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THE INDIAN REVIEW

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 47]

JANUARY 1946:— DETAILED CONTENTS

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[JANUARY 1946

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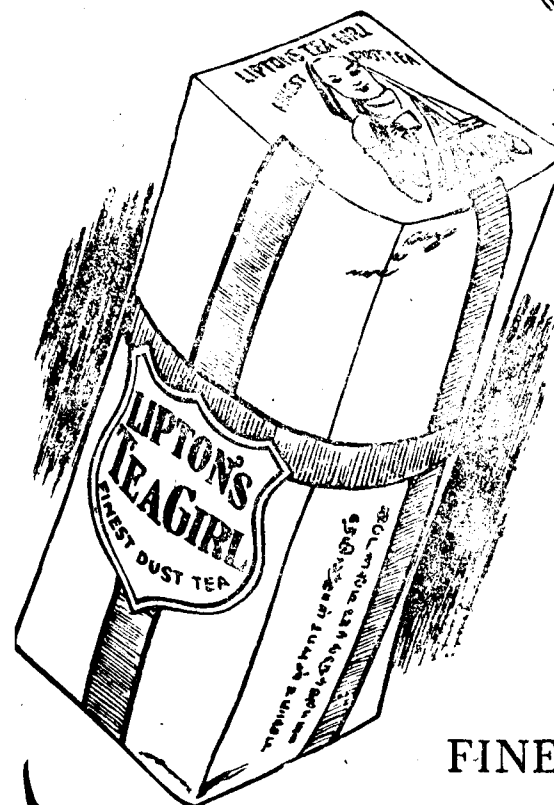
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THE INDIAN REVIEW

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

Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 47.]

JANUARY 1946

[No. 1.

BOOKS THAT INFLUENCED ME

BY THE RT. HON. DR. V. S. SRINIVASA SASIRI, CH.

I am not a man of one book or of a few select books. That is to say, there are no favourite books to which I recur again and again for inspiration or pleasure. Even the Ramayana I do not read daily. I have read quite a lot in my time, though my taste is not so comprehensive or indiscriminate as that of many whom I know. For instance, my old friend Professor K. B. Ramanathan, who found the day too short for his reading, was omnivorous. From him I took many tips. One of them it is interesting to recall. Of railway novels and detective fiction he was no lover. Whatever the original noise a book made, he would say, "Let us wait for a year and see if it maintains its vogue." I have known many persons to whom the reading of these books is like smoking or chewing, a habit that gains a hold on them and must be indulged without pause. Like our *nitya karma* its interruption brings unhappiness, while its performance ceases to be a lively enjoyment. Never fond of them, I have now come to look upon them as a tempting sin and grudge them even an hour of my time. From boyhood, books

have been to me more than a learned interest or purveyors of useful knowledge. When they are of some real merit, I have consciously let them govern my conduct and clarify my notions of right and wrong. In a sense it is true every book makes you wiser and imperceptibly affects your sense of life's values. But I often took a good book more seriously. I would close it while in the act of reading and attempt to digest its lessons and send the new thoughts coursing round my mental frame and assimilate them to be part of my inner being. In my boyish immaturity, I remember Edgeworth's Moral Tales and Popular Tales helped my growth in this way. From Smiles's books Self-Help and Character I somehow turned away by instinct. Though I could not formulate the grounds of my repugnance, I fancy their tautology and pompous preaching repelled me. At a certain age even a child wishes to eat with its own fingers and not out of the maternal spoon.

A book's influence takes many shapes. In some cases it dazzles you by sheer skill of presentation. Your admiration is roused and your fancy tickled, but no



lasting benefits seem to accrue. Take De Quincey for example. His pages are a lure, but I cannot testify that they add real profit to the mind or enhance one's power of expression. At the other end are treasures of literature which affect you profoundly, but whose influence on your attitude to life or your conduct it is difficult to trace precisely. I would place in this category the great plays of Shakespeare and moving orations like those of Burke. Who can escape the instruction of Scott's novels or the edification of George Eliot's? Wordsworth, Tennyson and Browning go deeper down in your nature and shape it to finer issues. I have felt the spell of these and other writers and should be much the poorer if by any chance I lost what they have given me. But I understand my business today is to mention the books that, above all others, have made me what I am, furnished my mind with its best material, directed my habits and modes of thought, and informed my spirit with its characteristic aims and ideals. Such sources of mental and moral inspiration can be but few, and I should find it no easy task to define exactly or evaluate what they have done for me. I trust my readers would bring their own particular experience from its intimate recesses to understand and judge mine. Their charity and their indulgence to a fellow-traveller in the jungle of life I take for granted.

A word of qualification is necessary before I begin an account of the sources from which flow the main elements of my build. Guidance to others is foreign to my purpose. I do not venture to suggest

that you should drink from the fountains where I slaked my thirst. My *amrita* may be your poison. Like theories and modes, books change from age to age, and for the nutriment of the mind it is idle to expect our children to resort to the same foods that we ate. I have often expressed wonder that the school books now in fashion differ so vastly from the ones on which we were brought up. The curricula of Universities are modified so slightly from year to year that we hardly notice the change, but within a generation they accumulate formidably and make a revolution. Both in substance and in manner the education of today differs from mine to such an extent that I marvel at the continuity that seems to bind in one whole the process by which the generations link themselves together. Is it a fact that the seminal books of the world are but a few and that in one form or in another they alone have been the firm rock on which in differing periods of history differing philosophies, differing moralities, and differing sciences have been erected? Sometimes I think Yes and sometimes No. Books for a time and books for all time—are there really two such classes? The *Iliad* and the *Ramayana* can never die, so say our idealists. The *Vedas*, we swear, had no beginning and will have no end. Grand conceptions these, which it were vandalism to examine historically or appraise scientifically. To how few of the world's population of nearly two thousand million do they mean anything? In our own homes they have long ceased to be a direct means of enlightenment, and where they are, exist only in translations,

in unconnected fragments which hide more than they reveal. If then I name a few authors who have taught me the essence of what I know and believe, I do not pretend even for a moment that you cannot find other or better guides to the world's wisdom.

Knowledge of scientific truths, though it shifts from time to time, is foundational. All other knowledge rests on it and is fortified by it. The most authoritarian of our Vedic preceptors put observation and experience above the word. Every one of us who has been to school will recall the wonders which dawned upon him in the science classes, destroying right and left many fondly cherished superstitions. When I was first introduced to science books, I grasped, with a sureness which now astonishes me as I recall it, the scientific spirit, that is the spirit of scientific inquiry which doubts and questions and shrinks from generalizing beyond the ascertained facts. Tyndall's *Lectures* opened my eyes first to the true methods of science. Another book of those early days which gave a permanent turn to my thought was a collection of T. H. Huxley's writings and speeches containing a marvellous exposition of Man's Place in Nature. Harder food followed in a few years from the same source. Few people will remember now that the English Men of Letters series includes a volume on Hume from the pen of Huxley. Hume's life is dismissed in a brief chapter and the rest of the book is a gripping exposition of his philosophy. It was a pity I had not learned at college the elements of metaphysics, and I would go so far as to

say that liberal education is defective without an analysis of the workings of the human mind. As I applied my untutored mind to the doctrines under examination, I remember the slowness of my progress, and the despair that often crushed me. But I had intellectual pride and a firm belief that perseverance can conquer mountains. So I used to take the volume, repair to a corner free from disturbance, con the sentences again and again, read before and after, and to my good luck experience those thrills of joy which attend mental conquests, and which, whether at the moment or in retrospect, transcend all other human pleasure. My progress was necessarily interrupted and uncertain. In the end, however, by dint of hard reflection and meditation, I mastered the book, and the gain to my knowledge and power of consecutive thought was incalculable. Several years later Huxley's *Evolution and Ethics* added a concluding chapter to this aspect of my education. Written in his most mature and attractive style, it seems to supply a corrective to his original teachings but, properly studied, it is only a supplement thereto. From the purely literary point of view, it is a master-piece which I would commend to my younger readers.

To this category belong Herbert Spencer's *Sociology*, and John Stuart Mill's *Subjection of Women*, *On Liberty*, and *Three Essays on Natural Religion*. I have not freshened up my memory for the occasion. The impressions now recorded are those left on my mind when I last read them. It would obviously be inappropriate to ascribe past preferences

to present feelings. Spencer overwhelmed me by the wealth of material on any point gathered from all departments of human interest, and the touch of emotion that here and there warmed the treatment of his subject. Mill struck me as more economical and selective in the use of words and perhaps not so copious of illustration. Reference to contemporaries and their modes of thought was dispassionate and absolutely fair. The aim, one could see, was a genuine quest for the truth and not the establishment of favoured or partisan views. It was a rare adventure to me—of exploration and discovery in a fascinating sphere of speculation, all aglow with the excitement of a novice without a trace of prepossession. Recapture of my wonderment is not possible. All I can now recall is that I was journeying in a region of captivating ideas, at the same time subtle and precise, imponderable and well-defined. To the extent that I am exact in thought and lucid in its presentation, and that my management of a topic is just, comprehensive and helpful to the reader, I owe the virtues to the influence of these mighty teachers.

The foundations of my moral and spiritual nature were laid by a large number of books, of which I will select three for the depth and pervasiveness of their teaching. The *Meditations of Marcus Aurelius* stirred me deeply by their utter sincerity and high-souled philanthropy. Curious as it may seem, Tolstoy took me captive by his *The Kingdom of God is within You*. I remember how the revelation came on me with a rush. Much that I have read since in English and Sanskrit is fully on a

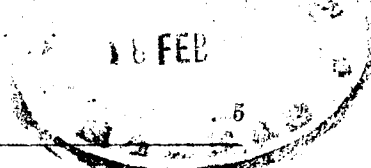
level with it, but the way it carried the citadel of my heart is an abiding memory, which I would not lose for the world. *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* gave a vision, as bright as it was clear, of a problem that had long been vexing me, and for the first time in my experience, set the position of women in correct perspective. Hardy, I have no doubt, meant to startle a convention-ridden and heartless world to a consciousness of the essence of chastity by his sub-title "*The Story of a Pure Woman*". It is audacious, but he makes it out to be just and proper. The taint is inflicted on Tess while she is hardly aware of what is happening and, the sinister consequence following, she has to pay the severest penalty that is exacted of her sex. Society is no doubt heartless in such cases, but Hardy makes society almost fiendish in its persecution of poor Tess. The victim of a cruel wrong, her subsequent life of high purpose and good deeds does not avail her, and at the end disaster, black and utter disaster, overtakes her until it seems to the reader that Tragedy herself must be horrified. Our Ahalya, who is in a way suggested to our thoughts by the story of Tess, escapes lightly in comparison, though her sin was committed consciously for the rapture of it. If we reduced the Ramayana scale to human proportions, her penance cleansed her soon enough, and it needed only Rama's touch to restore the unsullied charm that Brahma had given her at birth. Hindu society has treated her with divine indulgence. She is placed first among the five good women whose names have only to be remembered once a day to rid us of our grossest sins. Only one of these, Mandodari

has a perfectly white record. Sita had a whisper against her, however unjust. Draupadi had more husbands than one. The last one Tara, if she is the wife of Brihaspati, was unfaithful; if she is the Ramayana heroine, changed her husband three times. To say the least, this is a perplexing galaxy of good women. Yet I am persuaded that it is indicative of a highly tolerant and understanding attitude towards woman, which dates back to a very early period in our story. How time and custom have hardened our hearts today! We have forgotten the natural standards of the early time and become the slaves of false ideals utterly inconsistent with our nature as human beings. The springs of character would be purified, conduct would be regulated justly, and life would be happy all round, if the relations between men and women could be based on mutual forbearance and understanding as in olden times, and forgiveness and tolerance were regarded as excellences not only in wives but equally in husbands.

Society is judged from several angles in *Les Miserables*. No doubt individuals make society and contribute to its shifting phases in different ways. But at any given moment of our present state of evolution the pressure upon us of law, custom, economic conditions, hygienic environments and other like factors is such that from the cradle to the grave it is only in a very limited degree that we are the architects of our own fortune, and may be held responsible for what we are and what we do. Saints and criminals alike arise out of the soil and atmosphere. Properly understood, this truth ought to have overpowering influence

on our judgement and make us members one of another to a degree that we hardly dream of. *Jean Valjean* brings this lesson home in the most forceful and convincing manner. The story is one of the great epics of the world; the events and characters alike are cast in large moulds, and the sensitive reader is instructed, edified, scolded, exhorted and by every possible means shaped to be fit for a happier world than he now knows. Out of this vast storehouse of experience and history we carry away just so much wisdom as we are capable of. But there is no one, however exalted in station, however wise, however powerful, who can leave a study of this book without being summoned with the compelling majesty of supernatural law to the recognition of a more humane code of behaviour and a more altruistic sense of duty. If any of my readers has not yet read this book, I bid him, with the authority that belongs to age and knowledge of the deeps and shoals of life, to get hold of a copy at once and benefit to the full by the treasures that its pages enshrine.

One immortal product of the human mind I have kept to the end. The *Ramayana*, I hold to be almost without a rival in the world's literature. Whether we judge by the grandeur of the theme, by the variety of characters portrayed, by the tone of its idealism, or by the appeal that it makes to the devout heart, it ranks amongst the noblest monuments of the poetic genius. To those who cannot read it in the original, I would unhesitatingly recommend resort to translations. Even through media the narrative shines with rich brilliance. The wise say that if you cannot scale the



Himalayas you would do well to go to the foot and take in the infinite variety of nature that meets the eye. All parts of the book reward the reverent reader. But we may not expect homogeneity of treatment in a composition of its size. The pious pupil has therefore by long tradition selected certain *kandas* and *sargas* for repeated study and ascribed to each selection specific forms of mystic or worldly efficacy. I open the book at all times and with no particular expectation of improved health or auspicious prognostication. It never fails me. The distilled experience of ages is given in stanzas of exquisite sententious grace. Hermitages, described with wealth of household and sacrificial detail, invite you as to the intimacy of home. Forests and mountains and rivers, in pristine untamed grandeur, lose their terror in Valmiki's pages, for while he mentions with particularity the paths and thorny lanes, the river-fords and the giant shelter-giving trees, he makes only occasional and unexciting allusions to the bloody fights and devastations of beasts of prey, the bites and stings of poisonous insects, and the diseases and deformities caused by them, the movements, from untenable to promising spots, of hamlets harassed by flood and fire and famine. A seeming exception is mentioned towards the end of Ayodhya kanda. A colony of rishis migrate, to escape the cannibal Khara and his followers. They invite Rama and party to join, but these decline. Ah, how I should love to learn and teach in those sanctuaries, guru and sishya bathing in safe pools together, chanting the Vedas aloud till the hills threw the sacred sounds back and the sylvan gods sat up and listened, our mutual companionship

unperturbed by fear of lightning strikes or menacing processions or shootings of the king's police!

Of the countless benefits—one may even call them blessings—that the *Ramayana* can confer the highest is the training of the emotions and of the spirit. Of the lessons it teaches, the highest seems to me to be the exaltation of *dharma*. On its altar everything must be sacrificed, reverently and cheerfully. To fulfil his father's promise and save his honour, Rama twice renounced the kingdom of Kosala, once in Ayodhya when his father offered it, and later Chitrakuta when Bharata laid it at his feet. The passages in which this self-denial is narrated are among the noblest in the poem. The debate between the brothers is a gem without price. We are told that the gods came down to listen, for even among them such high arguments were seldom heard. Bharata was tired out and, though neither confounded nor struck dumb, gave in. But it is remarkable that at heart he seems to have been unconvinced. Nor was Lakshmana converted to the stern view at the end. Next only to Sri Rama in sublimity of character, why did they not catch his perception of duty? Vasishtha too seems to have fallen short of the theme. I dare not dogmatize, but shall ask leave to suggest timidly that the poet meant them as foil so that his hero may stand on an unapproachable pedestal.

If Rama was prepared for dire penalties in paying his father's debts, what would he not suffer to pay his own? When Sita remonstrated with him for taking other people's quarrels on his own head and inviting unnecessary risks, he proclaimed the

sanctity of his word once given and swore he would abandon her, Lakshmana and life itself before abandoning a promise. These high protestations were put to the test ere long. Not indeed in an attempt to maintain his fidelity to a solemn undertaking. For *dharma*, inexorable *dharma* came to him in diverse forms. His personal honour and the purity of the Ikshvaku race were inextricably mixed and no sacrifice was too great to preserve it. Twice when his queen's name was called in question, he threw her to the wolves. Then Lakshmana's life lay forfeit when he left his post of duty under the cruel compulsion of circumstances. Vasishtha had to intercede to get the penalty

commuted into banishment. The immolations ordered by Rama were at first loudly protested against; but as the iron strength of his will became known, people submitted as to the decrees of blind fate. This is eloquent testimony not only to the sempiternal validity of the ideals that he enforced, but to the mighty ascendancy that he established over the hearts of those that came under his influence. The author who conceived and delineated the character of Rama in such convincing detail as we have in the *Ramayana* is a supreme genius, Poet, prophet or seer has seldom presented to the mind of man so noble an apotheosis of duty.

Adwaita as the Culmination of Mathematics

BY SIR S. V. RAMAMURTI, K.C.I.E., C.I.E., I.C.S.

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ARITHMETIC is the basis of mathematics. The unit one is the basis of arithmetic. The unity of the perceiver is the basis of the unit one.

What is one of anything? It is as much as the consciousness of the perceiver recognises as adequate to present a quality. We see mangoes. As the quality of the mango grows out of the egeneric quality of fruit, it is the perceiver that stamps himself on the quality of fruit and makes one mango after another. He calls out one, as he stamps out one mango.

The unit is thus the stamping of the universal by the individual. There are three levels, where this equation between the individual and the universal is made.

At the level of matter, the Universe is reduced to equal and undistinguishable atoms of smaller and smaller dimensions, of fewer and fewer categories. The atoms of matter gave place to electrons and protons and a few others of the same kind. At the level of mind, the Universe is reduced to equal units, each represented by the number one. There are various types of numbers integral and fractional, rational and irrational, algebraic and transcendental. At the bottom of all these is the number one. It represents an atom of mind. Back of the atoms of matter and of mind is the one die of the Spirit. It is one without a second. With this die, the perceiver marks out the

perceived universe and number and atomocity emerge at the levels of mind and matter. The atoms of matter are divided. The atoms of mind are both united and divided. In spirit, there is no division. Nor is there union, for spirit is one without a second.

Mind exposes itself in thoughts. Matter exhibits itself in things. Neither thoughts nor things are indeed primal. They are different aspects of reality, yielded by analysis. Science and philosophy have been popularly differentiated as studies of quantity and quality. There is need to perceive the common basis of quantity and quality. Long ago when I tried to reconcile the oneness of Indian philosophy with the manyness of science, I found light in a sentence of Bergson that "quantity is incipient quality". Conversely we may say that quality is a range of quantity. A range of frequencies yields the quality of colour. Another range of frequencies yields us the quality of sound. Perhaps with greater knowledge, we could find the ranges of number which yield us the qualities associated with the other senses. Ranges of quantity having yielded quality, the aummation of all quality is the One, that is the supreme class of classes. Conversely, the unity of the universe is the die that marks off the units of the universe.

Mathematics is not merely the texture of the thought of man but also of the

being of matter. Nature rarely makes mistakes in arithmetic in her creation. Cotton may be defined by the chromosome number 12. The succession of chromosome numbers at different levels seems to yield the hierarchy of life—plants and animals, mosquitoes and men. Agro-biology yields equations valid for many crops, in many countries, under widely varying conditions. Mathematics is thus not merely an emanation from the mind. Equally it is an emanation from matter. Should not mathematics be then also an emanation from spirit from which both mind and matter emerge? In India, mathematics like other forms of thought has flowed from spiritual intuition. In the school of Relativists to which Eddington and Jeans belong, we see a reverse flow from mathematics to mysticism.

Matter, mind and spirit—these are the fundamental entities of the universe. Pure mathematics is the self-analysis of mind. Applied mathematics is the analysis of matter by mind. It is the basis of the science. What is the mathematics of the relation of mind and spirit?

Mathematics is both analysis and synthesis. Mathematics deals with both the unfolding and refolding of self, with the passage of Brahman to Atman and back to Prahman. Mathematics yields no merely a static vision but also a dynamic vision. Adwaita is thus not only the culmination of mathematics. It is too the foundation of mathematics.

THE FUNCTION OF MUSEUMS IN THE MASS EDUCATION OF INDIA

BY DR. GILBERT J. FOWLER, D. SC., F.R.I.C., FR. San. I., F.N.I.

MANY years ago I had occasion to give some evening lectures in Metallurgy of a semi-popular character to an audience of practical men, most of whom carried on small foundries and other local industries involving a knowledge of the properties and working of the more common metals. Naturally in dealing with foundry work the behaviour of metals on cooling had to be considered and I was rather proud of a fine specimen of crystallised steel which had been given me as a museum piece by a works manager in Middlesborough, the specimen having been recovered from an unexpectedly large mass of molten metal cooling abnormally slowly. It naturally served as an excellent lecture illustration of the various characteristic forms which might occur under different foundry conditions and more generally to the whole subject of crystals and crystallisation.

One of my audience was a specialist since his business was concerned chiefly with making shapes for hat makers. This good man was much interested and we became quite friendly so that he asked me to come and have tea with him and to see his foundry. He was a well to do man in a simple way and I came in for an excellent Lancashire "high tea" after we had inspected his foundry. Talking over the subject of my lecture he seemed to me unaccountably at a loss in describing the specimen of crystallized steel which I had shown the class and I then discovered that the word "crystal" was quite unfamiliar

to him. He was thus unable quickly to put into words some of the foundry problems which he wished to discuss with me. Yet he was obviously an intelligent and successful practical foundry expert and a man of business. He was just unfamiliar with a word. I on the other hand might well have been ignorant of a word well understood by steel melters, viz. what is known as the "nature" of the fractured surface of a test piece.

The incident would seem to indicate the difference between what may be termed "natural" and "academic" education.

Here, surely, is the place of the museum in education. By well chosen exhibits interest is awakened through the eye and afterwards the spoken and later still the written word can be assimilated. This is, after all, the experience of most of us. To expect to learn about the insides of one's first motor car by reading a handbook is generally vain. Only after visual examination of the actual car and more particularly after some tribulation and a baptism of oil received while crouching in the garage pit, does real comprehension begin.

In the light of the foregoing it has seemed to me that before the elementary school with its slate and blackboard must come the museum and the actual making visible of the words later to be used.

The museum I have in mind is the museum for Mass education, designed mainly for the actually illiterate or those just entering upon the literary path. That by

no means implies the unintelligent, but only the ill informed. How many villagers have e.g. ever seen the sea? How many have seen a large town? How many realize that the world is a globe and that it goes round that sun? Where do they think are England and America?

It is indeed generally the recognised objective of the worker in "village uplift" to provide the village with the cultural opportunities of the town and so stem the "drift" to the towns with its consequent loss of vitality to the nation.

The experience both of Germany and of Russia would lend encouragement to the view that the museum by the appeal to the eye is the best agent to awaken the villager, who in India is the *ryot*, to his real place and power in the community, to awaken him to a true self respect.

But art and science soon would fade
And commerce dead would fall
If the ryot ceased to reap and sow
For the ryot feeds them all.

In Russia the orthodox religion has been barred, not without reason, as "dope for the masses." I have only read of the Russian itinerant museum in the writings of Bernard Pares, Julian Huxley and others and in modern Russian fiction, but it is evident it may well play a very important part in the marvellous cultural drive of which the world is well aware. Its exhibits will no doubt be concerned with the future rather than with the past.

In Germany too from my personal knowledge the future held a prominent place in museum exhibits, but in the days when I visited the Hygiene exhibition in Dresden, later converted into a means of mass instruction, the future there appealed

to was the expectation of war and all the exhibits were arranged to show their effect on the number of men available for the army of the Fatherland. The result of this obsession is now manifest.

For the Indian instructional museum, then, we must look, it is true, to the future, but to the future of which Ruskin spoke, when it should be considered as much a victory "to get a barren field sown as to get an eared field stripped."

Even the old fashioned Museum with its ancient stones and fossil bones still awakens some kind of curious interest in the family party out for a holiday or why should troops of women and children visit the chemical and biochemical laboratories of the Indian Institute of Science, as they used to do, it must be confessed to the irritation of the professor in charge, if the sight of unaccustomed and mysterious things should not itself be an entertainment and an awakening apart from any understanding of their true significance?

To the student of history and antiquities and of indigenous art such a museum as the one in Baroda, of which a careful description has recently been published, will find occupation for many hours of study. To the advanced university or specialist worker such a museum may be of the greatest benefit. I remember well how the excellent geological section in the University Museum in Manchester made my study of geology something much more than a mere book cramming preparation for the examination, but was rather a living objectification of the entertaining lectures of Boyd Dawkins. Here were examples of the actual bones of the animals and weird

creatures mentioned in his discourses, all set out moreover in due order of their appearance in time.

The museum under present discussion is to reach those to whom even the conception of time is only dimly attained. Last year's harvest perhaps or with the children last year's festival may remain, but what is Akbar to him or he to Akbar? Does he even know the name of the present Viceroy?

What he needs to know is what many of us learnt in our childhood years. Somehow or other we came to know that we could float paper boats in the bath, that even a big heavy kite would fly in the air, that cats were quite different in their ways from dogs. Some of us in our very early years may have seen and wondered at the sea. Even it may be, have had early glimpses of countries other than the one which became our home, and have wondered, as one small child did, whether it was the same moon over England that he had seen in the night sky of France. All these and many other items of knowledge came without conscious effort by reason that we lived on an island not far away from different countries and people. We lived in towns and saw the shops and all the manifold contents full as they were of infinite avenues of knowledge. Then there were the docks and the ships. "Where are you going to all you big steamers"?

How are we to bring all these flashlights on knowledge to the ryot in the village? Clearly they must be brought to him for how can he be expected to travel hundreds of miles before he can see even the countless things which come naturally within

the knowledge of a British child or even a street urchin in a coastal town in India? How are we to bring the world to the village if we cannot bring the village to the world?

Thinking these things over, it would seem that first of all in our museum for mass education we must have a good sized *globe* so set up that it can be viewed from every quarter and may be turned about and rotated for ease of observation. Then there should be paintings and coloured photographs of the sea and of ships and "big steamers."

Pictures there must be showing typical scenes from the various countries of the world, their people and their activities, such as thousands of Indian soldiers will be describing to their friends and families in the village. Long ago in England there used to be panoramas which set out on a slowly moving great curtain travel pictures from all over the world. Now of course there is the cinema and educational tours for the children. It is stated that both in Russia and indeed in India the tours have been found too time-consuming, quite apart from the expense. Of greater importance would seem to be the need for easy access to the museum at all times of the day just like an ordinary museum or art gallery in a city or town.

Illiteracy introduces the difficulty of the impossibility of descriptive labels. Clearly descriptions must be vocal by fairly loudspeaking dictaphones or gramophone records. These might be arranged in little peepshows on the penny in the slot principle although capable of being operated without charge.

There will need to be a well qualified and enthusiastic guide to the exhibits, to be appealed to when any difficulty arises or explanation is needed, or to give formal expositions at stated hours.

The next step to the knowledge of the world will be the elementary further details which lead to some knowledge of the *why* as well as the *how*. Where do the sun and moon go to when they leave the sky? Why does the wind blow? Where do the clouds come from? Why do some things burn and others not? What is the wind made of? And many other such questions which accompany the early awakening of the scientific attitude of mind—the substitution of superstition by understanding. Some of us learnt these things from admirably written children's elementary booklets of sciences. Chief among these was the "Child's Guide to Knowledge" the first question being who made the World? and the answer was "The great and good God," thus starting on a note common to all religions.

Many pages of questions followed comprising all items of information which should be common to the equipment of every good citizen such as "What is bread made of?" "What is coal and where does it come from?" (Think of the different signification of a piece of coal to an Indian villager and a qualified modern chemist!) Followed questions about the origin and production of things daily met with—sugar, cotton, coffee, salt, wool, sealing wax, to mention a few that come quickly to mind. It was in fact a child's technical encyclopædia and from actual experience it can be testified to be more fascinating than an old

fashioned fairy tale. Is not indeed the fairy tale of science if properly related more worthy of attention than at any rate some of the cruder fantasies of the nursery writers, just as the history of real saints and heroes is better than legends of doubtful authority.

In our museum the Child's Guide would be expanded by models and pictures.

A further stage in education would be represented by the subjects handled in such works as Huxley's and Gregoy's Physiography which comprises maps and map-readings, springs and rivers, composition of the atmosphere, temperature and pressure of the air and from these will naturally follow simple mechanisms such as pumps and windmills and steam boilers illustrated were possible by working models.

Finally perhaps will come village and town sanitation and the relation between them and the national well being depending as it does on good food and pure and ample water.

To summarise therefore such a museum if properly and *energetically* controlled and operated would enable any willing even if illiterate visitor to assimilate much of the natural education which is the privilege of the western educated literate child. Granted that it would need the enthusiasm of the Russian social workers if the staff and instruction is to be forthcoming. Whether this will equal the enthusiasm of facile political slogans remains to be seen.

Further it is likely that the first question to be asked by "the powers that be" is what will all these museums cost? and the answer naturally will depend on how many it is proposed to instal and equip?

As a first approximation it may perhaps be assumed that a museum would be appreciated at any centre where it has been found practicable to inaugurate a system of compost making from the municipal refuse and to train the necessary staff. Already itinerant cinemas are in operation in connection with the organisation for instruction in compost making superintended by Dr. C. N. Acharya, Chief Biochemist and which already comprises more than 400 centres.

In the U. S. A. in addition to travelling cinemas the outlying farms eagerly await the travelling libraries which supply to the

illiterate the equivalent of the visual message of the museums.

The real cost will necessarily depend on how much of the equipment can be supplied in India. Having regard to the technical ability available in the cinema and illustrated journalistic world and the instrument makers who would be available for model making, there need be no requisition for overseas supply and so the museums would really be *costless*, the money tokens involved being supplied by Government and merely circulating in the country. "Men and materials" are the capital required.



F. M. Lord Alanbrooke, Chief of Imperial Gen. Staff, and Lord Louis Mountbatten, Supreme Allied Commander, S. E. A. C.

HIS MAJESTY'S OPPOSITION

BY MR. R. J. VENKATESWARAN

THE term 'His Majesty's Opposition' was first used in just. To day, however, it has become a regular and essential part of the British constitution. Every general election produces not only a government but also an opposition. The opposition is His Majesty's alternative government. The government members sit on the front bench to the right of the Speaker and the leaders of the opposition sit on the front bench to his left. A slight change in voting in the next general election, however, will be sufficient to make government and opposition change places.

The chief function of the opposition is to criticise the government. In totalitarian states, all opposition is crushed and it is impossible for the citizens to see "the other side of the question". Democracy, however, depends on the foundation of public opinion and the opposition plays a very important part in educating the public in political principles. The criticisms levelled against the government by the opposition are generally the criticisms of ordinary individuals, and the answers of the government are really replies to the questions raised by the man in the street. The debate in the legislatures are conducted in public so that the citizens might be kept informed of the activities of their representatives. Secret sessions have no place in a democracy though, however, in extraordinary circumstances secrecy may be justified.

The opposition should discharge its duty with a high sense of responsibility. The

dictum that the task of the opposition is to oppose should not be quite literally understood and acted upon, for the working of government would be very difficult if the opposition always opposes the government and never co-operates even on non-controversial issues of public importance and benefit. The purpose of the opposition is to offer constructive criticism and not to obstruct the government. There are, however, occasions when obstruction may be quite justified. The members of the Irish Nationalist Party, for instance, could be hardly blamed if they deliberately adopted obstructionist tactics in order to wreck the Act of Union. Again, when a government attempt to rush through any measure against popular will, the opposition will be quite justified in demanding that it may be submitted to the people. It is however rather difficult to interpret this principle, because both the government and the opposition will interpret the popular opinion in their own way. For instance, the Conservatives obstructed the Parliament Bill and the Home Rule Bill in 1912. The Liberal Government was able to have a majority after 1910 only with Labour and Irish support. So the Conservatives maintained that the Liberals had no mandate for either because the Irish voted for the Parliament Bill to secure Home Rule and Great Britain had produced a majority against both.

But in normal times the opposition should offer its full co-operation to the government. The Government also should always be prepared to give a respectful

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hearing to the views of the opposition and profit by them. The leader of the opposition in England is even paid a regular salary from the funds of the State to enable him to discharge his duty without the distraction of earning a living.

The House of Commons has adopted a number of devices in order to check the obstructionist tactics of recalcitrant minorities. As early as 1604, a rule was framed under which a motion that "the previous question be now put", if carried, caused a vote on the main question to be taken forthwith. But later on, the "previous question" rule was found inadequate, and so a number of special regulations were introduced which pass under the general name of closure.

There are three forms of closure, namely, the simple closure, the guillotine (or closure by compartments) and the Kangaroo. The simple closure rule says that after a question has been proposed any member may move that the question be now put and it will be put forthwith, and decided without amendment or debate, provided the Chair is satisfied that such a motion does not infringe the rights of the minorities. Thus discussion may be cut off at any time—even while a member is speaking—and a vote precipitated. It is however laid down that at least hundred members should vote in favour of such a motion.

In 1893, the House of Commons introduced a new procedure for closure known as the guillotine, under which the House agreed in advance upon an allotment of time to the various parts of the

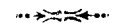
measure, debate on each part being terminated when the applied time arrived and a vote thereupon taken on that part.

The third form of closure, nicknamed kangaroo, empowers the Speaker to select only those amendments which appear to raise the essential issues.

The application of these forms of closure imposes heavy responsibilities on the presiding officer, and it is interesting to observe that the Speaker of the House of Commons has generally discharged his delicate duties without any party bias and has become a synonym for dignity and impartiality.

NEW YEAR, 1946

BY IAN HOYLE, S. J.



Though here and there a stroke may have
 cloven
Asunder the warp of the fading year,
May the oncoming year be unrivenly woven
With the joy of all we hold dear.

If old were dear, may the new be dearer
With bells of peace in it ringing;
And if thus it be dearer, the chime will sound
 nearer
The music my heart is singing.

I know not if shapes that before me are looming
As vaguely as forms in the dawn appear,
Are petals of flowers with sweetness blooming,
Or are thorns, in the coming New Year.

But whether my path through the year that
 is coming
Wind over the sward, or a barren slope,
My heart like a bee is busily humming
A tune of a New Year's hope.

POET SHELLEY AND HINDUISM

BY RAO SAHEB C. HAYAVADANA RAO

IN his letter to Maria Gisborne Shelley wrote thus:—

When a man marries, dies or turns Hindoo,
His best friends hear no more of him.

Shelley lived between 1792-1821. He was never in India and has no contact with Hindus. It is a moot question as to what exactly he meant by the phrase "turns Hindoo" and then suggesting that the man is "no more" heard of. It might, perhaps be imagined that he was paying a compliment to the all-absorbing character of the socio-religious organisation known generally as Hinduism. Many distinguished writers have for long dealt on this distinctive assimilative aspect of Hinduism. Provided one is tolerant, any one can be a Hindu in thought, word and deed without forfeiting any of his cherished opinions whatever they may do. Both Saivism and Vaishnavism are in complete agreement in their highest forms in this particular matter. Neo-platonic ideas occur scattered through the writings of Shelley, as indeed in Shakespeare. We know that Neo-platonism as a system of philosophy originated in Alexandria about the beginning of the 3rd century A.D., under influences which were largely Hindu. This system of philosophy resolved the Absolute or God, into the incarnation thereof in the Logos, or reason of man. It aimed at demonstrating the graduated transition from the absolute object to the personality of man. Whether it was a concretion of European thought and Hindu mysticism, as it has been suggested, or an attempt at the absorption into Christian philosophy and Christian mysticism of Hindu philosophical ideas it is unnecessary

to pursue here. But it may be useful to remember that Shelley's revolutionary mind, developed under the influence of William Godwin, absorbed several of these Fundamental ideas associated with the cardinal philosophical tenets of Hinduism and spoken of generally as Neo-platonism. Perhaps, it may be equally useful to remember that Shelley became, under these influences, "an enthusiast for humanity generally," as Professor Saintsbury says, "and towards individuals a man of infinite generosity and kindness." Shelley was pre-eminently the poet of lyric emotion, subtle and most musical interpreter of vague, spiritual longing and intellectual desire. His poems form together "the most sensitive", as Stopford Brooke says, "the most imaginative and the most musical and the least tangible lyrical poetry we possess." This is a just estimate. Shelley's poetry, like his very nature, can be understood only through sympathy rather than through criticism. No English poet is more remote from those tangible facts of life which daily engross European life, none has fewer points of contact with the average mental state of the average man of Europe. Like his *Sky Lark* Shelley moves from the earth as a cloud of fire; and his song reaches us from blue aerial heights. If we have an answering touch of his nature, if we have it in us to leave the ground we shall be caught up likewise into those luminous and unfathomable spaces where he sings. A great deal of his poetry is more easy to understand for a professing Hindu, with

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his metaphysical background than for an average European. Take the following lines from *Prometheus Unbound*:—

(ACT 2.5)

My song is an enchanted boat,
Which, like a sleeping swan, doth float
Upon the silver waves of thy sweet singing."

Take this, again, from the same poem, which occurs in Act 3.1:

We too will sink on the wild waves of ruin,
Even as a vulture and a snake outspont,
Drop, twisted in inextricable fight,
Into a shoreless sea.

Later, in Act 3.3, we read:—

Death is the veil which those who live call
life!
They sleep, and it is lifted.
Or the dull snore of self-lived ignorance.

In *Love's Philosophy*, the following lines occur:—

The fountains mingle with the river,
And the rivers with the ocean,
The winds of heaven mix for ever,
With a sweet emotion:
Nothing in the world is single;
All things by a law divine,
In one another's being mingle
Why not I with thine?

The mystic ideas, with which the writings of Shelley are so full and so very highly appreciated, may be better understood from the Hindu philosophical point of view than from the purely European. This is a significant fact that has to be remembered in interpreting Shelley and the lines that we have quoted from his *Letter to Maria Gisborne* furnish the clue to this interpretation of Shelley.

THE CANADIAN CONSTITUTION HOW RACIAL PROBLEM WAS SOLVED

BY DR. A. B. RUDRA

THE Dominion of Canada started its career with only four provinces—Quebec, Ontario (formerly known as lower and upper Canada and (forming a single unit), Nova Scotia and New Brunswick. In course of time new provinces came in, and today there are altogether nine provinces.

At the head of the Canadian federation there is a Governor-General who is appointed by the King on the advice of the Dominion Government. The real executive, however, is the Cabinet which is, following the well-known British practice, responsible to the federal House of Commons. It is now an accepted political principle that the two dominant races in Canada, British and French, as well as the different geographical areas, should be fairly represented on the Cabinet—

though, of course, appointments are naturally made on party lines. At the head of each provincial government there is a Lieutenant-Governor appointed and dismissible by the federal government. But real power is in the hands of a provincial ministry chosen on British lines.

The Federal Parliament is bi-cameral. The Upper House or the Senate has 96 members, all of whom are nominated for life by the Dominion Government on party considerations. The provinces are unequally represented on the Senate, but the four zones into which Canada is divided are given equal number of seats. The lower House or the House of Commons is elected by universal suffrage for a period of 5 years, subject to earlier dissolution. The provinces are

represented on the basis of population. Quebec has a fixed number of 65 seats, and the other provinces are, after every decennial census, given seats proportionately.

If the same party holds office during more than one Parliament, the practice is to have a French Canadian Speaker in the second Parliament if the previous Speaker was a Britisher and *vice versa*. The House has also a rule that the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker should not be of the same race.

Appointments to all offices in Parliament, high or low, are, in general, made with reference to racial differences. Both English and French can be used in debate.

Unlike the United States, Canada has no system of parallel Federal Courts. Provincial courts dispose of cases involving Dominion and Provincial laws. At the head of the whole judicial system stands the Supreme Court. The Privy Council still remains the final court. Its criminal jurisdiction has already been eliminated, and its remaining jurisdiction now continues by sufferance.

A federal constitution being aimed at, subjects of legislation have been allocated between the Dominion and provincial legislatures by the Constitution Act itself. Education is a provincial subject but there is provision for central interference in order to protect the rights of denominational educational institutions. Agriculture and immigration are concurrent subjects, that is, both the Centre and the Province have the right to legislate on these subjects, central law prevailing in case of conflict. The provinces have exclusive power over 16 enumerated subjects. The Dominion Parliament has general power of legislation

outside the subjects assigned exclusively to the provinces. It has, besides, exclusive power of legislation in respect of 29 enumerated subjects, notwithstanding anything to the contrary in the Act.

The constitution of Canada is clearly federal in character, though it has, in the words of Professor Kennedy, a unitary bias. The centre was advisedly given a strong position in order to avoid the possibility of the outbreak in Canada of anything like the disastrous civil war that almost disrupted the federal system of the United States—a dire calamity which, it was thought, could not have happened if the Federal Government of America were strong.

The Federal Constitution of Canada has its defects and its critics. But the fact is undeniable that it has worked quite well over a long period, and has never been under serious strain. And it is most significant that, instead of accentuating and inflaming racial and religious bitterness and antagonism, it has largely eliminated both. If the race problem in Canada has not entirely disappeared, its potentiality for mischief no longer exists. The French-Canadians who form about one-third of the total population of Canada are now well content with their status—there is no more any talk of secession. National feeling in Canada has grown more and more intense. The citizens of Canada are first of all Canadians, and secondly citizens of a particular province or members of a particular race or religious group.

What a change—what a transformation—has the federal constitution brought about in the course of less than three-quarters of

a century! Yes, the change is really amazing. Consider for a moment how the French and the British populations of Canada stood in relation to each other prior to the advent of the new Constitution, 'I found,' wrote Durham in his classic Report, 'two nations warring in the bosom of a single state.' Communications in those days in that vast country were ill-developed and highly unsatisfactory. People in Canada knew little of one another, and much less of the maritime provinces. The different colonies

had peculiar social backgrounds—institutions—to which each of them was deeply attached. The people, at any rate, the vast majority of them, became apathetic and even prepared for dissolution and disintegration. That was the picture in the sixties of the last century. Surely, the change effected by the constitution of 1867 is remarkable, and is responsible for the present position of Canada in the Empire and in world politics.—*Broadcast from Dacca.*

HINDU COLONIES IN THE FAR EAST

BY PROF. K. A. NEELAKANTA SASTRI, M.A.

THE spread of Hindu civilization to the Eastern lands across the seas and its development through several centuries is still a relatively little known chapter of India's history, at least in India. The researches of French and Dutch archaeologists in Indo-China and Insulinia, carried out for the most part since the beginning of the current century, have brought to light a New India of which the history and culture for the first fourteen centuries of the Christian era are seen to bear the closest possible resemblance to those of the mother country. The Greek and Arab geographers often counted these lands as part of India, and the civilization in historical times arose from an extension to them of the same process as gave rise to the Indo-Aryan civilization of India. Small bands of adventurous colonists go and settle in selected spots of an unknown country in the midst of a relatively barbarous population; by the superiority of their language, social institutions and cultural establishments they

make themselves acceptable to the local population and succeed in a short time in Hinduising and civilizing the whole land and establishing more or less powerful kingdoms, continue to maintain a fairly live contact with the mother country on the one side and China on the other and develop into great centres of industry and trade, religion, architecture and the arts. Prof. R. C. Majumdar is one of the few scholars in India that has devoted a considerable amount of time to the study of this side of Indian history. He has already published comprehensive and scholarly books on Campa, Suvarnavipa and Kambuja. In the present volume* he anticipates the completion of his larger plan and offers a popular handbook including in a short compass all the essential facts upon the history and culture of the ancient Hindu colonies of the East. He has avoided all critical

* HINDU COLONIES IN THE FAR EAST.—R. C. Majumdar, M.A., Ph.D., Ex-Vice-Chancellor, University of Dacca (General Printers and Publishers Ltd., 119, Dharmatala Street, Calcutta).

discussions and references to authorities. The direct aim is to meet the requirements of students in the Intermediate and B.A., courses in History in the University of Calcutta. But there is no doubt that the book will attract a much wider circle of readers.

The work is divided into five parts, the first being the shortest and giving a sketch of the land and the people and some of foundation legends cherished by the colonies in later times. Part II (pp. 15-96) is devoted to the history of the Malay peninsula and the islands, Part III (pp. 97-152) to that of Campa, Part IV (pp. 153-188) to that of Kambuja, and the last part (pp. 189-232) to Burma and Siam.

When an experienced and competent scholar of such high standing has essayed a new and difficult task and attained a remarkable measure of success in its execution it seems almost unmannerly to offer any criticism of the work. It is with a view

to assist the author in improving the future editions of this very useful book that we permit ourselves a few observations. For no fault of the author the political history of the kingdoms makes somewhat monotonous reading and perhaps a greater stress on the cultural side of the subject than has been possible within the limits the author seems to have set for himself, may go far to redress the balance. Either one good large map, or a series of smaller ones must be provided to aid the reader's understanding of the political geography of the colonies. Lastly a reviewer from South India gets the feeling when he lays down the book that the author has no doubt unconsciously underestimated the role of South Indian influence in the shaping of colonial civilization; these influences are admitted on a much more generous scale in the works of the French and Dutch archaeologists mentioned above which have doubtless formed the basis of Dr. Majumdar's work.

MODERN BANKING DEVELOPMENTS

BY MR. KAMAL KUMAR GHOSH, M.A.,

Formerly Professor of the Marwari College of Commerce, Bhagalpur.

“THE scope for expansion of Indian Joint Stock Banking is unlimited” says Professor Daver in his *Law and Practice of Banking*. Indeed with 2,500 towns in India, according to our 1931 statistics, we have only 906 offices in all, providing therefore very meagre facilities for fostering banking habits to our people. Apart from the agriculturists, of which we are seventy per cent. according to Masani, who are very much prejudicial or otherwise completely ignorant and in the dark about

banking, the expansion of our Indian trade and industry is also very much handicapped for want of suitable banking facilities. The 1931 figures make one surprised when compared with continental countries, that we have only one bank office for every 387,000 heads of population in India.

The war has however, brought out a renaissance. There have been many off shoots—small and big, of these tiny banking bushes, and in some cases big trees like the United Commercial Bank are already

planted with beneficent results. Almost every town of any importance has its bank offices and more than 500 banks have grown up in Bengal alone registered under the Indian Companies Act. Not that these Banks are sitting tight without business, but expansion in bank deposits is a characteristic feature of the war.

The war has also experienced spectacular growth in works of Bills of Exchange. Military contractors have come up—big and small, taking contracts more than their capacities, and passing on their bills through banks who are purchasing them with stipulated margins. Many indigenous industries have grown up with the consequent floating of Shares in the market and the bankers are having transactions in overdrafts with these shares as securities. With the expansion of business, bills for collection have increased. Besides these, deposits in different kinds have grown immensely.

But the question is, whether these institutions will have healthy survivals? Or will they be nipped in the bud with the cessation of hostilities? We know, out of the 500 banks above referred to, only one sixth of them have a paid-up capital and reserve of Rs. 50,000 and over, and out again of them only seventeen are in the first category.

But are not these small banks which are actually doing business in the mufasil towns of Bengal, Bihar and Orissa? It will be astonishing to know, that of the ‘big five’ which have grown up under Indian Management, except the Central Bank of India Ltd, no other Bank has started a single branch in any of the smaller towns

of these three provinces, not even in the metropolis, excepting Calcutta. Indeed as Mr. K. P. Thakur has pointed out, “The Directors of these institutions do not appear to exhibit by their action a fair knowledge of the business requirements of these provinces, or else they do not take pains or have the desire to understand the needs of these places”. Thanks however, to the benevolent institution of the late Sir Sorabji Poochkhawala, the people of the smaller towns in these three provinces are immensely benefited.

Hence the importance of these small banking institutions for North Eastern India. But have they really taken advantage of the very large expansion of currency during the war to stand the test of post-war trial? A close study of the internal working of these banking organisations will reveal that they have not. Although the Managers of these small banks are in more advantageous position than the Central Bank of India Ltd. in these places, because of their personal touch in these localities, yet the majority of them have not been able to develop their institutions through healthy growth. Jealous and unhealthy competitions are the principal causes of this weakness of the structure. Individualism has again played a prominent part in their developments, resulting in unhealthy fostering of individualistic interest rather than of the institutions. Banking discipline has been on the whole everywhere ignored, in some places even at the risk of speculations without safeguarding the depositor's interests. The Head offices of many of these institutions have only cared to expand

without foreseeing the consequences of their survival, or the probabilities of a 'shake' to the main root because of their collapse. Indeed as the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India pointed out, many of these small banking institutions will be ruined because of their establishments in towns where the possibilities of banking developments are meagre.

Of course there are again some among these small banking institutions, who are very much conservative in opening branches, the New National Bank Ltd., for instance, with only seven offices on the whole. No doubt such 'conservatism' is encouraging at the outset, but conservative or liberal, everywhere there should be an eye for healthy growth, fair competition and good selection of staff.

Leaving aside the five big Bengali Banks—Nath Bank, Comilla Banking Corporation, Comilla Union, Bengal Central and the Calcutta National, we have in all about 25 banks having paid-up capital and reserve of between 50 thousand and one lakh. Besides these, there are another 27 banks with one lakh to five lakhs paid-up capital. There are again a third grade of non-scheduled banks having paid-up capital and reserves of Five lakhs and over numbering about a dozen.

What one feels with an eye and desire to the survival of these small institutions on the one hand, and the facilities they extend to the towns of these three provinces, is that of any device that can be sought out to save them from their imminent danger ahead. The first question that naturally comes up is of unhealthy

competition. The one easy remedy is either of mutual co-operation or of amalgamation of groups of small banks into one giant bank. Such amalgamation will neither prejudice the interest of the share-holders, directors or members on the staff, nor would they hamper working in any way. Hence a Union of small banking institutions in North East India is a necessity.

The second thing is of staff selection to avoid individualistic interest to predominate over the interest of the institution. How often do we not hear in the mufassils that a certain bank is flourishing because of a certain local director or a manager, not for the institution for its own sake? This is degrading and hampers the ultimate progress, and in all such individualistic assertions, these institutions get ups and downs, and mainly flourish at the cost of a sister institution in the locality. Utmost precautions should be taken against all such unhealthy growth and should be discouraged by both the public at large and institutions.

Then comes the discipline of the institution upon which much of the reputation of the entire structure depends. It is a common feature with these small institutions that the officials in the branch offices are in major cases not properly trained. To please their constituents they often run the risk of the common rule to safeguard the depositors' interest. As regards banking hours they are often unduly corrupted, and in organisation attempt black-mailing others. The sooner these difficulties are removed, the quicker the success of these institutions,

Next comes the relation of these branch offices with their main office. More often than not the head offices are on the look out for getting more milk rather than feeding the cow properly. The Superintendent of Branches and the Organising Secretaries and Development officers care more for extracting rather than seeing the means for extraction. The result is that the branches cannot develop business locally and the officers in the branches often feel tied up or bound down by Head office autocracy.

If however, it is an utopian ideal that groups of small banks cannot be amalgamated together or brought under a single Union, utmost care should be taken to see that nothing unhealthy fosters and the institutions co-operate mutually. In view of a number of offices of different banking institutions in mufassil towns, there has been a tendency to form managers' associations, which is a healthy growth no doubt, but in view of the differences at the root, these associations serve no practical purpose whatsoever. We often hear of a constituent of a particular branch of an institution being harassed by a sister branch in bill collection or some such allied affairs. The cheque of one institution is returned by another institution although it can be safely passed for slight difference. What however, is essential is a healthy co-operation and fair competition.

Side by side a few things must also be borne in mind. In opening a branch, a first hand Survey of the area with minutest present and future possibilities should be studied. Once the branch is opened, it would be too late to think it a

wrong selection. As such, much of the work—of deposits and of securing healthy constituents,—should be finished before the opening ceremony is actually performed, and the next item should be staff selection of which we have dealt at length already. As regards loans, it is expedient to start with short period loans and first class securities should always be sought for. Bill of Exchange should form a principal item of work because bills collections, bill purchase, hoonidi, Railway Receipt, Warrants, Inward and Outward bills, although not much profitable, yet attract constituents. Popularity and speedy work are, above all, special virtues of sound banking. Lastly people's confidence should always be imbibed.

Hence, it has been rightly said that small affairs should be left in the hands of the small banks. But the writer with his practical experience both in small and bigger institutions is pessimistic if these small institutions will stand the test of time, barring a few, under their present working system. Why not, therefore, bring a reformation either for their doing or their death and in the latter case allow scope to the bigger institutions to flourish for the good of the country and the Nation?

CONTRIBUTIONS

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

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

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

War and the Steel Industry in India

By MR. PHIROZ KUTAR, B.A., B.Sc., M.S., Met. E. (U.S.A.)

THE Indian steel industry had confined itself up to the thirties to the manufacture of ordinary plain carbon steel, chiefly for structural materials for home consumption and rails for the requirement of Indian Railways. The manufacture of high-quality alloy and tool steels was practically non-existent, excepting small scale attempts by some steel makers for their own Works requirements. Just about fifteen years ago, when the steel industry in India had established itself, did it begin to look around and put in serious efforts to get its rightful share of the special alloy steel market that was growing apace. The impetus to embark on the manufacture of a suitable alloy structural steel presented itself when the project for the construction of the new Howrah Bridge was undertaken. Tatas rose to the occasion by producing 'Tiscrom', which is a low-alloy high-tensile structural steel, about 17,000 tons of which was incorporated in the construction of the new Howrah Bridge. With the advent of low-alloy high-tensile steel, began the development of another alloy steel, 'Tiscor', which is particularly resistant to corrosion and abrasion, and is of a sufficiently higher yield strength to enable rail-road engineers to design railway cars, trucks etc., of much lighter construction, where the hauling of dead weight is a detrimental factor.

The first real opportunity for making alloy steels in bulk presented itself in 1940, when the Tata Iron & Steel Co., were called upon to make armour plates. Having no prior experience in the manufacture and production of such a class of ordnance steel, the work undertaken had to start

practically from scratch without any outside help. Intensive research was undertaken, as a result of which first-class bullet-proof armour plates were developed, that have been tested and found to be as good if not better than those made in other countries. The armoured cars built in India with these plates, did magnificent service in the Eighth Army's forward drive in North Africa.

Although the greater portion of the tonnage of alloy steels manufactured in India during the war was for armour plates, attention was also paid to other ordnance requirements. While alloy steel shell bars special quality welding rods for the welding of bullet-proof plates, forgings for armaments and alloy bar stock for the production of armour-piercing projectiles were produced, those for the manufacture of parachute harness, non-magnetic bullet-proof steel for helmets etc., were likewise successfully manufactured and supplied as and when the need arose.

In spite of the many pressing demand of war, the manufacture of alloy and special steels for civilian needs was not lost sight of. For instance, during the war there was a shortage of small coins. The Government had therefore to plan a general expansion of the production capacities of the Mint, and enough steel for mint dies for coinage was not available. Once again Indian ingenuity and research helped in the production of the necessary die steel to ease the situation. The Posts & Telegraph Department of the Government of India in their turn felt the acute shortage of imported magnet bars, needed for telephone and telegraphic sets. To meet this urgent

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demand, research on permanent magnets was undertaken and several types of magnet steels were produced and supplied, which helped to avert a breakdown in our country's communications. Then came the manufacture of stainless steels for cutlery, surgical instruments, and equipments for chemical and engineering industries. A further achievement has been the production of high-speed steels. Without these steels naturally the sinews of war in the form of guns and ammunitions could not have been turned out. If it had not been possible to supply this steel at a time when it was most needed in the country, much of the industrial war-machine would have been at

a standstill. The difficulties in the production of these steels were many: equipment had to be improvised and manufacture had to be carried out in plants not fully equipped for the purpose. It was indeed a challenge to Indian metallurgists and technicians, to develop the country's war potential to the maximum in the face of heavy odds. India accepted this challenge and showed what determination, application and resourcefulness could accomplish. The steel industry in India to-day is therefore in a definitely better position to meet our future needs of alloy steels—needs which will only grow with the tempo of industrialization of this great continent.

ORIGIN OF THE RAJPUTS

By DR. D. C. GANGULY, M.A., Ph.D. (London).

Reader in History, Dacca University

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THE term Rajput is a contraction of the word Rajaputra, which ordinarily means a prince. It was also the name of an office in ancient time. It is not found to have been used to denote a tribe or a race in any record of the pre-Moslem period. The bardic tales of Rajaputana mention the names of thirtysix clans constituting the Rajput tribe. Of them the Pratiharas, Paramaras, Solankis (Chaulukyas), Chauhans, and the Guhilas occupied a very high position. The history of some of these dynasties can be traced from the sixth century A.D. They are not, however, found mentioned in the Epics and in the early Puranas. All these clans put forward

various pretensions by tracing their descent from Epic or mythical heroes. After the discovery of the Rajore stone inscription, the question of the origin of the Rajputs is taken to be definitely settled. This inscription, which was found in the village Rajore, in the Alwar State, Rajaputana, states that during the sovereignty of Vijayapala (of the Pratihara dynasty of Kanauj) the king Mathana of the Gurjara-Pratihara family granted a village with all its income together with the neighbouring fields cultivated by the Gurjaras. The scholars almost unanimously think that the expression "Gurjara-Pratihara family" definitely means the

Pratihara family of the Gurjara tribe. Gurjaras are mentioned in the various records of the early mediaeval period in India. They are identical with Khazars, who settled in Armenia, in the early years of the Christian era. They migrated to India along with the Hunas in the latter part of the fifth century A. D. The Rajatarangini mentions about the Alakhana, king of Gurjara. There are now places called Gurjaranwala and Gujarat in the Punjab. In the ninth century A. D. portions of Jaypur and Alwar States were known as Gurjaratra. Modern Gujarat in the Bombay Presidency was anciently known as Anarta. It came to be known as Gurjaratra or Gurjara from the eleventh century. All these only show the land marks in the advance of the Gurjaras from the north to the interior of India. The Pratiharas, who were a branch of the Gurjara tribe, were racially connected with all other Rajput clans. It may be concluded from this that all the thirtysix Rajput clans were members of the Gurjara tribe. In other words, all of them were foreigners who had no connection with the Indian soil before the fifth century A. D. This theory of the origin of the Rajputs has found favour with almost all the modern scholars.

Apart from the fact that there is no valid ground for thinking that the Gurjaras are identical with Khazars, the existence of the Gurjaras can be traced on the bank of the Cauvery river even before the fifth century A. D. It has been noticed above that the current theory of the origin of the Rajputs is entirely based on the interpretation of the expression "Gurjara-

Pratiharanvaya", as mentioned in the Rajore stone inscription. There is authentic evidence to prove that Gurjara was the name of a country in the early period. This is identical with Gurjaratra, referred to above, and Guzarat, mentioned by Al Biruni. In the epigraphic records there are expressions like Kalinga-Ganga, Vengi Chalukya etc, which mean Gangas of the Kalinga country and the Chalukyas of the city of Vengi. So the expression *Gurjara-Pratihara-anvaya* may very well mean the Pratihara family of the Gurjara country. Here the object of the author of the inscription is to show that the Pratihara line which Mathanadeva belonged to is distinct from the Kanyakubja-Pratihara family of which his overlord Vijayapala was a member. The term Gurjara at the end of the inscription means the people who were residents of the country of this name. In this circumstance, the Rajore inscription cannot be taken to have definitely proved the Gurjara origin of the Pratiharas.¹

Epigraphic records and the Arab Geographers occasionally mention about the Gurjaras. It has now been generally assumed that the term definitely refers to the Pratiharas of Kanauj. A close scrutiny of all these sources, however, leads to a different conclusion. The early kings of the imperial Pratihara dynasty ruled from Ujjain, the capital of Malava. Sometime between A. D. 808 and A. D. 812 they lost Malava to the Rashtrakutas of the Deccan, and established their capital at

¹ Author's—*Origin of the Pratihara Dynasty*, Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. X, 337.

Kanauj. Gurjara or Gurjaratra was ruled by a branch of the Guhila dynasty under the suzerainty of these Pratiharas. The Rashtrakuta records make it clear that Gurjara, referred to by them, is the name of a country, and that there was a lord of the king of Gurjara.² A Ganga chief of Mysore claims that by conquering the northern region he became known as the king of the Gurjaras. Nobody thinks that the Gangas had any racial connection with the Gurjara tribe. Similarly, the inscriptions of the Kalachuris and the Chandellas carefully distinguish a king of the Pratihara dynasty from the king of the Gurjaras.³ The Arab geographers Sulaiman, Abu Zaid, Ibn Khurdadba, Al Baladhuri, Al Mas'udi, and Al Idrisi mention about Jurz or Gurjara, which may mean a tribe or a country. Al Baladhuri makes it clear that Jurz is the name of a country. So that other Arab geographers may be taken to have used the term in the same sense⁴. If all these discussions are summarised, it follows that no definite evidence has hitherto been discovered to establish racial connection between the Pratiharas and the Gurjara tribe.

The Pratiharas and the other Rajput clans relate in their inscriptions quite different stories about their origin. They never mention themselves as members of

² Author's—*Gurjaras in the Rashtrakuta Records*,—Proceedings of the Indian History Congress, Calcutta.

³ *Pratiharas and the Gurjaras*,—Journal of the Bihar and Orissa Research Society,—Vol. XXIV.

⁴ Author's,—*History of the Gurjara Country*,—Indian Historical Quarterly, Vol. X 613.

the Gurjara tribe. It is argued that they kept silent about their Gurjara origin because they did not like to disclose their foreign connection. If it is accepted, it will be difficult to explain why the Pratihara Mathanadeva as late as in the middle of the 10th century humiliated his family by disclosing its foreign origin. Of the Rajput clans who flourished in the pre-Moslem period, the Pratiharas, Chahamanas, and the Guhilas are known to have been originally Brahmans. In the subsequent period they through matrimonial alliances were reduced to the position of the Kshatriyas. If it is assumed that all of them came to India in the latter part of the 5th century, it is inexplicable how they rose to the position of a Brahman in the course of little more than half a century. The Imperial Guptas, the Maukharis, and the Pushyabhatis, who flourished about this time, could not make any such pretension. The age, which did not allow a Brahman to retain his social rank if he had married a girl of a lower rank, did not certainly allow the foreigners, used to different social rites and customs, to be passed as Brahmans. The Pratiharas claim their descent from the Epic hero Lakshmana, the Chahamanas claim solar origin, and the Solankis believed to have been originated from the palm of Brahma. Facts thus narrated will prove that though all of them were the followers of the Brahmanical religion, they were not of the same stock. In the 14th century they along with some other families formed a tribe, which was given the name Rajput.

THE PEOPLE'S SONGS

BY MR. J. G. KARANDIKAR, B.A., B.T., (BARSI)

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IN the field of literature bearing on international topics, the songs of the people reveal to us a fresh avenue. The significance and potent influence of these songs cannot be overlooked. These songs have represented and have in turn moulded the feelings of the masses throughout the world, irrespective of the considerations of nationality, caste creed or religion. They testify to the fact that the interests, aspirations, requirements and grievances of the people of all climes and races are practically identical. The rise of "the labouring class" has been the cause of the composition of a number of excellent "songs of the people", with which we are concerned in the present article. It is therefore necessary in the first instance to understand the back-ground of these songs.

The awakening of the Kisans and the labour population and the lower middle class in general, to their economic, social and political rights on an extensive scale, all the world over, is a land-mark of the history of the present century. This awakening was already set afoot by the end of the last century especially in western countries. Slave trade was successfully abolished and a large mass of people who were pining in bondage and groping in gloom were given freedom from their vile fetters. Impetus was given to several humanitarian movements. Reforms Acts were passed, parliamentary institutions were made more representative, religious toleration was apace. Due to rapid improvements and developments in the ways and means

of communications and due to various inventions and discoveries, economic prosperity seemed to be at its peak. The world was thus made richer than ever before; but it was a question whether it was made better or happier to live in. All these manifold activities which were expected to weld humanity could not avert the outbreak of wars—world wars. For though wealth increased, the territorial and colonial ambitions of powerful nations increased still more. Capitalism was fast gaining ground, wealth was centralized in a fortunate few and a vast majority left to combat the problems that the Industrial Revolution had brought in its train, was reduced to slavery of another type. Reaction was apt to follow and a very remarkable reaction to this situation was produced in Russia where the Bolsheviks came in power in the year 1917 under the intrepid leadership of Lenin, the Saviour of the "masses". The expression Bolshevik rule means the rule of the majority, and it is the working class who form the bulk of the population. "The Union of the Socialist Soviet Republics" of Russia was intended in the real sense to be the proletarian Government. The Bolsheviks have no imperial ambition because the principle of Bolshevism is itself repugnant to Imperialism. They do not defy capital what they defy is capitalism. They are moreover not content with the establishment of Communism in Russia; for, to them communism is an international principle. Henceforth the working man

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will abandon his narrow nationalism and will be a member of the International Labour Association. He is to merge his individuality in social regeneration. He is to live for the Society. Society to him is his own family and so the good of the masses is the good of the individual.

Indeed, this does not appear to be a novel principle. For, it has been preached for hundreds of years in the past by all great saints, philosophers and benefactors of mankind. It does not appear to be different from the principle of "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam." All the same, it must be admitted that Bolshevism does not reach beyond the materialistic welfare of the Society. But once we know the limits of the principle, there is no harm in appreciating its merits.

It was since the rise of Bolshevism that the "people's songs" loomed large in international literature. This does not however mean that the songs of this type were not composed before it. Only the number of such songs was limited. Nearly a century before the dawn of Bolshevism some songs of this nature were composed, especially in countries like England, France and America where democracy was taking deep root. These songs were in a way the precursors of a new chapter in the life of mankind, with its new songs invested with a fresh vigour. During the nineteenth century, the abolition of slave trade, already referred to, was one of the greatest humanitarian achievements. By this time an American abolitionist by name William Lloyd Garrison who lived from 1805 to 1879, wrote a song "Hope for the Enslaved". It makes a passing

reference to the enslaved Africans; still the dominant note of the song consists in its spirited message to the people in bondage, to the workers in abject misery and servitude wheresoever their habitation may be. With his deep poetic vision and prophetic faith, the poet declares that at the dread of the Lord, the fetters shall fall from every limb, the strong shall no more wrong the weak and liberty's sweet song will be sung by all. "Nation with nation and land with land shall live unarmed as comrades free, and the pulse of one fraternity shall throb in every heart and brain; these things shall be—they are no dream", says J. A. Symonds (1840-1893) in his vigorous and popular song. "These things shall be". Among the songs of the last century, "The People's Anthem" occupies a high rank. The writer of this song is Ebenezer Elliott, the Sheffield corn Law Rhymer who lived from 1781 to 1849. He wrote much verse that moved the hearts of the people of his day but this one poem which thrills with a love for the great mass of men was written for all ages and applies to the people who are oppressed and downtrodden, no matter in what part of the globe they live. William Morris, an English poet and artist, wrote a beautiful poem "March of the Workers" at the time when the right to vote was conceded to the labouring classes. All the wide world—every corner of the earth—is their dwelling place. The workers shall battle for the world of men and life, and the hope of every creature is their banner; this is the significant message of his song that augurs bright for the working class. Charles Dickens, the great English

novelist who fought for the betterment of the employees and against the injustice of some of the employers who exploited the poor labourers, has written "The Hymn of the labourers." He says in it that the care-worn looks of these labourers will make God's Angels weep and he implores God to show compassion for the poor.

These were some of the earlier attempts at the composition of people's songs. Whenever, therefore, occasions arose for the majority of the people—the labour class—to ventilate their grievances, the people's songs have been composed to inspire them to do their utmost in fighting for the justice of their cause. In them the sufferings of the masses are voiced and hope is expressed for their liberation from the thralldom of the "tyrants" who used to reap pleasures from the pains of the workers. "The Marseillaise" is one of the grandest songs of the liberty of the people, that has ever been written. It is no doubt the national anthem of the French Republic and as such an appeal is made through it to the sons of France at a critical period in their history. All the same it is something more; for whenever people are striving against oppression, crying for bread, straining every nerve to achieve their freedom, they beat to the tune of "Marseillaise." It is indeed the anthem of liberty all the world over. Later on, with the advent of Bolshevism, a number of people's songs were composed. These international songs know no boundaries as they emanate from one and the same source of love, love for humanity, sympathy for the masses who rise in revolt against injustice and tyranny. And it is

here that the ideals of nationalism and internationalism are reconciled with each other. In fact there is no need of any conflict between them. For, genuine nationalist outlook will embody for us an ideal of internationalism demanding from us the same considerations for other nationalities and peoples as for ours. Why do we like to read the national songs and anthems of people who owe no physical kinship to us, with a secret ecstasy and love? These songs thrill us with joy and we sigh with grief when they awaken among us the consciousness of our own bondage. Why is it that Russia's "International" and a number of alien songs of this type appeal to us as deeply as some of the finest Kisan songs of India? It is because of the victorious glad cry of the young proletariat and we are influenced by the spell of their pure emotion. They are the sacred songs of liberty, songs of the people, songs of Hope and Vision of a new world purged of impurities and striving to come closer than before in fraternal unity. They are composed in different languages in different parts of the world, but they are so wide in their sweep that they are fit to be sung in shouts of jubilation over seas and continents.

"The International", the celebrated song of the Communists, was originally written in Russian tongue and is now translated into several languages of the world. Harindranath Chattopadhyaya has translated it into Hindi. The hungry slaves (Bhookte Bandi) are called upon to arise and to face the foe. "We that are nothing shall be all"—this is the key-note of the "Worker

International". The people ask naught but what's due; "Labour's fruit should to labour accrue." "The Socialist March" the Labour's battle-cry, is written by H. D. Harben. It is originally in German. "The joy of earth and sun and sky" and "the dawn of Light and liberty to all the People now, for ever" fill the poet's heart with ecstasy. Peace now prevails and blessings of Joy and Hope come for all the workers in every home now and forever. In "Onward Brothers" Havelock Ellis tells them to march still onward, hand in hand till they at last see "man's true kingdom", till they reach the promised land. Besides these and other songs composed by non-Indians, there are some fine songs composed by Indian poets and patriots. Mr. Dhundiraj G. Vinod, an eminent Maharashtrian scholar and philosopher in his song "Eternal Youth of Nations" makes a stirring appeal to the youth to throng from distant climes and places, with seeds of science and song proffered by all our races, for, he says, our inward Union sweetens our petty feuds across the dividing shores. Mr. Kanitkar, also called Sevaka Sevananda, a reputed patriot of Poona, advocates the establishment of Samya-Rajya in every village, based on the collective activity of the villagers. To them the village is just like a big family the members of which will act in perfect cordiality with one another, where everybody is a worker and nobody a master. In his opinion this is the only way to bring about a peaceful revolution—to attain Swaraj. He further aspires to extend this Samya Rajya in Indian villages to other countries as well. For in it he says lies the panacea for all the evils of

autocracy which has so far disturbed the peace of the world. O Labourer, O brave Kisan, the triumphant hero of the age of revolution, let us do away with the forces of tyranny, and sow the seeds of equality. We will be slaves no longer. The nations soon shall know that all who live must labour and all who reap must sow. That is in general the message of "the Kranti-Geeta" of Kanitkar.

Of all the People's Songs in India, "Inquilob Zindabad" is perhaps the best known. It is a glorious communist song and has gained immense popularity. The title of this song (long live Revolution!) is made up of Persian and Arabic words. Still it has become a chorus for a number of songs written in different Indian languages. This itself is a proof of the wonderful hold it exercises upon mass-mind. Inquilob Zindabad rises as a mighty chorus from a thousand throats—a mighty roar that inspires the hearts of the people and stirs their emotions for the doing of doughty deeds. Of all the songs that bear this title, that composed by Harindranath Chattopadhyaya is the most famous. It is written in Hindi. It is a rousing call to labourers and kisans to achieve their freedom and never to forget the cruel acts of the despoilers. The poet assures them of their bright future. A song of this title is also written in Gujarathi by Keshav Seth and in Marathi by Kanitkar alias Sevaka Sevananda.

Some of the people's songs also come under the category of Marching songs. For instance, "The sun is set" (Soorya Asta Ho Gaya) is a renowned people's

song, which is also the Marching song of the communists and of the Congress Seva Dal. It is a Hindi song composed by Harindranath Chattopadhyaya. In it the poet draws a gruesome picture of the miseries and tribulations of the labouring poor. The song overflows with pathos from start to finish. The sun is set, the firmament is overcast with dark clouds, everything all round is in flames, and we are suffering from extreme thirst. The sun has risen and set and death is near. Misery is the sister of the poor and hunger their companion. A dismal but not an overdrawn picture of the people's plight!

"Kisan March"—"Kisan Cooch" is another distinguished marching song of the Kisans, sung by Mr. Muchate, a reputed ballad-singer of Dhulia. He has propagated the spirited message of this song in hundreds of villages, the home of the Kisans. In it he sings of getting rid of the shackles of capitalism and of eradicating unjust traditions, as these have sucked in our blood by offering us a hollow support. The song is in Hindi and has become very popular. Songs of this nature are also composed by such poets as Khabardar and Kavi Nihalal in Gujarathi, by Sohoni Dwivedi and Sudheendra in Hindi, by Dr. Tagore in Bengali and by Senapati Bapat in Marathi.

All these people's songs are international songs but then they are not incompatible with truly national songs. For, he who most deeply and wisely loves his own

country is the very man who will most deeply care for the welfare of mankind. Songs of true freedom do not recognise nationalism and internationalism as watertight compartments. For, true freedom consists not only in breaking the fetters of our own nation but also in being earnest with head, heart and hand to make others free.

An attempt is made in this article to put in a nutshell the message of some of the most celebrated songs composed by Indian as well as by foreign poets. The purpose of this article will be served if it prepares the readers to study and appreciate the songs in their original.

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THE AUSSIES IN INDIA

BY MR. V. R. LAKSHMI RATAN

— 0 —

ON Friday the 7th of December, the 3rd Unofficial Test between an India XI and the Australian Services XI commenced on the beautiful Chepauk ground at Madras. The two previous unofficial tests played at Bombay and Calcutta were indecisive. At Bombay the visitors covered themselves with glory and time saved the Indian side from defeat. When the teams again met in Calcutta, the India XI came into their own particularly in the second innings, and the match once again ended in a draw with honours even. In view of these two drawn games, the Third Unofficial Test was keenly looked forward to.

Hasset won the toss and sent in Whittington and Carmody to open the innings. Bannerji, India's number one pace bowler, met with immediate success by dismissing Carmody before a run was scored. The Australians met with further disaster when they lost Whittington, Pettiford, Price and Miller for very poor scores. They were in a very pitiful plight when they adjourned for lunch with the score at 105 for 5 wickets with most of their good batsmen back in the pavilion. On resumption after lunch, Hasset took complete charge of the situation and slowly steered the game round. He gave an extremely fine display of class batting. He scored mostly by late-cuts, hooks and pulls to leg. Not even once did Hasset drive the ball in front of the wicket, not because he did not know how to do it, but due to the fact that the bowling was very steady and Hasset was not prepared to take any chances. Hasset along

with Pepper put on 181 runs for the 6th wicket before Pepper was out leg before wicket to C. S. Nayudu. Pepper played a very invaluable innings though his knock was not of the same class as that of Hasset's. Pepper used his height and power when making strokes in front of the wicket. He played with very great restraint and the slow bowlers failed to tempt him out of his crease. After Pepper's dismissal there was none to give the Australian skipper a stand. Hasset was the last out and the Australian innings terminated for 339.

Bannerji and Sarawate, the Indore slow bowler, shared the bowling honours by capturing four wickets each. The bowling was steady throughout but the fielding was far from good. With the exception of Gul Mahomed and C. S. Nayudu, the rest were very slow and the pick and return to the wicket were untidy.

At about 11-15 on the second day, the India XI's innings commenced. Once again the bowlers got the initial advantage by dismissing four of the Indian batsmen out for 110 runs including that of the great Vijay Merchant, Hazare, Mushtaq Ali and Hafeez. At such a critical situation Amarnath rose to great heights and along with young Modi of Bombay, put on 99 runs for the fifth wicket before getting out for a very well played 113. Amarnath's batting put into shade even Hasset's fine effort on the previous day. If Hasset scored mainly by hooks and late-cuts, Amarnath got most of his runs by powerful and well-timed drives in front of the wicket. Russi Modi, the only

young cricketer now in India who has scored a number of double centuries, did one better by scoring the first double century by an Indian in an unofficial test match. Modi is not a brilliant or dashing batsman like Amarnath. On the other hand, he is sound and has the right temperament for big cricket. He is not yet a finished player but as he is still quite young he is sure to be one of the outstanding batsmen in India within the next year or two. C. S. Nayudu and Gul Mohamed further consolidated the position by some adventurous batting before the Indian side were all out for 525 runs.

When the Australians went in for the second time, contrary to the expectation of very many, the two opening batsmen attacked the bowling straightway from the start. In a little less than 2½ hours the Australians made 148 runs for the loss of only one wicket. Both Carmody and Whittington treated the Indian bowling with little or no respect and made a draw possible.

On the fourth day of the match, it appeared as though the Australians who had nine wickets in tact would wipe off the deficit and put on a respectable total and thus force a draw. A victory for the Australians was out of question. But there are two factors which are not generally taken into account. One, Dame fortune and two, the Chepauk wicket on the fourth day.

Carmody who batted with gay abandon the previous afternoon, was tied up by Bannerji and Sarawate the next morning. He was not able to play a single shot properly and was beaten time and again. He ultimately succumbed to Bannerji who bowled a bit slower and took full advantage of the crumbling wicket. Sarawate accounted for Hasset and Pepper, the two stalwarts. Miller once again failed being bowled by Bannerji. With very great difficulty the Australians managed to wipe off the deficit and get a lead of 89 runs. Once again Bannerji and Sarawate shared the bowling honours.

India had over 2½ hours to make 90 runs for an outright win. With a fine array of

batsmen like Merchant, Amarnath, Hazare and Modi, no one doubted the victory of the Indian side. The opening pair, Merchant and Mushtaq Ali, scored 59 runs before Mushtaq Ali was out. Then there was a mild landslide which made the finish very exciting. Amarnath was bowled by Hasset and Hazare was out to Whittington for a duck. Merchant was out to a brilliant bit of fielding and it was left to Modi to get the last two runs that was required for win.

The India XI thoroughly deserved their victory and, as Hasset put it, the Australians were out-batted and outbowled.

The Late Mr. Kalinath Roy

Journalism in India has suffered a serious loss in the death of Kalinath Roy of the *Tribune* of Lahore. Kalinath was a Bengalee who early came under the spell of Surendrarath Banerjee. But he soon drifted to the Punjab and gave to that Province thirty years of devoted service, just as Sir C. Y. Chintamani, an Andhra, gave of his best to the United Provinces and made the *Leader* of Allahabad an organ of undisputed influence and public service. A man of versatile talents and vigorous independence of outlook, he belonged to a generation which made the newspaper a vehicle of public education through its editorials. And he succeeded to a degree seldom surpassed even in these days of tabloid journalism when catchy headlines and breezy paragraphs are preferred to longwinded dissertations. Over the Punjab he exercised a wholesome influence and he made himself so indispensable to the Trustees of the *Tribune* that they could not think of a substitute for him when he fell ill. Indeed they made special arrangements to obtain his "copy" from his retreat wherever it might be. At the age of 68 he continued to be the same master craftsman and to the end he remained the dauntless champion of the rights of the Press and the liberties of the people. May his tribe increase!

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

The Parliamentary Delegation to India

REPEATED disappointments in the past have somewhat cooled popular enthusiasm in this country for Parliamentary delegations of the kind that is coming out to India. But it would be a mistake, says Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, "to cold shoulder this delegation." It is revealed that such a delegation to study the conditions in this country first-hand by personal contacts and discussions was suggested to the Prime Minister and Lord Pethick Lawrence by Mr. N. M. Joshi, the Indian Labour leader.

The present delegation is by no means exactly the one suggested by Mr. Joshi, but considering that there are in it men like Mr. Sorensen who assures us that "the delegation is coming out with free hands and minds", it is in the best interest of all to help it solve the constitutional problem in India in the quickest and earliest way possible.

"And the best form of co-operation that the country can offer," says our elder statesman, "is to speak without reserve, freely and frankly." "I do sincerely hope," he adds "that they will not allow themselves to be chaperoned by a certain class of people in India." This is important. For, as Sir Tej warns:

It is no use their repeating from day to day that the Government is willing to offer to India Self-Government and only Indians will not take it because of mutual differences. Differences are there and every honest attempt should be made to compose these differences.

But what is going to happen if one party or other refuses to be reasonable or discuss constitutional proposals across the table? Such a thing happened once, and neither the Viceroy nor His Majesty's Government lifted a little finger to put the matter right. If the Government mean business, there should be no repetition of such a fiasco.

Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru

On the 1st of December last, Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru completed the psalmist's three score years and ten when he was the recipient of felicitations from all over the country. Sir Tej is today one of the most distinguished of our elder statesmen, revered alike by all parties and groups, irrespective of their political predilections. A Liberal by instinct and training, he severed his connections with the Liberal Federation only to make himself freer and more fitting for the role of the peace maker between the different parties on the one hand and Government on the other. This difficult and often thankless task he has performed in collaboration with Dr. Jayakar so long and with such distinction that the twin have come to be known as the peace makers *par excellence*. Only, one wishes that their good mission had proved more fruitful. Yet nothing could abate the spirit of amity and good will that Sir Tej inspires in the hearts of his fellow workers.

Sir Tej has made a great name for himself as jurist and statesman, and his professional and public career has been "one unbroken series of triumphs." Such a record, as Dr. S. Sinha truly says,

must impress the younger generation—whether lawyers or public workers—with those sterling qualities of his which enabled him to achieve the highest position and distinction in more than one sphere of meritorious public activities.

In a beautiful tribute of homage and affection to his fellow townsman, Pandit Nehru wrote of Sir Tej that he is an embodiment of that synthesis of culture which India is always aiming at; and after referring to him as an elder statesman "with a certain ripeness of judgment" he added:

But more than all this he was a good friend on whom one could always rely, and a man straight and true, when so many about us are neither straight nor true. Even though he had grown older, there was always the freshness of youth about him and on his face there was a welcoming smile for every comer.

Indian Judiciary and the British Parliament

It is reported that a Bill is to be introduced in the *British* Parliament curtailing the powers of the *Indian* Judiciary. No draft bill has been published in India and people in this country have had no opportunity to express an opinion on it. It is a strange commentary on the so-called "Dominion status in action" which is supposed to be in operation in India! The proposed bill attempts to restrict the power and jurisdiction of the courts with regard to certain acts of the Central Government. Fancy a legislation of this far-reaching character being rushed through a Parliament five thousand miles away without even the courtesy of consultation with the people who are most affected by it. Sir Chimanlal Setalvad, the Liberal leader of Bombay, invites pointed attention to "this reprehensible practice," in his letter to the *Times of India*.

While the war was on, there might have been some excuse for undertaking emergency legislation in Parliament regarding India, but now that the war is over, there is no justification whatever for passing legislation in Parliament affecting India without giving the Indian people an opportunity to have their say about it.

If the contemplated legislation is intended in any manner to curtail the power and jurisdiction of the judiciary, there is greater reason for the Indian public being informed of the terms of the proposed legislation and given sufficient time for Indian opinion being made available to Parliament before the legislation is put through.

The Release of I.N.A. Officers

As we go to press, we learn with no little relief and satisfaction that H. E. the Commander-in-Chief has remitted the sentence of transportation passed by the Court Martial against the three I. N. A. men.

His Excellency has, in this decision, shown an imagination the want of which, as Mr. Asaf Ali said, "has been responsible for much that was avoidable."

The Commander-in-Chief has, however, confirmed the sentence of cashiering and forfeiture of arrears of pay and allowances since "it is in all circumstances a most serious crime for an officer or soldier to throw off his allegiance and wage war against the State."

Trial of Indians in Malaya

In his concluding address in the I.N.A. trials Sir Nashirwan P. Engineer, while calling for conviction on all counts, as he should in his position in charge of the case for prosecution, suggested to the General Court Martial the possibility of mitigating its sentences on the ground that the motives of the accused, whether wise or misguided, were patriotically inspired. No such consideration seems to have weighed with the runaway government of Malaya which has just been installed in power after its position had been made secure by allied arms.

For it is with no little surprise that we learn that the punishment for collaboration with the enemy is death in Malaya and that no lesser sentence is admissible. In a statement to the Press, Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, pricks the bubble of Government's contention, with unassailable logic.

What has the law to do with the cases now under trial? If a country is at war, argues Mr. Sastri,

any one who collaborates with the enemy is warring with his country from within and his punishment may appropriately be death.

But does it apply to a case "where the ruler runs away, leaving the population behind?" What are they to do, asks Mr. Sastri.

Resistance and refusal to collaborate may be death. And if collaboration involves death when the old ruler returns, the option that is available is between death at the hands of the enemy and death at the hands of the old ruler when he returns. It is a complete 'reductio ad absurdum.' Does the responsibility for the collaboration rest with the deserting ruler or the deserted population? The really guilty person is the runaway Government. And the innocent population is asked to pay the penalty.

The doctrine of allegiance certainly requires to be reviewed. That collaboration should not be a crime is rightly recognised in the Indian trials and Mr. Sastri has no hesitation in urging that the same rules should be got laid down for the trials in Malaya.

If this suggestion, so eminently just in itself, and recognised to be so even by the Government, is accepted, the question of the punishment of death for collaboration will not arise.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

Hitler's Will

GENERAL Lucian Truscott, Commander of the Third United States Army, stated that Adolf Hitler's will consisting of four separate documents has been found in a country house.

Hitler's will was dated April 15, 1945 and was witnessed by Goebbels, Bormann, Hans Krebs and Wilhelm Bugdorf.

The original marriage contract between Hitler and Eva Braun, witnessed by Bormann and Goebbels was also found.

The personal will of Hitler starts with the desire that he and his wife be buried in the Chancellery. "We have chosen death to escape the disgrace of being forced to resign or surrender," Hitler says.

General Truscott said that some portions of the will could not be revealed at present. He, however, did reveal that Hitler tried to lay the blame for the war on England and International Jewry.

Dutch Offer to Indonesia

The lines of settlement which the Lieutenant Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies, Dr. Van Mook, will propose to the Indonesian leaders on his return to Batavia, have been fully discussed with and approved by the Dutch Government.

This was made clear during a Press Conference held by Dr. Van Mook in London after conversations with British Cabinet Ministers on Indonesian questions.

Dr. Van Mook said that he was optimistic that the Indonesian leaders will feel able to accept the offer which he would be in a position to make when he returns to Batavia in the near future. He made it clear that as a result of his discussion in The Hague, the proposals which he had put forward in his contacts with the Indonesians in November have been modified. While no details of the latest Dutch plans are yet available, it

seems probable that a single constitution will be offered to the Netherlands East Indies as a whole in which various islands may be linked with Holland on a Commonwealth basis.

The aim of the new proposals will be to give the Netherlands East Indies' population full internal control of the management of local affairs, while defence and foreign policy and other more general aspects of the Government will be shared with the administration in The Hague.

Dr. Van Mook said that he hoped that complete internal self-control might be achieved in one generation.

Moscow Conference Decisions

The establishment of a United Nations commission for the control of Atomic energy and re-organization of the present system of control of Japan by the establishment of a far eastern commission to replace the far east advisory commission and the setting up of an allied council for Japan are among the main decisions announced in a 5,000 word 'communique' issued in London, Moscow and Washington on the conclusion of the big three foreign Ministers' conference.

The 'communique' also announces details of arrangements agreed upon, aimed at facilitating recognition of the Rumanian and Bulgarian Governments by the United States and Britain and the decision to establish Korea as an independent State.

The 'communique' is divided into eight parts, the last of which deals with the Atomic Energy Control Commission. It states that Russia, the United States and the United Kingdom have agreed to invite other members of the Security Council—France and China—together with Canada to sponsor the resolution to establish the Commission at the first session of the General Assembly of the United Nations in January 1946.



The WORLD of BOOKS

(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)



POVERTY AND SOCIAL CHANGE. By Tarlok Singh. Longman's Green & Co. Rs. 3-8.

The problem of mass poverty in India, its causes and cure and the economic basis of rural society constitute the main core of this lucid and well-documented book. The author has taken much pains not only to analyse the causes of poverty but has also evolved a framework of general ideas and principles which have a vital bearing on the crucial question of abolition of poverty. If plans of economic development are to be conceived wholly in the interest of the masses, then this book is a vital contribution to its solution. The author pleads for Industrialisation of India and suggests a system of joint village management suited to Indian conditions and points out the need for effective integration of rural and industrial economy which will make the village a major base in a modern industrial structure.

THE POST-WAR RUPEE. Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao. Indian Council of World Affairs. Oxford University Press. Re. 1.

In this essay on Prices and Exchange in India during the post-war period, Dr. Rao, the eminent economist, traces the history of Indian currency from 1939 to 1945 and the policy pursued by the Government of India and advances arguments against devaluation of the rupee. He emphasises the desirability of maintaining the current ratio of 1sh. 6d. to the rupee in the immediate post-war period which is the same as its pre-war value and the need for an appropriate internal price policy.

THE LIFE OF MAXIM GORKY. By A. Roskin. The Socialist Literature, publishing Company, Agra. Re. 1.

Among the great literary giants of Russia, Maxim Gorky occupies an honoured place. More than any other writer in our epoch, his influence and impact on the Russian revolution were profound and lasting. It was Gorky who was the real father of the proletarian socialist literature both in Russia and in the eyes of the toilers throughout the world. In this remarkably written study by Roskin, we get an idea of the life and career of Gorky, the power and potency with which he used the written word in the service of man ceaselessly fighting against social tyranny, political oppression, and economic subjection. For, he knew that literature had a much loftier purpose and that this purpose was not to appease but to rouse a man's soul.

BACK TO SANITY. A study in Human possibilities. By Y. G. Krishnamurty, Rasur Brothers, Bandra, Bombay. Rs. 5-8. Mr. Krishnamurty is a prolific writer and in the book under review he has attempted to place the Gandhian concept in the setting of latest western thought. It is enriched with a Preface from the pen of Dr. Rajendra Prasad and an Introduction by Dr. Pattabhi Sitaramayya.

A further attraction is the inclusion of over half a dozen colour plates of Gandhiji and other leaders.

JANUARY 1946]

THE WORLD OF BOOKS

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WHY SINGAPORE FELL. By General H. Gordon Bennett—Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay. Rs. 7-14 0.

This book is bound to create more than the usual interest in view of the fact that the author, General H. Gordon Bennett, formed the subject of a military enquiry for his having escaped from Malaya while he was commander of the Australian forces there.

The almost dramatic capture of Malaya and Singapore by the Japanese was really a shock to the whole Empire. According to the author, the defeat was due to several causes, all contributory but no one cause was in itself responsible. Singapore was not a fortress and the millions of pounds expended there were devoted mainly to the construction of a naval base. Even if defences had been constructed and fully manned, Singapore could not have been considered secure. It is the quality of the men manning the defences and the equipment they possess that govern the strength of a modern fortress.

Malaya had insufficient 'quality troops' and inadequate air support to defend itself. Most units were not trained for a jungle war and the morale of several was very low. The General avers that had the troops fought well at the outset, the Japanese would never have travelled the six-hundred mile road through jungle and plantation in the short period of eight weeks. "Generally speaking, the leaders of too many units were lacking in determination and pugnacity."

Another strong reason for the failure, according to Genl. Bennett, was "our rigid adherence to text-book tactical methods." Jungle warfare introduced unusual situations which required unusual counter-measures. The text-books were written on experience obtained in Europe and North Africa and while the general principles applied to all classes of warfare, the tactical methods were to a great extent not applicable to jungle warfare.

Gen. Bennett is an attractive writer and his narrative will certainly serve "as an illuminating historical record of great importance and much interest."

FOOD POLICY FOR INDIA: By S. G. Tiwari. Nandkishore & Bros, Benares. Re. 1.

In this ably-written monograph, the author aims at presenting the problem of food supply to the teeming millions of India, which is not only a war-time problem but is of permanent importance and offers many valuable suggestions for its solution. He emphasises the vital necessity for a long-range food policy in India and points out the essential principles which should be followed by the Government for the supply of a 'balanced diet' to every inhabitant of this vast semi-starved country.

BOOKS RECEIVED

SO FREEDOM CAME. By Joan Wells. Thacker & Co., Ltd., Bombay. Rs. 5-14.

KASTURBA. Published by Manasadas Banerji, Handmade Paper Industries of India, 1, Gokul Baral Street, Calcutta.

INDIA'S STERLING BALANCES. By B. T. Randine. Peoples Publishing House, Bombay.

JAWAHARLAL NEHRU. By M. N. Roy, Modern Age Publications, Navsari Chambers, Outram Road, Fort, Bombay.

U.S.S.R. The story of Soviet Russia. By Walter Duranty, Thacker & Co., Bombay.

SARDAR PATEL: THE MAN OF FEW WORDS. By M. Singh, M.A., Associated Publications, P. B. 54 Lahore.

CHINDIT COLUMN 76. By W. A. Wilcox, Longmans Green & Co. Ltd. Madras.

PUBLIC FINANCE AND OUR POVERTY. By J. C. Kumarappa, Foreword by M. K. Gandhi, Navjivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad.

THUS SPAKE VIVEKANANDA, Sri Rama Krishna Math, Mysapore. 8 as.

UPAYUKTA VIDYA (in Telugu). A brochure on Education and its proper aims. By Yellapantula Jagannathan. Foreword by Dr. Sir S. Radhakrishnan, Venkatarama & Co., Bezvada.

MANKIND: A SINGLE FAMILY. By Muhammad Ali Newaz. B.A. The Islamia Library, Dacca and 15, College Square, Calcutta.

A HUMSA YOGA. By Prof. Indra, M.A. The Minerva Bookshop, Lahore.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

—o:—

- Dec. 1. Central Assembly Elections.
—Secunderabad restored to the Nizam
Gandhiji meets Mr. Casey in Calcutta.
- Dec. 2. Australian services Cricket team
contesting Madras at Chepauk.
- Dec. 3. Congress triumphs in Central
Assembly Elections. Murderous attack on
Mr. S. S. Sanyal.
- Dec. 4. Secretary of State announces
Parliamentary delegation to India.
- Dec. 5. Final Anglo-American agreement
reached on 4400 million dollars loan.
- Dec. 6. Tory censure motion in the
Commons defeated by 381 votes to 197.
—Congress Working Committee meets at
Calcutta.
- Dec. 7. Mr. Casey, Governor of Bengal
meets Azad, Congress President, and
other leaders.
- Dec. 8. Working Committee decides to
depute Pandit Nehru to Burma and Malaya.
- Dec. 9. Death of Mr. Kalinath Roy,
Editor, The Tribune of Lahore, at
Calcutta.
—Congress Working committee deputes
Mr. Asaf Ali to settle Tamilnad dispute.
- Dec. 10. Viceroy opens meeting of
Associated Chambers.
—Gandhi-Viceroy meeting at Calcutta.
- Dec. 11. Congress Working Committee
defines attitude to I. N. A. and reaffirms
faith in non-violence.
- Dec. 12. Commons resolution on Anglo-
American loan agreement.
- Dec. 13. Commons debate on Indonesia.
- Dec. 14. Congress Medical Mission to
Malaya,
—Dr. Van Mook meets Indonesians.
- Dec. 15. Death of Sir William Marris,
former Reforms Commissioner.
—M.P.s. demand dropping of I.N.A. trials.
- Dec. 16. Mr. Sarat Bose elected to the
Central Assembly.
- Prince Konoye commits suicide.
- “Big three” Foreign Ministers meet in
Moscow.
- Dec. 17. Surrender of Persian Army
Garrison in Tabriz to rebel forces.
- Dec. 18. Mr. Asaf Ali of the Congress
Working Committee arrives in Madras.
—Lords debate on U. S. Loan.
- Dec. 19. A. M. M. Vallayan Chettiar,
Burma Indian leader, shot dead.
- Dec. 20. Britain takes over control of
Ruhr Coal mines.
—Anglo U. S. talks on Siam.
- Dec. 21. Travancore bans League Con-
ference. Gen. Patton dies at Frankfurt.
- Dec. 22. Chinese communists seek armistice.
Bhopal ruler re-elected Chancellor.
- Dec. 23. Mr. Asaf Ali's findings on
Tiruchengode election dispute published.
- Dec. 24. The Big Three issue a Christmas
message to the world and decide to
hold Peace Conference on May 1.
- Dec. 25. Pact concluded with China and
Britain. Indo-China to be completely
under French Control.
- Dec. 26. South India Industrial and
Commercial Conference meets at Madras
Sir M. Visveswaraya presiding.
- Dec. 27. Lord Keynes dead.
—Sapru Committee proposals published
British paratroops “sit down strike” in
Java.
- Dec. 28. All India Educational Conference
meets in Madras, Sir C. P. Ramaswami
Iyer presiding.
—All India Women's Conference meets in
Hyderabad.
- Dec. 29. Lord Wavell visits Andamans.
- Dec. 30. Sir N. Gopalaswami Iyengar
opens Political Science Congress at
Chidambaram.
- Dec. 31. Mr. Attlee meets visiting M. Ps.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



THE HINDU MUSLIM PROBLEM

Mr. Sachin Sen, writing in the *Visvabharati Quarterly* draws attention to Tagore's analysis of Hindu Muslim relations. India, the meeting ground of various races, can hardly afford to breed conflict.

“Peace is true and not conflict, Love is true and not hatred; and Truth is the One, not the disjointed multitude”—this sums up the contents of Rabindranath Tagore's religion, his approach to life and to life's problems. No one was more anxious to proclaim that there was need for happy understanding between man and man and that there was need for unity based on this happy understanding. Ancient India prayed for real unity, not a parody of unity manufactured in the political or social machine. That prayer must be uttered to-day not in a full-throated voice but in thought and action; that prayer for unity should cleanse our minds, remove all weaknesses that stand in the way. It is the basic postulate of Tagore's philosophy that if there is a deviation from the right conduct of life in man's work for his own self or for the family or for the country, God will not forgive him. We shall have to atone for all the misdeeds even if they are resorted to to achieve a noble end. The doctrine of the end justifying the means makes no appeal to Tagore. There is no shortcut to noble work. That was why Rabindranath Tagore treated the Hindu-Muslim problem as essentially one to be solved mainly by our own efforts and principally through mutual understanding. The problem in his view, touches on the weaknesses of our psychological make-up and social organisation.

SMALL NATIONS AND BIG POWERS

Apologists of imperialism are never tired of contending that world unity and world peace demand the subjugation of the small nations. Mr. R. M. Fox, challenges this contention in a vigorous article in the *Aryan Path*. He argues:

“But no man of sense or logic can show that small nations are—or ever were—a menace to world peace. It is invariably the Big Powers that threaten world peace because they are dazzled with the prospect of conquest. Small nations are always in favour of international safeguards. The League of Nations was not shattered because of any assertion of national sovereignty by small nations. It was broken because the small nations found they could not rely on Big Powers in that Assembly to use their strength against acts of aggression aimed at weaker peoples.”

National sovereignty will contribute to handicap imperialist expansion. Small nations will make a stand against oppression and will respect the freedom of other nations.

“Those democrats who have allowed themselves to be goaded into attacking the sovereignty of small nations are guilty of a great stupidity for their enemies are plainly those big anti-social forces such as manipulated and financed dictators of the Hitler and Mussolini type. It is childish to imagine that small nations can start wars.

Even the bitterest critic of de Valera does not charge him with that. But small nations will continue to demand the right to safeguard their interests in times of crisis.

“That is precisely the offence of which de Valera was guilty during the war. He did not help to crush the Nazis in a military sense. But he stood for the freedom of small nations—an anti-Nazi principle which is still important for the world.”

JAPANESE WOMEN

Mr. Karl Eskelund in the course of an article to the *Leader Magazine* on Japanese Women observes that submissiveness is the greatest weakness of Japanese women. But educated Japanese women are more logical: their power of reasoning has not been weakened by any supernatural belief in Japan's divine right. Japanese women would never dare discuss politics in public. But, in private conversations, nine out of ten would condemn the war. They hated the martial spirit which changed their men and sons into swaggering bullies—a spirit which automatically permeates anyone who has gone through Japan's rigid and brutal military training.

Japanese women never rebel—that is their great weakness—but a surprising number resent the treatment they have to endure. When they get a chance to talk to a trusted foreigner, they surprisingly respond; in fact they are nearly always ready to throw themselves into his arms. Japanese women married to foreigners are socially ostracised; but they are invariably envied by their less fortunate sisters. Almost any modern Japanese girl, whether geisha or college graduate, prefers the company of a foreigner to that of a Japanese. It doesn't matter whether he is British, American or Chinese—so long as he isn't Japanese.

Even the smallest courtesy pleases a Japanese woman. Hence the Japanese man bitterly resents the presence of foreigners who, he claims, "spoil" the women.

Speaking about Japanese marriage the writer points out: A Japanese woman can't hope to find a husband unless she contributes a substantial dowry. If she has

none, her husband-to-be agrees for her to work at a geisha house or a factory until she earns one. If the head of a Japanese family has financial troubles, his first resort usually is to hire out one of his daughters for a time. Then the girl is virtually a slave of her employers. If she runs away, the police are put on her track, and her future husband may break the contract.

EDUCATIONAL RECONSTRUCTION FOR INDIA

Writing on Post-War educational reconstruction in India, Prof. P. C. Malhotra points out in the course of an article in the *New Review*:

"Liquidation of illiteracy is our front rank problem. All progress in whatever direction we may look for is found to shatter on the bedrock of illiteracy. The proportion of literate to illiterate population in India is the same as that of illiterate to literate in most of the progressive countries of the world. Nations with a will to abolish illiteracy have been able to do so in two decades or so. In India the will to liquidate illiteracy has not been earnest and the lack of funds or administrative difficulties or the magnitude of the problem have provided handy pretexts for a do-nothing or a ca-canny policy."

What should be the ideal of educational planning? The old idea that the primary and middle schools are only preparatory stages for the high schools and the high schools for the university classes has now been found wanting.

"According to the Sargent Report each stage of school education is to be regarded

INDIAN TROOPS IN JAVA

Prof. Harold Laski, Chairman of the British Labour Party, writing in *Reynolds News* severely criticises the use of Indian troops in Java and Indo-China.

In an article under the heading: "This Java war is not our business," Prof. Laski says he does not wonder that the use of these troops has "provoked an angry outburst of criticism from India."

"We stand there face to face with a nation, which whatever its divisions, is at least agreed on demanding its own freedom, and its right to Self-Government. We are committed, half-heartedly perhaps, but still committed, to the duty of making that freedom and Self-Government available to India with the least possible delay."

"I submit it is not good advertisement of the sincerity of our intentions to use the troops of a nation aspiring to freedom to crush the aspirations of two other groups of people with the same aspiration."

Commenting that it is tragic "to see British 'restoring law and order' in French Indo-China and the Dutch East Indies" Prof. Laski says: "No one can quarrel for an instant with the humane purpose of evacuating to safety prisoners—European or other—of Japanese occupation."

"But it is difficult to believe that this could not have been accomplished by negotiation with the leaders of the nationalist movements in both territories."

"What we are doing is the very different thing of making the process of evacuation the bridge by which the French and the Dutch can return to relentless exploitation

as complete in itself, in the sense that it will fit the pupil on leaving school for entering life. In the high school stage, two types of school are advocated, first the high school which will prepare students for the university course of study and the second, the technical school which will equip students for either undertaking proper jobs or to qualify for a higher place by pursuing further specialised training. Even the basic schools in their primary and senior grades will attempt to fit the pupil better for some vocation than the present schools have hitherto cared to do. Research and technical attainments of a higher order in our University courses of study are also provided for in the Sargent scheme."

With regard to the propagation of literacy the old maxim 'educate the masses and the masses will look after themselves' stands discredited. This theory of spreading education through filtration must be replaced, he says, by the theory of disseminating education through mass contracts.

"A proper system of education should give vision, provision and prevision. The cultural, the material, the utilitarian and the creative aspects of education must be knit as integral units into the organic whole that education is to become. If education is properly reconstructed, the nation can be made to pulsate with a new life. It will be prepared to grasp opportunities for national uplift and development which are expected to abound in the post-war period. Without such a preparation, an all-round national growth will remain an unrealised dream and whatever national progress takes place will only remain cramped, stunted and arrested."

of many million peoples. And one who looks at the economic pattern of Indonesian life can see that the sole Dutch pre-occupation in Indonesia was for profit. This view is reinforced by differences which have emerged between Dr. Van Mook, in Batavia, and the Dutch Government at the Hague.

"What may appear to us as no more than an enlarged police operation is to the peoples concerned destruction of hope—return to virtual bondage in which they merely exchange a ruthless oriental master for a ruthless European. It makes the British claim to have been engaged in war for democracy and freedom seem hollow mockery all over South-East Asia.

"I should have thought we had earned enough illwill in Rhodesia and Kenya, and the rest of our own imperial slums without adding to it by what—objectively—is making possible no more than the maintenance of slums in other Empires.

"Most people will have noted the care with which both Russia and China have stood apart from our policy. Both of them know from grim experience what is meant by intervention for the sake of restoring law and order."

THE PRESS IN PARIS

While France still awaits its Press clean-up, prewar abuses flourish again, observes the *News Review*.

"Frenchmen under the Nazi occupation were promised many things by General Charles de Gaulle and his National Liberation Committee. Among them, a clean-up of the Press.

But last month de Gaulle's promised Press-purge was still a dream. In Paris alone there were 35 morning newspapers, none with a circulation of more than 450,000, some with only 20,000. One such organ was selling only 30 per cent. of its print. Another had 40 per cent. returned copies, although launched at a cost of 6,000,000 francs. No honest journal could carry on in face of such crippling losses. The days of blackmail and tie-ups were back with a bang.

A postwar racket had been added to the old abuses: many journals were selling their newsprint on the black market. All news sheets in France start with a presumed circulation of 190,000 copies daily. The French Ministry of Information allows a 12 per cent. margin for returns (unsold copies). If returns exceed this figure, the newsprint quota is cut, the difference going to other newspapers with small or non-existent returns."

THE INDIAN HOME

The Ninth Anniversary issue of the *Indian Home* has just been published. Now rehabilitated and enlarged to cover every conceivable subject of interest to the father, the mother and the child, the Magazine is a bumper number containing constructive articles like Saving in the Home, the Need for Insurance, Gardening, Beauty, Fashion, Cookery, Health and Hygiene, Indian Music, Dancing, several interesting Short Stories, Home Education and the Criche for tiny tots. There is something of particular interest to every reader.

The *Indian Home* English edition is edited and published by Mr. Mohan V. Raj, M.A., B.Sc. (Mun) and B.K. Karanjia, B.A. (Hons) for Indian Home Publications Ltd., Bombay.

The Magazine deserves congratulation of its very laudable objects.

INDIAN STATES

Travancore

RECONSTRUCTION OF TRAVANCORE

Re-vitalisation of agriculture with a view to augmenting the food resources of the States was the foremost aim of Travancore and Cochin, said Mr. G. Parameswaram Pillai, Reconstruction Officer, Government of Travancore, in a broadcast recently. He added, "Notwithstanding the programme to increase the area under cultivation by reclamation of backwaters and by throwing open for cultivation suitable lands out of the reserve forests in Travancore and Cochin State—no tangible results can be achieved without the introduction of intensive and improved methods of production and the extension of irrigational facilities."

The Travancore Fertilisers and Chemicals started with a capital of Rs. 3 crores is making good progress in the installation of plant and machinery for the production of 50,000 tons of ammonium sulphate.

A sum of nearly one crore of rupees has been set apart by the Travancore Government for the construction of the Perunchani Reservoir and for raising the level of the Kodayar reservoir and for the restoration and improvement of major irrigation tanks.

The Travancore Government have already initiated a five-year programme of development of the Pallivasal hydro-electric project costing over Rs. 3 crores.

THE DEWAN ON GANDHIJI

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore performed on December 14 the opening ceremony of a Textile Factory near Trivandrum and said, "But for the great lead given by Mahatma Gandhi at a critical stage in the industrial history of India and the new impulse he gave to hand-spinning and hand-weaving, the poverty of India would have been much more accentuated and the sufferings of the people much more intense than they have been."

Mysore

KRISHNARAJASAGAR RESERVOIR

The Krishnarajasagar reservoir on the Cauvery river, nine miles north-west of Mysore City, is the source of all the electric power now generated in the State, and utilised by various industries. It also supplies the water for the irrigation schemes. Two great needs are thus met—increased electric power and increased food production.

The lake is formed by the construction of a masonry dam, 8,600 feet long and 130 feet high above the river bed, and 140 feet above the deepest foundation where the bed width of the dam is 111 feet. The width of roadway at the top is 14½ feet. The full reservoir water level is 124 feet above bed level and storage capacity is 43,934 m.cft. above the sill of the irrigation supply sluices, which are 60 feet above bed level. The total capacity is 48,335 m.cft.

THE MYSORE SPUN SILK MILLS

The establishment of the Mills and Filature has resulted in the employment of about 2,000 operatives and about 2,500 families are indirectly employed in collection of raw materials, weaving of spun silk and reel yarns cocoons and other allied industries. Prior to the war India used to import nearly two million pounds of spun silk and about a million pounds of reel yarn and two million pounds of raw silk per annum. The Factory is now producing about a tenth of the quantity of spun silk and reel yarns consumed in India and is capable of further expansion so as to produce the whole of the requirements of the country.

RECRUITING IN MYSORE

The recruiting operations in Mysore in connection with the present war may be said to have yielded good results, as compared with the last Great War. As against 1,590 recruits who volunteered for service in the Mysore Army in the Great War, 6,280 have already come forward up-to-date and the number actually enlisted after medical examination is 3,749.

Hyderabad

INDUSTRIAL PROJECTS

Nawab Moin Nawab Jung, Political and Publicity Secretary to the Hyderabad Government, told an Associated Press of India correspondent that the Hyderabad Government has decided to send an industrial delegation to the United Kingdom and the United States to establish contacts with industrialists and businessmen in those countries and make arrangements for the purchase of plants and machinery, as a first step towards the industrial development of the State in the immediate future.

Nawab Moin Nawab Jung explained that the State Government had decided to launch big industrial projects in the Godavari area, where there were possibilities of generating Hydro-electric power on an extensive scale and where coal, iron ore and lime stone were available in abundance. What was proposed was to establish an industrial town—the first of the kind in India—in this area by setting up a number of mills and factories. The industries intended to be developed in the region include iron and steel, coal-carbonisation and its by-products, cement, textiles, vegetable oil, rayon, etc. It was estimated that the various schemes for the industrial development of the State would cost something like Rs. 250 crores in the first ten years of their operation.

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE

Organised marketing of agricultural produce is still in its infancy in India, although it has received a great impetus from the peculiar conditions created by war. It is to the credit of His Exalted Highness the Nizam's Government that they were first in the field and their initiative in the matter paved the way for the rest of India to experiment with measures for the organised marketing of agricultural produce. That it proved of immense benefit to the cultivator and also helped in the successful administration of food laws, especially during the latter half of the World War II, cannot be denied.

Cochin

WIDER FRANCHISE

In commemoration of his 80th birthday, His Highness the Maharaja of Cochin has ordered the appointment of a Franchise Committee to consider the extension of the present franchise qualifications for election to the Legislative Council.

Other gifts announced by the Ruler on the occasion include: payment of honorarium to non-official Members of the Legislative Council with effect from the next Malayalam Year; the setting apart of Rs. 3 lakhs, to start with, for opening courses of technological studies in the Maharaja's College, Ernakulam, the allotment of Rs. 1 lakh to aid the publication of old Sanskrit manuscripts and the raising of the pay of the primary school teachers.

Gwalior

MEDICAL COLLEGE

The foundation stone of the Gajra Raja Medical College, Gwalior, was laid by His Excellency Lord Wavell in the presence of a number of State Sardars, officials and prominent citizens recently.

With an allotment of Rs. 20 lakhs for building and equipment and a recurring grant of Rs. four lakhs, the Gajra Raja Medical College will be the first of its kind in Central India and according to plan, will be one of the foremost amongst the medical colleges in India.

Khairagarh

REFORMS FOR KHAIRAGARH STATE

The Raja Bahadur of Khairagarh has introduced a number of constitutional reforms in his State. These include the setting up of a Council of Ministers, one of whom is a non-official. It has also been decided to set up a Legislative Council, known as the 'Rajya Sabha' consisting of elected and nominated members. The Sabha will be inaugurated in April next.

Bhopal

MINERAL RESOURCES

A plea for the nationalisation of the vast mineral resources of India was made by Dr. Sir Cyril Fox, the well-known geologist and lately Director of the Geological Survey of India, in an interview.

The development of these resources, he added, could be entrusted to private enterprise under Government control.

Dr. Fox said that the aim in exploitation must be to turn out the processed product as far as possible. A number of good research stations should be opened throughout India with strong Government backing whose job it should be to investigate new processes. While in Europe and America, efforts have been made on the principle of discovering the process for the mineral ore, in India it has generally been the reverse.

Rewa

RESPONSIBLE GOVT. FOR REWA

In the course of a message issued by H. H. the Maharaja of Rewa State thanking all who had sent him felicitations on the announcement of Responsible Government for the State, the Ruler, explaining the announcement states that the basis of the Proclamation was, "adult franchise, common electorate and no weightage or special representation," and has invited the co-operation of all in the fulfilment of these conditions.

Aundh

COLONY FOR STATE PRISONERS

The Aundh State proposes to build a colony for State prisoners to be known as "Swatantrapur."

Huts will be built for the prisoners and their families to stay together and full scope will be given to the prisoners to develop their individuality and abilities. It is hoped to teach the prisoners some handicraft that will help them in maintaining themselves and to see that they cultivate good moral habits.

Baroda

INDIAN STATES AND FEDERATION SCHEME

Zonal grouping of the Indian States for purposes of the future constitution of India was suggested by Sir Brojendra Mitter, Dewan of Baroda, in an interview to the Associated Press of India recently.

Discussing the position of the Indian States in the proposed Constitutional Assembly, Sir Brojendra pointed out that Baroda State had always been in favour of a federation. The idea of a strong centre and autonomous units he said, had emanated from his late Highness, Sri Sayaji Rao, long before the Round Table Conference. But to have an effective federation scheme working the small states of India should be grouped together. Sir Brojendra was in favour of zonal groupings which could send their representatives to any central body.

General

THE PRINCES' ROLE

"We are fully alive to the need of adjusting ourselves to the exigencies of changing times," says H. H. the Nawab of Bhopal, Chancellor of the Chamber of Princes, in a foreword to the first number of *Indian India*, a monthly magazine published by the Directorate of Public Relations of the Chamber.

"We consider it our proud privilege to extend our help and co-operation in raising India to her rightful place in the comity of Nations," he proceeded. "We are also not unmindful of the fact that the future of Indian States is indissolubly linked up with the constitutional and industrial progress of the rest of India. Though determined to maintain our distinct entity, we are prepared to collaborate wholeheartedly with British India in all matters of common concern. Success in this direction requires mutual goodwill and tolerance."

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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Malaya

PLIGHT OF INDIANS

A four thousand word report on the condition of Indians in Malaya has been submitted recently to the Government of India by Mr. S. K. Chettur, India's Agent in Malaya. He had also discussions with the Commonwealth Relations Department. The Government's decision on the recommendations is expected shortly.

The report, it is understood, embodies recommendations with regard to treatment of Indians in Malaya who were arrested for alleged collaboration with the enemy, questions of priority passages for those desirous of returning to India and giving help and assistance to those in distress.

PANDIT KUNZRU & RAO'S MISSION

The Government of India have decided to send Pandit H. N. Kunzru and Mr. P. Kodanda Rao to Malaya to advise the Government of India Representative there and the Indian community as regards relief measures, and have also decided to provide legal assistance from India to Indians in Malaya who need such assistance.

Siam

INDIANS IN SIAM

Mr. M. S. Aney, Government of India Representative in Ceylon, will be shortly flying to Singapore to represent the Government of India as special envoy at the peace treaty negotiations with the Government of Siam.

Mr. Aney will represent the Government of India, to obtain first-hand information about Indian Nationals in Siam as well as certain Indian prisoners of war. Before the war it was estimated that 100,000 Indian traders and labourers were in Siam, but little has been heard, since the outbreak of the war, regarding their welfare and conditions during and after the war.

S. Africa

NATAL HOUSING ORDINANCE

"We reiterate our fears that the object of the Natal Housing Ordinance—to bring about the eventual segregation of the Indian people—may yet be achieved" says a reply by the Natal Indian Congress to the statement on the Ordinance made recently by Prime Minister Smuts.

"It is the considered opinion of the executive of the Natal Indian Congress", the statement continues "that the only safeguard available against unjust and racial discrimination is franchise. We shall, therefore, press, with renewed vigour, for extension of the Provincial and Municipal vote to Indians to ensure just and equal treatment by provincial and local authorities. The presence of Indian voters in any ward is the only guarantee that Indian interests and views will be fairly considered."

The Government's policy goes a considerable way in assuring us that the present acute housing shortage is not to be the vehicle for carrying out long-cherished plans for segregation.

Ceylon

SOULBURY REPORT

Commenting on the Soulbury Commission's proposals for Ceylon, Dr. Syed Mahmud, former Member, Congress Working Committee, who recently visited Ceylon, said: "The Ceylonese people asked for bread and have been given stone instead. They were full of hope and expected that the Soulbury Commission would recommend a declaration of immediate Dominion Status for them."

"The hopes," Dr. Mahmud adds, "of Ceylonese leaders were raised by the accession of the Labour Government to power. It has been abundantly proved that the Labour Government are the true successors of their predecessors in office so far as colonial policy is concerned."

Dr. Mahmud advises the Ceylonese leaders to settle the questions of Indian Labour, franchise, citizenship and immigration,

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

BRITISH DELEGATION TO INDIA

The Speaker of the House of Commons has nominated eight members of the Parliamentary delegation to tour India.

They include one woman, Mrs. M. Wallhead Nichol (Labour; Bradford North).

Four other Labour members are:

Mr. R. Richards (Wexham).

Mr. R. W. Sorensen (West Leyton).

Major M. Wyatt (Aston).

Mr. A. G. Bottomley (Chatham).

There are two Conservatives, Mr. Godfrey Nicholson (Farnham), who is a member of the Conservative India Committee and Brigadier A. R. W. Low (Blackpool North) and Liberal Mr. Hopkin Morris (Carmarthen). Mr. Richards who was Under Secretary for India in the first Labour Government, will lead the delegation.

Lord Munster, former Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for India and Burma and Lord Chorley, former Deputy Regional Commissioner for Civil Defence, have accepted the Lord Chancellor's invitation to be members of the Delegation.

The British Labour Government, it is understood, will place no restrictions of any kind upon the freedom of the All-Party Delegation.

GOVT. OF INDIA AND BRETON WOODS PACT

Following the announcement of the Government of India's decision to adhere to the Bretton Woods Agreement, an Ordinance known as the International Monetary Fund and Bank Ordinance has been issued. It provides among other things for the payment out of central revenues of subscriptions to the International Fund and to the International Bank.

SAPRU COMMITTEE PROPOSALS

"The Committee stands for a single Union of India, including the whole of British India and all the Indian States; the claim for secession or non-accession, by which individual Provinces or States can keep out of the Union is not accepted," says the Sapru Committee in its final report on constitutional proposals. This report, which was compiled by the Rt. Hon. Sir T. T. T. Bahadur Sapru, the Rt. Hon. M. R. J. Reddy, the Hon. Sir N. Gopalaswami Iyengar and K. M. Panikar, has now been released to the Press.

Embodying this principle in its proposals, the Committee recommends that the Constitution-making Body to be appointed after the elections should proceed on the basis of framing a constitution for a single State, and urges that the right of secession or non-accession given to individual States or Provinces in the Cripps proposals should be withdrawn.

The Committee maintains that throughout it has endeavoured to make a constructive approach to the many knotty problems that confront the country, to investigate them from every angle, to appraise as dispassionately as they could every fact, circumstance or conceivable argument and to reach conclusions which in their estimation were calculated to promote the lasting interests of India and were likely to elicit the approbation of thinking Indians.

The Committee has recommended that separate communal electorates should disappear and should be replaced by joint general electorates with reservation of seats. Sir H. P. Mody and Dr. John Matthai have appended a separate note.

Utterances of the Day

VICEROY'S CALCUTTA SPEECH

"I can assure you unreservedly that the British Government and the British people honestly and sincerely wish the Indian people to have their political freedom and a Government, or Governments, of their own choice," said Lord Wavell addressing the Associated Chambers of Commerce at Calcutta on December 10. "But there are certain elements of the problem which we must recognise," he added. "It is not a simple problem; it cannot and will not be solved by repeating a password or formula. 'Quit India' will not act as the magic 'sesame' which opened Ali Baba's cave. It cannot and will not be solved by violence. Disorder and violence are in fact the one thing that may check the pace of India's progress."

There are various parties to the settlement, he continued, "who must somehow or other reach a measure of agreement amongst themselves—Congress, the largest political party in India; the minorities, of whom the Muslims are the most numerous and most important; the Rulers of Indian States; and the British Government."

PANDIT NEHRU ON CONSTITUTION OF FREE INDIA

"India to-day is like a volcano. It may burst at any moment," said Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, addressing a large gathering of students at Shillong. Pandit Jawaharlal added:

"If a proper approach is made leading to Independence by the British Government, we shall take it. Nobody likes a conflict. It involves enormous suffering, but it is equally certain that, if there is delay or post-ponement of the issue of independence, or if any other obstacle is put in the way, we shall take the initiative and we shall go ahead, whatever the consequences."

Pandit Nehru said that Free India would be a Federation of willing units, which would possess absolute autonomy for development and growth according to their own culture and way of life.

We are on the verge of independence, but I cannot fix a date when it will come, I can only

say that India is bound to be independent and that too very soon. We will have to face problems not only of making a constitution for a Free India, but also we shall have to decide—and it is the most important problem—what outlook we should cultivate in our people to face world problems.

You cannot isolate a country and live apart from the other countries of the world. We talk in terms of Independence and Democracy. We want Independence, but Independence does not mean isolation. To-day in the world not even the highest countries can afford to live isolated. We are to be one of the members of the world community but that would be on equal terms. We are not going to submit to any other nation. As an independent nation, we shall join the world community and also seek a solution of the world problems in co-operation with other nations.

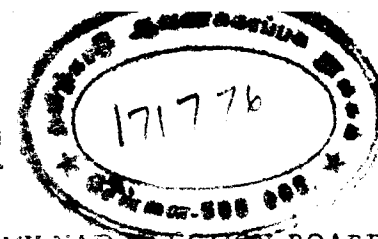
FRANK ANTHONY ON FUTURE OF ANGLO INDIANS

Mr. Frank Anthony, President of the Anglo-Indian and Domiciled European Association, addressing the Karachi Branch on his arrival from the United Kingdom, outlined the policy of his community in the light of the recent political development and said: "The fate of this country is set inevitably on the road to Self-Government. You have in England to-day a Labour Government which from my recent contact, I am convinced, is ardent in its desire to see that India gets Self-Government at the very earliest moment possible. That is the issue which we must accept and welcome—a self-governing united India. . . .

"I urge upon the community a certain reorientation. Some Anglo-Indian schools are anti-Indian hot-beds. They taught some of us to look away from India. I have raised my hands against such attitude. We must live, work and die, as one of the communities in India. If we are going to adopt friendship and loyalty to other communities in India, we will have deep and lasting friendship."

Surveying the role played by the Anglo-Indian community in the life of the country, Mr. Frank Anthony said: "We fill the gulf between the Britishers and Indians. Because of the mixture of blood, we have potentialities which other communities lack. We should be proud of our stock and of Indian blood."

Political



TAMILNAD ELECTION BOARD

Mr. Asaf Ali, member of the Congress Working Committee, who recently came to Madras to settle certain differences among Congressmen here sent the following telegram to Mr. Kamaraj Nadar, President of the Tamilnad Provincial Congress Committee, Madras.

"Hope you met Rajaji the day following my departure as you promised me. Anxiously waiting result for submitting report to President Congress. Hoping amicable adjustment. Election Board drawn from both parties. Please wire."

Following this Mr. Nadar suggested the personnel of the Election Board for approval of the Sardar.

Sardar Vallabhai Patel has accepted, on behalf of the Congress Central Parliamentary Board, the proposal made by Mr. Kamaraj Nadar, for the formation of the Tamilnad Provincial Election Board in consultation with Mr. C. Rajagopalachari.

The Board will consist of: Messrs. K. Kamaraj Nadar, C. N. Muthuranga Mudaliar, O. P. Ramaswami Reddiar, T. S. Avinasingam Chettiar, Mrs. Rukmani Lakshminipathi, Messrs. C. P. Subbiah, V. I. Muniswami Pillai and N. Annamalai Pillai.

CENTRAL ASSEMBLY ELECTIONS

Results of elections to the Central Assembly announced upto date show that out of 102 elected seats, 97 have been filled, comprising 55 Congress, 27 Muslim League, 5 Independents, 8 Europeans and 2 Akali Sikhs. All the 5 Independents are landholders.

According to present indications, the main opposition parties will be two, namely, the Congress and the Muslim League, and the Nationalists who formed the third Opposition Party, will cease to exist in the New House.

SWEEPING REFORMS IN N.W.F.P.

The Frontier Government is probably the first in India to provide all possible facilities to the political prisoners under the new rules for the classification of convicted and undertrial prisoners.

According to these rules, all persons detained in connection with or convicted of offences connected with political movements will be classified as political prisoners irrespective of the nature of proceedings taken against them, or the provision of the law under which they are detained, prosecution or convicted, provided that the offence does not involve violence.

All such prisoners shall belong to one class only namely "political prisoners."

The political prisoners will be accommodated in association with each other but apart from other prisoners, as far as possible.

Separate enclosures in jail may be allotted to political prisoners but they shall not ordinarily be locked up in barracks at night. . . .

In addition to books from the jail library each prisoner may have at one time from private sources, six books and daily newspapers by the approval of the Superintendent of Jail. They can also have their own radio sets.

Interviews shall be allowed fortnightly. Two letters shall be allowed to be sent fortnightly but they can receive any number of letters during that period. Facilities for writing books, etc. will also be provided.

Sets of cooking pots and utensils will be supplied. They will not be handcuffed or fettered by way of punishment and whipping shall not be inflicted in any case.

SIR C. P. ON THE TASK BEFORE
UNIVERSITIES

A warning that unless the universities and the wise men of the world re-educate mankind into a new culture and a new science of life, the human race might be overwhelmed by abysses such as World War II at the sight of which humanity was shuddering, was given by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, in his Convocation address at the Patna University on November 24. Sir C. P. said:

There was a period when educational reformers took it for granted that universal education would, by itself, make the world safe for liberty, equality and fraternity. In practice, such education has too often prepared the way for dictatorships and universal war.

"The lesson," said Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, "is obvious and has been forcibly nunciated" thus by Aldous Huxley:

"If one's goal is liberty or democracy, neither can be attained by the teaching of passive obedience and of building which are inseparable from militarism and by any education that is subordinated to such militarism and separatism. Our system of education, therefore, has to be completely and basically reorganised so as not only to be a preparation for a vocation but to bring about a new view of the future and of promise."

ANNAMALAI UNIVERSITY
CONVOCAION

Addressing the graduates who took their Degrees at the Convocation of the Annamalai University on November 27, Sir Norman Strathie, I.C.S., Adviser to H. E. the Governor, observed that no great progress could be made in India unless the rich submitted to higher taxation. He would appeal to young men to do all they could to increase the wealth of the world. Young men should discard the notion that they must push others aside and strive after securing for themselves the biggest possible share in the world's goods. That would not bring them happiness.

The Convocation was held at the Srinivasa Sastri Hall. Mr. M. Ruthnaswami, Vice-Chancellor, presided.

PANDIT NEHRU ON NEED FOR
TECHICIANS

The lack of advanced technology was given as the reason for the downfall of India by Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, delivering the Convocation address to the National Council of Education, Calcutta.

Pandit Nehru said India suffered a great setback during the last 200 years in the field of technology. A sort of prejudice against the study of scientific subjects gradually developed in the wake of foreign conquests until a stage was reached where "we lost all our creative faculty, and went on repeating age-worn customs and practices. Real vitality ebbed out of our lives, and our minds became a sort of closed field against anything new."

Pandit Nehru emphasised India had to make good her arrested progress and grow rapidly. Thousands of technicians were required for this stupendous task.

MR PANIKKAR ON THE ESSENCE OF
POLITICAL FREEDOM

"Political freedom is undoubtedly the first necessity for a people. But its essence—both its winning and its maintenance—lies not so much in the forms of government but in the creation of a spirit of national discipline, efficiency and toleration, that is, a broad based culture in its widest sense," observed Mr. K. M. Panikkar, Prime Minister, Bikaner, in the course of his Convocation address to the graduates of the Andhra University at Guntur on December 6.

"The task of the next generation in India is pre-eminently one of creating a modern society, of creating a new social dynamics, which will enable this country to break through the manacles of leaden thought and move forward with giant strides."

DRAMATIC TURN IN I.N.A TRIAL

The General Court Martial has heard Mr. Bhulabhai Desai's arguments in defence of the officers and men of the I. N. A. as also Mr. Engineer's plea for the prosecution. The irresistible logic with which Mr. Desai built up the defence case raised issues which are not of the normal type that a Court Martial is called upon to decide. "What is on trial before the Court now is the right to wage war with impunity on the part of a subject race for their liberation," said Mr. Bhulabhai Desai opening the defence arguments before the General Court Martial trying Capt Shah Nawaz, Capt. Sangal and Lieut. Dhillon of the Azad Hind Fauj. "I shall be able to cite accepted authorities on international law," he said, "that a nation or a part of a nation does reach a stage where it is entitled to wage war for its liberation."

The extraordinary aspect of the trial is that both the prosecution and the defence agree that war has been waged, the former contending that it was against the king and the latter arguing that it was for India's liberation.

There was a sensational ending in the Court Martial trial to the argument of the Advocate-General, who said: "In conclusion, I submit that all the charges against all the accused have been proved beyond any reasonable doubt. There is no defence in law to the charges against the accused."

"There is, however, a good deal of evidence to the effect that what the accused did was done by them not with any mercenary motive but because of what the accused 'bona fide' considered to be a patriotic motive, by a sense, whether wise or misguided, of doing service to the country. This, while not affording any defence to the accused in law, may legitimately be taken into consideration on the question of punishment if the court findings on the charges are against the accused."

SECTION 93 RULE

Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Iyer, former Advocate-General of Madras in the course of an article to the *Hindu* makes a strong plea for the termination of Section 93 rule and restoration of normal constitutional government.

He says: "It is unreasonable to expect a Government functioning under Section 93 to undertake the solution of the complex economic problems confronting the country or to embark upon a genuine or effective work of reconstruction, as obviously there can be no guarantee that future popular governments would continue the policy or even work on the materials furnished by it."

Discussing the two alternatives, Sir Alladi says: "One easy and obvious step is to rescind immediately the proclamation under Sec. 93 to hold bye-elections in respect of the seats that have fallen vacant since Oct. 1939 on the basis of existing electoral rolls."

"The other course suggested is for the Governor to dissolve the Assembly immediately and to undertake a detailed and complete revision of the electoral roll. This procedure necessarily involves the perpetuation of the Governor's rule under Section 93 for nearly another year, which is an indefensible course in the present circumstances. If the alternative is between a government responsible to a Legislature elected under the electoral roll completed some years ago and autocratic regime in which the legislative and executive functions are centred in a single individual, however well-intentioned he may be, there can be no two opinions as to what an enlightened or patriotic citizen would prefer."

INCREASE IN LIFE INSURANCE BUSINESS

The total number of insurers who stood registered under the Insurance Act, 1938, on 30th September 1945, was 330 of which 234 insurers were constituted in India and 96 out of India. 151 Indian Insurers carry on Life insurance business only, 47 carry on life and other classes of insurance business and 36 carry on only non-life business. 4 Non-Indian insurers carry on Life insurance business only, 11 carry on life and other classes of insurance business and 81 carry on only non-life business.

The new life insurance business effected in India by Indian insurers during 1944, amounted to about 4,32,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 95.20 Crores and yielding an annual premium income of Rs. 5.12 Crores, showing an increase over the previous year of about 1,49,000 in the number of policies, Rs. 32.26 Crores in the sum insured and Rs. 1.64 Crores in the premium income. The corresponding figure for Non-Indian insurers were about 19,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 11.00 Crores and yielding a premium income of Rs. 0.62 Crore, showing an increase over the previous year of about 6,000 in the number of policies, Rs. 1.82 Crores in sum insured and Rs. 0.13 Crore in the yearly premium.

The net amount of life insurance business effected by Indian insurers in India and in force at the end of the year amounted to about 19,40,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 366.15 Crores and

having a premium income of Rs. 18.10 Crores recording an increase over the previous year of about 3,12,000 in the number of policies, Rs. 72.07 Crores in the sums insured and Rs. 3.26 Crores in the premium income. The corresponding figures for Non-Indian insurers were about 1,87,000 policies insuring a sum of Rs. 76.98 Crores and having a premium income of Rs. 4.33 Crores.

INSURANCE IN INDIA

The first Life Insurance Company in India was The Madras Equitable, started in 1829. This company did good business but went into liquidation after the Great War. The next company, or the oldest existing company, happens to be the Bombay Mutual, which was founded in 1871. The Oriental of Bombay was founded in 1874 followed by the Indian Life of Karachi, the Empire of Bombay and Bharat of Lahore. The oldest proprietary company in Madras is the United India established in 1906. In Bengal, The National Insurance Co., was founded in the wake of the Swadeshi Movement in 1906. There has been a large expansion of Insurance business in India during the last two decades.

PROVIDENT INSURANCE COMPANIES

Provident Insurance Companies are registered under the Provident Insurance Societies Act, 1912 and generally transact 'dividing insurance' business. According to this plan the sum assured is not fixed but depends on the division of a portion of each year's premium income. But this system has been prohibited by the New Insurance Act of 1938. At present more than 500 Provident Insurance Companies are working in India.

FATE OF INDIA'S CREDIT

"Scaling down of our debts inside the Empire is politically calamitous and morally wrong. We owe in India money because, for our military necessity, we took from her goods she in her poverty, assuredly could not, and would not have given us freely. We have not the right to bilk India," writes Prof Edward Thompson in the *New Statesman and Nation* discussing the acceptance of the American loan.

"At the close of the first world war, an eminent Judge of our High Court, now no more, told me that denial of just debts is not the British way and every penny of the debt due to America will be paid by Britain" writes Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, C.I.E. What happened subsequently does not need to be told.

"The Congress threatened to disown debts that were accumulated against India. Britain was aghast. Safeguards the most drastic, covering the whole field of British economic and financial interests in India were inserted in the Government of India Act and relaxation of the stranglehold is not now to be thought of, though the most vital interests of India demand it.

Now comes the question of sterling balances owed to India by Britain. Every attempt is made to write it off, or to put it off with a promise of future payment, waiting upon circumstances the most uncertain in an ever-changing world.

Self-government has been ready for you all the time, it is the fault of you Indians that you have not taken it—says the Prime Minister. Even independence, if India chose he could have as Cripps offer assured, just after the war. Everything done, everything ought to be done, since that offer, indicates lying in deeper than ever before. A treaty with India is ready before India has even set on her own feet. British interests will have to be apparently secured before Indian interests can pass into Indian hands.

What Britain gets from U.S.A., is being got from a rich and prosperous nation. What is tried to be taken out of India is sought to be extracted from abject poverty.

The needs of India are no less vital and no less urgent and yet it would seem as if those who are engaged in smoothing world affairs thought that British interests must come first no matter what happens to others.

The economic effects of the United States financial schemes for Britain will be disastrous to India, said Sir Chundal B. Mehta, in an interview to the Associated Press of India. Sir Chundal was referring to the financial scheme presented by the United States authorities to the British Delegation in Washington on the subject of a loan of five thousand million dollars by the United States to Britain.

From the Indian point of view, said Sir Chundal, the scheme is not worth even considering.

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.

LOAN TO BRITAIN

Final Anglo-American agreement has been reached on a loan of \$1,400,000,000.

LADY PETHICK-LAWRENCE'S MESSAGE

"I rejoice that you have such a great leader as Gandhiji. Personally, I am convinced that though he, with his principle of non-violence, be centuries ahead of his time, eventually we shall all have come back to him, because the hope of the world lies in our conversion to the great truth he has proclaimed by his life," says Lady Pethick-Lawrence, wife of Lord Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary of State for India, in the course of a message to the All-India Women's Conference, at Hyderabad.

Lady Pethick-Lawrence further says: "I want you to know that, as a fighter for freedom, and as one who has been through six imprisonments and the experience of a hunger-strike (imposed by the Government of that day, more than thirty years ago, by forcible feeding), I have the very fullest sympathy with all that you are feeling at the present time.

"Every person or group who can carry out in life Gandhiji's teachings and that of the great leaders who came and went before him is hastening the day when all people will understand and follow them.

"I realise the great record of gentleness and non-violence that the women of India have given as their contribution to world history. I am convinced that upon the woman as the mother of all human beings rests the mission of reconciliation. Hence, I have always held the belief that every woman, in a very special sense, has two loyalties, one to her kindred nation and one to the whole of the human family; and that regardless of race or religion, we, as women, are united in a solidarity of aim and function in which ultimate peace is rooted.

"May I plead with you to put aside as far as possible the very natural distrust that you are bound to feel with regard to the promises of the British Government? Let me remind you that it is entirely a

new Government but that it inherits as we all inherit that *karma* of the past errors and past mistakes which calls for great patience and faith. Let me assure you that having been a colleague for over forty years of my husband, who has been with me through the difficulties of imprisonment, I know that it is true when he assures me that he and the Cabinet are doing their very utmost to bring about results that you and I so ardently desire; but the tide of events is flowing very strongly against all who are working for justice, unity and peace not only in Asia but throughout the whole world. They and you are battling against this tide and the need is great for understanding, mutual trust and sympathy."

INVALIDATION OF HINDU WOMAN'S MARRIAGE

Declaring that under Hindu Law a marriage was null and void if one of the partners to the marriage was unable to consummate it, Mr. S. G. Oke, Civil Judge, Nagpur, gave orders for the restitution of all her civil rights as a maiden to Hindu woman, including her right to re-marry.

The plaintiff, Ramabai, a Hindu woman, was married in 1938 to the defendant, Dolas, when she was 22 years of age. It was asserted that owing to the incompetency of the defendant, the marriage was not consummated and she had to return to her father's house, when she was now residing.

Dolas never tried to take her back. The plaintiff contended that her marriage was a nullity, because the defendant was incompetent to perform 'Laja Homa' and 'Saptapadi', two important rites in Hindu marriage.

Giving judgment in the plaintiff's favour, Mr. Oke said, "This conclusion is in accordance with the clear, general principle of Hindu Law that marriage is for the perpetuation of one's life."

MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA DR. P. K. ACHARYA

The retiring Governor of U. P. Sir Maurice Hallett, held on 1st December, '45 the last investiture ceremony at the imposing Darbar Hall of the Government House, Lucknow.

There were 68 persons who received medals, badges and sanads of the respective Honours. There were half a dozen ladies who received silver and bronze medals mostly for hospital works. The rest with a single exception received badges mostly for war work and meritorious services. The monotony was agreeably broken by a very distinguished Professor of the Allahabad University, Dr. P. K. Acharya, I.E.S., who appeared with deep red and mauve coloured hood over the black silk gown of the highest doctor's degree of the London University. On this already imposing setting, His Excellency with a pleasant smile put across the right shoulder and underneath the left arm the gorgeous broad badge of gold and white containing in the centre a large silver star. He was then handed over the Sanad signed by the Viceroy, Lord Wavell, F.M., bearing the inscription "I hereby confer upon you the title of Mahamahopadhyaya as a personal distinction". His Excellency the Governor eulogized the Professor in the following words:

"As Professor of Sanskrit and Head of the Oriental Department of the Allahabad University since 1922, and Dean of the Faculty of Arts for two successive terms, your work has been of a high order. Your monumental work, the *Manasara* series, which constitutes a complete and illustrated survey and Encyclopædia of Indian Archaeology and Hindu Architecture, has been highly appreciated by eminent scholars all over the world. In recognition of your service in the promotion of Sanskrit scholarship and in the field of research, the title of Mahamahopadhyaya has been conferred on you. I heartily congratulate you upon the well-merited distinction."

THE LATE Mr. R. NARAYANASWAMI IYER
Mr. Justice N. Chandrasekhara Aiyar writes:—

The death of Mr. R. Narayanaswami Aiyar B.A., B.L., is a great loss not only to the legal world but also to the public in general. After a comparatively brief and somewhat uneventful career as a *vakil*, he took to business by purchasing the *Madras Law Journal* in the year 1910 and was its sole proprietor all along. He made the journal the premier unofficial legal periodical in the Presidency and under his care and guidance, it has enjoyed a unique prestige among publications of its kind in India. Mr. Narayanaswami Aiyar built up the business slowly but securely and if it is now a flourishing concern, it is due almost entirely to his capacity in management and organisation. He has published several standard books in law, Sanskrit literature and Tamil; and his monthly Tamil Magazine *Kalaimagal* which has been running for over a decade now has earned for itself much reputation.

REUTER'S NEW BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Reuter's new Board of Directors consists of Viscount Rothermere, Chairman of the Associated Newspapers, whose papers include the *Daily Mail*, Sir Walter Layton, Chairman of the *News Chronicle*; Mr. H. G. Bartholomew, Chairman of the *Daily Mirror* Newspapers Limited; Mr. J. R. Scott, Chairman of the *Manchester Guardian*; Mr. Malcolm Graham, Managing Director of the *Wolverhampton Express and Star*, and Mr. Harold Grime, Governing Director and Editor of the *West Lancashire Evening Gazette*.

The first three are members of the Newspaper Proprietors' Association and the others are members of the Press Association representing Provincial newspapers.

MR. B. G. HORNIMAN

Mr. B. G. Horniman, Editor of the *Bombay Sentinel*, has resigned his editorship of the paper. Mr. M. N. Cama has become the Editor of the paper.

CONGRESS MEDICAL MISSION TO BURMA

The Congress Working Committee has decided to send a Medical Mission to Burma and Malaya and has called upon Dr. B. C. Roy to organise such a mission in consultation with Sardar Vallabhai Patel.

The following is the text of the resolution of the Committee on the subject:

"In view of the serious and widespread distress prevailing among Indians in Burma and Malaya for want of food and medical attention and cloth scarcity, the Working Committee resolves that a Medical Mission be sent, on behalf of the Congress, to Burma and Malaya in order to give medical and other needed relief more especially to the I. N. A. and Indian Independence League personnel there."

PNEUMONIA INFECTION

Why is it that some people are more liable to catch pneumonia than others?

Doctors have not yet succeeded in unravelling this mystery but their experiments have revealed, that between 15 and 65 years of age, more than twice as many men die of pneumonia as do women, writes the *British Medical Journal*.

This sex difference in mortality does not seem closely connected with occupations as might be imagined; in most male occupations, the men's wives are only half as likely to die of the disease, but the wife mortality rises or falls according to the occupational group keeping pace with the male mortality.

Pneumonia kills the poor far more readily than the rich. The lower the social class, economically speaking, the higher the pneumonia death rate. Low-paid wage-earners are twice as likely to die of pneumonia as payers of super-tax.

NORBEL PRIZE FOR PENICILLIN DISCOVERER

The Nobel prize for medicine has been awarded to Sir Alexander Fleming of London University, and Doctor Ernest Boris Chain and Sir Howard Walter Florey of Oxford University in recognition of the discovery of penicillin.

HEALTH PLAN FOR INDIA

For the first time in the history of India, a comprehensive ten-year plan for health, approximately costing Rs. 1,000 crores by way of capital and recurring expenditure, has been suggested by the All-India Health Survey and Development Committee.

Personal health services, including the directional organisations associated with the Ministries of Public Health, Professional Education and expenditure on other items it is estimated will require 163 crores in the first five years in British India; and the next five years will require 200 crores, which complete a ten-year programme. The recurring annual expenditure will be 40 crores during the first five years and 81 crores in the next five years. The annual per capita expenditure will be Rs. 1.3 11 during the first five years, and Rs. 2.6 6 during the next five years. The present per capita expenditure is 3 annas.

The committee which is presided over by Sir Joseph Bhore, aims at a target of one doctor for every 2,000 citizens.

This target figure is to be reached by the year 1971.

The committee takes the village as the nucleus for health organisation and suggests building upwards. When the scheme is brought into full operation by the year 1971, India will have 185,000 doctors as against 47,500 she has at present. Today there is one doctor for every 6,800 people in India, as against one doctor for every thousand persons in England.

HOW BALDNESS IS CAUSED

Baldness, in its common forms, is not sudden pouring out of the hairs, like quills from a porcupine's back. The new hairs become dwarfed in length and thickness and finally dwindle until one by one they fail to follow their predecessors up through their scalp. The nourishment on which the hair lives is supplied by the body through the skin—the blood and oxygen carried by the blood vessels.

INDIA AND THE STERLING POLICY

Mr. Manu Subedar, M.L.A. (Central) speaking at a luncheon given in his honour in Bombay, said that the sterling balances which accrued due to compulsorily taking from India goods and thus depriving the Indian population of the benefit of these, should be paid to India and that Britain's plea of not being able to do so was false, so long as there were British interests in India at an inflated value of Rs. 800 crores.

Mr. Manu Subedar added, "India is being tied to the apron strings of Britain and contrary to their undertaking, the London-controlled Government of India is about to join the Bretton Woods fund and bank. While this step would create a liability for contribution and a sacrifice of the power over our exchange, it does not bring any corresponding gain, because India's need is not for international loans, but to recover fully the funds which have been compulsorily transferred to London. How can a country which has not a responsible Government, gain prestige in the international world? India is a pawn in the hands of the United Kingdom and is being used for British purposes without any regard to her own specific needs and requirements".

BANK OF FRANCE NATIONALISED

By 521 votes to 35 the French National Assembly endorsed the Government's decision to nationalise the Bank of France, the four main deposit banks—the CREDIT LYONNAISE, SOCIÉTÉ GÉNÉRALE, COMPTOIR DES COMPTES and Banque National pour le Commerce et l'Industrie—and to set up a National Council of Credit to take over the credit system. The terms on which the banks have been taken over are considerably harsher than those on which Bank of England shareholders have been compensated. The Assembly introduced changes in the Government's Bill which made the terms more stringent.

TELE-COMMUNICATIONS ON RAILWAYS

To improve and speed up train services, the Indian Railways have embarked upon a vast tele-communications programme. A total of 20,000 miles of new trunk telephone, train control and telegraph circuits are under construction, and a number of these lines are already operating on sections carrying heavy traffic. With improvised materials, the Railways have carried out many improvements to train and traffic control offices. A teleprinter network has been planned to cover the principal Railways throughout the country and the first circuits are already in operation.

Wireless has been introduced to give a direct and flexible means of communication. Wireless stations have been set up between railway headquarters and divisions, which in turn are hooked up with their principal junctions. Mobile sets are also in operation, especially during floods and breaches when line communications have been destroyed.

INDIAN RAILWAY SERVICE OF ENGINEERS

The following is the list of 25 candidates appointed to the Indian Railway Service of Engineers, as a result of the competitive examination held by the Federal Public Service Commission in 1944:

Messrs. A. K. Ramayya, N. Nilakanta Sarma, P. O. Thomas, M. G. Nair, Trilok Nath Joshi, A. V. Jacob, P. N. Chopra, S. Kulathu Aiyar, P. V. Narayanaswamy, L. F. X. Freitas, E. S. M. Carlos, Krishan Chandar, C. D. Dharmani, K. Ramachandra Rai, P. N. Subramanian, C. B. R. R. Krishna Reddi, A. Sukumaran, John Arputharaj, H. I. Motianey, S. K. Mojmunder, P. D. Jain, T. M. Thomas Bashir Ibrahim, Mahmed Ayyub and G. Ahmed Sheriff.

GANDHIJI'S TOUR IN BENGAL

The Government of Bengal have provided certain Railway facilities for Gandhiji's tour so that the fatigue of travel and of meeting crowds may be reduced as much as possible. Two launches have also been made available to Gandhiji and party for the Midnapore tour and certain other facilities have also been provided.

ART EXHIBITION AT ADYAR

The Exhibition of Indian pictorial arts and crafts was declared open at Adyar by Sir S. V. Ramamurthi on the eve of the Theosophical Society's Convention.

The exhibits have been restricted to paintings indicating the trends of the movement which began in Bengal 40 years ago. Three schools are represented. There is a group of pictures by the teachers and students of the School of Arts founded a short time ago in Trivandrum under the patronage of the State Government.

Another feature is a small but significant set of paintings by girl students of Sri R. M. Raval's School in Ahmedabad. These indicate close observation of the distinctive life of that picturesque province.

An individual exhibit indicates the growth of the art of Sri Promode Kumar Chatterji of Calcutta. Some of the exhibits are by new students and give promise of future excellence. There are, however, masterpieces in the typical delicacy and detail of painters following the traditional viewpoint and method. A small set of Rajput and Mogul paintings is also on exhibition.

MUSIC ACADEMY CONFERENCE

The nineteenth Annual Conference and Music concerts organised by the Madras Music Academy were declared open at the Sundareswarar Hall, Mylapore, on December 22, in the presence of a large gathering by the Raja of Ramnad. Sangitha Vidyan Maharajapuram Viswanatha Aiyar presided.

Besides the representatives of the various music sabhas in the city, a number of well-known vidwans and music-lovers were present. The opening and the presidential addresses stressed the importance of preserving the tradition and purity of Carnatic music and pointed out the need to avoid the linguistic controversy in the domain of music. An appeal was also made to Vidwans to support the Academy in its efforts to maintain the high standard of Carnatic music.

INDIAN CRICKET

In an article written to the *Sunday Telegraph*, George Thatcher notes the rapid stride of progress made by Indian cricket in recent years. He pays a warm tribute to Ranji and says that no other Indian has ever appreciated his skill.

When the Nawab of Pataudi scored a century for England against Australia in his first Test appearance at the S.C.G. in 1932, he said: "We have the Indian sign on Australian XI bowlers".

Pataudi was the third Indian to make a first appearance century in Anglo-Australian Tests.

The others are: K. S. Ranjitsinghji afterwards His Highness the Jam Sahib of Nawabnagar and his nephew, K. S. Duleepsinghji. One of the three Indians who have scored a Test century for his country against England, Vijay Madhavji Merchant was described by the Indian-born Douglas Jardine as the soundest batsman in India.

Only 5ft. 7in. in height. Merchant, according to Wisden's, overcomes his lack of reach by perfect footwork and a quick eye.

In a game at Bombay, a ball from English fast-bowler Nichols hit him on the chin, knocked him out.

Merchant, after receiving medical attention, batted for three hours.

He averaged 51 '32 in the 1937 tour of England.

Merchant made the record Indian score of 359 not out last year and twice exceeded 250.

Indian critics regard Merchant as more efficient than Pataudi, and with only slightly less capacity than Duleepsinghji.

V. S. Hazare, who has twice exceeded 300 in Pentangular games at the Brabourne Stadium, is described by Clarrie Ellen (R.A.A.F.), former Petersham first-grader, as a batsman worthy of inclusion in any Sheffield Shield side.

TATA RESEARCH INSTITUTE

"India stands in urgent need of the speedy development of her resources, both agricultural and industrial. This can only be achieved with the aid of science," observed Sir John Colville, Governor of Bombay, declaring open the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research in Bombay on December 19.

His Excellency regarded the establishment of the Institute as an encouraging sign, showing how a wise use of trust funds, individual initiative and Government support could be combined for the common good. The enterprise was of importance to the country's development.

Sir Sorab Saklatvala, a member of the Council of the Institute, said it was the object of the Institute, to bring together notable scientists India had produced so that they might give their best in the interests of the country.

Prof. Bhabha, in a brief talk on the occasion, explained the importance of Cosmic radiation. To discover new secrets of nature they had to study matter in still unfamiliar conditions and see what happened when it was bombarded with particles of high voltage. Such particles could not be produced in a laboratory to-day. In cosmic rays nature had provided the biggest atom smashing machine in the world.

The study of cosmic rays, Prof. Bhabha added, had already revealed the processes involving the creation of matter and had led to the discovery of a new elementary particle, the Meson. Cosmic rays would form the main field of experimental research at the Institute for the present. He hoped that it would soon extend to nuclear physics, since the two are very closely related.

Prof. Chandrasekhar, who holds a Chair of Astrophysics at Yerkes Observatory of the Chicago University, will shortly join the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Bombay.

THE CINEMA AND OBSCENITY

The cinema is "one of the curses of this age", observed Mr. S. M. Hasan, Chief Presidency Magistrate, at the Egmore Court, Madras, in the course of an order sentencing Mr. L. Ananta Aiyar, Editor, Printer and Publisher of the *Hindu Nesan*, to pay a fine of Rs. 400 on charges of having published in the issues of his paper matter of an obscene nature in regard to certain cinema stars.

In pronouncing sentence on the accused the magistrate observed:

I take into consideration the fact that the role of the accused in disseminating obscenity is only a minor one when compared to the institution of cinema itself. The cinema is one of the curses of this age. It has turned thousands of girls of respectable families into dancing girls and boys into buffoons and robbed both of the virtue of modesty and dignity. Whatever little educative or moral value is claimed on behalf of it is a cloak to conceal its hideous nature. The film producers are not concerned primarily with social and moral reform. Their chief objective is to earn money and this accused has tried to pick up some crumbs from their table. Obscenity is introduced to widen the circulation and to increase the sale. I therefore, consider that a sentence of fine will amply meet the ends of justice.

HIGH INCOME OF FILM HEADS

Mr. Louis, B. Mayer, Chief of Metro Goldwynmayer Film Corporation, heads the lists of high-figure incomes issued by the United States Treasury for 1943.

Mr. Mayer's income was estimated at 908,070 dollars while Mr. Charles E. Wilson, President of General Motors Corporation, was second with 4,59,041 dollars.

ABOLITION OF RAW FILM CONTROL

In a recent Press Note the Government of India announced their decision to cancel the Raw Cinematograph Film (Control of Distribution) Order, 1943, with effect from December 15, 1945 or from such earlier date as may be possible. They have now finally decided to cancel the Control Order with effect from the 15th December 1945.

SOVIET MOTOR CAR INDUSTRY

Russia's new five-year plan for the automobile industry will see the Soviet Union manufacturing cars and trucks in such volume that it may well compete seriously with the United States and Britain for the world market, writes Eddy Gilmore, Associated Press of America staff correspondent.

Already a large industry in the U.S.S.R., the automotive plants will be increased three to four times their present size by the end of this five-year plan, according to S. R. Akopov, Commissar of medium machine building industry. Generalissimo Stalin has taken a personal interest in that programme.

New plants are scheduled to be constructed in Siberia, the Ukraine, White Russia and Georgia. The new upswing is scheduled to begin next year with the Soviets expected in turn out twice as many cars this year.

The Soviet Union's new popular car is called the "Victory" and is said to be a highly economical five passenger model with a top speed of 65 miles an hour.

ATOMIC ENERGY FOR MOTOR CAR

A group of French scientists and engineers in Paris claim that they have invented a "simple and easily manufactured apparatus involving the principle of atomic disintegration which will revolutionise the automobile industry."

They state that the apparatus "involves the process of welding by means of atomic hydrogen" and claim that its effects are to reduce petrol consumption in cars by at least 20 per cent. and to give a much greater speed.

The scientists intend to manufacture the apparatus and to sell it on licence.

COMPRESSED AIR MOTOR CAR

A novel type of automobile engine is reported from Chicago. The power is delivered to the axle of the car by a compressed air engine which is supplied with high-pressure air from the energy of vapours operating in a cycle as used in gas refrigerators, while the primary energy is supplied by evaporating a low-boiling-point fluid by a burner using butane for fuel.

SOVIET PRODUCTION OF PLANES

Soviet factories have begun large-scale production of passenger planes for civil airlines. Already the Soviet Civil Air Fleet is flying regular schedules to Tcheran, China, London, Paris, Prague, Warsaw, Belgrade, Sofia, Bucharest, Vienna, and Budapest.

The foundations of peace-time flying were laid during the war, when in spite of military Aviation demands, heavy civil passenger planes increased more than ten-fold.

The most notable Soviet achievement in civil aviation is the establishment of a regular service between Moscow and the United States.

The service began in the dark days of 1941 and passes across nearly 4,000 miles of little-explored territory in Northern Siberia, Kamchatka and Alaska.

NEW YORK TO KARACHI IN SIXTY HOURS

New York to Karachi in sixty hours—this is the schedule which the Pan-American Airways plan to operate from the middle of 1946.

According to an official of the Airways it is proposed to run the service between New York and Calcutta twice a week.

The Pan-American Airways also propose to operate another service from San Francisco to Calcutta.

Calcutta will thus be the terminal where the East-bound and West-bound around the world-service will meet.

BRITISH FLIERS' FEATS WITH METEORS

Group Captain Willy Wilson, flying in a jet-propelled 'Meteor' broke the world's airspeed record over a three-kilometre course at the average speed for four trial runs of 602 miles per hour.

In the first run Capt. Wilson did 600 miles an hour, on the second 602, on the third 592, and on the last 613 miles an hour.

INCREASE OF FACTORIES IN INDIA

The number of factories working in British India increased from 12,527 in 1942 to 13,209 in 1943 according to the Provincial Annual Reports on the working of the Factories' Act, 1934, during the year 1943.

The increase was confined only to perennial factories. Seasonal factories registered a small decrease from 3,681 to 3,675. Among the provinces which shared the increase in perennial factories most prominent were Madras (211) Bombay (210) and the Punjab (103).

The total number of notified factories increased from 2,505 to 2,680. This increase was mostly accounted for by Madras, followed by Bombay where the number of perennial notified factories increased by 130 and 55 respectively.

During the year under review the average daily number of women, adolescents and children employed in factories was 3,02,690 as against 2,99,838 in the previous year. The percentage of women to the total factory population was 10.8 as against 11.5 in 1942, that of adolescents stood at 1.2 and of children at 0.5. The report says: "In spite of the labour shortage in some areas there does not appear to have been any serious attempt to substitute women, adolescents or children for men."

TECHNICAL MISSION TO GERMANY

At the request of the Planning and Development Department of the Government of India, His Majesty's Government have agreed to include five Indian expert technicians in the appropriate teams of British and American experts going to Germany to investigate specified industrial and technical processes likely to be advantageous to Allied industrial production.

The Indian technicians selected are: Dr. Nazir Ahmed, Technical Director, Indian Central Cotton Committee; Mr. S. P. Nair of Messrs. Powells Ltd., Mr. R. D. Char of Standard Batteries, Mr. S. L. Kirloskar of Kirloskar Bros., and Dr. L. C. Jariwala of Estrela Batteries.

MARKETING OF BANANAS

In their report on the marketing of bananas the Agricultural Marketing Department of the Government of India suggest that possibilities of increasing the demand of bananas for industrial uses should be explored and trade in banana, figs and flour, particularly in the surplus banana-producing Provinces and States like Madras, Mysore, Cochin and Travancore, should be taken up.

Under war conditions, the report adds, there seems to be little scope for developing foreign trade in Indian bananas but the position may be reviewed when normal conditions return and it may be possible to increase the export of bananas from Madras and Bombay.

The area under bananas in India is estimated at 404,550 acres producing about 110 million maunds. The average annual export of bananas during the three years from 1937-38 to 1939-40 was 12,000 maunds only.

The report suggests that banana varieties should be systematically classified and described in all the principal banana-producing Provinces and States.

WATER SHORTAGE IN TANJORE DELTA

The Tanjore delta is facing a shortage in the supply of water for irrigation the water level in the Mettur Reservoir having considerably gone down. A few months back, the turn system was adopted and it is feared says a correspondent that there might be a further reduction even in the available supply.

The single-crop ('sambha') which has not eared yet in many places would require both rain water and irrigated water. If the former fails completely, the latter is essential and, without it, the crop would be affected considerably. The 'thaladi' (second crop) which has been transplanted recently, will require water for another two months.

The situation is causing great anxiety to the ryots, who are looking forward anxiously for rain and water-supply to save the situation.

LABOUR LEADER'S WARNING

The warning that India may be advancing towards civil war if the present trend of propaganda between Congress and the Muslim League continues, was given in London by Mr. V. B. Karnik, General Secretary of the Indian Federation of Labour.

He was speaking at a reception in London given for himself and Mr. Nirmal Das Gupta, General Secretary of the Indian Colliery Workers' Union.

"Falling wages and further unemployment is going to be our lot in India for the next year or so," said Mr. Karnik, "The condition of miners is anything but human, and I am worried about the grim prospects that lie ahead. I am more worried about political happenings in India. The elections, which the British Government have decided to hold, are not going to decide the issue, because they will not be representative of the people of India. We need a political party based on social and economic issues. We are trying to develop such a Socialist Party in India, and I hope we shall get the active support of the Labour Government of Great Britain and other countries."

MADRAS PROVINCIAL T.U.C.

If the immediate demands of Indian workers were not accepted employers and the Government would have to face action in India which they had never seen before, and which would be backed by the working classes of the world through the World Federation of Trade Unions, said Mr. S. A. Dange, Vice-President of the All-India Trade Union Congress, addressing the delegates to the second session of the Madras Provincial Trade Union Congress at Madura last month.

Mr. V. Chakkarai Chettiar, President of the Madras Provincial T.U.C. presided.

The open session of the Congress was attended by more than 15,000 workers of the city.

PRIME OF MEN'S LIVES

At what age are man's creative powers at their peak?

Psychologist Harvey C. Lehman of Ohio University says that composers, athletes, billiard champions, authors, male cinema stars, philosophers, explorers, painters, scientists all achieve their top performances in their early thirties.

Talented men, he says, keep up the quantity of their output fairly well until about 50. But the peak of greatness occurs much earlier. Although there are many individual exceptions most of the great operas, novels, paintings, scientific discoveries, etc., have been produced by men just rounding 30. This, he finds, coincides with the age at which men are most children and break most sports records.

Averaging it all up, Professor Lehman says that men reach the prime of life at 33.

PRE-HISTORIC EXCAVATION IN GUJARAT

The trustees of the Sir Dorabji Tata Trust have donated a sum of nearly Rs. 20,000 to the Deccan College Post-Graduate and Research Institute, Poona, for pre-historic exploration in Gujarat and Western India. With this donation the institute is organising for the cold season of 1946-47 its fourth expedition to Gujarat on comprehensive lines, and the expedition is to be called the Sir Dorabji Tata Archaeological Expedition.

Among the experts who will advise the expedition are Rao Bahadur K. N. Dikshit, Former Director General of Archaeology in India, and Dr. B. S. Guha, Anthropologist to the Government of India.

TOWN PLANNING OFFICER FOR INDIA

In order to co-ordinate the development schemes for Delhi and New Delhi and to advise the Central and Provincial Governments on their planning requirements, a Town Planning Officer has been appointed for a period of three years by the Government of India.

Mr. E. W. Harkness who has been appointed to this post has arrived from U. K. and has taken up his duties in the Labour Department.

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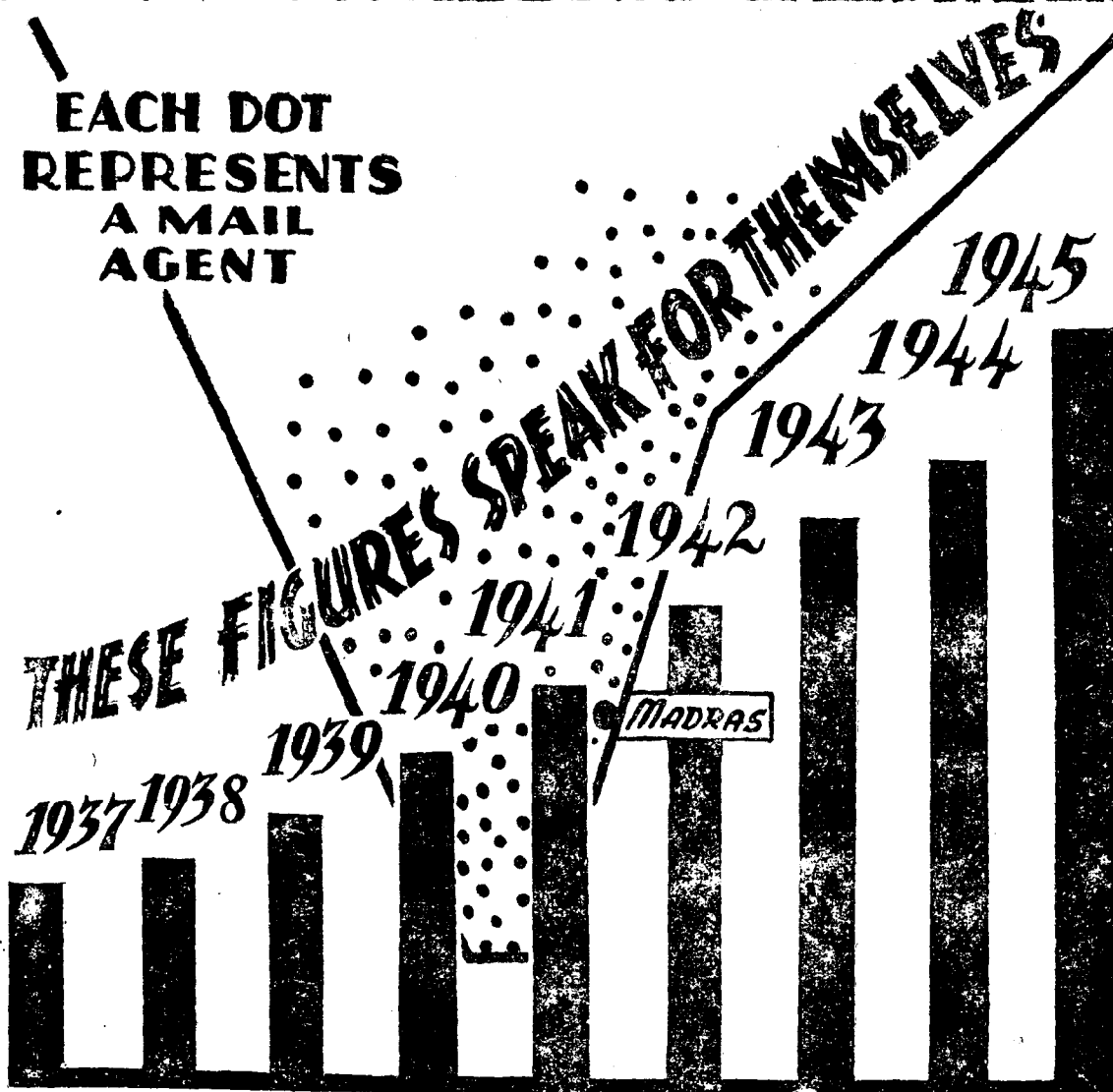
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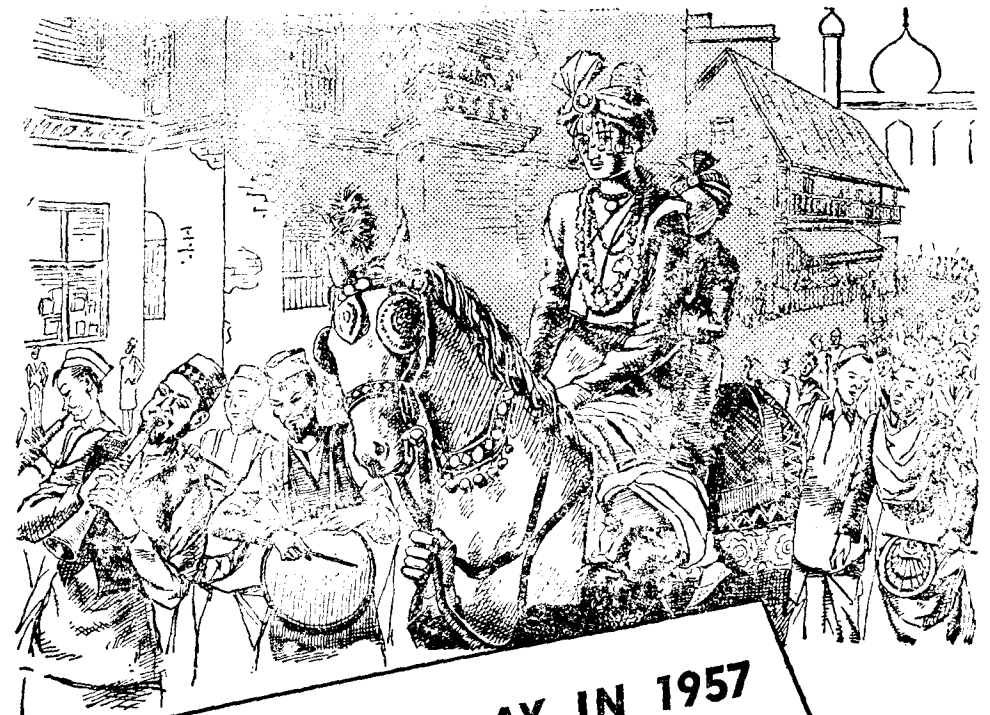
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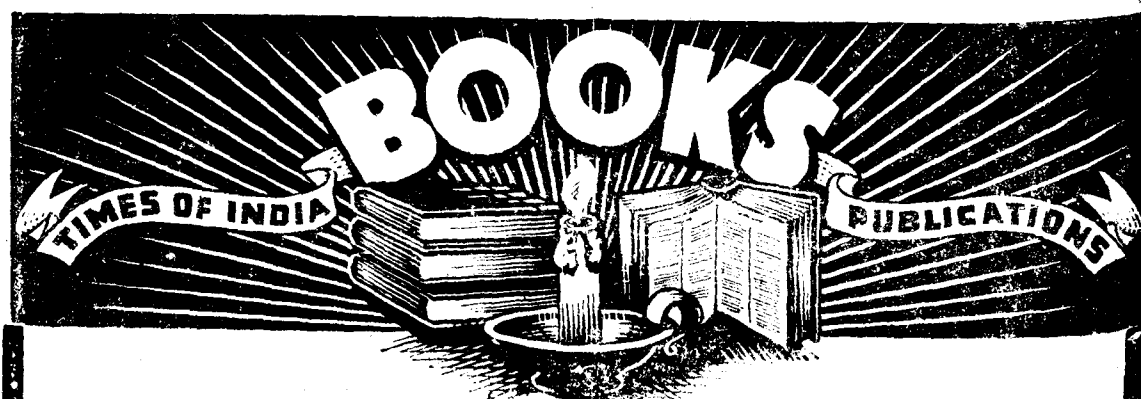
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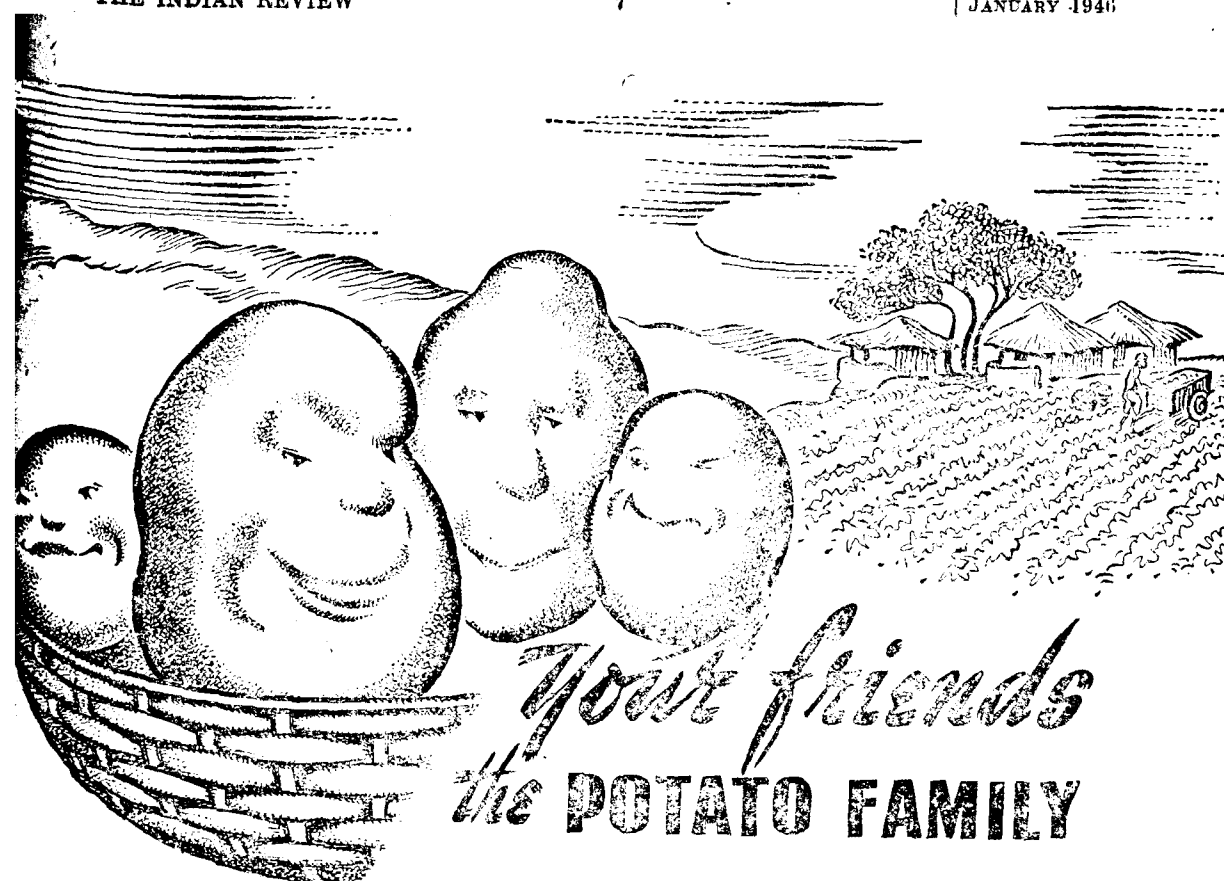
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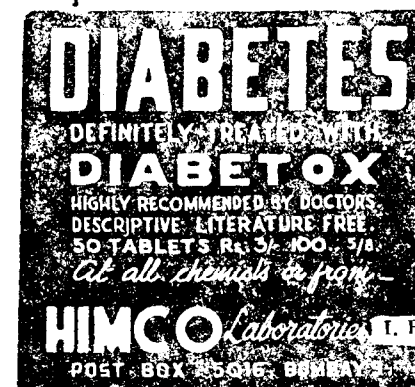


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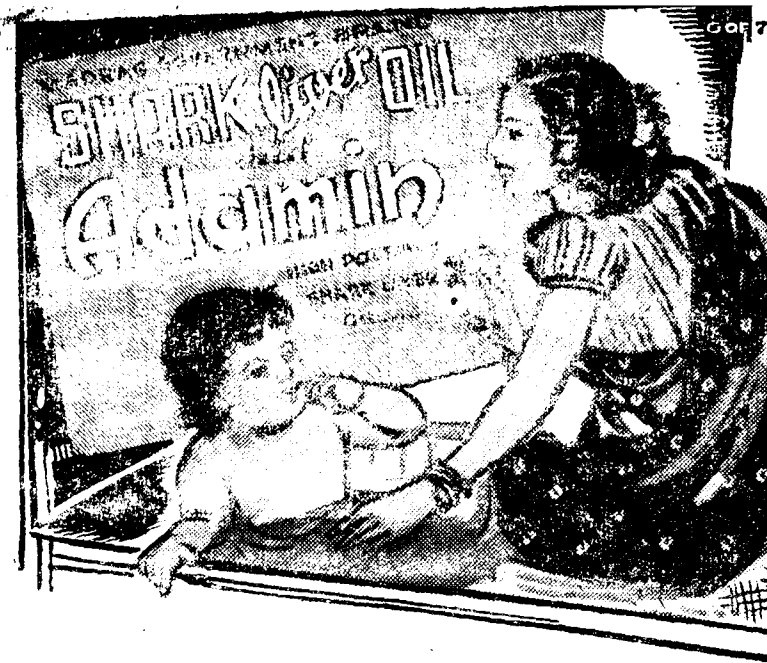
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