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PATNA, TUESDAY, JULY 2, 1940

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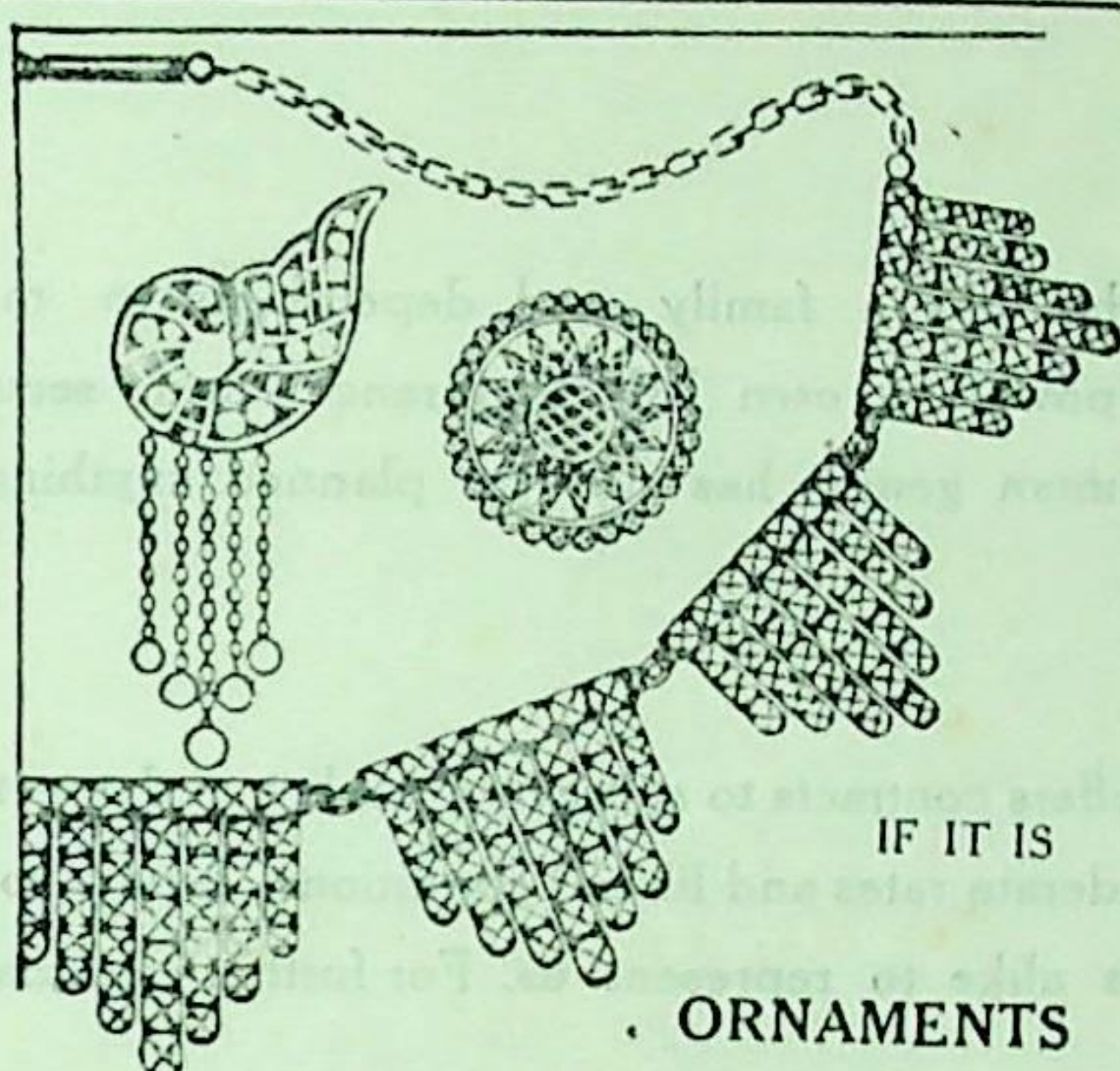
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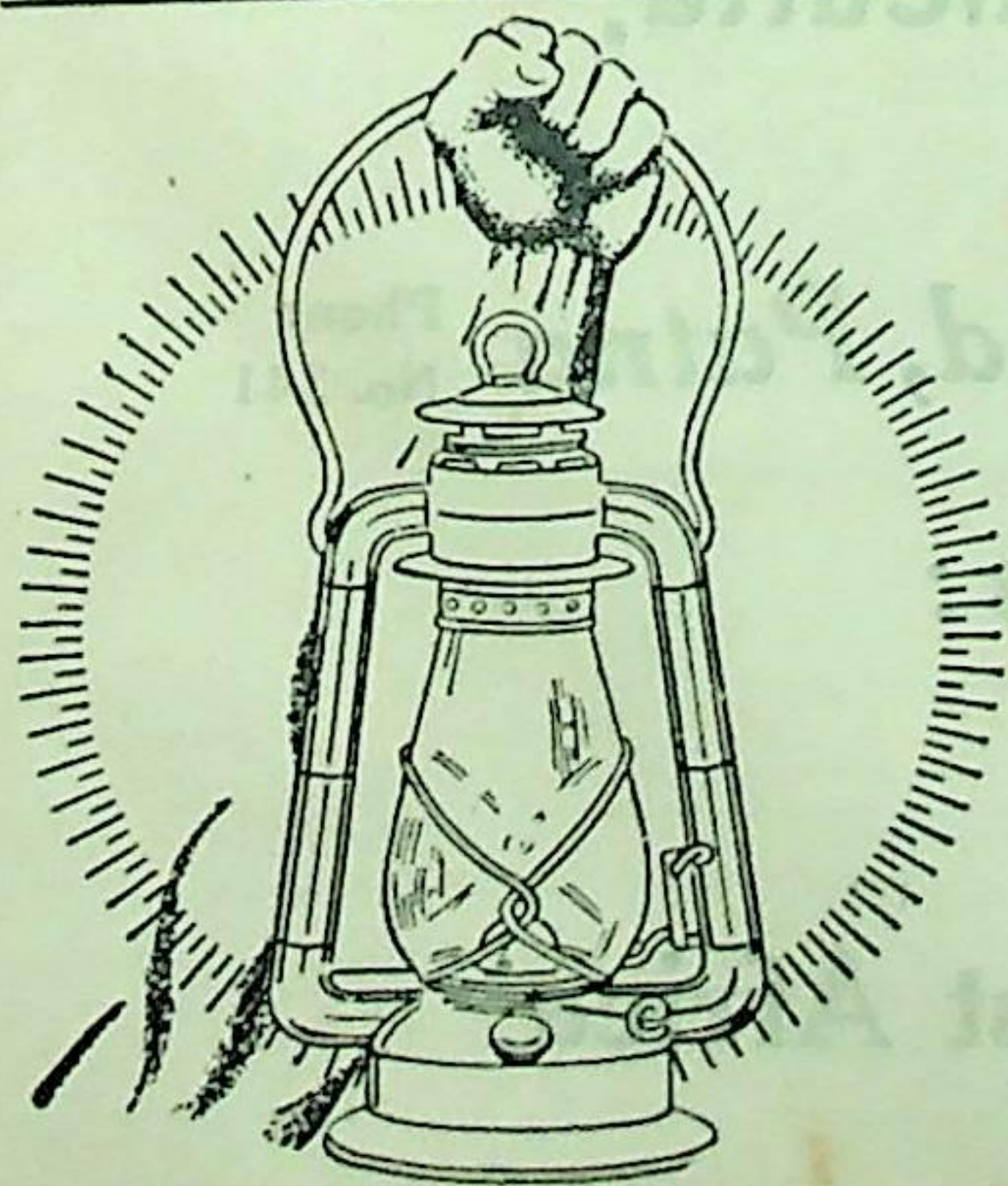
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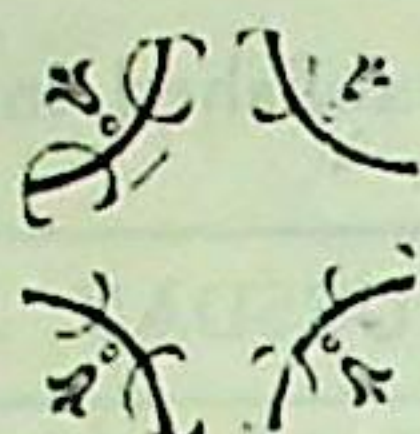
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Advertising in Bihar—2

The Growing Market of Bihar

By Kali Sanker Samanta, M. A.

[In course of this discussion we shall confine our attention to the things as they are, and not to the things as they ought to be. By this we do not mean that we are blind to the ethical consideration, but for the time being we eliminate them altogether, because it is the rule of science that when studying one factor under certain conditions, we assume that other things remain unchanged, while the factor to be studied alone undergoes variation. We shall not enter into controversial topics such as Bihar is overpopulated or not or whether her industries or agriculture are fully developed, or whether the total demand of her teeming millions for food and clothing is satisfied or not. We shall accept the relative economic position and study only the effective demand, i.e., the demand that is backed by purchasing power.]

Over and above the possession of purchasing power, the customer should know fully the utility of the thing, and he must also know where to have the thing; i.e., he must be aware of his wants. In short the forces behind demand are divided into two categories, subjective and objective—the desire to buy and the ability to buy. Advertisement and publicity deal with the former set of forces. It will tell you where to have the thing and what are its uses. Many firms in India are of opinion that advertising in newspapers and journals does not serve any useful purpose, as it does not increase the sale in many cases. Many people inspired with a high sense of socialism complain that it is a sheer waste of money. But they should remember the proverb, 'Do in Rome as the Romans do.' Advertise or Perish, when others are shouting at the top of their voices, you should not keep silence, for then nobody will hear you. This is the most cynical attitude towards advertisement for we all know that it has got a constructive aspect as well, for if newspapers are the main arch of democracy, advertisement is the keystone to that arch.]

Perhaps the business firms in and outside Bihar have developed a cynical attitude towards our provincial markets. Her papers, dailies and weeklies are neglected and their pages are not nicely decorated with varieties of advertisements. This pessimism may be attributed to one of the several factors. They may think that advertisement cannot create market. This question does not require discussion, it is very difficult to find out which is the cause and which is the effect. Secondly they may think that Bihar market has developed

to its maximum limit and there is no more possibility. Thirdly it may strike them that she is a poor province, and industrially backward, and as such she has not got that cursed class called middle class or Petit Bourgeois in Marxian category. For it is quite natural that if there is not a fairly numerous middle class it is no good wasting money in news paper advertising.

In all these respects the commercial world has formed an entirely wrong impression about our province. They have under-estimated the absorbing capacity of our market. In India accurate statistics of consumption and production are not available; under such circumstances we have to depend on general information, and have to content ourselves with drawing deductions from a few statistics which are found in an accessible form. We shall here quote a few lines from Patna University Readership Lectures 1923-33 "On some aspects of the census operation of 1931" by W. G. Lacey I. C. S., the Census Superintendent. He is of opinion that the standard of life of the population has risen to a large extent in course of the last few years. His remarks still hold good to day. "By common consent there has been a marked rise in the general standard of livings during the last ten years. This is evidenced in various ways. It is perhaps more apparent in the increasing use of articles which a short time back were regarded as being in the nature of luxuries. Deitz lanterns for example are now a days looked upon as absolutely indispensable by vast number of people who were formerly able to make shift with earthen diya, and kerosine oil in the same way is taking the place of indigenious seed oils of domestic extraction. In slightly higher grades of society electric torch light has achieved a tremendous popularity. Umbrellas are used habitually to-day by many persons and classes of persons who would not have aspired to them ten years ago. The old types of umbrella made of bamboo or palm leaves which in certain parts were very common, are being replaced more and more by cloth article. Bicycles are to be found now in the most remote villages and their owners are not confined to the zemindar and trader classes;.....Except in the most backward parts of the province it is becoming difficult to find a village darzi without a sewing machine. This is attributed largely to the enterprise of Singer's firm in popularising the hire purchase system in the mufassil, but it is none the

less indicative of a great advance in the outlook of the darzi himself."

"The clothes worn by all sections of the population are more varied, and usually of the better quality than they used to be. For some time the tendency towards a higher standard of wearing apparel expressed itself in a preference for more finely woven mill clothes or cloths of foreign manufacture.....In the matter of jewellery the tendency among women of every class is towards a greater refinement. Ornaments are fewer in number but more valuable. The wearing of ornaments by men is falling out of favour but wrist watches, fountain pens, and so forth are affected instead."

"As regards houses.....Pucca buildings are undoubtedly more common than they were but more noticeable still is the substitution of tiles for thatch, while in some parts of the province roofs of corrugated iron are beginning to find favour even in the villages."

"With regard to developments in the kind and quantity of food ordinarily consumed by different classes.....The *roti* and *parattu* is held in greater demand. Loaves and biscuits have permeated the very nooks and corners of the locality, of course as far as the biscuit hawkers can travel. Hotels in towns teach even mufussil people new methods of preparation of food.

"The itinerant confectioner hawks cakes and other varieties of sweets prepared from badam oil or vegetable ghee in the mufassils, often in exchange for paddy, and has created a different atmosphere in the life of the children of the mufussils...The bill of fruit-seller is increasing, as ill health prevails in the country. Barley and arrow-root form light beverage during fever..... There is unanimity of opinion regarding the rapid development of tea drinking habit in every grade of society, and this is possibly the out standing feature of this period so far as questions of food and drink are concerned.

"Another sign of the times, which testifies eloquently to the enlargement of ideas and higher standard of comfort, is the extent to which the passenger lorries and motor services of every kind are now patronised by the rank and file of the population. Ordinary cultivators and members of the labouring classes, faced with a journey of five, ten or fifteen miles think little or nothing of jumping on to a lorry and paying their fare for no stronger reason than to be quit of the trouble of walking."

This rise in the standard of life has been continuing for the last ten years; as Bihar is now passing through a period of transition from one phase of development

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to another... With the progress of industrialisation the mode of life is changing, and the consumption is becoming more and more variegated. Sugar industry has got a romantic development. Due to the introduction of Sugar Cane Control Scheme, the peasants are getting at present nearly two and half crores of rupees annually. This addition of purchasing power in the hands of the peasantry creates a new demand for newer varieties of goods. Production of sugar in Bihar represents about 29% of the total production in India. This industry not only enriches the producers but it has also created a band of technicians and skilled labourers all of which go to swell the rank of middle class, and they are the best consumers in a country.

Chotanagpur Division is second to none in respect of coal, iron and other minerals. It has an inexhaustible deposit of mica and it has the distinction of being the most important producer of high grades of mica. Production of mica in Bihar was :—

24,337 tons in 1935
35,869 tons in 1936

The same Division produces 51% of the total annual output of coal in India. Production of coal in Bihar was :—

12,322,161 tons in 1934
12,436,828 tons in 1935
12,015,205 tons in 1936
13,835,516 tons in 1937

In Iron and Steel she occupies an important position.

Production of iron was :—

810,547 tons in 1934
1,155,965 tons in 1935
1,375,214 tons in 1936

Bihar also produces copper, she produced :—

328,676 tons in 1934
350,901 tons in 1935
387,194 tons in 1936.

Manganese, Chromite, Stealite, Lime-Stone, are also found in large quantities in Bihar. Production of Lime Stone amounted to :

292,785 tons in 1934
283,102 tons in 1935
329,860 tons in 1936.

She also produces a considerable quantity of asbestos and other minerals.

A large number of manual labourers, technicians and foremen are engaged in the mining and finishing these minerals (and it must be remembered that the output is growing up annually), and there must be a large batch of middlemen, traders, and merchants. Formerly this work of marketing, financing, small distance transport, insurance, and other works pertaining to these industries was confined to the men of other provinces. But in course of the last ten years the position has substantially changed.

Educated youngmen of our province have now turned their attention to these works and Bihar has now got a large middle class, very fastidious in their demand but very good customers. Their demands is variegated and vast, and they are the patrons of newspapers; so commercial world can easily reach the patrons by patronising their newspapers.

It has been mentioned above that Bihar peasantry has improved its position considerably during the last ten years. Bihar is not only rich in her mineral deposits and industrial resources but she also is a producer of various kinds of crops and raw materials, which her industries donot absorb. These she exports and has got money to buy commodities. Bihar produces 5.7% of total production of jute in India. Bihar exports large quantities of potatoes, as Patna potatoes. From Patna City Station alone one lakh maund of seed potatoes are exported annually to the up country stations. Total production is 1,25,75,978 maunds. Bihar also exports a large amount of fruits and vegetables to other provinces. 'Muzaffarpur and Darbhanga seem to be the strongholds of the hide merchants of Calcutta.' Purchasing capacity is further enhanced by the remittance of money by her emigrants from the sister provinces. The enterprising peasants migrate seasonally to other provinces, and they send their savings home. It was estimated by the Census Superintendent 1931 that remittances through Bihar

post offices were :—

(In lakhs of Rupees)

	in	1930—31
698	"	29—30
770	"	28—29
857	"	27—28
822	"	26—27
796	"	25—26
763	"	

On the average Rs. 784 lakhs are remitted annually through Bihar Post Offices. The Census Superintendent reminds us that "...it should be remembered that these temporary exiles do not as a rule send home the whole of their savings through the post, they bring back an appreciable portion with them when they return". Thus Bihar gets annually 9 crores of rupees from other provinces. It is not an insignificant sum.

Thus we see that Bihar is a very influential and respectable customer and as a sound principle of business the industrialists and the commercial firms should not neglect such a good customer. It is their duty to bring their products to the attention of the prospective buyers and to present them in the most attractive forms. This can be done most efficiently and cheaply through advertisements in the columns of the journals of Bihar. Critics will retort that readers of "dailies" and "weeklies" form only an insignificant proportion of the total population. But they should remember that in all ages even more to-day, the masses in general mould their tastes according to the fashion of this small class, and they spend their income accordingly.*

*The figures are taken from "Bihar Industrial Directory by Mr. P. K. Sen Gupta B. Sc. (U. S. A.) M. C. P. S. (London), and also from the Census Report 1931.

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Gram : SELLERS.

Bombay Office :

11, Bank Street, Fort, Bombay

Phone : 31394. Gram : ORIMERCO

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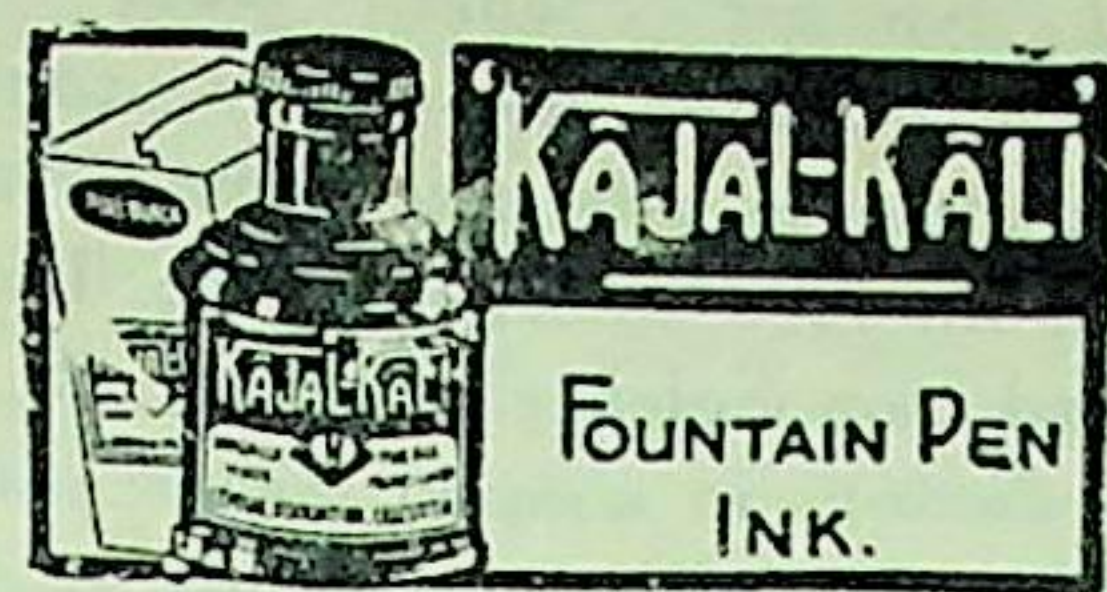
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The Behar Herald

Patna, Tuesday, July 2, 1940.

A CENTURY-OLD RECIPE

More than a century ago, Jeremy Bentham wrote a Plan for an Universal and Perpetual Peace. In that tractate Bentham advocated the reduction of the armed forces of the various European States and further, the emancipation of the colonial dependencies of each State. It is one of the ironies of history that a philosopher and jurist who in his own day had a tremendous reforming influence upon the whole administrative machinery of governments, upon criminal law and upon civil and criminal procedure and who gave to the language such concepts as "international," "utilitarian" and "codification" should now be remembered chiefly as a somewhat eccentric old gentleman who left his body to be dissected for the benefit of mankind and whose skeleton in his own clothes is preserved at University College, London. Yet his writings have been and remain a storehouse of instructions for statesmen and an armoury for legal reformers. What Talleyrand said of him that though stolen from by all the world he is always rich is as true to-day as when it was said.

In recent times the efforts made by

peace-lovers all over the world have very largely been based, consciously or unconsciously, on Bentham's panacea for universal peace. Reduction of armaments has been an accepted doctrine to most thinking people, but there is considerable diversity of opinion still to be found with regard to the second suggestion of Bentham, namely, the emancipation of their dependencies by imperial powers. In Bentham's day and for a generation or two later, underlying any discussion about colonies was the question: Are they of any utility to the mother country? Some people answered this in the negative, but political opinion in the States holding extensive dominions overseas never thought of them in this light. According to that opinion the colonies and overseas dominions were an integral part of the mother country and so bound up in her interest just as she was in theirs.

To us it has always seemed that none of these two views contained the whole truth, which can be found only from the lessons of the present war. There can be no doubt that there is great utility in a federation of all the countries in the world for the common object of advancing the civilization, prosperity and well-being of their peoples. The question is whether the objects of such a federation are better achieved by it being on the basis of freedom and equality than on its being on the basis of dependency under a central hegemony. The dangers of the last alternative have been clearly brought out by the present war. In the first place, so long as there is not a world State, the 'have-nots' among the powers must always be jealous of the 'haves' and peace would be perpetually threatened. Even in the matter of resistance to aggression, the difference in the quality of assistance given to England by its self-governing and, for all practical purposes, independent dominions, and of that afforded by the mere dependencies which form the rest of the British Empire should be an eye-opener to all. After all independence does not necessarily mean hostility. Otherwise there could be no alliance between independent powers such as England and France for a common resistance against aggression.

And lastly, the strongest argument for the emancipation of all dependencies is also very forcibly pressed upon us by the turn that the war has taken. On an ultimate analysis, power depends upon force and no power in the world to-day can say with confidence that it shall hold its dependencies for all times as against other powers. What happens if the power holding dependencies is vanquished

by a mightier power? Must these dependencies be continually the shuttlecocks of fate with every change in the fortune of the dominant power? Holland, Belgium and France have gone down before Germany. Each of these powers had large possessions in different parts of the World. When the poet wrote of

dim cries
Far in the moonlit haze among the hills
As of some lonely city sack'd by night,
When all is lost, and wife and child with wail

Pass to new lords

he gave a poignant description of the situation in which the dependencies of the losing powers find themselves to-day. Shall we not profit by the lesson and revise our treatment of the dependencies of the British Empire while yet it is time?

THE APOTHEOSIS OF INCOMPETENCE

Despite Mr. Churchill's warning against the futility of recriminations about the responsibility for England's unpreparedness against aggression, Englishmen at home and abroad are giving free expression to the national habit of blaming those in authority for all the ills that beset them. Apart from the usual "we told you so" of wisecracks, every critic goes for this or that statesman whose criminal supineness is stated to have brought about the pass in which England finds herself to-day. Yet a little reflection will show that it is not so much the omissions or the commissions of past ministries as the defects in the national character that have been the cause of the country being at a disadvantage as against the enemy when the war began.

As has been pointed out by H. J. Lasky, broadly speaking the Englishman's philosophy has been refusal to think in terms of principle. Meet the day's problems as they arise. Make your ideal of life one in which there is neither excessive effort of intelligence nor undue ardour of emotions. Follow your bent and assume that the world will adjust itself to your requirements. Be suspicious of the thinker, of the man who dwells upon the heights. Never show yourself so ardent in pursuit of an object as to convince the foreigner that you may be pained by failure to attain it. Take life as a game in which excessive seriousness is fatal to the spirit of the play. The average Englishman, says Mr. Lasky, doubted Lord Roseberry when he published a book, but admitted his title to premiership when he won the Derby.

No impartial observer can say that Mr. Lasky's appraisal

of the English character is entirely wrong. At every previous crisis in her history the quality which made England conspicuous was the fatal one of muddling through. It was seen at work in the Crimea, it manifested itself in South Africa and reached its climax in the last war. In all these previous crises, there was ample time to make amends. To-day, however, the position is entirely different and cannot be retrieved unless we realized what it is that has been responsible for England being left behind in the race for superiority.

Mr. Lasky's thesis that the traditional English outlook on things is a public danger requires a rider, necessitated by the effect left on it by the last war. It is not the old regiments of rigid conservatism but the hordes of half-educated progressives that came into being after the last war who have been the real enemies to the security of England. In the atmosphere created by these men that war became an unmentionable subject and the qualities that had enabled England ultimately to pull through became the subject of ridicule. From the Englishman's distaste of exhibition of brains and character, we passed into an age when these things themselves were at a discount. Sometime back, Mr. Harold Nicolson writing in the "Spectator" entered a spirited protest against the various forms of derision by which the half-educated and the inexpert seek to ease the pangs of inferiority aroused in them by the specialist or the humanist. He referred to the currency of such mocking slogans as "high brow" or "old school tie" or "the Oxford accent" or "blimp" which were subversive of efficiency because they detracted from eminence, discouraged effort and sapped authority. Many thousands of young men and women, he said, had found in these phrases an excuse for ignoring the more serious attainments of human genius and for relapsing without the slightest qualm of intellectual conscience, into the effortless enjoyment of unimportant things.

The malady to-day is the malady of all democracies but a peculiarly intangible though aggravated form of it. It is something hard to combat, hard even to contradict, for it is often nothing more definable than inferiority having the superiority everywhere. It is not the reign of mediocrity, it is something much worse, it is the apotheosis of incompetence. And this cult of incompetence has been holding sway for over twenty five years not only in England but all parts of the empire. India caught the contagion very badly. The road of descent has nowhere been so facile as in a country where racial, sectarian and provincial jealousies make it impossible for merit to have free play.

To-day we have in India costly institutions for specialised instruction in the sciences and technical subjects but admission to these is guided by considerations of race, language or religion and not on the capacity of the candidate for admission. The thing has become so scandalous that in the Science College at Patna scores of boys who matriculated in the first division are being rejected in favour of those who could get a second division if not a third. We find that the Viceroy and the provincial governors have been trying to rally the best of India to the defence of the country. That best can only be obtained if we abolish the reign of incompetence, and put a premium on brains and character so that every citizen soldier of India can feel that he carries a marshal's baton in his haversack provided he shows the requisite qualities of efficiency, initiative and honest resolution. We talk of the fifth column and other insidious enemies but the most dangerous obstacle to making a nation able to face an unprecedented crisis is the worship of inferiority.

DROPPING THE PILOT

The statement of the Congress Working Committee issued to the Press is a curious document. It is admitted that "the war in Europe has demonstrated the inefficacy of organised violence for the defence of national freedom and the liberties of peoples". One would expect from this that the Working Committee was fully convinced of the greater efficacy of non-violence for the defence of national freedom. But almost in the same breath the Working Committee rejects non-violence and absolves Mr. Gandhi "from responsibility for the programme and activities which the Congress has to pursue under the conditions prevailing in India and in regard to internal and external disorder." This can have only one meaning; Mr. Gandhi wanted to be consistent in his programme of non-violence. The Working Committee felt that a programme of non-violence was not sufficiently impressive; it failed to draw any quick response from the other side, so it was decided to adopt partial violence.

It the statement of the Working Committee the following sentence of eighty words is of special significance: "The Working Committee holds that the Congress must continue to adhere strictly to the principles of non-violence in India's struggle for independence, the Committee cannot ignore the imperfections and failings in respect of the human element that the Committee has to deal with and the possible dangers in a period of tran-

sition and dynamic change until the Congress has acquired non-violent control over the people in adequate measure and the people imbibed sufficiently the lesson of organised non-violence." Bereft of its Harrovian diction, it simply means that the Congress will fight non-violently against the British Government which is fully armed. But there is no need to be non-violent when it has to deal with the unarmed people of the country. Mr. Gandhi wanted to be consistently non-violent to all, hence he has been asked to sit down at his charkha ("Mahatma Gandhi should be left free to pursue his great ideal in his own way") while the Congress volunteers tackled in their own way "the imperfections and failings of the human element" in the country.

Anyone doubting the above interpretation is referred to the editorial article in Pandit Nehru's paper of 23rd June: "Once self-government is attained, this country will have to follow the methods of all countries who want to retain their freedom". So non-violence is a pose adopted to make the British part with power. Once the Congress gets power, it will discard non-violence, charkha, the incubus of the Mahatma and all that he stands for.

We hope the Working Committee has not failed to observe the practical difficulty that will be caused by this non-violent-cum-violent attitude. So long, the snappy slogan "Follow Mahatma Gandhi" has been shouted from press and platform. Now it has to be modified to a more cumbersome form: "Follow Mahatma Gandhi up to—and then leave him and his charkha and follow the Working Committee". We hope the best brains of the country would be able to express the command in a better way than our confessedly crude effort.

Notes & Comments

"None need apply—"

The Indian Civil Service Government which is now in charge of the administration of Bihar has published a resolution announcing that a post of District and Sessions Judge is to be filled by recruitment from the bar in December 1940. It is stated in the resolution that the candidate appointed will draw pay on the senior time scale of pay sanctioned for the members of the Indian Civil Service and that his grading for purposes of promotion will be fixed in accordance with the Indian Civil Service rules. The candidate, it is laid down, must be a native of or permanently domiciled in the province of Bihar. The Indian Civil

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service is itself manned by recruits from all parts of the British Empire. Most of the District and Sessions Judges in the province are Civilians and come not only from all parts of India but from all quarters of the globe. These men have very little legal training and in many cases have little knowledge of the ways and customs of the people of the province. Gentlemen practising at the bar for a number of years, however, possess the qualifications which are wanting in the Civilians. It is curious, therefore, that for recruitment of a District and Sessions Judge from the bar on rules and conditions of service governed by Indian Civil Service rules, a further qualification is required, namely that the candidate must be a native of or permanently domiciled in the province. In the Patna High Court, out of five Judges appointed from the Bar, a majority are neither natives of the province nor permanently domiciled in it in the sense in which that expression is understood in official circles. We have never heard any complaint that the administration of justice has suffered by reason of that fact.

The young Civilian's questions

The spectacle of a government controlled by people from all parts of the world laying down geographical and domicile bars to appointments open to natives of the soil is not without humour and reminds us of a story we once heard of how an Assistant Magistrate fared in the hands of a collectorate peon during the departmental examination of the officer. A conversation test in the language of the province formed a part of the examination and the procedure adopted was that the officer sitting for the examination was required to put some questions to the peon and when he had finished, the peon, in his turn, put some questions to him, which he had to reply. This is how the conversation in Hindi proceeded between a young Civilian and peon :

Civilian : What is your name ?
 Peon : Ram Singh, Saheb.
 Civilian : What are you ?
 Peon : I am a collectorate peon at—
 Civilian : Where is your home ?
 Peon : Sahabad.
 Civilian : How far is that from here ?
 Peon : It is thirty or forty *kros* from here.
 Civilian : Have you nothing at home that you have come all this distance for employment ?
 Peon : No, *huzoor*, had I enough to eat at home why should I be here.

The tables turned

Then came the peon's turn, and he asked :

Peon : What post does the *huzoor* hold ?
 Civilian : I am an Assistant Magistrate at—
 Peon : Where is the *Sahab's* home ?
 Civilian : In Bilait.
 Peon : How far is that from here ?
 Civilian : Oh ! it is thousands of miles away ; in fact it takes nearly a month to come from there.
 Peon : Has the *Sahab* nothing to eat in his home that he comes all this distance for employment ?

We do not remember the reply that the *Huzoor* gave.

A Christian's protest

The U. P. Government has decided that henceforth in the leper asylums of the province only those will be treated who are natives or permanent residents of it. Those who are not will be attended to only in urgent cases. A Christian reader sends us a strongly worded protest against what he considers to be an unchristian attitude towards suffering humanity. "In the Bible," he writes, "there is hardly any passage so breathing of humanity as that in which the Lord answers the question, 'who is my neighbour?' And the Lord gave the story of the unfortunate person who had been stripped and beaten and left half-dead by robbers. A priest saw him in that state and passed him by. In like manner a levite also came to the place, saw him and passed by on the other side. But a Samaritan who came and saw him, was moved with compassion and dressed his wounds and took care of him. 'Which of these three proved neighbour unto the beaten man,' the Lord asked of his questioner, and when the reply was that it was the Samaritan who had shown mercy. Jesus said, 'go and do thou likewise.' It is unthinkable that a Christian Government in the twentieth century should have ordered that such unfortunate persons as lepers will not be given medical treatment at the State hospitals unless they happen to be provincials."

The text for the other side

We can understand our correspondent's indignation, but he himself will admit that the Bible has had very little to do with statecraft. We remember the protest made by a celebrated statesman when a particular policy of his was described as being against Christian ethics. "Le clericalisme, voila l'ennemi," he said. And it is not always safe to rely on a passage from the Scriptures, for, as likely as not, the other side can cite an equally telling passage from the holy book to suit its own purpose. On the particular question, namely the preference of certain communities in the matter of medical treatment the supporters of the U. P. policy may point to the story of the Canaanitish woman whose daughter was vexed with a devil. When she was brought to Jesus by his disciples and they besought him to do something for the girl, Jesus answered, "I was not sent but unto the lost sheep of the house of Israel." But the woman pressed her suit and said, 'Lord, help me.' And he answered and said, "It is not meet to take the children's bread and cast it to the dogs." But she said, "Yea, Lord : for even the dogs eat of the crumbs which fall from their master's table." Then Jesus answered and said unto her, "O woman, great is thy faith ; be it done into thee even as thou wilt." The U. P. order has provided for the crumbs to be given to outsiders in urgent cases.

A much needed reform

We hope the country will be solidly behind the demand of the Anjuman-Islamia, Punjab in its campaign of "cleaner text-books" for our students. It has taken strong objection to the inclusion of Keats' "Last Sonnet" in a book prescribed by the Punjab University. We have known people who refrained from swimming and gymnastics because of the frequent employment of the dorsal region in these two pursuits. We have also seen many passages in the text-books used by students in this country where the highly suggestible immoral words "baby," "child," "boy" and "girl" are of

fairly frequent occurrence. Who can gainsay that obscene ideas arise in the minds of our adolescent youths and maids at the mere mention of such words which at once make them think of their origin. Can we wonder at the moral degradation of modern young people when obscene words as "marriage" find a place in the books accessible to them ?

Escape from filth

Any one seeking relief from the vicious atmosphere of Keats pervading students' text-books ought to breathe the purer air of the columns of our newspapers. What noble ideas are disseminated in the advertisements to be found therein ! What lofty emotions are roused at the mere mention of such things as "tonic pills for rejuvenation within an hour," "massage oils made from tiger's fat," "vigour pills for the aged," "electric pills for loss of power" printed in bold letters to attract everybody's attention. Those who have made it their mission in life to elevate the morals of society do not stop merely with the announcement of birth control speeches, but are bold enough to offer abortifacients to all and sundry who may have accidentally swerved from the straight and narrow path of virtue. An announcement like the following is to be seen in practically all the daily papers :—"causes safe and immediate flow at any stage, no matter how long or why." The advertisements in vernacular newspapers are of course much more realistic and graphic.

Reiteration cannot alter facts

According to the *National Herald*, "Internal security is essentially a political problem. It is possible only under conditions of popular rule in India of to-day." As the same theme is being used as a reason for recalling the Congress ministries, it is



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বলিষ্ঠ, অবস্থাপন্ন, দিল্লীর বিশিষ্ট ব্যবসায়ী বন্দোপাধ্যায় যুবকের জন্য অপকল্প সুন্দরী, স্বাস্থ্যবতী ও উচ্চ শিক্ষিতা পাত্রী চাই। বয়স নং ১১২, বেহার হেরাল্ড, কদমকুয়া, পাটনা ঠিকানায় আবেদন করুন।

perhaps worth while examining the real facts. On the 14th March, 1940, Mr. Ogilvie, Defence Secretary, stated in reply to Sir Raza Ali that between July, 1937 and July, 1938, troops were called out at the request of the provincial Governments on eight occasions in the U. P. and one occasion in Bihar, while troops stood to on nine occasions in the U. P., once in the Central Provinces and twice in Bombay. During the period July 1938 to July 1939 troops were called out ten times in the U. P. and once in Bombay, while troops stood to 12 times in the U. P., twice in Bihar and once in the Central Provinces.

Between November 4, 1939, to February 21, 1940, troops were called out once in the Central Provinces and stood to once in the same province. Between July 1935 and July 1936 troops were called out once in the U. P. and once in Bombay while they stood to thrice in the U. P.

Our political leaders are usually sublimely indifferent to facts as they are often awkward and may lead people to form undesirable conclusions.

Bihar's loss of intellectuals

Bihar has not been very lucky with her young intellectuals. Looking across the vista of years we can recall the names of at least half a dozen brilliant scholars whose early promise was cut short by the cruel hands of death or by some tragic breakdown in health or fortune. Some of these youngmen were very closely associated with us. Among them Radhakrishna Jha of Patna College and Harnandan Panday of the Archaeological Department, both carried away in the prime of life, stood out in a class of their own among their contemporaries. Their place was to some extent expected to be filled by Mr. Devakiprosad Sinha but a disastrous accident invalidated him just practically at the debut of a distinguished career. The latest loss suffered by scholarship in Bihar is that occasioned by the death of Mr. R. K. Sharan, a brilliant economist who rendered invaluable service to the Labour Enquiry Commission. The real tragedy of these losses is that the places of these men seem to be difficult to fill.

Departure of a popular figure

Social and cultural life in Patna sustains a distinct loss by the transfer to Dacca of Mr. Hiralal Das Gupta, Secretary to the Patna Branch of the Oriental Life Assurance Company. Mr. Das Gupta has deserved well of his Company and is decidedly entitled to the promotion that the transfer means. But we in Patna shall sorely miss him. Every social organisation, every literary society in the city has been enriched by Mr. Das Gupta's active assistance while the help given by him to many a struggling youngman, writer, artist or worker, will keep his memory green in the minds of the grateful. Mr. Das Gupta goes back to his native province but we are sure he will not forget Bihar and Patna where was spent some of the happiest and most successful years of his life. The eulogies that Mr. Das Gupta received at a farewell function given to him by the gentlemen associated with the Company and presided over by Mr. Anugraha Narayan Sinha did but justice to the characteristic optimism, wonderful organising power and untiring devotion that resulted in an expansion of the Company's business which surpassed all expectations. Mr. M. S. Giani who succeeds him has also a good record and we are sure will carry on the traditions left by Mr. Das Gupta.

Old traditions die hard

According to a U. P. paper Mrs. Kripa-

lani has under contemplation "the opening of a one month's satyagraha camp for women and enrolment of a large number of women satyagrahis." The male satyagraha camps turned out finished products within seven to ten days. Why should women, to whom some forms of satyagraha are almost as second nature, take three to four times as long to learn to be true satyagrahis? Why again should there be *pardah* satyagraha camps? Mr. Gandhi did not favour the segregation of the sexes.

Wisdom from an unexpected quarter

Speaking in Bangalore on the 22nd June, Mr. Satyamurti revealed one of his deepest profundities. He said that "Wars could be eliminated if nations settled their differences by arbitration." Now that the much needed way to stop all wars have been found out, we hope the cessation of the European war is only a matter of days.

No room for lingering doubt

In course of the same speech, Mr. Satyamurti referred to the idea of India attaining her freedom and retaining it by non-violence. "It is possible where Count Leo Tolstoy, Great Akbar, Buddha and Christ failed that Mahatma Gandhi may succeed." We do not know what "Great Akbar" had to do with non-violence, but as Mr. Gandhi's disciples have proclaimed their master to be greater than Buddha or Christ, there is not merely the possibility but certainty that Mr. Gandhi will succeed where lesser lights have utterly failed.

The strait road and narrow gate not for all

In the "Harijan" of the 22nd June, Mr. Gandhi replying to one of his correspondents has admitted for the first time what everybody knew from the very beginning: "The spinning work and all the allied processes keep Congressmen busy and away from mischief." The plain meaning of this, namely, that Congressmen are apt to be up to some mischief when not spinning, may not be flattering to them, but coming from the Mahatma, it cannot be rejected offhand. The difficulty with spinning is that it is very unstimulating work, and the majority of people cannot stick to it for more than a short period. This difficulty is now being felt by Mr. Gandhi's lieutenants who would much rather like to do something spectacular than the monotonous plying of the spinning wheel. The difference in the Working Committee meeting also originated from this. Human nature regards volunteering in coloured shirts as a much more attractive occupation than spinning. But the trouble is that when volunteers wearing shirts of different colours meet, it is against human nature to remain non-violent.

The land of Uncle Sham

The New York Supreme Court has cancelled the appointment of Earl Russell, who prefers to be known as Mr. Bertrand Russell, as a Professor in one of the State Colleges. It was held by the Court that the views expressed by this well-known scholar and author in his writings were opposed to "common decency" and as such he was not fit to teach the immaculate youth of New York.

The morality of Mr. Bertrand Russell is of a much higher order than that of the New York Judge who has cancelled his appointment on grounds of morality. Perhaps fifty per cent of the married males of the United States have been guilty at one time or other of illicit extra-matrimonial relations. But, they all scrupulously observe the eleventh commandment,—"Thou shalt not be found out", and hence can afford to be shocked at the moral turpitude of Mr. Russell who had

the hardihood to declare in his book "Marriage and Morals" that if there are to be any extra-marital relations, both partners in marriage should have equal rights to such and there should be no secrecy as prevails now but everything should be done with the mutual consent of the partners in marriage. Russell insists on elimination of cant and hypocrisy so dear to the heart of the conventional moralist, and hence he must be hounded out.

The admiral in the cook's galley

Two things strike one as remarkable in the above judicial pronouncement. Apparently, the youth of New York will not be influenced by Bertrand Russell's writings on Mathematical Philosophy, or the Practice and Theory of Bolshevism or German Social Democracy or the Philosophy of Leibnitz or the Principles of Mathematics or his Philosophical Essays or Problems of China or his books on Relativity and many of his other learned publications, but must model their life on the one book "Marriage and Morals" that he wrote in 1929. Secondly, the marriage tie which is held sacrosanct and inviolate by the 125 millions of people living in the United States will be in serious jeopardy because one English philosopher mathematician, having the misfortune of being born before his time, holds a different view. The example and precept of Mr. Russell will be more powerful in influencing the youths who attend his lectures on Relativity than the example of millions of "moral" marriages and the morality teaching of two thousand years.

Seldom, if ever, has so great a tribute been paid to any thinker.

"They are fools who kiss and tell"

The conventional moralist has a very convenient way of shutting his eyes to reality and thereby abolishing its existence. He has a childish faith in monogamy and is unwilling to admit that biologically man was polygamous by nature. There are many people so constituted that monogamy is irksome to them and they seek and find relief in their own ways, only they take sufficient care not to glaringly offend the current morality of the society in which they live. This involves a great deal of untruth, hypocrisy, furtiveness and subterfuge to which some may refuse to stoop. In society as constituted to-day, hypocrisy is at a premium and frank truth-telling is severely punished. Individual variation is a phenomenon characteristic of all living organisms and it is futile to expect all to conform to one type of behaviour.

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Whom To Rope In

By Sudhansu Kumar Ghose, M.A.

With the capitulation of France, Britain is for the time being fighting single-handed the Germans and the Italians. Being a part of the British Empire India has been automatically involved in the fight although up till now India is not giving England her full support. Provincial, District and sub-divisional War Committees have now been set up throughout India for the purpose of helping recruitment, maintaining peace and also for monetary support.

A grand meeting was held the other day in the Wheeler Senate Hall under the presidency of his Excellency the Governor of Bihar for the formation of a Provincial War Committee. Such meetings for enlisting public support and formation of War Committees have been held in other provinces too. We understand from newspaper reports that everywhere resolutions were passed and speeches were made at these meetings, for wholehearted support to England in the prosecution of the War. A superficial examination of these reports might be heartening to the government. But is there really any justifiable ground for such optimism? Is the formation of these committees sufficient for the Government if they want to fight the

Germans to the bitter end till Hitlerism is vanquished? We think not. The Government cannot have any reason for satisfaction at the success of these meetings which have resulted in the formation of War Committees.

Who are the men that took active part in these meetings and formed War Committees? On a closer examination we find that these consisted of the genus of the Bourgeoisie, roughly composed of Government employees of position, Maharajas, Rajas, merchant princes, Indian Knights, Rai Bahadurs and Khan Bahadurs. These people stand by their individual selves without any following whatsoever. All that they can at best do is to offer monetary help; it is doubtful whether they will go in for field service. It can be seen that these people form a microscopic minority, so that their help will be of little avail for the successful prosecution of the War. These are the people who summoned Aman Sabhas in the past and with whose help the administration of the country could be carried on. But the present war requires national and concentrated mass effort and that is exactly what the effort that is now being made in India,

well-meant as it is, fails to be.

If Britain wants to carry on the war "from victory to victory" (as Mr. Winston Churchill puts it) it must have the support of the Indian people. And where are these people? Certainly not the men who were to be found in the War Committee meetings. The assertion of the *Leader* (June 3) that "an overwhelming section of the people is anxious to offer wholehearted co-operation to the British in their life and death struggle with Germany" belies facts. Times have changed and people do not feel any awe at the mere mention of the names of the Government officials, Maharajas, Rajas, Knights, Rai Bahadurs and Khan Bahadurs. Neither can they be coerced to do anything by these people having high status. Rather they feel suspicious, rightly or wrongly, of whatever things these big men do. Moreover the general masses of the people, the peasant and the man-in-the-street, cares little whether Britain wins or loses. To be more exact, they do not think about the war at all except in so far as it has meant a rise in the prices of foodstuffs. And it is these people, the peasants, the industrial workers and the producers, who form the backbone of the nation, who alone can build up a national war programme involving stupendous resources in men and munitions. And it is their support that really counts.

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Indian Industries - In Pictures

"Who wants these war committees?" asks the *National Herald* "what is the popular support behind them? What are the status and public record of the gentlemen that are joining them?.....The resolutions passed by the Working Committees of the Congress, the Muslim League and the Hindu Mahasabha, which between themselves represent an overwhelming majority of opinion in the country plainly state that they have no love either for the war or for the war committees as things stand to-day." We fear the assertion of the *National Herald* is only very true.

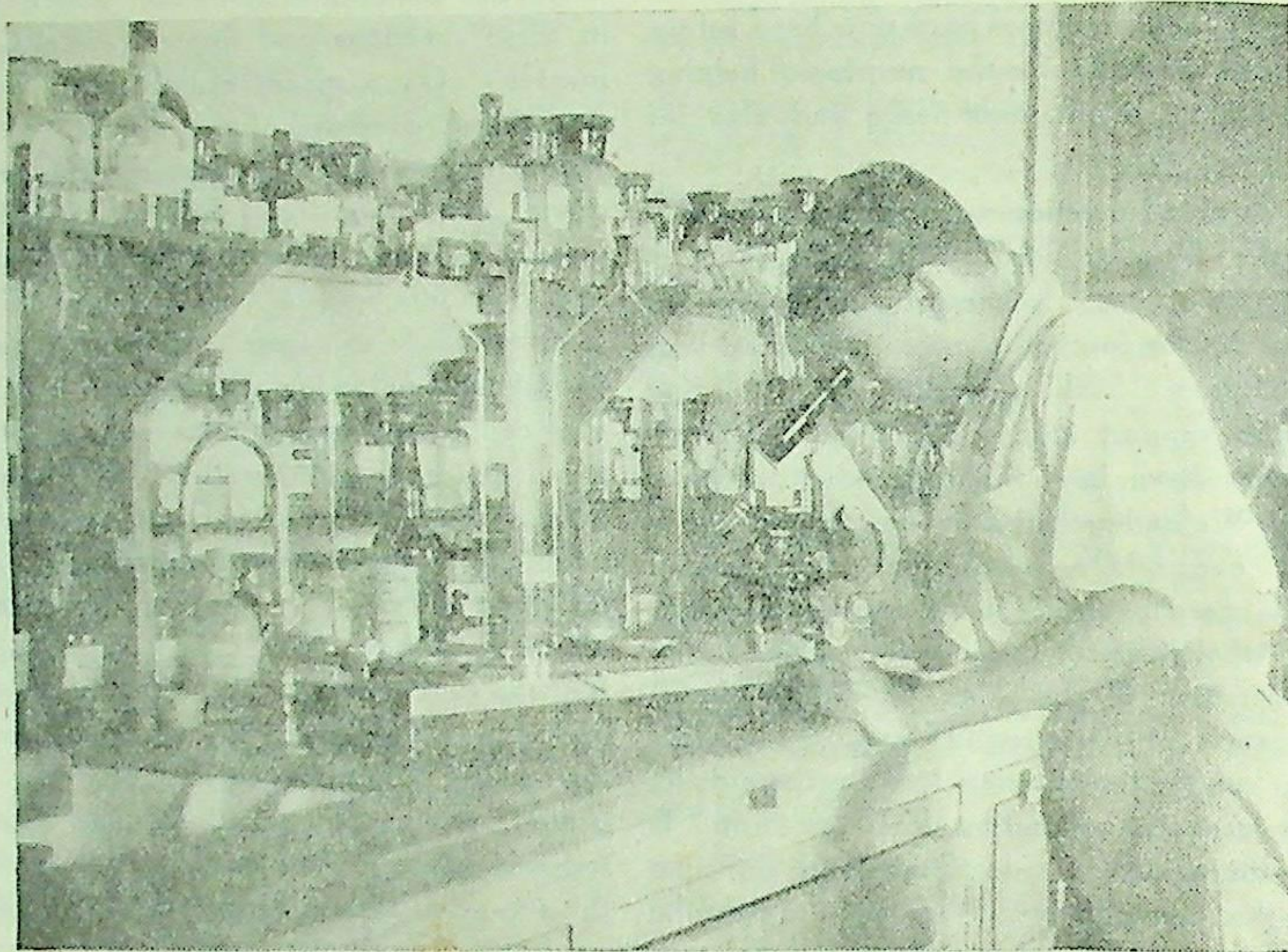
The substantial help that Britain requires in this war, she can get only from these three political parties in India. If the way in which the Congress and the Muslim League were derided and the Hindu Mahasabha absolutely ignored at the Patna meeting in the Wheeler Senate Hall was repeated at meetings held in other provinces, we have grave fears that it will simply worsen matters. These parties only can deliver the goods.

The demands of these parties briefly are as follows. The Congress demands a declaration of British war aims in terms of Indian freedom. The Muslim League wants the British Government to refrain from making a declaration regarding the future constitutional problems of India and the vital issues that have been raised in that connection without its approval and consent. Neither is it satisfied with the defence measures which have been announced. Mr. Savarkar of the Hindu Mahasabha asks that the British Government should frame a constitution in connection with the minority and majority relations and grant Dominion Status to India forthwith?

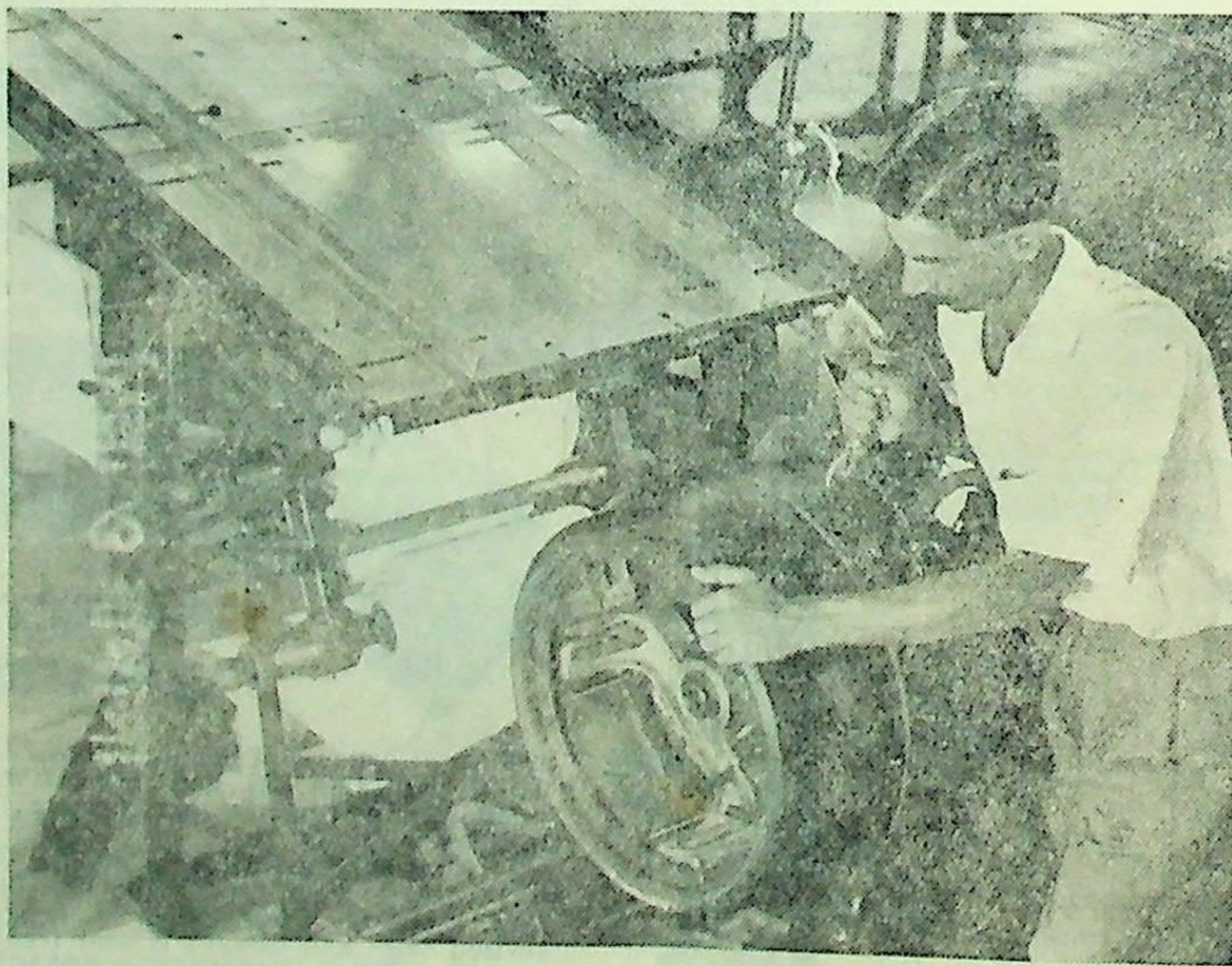
In this connection a reference to Mr. Jaipal Singh's remarkable speech in the Wheeler Senate Hall will not be out of place. Mr. Jaipal Singh is perhaps the only exception among those who have become members of a Provincial War Committee who has a mentionable following. He said that he could speak with authority about the people of Jharkhand who form one third of the population of Bihar and gave out that they were eager to fight for Britain unconditionally. "But", he declared, "Indians could not play their full part unless they were treated with the fullest confidence, admitted in every branch of Indian Defence and all discriminations were wiped out."

We have no doubt that Mr. Jaipal Singh's outspoken views are shared by the majority of the Indian people. If Britain wants to win the war it shall have to listen to these demands and must not brush aside the opinions of the three major political parties in India. It has got to come to a settlement with these parties. And if it thinks that these three bodies are non-co-operating by making

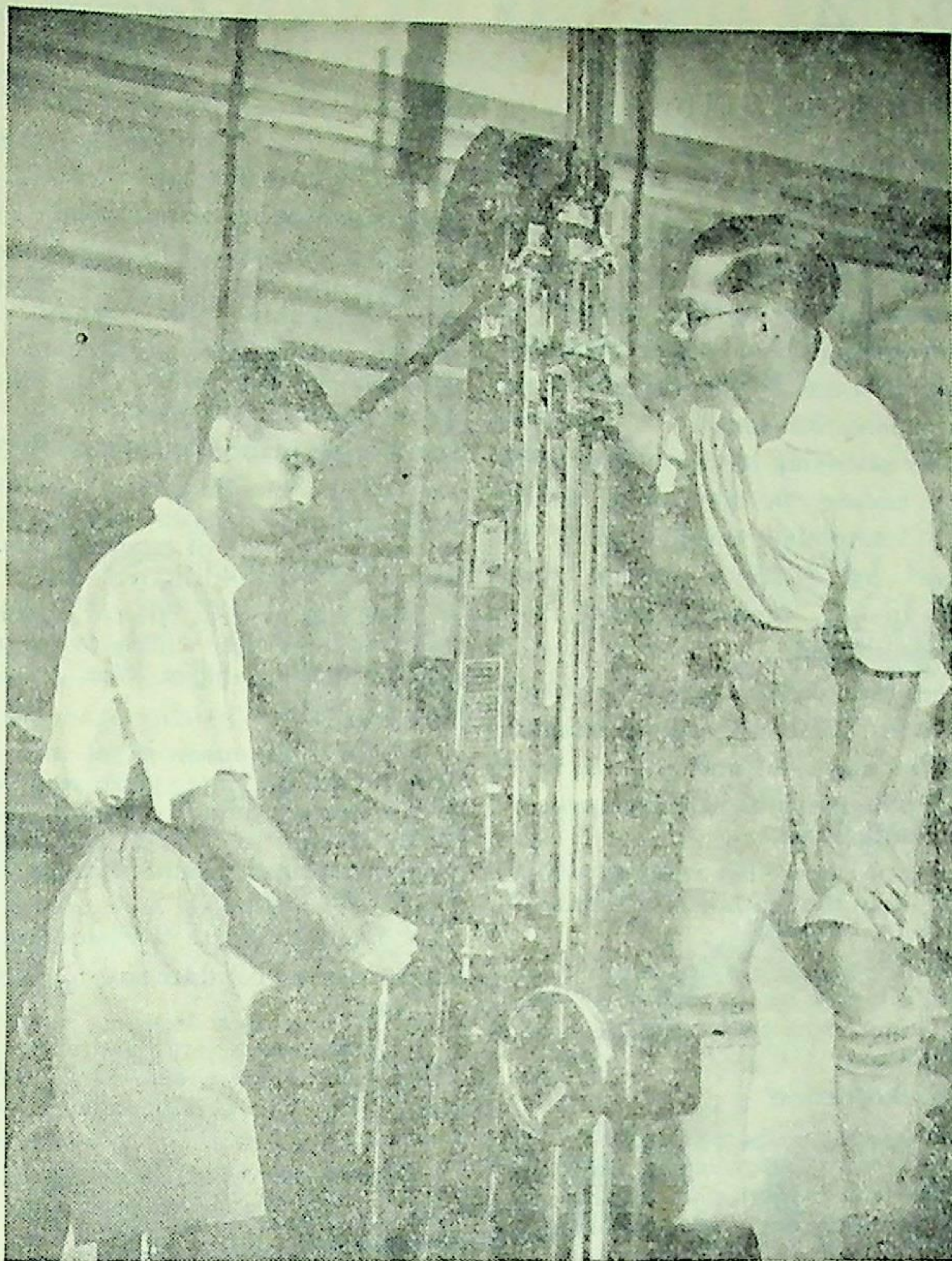
Inside A Tyre Factory



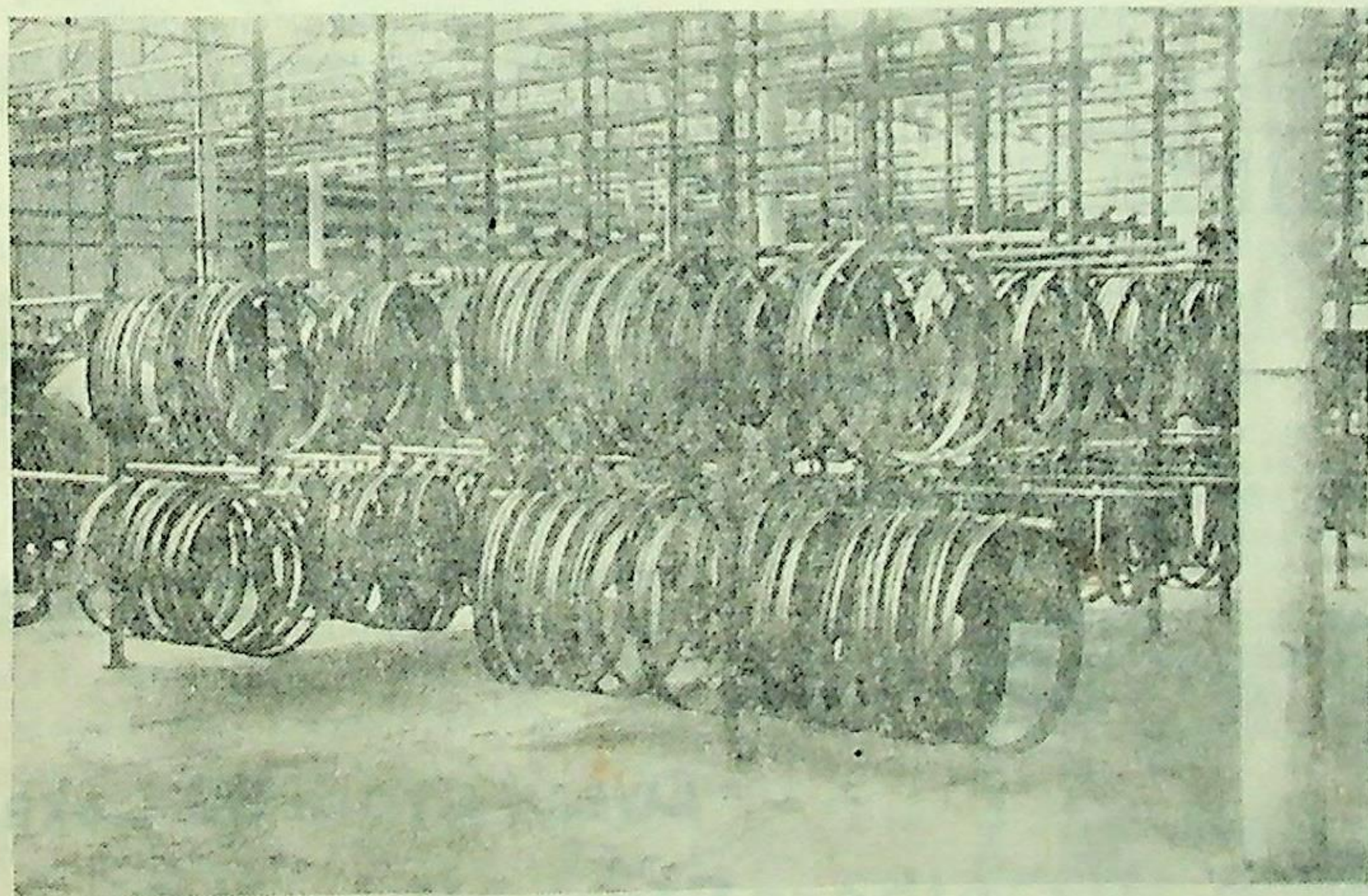
In this photograph is a section of the laboratories. These are a very essential part of the factory equipment. All raw materials pass through them for microscopic examination before use, and experimental work is proceeding all the time.



This illustrates building of a motor car tyre. It is a semi-automatic operation. The raw cover is composed of a cotton casing suitably insulated, the tyre beads which retain the tyre in its correct position on the wheel rim and the rubber tread which protects the cotton casing from damage in use.



This illustrates one of the many physical tests applied to raw materials before they are utilised. This photograph illustrates the test applied to the cotton cords before they are processed. These tests are conducted scientifically and include elongation, elastic limit and tensile strength.



This illustrates a quantity of cycle covers awaiting vulcanisation, the process of which is similar to that already described, but because it is so much smaller than the tyres already shown, the vulcanising process takes only a few minutes.

[Photos—Courtesy of Dunlop Rubber Co. Limited]

impossible demands and it has no other alternative but to carry on somehow with the help of these War Committee members, all that we can say is that it would be a position regrettable in the extreme and must be avoided at all costs.

Britain needs in this critical hour the solid backing of the Indian masses. Things are being bungled in such a way that instead of securing their good-will and co-operation dissatisfaction and discontent are spreading fast among them, if the allegations made by congressmen are to be believed. It is alleged, for example, that compulsory levies for war purposes are being collected from Zamindars, Kisans, industrial workers, government servants and others by Government officials sometimes with the help of police in some provinces specially in U. P. This can only embitter the feeling of the public instead of helping matters. This is apparent from the fact that the U.P.C.C. passed a resolution strongly protesting against these compulsory war levies. The Cawnpore Mazdoor Sabha also held a meeting the other day which vehemently protested against the employers' extortion of contributions for war funds. The large number of arrests that are being made everyday throughout India are also not making the people happy.

These things must be stopped at once if the government wants to win the sympathy and support of the people. The last word has not yet been said and the doors have not yet been banged on either side. It is not yet too late. In view of the grave situation the government must come to a speedy settlement with the three main political parties of India through whom only they can get the active support of the masses instead of relying on the strength of the bourgeoisie who have formed the War Committees and in whom the people have very little confidence if the Government wants to continue vigorously in its war efforts till the final victory is achieved.

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THIS INDIA

By Mallinatha

Bringing Swaraj into disrepute

"The Municipal bodies were the real training grounds for national workers. They are in miniature the real pattern for swaraj they were all longing for."—Mrs. Naidu, Vellore, 14th June.

If that be so, we would like to dissociate ourselves from all longing for swaraj.

Dangling the carrot

"What popular ministries in power could do at this critical moment is not for me to dilate upon."—Dr. T. S. S. Rajan, Vellore, 14th June.

Silence is golden, and highly suggestive.

A travesty of truth

"The verdict of the electorate of this country had been made clear by the resignation of the ministries."—Ibid.

"Electorate of this country" is another name of the Congress Working Committee.

Fi, Fo, Fum

"Mr. Kripalani warned the authorities that Mahatma Gandhi was restraining the youth of the country with great difficulty."—*National Herald* 13th June.

.....from taking to spinning?

Winning the battle, - verbally

"At present, the programme of charkha is invoking little enthusiasm, in spite of the fact that we have full faith in the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi."—Correspondent in the *National Herald*, 21st June.

This is only natural, for the programme of charkha requires some effort while having "full faith in the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi" has only to be glibly repeated.

Revealing a secret

"It is now revealed that more than 15,200 persons have now signed the satyagraha pledge, an increase of over 50% over the previous year's figures."—A. B. Patrika, 9th June.

This is the first public announcement of the fact that the satyagraha pledge was secretly signed by people as early as 1939.

This is really going too far

"The teachers and students of the Jamalpore school met to devise ways and means of pushing out the mass literacy campaign during the long vacation."—A. B. Patrika, 9th June.

How keenly must Dr. Mahmood feel this deliberate "pushing out" of his favourite scheme.

How lucky we are

"The first task of the provincial national Government (of India) will be to enter into alliances with friendly foreign powers, so that India's safety may be completely ensured under all circumstances."—Mr. Subhas Chandra Bose, Kurseong, 8th June.

It is highly gratifying to know that there is at least one country in the world whose safety can be "completely ensured under all circumstances" by simply entering into alliances with friendly foreign powers.

Panicmongers abroad

"Evacuees from Britain. Another batch of 1400 arrive in Bombay."—News heading in the A. B. Patrika, 11th June.

When did the previous batches arrive?

Largely due to tall talk

"Panic and war-scare has reached white-heat in our country."—Maharaj Kumar of Vizianagram on the 9th June.

To those sceptical about the "white heat" we may point out that on the day of this pronouncement, both Patna and Gaya recorded temperatures of over 110°.

Bravery with discretion

"There has been an increase of over 50% in the number of Congressmen who have enrolled themselves as satyagrahis during the past two weeks."—The *National Herald*, 8th June.

These are the fighters who are enlisting after being assured that there will be no fight.

Mr. Gandhi's annotator

"Complete non-violence was not possible in this world. So long as we have a desire to keep our body and soul together we have to resort to violence to a certain extent."—Mr. Kripalani, Sultanpur, 7th June.

What people would like to know is if the modified Kripalanian brand of non-violence has official recognition.

Metaphorical violence

"Babu Purushottam Das Tandon hits the nail on the head of the proposed war committees and civic guards respectively."—*National Herald* 9th June.

Surely a difficult feat, when there are two heads and only one nail.

No guaranteeing of miracles

"Once the spirit of self-defence gets into the marrow of our bones, miracles will become possible."—Mr. Asaf Ali.

Three lakhs of brave Belgians laid down their lives in self-defence, but the miracles all happened on the wrong side.

Sacrificing principle to expediency

"Public confidence is necessary to back work connected with the war. This is evidently a sphere of popular leadership."—*National Herald*, 4th June.

It is also evident that "popular leadership" is only too willing to come back and support an "Imperialist War."

How terrible

"Under the auspices of the Mussoorie Satyagraha Committee there was an impressive spinning demonstration in the Landour Bazar. About a dozen Congress workers participated in the demonstration."—*National Herald*, 4th June.

Some people are so easily impressed!

Violating a fundamental property of matter

"There was a large gathering at Madras railway station to receive Mrs. Naidu including Mr. C. Rajagopalachariar."—A. B. Patrika, 9th June.

We have tried hard to visualise the statement but signally failed.

An easy way discovered

"British Imperialism could be ended by political action, if only our leaders play their cards well."—Ibid.

It is a pity that Hitler did not learn playing cards or he would have attained his object without sacrificing millions of German lives.

Another fifth column

"Khaksar-Polish clash."—Contents bill of Patna Congress daily, June 27.

Is this another evidence of the Khaksars' German affinity?

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The Pageant of Indian Politics

By Monitor

At the time of writing India awaits on the tiptoe of expectation the outcome of the interviews between His Excellency the Viceroy and Mr. Jinnah on the one hand and the Viceroy and Mahatma Gandhi on the other. Political speculators have indulged in a variety of speculations during the week. Some have suggested that a big political advance has been planned for India which will materialise as soon as these interviews are over. Others have struck a pessimistic note and have said that the Government are not prepared to go beyond their original offer of an expanded Executive Council of the Governor General. A third group of speculators have dilated on differences that are said to exist between Simla and Whitehall. Of them one section has suggested that Simla is more advanced than London while another has credited London with more progressive ideas and has held the conservatism of Simla responsible for the present stalemate.

Speculations centred also around the prospect of the introduction in Parliament of a Bill to amend the Government of India Act, 1935. It was suggested by more than one correspondent that in view of the uncertainties of the European War and the probability of the break-down of communications between England and India, the amending Bill would absolve the Governor-General from liability to take orders from the Secretary of State. On the hypothesis that this would make the Government of India virtually autonomous, free from the control of Britain, it was suggested that the Viceroy would utilise his new status completely to reconcile Indian opinion.

How far the Viceroy will go on his own initiative in his forthcoming interviews with Mahatma Gandhi and Mr. Jinnah remains yet a matter of expectant speculation. But the bubble about his new status has been pricked and that by no less a person than Mr. Amery himself. The speeches which the Secretary of State delivered in the House of Commons were remarkable for the frankness with which he attacked the gathering illusions about the contents of the Bill. He pointed out that the Bill aimed at nothing more than empowering the Viceroy to conscript European British subjects resident in India without the permission of the Secretary of State which power the Viceroy does not possess under the present Government of India Act. Beyond this the Bill does not go an inch. To use Mr. Amery's own words: "The present Bill has no constitutional significance.....It does not affect the existing constitution of India in any respect...

.....This modification of the India Act (partial transference of power to the Governor General) is strictly limited in more than one direction. In the first instance it extends not to the Indian Legislature but only to the Governor General acting, as the phrase is, in his discretion.....I have been asked the effect of this Bill on Indian British subjects, the Indian Legislature and the powers and status of India in her progress towards self-government. The Bill affects

none of these things." These are clear statements and leave absolutely no room for any speculation about the improvement of the status of India as a result of the enactment of this measure.

But that is precisely the reason why the Bill and the speeches of the Secretary of State in support of it are to be deplored in India. One is regretfully led to think that the Secretary of State has lost another splendid opportunity to reconcile India. The Indian *impasse* might have speedily come to an end had the Bill been more extensive in its scope. The present

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European situation provides an excellent background for the peaceful transference of power from the British to the Indian people. Mr. Amery himself is also quite aware of this background. It is to be noted that the reason officially assigned for the present Bill is the probability of the breakdown of communications between England and India. In view of that probability the Viceroy has been made partially free from the control of the Secretary of State. Had the latter gone a single step forward he might have freed the Governor-General-in-Council completely from the control of Whitehall in regard to the governance of India. Another step forward and the Governor-General-in-Council might have been made responsible to the Central Legislature. The same argument which justifies the Bill in its present form would have justified it in the other form also.

It is obvious that the Secretary of State did not adopt a progressive course deliberately. That leads to only one inference. The British Government even in their existing conditions are not prepared to make India free. In view of this attitude of the British Government it is difficult to regard as anything better than pious platitudes Mr. Amery's declaration that the present Bill "does not interfere in any way with consultations with leading representatives of Indian political opinion with regard to any matter concerning the defence or welfare or the future constitution or development in India." Similarly, it does not seem rational to expect that from the interviews which are now taking place in Simla anything of "major importance" will emerge.

All this is deplorable—more so because a tremendous amount of good will for Britain yet exists in India. Of the other political parties including the Muslim League, not much need be said. Their offer of cooperation has already exceeded the bounds of a mere offer. The Congress, of course,

still keeps up the appearance of non-cooperation. But this also is more apparent than real. Deliberately the Congress has not embarrassed the British Government in the prosecution of the war. At its last meeting at Wardha the Congress Working Committee has adopted a resolution which is extremely significant. The declaration of its difference of opinion with Gandhiji in regard to the application of the principle of non-violence to India's defence is nothing if it is not an indirect announcement of its readiness to cooperate with the British Government in the prosecution of the war in every manner that may be determined by the military experts. It has, indeed, made itself free to plunge into a country-wide recruitment campaign as soon as India is made responsible for her own defence and a willing partner in the War. It will be the greatest tragedy of history if the British Government ignore this gesture of goodwill and force conscription on an unwilling country as has been hinted by Mr. Amery in his speech in the House of Commons.

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An Economic Miscellany

By Economicus

The Banking situation

The banking situation in India is a little confusing. The position of the big banks is quite satisfactory. They have discovered no signs of panic. The scheduled banks' returns are quite satisfactory from every point of view. Their current accounts and fixed deposits are both higher than in last August. Bills discounted and advances were both larger on June 7 than on August 25. Advances however decreased by 5 lakhs during the first week of June. In May and June there were slightly larger withdrawals of deposits than usual but these never assumed alarming proportions. On May 31, the balances with the Reserve Bank fell to 15,42 lakhs but recovered during the next week to 19,63 lakhs. The position of the scheduled banks is thus quite good. But some of the smaller banks feel a bit shaken. There is loss of confidence in the business community. The public have rightly the greatest faith in the solvency of our bigger banks. Their position is impregnable. Withdrawal of deposits is a foolish thing to do. If money is kept at home that will only invite the attentions of thieves and robbers as many have found to their cost. The feeling of the absence of confidence requires however to be vigorously combated. The sovereign remedy of want of confidence is the liberal extension of credit. Let there be no stinting of credit towards the smaller banks and business men finding themselves in difficulties owing to the war situation.

Bihar Labour Enquiry

I have not read the report of the Bihar Labour Enquiry Committee (Rajendra Prasad Committee) but the published summary of its recommendations impresses me. If all its recommendations are carried into effect Bihar shall be the most advanced province in India from the working class point of view. Minimum wage, compulsory provident fund and holidays with leave are three of the outstanding recommendations. For women workers maternity benefits on the lines of the U. P. Legislation are to be provided. A Debt Conciliation Act for workers is proposed and the creation of a Debt Redemption fund by employers is suggested. With regard to recruitment and conditions of employment the democratic right of the workers to have a voice in these matters is recognised. Perhaps I can best express the nature of the

reforms proposed by observing that henceforth the rule of law is to prevail in these fields, law in whose framing the workers have participated fully. The Government are asked to lay down minimum standards of housing and to impose a statutory obligation on all industries to provide housing on an adequate scale, so far as their financial resources permit.

In respect of trade unionism and industrial peace the recommendations on the whole faithfully follow the lines of the well-known labour legislation of the Congress Ministry of Bombay. The recognition of trade unions fulfilling certain minimum conditions is made obligatory on the employers. All strikes and lockouts without notice are to be prohibited. They will not be permitted so long as conciliation proceedings are in progress. These are however to be completed within a specified period. This amply secures the worker's right to strike. There is to be no compulsory arbitration which, by the way, is the first step towards fascism. There is to be an Indus.

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trial Court charged with validating and enforcing the agreements between the employers and the workers. The Provincial Government will administer its labour legislation and maintain industrial peace through a Labour Commissioner who bids fair to be the busiest man in the province.

Our Foreign Trade

During the first eight months of the war our export trade registered a remarkable improvement. It amounted to more than Rs. 156 crores as compared with a little over Rs. 116 crores during the corresponding period of the previous year. But of late the position has been deteriorating. There are complaints that our export trade is being subjected by the Government to throttling restrictions. Seventy per cent of the shipping space is reserved for the transport of war materials purchased by the British Government. But these, it must be remembered, form part of our exports. Goods sent to Britain enjoy a priority in respect of the remaining 30 per cent. Certificates and license have to be obtained under stringent conditions for exports to non-Allied Countries. The Government of India have set up an Export Advisory Council to meet the difficulties of the export trade. The Council met recently at Simla. Though its non-official members including Mr. Nalini Ranjan Sarkar and Sir Homi Mody are reported to have expressed satisfaction with its deliberations, those engaged in trade grumble in no uncertain fashion. Their discontent is understandable. The entry of Italy into the war and the conclusion of an armistice by France have delivered fresh blows to our trade. The war has so to say come to India. If Germany and Italy make a serious bid to lay seige to Britain, our export trade is bound to suffer a still further serious decline. Undoubtedly it is the duty of the Government of India to do every thing in its power to further our export trade. It is equally the duty of Indian businessmen to realise that in the coming months when the fate of the world will be decided they must shed the *bania* mentality and learn to view things in their proper perspective. If it comes to a war to death between the British Empire and the Fascist dictatorships Indian economy must more and more approach self-sufficiency. It is best to reconcine ourselves to declining foreign trade in the immediate future.

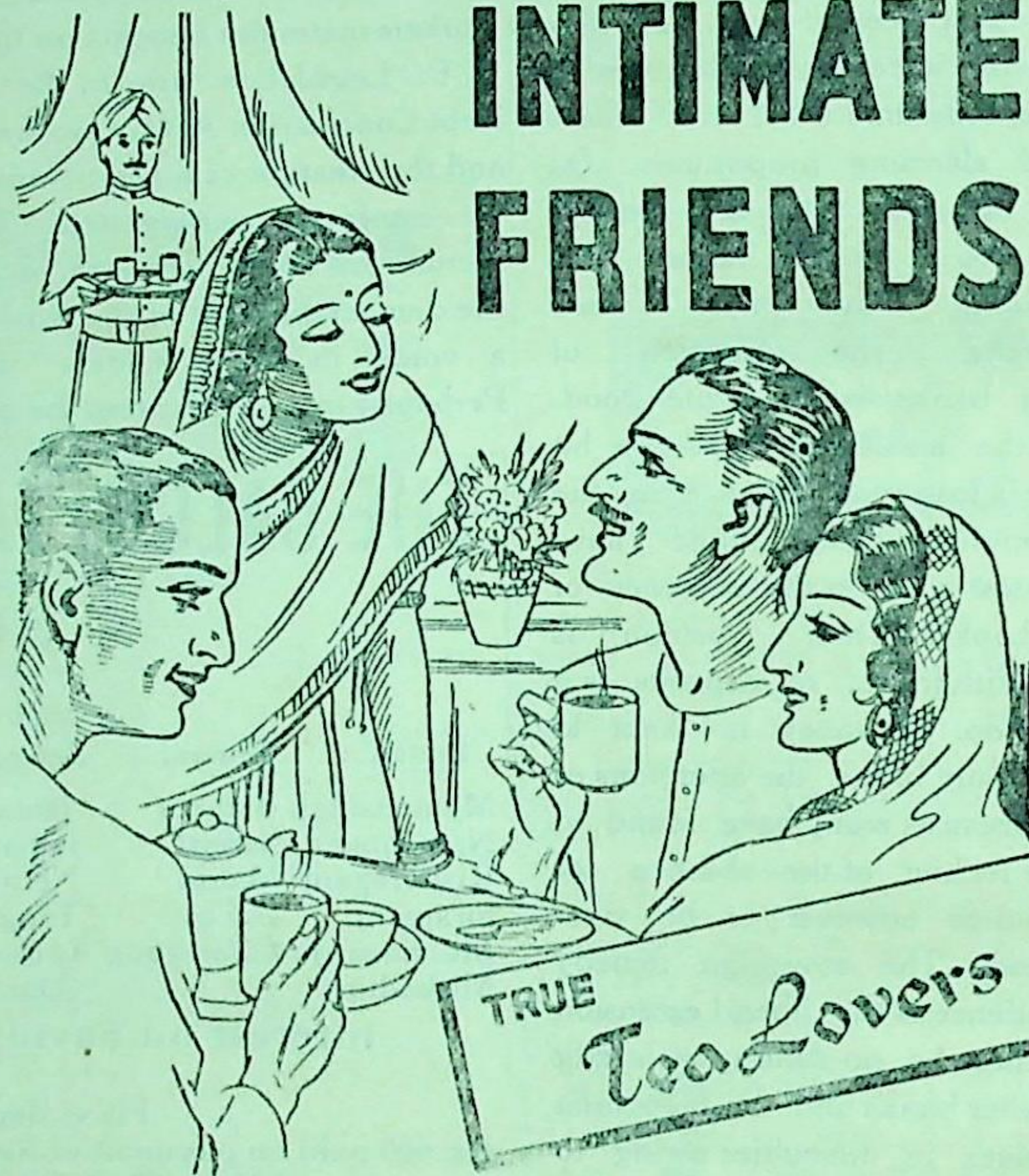
Sugar Syndicate disintegrates

The Sugar Syndicate has got what it deserved at the hands of the U. P. and Bihar Governments. In consultation with the Sugar Control Board these two Governments have decided to cancel the rule under which it is necessary to be a member of the

Syndicate in order to get a crushing license. This restores freedom of action to those members of the Syndicate who have been chafing under the suicidal restrictions imposed by the Syndicate. On giving due notice, they will be free after September 30 to sell sugar at any price they choose. The Syndicate's policy of fixing a high basic price has resulted in a dangerous accumulation of stocks which it knows not how to clear. The Syndicate is directly responsible

for the substantial recapture of the Indian sugar market by Java. Recently it held out a threat that it would advise the factories not to take out crushing licenses next season unless the Government announced a considerable reduction in cane prices. The Government have rightly refused to submit to bullying. The Sugar Syndicate has been a colossal failure. The sooner it goes, the better for all concerned.

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Parting of

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Through The X'Ray

By Politicus

Parting of ways

What a fuss!—Mr. Gandhi has left the Congress. The newspapers are talking of nothing else than the so-called parting of ways between Mr. Gandhi and the Congress Working Committee. Deafening—the yells and the shrieks that are rising in this connection. The Working Committee has issued a long statement on this subject in which it has declared that in view of its inability to go the whole-hog with Mr. Gandhi the committee recognises that "he should be free to pursue his great ideal in his own way" and therefore, absolves him "from responsibility for programme and activities which Congress has to pursue under conditions at present prevailing in India in regard to internal and external disorder." For blatant charlatanism this is unbeatable. What a tall pretension it conceals! Mark the arrogant claim that forms the basis of this declaration! The Working Committee has spoken as if it has already been vested with the sole responsibility with regard to "external and internal disorder" and as if, were it to accept the

advice of Mr. Gandhi, external aggression and internal chaos would forthwith seize India! And the other claim that is concealed is equally interesting and equally arrogant and that is that the Congress has hitherto conformed strictly to Mr. Gandhi's principle of non-violence. Now remember, my friends, the number of imprisonments, lathi charges and shootings that stand to the credit of the Congress Ministries and you will appreciate the present trumpeting of this co-called difference. The institution which, while in power, flagrantly violated Mr. Gandhi's principles is certainly the best qualified to declare its difference with Mr. Gandhi when it has no power at all!

Non-violence of the strong

All the same, you cannot say that the members of the Committee have no brain. They have a lot of it and they know quite well which side the toast is buttered. This very statement in which it has heroically assumed the responsibility for the defence of the country with tanks, machine-guns and dive bombers contains also the re-

declaration of its faith in non-violence for the struggle for India's freedom. "The Congress must continue to adhere strictly to the principle of non-violence in their struggle for independence,"—runs this momentous redeclaration of faith. Do you feel puzzled to reconcile these two parts of one and the same statement? If so, I shall presently help you out of it. The Congress leaders know as well as you and I do that for resisting the Nazis and those who create internal trouble in India the violent weapons will be supplied either by the British Government or their agents in India? But for fighting the British Government in India?—Well, the Congress leaders know that they have to depend on their *charkhas* and their capacity to pester the British Government's officers with periodical threats and importunities. Non-violence is convenient in the fight for Swaraj while it assuredly is not in its application against Hitler. Now think of the whole thing. What superb tact it is on the part of the Congress leaders to use this double-edged sword? Belief in both violence and non-violence at the same time and repudiating Gandhiji and yet retaining his leadership! And the paying of what rich compliments to the goodness of heart of the British people in the assumption that they will surely yield to non-violent warfare! Won't you call it

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statesmanship? And the non-violence which the Congress has now declared anew?—Well, it is certainly the non-violence of the strong!

This going out

The Working Committee and Mr. Gandhi have parted company—so runs the wail of those who have hitherto banked on the capital of Mr. Gandhi's name and prestige. But have they really? My reply is emphatically no. Do not think that the "old guards" of the Congress are so foolish as to risk the greatest asset they have on their side. You remember Mr. M. N. Roy's slogan of alternative leadership. You certainly remember also Mr. Subhas Bose's challenge to the present High Command of the Congress. The phenomenal success of the latter in the presidential election before Tripuri could be counteracted only by the throwing of Mr. Gandhi's weight on the side of the Rightists. In the last presidential election which was fought on the slogan of alternative leadership, Mr. M. N. Roy sustained a crushing defeat largely because Mr. Gandhi did not repeat his mistake of the year before and took good care to make his choice of Maulana Azad known sufficiently in time before the election. At Ramgarh the ringing victory of the Rightists was determined by the presentation of Mr. Gandhi on the stage by the directors of the show. All these are recent history and, I suppose, you remember these episodes as well as I do. Do you think the Rightists are of such short memory as to forget these facts and risk their own position by letting Mr. Gandhi go out of the Congress? Nothing of the sort. They have taken good care to continue to exploit the name and the prestige of Mr. Gandhi to ensure the continuation of their control over the Congress as against the danger of invasion by the Boseites or the Royists. That is the secret of their unchanging faith in non-violence for the struggle for India's freedom; that is the explanation of their declaration that Mr. Gandhi is absolved only from the responsibility of working out the Congress programme for dealing with external and internal disorder. As for Mr. Gandhi's going out of the Congress,—well, he has gone so many times out of it that his going out again need not be considered at all. By the way, did Mr. Gandhi at all come back in the Congress that his going out should be so loudly trumpeted? Rest assured, he shall remain what he is—the de facto dictator of the Congress without being even a four-anna member of the organisation.

Political Bankruptcy

But seriously speaking, is there no one

with sufficient influence to persuade the Congress to go into voluntary liquidation? It is high time it should do so. It has bungled and mismanaged the affairs of India for a bit too long—especially since the beginning of the present war. It has uttered words and eaten them without the faintest blush of embarrassment. It has massacred logic and commonsense with a ruthlessness which even Hitler may imitate with profit. Think only of its latest resolution. Have you known any better instance of the combination of bravado and impotence? I have not. It recognises the necessity of violence for self-defence to the extent of repudiating Mr. Gandhi's doctrine of non-violence. Yet it must indulge in the Quixotic parade of non-co-operation with War Committees and Civic Guards. It reiterates for the hundredth time its abhorrence of

Hitlerism, yet it does not recommend the lifting of even the little finger in support of the Allies. Not even the tuft of hair of the independence it demands is anywhere to be seen within hundreds of miles, yet it worries about the question of "maintenance of independence." Can absurdity go any further? And think also of the Ramgarh resolution and the "preparations" that have been going on for *Satyagrah*! Bluff, bluff and nothing but bluff. The worst about it is that it is the bluff of the impotent. The Congress has brought about complete stagnation in the political life by pursuing an utterly senseless policy. It stands now as the symbol of the most tragic political bankruptcy masquerading as the highest morality.

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The Queen of the Camelias

It is rarely one comes across so beautiful an exposition of the aesthetics of tea drinking as in the delightful work—*The Book of Tea*—which was written by Okakura Kakuzo, the well-known Japanese poet and essayist of the 19th century:

"The Philosophy of Tea is not mere aestheticism in the ordinary acceptance of the term, for it expresses conjointly with ethics and religion our whole point of view about man and nature. It is hygiene, for it enforces cleanliness; it is economics, for it shows comfort in simplicity rather than in the complex and costly; it is moral geometry, inasmuch as it defines our sense of proportion to the universe. It represents the true spirit of Eastern democracy by making all its votaries aristocrats in taste."

"The outsider may indeed wonder at this seeming much ado about nothing. What a tempest in a tea-cup! he will say. But when we consider how small after all the cup of human enjoyment is, how soon overflowed with tears, how easily drained to the dregs is our quenchless thirst for infinity, we shall not blame ourselves for making so much of the tea cup. Mankind has done worse. In the worship of Bacchus, we have sacrificed too freely; and we have even transfigured the gory image of Mars. Why not consecrate ourselves to the Queen of the Camelias, and revel in the warm stream of sympathy that flows from her altar? In the liquid amber within the ivory porcelain, the initiated may touch the sweet reticence of Confucius, the piquancy of Laotse, and the ethereal aroma of Sakyamuni himself."

The Hindu Defence Fund

The following appeal has been issued by Swami Satyananda, President Hindu Mission:—

The undersigned invites contribution from the generous Hindu public towards the Hindu Defence Fund started by the Hindu Mission in order to combat the growing communal tensions and crimes against women. It is to our weakness and dis-union that these evils could grow and thrive and has now become a menace to the very existence of our noble race in the eastern districts of India. Think for a moment of the precarious life of the Hindus in any part of this area, parti-

A Chemists' Tea Party

Mr. N. Mukherjee, Manager, Bihar Biological & Chemical Agency, Patna, Behar Depot for Bengal Immunity Co., Ltd, & Indian Research Institute., Ltd, invited all the chemists of Bankipur, Khagaul, Dinapur and Patna City to tea on the afternoon of 23rd June.

cularly in villages, where they are hopeless minorities. Nothing can save us until and unless we stand together, prepared to resist any communal aggression and any attack on the honour of our mothers and sisters.

We are now passing through the most critical time of our history and having realised fully the gravity of the situation we should make the utmost sacrifice in defence of our hearth and home. All contributions should be sent to the undersigned who will acknowledge the same with thanks. Cheques should be drawn in the name of the 'Hindu-Mission' and crossed.

Swami Satyananda,
32B, Harish Chatterji St.
Kalgihat, Calcutta.

Yoga Books Preserved for 6000 Years

The greatest historical project of the world to-day known as the Crypt of Civilization undertaken by the Oglethorpe University of America five years ago to preserve the essentials of human civilization for posterity has been finally sealed on the 25th May 1940.

The Advisory Committee of experts appointed by the university for the purposes of Crypt selected the official publications of the Yoga Institute, Bombay, as the most authentic sources of knowledge contained in Books on the secret practices of Yoga. These books edited by Shri Yogendra, the Founder President of the Yoga Institute, and the pioneer of scientific Yoga movement, have been microfilmed page by page and preserved in the archives of the Crypt which is to remain inviolate until 8113 A. D. This Yoga books have thus the unique distinction of serving as a link between the Yogic technique of 5000 years ago to the world of the future 6000 years hence.

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They say that this is to be an economic war as much as a military engagement. Government insists upon the importance of maintaining export trade within the Empire. Yet manufacturers, perturbed by transport difficulties, are cancelling their advertising. They are losing the goodwill value



of their famous names. They are throwing away the cumulative effect of maybe twenty years publicity, in a market where repetition and continuity are the Vitamins A and B of successful trading.

It is as though they were cancelling their insurance policies two years before they mature. Wise manufacturers, their eyes steadfastly set on the future, see beyond the present restrictions and difficulties ; they see not only the future of the war period, when transport facilities will be organised properly and goods in as great a demand as ever, but also



beyond to the great period of restoration which follows any war. Keep on advertising, fellows ! The man who doesn't will pay for your future success.



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