

ROYAL PROCLAMATION ON THE REFORMS AMNESTY TO POLITICAL OFFENDERS.

APPEAL FOR PERSEVERANCE AND FORBEARANCE

VISIT OF THE PRINCE ANNOUNCED

HIS Majesty the King-Emperor in giving his assent to the India Bill, has issued the following Proclamation directing His Excellency the Viceroy to exercise his clemency to political offenders in the fullest measure compatible with public safety, and stating that His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales would visit India next winter to inaugurate the new Chamber of Princes and the new constitution in British India :—

George V, by the grace of God, of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland and of the British Dominions beyond the Seas King, Defender of the Faith, Emperor of India. To my Viceroy and Governor-General, to the Princes of Indian States, and to all my subjects in India of whatsoever race or creed, greeting.

1. Another epoch has been reached to-day in the annals of India. I have given my Royal Assent to an Act which will take its place among the great historic measures passed by the Parliament of this Realm for the better government of India and the greater contentment of her people. The Acts of 1773 and 1784 were designed to establish a regular system of administration and justice under the Honourable East India Company. The Act of 1833 opened the door for Indians to public office and employment. The Act of 1858 transferred the administration from the Company to the Crown and laid the foundations of public life which exist in India to-day. The Act of 1861 sowed the seed of representative institutions and the seed was quickened into life by the Act of 1909. The Act which has now become law entrusts elected representatives of the people with a definite share in the Government and points the way to full responsible Government hereafter. If, as I confidently hope, the policy which this Act inaugurates should achieve its purpose, the results will be momentous in the story of human progress ; and it is timely and fitting that I should invite you to-day

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JANUARY 3, 1920.

THE BEHAR HERALD,

bility has its source at the roots of the British connection with India. It has sprung inevitably from the deeper and wider studies of human thought and history which that connection has opened to the Indian people. Without it the work of the British in India would have been incomplete. It was therefore with a wise judgment that the beginnings of representative institutions were laid many years ago. Their scope has been extended stage by stage until there now lies before us a definite step on the road to responsible Government.

5. With the same sympathy and with redoubled interest I shall watch the progress along this road. The path will not be easy and in the march towards the goal there will be need of perseverance and of mutual forbearance between all sections and races of my people in India. I am confident that those high qualities will be forthcoming. I rely on the new popular assemblies to interpret wisely the wishes of those whom they represent and not to forget the interests of the masses who cannot yet be admitted to franchise. I rely on the leaders of people, the Ministers of the future, to face responsibility and endure misrepresentation, to sacrifice much for the common interest of the State, remembering that true patriotism transcends party and communal boundaries and, while retaining the confidence of the legislatures to co-operate with my officers for the common good in sinking unessential differences and in maintaining the essential standards of a just and generous government. Equally do I rely upon my officers to respect their new colleagues and to work with them in harmony and kindness; to assist the people and their representatives in an orderly advance towards free institutions; and to find in these new tasks a fresh opportunity to fulfil, as in the past, their highest purpose of faithful service to my people.

6. It is my earnest desire at this time that so far as possible any trace of bitterness between my people and those who are responsible for my government should be obliterated. Let those who in their eagerness for political progress have broken the law in the past respect it in the future. Let it become possible for those who are charged with the maintenance of peaceful and orderly government to forget the extravagances which they have had to curb. A new era is opening. Let it begin with a common determination among my people and my officers to work together for a common purpose. I therefore direct my Viceroy to exercise in my name and on my behalf my Royal clemency to political offenders in the fullest measure which ~~it is possible to exercise~~ ^{will be justified by the future conduct of those whom it} benefits, and that all my subjects will so demean themselves as to render it unnecessary to enforce the laws for such offences hereafter.

for a common purpose. I therefore direct my Viceroy to exercise in my name and on my behalf my Royal clemency to political offenders in the fullest measure which ~~it may be justly~~ ^{it may be justly} ~~may be justly~~ ^{may be justly} ~~will be justified~~ ^{will be justified} ~~by the future conduct~~ ^{by the future conduct} ~~of those whom~~ ^{of those whom} ~~it~~ ^{it} ~~benefits,~~ ^{benefits,} and that all my subjects will so demean themselves as to render it unnecessary to enforce the laws for such offences hereafter.

7. Simultaneously with the new constitutions in British India I have gladly assented to the establishment of a Chamber of Princes. I trust that its counsel may be fruitful of lasting good to the Princes and the States themselves, may advance the interests which are common to their territories and to British India, and may be to the advantage of the Empire as a whole. I take the occasion again to assure the Princes of India of my determination ever to maintain unimpaired their privileges, rights and dignities.

8. It is my intention to send my dear son, the Prince of Wales, to India next winter to inaugurate on my behalf the new Chamber of Princes and the new constitutions in British India. May he find mutual good will and confidence prevailing among those on whom will rest the future service of the country, so that success may crown their labours, and progressive enlightenment attend their administration. And, with all my people, I pray to Almighty God that by His Wisdom and under His guidance India may be led to greater prosperity and contentment, and may grow to the fulness of political freedom.

God Save The King.

sacred trust by our Royal House all time. In 1858 Queen Victoria of revered memory solemnly declared herself bound to her Indian subjects by the same obligations of duty as to all her other subjects; and she assured to them religious freedom and the equal and impartial protection of the law. In his message to the Indian people in 1903 my dear father, King Edward VII, announced his determination to maintain unimpaired the same principles of humane and equitable administration. Again in his Proclamation of 1908 he renewed the assurances which had been given fifty years before and surveyed the progress which they had inspired. On my accession to the throne in 1910 I sent a message to the Princes and peoples of India acknowledging their loyalty and homage and promising that the prosperity and happiness of India should always be to me of the highest interest and concern. In the following year I visited India with the Queen-Empress and testified my sympathy for her people and my desire for their well-being.

3. While these are sentiments of affection and devotion by which I and my predecessors have been animated, the Parliament and the people of this Realm and my officers in India have been equally zealous for the moral and material advancement of India. We have endeavoured to give to her people the many blessings which Providence has bestowed upon ourselves. But there is one gift which yet remains and without which the progress of a country cannot be consummated—the right of her people to direct her affairs and safeguard her interests. The defence of India against foreign aggression is a duty of common Imperial interest and pride. The control of her domestic concerns is a burden which India may legitimately aspire to take upon her own shoulders. The burden is too heavy to be borne in full until time and experience have brought the necessary strength; but opportunity will now be given for experience to grow and for responsibility to increase with the capacity for its fulfilment.

4. I have watched with understanding and sympathy the growing desire of my Indian people for representative institutions. Starting from small beginnings this ambition has steadily strengthened its hold upon the intelligence of the country. It has pursued its course along constitutional channels with sincerity and courage. It has survived the discredit which at times and in places lawless men sought to cast upon it by acts of violence committed under the guise of patriotism. It has been stirred to more vigorous life by the ideals for which the British Commonwealth fought in the Great War, and it claims support in the part which India has taken in our common struggle, anxiety and victories. In truth, the desire after political responsi-

The Behar Herald.

Bankipur, Saturday, Jan. 3, 1920.

THE ROYAL MESSAGE.

A chorus of joy has burst forth from the hearts of the people of India on the announcement of the benevolent message of His Majesty the King-Emperor. Indeed it is an epoch-making message fraught with immense possibilities. Never before in the history of India a King has blessed the country with the boon of Self-Government. India was torn into pieces when Britain came to manage her affairs. Good government has been evolved out of chaos, and peace and prosperity now prevail in the land. The orderly government and the happiness which followed from it naturally created a desire in the hearts of the educated people of India to share the burden of governing their own country. A necessary consequence of this feeling was the sense of inferiority compared with other fortunate peoples in different countries. Those who had drunk deep at the fountain of English culture held a faith that a people which had obtained freedom for itself by constant struggle would not withhold it from the Indians if they persevered in working for it. Their faith has triumphed and the King-Emperor has graciously acknowledged their efforts in words of genuine sympathy. "I have watched with understanding and sympathy," says his Majesty, "the growing desire of my Indian people for representative institutions."

The Sovereign of the freeborn people of Britain could not have a nobler desire than to place India along with other free countries of the world. "We have endeavoured to give to her people the many blessings which Providence has bestowed upon ourselves. But there is one gift which yet remains and without which the progress of a country cannot be consummated: The right of her people to direct her affairs and safeguard her interests" are the words of the King, which should be inscribed in gold in our annals. The twenty-third day of December in 1919 will ever be remembered by posterity as the red-letter day of India. To the people of Britain it must be the proudest day in its history of Imperial Government. The Indians shall ever remember with gratitude that Great Britain has given them unity and good Government, and last of all the privilege of self-government has been accorded in the fulness of time.

The reforms contemplated in the Government of India Act has placed India on the road to self-government. The President of the Indian National Congress held at Bombay in 1915 asked on behalf of the people of India a Royal Proclamation which would determine the Goal of British Rule in India, and a Parliamentary guarantee to that effect. And after a year and half the British Government announced its intention and the present Act places on the Statute Book a definite recognition of the claims of the Indians to manage their own domestic affairs. In the language of the Proclamation "The Act which has now become law entrusts elected representatives of the people with a definite share in Government and points the way to full representative Government hereafter."

That the King is really solicitous about the development of his policy is evident from the fifth paragraph of the Proclamation. "With the same sympathy and with redoubled interest I shall watch the progress along this road." His appeal for perseverance and mutual forbearance would find a ready response in the hearts of the people.

We are fully confident that the new popular assemblies will wisely interpret the wishes of those whom they represent and the interests of the masses will be their chief concerns. The leaders, we are sure, will rise equal to the occasion, and will cheerfully bear responsibility and undergo sacrifice in the common interests of the State. No wiser advice could have been given at this stage, and by no less a personage than the sovereign of the land that *true patriotism transcends party and communal boundaries*. Neither was the injunction of His Majesty to his officers to respect their new colleagues less necessary. The future of the new policy will depend greatly upon the co-operation of His Majesty's officers in India and the representatives of the people. Any attempt from any quarter to prevent this co-operation will amount to an insult to His Majesty, and will be considered as highly prejudicial to the interests of the country.

As an evidence of his genuine sympathy with the aspirations of the Indians, the King has directed his Viceroy to exercise clemency in his name and on his behalf to political offenders. This act of kindness has acted as a soothing balm on many a heart. When all legal aid failed these unfortunate sufferers there was nothing but the royal prerogative to restore them to freedom. And this has come at a time when it was most expected. The release has been announced just before the national meetings, and people in their thousands had the opportunity of expressing their thankfulness and praying for the long life of His Majesty. The King really stands as the heart of the State, and without the heart the body becomes a dull machinery. The enthusiasm of the people will rise to its height when H. R. H. the Prince of Wales will come next winter to open the popular assemblies and to inaugurate the new era in India. The atmosphere will then resound with the shouts of **LONG LIVE THE KING.**

THE JAMALPORE RAILWAY STRIKE.

We have already referred in these columns to the wholesale strike of the workers in the Jamalpore E. I. Ry. Workshop which has lasted for about a month and is likely to continue so long as the grievances of the strikers are not redressed. This workshop is one of the largest in India to which more than 16,000 Indian hands alone are attached as fitters, mistris and coolies. It appears that these Indian workmen had from some time back been making certain demands, but when the Railway authorities did not care to listen to them, they had no other recourse but to take to strike. The strike has however been continuing very calmly and quietly and up till now not a single act of violence has been reported to have taken place in this connection.

The main demands of the strikers are reported to be as follows:—

- (1) A general increment of 50% in their pay irrespective of the classes of workmen and the scales of their salaries.
- (2) Admittance into the workshop up to 8 a.m. on the terms existing before November last and discontinuance of the novel system introduced since the middle of November last, by which no workman is allowed to enter workshop after 7 a.m. and has thus to lose wages for 11 hours.
- (3) Grant of pay for gazetted holidays like their European fellow workmen who draw full pay for such holidays.
- (4) Grant of 1½ hours' pay of every one hour's overtime work as is given to their European fellow workmen and not merely 1 hour's pay for such work as is being now allowed to them.

memory solemnly declared herself bound to her Indian subjects by the same

(5) Provision of casual and privilege leaves for all workmen and not merely to those who draw a pay of Rs. 15 and upwards per month and are members of the Provident Fund as is being done at present.

(6) Besides casual and privilege leave, grant of leave without pay in cases where the workmen unavoidably absent themselves from work; and the number of working hours in a day being 8 only, deduction of only 8 hours' pay for one day's absence and not of 11 hours' pay as is being unjustly done at present.

(7) Grant of 8 hours' pay for Sunday and the same number of hours' pay for Saturdays to the new employees just like the old employees and not merely 5 hours' pay for Saturdays and no pay for Sundays as is being given to them at present.

The workmen allege that the Railway authorities have been discharging old employees on insufficient grounds and again taking them as new hands and thus curtailing their wages for Saturdays and Sundays and depriving them of other well-earned advantages.

(8) Inclusion of parents in the Family passes for travelling over the Railways allowed free to the workmen. The workmen complain against passes not including parents although they include mother-in-law.

On the 12th December last some of the leading workmen submitted a letter to the Secretary, Peoples' Association, Monghyr, putting forth all their grievances and requesting the help of the Association in bringing about an amicable settlement between the strikers and the Railway authorities. In consideration of the interests of a large number of people of the District the Secretary took immediate action on that letter and sent telegrams, one to His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor, another to the President, Railway Board and third to the Agent, E. I. Railway reporting the main features of the strike and the demands of the workmen and requesting their intervention in the matter. The Secretary also wrote letters, one to Mr. Tomes, the Loco Superintendent and another to Mr. Walker the Manager offering services of the Association for bringing about a speedy settlement with the strikers and also requesting them to make an appointment where the representative of the Association might discuss matters with them and thereafter do all that lay in their power to effect a reconciliation. As the report goes, the said Secretary has not till now received any communications with respect to any of the aforesaid telegrams, but he received replies from Mr. Tomes and Mr. Walker. In his reply Mr. Tomes simply asked the Association to advise the men to resume work and then put forward their grievances. Mr. Walker went a step further and wrote to say that he never heard of the Association and that if the Secretary could get a letter of introduction from the Collector of Monghyr then Mr. Tomes would be willing to put him in possession of facts which would enable him to bring the workmen to see reason. Not a bit discouraged by this attempt to ignore a well-known local Association, Babu Murlidhar, B. L. Secretary of the Association wrote a letter to the District Magistrate and Collector informing him of the critical situation as also of the attitude of the local Railway authority and requesting his intervention in the matter. The District Magistrate doubted the *locus standi* of the Association in this matter but condescended to grant an interview to its representatives. Accordingly Mr. S. M. Zobair Bar-at-law, Babu Srikrishna Prasad B. A., a member of the District and Municipal Boards and the Secretary Babu Murlidhar, B. L., a Municipal Commissioner had an interview with the District Magistrate as representatives of the Association

and from their conversation it appeared that the Railway authorities were not in the least inclined to grant 50 per cent. increment of pay which is the main and substantial demand of the strikers, but that the Railway authorities might consider the other demands which of course, appeared reasonable provided the strikers resume work. The interview thus came practically to nothing.

After the said interview, Mr. S. M. Zobair received a letter from the District Magistrate suggesting him to advise the strikers to brief lawyers on their behalf with a view to represent their grievance to the authorities. It would appear that the District Magistrate in advising engagement of lawyers lost sight of the fact that a man as a lawyer can appear in courts only and if the services of a lawyer were at all required then all the three gentlemen who appeared before him were lawyers known to him. However, a reply was sent to him that the strikers had no objection to engaging lawyers as suggested. On the next day a further suggestion came from the District Magistrate to brief a lawyer already known to the Railway authorities. The workmen were quite willing to brief lawyers of their own choice but did not see their way to act up to the latter suggestion of the District Magistrate.

Probably the District Magistrate is not sure of his own *locus standi* in the matter, but it is rumoured that he visited some centres of workmen in this connection and subsequently over 3,000 workmen assembled near the Jubilee Well at Jamalpore to meet him and lay before him their grievances. The workmen placed before him a pointed note of their chief grievances, whereupon they were advised to return to their work and to leave the settlement of their demands in the hands of the Railway authorities. The workmen, having no faith in the Railway authorities, expressed their willingness to resume work on some assurances of the consideration of their demands being given by the District Magistrate, but no such assurance appears to have been given and the result was that the situation was not in the least improved and the workmen went away as calmly as they had assembled.

The matter is a serious one and it is but proper that the Government should lose no time in taking action and we should also urge the Railway authorities to give every consideration of the demands of the strikers which do not seem to be very unreasonable in view of the high prices and the immense profits made by the company.

THE MODERATE CONFERENCE.

(From our Correspondent.)

The Moderate Conference met in Calcutta for the second time in spite of strong protests from the whole of India against secession and separation from the Congress. It was just like the loyal Moslem meetings of old held at the instigation of officials to support the acts of the Government. Efforts were made by the organisers to bring into their fold the Bengal zamindars but the attempts totally failed. Behar was represented by the Hon. Mr. Adit Prasad Singh of Darbhanga the Hon. Rai Bahadur Krishna Sahay, Babu Susil Madhab Mullik (of Bhawanipur, Calcutta but practising now as a Vakil of the Patna High Court) and a Gaya zamindar who was seen for sometime standing near the Press table. The gathering was a small one in spite of big three coloured posters all over Calcutta. People outside Calcutta had practically nothing to do with the Moderate Conference though half a dozen Mad-

rasi gentlemen came from Madras with the president, Sir Sivaswamy Iyer. The feeling even among the followers of the seceders was that the Moderates ought to not to have separated themselves from the Congress altogether. The Hon. Mr. Srinivas Sastri and almost all other considerate Moderates joined the Congress. It was entirely a meeting of those who from personal reasons could not see their way to join the Congress and a few of their henchmen. There was no life at all in the conference and the audience only laughed at some of the assertions made by the speakers. The Maharaja of Darbhanga excused himself on the score of ill health and the excuse caused some amusement and laughter in the conference.

Sir Binode Chandra Mitter (son of the late Sir Romesh Chandra Mitter) as the Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Conference, made a very feeble attempt to justify the separation of the Moderates from the Congress. All the speakers, however, strongly condemned the Punjab atrocities but none dared propose the recall of Lord Chelmsford. The Conference was, however, honoured by the presence of the Benjal and Behar Executive Council Members and such "politicians and statesmen" as Sir R. N. Mukherji. Sir Ali Imam was present in the conference while his younger brother Mr. Hasan Imam was present in the Congress. We do not know whom Sir Ali represented—Hyderabad or Bihar—for in Bihar there is no party excepting the Nationalist party and the ultra-loyal party of the zemindars headed by the Maharaja of Darbhanga who himself kept away from the Conference, though being in Calcutta. The Hon. Mr. Surendranath Banerji uttered a few platitudes in proposing Sir Sivaswamy Iyer to the chair. Sir Sivaswamy in his speech condemned the Punjab atrocities but following the fashion of the day he said that the Press Act might be necessary to deal with sedition and Bolshevism. Sir Sivaswamy must have scant of the "vicious" Bolshevism as represented in the Anglo-Indian papers and did not care to know from the "Nation" and other impartial newspapers that Bolshevism was nothing worse than democracy though the atrocities and frightfulness committed in Russia in the name of Bolshevism are deeply to be regretted. How can the Press Act help the Government from keeping sedition and Bolshevism away from India? Press Act or no Press Act, there will be strikes in India and the Anglo-Indians will go on crying "Bolshevism" till real Bolshevism comes to India like the wolf of the old school book story. The Press Act has not and will never stop sedition for seditious pamphlets are either printed secretly in secret presses or posted from abroad.

The president has only suggested some milk and water amendments in the Press Act and has not demanded its immediate repeal which he ought to have done. The performance of Sir Binode Chandra Mitter as the Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Moderate Conference was a rather pitiable one. When he belauded Lord Chelmsford in his speech it was resented by the audience and the smiles in the faces of those present showed in what light these eulogies of Sir Binode were received. Most of the youngsters who went to the Calcutta Town-hall had no other idea except to see the ultra-loyal antics of Sir Binode and other beknighted Bengalees. It was a sorrowful spectacle to see the Hon. Mr. Surendranath Banerjea lending his support to such utterances. The Anglo-Indian newspapers who are the sworn enemies of the Indians have patted the extreme loyalists like Sir Binode on the back and they have written columns in praise of these "Moderates." This

fact alone shows that the "Moderates" have done something of which they ought to be ashamed. The Hon. Sir Surendranath Banerjea has repeated times without number in imitation of an English statesman that whenever the Anglo-Indian papers supported Mr. Banerjea he must be invariably in the wrong. What happens to this dictum repeated *ad nauseam* these fifty years?

On the second day of the Moderate Conference the hollowness of the show was exposed thoroughly by the extremely poor attendance. Scarcely three hundred people in all attended and the Conference had to be held in semi-darkness on the ground floor of the Town Hall after rearrangement of seats. As the audience was too poor the speakers all lost their enthusiasm including Mr. Banerjea. The speech on the Reforms delivered by the Hon. Mr. Sastri was the best as he spoke frankly and pleaded for the Indian National Congress not minding the fact that the moderates might call him a renegade. Mr. Sastri was the only speaker who was lustily cheered. The audience plainly hinted they that did not like Mr. Banerjea's entire secession from the Congress. Mr. T. Campbell Howes who is running the "Looker on" and the "Business" and other journals was the only European who took part in the proceedings and his onslaught on the European Association, Lord Sydenham and Mr. Welby were well received. The Press Act resolution of the Conference demanded the repeal of the Press Act though the President wanted only amendments. Mr. Panchkari Banerji was loudly cheered when he said that the Reforms had been merely passed on paper. In practice the Indians were still as much in the hands of the bureaucrats as before. How the officials will behave in bringing the reforms into practice was the most important point. The King might pass the reforms but the officials could spoil them. The journalists should be freed from all apprehensions of persecution by the repeal of the Press Act and the Sedition Act. After the London Press had strongly condemned the Punjab atrocities the Moderates have made bold to condemn them as strongly. Still Mr. Sapru was halting though Mr. J. N. Roy spoke out rather boldly. Rai Radhacharan Pal Bahadur prayed that further evidence should be recorded by the Hunter Commission. Men much esteemed by the nationalists—Messrs. Krishna Kumar Mitter, J Chaudhury and B. C. Chatterji who are the right hand men of Banerjea took no active part in the proceedings and Mr. J. Choudhury on both the days sat near the press table as a mere visitor. The Maharaja of Cossimbazar and his private secretary

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Mr. Prithwis Chandra Roy never came to the conference. Most of those present in the Conference thought it would have been better if the Moderates had joined the Congress and then held their conference.

BIHAR & ORISSA IN THE NEW YEAR'S HONOURS LIST.

- K. C. I. E.—Mr. W. Maude.
 C. I. E.—Mr. A. Brebner, P. W. D., Syed Noorul Huda, Zemindar.
 KNIGHT.—Justice Mullick.
 K. I. H.—(Bar) 2nd Class, T. C. Eagles, Municipal Commissioner, Hazaribagh.
 RANI.—(Personal), Mt. Rajjit Kuar, Narhan.
 MAHAMAHOPADHYA.—Pandit Rajnath Misra, Durbhanga.
 KHAN BAHADUR.—M. Md. Akhter, Vakil, Mozafferpur, (Khan Saheb Rahmat Ali, deceased, I. P., Patna, was to have been honoured).
 RAI BAHADUR.—Mr. Jogendranath Sen, Govt. Pleader, Sambalpur; Dr. Premananda Das, Civil Surgeon, Puri; Mr. Prithwichand Lal Chowdhry, Purneah.
 KHAN SAHEB.—M. Safiquddin Ahmad, Dewan, Baramba, Orissa.
 RAI SAHEB.—Messrs. Bisweswar Mukherjee, Govt. Pleader, Hazaribagh; Mihirath Roy, Vakil Patna; Rajkishore Tripathi, Superintendent, Dhenkanal; Mohini Mohan Ghosh, Pleader, Chaibasa; Mudhusudan Chatterjee, P. W. D., Kendrapara; Seth Ram Narayan Lal, Merchant, Hazaribagh; Ganpat Rai Budia, Do, Ranchi; Madho Charan Lal, I. P., Arrah; Satish Chandra Chakravarty, Mukhtiar, Khurda.
 KING'S POLICE MEDAL.—Annada Charan Mitra, I. P.; Babu Lal Singh, S. I.; Ramnand Panday, Constable.

LOCAL & PROVINCIAL.

A correspondent writes:—

The practical examinations this year in B. Sc. honours Chemistry and pass-physics, (whole day's experiments) come off on the same day, the 23rd February 1920. That is to say a student who appears in the hon. Chemistry, will have to appear at two examinations simultaneously.

AN official communique has been issued which states that the Government of Bihar and Orissa have noticed with concern that full use has not hitherto been made of the facilities for technical education offered to natives of the province at Indian engineering colleges. At Rurki, two places are reserved for candidates from Bihar and Orissa and a scholarship of Rs. 30/- a month for the first two years and Rs. 40/- a month for the third year is offered. Yet in six years only four students have passed the entrance examination, while in 1914 and 1919 only one candidate presented himself and in 1915 no one appeared at all. Government are most anxious that natives of the Province should qualify themselves in increasing numbers for employment as engineers, and invite information from the public as to the reasons which prevent suitable candidates from qualifying themselves to undergo the courses of instruction open to them. All communications should be addressed to the Secretary to Government in the Education Department, Patna.

UNDER the revised rules under the Indian Arms Act the only persons resident in Bihar and Orissa who are permanently exempted from the necessity of obtaining Licenses for fire-arms in their possession are certain high Officials, Maha-

rajas and Rajas whose titles have been conferred or recognized by Government, Knights Bachelor or Knights of any Order established by the Crown and the Great Zamindars of Bihar and Orissa. In addition, however, the following persons have been exempted during their lifetime:—

- (a) Every member of any Order of Knighthood
- (b) Every person who holds the Kaisar-i-Hind Medal.
- (c) Every person who bears a title conferred or recognised by the Government of India.
- (d) Every person who holds a sword or other arms received as a gift from the Government of India or a Local Government.
- (e) Every person who holds a certificate received on the occasion of the assumption of the title of the Empress of India by Her late Majesty Queen Victoria.
- (f) Every retired military officer who was pensioned before the 1st January 1920.
- (g) Every landholder exempted by the Local Government under entry 15 (a) of the Schedule I to the existing rules.

All other persons who have hitherto been exempted must obtain licenses for the firearms and ammunition possessed by them after the 1st January 1920.

Applications for licenses must be made in writing and must contain the name, description and residence of the applicant, a description of the arms for which a license is required and a statement of the amount of ammunition which the applicant desires to possess at one time. As it will not be possible however to issue licenses under the new rules for some time after the 1st of January, District Magistrates have therefore been instructed not to enforce these penalties in the case of any person hitherto exempted who applies for a license on or before the 20th January 1920.

4. The fees payable in respect of licenses under the new rules are—

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|
| (1) Pistol or Revolver | ... Rs. 10 |
| (2) Any other breachloading
weapon | ... Rs. 5 |
| (3) Any other weapon | ... -4/- (four annas) |

Licenses for revolvers and pistols will be issued only in cases of real necessity and to persons of approved character. Applicants may find it convenient to make their applications on stamped paper to the value of the fee required.

WANTED.

1. Office—Municipal Department, Bihar and Orissa Secretariat.
 2. Post vacant and pay—One Assistant on Rs. 125 in class V of the Upper Division, in a temporary vacancy, which may be made permanent.
 3. Qualifications—A graduate or one possessing equivalent educational qualifications having considerable experience in a big office and is acquainted with Municipal and Local Self-Government law.
 4. Officer to whom application should be made—Under-Secretary to the Government of Bihar and Orissa in the Municipal Department.
 5. Date by which application should be submitted—15th January 1920.
- None need apply who is not a native of, or domiciled in, the Province.
- PATNA,
 The 28th December, 1919. } R. E. RUSSELL,
 Additional Under-Secretary
 to Government, Municipal
 Department.

THE fifteenth session of the Utkal Union Conference was held at Puri presided over by Babu Chandrasekhar Behara of Sambalpur. Above 300 delegates from different parts of the Oriya-speaking tracts attended. The whole audience numbered over three thousand. The first day's proceedings began at 12 noon on December 26th. In his reception speech the Mahant of Enarnmath dwelt at length with the famine conditions in the Puri District. The presidential address which under the rules of the Conference was in Oriya was an admirable discourse touching upon several subjects of local and Indian interest. While discussing at length the amalgamation of Oriya-speaking tracts and the present economic and political situation in Orissa, the President expressed himself strongly on such subjects as territorial redistribution of provinces on linguistic basis, the Reform scheme and the Congress movement. Resolutions appreciating Royal Proclamation on the Reforms and sympathising with the people of the Punjab in distress were passed. The second day's proceedings commenced at 11 and continued till 7 in the evening. Thirteen resolutions were passed. The King Emperor's general amnesty to political prisoners was gratefully appreciated. In the resolution on the administrative union of Oriya tracts the Reforms were declared disappointing and unsatisfactory to Oriyas, as they fail definitely to provide for fulfilment of the Oriya demand for administrative union without which benefits of the Reforms are practically denied to the Oriyas as a people. Separate representations of Oriyas in the Imperial and Provincial Councils were claimed. The Resolution on famine emphatically asserted the Government's failure in duty to the distressed people in the Puri district and appointed a committee to enquire into the conditions in areas affected. 10 or 12 famine-stricken people were shown when the resolution was moved. The sight was really pitiful which moved the whole assembly to tears. In this connection a resolution from the chair appreciated relief operation by Mr. Cotterel in Ganjam and the Madras Government. A Committee was also formed to popularise Charkha spinning. A resolution was passed to start missionary work in labour centres like Jamshedpur, Calcutta and Rangoon to educate and organise labourers. Some more resolutions regarding the expansion of Oriya education in outlying Oriya tracts, relaxation of oppression of forest laws, improvement of Railway communications in Oriya tracts and political mass education in rural areas were adopted. The Conference was on the whole a great success and was followed by the all-Orissa Students' Conference under the Presidentship of the Hon'ble Mr. M. S. Das on December 28th.

PATNA UNIVERSITY.

Vice-Chancellor's Review.

(Concluded.)

The first Senate and the numerous other University bodies which were formed out of it and which may be regarded in a way as its Committees, namely, the Syndicate, the four Faculties, the Boards of Studies and the Boards of Examiners, did, I think, really notable work during their two years' tenure of office. They passed the first Regulations, which were duly sanctioned by the Local Government. They held the first examinations of the University as early as April, 1918, and again in the current year. They formulated, passed and published the first Courses of the University for the I. A., I. Sc., B. A., B. Sc., M. A., M. Sc., L. T., B. Ed., and Law Examinations of 1920 and 1921,

and for the Matriculation Examinations of 1921 and 1922. They inspected and published reports on all the Colleges of the University. They also published the first Calendar of the University, namely, for 1918-19, and the first Minutes of the Senate, Syndicate and Faculties, namely for 1917-18, and the first University Examination Papers, namely those of 1918; also the first Annual Report of the Syndicate 1917-18, and Extracts from the Reports of the University Examiners on the examinations of 1918. They also held the first University Convocation last year for the conferring of degrees. The Senate devoted itself further to the scrutiny of the University Regulations and passed a number of important amendments which received the sanction of Government. I think that the first Senate, and the bodies arising out of it may claim to have started the University fairly on its way, and I am sure that all here hope that that way will prove to be the road leading to a successful future.

Before it came to a close the first Senate suffered two serious losses, during the period succeeding the last Convocation. By retirement we lost the valuable services of the Hon'ble Mr. E. H. C. Walsh, C. S. I., I. C. S., who was elected the first Dean of the Faculty of Arts and who as the first President of the Board of Studies in History, Ethnology and Archæology rendered skilled and ungrudging services for which the University owes him its very sincere thanks. By death, I deeply regret to say we lost the help of Mr. William Ironside whose Knighthood was gazetted a few days after his death. Mr. Ironside was nominated a fellow of the first Senate in October 1917 and we looked forward to his assistance in developing the

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practical side of our courses. Of this his premature and lamented death has deprived us. It is with grief also that we have heard within the last few days of the tragic death of one who was a member of our first Senate, the late Mr. Justice Atkinson.

During the year since we last met in Convocation a new Intermediate College has been admitted as an external college, namely, New College, which is managed by Government and is associated with the four top classes of the former Patna Collegiate School. This represents an experiment of singular interest.

Your Honour at the ceremony of laying the foundation stone of the new buildings of Ravenshaw College at Cuttack on the 11th instant was pleased to announce that if the College buildings were hereafter filled with students all of whom were doing college work proper, that is to say were studying in the post intermediate classes, it would be a matter for consideration whether the time has not come to fulfil the desire of the Oriyas to have a separate University of their own. Your Honour was also pleased to say that sooner or later the time must come when each of our existing collegiate centres, namely those at Cuttack, Muzaffarpur, Bhagalpur and Hazaribagh, will develop into a separate University with its own Charter. This pronouncement clearly reveals the idea underlying the Patna University Act and the principles which are to be kept in view in admitting post-intermediate colleges to the privileges of the University.

During the course of the year three new schools have been admitted with the right of presenting candidates to the Matriculation Examination. Some apprehensions have been felt in some quarters regarding the terms of Chapter XIX of High Schools to this privilege. But I think that experience has shown that in practice the new method greatly facilitates their admission, whilst at the same time it brings intelligent pressure to bear upon school managers to equip their schools in such a way that the pupils get proper benefit. (There were 112 High Schools in the Province when we took over charge from Calcutta University on October 1, 1917, and there are now 126 schools preparing for our Matriculation Examination.)

One of the best features of the year's work has been the starting of the University Library. In the Budget of 1919 the University provided a sum of Rs. 3,000, a small sum, but it was rendered into a handsome one by His Honour the Chancellor, whose interest in libraries and scholarship is well-known. Out of the funds placed at his disposal for such purposes the Chancellor gave to the University a grant of Rs. 6,000 this making the total available Rs. 9,000. The General and Executive Library Committees met on several occasions and consulted the Boards of Studies through their Presidents. The Rs. 9,000 will almost certainly be fully expended by December 31, 1919. The latest report from the Registrar is that there are now over 1,600 volumes in the Library. The General Library Committee and the Syndicate have passed and published Rules for the issue of books from the Library, which will be a lending library. The books will be available for all authorised persons in all parts of the Province. I very much regret to say that it was found necessary in the budget for 1920 to reduce the original Library grant recommended by the Board of Accounts from Rs. 7,000 to Rs. 2,000. This was a deplorable necessity. The allotment of only Rs. 2,000 for the purchase of books for the University Library was indeed paltry and insufficient; but I am thankful to say that His Honour has again come to our rescue, this time with a grant of Rs. 2,000, which is very welcome and will, I am sure, be greatly appreciated by Convocation.

(During last year's Convocation I had the privilege to announce a personal gift of Rs. 1,500 from His Honour the Chancellor, as an endowment for the Gait English Gold Medal, to be awarded annually to the students who stand first in English in the B. A. Examination. The example set by His Honour, as I hoped, has had an excellent effect. We have since received a sum of Rs. 1,500 from the Hon'ble Mr. Sachchidananda Sinha, for the endowment of a gold medal to be awarded annually to the students who stands first in History in the B. A. Examination, and to be called the Radhika Sinha gold Medal. We have also received a donation of Rs. 1,000 from the Hon'ble Maharaja Bahadur Sir Ravaneshwar Prasad Sinha of Gidhaur, as an endowment for the Gidhaur Gold Medal to be awarded annually to the student who stands first in the Matriculation Examination of the University. That endowments of this kind encourage students to put forth their energies and that they arouse a valuable spirit of friendly emulation is clear to all. I trust that benefactors will always be forthcoming to aid the University with such endowments. A promise of a very considerable endowment for a still more important purpose, namely for encouraging research, has been received from a well-known benefactor of education in this province, and I trust that a detailed mention of this handsome endowment will be made at the next Convocation.)

(Last year, in commenting on the results of the University Examinations, I remarked on the fact that in practically all the examinations the younger candidates were more successful than the older. My remarks, I find, have been misunderstood in some quarters as supplying an argument in favour of reducing the age at which students are admissible to the Matriculation Examination, but plainly my remarks could not have any such purpose.) The fact that boys of 16 are more successful in the Matriculation Examination than candidates of 17, 18 or 19 years of age cannot properly be taken to indicate that the average boy of 15 would do still better. If it did the argument would not stop there, and it would go to prove that boys even younger would do best of all. My remarks were meant to apply a test to the work of our examiners. It has been found in London University that the younger candidates do better on the average than the older candidates. In fact the same phenomena appear in the London University examinations as appear in ours. Our Matriculation Examination is set for boys who have just attained, or are just about to attain the age of 16 years and if our examiners perform their duties satisfactorily it may be expected that the examination will suit boys of average ability of this age. Our figures for 1918 establish that our examinations do suit average candidates of 16 in the Matriculation, 18 in the Intermediate, and 20 in the B. A. and B. Sc. Exa-

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minations. These facts seem to me useful in corroborating the results of our examinations, which disappointed candidates, and their parents and guardians, are, I fear, frequently tempted to depreciate and attribute to chance. It is no chance which works out practically invariably that in the Matriculation Examination candidates of 16 do better than those of 17 years and those of 17 better than those of 18 years, and so on, and allots invariably a higher proportion of First class in the same order. I am pleased to notice that the same phenomena recur in our Examinations, of 1919, almost as surely as in the examinations of the previous year.)

(The total number of candidates for the Matriculation Examination of 1919 was 3,335, a number which compares unfavourably with the figure for last year, namely 3,679. This fall is due perhaps chiefly to the fact that there was a rush of candidates in 1918 when there were hopes of our being more lenient than the older Universities. These hopes proved delusive. I do not think however there is any reason to anticipate that the diminution in the number of candidates will continue. In the I. A. Examinations the number of candidates in 1919 was 877 as compared with 830 in the previous year, and the number of candidates registered for the I. Sc. Examination in 1919 was 194 as compared with 156. These are fair increases. The Intermediate Examination is, like the Matriculation, a source of income to the University. The higher Examinations naturally cost the University more than the fees bring in.)

I wish to call attention for a moment to the Budget for the year 1920. The normal balance of of the year ahead of us is only Rs. 12,750. That such a balance is totally unworthy of the University must be clear to all. It is obvious that an effort should be made to build up a University Reserve Fund for emergencies. Here is another field for the energies of the great benefactors of whom I trust this University will be fertile.

Our post-graduate work is advancing. In our first year we had two University Lecturers, namely in Economics and in History. The University has since appointed six more Lecturers, namely, in English, Mathematics, Physics and Chemistry and two in Sanskrit. It may be pointed out that the University Lecturers are members of college staff and are assisted by other members of the several colleges. The Regulations insist on a course of University lectures deemed sufficient by the Syndicate and do not in any way exclude further tuition conducted under the direction of the University Lecturers. Whether this is the best arrangement has been questioned, but it certainly allows college teachers to participate usefully in post-graduate teaching though their status and the time at their disposal might not be such as to assure their appointment to University posts.

I am glad to say that the Budget again includes provision for the appointment of 4 University Readers, namely in Indian Archaeology, Ethnology, the Moghul Period of Indian History, and Mathematics. The University Readers for the current year are just about to commence their courses of lectures. I anticipate the highest benefit to the University from their researches. They will, I have no doubt, help to animate this University with the spirit of research without which a University is liable to become nothing better than an examining body, with teachers actuated by no better ideals than to pass a certain percentage of students through examinations.

Before concluding, I should like to say a few words regarding the new University area and the buildings which we all hope to have there after no very long time. The plans for the buildings have received much earnest attention from the Syndi-

cate and from the Committee which the Syndicate formed for the purpose of advising on the subjects. The provision of funds for the buildings must obviously be made, not by the University with its nominal balance of Rs. 12,750, but by Government from their resources, and he who pays the piper naturally calls the tune. The Syndicate however has been fully consulted and has submitted its advice. The late publication of the Calcutta University Commission's Report has naturally caused some delay in the finally decision. The Report must be digested, and all in it that is good and applicable to this Province must be made use of. In the end we shall doubtless have a scheme which will promote and foster in every practicable way the development of learning and research, and of studies of practical economic value in this Province for many generations to come.)

Finally, I shall like to say just a word of good will towards our new graduates. We are about to have the privilege of hearing Sir Rajendranath Mookerji address them specially. On behalf of all members of Convocation I wish them good fortune throughout their lives.

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The Public are hereby informed that on account of Magh Mela to be held at Allahabad from the 14th January to 12th February 1920, the booking of all goods (including Coal) and Live-Stock to and from Naini station will be stopped from the 1st January to 15th February 1920

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22nd Dec. 1919. }
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Jherriah	arr. 9.30	Jherriah	arr. 10.45
	dep. 9.45	Dhanbad	dep. 10.50
Pathardihi	arr. 10.10		arr. 11.10

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