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The Morbid Intellectual

BY "QUACK"

He used to call me 'Duck' meaning I was a quack. He was a true intellectual (a literateur, by profession and took delight in being shocking. One of his favourite aphorisms was "shock therapy is the only treatment for a stupid world". He had some very interesting remarks to make about Gardening, Music and Pictorial Art. He devastated the whole of science with a shrug and held that modern Physics is modern fairly tale, full of fantastic but charming lies. 'And you people' he used to tell me, 'are as big

One morning he came into my room looking as if he had indigestion. He stared at me objectively, trying perhaps to weigh my grey-matter about which he was never very satisfied. "Examine me, Duck" he commanded, contemptuously. In instant obedience I put my stethoscope over his chest. He winced from the cold chest-piece and added sarcastically "I am very good at heart. You may ask Lolly about that". Ignoring his pleasantry, I palpated his abdomen; he felt tickled and started giggling.

started having a terrible headache. My head started swelling. I had the finest visions and a most melodious tinnitus. That was Hydrocephalus I can swear. I almost said 'Hallo' to God, had Horner's Syndrome, Pseudo-Hypertrophic muscular Dystrophy.....

"That will do D,"—I was almost sorry for him. 'Not yet. You know what the stupid Surgeon did to me. He explored my abdomen; the blasted St. Columbus, I told him my abdomen was not America. He smiled and gave me a cold douche. That night I died and communicated my experience to D. H. Lawrence....."

I managed to send him off giving him some Barbiturate.

x x x x x x
Since then he was progressively demented. Every day he came out with what he called "Revolutionary

scientific discoveries". I did not understand his achievements in Mathematics or Physics, But once he said he had discovered B. B. C.—The Blue Blood Corpuscle, a new formed element of the Blood specifically possessed by intellectuals—73 Billions per c. mm. In his Diary he wrote things like—"My abdomen is the Garden of Allah, where my Libido creeps. They found the liver, the spleen and the Pancreas in the abdomen of a simpleton and insist that I also possess the same. I vehemently object to such an assumption".

But often he would stealthily come and ask me for a course of Testosterone injections. I used to satisfy him with distilled water.

x x x x x
One morning he disappeared to somewhere leaving a chit for me, wherein he wrote "Duck! Better Practise Veterinary."

Limerick

There was an old man of Dandot
When at night, in the Bank, he was caught,
Told the Constable, fierce,
"I wasn't taught 3 R's
And this was a night School I'd thought!"

Pelican

cheats as fortune-tellers. How vehemently you maintain that pneumo-cocci cause Pneumonia and Sulphonamides agglutinate them. You go on spinning fantastic tales with a drop of Blood, and proclaim that you have heard moist rales when really you have heard some hairs creaking". He used to read a lot. One evening I caught him reading Keith's Embryology but then he ridiculed it almost in an obscene fashion. At times I tried to pull his leg but invariably got mine pulled—Leg-pulling is such a subtle art.

Realizing he was not in earnest I said "yes, it seems to be a serious case, what's the History?"
"In the morning three days back I woke up from a nasty erotic dream. I went to the verandah and the first sight was a fashionable woman who gave me nausea and vomiting. Dirty vermins of men swarmed in the street singing or belching. I don't know. I had anaphylactic shock I swiched on the radio, there was no Beethoven,, No Chaikovsky.—I had precordial pain. I took up the newspaper; it was full of lies. I took up Browning and

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RICE FOR CLOTH

We are told that 10,000,000 yards of cloth of Indian manufacture are being shipped to Siam soon to relieve the shortage of cloth there. No one in south-east Asia, east Africa or the Middle East need go short of cloth so long as our mills are working. We have been generous enough in the past to export 400,000,000 yards of cloth annually to cloth-short countries and 10,000,000 yards more will not matter at all. As a matter of fact we have been assured that "the supply of this cloth will in no way affect the cloth position in India". It is very remarkable that we were able in export food in 1943 without its having any effect on the famine, so also we are able to export millions of yards of cloth today without our being even aware of it. But for questions asked in the Central Assembly, no one would have known that we have been exporting cloth to other countries.

It is said that in return for the cloth we will receive a considerable (unspecified) quantity of rice from Siam. We are unable to comprehend fully this barter of rice for cloth with Siam. We were under the impression that the stock of rice, which Siam had to deliver to the Allies as war-reparation, was at the disposal of the Combined Food Board in Washington. We may send hundreds of millions of yards of cloth to Siam, but rice from that country can only be obtained if the C. F. B. allots any to us. Again, if the Siamese have to give rice as war-reparation, it should be available to us free, not in exchange for our none-too-plentiful cloth. If Siamese rice has to be paid for in kind, why call it reparation? It is only ordinary trade,

—exchange of commodities. We were told before that Siam would deliver 1,500,000 tons of rice, her accumulated stock, free.

If we are to get rice from Siam only in return for cloth that must be sent by us there, why should the Combined Food Board in Washington decide how much rice we are to get from Bangkok? What right has it to butt in an ordinary commercial transaction? We have a feeling that the supplies of food and cloth in this country are Eleusinian mysteries, which ordinary mortals can never hope to unravel. There is never any shortage of shipping when we have to export food grains or cloth to other countries, the paucity of tonnage becomes acute only when we have to import any thing that we are in dire need of. The Indian coastal shipping companies have offered to provide ships for bringing rice from Siam, but their offer does not seem to have been accepted with alacrity.

Now that we are busy acquiring independence, commonplace things like rice and cloth are probably beneath consideration.

Notes & Comments

The Importance Of Iran.

In 1945, the production of petroleum in its most important centres of production were:

U. S.	—231 million tons.
Venezuela	--46 " "
U. S. S. R.	--25 " "
Iran	—17 " "

The U. S. is not only herself the largest producer of oil but also controls the oil of the second largest producer, Venezuela. U.S.S.R. which stood second in the list of oil producers, before the war, is now third. Britain is mainly dependent on the oil of Iran.

The effect of oil on the troubled waters of international politics has always been the reverse of pacifying.

Quixotic.

The British people are quixotic to an almost unbelievable degree. While they are willing to disrupt their own empire and give India indepen-

dence, they are shedding their blood in Indonesia to re-establish the Dutch in their colonial empire. The British armament industry, instead of being quickly turned over to the production of goods that people in Britain are desperately in need of, is still turning out tanks and military planes. More than £4,000,000 has been already spent by the British taxpayer on the Indonesian "war". No less than 17½ lakhs of people in Britain are still engaged in making war materials. Even the hated Japanese have been taught how to use the latest British tanks against the Indonesians in Java.

The Old Story.

We are unable to see how the government is going to carry out its purchase of food grains from the producers at any reasonable price. It is said that by November last, the Food Department knew of the likely shortage of cereals. This knowledge should have been utilized to buy food grains at current, normal prices. Instead, they waited for four months, till there was a failure of the N.E. monsoon in northern India and winter rains in the Deccan. Even then they should have issued instructions quietly to the provincial governments to proceed with a silent but vigorous policy of procurement. What the government of India actually did was to suddenly proclaim a serious famine to be imminent and allowed enough time to producers, stockists and dealers to hoard as much rice as they could and raise the price to absurd heights. One is almost forced to the impossible conclusion that the government of India was more anxious to provide opportunities to the hoarders and profiteers to make easy money, rather than to provide food to the people. Conditions to-day are strongly reminiscent of 1943. Then too, food was hoarded by profiteers and its price was raised so high that it was beyond the capacity of ordinary men to pay. Those who are buying rice at Rs 30/- a maund to-day are hoping to get still higher prices for their stocks in September and October. Of course if the government plan is to buy rice from hoarders at Rs. 40 or Rs. 50 a maund and supply it to the public at Rs. 15 a maund we

have nothing to say. It would be a pleasure to see a few, helped by a benevolent Government, enriching themselves at the cost of the many.

The Ideal Poison

The Monsanto Chemical Co. of America have developed the most lethal vermin-killer known, which is also completely tasteless and inodorous. It is known as 1080 and if available in shops, would be the ideal poison for murderers. 1/50 of an ounce, added to food, will kill a man without revealing its presence by taste or smell. It is said that American citizens will not be allowed to exterminate rats (or each other) with 1080; it will not be sold in drug-shops across the counter.

The two known vermin poisons that are tasteless and odourless are white arsenic and barium carbonate.

Everybody does it

Some English and American papers have been indignant over the disclosure of the Russian spy-ring in Canada to ferret out atom bomb secrets. This is of course sickening hypocrisy. If Russia had been the first to discover the atom bomb, there is no doubt that the English and American secret services would have tried their utmost to get whatever information they could about the new weapon. British secret service agents, ostensibly employed as officers in oil companies in the Far East, gave the Americans information, before Pearl Harbour, that the Japanese were going to launch an attack on America and Britain. The real fault of Russia is that she has violated the eleventh Commandment: THOU SHALT NOT BE FOUND OUT.

Iran

The British and the Americans are more anxious to save the Persians from Russia than even the Persians themselves. The plain fact is that the Russians think that if the British can exploit the oil wells of South Persia, there is no reason why they, the Russians, can not do the same in northern Persia. The Russians also know that if they leave north Persia, the Standard Oil Company of America or the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company will be able to wangle concessions for extraction of oil in the area south of the Caspian Sea from the corrupt Persian administration.

The world has been told that the Russians have removed entire industrial plants from Manchuria, but nobody ever talks of the Americans removing cotton-spinning and weaving machinery from Japan. The Russian occupation of the Danish island of Bornholm (they have started evacuating it) received wide publicity but the continued American occupation of the Danish island of Iceland is not bruited abroad.

One World

Commenting on the world food-scarcity, Linton P. Anderson, Secretary of Agriculture, Washington is said to have remarked: "The Allied Combined Food Board must make a decision like a lover of dogs with too many puppies—in other words, that some have to die." It is also a fact that in the U. S. hogs are still fed with maize and in Argentine, they have been using wheat, instead of coal, for running their locomotives. President Truman has refused to re-introduce rationing in America and Americans have more food to eat (and waste) this year than they had last year, when they were even better fed than anybody else in the world.

The Mudaliar Mission did not tell the Combined Food Board in Washington that in the last week of February, nearly 200 "sick destitutes" on the point of death were collected from the streets of Calcutta and removed to hospitals and that the authorities are trying hard to check the migration of starving people from the countryside to Calcutta and prevent a recurrence of the scandal of 1943.

A Qualified Independence

As we are going to get independence soon, it is of interest to us to learn about a country that has recently been given independence—Transjordan. According to the treaty that has been just signed by Britain and Transjordan, recognizing the independence of the latter, there is provision for (1) mutual assistance in case of attack, (2) full consultation in all matters of foreign policy, (3) financial assistance by Britain to Transjordan, (4) maintenance of British armed forces in Transjordan (5) granting of facilities for the movement and training of British troops in Transjordan.

Even before its acquisition of independence, Transjordan was governed by a local Arab administration under Emir Abdullah Ibn Hussain (second son of King Hussein of the Hedjaz), assisted by a council of Ministers. His portrait appeared on the postage stamps of the country. From 1929, Transjordan had a Legislative Council and a Legislative

(See bottom, next Column)

Book Reviews

Nation Betrayed by Dr. Tendulkar. Published by the Bombay P. C. C. Pp. 25, Price -/8/-

The gorgeous red cover of the book made us think at first sight that it was a Communist publication. But on reading the sub-title: A CASE AGAINST THE COMMUNISTS, we knew that we were grievously wrong.

Dr. Tendulkar wants to prove that the Communists of India are a bad lot and it is right that the Congress should get rid of them. Instead of trying to prove the recalcitrancy of Indian Communists by quotations from the *People's War* it would have been simpler to say that an organization backed by Capitalists can have nothing to do with Communists. Dr. Tendul-

Assembly. The High Commissioner of Palestine was nominally the High Commissioner also of Transjordan. All the change that will take place with the acquisition of independence by Transjordan will be the dropping of the title—High Commissioner of Transjordan—by Lieut-General Sir Alan Gordon Cunningham.

Beggars Cannot Be Choosers

It appears that the statement made by the members of the Indian Food Mission that the Combined Food Board at Washington had agreed to supply 12,00,000 tons of cereals (60 p. c. of the original request for 2,000,000 tons) to India is merely an optimistic guess. The matter is still under discussion and it is improbable that the Board will be able to give out a final definite figure for the exact amount of cereals that will be allocated to India.

Officials of the Combined Food Board in Washington have admitted that the countries in which the U. S. A. is interested would get more and those in which she was not particularly interested would get less. In other words, China would get preference over India.

It appears that in spite of Mr. Gandhi's assertion, food has a tendency to get mixed up with politics both here and abroad. The people of Greece know it to their cost.

kar's charges against the Communists are: (1) "they betrayed the Indian Nation by their 9th August stand" (2) they were hard on Subhas Bose. Truth compels us to say that in both cases the Communists simply followed the earlier Congress point of view. Only, Congress subsequently made a *volte face* but the Communists have been consistent.

The 1942 disturbances were repudiated by the Congress at the time they occurred. Three years later, the Congress leaders tried to give the impression that they considered it a glorious revolution. Even today Maulana Abul Kalam Azad has been saying (Bombay, Mar. 16) with regard to the recent disturbances in Calcutta, Bombay, Karachi, Delhi and Madras:

"The people should conserve their energies. If they frittered away their strength, as they did recently in Bombay and other cities, they would prove a great problem to the country. The lack of discipline and dissipation of their energies stand in the way of their achieving the freedom of the country. Whatever had happened in Bombay recently was all wrong. Even if it was done with patriotic motives, he would say that it was ill-conceived and certainly not in the interests of India."

It may be our lack of intelligence that prevents us from realizing the difference between what happened in various big cities during Nov, 1945—March 1946, and the happenings of the glorious revolution of 1942. The language used by the Congress President to denounce the happenings of recent times is exactly the same as the Communists used to denounce the incidents of 1942. We do not see why the past should be glorified and the present damned when both are much the same.

The other charge against the Communists is that they did not see eye to eye with Subhas Babu. The Congress also did the same and it is well-known to everybody that (1) Sardar Patel instituted a suit against Subhas Babu in the Bombay High Court to contest the legacy of the late Mr. V. J. Patel; (2) there was a conspiracy among the Congress high-ups to oust

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 CALCUTTA—Oriental Assurance Bldg., 2, Clive Row
 BOMBAY —11-13, Elphinstone Circle, Fort.
 DELHI —Scindia House.

Subhas Babu from the presidential election (3) the Congress High Command took disciplinary action against Subhas Babu, (4) the Congress leaders

superseded the democratically elected Bengal Provincial Congress Committee (and its duly elected president, Subhas Bose) and substituted it by an ad hoc

THE RIGHT HONOURABLE

SIR TEJ BAHADUR

SAPRU says

"More than ever before, thrift will be a national asset in the building up of a new India. It is not everybody that can have enough savings to invest in Equities and gilt-edged securities but even the small man can invest in National Savings Certificates without any fear of capital depreciation no matter what happens to the world's markets. I am prepared to support the scheme particularly because I understand that people are expected, after appreciating this point of view, to make their contributions voluntarily and not to submit to any unwarranted pressure on the part of any one."

Tej Bahadur Sapru

AC-10

FACTS AT A GLANCE

- 1 You can buy National Savings Certificates for Rs. 5, 10, 50, 100, 500, 1,000 or 5,000.
- 2 No one person can buy more than Rs. 5,000. They are so good that they are rationed. But two persons can buy Rs. 10,000 jointly.
- 3 The value increases by 50% in 12 years. Every Rupee invested becomes Rs. 1 1/2.
- 4 The yield is 4 1/2% simple interest, at maturity.
- 5 No Income Tax is payable on interest earned.
- 6 Encashable after 2 years (18 months for Rs. 5 certificates) but it pays you best to keep them for the full period.
- 7 Small-Savers can buy Savings Stamps for Re. 1, As. 8 or As. 4. When the value of stamps saved reaches Rs. 5, they can be exchanged for a Certificate.
- 8 Both Certificates & Stamps are obtainable from Post Offices, Authorised Agents appointed by Government, or Savings Bureaux.

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committee nominated by them, (5) Pandit Nehru, speaking in Calcutta on Feb. 21, 1942, said that if any one thought of taking the aid of any outside Power for freeing India, it was a sign of cowardice; (6) on 12th April, 1942, at a Press Conference in New Delhi, Pandit Nehru said that he would oppose and fight Subhas Bose if he invaded India, (7) At a Press Conference in Bombay on 23rd June, 1945, Pandit Nehru said: "Subhas Bose was quite wrong in his methods when he thought that he would achieve the freedom of India with the help of the Japanese". We do not think the Communists said anything other than what Pandit Nehru said about Subhas Bose. But for the impending elections, Subhas Babu would not have been apotheosized by the Congress and the I. N. A. deified. A third charge against the Communists is that they supported the anti-fascist war. The Congress too agreed to support the war effort, in the Simla Conference, only it did not get a chance of doing so.

The stock arguments against the Communists may be "official" but do not carry much weight with an impartial observer. Dr. Tendulkar might have given us the real reason for driving the Communists out of the Congress organization.

Gazing on the Beloved and other poems by Gertrude Murray. Pp. 40. Rs. 2/- HIND KITABS, Bombay.

Leaves from my Memory's Sketch-Book by Gertrude Murray. Pp. 115. Rs. 2/8. HIND KITABS, Bombay.

The above two books are by the talented writer of *Verdict on Beverley Nichols*. The collection of poems is full of sincerity and heart-felt emotion. The other book recounts the impressions of the author of the various countries visited by her—Germany, Italy, Yugo-Slavia, Turkey, Iraq and India—the greatest space being given to the last.

Famine, Rationing and Food Policy in Cochin by K. G. Sivaswamy. Medical Surveys by Lt-Col. T. S. Shastri and Dr. J. A. Bhat.

Servindia Kerala Relief Centre. Royapettah, Madras. Pp. 87 + 35, Eight photographic plates. Price Rs. 3/-.

A previous publication of the Servants of India Society, FOOD FAMINE AND NUTRITIONAL DISEASES IN TRAVANCORE was reviewed in the *Behar Herald* of Nov. 13, 1945.

One cannot help admiring the labour of love undertaken by the Servants of India Society in making public the disastrous consequences of prolonged food shortage in Malabar. The previous volume dealt with Travancore and the present one deals with conditions in Cochin, A book that deserves careful study for its practical suggestions.

Education in Modern India. A Brief Review by A. N. Basu (Head of the Teacher's Training Department, Calcutta University) Published by Orient Book Co. Calcutta Price Rs. 3, Pp. 125 + vii.

Here at last is a readable volume on the subject of Indian education which is neither meant for the examinee in pedagogics nor for the specialist. Mr. Basu has to his credit several notable contributions in the field of education, but I am sure, this unpretentious volume will win for him real gratitude from the large reading public which wants to know about the past and present of the various aspects of Indian education, without being harassed either by an array of 'facts' and 'figures' or hectored by opinionative conclusions.

The most arresting parts of the volume (and at the same time, I believe, bringing to light facts gained as a result of decades of research) deal with education a century ago, Gokhale's Primary Education Bill of 1911, the Sadler Commission's Report and the omnibus section 'Plans for Educational Reconstruction' lucidly analysing with a wealth of details, the Basic and Sargent Schemes.

This volume is bound to lead to the development of a genuine interest in the problems of educational expansion in the India of to-morrow.

B. N. Banerji.

Careers—By Wahida Aziz; Kitab Mahal Women's Series No 1; Kitab Mahal, 56 A Zero Road Allahabad; 75 pages, Re 1/8.

Freon

A patented liquid of the above name has for some time been used in refrigeration as it volatilises very easily to a gas and the gas can be condensed again to the liquid by a slight increase of pressure.

It has now been found that freon is an excellent solvent for insecticides like pyrethrum or the more modern D. D. T. The solution of the insecticide in freon gives what is known as an AEROSOL,—a spray of exceedingly finely divided particles, so light that they remain suspended in air for a long time and are carried by convection (like air) to every part of a room or tent.

The Beginning Of A Real Test Tube Baby

Parthenogenesis or virgin birth (fertilising an ovum without a sperm) takes place normally in some insects. The eggs laid by the virgin queen bee hatch into drones (males) and the troublesome green fly of our gardens (Aphis) can hatch out of unfertilised eggs in some part of the year.

More than thirty years ago zoologists succeeded in making the unfertilised eggs of the sea-urchin commence development merely by immersing them in solutions of inorganic salts of definite strength. Later on, fatherless frogs were produced by pricking the unfertilized eggs with needles. In 1936, Dr. Gregory Pincus, of Harvard, fertilized the ovum of a mammal, rabbit, by merely treating it with a strong salt solution. This saline-fertilized egg was put in the uterus of a female rabbit and it gave birth to a normal rabbit.

What is called 'test-tube baby' in newspaper head lines is really artificial insemination of the female. The 'test-tube' comes in presumably as the receptacle of the sperm. A further step has been taken in this direction by Dr. Rock and Miss Menkin of the Harvard Medical School. They have succeeded in taking out living unfertilized ovum from the Fallopian tube and fertilizing it by treating it with sperm, in a glass vessel, i.e., outside the human body.

The real difficulty in carrying out such an experiment lies in obtaining the ripe unfertilized human ovum at the stage at

which it is ready for fertilization. The difficulty of keeping it alive for fertilization in a glass vessel is not so great.

Dr. Rock and Miss Menkin succeeded in fertilizing the human ovum outside the body in three cases. All the women were in their thirties, the eggs were collected from the fallopian tube shortly after their liberation from the ovary. The eggs were nourished in watch-glasses containing serum from the women themselves, incubated for a day and then exposed to live male spermatozoa for an hour. After further incubation for 2 days, it was found that in two cases the eggs had divided into two blastomeres—cells that are formed in the first stage of the development of an embryo from a fertilized egg. In the case of the third egg, three blastomeres with their nuclei were seen,—this is the farthest development of the human ovum outside the body.

It would be absurd to suppose that these experiments foreshadow the development of a complete human embryo in laboratory glass vessels, instead of the female uterus. All that these experiments point to is that in some cases, where sterility is due to the inability of the fallopian tubes to pass on the ova to the uterus, it may be possible to take out the egg, fertilize it in a glass vessel and return it to its proper place of development,—the uterus.

V-2

The V-2 is not just a rocket carrying explosives. It is far more complicated in design and manufacture than the V-1. The streamlined V-2 is 46 ft. long, 5½ ft. in diameter, with a sharply pointed nose. It has 4 large external stabilizing fins at right angles to each other at the rear. Its weight, when fully charged for sending off, is about 325 maunds.

The nose, business end or war-head of V-2 contains 25 maunds of high explosive. The body contains (1) a complicated control equipment, (2) two large aluminium tanks, one holding about 95 maunds of alcohol, the fuel, and the other about 140 maunds of liquid oxygen, the supporter of combustion, (3) a turbine, (4) a large combus-

Science Jottings

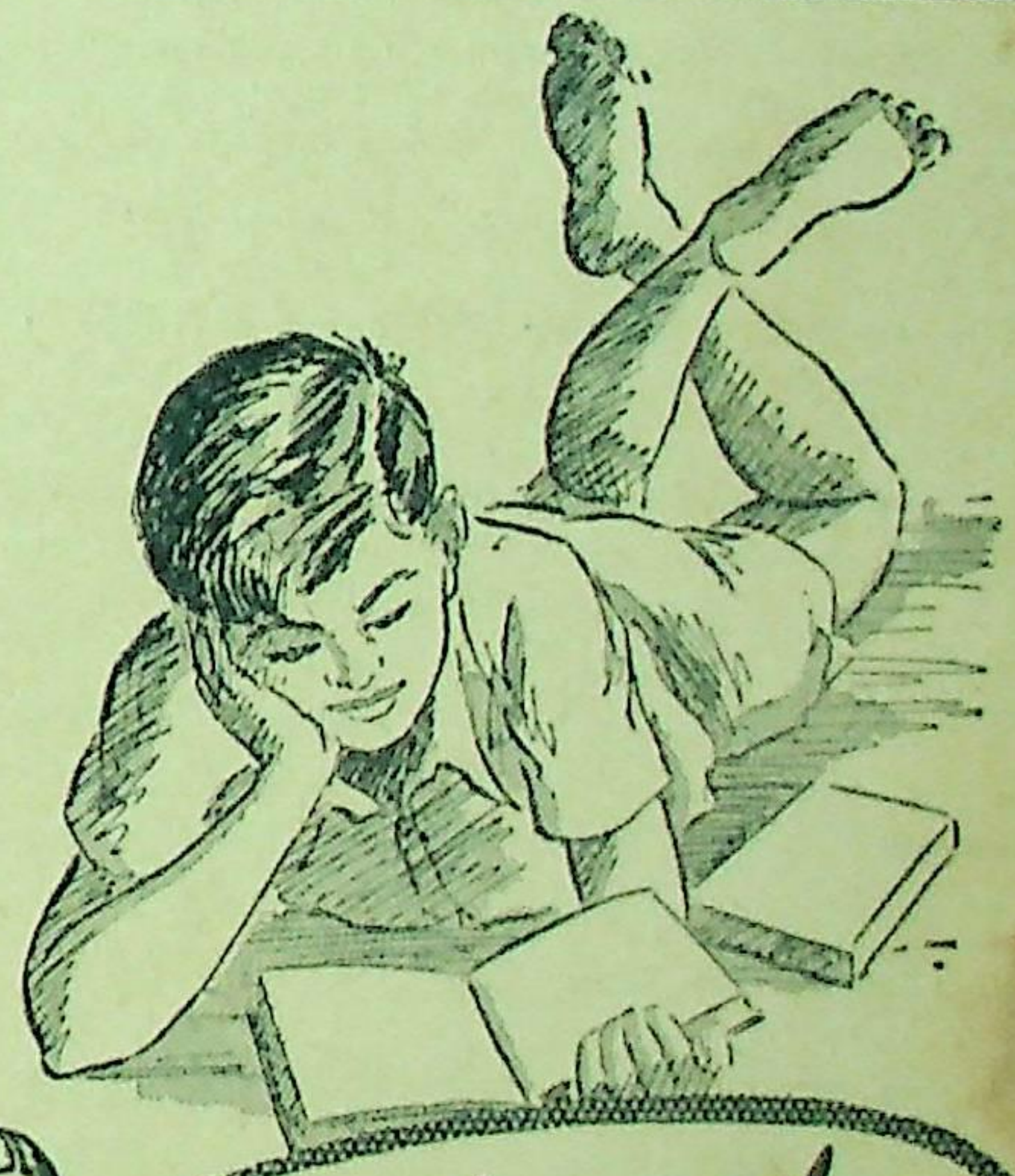
By READER

tion chamber into which the alcohol and oxygen are forced, (5) a gyroscope.

The V2 derives all its power from the fuel it carries and is quite independent of external air for combustion. That is why it can act at stratospheric heights where there is little air present.

The turbine driven by superheated steam produced by a chemical method (action of hydrogen peroxide on calcium permanganate), drives the pumps which force alcohol and oxygen into the combustion chamber. The mixture is ignited by an electric spark and the rocket starts on its journey. The mixture of alcohol and oxygen burns violently and the gaseous products of combustion are forced out at a very high speed through a hole in the rear end as a jet of very hot gas, and this propels the rocket forward. It starts by climbing vertically

but a gyroscopic control within the projectile comes automatically into play, operating the control vanes, causing the V2 to curve away from the vertical towards the target. One minute after launching, the rocket makes an angle of 45 degrees with the horizontal and at this time the fuel supply is cut off, either by remote radio control from the launching site or by previously set automatic instruments in the rocket itself. The point at which the fuel supply is cut off determines the range of the rocket. The longer the fuel burns, the higher the speed and the longer the range. When the fuel supply is cut off and the rocket is making an angle of 45 degrees with the horizontal, it is travelling at a speed of 3000 miles per hour. There is little air resistance at the height at which this happens, so ultimately the rocket reaches an altitude of 60 to 70 miles above the earth's surface and then comes down



He's learned the LIFEBOUOY habit too!

He is learning a lot just now, but nothing that will stand him in better stead than the daily habit of using Lifebuoy Soap. His mother can be proud and happy that her lessons have given him protection against "dirt-danger"—danger which is everywhere ready to attack the unguarded.

Lifebuoy is more than a good soap — it's a good habit



SCIENCE

to the earth following the usual parabolic path of a trajectory.

Rockets that were fired against Britain had a range of 200 miles, but it could be increased. The total time of flight from start to finish was 5 minutes.

The speed being much greater than the speed of sound (750 miles per hour) the noise of the passage of the V2 is not heard until after its explosion, as a rumbling or hissing sound. Descending through the atmosphere from a height of 60 miles, the V2 loses its speed considerably by air-resistance and is heated by friction with air to such a degree that it often glows a dull red.

The weight of the high explosive carried by the V2 is about the same as that by V1. The damage caused is also about the same. The superiority of the V2 over the V1 is that nothing can be done to forestall the former. The only defence against the V2 is to bomb the launching sites and to cut the railway lines over which supplies of the rocket are sent to the bases from which they are discharged.

The Automatic Lighter

Time there was when one could buy two boxes of matches for one pice only. The price of these has now been raised 600%. The automatic lighter, one of the discoveries of science, that could have made us independent of matches, is also banned by the government because its use would have cut down the

(See bottom, next Column)

The Face Of The West

BY AMICUS CURIAE

Western politics takes for granted the inevitability of war. It has been calculated that since Moses till Versailles there have been about 2000 Peace treaties that have on an average lasted not more than two years and that there have been thirteen years of war to each one of peace. The war over, Conferences, like the one now taking place, of the United Nations' Organization are clarifying the issues over which the United Nations are now taking sides, and it seems fairly clear that whatever respite the world revenue obtained from the tax on matches.

The so-called "flint" used in the automatic lighter is not really flint but an iron-cerium alloy. This cerium is a waste-product of another lighting industry. When the German chemist Auer Von Welsbach discovered that gas mantles could be made by impregnating ramie gauze with a solution of 99% thorium and 1 p. c. of cerium nitrate and laid the foundation of the incandescent gas mantle manufacturing industry (1885), cerium began to accumulate in gas mantle-making works. Monazite sand, the raw material, (which is available in Travancore) contained more cerium than could be used by the gas mantle makers. Somebody discovered that an iron-cerium alloy had the uncommon property of giving out sparks when scratched.

can have now from actual war will be of the quality of negotiations. When there are so many States to negotiate with one another it will probably be difficult for a pretty long time for any one to strike a balance unless one is determined to do so. On the other hand there may be some who will try to shelve their own responsibilities by offering to mediate between opposed interests. The belief in a necessary juxtaposition of interest comes from the fatalistic belief in war. While all understand war, few really believe in peace. This is explained by the fact that war-mongering is essentially an involuntary process, an agreeing with the largest numbers, while the efforts for peace is a sequestered and purely voluntary effort. To bolster up a possible weakening of the warring mentality, resort is made to the idea of peace. Arthur Koestler says in his book "The Yogi and the Commissar" "We call Nazism's New Order a total lie because it denies the specific ethos of our species, because by proclaiming that might is right it reduces Civil Law to Jungle Law, and that by proclaiming that race is all, reduces Sociology to Zoology." When we have gone so far it should be easy for us to understand why Koestler says "Governments have only a narrow margin for manoeuvring within the automatism of the economic and social forces behind them," and that "The outstanding feature of our days is the collapse of all horizontal structures", Capitalism is unable to fight down Revolution while Revolution has also to resort to capitalistic tactics to keep up a permanent facade. Thus it is that there is the hallucination believed in by the western Powers that the policy and outlook of all of them are the policy and outlook of each. Behind this facade they can differ from one another to their heart's content. If we take the case of British Imperialism we find that it is patently afraid of integration of social and economic forces. Some men and money are left free for expansionist schemes and to cover up mistakes of home policy. And in a large measure, due to their

experimental successes, the other European nations, while disowning imperialisms look to them for support. The Soviet economy, on the other hand, shows the largest measure of integration. The reason why the Western democracies now accept the Soviet Union on equal terms is that the latter affords to them a ready made solution of their own difficulties.

If we were to ask the representative of a participating country in the U.N.O. Conference whether they were staving off war or staving off peace, I do not think he would have a straight answer to give. He would probably answer that as the sources of raw material, coolies and soldiers: the great dependencies remain intact, like India, Burma, Ceylon, Malaya, Indonesia and the largest part of Africa, they are probably working for peace in Europe and America. That is the lining to every war cloud in west and that is the context within which peace and war are not estimated as opposed realities. Peace in Europe must mean the tightening of the stranglehold on Asia and Africa. We have heard of the Labour Government's making promises ad infinitum to India but we know it as a fact that after Mr. Churchill's speech "to hold what we have" there was a gallup poll taken in England resulting in 91 per cent of people agreeing with his policy. This 91 per cent must have included the Labour-minded Britishers also. That is why Koestler says that "the great disputes are never settled on their own level but on the next higher one." On the present level of equation of war with peace, the problem of degraded humanity, the problem of civilization will never be solved. Only when we understand how much of tall talk and protestations, of good neighbourliness, of doing one's best, of ragamuffin cosmopolitanism, are thrown into the scale to make the balance even with exploitation and imperialism. With all this glamorous talk of Pakistan, scheduled castes and untouchableness, of the desire of the minorities to be saved from the majority, will sizzle up and vanish like (in H. G. Wells' language) "paper thrust into a flame".

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Some are born to quote and some to be quoted. Veereswar, Prince of Poets, is also a brilliant quoter. He is equally at home with Homer and Dante, Valmiki and Potana, Cervantes and Goethe. He rarely utters a sentence without embellishing it with some sparkling passage from Sri Krishna or Shakespeare. His words and phrases are, more often than not, chips of some old blocks.

After having delivered himself of a verse from the Mahabharata or Paradise Lost, he fixes you with a steady look wherein supreme satisfaction is mingled with absolute contempt for the entire race of non-quoters. He watches, for a few seconds, the effect of his preliminary Homeric dart, before you have fully recovered from it, hurls on you a gleaming Virgilian javelin. You cry halt and sue for mercy. But he knows no mercy, not he, where it is a matter of overpowering with quotations. They come in vast array, "thick as autumnal leaves that strew the brooks in Vallombrosa"

I visited him recently and found him surrounded with books and papers. On seeing me he rummaged among his records, and brought to light a literary article of his, newly published, and directed my attention to a particular passage where, in a powerful paragraph he declared that great poetry is invariably the result of inspiration. Here is the jewel:

"If, as Wordsworth says, poetry is emotion recollected in tranquillity, it is also, as Coleridge asserts, the loftiest sentiments expressed in the noblest language. As Shelley puts it, if the winter of prose comes, can the spring of Poetry be far behind? And then the poet's speech will be abnormal, for has not Shakespeare classed the poet with the lover and the lunatic? Great wits may be near allied to madness, but in the words of Milton, the mind is its own place and can make a Heaven of Hell. Never does the genuine poet inscribe before the grotto of his mind the words of the great Italian, 'Abandon hope, all ye that enter here'. Rather does he assert with the virile Browning, God is in His Heaven, all is right with the world.

The Art Of Quotation

By Prof. M. Sri Ramamurti, M. A. LL. B. (Vizianagram)

One may say that poetic inspiration blesseth him that gives and him that receives. The poetic mind, like Shelley's nightingale, soars aloft, singing as it soars, and soaring as it sings. Then it is in Keats' unforgettable words, a thing of Beauty and a joy for ever.

"Did you notice", asked my friend, 'that there is not a single sentence in it, not an effective turn of speech, that has not already attained celebrity?'

"Ah! That is even so," I agreed. "That is what I call a splendid composition. It carries on it the unmistakable stamp of a composite genius" added Veereswar.

Then he proceeded to expound the infinite virtues of the apt quotation. "Did you ever come across a great discourse" he exclaimed, "which does not display these islands of quotation in the river of its eloquence? The tyro keeps his quotations to the end, unwilling too early to squander away his little store; but the expert begins with an impressive stranger, and after, piles up old acquaintances, and rounds off the performance with a final dip into Learning's golden page. He gives you the impression of one who has dedicated his life to the art, who is saturated through and through, with its edifying spirit, and is,

in fact, himself a long quotation made in the semblance of man".

This exhortation of Veereswar, Prince of Poets kept me busy thinking throughout the day.

What a great loss it is in any cultured society, not to be able to confront your hearers with a timely quotation! Once, two of Learning's torch-bearers were vying with each other in bringing out their treasures. Each was busy exhibiting his variegated store, and pausing only to take breath. I was compelled to be a mute auditor, rather too painfully conscious of my own poverty. That evening's shame is still rankling in my mind.

Once, in a brilliant social gathering, there was the usual feast of wit and flow of soul. The talk was coming down like the rapids of Niagara. A lady suddenly quoted a passage describing a gipsy and turning to me asked, "Don't you recognise this passage?" I went red in the face. While I was consigning the poet to sulphurous flames my vague looks betrayed me. My fair tormentor smiled a smiting smile and announced, "It is Cowper". "Ah, yes... Cowper", I remarked unnecessarily, and a general titter added to my confusion.

The essence of a quotation

is that it be familiar to others as well as to the quoter. Then it can be enjoyed with a relish. As you roll it out, you allow it to rest a brief while on the tip of your tongue. You feel its sweetness, connoisseur-like, with a quiet private thrill.

There are those who seek to palm off their own unpublished compositions as celebrities. This is an act of dark treachery. Once a budding poetess tried this trick on me, little remembering I had been previously favoured with an opportunity to peruse her manuscript. I detected the cheat but refrained from unchivalrous comment.

Some people make it a point of honour to verify others' quotations. Once a bright speaker quoted a Biblical passage. No sooner did he get down the platform and resume his seat among the audience, composing himself to a pleasant anticipation of the thanksgiver's praise, than the neighbour nudged into him and queried, 'exactly where in the Bible is that passage Sir,?' He said he would give the exact reference as soon as he had a copy of the Bible in his hands. 'Sir, I know my Bible thoroughly well, but I do not remember to have come across that passage. He was quietly informed that a different memory registered a different experience. The next day, a letter demanding the promised reference, knocked at the quoter's door. A prompt reply silenced the obstreperous curiosity. But was it mere curiosity or a passionate pursuit of truth?



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"Too much rice would be a deterrent rather than a spur: Your Excellency should not make him such a huge feeder" said Havildress Woor-milla of the Rani-of-Jhansi Regiment to Netaji as he sat fondling a pigeon in his temporary camp at Katurgui.

"I am most grateful to you for teaching me, Havildress, many things about the carrier pigeons. In the loft the other pigeons are eating the grain of idleness. I must reduce

their ration. You are going to Manguni camp now, are you? If so, send down Lieut. Ranu Bai to me. I want to discuss with her the job in hand now. She is good at reconnoitring: I must locate the tarrying guerillas and ascertain strategic features close to us".

Woor-milla replied to Netaji: "Your Excellency knows that Manguni is 25 miles off hence, and I am going on horse-back. Ranu Bai will wait upon your excellency tomorrow to receive

instruction about Nana Saheb and narrate his past exploits".
Ranu Bai Extols Nana Saheb

Lieut. Ranu Bai next day stood bolt upright after the military salute. Netaji wanted her to reconnoitre and addressed her in a calm and contented tone: "I shan't lie easy in my bed until I feel that you are prepared against the worst. I am anxious to test the speed and faithfulness of Nana Saheb at the same time"

"To be quite serious, Netaji, I must assure you that it is not the time or place to doubt the devotion of Nana Saheb. As to speed, the Calcutta Pigeon Races have often shown that the velocity of the fleetest bird from Calcutta to Allaha-bad was often as good as the Punjab Mail's. Anyway, I am taking Nana Saheb on horse-back with me and shall fly the message to Your Excellency tomorrow at dawn, say 6.30. Nana Saheb ought to drop the letter at your camp before 7. I see you have tied a bell rope from the room to the loft. Any pigeon would dash against the bell rope and give you the signal of arrival, though there is no electric arrangement."

Netaji kept both nerve and spirits like a hero. The dream of India often brought a lump into his throat. He said, "Ranu Bai, my good daughter, the delirium has begun. Yet I know we shall never succeed. All this will however stir the blood of youth."

"Father!" said Ranu Bai—"I mean Your Excellency,—this may be a fleeting phase of sheer insanity. But what else to do? Nana Saheb knows the route very well: perhaps he might not fly such a 'jungly' distance at 50 or 60 m. p. h. but carrier pigeon literature thinks this a possibility. Pigeons have flown through thick foliage and high bombax without rising higher. I have brought Jung Bahadur. Detain him here for flying an answer."

"Netaji" said, "The mission of Nana Saheb must remain a profound secret." Ranu replied "O yes, a profound secret! Upon it, depends your decision to break camp if they are after you." She whispered the code words she would use if the patrol loitered hard by.

Netaji came out of his office

Nana Saheb's Death

By Es

followed by Ranu. There was an assemblage of some members of the Rani-of-Jhansi Regiment who had come along on horseback with Ranu Bai. Netaji took the salute and gazed at them with pride.

Waylaid By Guerilla Force

The Rani-of-Jhansi Regiment had a few famished horses and mules which acted as means of transport from and to various detached smaller temporary military camps. The strength was a thousand. As the little party under Ranu Bai was proceeding through the woods stretching away for 25 miles towards Manguni, three men rushed from a thicket with a terrific oath.

"What are you playing at, my beauties?"

"What are you?" Drum-Major Sushila replied, "We are going to surrender soon." One man said, "It's a devilish fascinating idea. We infernal shooters would be saved the trouble of blowing out your brains."

He rammed his hand into his pocket and yelled,—"I'll give you a taste of hell before your death and cremation. Where's your blooming Naughty Jay?"

Ratanvali and Champak-kali laughed from the back of their mules. The former replied:—"We wish you joy of your job in blowing out brains: our Netaji came here by incantation and Yoga, and has already again evaporated by Yoga into ether!—but what sound is that? the roar of of a tiger!"

At this alarm the patrol made a grotesque salute to the ladies and vanished into the jungle. Lieut. Ranu Bai examined her rusty old fashioned six chambered revolver with a six inch barrel. She said "The jungle teems with still lingering guerillas: Sushila's roar saved us the trouble of a useless training period skirmish. Netaji must be informed. By the way, Sushila, where did you learn the tiger's roar?"

Sushila replied, "My husband is a Hurbola or mimic in the court of the Raja of Woollah District Nuddea!"

Nana Saheb On The Wing

Lieut Ranu Bai of the Rani of Jhansi Regiment fed Nana Saheb with a little Hoorki and

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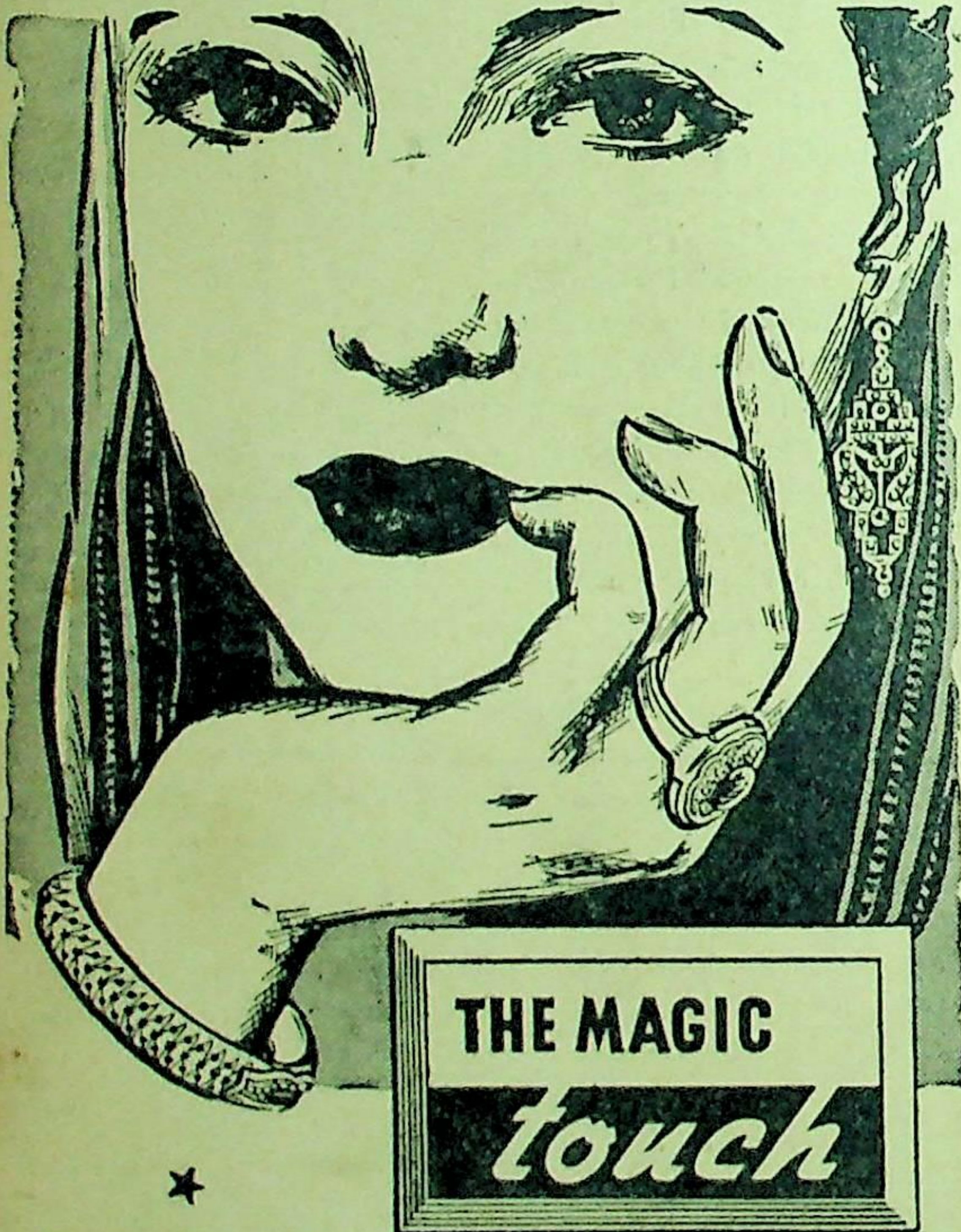
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eb's Deotion To Netaji

By Es,

re was mem-f-Jhansi along nu Bai. e and le. Force egiment es and eans of various mporary strength he little as pro- woods 5 miles e men with a ying at. Drum- We are " One fascina-shooters ouble of into his 'll give re your Where's Jay?" pak-kali of their olid:— your job brains: y incan- already oga into und is er! e patrol te to the into the Bai ex- ashioned ver with he said with still Sushila's ouble of od skir- nformed. where 's roar? husband in the Woollah e Wing the Rani d Nana orki and

Huroom, but gave him no water. She then took a quill tooth-pick: wrote a few words on a piece of 'onion-skin' paper and rolled it up and thrust it into the tooth-pick. She tied the tooth-pick to the right shank of Nana Saheb with her hair.

Then she took out a Jones's anti-hawk siren, as small as the tooth-pick, and tied it to the left shank of Nana Saheb. Nana Saheb and Jung Bahadur had both undergone the 'Hick's system of Training' which taught them to swallow a message, quill and all, when about to be caught.

The other ladies now clustered behind her. Ranu Bai caressed Nana Saheb for a moment, and holding him with both hands said: "Good omen, Nana! You are a bit of a mascot to Netaji. Come on, now—there's a good lad! show us the way you travel!" She tossed Nana Saheb into the air. He took wing almost without a flap, and appeared to have struck a cyclone as the siren roared to everybody's amusement. The device, it is true, often informs the enemy of the passage of a message over the sky. But the chance of being 'trussed' by the hawk is much greater without the siren. The wail of so minute a siren proved the speed at which Nana was cutting the air. The Havildress said, "Nana and Jung Bahadur are capable of 100m.p.h. between Rangoon and Mandalay in the cold weather."

Shot Down!

The aerial messenger covered twenty-two miles, and raced from side to side in an attempt to evade high trees. It was not his habit to fly high, as hawks often soar high in quest of high-flying prey, and also sit on branches of trees. It appeared he had hit the air too hard and dug a deep channel in space,—for the siren screamed away and attracted the notice of the patrols of the Guerilla Forces below.

"Dick my, boy!—stand on the open tommy in hand! The sky whistles!"

"Jim, they are a pretty treacherous lot and infernal cusses, and will murder the

lot of us if they get a chance? I'am rattled!"

"This job will be a feather in our caps, Dick! Get him!"

Bang!—Nana Saheb began to fall, though not hit. You may have seen how crows and kites and pigeons fall from the sky into tanks and fields during a thunder clap and quickly rise again. Jim cupped both hands and broke Nana's fall.

The siren was detached and destroyed: the tooth-pick revealed its precious contents which Nana vainly tried to swallow when too late:—

"All committing suicide: rationless: Wind up: Commit suicide there"

"Fond bird!" said Jim 'I would have cut up your crop if you had swallowed the grand front-page news!"

They cheered till the sky threatened to crack. "Victory is gained, Dick—so much trouble saved by suicide." The surgeon's scissors cut into the wings of Nana Saheb with a vicious swish. He shrieked with pain. "Spare his life: maim him and leave him here to die of hunger", said one of them. The message was torn into pieces and thrown there. The party then disappeared through the wilderness—Dick saying to Jim, "Capital black ladies we saw yesterday: their incantations still more nasty: they would pull a tiger through when the forest has none; we must crack up! we are awfully bucked. These black women are a holy terror here:—O for aiggs and baicns!"

The Tap At Netaji's Door

Netaji in his camouflaged temporary HQ was studying the notes he took down of the code:—He said to his trusty generals surrounding him: "If suicide is the word in the message then it means that they are after us, and we must break camp for the village of Tong-tukui, a marshy land: if Hara-kiri is the word then we must infer that the neighbourhood is guerilla free and we can carry on training here.

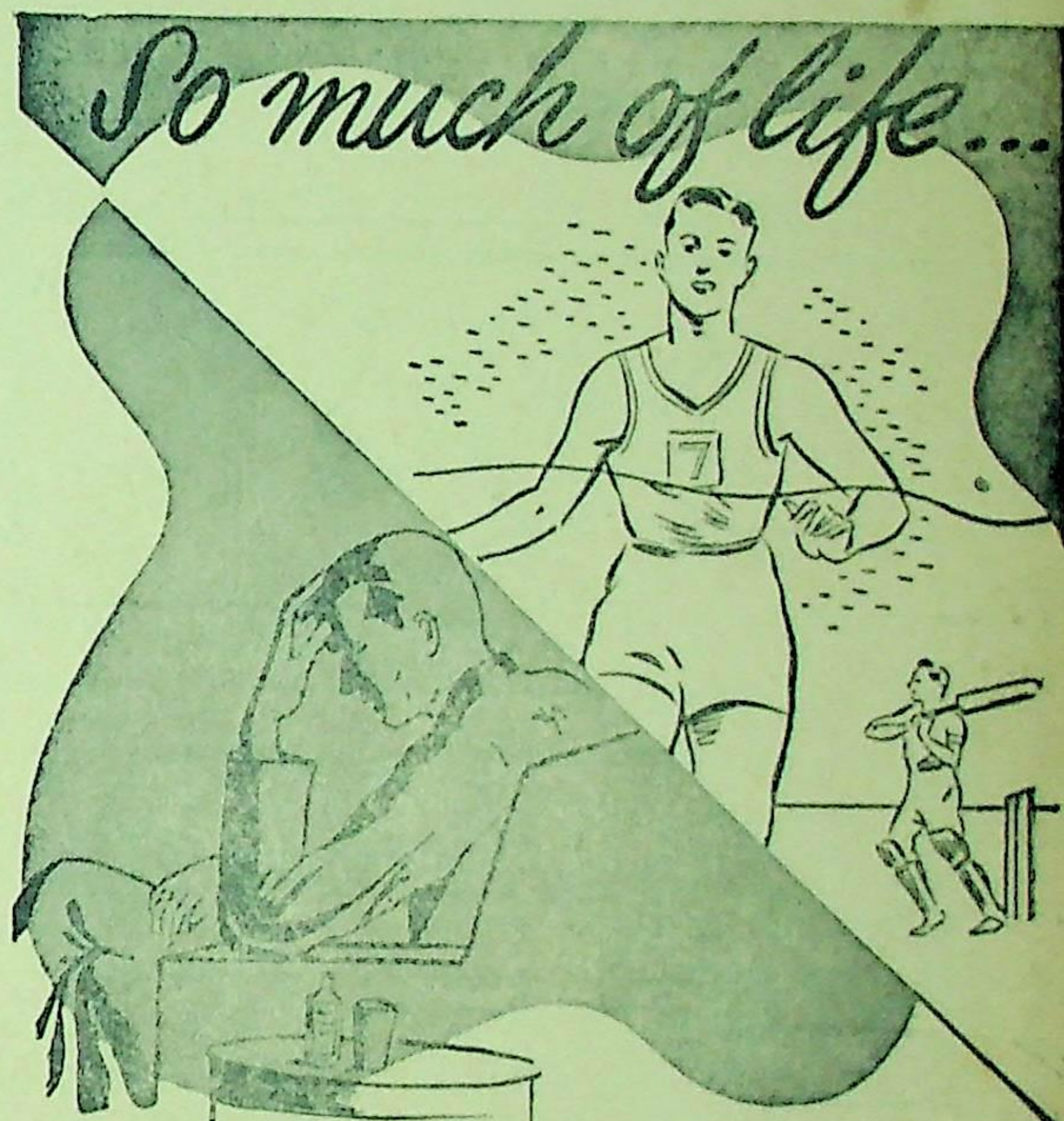
Seven o' clock! Yet Nana Saheb did not put in an appearance. Eight o' clock! Nana Saheb still unseen. At nine Netajee was about to fly Jung Bahadur, when General Shanhai suggested an hour's wait more. Netaji's Chief of Staff concurred. One of his body guards

said: 'Nana Saheb is certain to fly in by circuitous route: probably the "straight home" is dangerous.'

Netajee laid his hand upon his sword leaning against his table: he stood up and folded his arms. In his deep distress for Nana Saheb, subduing his agitation he still aimed at good humourly conversation when his vivacity and discourse were suddenly interrupted by a tap at the frail door. Somebody was tapping it with a pointed instrument like a Goon-Chhooch or big iron needle.

"Come in!" shouted Netajee. The reply came through the

cracks in the door "Buck-buk bukum kom buck-buck bokom-cum!" He sprang to his feet like a giraffe! He opened the door and saw the wingless maimed Nana Saheb standing there. He had walked three miles in three hours, had picked up the pieces of the message in his beak and carried them all the way down and deposited them at the threshold cooing his faithful response 'Buck buck bucom kom: buck-buck bukum kom!'



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In the past our educational authorities had to face great difficulties to attract Adibasi children to schools. Even to-day it is not easy either. Often we hear the complaint of ever-fluctuating attendance of the Adibasi children at schools,—an ever ready excuse for slackening the authorities' efforts for spread of education amongst Adibasis. But it never occurred to them to find out the real trouble behind all this. They ought to have seen that when the existing system of education has been universally condemned as being over-bookish and having little relation with the realities of life, how can such a system receive appreciation in the

Development Of Adibasi Language

By P. George Toppo

minds of people who have so far viewed education only as a means for an income than anything else. His Excellency Sir Maurice Hallett, ex-Governor of Bihar, once observed, "it always seems to me that here in Chota Nagpur we should do well to concentrate on some form of industrial education...". While "it would be barbarous", says Rousseau, "to twist a child's nature and kill his joys in preparing him for a future which will not be his".

It is always very difficult

for a backward community to take interest in education of the existing type, specially when everything is Latin and Greek to them at schools. They have to begin with the Hindi language, which is not their own. The day an Adibasi child goes to school he hears Hindi, thereby loses heart for education. Had there been the Kumrukh or the Mundari or the Ho as medium of instruction, the position of the schools in Adibasi tracts would have been very different from what it is to-day. Take for example, the Mass Literacy Campaign in the beginning. Primers were published in the different Adibasi languages for the respective areas, with the result that within a short time illiterate people began to pour in to each centre. But the wave came and went away.

Then came the introduction of modern Indian languages in schools. Naturally the authorities were relieved to think that as none of the Adibasi languages have so developed as to form the medium of instruction, any diku language may conveniently be forced in schools for them. An ideal opportunity for laying the foundation stone for developing Adibasi languages slipped away simply due to gross neglect of the proper discharge of duties by the authorities. This modern Indian language became a hotch-potch in what is called the introduction of Hindustani. And now, the Hindi Sahitya Sammelan has footed a bill to start Hindi primary schools in Adibasi tracts; but, of course with a political motive behind.

In predominantly Oraon areas, non-Oraons as well speak their language, and hence all children at schools within such areas can with advantage learn the 3 R's in Kunrukh. In like manner, Mandari, Ho, Kharia languages can be started in their respective areas with the ultimate hope of developing Adibasi languages and their literature. And I am sure, the day such a policy is adopted, the whole face of these wretched primary schools will change overnight, thereby hitting the target for liquidation of illiteracy among Adibasis. As for Santali, it has been approved for the present as an optional subject upto the matriculation standard. But still, in

many Santal primary schools. Santali is taught only upto L. P. standard and the rest in Hindi.

The Government are spending Rs- 39,000/- every year on the special primary schools opened for the Adibasis. These primary schools, as was expected, are not doing magic either. Though primarily meant for Adibasis, the conspicuous absence of 'Adibasi bias' in them is a mockery. Attendance in these schools is poor. If the authorities are really interested in the liquidation of illiteracy amongst Adibasis, let them introduce Adibasi languages as an experiment in these schools. For the present, the scripts of Adibasi languages may be Hindi, until these languages possess their own scripts. And for this purpose, I tentatively, suggest an Adibasi Language Development Committee for the consideration of the Government. The committee will have power to co-opt others also for its different sub-committees. I hope Government will encourage the committee in this venture and will give every assistance, financial or otherwise. For the present, I have only the Kunrukh, the Mundari and the Ho languages in view. The suggested personnel of the Committee is as follows:—

1. Mr. Jaipal Singh, M.A. (Oxon)
2. Rev. Joel Lakra, M.A., B.D., S.T.M. (U.S.A.)
3. Rev. Nicholas Kujur, S.J.
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11. Mr. Jakaria Purti, B.A. Dip-Edn.
12. Mr. Junas Barla, M.A. B.D., Dip-Edn.
13. Rev. L. De Jardin, S.J.
14. Rai Sahib Lakhi Narayan Manki.
15. Rai Sahib Garbett Captain Manki
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17. Mr. Hari Charan Roy, B. A. (Hons.)



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Pitt—the Governor of Madras—who could never sleep in peace as long as he had had the diamond, sold it to the Regent of France. Thus it came to be known as the "Regent".

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Grist To The War Mill

The Japanese forces in China surrendered 1068 war planes, 6,29,544 rifles, 27,745 machine guns, 10,324 artillery pieces, 180,944,000 rounds of ammunition, 2,070,000 artillery shells, 305 tanks, 151 armoured cars, 14,964 trucks... — A. P. of America. Chungking, Mar. 14.

Should be quite enough to carry on the Civil War for a number of years.

But Why?

"The Soviet Union is encouraging nationalistic agitation against the British in places like Syria and the Lebanon"—The Statesman, Mar 17.

We were under the impression that the British had nothing to do with Syria and the Lebanon,—the mandated territories of France.

Foretaste Of Freedom

"India when free will pursue an expansionist policy in trade matters"—Sunday Times, Mar. 17

Exports of food-grains and 400,000,000 yards of cloth show that the expansionist policy is already at work, without waiting for freedom.

Give Credit Where Due

"Pandit Nehru said that in the whole history of Asia, India and China had never fought each other"—Reuter, Singapore, Mar. 20.

The credit for this belongs neither to non-violent India, nor to violent China, but to the snow-capped, 20,000 feet high Himalayas.

Our Scepticism

"Giani Kartar Singh, the Panthic Akali leader said that the Panthic Party had obtained a guarantee from Malik Khizr Hyat Khan Tiwana that all Ministers in the Cabinet and private and parliamentary secretaries in the present and expanded Cabinet would be taken from the Panthic Party"—A. P. Rawalpindi. Mar. 12 (Statesman, Mar 15)

Somehow it does not ring true.

Manufacture Of Synthetic Gems

Just before the outbreak of the last war, the British Ministry of Aircraft Production (M. A. P.) sent out a questionnaire to every aeroplane-maker in Britain asking what part, what material and what portion of any part of an aeroplane was imported from abroad, and from where. The enquiry was very comprehensive and ranged from the chemicals used in the paint of aeroplanes to the rare metal alloys in the heart of the engine.

The manufacturers of compasses, altimeters; oil, petrol and water gauges, artificial horizons, temperature and speed indicators, radio instruments &c. said in reply: "There are two things we get from abroad,—hair springs and the jewelled bearings — synthetic sapphires and rubies—in which the indicator pivots swing. It is possible to make the hair-springs here, but the jewelled bearings have always been imported from Switzerland. In the last war, we got the jewels from Switzerland without much trouble."

The M. A. P. replied that in the coming war, there was a strong likelihood of Switzerland being occupied or isolated and that steps should be taken to have these jewels manufactured in England. To the maker of precision instruments, there is no substitute for a jewelled bearing. Where the moving force is small, as in a compass, there must be a minimum of friction in the pointer, index or indicator needle bearings, if accuracy is to be achieved. The harder the bearing, the less the friction. It is no exaggeration to state that the fate of a £7,000,000 battleship rests on a few tiny jewelled bearings in the compass or gun fire-control instruments. Or that a £50,000 bomber and the lives of its crew depend on the small jewels on which its altimeter needle turns.

The daimond, being the hardest substance known, is the ideal material for bearing, with the least friction. But it is ruled out because of its cost and the difficulty of machining it in enormous numbers. Next

to diamond in the scale of hardness come sapphires and rubies. Both are oxides of Aluminium. the former being coloured blue and the latter red

by traces of impurities like titanium, iron, chromium, vanadium. The French chemist, M. A. Vernuil had first successfully produced artificial rubies and sapphires in his laboratory in 1904. So it was possible to manufacture them at low cost, in any quantity required. But in 1939, there

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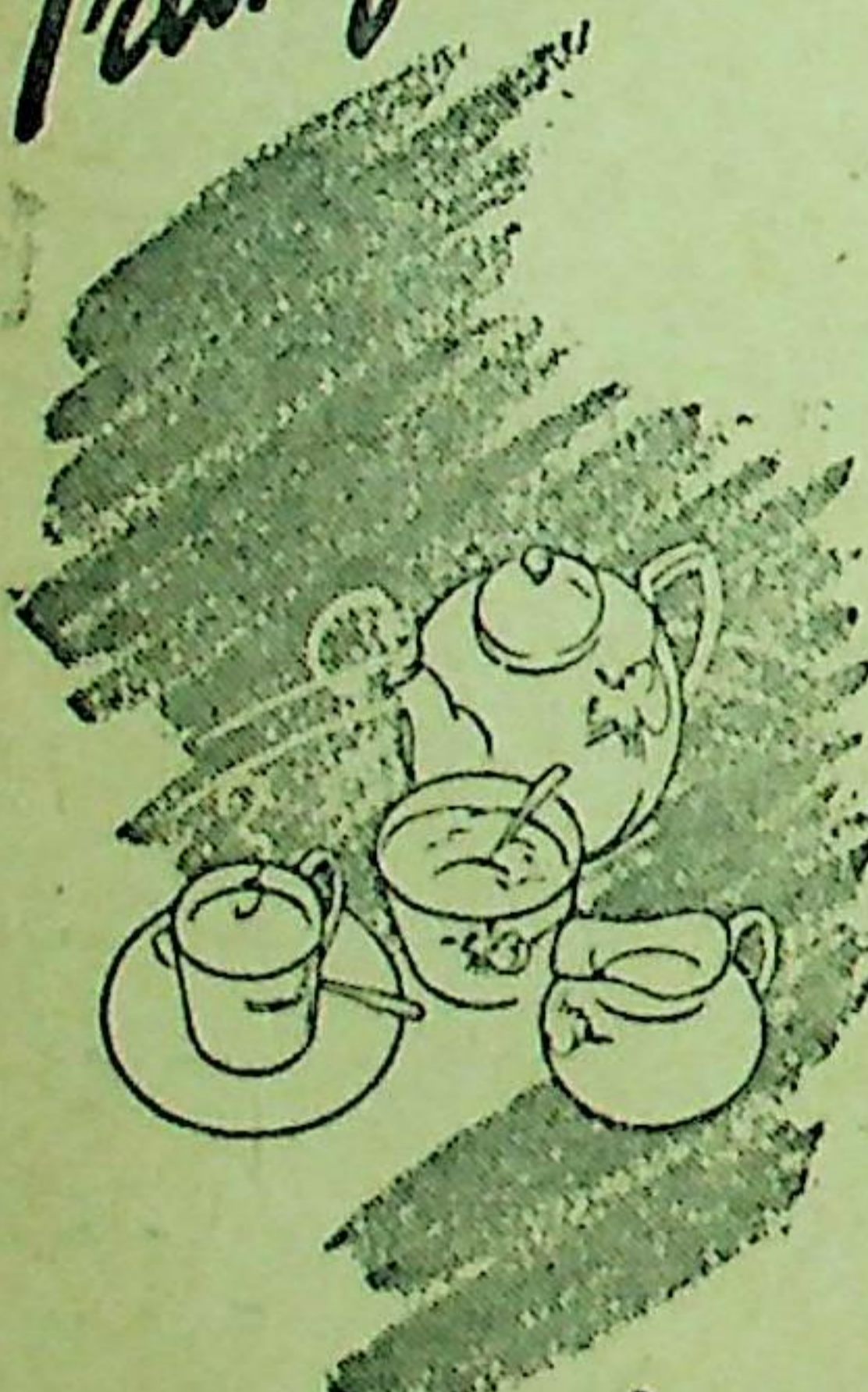
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THE MANUFACTURE ...

was absolutely no experience in Britain of the making of synthetic jewels on a commercial scale. Their chief centres of production were all in, or near, Switzerland and its watch-making factories: at Monthey and Locarno (Switzerland), Bitterfeld and Zwicka (Germany), Annecy and Garrie (France) and the production techniques and all their accumulated experience was jealously guarded.

The M. A. P. approached a well-known firm of electrical instrument makers and asked them to tackle the job in two parts (a) making the synthetic sapphire or ruby by melting alumina in an oxy-hydrogen blowpipe, (b) cutting and machining the crystals into jewelled bearings of the right size and shape for the particular work for which they were intended. The most important thing in (a) was temperature control in the fusing process. This was a trade secret among a few Swiss manufactures. Nothing was known about (b), the machining process, in Britain.

Officials of the M. A. P. and the Managing Director of the electrical firm went to Switzerland to open up negotiations with the Swiss companies for the purchase of the two processes. Swiss law prevented the export of any patented process which would assist any other country in the watch-making industry, and jewelled bearings of course played an important part in watch manufacture.

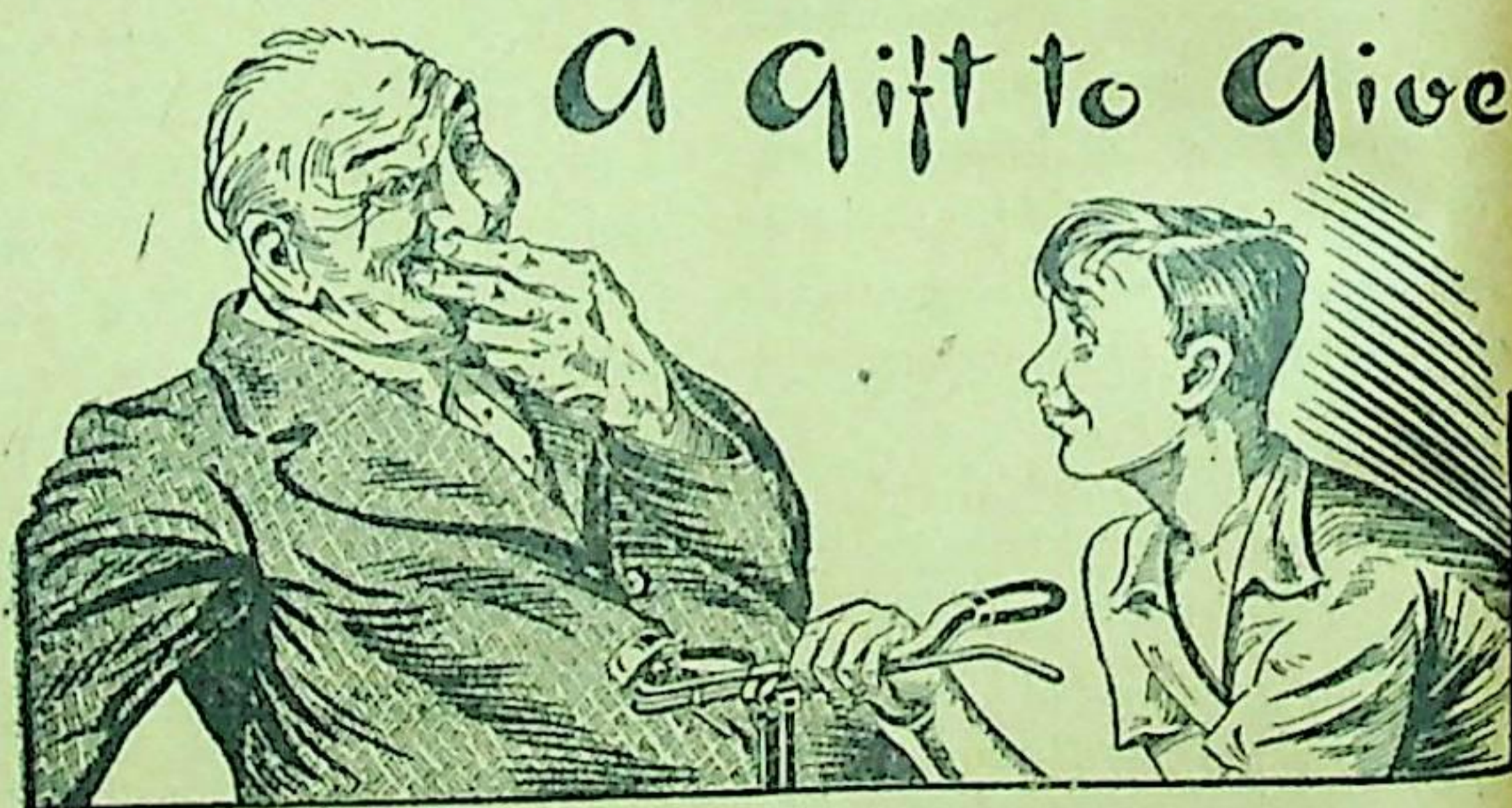
Various alternatives to "purchase" were proposed by the Swiss, such as the immediate delivery of hundreds of thousands of jewels, or a quantity they regarded as sufficient for a ten years' supply. That suggestion had to be turned down because it was not known how instrument designs might change, nor how long the war might last. As a matter of fact all estimates about the probable supplies required proved wrong, for since the war began, the number of jewels used exceeded on an average half-a-lakh per week. After many months of negotiations, with good will on the part of the Swiss, the legal objections were overcome. Guarantees were given to the Swiss about

the watch-making industry and the post-war situation. The raw material, pure alumina, was brought to England, together with some machinery and orders were placed with Swiss firms for new plants. About this time, France surrendered to Germany and some of the plants which had crossed the Swiss border on their way to England fell into German hands. A British agent managed to get out of France with the vital parts of one of the most intricate machines in his luggage. Running the gauntlet of Germans in France he succeeded in reaching a British naval ship in Bordeaux. In 1940, the Swiss machines were copied. Research laboratories tackled the problems of preparing the alumina of extraordinary purity that was needed for jewel-making and making, furnace bricks that would stand the very high temperature of 2000 degrees at which the alumina was fused. When these problems were solved, technical staff had to be trained to work the various machines for cutting, drilling, shaping, polishing and setting the jewels in different types of bearing. About 30 years of Swiss manufacturing experience had to be

telescoped into a few months.

These synthetic gems are exact counterparts of rubies and sapphires made billions of years ago in the plutonic heat and pressure of the cooling earth. The method of artificial manufacture consists in dusting down finely powdered alumina, at intervals, into an oxy-hydrogen flame and the fused mass settles on a tiny pillar in the furnace as a long white crystal, like a stalagmite. The process is stopped when the crystal reaches a convenient size (about 300 carats in weight). It takes about 5 hours to grow to this size. After cooling, the crystal is cut into jewel bearings for chronometers, battleship compasses &c by incredibly accurate machines. These machines are worked by highly skilled girl operators, who adjust the angles of the drilled recess in the stone in which the pivot of the needle &c will rest, to a fraction of a millimetre.

Gem stones made artificially can only be distinguished from natural stones by an X-ray examination. The X-ray shows perfectly level (lines) strata in the synthetic gem, while in the natural stone, there are kinks in some of the lines.



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The Art Exhibition

BY OUR ART CRITIC

THE exhibitions of painting organized by a few lovers of art of this town in the past two years aroused so much interest that the intelligentsia of Patna thought it was time that this ancient capital should have a Silpa-Kala-Parishad of its own which will have a permanent art gallery and hold annual exhibitions representative of all forms of art. The Silpa-Kala-Parishad came into existence less than a year ago and has had hardly time to achieve its ambitious programme, but it has not allowed the year to pass without its art exhibition. Unfortunately for the organizers, and more specially for the exhibitors, the exhibition had to be held during the general election week when most of the offices, courts and institutions of Patna were closed and many possible patrons of art were away from town and the hubbub of the election stood in the way of any large attendance of sightseers. The exhibition also synchronized with the International Exhibition held in Delhi which naturally drew away most of the outstanding art productions of the country to the imperial capital.

In connection with the exhibition the organizers arranged a lecture on Greek Sculpture by Dr. Suniti Kumar Chatterji among whose encyclopaedic qualifications is a deep and critical study and appreciation of art in all its forms. It is a great pity that a lecture like this, so suggestive and so instructive and so richly illustrated by lantern slides, unfolding the evolution of Greek sculpture through the ages, should have drawn so small an audience as it did. The Vice-Chancellor of Patna University, Lt. Col. C. P. N. Singh who is also president of the Parishad, in his address at the opening ceremony, lamented the poor response that the Parishad had had so far to its appeal for funds for the projected art gallery. As he is so closely connected with institutions responsible for the spread of higher culture, he might institute an inquiry as to what individual dons and masters of his University do or have done to inculcate among its alumni a real love of culture as such. It is now a matter of notoriety that the few occasions when Patna has through the efforts of a small band of enthusiasts

the chance of cultural reunions of art, literature, philosophy and such other subjects, the audience may be small or large but our culture-mongers of the University are sure to be absent.

Notwithstanding the unfavourable time and the poor gates, the exhibition itself was, in many respects, of a distinctly higher standard than the previous ones held in Patna. True, there were not many masters on view. The number of exhibits actually hung was lower than it was last year. But this was due to a more judicious selection the effect of which was that there was among the exhibits hardly any production which did not show excellence in some respect or other. Even the works of students in various schools of art showed a standard of ability which one formerly used to associate with finished artists. The weeding out of weak exhibits had given more scope for showing off the exhibits hung and the improved lighting arrangement this year made the whole show extremely interesting and attractive. If one were to criticize at all, one perhaps might object to some of the small pictures being hung high up and also to the intermingling of exhibits in different media, but this possibly may have been due to late arrivals which had to be put up in such space as was available.

The most striking among the exhibits were the five paintings by Jamini Roy, two of which had been lent to the exhibition by Professor Rangin Haldar and the rest had been sent by the artist himself. The first two, Mother and Child and Gopi are executed in the style of the folk art of Bengal with sweeping curves and simple colours. The draughtsmanship and composition are faultless and the colour scheme is at once bold and simple. Rhythm and poise in line and colour are embodied in these pictures. The stylized tiger in green and the stylized elephant in blue are as vigorous as they are fantastic. The simplification of form and colour is the great achieve-

ment of this master artist of Bengal. There is a naivete, a directness of appeal characterized by an economy of means and effort. In order to appreciate Jamini Roy one has to get rid of all one's association of ideas and realistic concepts and go back to the forms and colours of childhood. Childhood memories play a very important role in the mental life of a man, specially in aesthetic enjoyment. This regression to childhood and initiation to a new Aesthetics are the passports to the appreciation of the art of Jamini Roy. He paints the fundamentals, the substance of everchanging phenomena—the universal in nature—with perfect realization of basic form and so his representation is bound to be formal and conceptual. He depicts a world the laws of which are to be assumed in order to derive pure aesthetic

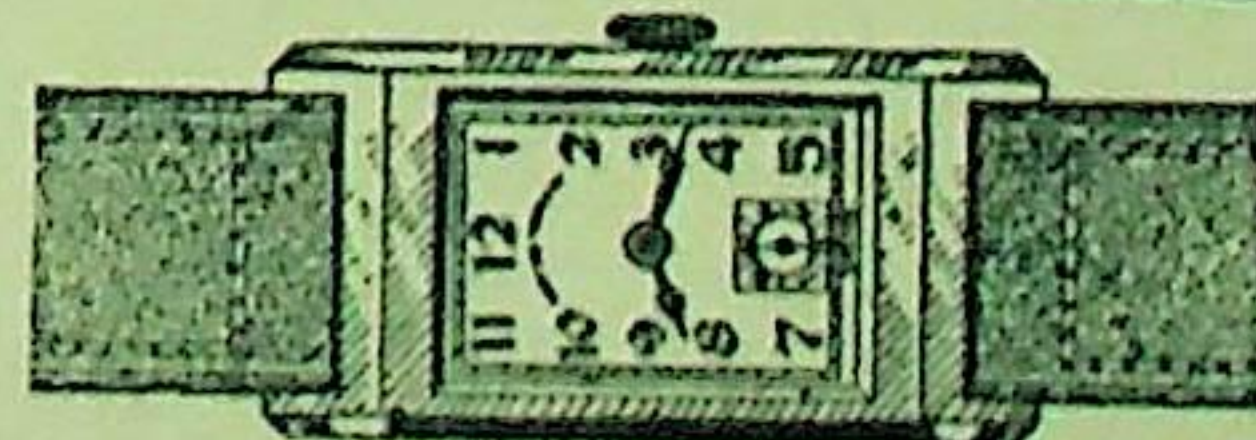
pleasure from his creations. The consistency and harmony of his paintings are comparable to those of syllogisms where the premises are assumed without reference to the external world. No wonder that his Mother and Child which is certainly a masterpiece in tempera was considered the best picture of the show in any medium. Atul Bose's A Sketch is also an outstanding picture in oil. This is a study of the artist's wife caught in a midday siesta. We may classify this picture as 'genre', the picture in which the human figure is depicted as a motif rather than a portrait. The treatment of light coming through the glass-panes and falling on drapery is clever. But the face is pale and lifeless. Asit Haldar's Asoka's Daughter has nothing very striking about it. It is the drapery and not the figure which catches the eye. White silk with its softness and delicacy has been depicted with subtlety.

With regard to portraiture in oil it may be said without



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ART ...

any hesitation that excepting two or three almost every one is 'still life' portrait. The art of portraiture in the grand manner has been lost even in England, the home of portraiture. Among the exceptions are Wali Muhammad by Dilip Das Gupta and Portrait of Mr. 'G' by Shafuddin Ahmad. The former which was considered to be the best exhibit in oil is a remarkable study of a Kashmiri Mahomedan and shows the effect of soft light on the face of the sitter in a masterly way. The suavity of texture and the transparency of flesh achieved by the artist are really admirable. The latter is a portrait with a few bold strokes of a young Bengali with glasses. What it loses in texture, it gains in vigour. Satya Mukherji's Toiler of the Soil is a portrait of a labourer executed with sympathy. It is an arresting picture full of vitality and richly deserved the Governor's prize for the best exhibit by a local artist.

Landscapes in oil, this year, were poorer than what we had last year. Shafuddin Ahmad's Evening, I think, was the best. The artist delineated mellow light of the evening on green fields seen through a number of trees. K. S. Ahmad's Call of the Spring and A Roadside Village also attract attention. Still life in oil by Parimal Roy is a notable performance. The artist has caught the variegated hues and tints of a bunch of annuals with a fine sense of compositional values.

Among landscapes in water colour there were, this year, many of a really high order. Zainul Abedin's Silent Trio is a picture with a haunting beauty and rightly deserved the gold medal for the best landscape in water colour. Another picture by the same artist, Quiet Expanse, is almost as good but in the former the individuality of the three trees stands out while in the latter the trees are typical. Morning Light by Dilip Das Gupta is an outstanding picture drawn with the delicacy and sensitiveness of a master artist. His Street View of Srinagar is a fine example of rapid and bold execution. Rani Chanda's From Takdah, though a bit severe, is suggestive of vast

expanses. Pines by the same artist in the style of Nandalal Bose is not so impressive. The trees are wooden, pillarlike. M. Gupta's Hrishikes and Himalayas excel in softness of tonality—a characteristic of all his landscapes. B. N. Jija's Snow Peaks of Almora shows his talent in landscape painting, but the meticulous details in his Light and Shadow are more suited to decorative art than to a landscape. The picture as a whole is too pretty to be a good landscape. Bireswar Sen's Protector of the Valley and Sentinels of Eternity are dreams in blue with all the glory and freshness of a dream. Upendra Maharathi's Ganges View No. 8 executed in the style of Claude Lorrain is a very suggestive picture. Satya Mukherji's Village Corner is a bold landscape painted with economy of effort. This quality is very striking in Abani Sen's water colour landscapes but it is in black and white, specially in line and wash, that this artist excels. The two landscapes by N. Sen Gupta, a student of the Calcutta School of Arts, featuring the course of a sandy river are suggestive of vast distance—a quality which has become rare in landscape painting of our country. The five landscape studies by students of the Patna School Arts also deserve mention. These all show promise, but A. K. Sinha in A Village Corner reaches the standard of a finished artist.

Among portraits and 'genre' pictures in water colour Kisori Roy's Fakir was undoubtedly the best. The artist brought out the character of his sitter with skill and sympathy. The delicate finish of the silken beard is an example of the subtlety of his brush. K. C. Sathi's Mother and Child is a little gem with its simple but startling colour scheme. The sinister look of Bijoy Chakraverti's Cats' Eye is reminiscent of Aubrey Beardsley's Salome. Lajjavati is a successful experiment with ovals.

The black and white section comprised not only drawings with ink but also etchings, aquatints, woodcuts and so forth. This jumbling up of specimens of entirely different technique and media was possibly due to the small number of exhibits in the whole section. The prize-winner in this section was 'A View from Santiniketan,' a dry-

point etching by Shafuddin Ahmad. The artist has succeeded in combining all the qualities of a good etching with the pictorial values of a good landscape. Abani Sen's Youth in line and wash is in my opinion a close second.

In the sculpture section the exhibits were few, but these few showed that in the hands of Indian artists realism finds better expression in sculpture than in painting which still seems to be tied to historical romanticism. Damodar Prasad Ambastha's head studies are full of vigour and expression and his prize-winning exhibit is a work of real genius. Miss Anita Das's works in the round show great promise and I look forward with hopeful anticipation to her future productions.

The commercial section, for which a prize had been donated by Messrs. Burmah-Shell, should have been more representative and interesting than it actually was. I hope the prize will attract a better show next year.

I was not at all impressed by the pretentious efforts in so-called Indian style as shown in several paintings the prices of which were put at four figures. The cheap imitation of Turner and Watts which was in vogue among Indian artists before Havell exposed its real shoddiness was bad enough, but the worse imitation of what is known as Ajanta and Bagh styles is even more boring and it is high time that aspiring artists in this line should be told the plain truth. Weak lines and splash of doubtful and indefinite colours do not make a painting in any style. Lack of skill in these all important matters of technique cannot be made up by the romanticism or symbolism of the theme. The imagination of the theme may have an intellectual value which may even be prized in a literary work, but the aesthetic appeal of art is primarily dependent upon formal relations. Where these are wanting no amount of pseudo-nationalistic bias can make a production a piece of art. I wish that these imitators of Ajanta and Bagh studied the technique of vibrant lines, the wonderful evolution of form effected by incredible economy of means and effort, the perfect inter-relation of objects in different planes, all harmonized by a few bold and simple touches of primary colours which have made these frescoes immortal. What is essential is a mastery of the technique by which form is realized in art. The relation between the line and the mass constitutes the form and the inter-relation of forms makes up the composition. I can sympathize with toddlers attempting to run but they must first learn to stand on their own

Letter

I draw your attention to the figures of polling at Kotwali. Polls were held at that station only on three dates, i. e., 4th 5th and 6th March. On the 4th and 6th March the polling was for those areas where Government officials ministerial officers and other middle class people predominated. On the 5th March the polling was for rural areas within the Patna Administrations Committee where the voters had no official status and impersonation was consequently easy. The result of this difference in the quality of the voters is reflected in the figures of polling. On 4th and 6th March not more than 50p.c. of the voters were polled. But on 5th March approximately 80 per cent of the votes were polled.

On 4th and 6th March there were some white tickets in evidence. But on 5th March the polling was entirely on the basis of the red tickets.

M. L. S.

legs before they can succeed. As it is, most of these high-sounding performances in Indian style are either ludicrous or grotesque caricatures of the glory that was. I remember when Ranji, the great cricketer, first played in Calcutta he was out for a duck, but the budding cricketers of Bengal who had gone to learn, not having seen him in actual action, memorized the manner in which their idol had walked up from the pavilion, how he held his bat, his spotless flannels and so forth. And for generations these were all that Bengali cricketers could show. Elongated features, contorted limbs and slack vestments are all that our rising artists have learnt from Ajanta and Bagh. The real genius of the master artists of the past, very few of our neo-Ajantaites have the ability or capacity to catch. The reason is obvious, the tradition was lost long ago and with it the idiom with which it expressed itself.

On the whole, however, the exhibition was highly successful and provided a real feast to lovers of beauty. The organizers spared no effort to make the exhibition worthy of the capital of a province which was once renowned for its artistic achievements. I congratulate them on the results of their labour.

Last year at about this time, we had our Annual General Meeting and in my report to you I had said that there was nothing tangible which the Association had done for the community it represents. In my report I admitted that no doubt the Secretary might be blamed in the first instance, but at the same time I drew your attention to the fact that my inactivity is only a reflection of your inaction. In the last meeting when I had put two simple questions to you, viz.

- (1) What have you collectively or individually done for the Association? and
- (2) What have you asked me, as your Honorary Secretary, to do?

I had expected that you will take keener interest in its affairs.

I must tell you that you had not, pardon my telling you rather bluntly, taken any interest in its affairs and I shall be justified in asking you that if you go on with this apathy you had better liquidate it and not drag its inert existence.

However, I am glad to let you know that there was at least one gentleman, who preferred to keep himself anonymous, published a letter in the B. H. of the 22nd May 1945, criticising the inaction of this Association towards the fund that was being collected in memory of the great poet Dr. Rabindranath Tagore. Though the criticism levelled against the Association was not fair, yet I must thank him even for his criticism and there was even one member of the Association who felt there was an Association and it must do some thing for the fund. Our Association being a sectarian one I felt that it should not take it up, though at the time I was fully conscious that our community derived the greatest benefit out of the writings of the great poet. But as nobody else came forward, we started a small Collection Committee, some time in July, of which I had the honour of being the Secretary and we collected a sum of Rs. 3567. (Three thousand five hundred and sixty seven.) Later on with the help of a very energetic member of this Association Syt. Basanta Chandra Ghosh we

Bengalee Association—Patna Branch.

Annual Report Of The Year 1945

formed a representative committee of all interests in the town. Entire credit for this must go to Sjt. Ghosh and though we have not been able to make a headway, our collection is about Rs. 7500 (Seven thousand five hundred), on account of the tumultuous time we are passing through but I hope with your kind help and the generous help of gentlemen of the town we will be able to give a good account of us very soon when our popular governments begin to function. I must take this opportunity to inform you that the President of the Committee, Sjt. Sri Krishna Sinha is taking a lot of interest in its affairs in spite of his numerous preoccupations. I should also inform you that your President Mr. P. R. Das has promised a handsome donation of Rs 1000, (one thousand) to the fund, and I hope the cheque would come to us soon.

I am sorry I have deviated from our main topic. In our last meeting I had suggested to you two proposals which I felt, are of vital importance to us.

- (1) Establishment of a science and commerce college at Patna, and
- (2) Establishment of a club or some such place where we can meet and discuss our problems and difficulties and put our heads together to solve them.

I am really ashamed to tell you that we are nowhere nearer than we were last year. Though it is no good trying to find out who was at fault yet I cannot refrain myself from detailing with one or two facts relevant to the issue. After our meeting we had been able to infuse enthusiasm into our revered President Mr. P. R. Das and he had definitely promised to approach the Patna public individually for a suitable fund. He had further agreed to declare the amount of the said fund at our conference at Purulia. But as Mr. P. R. Das was invited to attend the Sapru Committee in the last Easter holidays, we tried

in vain to get a postponement of the Purulia Conference to some other suitable date when Mr. Das could conveniently attend the conference. On account of some unavoidable difficulties, the conference could not be postponed and I felt that this non-postponement of the Purulia conference was unfortunate and we are now before you in the same static state as we were in our last meeting. Just by way of apologies, I must inform you that I had approached Mr. Das 3 or 4 times, I always found him very busy in his professional work and the matter had to be postponed to some future date and I shall leave the work to a more energetic Secretary whom you will select to-day. The Purulia conference formed an Education Sub-committee to find out ways and means and made me the convenor. I am sorry to say that I thought that no useful purpose would be served in passing one or two lofty resolutions and adding to the long list which we already have.

Regarding the quota system of admission in the Science

College, I had the honour of writing to and discussing the subject with the Government and I was emphatically informed that there was no quota fixed by the Government in the matter of admission in the Science College and I was asked to bring forward a concrete case. I had tried to find out a candidate of my community who failed to get admission because of the quota for the Bengalees, but I am ashamed to inform you that I could not find such a case, our boys have deteriorated so much!

I have further to place before you our activities regarding the election. When I had invited the meeting of your Executive Committee on the 23rd September 1945 to decide whether we should take any steps for the registration of voters, I had no idea that this required such a lot of work and I would get such a scanty response from them. Nobody ever suggested to me that this Association should get its members registered and it was my "brain wave" as some had termed it but at the same time I do acknowledge the unstinted co-operation and help from some of the members of the executive committee like Mrs. Amala Mukherjee, Messrs.



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ANNUAL ...

Priya Bandhu Sen, even though he was ill, Dipen Sarkar, Abinash Ch. De and P. N. Mitra. During the course of the work, I have also received a very substantial help from Messrs Jyotish Chandra Mullick and Ratul Banerjee. I am glad to tell you to-day that work done by them has given this Association a great amount of importance and we have to-day about 3500 voters on the list. Some of the members on your executive committee had voluntarily contributed towards the expenses and the Association had paid the registration fees of those members who could not afford or did not choose to pay the fees. Thereafter your Executive Committee decided to approach the local congress leader to give this community a seat in the local legislature from Patna. A deputation was led by your President Rai Bahadur Mihir Nath Roy and the Secretary to Dr. Rajendra Prasad and Srijuts Sri Krishna Sinha and Anugrah Narayan Sinha and I am glad to let you know they gave our nominee Mrs. P. K. Sen a seat from Bhagalpur women's constituency and she has been duly elected. I should inform you that if any of you feel that your grievance should be ventilated in the Assembly or if you have any suggestion you should see Mrs. P. K. Sen or your Secretary.

For the seat in the Patna City General Urban Constituency there were two candidates, Sjt. Sarangdhar Sinha a Congress nominee and Mr. B. K. Sen for the Radical Democratic Party. Your Association in its Executive Committee meeting of the 2nd February 1946 discussed the subject and decided not to take any part in the election and leave its voters to apply their own discretion. But Mr. Sarangdhar Sinha approached your President and the Secretaries of Central Association as also the Branch Association and later on the Central Association in its executive committee, quite rightly, if I may say so, took upon itself the decision and decided to request the voters of our community to vote for the congress though it had said, quite can-

didly, that the last Congress Ministry did not treat our community fairly. As the Bihar Congress had selected a nominee of this Branch Association for a seat in the legislature. I venture to think, so far as this Branch Association is concerned, it had no grievance at present. Further when the Congress is fighting this election on a very different basis, I venture to think we should not take a narrow parochial view during the election even though we have a genuine grievance against the last congress ministry and we will settle our differences when we sit among ourselves.

We had altogether 6 meetings held during the year under review (1945) of which the first was the Annual General meeting in which among other resolutions office bearers and members of the Executive Committee and representative to the Central Association for the year were passed.

The other 5 were meetings of the Executive Committee, where day to day problems were discussed amongst them I would like to draw your attention to one resolution.

"Resolved that a family aid fund be started at once and a Sub-committee be formed who will take note of deserving indigent Bengalee families of the city who deserve help"

The sense of the meeting was that as soon as we know the number of the families, we shall try to help them as much as we can.

In the same meeting one Babu Satish Ch. Bose a Government pensioner in very straitened circumstances applied for help in meeting the expenses of the marriage of his daughter. The Association, after due enquiries, raised a sum of Rs. 250/- and all the expenditure was done through the kind offices of Sjt. Priya Bandhu Sen, one of your Vice-Presidents.

Here I shall have to give some personal explanation for the poor collection. Much of my time was devoted to the registration of voters and then the deputations etc. and I could not meet individually members to realise

their subscriptions. I should remind you that when our funds are so small, your Executive Committee do not think it expedient, economically to spend a large amount on keeping a man for collection and so it is as much your duty to pay as mine to collect. I hope each individual member will send his or her subscription to the Association.

(a) The expenditure for the year was Rs. 131/- and odd leaving aside the expenditure in connection with the registration of voters which came to Rs. 525/- total.

(b) I am very glad to let you know that with your kind help we had inaugurated a Poor boy's fund in which last year we spent Rs. 182/- and odd towards books and exercise books. We have this year extended it and have asked for applications from college boys. We have received some applications from the Medical College and B. N. College and Science College along with applications from school students. All the applications bear recommendations from their respective principals.

Lastly, I would draw your urgent attention to the two news items which appeared in the Hindusthan Standard of the 21st inst and the Amrita Bazar Patrika of 22nd inst.

The following resolutions were passed:—

I. Resolved that following members be elected office bearers for the year 1946.

President:—Rai Bahadur S. N. Mukherjee.

Vice Presidents:—Srijuts S. K. Banerjee and Priya Bandhu Sen.

Hony. Secretary and Treasurer Sjt. Arun Chandra Ray.

Joint Secretary:—Sjt. Girindra Chandra Mukherjee.

Assistant Secretary:—Sjt. Dipendra Nath Sarkar.

Executive Committee:—

1. Mrs. P. K. Sen. 2. Mrs. Amala Mukherji 3. Mrs. L. K. Ghose. 4. Rai Bahadur M. N. Roy. 5. Rai Saheb A. K. Ghose 6. Sjt. B. N. Mitter. 7. Sjt. S. Gupta. 8. Sjt. Amarnath Chakrabarty. 9. Sjt. Basanta Kumar Banerjee. 10. Sjt. P. N. Mitra. 11. Sjt. Annada Ch. Das. 12. Sjt. Bhabananda Mukherjee. 13. Sjt. Tripurari Ch. Palit. 14. Sjt. Khetra Bhusan Banerjee. 15. Sjt. Makhan Lal Chowdhury of Bakhtiarpur. 16. J. N. Ghosh. 17. S. Abinash Ch. De. 18. Sjt. J. C. Sanyal. 19. Sjt. Tarak Nath Ganguly, 20. Sjt. Ameya Nath Mitra.

Resolved that the members of this Association place on record their deep sense of sorrow at the sad and sudden demise of Srijuts Achalendra Nath Das, Dr. Ashutosh Sinha, and Sjt. D. N. Sen who were prominent members of this

Association and expresses its heartfelt condolences with the members of their bereaved families.

Resolved also that copies of this resolutions be sent to the families.

Resolved that this Association thankfully offers its co-operation to Mr. P. R. Das in his attempt to raise a suitable fund for the establishment of a first grade Science and Commerce College at Patna.

Resolved further that a copy of this resolution be sent to Mr. P. R. Das.

Resolved that the Central Association be requested to press Government to abolish the quota system of admission in the Government Colleges at Patna.

Resolved further that the Secretary be authorised to make enquiries in the matter.

Resolved that the Central Association be requested to take steps for the appointment of professors for teaching Bengali as a Principal subject in Government Colleges similar to what is being done in regard to other vernaculars.

After a vote of thanks to the chair the meeting dispersed.

The members elected to the Legislative Assembly with Congress tickets are meeting under the Presidentship of Dr. Rajendra Prasad to elect their leaders as also to choose the personal of the ministry to be formed now. Though I would not ask them to give seats in the ministry on the population basis but I dare say we have Bengalees in the Assembly who are elected with the Congress tickets and they would be acquisitions to the ministry. Now it would be for you to consider whether you should ask the Congress High Command or the Congress President, who I understand will come to Patna on the 27th inst., to consider our claims and give our community a chance to serve the country. It is no good denying we had a very sad experience in the hands of the last ministry but perhaps we were not then vociferous enough and circumstances have changed, in view of the fact that our community has en bloc voted for the Congress candidates. As the Press report goes, each community will be properly represented in the ministry.