hands of the new democracy which is now emerging out of this war.

**By Sir S. S. Bhatnagar,**  
*Director, Scientific and Industrial Research.*

How the scientist has acquitted himself, worthy of all the trust placed in him, can be best illustrated by a brief account of some of the outstanding achievements in science and technology during these five and a half years of war. The fall of France found Britain in a desperate situation. She faced the imminent threat of invasion. Her cities were terrorised from the air by enemy bombers. Her production of equipment and materials was far less than was necessary to wage a successful war. In addition, her Atlantic life-line bringing much-needed materials from America and so vital for her very existence was dangerously threatened by the U-boat warfare ruthlessly waged by a nation whose scientific powers and prestige stood at the highest. Britain was hopelessly on the defence.

That was the signal for British scientists to come to their country's aid. To save Britain from utter destruction from the air, British

scientists invented Radar, which is one of the most fascinating inventions of this war. By an ingenious application of the principles of radio, enemy bombers, bringing in their wake death and destruction, were located long before they reached the objective and were attacked. The air battle of Britain was won by Radar, and British scientists did it.

Later, when German scientific genius tried to bring disaster to England with pilotless planes and rocket bombs, Radar saved the country again. On the high seas against U-boats and magnetic mines the combat was carried out by depth charges and by degaussing the ships; and the precious life-line was saved.

Soon America became an ally of England. The scientific talents of the two countries were pooled together and harnessed for the war. The result was that novel weapons of offence and defence began to pour out of the research laboratories of the two countries.

### Scientific Records

British enterprise and American production methods created new world records in scientific achievements. The wonder plastics 'Polythene' and 'Silicones' were discovered and used extensively in defence telephone, telegraph and submarine cable systems, in aeroplanes, in electrical industry and for a great many other purposes. The synthetic rubbers, a product of American and German scientific genius, obviated the serious problem of natural rubber shortage, which was consequential on the loss of Malaya, Burma and the Dutch East Indies to Japan.

The secret bomb-sight and high octane gasoline and the new improvements in the internal combustion engine, which made it lighter and more powerful, enabled the Allies to carry out their crippling air offensive against Germany and Japan. The successful development of new processes for the extraction of magnesium from sea water and of aluminium from clay and the discovery of new alloys of magnesium and aluminium, called magnaluminum. Duraluminum resulted in the building of lighter and faster bombers and fighters and created a revolution in aircraft construction.

Amphibian tanks, Mulberry ports and jeeps enabled the Allies to carry out the successful invasion of Europe and to shorten the war. New marine life-saving devices came as a god-send to the merchant and fighting navy exposed to untold dangers on the high seas. Flame

throwers annihilated the Jap in his impregnable hide-outs. The scientific forecast of meteorological conditions contributed to the safety of the Air Forces and rendered incalculable service on D-Day.

Germany's scientific developments during the war were no less spectacular than those of the Allies. Enough publicity has been given to all their V-1 and V-2 and other weapons. Reports coming through British military channels in Germany now have indicated that, in connection with the production of quite new weapons, research and development were feverish to the end. Flying projectiles even more venomous than V-1 and V-2 were in an advanced stage of development. A new gas with certain quantities more deadly than any yet known was actually produced.

Keeping pace with these developments in the destructive aspect of the war, the humane sciences, medicine and surgery, witnessed such spectacular achievements as never before. It is indeed a happy thing to record that the war gave no less impetus to these sciences than to any other.

### Penicillin

The importance of wartime medical developments can be appreciated only during peace. The perfection of blood transfusion methods and the manufacture of dry plasma on a large scale saved innumerable lives. The discovery of penicillin was a crowning glory to the tireless efforts of our scientists. Other drugs, such as Synthidine and H 11, are further additions to the list of chemotherapeutic weapons for the conquest of disease. Perfected plastic surgery methods brought back hope to the crippled soldier. DDT & Gammaxane, other scientific wonders of this war in the field of insecticides, have contributed no less than penicillin for the saving of mankind.

But for DDT, a great part of the world would have been in the grip of terrible epidemics today. In 1943, it saved over 14 million people of Naples when they were threatened with destruction by typhus. At the same time, it guaranteed safety to Allied soldiers from malaria and other insect-borne diseases in many theatres of war.

To this long list of scientific achievements must be added the dehydration of food. In the dark days of the war it saved millions of tons of precious shipping space and brought succour to the starving millions of war-devastated countries.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



The Director of the Haffkine Institute (standing) and an Assistant Director studying specimens of penicillium mould to select suitable colonies for cultivation.



The culture fluid containing penicillin being sprayed through glass tubes which contain an organic solvent.



Sterile penicillin solution being filled into ampoules.

As a crowning achievement of all these scientific efforts has now come the 'Atomic Bomb.' Man's dream of harnessing the atomic energy of matter for destructive and creative purposes has been realised. It is only in the fitness of things that this great happening should give the verdict of victory, in this war, to science.

Assessment of the magnitude of the scientific contributions to this war by each of the countries is no easy task. The war was fought and won by the Allies in closest co-operation with one another. The results of scientific researches of one country were developed for utilisation purposes in another. Britain discovered penicillin, but America successfully developed the processes of manufacture and made available large quantities of the drug to the world.

#### The 'Atomic Bomb'

American production methods helped large-scale production of Radar, another British invention. The Germans also used Radar methods and seemed to have developed a fairly fine technique. The secret bomb-sight, an American invention, never remained a secret to other Allies. True co-operative spirit in scientific research was maintained amongst them on all occasions.

The story of the 'Atomic Bomb' best illustrates this. There was a regular shuttle ser-

vice of scientific knowledge between America and England in the early days of the development of this powerful weapon. Although the more spectacular discoveries and inventions came out of England and America, other Allied countries made no less important contributions to the application of science in solving their supply, defence and offence problems.

A sum of £500,000,000 is supposed to have been spent on research work in connection with the 'Atomic Bomb' and considerably larger sums of money have been voted by America, Australia and Canada on their respective projects of scientific and industrial research; while India was allotted a pittance of Rs. 5,00,000 a year, which has since been raised to Rs. 15,00,000 a year, for all research work including war research spread over the whole of India. In spite of these and other serious handicaps, the country's scientific contribution to the war efforts stands to her eternal credit.

A faithful picture of her scientific and industrial development during the five years of the war has to be depicted against this background and of the utterly backward state of her industries at the commencement of hostilities. When the time for India to occupy a key position as a supply centre for the whole of Asia approached, the country and the Government realised that only planned industrial research on the many problems of the chemical,

metallurgical and engineering industries could harness the country's vast resources for the prosecution of the war.

This realisation was given effect to by the creation of the Board of Scientific and Industrial Research in April 1940, and of the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research shortly afterwards. The story of Indian scientific research and development, particularly during the war, is largely the story of the activities of this research organisation and to some extent of those of other similar organisations of the country.

#### Research Committees

With a grant of only Rs. 5,00,000 per year from the Government, Indian scientists started to build a new India alive to the demands of the war. Twenty research committees such as Glass and Refractories, Electro-Chemical, Industrial Fermentation, Drugs, Dyestuffs, Heavy Chemicals, Plastics, Fuel, Metallurgical, etc., covering all the essential branches of science and technology, were formed to plan and carry out researches helpful to the creation of various industries and to the prosecution of the war. Research projects were financed in Indian Universities. The laboratories of the Director, Scientific and Industrial Research, were started, which became a live centre of the research activities of the Council. Other centres such as Bangalore, Calcutta, Bombay and Madras, with financial grants from the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research, contributed a great deal to the success of the Council's research programme.

Over 200 research problems were investigated by the Council in the very short period of its existence. The laboratories of the Director, Scientific and Industrial Research, made many outstanding contributions to Indian industry and to the scientific side of the country's war effort. A few of these may be mentioned by way of illustration.

#### Plastics

The gigantic proportions which the war assumed brought about acute shortage of metals all over the world and more so in India. Plastics replaced metals in many industries and brought about a great many improvements. In America, England and Germany plastic materials were made of synthetic resins. The raw materials required for many of these resins could not be produced in India in any appreciable

quantity. Indigenous resources from which plastics could be produced were investigated in the laboratories of the Director, Scientific and Industrial Research and the Lac Research Institute and at other places and various successful processes were developed.

Jettison tanks and petrol proof plastic containers were prepared out of jute and shellac; Bagasse plastics were developed for the fabrication of building materials; shellac and jute went into the manufacture of fibre boards; non-metallic containers, identity discs and insulating materials; Horn waste plastics were worked out for electrical appliances. Collapsible tubes were made from castor oil and tailor wastes; enamels, lacquers, varnishes and plastics were developed out of *bhilawan* or marking nut; vegetable oils were investigated for the manufacture of oil plastics.

India is the largest producer of vegetable oilseeds. The war cut off the overseas market for the country's produce and threatened the oilseed trade. The development of vegetable oil lubricants and internal combustion engine fuels out of the vegetable oils marked another step in the utilisation of the country's resources for various industrial needs. Thousands of gallons of vegetable oil lubricants were produced in the country as a result of these researches. The results were made known to China and it is presumed the Chinese made good use of these vegetable oil lubricants.

#### Sulphuric Acid

It was suggested to the government and industry that, during the war, India should develop the manufacture of sulphuric acid from gypsum and should insist upon the utilisation of sulphur dioxide from the copper works in Bihar. These suggestions were opposed mainly on grounds of expense. The timely utilisation of sulphur deposits in Baluchistan by the Geological Survey of India at the instance of the Council helped in developing the process of purification of native sulphur, and did contribute something towards retrieving the serious sulphur position in India during the war, but it is hoped that the suggestions of the Council will be taken up during peacetime.

In the field of drugs and dyes, the failure of imports from abroad resulted in the initiation of research projects for the utilisation of the country's indigenous resources. Glandular products were prepared from slaughter house wastes. Atoxyl and Carbarsone were synthesised from easily available raw materials. Various vegetable dyes were extracted from the country's forest wealth.



At the instance of the Council, Tatas started the manufacture of surgical steel.

With the establishment of the closest co-operation between the Council and the Defence organisations of the Government, the R.A.F. and the U.S.A.A.F., many problems of immediate importance to the prosecution of the war were tackled by the Council in its laboratories. A successful formula was worked out for the manufacture of anti-gas cloth from entirely indigenous materials and the formula was revealed to other Allied countries. Large quantities of this cloth were manufactured in this country.

#### Other Industrial Processes

High tension ignition cable testing device, slushing varnishes for petrol storage metal tanks, patching cement for the repair of rubber tanks, petrol-proof hose-pipes, petrol containers, petrol pump diaphragms, petrol tank sealing compositions, smoke candles and Distress Signals, hot food containers, water detecting compositions and shock-proof packing materials from cocoanut fibre, were all worked out for the Air Force; pyrethrum cream and pyrethrum emulsifiers were prepared for all the armed forces in the South East Asia theatre of war. Air Foam Fire Extinguishers and luminous paints and pigments developed in the Council's laboratories were extensively used in defence operations. Several scientific devices were developed for the military intelligence section.

Many more industrial processes such as synthetic fibres from oilseed cakes, particularly groundnut seed cake, chemo-therapeutic products from vegetable sources such as Nim, Brahmi, Kakra Singhi, Bhilawan etc., producer-gas plants, semi-synthetic tanning materials, insecticides from indigenous sources, rubber from other plant sources and utilisation of natural resins have been investigated to reinforce the country's war effort on the scientific side.

If the cause of scientific and industrial research continues to be espoused during the peace, these processes and the inflow of greatly increased scientific work from the proposed national laboratories and universities will lead to the creation of a New India happy, contented and forward in her deeds and in her thoughts.

The Government of India have decided to allow imports of certain goods from France and Sweden. Licences will be issued by the Chief Controller of Imports. Preference will be given to regular pre-war importers of goods from these countries.

## T.A.B. VACCINE HAS SAVED MANY LIVES

### Kasauli Institute's War Effort

**D**URING the war years the research activities of the Central Research Institute at Kasauli had to be sacrificed in the interests of the greatly increased production of biological preparations. Such research as it was possible to undertake was confined to the solution of urgent problems in regard to substitutes for materials no longer obtainable from abroad, especially stains, agar and glassware, and to other problems connected with the war.

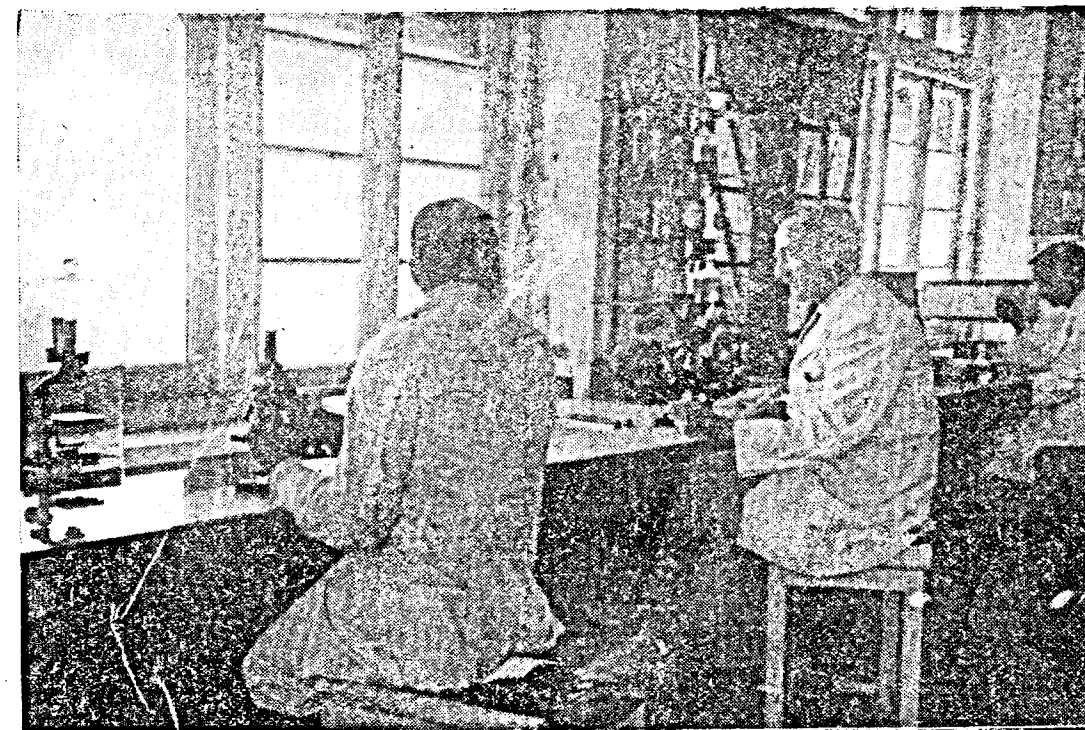
In normal times, the Institute is regarded as a bureau of reference and is called upon to answer enquiries from both civil and military medical officers. These refer mainly to scientific points in relation to the use of vaccines and sera, snakes and snake-bite cases, rabies and anti-rabic treatment. In addition to giving information of this kind, the Director of the Institute has, for many years, acted as a consultant on scientific matters to the Director-General, Indian Medical Service, the Director of Medical Services in India, the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India, and the Secretary, Indian Research Fund Association.

#### Biological Products

The war naturally raised many new problems and work of this kind was greatly increased. Reliance had to be placed on Indian firms for the supply of certain biological products, especially sterile solutions intended for parenteral injection, and in this connection the Director was required to assume responsibility for the inspection and licensing of firms as approved suppliers to Government and for the testing of samples prior to the acceptance of consignments.

The threat of the introduction of yellow fever into India grew with the increase in the number and speed of the aircraft arriving in India from yellow fever areas in Africa. The Institute became a recognised centre at which civil and military officers were inoculated prior to proceeding to the yellow fever areas. A staff of specially trained workers was maintained ready to proceed to any part of India to investigate suspected cases of yellow fever.

The arrival in India of consultants and other military medical officers with little or no previous experience of the disease and conditions of India, resulted in many references being



The Laboratory of the Central Research Institute, Kasauli, which does research on the main Indian epidemic and endemic diseases. In wartime the Institute has produced vast quantities of sera and vaccines for army and civilian use. (Right) A laboratory worker examines a rolled bottle of cholera culture for vaccine.

made to the Institute for help and guidance, and the library facilities were also widely used by visitors and correspondents. These and many other additional duties had to be undertaken by a reduced staff.

Demands for Institutes products, chiefly T.A.B., cholera and anti-rabic vaccines and anti-venom serum, were received on an unprecedented scale during the war years. Since the outbreak of the war in 1939, demands have increased yearly, and it seems not improbable that they may continue to increase even now after Victory. Until September 1944, all demands from both civil and military indentors were met in full from existing stocks accumulated as the result of maintaining the maximum output possible with the accommodation, equipment and staff available. Issues in August 1944





Cholera vaccine is poured into a container for filling into ampoules by vacuum.

had been so heavy that the continued high demands during the following month could not be met, as reserves were exhausted.

All demands from military indentors were, however, met without delay, but it has been necessary to arrange for a proportion of the civil demands to be met from reserves held at other laboratories, through the Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India. The situation had been foreseen many months beforehand, and proposals had been put forward to increase the output from the Institute early in the year. Owing to difficulties in obtaining trained staff and special equipment, the scheme was not yet effective. Existing staff and equipment were worked to the maximum, but the output continued to fall short of the ever-increasing demands.

Arrangements were also made with the military authorities to effect all possible economy in the distribution and use of Institute products, and, in this way, it has been possible to meet all essential demands from military sources. Latterly, it has been necessary to pass the bulk of the demand received from civil indentors to other laboratories.

The actual issues of T.A.B. and cholera vaccines for military use alone during the first five years of war are shown below:

| Year    | T. A. B.  | Cholera   |
|---------|-----------|-----------|
|         | c. c.     | c. c.     |
| 1940 .. | 4,940     | 174,892   |
| 1941 .. | 1,244,346 | 978,000   |
| 1942 .. | 1,507,187 | 1,786,87  |
| 1943 .. | 3,030,564 | 3,037,841 |
| 1944 .. | 3,570,840 | 3,228,939 |

The issues to both military and civil indentors for the first four and a half years of war amounted to 11,765,158 c.c. of T.A.B. vaccine and 17,292,105 c.c. of cholera vaccine, a total of 29,057,263 c.c., or over 6,000 gallons.

Meanwhile, the production of anti-rabic vaccine had continued despite great difficulty in keeping up supplies of sheep, of which about 3,500 are required annually. The demand for anti-rabic vaccine has increased year by year, and the figure for 1944 was 2,781,021 c.c. of 5 per cent. sheep brain vaccine, the total for the four and a half years being 12,907,170 c.c., or nearly 3,000 gallons.

#### Anti-Venom Serum

Anti-venom serum has been demanded in increasing amounts by both civil and military indentors. The number of ampoules issued increased from a pre-war figure of about 7,000 per annum to over 23,000 in 1944. Kasauli antivenene is a bivalent, purified and concentrated globulin solution, specific against the venoms of the cobra and Russell's viper, which are responsible for the vast majority of deaths from snake-bite in India.

These Institute-manufactured products were distributed, not only throughout India, but to many other theatres of war, including, at one time, Malaya and Burma, and, at other times, Egypt, East Africa, Italy, Iraq, Persia and Syria.

At one stage in the war, there was a serious shortage of imported catgut for surgical purposes, and the Central Research Institute undertook the processing and sterilization of Indian catgut to meet the emergency. This continued until adequate stocks were available, and a total of 118,671 ampoules, each containing 5 feet of heat-sterilized surgical catgut, had been issued.

Another important function of the Central Research Institute is the stocking and issuing of imported biological products for the Army. Such products as anti-diphtheritic serum, gas-gangrene antitoxin, tetanus antitoxin, tetanus toxoid and typhus vaccine are delivered at the Institute under special arrangements made by the Director of Medical Services in India. These are taken on charge and issued under certain reservations to military hospitals and medical store depots in all parts of India and overseas.

As an indication of the scope of the work, the monthly issues in the last year averaged 3,000 ampoules of anti-diphtheritic serum, 35,000 doses of tetanus antitoxin and 400,000 c.c. of tetanus toxoid. In addition to this work, frequent assays are made to determine the potency of these imported products, as a result of which it has been possible, in many cases, to extend the date of their expiry.

The assaying of disinfectants by means of the Rideal-Walker Test in connection with contracts between manufacturing firms and the Indian Stores Department has also been a duty of the Institute. This test requires much material and careful supervision, and has from time to time been a heavy strain on the over-taxed resources of the laboratory.

#### Miscellaneous Duties

Miscellaneous duties of the Institute include the examination of chemical material, the supply of stains, agglutinable suspensions and high titre sera, and the manufacture and issue of a large variety of minor vaccines, chiefly for military use. In the early days of the war, when great difficulties were being experienced in obtaining equipment for military laboratories, the Institute eased the situation by making available as much equipment as could possibly be spared.

In 1945, a special enquiry into the occurrence of an exo-erythrocytic cycle in mammalian malaria was taken up under the Director of the Institute at the request of the Royal Society and the Medical Research Council. The subject is one which is considered to be of urgent military importance in relation to the prophylaxis and treatment of benign tertian malaria which remains a problem of primary importance, not only to the fighting forces of the United Nations, but to the populations of all malarious countries. Although this enquiry has been initiated as a war measure, it is hoped that, if necessary, it will be continued during the post-war period.

Figures showing issues of vaccines and details of other work done at the Central Research Institute do not fully demonstrate the importance of this class of work to the war effort.

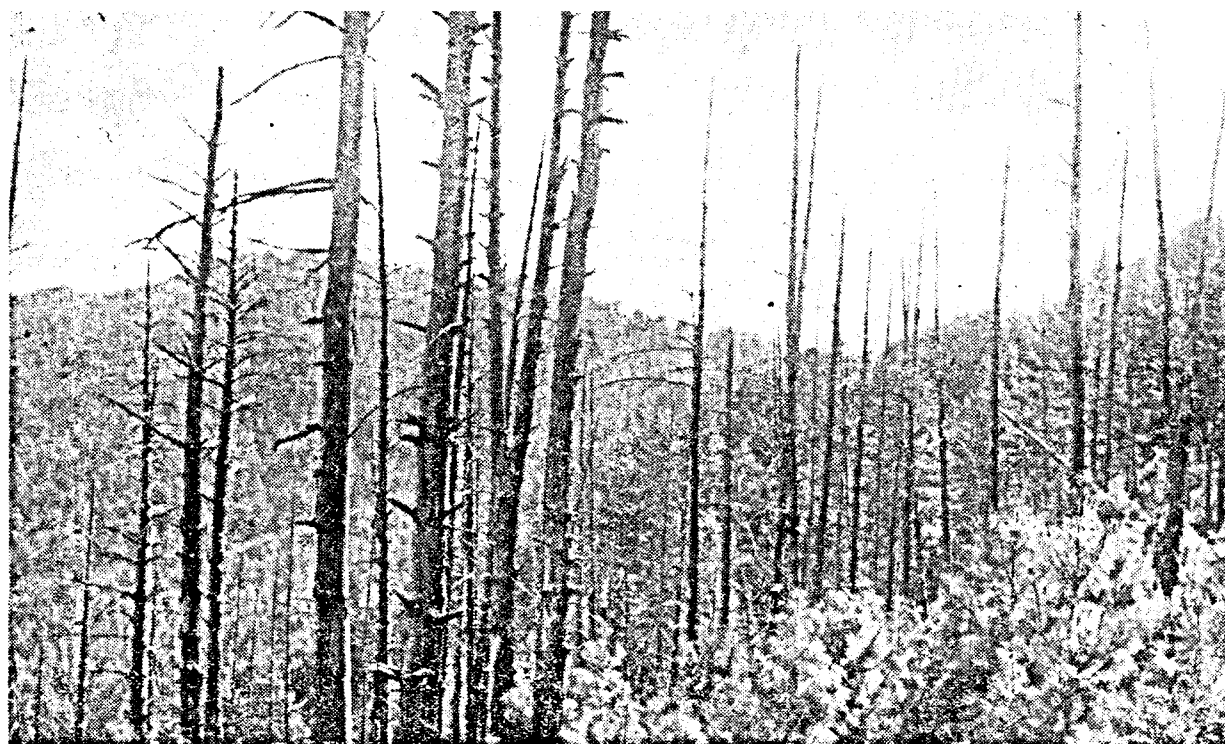
#### Great Life-Saver

There is no doubt that the use of a good T.A.B. vaccine has saved many lives, and the strain on the medical and nursing service, if many cases of enteric fever had occurred, would have been a very serious problem. That the Army Medical authorities are satisfied with the Kasauli T.A.B. vaccines is shown by the following quotations from their 1942 report:

"That only 16 British soldiers in every 10,000 contracted a fever of the enteric group in a year like 1942 with the enemy at the gate of India, with almost daily arrivals of unacclimatised British troops in India, with intensive training going on in camps situated among civil populations among whom the disease was rife and with water supplies stretched to breaking point, is considered to be a remarkable testimony to the efficacy of preventive inoculation with T.A.B. vaccine. It is of even greater significance that in Eastern Army, where active operations were taking place under the most adverse climatic conditions and with hordes of civilian refugees from Burma streaming through Assam and Eastern Bengal, the incidence of the enteric group of fevers was only 1.9 per 1,000."

With reference to Indian troops the Report continues:

"It is very satisfactory that, in a year like 1942, when such a large proportion of the garrison in India consisted of raw recruits as yet untutored in the rules of health and when general sanitation and water supplies were admittedly far less efficient than were those existing prior to 1940, the admission ratio per 1,000 for fevers of the enteric group should fall well below 0.5 per 1,000. This means that out of every 10,000 Indian soldiers in India in 1942 only 5 contracted a fever of the enteric group. This achievement is almost entirely due to the fact that the Indian Army is most efficiently protected by inoculation with T.A.B. vaccine."



A pine forest in the Punjab.

## FOREST RESEARCH AIDS IN VICTORY

### Dehra Dun Institute's Work

**F**OREST research covers so wide a field that it is impossible, in a short article, to discuss in any detail the numerous problems resulting from war conditions, towards the solution of which the Forest Research Institute at Dehra Dun was able to contribute. The Institute consists of the five Branches of Silviculture, Entomology, Botany, Utilisation and Chemistry and Minor Forest Products, which correspond to convenient sections of the whole field of forest research.

Thus the Silviculture Branch deals with the problems of the creation and regeneration of forests and their tending and management under working plans. The Entomology and Botany Branches are concerned mainly with the biological aspects of the protection of forests, timber and other forest products from insect and fungal attack. The Utilisation Branch, which is divided into sections dealing with wood technology or the anatomy of wood, timber-testing, seasoning, wood preservation, wood-working, plywood and adhesives, deals with the major forest products of timber and firewood. This branch also has

a section devoted to the research on paper and paper pulp.

The economic value of forests to a country does not depend solely on the value of its timbers, and forest research must cover the utilisation of the minor forest products obtainable from its forests, such as bamboos, grasses, essential oils, tanning materials, medicinal herbs and drugs, gums, resins, waxes and insecticides. Research on these fall within the province of the Chemistry and Minor Forest Products Branch.

While for practical purposes it is necessary to organise the Research Institute into branches and sections, any particular problem can rarely be solved by a single section or branch. The most satisfactory solution can be found only by the closest collaboration between all research officers, often after years of careful and patient work. The extent to which the Forest Research Institute was able to contribute to the war effort depended in no small measure on the work done under long-term research programmes in the years before the war. Solutions to war problems, if they are to be of practical value, must be obtained quickly, even though a complete solution cannot be found and only temporary palliatives recommended.

To give a single example by way of illustration, the Timber Testing Section of the Utilisation Branch had for many years been

engaged on the determination of the different strength values for the commoner timbers of India. Other sections in this branch had investigated the seasoning and possibility of the preservation of these timbers, with the result that it was possible to draw up lists of timbers likely to be of use for special purposes, such as hammer handles, helves, rifle stocks and ammunition boxes.

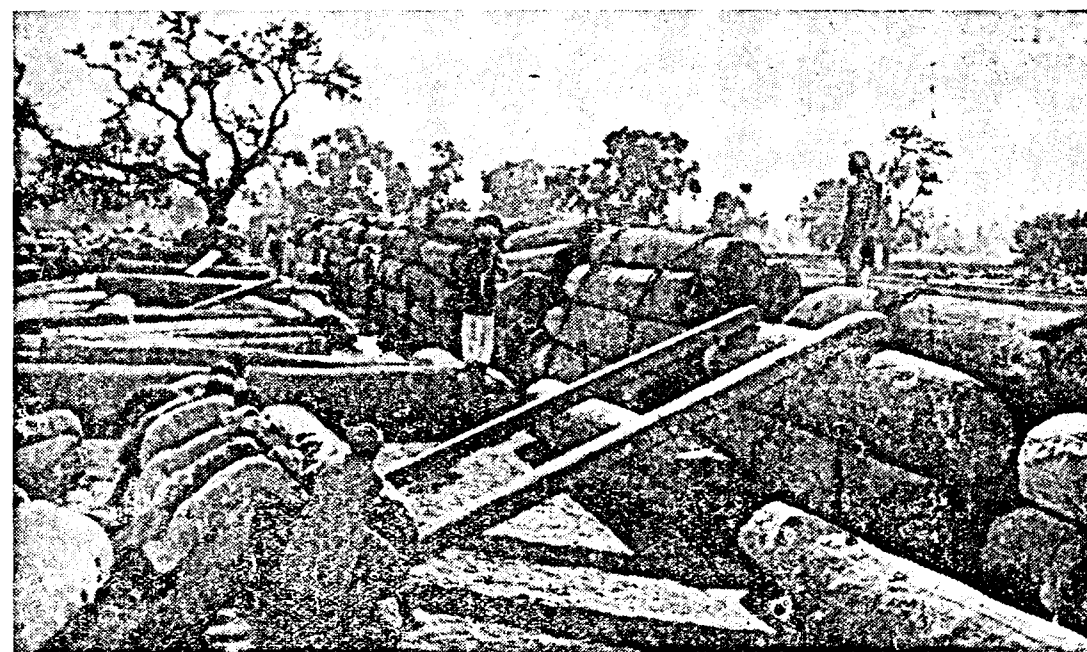
### Timber Supply

In addition to the search for substitutes for materials normally imported into the country to save shipping space, every means had to be examined to enable the civilian consumption of such articles as rubber and oil, so vital to the successful prosecution of the war, to be reduced to a minimum. The spread of hostilities to the Middle East made India a major timber supply base for this theatre of operations, the importance of which can be gauged by the fact that the demand soon exceeded one and a half million tons a year. This meant the establishment of depots throughout India, and problems of protection against insects and fungi became a major issue.

The entry of Japan into the war and the loss of the East Indies, then Malaya and finally

Burma, not only intensified the existing problems of substitutes and protection, it meant the maintenance of a large army on the eastern frontier and a large garrison in other parts of the country. The problem of providing material for hutting for troops, particularly in East Bengal and Assam, with a general shortage of transport, led to the utilisation of millions of bamboos. Normally, in peacetime, little attention had been paid to the protection of bamboos from insect damage, as they were in plentiful supply for peacetime needs and transport was easy. Under war conditions, the prolongation of the life of bamboos became one of great importance.

To the layman timber is just a piece of wood, but when timber with special qualities is required for a particular purpose, the users must be in a position to identify timbers and assure themselves that the right species is being supplied by the contractors. In the early days, much of the time of the Wood Technology Section was engaged in the identification of specimens sent in by military organisations, like the Royal Ordnance Corps and the Royal Engineers. Keys for the identification of timbers for different purposes had to be prepared and courses of training started for army personnel. In order to distribute knowledge of this sort, the Insti-



Timber being loaded into railway trucks.



Pieces of timber being examined under the microscope to ascertain whether they are free from fungus attack.

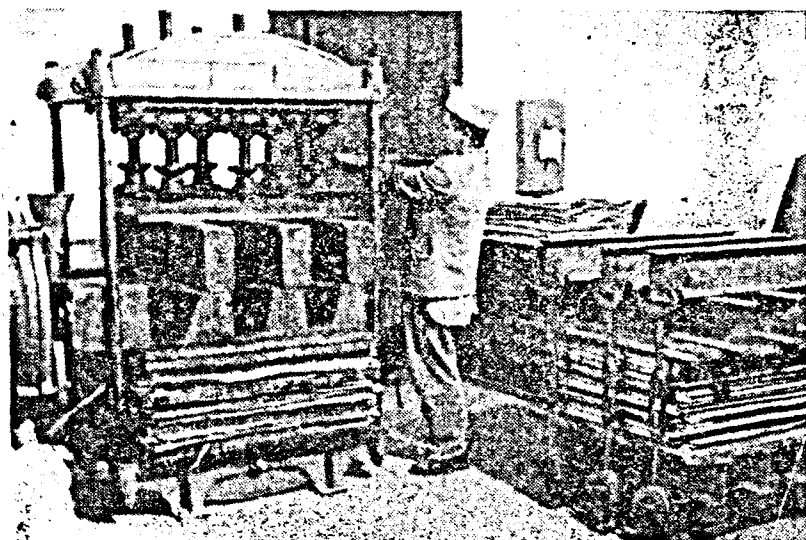


tute published a large number of leaflets on a variety of subjects.

One of the earliest problems tackled by the Institute was the question of the manufacture of high grade charcoal or producer gas, in order that civilian motor transport could be converted to this method of propulsion, to the greatest possible extent. A large number of samples of Indian woods were examined and analysed in the Chemistry and Minor Forest Products Branch. Lists of species likely to give the most

suitable charcoal were published, methods of manufacture were investigated and specifications for high grade charcoal were drawn up. The results were published in a series of leaflets.

With the loss of the rubber-producing areas of the East Indies and Malaya, the need to investigate all other possible sources of natural rubber became urgent. The Institute organised the collection of latex from a large number of possible species and a special chemist was employed to carry out the necessary analyses.



Plywood Manufacture—Qued cores are placed between sheets of veneer and pressed for conversion into plywood.

Before the war, the export of tea was mainly in the imported birch plywood box. With supplies of the imported box cut off, there took place in India a great expansion of the plywood industry. Many small factories sprang up, often equipped with obsolete or unsuitable machinery, operated by inexperienced staff and using unsuitable adhesives. The loss of tea in transit owing to the poor quality of boxes being manufactured by these small firms became so serious that the Institute was instructed to make a survey of the whole industry. At the same time, everything was done to help the new firms by giving advice, sending officers to visit factories and starting training courses at Dehra Dun.

#### Indian Fir and Spruce

Special investigations in the Timber Testing Section of the Utilisation Branch on the strength values of Indian spruce and Indian fir resulted in the acceptance of these species as suitable for aeroplane construction in the place of imported Sitkaspruce. Three species of Indian timbers were found to be suitable for the manufacture of test fans for aero-engines and a R.A.F. unit was installed at the Institute to make them. The Wood Preservation Officer was flown to the United Kingdom to contact the Air Ministry and make himself acquainted with modern developments in synthetic resin adhesives and allied subjects.

Mention has already been made of the importance of the problem of prolonging the life of the bamboos. The Entomological Branch standardised a method for hollow bamboos, which was accepted by Ordnance. It consisted in injecting into the internodes a mixture of creosote and crude oil. It was also shown that at least temporary protection could be obtained by giving the bamboos a superficial coating of the mixture or a thick coat of lime wash.

#### New Discoveries

Control measures against insect attack on *Boswellia serrata*, a species recommended by the Institute as a substitute for teak for ammunition boxes, worked out in the Entomology Branch resulted in the reduction of the damage to negligible proportions.

A specimen of timber, which was reported as a substitute for *Lignum vitae*, was sent to the Wood Technology Section for identification. An examination of the wood indicated *Acacia catechu* or *Acacia sundra*. The species was subsequently identified as *Acacia sundra* on receipt of botanical specimens. This species is fairly common in Southern India.

The search for substitutes led to several discoveries, which will be of value in the post-war period. The shortage of rubber resulted in the discovery of a diluent from a common vegetable oil. The disappearance of pine-tar from the market led to the use of chir-tar. When gum tragacanth became scarce, gum taminda was investigated, and tamarind pectin was recommended as a sizing for cotton and jute in the place of starch or gums.

Work was done in collaboration with a Research Station of the Royal Engineers of soil stabilisers, which may be of very great value in dealing with village roads after the war.

The inspection of timber depots by the staff of the Entomology and Botany Branch and the advice given did much to reduce the damage from insects and fungi. The Seasoning Section was called upon to give advice to numbers of firms, who began to appreciate the need to season timber and published specifications of a number of types of kilns, specially designed to suit the purse of the small man. These kilns may not be as efficient as larger and more expensive ones, but the question of capital outlay is of considerable importance to the small man.

#### Silviculture Branch

The Silviculture Branch, by the nature of its work, was less concerned with the problems arising out of war, which were substitutes and protection chiefly. Nevertheless, in a number of cases the advice of this Branch was sought. Weeds on advanced aerodrome runways, interpretation of aerial photos of forest areas in Burma, supplying photos and jungle notes for jungle warfare schools, were some of the ways in which it was possible for this branch to assist.

The Mechanical Engineering Section undertook the training of Civil trainees as fitters and electricians and over 250 were successful in passing the course in the four years during which the centre was in existence at the Institute.

To ensure quick clearance of the substantial imports of wheat which will arrive in India during the next six months, and to avoid delay to shipping, the Central Food Department have appointed an officer on special duty whose function will be to direct local arrangements for the unloading, clearance, storage and despatch of the wheat arrivals with the maximum efficiency.



ers construct a flood-bank near the "Ubique" Bailey the Marrechia River, Near Rimini, Italy. (Below) A of the Bengal Civil Pioneers in the Manipur area.



## HOW INDIAN CIVIL PIONEER FORCE HELPED ARMY

**F**ROM 1942—the grimmest period of the war with Japan—up to the end of hostilities, thousands of Indian civilians have assisted the regular Army in various front line tasks building roads, constructing airfields, laying pipelines and so on.

Among these front line civilians were members of the Indian Civil Pioneer Force which to-day consists of over 33,000 men recruited from the remotest corners of the country. Generally speaking, they are agricultural labourers, who have been knit and organised into discipline units.

The Force was originally raised to carry out certain duties on behalf of the civil authorities in the event of dislocation caused by enemy action. The changed war situation, however, led to the role of the Force becoming one of prosecuting the war by working for the Army.

### Helped to Solve Labour Problem

Along with the States Labour Units, Indian Tea Association Labour Units, Assam Porter Corps and Provincial Civil Labour Units, the members of the Civil Pioneer Force helped the Army to solve its labour problem.

In Eastern Bengal and Assam they served alongside military units doing similar work and sharing the same risks and hardships. They

have accounted for many miles of road and air-field construction in Assam. They wear uniforms like the regulars, although with their own distinctive badges, and live in *bashas* and tented camps, running their own kitchens, hospitals and canteens. They live like soldiers but they are, nevertheless, civilians working in the front line.

A majority of the Civil Pioneer Force units which were put at the disposal of the Army were sent into Assam. By the end of 1943 some 18 units in Assam and the remainder entered Assam before the Army's advance into Burma.

The Army authorities have recognised the valuable work performed by the members of the Force. About 16,000 officers and men have qualified for the Overseas Badge and about 7,000 for the 1939-45 Star. In addition, about 10 commissioned officers and men have been mentioned in military despatches.

### Employment in Civil Emergencies

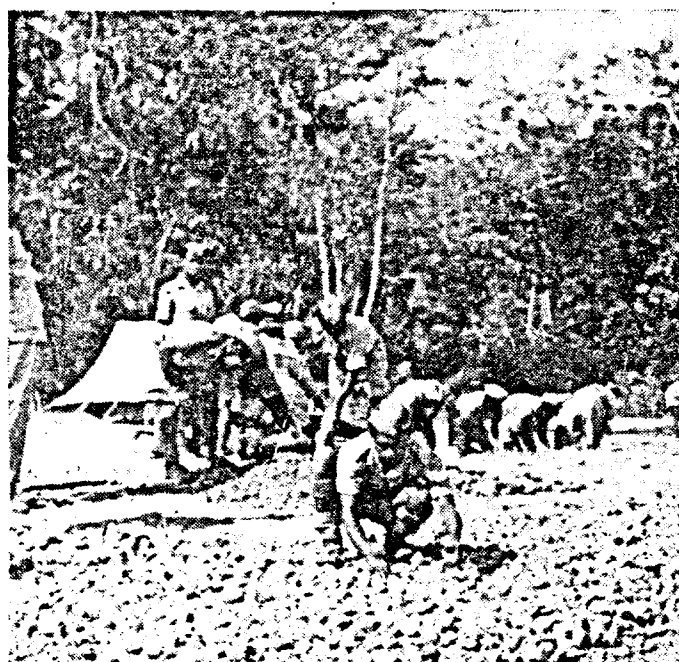
It was early in 1943 that the first units of the Force moved into War Department employ to work with the Army and by the end of the year 18 units were helping towards the Army's labour problem. While in their Provinces, prior to going over to the Army, units were available for employment in purely civil emergencies and on frequent occasions were so employed.

For example, the Madras units were employed by the Provincial Government in 1942. A Bombay unit was employed during

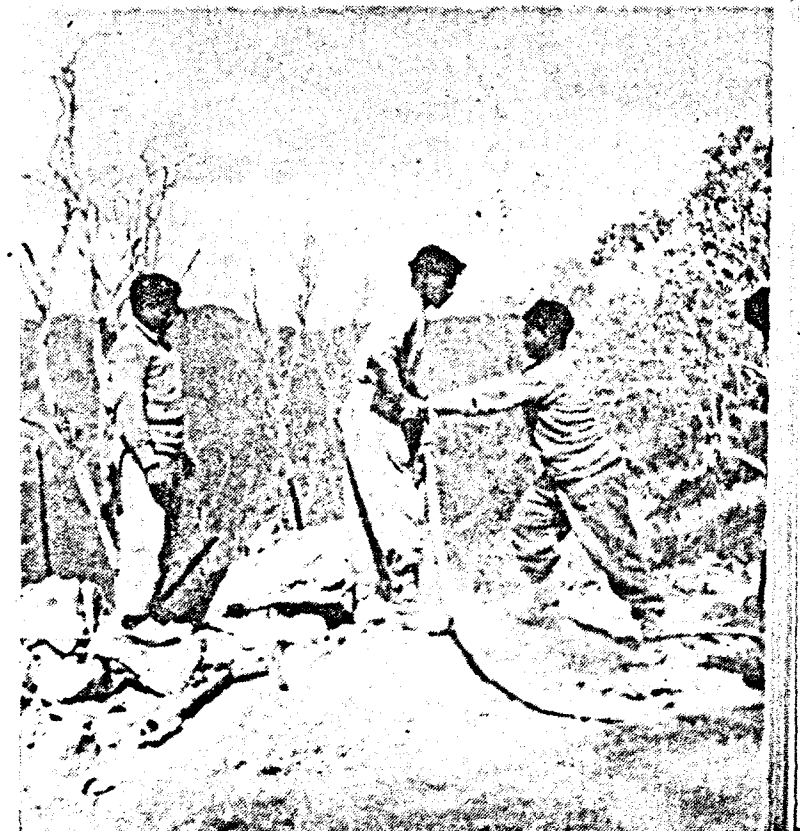
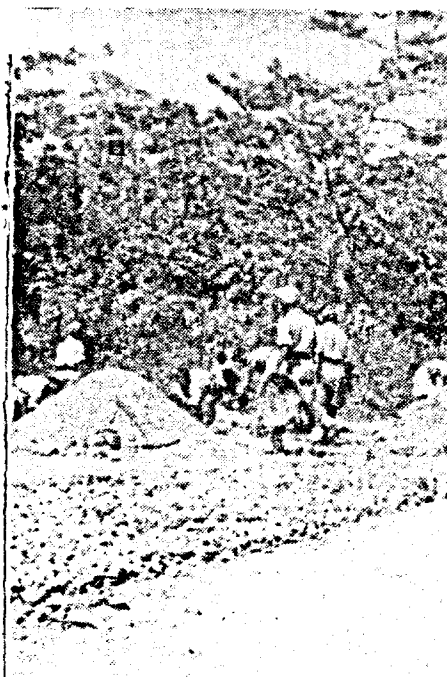


Civil Pioneers working at a stone quarry near

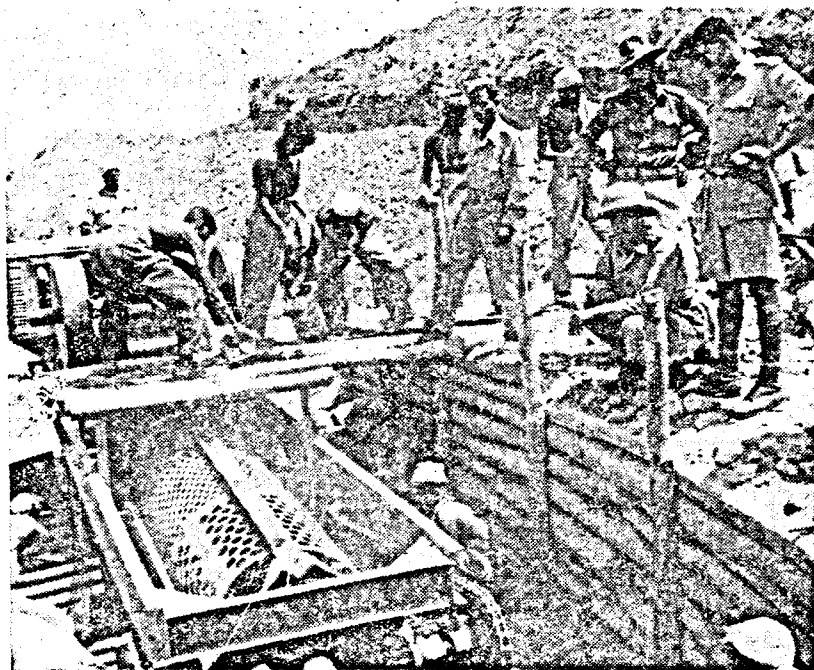
(Below) Bengal Civil Pioneers laying a metal road in Assam. (Right) Madras drill a rock in the Manipur area.



Civil Pioneers, engaged in road construction,



Indian Pioneers operate a stone crusher near an airfield under construction.



1942-43 by the Provincial Government on emergency projects. Bengal units were employed in active relief work in the cyclone-affected area of Midnapore in 1942, and again in famine relief in Bengal during 1944.

The Depot unit of the Force in the Punjab performed such excellent service in flooded areas as to earn the special recognition of the Provincial Government. H.E. the Governor donated Rs. 10,000 to the Blind Soldiers' Fund as a tangible mark of the gratitude of the Punjab for the services rendered by the Civil Pioneer Force in the flood-stricken areas of the Shahpur district during 1944.

#### Multifarious Duties

The above are merely a few examples and it can be taken, generally speaking, that, in all Provinces, the Civil Pioneer Force units were employed in assisting the war efforts or meeting some local emergency.

The multifarious duties in which the units of the Force have now gained experience, and gained it mostly under operational conditions, include the loading and unloading of ships, road construction and repair, including metalling, rolling and tarring, building of culverts and temporary bridges, laying of pipelines, quarrying work, including blasting and breaking stones with

pneumatic hammers, stonecrushing with mechanical crushers, loading railway tracks, loading and unloading freight trains and aircraft, construction of *bashas*, work on gun bases, ammunition dumps, petrol dumps, etc.

A large number of Pioneers of the Technical Civil Pioneer Unit were trained to operate and maintain mechanical excavators and were employed on the Open Cut Coal Mining Scheme.

#### BAN ON ENTRY INTO QUETTA LIFTED

The organisation of the food and supply system of Baluchistan, together with the easing of the pressure on the rail and road routes leading through that province which has followed the end of the war in the West, has enabled the Government to lift the ban imposed early in 1943 on the entry of visitors into Quetta, said a Press Note issued by the External Affairs Department on September 5. Visitors will now be able to proceed to Quetta by any route without restriction other than the normal transport and accommodation difficulties attendant on travel elsewhere in India.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



In a sugarcane field.

**FOOD IS A WEAPON OF WAR** FOOD is a vital weapon of war and the field maintains both the home front and the fighting men. The farmer or the food producer plays as important a role as the miner, the ammunition worker, or the soldier.

Before the war India used to import 1½ to 2½ million tons of rice annually from Burma. The entry of Japan into the war and loss of the Burma market necessitated a step-up in the production of food crops in India. Exports of short-staple cotton ceased and short-staple cotton was replaced by food crops.

With the fall of Singapore, the Advisory Board of the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research in February 1942 stressed the urgent need of action to grow more food in the interests of the civil and war needs of the country. The Department of Education, Health and Lands convened a conference on April 6, 1942, which was attended by representatives of the Provinces and States. Through this conference the Centre stressed upon the Provinces and States the urgency of the food problem and laid the foundations of the "Grow More Food" campaign.

On the recommendation of this conference a Central Food Advisory Council was set up "to pool information, plan food production on an all-India basis and to tender advice with regard to food production on an all-India basis and to tender advice with regard to production and suitable distribution." This Council has served as a valuable formal medium of obtaining the views of the Provinces and States in

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

respect of their requirements for the "Grow More Food" campaign. In spite of such handicaps as an ancient system of farming, inadequate administrative machinery and lack of an industrial potential for conversion into production of agricultural machinery, the campaign has achieved success.

The Provincial Governments, upon whom devolved the execution and development of the plans for food production, could not be expected to bear the heavy financial burdens of the campaign. The Central Government, therefore, rendered considerable financial assistance to Provinces and States. The total expenditure incurred by the Central Government in the form of grants and loans during the first two years of the campaign amounts approximately to Rs. 4,75,00,000.

#### Specialists Appointed

The agricultural section of the Central Department of Education, Health and Lands was strengthened by the appointment of an additional Secretary. To provide reliable guidance to the Provinces and to co-ordinate the efforts made throughout the country, the Centre lost no time in collecting a staff of specialists in various branches of agriculture.

A beginning was made with the appointment of an Agricultural Production Adviser and the Department now has a team of experts in all branches of agriculture—irrigation, seeds, live-stock, dairy farming, fisheries, fruits, vegetables, implements and statistics.



In 1942-43, five million acres of land were diverted from cotton to food crops. Nearly three million acres of additional fallow land have been brought under cultivation. Government waste lands covering an area of 900,000 acres have been leased to cultivators free of rent or at concessional rents for the production of food crops.

#### Non-Food Crops

Bombay enacted and enforced the Bombay Growth of Food Crops Act to regulate the cultivation of non-food crops like cotton and tobacco. Madras permitted the cultivation of certain varieties of cotton only, mixed with food crops. Bengal so regulated the area under jute as to encourage the cultivation of food crops. The area under food crops has, as a result of the "Grow More Food" campaign, increased by six million acres, which at a very modest estimate amounts to an approximate annual increase of two million tons of food grains.

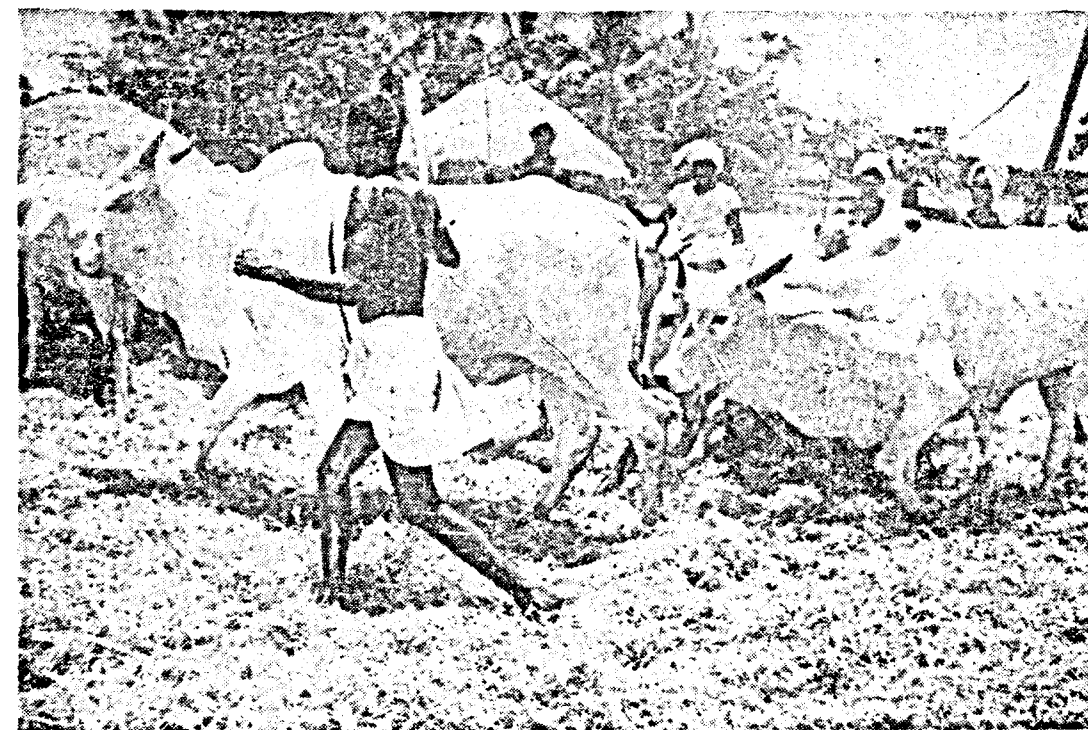
Development of irrigation facilities is one of the fundamental needs of Indian agriculture. Irrigation ensures cultivation in tracts otherwise treated as fallow land, considerably increases yield, renders possible double-cropping and the substitution of high class crops for



A North Indian farmer



Ploughing a field for paddy cultivation.



Oxen which thresh the paddy being driven roundround the threshing floor by villagers.

inferior ones, and relieves cattle power from wells for more intensive ploughing as also for traction and transport of produce.

Various indigenous methods of extending irrigation have been adopted which include:—

- (a) Conserving rain water by low embankments, as in suitable areas in Bombay, the Central Provinces and Rajputana;
- (b) contour bunding on gently sloping fields;
- (c) improving drainage in wet lands, mainly in Assam and Bengal, so that crops may be sown without fear of damage from heavy rainfall;
- (d) minor irrigation works are being carried out mostly in Assam, Orissa, N.-W.F.P. and Baluchistan;
- (e) all the major irrigation Provinces are taking scientific steps to ensure and secure a more economical distribution of existing supplies of canal water.

As a result of the adoption of pumping schemes, deep rivers and sub-soil reservoirs have been tapped and have brought under irrigation more than a million acres in Bihar, N.-W.F.P., the Punjab, U.P., Baroda, Patiala, Kohlapur, Bundi and Bengal. Most of the plant required for power-operated pumping schemes was not available in India and it is an achievement that, in spite of national and international controls and lack of transport facilities, all the plant and machinery needed to carry out the pumping projects was obtained.

#### Rs. 12-Crore Schemes

The total cost of various projects which will irrigate an acreage of 1,700,000 will amount to a little over Rs. 12 crores. This area is expected to yield an additional 460,000 tons of food grains.

The importance of power-driven agricultural machinery to reclaim vast tracts of land rendered uncultivable by deep-rooted grasses and wild-growing weeds has been fully realised. Detailed schemes have been prepared and orders for tractors of various types have been booked abroad. War conditions have so far prevented India from securing her share of

tractors, the introduction of which will, it is hoped, revolutionise Indian agriculture.

The demand for potatoes, both for the army and for civilian use, increased considerably and therefore prices shot up. But, owing to lack of scientific storage, approximately 250,000 tons of seed potatoes annually perish in summer and thus adversely affect the production of this valuable crop. To ensure adequate supply of seed to the cultivator and consequently larger supplies to the consumer, storage arrangements have been made by Government. Two Cold Stores of a total combined capacity of 14,000 to 15,000 tons are to be set up at different places in the potato growing provinces of India during 1945.

#### Artificial Manures

The use of artificial manures is not common in this country and, although great difficulties had to be met in securing fertilizers, the Government of India succeeded in securing 30,000 tons of fertilizers in 1944 which were utilised primarily for application to food crops. In 1945 70,000 tons have been secured. For the year 1946 the Government hope to secure 1,71,000 tons of sulphate of ammonia and 5,170 tons of ammonium phosphate. The indent for 1947 stands at 250,000 tons of ammonium sulphate.

Such extensive use of chemical manures is bound to augment considerably the yield of

food grains in the country. Factories for the production of chemical manures are to be started at Dhanbad and in Travancore and it is estimated that India will be producing nearly 450,000 tons of fertilizers. India has set before herself the task of producing at least three million tons of sulphate of ammonia of which the present attempt is a mere beginning. A sum of nearly Rs. 2 crores was set apart by the Government of India for the purchase of chemical fertilizers in 1944-45.

#### Oilcakes

The use of oilcakes as manure considerably increased through the activities of the "Grow More Food" campaign. To stimulate consumption, all Provincial Governments have undertaken to subsidise the sale of oilcakes for use as manure and the Government of India have offered to bear 50 per cent. to 66 per cent. of the cost of subsidy to make the most efficacious use of oilcakes produced within the country and to control their internal movement in the best possible way. Fertilizer Controllers are being appointed by Provincial Governments at the instance of the Central Government which has offered to bear half the expenses of the scheme.

The use of suitable improved varieties of seed is one of the fundamental methods of increasing production. Experiments have established a 10 to 15 per cent. increase in India for different crops through the use of such seeds.



Harvesting potatoes.

Owing to the lack of adequate arrangements for the production of improved varieties of seeds commensurate with the needs of the country, it takes nearly a decade before a nucleus seed produced by a research worker is available for use by the cultivator.

The task of the "Grow More Food" campaign in connection with the distribution of improved seed is to see that the work of seed multiplication is taken up in an organised and systematic manner, so as to secure supplies on a commercial scale in as short a time as nature permits. A chain of seed stores has been established in most of the Provinces and their capacity varies in the case of an ordinary village store from 800 to 1,200 maunds, and, for a district seed store, from 15 to 20 thousand maunds. As a result, in several Provinces improved seeds are now readily available and the scope of seed distribution has so widened that, at present, schemes embracing several crops, including rice, wheat and millets, are in operation in most Provinces and a number of Indian States.

It has been estimated that the use of better seeds under the "Grow More Food" campaign must have increased the quantity of foodstuffs produced to 350,000 tons in each of the years 1943-44 and 1944-45.

#### Fresh Vegetables

As a result of the "Grow More Food" campaign, almost all Provinces have set up arrangements for the training of adequate staff for the production of pedigree seed, to undertake seed multiplication by A and B grade growers and to look after the collection of improved seed at seed stores, their proper storage and further distribution.

The demand for fresh vegetables of all kinds increased considerably during the war, particularly in urban areas where there were large concentrations of industrial and defence personnel. Measures were taken to encourage the cultivation of vegetables of both the summer and winter varieties all over the country. There has been an extension in the area under vegetables which reflects an increased production of 2½ million tons of vegetables. Arrangements are in hand for effectively persuading rural areas to grow and consume more vegetables.

With financial and technical assistance from the Centre, arrangements were made to produce seed of the European varieties of vegetables from the "mother" seed available in the country. Climatically suitable areas like Kashmir and Baluchistan were selected for the purpose. In 1943-44 nearly 1,200 acres were utilised for the purpose, which yielded 600,000 lbs. of seed. A proposal for the establishment of a Central Vegetable Institute is under active examination as part of post-war agricultural reconstruction.



Fishing dhows at anchor off Chowpatty, Bombay.

Through international co-operation and elaborate arrangements extending to neighbouring countries, for the first time in the history of locust control the locust menace has been controlled with exceptional success at a cost of nearly Rs. 15 lakhs and thus production and consumption of more food has been made possible.

#### Development of Fisheries

Realising the need for the development of fisheries as a source of essential protective food and its importance in the "Grow More Food" campaign, the Central Government appointed a Fisheries Development Adviser in May 1944 and a Deputy Adviser for Marine Fisheries before the close of the year. To increase production of fish as a short-term measure, various schemes were drawn up after studying the conditions in different Provinces and States. Financial assistance was provided by the Centre to start approved schemes. Fishery training courses were conducted at Calcutta and Madras to train candidates in all aspects of fishery development. Provinces and States have been persuaded to arrange for the bulk purchase of fishermen's requirements and their distribution at controlled rates.



A sixty-foot net being drawn ashore

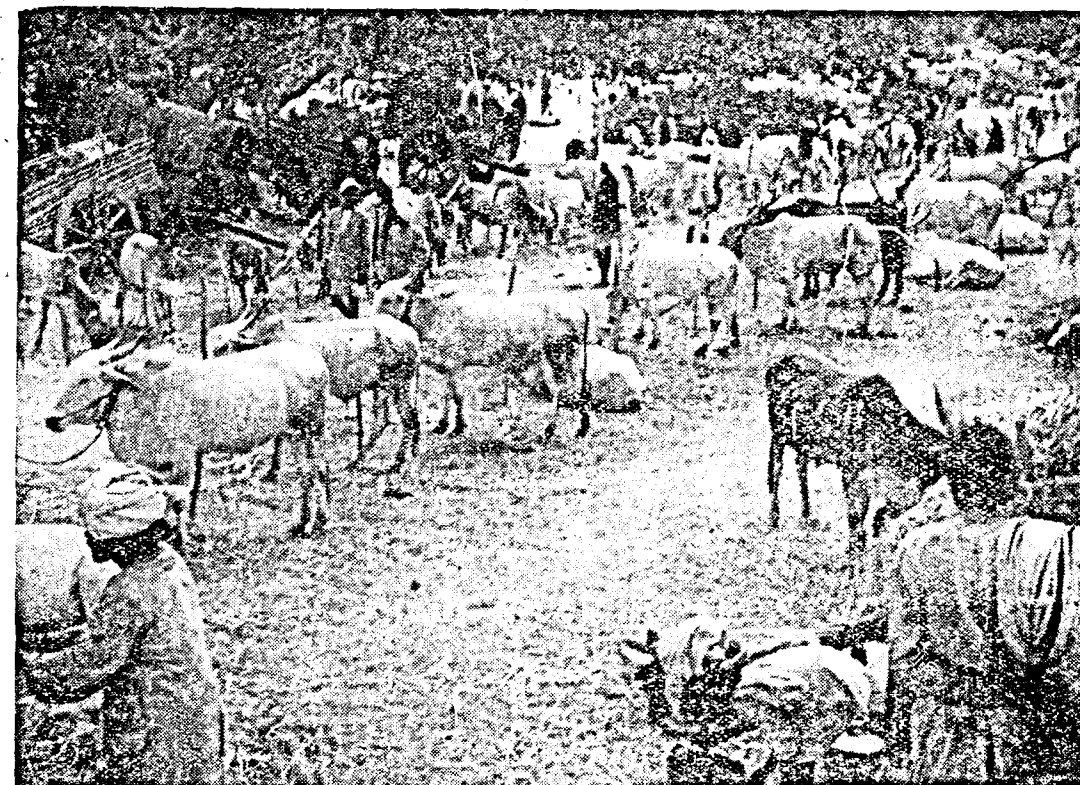
A fig-tree.



For a proper and speedy development of the fish industry in India the Centre contemplates establishing an Indian Central Fish Committee and a Fishery Research Experimental Organisation. Most of the Indian Provinces and States have adopted emergency schemes so designed that, while helping to increase fish supplies as a short-term measure, they should provide essential data for, and be capable of being merged in, the detailed post-war schemes of development of the fish industry of the country.

#### Fruit Farming

There is tremendous scope for fruit development in India. But fruit farming is essentially a long-term problem. Most of the Provinces and States have, under the guidance of the Centre, adopted fruit development schemes aiming, in addition to improving the fruit industry in general, at (a) increasing the area under quick-yielding fruits such as papaya, banana, pineapple, gooseberry and (b) increasing the yield of fruit from existing gardens by bringing about improvement in their cultural, irrigational and manurial methods and by control of insect pests and diseases. To popularise the manufacture of fruit squashes, juices, jams and marmalades as home industries, special courses for house wives have been started in girls' schools and colleges in Delhi. This will ensure the maximum utilization of fruit in years of plenty.



A cattle fair.

The Central Government contemplates establishing a Central Horticultural Institute with sub-stations all over India. Provinces and States have been asked to get fruit trees planted along roads, public highways and canals.

The pressing need to increase the supplies of cattle for agricultural purposes and poultry, and eggs and milk for food is admitted on all hands, and the Central Government has created two important sections, Dairy and Live-Stock, each under an Adviser with the necessary staff and establishment. At the instance of the Department of Education, Health and Lands steps were taken to ensure the preservation of useful stock by prohibiting the indiscriminate slaughter of cattle. The Central Government is financing experiments in the latest methods of breeding.

Thousands of "goshalas" and "panjrapoles" in the country are spending crores of rupees on the maintenance of stock, some of which is utterly useless and the rest is and always remains inferior. On the suggestion of the Department, it has been decided to convert the "goshalas" into centres of milk production and of scientific management of cattle. The

plan involves the separation of inferior stock and its maintenance at concessional rates in forest reservations under natural conditions without any breeding bulls in the herds. Inferior quality cattle will thus cease to produce a progeny which will be a drag on India's economy.

#### Better Supply of Milk

The following measures have been taken to secure a better supply of milk:—

(i) Rapid surveys of the milk supply zones of important cities to enable the setting-up of arrangements for the procurement of milk for the cities;

(ii) the supply of adequate quantities of oilcakes and other concentrates to cattle owners;

(iii) establishment of milk-collecting centres in the milk supply zones near important cities and an organisation for the expeditious transport and distribution of milk;

(iv) subsidies to dairy farms;



(v) the establishment of rehabilitation centres for dry cattle from the cities;

(vi) procurement of dairy machinery and equipment to enable the proper handling of milk, thereby reducing the loss through sourage.

The Army in India has introduced a self-sufficient poultry scheme, and an important part of its programme is to organise the separate production of eggs to meet Army requirements. In order to assist Provinces in the development of their plans, the Central Government has offered financial assistance to them both for the employment of specialist staff and for expenditure on approved schemes.

#### Statistics

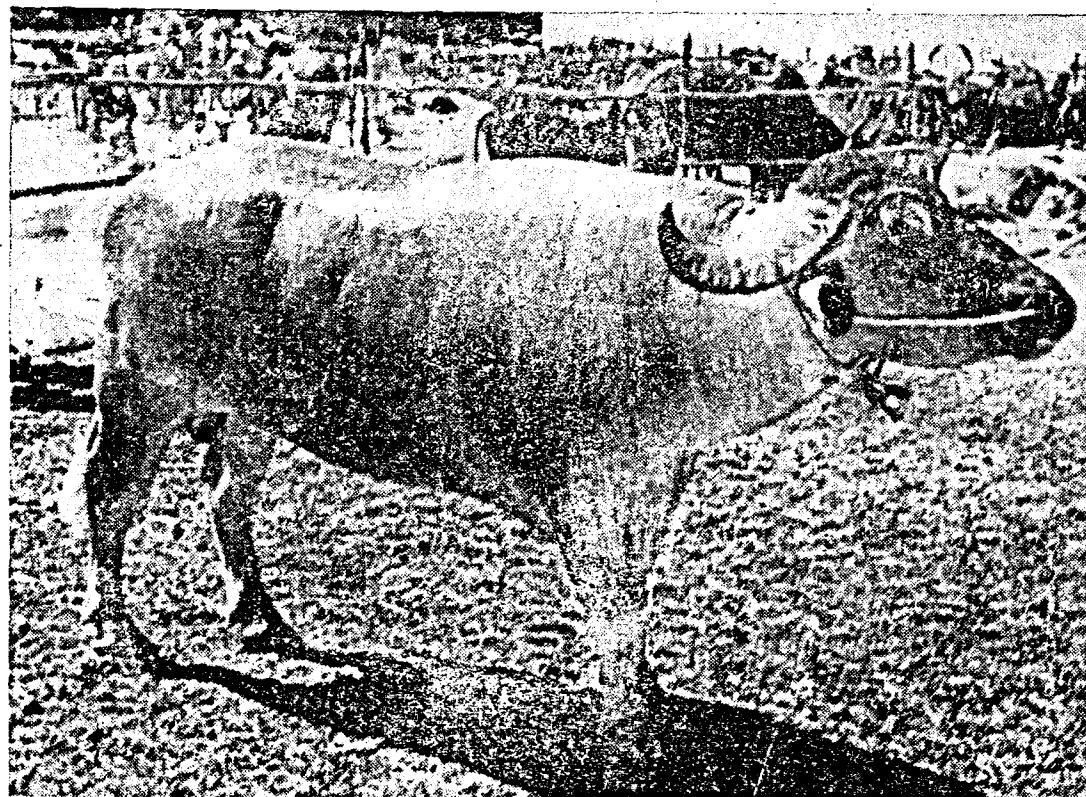
Reliable data concerning acreage, yield, manures, irrigation, varieties of crops grown and the like constitute the very foundation of all future programmes and progress. The Government of India has given liberal grants to the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research and to various Provinces to finance surveys which furnish much-needed informa-

tion concerning many fundamental aspects of agriculture in India.

A new section called the Agricultural Economics and Statistics Section has been recently started to undertake research into the agricultural economic problems of the country.

The "Grow More Food" campaign was a wartime measure. It has had its limited yet significant measure of success. Nothing phenomenal could be expected in the prevailing conditions. The various schemes adopted under the stress of war and conducted in conditions beyond the control of any nation will, however, be prosecuted with redoubled vigour in much more favorable conditions for the post-war agricultural development of India.

When conditions return to normal, the Government of India, with its schemes covering irrigation, manufacture of fertilizers, mechanisation, animal husbandry, fruit and vegetable development, development of fisheries, control of pests and diseases of crops and plants, establishment of agricultural Colleges and Agricultural research centres intends to revolutionise Indian agriculture and thus lay the foundation of a brighter and happier India.



A fine specimen of a buffalo from Surat.

## AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH IN INDIA

### Imperial Council's Work

IN his report on "Scientific Research in India," Professor A. V. Hill emphasises that "scientific research and the application of scientific knowledge have played a large and essential part in the war effort of all the nations engaged in the present conflict." This applies equally to India and the research done by the Imperial Council of Agricultural Research. The Council's activities on the food front have contributed to the building up of a sound and stable home front.

Almost the first preliminary to a successful food production programme is the provision of sufficient and reliable agricultural machinery and implements. A conference on agricultural machinery attended by representatives of trade and of provincial and State Governments was convened, and it tendered advice to the Central Government on the agricultural machinery to be imported.

Research on manure problems is closely linked with a food-production drive. A scheme of research on compost manuring has been sanctioned and is being carried out at various places under the direction of its Chief Biochemist, who is stationed at Nagpur.

### Fruit Technology

The problem of manure had an added importance in wartime, since the import of artificial fertilisers was considerably decreased. It was therefore thought necessary to retain within the country as much oilcake as possible which could serve as manure and also be utilised as a cattle food.

The war created a great demand for fruits and vegetables. Here the problem of storage and transport was to be tackled. In 1941 the Council sanctioned a scheme of research on fruit and vegetable preservation to be carried out at Lyallpur, in the Punjab.

The basic idea with which the scheme was started was at a later date further implemented by the creation of a Central Institute of Fruit Technology which not only tackles the problem of better utilisation of fruit resources of the country but also imparts facilities for training and functioning as an advisory body.

In addition, the Vegetable Committee of the Council recommended to provincial and



A papaya tree

State Governments the establishment of separate sections to tackle problems relating to improvement of vegetable crops. It also stressed the necessity of exploring ways and means of producing better grade vegetable seeds.

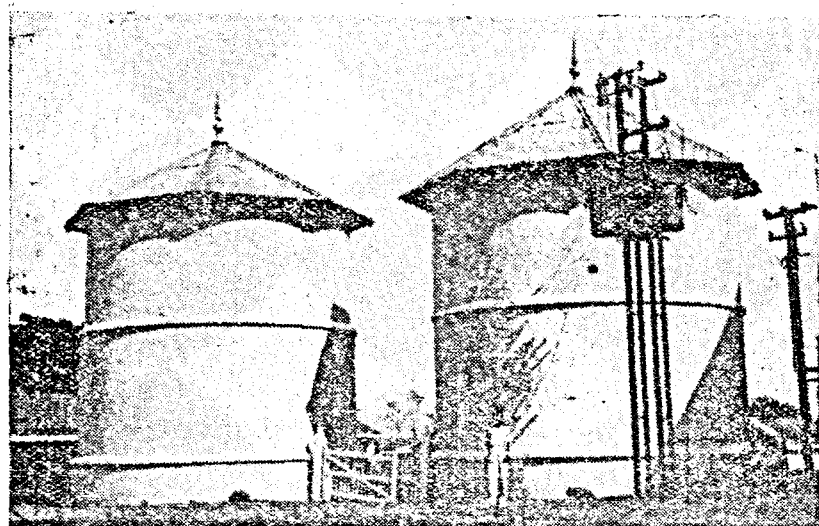
The Council interested itself in the matter of preserving foodgrains. In order to test the efficiency of a technique for preserving foodgrains by mercury amalgam, a scheme was sanctioned and experiments were carried out at the Ferguson College, Poona. Trials were conducted at other places as well.

### Unadulterated Ghee

Since the maintenance of health constitutes one of the most important conditions of preserving a sound home front, any adulteration of the principal items of diet would tend to be a menace to the war effort of a country. On account of its unassailable position in Indian dietetics, a supply of pure ghee is an essential pre-requisite for the well-being both of the civil and military population.

The Council sanctioned a scheme for the determination of glyceride structure of ghee as compared to that of hydrogenated fat mixtures and thus to evolve a means of distinguishing pure ghee from adulterated products.

The hygienic production of milk is of prime importance at all times and especially so in



'Silo' towers of the Tayanakere Dairy Farm, Mysore, in which fodder of various kinds is cut and stocked.

times of war. A scheme was sanctioned for a comparative examination of the hygienic quality of milk by Resazurian and other tests and entrusted to the Imperial Dairy Research Institute at Bangalore. To the same Institute was entrusted the task of standardising the methods of casein manufacture in India.

In this connection the Council sanctioned a scheme for producing better livestock in villages of the "Gir Cattle" breeding tract of Baroda. Better livestock means greater yield of milk, the demand for which and other animal products has greatly increased.

#### Control of Animal Diseases

The question of control of animal diseases was also attended to by the Council. The scheme for the investigation of animal diseases in the provinces and Hyderabad State was continued.

Schemes for the study of diseases of sheep and goats have been sanctioned in several provinces in addition to the one mentioned before. The problem of solidifying the vaccine used against rinderpest and of improving its keeping qualities was also tackled.

India is becoming increasingly conscious of poultry and poultry products as providing a nutritive and wholesome food. The demand for eggs and poultry has vastly increased during the war. The Council sanctioned the Central Provinces scheme for conducting investigations into several aspects of poultry keeping.

Hides and skins are utilised in countless items of war industry. The production of undamaged hides and skins is, therefore, of utmost

importance since, apart from the demand in times of war, they would invariably fetch a comparatively higher price. A scheme for investigating the biological factors responsible for damaging hides and skins was sanctioned by the Council to be carried out at the Imperial Veterinary Research Institute.

A still more direct contribution to the war effort has been the training of technicians. This training was imparted at the Engineering Section of the Imperial Institute of Sugar Technology at Cawnpore.

#### DIET SURVEYS

The formulation of a dietary standard for health based on precise knowledge of the diets of various classes of people in different parts of the country, should be possible as a result of inquiries now being made by the Planning Section of the Central Food Department.

Indian Universities have been requested to furnish statistics of the physical condition of students which might give some clue to the relation of their diets to health. Directors of Public Instruction in Provinces and States on the diets served in hostels of schools and colleges with their costs, and jail authorities have been addressed to give detailed up-to-date information regarding the daily diet of prisoners in jails.

It is felt that the information collected would serve as a salutary check on haphazard food theorizing, and would also show to what extent certain classes are consuming the right proportion of the foodstuffs distributed to them.

## THE USES OF LAC IN WARTIME

LAC, familiarly known as shellac in its purified flake form, is Nature's gift to mankind through India and is used in hundreds of industries from glazing chocolates to the manufacture of gramophone records.

During the years of peace the principal industrial uses of lac were: for making gramophone records, as an insulator and adhesive in electrical equipment, for polishes and varnishes over wood-work, in sealing-waxes, adhesives and inks, for stiffening of finishing hats, and as the binding medium in grinding wheels.

It was to be expected, from its versatile qualities, that lac would play an essential role in the production of war materials. With the beginning of the war in Europe, the United States of America built up a huge stock and exercised strict control over consumption by restricting the use of shellac to specified industries essential for war production. In the United Kingdom, too, shellac was brought into use in many new applications often made inevitable by the shortage of other materials. In India, the internal consumption of lac increased by more than 100 per cent. owing to the new uses to which it was put under the stress of war needs.

#### Used in Munitions Production

The Indian Lac Cess Committee, through its research organisations in England and India, rendered considerable help in formulating new products based on lac. The London Shellac Research Bureau of the Committee, blitzed out of London in 1940, rose phoenix-like in Edinburgh and carried on its useful work.

Lac varnish was used for shell-coatings and in depth-charges and hand-grenades and in all munitions production in the Allied countries.

Shellac was used as the essential ingredient in the manufacture of anti-gas fabrics, by a newly discovered method of incorporating in it drying oils.

Paints for marking traffic signals on macadamised roads were formulated.

New adhesives and jointing compositions were developed for a variety of uses.

Spirit-cum-alakali varnishes were made to conserve the stocks of methylated spirit which was in short supply.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

Glyptal—a synthetic product of glycerine and phthalic anhydride, both of which raw materials were required for more urgent needs—was substituted by a modified lac.

As tin was scarce, moulded containers for anti-mosquito cream were made in thousands at the Indian Lac Research Institute and supplied to the Army in India. Moulded ointment slabs were also made and supplied to the medical units as a substitute for ebonite slabs as rubber and ebonite were in short supply.

#### Substitute for Bakelite

Shellac moulding powders were substituted for bakelite for making electrical goods like switches and ceiling roses. Laminated boards of paper and jute hessian, with shellac as the binding medium, are made by at least two large firms in India for use in making containers. Non-shatterable substitutes for glass for window panes have been made by coating fabrics with shellac varnishes. Air-drying insulating varnishes have been supplied to Army workshops for servicing radio sets, especially for use in damp and hot tropical climates. Water-proof abrasive papers and cloth have been made using shellac solutions as adhesives to anchor the abrasives.

In addition, several new lines of investigations have been started which have yet to attain complete success, such as the manufacture of sound-recording discs, coating for the inside of containers for preserved foods like jams and jellies, adhesives for aircraft plywood and the like.

These developments are likely to remain as permanent features in the post-war development of industries in India.

#### H. E. SIR JOHN COLVILLE TO ACT AS GOVERNOR-GENERAL

A Communique issued from the Viceroy's House on August-22 stated:

His Majesty the King has been pleased to approve that during the absence from India of H.E. Field Marshal the Right Hon'ble Viscount Wavell, G.C.B., G.M.S.I., G.M.I.E., C.M.G., M.C., for consultations with His Majesty's Government in London, H.E. the Right Hon'ble Sir John Colville, G.C.I.E., Governor of Bombay, shall act as Governor-General of India and Crown Representative.

His Majesty the King has also been pleased to approve that Sir Charles Holditch Bristow, C.I.E., I.C.S., shall act as Governor of Bombay during the absence of Sir John Colville.



The formation of the Naval Wing of the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India) has given women new opportunities of assisting the fighting services in the defence of India. Picture shows officers and auxiliaries of the W.A.C.(I) Naval Wing.

**I**N 1942, when the Japanese threat loomed over India, a call went out to the women of India to stand with their men in the defence of their homes. From all over the land women of every nationality rallied to that summons. Indians, Anglo-Indians and Europeans, under the leadership of Lady James, organised themselves into an efficient auxiliary service which in time grew to be what it now is—the Women's Auxiliary Corps (India).

The WAC(I)s have stood the test and come out with flying colours. Through the worst years of the war, under conditions that could not pertain in any European country, they have worked doggedly on to the day of final victory.

WAC(I)s were stationed in lonely, scattered regions in semi-jungle and desert borderlands, isolated from society, but worked gamely on. One found them in Assam and Chittagong, Cochin and Quetta as well as the Deccan, and among the foot-hills of the Himalayas. Above all, there was always the threat of diseases like cholera, malaria and dysentery.

## PIONEERS OF A NEW AGE

The WAC(I)s have made history in several spheres. For the first time girls from sheltered Indian homes, casting off the prejudices of centuries, came forward to work in the company of men. In many districts they wore their *burqas* to work. They are the pioneers, of a new age. Their ability and efficiency have won them the respect of all those who have worked with them. They have answered the call of their country and proved irrefutably their worth.

Then again, these volunteers of India's womanhood attempted and succeeded in doing what was never considered to be a woman's work in this part of the world. The WAC(I)s have electricians, skilled mechanics and radio-graphers in their ranks, not to mention the vast network which maintains India's communications. Members of her Naval and R.A.F. Wing have mastered the secrets of certain operational and tactical methods. In the War Rooms, WAC(I)s plotted the day-to-day phases of the war.

As the WAC(I) combines the three services equivalent to the WRNS, ATS and WAAF, the Naval Wing has come to be known as the Women's Royal Indian Naval Service, and a distinctive white uniform in summer and "Blues" in winter are worn. Thus it has been possible, for the first time in Indian history, for a woman to wear the badge and gold lace of the Royal Navy.

## Unique Feature

Again the WAC(I) are unique in having women from nearly every part of the world united together in a common cause. Not only are all the castes and creeds of India represented, and neighbouring countries like Burma, Malaya, Ceylon, Java and China, but serving side

by side with their Asiatic sisters are girls from Britain, Russia, Canada, Australia and several European countries.

Despite the differences of culture and outlook, these women formed a union of loyalty and service to a common cause. They played their part as individuals in a great team.

The Countess of Carlisle, the Director of the WAC(I), has done much to foster a spirit of friendly co-operation, and to weld her Corps into a family. The WAC(I), whether they be Naval, Army or Air Force, wear their uniform with pride, for it symbolises the spirit of a new age where petty distinctions have no place in a greater loyalty that transcends the barriers of race and religion.



The first team of Indian Red Cross women workers sent overseas by the Indian Red Cross organisation arrived in the Middle East some time ago. They are (L. to R.) Mrs. P. Johannes, Mrs. A. Hassan, Mrs. L. Sealey (in charge of the team) Mrs. S. Chatterjee, Mrs. S. Saxena and Mrs. M. Bence.



## FINDING THE RIGHT JOB FOR THE SOLDIER

THE end of the war with Japan finds India, like every other country, faced with the problems of peace. One of the greatest of these problems will be the demobilisation and orderly absorption into civil life of the Armed Forces.

Resettlement is a word which has become commonplace in recent days; now it assumes a real significance for men and women in the Services. They will be asking questions about what is being done to return them to the civil life from which they have been recruited and, more important still, to ensure that they do not lose through having rendered service at the time of need. The answers to these and many other similar questions lie in the resettlement plans which have been worked out by the Central and Provincial Governments.

Planning of a national and provincial character, long-term and short-term, are very necessary, and at the root of the whole problem of resettlement is what the modern world has learnt to call "employment policy." To the man or woman in the Forces this is not regarded as a personal worry; the personal worry is "finding the right job."

How to set about this is a real worry to those who have grown up and joined the Forces in a country which has not known what it means to possess an employment organisation. But times have changed during the war years in this field too, and an employment organisation has been born. Well and good. But how does the serviceman about to be demobilised secure the assistance of this organisation?

### Release Centres

The assistance starts at the Release Centres. There specially trained officers will see each man prior to release to find out his plans and to enquire whether help is required in finding or equipping him for employment. Information and advice will be given where needed and details of those requiring assistance will be sent to the Employment Exchange nearest to his home.

The Employment Exchange network is the key to the whole resettlement organisation. Ten exchanges are functioning already and this number will be increased to 71 by the early part of next year. Until that time Recruiting and Employment Offices will be performing

certain of the functions of Employment Exchanges so far as ex-servicemen are concerned, and the service of the Exchange organisation is available now for every discharged Serviceman.

The establishment of an employment service is a new venture for India and many may have doubts as to the part it will play. It will advise and assist workers in finding suitable employment and will similarly advise and assist employers in finding suitable workers. With this end in view the organisation has been collecting, and will continue to collect, the needed statistical data about those to be demobilised from the Defence Services and about the employment opportunities likely to be available.

### Appointments Branch

Sorting out applicants and vacancies is a highly technical job. More important, it is a very human one. The best interests of employers and those seeking work have to be served if the country as a whole is to reap the full benefit. "Square pegs in square holes" has become the theme of the Services. It is of equally vital importance in days of peace. This is recognised and the staff have been specially trained for their exacting duties.

The Exchange itself, however, is not the end of the resettlement service. For officers and those with qualifications of a professional, administrative, scientific or highly technical nature an Appointment Branch is being set up within the Exchange organisation and will function on identical lines. There is a need, however, for greater centralisation of the records of vacancies demanding, and workers possessing, higher qualifications if a satisfactory matching between the two is to be effected quickly. This kind of placing work calls for a special technique.

Demobilised members of the Women's Services are not forgotten. There will be a Women's Branch within the Exchange system to cater for their needs.

Facilities will exist for technical and vocational training. The aim behind all such training will be to equip the trainee for employment in normal competition with other workers. The training programme will be so designed as to meet the manpower requirements of industry and the various post-war development schemes. There will be no haphazard arrangement of training schemes which might lead to no use being made of the training given.

(Continued on page 297.)

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

## SIX YEARS OF SUCCESSFUL WAR FINANCE

THE final victory, with the end of the war with Japan, completes nearly six years of successful war finance. The mounting scale of expenditure, particularly Defence expenditure, which became accentuated with the outbreak of war in the East, was successfully managed with increased taxation and borrowing. India responded magnificently to the expanding demands on her resources and she can look back with pride on what has been accomplished during the past six years in the field of finance. Not only was her financial system resilient to the increasing strain of war, but the experiences of the war period have given valuable lessons regarding the technique of the successful management of the country's post-war finances.

This is not to say that the whole course was one of perfect smooth sailing from beginning to end. Far from it. Following in the wake of the outbreak of war with Japan, the financial ship was storm-tossed for a time in the sea of inflation. The outlook appeared almost gloomy for a time—in the later half of 1942 and the earlier half of 1943 as a consequence of Japan's rapid advance to the very borders of India. The war effort had naturally to be intensified, utilising the capacity of the country to the fullest possible extent for this purpose.

### Mounting Expenditure

Certain adverse economic consequences resulting from the war needs and situation led to the generation of inflationary tendencies. But, thanks to the anti-inflationary measures successfully adopted from the middle of 1943, these harmful tendencies were effectively mitigated.

The situation improved progressively in 1944 and 1945 and now, viewing past events in their proper perspective, it can be confidently stated that India grappled with a considerable measure of success with the forces of inflation and was generally able to manage her war finances successfully.

After the outbreak of war with Germany in September, 1939, revenue expenditure began progressively to increase. It increased from Rs. 85.15 crores in 1938-39 to Rs. 94.57 crores in 1939-40, Rs. 114.18 crores in 1940-41 and Rs. 147.26 crores in 1941-42. The rise was, however, moderate and it became spectacular only after the outbreak of war with Japan. Expenditure charged to revenue aggregated Rs. 288.90 crores in 1942-43—the first financial year after

the outbreak of this war—Rs. 439.85 crores in 1943-44 and Rs. 512.65 crores in 1944-45 (revised).

This phenomenon was particularly true of Defence expenditure. It (net revenue expenditure) moderately increased from Rs. 46.18 crores in 1938-39 to Rs. 49.54 crores in 1939-40, Rs. 73.61 crores in 1940-41 and Rs. 103.93 crores in 1941-42. From 1942-43 onwards the rate of increase was striking. In that year, the net Defence expenditure amounted to Rs. 214.62 crores. It increased to Rs. 358.40 crores in 1943-44 and to Rs. 397.23 crores in 1944-45 (revised).

The main reason for the increase in Defence expenditure is obvious. According to the Financial Settlement, India has to pay the cost of "Indian War Measures", i.e., such war measures as can be regarded as purely Indian liabilities by reason of their having been undertaken by India in her own interests. Early in 1942, the Eastern enemy advanced to the very borders of India in the East and remained there throughout 1942 and 1943. Early in 1944, he crossed into India itself and infiltrated into portions of Assam and Manipur. The enemy was finally defeated by the might of Allied arms and forced rapidly to retrace his steps till he was pushed out of Burma.

It is thus clear that, in so far as India had firstly to make preparations to meet the threat on her borders and then successfully to repel an actual invasion of the country, the cost entailed by these measures, undertaken in her own interests, naturally fell on her shoulders and contributed to the spectacular rise in Defence expenditure from 1942-43 onwards.

### South East Asia Command

The South East Asia Command was set up in 1943. The responsibilities of this new Command were mainly the direction and co-ordination of the offensive based on India against Japan; they also included the security and local defence of India within a relatively small area on India's North-Eastern frontier. While all responsibility for actual operations against Japan thus passed out of India's direct control, she was, at the same time, entrusted with weighty responsibilities in respect of the training and maintenance of the sea, land and air forces required for the grand offensive which was planned with this country as the main base.

But the setting up of this new Command did not of itself either add to or diminish India's

liability for Defence expenditure. The allocation of Defence expenditure between India and the U.K. continued to be governed by the principles of the Financial Settlement, and neither the developments in the war situation nor the establishment of the new Command rendered it necessary to depart from these principles. In accordance with those principles, India's liability for the cost of forces serving within her geographical frontier was subject to the condition that such forces were both necessary and available for local defence purposes. The strengths of forces for such purposes at any time were subject to maximum limits indicated by the Defence authorities from time to time.

As Sir Jeremy Raisman, the previous Finance Member, stated in his 1944 budget speech:

"While the Defence estimates exclude the cost of forces serving in India in excess of ceiling strengths, India also bears no financial liability for other units or formations employed in India on duties unconnected with her local defence or for measures such as those relating to the expansion of administrative and maintenance organisations, the acquisition and holding of additional stocks and the improvement of internal transportation and port facilities, which are incidental to the setting up of the S.E.A.C. or to the utilisation of India as a base for large-scale offensive operations against Japan."

### Cost of Burma Offensive

The question whether India had to bear any portion of the expenditure entailed in the liberation of Burma was answered as follows by Sir Jeremy Raisman in his reply to budget criticisms in the Central Assembly in March 1944:

"It is true and it is obvious that Defence expenditure has increased. But the reasons for it are not far to seek. It is not due to the fact, for instance, that troops serving in the Arakan or troops employed in the offensive war are being charged to India. The cost of all troops serving in Burma is borne by H.M.G. . . . If they are American forces, their cost is borne by the U.S.A."

With the entry of America into the war and India becoming an important base of operations against Japan, India began to receive large-scale and increasing Lend-Lease aid from America. From 1942 she was admitted to the

benefits of Lend-Lease along with the U.K. and other members of the Commonwealth. Help was received from America in the shape of medical stores, ordnance stores, motor vehicles and spares, steel, provisions, lubricants, machine tools, machinery, electrical equipment, A.R.P. stores, radio sets, oil pipe line and machinery, ferro-alloys, locomotives, dock and harbour equipment, aircraft parts, chemicals, scientific instruments, etc.

The total amount of supplies and services made to the Indian theatre under Lend-Lease arrangements up to the end of 1944-45 is estimated at Rs. 515 crores. The value of such of those supplies and services as India, but for Lend-Lease, would have had to provide at her own expense is Rs. 150 crores.

### Reciprocal Aid

With India as a main base of operations against Japan large American forces were naturally stationed in this country. India extended reciprocal aid to them, acting on the principle of the mutual aid. The goods and services relating to this aid took, broadly speaking, the following three main forms:

1. Reciprocal Aid to U.S. forces in India in the shape of rations, clothing, ordnance and other stores, the construction of accommodation, airfields and connected works, and the provision of transportation, communications and maintenance facilities of various kinds.
2. Reciprocal Aid to U.S. shipping using Indian ports in the shape of port dues of all kinds, ship repairs, etc.
3. Available raw materials and available foodstuffs, such as tea, required by the U.S. Government directly for war purposes.

The amount of reciprocal aid which India has rendered to the U.S. is about Rs. 124 crores from the beginning of the war up to the end of 1944-45. (This includes expenditure charged to capital).

### Revenue and Borrowings

The mounting war expenditure, accentuated by the war in the East, was met by expanding revenue, increased taxation and large-scale borrowings. The total revenue during the six years of war amounted to Rs. 1,113 crores. The aggregate of taxes on income, including corporation tax and E.P.T., increased from Rs. 17.28 crores in 1938-39 to Rs. 210.00 crores in 1944-45 (revised). Excise revenue was buoyant, new sources being tapped. In 1938-39 the

yield of Central Excise duties amounted to Rs. 8.66 crores; in 1944-45 (revised) it was Rs. 39.07 crores. The net contributions of the P. & T. and the Railways were Rs. 28.44 crores and Rs. 126.43 crores, respectively, during the war period.

Total borrowings from the beginning of the war up to the end of January 1945 aggregated Rs. 833 crores. Investments in small savings were not encouraging in 1941-42 and 1942-43, when there were net withdrawals by the public of Rs. 14 crores and Rs. 3½ crores respectively. But the position improved from the later months of 1943 when there were net deposits at the rate of Rs. 2½ crores a month. The same tendency continued in 1944 and 1945 when the rate of net deposits improved to Rs. 3 crores a month.

Now that the war is over, attention is naturally focussed on problems of post-war finance. War has been financed satisfactorily. Will it be possible to finance post-war plans of development in the same manner? An answer to this question has been furnished by Sir Jeremy Raisman in his 1944 and 1945 budget speeches.

### Total Resources

Under certain conditions of national and international effort and the maintenance of a high scale of taxation, to which war has accustomed us, he visualised in the first "effective" quinquennium after the war total revenue resources to the tune of Rs. 500 crores for financing post-war development schemes. A policy of all-out borrowing, in accordance with the technique developed during the war, would, in his opinion, give another Rs. 500 crores for the purpose.

His calculations excluded direct private investment, which is estimated at yet another Rs. 500 crores by the second report of the Reconstruction Committee of Council. Thus the total resources estimated as available for reconstruction and development in the first effective quinquennium of the post-war period would amount to Rs. 1,500 crores. This, again, excluded the resources of the Provincial and State Governments.

Items of taxation which would form additional sources of revenue in the post-war period were, according to Sir Jeremy, estate duty on property other than agricultural property, agricultural income-tax, customs (expected to be buoyant for a number of years), Central Excise and sales tax.

## OUR POST-WAR TRADE

THE end of the war with Japan—and with it the end of World War No. 2—gives India an opportunity to improve her position in the post-war period in several markets which were served by Japan before the war. This is particularly true of neighbouring markets such as the Middle East, East Africa, Ceylon, Burma, Malaya and the other south Asiatic countries. According to recent reports of Government of India Trade Commissioners, there are prospects in certain lines even in distant markets like Canada, the U.S.A., South America and Australia.

What is of greater import is that Japan's dumping of her goods on the Indian market, to the detriment of India's small industries generally and the textile industry in particular, will be a thing of the past. Before the war, the menace of Japanese competition was becoming increasingly serious in the Indian market. Despite the existence of a trade treaty regulating her imports of piecegoods into this country, her traders found methods to circumvent its provisions in various ways. There was an enquiry by the Commerce Department into the nature and extent of Japanese competition in India, with a view to adopting whatever counter-measures were considered necessary to protect the interests of Indian industries. But, by the time action could be taken, Japan's competitive position became weakened on account of her pre-occupation with her war with China.

### Treaty Obligations Abused

All this is now past. India is now free to develop her industries, at least for some time to come, without the menace of Japanese competition. She has, further, an unparalleled opportunity to develop her foreign trade in those goods and in those markets in which Japan had specialised before the war.

The trade treaty was mainly concluded in the interests of India's cotton grower. For a basic offtake of one million bales of Indian cotton a year, Japan was permitted to export to India 325 million yards (basic) of cloth a year (subsequently reduced to 283 million yards on the conclusion of a separate treaty with Burma). A ceiling of 400 million yards a year (358 million yards subsequently) was fixed and the higher sendings were correlated to the higher

offtake of Indian cotton. Japan was accorded most-favoured-nation treatment.

But Japan abused her position. She managed to circumvent the treaty obligations by the following, among other, unfair methods:

1. As the treaty referred to linear yards, Japan increased the width of the piece-goods which she sent to the Indian market.
2. Fents were not included in the treaty. She sent large quantities of this line of piecegoods to the Indian market. Regular pieces were deliberately cut into fents in order to take undue advantage of the lacuna in the treaty.
3. Similarly, made-up garments were not included. These goods were also sent in increasing quantities to the Indian market.
4. Also, art silk goods not being included in the treaty, Japan began to increase her sendings of these goods to India.
5. There were increased sendings of piece-goods from Japanese-controlled mills in North China.

The original treaty was concluded in 1934. The position was somewhat better in the revised agreement of 1937.

### Dumping of Goods

Taking full and undue advantage of the most-favoured-nation position, Japan began to dump her manufactures on India. Large quantities of cheap miscellaneous manufactured goods, such as glassware, boots, shoes, hardware, woollen goods, etc., were sent in increasing quantities, thus adversely affecting the position of a large number of small nascent Indian industries and handicrafts.

Imports of a large variety of Japanese manufactured goods into India increased in quantity, value and range, while the offtake of Indian goods by Japan considerably diminished in many instances. As a consequence, Japan was able not only to wipe out her adverse trade balance with India but to convert it into a surplus. While imports from Japan became diversified, exports to that country from India were mainly in a few lines, the chief of them being raw cotton. India became predominantly dependent on Japan for the offtake of that commodity, with the result that that market became vital to the prosperity of the Indian cotton

grower. Out of the 3 million bales of cotton exported every year, between 1½ and 2 million (mainly short staple) went to that single market.

This undue dependence on a single market was not wholesome, the adverse consequences of which were seen when the Japanese market was lost from the middle of 1941 (in addition to the loss of the Continental markets from 1940). Had it not been for the success of the "Grow More Food" campaign, which diverted cultivation from raw cotton and other cash crops to foodgrains, and the increased consumption by Indian mills, the position of the cotton grower would have been disastrous during the war period.

### Pre-war Trade Trend

The trend of Indo-Japanese trade was as follows before the war (value in lakhs of Rs.):

| Year.   | Value of Imports from Japan. | Value of Exports to Japan. | Balance of Trade in Merchandise in favour of (+) or against (-) India |
|---------|------------------------------|----------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 1934-35 | 20.80                        | 24.59                      | +3.79                                                                 |
| 1935-36 | 21.84                        | 21.89                      | +6                                                                    |
| 1936-37 | 21.27                        | 30.07                      | +8.80                                                                 |
| 1937-38 | 22.19                        | 18.13                      | -4.06                                                                 |
| 1938-39 | 15.41                        | 14.59                      | -82                                                                   |
| 1939-40 | 19.29                        | 14.16                      | -5.13                                                                 |
| 1940-41 | 21.55                        | 9.19                       | -12.36                                                                |
| 1941-42 | 11.78                        | 4.77                       | -7.02                                                                 |

The value of imports from Japan increased between 1934-35 and 1937-38. The subsequent decrease was probably due to the pre-occupation of Japan with her war in China and the consequent inability to maintain the usual scale of exports to her customers. But what is more significant from the point of view of India is the drastic reduction in her exports to Japan after 1936-37, in consequence of which the balance of trade, which was in her favour in 1936-37 to the tune of Rs. 8.80 crores, subsequently became adverse to her and reached the high water mark of Rs. 12.36 crores (against her and in favour of Japan) in 1940-41.

To what extent Japanese imports into India became diversified can be seen from an analysis of this trade in 1937-38, when its aggregate value reached the highest level (Rs. 22.19 crores) for the period embraced by the above table.

There are 34 major items of a value exceeding Rs. 10 lakhs, each consisting of a number of sub-items. Besides, there are numerous items of value below Rs. 10 lakhs. The diversified character of Japan's exports to India is thus evident. Many of the above items are competitive with similar Indian manufactures. Besides the textile industry of India, other industries which were adversely affected were woollen, silk, glass and glassware, earthenware and porcelain, toilet requisites, electrical goods, handloom (particularly woollen blanket and silk looms), toy making, etc.

Compared with these diversified exports from Japan, India sent to that country only a very few goods like raw cotton, raw jute and jute manufactures, iron, manganese, lac, leather, mica, and a few others.

### Indian Exports

Even with a lower limit of Rs. 5 lakhs, there were only 14 main items comprising the export trade of India with Japan in the most prosperous year of the period, viz. 1936-37, when exports amounted to Rs. 30.07 crores and there was a balance of trade in merchandise in favour of India amounting to Rs. 8.80 crores. Of the total value of this trade, about 85 per cent. relates to raw cotton, leaving only 15 per cent. for the rest of the goods exported. Thus, India's export trade with Japan was not only diversified but predominantly related to a single commodity, raw cotton.

Japanese competition in the Indian market was a serious menace to the development of Indian industries in the past. This menace has now been removed, at least for some years to come, and, in the post-war period, this country can plan the development of her industries free from the nightmare of this competition. Not only that: she has now a favourable opportunity to develop her export trade in manufactures particularly the cotton piecegoods trade. During the war, India has expanded her manufacturing capacity in various directions and it should be possible for her to supply to her neighbours, in particular, various manufactured articles which Japan was supplying to those markets before the war.

The Mid-East countries should provide a good market for Indian piecegoods. The East African countries are now importing from India a wide range of commodities previously obtain-

ed from Japan; this should continue in the post-war period too. These territories constitute, in particular, a large market for Indian piecegoods, replacing Japan, which was one of the largest sources of imports to them before the war.

There seem fairly good prospects for India to replace Japan in the Canadian market in respect of a large part of the pre-war imports of that market from Japan both in manufactured and semi-manufactured goods.

### In Australia

India can replace Japan in Australia in respect of piecegoods. If modern methods of manufacture are adopted, she can hope to continue sending to that market in the post-war period what she has been able to do during the war, viz. art-ware, apparel, electric appliances, glassware, crockery, cutlery and hardware, toys, umbrellas, silk, buttons, paper and paste board and rubber manufactures.

Prospects of India replacing Japan in the South American markets, too, in regard to cotton piecegoods, are considered to be fairly good.

## FINDING THE RIGHT JOB FOR THE SOLDIER

(Continued from page 292)

The disabled man calls for special treatment if he is not to be handicapped in his search for employment. For him schemes of rehabilitation and resettlement are designed in which the aim is to ensure that, when placed in employment, he is not a disabled worker. Disabled he may be physically, but from a productive viewpoint he should be a 100 per cent. worker. Only thus can rehabilitation and resettlement be fully effective.

Help, information and advice are provided for all the demobilised. Ensuring the returned soldier, sailor or airman has a job is the first duty. But equally important is the task of doing everything possible to ensure that the job suits the soldier, sailor or airman. This is the aim in view.



## INDIA'S FOREIGN TRADE IN 1944-45

**C**ONSIDERABLE interest attaches to the foreign trade statistics for 1944-45 which have been just released and which show the tendencies that have been in operation during the concluding stages of the world conflict.

Perhaps the most important development during 1944-45 was the sudden jump in the value of imports, which rose to Rs. 260.97 lakhs as compared with Rs. 117.68 lakhs in the preceding year—an increase of Rs. 83.29 lakhs. The value of exports, on the other hand, showed only a moderate improvement of Rs. 12.02 lakhs, rising from Rs. 199.03 lakhs in 1943-44 to Rs. 211.05 lakhs in 1944-45. Re-exports were valued at Rs. 16.69 lakhs, or Rs. 5.73 lakhs better than in the preceding year.

As a result of the greater increase in imports, as compared with exports and re-exports taken together, India's favourable balance of trade in merchandise (private), which had gone on mounting year by year since 1940-41, dropped sharply from Rs. 92.31 lakhs in 1943-44 to Rs. 26.77 lakhs in 1944-45.

### Imports and Exports

The noteworthy features in regard to the direction of India's foreign trade were the large increases in imports from the U.S.A., Iran and U.K. Imports from these countries during 1944-45 amounted to Rs. 50.46 lakhs, Rs. 49.33 lakhs and Rs. 40.17 lakhs respectively as compared with Rs. 18.57 lakhs, Rs. 27.49 lakhs and Rs. 29.57 lakhs respectively in the preceding year. India's exports to these countries recorded small increases; the value of exports to the U.S.A. amounted to Rs. 44.79 lakhs in 1944-45 as compared with Rs. 40.11 lakhs in the previous year, while exports to Iran amounted to Rs. 2.74 lakhs as compared with Rs. 1.72 lakhs in 1943-44. Exports to the U.K. were valued at Rs. 61.71 lakhs, showing an improvement of Rs. 1.65 lakhs only as compared with 1943-44.

U.K. continued to be the biggest single market for Indian exports followed by the U.S.A.; but in the import trade U.K.'s place was taken by the U.S.A. for the first time since the outbreak of war, the latter rising to the first place in the list of countries exporting to India.

On the imports side, the largest increase was recorded under the raw materials and produce group and articles mainly unmanufactured; the value of imports in this group advanced by

Rs. 53.18 lakhs over the year 1943-44. Imports of articles wholly or mainly manufactured and those included in the food, drink and tobacco group increased by Rs. 17.52 lakhs and Rs. 11.77 lakhs respectively in the year 1944-45 as compared with the previous year.

As regards exports, raw materials and produce and articles mainly unmanufactured, and the group consisting of articles wholly or mainly manufactured, showed increases of Rs. 3.78 and 2.11 lakhs respectively, while the food, drink and tobacco group registered a decline of Rs. 26 lakhs as compared with the previous year.

### ARRANGEMENTS FOR THE RETURN OF MALAYA EVACUEES

Arrangements are being made in consultation between the Commonwealth Relations Department and the Representative in India of the Colonial Office for the return of evacuees from Malaya. All evacuees desirous of returning to Malaya should register themselves with the Malayan Representative in India, Menkwa Building, Outram Road, Bombay, if they have not already done so at Bangalore or Bombay, said a Press Note issued by the Commonwealth Relations Department, Government of India, on September 2. It added:

The following particulars should be furnished to the Malayan Representative in duplicate by the end of September, 1945 at the latest: name, age, profession or occupation, address in India, last address in Malaya, date of last return to India, names and ages of children and other dependents and month in which passage desired.

Separate arrangements are being made for evacuee labourers which will be announced later.

### WAR RISK INSURANCE OF INLAND VESSELS TERMINATED

With the termination of the War Risks (Factories) Insurance Scheme with effect from September 1, 1945, inland vessels which were insurable under that Scheme are no more insurable with effect from the aforesaid date, said a Press Communique issued by the Commerce Department, Government of India, on September 4.

It added: All policies of insurance against war risks issued in respect of inland vessels have, therefore, terminated and have ceased to have effect from September 1, 1945 under section 3 of the War Risks (Factories) Insurance (Termination) Ordinance 1945.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



Jungle warfare training near Belgaum.

## TRAINING CENTRES IN INDIAN JUNGLES

**I**N vast training areas established in the heart of the Indian jungles, thousands of troops learnt the principles of jungle warfare.

The jungle varies. Little of it is as shown in Hollywood films, with clinging giant creepers and elephant grass. The average jungle is like an overgrown forest, but with drawbacks; no European forest ever had leeches, mosquitoes, flying beetles and, above all, the inescapable tropical heat.

It is, in fact, what goes with the jungle that makes it the worst kind of fighting area in the world. The jungle presents a military problem calling for the most carefully applied thought and study. The 14th Army's successes in the past 12 months show how satisfactorily the Allies have tackled it.

### Unexpected Diversions

**T**he Indian jungle is in fact "genuine" enough to provide unexpected diversions—visiting one jungle training area the Commander-in-Chief in India, General Sir Claude Auchinleck, was told of a sepoy who looked out of his fox-hole to find himself face to face with a tiger, which he at once shot dead with his Service rifle.

At the training centres the men were shown how to march through the jungles on a compass bearing, how to use their equipment to hack a way through tropical undergrowth, how to walk noiselessly among dense foliage and how to recognise the tracks of men and beast.

They practised moving in formation and were sent out for days at a time on long distance patrols. Finally, they took part in realistic jungle "battles," in which fireworks and explosives "effects" were liberally used.

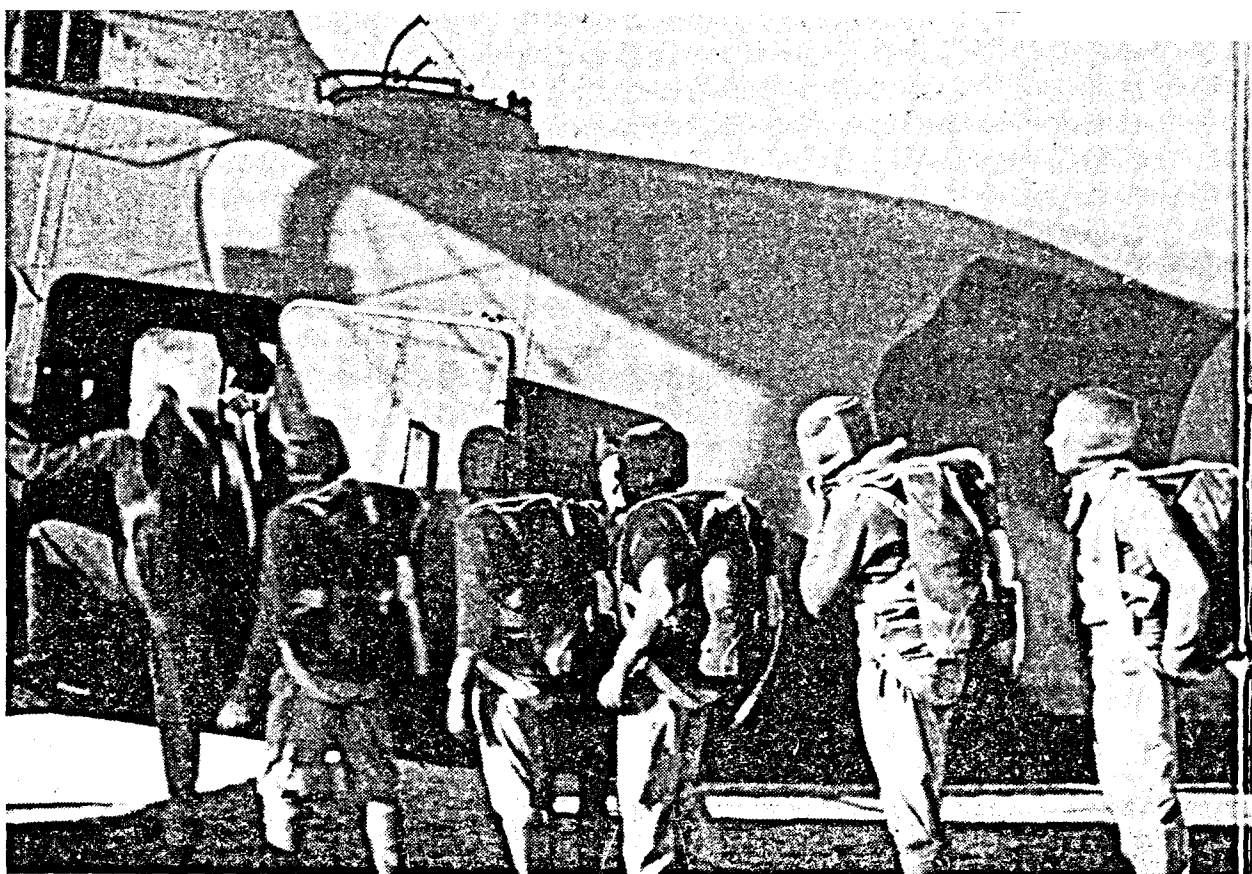
"The course aims at overcoming the natural fear of the jungle by showing how it can be made a friend," said an officer in charge of the training to an Indian Army Observer. "Possibilities of ambush, cover and camouflage are fully explained, and, in addition, the men are shown what fruit can be eaten and how they can cook jungle produce."

Many of the jungle training areas were in the territories of the Indian princes, who had lent them to the army for the duration.

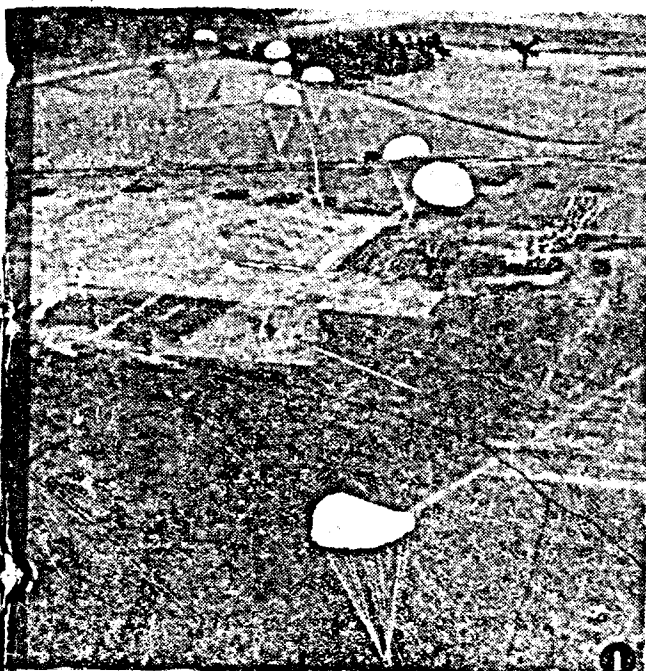


Sighting a mortar.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



Indian paratroops under training omplane for jumping.



(Left) Aerial view of a 'stick' of paratroops coming down to the earth. (Above) Paratroops manipulate their parachutes on landing.

## PARACHUTING has become a routine occupation for scores of thousands of Indian soldiers in the past few years, writes an Indian Army Observer. The hangar where these men receive their ground training before they do any jumping presents a bizarre spectacle. It is part of the Indian Airborne Training Centre, almost under the shadows of the Himalayan foothills.

# INDIAN PARACHUTE REGIMENT

The Parachute Regiment consists exclusively of volunteers from India's best fighting units. Although all of them have completed their regular infantry training, recruits must successfully complete a month of the most rigorous training imaginable. Even before they begin their parachute training, they must prove to be super-infantrymen. They receive tactical training under stimulated battle conditions, and they must be extraordinary marksmen, not only with the rifle, but with the machine-gun and Sten-gun as well.

300

They finish their probationary training with a 40-mile march up a tortuous mountain trail with a 50-pounds pack on their back. At each halt they must dig in just as though they were at the front, preparing for an enemy attack. And any recruit who displays the slightest deficiency during these four gruelling weeks is dismissed from the regiment immediately and returned to his infantry unit.

Once they have completed their probationary training, the recruits begin their preparations for jumping. They spend 10 days jumping from "mock" planes and learning to guide their "chutes" and to roll.

The regiment's officers include a number of Indians, some holding the regular King's Commission with long service and promoted during the war from the ranks of Viceroy's Commissioned officers. There is a Sikh captain who has served 18 years in the army, and it is not uncommon to find a V.C.O. who has served 25 to 30 years.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

The final test of the Indian paratroop recruits comes on the morning when they are handed parachutes and ordered to march into a waiting Dakota. For all of them this is their first airplane ride, and any man who hesitates is "washed out."

I went up with one draft on their first jump to observe their reactions. As we filed into the airplane, the men hooked up their static lines, which automatically opens the parachute as the jumper leaves the plane. Some of them chatted excitedly as they carefully adjusted the locks. They had been warned that carelessness would mean death. The jumpmaster joked with the men as the plane took off. As the plane approached the dropping zone, the jumpmaster shouted the order, "Prepare for action," and the six men in the first "stick" filed up to the door.

The plane came over the D.Z. and the jumpmaster shouted "Action stations." Then came the order, "Go." The little Nepalese warrior stepped out. The others followed without a sign of hesitancy. The three other "sticks" jumped with the same precision as the plane circled over the field. All of them had made their first jump successfully.

One of the most dramatic episodes that has occurred at the training centre happened not long ago when a subedar—a Viceroy Commissioned officer—tangled his static line as he jumped. The "chute" failed to open and the soldier was dragged behind the airplane. He

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

hung there for half an hour before the other men in the plane succeeded in dragging him back. Within an hour he had a new parachute and made the jump—without mishap.

Two battalions of the Indian Parachute Regiment were rushed from a training centre in eastern India early in 1943. The formation of this Indian Parachute Regiment began late in 1942 with the organisation of two battalions. But, even before they had finished their training, the battalions were ordered into action. That was in 1943, during the crisis in Assam, when the Japanese threatened to sever all communications to British, Indian, American and Chinese forces fighting in Burma.

The paratroop battalions were used as ordinary infantry. But their special training held them in good stead in this critical engagement. They stopped the Japanese and defeated them in a fierce battle that cost the Parachute Regiment many of its best soldiers.

### First Taste of Action

It was not until May 1 of this year that the Regiment got its first taste of the kind of action for which it had been trained. One battalion of Indian paratroops was dropped at Elephant Point near Rangoon. Most of the Japanese had already withdrawn but the remainder were quickly wiped out.

General Sir William J. Slim, Commander of the British 14th Army, described this as one of the most perfectly executed parachute operations of the war—despite the lack of opposition.

301

## FINEST EXAMPLE OF REARGUARD FIGHTING

### The First Burma Campaign

"I claim we got a hell of a beating. We got run out of Burma and it is as humiliating as hell. I think we ought to find out what caused it, go back and retake it."

These words of General Joseph W. Stilwell were a plain, honest statement of fact as undeniable as the miracle in military achievement which has since resulted in the destruction of the Jap armies in Burma and the liberation of a country almost the size of Germany.

The Burma campaign of 1942 will be remembered as the finest example of rearguard fighting in this war. Outnumbered six to one by crack Jap divisions which had swept through Malaya, Indian and British troops under the leadership of General (now Field Marshal) Sir Harold Alexander fought their way back over the mass of mountains and jungle, dusty plains and waterlogged paddy fields to save India from invasion.

Never at any time was this a rout, although, of the 25,000 troops in Burma at the outset of the invasion, less than 50 per cent. got back to India, writes an Army Observer.

### Fall of Rangoon

The fate of Burma was sealed early in May 1942, when Rangoon—at that time the only channel of supply for Alexander's men—fell. Rangoon was virtually lost on the banks of the Sittang river where, outflanked and with two-thirds of our forces and their heavy equipment trapped on the wrong side of the river, there was only one course left open. It was to swing to the north to gain time and space and maintain contact with General Stilwell and his Chinese troops who had moved down the Burma Road to our assistance.

The enemy, strongly reinforced, employed swift infiltration tactics against the Burma Corps, then commanded by Gen. Slim, and also against Gen. Stilwell's Chinese. There was no alternative but to withdraw.

In mid-April, the threat to the oilfields was so acute that their destruction was ordered and successfully carried out just before 2,000 Japs infiltrated through our positions.

It was in the Yenangyaung oilfields area that one of the fiercest battles of the whole campaign took place. Two of our brigades

were trapped and in danger of complete annihilation.

For two days the enemy had a stranglehold on our positions until, assisted by British tanks, the Chinese who had been rushed across from north of Toungoo on the Mandalay-Rangoon road put in a terrific attack which coincided with an assault by British and Indian Infantry. The enemy pincers were forced open and thousands of our troops were relieved.

### Chinese Forces Split

In the meantime the Chinese position in the Shan States and the upper Sittang river valley was serious. The Burma Road had been cut in several places and the Chinese forces were split.

We fought another successful rearguard action at Meiktila but the chief question now was how we and the Chinese were to get our troops out of Burma.

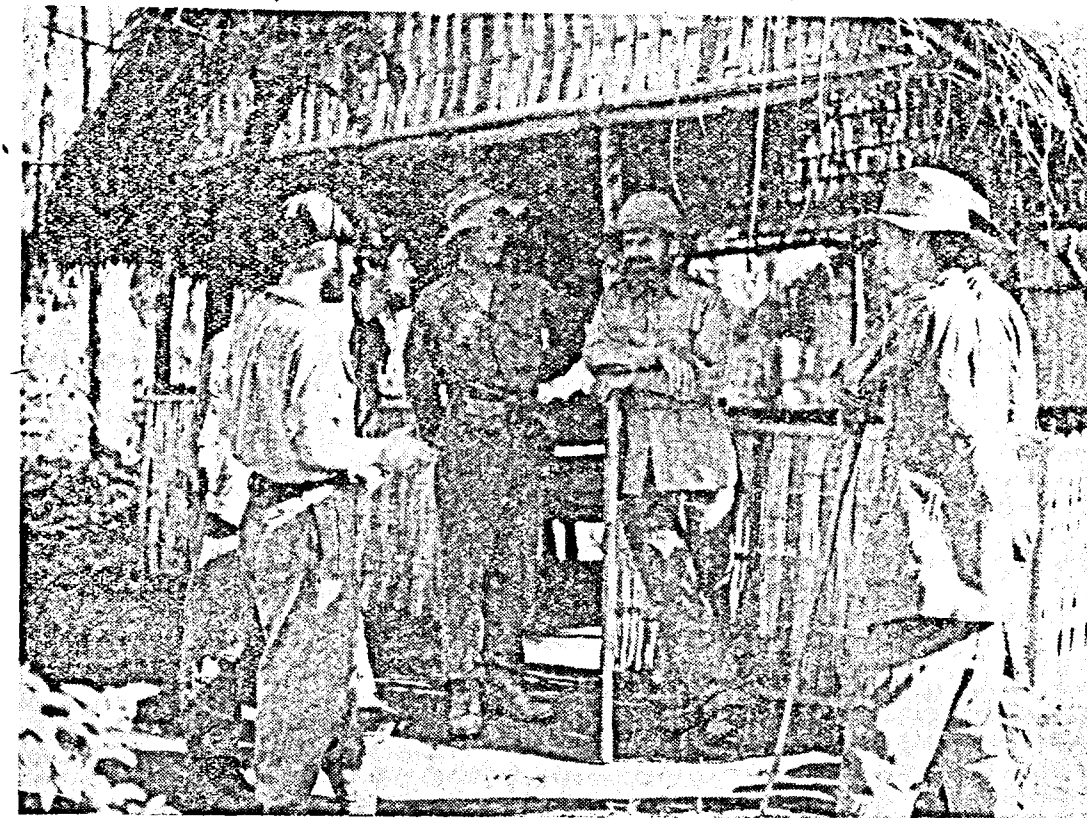
The problem of refugees was of the most difficult nature. No less than 100,000 had attached themselves to our withdrawing forces by the time we had reached Mandalay. Some went with Gen. Stilwell's men via Myitkyina and the deadly Hukawng Valley, the remainder with Gen. Slim across the Chindwin.

There were no bridges across the Chindwin river at this time and it was near the Shwegyin ferry, just south of Kalewa, that the last big battle of the campaign was fought.

A brigade of Maj.-Gen. D. T. Cowan's 17th Indian Division held fast and foiled the enemy's last chance of cutting off and destroying Gen. Alexander's army.

Thus ended the first Burma campaign: The Japs held the line of the Chindwin, had occupied the port of Akyab and were firmly established on the Arakan coastal strip. Gen. Alexander's men, after effectively destroying the heavy equipment they had had to leave behind, were back in the Imphal Plain—wary but still an army and by no means a disorganised rabble.

On their way back they had found time to cut out the tracks from which were to grow the life lines of the forces who were to liberate Burma—the Manipur Road and the Ledo Road.



Major-General Wingate (facing camera) chatting with some of his officers during a pause on the march into Burma.

In the lull which followed the first campaign, Lord Wavell, then Commander-in-Chief in India, was making plans. A great deal of experience was gained from an offensive in the Arakan which, although it failed in its objective, inflicted a very large number of casualties on the Japs.

### Wingate Expedition

In the spring of 1943 a second move was made. The late Maj.-Gen. Wingate with 3,000 men penetrated deep into enemy-occupied Burma and cut the Mandalay-Myitkyina railway in several places.

Later in the year, the first offensive by Gen. Stilwell in the north was quickly followed by that of the newly-formed 14th Army. In the Arakan, Jap attempts to encircle our troops failed miserably. But in the meantime the enemy high command planned the biggest move of all—the "March on Delhi."

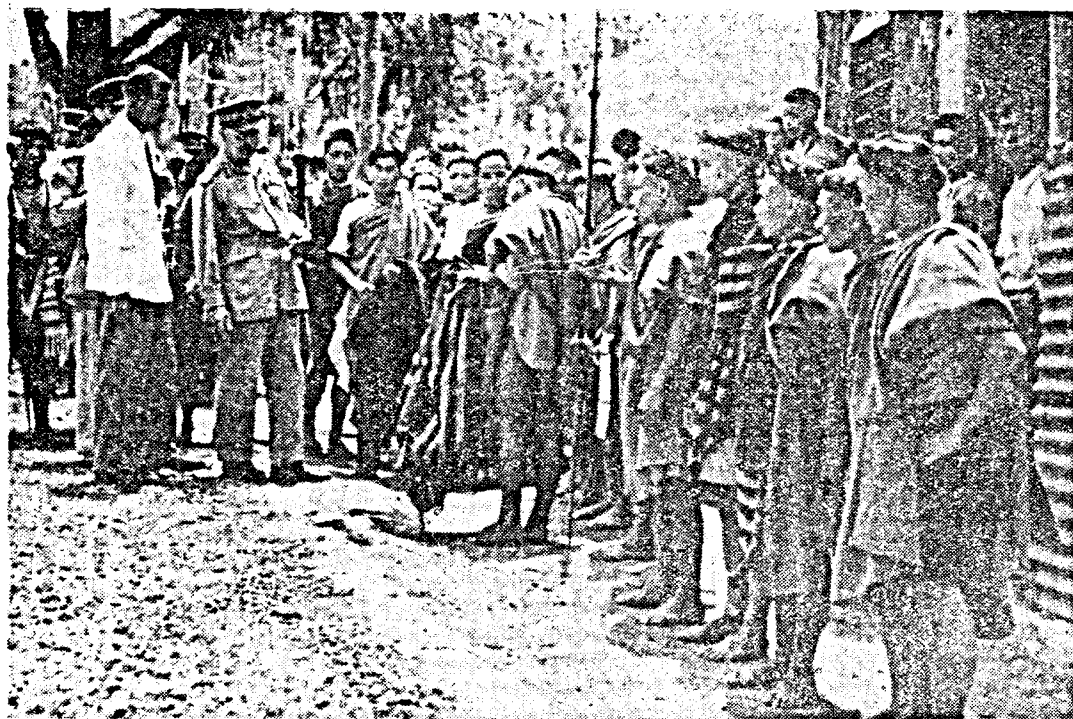
More than 100,000 picked troops crossed the Chindwin, cut the Manipur Road and threatened the line of supply to Gen. Stilwell's forces in North Burma. For a fortnight the defenders of Kohima stemmed the drive and held the bridgehead to India.

The troops in besieged Imphal fought back and drove the invaders into the jungle. About 50,000 Japs lay dead in the hills and the plains of Manipur.

Meanwhile, Gen. Stilwell was more than 100 miles inside Burma and the Chindits—successors to Wingate's long-range penetration troops—had glided into the Myitkyina railway corridor.

In August last year the monsoon offensive opened. Months later the 14th Army crossed the Chindwin and the stage was set for the final drive which culminated in the fall of Rangoon and the virtual liberation of Burma.





During his visit to 14th Army troops on the Assam-Burma Front, H. E. Lord Wavell, accompanied by Mr. C. R. Pawsey, Deputy Commissioner, Naga Hills, met the Nagas of Kohima and personally congratulated them for their help in beating the Japs.

## THE MYSTERY FORCE OF THE CHIN HILLS

**A** LREADY almost legendary in a land of legend are the exploits of the Burma border guerilla army composed of the Lushai Brigade and the Free Chins.

Striking swift blows against the enemy's outposts, this army helped to pave the way for the famous Fifth Indian Division's advance across the Chin Hills to link with the 11th East African Division at Kalemyo.

The majority of the units in the Lushai Brigade are from regular battalions of the Indian Army.

Often cut off for months in the wild jungle hills, these troops, under their British, Indian, and tribal leaders, terrorised the enemy. Almost in desperation the Japanese command sent out a call to find out who were the mysterious men who stalked and slew their troops by night, shot up their transport and traced every movement they made.

### Exploits of the Lushai Brigade

The Chin villagers themselves were in open rebellion against the invaders, and, at the right time, they turned their underground movement against the Japanese into a great uprising and, with British aid, formed their own forces.

In 1942, the Chin Levies were sufficiently powerful to take a part in the operations against the Japanese. When later the Lushai Brigade was formed, about 2,000 armed tribesmen came under command with the regular soldiers of the Jat Regiment, the 14th Punjabis, the Bihar Regiment and the Assam Rifles.

While the Lushai Brigade was forming, the tribesmen had already started their operations against the Japanese supply lines. Such good results were obtained that it was decided to reinforce the Lushai Brigade with more regular troops to back the guerillas.

## HEROES OF THE BURMA GUERILLA ARMY



A typical Maka guerilla fighter.



A Chin levy of the Lushai Brigade

Later, they were joined by troops of the 13th Frontier Force Rifles who brought with them valuable experience from the Arakan.

By July 1944 the whole of the enemy supply route from Tiddim was threatened. The R.A.F. smashed up the enemy transport by day and the Lushai Brigade ambushed their troops and supply columns by night. In one short series of raids the "guerillas," without loss to themselves, killed 90 Japanese and put 16 supply lorries out of action.

South of Tiddim, later, a single ambush party surprised an enemy supply column and captured about 100 loads of arms and supplies.

Men of the Brigade and the "Free Chins" had to keep their "hides" well back in the wildest part of the mountains. Their patrols often made round trips of 130 miles to carry out a single raid, marching sometimes as many as 40 miles a day. Everything they needed they carried on their back.

As the main forces of the 5th Indian Division pushed on towards Tiddim and Fort White, the guerilla forces made contact with them and co-ordinated their operations with the advance. The Lushai Brigade provided observation posts up to 20 miles in advance of the divisional troops.

Offered bribes, threatened, tortured and many of them put to death, the tribesmen of Assam and Burma nevertheless remained staunch, throughout the Burma war, in their allegiance to Britain. Prominent among these gallant tribesmen were the Chins, Kachins, Karens and Nagas.

### Enormous Contribution

In proportion to their numbers and wealth, the Chins made an enormous contribution to the United Nations' cause. For two years, from the days of the withdrawal, they held inviolate their wild hill fastnesses. Then, when the Japs launched their "invasion" and at last burst in, the Chins bravely held their ground, remaining

Men of the Chin Hills Battalion cross a suspension bridge on the Burma front.



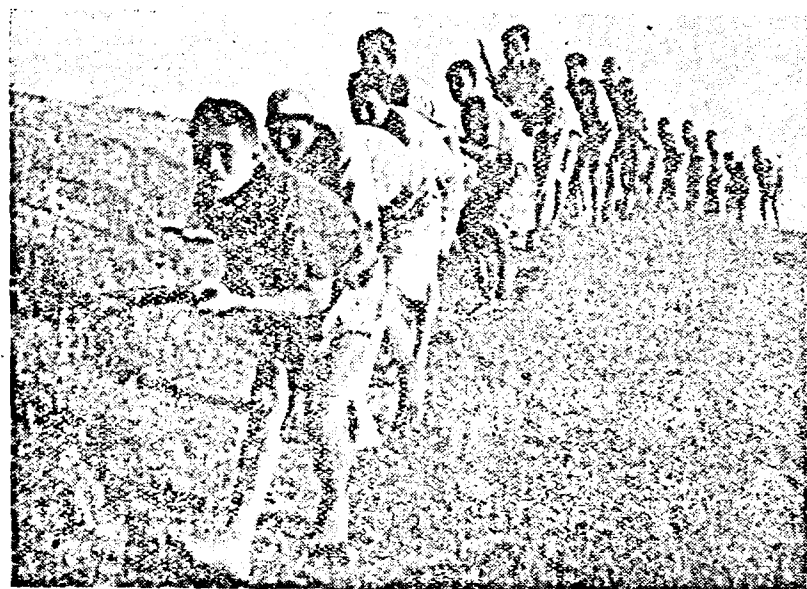
behind to cut the enemy's supply lines, to harry him day and night, inflicting heavy casualties.

But our debt to the Chins is much bigger than merely their part in the fighting. In innumerable ways they have aided our men and our cause.

In 1943 they provided 3,000 coolies for work on the Tiddim Road. At risk of torture or death, scores of Chin villagers sheltered and fed

British soldiers cut off from their units and in danger of capture by the Japs, guiding them through Jap positions to safety.

Well-equipped with small arms the Chin levies were made up, at the time of the evacuation, from the Chin element among the Burma Rifles battalions, supplemented by Chin villagers who were mostly pensioners from the Army, Burma Frontier Force and Police. Their



A guerilla patrol on the move.

jungle cunning and generations of warlike tradition more than make up for their lack of barrack-square training.

One day the full story will be told of the Kachin levies—an army of men who signed no attestations, were trained in a week and observed none of the rigid rules of discipline. They moved by stealth against the Japs and often sent them away screaming at the suddenness and violence of their attacks.

Rough, untutored men they fought, in the North Burma hills in which lay their homes, a guerilla war which pricked and goaded the Japs and cost them dearly. More, they forced them into impotence against a guileful and unseen enemy. At one time, this nondescript collection of hillmen, reoccupied 15,000 square miles of territory along a 100-mile front, which advanced to within 30 miles of Myitkyina and covered the Hukawng Valley and the headwaters of the Irrawaddy. In the first six months of 1943 they killed for certain 600 Japs.

#### An Invisible Army

The idea of using the Kachins was conceived by a British officer during the retreat from Burma in 1942. After he was injured in a plane accident during a trip to pursue his plans, the idea was developed by another British officer who had the same qualities of determination, aggressiveness and organising ability.

He went out to Fort Hertz with a directive to raise the Kachin levies, to harass the Japs and to gather intelligence regarding them. By the beginning of 1943, 3,000 Kachins had responded, half for operational purposes and half as a static "home guard." A principle laid down and never forsaken was that in ambushing they should shoot the Japs and slip away into the jungle—they were never to stand and fight. So successful was this strategy that it has been said that, in the fighting, Kachins were never seen by the Japs; they formed an invisible army which struck with deadly effect.

With the recapture of Rangoon, 500,000 men determined to openly join the Allied forces in Burma. They were the Karens, the people of the villages which line the waterways that stretch westwards from Rangoon.

They were led by San Po Thin, a landowner of Bassein, Bachelor of Music of an American University, graduate of the London School of Arts and Crafts and formerly a Captain in the Burma Army Service Corps. Soon after the Japs launched their bombers against Singapore, San Po Thin was transferred to Intelligence. He immediately returned to Bassein and formed an efficient guerilla organisation.

San Po Thin and his guerillas often came under Jap suspicion. In November 1943, he was suddenly arrested on seven charges, including those of harbouring British agents and killing Japs, and was taken to Rangoon.

For a month San Po Thin was under close arrest. Then followed seven months of open arrest, when he was finally released on the intervention of Gen. Aung Sen of the local Burmese force.

In September 1943, Aung Sen sent for the Karen leader and disclosed to him his plot to go underground and work against the Japs. Assured of help, San Po Thin returned to Bassein to work on the organisation of the Karen Delta Battalion. On April 1, 1944, the Karen leaders were arrested. All over the delta revolt flared up and Japs suddenly found themselves in a most invidious position.

In the beginning of May the Jap commander sent for San Po Thin and handed Bassein over to him for safe keeping. With only 38 men, the Karen policed the town and finally handed over Bassein to the British troops in "almost perfect running order."

Throughout the campaign on the Central Burma front the Allies had unstinted help from the Nagas, the hillmen of Manipur. They gained for us much military intelligence regarding the enemy and they also did valuable work in evacuating our casualties from country in which it was impossible to use ambulances.

#### Loyalty of Nagas

The loyalty of these Nagas never faltered, even when the Japs were having major successes. Villages which had been in Jap hands for months maintained constant resistance, kept contact with our forces and sent runners to our lines.

On many difficult and dangerous supply routes, where vehicles could not get along, Naga porters performed invaluable work. Carrying food and ammunition in a roadless area is always difficult, but the Nagas were there to help; in one outflanking movement of a complete brigade the whole of its stores were portered and guided by Nagas.

Naga assistance was continually given in scouting, stretcher-bearing, portering, guiding and, what the Naga likes best, by taking a hand in shooting the Japs.

One day the full story of these tribesmen will be told. To our victory in Burma they made a great contribution.

## NOTHING "IMPOSSIBLE" IN S.E.A.C.

**S**OUTH East Asia Command, the youngest—with the smallest number of forces available—yet geographically one of the largest theatres in the world, is a command where the word "impossible" could just not be included in the planner's vocabulary.

Created as an inter-Allied Command under Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten by the late President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill at Quebec in August, 1943, it started to function in November of the same year. Its tasks were to open the road to China so that supplies could be sent to keep her in the war and to drive the Japs out of South East Asia. It was a big task. Gen. Alexander's Burma Army had retreated into India and 400 miles of the Frontier was held by one corps. There were few men and even less equipment.

This was the command, with its symbolic insignia of the phoenix rising out of the ashes, which came into being, writes an Army Observer.

It is no secret now that the combined operations that were planned for the reconquest of Burma had to be recast on a less ambitious scale. In fact combined operations took a second place.

### Formidable Barrier

With no port to use as a supply base and not enough craft to take one from the sea, the reconquest had to start by land from the north. There were then no roads into Burma from the north and the main Allied Force coming in from the borders of India had to cut across the grain of the country—steep spines of jungle-clad ranges running north to south and wide, swift-flowing rivers.

These were a formidable barrier to a modern army trying to open the road to China, and denied the use of such long and difficult land lines of communication for supplies. It was one of the biggest headaches that planners have ever had. The critics said that the task was a "military impossibility," but they reckoned without the inter-Allied, inter-service command. Air supply on a scale never before contemplated kept the Army in the field.

The Japs tried both ways into India—up the Arakan Coastal Plain into Bengal and over the Imphal Plain into Assam. The Arakan attempt was smashed. Imphal and Kohima were besieged

and, after three months of some of the bitterest fighting in the campaign, our troops broke out and cleared the Japs from Indian soil.

Then the advance back into Burma began. British, American and Chinese forces of Gen. Stilwell's old command, now under Gen. Dan I. Sultan and Gen. Slim's 14th Army cleared North Burma.

The Japs yielded ground grudgingly and fought from defensive position to defensive position with the ground always in their favour. Natural obstacles had to be cleared with what little material was available and a great deal of ingenuity.

### Air Support

The Allied troops fought on, supported from the air by British and American aircraft of Eastern Air Command, and supplied from the air by the Combat Cargo Task Force.

By January, the 14th Army was hammering at the last barrier before Mandalay—the Irrawaddy—and the Chinese and American forces and the 36th British Division were on the Burma Road to the north-east of Mandalay.

On January 22nd, the Supreme Allied Commander sent to the President of the United States, the Prime Minister and the combined chiefs of staff the message: "The first part of the orders I received at Quebec have been carried out. The land route to China is now open."

Meiktila and Mandalay fell. The first phase of the reconquest of Burma was over. Rangoon lay ahead.

### Capture of Rangoon

In the meantime, troops of the 15th Indian Corps, supported by the R.N. and R.I.N. were coast-hopping down the Arakan. They took Rangoon in an unopposed landing on May 3rd, when the 14th Army was still fighting 35 miles to the north-east.

The fighting was by no means over. Thousands of Japs were trapped in Burma—and the troops who had fought the 950 miles from Imphal were awaiting them. The enemy were slaughtered as they made their escape bid.

The greater part of Burma was now cleared and the first stage of the operations to clear south-east Asia was completed.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



Kohima village.

## GALLANT DEFENCE OF KOHIMA

**K**OHIMA was a miniature Stalingrad. The town's gallant defence against almost overwhelming odds marked the beginning of the end of Jap hopes of conquest in India.

On her eastern frontier, only two main approaches are feasible for a large-scale invasion of India. The first, that leading to Chittagong and Bengal, was attempted by the Japs early in 1944, but the Fifth and Seventh Indian Divisions barred the way and the Japs were beaten back with heavy losses.

There remained the northern route running to Manipur and Assam through mountainous country and thick jungle. Though the more difficult of the two, this route offered the enemy prospective bases at Dimapur, Kohima and Imphal; in addition, possession of the road linking these towns presented an all-weather line of communication in a country where roads were scarce and usable, for the most part, only during the dry season.

After his Arakan failure the enemy turned his attention to the northern route. His plan was simple; one column was to march on Imphal and the surrounding plains, while a second was to make for Dimapur and seize the whole length of the Manipur road, the operation to be completed before the monsoon.

Across the enemy's line of approach to the north were the villages of Jessami, Kharasom and Phek, all lying to the east of Kohima. At Phek was a company of the 1st Garrison Battalion of the Burma Regiment and defending Jessami was the 1st Assam Regiment, less a company at Kharasom.

Kharasom was attacked on March 27 by the Japs at battalion strength; next day the garrison at Jessami hurled back a series of fierce onslaughts launched against it by another superior force. Phek itself was not molested. Facing impossibly great odds, all three garrisons received orders from Kohima to fall back. The Phek garrison withdrew without incident to Kohima where, on April 4 and 5, they met the Commanding Officer and 220 officers and men of the Assam Regiment who had evacuated

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



Jessami and Kharasom. The remainder of this battalion had withdrawn to Dimapur.

The enemy had evidently suffered heavily, for he was compelled to halt his advance and reorganise. Great credit is due to the Nagas, Kukis, and Lushais of the 1st Assam Regiment, formed only in 1941, for their magnificent bearing in what had been their baptism of fire. The company at Kharasom laid some very successful ambushes and, by their dogged determination, held up the enemy for five days, a vital period which enabled the Kohima garrison to complete its defensive preparations. At Jessami, wave upon wave of Jap infantry had been mown down by accurate mortar and small-arms fire from unblooded troops who conducted themselves like veterans.

#### Kohima Defences

Kohima, the little town in the Naga Hills, 46 miles south-east of Dimapur, was garrisoned by seven platoons of the 3rd Assam Rifles, a company of the 2nd Punjab Regiment, two companies of the Burma Regiment and, among other troops, Indian and British details from a reinforcement camp. The total was about 3,800, of whom 1,500, at the most, were trained infantrymen.

The Kohima defences were organised along six hill features to the west of the Manipur road, which runs north and south, not far from



Indian mortar crew in action on the Kohima front.  
(Below) Sikhs of the 1st Punjab Regiment advancing to link up with the British column from Kohima.



the centre of the town. On the night of April 4 the Japs, later identified as units of the 31st Jap Division, launched an abortive attack on the first and most southerly of these features, G.P.T. Ridge. Next day they came again and, after a tremendous effort, succeeded in gaining almost complete possession. The same night our troops were withdrawn from the neighbouring feature, Jail Hill.

A battalion of the Royal West Kent Regiment then arrived at Kohima. Their advent made all the difference to what was obviously going to be a serious situation. They were only just in time for, on April 7, the Japs completely closed their net around the town by getting astride the Manipur road. Even so, the defenders managed to evacuate a party of 80 walking wounded to Dimapur the same night.

The garrison were in good spirits in spite of their early reverses. Information had been received that the 1st Punjab Regiment and the 7th Rajput Regiment were hammering away at the enemy's rear in an attempt to break through to the town; it transpired that the persistence of these Indian troops was causing the enemy considerable embarrassment and compelling him to divert a large part of his forces.

#### Three All-Out Jap Attacks

The bungalow of the Deputy Commissioner at Kohima was one of the objectives against which the Japs put in three all-out attacks on April 8. Regardless of the defenders' fire they still came on and suffered many casualties. They were driven back on each occasion but, on the following morning, the Japs once more attacked and this time managed to obtain a footing in front of the bungalow. But all their attempts to capture it failed, though next evening they succeeded in getting under the bungalow itself, and digging themselves in.

The garrison experienced no shortage in food and ammunition but water became a serious problem causing grave anxiety. The original water supply had been cut off by the enemy's occupation of G.P.T. Ridge. A new, but by no means adequate, one had been developed from a pipe fed by a spring on the main road north-west of the perimeter, but outside it; the Japs were probably unaware of the garrison's alternate water point and, since part of the route to it was under observation, it became necessary, to prevent detection, to draw water only at night. The approach was so steep and the journey so long that only a limited supply could be conveyed by individual units.

The tempo of the Japs' attacks now quickened and enemy pressure on April 10 increased to such an extent that the commander of the garrison was compelled to shorten his perimeter of defence. The enemy promptly occupied the areas vacated, though this triumph cost him at least five times the number of our own casualties.

#### Ferocious Fighting

Conditions slowly deteriorated. All day long the enemy hammered away at the defences and fighting reached a new peak of ferocity. On April 13 the garrison suffered a severe blow when the medical inspection building received two direct hits, killing four of the already small medical staff.

Further attacks were launched in great strength on the field supply depot on Treasury Hill. The Japs succeeded in infiltrating into our positions and took cover in *bashas* and ovens belonging to the field bakery. From these ovens they hurled grenades and then slammed the metal doors on themselves before the defenders could retaliate. Indian sappers, however, showed great initiative and daring by blasting the enemy from their hiding places. Other Japs were burnt out of the *bashas* and bayoneted or shot as they fled. By dusk the enemy had had enough and retired.

Good news followed two days later when a patrol of the 7th Rajput Regiment got through to the defenders with the information that their battalion was taking up positions along the rifle range about half a mile south-west of Summer House Hill.

#### The Siege

The siege continued with the Japs relentlessly trying to force the issue. On April 17 there was again furious fighting during which positions changed hands frequently, but numbers told and the enemy captured the field supply depot area. No counter-attack was possible as our troops were too weary.

Early next morning the enemy came on in massed assaults which threatened to sweep over our entire defences. Some bloody fighting ensued, at the end of which the garrison was left with Summer House Hill and part of the area near the Deputy Commissioner's bungalow as their sole possessions, the perimeter of defence then measuring 600 yards at its maximum length by about 350 yards broad. Over every square yard of this small area the Japs continuously poured a murderous hail of fire to which the garrison gave a spirited reply.



The ruined tennis court and terraces of the Deputy Commissioner's bungalow.

The few defenders still able to stand were in a bad state. For 13 days they had been unable to snatch more than a couple of hours' sleep at a time and were now reaching breaking point. Unwashed and unshaven and almost asleep on their feet, they yet met every attack with great resolution, though it was obvious that their efforts were weakening. The danger came at night, for there was no moon and, in consequence, the enemy could crawl forward considerable distances undetected or rush the positions under cover of darkness.

#### Sufferings of Wounded

The morale of the defenders always remained high, although there was much to dishearten them. They were sadly reduced in numbers, every onslaught adding to their casualties, and one of the hospitals, a mass of charred ruins, was in enemy hands. The only accommodation for the wounded consisted of shallow trenches dug in the open on the slopes of Summer House Hill.

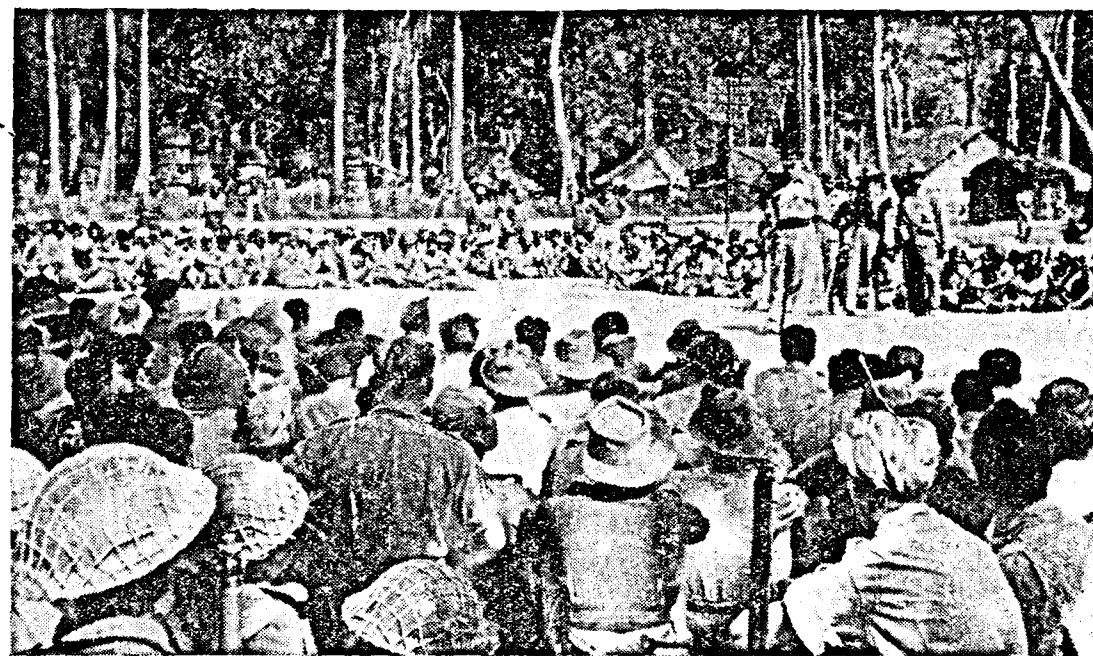
The wounded suffered greatly; some had been lying, patient and uncomplaining, in their pits for days on end. Many of them received still further wounds and others died as the Japs poured an unrelenting fire into the perimeter. Under such conditions the medical staff worked wonders and inevitably suffered heavily.

Twice the senior medical officer, with an armed patrol, made a dash under direct fire and in daylight for medical stores packed in an abandoned lorry. He succeeded on each occasion in bringing back stores and blankets essential for the wounded lying exposed to the cold nights. Medical officers and stretcher-bearers all played their part without a moment's thought for themselves and carried on amid scenes of great anguish.

From the skies came valuable help. On April 13 and onwards in response to requests from the garrison, R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F. planes would swoop low over the defences and, ignoring opposition from the Japs, drop food, medical supplies and water for the defenders, then swoop off to shoot up the enemy lines. Parachutes sometimes went astray and the enemy benefited, but without this assistance from the air the garrison would hardly have been able to carry on.

#### Troubles Nearly Over

The troubles of the defenders were now nearly over. On April 18 their tired eyes saw two companies of the Rajputs and a detachment of tanks sweep into their perimeter, while above them roared more planes of the R.A.F. Terrible scenes of devastation greeted the relieving forces. Everywhere rotting corpses, piles of rubble, blackened stones, burnt-out *bashas* and



After the Kohima battle, the Area Commander congratulated the men—Indian, British and Gurkhas—on their magnificent show.

bare stumps of trees bore mute testimony to the deadliness of the siege.

The first task was to evacuate the wounded. They were met by transport from the 2nd British Division, which was advancing to Kohima along the Manipur road, and conveyed to safety.

Next day the division's artillery put down a terrific concentration from a range of only 800 yards on the nearest Jap position—a foretaste of what was to come—and Kohima at last passed to the offensive.

#### Many Decorations Won

On April 20 the Royal Berkshire Regiment arrived to take over the garrison and was followed later by the Dorsets, the Royal Norfolks, the Durham Light Infantry, the Royal Scots and other units. Even then the fight was by no means over, in fact it was several weeks before the last Jap in the Kohima area was driven out.

The little garrison earned the highest praise for its gallant defence. Its defenders won many decorations, among them the Victoria Cross, which was awarded posthumously to Lt. Cpl. J. Harman of the Royal West Kents.

His deeds were but part of one long heroic action undertaken by a garrison against a foe greatly superior in numbers.

Sharing the garrison's hardships was the Deputy Commissioner, Mr. C. R. Pawsey, who had worked among the Nagas for more than 22 years and had great influence over them. The intelligence he gathered from the tribesmen proved accurate at all times and was of great use to the commander at Kohima.

Military and civilian members of War Department are thanked for their part in the war in a message from Mr. J. J. Lawson, Secretary for War.

He says: "Our armies, however brave, efficient and well-led could not have crushed the enemy without the support and service of the War Office and War Department establishments in this country and overseas. And you are the men and women who gave that support and service."

"The office and workshop, in depot and training establishments, ignoring the strain, the discomforts and dangers of war, you have answered every call and you may well be proud of your share in the final victory."



## GUTS AND INGENUITY BEAT THE JAPANESE

ONE of the outstanding highlights of the campaign in Burma has been the guts and cheerfulness of the men who fought the initially victorious Japs through the demoralising monsoon, through the exhausting heat of the dry zone, and beat him.

They crossed great rivers and mountains with little equipment but plenty of ingenuity, they stormed the Irrawaddy bridgeheads in rotten assault boats—all that could be spared from Europe—and they marched and fought on half rations in the latter stages to leave more space for ammunition in their trucks.

They fought waist-deep in flooded paddy fields to kill the last of the trapped Japs when they made their desperate bid to escape from the Pegu Yomas. It was their spirit coupled with the brilliance of the plan that made the operation a success, writes an Army Observer.

While our troops were defending the Burma-India border against the expected Jap invasion

In early 1943, Wingate led 3,000 Chindits on a 1,000-mile raid to harass Jap lines of communication. Wingate, himself had no lines of communication.

For the first time aircraft were used to supply a force in the field. This expedition lost a third of its men, but it laid the foundations for the subsequent airborne expedition, and it was also claimed that it forestalled a Jap attempt to invade India in the Spring of that year.

### Air Supply

Air supply again demonstrated its efficiency when the 7th Indian Division was cut off in the Kalapanzin Valley in Arakan. Instead of attempting to retreat owing to lack of supplies, as the Japs hoped it would, the division stood firm and fought, all its supplies coming in by air.

Wingate put in his second expedition just before the Jap "invasion" of India in March, 1944. Troops flew at night in gliders into clearings reconnoitred by the first expedition and prepared the clearings for heavier aircraft.

About 12,000 troops were flown in during the course of four days. From these jungle

strongholds columns radiated to harass and cut Jap lines of communication and, by wide encircling movements, to help the Allied troops taking Myitkyina from the north.

On this expedition, Major-General Charles Orde Wingate, leader of the Chindits, was killed when his plane crashed into a hillside on the way back to India from a tour of his strongholds.

While Wingate's Chindits were regaining the Jap back areas, 100,000 Jap troops were launched into the Imphal plain to capture Imphal and to cut the Imphal-Kohima road and the Assam-Bengal railway. This would give the Japs a stronghold on the Allied communications along the whole front.

The fighting was bitter and bloody. But Imphal and Kohima held out, fed and supplied from the air.

The garrisons, reinforced, broke out and drove the Japs from Indian soil for the last time. But they did not rest: it was the start of the advance back into Burma.

In previous years, troops were pegged down by the monsoon which washed roads away and turned the jungles into dripping hells. This year the offensive started in the middle of the rains.

### Arakan Offensive

On the other side of Burma the offensive in the Arakan had begun. Troops of 15th Indian Corps pushed down the coast to Foul Point. Then by a series of outflanking movements from the sea, these troops took Akyab, Kyaukpyu on Ramree Island, Myebon, Kangaw, Cheduba Island, Ru-Ywa and Letpan, the last giving our troops a foot on the ground to advance on Taungup, the Jap port and pivot point in the Arakan.

With the Arakan cleared, the troops there were released for other roles. Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten's first objective was the opening of the Burma Road so that supplies could be sent to China to keep her in the common war against Japan.

On January 22nd he announced that the road was opened and the first convoy went into China from the railhead at Ledo, down the Ledo road to the Burma Road, and on into China. The Ledo Road was a triumph of army engineering and was built through what a few months previously had been virgin jungles.

Meiktila, Lashio and Mandalay fell in quick succession. Meiktila was taken by a brilliant dash from the Irrawaddy. The Japs put every

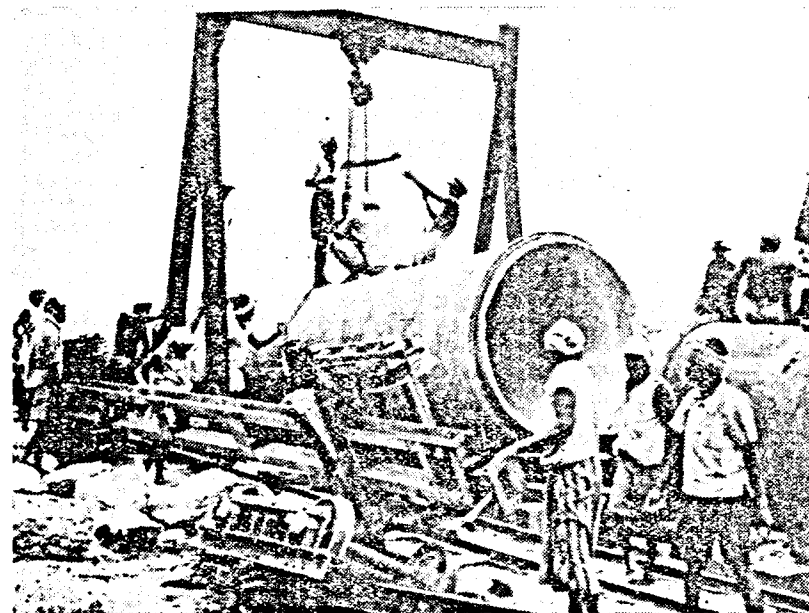


One Jap lies dead as these Gurkhas probe a fox-hole in the hope of getting more.



Men of a Punjab Regiment guard the railway near Waw, west of Pegu.





A new water pipeline is being laid by workmen in Rangoon.

man they had into the battle but it was of no avail: their cooks, orderlies and hospital patients died by the side of their fighting men.

Rangoon was 330 miles to the south and there were six weeks left before the break of the monsoon. While the 33rd Corps drove down the Irrawaddy Valley through the oilfields, the Fourth Corps dashed down the road towards Rangoon.

But they were beaten to it by troops of the 15th Indian Corps who took Rangoon unopposed from the sea on May 3 after three years of Jap occupation while Fourth Corps was still fighting 35 miles to the north.

#### Hundreds of Japs Killed

It was a disappointment for the Fourth Corps, but to them was to fall the honour of being in the last big kill of the Japs in Burma, in which more than 11,500 casualties were inflicted on the enemy trying to break out of the Pegu Yomas.

The count was by no means complete. Hundreds of Japs lay dead and uncounted in the flooded paddy fields—victims of artillery and air strikes.

It was the audacity of the commanders and pilots of Eastern Air Command, and the Combat Cargo Task Force and later Air Command, which made the whole plan possible. In all weather they defied the terrain, they flew

Wingate's Chindits on to strips newly hacked from the jungle, they dropped supplies on mountain-hedged zones, and they bombed and strafed enemy positions holding up our troops. The fighting troops have nothing but praise for them.

#### INDIAN TROOPS IN 14TH ARMY

To Indian fighting men fell the main burden of the Burma campaign.

In this brilliant hegemony, composed as it was of warriors from many parts of the Empire, Indian troops were in a heavy majority—two-thirds of the 14th Army consisted of Indian troops, in fact engineer and supply units and the troops responsible for maintaining the tortuous lines of communication through the hills back to India totalled 80 per cent. Indians.

In all 15 divisions moved into Burma from India to take the field against the Japs. Nine were Indian divisions; the rest were: British three, West African two, East African one. In addition there were various independent formations which sprang from the Indian Army or drew their strength from India.

Of the 27 V.C.s. won in the Burma campaign 20 were won by officers and men of the Indian Army.

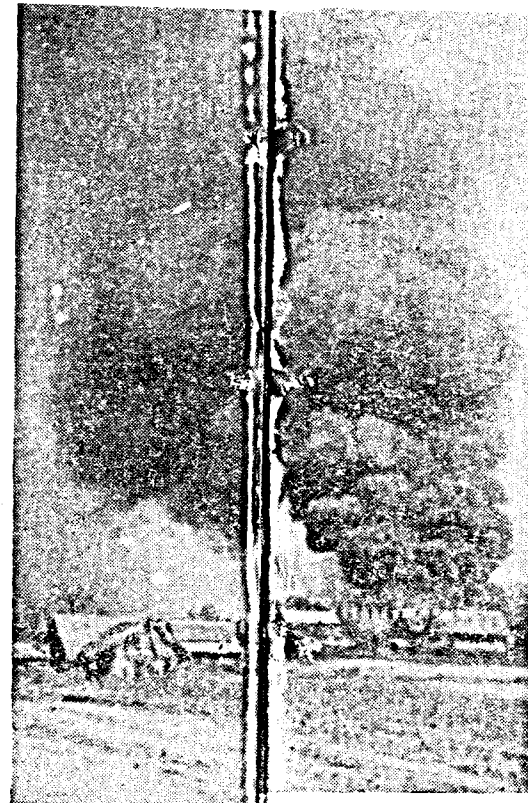


Japanese prisoners captured in Burma being brought in for interrogation. (Below) Another batch of Japs captured in the Toungoo area.

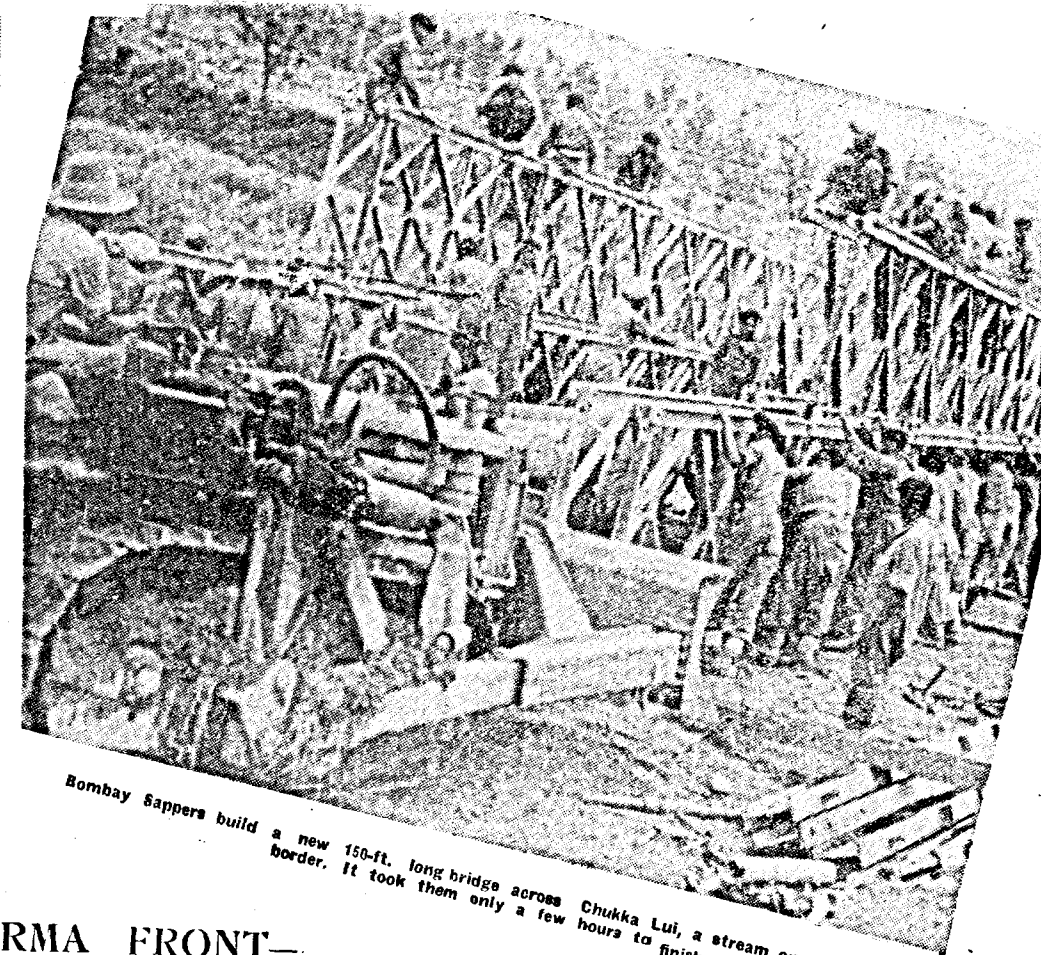




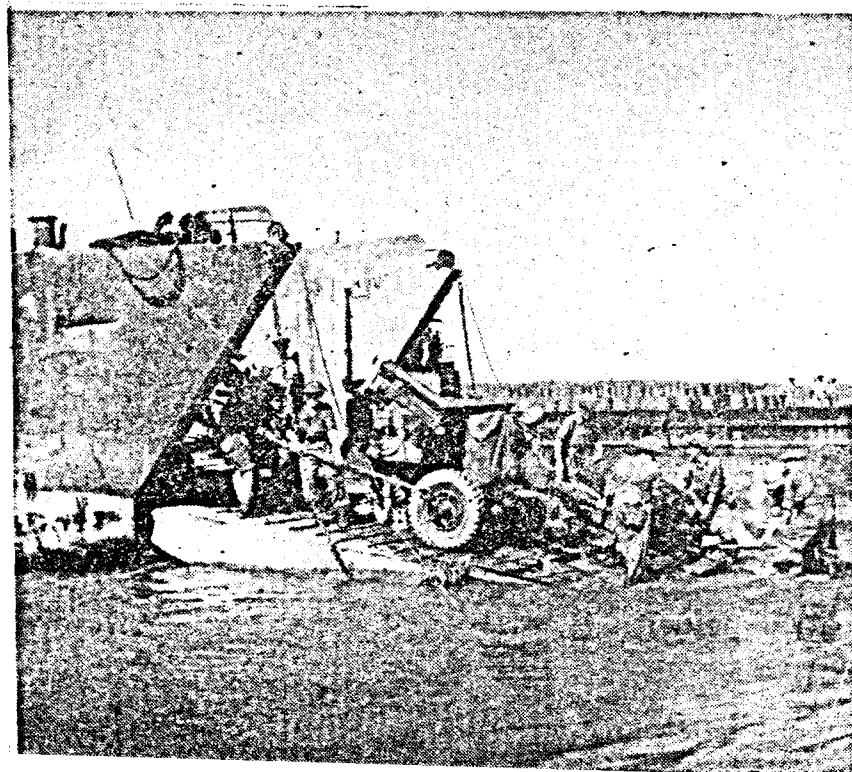
Victors of the Kennedy Peak battle see the enemy from the summit of the Peak.



Battle for Mandalay: Smoke rises from the blazing town after Allied air and ground assault.



Bombay Sappers build a new 150-ft. long bridge across Chukka Lui, a stream on the Burma border. It took them only a few hours to finish the job.



Ramree landing—25-pounders being brought ashore from landing craft.



Tanks give infantry covering fire while



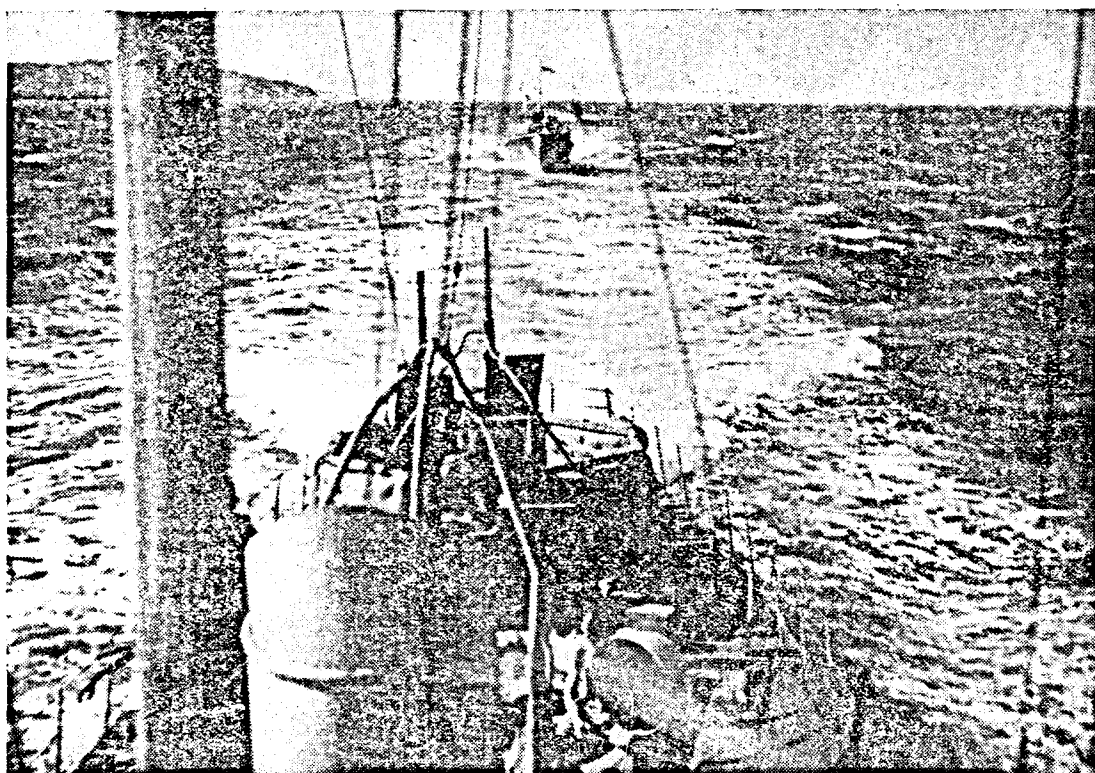
## ON THE BURMA FRONT—

advancing in the Arakan.



Japanese casualties in the Imphal battle.





A unit of the R.I.N. Arakan Coastal Forces out on patrol duties.

## R.I.N.'S ALL-OUT EFFORT AGAINST JAPAN

**T**O the Royal Indian Navy victory represents the climax of unremitting effort against Japan ever since she made her unprovoked attack on the British Commonwealth and the United States. Its ships have played their part in the wide spaces of the Indian Ocean, in Indian waters and on the coast and among the *chaung*s of Burma, while in India itself Naval shore establishments have worked all-out to bring about V-J Day.

When Japan entered the war, the Royal Indian Navy had completed its task of helping to free the western area of the Indian Ocean from the influence of the two European partners of the Axis. The large programme of expansion undertaken earlier in the war was well under way, and more men, ships and shore facilities were available for the stern tasks ahead. It was a time when the United Nations' Naval resources were stretched to the utmost, and the Royal Indian Navy's role in supple-

menting them in this theatre of war was of vital importance.

With the loss of Singapore, the Royal Navy had been deprived of its great Far Eastern base. Its gallant part in the Malayan campaign and the Dutch East Indies sequel had resulted in a not inconsiderable loss of personnel and ships. "It was a black time for us," Admiral Sir James Somerville confessed in a broadcast last year, referring to conditions as he found them on taking over command of the Eastern Fleet in March 1942. India and Ceylon were directly threatened.

### Convoy Duties

While reinforcements were flowing into the Malayan sector and when subsequently, evacuation had to be carried out, the Royal Indian Navy's escort vessels gave valuable help in undertaking convoy duties, for which their excellent anti-submarine and anti-aircraft equip-

ment well fitted them. Two new sloops, H.M.I.S. *Jumna*, and H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*, beat off air attacks on vessels convoyed by them. The last warship to leave Batavia before it fell, H.M.I.S. *Jumna* shot down at least four Japanese bombers, while H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*'s exploits included gallant rescue and salvage work during the bombing of Singapore harbour.

When, later, the tide of Japanese aggression overflowed into Burma, H.M.I. ships escorted convoys and patrolled constantly; their gunners helped in driving off Japanese aircraft and shelled enemy positions ashore; and in at least one town Indian Naval ratings helped to maintain essential services ashore. When evacuation at points on the coast line was decided on, they shepherded to safety vessels containing personnel and valuable stores.

The last convoy to leave Rangoon was escorted by H.M.I.S. *Hindustan*, which had earlier done useful work in cutting off parties of Japanese proceeding in waterways nearby. H.M.I.S. *Sutlej*, in addition to assisting in the evacuation of many Indian refugees, kept watch on the coast near Akyab to prevent Jap craft from penetrating northwards. Among other H.M.I. ships engaged in Burma waters were H.M.I.S. *Haideri*, which was employed at one period bombarding Jap strongpoints, and H.M.I.S. *Indus*, sunk in an air raid at Akyab, her guns blazing to the last.

### Dockyard Facilities

For maintenance, now that Singapore was gone, the Royal Navy relied on the dockyard facilities of India and South Africa. At Bombay the H.M.I.S. Naval Dockyard now assumed heavier responsibilities in the refitting and repairing of warships, and, working to capacity, did magnificent work, worthily maintaining its 200-year-old tradition.

Similarly, in every Naval shore establishment in India an all-out effort was made to further the build-up of seapower. Wireless stations, manned by R.I.N. personnel, became even more important links in the worldwide chain of Naval communications, the bulk of the load of signal traffic in the Eastern theatre falling on them. In seeing to the defensive equipment of merchantmen, and in many other ways shore staffs gave of their best to the war effort, while training establishments were steadily turning out men for the R.I.N.'s new ships and, when required, providing instructional facilities for personnel from other Navies.

At sea, H.M.I. ships ensured that the approaches to our ports were clear of mines, carried out patrols, and escorted shipping bringing

essential reinforcements and supplies to India, now the springboard for the counter-offensive against the Japanese. It was in November 1942, while escorting a tanker in a lonely part of the Indian Ocean that H.M.I.S. *Bengal*, with the tanker fighting gallantly alongside her, engaged two Japanese surface raiders, each ten times her size and far more heavily armed. One raider was sunk, the other made off.

### Change in Naval Situation

The 24 months that followed witnessed, at first gradually, later with gathering speed, a revolutionary change in the Naval situation in the Indian Ocean. During the late autumn of 1942 and winter of 1942-43 it had been necessary to withdraw some ships of the Royal Navy to take part in the operations in North Africa. The success attending Allied arms in the Mediterranean area, however, enabled reinforcements to be sent to the Eastern Fleet, which, as part of the South East Asia Command under Admiral Lord Louis Mountbatten, was in a position to take the offensive against the Japanese and to re-assume absolute control of the seas between Africa and Australia.

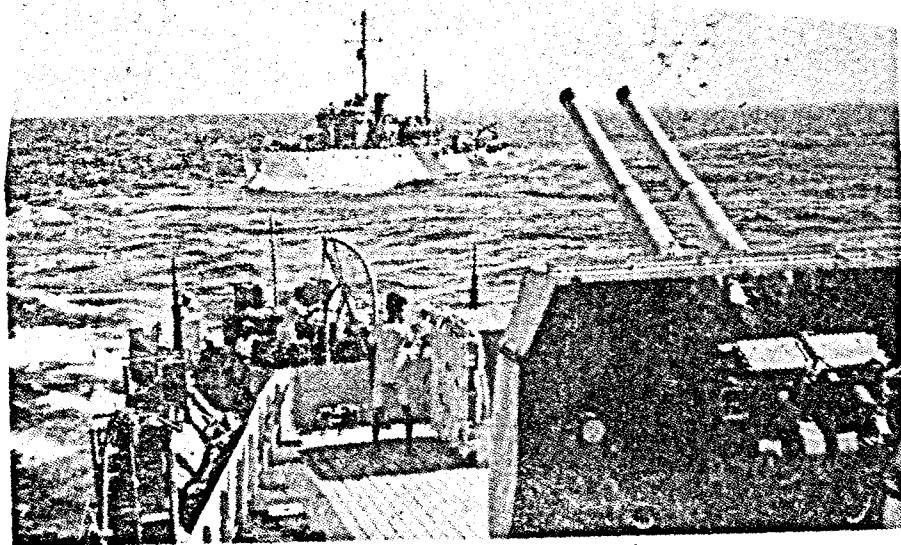
Throughout this vital phase, the Royal Indian Navy provided ships of a class invaluable in modern Naval warfare, escort vessels for protecting long-stretched-out sea lanes against attack by submarines and aircraft. Co-operating with the Eastern Fleet (re-named the British East Indies Fleet after the formation of the British Pacific Fleet), Indian sloops and other escort vessels were at sea as much as 84 per cent. of their time guarding convoys on the ocean and coastal passages, gallantly going into action against U-boats whenever these were encountered.

### Attack on Submarine

A notable instance of one of H.M.I. ships participating in a successful attack on a submarine was recorded in the Press this year, when it was announced that the Commanding Officer had been awarded the D.S.C. The sloop, operating with H.M. ships, contacted a submerged submarine, and a strenuous and persistent hunt, in which the Indian warship played a leading part, resulted in the enemy's destruction.

To the efficiency and hard work of H.M.I. escort vessels, operating at sea in all winds and weathers and helping to master the U-boat menace, the country is indebted for the safety of a huge volume of shipping.

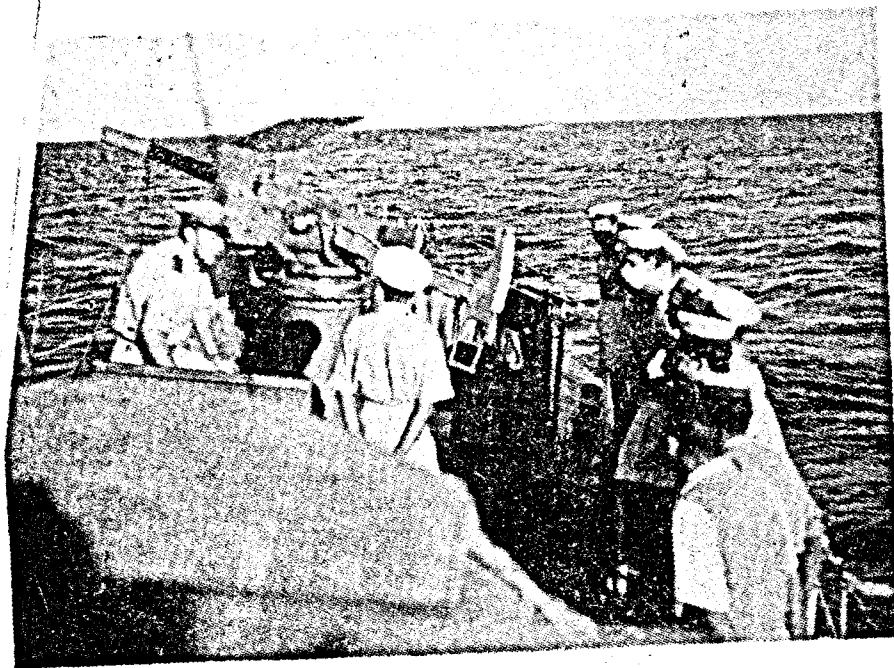




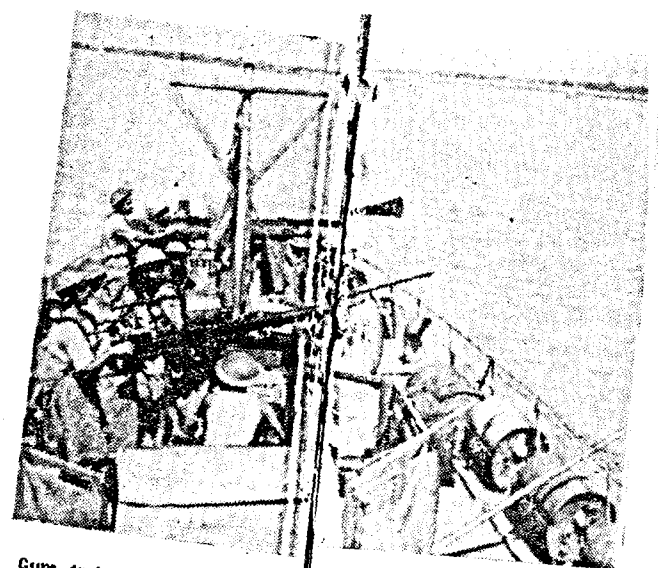
H.M.I.S. "Punjab," an escort vessel of the Bathurst class, turning into the wake of H.M.I.S. "Jumna."

### R.I.N. STRIKES—

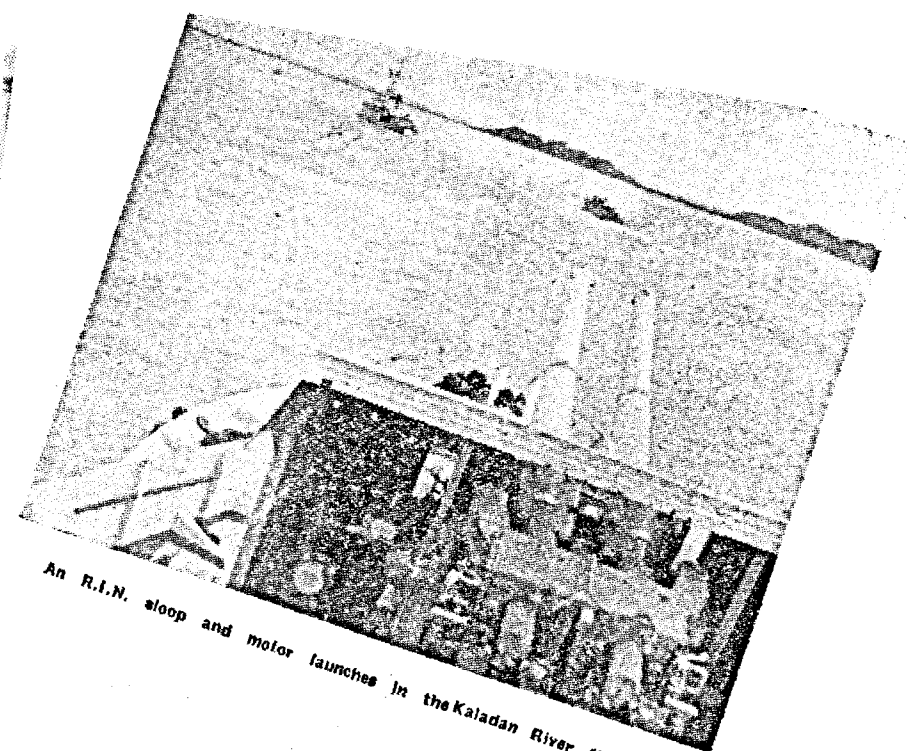
Manned by Indian crews ships of the Royal Indian Navy have kept a constant patrol in Burma waters incessantly harassing the Japanese. They have also carried on the important task of escorting warships and merchantmen bound for the South East Asia theatre.



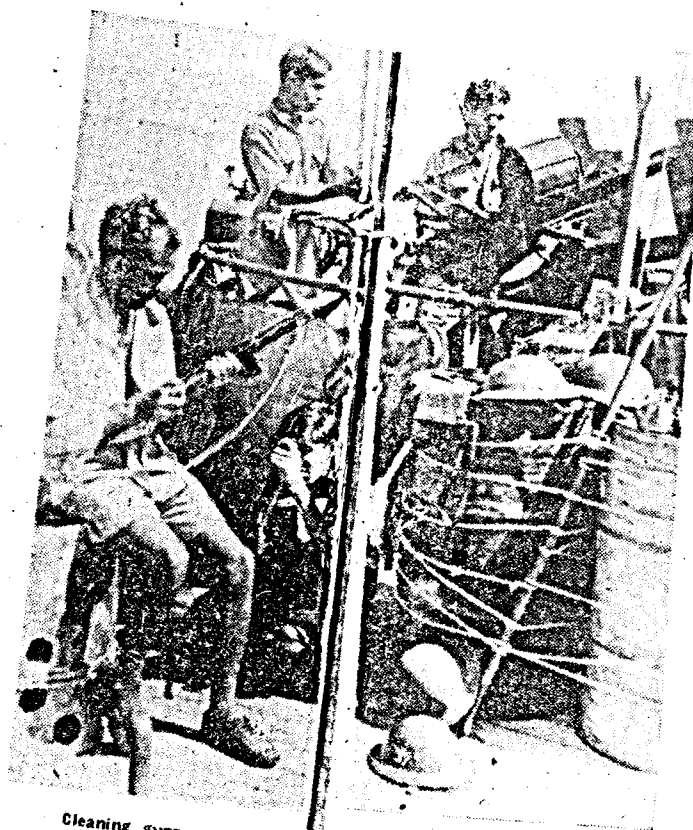
Cunners being briefed on the forecastle of an R.I.N. ship.



Cuns trained on the Burma coast ready for action.

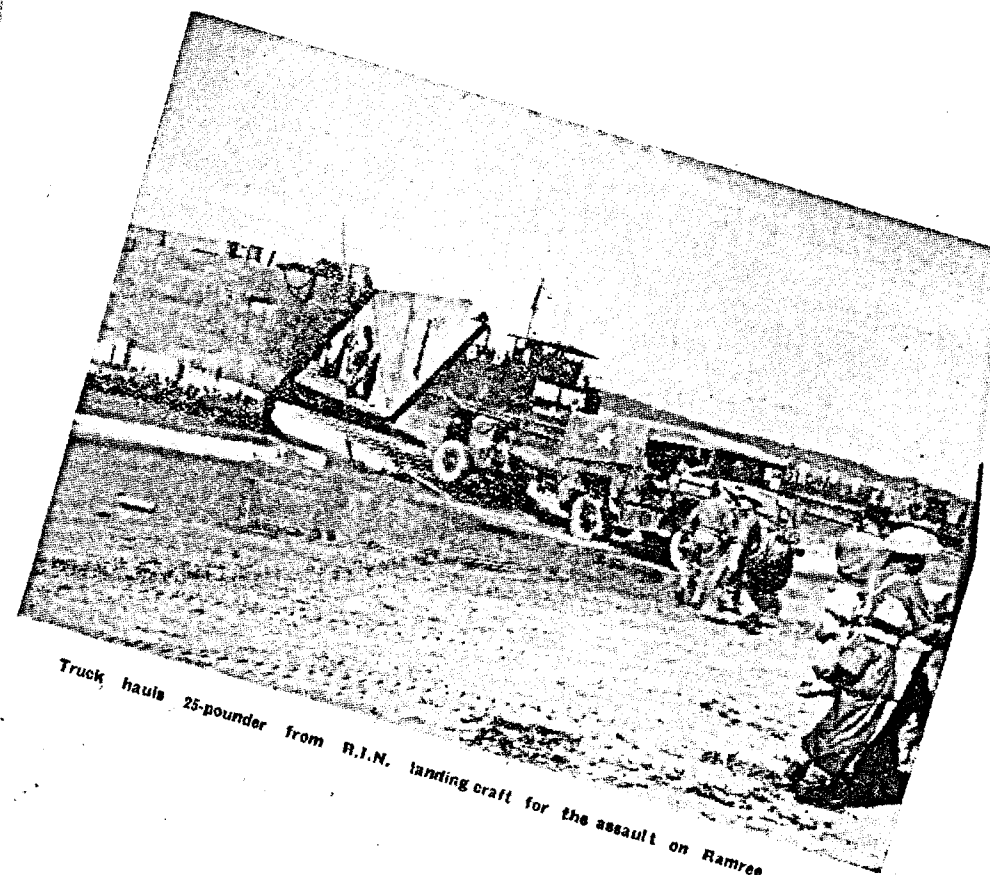


An R.I.N. sloop and motor launches in the Kaladan River (Burma).

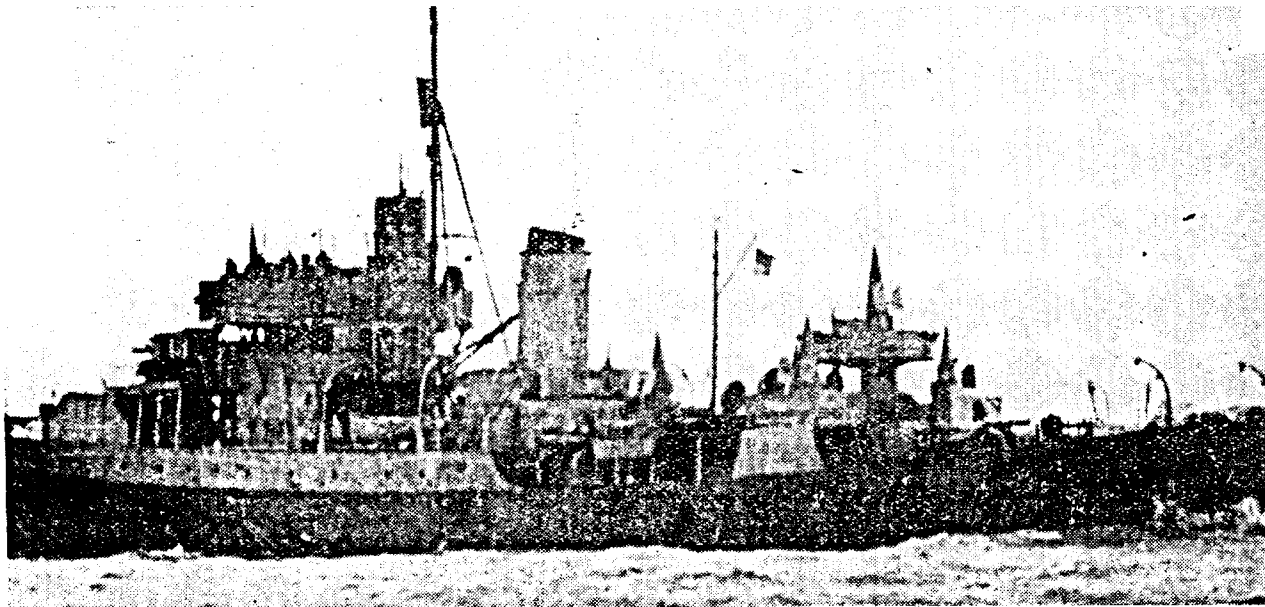


Cleaning guns and rifles ship had been in action

at a base after their against the enemy.



Truck hauls 25-pounder from R.I.N. landing craft for the assault on Ramree.



One of the Royal Indian Navy's Corvettes, H.M.I.S. "Gondwana."

During 1943 and 1944 operations against the Japanese sea flank in the Arakan were undertaken by M.L.'s of R.I.N. Coastal Forces—ships that may be likened to "pocket destroyers," so heavily armed and hard-hitting are they. Handled with audacity and enterprise, these M.L.s destroyed craft carrying reinforcements and supplies to the enemy, raided and bombarded his strongpoints, and incessantly harassed his sea communications, thus lending much appreciated assistance to our troops ashore, whose seaborne landings they were at times called upon to cover. In one period of four months, R.I.N. Coastal Forces steamed 30,000 miles on 43 separate missions in enemy waters, and were on various occasions engaged by enemy aircraft and shore batteries.

By New Year's Day, 1945, the stage was set for that rapid series of thrusts down the Burma coast that was to lead to the reoccupation of Rangoon. In these strikingly successful operations the Royal Indian Navy was represented by sloops and other escort vessels, by the Landing Craft Wing, and by its Coastal Forces.

The Landing Craft Wing, trained for its duties at points on India's coast, won universal tributes for its gallantry and fine seamanship in taking our troops ashore in face of the enemy at Myebon and other scenes of action, and in carrying our troops up the labyrinth of creeks and *chaungs*, keeping them supplied and evacuating the wounded.

R.I.N. M.L.s escorted them to the beaches and hunted the enemy on their own in the *chaungs*, while H.M.I.S. sloops provided covering bombardment at landings on the coast and acted in the novel role of "river gunboats"—proceeding far up narrow waterways to bombard the enemy as our troops went ashore on river banks.

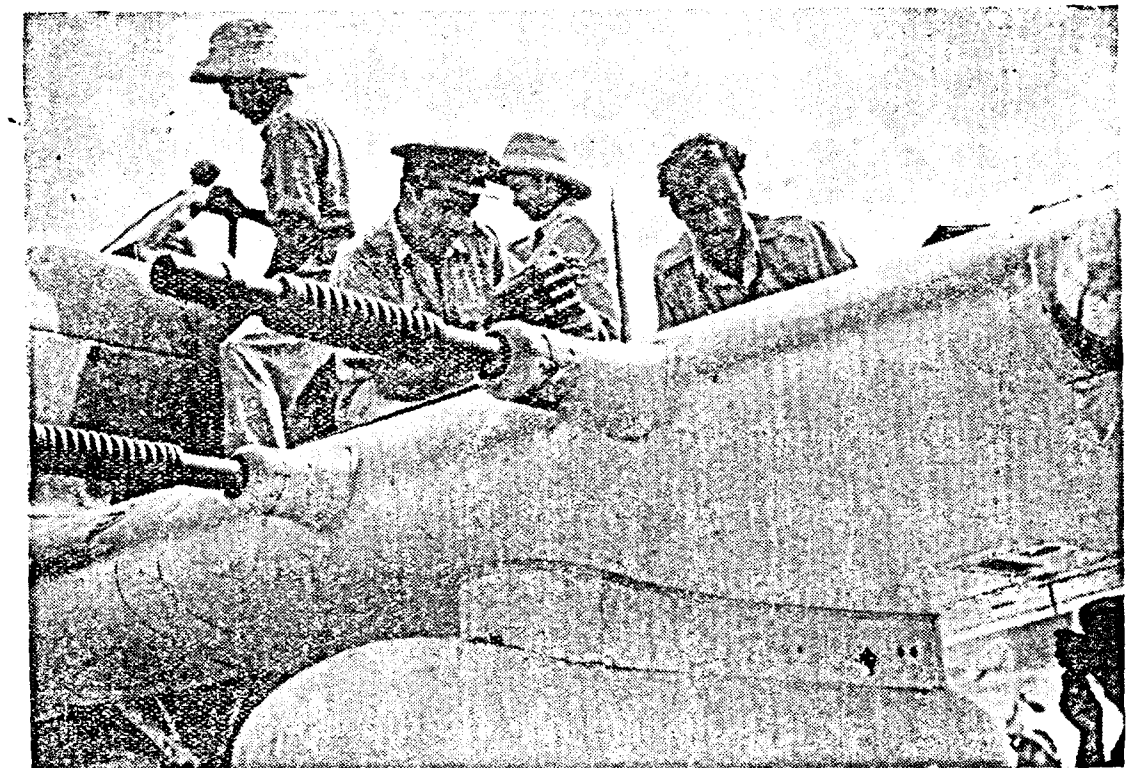
#### Escorted Invasion Force

Finally, in May, the Bathurst and Bangor class escort vessels of the R.I.N., acting as fleet minesweepers, went ahead of the Rangoon invasion force and swept for mines at the approaches to the Rangoon river. H.M.I. sloops helped to escort the invasion force, and it was one of H.M.I. ships, *Rohilkhand*, that headed the first convoy to go up the river to Rangoon. H.M.I. ships participated in minesweeping off the Malay coast in July.

Among awards to officers and ratings of the Royal Indian Navy in connection with operations against the Japanese are two D.S.Os., nine D.S.Cs., two I.O.Ms., ten I.D.S.Ms., 25 D.S.Ms. and 80 mentions in despatches.

H.E. the Viceroy has authorised a grant of Rs. 25,000 from the War Purposes Fund to the Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmen's Families Association in London, which relieves distress among families of serving soldiers and assists those who are abroad in getting news about their homes or obtaining advice about domestic and other affairs.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



An R.I.A.F. pilot checks the ammunition loaded by the armourers.

## R.I.A.F.'S PART IN WAR

**I**N the war against Japan which has now ended in victory, the Royal Indian Air Force played a part worthy of the great tradition of Indian arms.

In the war in South East Asia, where the nature of the terrain made reconnaissance vital to success, the Royal Indian Air Force played a major part in aerial reconnaissance for the armies.

Known as the "eyes" of the Army, pilots of the R.I.A.F. have carried out the greater part of fighter reconnaissance work over the battle areas of the Indo-Burma frontier, Central Burma and the Arakan. Owing to the nature of the terrain, vast jungle tracts, narrow winding waterways, and high mountains segmented

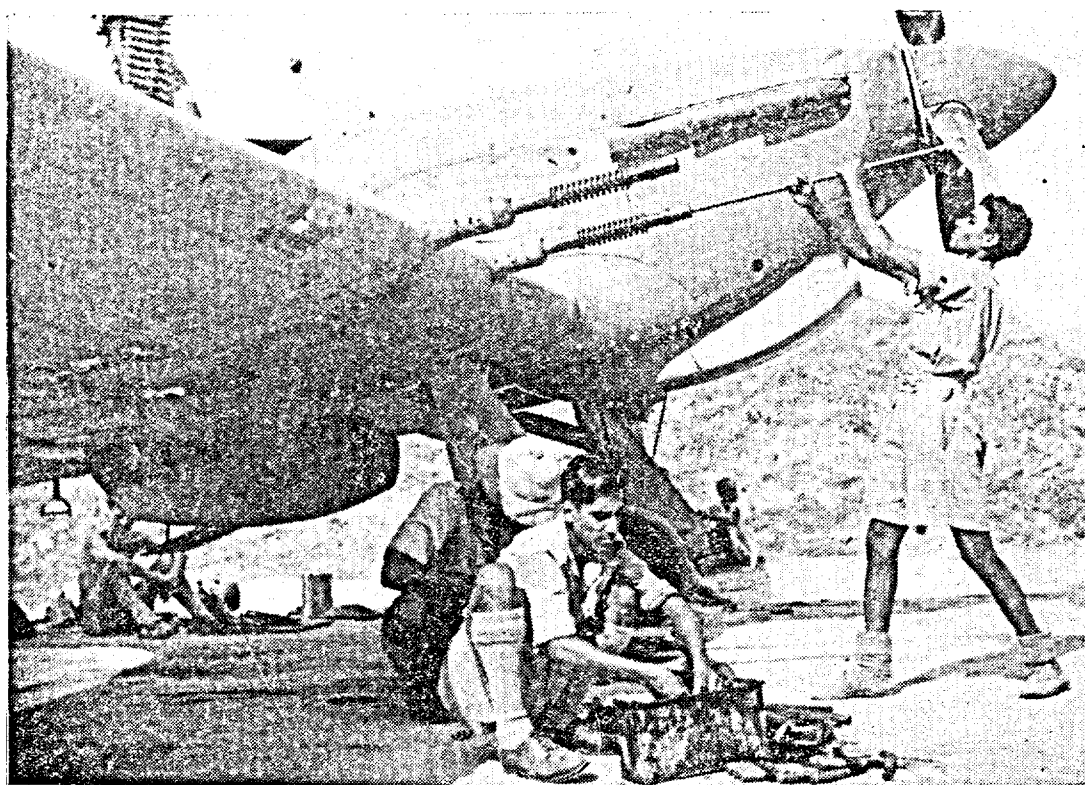
by narrow defiles, and with an enemy skilled in jungle warfare and the use of infiltrating tactics, aerial reconnaissance was a pressing necessity to every army commander.

The importance of the work of fighter reconnaissance squadrons can be measured when it is realised that 70 per cent. of the intelligence and tactical information regarding the enemy during this war has been obtained through photographs and pilots' reports. Upon the intelligence they supplied, the army commanders relied largely in planning their attacks against Japanese strongholds. It was not often spectacular work, but it was one of prime importance in a country like Burma, where the natural topography did a great deal to help an enemy so well versed in the art of camouflage as the Japs.

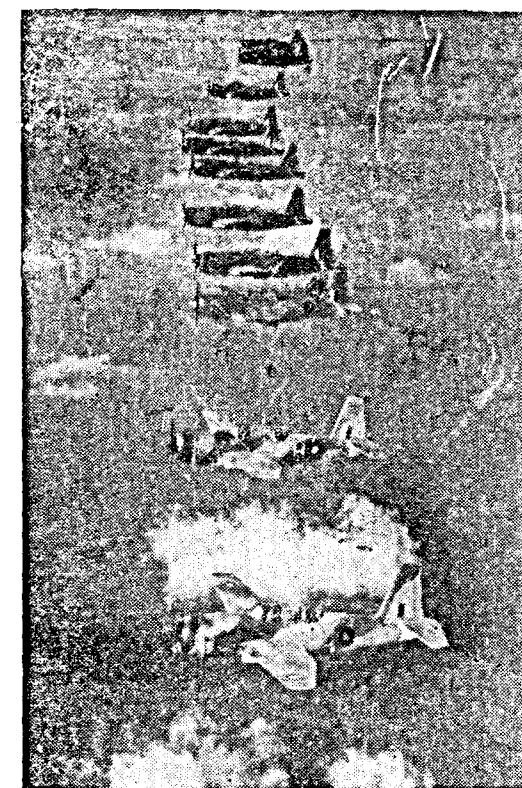
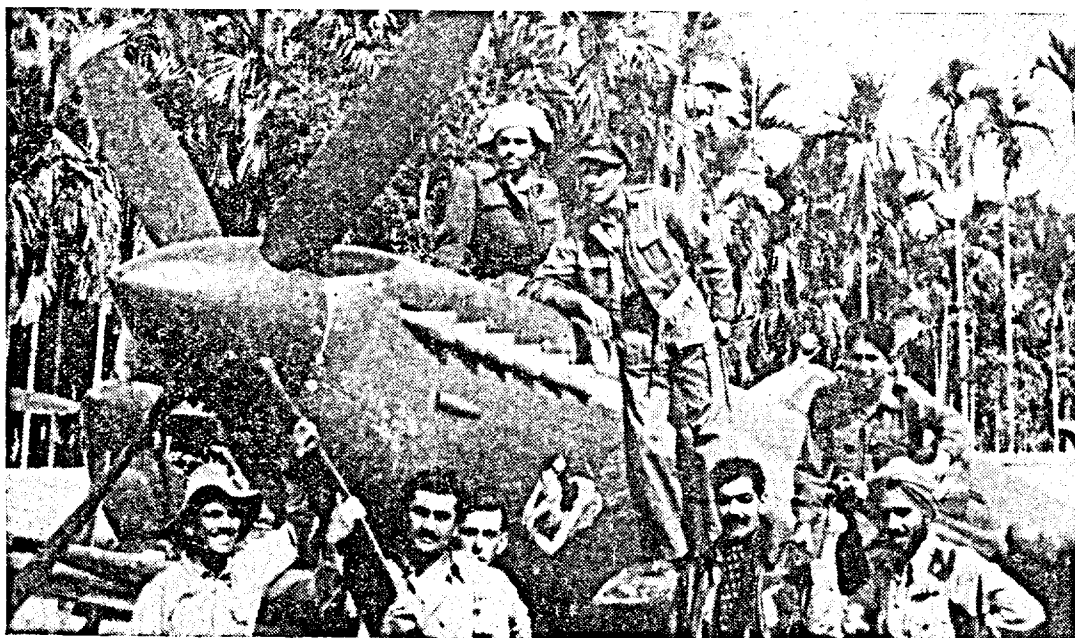
When war broke out in September 1939, the Indian Air Force, as it was then, consisted of one Army-Co-operation Squadron. From that small nucleus, flying obsolete types of aircraft,

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

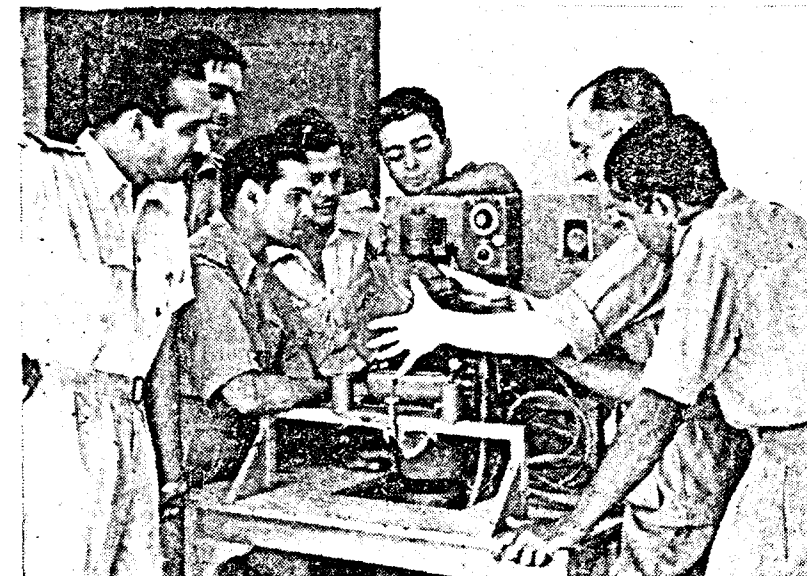




Armament of the 'Hurricanes' has to be regularly and carefully serviced when the machines return from a sortie. Here, ground crew are cleaning and re-loading the cannons of a 'Hurricane.' (Below) Indian pilots with one of their Spitfires.



A Vultee Vengeance Dive-Bomber Squadron flying in formation over the Arakan.



Indian officer pupils learn about the air camera from the photography instructor.

it has grown to nine operational squadrons, consisting of many thousands of ground and aircrew personnel, and equipped with Spitfires and Hurricanes, the most successful aircraft used in the war.

For the first two and a half years of the war, the Royal Indian Air Force defended the 3,000 miles of India's coast. Its reconnaissance aircraft in continual patrols covered the wastes of the Indian Ocean and Bay of Bengal, searching for enemy submarines, escorting the Allied convoys, and carrying out the most monotonous but vital duty—seaward reconnaissance and patrol.

#### Volunteer Reserve Flights

In the winter of 1939 five Volunteer Reserve Flights of the R.I.A.F. were raised at Karachi, Bombay, Cochin, Madras, Calcutta, and later Vizagapatam. It was an R.I.A.F. aircraft of the Vizagapatam Flight which sighted and shadowed, in April 1942, a compact but powerful Japanese naval force in the Bay of Bengal sailing towards India, and returned to give warning of its approach to the Navy.

Early in 1942, when the Japanese invaded and occupied Burma, No. 1 Squadron R.I.A.F. was stationed at Rangoon, Toungoo, and Lashio, carrying out reconnaissance over the battle areas for the Army, and bombing raids on enemy airfields, troop concentrations and military installations. Until the fall of Rangoon, convoys of vital supplies and troops were





An R.I.A.F. Squadron's workshop.

escorted in and out of the port by aircraft of the R.I.A.F.

With the Japanese occupation of Burma and the withdrawal of the Allied Air Forces into India, the R.I.A.F. underwent a period of expansion and re-equipment with modern aircraft. They returned to the battle in force at the end of 1943 as a first class fighting service.

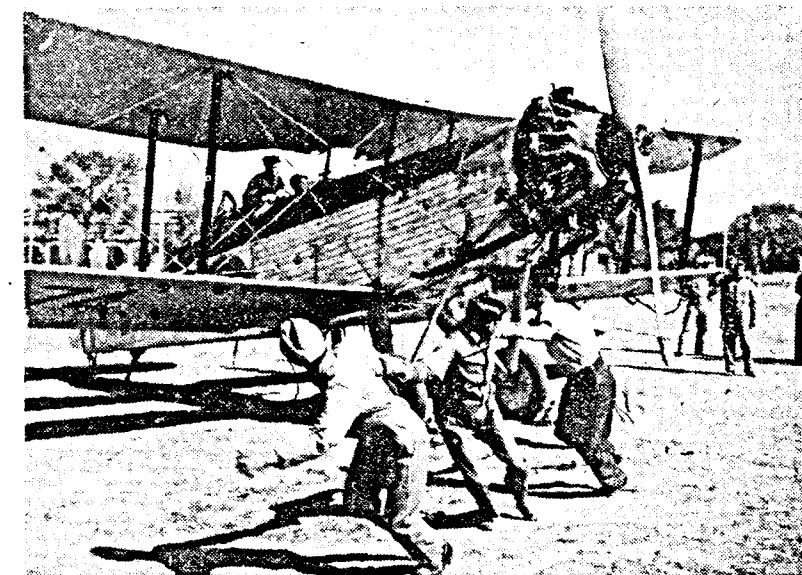
During the sieges of Imphal and Kohima the R.I.A.F. shared with a Royal Air Force squadron the whole of the reconnaissance work

on that front, at a time when, without aerial reconnaissance, success could not have been achieved so speedily by our ground forces. When the monsoon came in June, the R.I.A.F. carried on alone until December, during our advance across the Chindwin and down the Irrawaddy Valley towards Mandalay.

The whole of the tactical reconnaissance work in the Arakan was done by squadrons of the R.I.A.F. Flying Hurricanes, often in the worst weather conditions, over trackless jungle, mountains, and deep-rent valleys, the job of the



The signalling instructor explaining things to a future pilot.



Trainees hand-starting an aircraft.

pilots was to collect, by both camera and visual observation, information of the highest value to the Army.

In addition, Vengeance dive-bombing squadrons blasted the Japanese out of their dug-in positions and strong points, smashed bridges and cut lines of communications. These squadrons were later equipped with bomb-carrying Hurricanes which continued even more successfully the work of the Vengeances.

The Royal Indian Air Force squadrons played a major part in the great Arakan victories at Buthidaung, Myebon, and Kangaw. Their bombing and strafing attacks on the retreating Japanese down the Chindwin and Irrawaddy, and out of the Arakan from eastward and along the Taungup-Prone Road contributed materially to their final disintegration.

#### Air Operations

During 1944 and 1945 the work of the R.I.A.F. squadrons in Burma covered almost all the field of air operations. They have escorted supply-dropping aircraft. They have engaged in anti-malarial work, spraying D.D.T. over mangrove swamp and mosquito-infested jungle. They laid smoke-screens for amphibious landings by commandos along the Arakan coast, and to cover the assault by our ground forces of difficult hill positions. They have bombed at low level and high level, and using fighter-bomber aircraft have used with brilliant

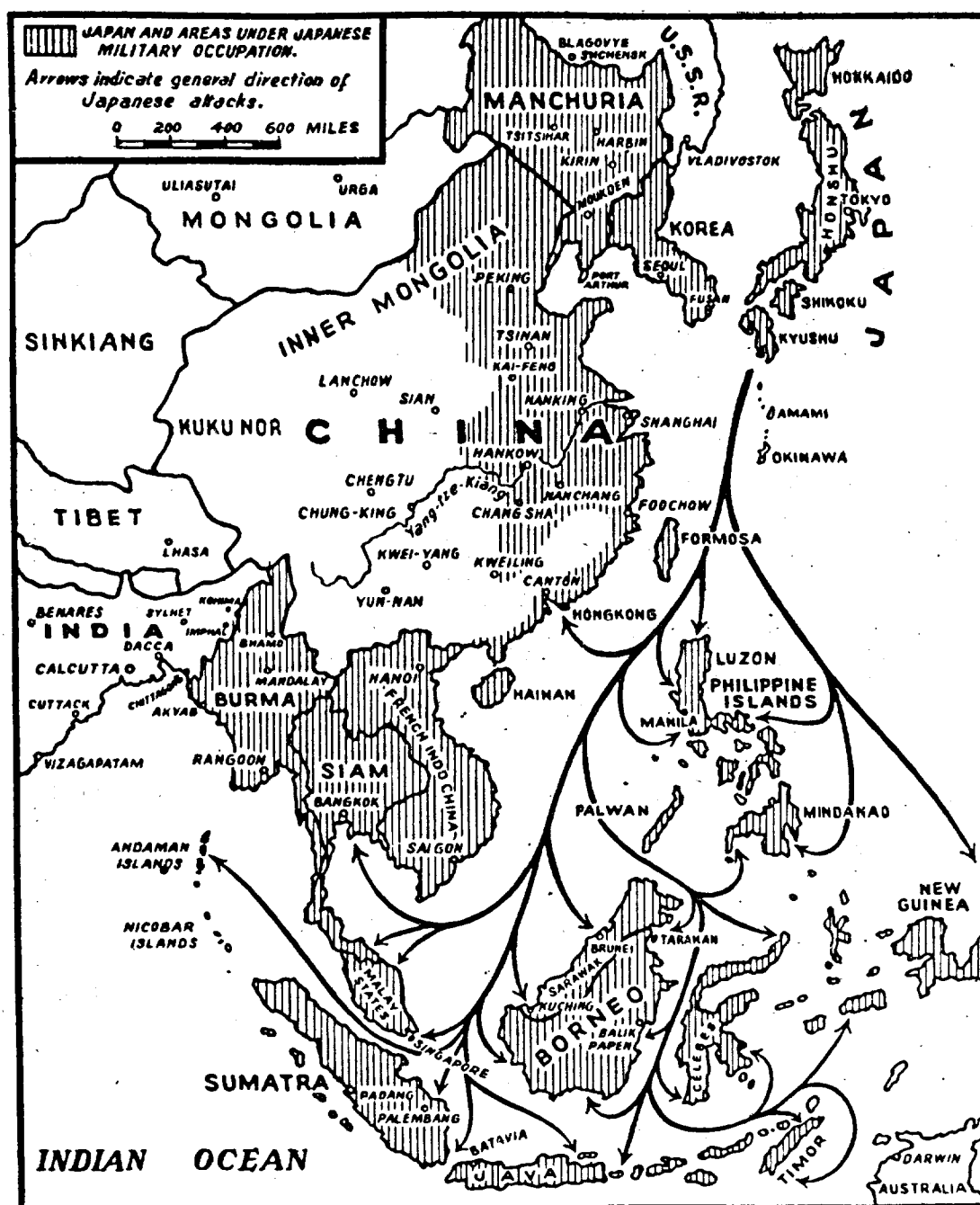
success the massed heavy bomber technique used in Europe. They have denied to the Japanese their escape routes from the Arakan strip to the plains of Central Burma by destroying bridges and smashing hilltops into valleys with giant landslides over mountain tracks and roads.

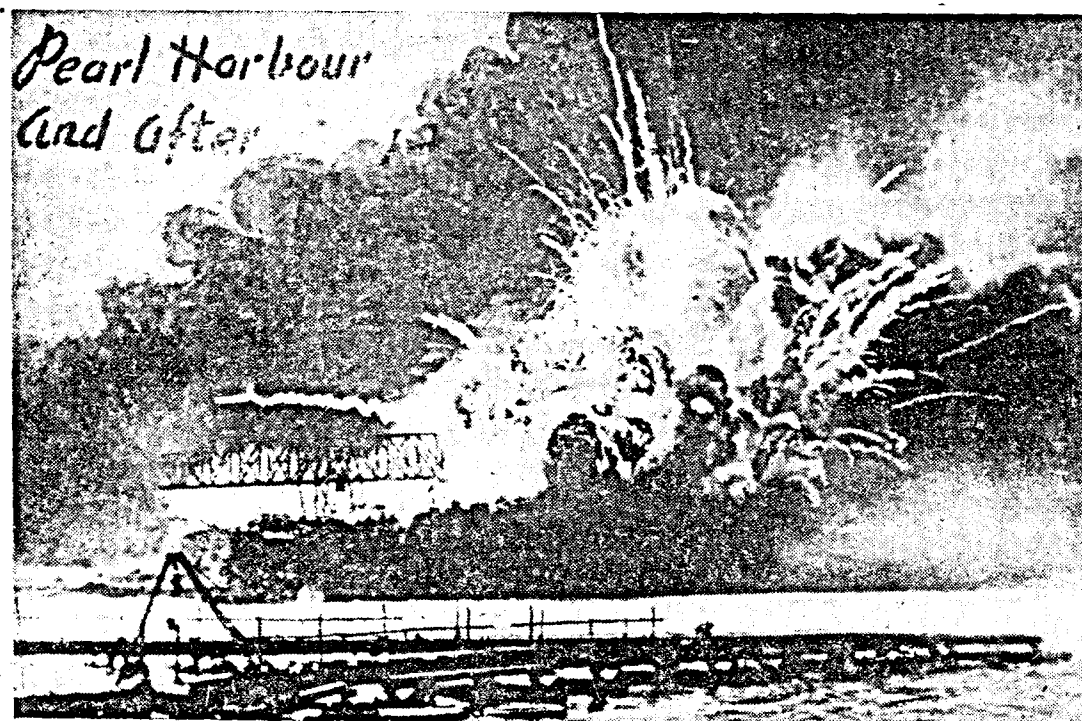
#### Recognition of Services

Much of the meteorological forecasting on the Arakan front, vital to successful air operations, was done by officers and airmen of India's air force. They manned Radar stations and air defence operation rooms along India's coasts and in the most remote and forward areas along the war front in Burma. In addition, many thousands of Indian airmen and officers were closely integrated with the Royal Air Force, working in great maintenance units, aircraft repair depots, driving motor transport, and doing the thousand and one jobs necessary to keep an air force operating successfully.

As a result of their work, many officers and men have been mentioned in despatches, one R.I.A.F. pilot has received the Distinguished Service Order, 14 have received the Distinguished Flying Cross, one the Air Force Cross, and one a Bar to D.F.C.

In recognition of the contribution of the Indian Air Force to the war, His Majesty the King Emperor on March 12, 1945 permitted the prefix "Royal" to be used.





## CHRONOLOGY OF WAR IN FAR EAST December 1941—August 1945

### December, 1941

- 7: Japan launches air attacks on U.S. bases at Pearl Harbour. Other air attacks on Manila, Shanghai, Malaya, Thailand and Hongkong.
- 8: U.S. and Britain declare war on Japan. Japanese land in North Malaya—Indian troops in action.
- 9: Japanese land in Philippines.
- 10: The *Prince of Wales* and *Repulse* sunk.
- 11: Italy and Germany declare war on U.S.
- 12: British begin withdrawal from advanced positions protecting Hongkong.
- 15: Siege of Hongkong begins.
- 17: Japanese land on Sarawak.
- 18: Allies land on Portuguese Timor.
- 19: Japanese land in Hongkong.

332

- 22: Wavell arrives in Chungking and discusses Far East strategy with Chiang Kai-shek.
- 23: Announcement that Churchill is in Washington to discuss full Allied co-ordination. First meeting of Anglo-U.S. War Council.
- 25: Hongkong surrenders.
- 26: Churchill, in an address to U.S. Congress, announces plans for Allied offensive in 1943. Manila proclaimed open city.

1942

### January

- 1: United States, Britain, Russia, China and 22 other anti-Axis nations sign a joint declaration at Washington pledging the use of their full resources against the Axis.
- 2: Japanese enter Manila. Entry of Chinese troops into Burma announced. Big Chinese victory at Changsha.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

- 3: Roosevelt and Churchill announce appointment of Wavell as the Supreme Commander of the South-West Pacific area.

### February

- 12: Announcement that India is invited to be represented on Pacific War Council and War Cabinet.
- 15: Singapore falls.
- 17: Landing of 30,000 Jap troops in Indo-China for large-scale invasion of Burma reported.
- 24: India Commander-in-Chief takes up the control of Burma operations.

### March

- 2: Wavell reassumes the appointment of Commander-in-Chief, India.
- 10: Japanese take Rangoon.
- 12: British garrison withdrawn from Andaman Islands.
- 17: MacArthur arrives in Australia to take over Allied Command as well as direction of Philippines operations.

### April

- 5: A large force of Japanese aircraft attack Colombo: enemy lose 27 planes.
- 6: First air raids on Indian towns—Japanese naval planes bomb Vizagapatam and Cocanada.
- 18: American Technical Mission arrives in Delhi. Doolittle raid on Tokyo.
- 22: Col. Louis Johnson, Roosevelt's personal envoy in India, reveals that American troops and airmen have arrived in India.

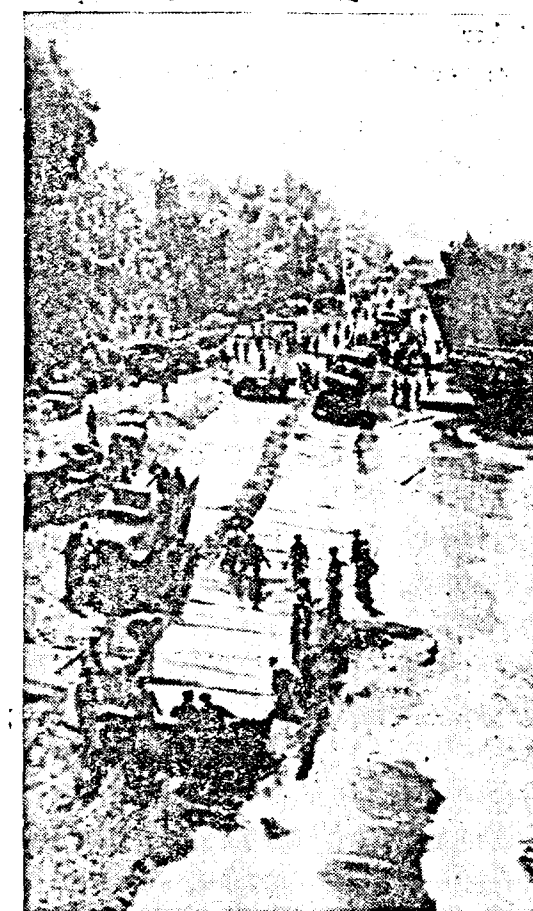
### May

- 1: British evacuate Mandalay.
- 4—8: Coral Sea Battle.
- 5: British forces land in Madagascar.
- 8: Japanese capture Akyab.

### June

- 3—6: Battle of Midway.
- 5: The arrival of a huge convoy in India, consisting of up-to-date equipment, troops and armaments, is revealed.
- 10: A Committee of Viceroy's Executive Council, known as War Resources

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



Australians land in New Guinea.

Committee, established to mobilize and direct the economic war effort of India.

- 13: Japanese raid Port Darwin.

### July

- 21: Japanese troops land on the north coast of Papua.
- 30: Japanese decision to instal new puppet Government of Burma.

### August

- 7: American forces land in the Solomons.

### September

- 12: Jap advance checked in Papua.

333



## October

- 4: Australian forces in New Guinea continue unopposed advance into Owen Stanley range.

## November

- 2: Allies capture Kokoda.  
11: Epic fight of H.M.I.S. *Bengal* with two Japanese destroyers while escorting Dutch tankers.

## December

- 1: Jap attempt to land troops on Buna foiled.  
20: Japanese planes raid Calcutta for the first time.

1943

## January

- 4: U.S. forces on Guadalcanal capture Japanese positions near Mount Austen.  
7: Roosevelt in his message to Congress warns Japan that Allies will take war to her own country.  
11: Treaty signed in Chungking between Britain, U.S.A. and China for the abolition of extra-territorial rights in China.  
14: Churchill and Roosevelt meet at Casablanca to discuss the "offensive campaigns of 1943."  
15: Allies launch fresh offensive in New Guinea. Three Japanese bombers shot down over Calcutta.  
16: Iraq joins United Nations.  
24: End of Jap resistance in Papua announced.

## February

- 9: Tokyo announces Japanese evacuation of Guadalcanal. Chiang Kai-shek arrives in Delhi.  
11: It is revealed that Field-Marshal Sir John Dill and General Arnold had conferences with Marshal Chiang Kai-shek in Chungking and thereafter with Field-Marshal Wavell in India.  
13: Inauguration of Indian Air Training Corps Scheme at Aligarh University announced.  
22: Sea-borne raid on Myebon, south of Akyab, by Allied forces from India.

- 25: Japanese aircraft suffer heavy losses in their attack on Allied bases in Assam.

## March

- 2-4: Jap convoy in Bismarck Straits attacked by Allied bombers—10 enemy warships and 12 transports sunk; 102 planes put out of action.  
4: In House of Lords, Lord Cranborne announces that large reserves of war supplies are being built up in India intended for China.  
17: Arrival in New Delhi of Vice-Admiral J. H. Godfrey, Flag Officer Commanding, Royal Indian Navy, announced.

## April

- 1: Japanese bombers attack Feni in S.E. Bengal: five Jap planes shot down.

## May

- 8: In the Arakan, Japanese forces reach the Maungdaw-Buthidaung Road, about four miles west of Buthidaung.  
11: Churchill, accompanied by Field Marshal Wavell and Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse, Air Force Commander-in-Chief in India, arrives in Washington. American forces land on Japan's Aleutian island base of Attu.

## June

- 5: Chinese capture Kungan and attack the great Japanese base of Ichang.  
19: Auchinleck assumed charge as Commander-in-Chief of India.

## August

- 6: End of all organised Japanese resistance at Munda announced.  
21: Allied occupation of Kiska in the Aleutians announced.  
24: An official statement issued by Churchill and Roosevelt at the conclusion of the Quebec Conference reveals that Allied plans for intensifying war against Japan and other Allied campaigns are complete.

## October

- 7: Mountbatten arrives in Delhi.  
12: Madras has its first air raid.  
13: It is announced that the entire New Georgia group in the Solomons is in Allied hands.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



The Cairo Conference: Generalissimo Chiang Kai-shek, President Roosevelt and Mr. Churchill with some of the leaders of the Allied armed forces.

- 16: Mountbatten arrives in Chungking for discussions.  
30: Forty-five Japanese aircraft destroyed in heavy Allied raid on Rabaul.

## November

- 1: American forces invade Bougainville Island.  
22: Cairo Conference—Roosevelt, Chiang and Churchill meet.

## December

- 5: Jap air raid on Calcutta.  
19: All combat units of R.A.F. and U.S.A.A.F. in S.E. Asia theatre combined into a single Allied Air Force under command of Air Chief Marshal Sir Richard Peirse.  
26: Allies make new landings in New Britain in face of heavy air attacks by the Japanese.

1944

## January

- 10: Allies capture Maungdaw in Burma.  
12: Pacific War Council meets in Washington.  
24: Lt.-Gen. Slim appointed Commander of the 14th Army.

## February

- 4: A Japanese aircraft bombs Orissa coast and Vizagapatam.  
5: Allies capture Kwajalein Island in the Marshalls.  
16-17: U.S. Fleet attacks Jap base at Truk: 18 Japanese ships sunk and 201 planes destroyed.

- 28: Allied victory in Arakan reported—Jap plan to push into India foiled: 14th Army routs strong enemy force.
- 29: Allied forces land on Admiralty Islands.

#### March

- 6: First U.S. troops go into action in North Burma.
- 11: Allied forces capture Buthidaung.
- 17: Announcement that Allied glider-borne troops have been landed 200 miles behind Jap lines, in North Burma.
- 22: Japanese raiding columns enter Manipur State. Japanese pushed back by Allies in Chin Hills.

#### April

- 2: Japanese troops cross Imphal-Kohima Road.
- 13: Japanese attacks on Kohima repulsed.
- 16: S.E. Asia Command H.Q. shifted to Kandy.
- 19: Carrier-borne aircraft, escorted by powerful Allied fleet, attack Sabang.
- 20: Link-up of Allied troops from Dimapur with the defenders of Kohima announced.
- 22: Allied forces land at Hollandia in Dutch New Guinea and at Aitape.

#### May

- 2: A Japanese submarine sunk in Indian Ocean by R.A.F. bombers.
- 18: Allies capture Myitkyina airfield and besiege the town.

#### June

- 15: U.S. troops land on Saipan Island in the Marianas.
- 18: 353 Japanese carrier-borne aircraft shot down while attacking U.S. Fleet at Saipan. Japanese capture Changsha, capital of Hunan province.
- 22: Kohima-Imphal Road completely cleared of Japs.
- 26: Japanese capture U.S. air base at Hengyang in South-East China.

#### July

- 4: Capture of Ukhrul by 14th Army announced.
- 18: Tokyo announcement that Tojo has relinquished post of Chief of Army General Staff.

336



Chinese soldiers fighting in the streets of Changsha, the scene of a notable victory over the Japanese.

- 19: Battle of Imphal ends with victory for 14th Army.
- 20: Americans land on Guam.
- 29: U.S. Super-Fortresses bomb Anshan, Japanese steel centre in Manchuria.

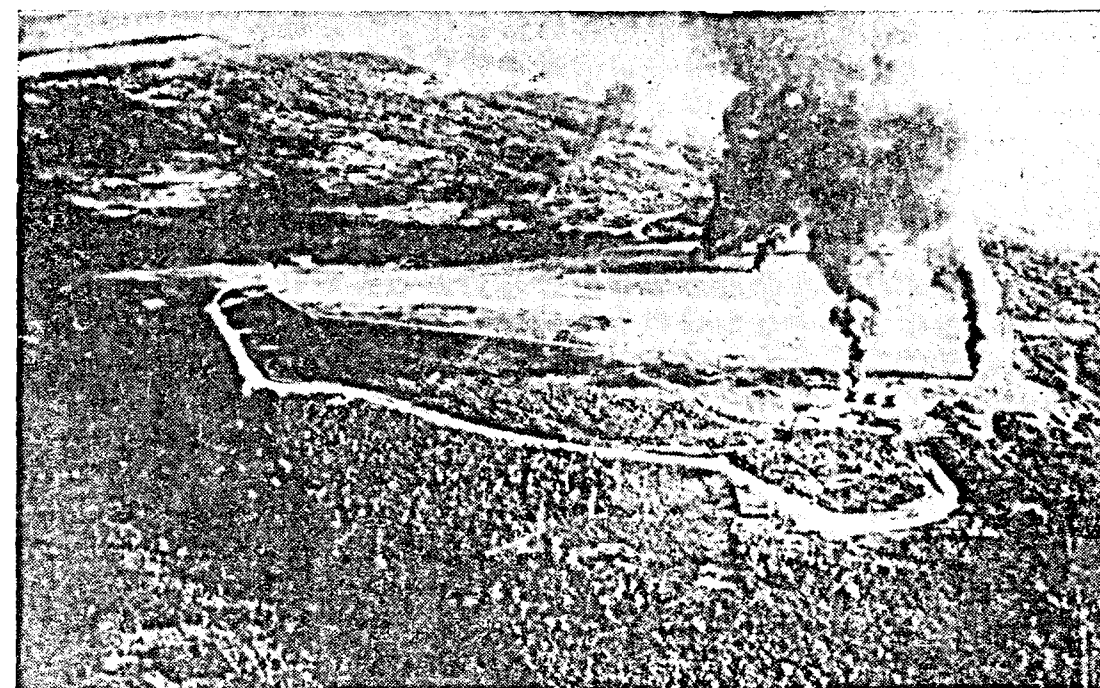
#### August

- 3: Allies capture Myitkyina.
- 6: Allies capture Tamu.
- 10: End of all organised Japanese resistance on Guam announced.
- 17: Manipur cleared of the Japanese.
- 20: It is announced that the last Japanese fighting force has been driven out of India.

#### September

- 2: 14th Army routs Japanese north of Tiddim.
- 11: Attack by U.S. aircraft on a Japanese convoy near Philippines, resulting in the sinking of 52 enemy ships, announced.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



An aerial photograph of Sabang taken during a raid on April 19, 1945, by British and American carrier-borne planes.

- 12: Churchill-Roosevelt meeting at Quebec. Allied Chiefs of Staff confer to plan war against Japan.
- 14: Allied landings on Halmahere and Palau islands.
- 18: Carrier-borne attack on Sumatra.

#### October

- 9: U.S. Fleet strikes at Ryuku Islands—26 Japanese ships destroyed or damaged.
- 19: Indian troops of the 14th Army capture Tiddim.
- 23—25: Japs lose 58 ships in naval battle off Philippines.
- 28: C.B.I. theatre split into two commands: Lt.-Gen. Daniel Sultan appointed Commander of American forces in India-Burma theatre and Maj.-Gen. A. C. Wedemeyer as Chief of Staff to Gen. Chiang Kai-shek.

#### November

- 4: Lt.-Gen. Sir Oliver Leese appointed to command 11th Army Group in S.E. Asia.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

- 7: Fifth Indian Division captures Kennedy Peak.
- 9: Indian troops capture Japanese stronghold of Fort White.
- 10: Chinese troops cross the Irrawaddy.
- 20: Chinese forces break into Bhamo.

#### December

- 3: Allied troops capture Kalewa.
- 16: American troops land on Mindoro Island, in the Philippines. In Burma Allied Forces link up east of Chindwin.
- 24: Allied capture of Donbaik announced.
- 25: MacArthur announces completion of Leyte campaign.
- 28: Indian troops occupy Foul Point at the tip of Mayu Peninsula.

1945

#### January

- 1: Indian troops occupy Rathedaung.
- 3: 14th Army troops occupy Yeu, 70 miles from Mandalay.

337

- 5: British and Indian troops recapture Akyab Island and Akyab.
- 7: Indian troops enter Shwebo.
- 9: Allies invade Luzon.
- 13: Allied troops land on Myebon Peninsula.
- 22: Gen. Sultan announces that Ledo Road to China is clear of Japanese and open for convoys. Allies enter Monywa.
- 23: 14th Army troops occupy Tizaung and Myimu.
- 26: In Burma a third landing is made by Indian troops, on Cheduba Island, S.W. of Ramree.
- 31: Singapore floating dock sunk by U.S. air attack.

#### February

- 7: MacArthur arrives in Manila.
- 10: Allied troops take Ramree Island.
- 16: 1,500 Allied planes attack Tokyo for nine hours.
- 18: American landing on Corregidor announced.
- 19: Americans land on Iwojima.
- 20: It is revealed that Roosevelt and Churchill met at Alexandria on way back from Yalta to discuss plans for carrying out the war against Japan.
- 23: Turkey declares war on Japan and Germany.
- 28: Allies capture Meiktila.

#### March

- 1: Iran declares war on Japan. Saudi Arabia declares war on Germany and Japan.
- 3: Last Japanese remnants in Manila wiped out by Allies.
- 15: U.S. flag hoisted over Iwojima.
- 20: Allies capture Mandalay.

#### April

- 1: Americans land on Okinawa.
- 3: Americans invade North Borneo.
- 5: Koiso Cabinet resigns. Moscow Radio announces end of Soviet-Japanese Neutrality Pact.
- 7: Japan's biggest battleship, the 45,000-ton *Yamato*, sunk.
- 11: Spain breaks off diplomatic relations with Japan.

338



Supplies being unloaded at Rangoon's damaged docks shortly after the Allies had taken the city.

- 14: About 400 Super-Fortresses shower thousands of tons of incendiaries on Tokyo's war industries.
- 16: Capture of Taungup, last Jap coastal supply base in Arakan, by 15th Indian Corps announced.
- 21: 14th Army drive towards Rangoon.
- 25: The United Nations Conference opens at San Francisco.

#### May

- 1: Following earlier landing by paratroops, Allied troops land south of Rangoon.
- 2: 8,000 Allied troops land on Tarakan Island, off Borneo.
- 3: Allied troops enter Rangoon. Capture of Pegu by 14th Army announced.
- 4: 14th Army troops occupy Rangoon.
- 11: Chinese forces break into Foochow.

#### June

- 7: Stilwell and MacArthur hold conference in S.W. Pacific.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.



The "Big Three" Conference in session at Potsdam.

- 9: Allied landing on Labuan Island announced.
- 11: Australian landing on Japanese-occupied British Borneo announced.
- 13: Japanese resistance in Northern Okinawa ends.
- 26: Fifty nations sign World Security Charter.
- 28: Liberation of Luzon announced.

#### July

- 2: Australians land at Balikpapan in South-East Borneo.
- 4: Korea bombed for first time by Allies.
- 5: End of Philippine campaign announced.
- 15: Italy's decision to declare war on Japan announced.
- 17: Big Three meeting opens in Potsdam.
- 24: Jap defeat in Battle of Pegu Yomas.
- 25: Allies warn Japan against coming 10,000-plane raids.

INDIAN INFORMATION, SEPTEMBER 15, 1945.

- 26: Declaration from Potsdam calling upon Japan to "cease resistance or be destroyed."
- 28: 30,000-ton Japanese battleship *Hirago* sunk by Allies.

#### August

- 3: Anglo-U.S. plans, formulated during the Potsdam Conference, to smash Japan revealed by British Foreign Office.
- 5: S.E.A.C. announcement that Battle of Pegu Yomas resulted in loss of 10,000 Japs. Allies attack Japanese Army base of Hiroshima with atomic bomb.
- 6: Truman in a statement reveals destructive powers of atomic bomb.
- 9: Russia at war with Japan. Russians cross into Manchuria and capture two towns. Nagasaki hit by atomic bomb.
- 10: Japanese Government's surrender offer. Russian troops invade Korea.
- 15: Japanese surrender.

339





H. E. the Viceroy presented the National Savings Drive Shield to H.E. the Governor of Sind at the Viceroy's House, New Delhi, on August 3. Sind stood first, up to January 1945, in the total subscriptions for the National Savings Certificates.

Published by Pothan Joseph, Principal Information Officer, Government of India. Printed in India by E. G. Tilt (General Manager) at The Civil & Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore: Communications for the Editor should be addressed to the Bureau of Public Information, Government of India, Lahore, and not to the Printers.

