

The Behar Herald.

Bankipur, Saturday, June 22, 1918.

ACUTE ANXIETY IS STILL FELT OVER THE situation in France, though there is a growing tone of optimism in the newspapers as it becomes clearer that the Germans have been checked. The Germans seem to be for the nonce baulked of their efforts to reach Compiègne frontally as is evidenced by their frustrated attempt to outflank it. It is clear however that with every advance and widening of the front, the difficulties of the enemy in reinforcing his front line and filling up the heavy gaps in his divisions would increase. But a serious feature is the fact that the Bavarian Crown Prince still retains the bulk of his reserves intact which he can use wherever he likes. There are thus still critical possibilities in the battle. One reassuring fact is that there is now no talk of a formidable German stroke in another direction. The question that is now being asked, where are our reserves? But the supreme question is, where is Blucher? The Germans are evidently stoking in their last fuel in the race for time. Can the Allies' line hold out unbroken? All indications are still in their favour, and if they work out, the ultimate issue, in spite of the great sacrifices of men and ground, can never be doubtful. Meanwhile internal events have compelled the Austrians to attempt to have it out with the Italians by means of a great offensive.

IT MAY BE DIFFICULT FOR PEOPLE IN INDIA to realise the momentous nature of the conflict that is now raging and the tremendous issues hanging on the balance. There can be no doubt however that the heart of this great country is now throbbing with one single impulse and is sending out one concentrated prayer, namely, for the victory of the cause of liberty and justice. On our part we have some doubts whether the authorities and non-official Europeans in this country do fully realise this united feeling of India. If they did, they would not fritter away their energy and time in indulging in senseless recriminations and discussions about whole-hearted loyalty and bargaining loyalty, which are as futile as needlessly exasperating. Futile, because if there really are hucksters, they cannot be talked into magnanimity and exasperating, because sensitive India is touched to the quick at the least reflection on her sincerity.

EVERY SINCERE WELL-WISHER OF THE COUNTRY must deeply deplore the contretemps which occurred at the Bombay War Conference. We do not like to open afresh the sores which the incident created in the public mind or to apportion the blame between the parties concerned. The few Anglo-Indians who do not care twopence if the Empire went to the devil so long as their personal spite is satisfied have no doubt been pleased beyond measure at the insult offered to the Home Rule leaders. Happily their number is few and their weight insignificant. The better mind of the country, both among Europeans and Indians, is filled with regret at the lapse, and we say this with the greatest deference, displayed by the Governor of Bombay in inviting the Home Rulers to the conference to be scolded *coram populo*, as DITCHER puts it in *Capital*. "It is difficult to see," says he, "how confidence is to be restored if prancing provincial satraps are to be allowed to fly in the face of fortune as Lord Willingdon at the War Conference at Bombay." DITCHER cannot help thinking "that in holding up to scorn politi-

cians who do not agree with him in every particular Lord Willingdon allowed his zeal and temper to get the better of his discretion."

IN THIS CONNECTION, THE FOLLOWING DESCRIPTION of the occurrence from the Bombay correspondent of *Capital* may be taken as a most impartial account and as truly reflecting the impression created by the event among men "on the spot" about whom not the least suspicion of partisanship can be raised: "There was a most unfortunate contretemps at the War Conference in the Town Hall last evening. Lord Willingdon who presided told a specially invited but representative audience that he did not think much of the Home Rulers as win-the-war propagandists. This raised the dander of Tilak who was beginning a retort uncourteous when he was ruled out of order by the critic he would criticise. (We have our own parliamentary procedure in Bombay). The offended Marhatta left the hall in a huff. Mr. Kelkar, his fidus achates, proceeded to justify the chief and was gagged in a similar manner. This was too much for Messrs. S. R. Bomanji, B. Horniman, and Jaimnadas Dwarkadas, who followed Mr. Kelkar out of the hall. Mr. Jinnah alone of the Home Rule forlorn hope remained and tilted at the Governor in fine style. He protested against the whole procedure of the conference and declared that co-operation was impossible on the lines proposed by the Governor. Sir Narayan Chandravarkar's platitudes were impotent to remove an uncomfortable feeling that a most unfortunate impression had been made on the public mind at a most unfortunate time."

THE SEMI-OFFICIAL APOLOGIST OF ALLAHABAD, of course, reads a long homily on the Bombay Home Rulers and in its customary grandmotherly fashion sends out an appeal for unity: "If controversy there must be," says the *Pioneer*, "let its keynote be as far as possible from the tone of acrimony which at present characterises so many of the organs of public opinion in India. If we find it impossible to agree quickly with our opponents let us at least try to assume that they are honest. Let us deliberately set ourselves as an act of war sacrifice to refrain from uttering opinions which tend to call forth personal and party feeling, even though we may be convinced, not only that these opinions are true, but that we are perfectly entitled to give expression to them. Even the shadow of unity is preferable to the substance of discord; and when the unity itself is genuine, why should the discord be emphasised? If the newspapers in this country could succeed for a few weeks in refraining from the publication of acrimonious articles, if political and party differences could be forgotten rather than emphasised, one of the most useful weapons of the German Government would be rendered entirely ineffective."

THESE ARE ALL EXCELLENT SENTIMENTS, and would be unexceptionable but for the application that is sought to be made of them. Let us see in what ways our contemporary would like to have these suggestions acted upon. "The introduction of a more harmonious tone into the writings and speeches of men prominent in Indian public life: the manifestation of a more conciliatory temper in Indian journals of all shades of opinion: the determination on the part of leaders of the Hindu and Mahomedan communities to avoid at all costs the very appearance of conflict: would do far more to thwart German schemes and shatter German hopes than any other course of action which could possibly be devised." So all this talk for tolerance and recognition of the honesty of those

holding conflicting opinions is meant only for Indian journals, for men prominent only in Indian public life, for leaders of the Hindu and Mahomedan communities; no such consideration is apparently necessary for Europeans and Anglo-Indians who are therefore free to publish acrimonious articles, emphasise racial differences and cast aspersions of political dishonesty on Indian leaders, their aims and their methods. It was not even a fortnight ago that the *Pioneer* characterised the cry of self-determination for India raised by Home Rulers as being not only "the most abused", but "the most dishonestly abused" cry of the day. How far criticisms like this are an attempt to assume that our opponents are honest, we leave it for the reader to decide.

APART FROM THESE CANTS, WE ARE OF opinion that the curtain should drop over the Willingdon escapade. We are inclined to think that the Home Rulers went too far in boycotting the War Loan simply because of Lord Willingdon's presence. Need we remind our friends that our help and efforts are to be offered not because a provincial satrap speaks a sweet word or two nor denied because he happens to have a sharp tongue? The position that the Home Rulers take is that their help is like that of one free man to another free man for the safety of their common freedom. A frame of mind which is elated by a few honeyed words and is depressed by a chance frown of some big official does not exactly bespeak a free mind. For our part, we consider that it would have been a much manlier way of protesting against the Governor's maladroit remarks to have doubled the Presidency people's contribution to the War Loan but to have sent every pice of it to a different Province. A course like this would have exposed to ridicule the Governor's doubts as to the Home Rulers' patriotism, while the absence of any payment in the Bombay Treasuries would have demonstrated the isolation from the people which the ruler of the Presidency had managed to bring about by his indiscretion.

THERE IS A GOOD DEAL OF TRUTH IN WHAT THE *Bombay Chronicle* says about a deleterious practice, which has found increasing favour of late with the authorities and which has surely contributed to the undermining the confidence of the public in the Bench. That practice has been "the consistent ignoring of the leading element in the Bar in making appointments and making selections for the Bench from mere "back numbers" at the Bar, High Court officials and judges of inferior courts." "The statute," proceeds our contemporary, "prescribes a minimum of barrister members for the Bench, presumably with the object of assuring the independence and the maintenance of the highest traditions of the Bench by its recruitment in part from leaders of eminence at the Bar. But anything which makes for independence even in the judiciary ill suits the present day reactionaries and they have found a means of circumventing the spirit of the statute by appointing to these posts Court officials and judges of lower courts who happen to be barristers. The evil of promoting judges of inferior courts to High Court judgeships, a practice carefully avoided in England, are apparent. The recent appointment of a High Court official to the Bench led an eminent member of the Bar, hoary with age and experience, to remark that such a thing was unheard of. It is clear that officials with merely administrative experience, however able, can never possess the knowledge, training and experience which is born of a long and distinguished practice at the Bar; and their promotion to the Bench is the more inexplicable and in-

defensible in view of the numerous able men at the Bar who could have filled these appointments with far greater satisfaction."

IN BIHAR, WE HAVE HAD INSTANCES OF BOTH kinds in the selection of High Court Judges. There are certainly precedents for the appointments of Chief Judges of Presidency Small Cause Courts as Judges of High Courts, but the precedents in so far as they are really precedents are bad precedents. We say, "if they are really precedents" because the appointment of a Small Cause Court Chief Judge to a Judgeship in a High Court with an Original Side can be obviously no precedent at all for such an appointment in a purely and simply Appellate High Court. Nor can the public view without concern how even among Civilian Judges, experience and seniority give place to claims of purely administrative experience. The appointment of Mr. Justice Coutts to officiate for Mr. Justice Chapman is a case in point. Personally, we have the highest opinion of the abilities of Mr. Coutts, but we cannot blink at the fact that there was at least one senior officer available who had twice officiated with conspicuous ability as a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, and who is rightly regarded as the *doyen* of District Judges in Bihar and Orissa. The supersession of such an officer, specially after his recent outspoken comment about the responsibility of the authorities in the matter of one of the Arrah riot cases, cannot but be regarded as derogatory to the independence and quality of the judiciary in the Province. It is all right, however, if he was given the refusal of the post in question, and if it be that it was only after he declined to accept it that it went to Mr. Coutts.

IT HAS NOW COME TO BE FREELY CONFessed that the Patna High Court has not exactly proved to be the blessing that it was expected to be. Complaints of all kinds reach us from time to time. We do not refer to the usual insinuations of injustice made by defeated suitors, for they are the inevitable meed of all Judicial officers in this and every other country from the highest to the lowest. On the other hand, we are of opinion that taking its purely judicial work, the High Court is not at all worse than other purely Appellate High Courts and that the Judges as a lot try to do justice with integrity and to the best of their ability. What we suspect

Hard to Believe

YET NEVERTHELESS TRUE AND EASILY VERIFIED,

Mr. J. Sawyer living at 8, Newhall Street Birmingham, was a great sufferer from Chronic Rheumatism, but had no faith in advertised cures and it was only after great persuasion that he was induced to give Little's Oriental Balm a trial. He says:

"I have been troubled with Rheumatism and I have tried different things, and they did not seem to do me any good. My legs pained me so that they would wake me up at night and would not let me sleep. It was suggested that I should try Little's Oriental Balm. I had little or no confidence in patent medicines, and was with the utmost difficulty induced to give it a trial. Judge then my surprise when I found within three days, I was entirely free from pain. It took the swelling, stiffness and soreness out of my legs and I can sleep now without being awakened with pain. I can get up and downstairs without taking hold of the banister. I trust it will help others as has helped me."

to be the true cause of the general dissatisfaction is that in its executive and administrative side, the High Court has caught some of the vices of bureaucracy, and is "too wooden and too inelastic" to adapt itself to the growing self-consciousness of the people.

THE MANNER IN WHICH THE QUESTION OF morning sittings for the Patna District Court in summer has been dealt with is an illustration in point. It will be remembered that the leading members of the District Bar formally requested an interview with the Chief Justice to discuss the matter with him. But the Patna Bar was informed, not by the Chief Justice himself but by his Secretary or Registrar, that the thing could not be, because the whole question was being carefully considered. We should like to know how such a grave discourtesy to members of the legal profession as the refusal of a deputation of English Barristers by the Lord Chief Justice of England, would be received by the public there.

THE WORST PART OF THE WHOLE AFFAIR is that there seems to be no remedy for this state of things. High Courts in India have so long been regarded as the bulwark of popular rights and High Court Judges have been so unfailingly courteous and so frankly anti-bureaucratic that in the long history of public agitation in this country against bureaucratic insularity, in fact, in all our schemes for the better government of India, the thought never entered the head of any public man in India to demand any sort of public control over the administrative and executive machinery of the High Courts. And yet in as much as the High Courts are so many *imperia in imperio*, so many independent Kingdoms of their own within the Kingdom, it is all the more necessary to guard jealously against their bureaucratization, a contingency which is fraught with untold possibilities of mischief.

SO WE ARE GOING TO HAVE GOLD MOHURS in circulation once again. The name of gold mohur had come to possess only an antiquarian interest, except in our High Courts, where curiously enough, the assessment of fees in gold mohurs has survived even to this day. The first gold mohur was struck by the East India Company in 1766 and was declared to be legal tender for 14 sicca rupees. This was replaced three years later by one declared equivalent to 16 sicca rupees. An Act passed in 1835 fixed the value of gold mohurs struck at the Indian Mints at fifteen rupees apiece, but declared that no gold coin should thenceforward be legal tender in the territories of the East India Company. The minting of mohurs, however, continued till 1892, when the production of these pieces ceased. Gold currency was revived in 1899 since when the sovereign has been legal tender. This adoption of the mohur once again is opposed to the report of the Royal Commission on Indian Finance and Currency of 1914 which was against the increased use of gold as currency in this country on the ground that a mint for the coinage of gold for currency or exchange was not needed but saw no objection to its establishment, if Indian sentiment demanded it, provided the coin minted was sovereign or half sovereign.

THE TRUE EXPLANATION OF THE NECESSITY is the enhanced demand on the currency on account of the abnormal increase of financial business due to war requirements and conditions. The silver shortage is also a factor, and we cannot

(Continued on page 4)

GOVERNMENT OF INDIA, FINANCE DEPARTMENT. Second Indian War Loan.

The whole of the cash subscriptions received will be given to His Majesty's Government for the prosecution of the War as part of India's £ 100 million contribution.

ISSUE OF

- 5½ per cent. Income-tax Free War Bonds, 1921 Repayable on the 15th September 1921 at Rs. 100 per cent.
- 5½ per cent. Income-tax Free War Bonds 1923 Repayable on the 15th September 1923 at Rs. 100 per cent.
- 5½ per cent. Income-tax Free War Bonds 1925 Repayable on the 15th September 1925 at Rs. 103 per cent.
- 5½ per cent. Income-tax Free War Bonds 1928 Repayable on the 10 September 1928 at Rs. 105 per cent.

AND OF

POST OFFICE 5-YEAR CASH CERTIFICATES FREE OF INCOME-TAX.

Principal and Interest on the Revenue and Assets of the Government of India.

WAR BONDS 1921, 1923, 1925, AND 1928.

Issue Price : Rs. 100 for every Rs. 100 applied for
Interest : Payable half-yearly at the rate of 5½

per cent per annum on the 15th March and the 15th September.

Advance interest from the date of purchase to the 14th September 1918 will be paid at the time of purchase of Bonds.

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Special Rights : War Bonds 1921, 1923, 1925 and 1928 will be accepted at par during the currency of the Bonds as the equivalent of cash for the purpose of subscription to any future long term loan issued by the Government of India, whatever rate of interest is attached to such issue.

Interest of War Bonds 1921, 1923, 1925 and 1928 will be income-tax-free but will be taken into account in determining the rate at which the tax levied on other income and will be liable to super-tax.

Form of Securities : War Bonds will be issued in the form of (a) Inscribed Stock Certificates, or (b) Promissory Notes. These will subsequently, if desired, be exchanged, free of cost, for Bearer Bonds when the latter are available.

If no preference is stated by the purchaser, War Bonds will be issued in the form of Inscribed Stock Certificate.

Promissory Notes, will in order to avoid delay, be issued in the first instance in as few separate pieces as possible but these will later on be exchanged free of charge for pieces of such denominations as may be applied for. A single Stock Certificate will be issued for the amount required.

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Rs. 10, Rs. 20, Rs. 50, Rs. 100 and Rs. 500.
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Rs. 387-8.

but regret that Government did not arrive at this decision earlier in which case it would probably have been saved the necessity of purchasing silver from America to coin fifty crores of rupees at prices sufficient to pay the expense of coining another fifty crores. The hoarding and melting theory is untenable. That there is some amount of hoarding and melting cannot be denied; these cannot be helped in the circumstances of the country, specially when the raw metal is worth more than the coin. One thing should be remembered and that is, the price of the rupee has not increased so far as its purchasing power is concerned, in spite of the rise in the price of silver, a fact which is fatal to all assumptions of any extensive hoarding and melting of the rupee.

IN OUR LAST ISSUE, WE SAID THAT THE authorities here had managed "to create a situation in which high officials and big folk, living in what is waggishly styled the 'House of Lords' section of Patna are getting coal and kerosine oil for considerably reduced prices, while 1,30,000 poor 'East Enders' of the City are faced with a total stoppage of the supply of coal and kerosine oil." These remarks have been, we are sorry to be told, understood as meaning that a favoured treatment was awarded to Europeans and high officials. Nothing could have been further from our thoughts than any suggestion of racial or other kind of favouritism. On the other hand, no one is better aware than we are of the impartiality and love of justice of our District Magistrate and his genuine sympathy for the poor. The fact however was that while the whole City was suffering, for several days the only arrangement was one which supplied the wants of only the West End. Even now, the coal difficulty so far as the City side is concerned, still remains acute, while kerosine oil had for love or for money. We say again that these difficulties could have been anticipated. State socialism is not all beer and skittles, specially in the matter of price control; and restrictions on the free flow of supply and demand should be attempted only with the greatest possible caution. Three things are absolutely necessary; there must be an unfailing supply, an even distribution of the centres of supply, and limited sales. The task of fighting the rascally but powerful Doone gang of profiteers in the City is one worthy of the manly shoulders of Mr. John Ridd, mis-spelt Reid, but with his singleness of purpose and big great heart, it is natural that he does not relish the laugh which by-standers would as naturally laugh whenever he is not getting the best of the fall.

A PLEA FOR JUSTICE.

The grievances of the Bengalis in Bihar and of Bengali students particularly are becoming more and more acute and demand sympathetic consideration at the hands of both the Bihar and Bengal governments. We are not here referring to their being practically debarred from government appointments. Our present purpose is to bring to the notice of the Bihar Government the peculiar position to which the Bengalis have been reduced, first by the separation of the Bihar province, and secondly by the establishment of the Patna University. We have several times referred to the difficulties to which the Bengalis have been put on account of the separation. We wish to show in this article how the acuteness of the situation has been

intensified by the separation of the University. First of all we shall deal with the question of higher professional training in the Sibpur Engineering College and in the Calcutta Medical College. So far as the Engineering College is concerned the grievances, we believe, are common both to Bihari and Bengalee boys and are well-known to the Bihar Government who, it is fair to state, tried, but unsuccessfully, to solve them, and we do not see why a joint representation should not be made on the point.

The grievances of the Bengalee boys for admission to the Medical College are stultifying their natural yearnings of getting thorough Medical education for service to the Government and to the country, as well as to provide themselves with the wherewithals of a decent livelihood and an honourable career. Before the Patna University was established, the Calcutta Medical College admitted candidates irrespective of their being Bengalis or Beharees. As the accommodation in the classes were limited, boys were selected for admission according to their stand in the University examinations. The result was that few Bihari candidates as such could get admission. The Behar Government, therefore, moved the Bengal Government that some seats should be reserved for Bihar boys and we believe the Bengal Government responded to the proposal by reserving some seats (probably ten, but latterly increased to eighteen) for Bihar boys. This was, however, wrongly interpreted to mean that the concession excluded Bengali boys, even domiciled in Behar. But the Bengalee boys could still enter the college through the open door of general efficiency as tested by University examinations. Though living in Behar, they had to pay the penalty of being Bengalis by race and had to compete with Bengali boys, not only in the matter of qualifications for admission but also in getting scholarships. The six special scholarships tenable at the Medical College, sanctioned by the Behar Government, were regarded as a close preserve to which no Bengalee boy could lay any claim, though he might be the most genuinely domiciled in the province.

But matters have now considerably changed for the worse and the aspect of things has assumed a still more darkening import on the educational destinies and prospects of Bengalee boys settled in Bihar. After the establishment of the Patna University the Medical College will not recognize any boy who has the Patna University certificate or diploma, unless he is recommended by the Bihar Government for one of the reserved Bihar seats. How then are the domiciled and other Bengalee boys educated in Behar to enter the Calcutta Medical College? The open door is now closed, the Behar Government would not generally recommend them and in no case are they entitled to get scholarships? Is this justice? Is this fair-play? Is this the policy that is meet and proper in dealing between race and race? It is very difficult to conceive what the Bihar Government wants to do with these young men, if all avenues of attaining profitable education are closed against them.

There are one or two other points to which we must refer. We have in previous articles dwelt on the hardship entailed on the domiciled Bengalee students reading in the local Medical school. The one so-called scholarship retained for them is not reserved for them only but also for the sons of the Bengalees in Government Service. Does it measure the tender mercies of Government felt for the domiciled as well as the non-domiciled or the embryo domiciles? If it is allowed to continue it will be rated at its proper worth, specially if they are not allowed to get the scholarships which the Biharee boys have been unable to obtain.

We must not be taken to be unkind to the

non-domiciled Bengalee Government officers. On the contrary we are prepared to admit that their case requires exceptional treatment and sympathetic consideration. The difficulties to which they have been put in respect to the education of their children are so obvious that they cannot escape even the most superficial observer. In the first place, when they entered Government service in Bengal they had not the remotest idea that Bihar would be separated and that they would be detached from their parent country. It stands to reason that when they have been brought to Bihar in the exigencies of public service, their children must have the same facilities in Bihar which they had in Bengal in matters educational. For instance, if their boys had entered the Campbell Medical School of Calcutta, they would have been entitled to compete for all the scholarships tenable there. Then their sons would have equal facilities in entering the Calcutta Medical College or the Sibpur Engineering College. One would have thought, their forcible transplantation on Bihar soil would incline the Government to give their children additional facilities for general and professional education. On the contrary they find themselves in the most uncomfortable and positively injurious position of seeing their children being deprived of the facilities of Bihar boys as well as of the Bengali boys in Bengal. Can anomaly and absurdity go further?

In the pre-partition days Bihar boys were very backward; secondly, Bihar being an integral part of Bengal, more appointments had to go to Bengalis who out-distanced the Biharis in intellectual outfit. Since the separation of Bihar, however, the Biharis have progressed very rapidly. If the result of this year's Matric examination of the Patna University is any test, Bengalee boys seem to be more backward than their Bihari brethren. The truth of the matter is that while Biharees boys are progressing apace on account of the exceptional facilities having been given them, the Bengalee boys, on the other hand, are lamentably lagging behind on account of the many obstacles that have been placed in their way. We have never grudged the special scholarships or special facilities being given to our Biharee brethren, but we regret that for that reason the Bengalee boys should have been placed under a ban. This cannot enhance their usefulness. And any dwarfing of their intellectual power by artificial restraints is bound to react on the efficiency of Government officers as well as on the merit of Bihari boys. Both contingencies are to be deplored.

We respectfully invite the Bihar Government to reconsider and revise the existing rules in the light of the facts and circumstances brought into existence by the establishment of the Patna University. They have affected, as shown above, most prejudicially the Bengalis of Bihar and in some cases the Biharis as well. The educational portfolio is in the hands of the Hon'ble Mr. H. Le Mesurier than whom there could not be a more capable and fair-minded man. That the Bengalis should suffer so grievously, or allowed to suffer, during his regime, is in itself unthinkable and would be the strangest irony of fate. We are sure, the peculiar disabilities to which the Bengalis have been subjected by the separation of the University have never been adequately brought to his notice or for the matter of that to that of the Bihar Government. That it is a sad tale, will be admitted by every one who comes to know them, and the domiciled Bengalis as well as the Bengali Government servants in Bihar appeal to the justice of Government for the removal of their

grievances and for treatment on a footing of equality with their Bihari brethren in matters educational, and thereby to remove all causes of bitterness strongly felt at the unfair treatment which is being meted out to them.

LOCAL & PROVINCIAL.

THE latest site to be prospected for a summer capital of this Province is Dalma Hills near Sakchi about 30 miles by road from Purulia.

NO Provincial War Loan meeting is proposed for the present to be held in this province. Divisional, District and Sub-Divisional meetings will be held as usual.

THE Maharaja of Darbhanga inaugurated the Bihar section of the Vigilance Committee of landholders at the last meeting of the Bihar Landholder's Association.

BIHAR and Orissa has contributed ten out of the fourteen hundred lakhs subscribed by India to the Second Indian War Loan. The population of the province is about one-eighth of the total population of India.

It is with deep regret that we learn that Srijut Upendra Nath Mukherji, an old resident of Bhagalpur and a senior Vakil of the local Bar, breathed his last quite unexpectedly the other day at Calcutta.

If high failures at examinations be any test of efficiency, the Patna University has begun well, for it plucked nearly 64 per cent of the candidates for Matriculation, as against 42, which was the percentage of failures in 1917 in all the five Universities of India taken together.

THE Feudatory Chief of Dhenkanal has given a monthly contribution of Rs. 500 to the general war funds. The Feudatory Chief of Bamra has offered a contribution of Rs. 20,000 towards the war funds. The Feudatory Chief of Kulahandi has offered a sum of Rs. 10,000 towards any object connected with the successful prosecution of the war. These offers have been gratefully accepted by Government.

THE conferment of a K. C. on Sir S. P. Sinha puts us in mind of a story we heard years ago, about a proposal of creating several K. Cs. out of the senior barristers of Calcutta, and how the Bar rejected the idea, Mr. Jackson leading the opposition on the ground that they "didn't want Rai Bahadurs here." The remark, of course, does not apply to Sir S. P. Sinha who fully deserves silk, if any barrister ever did.

KARAMAT OIL.

It is by experience a wonderful remedy for deafness and all ear troubles. Price per phial Rs. 1-4. B. Jawala Proshad, Overseer, Abazsi, writes:—"I feel better than before: send three phials more."

BALLABHA & Co.,

PILIBHIT, U. P.

WE are glad to learn that Mr. Nilmani Senapati, a brilliant alumnus of Cuttack, has achieved high distinction at the Cambridge Mathematical Tripos. Mr. A. C. Bannerjee, who is credited with a Wranglership is probably the son of Mr. G. N. Bannerjee, District and Sessions Judge of Monghyr. If our conjecture is true, our hearty congratulations to Mr. Bannerjee.

DITCHER writes in *Capital*:—It is reported from Patna that Mr. Saiyid Sharf-ud-din, Indian Member of the Executive Council of Borissa, contemplates early retirement owing to ill-health and local gossip gives his place to Sir Ali Imam, one of his brilliant nephews. If this pans out correctly there will be a chance, an outside one it is true, of some member of the Calcutta Bar obtaining his heart's desire. If Mr. Hasan Imam covets his brother's place and starts he will have a walk over, if not the dispenser of patronage is hardly likely to go to Allahabad for an Indian Judge and local aspirants are not highly favoured. The obstacle in the way of a Calcutta selection is the principle of self-determination implied in the cry of "Behar for the Beharees."

AT a meeting of the Provincial War Committee held at Patna on the 4th May, a Sub-Committee composed of the gentlemen undernoted was formed to consider the extension of war propaganda of all kinds:—

Mr. J. Reid, I. C. S., (Chairman), Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Dvarika Nath, Mr. E. C. Ryland, C. I. E., Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha, Babu Brajakishor Prasad.

The Government of India have now constituted a Central Publicity Board to deal with the same subject and have suggested the appointment of Provincial Publicity Committees to work in co-operation with the Central Board. The Lieutenant Governor in Council has accordingly decided, in substitution for the Sub-Committee above mentioned, to constitute the following Committee for the purpose:—

President,—The Hon'ble Mr. J. G. Jennings, Vice-Chancellor of the Patna University.

Members,—Mr. J. Reid, I. C. S., The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Dvarika Nath, Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha, Mr. E. C. Ryland, C. I. E., Babu Brajakishor Prashad, Mr. E. A. Horne, The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Nishi Kanta Sen, Rai Bahadur Sharat Chandra Sen. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Saiyid Ahmad The Hon'ble Mr. Madhu Sudan Das, C. I. E., The Hon'ble Mr. Saiyid Muhammad Naim, The Hon'ble Babu Gopabandhu Das. The Hon'ble Khan Bahadur Khwaja Muhammad Nur, The Hon'ble Mr. Shyam Krishna Sahay.

Secretary,—Mr. J. G. Shearer, I. C. S. Assistant Magistrate, Patna.

The Committee will be called the Provincial Publicity Committee of Bihar and Orissa and will have its headquarters at Patna. It will have power to add to its members, to co-opt official and non-official gentlemen who may act as local correspondents, to constitute sub-committees to deal with special subjects or to serve in local areas, and subject to budget provision, to appoint its own executive staff. The objects of the Publicity organization are to disseminate accurate news of the course of the war, to contradict mischievous rumours and reports, to advertise the need for increased supplies of men, munitions and money for war purposes, and to inculcate in all classes the absolute necessity of economy in all directions,

CORRESPONDENCE.

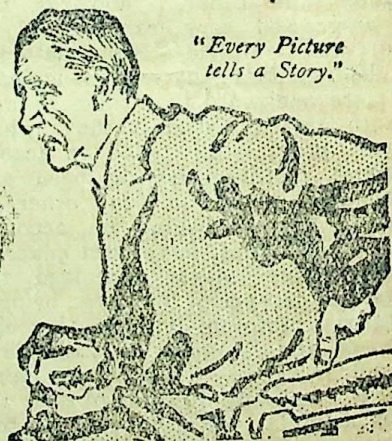
[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the facts and opinions stated by our correspondents.]

THE DARBHANGA MUNICIPALITY—A REPLY.

To The Editor

Sir,—It is astonishing to see that a downright false statement in regard to the cancelling of the contracts entered into by the merchants with the Darbhanga Municipality in respect of the supply of salt is published in your paper of the 25th May last. If there is nothing in it to be afraid of it is certainly very objectionable that such inaccurate criticisms should be made to creep in the columns of your paper specially by your Darbhanga correspondent. It so seems that the correspondent is more or less personally interested in the matter. Otherwise he would not have given vent to prejudice.

Let me state the fact as it stands. No doubt sometime ago contracts were made between the Municipality and some of the merchants on the condition already mentioned in the papers. They wanted to prosper at the cost of the poor, particu-



Harm May Be Done By Want of Thought.

HAVE you ever thought that your aching back, your nervousness, and your urinary troubles might be due to how you live?

Over-eating and the habitual use of alcoholic drinks, combined with the lack of sufficient outdoor exercise, rest and sleep, will surely weaken the kidneys in time. Then comes trouble.

Backache, Nervous disorders, Urinary ills, Headaches, Gravel, Dizziness, and Dropsical swellings are signs of too much Uric-acid in the blood, and there is danger of stone and incurable kidney diseases.

First moderate those bad habits. Then assist the weakened kidneys with a thorough course of Doan's Backache Kidney Pills.

Doan's Pills heal and soothe the kidneys, the urinary channels, and the bladder.

Fluid waste is drained from the system and uric acid deposits are dispersed.

The lasting benefit and comfort this kidney medicine brings to Kidney sufferers is known all over the world. Doan's Pills not only make you well, but keep you well.

Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are Rs. 2 per bottle; 6 for Rs. 10.8; obtainable from all dealers.

larly at this juncture. They consciously began to
 with the terms of the agreement. It was
 agreed upon that they would sell the salt at 13
 seers per Rupee. But who did abide by it? Perhaps
 none. The public, I am sure, will not be so very
 morally coward as to deny the fact that they did
 not hesitate even for a moment to go so far as to
 make the local salt market rise as high as 6 or 7
 seers per Rupee. It is here that I draw the
 attention of the public to judge as to whether
 it was right or wrong if the contracts were can-
 celled when the affairs turned so bad, and the
 rate of the salt was raised from 6 or 7 seers to
 13 seers per Rupee. This good done by the Chair-
 man to the public has been the main cause of
 his rising popularity with the poor and common
 people, for love begets love. It was therefore
 not necessary that he should have taken the
 opinion of one and each of the commissioners in
 cancelling the contracts in as much as each and
 every individual is at perfect liberty to give a
 helping hand to the needy. The atmosphere is
 not contaminated here. There is nothing from
 which to infer that the affair has created a good
 deal of sensation. If there be any sensation at
 all it might be voluminously filling the men-
 tal vacuum of some of the merchants only who
 were not permitted to attain their selfish end at
 the neglect of public interest.

As regards the effective measure adopted by
 the Municipality for the sanitary improvement of
 the town so that cholera may not spread, I have
 only this much to say that all that it can do is to
 educate the public mind by beat of drums so that
 they may have an idea of Sanitation, to cleanse
 the wells with lime and potash, to instruct the
 public to drink boiled water and so forth. What
 more could it have done? Again in comparison
 to the furious state of cholera in the villages in
 Mofussil the epidemic is so less violent in town
 that an honest observer may hardly mark its exis-
 tence. It is mostly due to the untiring exertion of
 the Chairman who left no stone unturned to combat
 the disease. In the time of plague were the doctors
 appointed by the Municipality sitting idle? Did
 your correspondent not notice the doctors roaming
 from one place to another, visiting patients and dis-
 tributing medicines gratis from door to door?
 Further why blame the Municipality of Darbhanga
 alone? The cholera is so violent and widespread
 this year that there is hardly any Municipality or
 village in the Province of Bihar that is or was not
 a victim to it. Moreover as the Municipalities in
 general lack financial efficiency you cannot expect
 wholesale improvement in Sanitation all at once as
 if by magician's wand. Rome was not built in a
 day indeed!

As to the workings of the local Municipality
 I wonder how can one deny that the Chairman
 spared no pains for 22 days running with five
 hours incessant labour to visit every lane, bye
 lane, streets and even the most remote and
 neglected corners of the town and to meet with
 every rate-payer and did not note down the
 abuses and grievances of the public with a view to
 their speedy removal. He on the other hand pre-
 pared a scheme which will be completed in five years.
 It has already been passed and approved by the
 Municipal Board. This 5 year's scheme has begun
 to be carried into operation in as much as 105 ad-
 ditional lamp posts, 3 gas lights, the excavation of
 several roads and bye-lanes and the excavation of
 pucca drains have been provided in the Budget this
 year. Is there any other such inces-
 sant pain for continuous 22 days with
 5 hours daily labour even at the risk of his
 life, for the welfare of the Municipality?
 VOX POPULI

ADVERTISEMENTS.

WANTED.

For the Ravenshaw Girls' High School at Cuttack, a Lady graduate, strong in Mathematics and Sanskrit, on Rs. 120-3-150 a month. It is possible that the post may shortly be included in the Subordinate Educational Service. Applications should reach the undersigned not later than the 5th July, 1918.

W. V. DUKE.

Ranchi. } Asstt: Director
 The 17th June, } of Public Instruction
 2-1 1918. } Bihar and Orissa.

NOTICE.

Applications are invited for the posts of "Cashier, Surveyor, Draughtsmen and Surveyors" for service in Mesopotamia.

2. Extra allowances on a fixed Scale will be given to Permanent and Temporary employes of Government and outsiders will be given at most double the pay which would ordinarily be given in India. It is hoped that men will be recruited for two years at least. The selected men will have to produce Medical certificate of their fitness.

3. The men will receive free clothing and free rations when outside India and there is therefore no occasion for spending money.

4. Applicants are directed to come personally with their applications and original certificates to the office of the undersigned at Bankipur on any day up to the 5th July 1918 between 2 and 4 p. m. except Sundays and Gazetted holidays. Age should be noted in applications.

E. BLABER,

20-6-18. Superintending Engineer,
 2-1 Eastern Circle.

WANTED.

A lady teacher for the post of Mistress in the lower division of the Bankipore Girls' High School on a salary of Rs. 100-2-120 with effect from the 1st of July, 1918.

2. Applicants must know Hindi and preference will be given to lady graduates with experience of teaching.

3. Applications will be received by the undersigned up to the 24th of June, 1918.

W. V. DUKE,

Asst: Director of Public Instruction,
 Bihar and Orissa, Ranchi-Secretariat P. O.
 RANCHI, The 5th of June 1918. 2-2

**BIHAR SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING.
BANKIPUR.**

The new Session will commence on July 1st when classes for the following will be reformed:—

Overseers.
Sub-Overseers.

Artisans:—
Carpenters.
Blacksmiths.
Fitters & Turners.
Motor Mechanics.
Moulders.

Terms and particulars are obtainable on application to the Principal.

N. B. The Surveyors' Classes have since been abolished. 2-1

HOPE FOR THE HOPELESS.

Matriculation—The most practical method of training introduced into our Special Matriculation Class to meet the Examinees' actual need. Plucked candidates of other Universities as well as of Allahabad may be admitted.

Commercial Classes—In our long-standing Commercial Department for Short-hand, Typewriting, &c., a big department has been opened for Book-keeping, Auditing, P. W. D. Fourth Grade Examination, as well as for the Local Examinations of Oxford and Cambridge Universities.

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Our students get appointment most easily—for they are best trained.

		Taught within
Short-hand	240 hours.
Typewriting	60 "
		12-5

YOUNG AND OLD

necessarily have different points of view. Light-heartedness and enthusiasm are so natural to youth as judgment is to more mature years. But there are numbers of men and women who, neither old nor young but in the prime of life, sometimes feel they have not the zest and the capacity for work or enjoyment which they ought, normally, to experience. It is said, with a good deal of truth, that a man is as old as he feels and a woman as old as she looks. In each case it is largely a matter of health. Fortunately the majority do not as a rule suffer from exceptionally serious illness; yet minor ailments are distressingly common. Digestive disturbances, of one sort or another, occur from time to time with every one irrespective of age, sex or constitution. Nor is this very surprising. Even the healthiest individual now and then gets a little out of sorts. People of all ages therefore undoubtedly

OCCASIONALLY NEED

a little corrective medicine. Beecham's Pill will be found of the utmost value in all cases of disturbance of the stomach, liver and bowels, or poor appetite, discomfort after eating, acidity, heartburn, wind in the stomach, irregularity of the bowels, feverishness, depression of spirits, and want of tone—these indicate some functional irregularity which it is unwise and often dangerous to neglect. Composed of the finest and most gracefully selected ingredients, of vegetable origin and proved curative value, Beecham's Pills are an unsurpassed remedy for the relief and cure of derangements of the digestive organs. You will feel ever so much better and brighter after taking a dose or two of this excellent medicine. Many people feel themselves always "fit" and up to the mark solely by its use. You also certainly will benefit if you take

**Beecham's
Pills**

Prepared only by

THOMAS BEECHAM, St. Helens Lane.

Sold everywhere in boxes at

As. 8, As. 12, and Rs. 2 each.

Sole Agents for India, Burma & Ceylon.

G. ATHERTON & Co.

8, CLIVE STREET, CALCUTTA.

NOTICE.

We beg to inform our kind constituents and the Public, that our Aerated Water Factory situated at No. 71 quarters near Freemasons Lodge Dinapore Cantt. is under Medical supervision. Our Waters are Manufactured with the greatest care and cleanliness, and with filtered Water, procured from the Station Hospital's well. Our rates are moderate.

We solicit the kind support of our Patron and to those who have not used our Waters. We respectfully solicit a trial. We supply the Station Hospital, Club Officers, and Gentlemen of Dinapore Cantt. as well as to the Club, Officers, Gentlemen &c., of Bankipore and Patna City.

Soda large	@	Rs. 0 9 0	per dozen
Soda small	"	" 0 6 0	"
Lemonade	"	" 0 14 0	"
Gingerade	"	" 1 0 0	"
Tonic	"	" 1 0 0	"
Coloured (all)	"	" 1 2 0	"

Dinapore. February 2nd 1902.

I have inspected the Soda Water Factory of Messrs Baluck Ram & Co., today and am satisfied that all the possible care is taken to ensure the Aerated Water being pure. The water is taken from tap specially laid on from the military works supply, the empty bottles are washed with permanent solution before being re-filled.

(Sd.) F. P. MAYNARD, MAJOR, I. M. S.
Civil Surgeon of Patna.

BALUCK RAM & Co.,

Bankipore Branch.

In quarter of the Behar National College near the old Hospital building.