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INDIAN REVIEW

EDITED BY MR. G. A. NATESAN

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APRIL

No. 4.

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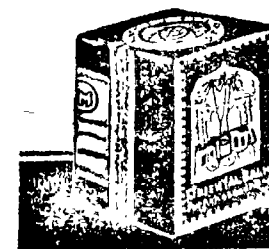
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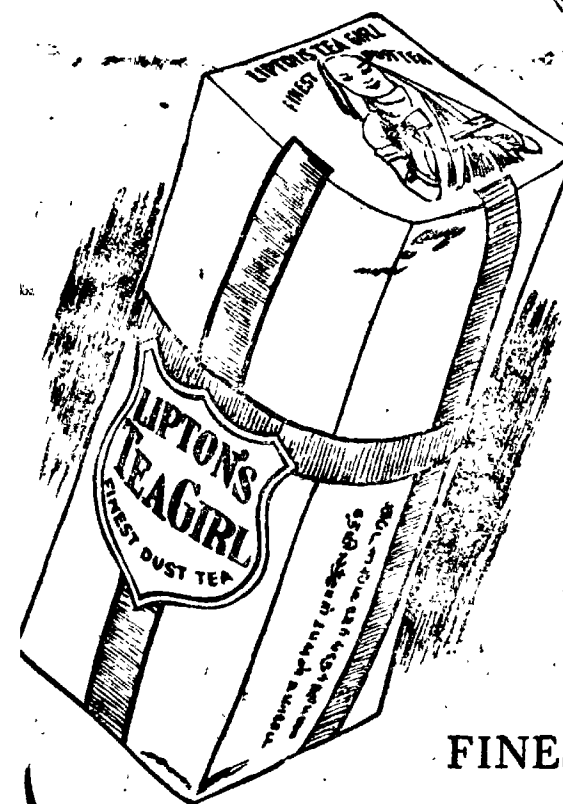
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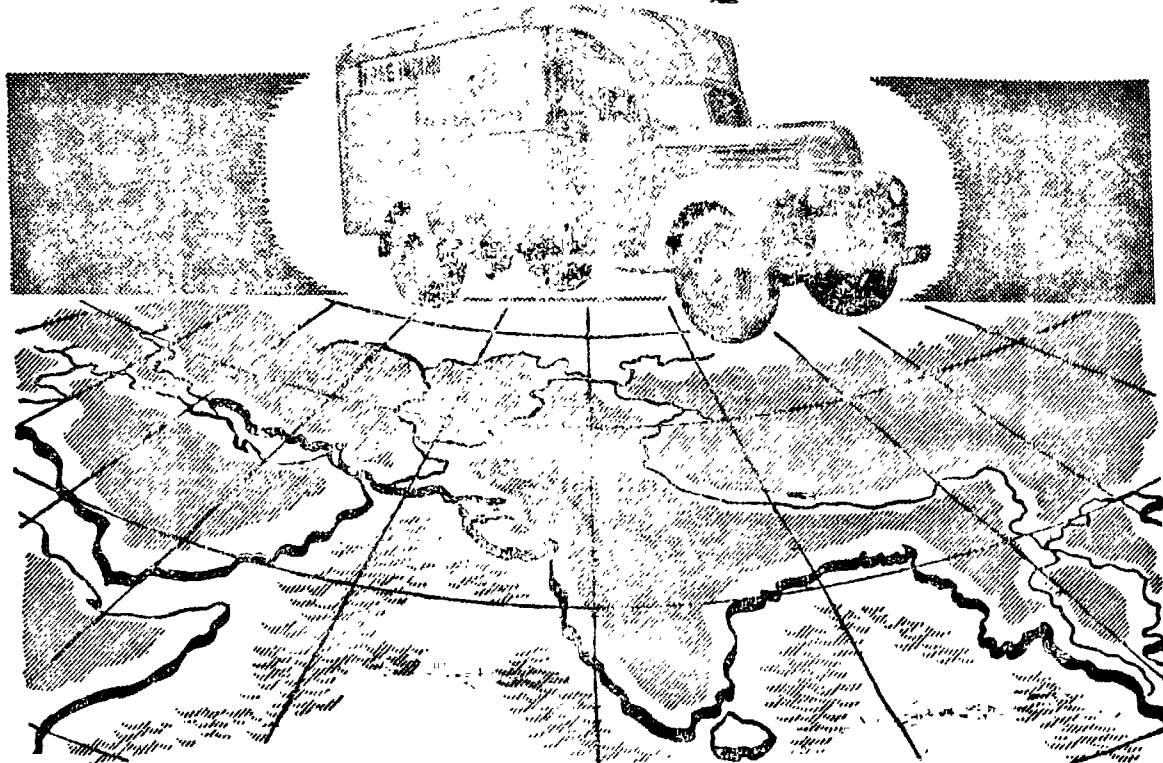
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Edited By Mr. G. A. NATESAN

Vol. 47.]

APRIL 1946

[No. 4.]

BOOKS THAT HAVE INFLUENCED ME

I. BY SIR BOMANJI J. WADIA

Vice-Chancellor, University of Bombay

THERE have been in this world men and women whose ideals and actions have laid the foundations of social progress, justice, and fellow-feeling. There have been ideas which in shaping civilization have often proved as effective as actions. There have also been books which have influenced lives and shaped human affairs. All lovers of books must have at some time or other come under their influence in the course of their lives. Such books are servants of the good life and help to realize the ideal as far as possible. Many of us have in our own humble ways found in books a spiritual stream which has poured into our affairs, for there is a depth of thought in their pages which answers various human aspirations. The writers who have earned immortality are those in whose work there is something universal, and it is the universal appeal to the mind and heart which endures. In writing about the books that have influenced me the difficulty is not so much of recollection as of selection. It is also difficult to avoid the first personal pronoun, but in places where this could not be helped no apology is necessary.

Personally, I can never forget the influence on my life wrought by the intensive reading of Shakespeare's great tragedies. They have always seemed to me unapproachable in the blend of their grandeur, poignancy, and infinity of background. Himself an actor of small parts not a very reputed calling in times which, classed the actor with "rogues and vagabonds", he must have heard outside the stage about the deep tragedies of human passion which took the joy out of his heart. What exactly it was that deepened the aspect and darkened his brow we do not know, but his mind soon became engrossed with treachery, disloyalty, ingratitude, jealousy, and over-vaulting ambition. The dark glory of the tragedies sank into my mind whilst I was still a college student, and I thought about the eternal note of sadness that sounds for ever on the shores of human life. It chastened the spirits of my youth, and I spoke to my Professor about it. It was some consolation to hear that evil never triumphed in the end, and that the wages of sin was death. Not only was Shakespeare's thought impressive, but his

manner of expression too was unforgettable. "To-morrow and to-morrow" are simple words, but they convey the endlessness of time and the infinite sadness of the speaker. "The rest is silence", are also simple words, but they produce that terrible futility of feeling which closes all earthly conflict with only the problem of the hereafter grimly outstanding. I felt with the great author the glory and greatness of humanity's immemorial pain. I felt that suffering was the cornerstone of life. I felt that I was now the sadder man, but was too young yet to say that I also felt I was the wiser.

I would next mention Plato's Republic which gave me, though only in translation, the fruit of a philosopher's quest for the ideal life. Here truly has the mortal put on immortality. Before Plato his master Socrates had sought after the truth, and finally gave up his life for it after being condemned by a tribunal which understood what truth was as much as Pontius Pilate did five centuries later. Truth, however, does not die on the cross nor does it perish in the poison cup, and the fearless consecration of life to a great cause leaves a deep impression behind. Plato's Republic is the most beautiful exposition extant of the idea that everything of value in this world has been accomplished by the free, inquiring critical spirit, the spirit which without limitation seeks the truth. Greek civilization had reached its peak in the fifth century B.C., but Plato knew that civilization is as near to savagery as rust is to steel. In his own ineffably beautiful simile, we are still imprisoned in our cave, with our backs to the light, and can only

watch the shadows on the wall. So he outlined the ideal Republic, the City of Light, the City of Friends with noble minds and warm hearts. In Plato's Republic there is no strife, no war of exchanges and fluctuating prices, no war of capital and labour, no desire of getting something out of nothing. The conquest of nature is not intensified. The town does not invade the country, the machine does not conquer man, and regimentation does not standardize life. One still turns to the pages of this great book for the foundations of our abstract arguments on justice, happiness, and education. Plato was the first to say that education must comprise the whole of life, and that it was essentially a matter of building character. Twenty-four centuries have elapsed since the book was written, and still our political writers and philosophical thinkers measure their conceptions against those of the great Athenian. A map of the world that does not locate the Republic is of little use, for it leaves out the one country on whose soil humanity has never ceased to attempt a landing.

Bunyan's Pilgrim's Progress is another book which influenced me as it must have influenced millions before and will influence millions hereafter. It is curious that a book which was written in prison without thought even of a possible reader has been as widely read as any other book in literature. It is the most perfect and complex of fairy tales, as Hallam calls it. It carries us to the serene heights of the soul, to the high altitudes where only what is noble and knightly can live. None of us can forget the adventures of

Mr. Great-Heart, Mr. Valiant—for-Truth, and Mr. Facing-both-ways, nor places like the Slough of Despond, Vanity Fair and the Wicket Gate. I remember having read the author's life, a poor uneducated inkster, writing within prison-walls, the home of all those who have a conscience to follow and principles to guard. His life story is a part of the romance of the book. Christian had a soul to be saved, and he had to save it by his own effort. His progress on the perilous path is true to the lives and experience of all of us. Its appeal is universal, and its wisdom has sunk deep into my mind. Bunyan believed that we live by the inner light and are greater than we know. He is of that rare band in whose company we experience a lifting, not a sinking, of the heart.

Another book that has left its abiding impress on me is Boswell's Life of Johnson. One may learn nothing from Boswell, but one becomes something. The book is a memorable exposition of the rarest of arts—the art of living. It awakens one to a sense of realism. A knowledge of the details of a man's life, including those of your hero, is a fine corrective to hero worship; for even when the worshipper is bent on idolizing, others come to know that the idol has often feet of clay. Macaulay's judgment of Boswell is a bit harsh, but Boswell was gross in his habits, his tastes were none too refined, and his hero worship often bordered on the verge of nausea. No scrubbing, no insult, no coldness, was too outrageous to be recorded. Bardolph's devotion to Falstaff—would I were with him,

wheresoever he be, whether in heaven or in hell—runs the nearest parallel. But Falstaff and Bardolph, like Don Quixote and Sancho Panza, are creatures of fiction. Here were two men in real flesh and blood, and the devotion of the one to the other was something entirely abnormal. Reading the famous Life is inexhaustible. It created in me a sense of realism which even the reading of Carlyle's Heroes in later life could not destroy. It has taught me never to overestimate; never to exaggerate, and to feel that however much man may lord it over the brute creation, he is still far below the angels. Boswell's gospel of realism is more needed than ever in a world of make-believe. It sets one right with reality, however uninviting it may be.

I am not an ardent reader of fiction, much less of modern fiction. But which of us can read Dickens' Pickwick Papers, the cheerfulness of human books, without being happy about it? The book has passed into literature, and the epithet "Pickwickian" is part of the vocabulary. The first or the second chapter opens with a sunny passage—

That punctual servant of all work, the sun, had just risen and begun to strike a light on the morning of the thirteenth of May, one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven, when Mr. Samuel Pickwick burst like another sun from his slumbers, threw open his chamber window, and looked out upon the world beneath. Goswell Street was at his feet, Goswell Street was on his right hand—and, as far as eye could reach, Goswell Street extended on his left; and the opposite side of Goswell Street was over the way.

There is a promise in these cheering words of wonderful things to come. Well might any one be content to gaze on Goswell street for ever. The first number of the "Posthumous Papers of the

Pickwick Club" appeared on 31st March 1836, and as it was soon succeeded by others, the name, the love affair, the proposal through chops and tomato sauce, the breach of promise suit, the trial, and its result all passed into the region of fame. Pickwickian canes, hats, and cigars were advertised; the name became proverbial, and is now for ever memorable.

To-day the gulf of a century that separates us from Pickwick has wrought many changes in our outlook, but of a dull evening after the day's work is done, it is an exhilarating tonic to keep company for even half an hour with Tracy Tupman, Nathaniel Winkle, Augustus Snodgrass and their companions. Man can laugh and laugh and yet grow wise.

II. BY MR. K. NATARAJAN

Editor, Indian Social Reformer

BUDDHIST Chronicles tell the story of a student at the Nalanda University famed for its medical studies. After seven years' residence he went to the rector with the request to be permitted to go out into the world and practise the art of healing. The rector set him a single question to test his knowledge and gave him six months to answer it in. The question was, which tree or plant in a radius of five miles from Nalanda did *not* have medicinal value. The student at the end of the term, approached the rector with the answer that he found that there was *no* plant or herb within a radius of five miles, which had no curative properties.

I recall this ancient tradition when I respond to the Editor's request to write of books which have influenced me. I cannot think of any book which I have perused that did *not* influence me one way or another.

Mathew Arnold in his essay on Marcus Aurelius speaks of people who live to read and people who read to live. I

would class myself in the second category. Nearly all the influence in my life barring that of heredity, should be traced to books. The Royal Readers which I read in the middle school stage were a source of never failing delight and instruction. They were beautifully got-up in fine type on fine paper, and had what I can only describe as a perfume about them when freshly bought on promotion to a higher class at the beginning of the academic year. The selections, prose and verse, were admirably chosen to interest and instruct. The importance of punctuality was inculcated in the story of Solomon Slow "the son of a gentleman" who was always five minutes too late. On one occasion, he missed the bus for a picnic which he was very anxious to join. I see his picture in the book running breathlessly to catch the coach which was just turning a corner. He missed it. He bitterly regretted this habit of being late and, we are left to conclude that he never there after failed to be in time for his engagements!

Then, there was the story of a hawker selling coloured caps, who on a hot day lay down in the shade of a tree for rest. He fell asleep and on waking found numerous monkeys grinning at him from their perch high up on the bough each with one of his caps on its head. I do not remember what exactly the moral conveyed was, but even though nearly seventy years have gone by, I feel the fun, in relating the story which I felt on first reading it.

A story which produced a deep impression on my boyish mind was that of a man who was always boasting of his personal prowess. One day he *with* a friend was walking in a forest when a bear suddenly emerged on the scene. The boastful man at once took to his heels while his companion lay down and feigned death so perfectly that the bear after sniffing at the prostrate body, lurched away leaving the man unharmed. When the beast was out of sight, the boastful person approached his friend and asked him what the bear whispered in his ear! The reply was, "it told me never to trust braggarts." This was the moral. In addition, I learnt that bears will not harm dead people, that is, people from whom they need fear no harm. The poems in the Royal Readers were no less admirably chosen. They touched all the higher levels of emotions, grief, pity, sympathy as well as sheer joy. They were also instructive. For example, the poem—I forget the title—about climbing a hill.

Standing at the foot, boys,
Gazing at the sky,
How can you get up, boys
If you never try!

The lesson of perseverance in the face of repeated failure was conveyed in the beautiful poem "King Bruce and the Spider". I can still repeat by heart the story of the Collier's child on its deathbed, the mother watching silently by his side, while the night was dark and stormy and the wind was howling wild outside. The collier comes in after his day's work. "The mother and the father met, but neither spoke a word". Even as a small boy I understood the anguish which sealed their lips. The story of John Gilpin's headlong ride, through London town, amused me greatly. Though it was late in life that I did ten thousand miles of sea voyage, I felt the fascination of the sea even as a boy when reading poems like Casabianca, "the Loss of the Royal George" and "the Wreck of the Hesperus."

I did not find the least difficulty in understanding these stories, on the contrary, I felt them instinctively. They were formative elements in my life. On the ground that they were foreign to Indian life, special Readers were written for Indian schools at the instance of the Educational Department. Most of these Orient readers lacked the inspiration of the Royal Readers. The Universal in boyhood to which the Royal Readers appealed was beyond the comprehension of the departmental text book makers. The themes which appealed to them were mostly those peculiar and particular to Indian life.

Byron bitterly complained that having had to learn Horace as a text book at school, he came to hate the very name of the great Latin poet. I did not feel

repelled by authors whom I first came to know through text-books. Of the trinity, Byron, Shelley and Keats, I love Keats most. On the threshold of my college career, I came across in a relative's small library, Keat's heartening lines, "Shed no tear, O shed no tear, the flower will bloom another year." I have often and often cheered myself up with them in moments of utter gloom. Wordsworth's ideas are too passive to kindle a spark in my Brahmanic nature. Tennyson's "Higher Pantheism" can be matched word for word from the Katha Upanishad and the Bhagavadgita. But Browning strikes a note to which I responded with my whole soul. "The sin I impute to each frustrate ghost, is the unlit lamp and the ungirt loin though the end in sight, is a vice, I say" corresponds to the Gita call to action even if enveloped by evil as fire by smoke. Browning lashed Wordsworth fiercely for his recantation of his sympathy for the French revolution. "He alone shrinks from the van and the foeman, he alone sinks to the slaves". In all his poems, Browning preached the gospel of right action without regard to consequences. Failure is the prelude to success. The effort is the main thing, "The prize is in the process." "We fall to rise, are baffled to fight better, sleep to wake". Browning's philosophy is that of Sri Krishna.

I am in this paper referring to English authors who have influenced me. "Endeavours After the Christian Life" by the unitarian philosopher and divine, James Martineau is a book to which I revert often for spiritual sustenance. Among European writers to whose works in

English translations I owe much are Ibsen (Norwegian) and Lessing (German). Lessing's "Nathan the Wise" indeed, marks a crucial moment in my mental and spiritual growth. Until I came across this work in an English translation in Cassell's pocket series of classical authors, I had almost wholly depended on Western sources for intellectual and spiritual nourishment. Lessing taught me to look to our own heritage. The drama relates to the period of the Crusades. Nathan was a wealthy Jew. He combined in himself the character of a merchant and philosopher. He was Saladin's close friend. Saladin was the soul of chivalry. He too was deeply interested in religion. One day Saladin asks his friend why he, a man of great intellectual attainments, should stick to an unhistorical religion like Judaism, while Islam was a historical religion which should appeal to him. Nathan's answer went home to me. It was in effect What is History? It has to be taken on trust, is it not? Why should I think that my forefathers deliberately wrote myths or false history to deceive their posterity. Then Nathan tells the story of a father who had three sons. A sage had given him a beautiful ring. Nathan was unwilling to disappoint any of his sons. So he had two other rings made exactly like that ring, and on his death-bed gave one to each son. After his death, a quarrel arose among them as to which was the true ring. That, said Nathan, is the quarrel among religions. Saladin is convinced. He expresses his pleasure at the way in which Nathan had clarified the eternal squabble among

different religionists. I asked myself, why should I think, as I had been doing that my forefathers had deliberately invented false doctrines on purpose to delude their posterity. It was some years later that I learnt to appreciate the Gita injunction about failure in one's own dharma being preferable to success in the other's dharma. Lessing's work truly marked an epoch in understanding of the purpose of my life. After reading it, I have never turned back. I have realised with ever increasing conviction that the road to salvation for every individual and nation lies along the line of its own tradition. Patriotism, rightly understood is a spiritual necessity.

Thus far I have spoken of what I may call the books which have gone to shape my personality, character or whatever is the proper word to describe the process by which my habits of thought and behaviour have been formed. I now proceed rapidly to recount the influences which have helped to direct my opinions, beliefs, ways of approaching problems arising out of my social, economic and political environment. Here I would mention the principal authors rather than their books, because I am a very desultory reader and have, generally speaking, gleaned ideas from their writings without making a systematic study of them. Prominent among such authors are Edmund Burke, John Stuart Mill, Herbert Spencer, John Morley (Compromise particularly), Frederic Harrison (Oliver Cromwell and Essay on George Elliot in Choice of Books), Thomas Huxley (Ethics and Evolution), Leslie Stephen,

Walter Bagehot (Physics and Politics), Sir Henry Maine (Ancient Law and Early History of Institutions), William James and Emerson (among American authors), Bergson (Creative Evolution), Smuts (Holism). This is a sample list which is not yet closed. I am almost daily coming on books (latterly the proportion of them by Indian authors tends to predominate) which suggest, inspire and sharpen insight. Strange to say Rabindranath Tagore and Gandhiji have left me cold. Swami Vivekananda has impressed me more, Mahadev Govind Ranade has much influenced my approach to social and political questions. Ranade's maxim that the reformer does not write on a clean slate has been a permanent factor in my thought, as Edmund Burke's saying that one should touch the wounds of the state (or society) as tenderly as a parent, has been a permanent rule (often I am afraid, disregarded) of my attitude to social and political problems. The net result of all these influences has been to create a disbelief in revolutionary methods and a profound belief in the slow process of education as the sure method of sound and stable progress. These influences have left me an inveterate individualist, that is to say I believe that the best way in which one can serve mankind is to strive earnestly and honestly to fulfil himself, that is to say to live up to the highest in him. If all men do this, there is no need of organised propaganda of any sort. If no one does this, organisation and propaganda are futile. The hope of humanity lies in a steady increase in the number and proportion of people in a community who realise this and endeavour to put it into practice.

C. F. ANDREWS: A TRIBUTE

BY MR. G. A. NATESAN

C. F. ANDREWS is one of the few Englishmen whose friendship I have been really proud of. When he was with you, you felt you were in the presence of a really superior being. A devout Christian, he was a true servant of God and he ever sought to serve suffering humanity not only in India but in several other parts of the globe. He was really a Dheenabbandhu, champion of the oppressed and the lowly. Suffering and distress in any form affected him deeply. He would not hesitate to rush immediately to places infected by plague, cholera and the like if he could be of any service to those in that area. In him you really found "the cry of duty springing at once from a great soul." The enslavement of one individual by another was to him a moral abomination. Hence his strong condemnation of indentured labour and his successful and indefatigable efforts for the stoppage of the same. The domination of one race over another was a greater abhorrence to him. The granting of independence to India was with him a moral question and many may not be aware that long before Nehru, Gandhi and even the Congress thought of it, he advocated independence for India. A genuine soul and a true Christian, he felt deeply the wrongs inflicted by Englishmen on India. His life was truly a dedicated one. In him you saw the true triumph of Christianity and humanity reaching its high water-mark.

As I think of dear Charlie, many things come to my recollection. His benignity found expression in his affectionate smile,

his flowing beard and his hearty embracing of his dear friends, of whom I could certainly count myself as one. It was my good fortune to be closely acquainted with him during my stay in London in 1928 for over three weeks. And in later years, I had the honour more than once of having him as my guest in my residence at Madras. When he was staying with me, I never felt I had an English guest. He was really an Indian among Indians. I had many opportunities to know the innate greatness of this man. You found no trace of racialism in him, nothing of the pride and arrogance which you notice unfortunately in some of the members of the ruling race in India. In his case it was all gentleness, love, affection and tenderness to an extraordinary degree.

In 1938, Mr. Andrews was staying with me for a few days. It was then that I was laid up with a serious heart attack and my life was despaired of. I well remember his entering my room one morning, sitting by my bedside and telling me: "This morning I thought of you in my prayers." In the days of my illness, several pujas and offerings were held, but I confess I felt at that time, and the thought is still present in me, that the prayer offered by Andrews was one of great comfort to me. The fact that he was a Christian never occurred to me. It was a great and kindly soul that prayed. Hence it was that a few years later when Andrews suggested that I should be the publisher for his "Sandhya Meditations" a series of discourses delivered in the Christkula Ashrama at Tiruppattur—I

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readily responded to his suggestion; and Andrews was greatly pleased with me, his Hindu friend, for undertaking the publication.

Here are two incidents which I heard in London in 1928. A good friend of mine had purchased for Andrews a fairly costly overcoat. A few weeks afterwards, Andrews turned up at that friend's house on a cold evening without the overcoat. "What is the matter? Have you lost the overcoat?" exclaimed the friend. "No", replied Charlie, "I gave it to a poor fellow last week who was shivering."

One day, an Indian student in London turned up at Andrews's place, and wailing over his lot, desired some pecuniary

assistance from him. Andrews's noble soul was deeply touched and without hesitating to enquire about the antecedents of the visitor, but deeply anxious to help him in some form or other, explained to the young man that at that moment he could not afford to spare him any money, but that he had the manuscript of a book which he wanted to have typewritten, for the cost of which he had some little amount left. The fellow clutched at the opportunity, asserted he knew typewriting, took the manuscript and some money for typing. Poor Andrews! He never saw the man nor the manuscript afterwards. Andrews would not say any harsh word of him; he forgave him altogether.

SOVIET RUSSIA AND GERMANY 1917-33

BY DR. MAHMUD HUSAIN, Ph.D.,

Reader in Modern History, University of Dacca

FRIENDSHIP with Russia was one of the basic principles of Prussian foreign policy during the 18th and 19th centuries. Prussian statesmen influenced largely by Frederick the Great and Bismarck attached great importance to it. And even when Bismarck concluded an Austro-German Alliance (1879) he saw to it that Russia was not altogether alienated from Germany. This was the meaning of the revival of the Three Emperors' League (1881). After the fall of Bismarck in 1890 a change came in the traditional policy. This led, as Bismarck had feared, to a Franco-Russian understanding and finally to the Triple Entente of Great Britain, France and Russia. The war of

1914-18 which ended in the defeat of the Central Powers confirmed the belief of German politicians that Frederick the Great and Bismarck were right and William II wrong in their attitude towards Russia. But before Germany was finally defeated in the First World War she had inflicted a heavy defeat on Russia in 1917. Russia's losses in the war were enormous, and disease claimed even more victims than the enemy bullet. Her faulty equipment, her defective system of transportation and her economic backwardness were the principal causes of her defeat on the battle field. Military defeats thoroughly disillusioned the Russian soldier. Signs of war-weariness and demoralisation became

evident everywhere on the vast front. The soldier was talking and thinking only of peace. It was in these circumstances that the March Revolution broke out in 1917 with the slogan of "Peace, Bread and Land." The Revolution was the work of the urban worker but the government that was established was a government of the middle classes. The liberal elements among the bourgeoisie formed the government. They could however maintain their position only with the help of the moderate socialists.

Within two months of the Revolution the moderate socialists were sitting on the Cabinet which now became a coalition. It was expected they would bring peace to the country. Actually it was the opposite that happened. War was prosecuted under Alexander Kerensky with renewed vigour. Only after the grand Russian offensive had completely failed (July, 1917) did the Revolutionary movement take a new course. Hatred of the war was now more intense than ever and the Bolsheviks who advocated peace and promised land to the peasants now came to the forefront. The Germans contributed to the coming of the Bolshevik Revolution by allowing Lenin and his followers to return from Switzerland to Petrograd in the famous "Sealed train." The second Revolution occurred in November, 1917. Lenin at once brought the hostilities to a close.

Then at Brest-Litovsk took place what has been called "one of the strangest gatherings in the history of modern diplomacy." German aristocrats negotiated with Russian Revolutionaries. Even more

strange was the fact that the representatives of Russia, unlike those of the Central Powers did not think in terms of nation and country. It did not matter to them if Russia suffered provided that helped the cause of the Revolution. To them nationalism and patriotism were false gods, the creations of the bourgeoisie, and as such to be despised and rejected. They did not mind large territorial sacrifices if they could thereby discredit imperialism and pave the way for the establishment of the dictatorship of the proletariat in those very countries to whom they were ceding these territories. "He is no socialist", said Lenin, "who will not sacrifice his fatherland for the triumph of the social Revolution." While the Bolsheviks were negotiating with the Central Powers at Brest-Litovsk, they were carrying on propaganda on a very large scale among the workers of Central Europe as well as of England and France. To make the policy known in all these countries needed time. So they adopted delaying tactics at Brest-Litovsk. Their representatives, Joffe and later on Trotsky followed this policy with great success. For about two months no progress was made. But the expected revolutions did not occur. The strikes that did occur in Germany and Austria in January 1918 soon collapsed and all hope of revolutionary upheavals in these countries was at least for the time-being, dashed to the ground. In fact, instead of the expected trouble abroad; trouble raised its head within Russia itself. Counter-revolutionary elements taken aback in November, 1917, were now reorganizing themselves. Germany in the

meantime had signed a separate peace with the Ukraine, which was practically converted into a German protectorate. The Bolsheviks therefore had to revise their tracts. On the 10th February, 1918 Trotsky announced his famous formula "No war, No peace" which meant that the German terms were unacceptable to Soviet Russia but the state of war had to be brought to an end. This however did not satisfy the Central Powers and under the pressure of Hindenburg and Ludendorff hostilities were resumed. The resistance offered by the Russians was feeble for the soldier did not put his heart in the struggle, and the Bolsheviks had no option but to sue for peace. This time there were to be no negotiations. The treaty was to take the shape of a "Diktat." Conditions were laid down by Germany and these had to be accepted by Russia within three days. Thus on March, 3, 1918 the peace of Brest-Litovsk was signed. Russia had to renounce in favour of the Central Powers all claims over Russian Poland, Courland, Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. She had also to cede certain territories in the South to Turkey. She had to recognize the independence of Finland, Ukraine and Georgia. She also agreed to pay an indemnity amounting to 6 billion marks. Russia was thus to lose about one-third of her population and arable land. All her best agricultural territories and industrial areas were to go. She was dismembered and weakened. Yet even this treaty, harsh as it was, proved to be a blessing in disguise for the Bolsheviks. Lenin sold peace and obtained time in

return. He obtained that precious time during which he could set his house in order and make all the necessary preparations for meeting the menace of the Whites. The Revolution had to be consolidated. That was the first task before Lenin. He was severely criticised even by some of his own followers for the territorial losses incurred by Russia. But it is now clear that he had acted wisely. Without the peace which he purchased, Bolshevism would have undoubtedly been destroyed by the Germans and the Whites.

For Germany the peace of Brest-Litovsk did not prove as advantageous as the Germans had perhaps expected. Not only were all the hopes about food and supplies not fulfilled, but a good number of German troops remained locked up in the Ukraine and other newly acquired territories, troops which would have proved so useful on the Western Front. Worse still was the effect of Bolshevik propaganda in Germany. Joffe, the Soviet Ambassador in Berlin encouraged the Extremists among the German Socialists. He fraternised with them. The Spartacists received money from him. In October, 1918 Joffe had to be expelled for these activities. But it was not only the Soviet embassy but many others that were carrying on revolutionary propaganda in Germany; and troops that returned from the Eastern Front brought with them all those doctrines considered so dangerous by the German ruling classes. No, doubt this contributed to the outbreak of the German revolution in 1918.

German territorial gains at the expense of Russia proved to be short-lived. When

Germany was defeated and the German Empire fell in 1918. Germany had to give up all her acquisitions in the East.

The Weimar Republic reverted to the classical tradition of the preceding regimes. In Germany even after the defeat of 1918 there was a powerful group of men among the German Nationalists that stood for an aggressive foreign policy. But they knew Germany's limitations. Without Russian assistance they were helpless against France and Britain. The Government of the Republic consisting of the socialists and other moderate parties was opposed to an aggressive foreign policy as advocated by the nationalists but was otherwise inclined towards Russia. The result was a Russo-German understanding. Russia's early enthusiasm was now over and she was not too keen on the propagation of her revolutionary creed. She was in search of allies and particularly of such allies as would be helpful to her in her industrial development. In Germany she found an ideal comrade. Each country required the help of the other. The Treaty of Rapallo was concluded in 1922. Included in its provisions were a mutual renunciation of reparations, renunciation by Germany of compensation for losses incurred by Germans in Russia as a result of the nationalisation of private property, a resumption of diplomatic relations, a mutual application of the most-favoured-

nation principle etc. On this treaty were based the subsequent friendly relation between the two countries. Russia and Germany together championed the cause of Revisionism.

In 1924 however, the leaders of certain important political parties in Germany came to recognize the necessity of improving Germany's relations with the Western Powers. Stresemann was largely responsible for this change of view. To him all aggressive foreign policy was impossible. Communist uprisings in Bavaria and the Ruhr were another reason why too close a relationship with Russia was regarded by him as undesirable. He pleaded for an understanding with the Western Powers. The result of his efforts was the conclusion of the Locarno Pact of 1925 and Germany's entry into the League of Nations. All this made the relations between Russia and Germany very cool indeed. But a complete break was not regarded as desirable by either side. Russia still favoured a revision of the Treaty of Versailles, though not with the earlier enthusiasm. Germany refused to dance to the Soviet tune, but at the same time she carefully avoided being drawn into any hostile combination against Russia. This was in short, the nature of relations between Russia and Germany up to the time of the coming of Hitler to power in 1933.

INDIA'S WAR BUDGETS

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

NOW that the war is over and the Indian Budget for 1946-47 has been hailed as the first peace budget, it is well to indicate what the war budgets have cost India especially in terms of additional taxation and expenditure. India has had six war budgets between the years 1940-41 and 1945-46 and during this period India's war taxation had reached its climax. As the Finance Member observed in the last war budget 1945-46, 'the taxable capacity of India has been heavily overstrained and at her present level of incomes, she can bear no more tax burden.'

How much of extra taxation has India paid during the war period? Taking 1938-39 as the basic year and on the basis of total revenue realised in that year (Rs. 84.5 crores) the total normal revenue for the five years 1939-40 to 1943-44 should be about Rs. 423 crores. But the actual revenue is about 727 crores distributed as follows:

	Crores of Rupees.
1939-40 (Accounts) ..	94.57
1940-41 " ..	99.88
1941-42 " ..	134.57
1942-43 (Revised) ..	178.76
1943-44 (Estimates) ..	219.00
Total ..	726.78

The difference between the normal and the actual, *i.e.*, Rs. 314 crores may be taken to represent extra revenue reached during these years of the war period in the form of (1) normal growth of taxation (2) extra taxation on account of war and (3) increased contributions by railways, posts and telegraphs etc. During the five

years 1939-40 to 1943-44, railways, posts and telegraphs made a total contribution of Rs. 103 crores to the general revenues which represents an increased contribution of Rs. 96 crores over the normal.

The principal heads of revenue have made an increased contribution of Rs. 195 crores as detailed below:

	Principal Heads of revenue in crores (Actuals) increase over 1938-39.
Basic year 1938-39 (Accounts) ..	76.11
War years: 1939-40 ..	84.09 7.98
1940-41 ..	82.01 5.90
1941-42 ..	106.15 30.04
1942-43 (Revised) ..	134.27 58.16
1943-44 (Estimates) ..	168.80 92.69
	575.32 194.77

The increase of Rs. 195 crores in the principal heads of revenue is to be attributed partly to the normal growth of revenue, and partly to additional taxation. The steeply progressive rates of taxation of incomes and war-time business activities have brought in more tax revenue. Similarly excise revenue has increased owing to increased industrial output due to war. Taking all these and other factors into account, we may roughly assume that about one half of the sum of Rs. 195 crores represents the proceeds of extra taxation during the first five years of the war period; we may add to this the sum of Rs. 23.5 crores of additional taxation estimated in the budget for 1944-45.

The proportion of tax revenue to total budget expenditure in India in 1944-45 was about 60 per cent., and of the total tax revenue as much as 55 per cent. was

contributed by taxes on income or direct taxes, and 42 per cent. by indirect taxes. But in 1938-39, the pre-war year the proportion of direct and indirect taxes was 22 and 78 per cent. respectively. There is no doubt that the ratio of direct to indirect taxation had altered in the war budgets of India during the last five years but this does not necessarily mean that there was a more equitable distribution of the financial burden of war taxation as between the rich and the poor. Though there has been an increase in direct and indirect taxation during the war period, the increase in indirect taxation has hit the poor and the middle classes harder than the rich and the increase in direct taxes has not always been sufficiently progressive with a view to secure equitable distribution of the burden as between different sections of the people. In fact the tax income of India more than doubled during the war period and has reached the peak level beyond which further taxation is now out of the question for the financing of post-war development schemes and the only alternative left open for additional revenue lies largely in the nationalisation of certain industries. As the Finance Member observed significantly in the budget for 1945-46: "I feel that perhaps insufficient attention has hitherto been paid to the question whether it would not be advisable to extend State ownership of industries as a source of additional revenue. It may well be that in the future the State may find it necessary to nationalise certain industries—especially those with larger possibilities of expansion—in order that it may

have at its disposal additional sources of income for the sustenance of national well-being as a whole".

As regards the expenditure side, the year 1938-39, the war year had practically a balanced budget that the war years, particularly 1943-44, 1944-45 and 1945-46 recorded unparalleled deficits of Rs. 180.79 crores, Rs. 156.77 crores and Rs. 163.89 crores respectively. Taking Defence expenditure alone, it was Rs. 46.18 crores in 1938-32, and Rs. 456.64 crores in 1944-45—almost ten times the pre-war level and the proportion will be further enhanced by the addition of 1945-46 actuals of expenditure. This is not all. The defence expenditure takes no account of the enormous sums of money which continue to be spent in India on behalf of His Majesty's Government with the aid of sterling securities against which paper notes are issued in India. The total defence expenditure including capital expenditure from 1939-40 to 1944-45 comes to over Rs. 1,100 crores.

The war budgets of India have been not only budgets of increasing revenue, but of increasing expenditure and increasing deficits, the largest increase being in war expenditure.

So far as the financial aspect of the war is concerned, the war budgets of India show that the late war, though much more expensive than the war of 1944 was much better financed. Both taxation and borrowing in India have been fully employed and the proportion of direct to indirect taxation was increased and borrowing has been effected on much lower rates of interest than in the war of 1914.

THE MESSAGE OF C. F. ANDREWS

By Miss MARJORIE SYKES.

MOST people have very short memories and public remembrance of even the greatest men is apt to grow dim and perfunctory when their living presence is removed. Six years have now passed since Deenabandhu Charlie Andrews went from our midst. The fifth of April is the anniversary of his death; may all men and women of goodwill in India, of whatever race or creed, make this an opportunity of calling to mind his labours and of renewing from his inspired example their faith in peace and reconciliation.

Charlie Andrews was one of Mahatma Gandhi's most intimate friends. Gandhiji has told how at their last meeting, a short time before Andrews' death he turned to him and said: "Mohan Swaraj is coming, both Englishmen and Indians can make it come, if they will." And Gandhiji added: "It is possible for the best Englishmen and the best Indians to meet together and never separate till they have evolved a formula acceptable to both. The legacy left by Andrews is worth the effort."

Now, on this very anniversary, a great opportunity is at our doors. For both countries—England and India—it is the opportunity to meet generosity with generosity and the offer of peace with peace. Andrews, Englishman by birth and Indian by adoption can show us the way. On January 2, 1914, he landed at Durban on his first great mission of reconciliation. He made no compromise with European prejudices and endured rough words and insults from a section of the South

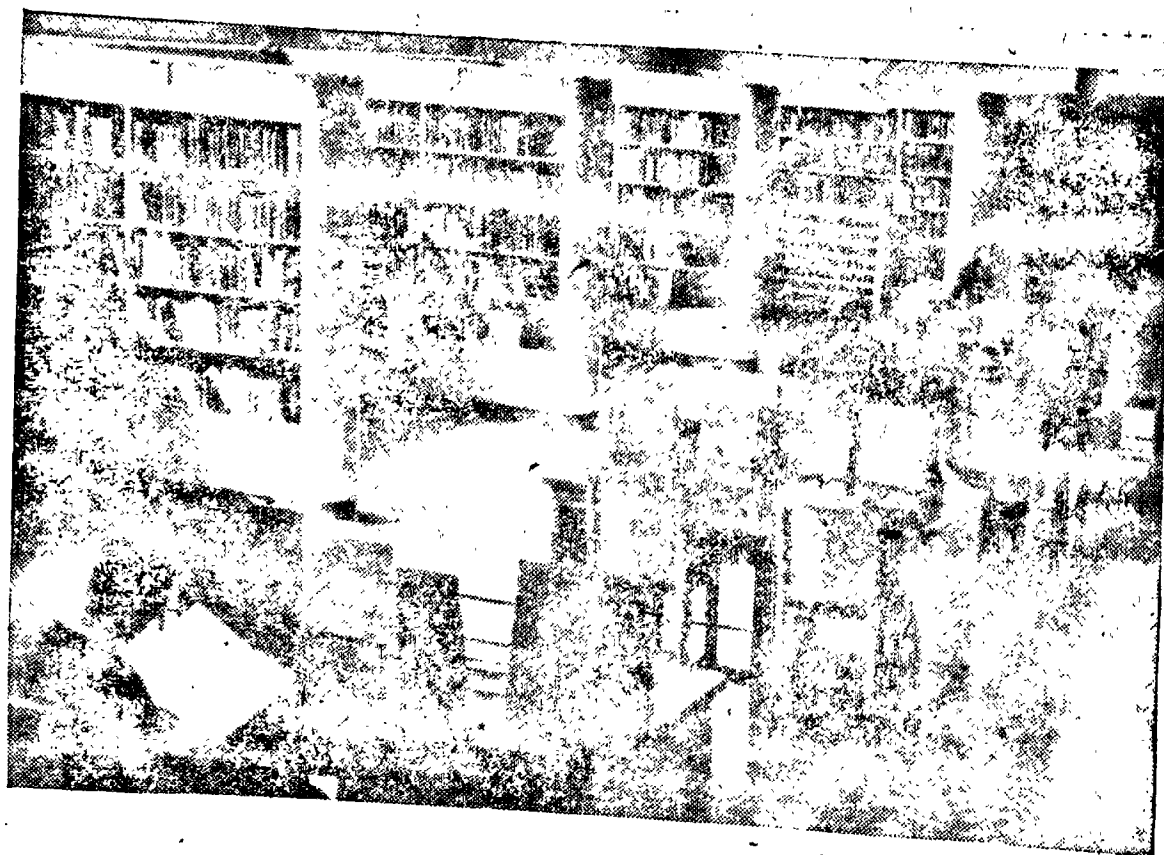
African "whites". Yet before the month was out his winning personality and the convincing reasonableness of his statement of the Indian case had so we are told won over to his side one of the leading "white" newspapers of Capetown. As another friend wrote of him, he combined the wisdom of the serpent with the innocence of the dove. May that same convincing reasonableness, that same refusal to nurse suspicion and distrust, be our legacy from him to-day.

Even the shortest note on "Charlie" would not be complete without two further words, for they represent matters that sprung from his very soul. The words are "seeker" and "servant." It was not for nothing that Gandhiji described their friendship as "a bond between two seekers and servants." It was not for nothing that Andrews wrote, over and over again that "the problem of all problems in India is the oppression of the poor." He was the *servant* of the poor. In innumerable instances his was the first voice to be raised against some newly revealed form of oppression his burning words were the means by which the evil was made public and the struggle for righteousness organised. If he could speak to-day, his voice would unite with those of the noblest Indians to remind us that Swaraj is no Swaraj unless the poor are freed from their bondage.

Lastly Gandhiji has truly called him a "seeker." Andrews was one of God's seekers, who knew the meaning of that great mystical saying, "Thou couldst not

seek Me if thou hadst not already found Me." In that search for the ultimate Truth, this "faithful apostle" of Christ was bound by no narrow sectarian limits, but sought eagerly to sanctify his friendships with men of all creeds by entering with them into the high realms of the Spirit. Swami Sraddhananda of the Arya Samaj, Maulvi Zaka Ullah and Hakim Ajmal Khan, to mention only three names, shared this deep religious intimacy with

noble Christians like Susil Kumar Rudra. He calls us still to-day to be seekers together with him in a spirit of loving respect for traditions of custom and belief that differ from our own; and when we are tempted to drag that which should be sacred into the dust of political barter, he would say to us, in those much misunderstood words of his Master Jesus, "Give unto Caesar the things which are Caesar's but unto *God* the things which are God's."



COUNTY LIBRARIES IN GREAT BRITAIN
This picture shows the interior of a County Library in Britain with well stocked shelves arranged in sections.

SCARE OF THE SUPER-ATOM BOMB

BY Mr. N. HARIHARAN B.Sc.

HARDLY had the world recovered from the shock of the first atom bomb when the discovery of the super atom bomb has come as a still bigger surprise. The world had experienced the effect of the atom bomb but once and that was sufficient to inculcate a fear and a hatred for all atomic weapons. With the first atom bomb itself a sense of fear for all scientific devices for destruction of mankind spread throughout the world. With the discovery of the super monster it has been all the more augmented. Philosophers and thinkers like H. G. Wells have begun to feel the emptiness of the world they live in; they hold out little hopes for humanity to survive if another global conflict were to take place. They almost believe in the extinction of humanity in another world war. And so they earnestly cry out to the world's scientists to halt the destructive use of Science and to refrain from carrying out researches on any other atomic weapon or any weapon of that sort.

It is decidedly destructive to human life to have discovered the atom bomb. It definitely points to the track along which Scientific research is being diverted. But should the world be so much scared about this mighty master weapon, and cry out in desperation that humanity has no hopes of survival if another war were to be waged? Definitely not. Constructive and destructive activity are co-existent; they are almost balanced. The inventive genius of mankind has brought all nations to an approximate neighbourhood. If man is using his inventive genius for the destruction of humanity he is also using his inventive genius for peace,

advancement of civilisation and the elevation of his standards of life. If the war has been instrumental in the discovery of the atom bomb it has also been instrumental in the discovery of D. D. T., Penicillin, etc. which are as much helpful for the preservation of human life as the atom bomb is in destroying it.

Scientific inventions are but the fruits of hard and intensive research work and not mere accidents. It is but matter of common consent that for every action there is a reaction—for every act there is something to counteract. The history of inventions is there to prove it. To counteract the menace of aerial attacks was discovered the device of anti-air craft guns and balloon barrages, for the gigantic tiger tank there was the anti-tank mine, for the U boats there were the torpedoes and the depth charges.—for every missile there has been a counter missile. Arguing in this vein it is not beyond the bounds of credulity to say that soon some delicate and dangerous device would be discovered which would explode the super-atom bomb at the manufacturing plant itself. A few months subsequent to the use of the atom bomb there were reports that scientists had almost perfected devices which would make the atom bomb ineffective by exploding it even while it was in the stratosphere. The credit for the new invention may perhaps go to those German scientists who have gone underground or to the Nippons who are groaning under the Mac Arthur regime.

Even if such a discovery does not come to pass humanity need not be any the worse for it. The very fear of retaliation is sufficient to prevent the use of atomic weapons

in warfare. The use of poison gas ended with the first world war. More over the atom bomb is no longer the privileged secret of any *Single* nation. Taking human nature for what it is with the WILL to exist and a wonderful adaptability to environments we can say with confidence that humanity will safely tide over all such tidal waves trying to wash it off. The very fact of its having survived the past 10,000 years while many of the lower forms have become extinct is proof positive to this.

The abglition of war from the conduct of human affairs is not only not feasible, it is undesirable also. Wars are in fact essential for the progress of mankind. Warring spirit is something inherent in human nature. "War serves as a cleansing, purifying and spiritualising factor in human society; it insures the survival of the fittest and thus is the main vehicle of progress," says Norman Angell. The very measures taken with sincerity of purpose and firmness of conviction to avoid war have led to wars. The proposed "effective control of the atom bomb by a strong International government" is in no way

going to avert war. We have had enough of the code of ethics that govern international behaviour. Empires have flourished, they have perished, but in their wake new empires have come up. A dispassionate study of history brings us the belief that war is a "herd instinct" with man. Even the English and the Scots have been fighting for centuries. The various states constituting the United States were once constantly at war. The Peace they now maintain—perhaps it may not be an everlasting peace—is the result of their reformed conduct. Even the granting of complete Independence to all nations will not bring about an era of perpetual peace and happiness to the world. When England and Scotland were independent they were waging war against each other. Only the unification of the British Isles temporarily ended these feuds. Wars there shall always be and there should always be. But humanity will certainly outlast them as it has outlasted them so far. And there is no reason to be scared about the super atom bomb or see in it the last way for the extinction of mankind.

THE BRITISH MISSION

BY MR. C. R. SRINIVASAN

Editor, Swadesamitran.

DELHI at the moment is a whispering gallery. Every word and gesture of the Cabinet Delegation is faithfully recorded and fancifully interpreted. Wherever you go, whomsoever you meet, the question anxiously canvassed is whether the Delegation mean business this time. An air of suspense overhangs all talk, for there is little yet one

can fasten on. Sorting out impressions derived second-hand is an unprofitable task in the circumstances. But it is clear that the Delegation has not shown its hand yet and is more concerned to receive impressions of the pattern of politics in the country. Such talks as have materialised so far are of the unilateral type where the visitor does most

of the talking and gets little in exchange. There is therefore more of wishful thinking and the stories going the round of the City are not to be taken at face-value for there are traces of 'after wit' in many of them.

I had my first glimpse of the Delegation when the Standing Committee of the 'All-India Newspaper Editors' Conference threw a party to meet them. The proceedings were off the record and we had a two hours' talk with them, of course all connected with the mission of the Delegation. Of the three members of the Delegation, the one who impressed me most was the Secretary of State. He is well past the psalmist's allotment of three-score years and ten and age has given him a stoop and a nodding head. But it would be a mistake to conclude that he is weak or ineffective. There was strength in his grip as he shook hands; there was mental alertness as he answered questions. He looks like a padre but I would sooner class him as a visionary than a Missionary. He looks you straight in the eye and there is nothing shifty or covert in his look. He struck me as a man with a mind of his own, capable of taking decisions and fighting for his views; and his views, such as they are, on other matters are broadbased on fundamental values. As a politician, of course, he knows the value of compromise, but I do not think he is of the opportunist type, which will compromise on essentials. A settlement can only endure if it is just. What is just can only be arrived at by sorting out ephemeral and enduring values. Pethick-Lawrence struck me as quite competent to do that. He is earliest and keyed with the zeal to succeed. He is conscious he has undertaken a task holding many facets and

multiple problems; and quite frankly, he says he cannot go back with his task unfinished or ill-finished.

CRIPPS—LIVE-WIRE OF THE PARTY

Sir Stafford Cripps, generally voted as the live wire of the party, is not an unfamiliar figure to India. Age has sat lightly on him and the springs of youth still run high in him. His ego has if anything developed a keener edge and there is nothing halting or hesitant in the manner or matter of his talks. Sure of himself and quick at repartee he delighted the ink-slingers when he took a Press conference on Monday, giving away nothing while radiating goodwill. What struck me more than the alertness of his mind was its agility. It turned and twisted as it suggested all things to all men, while the spoken word carried a note of caution not to read too much into what he said. He imports an air of engaging frankness in his private talks and provides a corrective to the impression of a hard-boiled politician that his public talks suggest. He has a reputation to redeem in this country and with the backing of a Government now to be depended on at home. I believe, there is good chance of redemption.

The intriguing figure in the trio is A. V. Alexander. He is a difficult man to place in the context of Indian politics. A short stocky man, with the pimple on the nose, he drew attention to, not so much to be noticed, with a merry twinkle in the eye revealing to the discerning unsuspected depths of humour, he proved himself a man who had a great deal to say for himself when he was drawn out; and as he talked and talked, you recognised the reserve strength in

the man that had brought him preferment in the party. He was quick in the uptake and shrewd in his judgment. I expect he will pull his full weight in the team when the testing hour comes.

That the Delegation is in dead earnest admits of no doubt; that the transfer of power contemplated will be full and ungrudging is also indicated; that they will pull together and one is not intended to act as a brake on the other may likewise be conceded. I expect they will complete their soundings of the

depths of the Indian political ocean by the end of next week. Then only they will get down to brass-tacks. They are out first to see if a solution cannot be found along lines of least resistance. That explains the oscillations between hope and despair that now and again rock the City. They are groping along and there is no use getting impatient with them. They must find the way out themselves. I expect they will find it. The spate of statements that Jinnah has started issuing should quicken their pace.

THE SECRET OF LONGEVITY

By "OMEGA"

HOW great and universal is the desire for longevity! When you stretch your hand before the palmist your first question is: "How long shall I live?" The Pandit who draws the horoscope of the newborn babe has to answer the fond parents' anxious enquiry—"what is the life expectation of our darling?" Most people are constantly looking for an elixir that will give them a long, long life on this terrestrial planet, immortality being out of question since it has been monopolised by the strong Gods of Heaven.

I have collected a number of recipes for longevity. But there is such a bewildering inconsistency about them that I defy anybody to evolve a common formula which will meet the approval of all centenarians. However, here they are—a chokeful of them, all novel and interesting in their variety.

One thing is remarkable. There are no bachelors in this picture. And the significant fact is that many of these

centenarians are much married men. They have entered wedlock again and again—each marriage acting as a tonic and adding a few more years to their life. Some years ago, a Turkish centenarian, 136 not out, made the astounding confession: "My secret is simply this—I have had 78 wives and they have all looked after me? Whether they looked after him simultaneously or in succession is not revealed. Most probably he had never more than four wives at a time. The Muslim law in India does not sanction more than 4 wives at a time and I am not sure about the Turkish law. This Turkish Champion has set a record not only for longevity but also for marital adventures which it will be hard to beat. Another Turk is reported to have married for the 11th time at the age of 153. After burying 25 children and eleven wives he was still going strong. Most Turkish centenarians have married many wives, as their wives never seem to live long. Zaro Agha had twelve or

thirteen wives but none of them was alive when he died. Not many years ago U. Sai, the grand old man of Burma, passed away at the age of 109, leaving his seventh wife, who was 85 years and 36 children and grand children. It is also said that he led a simple life and abstained from liquor. While expert medical opinion says that bachelors die earlier than married people I cannot subscribe to the view that the secret for longevity is found in the multiplicity of wives. I am not prepared to join the slogan,—"Many more women. The greater the number of wives, the longer is your life." And what about longevity for women? What is sauce for the gander is not sauce for the goose!

Do spare meals and abstinence make for long life. Bernard Shaw who is nearing 90 sticks to this belief: "Eat no meat, drink no stimulants and avoid doctors except as personal friends," is the substance of his advice. Shaw believes that man should live upto 300 years. He himself is in no hurry to quit this world. Mahatma Gandhi's advice is almost identical. He is a very spare eater and has no faith in doctors. He expects to live to the age of 125. Probably his fasts have been rejuvenating him and he has cheated death more than once through his bold experiments. He is also a puzzle for the doctors. I wonder how many serious followers in his dietetic line he can ever command. That brilliant American journalist, Louis Fischer, was his guest at Sevagram for a week. Everyday morning and evening he was served the same vegetable, composed of spinach

mixed with some other leaves, and he got sick of it. When pressed by the Mahatma to have another helping of this vegetable he said, "I have got sick of this preparation morning and evening." When he was twitted with the remark that he did not like vegetables Fischer was provoked into saying, "Well, Mahatmaji, I have great respect for you as a man, as a politician and as a leader but I cannot accept you as an ideal chef."

Onions and garlies are also recommended for longevity. A Mexican woman claimed to have lived to the age of 120 on the strength of onions. Everybody, however, cannot stand the smell of raw garlic and onions. When I suggested to a friend to start taking raw onions for longevity he remarked, "you may live long but it will be a very solitary existence." Mussolini was a great believer in the virtues of garlic and he consumed a large quantity of it everyday. Which reminds me of an incident. When Marshal Badoglio, the hero of Abyssinia, reached his native village he was surrounded by his friends and family. It was the happiest moment of his life but Badoglio appeared sick. "What was the matter?" anxiously inquired people. "Did those African barbarians use poison gas against you, Marshal Bodaglio?" "No", said the Marshal, "When I arrived in Rome, the Duce received me at the station and kissed me. You know he eats garlic and he had probably taken an overdose of it that morning."

The American multi-millionaire, J. D. Rockefeller, died at the age of 97 and had not a single false tooth. He hated

tea and coffee but drank plenty of orange juice before and with meals. Among other things he was very cool headed. He always rested for sometime in the day and never lost his nerves. I think his good temper had much to do with his long life. This fine temper is also the asset of Gandhi and Shaw, and I believe no man can live long who burns himself with worry or anger. Care killed a cat. Dr. Alexander Guinot who died at the age of 103 gave a few prescriptions in his book, "How to live to be a Hundred years old." Says he, "Do not eat too much, but eat what you think is good for you. I eat eggs and butter with every meal, and a little meat, vegetable and wine. Most of us eat too much. A youngman who dies at 85 dies young. The normal age for man is between 100 and 110."

As against these let me introduce to you a few multi-meal champions. Mrs. Andrew Cross, the author of *Red Letter Days* refers to her nurse—a centenarian—who, as she declared, had eaten all her life: "A dewbit and breakfast, a staybit dinner, a moment and crumnet and a bit after supper," altogether *eight* meals a day. Mr. Arthur Davenport of Loremba, New South Wales who is approaching a century attributes his good health to always having eaten six meals a day. The late Lloyd George was a hearty eater. Once, when he was in his seventies, he offered an American journalist who went to interview him a cigar and then a drink but the newspaperman thankfully declined. "No vices," inquired L.G. "No visible ones," returned the journalist. "I have all the vices, visible and invisible ones,

and you see how fit I am keeping," was the rejoinder of the veteran English politician. I know some of the world celebrities are epicures and defy most of the accepted canons of longevity without any detriment to their health. This reminds me of Winston Churchill's talk with Field Marshal Montgomery in North Africa when the British Premier greeted his military General with the remark, "Montgomery, how do you manage to keep fit." The Field Marshal said, "Sir, I rise early, I take regular exercise, I do not smoke, I do not drink and I keep hundred per cent. fit." Pat came the reply from Churchill's lips, "I am a late riser, I take no exercise, I smoke and drink regularly and I keep two hundred per cent fit." And Winston was telling no lies. He is an inveterate smoker and drinker and has an amazing capacity for hard work at his age.

In some countries women are longer lived than men. Of the 110 centenarians who died in 1933 in Great Britain only 19 were men. Some years ago there were 124 centenarians in the Nazi Republic, of whom 81 were women. Only one woman remained a spinster, all others were mothers of large families, the average number of children being six. The Germans claim that the true prescription for long life is marriage and *hard work*. And yet a careful compiler quotes figures to show that lazy habits are generally associated with long life. In the village of Bradford Abbas, in Dorsetshire, England, we find a wonderful collection of old people. Five of the villagers are over 90, 12 are over 80, 20 are over 70 and so on. This

is reported to be one of the laziest little villages in Great Britain. No train stops there and a motor bus goes there only once a week.

Look at a few queer cases. Mr. William Green of Harborough, Leicestershire, attributed his long life to a diet of live frogs! "I swallow them alive," says he, "and I know that while I continue to eat them I shall have no disease. All this talk about living a simple life and going to bed early in order to reach old age is rubbish." Ahmed Beg, a whitebearded Turk centenarian, was a firm believer in the usefulness of cold water as an end to longevity. "Water is the thing," he says. "Whenever I went out for a walk I used to make a practice of drinking water from springs. I

have never been really ill, but I twice had colds in the head. How did I get over them? By drinking lots of cold water, of course."

So here is a long list of prescriptions—to suit all tastes and all pockets, as they say. Make your choice, dear reader, and I wish you may live to the age of Methuselah. Speaking for myself, I am not so much in love with my life as to prolong my existence by imposing all varieties of restraints over my diet and habits. I hate dietetic inhibitions.

For forms of diet let fools contest

Whatever is best cooked is best.

There is no fun in living with so many "Dont's" confronting your eyes on the dining table. "I shall die young but I shall have had a hell of a time."

Paddy Husking as a Cottage Industry

BY PROF. R. V. RAO, M.A., B.T.

RICE is the most important grain crop of the world and is extensively grown in all tropical and subtropical countries. Its requirement is a sufficient supply of water. Paddy is extensively grown in Madras, Bengal, Orissa, Bihar and some parts of Central Provinces, and is the staple food of millions in this country. Paddy-husking is, therefore, an industry which is directly connected with the processing of paddy and making it fit for consumption.

In examining the potentialities of this industry, we should see that the process does not injure the product from the standpoint of nutrition. Another important consideration is whether it distributes wealth while it also produces it. Thirdly,

the equipment necessary should be within the means of the people who take up this industry.

There is a feeling that cottage industries carried on in the decentralised manner with the aid of man and animal power cannot compete with centralized large scale industries. To view it from the standpoint of national economy, we have to examine each industry separately and judge its efficient working in relation to the well-being of society, and not in terms of profits that we are likely to make. In any scheme of rational planning, our duty should be to see that the labour and animal force in the country are employed.

To get the best out of rice, only the outer cover of the paddy namely the husk,

must be removed. The bran, the germ, etc., are then available for human consumption. Our duty should be to see that the finished product does not lose its nutritive value. Home-pounding, with the aid of a chakki or pestle and mortar, or dhenkis, till recently, was a whole-time and spare-time occupation.

Rice-mills have now become the order of the day. The process of polishing removes the germ and the bran which contains minerals, proteins, vitamin-B etc. We have, therefore, to depend upon this starch if we are to take milled rice. It is better people take unpolished rice. Rice obtained by merely removing the outer husk of paddy is called unpolished rice. If we begin to polish it, it loses its brown or reddish colour and becomes white. Many of us forget that by polishing we are removing the outer covering of the grain which contains most of the mineral salts and vitamin value of rice.

The loss due to polishing rice is indeed very great. Indeed rice is deprived of its thin brown outer cover and of the embryo part of the grain. They constitute $\frac{1}{6}$ of the whole grain and contain more than half its mineral matter, a 4th of its proteins and practically the whole of its vitamins and fats. The loss through polishing is given below:

	Value	Loss
Unpolished rice	100.0	Nil
Once polished	45.0	55.0
Twice polished	25.0	75.0
Thrice polished (as usually sold in the bazar)	17.5	82.5

Thus it is clearly seen that not only is polishing wasteful but also harmful since there would be lack of minerals and

vitamins in polished rice by taking which we are actually starved of our essential needs.

By polishing rice we are also losing minerals which are so essential for the human body. The loss of minerals by polishing rice is given below:

	Hand-pounded	Machine polished	Loss Percent
Phosphorous content	0.28	0.18	54
Calcium content (Bengal varieties)	0.043	0.013	70
Iron content	2.2	1.0	55

It is well known that phosphorous is necessary for all the living issues and therefore an important constituent of blood. Calcium is a vital necessity for the growth and well being of the bones and teeth. It is only by this that we can use other constituents of food such as fats and iron. Iron is required for blood formation and for the blood to remain in a healthy condition. It is therefore axiomatic that we should not deprive our bodies of these minerals which we require. In other words, it is necessary that we use only handpounded unpolished rice.

Nutrition specialists tell us that through polishing rice we lose vitamin B-1 which is badly necessary for the human body. It is also asserted that absence of this vitamin causes Beriberi, a disease which attacks the nerves and heart and ultimately leads to heart failure. Thus, it is desirable we use only handpounded, unpolished rice.

To the few who still cling to their old ways of living and say that they cannot adjust themselves to handpounded rice one can only say that appearances are deceptive. White milled rice may be alluring but it has

no nutritive value. In fact it has been sarcastically put by one "only a fool will eat the husk and throw away the grain". But that is what one does when one eats milled rice. The elements of value in rice are in the germ and the outer covering both of which are absent in milled rice. Poor people have to look upon this for nutritive purposes and it is no wonder that the cause of Beriberi is deficiency in the nutritive value of polished rice and a cause of constipation is the absence of bran. When the bran and the germ are removed, almost all valuable material has been taken away from the rice leaving only the starch. The protein, fat, salts and vitamins contained in the rice are essential and the lack of them brings about all kinds of disorders and even premature deaths.

In fact, these rice mills also add to the problem of unemployment and the following table gives an idea of the state of affairs:

Place	Method	Amount of paddy Treated in maunds	No. of persons employed	Persons that can be employed if rice is pounded at home
Bulsar (Gujarat)	Home Pounding	31½	5	5
Bardoli (Gujarat)	Rice Mill	105	5	150
Guntur	"	360	40	515

It will thus be clear that apart from the point of nutrition, as the size of the mill increases its capacity to displace human labour also increases.

One can understand centralization to ensure efficiency. If some of the key industries are to be run efficiently, we have, of course, to seek the aid of machinery and centralized methods of production. Our guiding principle should be that they are carried on in the interests of the nation and not a few individuals. In the latter case, it does not increase national wealth or per capita income computed in terms of human welfare. In

the case of rice mills, we have an example of centralisation not for efficiency but for private profit. Here not only are people robbed of their spare-time occupation but the nation's staple food is being spoiled.

Far from distributing wealth, rice mills help the concentration of wealth. There are some industries which may be carried on on a large scale. But each industry should be taken on its own merits.

Suppose paddy-husking is carried on as a cottage industry. We can employ local made paddy-husking chakkis, local labour and cater to local needs. The process involved is simple that even if we get paddy dehusked in factories, the margin of saving in production is less, if not negligible. An essentially decentralised village industry like paddy-husking should, therefore, be supported in preference to factories. Rice mills can also be said to be anti-social from the point of view of diet. One cannot, of course, deny that implements for village industries like paddy-husking can be improved.

In spite of all that may be said against paddy-husking as a cottage industry, the following table gives us an idea of how hand-pounding has come to stay:

Province	Percentage of population using handpounded rice (1938)
Bihar	90
Assam	85
U. P.	85
Bengal	70
Hyderabad	70
Travancore	45
Madras	30
Burma	20

It will be seen from the above table, that machine-milling of rice has made the greatest headway in Madras which is primarily a rice-eating province. This province used to grow commercial crops and import rice to make up the deficiency. With the exigencies created by the war even the Government is advocating the use of hand-pounded rice by which method it is estimated that we can increase 10 per cent., of the existing output. It is in the Madras province that we have the highest incidence of beri-beri which can, no doubt, be traced to the use of milled rice,

THE RT. HON. SASTRI

—By Mr. B. NATESAN

THOUGH the Rt. Hon. V. S. Srinivasa Sastri had been in failing health for months past, the end which came peacefully on Wednesday the 17th at 10-30 P.M., was rather sudden and unexpected. Early this year Sastri was admitted into the General Hospital for rest and for treatment of heart trouble and he seemed to be rallying. But progress was slow. Though weak and ailing, his habitual zest for life and his

sudden attack and all was over in a few minutes. The end was so peaceful that

We thought him dying while he slept
And sleeping when he died!

Much has been said and written of Sastri's great attainments and high character. It is not our purpose here to chronicle his career or assess his achievements in different spheres



keen interest in affairs continued unabated. Mahatma Gandhi who saw him more than once in his convalescence must have been struck by Sastri's vivid interest in things in spite of growing infirmity. At home, and in the midst of those dearest and nearest, nursed by tender and affectionate hands, his health showed marks of definite recovery. But the recovery was really deceptive. On the night of the 17th, he had a

of public work. Sastri had been in public life for over 40 years and his record of service is by no means negligible. Nor is there any need to expatiate on his scholarship, his eloquence or statesmanship. These must be left to other hands, other times.

For the moment we are oppressed by a sense of personal bereavement. For the

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Editor of this *Review*, the passing of Mr. Sastri means the abrupt termination of a friendship of fifty years. For five decades, almost without interruption, Mr. Sastri honoured the Editor of this *Review* with tokens of his regard and affection which time cannot efface. Readers of the *Review* are aware of the part played by Mr. Sastri in launching this Journal and of his continued support and guidance in shaping its fortunes. Mr. Sastri's interest continued to the very end; for almost his last effort in writing was to shape his broadcast on Books for the new year number of the *Indian Review*. The idea was so catching, and Mr. Sastri's lead so inspiring that a number of other writers joined in the symposium with alacrity. Nor need we remind our readers of the many occasions when his pen was always ready to enliven them. In recent years Mr. Sastri had taken to the study of Sanskrit classics with an enthusiasm which many younger men might envy. His exposition of the *Ramayana*, at the Sanskrit Academy, was a positive contribution to the study and interpretation of that great classic. The head of the publishing house of Natesan's is eternally grateful to Mr. Sastri for his sustained interest in his New series of Sanskrit Classics which, by its wide popular appeal, has brought comfort to thousands of readers in India and abroad.

Sastri was first and last a great gentleman and scholar. He attracted many admirers not less by his learning and eloquence than by his unfailing urbanity and sweetness

of temper. But the friends of his youth still remained the best friends of his age. Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, whom he had come to know as a pupil, stuck to him with the devotion of a true *Sishya*. It is not uncommon to hear the city people as they pass the Marina whispering to each other that the grey haired trio—meaning the Rt. Hon. Sastri, Mr. Venkatarama Sastri and Mr. G. A. Natesan—would hold together at all times and everywhere. Where the Rt. Hon. was, there were sure to be the other two—'sometimes taking counsel, sometimes tea'; and till the other day one was sure to see them chatting at the sea side, and relishing their serious talk with no less gusto than their small beer. For Sastri, for all his "fine poise, dignity and earnestness" could yet bend and join in the gaiety of his friends, young as well as old. There was one thing which distinguished Sastri from many others. His public life of over 40 years was not all 'Roses' roses all the way.' He has had his moments of disappointment, failure and frustration, of unmerited reproach and uncharitable accusations—but he was utterly free from bitterness. How few of us could be so magnanimous? In spite of the great difference in temperament and outlook, and the sharp contrast between his Victorian Liberalism and the new non-violent technique, it was this inherent magnanimity of these two great men—Gandhi and Sastri—that made their friendship so beautiful and enduring!

THE CABINET MISSION IN INDIA

LORD PETHICK-LAWRENCE, Secretary of State for India, Sir Stafford Cripps, President of the Board of Trade and Mr. A. V. Alexander, First Lord of the Admiralty, members of the British Cabinet Mission to India, arrived at Karachi on March 23. In his first statement on setting foot on the soil of India, the Secretary of State expressed Britain's

determination to fulfil pledges and arrange for a speedy transfer of power.

We have come but with one purpose in view. It is, in conjunction with Lord Wavell, to discuss with the leaders of India and her elected representatives how best to speed the fulfilment of your aspirations to take full control of your own affairs and thus enable us to complete the transfer of responsibility with pride and honour to ourselves. The British Government and the British people desire without reservation to consummate the promises and pledges that have been made and we

can assure you that, in our negotiations we shall not seek to provide for anything that is incompatible in any way with the sovereign dignity of India.

The Mission left for Delhi immediately for consultations with party leaders and government officials and other important personages, who had been specially invited to meet them in succession. At the first Press conference in New Delhi on Monday, March 25th Lord Lawrence declared:

The issue of freedom and self-determination is, therefore, settled in principle. We have now to work out in co-operation the means by which Indians can themselves decide the form of their new institutions with the minimum of disturbance and the maximum of speed.

The Secretary of State reiterated that the Mission had come with open minds, and were not committed to any particular views.

We have come with only one fixed intention, and that is to play our full part, as representing His Majesty's Government, in helping Indians to achieve their independence.

This definite and unequivocal statement of Lord Lawrence allayed suspicions of the Mission's intentions and paved the way for reciprocal goodwill and understanding.

The Mission were, as might be expected, subjected to a barrage of questions and the Secretary of State endorsed the Prime Minister's assurance regarding the minorities and their position in any arrangement.

We are mindful of the rights of the minorities, and minorities should be able to live free from fear. On the other hand, we cannot allow a minority to place their veto on the advance of the majority.

And he went on to add:

Our aim is to secure an agreed method of deciding on a new constitutional structure and the setting up of a more representative transitional Government at the Centre.

In making these declarations Lord Lawrence, of course, spoke for the whole Mission and indeed for the British Government and he refused to contemplate failure.

Guided by Sir Stafford's previous experience, the Mission made sure of Gandhiji's presence at the head quarters during the whole period of consultations. Gandhiji, impressed by the *bona fide* character of the Mission's intentions, agreed to stay at Delhi in order to be available for consultations at every stage. Mr. Jinnah, President of

the Muslim League was likewise persuaded to be at hand for consultations. Thereafter the Mission began a series of talks individually with a number of invitees, representing different parties, communities and interests. The heads of Provincial governments, members of the Viceroy's Council, spokesmen of ruling Princes, and leading men like Sir Taj Bahadur Sapru and Dr. Jayakar were invited for consultations. Needless to say League Muslims and Nationalist Muslims, Mahasabhis, Sikhs, Labour and the scheduled class leaders—all have been consulted. Maulana Azad, the Congress President, Sardar Patel and Pandit Nehru have had more than one interview with the Mission; while Sir Stafford Cripps, the Viceroy and Secretary of State have had several consultations with Gandhiji on topics directly or indirectly bearing on the fortunes of the Mission's task in India.

The Congress Working Committee and the League Convention have met and declared their views, definitely and unequivocally—the one for a single constitution and the other for Pakistan. In all this jumble of conflicting and contradictory counsels it is refreshing to note the views of the three important minorities—the Parsees, Indian Christians and Anglo-Indians who have definitely aligned themselves to the cause of progressive nationalism. While Mr. Jinnah swears by the two nation theory, Mr. Gandhi and the Congress are definite that the two nation theory is "absurd" and the division of India is a "Sin."

Thus the Mission are at present in the midst of a most difficult phase of the negotiations. And on the eve of their departure to Kashmir for a short recess they plead for mutual goodwill:

The mission are confident that at this great moment in the history of India it will be possible with mutual goodwill to reach that decision, which the people of India so anxiously await, and which will be welcomed throughout the world.

But the question still remains, what are they going to do, if one of the parties is intransigent and will come to no terms?

INDIAN AFFAIRS

BY "AN INDIAN JOURNALIST"

India and South Africa

It is a pity that a statesman of the stature of Field Marshal Smuts should use arguments that can not stand a minute's scrutiny. Moving the second reading of the Anti Indian Bill in the Union Assembly Gen. Smuts sought to deny that the Bill is an insult to India or a challenge to Asia. He naively tells the world that it will settle the issue and "establish an order in South Africa in which the various communities in our society can live peacefully and quietly together." That is to say, once the Indians and Africans are made to realise their lot as a subject people the whites can right away settle down to rule and dominate the land. He brushes aside the suggestion of a Round Table Conference on the absurd plea that it would take time, and that anyway it is a domestic problem for South Africa and that Indians must make up their minds as to whether they are citizens of South Africa or India.

But these are specious arguments which will not wash. The real reason is not far to seek and the South African whites are not blind to it. As the *Cape Times* frankly admits:

We doubt if future generations of South Africans will look back with satisfaction on the measure which is so much an expression of this country's intense colour prejudice, the expression of its Herrenvolk attitude of mind.

As we go to press the anti-Indian Bill has passed the third reading. The Union Government have treated our protest with scant courtesy and gone ahead with their legislation. The Government of India must, therefore, implement their promise to raise the whole issue before the United Nations. It is not likely that that will bring any immediate change in the situation but it will at least expose the pretensions of those who are always prating about the fine example in democracy that the British Commonwealth is setting to the rest of the world.

Mr. Jinnah's Heroics

In a series of press statements Mr. Jinnah has exhausted his vocabulary of vituperation. Evidently his chagrin is venting itself unbridled abuse of all and sundry. What one may call his last ditch stand calls the Congress President a "quisling" and accuses Gandhiji, of all people, "hypocrisy." Both have kept a dignified silence leaving the Quade Azam to stew in his own juice.

He has threatened the country with dire consequences if the British would not take his advice to divide India. He talks "civil war" and "bloodshed"—all of which have been amusing to a degree. But his latest statement to a representative of the *News Chronicle*, "I do not regard myself as an Indian" is a hard nut to crack. It yet another of his sensational stunts draw attention to himself? Anyway the outrageous statement has evoked the very pertinent remark from Sardar Patel: If it is not an Indian what business has it to meddle with the Indian constitution?

A New Madras Weekly

Khasa Subba Rau's *Swatantra* is a welcome addition to our periodicals in English. We have read with interest and appreciation half a dozen successive issues of this brilliant weekly. Subba Rau is an experienced Editor with decided views and opinions of his own and it is good for him and for the public that he should be free to express himself without fear or favour. We could see he is not committed to any particular party and as such his comments on current affairs are refreshing and independent. It is not to be supposed that his views—vigorously expressed—will be agreeable to all, but the main purpose of an intellectual weekly of this kind is to provoke thought and stimulate discussion—and these it does in abundant measure.

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

BY "CHRONICLER"

League of Nations Closed

PRESIDENT of the League of Nations Assembly, Dr. Carl Hambro, rapped the table with his gavel at its last meeting at Geneva on April 16 and stated, "I declare this meeting of the 21st and last Assembly of the League of Nations as closed"—and thus ended 26 years of the world's first endeavour to establish peace by collective security.

Before closure, Dr. Lone Liang, Leader of the Chinese Delegation, declared that the League's failure over Manchuria "was a fatal blow to the League's life as an international institution."

India's Contribution to UNRRA

The Leader of the House Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, suggested in the Central Assembly on April 18 that the House agree to two crores of rupees being voted as additional grant to the UNRRA instead of the proposed four crores of rupees. He added that the Government on its part, would agree not to expend this amount until the end of September when the internal situation in the country would be better known.

The Congress, the Muslim League and the European groups agreeing to this suggestion, the House passed the Finance Member's supplementary demand for this sum unanimously.

The Franco Regime in Spain

The United Nations Security Council discussed the Polish demand for breaking off diplomatic relations with Franco, Spain at its meeting at New York on April 18.

Sir Alexander Cadogan, Britain's permanent representative on the Council, said: "The Polish appeal will find a sympathetic echo in my country which had the honour of being the first to declare war on Hitler in support of Poland."

Sir Alexander added, however, that he did not find the evidence of the Polish delegate sufficiently convincing to justify the claim that the Franco regime might lead to international friction.

Dutch-Indonesian Talks

A warning against being too optimistic about the present Dutch-Indonesian discussions was given by Dr. I. R. Soekarno, President of the Indonesian Republic, in an address at Batavia on April 18.

Dr. Soekarno said there are two groups of Dutch men: progressives who are trying to find a peaceful solution of the Indonesian question and extremists—reactionaries, militarists and capitalists—who will do everything to have Java occupied by their army. The latter group although the smallest was the most influential and prominent and therefore, the position of Dr. van Mook (Lieutenant-Governor-General of the Netherlands East Indies who is the Dutch representative at the discussions) was unenviable, he went on, adding that there were indications that the importance of Dr. van Mook's position was dwindling.

Indonesians are fighting on two fronts—inwardly to awaken the people and outwardly against the Dutch extremists, Dr. Soekarno added.

New Constitution of Japan

Baron Kijuro Shidehara, the Japanese Prime Minister on April 17 made public the official text of Japan's proposed new Constitution.

This had been drawn up in the plainest colloquial language on the express instructions of Emperor Hirohito so that it shall be perfectly understandable to the masses.

The new Constitution provides for retention of the Emperor as "a symbol of the State and of the unity of the people." His acts in matters of State require approval of the Cabinet. As a means of settling disputes with other nations, maintenance of armed forces is not authorised.

All persons are equal under the law, and fundamental human rights of all are conferred by the Constitution, freedom of thought and religion being guaranteed. All members of the two houses of the Diet are selected by the people.



The WORLD of BOOKS



(ONLY SHORT NOTICES APPEAR IN THIS SECTION)

NEW YORK WITH ITS PANTS DOWN. By D. F. Karaka, Thackers, Bombay.

D. F. Karaka is no newcomer to the literary field. He has a long list of books to his credit. His easy racy style makes his books light and readable. He has a flair for satire which sometimes borders on the cheap side. "New York with its Pants down" is one such—a sparkling satire on that city which La Guardia who was its Mayor for ten years described as the "Real capital of the country from which flow the cultural and economic currents—unique, there is nothing like it anywhere else on the face of the earth—the most hospitable city..."

Almost every aspect of American life is satirised here—the administration, the press, the big business, the high society, lecturers and poets and a vast number of other diverse things, typically American. Yet the satire has a very hard kernel of truth behind it and all the time though the author may give the impression of being light and flippant, has his teeth hard on this inner core.

SILK INDUSTRY. E. V. S. Manian, Bureau of Economic Research, Cawnpore. U. P.

The Indian Sericulture industry has not been given the encouragement it deserved particularly in the prewar period. It is most suited to our rural parts and it can be woven into the rural agricultural economy of the villager to his own economic betterment. The book contains much useful information about the history, growth and future prospects of the industry.

INDIA'S POST WAR RECONSTRUCTION AND ITS INTERNATIONAL ASPECTS. By P. S. Lokanathan. (Oxford University Press.)

Dr. Lokanathan who is a noted economist gives a comprehensive treatise on the Reconstruction problem of India. After dealing with the position on the eve of the war, its impact and repercussions, problems of transition and reconstruction, he says that the rapid industrialisation, contemplated under the Bombay Plan will, if put through, raise problems of great magnitude both within the country and outside, but not impracticable and insoluble. India's economic development depends for its success not only on her own internal educational and training facilities but upon facilities provided abroad particularly in America for industrial and technical training of Indians. A fruitful era of co-operation is possible if the Western nations recognize their own responsibilities and opportunities and the world will stand to gain by a prosperous India.

COMMUNAL PROBLEMS. By a Nationalist, Punjab Gramseva Mandal Book Depot, Lajpat Rai Bhavan, Lahore.

The Communal question is reviewed from all points of view. The author avers that the religious, political and social differences could be patched up with the rise in the economic and cultural standard of the masses of the Muslims. The appendix contains valuable statements made by Messrs. Jinnah, Rajagopalachari and Mahatmaji on the Pakistan issue.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- March 1. Arab League supports Egypt's demands.
—Mr. Amery advocates transfer of power to India.
- March 2. Franco denounces "foreign attempt" to upset Spanish regime.
- March 3. Indonesian Cabinet crisis: Dr. Shasir resigns and resumes office.
—Capt. Lakshmi released.
- March 4. Viceroy opens Victory week celebrations in Delhi.
—Train collision near Lucknow.
- March 5. Congress, Unionists and Akalis agree to form Coalition Party in the Punjab.
- March 6. Khizr Hyat Khan to form the Punjab Cabinet.
- March 7. Disturbances in Delhi; Police open fire; 11 reported killed.
—Dr. Khan Saheb submits names for his new Cabinet in Frontier Province.
- March 8. U. S. demands withdrawal of Soviet forces from Persia.
- March 9. Pandit Nehru addresses Calcutta Convocation.
—Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer presides over the first Brahmin Conference at Salem.
- March 10. Aga Khan Jubilee celebration; His Highness weighed in diamonds.
- March 11. Punjab Ministry announced.
- March 12. Aga Khan leads South African deputation to the Viceroy.
—Congress Working Committee meets in Delhi.
- March 13. Stalin compares Churchill to Hitler.
—Soviet troops moving towards Teheran.
- March 14. Congress wins all general seats in Bihar.
—Congress declines to join Viceroy's Food Council.
- March 15. Mr. Attlee on Labour's India policy.
—Prof. Laski's appeal to Indian and British leaders.
- March 16. Congress wins absolute majority in U.P.
—Mob violence in Hyderabad.
- March 17. Pandit Nehru leaves for Malaya; visit sponsored by Viceroy.
- March 18. Cochin ruler installed on the *gadi* at Mattancherry palace.
—Madras Assembly elections.
- March 19. British Cabinet mission leaves for India.
—Persia protests to Security Council against presence of Soviet troops.
- March 20. Food talks in America.
—Congress victory in Bombay.
- March 21. U. S. opposes Soviet move for postponing Security Council meeting.
—Personnel of newspaper delegation to Britain and Canada and U. S. A. announced.
- March 22. British ultimatum to Indonesian extremists.
- March 23. British Cabinet mission arrives in India.
- March 24. Russia to evacuate troops from Persia.
- March 25. Hidayatullah Ministry in Sind defeated, a Leaguer voting with the opposition.
—Anti-Indian Bills pass second reading in the Union Parliament.
- March 26. Sind Cabinet enlarged: Bunde Ali Khan to be fifth member.
—Cabinet Mission meets Viceroy's Council.
- March 27. Half anna post card restored.
—Soviet walk out in Security Council.
- March 28. Finance Bill passed by 63 votes to 57, Muslim League party voting with the Government.
- March 29. Lords discuss Labour's policy in India.
- March 30. Indian Food delegation party returns.
—Finance Bill passed in Council of State.
- March 31. Congress Ministry formed in U. P. Pandit Pant submits names.



TOPICS From PERIODICALS



UNION OF INDIAN PROVINCES

A twelve-point programme for India is outlined in the current issue of the *Round Table*. The programme is based on the current fashionable concept of "provincial sovereignty" and is recommended on the ground that it goes far enough to meet the Muslim League demand without parting company with Hindu sentiment.

Urging that the Cabinet Mission should start by issuing a manifesto embodying the programme the *Round Table* gives a gist of the twelve points in the following order:

Sovereign rights of self-government in India side in the peoples of India.

In British India these rights have been and are exercised by the peoples assembled and organised in the Provinces.

The first stage in the process of completion of self-government, therefore, is recognition of the sovereign rights of the Provinces.

These rights include self-determination.

Nevertheless there are strong reasons which make it imperative as a second stage in the completion of self-government that the sovereign Provinces should freely combine in an Indian union for common purposes.

The compact of Union should not permit any community to command a permanent majority in its councils and should provide for the right of secession for a province when practical arrangements to this end can be worked out.

For the present, the first two stages must proceed side by side.

Expression of sovereign rights in the form of a new constitution will be for each Province to decide through its own legislature but to save time, the present Provincial constitutions can be adopted with provision for later change.

The compact of Union shall be framed by a Council representing the Provinces.

The third and fourth stages of completion of self-government will be the enactment of constitutional laws required by the first two and admission of Indian States into the structure of self-government.

A time-table for the achievement of all the four stages within two years should be framed and the British Government should not allow lagging behind by any particular section to delay the completion of the process.

Meanwhile a new representative British-Indian Government is to be formed by the Governor-General and political leaders and groups willing to co-operate with him in working the existing constitution. Such a Government will exercise the fullest autonomy in both external and domestic affairs, subject only to the need for His Majesty's Government to fulfil, during the interim period, past pledges. Thus both at the Centre and in the Provinces full self-government can begin immediately as a practical measure.

The *Round Table* suggests that the Mission should make a pronouncement on these lines at the outset of discussions. The initiative, it is argued, will not come from Indians themselves and so the British should put forward a practical scheme and thus steer India away from self-destruction. The proposed plan goes beyond the Cripps Offer in starting from Provincial autonomy and working towards the Centre.

In any case the effort to form a federation by partial breaking down of the unitary Government had lost the chance in 1935 and cannot now succeed.

The mirage of Pakistan cannot be adopted by the British Government as a practical policy, says the *Round Table*. It would precipitate civil war and rebellion:

even if the British Power is ready to face the prospect as soon as Pakistan is translated from an ideal into practical shape, its impossibility will become manifest. It is a hundred pities that the British Government did not grasp this nettle years ago and say firmly and consistently, whatever Indians might ultimately find desirable as among themselves, Britain could hand over power only to India united by a necessary minimum common Government. Had they done so, the position would have been far less dangerous to-day.

THE IMPLICATIONS OF QUIT INDIA

"In terms of non-violence, "Quit India" is a healthy, potent cry of the soul," writes Mr. Mahatma Gandhi in the *Harijan*. "It is not a slogan. It means the end, through means purely truthful and non-violent, of foreign rule and domination. It does not mean the foreigner's destruction, but his willing conversion to Indian life. In this scheme there is no room for hatred of the foreigner. He is a man, even as we are. It is fear of him that gives rise to hatred. Fear gone, there can be no hatred.

"Thus his conversion implies our conversion too. If we cease to be inferiors, he cannot be our superior. His arsenals and his weapons, typified in their extreme in the atom bomb, should have no terror for us.

It follows that we may not covet them. We often make the mistake of thinking that we must first have things before we cease to covet them. This tempting argument leads to the prolongation of the agony. Must I do all the evil I can, before I learn to shun it? Is it not enough to know the evil to shun it? If not, we should be sincere enough to admit that we love evil too well to give it up."

"Let us assume that foreign rule is ended. What should the foreigner do? He could hardly be considered free when he was protected by British arms. "As a free man, he will discover that it was wrong to possess privileges which the millions of India could not enjoy. He will live, doing his duty as behoves a son of India. He will no longer live at India's expense. On the contrary he will give India all his talents, and by his services, render himself indispensable to the land of his adoption." If this is true of the European, how

much more true must it be for those Anglo-Indians and others who have adopted European manners and customs in order to be classed as Europeans demanding preferential treatment? "All such people will find themselves ill at ease, if they expect a continuation of the favoured treatment hitherto enjoyed by them. They should rather feel thankful that they will be disburdened of preferential treatment to which they had no right to any known canon of reasoning, and which was derogatory to their dignity.

"We have all—rulers and ruled—been living so long in a stifling, unnatural atmosphere that we might feel, in the beginning, that we have lost the lungs for breathing the invigorating zone of freedom. If the reality comes in an orderly, that is a non-violent manner, because the parties feel that it is right, it will be a revealing lesson for the world."

ASIA'S AWAKENING

In the long run history may decide that the most important of all the terrific events of our epoch is the emergence of the peoples of Asia, writes *New Statesman and Nation*. "Millions of men and women whom the West has regarded as of little or no account, are becoming politically conscious, finding leaders of their own (many of them highly educated in western universities) and developing the same techniques and skills—and the same national pride—as western nations. There is no coherent conception of Asia and no common philosophy among Chinese, Indians, Filipinos, Indo-Chinese and Indo-nesians, but there is among them a new realisation that Asiatics as a whole have been oppressed and exploited, a belief that they can now throw off the rule of the West and begin a new era of independent development. Nowhere have the Atlantic Charter and the Four Freedoms been taken so seriously as in Asia."

RACIAL RELATION IN SOUTH AFRICA

In an article which in the April issue of *Race relations news* Mr. J. D. Rheinalet Jones, Chairman of the South African Institute of Race Relations, says that it is regrettable that a measure of such vital importance to racial relations in South Africa as the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill should be hurried through Parliament so hastily.

"In as General Smuts says", Mr. Jones adds, "there have to be sacrifices on both sides to ensure racial peace, would it not be more equitable to require those who demand restrictions on human rights to prove the need in each individual case? That is to say the Bill should reverse the process and provide rather that a strong judicial power independent of political influences should deal with individual applications for the restriction of residential and purchasing rights of any racial group."

The article adds: "If the United Nations' Charter means anything to the Union, let us ensure that limitations upon human rights are made only after the most scrupulous enquiry in every instance. We look in vain in this Bill for equality of sacrifice, of which the Prime Minister speaks. What do the Europeans of Natal or Transvaal sacrifice? Can it be claimed that to grant a restricted franchise to Indians is to be measured against the withdrawal in Natal of Indians' present unrestricted right to live, own land and invest their savings in property?"

"For these reasons I cannot commend the bill and appeal to all who care for the welfare of our country to Press for its reconsideration so as to ensure that restrictions upon Asiatics shall not be wholesale and arbitrary, but shall be subject in each case to judicial enquiry and decision."

FOOD CRISIS IN INDIA

A boldly-drawn word-picture of India's need for food and a vigorous statement of reasons why the Allies must help her was presented by the Madras Government Food Adviser, Sir Sonti Ramamurti, in an article prominently displayed in the *Washington Post*.

Under the headline, "Ten millions will die—and not easily" and with a large map showing Indian famine areas, the article declares: "In the famine of 1943 in Bengal it was the poor people, voiceless shiftless people, who suffered. Now the people who face death belong to all ranks of the population—vocal and intelligent people. They will not die easily and, as food supplies fail, they will bring down the whole fabric of administration and life in India."

The article details the drastic steps already taken by the Indian Government and sets forth the absolute minimum needs as 1,000,000 tons of rice and 3,000,000 tons of wheat and millet.

"If even this supply is not forthcoming, then some 10,000,000 are likely to die, and the whole population of South India will suffer debility. India feels that the threat of such a terrible calamity has come on her because she has given total help in total war. It is but common gratitude that the Allies should help her in her need."

The article concluded on a note of warning: "If India fails to get help, the bitterness that will be caused will poison the relations of India and the Anglo-Americans for decads. The world will be rent in twain and all hopes of One World will be in vain."

THE PATH OF PROGRESS

It has ever been thus. We give with one hand, take away with the other; advance with one foot, go back with the other; and call the resulting stagnant tension, balance of power, observes Robert Herring in *Life and Letters*. "Social benefits go along with increased methods of sadism; enlightened progress and stricter punishments proceed in alternation. Times change and from age to age, the accent shifts from one type of being or activity to another; but within those types, the permutations and combinations remain, if not the same, at least recognizable. We know that the future demands of us more than has been asked before, but we know it must be faced because that is man's way. It is man's way to destroy what he has built—but also to build again, if only to destroy. A tedious process but each time, barely observable and felt more than seen, the will to create is a fraction stronger than the compulsion to destroy."

THE GREATNESS OF GANDHI

The greatness of Mahatma Gandhi as a fighter for non-violence and civilisation of the world is emphasised by Mr. Richard Davies, well-known author of several books on theological and sociological subjects and one of the leading B.B.C. speakers, in a full length contribution entitled "Torch-bearers of Decency" to the weekly, *Cavalcade*.

"In Gandhi's vision," Mr. Davies says, "politics is rooted in eternal spirit. That is why he is, forever, appealing against power in political and social life. However much we may disagree with Gandhi's

pacifism, which ignores stubborn realities of imperfect human nature, we must not fail to realise that he stands as a barrier against the sin of violence and anti-civilisation not only in India but in the whole world."

Mr. Davies states that India reflects not only the tragedy of Europe but also its greatness. "In Gandhi" he says, "there is much of the European spirit at its greatest. His affinity with men lies in his evaluation of politics, which as he sees it derives its meaning from the order of life, altogether above politics."

BRITAIN'S WITHDRAWAL

The complete withdrawal of Britishers from India in any circumstances has been emphatically urged by *Peace News*, the influential Left-wing weekly of London discussing the present Cabinet Mission negotiations in its well-known column "observers' commentary".

"One condition seems essential for the success of the Cabinet Mission," the paper says, "and this is that the plenipotentiaries of the British Government should say quite clearly that, come what may, Britain intends to withdraw completely from India by a fixed date—and that, in the near future."

"If there is to be anarchy or civil war in India, that is not our affair. But Mr. Jinnah must be made to understand quickly and once for all that Britain no longer intends to hold the ring while he pursues his obstruction of Indian unity. He must settle or refuse to settle with the Congress directly. What is important is that the last vestige of the idea that the complete freedom of India depends upon a previous compromise between Hindu and Muslim political leaders should be eradicated."

INDIAN STATES

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Hyderabad

SUPPORT TO FREEDOM DEMAND

The Nawab of Chhattari, President of the Nizam's Executive Council, in an interview to the Associated Press of India, expressed the view that Hyderabad would not stand in the way of the fulfilment of the legitimate aspirations of British India for political and other freedoms.

As a premier State, he continued, it was only to be expected that Hyderabad should support the legitimate demands of the Indian States. The Nawab said, "The primary consideration for Hyderabad would always remain the good of India."

THE HYDERABAD DISTURBANCES

H. E. H. the Nizam, in a Firman published in a Gazette Extraordinary says:

The recent disturbances [and rioting, which took place at the houses of the President of the Council and the Revenue Member in connection with the building of Dichpalli Mosque, were deplorable and unseemly beyond expression. It is the first incident of its kind that has happened in the history of Hyderabad. Time has now come for the Hyderabad Government to take energetic steps to punish the guilty in such a way as to be deterrent to other evildoers. Effective steps should be taken to preserve law and order to protect the lives and honour and property of the citizens, for no repetition of such disgraceful acts can be tolerated.

I have accordingly issued orders to my Government to take within next two or three months all steps necessary to deal with the unfortunate case.

Mysore

COMMUNAL OUTLOOK IN SERVICES

Presiding over the 19th annual general meeting of the Mysore Service Association Mr. O. Pulla Reddi, I.C.S., Minister for Revenue expressed that Mysore was bound to be influenced by the currents which affected India and the wider world.

Mr. Pulla Reddi added that as things stood at present, communal representation in services was a principle of social justice, but the persistence of the communal outlook after one's entry into the service might well prove a major public disaster. In the Parliamentary type of Government, the Civil Service was more or less indispensable because they represented and maintained that continuity in administration which was lacking at the top because of changing Ministries. Their knowledge and experience of administration proved useful to changing ministries and he was not true to the service who did not give them proper advice and faithful guidance.

QUOTA FOR MYSORE

Mysore has been allotted by the Government of India 58,000 tons of wheat 59,000 tons of maize and 20,000 tons of rice from the allotment of the Combined Food Board of the United Nations in addition to quotas from Indian sources it is learnt.

TWO-CRORE IRRIGATION SCHEME FOR MYSORE

A scheme costing two crores of rupees spread over a period of five years to develop irrigation in Mysore as a means to realise economic self-sufficiency in the matter of food production in the State has been drawn up by the Public Works Department of Mysore Government.

Baroda**BARODA ASSEMBLY**

Demonstrations by Muslims and Communist Party supporters marked the beginning of the Baroda State Assembly session on March 25. The State Muslim Conference, whose demand for a separate electorate was refused by the Government, observed a "protest day," while the Communist Party demonstrated in protest against the absence of an elected member for Labour.

In the morning, a mile-long procession of Muslims paraded most of the thoroughfares of the city shouting slogans. They massed before the Assembly Chamber and raised hostile shouts when Sir Brojendra Mitter, the Dewan-President, drove in.

For over 15 minutes, the Dewan's inaugural address was drowned by the shouts of the Muslims and of the Communists, who also came out in procession.

Mr. Rasool Khan Pathan, President of the All-India States Muslim League and also President of the Baroda State Muslim Conference, who was nominated by the Maharaja as a representative of Labour in the Assembly, has resigned, along with other members nominated from the Conference. The Maharaja has, however, appointed five other members, who attended the session.

The House cheered the Dewan when he declared the Government would endeavour to keep the poison of communalism out of Baroda State. It cheered again when Sir Brojendra welcomed the first woman Member, Miss Susheela Pundit.

Travancore**DEWAN ON FUTURE CONSTITUTION**

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, said in an interview in Delhi (whither he had gone on invitation from the Cabinet Mission) that the Princes would be ready to surrender to a duly constituted Central Government in which they would have a voice on such things as national defence, external affairs, customs and communications, but would never submit to a division of India. "At any cost whatever" he said, "we oppose division of India."

The Dewan, said that he felt he was voicing the views of most of the Princes of India in opposing the division of India and in exchanging treaties with England for treaties with a new Government in India.

His statement was made in an interview sandwiched in between Conferences with representatives or heads of other Indian States all of whom recognise that a major change in their history will come abruptly with a shift of control from British hands to Indian hands.

SIR C. V. RAMAN FOR RESEARCH

Sir C. V. Raman has accepted the Honorary Professorship of Physics of the Travancore University and is assisting in the preparation of a scheme of research into mineral resources of the State. This written answer was given by the syndicate of the Travancore University at a meeting of the Senate held on April 6 at the Legislative Chamber under the presidency of Mr. H. C. Papworth, pro-Vice-Chancellor.

Cochin**NEW MAHARAJA OF COCHIN**

Religious functions in connection with the installation of H. H. Sree Kerala Varma, the new Maharaja of Cochin, were performed last month at the historic Mattancherry Palace.

Bahawalpur**THE SUTLEJ VALLEY PROJECT**

'Effect on irrigation of the Pahara Dam in Bahawalpur State' was the subject of discussion when H. E. the Viceroy and Lady Wavell visited the Punjand Headworks which is situated at the borders of the Punjab. His Excellency discussed at length the Sutlej Valley Project, with the principal officials of the Bahawalpur Government.

The Sutlej Valley Canals, 3,950 miles of total length, have converted extensive sandy tracts into fertile cultivable zones and have attracted over 700,000 immigrants from British India. The total area ultimately to be irrigated is 5,108,000 acres, of which 3,000,000 acres are now being cultivated in the State, 1,900,000 acres in the Punjab and 1,000 acres in Bikaner State.

Bharatpur**TEMPLE ENTRY IN BHARATPUR**

An extraordinary meeting of the Bharatpur State Council was held recently at which the Maharaja sponsored a resolution that the temple of Lachmanji should be thrown open to the Harijans. The resolution was passed.

Accordingly, the opening ceremony of the temple for the entry of Harijans was performed on April 14 by the Maharaja.

Rewa**A NEW CONSTITUTION FOR REWA**

Maharaja Marthandsinghji, Ruler of Rewa, has received the recognition of his succession to the Rewa *Gadi* from H. M. the King and H. E. the Viceroy through the British Resident, Lt.-Col. Campbell. The Maharaja announced in durbar his decision to appoint Sir Alladi Krishnaswami Ayyar, former Advocate-General, Madras, as Chairman of a Committee which will, after inquiry, draw up a workable constitution suited to Rewa for introducing a "popular system of Government."

Jaipur**JAIPUR BANS CHILD MARRIAGE**

The Jaipur State Legislative Council has passed the Child Marriage Restraint Bill, which is an adaptation of the Sarda Act in force in British India. It will come into force from January 1, 1947.

An amendment sponsored by Muslim members of the House to the effect that Muslims should be exempted from the provisions of the bill was defeated.

Kashmir**AGRICULTURAL EXPERIMENTS**

Successful experiments on the acclimatization of a large number of foreign varieties of paddy have been made by the Agriculture Department of Jammu and Kashmir. These experiments have proved that a number of Chinese Varieties of paddy can adapt themselves to the Kashmir soil and its environmental conditions. Three of the Chinese varieties have yielded 50 to 60 maunds of paddy per acre against an average of 35 maunds per acre yielded by the local varieties.

INDIANS OVERSEAS

South Africa

ANTI-INDIAN BILL IN S. AFRICA

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar, Leader of the House, announced in the Central Assembly on April 15 that, in the event of the South African Bill (restricting Indians' right to occupy the acquire land) being passed into law, the Government of India would take steps to bring this issue before the United Nations' Organisation.

Sir A. Ramaswami Mudaliar added: "The fact that there is no difference of opinion between the Legislature and the Government on this subject will, I trust, give sufficient confidence to the public that every step will be taken which is required by the situation and is in consonance with the dignity and prestige of this country."

In reply to a question by Dewan Chamanlal, Sir Ramaswami Mudaliar said that the thought the Indian High Commissioner in South Africa would be returning to this country very shortly.

END OF TRADE PACT

The Government of India have formally given the Union Government notice terminating the Trade Agreement between the two countries.

The official note reached the External Affairs Department just at the time of General Smuts' motion for the second reading of the Asiatic Land Tenure and Indian Representation Bill.

The termination of the agreement is subject to three months' notice.

Malaya

PANDIT NEHRU'S IMPRESSION

"The over-all effect of my visit to Malaya and my brief passaga through Burma has been to enable me to see the Indian problem in a wider perspective of Asia and to some extent of the world; for, India is obviously going to make a difference to the world situation whichever way she goes. There was a realisation of this everywhere. People felt that the Independence of India was the key to the freedom of other Asiatic countries," said Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru addressing a gathering of pressmen assembled at Anand Bhawan to have the impressions of his tour in Malaya.

Pandit Nehru felt that a bubbling vitality pervaded through Malaysians now and they were politically wide awake.

U. S. A.

ENTRY OF INDIANS INTO U.S.

Mr. Dean Acheson, the Under-Secretary of State, was among the 15 witnesses on the Indian immigration legislation, who gave evidence before the special five-man sub-committee of the Senate Immigration Committee on April 16.

Mr. Acheson gave "the whole-hearted support of the State Department" for the legislation, which now needs only Senate action to establish an annual quota for India and provide for naturalisation of Indians legally residing in the United States at present.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS * DEPARTMENTAL * NOTES

Questions of Importance

CONGRESS FORMULA TO ALLAY LEAGUE'S FEARS

"The Congress stands for four fundamental things. First, complete independence; second, united India; third, one Federation composed of fully autonomous units, which will have residuary powers in their hands, and fourth, two lists of central subjects, one compulsory and the other optional".

Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, Congress President, thus summed up the Congress position as it has emerged from the four days' discussions by the Working Committee in Delhi.

The Congress President said in a statement that he had succeeded in making the Congress Working Committee accept a formula based on these four fundamentals, which, he said, secured whatever merits the Pakistan scheme contained, while all its defects and drawbacks were avoided.

INDIANISATION OF THE ARMY

The future Indian army would require about 9,000 regular officers, according to a tentative estimate which the Commander-in-Chief gave in the Council of State, speaking on a resolution moved by Pandit Kunzru.

General Auchinleck said that it was the intention of the Government of India to create a completely national army officered and manned throughout by Indians in the shortest possible space of time without

lowering the very high standard of efficiency and competence of the Indian Army. India was fortunate in that, she already had a highly efficient army the rank and file of which was for all practical purposes hundred per cent. Indian. It was the nationalisation of the officer cadre of that army which constituted a problem before us to-day. It was the declared policy of the Government of India that the British officer element of the Indian Army shall be replaced by Indian officers as soon as possible.

FOOD PLAN FOR INDIA

A comprehensive five-year plan to overcome India's estimated annual food deficit, of between 25 and 30 million tons through a Government-sponsored and financed improvement of agriculture, fisheries and animal food sources, has been proposed by the National Planning Committee's Sub-Committee on Food.

"Import of foodgrains need not be necessary in this country," said the Sub-Committee, if the resources were properly developed. "It must be the first concern of the National Planning Authority to make up this (food) deficit within a term of not more than five years."

The proposed programme laid considerable stress upon formation of agricultural co-operatives, particularly for bringing uncultivated land under the plough, upon improving agricultural and fishing techniques and upon planned breeding as a means of increasing the supply of animal foods.

C. IN C's ADVICE TO INDIAN AND BRITISH FORCES

In a message broadcast to all officers of the Indian and British forces in India, Gen. Sir Claude Auchinleck, the Commander-in-Chief, said: "Remain disciplined, efficient, and loyal to whatever Government may be in power."

"Indian officers, do not cut your own foot with your own mattock. Do not take or connive at any action which may impair the discipline, efficiency or loyalty of the Army to the Government of the day."

"British officers, serve the new India as loyally as in the past your Indian comrades have served the present India. It is your duty to your country, and to the Army to which you belong, to pass on to your Indian comrades, who are to follow you, in a spirit of unselfishness and service, all the experience and knowledge that you have gained in the past, so that they in their turn, may serve the Indian army as faithfully and truly as you have done. Thus may the Indian army lead the way."

"The object of the British is to hand over a peaceful India. The object of the Indians is to take over a peaceful India. The nationalists of India, who have worked so long and hard for the independence of their country, cannot desire it in any other way, otherwise they will run the risk of failing to reap the reward of their efforts, which is a free India, strong and able to stand on its own feet. Our objects therefore are identical."

"Unfortunately, there are, however, in India certain disruptive forces, as there are

certain to be at a time like this. There may therefore be trouble. If so, it is the duty of the Police to deal with it. If, however, the police cannot deal with it, then the Army will be called on to help."

"If, however, the Army, through inefficiency or unreliability in the performance of its duties in the maintenance of law and order, fails to carry out the orders of the Government in power at the time, then the internal situation may well develop into chaos. Internal chaos means suffering, misery and loss to everyone, and can only retard progress."

PANDIT NEHRU ON INDIAN NATIONALISM

Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru addressing a great gathering at Kuala Lumpur declared that the kind of nationalism Indians believe in "is of an enlightened type which will not lead to aggression."

"If we believe in independence for India we also believe in independence for other countries," Pandit Nehru said.

In future, Pandit Nehru said, strong ties of friendship would bring India closer to the other countries in East Asia.

"Apart from sentimental and historical reasons there is the compulsion of geography. India is going to be the pivot of the freedom struggle of Asia," he said.

Pandit Nehru, declared, "The spirit that has arisen in India will not be cowed down by any material sufferings. We have not only certainty of the future, not only confidence of the coming independence, but also confidence in our ability to raise 400 million of our people from poverty."

SARDAR PATEL'S REPLY TO MR. JINNAH'S CLAIM

If Mr. Jinnah is not an Indian, there can be no question of his participation in the Indian constitution. This is the view of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who considers it "a monstrous thing that a man can claim different nationality because he changes his religion." Sardar Patel gave Mr. Fraser Wighton, *Reuter's* Political Correspondent, these reflections in an interview in New Delhi in the course of which he answered some of Mr. Jinnah's recent statements and reviewed the constitutional situation generally.

Sardar Patel said that if the principle of religion determining nationality were admitted, as Mr. Jinnah claimed in recent utterances that it should be, then Indian Christians, Sikhs, Parsis and others equally could make the claim. Moreover the Congress Party, which had been fighting for the freedom of India for the past fifty to sixty years under the banner of nationalism, would have to convert itself into a purely communal organisation.

"So far as the Congress is concerned there can be no compromise on the subject of Pakistan", declared Sardar Patel.

SIR C. P. ON THE IMPLICATIONS OF PAKISTAN

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, commenting on the resolutions passed by the Muslim League Legislators' Convention, said:

"The resolutions passed by the Leaguers form the culmination of a series of progressively increasing demands. Now we hear that Pakistan is only the latest

demand, but not the last one. In other words, they will scheme later the conquest of the whole of India or for a treaty with Russia to advance the Muslims' interest. These claims are so exaggerated that, personally speaking, I do not attach any importance to them, and regard them as expressions of nervousness due to consciousness of a weak case."

"If as now indicated", he added, "Pakistan and Hindustan should have different foreign policies and different treaties with the various Powers, then all hopes of peaceful development will be at an end."

GANDHIJI'S ADVICE ON SALARIES OF MINISTERS

"The British scale of pay cannot be copied by them except at their cost," says Mahatma Gandhi referring to the question of increase in Ministerial salaries.

He writes in the *Harijan*: "Ministers and members of the Provincial Assemblies are in their respective places as servants of the people in every sense of the term. The British scale of pay cannot be copied by them except at their cost nor need all draw payments because a certain scale is allowed. The scale fixes the limit upto which they may draw. It will be ludicrous for a moneyed man to draw the full or any payment. The payments are meant for those who cannot easily afford to render free service. They are representatives of the poorest people in the world. What they draw is paid by the poor. Let them remember this salient fact and act and live accordingly."

MADRAS VIVEKANANDA COLLEGE

In order to meet in some measure the demand for facilities for higher education, especially in science subjects, the Vivekananda College has been founded. Application for affiliation to the University has been made and, subject to its approval, arrangements are made to start work from June 1946. The College will be open to all and no student will be denied admission on grounds of caste, creed or nationality.

It is intended to admit this year about 300 students to all the courses of study. Rao Bahadur D. Subrahmanya Sarma has kindly accepted the invitation to be the first Principal of the College.

The College is managed by the Sri Ramakrishna Mission acting through a local Board of Management.

A sum of Rs. 5.6 lakhs has so far been collected for the College and a further sum of Rs. 5 lakhs must be raised for lands, buildings and equipment.

The Committee appeal to the public for help towards the maintenance and expansion of the College.

INDIAN STUDENTS IN AMERICA

One hundred and seventy-five students selected by the Government of India for studies and training abroad have so far reached America in batches. Every one of these students has a place reserved for him at the best available university of his studies.

Arrangements had been made at the universities to enable the students to begin their studies as early as September last, but owing to lack of transportation from

India, they could not arrive in time at the beginning of the academic year.

The problem of securing hotel accommodation these days is extremely difficult particularly at port towns like New York. Tens of thousands of American soldiers are being brought back from abroad and nearly all hotels are sold solidly in advance. Notwithstanding these difficulties, the Educational Liaison Officer with the Agent-General and his staff make arrangements for receiving the students accommodating them at the port and arranging for further transportation.

INDIAN UNIVERSITIES

Calcutta has the largest number of students, colleges and library books, being 40,000,00 and 206,000 respectively.

Madras comes next with 77 colleges, and nearly 100,000 books in the University Library.

Bombay comes third with 50 colleges, 35,300 students and 70,000 books.

Benares which is a Unitary University offers the largest number of courses in most advanced cultural and scientific subjects.

The cost of living is cheapest in Annamalai University where it is about Rs. 20 per mensem. It is highest in Bombay where it is about Rs. 50.

Examination fees are highest in Travancore University.

The newest of Universities is that of Utkal (Orissa) started but two years ago.

The youngest University will be that of Maharashtra which is about to be started at Poona.

DEMONETISATION ORDINANCE

The Reserve Bank of India demonetisation case challenging the validity of the Demonetisation Ordinance was dismissed by a special bench of the Calcutta High Court.

Mr. N. C. Chatterjee, counsel for the petitioner, told the court that the Advocate-General of India, Sir N. P. Engineer, had handed over to him a copy of the recent Parliamentary Statute whereby the Government of India Act had been amended, extending the powers of the Governor-General in respect of all matters enumerated in the Legislative Lists in the Constitution. He was therefore helpless as no one could challenge an Act of Parliament as unconstitutional or *ultra vires*.

Their Lordships, having regard to the recent enactment by the British Parliament, discharged the rule but made no order as to costs.

The petitioner, Mr. Bholanath Burhan, alleged that following the promulgation of the Demonetisation Ordinance of 1946, the Reserve Bank had declined to discharge the unconditional promise to pay on demand as contained in the bank note and as such had acted in contravention of its duty and obligation.

The case was originally heard before Mr. Justice Clough who however, referred the matter to a special bench as it appeared to him that the contentions urged on behalf of the petitioner raised an interpretation of the Government of India Act, 1935.

Sir N. P. Engineer, Advocate-General of India, appeared on behalf of the Government of India.

HIGH COURT JURISDICTION

The Government are considering the question of amending the Madras High Court's Jurisdiction Act, to bring within it the criminal and civil jurisdiction of the areas adjoining the city and lying in the Chingleput District recently brought within the City Municipal limit with effect from April 1, will have to be held in abeyance in view of the amendment mentioned.

Mr. P. Govinda Menon, Crown Prosecutor, Madras, has been appointed, as Prosecutor for India at the International Military Trial of major Japanese war-crime suspects. Mr. Menon will lead the Prosecution case in respect of offences committed by the Japanese accused against Indian soldiers.

The trial, which is similar to that of the Nazis' trial at Nuremberg, is likely to last for about six months. It is expected that the trial will begin at Tokyo at the end of this month. Besides India eight countries will be represented on the Prosecution side, including England, United States, Russia and Australia. The English Prosecutor is Mr. Coymns Carr. The tribunal is composed of nine judges, the President being Sir William Flood Webb, Chief Justice of Queensland.

RELEASE OF DETENUS

The Government have released about 102 out of about 326 detenues who had been convicted for offences such as rioting, etc., during the August 1942 disturbances.

INSURANCE ACT AMENDMENT BILL

Explaining the provisions of the Insurance Amendment Bill, Sir Azizul Haque the Commerce Member stated in the Central Assembly that it was designed to bring about better order in the insurance business and prevent unscrupulous persons and monopolists "playing havoc" with insurance management and in particular, with the Insurance Fund of policy-holders. The Bill was designed generally on the recommendations of the Cowasjee Jehangir Committee which had brought to light these irregularities. The primary object in view was safeguarding the interests of life policy-holders.

As the law stood to-day, there was no restriction on the voting rights of the various classes of shareholders or on the form in which the capital of an insurance firm could be issued. This provided special inducement for designing financiers who had made their millions in war-time to acquire control over insurance concerns to indulge in reckless speculative manipulation of large life funds under the guise of adopting an "active investment policy." Apart from acquiring such control, they also ensured employments for their proteges at top positions at very high salaries, irrespective of their qualifications or ability. The Bill proposed to meet this menace by placing a limit on the proportion of shares an individual could have and by restricting the capital structure of insurance companies to be confined to only one class of shares, namely, ordinary shares.

The Bill also dealt with another category of evils—cases in which such persons

acquired control of insurance companies not with their own money, but with the funds of banks over which they first acquired control. To prevent such "unwholesome alliances", it was proposed to restrict investments by banking and investment companies in the share of life insurance companies and *vice versa*.

FACILITIES FOR RE-INSURANCE

The Committee of the Indian Insurance Companies' Association, in a statement to the Press, refers to a circular letter received by them from the New Zealand Insurance Co. Ltd., of Auckland, proposing to float a reinsurance company with a capital of Rs. one crore, of which the New Zealand Company would subscribe 51 per cent. and subscription for the balance is to be invited from Indian companies, and says: "The Committee are opposed to the floatation of a reinsurance company under the auspices and control of a foreign insurance company, as it is absolutely inconsistent with the progress and future development of Indian insurance companies. The Indian insurance companies are quite capable of commanding ample resources to manage their own reinsurance problems without any outside control or authority. Indian insurance companies have been sharing only 30 per cent. of the available non-life insurance business in this country, the balance of 70 per cent. being controlled by foreign companies and if schemes of the nature proposed by foreign companies were to be put through, Indian insurance companies are bound to lose their separate entity both in India as well as in outside countries of the world."

INDIAN SHIPPING POLICY

An agreement generally covering matters relating to Indian shipping in Indian coastal waters and the seas adjacent to India as well as the seas beyond has been reached by the Shipping Policy Committee which met in Delhi recently. This was disclosed in an interview here by Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar, Dewan of Travancore, who is Chairman of the Committee.

Sir C. P. Ramaswami Aiyar said: "Opinion in the Committee was fairly clear that coastal shipping to the utmost extent should be reserved for India and certain high percentages should be fixed for other shipping.

"No difficulty was anticipated about the acquisition of ships. But there was some difference of opinion as to the meaning of the expression Indian shipping, one group holding the view that it means, as it should mean, shipping owned, controlled and managed by Indians and the other taking a different view. But the majority view was in favour of Indian shipping being defined as shipping owned controlled and managed by Indians."

TRADE DISPUTES ACT

The House of Commons by 349 votes to 162, passed a Bill repealing the Trade Disputes Act of 1927, and thus ended a political dispute which has raged periodically for nearly 20 years.

This Act was passed by a Conservative Government at the time of the General Strike of 1926, and made general strikes illegal, prevented established civil servants

from joining Trade Unions, and forbade the Civil Servants Union from linking up with the Trade Union Congress and the Labour Party. It also made it law that if a member of a Trade Union wanted to subscribe to a political levy of the Union, he had to "contract." (That is to state specifically that he wished to do so).

TAX REDUCTIONS FOR THE POOR

The Finance Member announced in the Central Assembly on the 27th March the following tax reductions for the poor.

1. Reduction of the price of post cards to half an anna. This is expected to come into effect from July 1.
2. Reduction of duty on kerosene by an anna and a half instead of nine pies per gallon announced in the original budget.
3. Reduction in the price of a match box to half an anna. This is expected to come into effect in the "not distant future."
4. Excise duty on betelnut to be reduced by half an anna per lb.
5. Increase of the annual grant for better marketing and production of betelnut.
6. Reduction of duty on raw cinematograph films from six pies to three pies.

NEWLY MINTED PENNIES

Slowly but surely, life is coming back to normal in Great Britain. The English penny, for example, which for four years was suspended from the Royal Mints operations, is again being struck. In fact, over 40 million new pennies were recently issued.

MRS. HANSA MEHTA ON WOMEN'S CHARTER

Mrs. Hansa Mehta, President of the All-India Women's Conference at Surat addressing a women's meeting demanded all human rights for woman. Mrs. Mehta felt that all inequalities between man and woman, so far as these rights were concerned, should be levelled up.

Outlining the women's charter that is being prepared by the All-India Women's Conference Mrs. Mehta pointed out that woman should have equal rights with man in every sphere of life. All women over 21 should have the right of voting and women should be allotted 50 per cent. of the seats in all legislatures.

In the economic field the women's charter envisaged by the All-India Women's Conference would demand, Mrs. Mehta added, that women be recruited in civil, judicial and administrative services on a par with men. She resented that right of men to spend his income at his pleasure and said that women who were managing the household when man was out for earning his living should have equal rights over the expenditure. The speaker also demanded equality of rights for women on questions of ancestral property adoption marriage and divorce.

Concluding Mrs. Mehta emphasised that while women demanded equal rights they should share responsibility also. She hoped that women would prove better and able citizens than at present and would work towards the improvement of the country.

WOMAN'S PLACE

All the commentators have consistently assumed that a woman must be either a domestic drudge or a creature of licence, intellectual or otherwise. But surely there is a compromise between the hearth and the university hostel says the *Times of India*. Is it not possible for the woman to rock the cradle with one hand and adjust the slide-rule with the other, to divide her hours of reading between the cookery book and Kant? Can she not keep the drawing room and her mind equally free from cobwebs? Only recently we carried an item of news about Mrs. Mrinalini Ghose, "an old lady with eleven grandsons and grand daughters," who had been awarded the M.A. degree of Patna University and, moreover, had headed the list of candidates. Who would dare argue that this lady has neglected her domestic duties? Clearly she is one who can wear the academic robe and the housewife's apron with equal facility. When all women have achieved that goal, we shall hear no more about "the woman's place." It will be taken for granted that she has not one but many, and that each at the proper moment will claim her attention. All the intelligent man will ask is that she does not get her timetable confused.

GIRLS AHEAD OF BOYS

In all 2,224 students appeared from Christian institutions in the U. Provinces for the High School and Intermediate examination of whom 1,484 passed or about 66 per cent. Of these the number of Christian students that passed is only 176 or about 12 per cent. of the total number that passed. This number includes girls also who were 104.

THE NEW INFORMATION OFFICER

Mr. A. S. Iyengar is a well-known figure in New Delhi and there is hardly any Madrassi of any consequence, who has been in Delhi and has not seen him. Recently he took office as the Principal Information Officer to the Government of India in place of Mr. Pothan Joseph, another brilliant South Indian who vacated it. Actually Mr. Joseph's predecessor Mr. J. Natarajan was also a South Indian though domiciled outside the province. Mr. Iyengar, says a correspondent, is a very popular figure and quite an institution in the political and social life of the capital. "What the Government of India gains, is the loss of independent journalism. He is a patriot of the highest calibre and it remains to be seen if he can remain in Government service for long. Already there has been some furore in a section of the rabid communal press. But, it is hailed as a wise appointment making for a closer and more cordial relationship between the Government on the one hand and the Press and the general public on the other."

NEWSPAPER DELEGATION

The Government of India have agreed to the suggestion of the Indian and Eastern Newspaper Society that a delegation of newspaper interests should be deputed to Canada, U. S. A. and the U. K. for the purpose of securing adequate newsprint supplies for India, says a Press note. The delegation will consist of Mr. Devadas Gandhi (Hindustan Times) and Mr. Ramanath Goenka (Indian Express, Madras). Mr. D. G. Currie, Director of Paper, Department of Industries and Supplies, will accompany them as adviser. Mr. Devadas Gandhi will lead the delegation. It is anticipated that the delegation will spend about a week in the U. K. and a fortnight in Canada and the U. S. A.

MARATHI "HARIJAN"

The Marathi edition of the "Harijan" has appeared after 43 months break due to the ban since August 1942. Most of the articles are translations of Mahatma Gandhi's articles in the "Harijan" printed in other languages.

MR. N. SUNDARESAN

Mr. N. Sundaresan, Joint Secretary, Finance Department, Government of India, who has been selected to represent India on the Board of Directors of the International Monetary Fund, has left for England *en route* to Washington to take up his new appointment. He will meet Sir Chintaman Deshmukh, Governor of the Reserve Bank, at London to discuss various problems arising out of India's participation in the Bretton Woods Agreements.

India has now secured a permanent seat on the Board of Directors of the Fund and the Bank. While Mr. Sundaresan will represent India on the Fund, Mr. J. V. Joshi, Economic Adviser to the Reserve Bank of India, will represent it on the Board of Directors of the International Bank. The latter will, it is understood, remain in America for less than a year or so, after which he is expected to return to India to take up his job in the Reserve Bank. Thereafter, it is understood that Mr. Sundaresan will represent the country both on the Board of Directors of the Fund and the Bank if satisfactory arrangements could be made for his functioning part-time as Director in both the institutions in addition to his holding the post of Financial Adviser to the Agent General at Washington.

INDIAN MEMBERS OF U. N. C.

The following have accepted, in their individual capacity, invitations from the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations to become members of the various nucleus commissions:—

Mr. K. C. Neogy (Commission on Human Rights), Prof. P. C. Mahalanobis (Statistical Commission), and Sir Gurunath Bewoor (Transport and Communications Commission).

The commissions are expected to meet in New York towards the end of April.

The Council has also appointed Maj. C. Mani, Deputy Public Health Commissioner with the Government of India, as member, and Dr. Chunilal Katial, Indian medical practitioner in London, as alternate, for the Technical Preparatory Committee for the Health Conference.

NEW DAVEY CURE FOR MALARIA

Dr. D. G. Davey, co-discoverer of Paludrine, the new anti-malaria drug, which, it is claimed, is ten times as powerful as quinine, is now in this country in the course of a tour of investigation of malaria and its control in the tropics.

Interviewed, Dr. Davey said that Paludrine provided a complete and permanent cure for malignant tertian malaria. There was evidence that a single dose would control a clinical attack of malaria, and one tablet taken twice a week would prevent clinical symptoms from appearing.

Production was going on already on a small scale, said Dr. Davey. A new plant was being erected in Scotland. The drug was first synthesised in January 1943, in the laboratories of the Imperial Chemical Industries in Manchester, by Dr. F. L. Ruse, Dr. Davey and Dr. F. H. S. Curd, after experiments lasting nearly four years.

Dr. Davey said that all the investigators considered that Paludrine constituted a very important advance in the chemo-therapy of malaria. It was free from unpleasant effects. The latitude which the physician was allowed in choosing the dose of Paludrine was greater than in the case of any other anti-malaria drug.

U. S. HOSPITALS IN INDIA

Dr. B. C. Roy, who was deputed by the Congress President, Maulana Abul Kalam Azad, to negotiate the taking over of available American military hospitals and equipment in India for meeting the public health needs of the country told the Associated Press of India in an interview that the American authorities had now altered their scheme. Instead of dealing with individuals or non-Government organisations, they were handing over the whole equipment to the Government of India. This really meant that the Government of India would buy the equipment and sell it to different organisations and individuals from time to time.

POST-WAR PLANS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH

On the basis of the recommendations of the Public Health Sub-Committee of the Post-War Reconstruction General Committee, the Government had issued a Five-Year Plan for the first quinquennium of the post-war period. They have now decided that the proposals of the Sub-Committee should be reviewed in the light of the recommendations since made by the Government of India Bhoré Committee. The Heads of Departments concerned have been asked to take action accordingly.

DISEASE AND MALNUTRITION

The Director of the Ross Institute of the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine, Dr. C. MacDonald, told the Institute's Industrial Advisory Committee that there had been a serious deterioration of the general state of public health in India. Disease and malnutrition had become re-established on a large scale.

In Malaya, places which had long been healthy had again become highly malarious. In Singapore Island there was again extensive breeding of a dangerous mosquito.

FREE HEALTH SERVICE BILL IN BRITAIN

Health service for all—with no doctor's bills, except for those who want to pay them—will be established in Britain by early 1948 if the National Health Service Bill presented to Parliament by the Minister of Health, Mr. Aneurin Bevan, is passed.

The first part of the Bill proposes nationalisation of all existing voluntary and local Government hospitals. The country will be divided into 16 to 20 regions in which Boards will be set up to assess the hospital needs of each region. The Boards will appoint committees of management for individual hospitals. Finance will be provided by the State.

The second part of the Bill provides for prohibition of sale of doctors' practices which are wholly or partly within the National Health Service and for arrangements for a State doctors' service.

WORLD BANK AND INDIA

At the meeting at Savannah of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and Monetary Fund set up under the Bretton Woods Agreement, the Indian delegation raised a question whether there would be a conflict in the problem of retaining its permanent directorates on the Bank and Fund, since the new deadline might allow Russia a chance to displace India as a member of the "Big Five." The Indian delegation asked whether the Board's action in extending the deadline might not conflict with the report of the special committee considering the Indian-Russian problem when the report was made. The Chairman, Mr. Frederick Vinson, ruled that there was no conflict at present, but if the special committee's report conflicted with India's interest, the Board would have full opportunity to discuss the situation and if necessary to amend its actions.

At a later meeting, the Board gave India a virtual assurance that she would be a Director of the World Bank and Fund.

BANKING IN INDIA

Mr. M. P. Gandhi, in a talk on "Our Banks" from the Bombay station of All-India Radio, observed that a comparison of India's banking structure with that of other advanced countries revealed that India was quite backward. While the *per capita* deposit in Britain was Rs. 800 and in America Rs. 1,000 in India it was only seven rupees. While there was a bank in Britain for every 4,000 inhabitants and in the U.S. for every 8,000 inhabitants, in India the proportion was one bank for 250,000 people. Mr. Gandhi said that banks in India had a great future.

INDIA: A CREDITOR

India Government's Member for Supply Mr. A. A. Waugh who recently arrived in Washington as head of the Mission to settle Indo-American Lend-Lease problems says that in view of the large amount of reciprocal aid furnished by India to United States, his Government might become the creditor and not the debtor in the present negotiations.

WORKING OF S.I.R. IN 1945-46

The S. I. Railway has published an estimate of its working results for the year 1945-46, based on the first eight months of the year up to the end of November 1945. These show that the number of passengers increased by 14.63 per cent., from 82 to 94 millions last year, but the distance travelled by each passenger was less, the fall being 3.70 per cent., leading to the assumption that the long distance military traffic, a feature of the war years, was tending to fall off.

The distance run by passenger vehicles increased by 7.14 per cent. from 42 to 45 millions, reflecting the improvements in the train services effected in October, but this had not kept pace with the increase in the number of passengers up to that time.

Since Jan. 1, 1946, however, large improvements have been effected in the train services, which have undoubtedly relieved overcrowding, but it will be possible to judge the effect of these, when the January figures are available.

METRE-GAUGE BY SURVEY

The Railway Board have sanctioned Engineering and traffic surveys being carried out by the agency of the B.B. & C.I. Rly. for a north-south metre gauge railway connection from Khandwa on the G.I.P. Rly. to a junction with H. E. H. the Nizam's State Railway. The survey by the B.B. and C.I. Railway will be confined to the portion lying in British India. The survey will be known as the North-South Metre Gauge connection Railway Survey.

RAILWAY MEDICAL EXAMINATION COACH

A special medical examination coach, 57 feet long and comprising a compartment for the medical officer, with adjacent laboratory fully equipped, divisional superintendent and clerk's office, three examination cubicles, a waiting-room and lavatories, has been prepared at Swindon, England. This coach will be employed by the medical officers of the Great Western Railway for travelling to employees of the company rather than have the men go long distances to some central point for examination.

ALL-INDIA ART CONFERENCE

The first all-India Art Conference which met at New Delhi last month under the presidentship of Mr. D. P. Roy Choudhri strongly recommended that the Government of India should take an active interest in the promotion of arts.

The other resolutions which the Conference passed were mainly organisational. One resolution related to the formation of a Committee to explore the possibilities of starting art societies in India, and another appointed a Committee to draft a new constitution for the all India Art Society.

The Government of India Information Department have already started a separate section for the promotion of art in India and considerable fund has also been allotted.

MADRAS FINE ARTS EXHIBITION

A "Fine Arts Exhibition" organised in aid of the centenary celebration of Dr. Annie Besant was declared open by Dr. J. H. Cousins at the premises of the Hindusthan Scouts' Association, Mylapore, on April 5. The Exhibition, which has been got up by the Besant Centenary Celebrations Committee, was a mobile one.

Mr. N. R. Subramania Iyer, President of the Committee, welcomed the gathering.

Declaring open the Exhibition, Dr. Cousins said religion and art were both the same thing and of the same cultural soil. Expressing appreciation of the juvenile section of the Exhibition, Dr. Cousins stressed the need for giving an opportunity to every child to be artistic.

TAGORE'S BUST FOR POETS' CORNER

A statue of Rabindranath Tagore may soon be erected in the Hyde Park, famous for memorials of the world's greatest men of letters or statesmen.

It is understood that another suggestion, to have a bust of Dr. Tagore in the Poets' Corner, has also been made and is under consideration of the Society.

INDIAN CRICKET TEAM FOR AUSTRALIA

Mr. K. S. Ranga Rao, Honorary Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India, has received a cable from the board of control for cricket in Australia inviting the Indian team to tour Australia and he has replied accepting the invitation on behalf of the Indian Board.

The cable from the Australian Board of Control reads: "Australia extends cordial invitation Indian team to visit Australia season 1947-48 as proposed Imperial Cricket Conference subject arrangements satisfactory conditions. Writing."

Mr. Ranga Rao's reply reads: "Indian Cricket Board thanks you for your kind invitation to tour Australia 1947-48 and has great pleasure in accepting."

Sir Pelham Warner, Editor of the *Cricketer Spring Annual*, devotes practically the whole of his editorial to the Indian tour this summer.

Sir Pelham writes: "The Indians come with a great reputation as run-getters and if they pull together like a Varsity rowing eight they may well test us to the utmost."

Two other articles dwell on the Indian tour; one entitled "Indian Teams in England" by A. W. T. Langford gives a wealth of facts regarding previous Indian tours in this country. The reader is reminded that 60 years have passed since the first team of Indian cricketers visited England.

ENGLAND'S BOWLING PROBLEM

Commander C. B. Fry R. N. R. in an article on "The Bowling Problem" begins: "Everybody knows and says that the problem facing the construction of an England XI to meet India and afterwards Australia is the problem of finding bowlers."

The trouble is he says, that England does not know where to put her hand on talent in this line. The Commander says that the scarcity of slow left-hand bowlers in England is no less notable.

TEN DISCOVERIES THAT TOP

What were the ten most important scientific advances of 1945? Warson Davis, director of *Science Service* chose:

1. The atomic bomb—and the practical release of nuclear energy.
2. Verification of the transuranium chemical elements 93, 94, 95 and 96.
3. Use of the drug, streptomycin.
4. The Army & Navy's proximity fuse.
5. LORAN, an aid to navigation based on timed radio signals.
6. Psychological warfare methods which speeded the Japanese surrender.
7. British development of BAL successful antidote for arsenic poisoning.
8. The rodent poisons 1080 and ANTU.
9. The Russians' successful transplantation of hearts in warmblooded animals.
10. Steps towards establishment of a National Science Foundation.

Notable omission: radar—released from military secrecy last August.

CONTROL OF ATOMIC BOMBS

Scientists and statesmen are working hard on the vital problem of control of the world's uranium supplies, as an essential preliminary to the control of manufacture of atomic bombs. "Rare earth," containing uranium, is found in Tunisia, territory in North Africa next to Tripolitania. Largest deposits of uranium are said to be in the Belgian Congo, states a British news-magazine.

FELLOWSHIP FOR DEAD SCIENTIST

The British Royal Society has just been surprised to discover that it accidentally awarded one of its rare Fellowships to a foreign scientist, Nicholai Ivanovitch Vavilov, a Russian, considered to be one of the world's greatest geneticists who had been dead twelve months.

He died at Saratov in 1941 in undisclosed circumstances. In 1942, the Royal Society elected him a Foreign Member, the highest award that can be given to a foreign scientist.

WARNERS' FILM OF CHURCHILL

Warners are anxious to film the life of Winston Churchill and prefer to produce it in Hollywood. The ex-Prime Minister is understood to be in favour provided the film is made in London where he can keep an eye on it.

Actors under consideration for the name role, if the film is made, include Richard Morley and Charles Laughton.

"Winnie" is admitted by all Hollywood experts to be a difficult character to cast. Few stars have his girth, accent and forceful character, and a star must play him.

20 M. M. FILM

A new Sub-Standard for film is 20 millimeters in width and the new process is said to have created a great stir in political, business and technological sphere according to the *Screen World*.

For the indications are that unlike the 16 m. m. film, which is mainly used for educational pictures, 20 m. m. film will be extensively used for entertainment film as such. It would be subject to the same legal and trade considerations as 35 m. m. film. Besides, 20 m. m. film with nitrate base would give far better results than the present standard film.

KISMET'S RECORD

"This is something for our producers to think about" comments a London film journal on the success of the Bombay Talkies' *kismet*.

The record run and collection of the picture are £90,000 in 106 weeks at Calcutta, 60,000 in 51 weeks at Bombay, 50 weeks at Karachi, 40 weeks at Lahore and 53 weeks in Delhi.

GEMINI PICTURES CIRCUIT LTD.

The Gemini Pictures Circuit, the distribution concern of Mr. S. S. Vasan, we are informed, has been made into a limited company under the name of "Gemini Pictures Circuit Limited" from the first of April. The business will be carried on in the same manner as heretofore.

ATOMIC ENERGY FOR MOTOR CARS

Can atomic energy be utilised for motor cars to save petrol consumption in these days of petrol shortage? This question is being seriously discussed by London scientists but it is believed it will take a long time before atomic energy is used for cars. Atomic power for ships and factories can however be used long before atomic cars are on the road.

Speaking at the Royal Society of Arts in London, Prof. C. D. Ellis, Scientific Adviser to the Army Council, said that possibly due to petrol rationing, people seized on the glorious thought that motor cars could run for ever on atom once it was fixed up there. "I think" he said, "the possibility is very far away."

It is said that just like any other furnace the atomic energy furnace in a car would have to be covered with heavy shields if the driver and passengers were not to be harmed by the dangerous radiations given out.

BRITISH MOTOR CAR EXPORTS TO INDIA

India might shortly get a good share of the increasing export of various British made motor cars.

Despite the difficulties of switch over from war to peace, the British motor manufacturers are now engaged in the rapid rehabilitation of automobile industry in Britain.

Enquiries made by the United Press of India reveal that the latest export production figures compare favourable with those of 1938-1939 and the total monthly export now is more than 4000 vehicles.

RADIO SETS IN CARS

Civilian motorists are now permitted to install radio sets in their cars. According to information received in Bombay, the ban on the use of radio sets in motor cars, which was imposed in 1942, has been withdrawn by the Government of India. Motorists who wish to install radio sets in their cars can secure licences from the Postal authorities.

NATIONALISATION OF BRITISH AIRWAYS

Britain's air lines will be controlled by three public corporations—the British Overseas Airways, British European Airways and British South American Corporation, says a Civil Aviation Bill. The task of the Corporations will be to provide for development of air transport services in any part of the world and they will have power to acquire or promote other air transport undertakings.

It is estimated that the cost of acquiring land and rights will be about £20 million. But the total cost of nationalising Britain's air services cannot yet be fully estimated.

An Air Transport Council will be set up and a Minister will be able to restrict or stop the use of any aerodromes not belonging to the State if they endanger aircraft using one of the national airfields.

GRANT FOR CIVIL AVIATION

The Congress-League tussle in the Central Assembly on the concluding day of the voting on demands for grants saved the civil aviation grant, as far as the subsidy of Rs. 22 lakhs to the companies operating Indian air services was concerned. Replying to a question in the Assembly, the Air Secretary, Sir Gurunath Bewoor, declared that the Government of India had accepted the policy of private enterprise for the development of civil aviation in India.

AIRCRAFT INDUSTRY MISSION

The British Technical Mission consisting of Messrs J. W. Connelly, L. R. Barrett J. D. North and S.P. Woodley, who have come to India on the invitation of the Government of India to advise them on the establishment of an aircraft industry in India arrived in Bangalore on April 6. Mr. Kripalani Industrial Adviser to Government of India, and Squadron-Leader McCormick have also arrived with them.

It is learnt that the Mysore Government are urging that in case a factory is proposed to be established in India the existing factory at Bangalore should be given the first priority, in view of its present equipment and other facilities.

GERMAN TECHNICAL AID FOR INDIAN INDUSTRIES

Dr. Jariwala, who was a member of the first Technical Mission which visited postwar Germany, speaking at a meeting in Bombay on April 5 said that detailed and valuable reports in German industrial and technical achievement which would be of immense value to India's industrial development had reached Delhi, but unfortunately not made the best use of by the present Government. Dr. Jariwala said that although the proportion of German reparations allowed to India was as low as 2.9 per cent, much valuable material in the shape of plant and technical aid could be obtained from war-ravaged Germany.

In respect of German technicians, Dr. Jariwala said, during the Technical Mission's tour in Germany, he had come across highly skilled technicians, who were willing to go to foreign countries on remunerations that were half of those demanded by English technicians and quarter of those demanded by Americans. But negotiations with German technicians could not be placed in the hands of the Government of India. Unofficial industrial delegations should conduct them, he said.

Mr. A. D. Shroff, who presided, said that the Government of India had circulated comprehensive data regarding plant and machinery available in Germany. But industrialists in India were hesitant in buying them without initial inspection of the actual equipment. He suggested that German patents and secret processes should be made available to India.

GOVT. GRANT TO CHARKHA SANGH

The Government of Bombay have intimated to Mr. Venkataramayya, Secretary of the Karnataka Charkha Sangh, Hubli, sanctioning a grant of Rs. 1,30,000 for the expenses and a loan of Rs. 61,000 to the Karnataka Charkha Sangh for extension of handspinning as a relief measure in the scarcity areas of Belgaum, Bijapur and Dharwar districts.

SUBSIDY TO CULTIVATORS

Grants have been given by the Centre to the Provinces for the construction of wells and a large number of them have already been completed. A subsidy of 50 per cent. will now also be given to any cultivator who undertakes to dig a tubewell in his village. The subsidy will be shared between the Government of India and the Provinces.

This announcement was made by the Hon'ble Sir Jogendra Singh, Member for Agriculture, at the Central Food Advisory Council meeting on April 5.

Government had also decided, he added to set up a Central Groundwater Section to tap sub-soil resources. Government were able to secure the advice of Mr. Roscoe Moss, an American expert. He and Sir William Stampe, Irrigation Adviser to the Government of India, had recently toured various parts of the country and drawn up a plan to carry out boring operations. All machinery for the purpose had been purchased from the U. S. A.

Sir Jogendra Singh said that total acreage under principal foodgrains had increased by over 13 million acres during the triennium ended 1944-45. Over 2 million acres of culturable waste and 0.3 million acres of fallow land had been brought under cultivation. He pointed out that there were practical difficulties in bringing large tracts of culturable waste under the plough e.g., lack of irrigation facilities tractors and manure. But he expected that much progress would be made during the next 12 months and hoped that in a few years India would be self-sufficient in the matter of food production.

STEPS TO INCREASE MILK PRODUCTION

Under the "Grow More Food" scheme the Government of India have, it is learnt made some monetary allotments to the Provinces for encouraging and increasing the production of milk. According to the terms of allotment, the Central Government will bear 50 per cent. of the cost of an approved scheme.

GOVT. GRANT TO INDIAN LABOUR
FEDERATION

Scrutiny of accounts submitted by the Indian Federation of Labour to the Government of India for audit on account of the grant of Rs. 13,000 that Mr. M. N. Roy has been getting every month for labour propaganda indicates that the main heads under which the accounts have been shown as distributed are: pay of propagandists, travelling expenses, printing charges, meetings and demonstrations and dissemination of news.

In response to criticisms made from time to time in the Central Assembly, the Labour Member to the Government of India had promised that the accounts after audit would be placed before the Central Assembly. Accounts from June 1944, to July 1945 are now available and these show that on the average nearly Rs. 5,000 are spent every month on the pay of propagandists. Average monthly expenses under different heads and travelling expenses is approximately Rs. 800; printing charges Rs. 3,000; meetings and demonstrations Rs. 3,500 and dissemination of news Rs. 800 per month.

TRAINING IN U. K. FOR LABOUR
ADMINISTRATION

The Government of India have drawn up a provisional scheme for the training of personnel under the Ministry of Labour and National Service in the United Kingdom for labour administration in the post-war period. As an experimental measure the Government of India proposed to send three batches of 20 officers each of which eight will be from the Provincial Governments and the Central Government. The period of training would be about six to eight months for each course. The Government of India were informed that the Madras Government would depute three officers. The estimated cost of the training of these officers including passage, travelling allowances subsistence allowance outfit allowance and cost of the substitutes etc., is approximately Rs. 20,100.

SIR S. V. RAMAMURTI, ON THE FOOD
PROBLEM

Sir S. V. Ramamurti, adviser, Govt. of Madras, who was one of the members of the recent Food delegation to U. K. and U. S. said in the course of a broadcast talk:

"Indeed, what India needs to establish and maintain the strength of Indians so that they may take their due place in the social, political and economic life of the world is food. India plus food equals a first class power. India is like a dehydrated fruit from which the juice has been removed. Restore it and all the mature human quality which India has developed during 3000 years of her life will re-establish itself. India then will make its contribution to maintain world peace and sustain world progress. There can be no doubt that the resources of India give scope not only to provide food and work for her people but also articles which she can exchange with others as a good neighbour. May the energy that will be evoked to meet the crisis this year go on to establish India as a free and beneficently powerful member among the comity of nations!"

INDIAN INFORMATION SERVICE FOR
BRITAIN

It is proposed to establish an information service which would cater for National Indian News, as well provide a liaison between the British people and the Government of India through articles and films. This was revealed by Sir Samuel Runganadan, High Commissioner for India.

Sir Samuel added: "We hope that this service will be started in the near future. I personally feel that it is desirable that we should have more news about India in this country, for there is a lack of this news in British newspapers."

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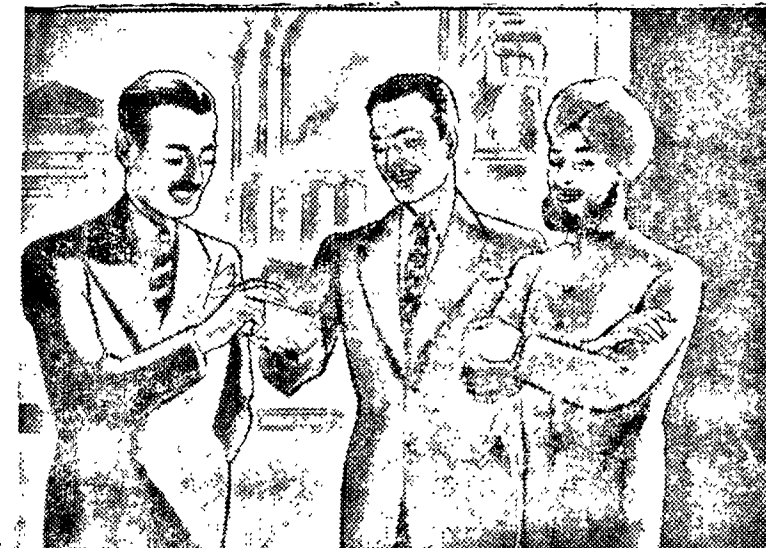
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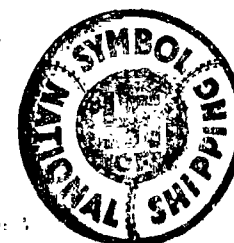
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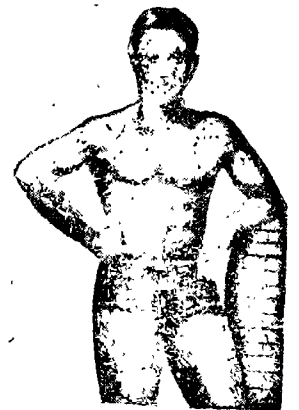
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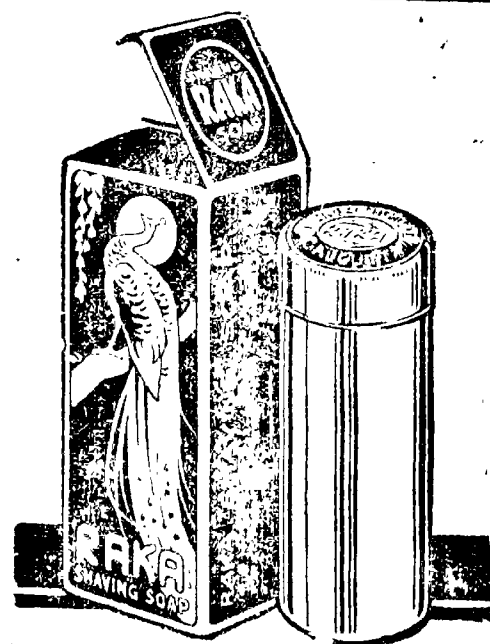
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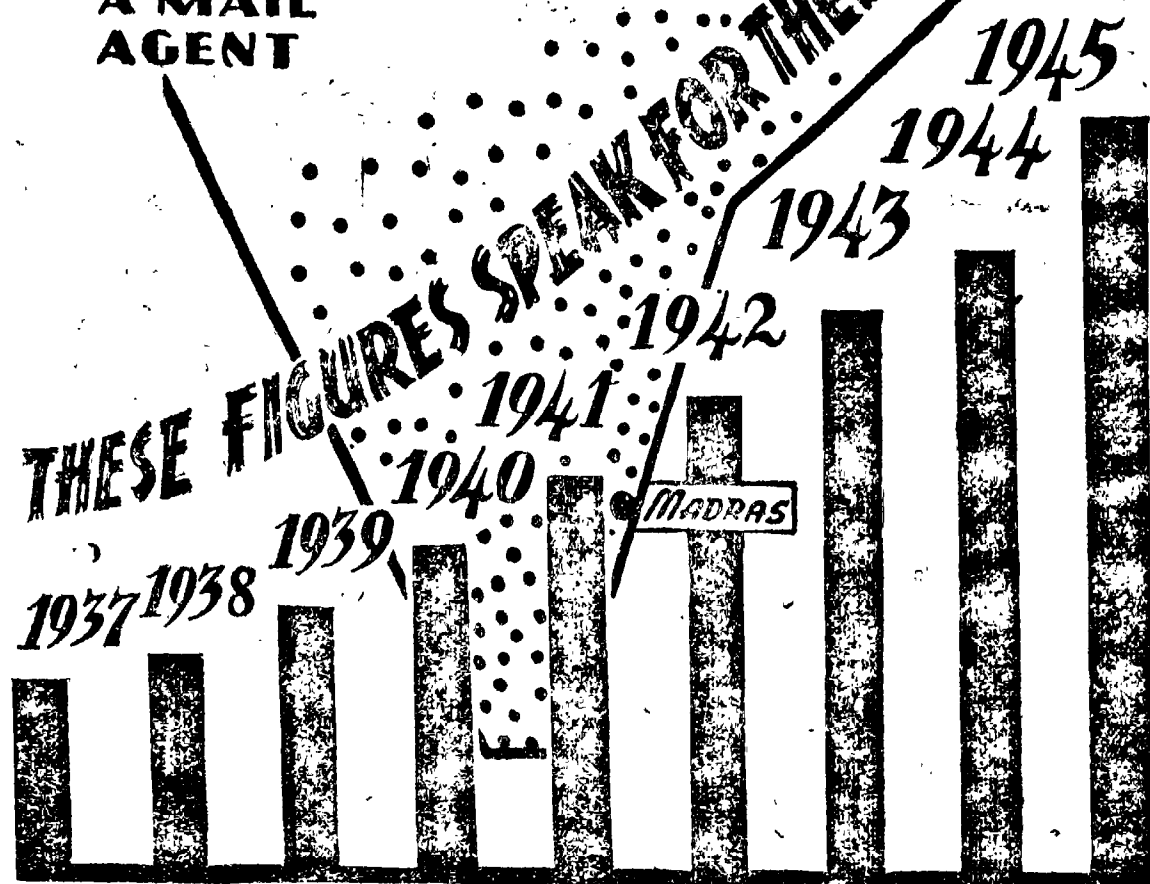


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