

The Behar Herald.

Bankipur, Saturday, Nov. 1, 1919.

INDIANS IN THE POLICE SERVICE.

Some time ago, we gave expression to the dissatisfaction which exists in the rank and file of the Indian section of the Police Department at the sorry prospects of the Service and the invidious colour line which appears to be drawn between Indians and Europeans in the Department.

The grievance is an old one. There have been heaps of literature on the subject and several Commissions have examined it. But the matter remains pretty nearly where it was a quarter of a century ago. And so we do not wonder when we come across the following passage in the Government resolution on the administration of the Police Department in Bihar and Orissa in 1918:—

"During the year 51 officers and 313 men, were added to the sanctioned strength of the subordinate police force, which on 31st December 1918 was 14,691. These increases were mainly in the armed reserves. The actual strength, however, fell short of the sanctioned strength by 121 officers and 918 men owing to the transfer towards the close of the year, of over 900 men to the 1—133rd (Bihar and Orissa) Regiment: this regiment has since been disbanded and the men reabsorbed. The casualties in the force amounted to 82 per cent. against 65 per cent in 1917. The increase is accounted for by a larger number of deaths and resignations. It is disappointing to have to record a continuance of resignations in spite of the improvements in pay mentioned in paragraph 83 of the Report, but the scheme to which effect was given in 1918, was based on pre-war conditions and the whole question is being re-examined. The force suffered from last year's influenza epidemic, but its health generally was good.

"The literacy of the force was 99 per cent amongst officers and 65 per cent amongst men, and the Inspector-General reports that the educational qualifications of the newly-enlisted Sub-Inspectors were fairly satisfactory. The efforts that have been made, however, to attract a better stamp of candidate have not met with much success and the majority of the newly-recruited Sub-Inspectors do not reach the desired standard either in social status or personal qualifications. Quick intelligence, sound physique and active habits are among the first qualities required in an investigating officer, but it has become increasingly difficult to obtain recruits who possess them."

The resolution does not examine the causes underlying the continuance of resignations in the Police force in spite of the so-called "improvements in pay." Nor does it examine the question why the newly recruited Sub-Inspectors do not reach the desired standard either in social status or personal qualifications. Neither does it hold out any hope that steps would be taken to improve the present state of things.

In the course of his evidence before the Public Services Commission, Mr. Hughes Baller, the then Inspector General of Police, Bengal, gave expression to the following exquisite sentiment:—

"I see no reason why the Police Service should be thrown open to Indians. The Force requires a large number of British officers. If the examination was thrown open, there would be the danger of a large number of Indians entering the Service."

And Mr. Dindas, who was then, as he is still, the Inspector-General in this province merely echoed the cry of Mr. Baller minus the one or two good things the latter said of the Indian Police. Under any circumstances he did not wish the five per cent fixed for Indians in the Imperial Service to be in any way increased, though when heckled by Mr. Abdur R. him as to the alleged incapacity of Indians he had to admit that he was not prepared to substantiate his proposition by facts and conceded that his proposition might be absolutely unsound as a general proposition.

The policy of the Government of Bengal has since then undergone substantial changes and though Indian officers are still relegated to life-long inferiority, a scheme of improving their pay and prospects has been announced for public criticism. The Government of Bihar and Orissa is still sitting on the fence and its attitude may be, for aught we know, the same as that of its Inspector General. The mentality which sees no reason why the Police Service, maintained for "Indians with Indian money, should be thrown open to Indians cannot be expected to trouble itself with the causes of the large number of resignations in the force or with the paucity of recruits of the desired standard. And so "as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be world without end."

AN UNMERITED ATTACK ON INDIAN ASSISTANT SURGEONS.

II.

We have shown in our last issue that there was no justification for the worthless attempt made by several provincial governments to throw the entire responsibility for the heavy mortality and sickness in jails on the unhappy Indian Assistant Surgeons who were placed as medical officers or superintendents of jails during the absence on military duty of the officers of the Indian Medical Service. We showed how in every province, save Bihar and Orissa, the figures of death and illness rose and fell, during the quinquennium ending 1917 and that the decrease in many cases was extremely favourable and steady compared with the figures of the first two years of the quinquennium, when the work was done by the European officers.

In Bihar and Orissa, however, we have had a different state of things, as will appear from the following table:—

Years.	Ratio per mille of average strength.	
	Of daily average number sick.	Of deaths.
1913	30.3	19.6
1914	28.8	16.9
1915	30.1	25.0
1916	39.5	32.8
1917	43.1	32.9
1918	71.9	63.4

This steady deterioration of the health in the jails of the province has naturally made the bureaucratic conscience uneasy. It was evident that the Lieutenant Governor would be expected to move in the matter. Having been powerless to effect any improvement, the bureaucracy has to whitewash. And so we find the Lieutenant Governor in Council delivering himself of the following denunciation:—

"Ever since the officers of the Indian Medical Service were recalled to military duty, the death rate in the jails has shown a steady increase. During 1918 none of the central jails and only three of the district jails were in charge of the officers of this service; and it is difficult to resist the conclusion that the officers of the

Provincial Service, who have taken their places as medical officers or superintendents, without previous experience of jail work, have been unable to adapt themselves to it or to control their subordinates."

The first conclusion to which the lay reader would arrive on going through the above passage would be that the three jails which continued to be in the charge of officers of the Indian Medical Service were the only oases of salubrity amidst the desert of sickness and mortality which all the other jails had become on account of being placed in the charge of Indian Assistant Surgeons. Now one of those happy districts still blessed with the all-healing presence of an officer belonging to the Indian Medical Service is Patna. This particular officer happens to be one of the ablest and most experienced in the whole service. The Bankipur jail has been in his charge for the last ten years or so. Let us examine the state of things in this paradise among jails. Mirabile dictu! In this jail, favoured as if by a special dispensation of a Superintendent belonging to the Indian Medical Service, the ratio per mille of deaths was 72.8 in 1918 as against 48.4 in the previous year! It will be noticed that the rate of mortality in this jail in both the years was considerably heavier than the average rate for the whole province! Another district jail which had had the good fortune of being superintended by an officer of the Indian Medical Service was the Ranchi jail in which the rate of mortality was 71.1, which, again, is much heavier than the figure for the whole province.

We need not pursue the subject further. The administration report of the department gives the Inspector-General's own explanation of the heavy sickness and mortality. It is a document which unfolds an amazing tale of red tape the moral adorning which should be the last nail on the coffin of bureaucratic infallibility. For the edification of our readers, we reproduce it in full, the italics being ours:—

"The circumstances which have been mainly responsible for such high rates of sickness and mortality during the year are (1) overcrowding, (2) the wretched state of health of a large proportion of the prisoners admitted during the year, and (3) the epidemic outbreak of Influenza. The overcrowding which was common to all jails was worse in jails of Bihar and Purulia jail in the Chota Nagpur Division. In the case of the Bihar jails it was almost entirely due to the admission of a very large number of prisoners in connection with the Bakrid Riots which took place about the close of 1917 in the districts of Shahabad and Gaya while in the case of Purulia it was due to the large number of arrests made in connection with a widespread outbreak of dacoities in the Manbhum District. The occurrence of riots in Shahabad was immediately followed by a large number of arrests, which led to a very serious overcrowding in the jails at Arrah. This was relieved at first by transfers to neighbouring jails. The number of prisoners however continued to increase and relief by transfer became soon impossible. I therefore decided to establish a camp at Arrah to accommodate all undertrials committed in connection with the riots and accordingly visited Arrah on the 25th October 1917 to find out the approximate number of prisoners for whom extra accommodation would need to be provided. The local officers gave me to understand that the number of arrests would go up to 1,500. I therefore recommended to Government for the erection of a camp measuring 300 x 300 yards making provision for the accommodation of 2,000 prisoners at 45 square yards per prisoner since the Police

wanted to have a permanent camp enclosed by barbed wire entanglements, but unfortunately the camp which was actually provided measured only 175 x 175 yards giving only about $\frac{1}{4}$ (sic) of area proposed by me. Our difficulties were further accentuated by the fact that the number of prisoners arrested and sent to jail from time to time aggregated 3,560 against the original estimate of 1,500. This led to a very serious overcrowding of both the camp and District jails. In December 1917 the daily average population of the camp jail was 1,859 and the maximum number on any one day 2,064 giving a superficial area per head of only 6 and 7 yards respectively. In January 1918 the daily average population of the camp jail was 1,627 and the maximum number on any one day 1,801 with a superficial area of 8 and 7 square yards per head. In February the daily average population fell to 1,675 and the maximum number of 1,625 against a space accommodation for 291 men at 45 square yards per head and for 525 men at 25 square yards which was the absolute minimum suggested by Colonel Bell in the joint report submitted by us to Government. In the district jail the average population in December 1917 was 803 and maximum number 1,034. In January 1918, these figures were 978 and 1,059, respectively. In February the average population and the maximum numbers were 445 and 745 respectively against the registered accommodation of 349. It will be seen from the above figures that the camp and district jails were seriously overcrowded and in submitting our joint note to Government in February 1918 I urged the immediate extension of accommodation but in view of the hot weather which would, in the opinion of Government, have made life under canvas almost intolerable, the difficulty of guarding the camp Jails and the fact that the trials were drawing to a close Government decided to break up the camp Jails and transfer the whole of its population to the district Jail. *This decision to which effect was given on the 25th March was in my opinion largely responsible for the deterioration in the health of the prisoners.* The overcrowding in the district jail made it imperative to transfer the men immediately on their conviction to other Jails without reference to the provision of Jail Code Rules 851 and 855. *A large number of old and decrepit men as well as of those who were in bad health and were suffering from dysentery or tuberculosis or other diseases were thus sent to other jails which became full to overflowing and whose health on account of the miserable condition of those men suffered a serious set back.* The Gaya jail was also seriously overcrowded on account of a large number of admissions in connection with the riots which took place in that district. The average population of the jail for several months during the early part of the year was close upon 1,200 and though the overcrowding was relieved in the sleeping barracks by accommodating the excess numbers in the enclosed verandahs, the space overcrowding could not be avoided.

"The Purulia jail as has been shown elsewhere in this report was very seriously overcrowded which could not be relieved as it was impossible to transfer undertrials to other districts.

"The wretched state of health of the prisoners admitted during the year may be judged from the fact that out of a total of 3,516 men admitted in connection with the Shahabad riots, 200 men were in bad and 1,350 in indifferent health giving a ratio of 44 per cent. of the total number admitted.

"Many of these men were very old or old and decrepit, several were Tuberculous subjects and a good many were suffering from bowel complaints of which they died in large numbers and the virus of which they communicated to

local prisoners in other jails to which they were transferred. The same remarks apply to the health of the rioters admitted in the Central jail at Gaya. Large numbers of these men were in bad health and they are believed to have introduced Cerebro-spinal fever which caused such a large mortality in the jail. The number of Mayurbhanj prisoners received during the year was small but all of them were in a very bad state of health on admission, and were responsible for the serious outbreak of Cholera which occurred in the Bhagalpur jail. The influence of the admission of the rioters and Mayurbhanj prisoners on the mortality of the jails can be best realized from the fact that out of a total of 580 deaths which took place in the jails no less than 263 occurred among rioters and 22 among Mayurbhanj prisoners while a considerable proportion of the mortality among the other inmates of the jails was also due directly or indirectly to these men on account of their bringing with them infection of such dangerous diseases as Dysentery, Cholera and Cerebro-spinal fever which caused a large number of deaths among the local prisoners.

"In the jail at Purnia 1,288 undertrials were admitted during the year, of whom fully 50 per cent if not more were in a bad or indifferent state of health and among the latter many were distinctly suffering from Tuberculosis and bowel complaints. These facts coupled with the admission of a batch of Bakrid rioters, in a very wretched state of health explain the unprecedented sickness and mortality in this jail.

"The third and the last factor responsible for excessive sickness and mortality among the prisoners was the epidemic outbreak of Influenza. According to recorded statistics it caused 1,625 cases and 87 deaths though as I have already stated in a previous paragraph the actual number of cases and deaths from this disease was considerably more."

SIR SANKARAN NAIR'S ARTICLE ON "DISCONTENT and Repression in India" published in the first number of *United India*, the new weekly which Mrs. Besant has started in England, will be read with deep interest and every Indian will endorse his views on the blundering policy of repression pursued for some time in this country. Speaking of the Punjab, Sir Sankaran says:—

"The Punjab had the reputation of being the most loyal province, yet the head of the province who was never tired of contrasting, in season and out of season, the sacrifices made by the Punjab and its loyalty with the agitation for Home Rule carried on in the rest of India, had to leave that province like a thief in the night, after proclaiming martial law in that area."

The details of the thrilling escape are given by the *Bombay Chronicle*. "Contrary to practice it was after many days of his departure and when he was well past Aden that the *Gazette of India* announced his separation from office." Lord Curzon, it may be remembered, never returned to Bengal after he had left it dismembered. Sir Michael, it appears, has however, profited by the war time camouflage which used to protect the movements of our ministers and generals. But why?

SIR SANKARAN NAIR HAS, HOWEVER, AN important suggestion to make. Says he:—

No measure calculated to deprive a man of the liberty of his person or of property, no measure suppressing freedom of speech in any form, should be allowed to be passed by the Executive Government in India without Indian opinion

thereon being considered by the people of Britain. Such repressive measures should in future—in practice, as hitherto in theory—be issued only by the people of Britain, if and when they are opposed to the opinion of the representatives of the people of India.

ONE OF THE BEST OF THE "CHAUFFEUR" stories is about Lord Curzon:

"Be here at 10," said the late Viceroy to his chauffeuse, one of a war-time legion who had set him down at a London address.

"Right," said the woman touching her cap and driving away.

"Chauffeuse," said George Nathaniel, "come back." And when she had come—

"I am accustomed," he said, "to be called 'My Lord.'"

"And I," said the chauffeuse, "am accustomed to be called 'My Lady,'" and she drove away too quickly for Lord Curzon to discover her identity (She was Lady Belper). It is said that this upset him greatly for many days.

THE JUDGMENT OF THE HIGH COURT IN THE case of the Satyagrahi Lawyers is, to say the least highly unsatisfactory. It has shirked the issue. The logical outcome of the judgment should have been punishment and not a postponement of it. The lawyers in question had shown no repentance. So far as the public know, they will be ready to offer civil disobedience should the occasion arise. The issue having been raised, the lawyers did not ask for mercy but a clear decision. As it is they do not know where they are. The learned judges have laid down principles of legal conduct which in our humble opinion are open to question. For instance what is the meaning of "those who live by the law must keep the law." If it means that no lawyer may ever commit a civil breach without incurring the displeasure of the Court, it means utter stagnation. Lawyers are the persons most able to appreciate the dangers of bad legislation and it must be with them a sacred duty by committing civil breach to prevent a criminal breach. Lawyers should be guardians of law and liberty and as such are interested in keeping the statute book of the country 'pure and undefiled.' But the judges of the Bombay High Court have presented to them a mercenary view of their profession and have even confounded the functions of judges and lawyers. The only escape from the intolerable situation created by the judgment is for the respondents to have the case restored to the board, reargued and to ask for a final decision. Fortunately the

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judges have left that course open to the Satyagrahi lawyers.—*Young India*.

THE AREA OF FORESTS IN BRITISH INDIA (exclusive of the Native States for which no proper figures are available) was reported to be, 249,000 square miles in 1915-16, the outturn of this area being 286 million cubic feet of timber and fuel (the value of which is not stated) and minor produce valued at Rs. 116 lakhs. That these figures are very incomplete appears from the exports of certain forest products from India. In 1913-14 the value of the exports of lac amounted to Rs. 196 lakhs and of caoutchouc to Rs. 79 lakhs, and these exports did not decline very perceptibly during the war. Yet in 1915-16 the total value of the forest products of India, other than timber and fuel, is reported to have been worth only Rs. 116 lakhs. This disparity is partly due to the difference between the values of the raw and prepared products but largely to the inaccuracy of statistics. In 1913-14 the last normal year, India exported teak worth Rs. 78 lakhs and imported timber worth Rs. 74 laks. It has recently been found that the latter could be almost entirely procured from the Indian forests by the introduction therein of improved means of transport.

IT IS SOMEWHAT FORTUNATE THAT THE potential wealth of Indian forests, so vaguely regarded in former years, has begun to be perceived more shrewdly. That this appreciation is assuming practical shape seems certain from the recent announcement made by the Board of Forestry that the desire of several prospecting syndicates to exploit certain forest products is likely to come to fruition at no distant date. In the past, the main facts that seemed to be realised with regard to the forests of India were their beneficial influence on climatic condition, their value as the producers of ordinary products such as timber, lac, and fuel, and the sustenance they afford to cattle in years of famine. The advantages derived by the existence of forests in dry regions have never been questioned. It has long been established that as the forests are dependent on a supply of water for their existence so they in return are responsible for a storage of water in the soil as well as a supply of moisture to the air by transpiration from their foliage; they form in this manner a part of the natural system of moisture in a country, as evident from the greater humidity of the sylvan tracts even in the arid portions. Then in addition to the products of our forests, another well-known advantage derived from them in India is that they provide grazing for millions of cattle, sheep and goats which would perish for want of sustenance in times of scarcity. These benefits are unquestionable, but they form only a portion of the economic utility of forests as recognised in progressive countries.

APART FROM THE SYSTEM OF CONSERVATION and reproduction which have been pursued with indifferent success by conservators and silviculturists of the Forest Department, it is clear that new methods must now be introduced for the more profitable exploitation of these forests. In the first place the Government must provide for proper transport facilities in the forests. The next step lies in the improvement of the system now followed for placing this product on the market. As regards the suggestion made at the last Conference of the Board of Forestry that Government should set up efficient and up-to-date drying kilns and saw-mills with plant for wood manufactures, we are of opinion that

however imperative may be the course called for here in the interests of the Forest Department, it is scarcely reasonable to expect State initiative in the matter. And, in truth, it is no less in the interests of the timber trade that this development should take place. So the point is, from which side is it reasonable to expect the initiative. Obviously, it is more the duty of the Government to confine itself to its legitimate functions and develop transportation in the forests, provide a bigger staff for the improvement of silviculture, especially in the line of artificial reproduction, and show the practical utility of the Forest Research Institute by the inclusion in it of experts who could establish a link between forest research and commercial exploitation.

FROM THE POINT OF VIEW ALIKE OF THE consumer and the revenue, the position of affairs described in the annual report on the Department of Fisheries of Bengal and Bihar and Orissa appears to be most unsatisfactory. In the Government of Bengal's Resolution on the report it was remarked that the public are primarily interested in the cheapness of fish as an article of diet, but the close combine which controls the sale of fish in Bengal and the indiscriminate destruction of fry are the two main obstacles with which the Department is confronted in its efforts to ameliorate the situation. The Government thought that by the appointment of the proposed district fishery officers something might be done to arouse a more popular interest in the problems of the Department

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as well as to come into close touch with the industries, "but", they added sententiously, "it is necessary to proceed slowly and to learn by experience". Dr. Prashad, who is responsible for the report itself, declares that it is unfortunate that two provinces with such rich marine, estuarine and fresh water fisheries should be unable to meet the local demand. The revenue derived from the Government fisheries, some Rs. 86,000, he asserts, is quite incommensurate with their area and extent. The rich marine and estuarine fisheries, according to the same authority, are left unexploited, whereas the method of fresh-water fishing are so wasteful and ruthless that the supply is diminishing. Dr. Prashad suggests that proper legislation for the protection of the fisheries should be enacted and enforced. The organisation of trade and the improvement of the condition of the of the fishermen also need urgent attention, but he holds that a much larger staff than the Department possesses is required for this work. The Government in their resolution recognised the need for various projects which have been proposed for the development of the industry. These, they said, would involve considerable financial outlay and "they will be considered in due course when Mr. Southwell returns from leave."

SOME UNKNOWN PERSON ASSOCIATED WITH the control of India has effected a miracle, writes the "Times." There has been issued a handy octavo volume which, for the first time since Crown rule began, gives a clear, compact, non-technical account of the history of India during the last twelve months. It is the old "Statement of Moral and Material Progress" annually presented to Parliament according to statute but it has been transformed out of recognition. For many years this "Statement" was perhaps the most slovenly piece of work produced by any Government Department. It was nothing but a stodgy condensation of the provincial reports, encumbered by masses of confused figures. Its omissions were extraordinary, and it gave no clear idea of the progress and condition of India. In its new form the "Statement," which is the work of Professor Rushbrook Williams, a Fellow of All Souls, engaged in educational work in India, can be read with pleasure and profit. It gives in a concise form all that the average student of Imperial affairs wants to know about current Indian politics and administration. The summary of Indian domestic political events is most admirably and impartially done. The great merit of the report is that it has been written in India and not compiled by a clerk in the India Office. We trust that Mr. Montagu will now deal with the urgent necessity for the preparation of an Indian Hansard. It should be in convenient form, and not in vast folios; and it should be placed promptly on sale. For more than a decade, appeals have been vainly made to the Government of India to improve its records of the Imperial Legislative Council, which at present are almost unprocurable in Great Britain.

THERE CAN BE NO GREATER CONDEMNATION of the system of triangular and quadrangular exchanges, so far as India is concerned, than the fact that they operate against India's legitimate claims on the profits on exchange. That our exchange policy will be modified, as occasion requires, to suit the requirements of Britain is taken for granted, it is interesting to note, even in quarters where such admission is not usually made. "The fall of exchange at New York on London," writes the *Statesman*, "is favourable to India. Not merely does the increased command of the dollar over the

sovereign in England give the American importer an increased command over the rupee in India but India's exports are—for the purposes of the restoration the equilibrium of British trade—as important as are England's own. The restoration, or approximate restoration, of that equilibrium is to-day, a cardinal economic necessity in the interests of England's welfare." "In view of that fact," continues our contemporary, "it is almost incredible that the authorities will suffer the present stagnation of India's export trade to continue for a moment longer than is inevitable. Owing to the fact that the United Kingdom's exports are themselves often only its own dearly bought imports remanufactured, England may have considerable difficulty in escaping from the toils in which she has become entangled. India, however, has her hides and gunnies ready. The American markets demand them and every motive of policy and expediency suggest the advisability of facilitating their export." The point to be noticed in the above observations is that because the provision of exchange facilities for the trade in India will arrest the fall in the dollar value of the sovereign, such facilities will be provided. In fact, this has been the case for so many years and the profits from foreign exchange which ought to belong to India have often been absorbed by the British banks. The effect of these operations is just the same as that of the commandeering of American securities belonging to India to prop up the exchange value of the sovereign, depriving the Indian holders of it of the premium to which they are justly entitled. What America and Japan did when placed in a similar situation as India, was to reduce their sterling obligations by purchasing British securities when they stood at a discount. If that policy had been followed in India as well, if that is, our sterling debt had been converted into rupee debt, India would have been benefited in two ways. In the first place, her annual sterling obligations which periodically upsets her currency arrangements would have been reduced. Secondly, she would not have been deprived of her legitimate profits on exchange.

LOCAL & PROVINCIAL.

THE Bihar Secretariat will move from Ranchi on the 30th November.

KHAN Bahadur Maulvi Zahiruddin has been unanimously elected the first non-official chairman of the Patna District Board.

THE total number of emigrants recruited from the province during the year 1918 was 178,918 compared with 12,462 in the previous year.

ON account of the death of Baba Nandkishore Singh, Municipal Commissioner for the Malsalami Ward, there will be a bye-election to fill up the vacancy.

THE following I. M. S. officers are under orders for reversion to the Civil Department:—Lieutenant-Colonels F. H. Watling and B. R. Chatterton and Major O. Berkeley Hill, to Bihar and Orissa.

At long last, the Government of Bihar and Orissa has published a resolution inviting criticisms on the advisability of holding open competitive examinations for selecting candidates for the Provincial Executive and Judicial Services.

ON Wednesday, the Commissioners of the Patna City Municipality resolved to levy a water rate of 3 per cent on all holdings situated within a distance of 400 feet (by the shortest route) of a street hydrant. This is certainly more reasonable than the original scheme of taxing all holdings within a radius of a quarter of a mile.

WITH the introduction in the Imperial Council of the Dacca University Bill, the question of a separate University for Orissa on the same lines should come in for immediate consideration and we hope the Lieutenant-Governor will be pleased to make a pronouncement on the subject during His Honour's forthcoming visit to Cuttack.

RAI BAHADUR Surja Prasad, Government Pleader, has been elected Chairman of the Bhagalpur District Board. We congratulate Rai Bahadur on his election. On the retirement of Mr. Morrison, Mr. S. P. Chatterjee M.A., B.L., Vakil, has been elected Vice-Chairman of the Board. He is an energetic young man and we have every reason to believe that he would discharge efficiently the onerous duties thus cast upon him.

AT the bi-weekly *hat* held in Ranchi, on 18th October an altercation between a grain dealer and two or three *badmashes* of the town led to looting on the part of several others, and a large quantity of grain is reported to have been looted. The police, however, arrived promptly on the scene and 36 persons were arrested. They were put up before the Police Magistrate, and were released on bail, pending the hearing of the case which has been fixed for the 6th.

THE following candidates are declared to have passed the M. A. Examination in Economics held in September, 1919:—

In order of merit.

CLASS I.

1. Devaki Prasad Sinha, University Student.

CLASS III.

1. Jugal Kishore Narayan, Non-Collegiate Student.
2. Baidyanath De, Non-Collegiate Student.

A LOCAL correspondent writes:—The opening ceremony of a newly established Pathshala for Bengalee boys and girls on the model of the Mahakali Pathshala took place on the 23rd September in the house of Babu Gopinandan Singh, pleader, in Bihari Rao's Lane, Muradpur. Amongst others there were present Babu Ramlal Sinha, Babu Tripurari Charan Palit, Rai Saheb Annada Prasad Mitra, Babu Rakhalraj Ray, Babu Nripendra Chandra Ghosha, Babu Khetra Gopal Dey Babu Sarat Chandra Mitra. The Pathshala requires cordial encouragement and co-operation from the generous public.

A CORRESPONDENT from Bhagalpore writes to the *Express*:—"On the 23rd instant at about 4 a. m. just after the last guard was changed in the morning, before unlocking in the Bhagalpore Central Jail it was noticed that two under-trial prisoners were at large. As soon as it was noticed the alarm signal was given. The Jail staff and the Jailer, Mr. Phokar Das Verma and Mr. Gillett, the Jail Superintendent arrived at the place. Every attempt was made to find out the

men but of no use. It is not known at what time the men escaped in the night. The Police has been also informed but no trace is found up till now."

It is not the Indian Assistant Surgeon, this time, is it?

A GOVERNMENT of India University Scholarship tenable for three years at Oxford will be placed, in 1920, at the disposal of the Patna University. Candidates for the scholarship must be natives of India within the meaning of Section 6 of Statute 33 Victoria, Chapter 3. Members of the domiciled European and Anglo-Indian community in India are not eligible. The selection will take place not later than the 15th of March in the year in which a scholarship is placed at the disposal of the university. Candidates for the scholarship must be only such graduates of the University as have passed the examination for the degree of M. A. or M. Sc. or the examination for the degree of B. A. or B. Sc. with Honours. They must not have exceeded 24 years of age at the time of passing the M. A. or M. Sc. Examination and must in all cases be under 25 years of age on the 31st of March in the year in which the selection is made. They must also not have exceeded the age of 22 at the time of passing the B. A. or B. Sc. Examination with Honours.

THE second annual session of the Anjuman-i-Islamia, Ranchi, came off on the 24th October under the presidency of the Hon. Fazlul Haq. Many Mahomedan leaders from Bengal and Bihar took part. The proceedings opened with a recitation from the Quoran by Maulana Shah Sulaiman of Phulwarae. The president in his address in English remarked that the internment of Maulana Abdul Kalam at Ranchi was destined by Providence to be fruitful of beneficial results to the Muslims not only of Ranchi but of the rest of the province of Bengal. The Anjuman was started only a couple of years ago, but the works accomplished do credit to the biggest and oldest Association. The total Moslem population was only a few thousands and they were poor, but under the guidance of the Maulana they put forth their efforts to raise the immense sum necessary for the establishment of the Madrasa and the magnificent building where it is situated. The best feature was the co-operation of the Hindu community and the Madrasa with its building will be a living monument of the Hindu Moslem unity.

GAYA NOTES.

(From our Correspondent.)

Gaya, Oct. 28.

DURGAPUJA.

In 1918 for the first time the Bengalees of Gaya combined together and celebrated the Durga Puja. This year there were two Barwari Durga Pujas and in Shyam Babu's house before the Goddess there were Bengali theatrical performances on the first three nights.

GAYA AERODROME.

Gaya is going to be made an important air station in India. Over one lac square yards of cultivable fields in the suburbs of Gaya not far from the new jail are being acquired for the laying out of the grounds, the hangar, &c. The work will be proceeded with early.

FATAL DROWNING ACCIDENT IN JAIL.

On Wednesday the 22nd afternoon a prisoner of the Gaya Central Jail named Budhan Hajam

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aged about 22 while washing some clothes in the jail garden tank outside the jail proper slipped and fell into deep water. An alarm was raised but too late. A Bengali gentleman arriving on the scene dived and took out the body from under 12 ft. of water but life was extinct then. The prisoner came from Giridih. The S. D. O. has held an enquiry.

THE SUBJECT OF CIVIL AVIATION IS NOW dealt with by the Commerce and Industry Department of the Government of India. Mr. A. H. Parker, I. C. S., who served in the Royal Air Force during the war, has been placed on special duty in that Department to deal with questions connected with the subject. It has been decided to constitute an Air Board as a body advisory to the Hon'ble Member in charge of the Department. The Board will consist of the following members:—

The Secretary in the Commerce and Industry Department.

The Director-General of Posts and Telegraphs.

The General Officer Commanding, Royal Air Force.

General Wigram of the General Staff Branch, Army Headquarters.

The Financial Adviser, Military Finance; and Mr. Parker as Secretary to the Board.

Communications on the subject of Civil Aviation should be addressed to the Secretary, Air Board, Commerce and Industry Department.

ADVERTISEMENTS.

MAGICIANS' PLAYING CARDS.

Handicrafts of Playing Cards disclosed and made easy.

Astonishing performances of magicians within reach of one and all at a cost of Rs. 1/12/- only for one set of 52 Magic Playing Cards with full instructions (Postage extra).

Order for a set at once and enjoy its pleasure with your friends or earn handsome amount if you care like our numerous customers.

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EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Sale of unclaimed property.

Notice is hereby given that unless the undermentioned goods is removed and all charges due thereon paid before the 10th November 1919, it will be sold by Public Auction and the proceeds disposed of in terms of the Indian Railways Act IX of 1890

Consignment—one lot slaked lime. Ex Katni Marwara to Patna City. Invoice No. 5 R/R No. 3938/51 dated 1-8-18. Sender—H. F. Cook & Sons. Consignee—self.

By order,

R. M. COWLEY
General Traffic Manager.

No. 97.
CALCUTTA,
Dated 17-10-19.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY. SPECIAL NOTICE.

Heavy Luggage, booked or unbooked, carried by Upper class passengers in their compartments.

The attention of First and Second class passengers is drawn to the fact that large packages and heavy luggage must on no account, be taken into the compartment with the passengers, but booked and conveyed in the Luggage Van of the train. As the Railway Staff have instructions to see that this order is adhered to, it is hoped that passengers will cooperate with the Railway in the matter for their own and the convenience of fellow passengers.

In all cases where passengers are detected *en route* with heavy luggage, unbooked, in a compartment, they are liable to have the same removed to the Lugged Van, and the total weight will be charged for without the free allowance given under the Rules.

Small articles of personal luggage required for *bona fide* use on their journey or such articles as, Rugs, Umbrellas, Sticks, Tiffinbaskets, Small hand Bags, Razais or Blankets, which can be taken into the compartment without inconveniencing other passengers, are not charged for on the East Indian Railway and will not be included in the final weighment at the Starting Station or *en route*, should a passenger have failed to book his luggage before the commencement of his journey.

To assist passengers in the booking of their luggage at Howrah arrangements have been made to distinctly label each package indicating which packages may be taken into the compartment and those which should be carried in the Luggage Vans.

No. 101.
CALCUTTA, } J. A. MARSHALL,
31st Oct. 1919. } 3-1 Agent.

NOTICE.

FOR SALE.

The INDIAN LAW REPORTS—(four Series)
up to 1917.

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Vakil.

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Swadeshi Woollen Blankets.

Our Hardwar blankets are very warm, durable soft and fancy. Each blanket can serve three purposes:—(1) as a shawl (2) as bed sheet and (3) as water proof in rainy seasons. These blankets are stocked in all colours and qualities with their price list given below.

White blankets like shawl Rs. 8 to 30; blankets square stripes it makes very nice coats and overcoats Rs. 7 to Rs. 25; Swadeshi rugs Rs. 10 to Rs. 25 black plain Rs. 4 to Rs. 15; patties for suit Rs. 12 to Rs. 20 for a than and Shilajeet per tola As. 8.

MANAGER,

Swadeshi Woollen Bhandar
 No. 26, HARDWAR.

10-1-20

B. & O. EXHIBITION.

An Industrial and Agricultural Exhibition will be held at Bankipore from the 15th to the 21st December 1919. Cattle and Poultry sections will be added. A Flower show will also take place on the 16th December. His Honour the Lieutenant Governor has kindly consented to the open the Exhibition. Several gold and silver medals and money prizes will be awarded. For prospectus apply to:—

PURENENDU NARAYAN SINHA,
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Best fashionable and durable Kashmir woollen tweeds and plain Pattoos at favourable prices. All latest improvements. Only shade desired to be given and whether mixture, striped or checked pattern is required. Nice selection out of a large stock is made and customer satisfied. Samples if still wanted are sent on receipt of four annas postal stamps.

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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

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