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CALCUTTA UNIVERSITY

LEAKAGE OF EXAMINATION PAPERS.

The Hon'ble Sir Ashutosh Mukerjee, Kt., C. S. I., has given notice that at the meeting of the Senate to be held on the 11th January, he will move that "The Report be recorded".

In this connection Dr. S .P. Sarbadhikari, C I E., M D., B A., has given notice that he will move that "In view of the disappointing character of the Report and the statements contained in the note of dissent, the investigation of the Second Leakage be entrusted to a fresh committee of five members of the Senate".

With reference to the above the Hon'ble Babu Mahendra Nath Roy has also given notice of the following resolution.

"That the Senate direct that the paper head "note of dissent" forwarded by Dr. Kedar Nath Das with his letter dated the 17th December, 1918, be expunged from the record of the University."

Dr. Kedar Nath Das, C. I. E., M. D., will move "That legal opinion be taken as to whether Mr. Turner and Dr. Howells are competent to sign the Report."

REPORT OF THE SECOND LEAKAGE COMMITTEE.

We, the Members of the Committee appointed by the Senate on the 24th April, 1917, to investigate the question of the second leakage of Matriculation questions and the leakage of B. A. and B. Sc. questions have the honour to submit our report.

We have considered the various stages through which the question papers passed from the time when they were drawn up by the Examiners, up to the time when they were placed in the hands of candidates at the centres of Examination, and we have endeavoured to collect all available information on the subject.

We have recorded the statements, some times at considerable length, of various gentlemen who could, in our opinion, give us information as to the conditions under which the papers were printed in the Press and were packed and sent out to different centres by University Officers. We have also collected information from gentlemen who set the various papers and others who superintended the conduct of the Examinations at different centres. The work has occupied us fifteen sittings. But we regret to have to report that we have not been able to arrive at any definite conclusion as to the mode in which the leakage actually took place or as to the individuals responsible for the act. Indeed, a scrutiny of the entire process reveals the possibility of leakage at so many different stages that it is impossible, on the materials before us, to hold with any approach to certainty that a particular source is more probable than the others.

We desire to add that we have been considerably handicapped in our enquiry by reason of two circumstances entirely beyond our control. In the first place, we had no authority to compel the attendance of witnesses or the production of evidences; in the second place, the long periods which elapsed between the setting and the printing of the question papers also between the leakage of the questions and our enquiry, made discovery extremely difficult if not practically impossible.

We may finally state that all the circumstances support the view that the leakage was brought about, not by examinees but by some organised body of persons anxious to bring discredit on the University.

(Sd) Asutosh Mookerjee F C Turner George Howells, T. O. D. Dunn.

The 17th December, 1918.

Dr. Kadar Nath Das, Dr. Sures Prosad Sarbadhikari and Mr Siris Chandra Mukerjee who could not agree with the majority report have submitted a Note of Dissent in the course of which they state:—

We would like to bring prominently to the notice of the members of the Senate, the lack of willing co-operation and help, specially on the part of some of the paper setters and others including those whose papers repeatedly leaked out and who had been largely benefited by their connection with the University. Some of these gentlemen did not even extend the courtesy of a reply to our communication.

We have come to the conclusion (1) that the press as a probable source of leakage, may be fairly excluded and (2) that there has been only an incomplete and unsatisfactory enquiry into two of the most important sources of leakage viz., (a) the Registrar and the University Office and (b) the paper-setters.

The probable sources of leakage:—The Committee at the outset proceeded to determine the probable sources of leakage—They were unanimous that the following were the probable sources of leakage:—(1) The paper-setters. (2) The Registrar. (3) The Press. (4) The University Office. (5) Transit and (6) Officers in charge of centres.

Collation of data. (1) The Examination of 15 witnesses and the detailed record of their evidence. (2) The 69 replies received from Paper-setters, of a circular letter sent to 119 of them. (3) The 58 replies from officers in charge of centres, of a circular letter sent to 64 of them., (4) Local inspection of the strong room.

The Press and the printing of question papers:—The Committee commenced its investigation by trying to find out the conditions under which the papers for the Second Matriculation Examination were printed. Altogether twelve witnesses were examined on this point viz. (a) The Registrar, (b) six University volunteers and (c) five Press officials. There was also a short written statement from another University volunteer.

(a) The Registrar seemed very anxious to disclaim any responsibility regarding the printing of the paper for the second examination. He gave the committee to understand that this matter was taken out of his hand and endeavoured to support this proposition by the statement that in the final resolution of the Syndicate he was not asked to take charge of the printing. It however transpired that there was no resolution of the Syndicate on the subject at all, one way or the other and this was admitted by the Registrar, on a subsequent occasion. Surely, the Registrar could make no grievances of the fact that some members of the Senate were eager to render the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor whatever service they could, at a time of great stress. It was indeed difficult to imagine how the Registrar could possibly disclaim his responsibility in connection with the printing of the papers in the face of the followng facts:—

(1) He was admitted into the Press by simply sending in his card. (2) He gave the orders. (3) He took away from the Press in an unusual manner a manuscript question paper in his pocket during the course of the day and returned it to the Press, after coming back, hours later without the press officials questioning his authority. (4) He handed over all the manuscript question papers except two—the exceptions were easily explained. (5) He alone received from and granted to, the press the necessary receipts. (6) He took over the printed question papers; and (7) the Superintendent of the Press accepted him as the chief man in charge

The Registrar not only disavowed his share of responsibility but gave the impression of being an aggrieved person. From the Registrar's attitude it seemed very doubtful, if he gave the Hon'ble the Vice-Chancellor that loyal help which was expected of him.

(b) The University Volunteers:—Of the members of the Senate, who volunteered to supervise the printing of the papers, six gentlemen kindly helped the Committee by personally appearing before it to state the facts within their knowledge. It appears from their evidence that three of them seemed inclined to regard the press arrangements not absolutely secure against leakage of the papers while the other three were quite satisfied with the precautions taken by the press against leakage.

(c) The Press Officials:—There was some apprehension that in as much as the press authorities were at first rather reluctant to undertake the work, there would be lack of supervision. But the evidence of the press officials entirely disabused our minds of any such suspicion. It was stated by the chief official of the press that once he took up the work, he had every precaution taken, indeed many more than are usually taken, as he regarded the work as superconfidential. The press officials were examined in great detail specially the confidential clerk, whose examination lasted during 3 consecutive meetings and whose evidence occupied 32 type-written pages. These helped the committee materially.

The general impression left on us was that the press could be fairly excluded as a probable source of leakage. One of us Mr. G C Mookerjee, from his personal experience and knowledge of details, regarding printing of papers and working of the same press, is able to state confidently that the leakage did not occur there.

The Registrar and the University Office:—There has practically been no investigation of this most important link in the chain of enquiry, because the Chairman was of opinion that the committee was not appointed to enquire whether the office system was slack or not and that the Committee could not therefore question anything on these points of the Registrar or his assistants. Accordingly no question was allowed to be asked which aimed at finding out any probable source of mistake due to lapses of memory or carelessness on the part of the Registrar or his staff or any irregularities and slackness in the office. It could however be ascertained that there was no system of methodically keeping the orginal manuscript question papers or the duplicates and the system of keeping records was extremely faulty. On the first occasion the committee met (i. e on the 28th April, 1917) the Registrar was asked to produce the original and duplicate question papers, but he could not do so as "the safe was in a hopeless jumble" to quote his own evidence. More than three months later (i. e. on the 7th August, 1917) the Registrar was again asked to produce them, but failed to do so. Similarly no letters or papers received by him on the subject of the enquiry, were forthcoming. The Committee was thus deprived of the most important means of investigation by the destruction of evidence, without its knowledge and permission. Strong circumstantial evidence was not wanting to disclose a sad negligence and lack of method in maintaining a register for entering the dates of the receipt of manuscript question papers as they came from the paper-setters. On the first day the committee met, the Registrar stated that no such register existed but that he made some notes in his vest-pocket—note-book. Later on (i. e. about three months after), a register was produced before the committee. The entries in the register were admittedly made much later than the actual dates of papers and were in a few instances wrong and were non-existent in other instances. The fact that the Registrar was examined in two stages with months intervening enhanced the difficulty of cross examining him; hence his evidence was incomplete and unsatisfactory. The statements from the answers of some of the paper-setters who are also members of the Senate went to show (1) that the Registrar could not attend to the question papers with as much vigilence and circumspection as was necessary; (2) that the whole business system of the University wanted revising; (3) that some paper-setters had to set a paper for the second time in place of one lost by the Registrar. Moreover from the answers received from the officers in charge of centres it was evident that there have been discrepancies in packing the question papers. No less than six such occasions have been brought ti our notice; two were said to have officially reported. No record of these latter could be traced in the University office.

The Registrar's unbusinesslike habit is further evidenced by his failure to return the papers containing his own evidence, which was taken down and copied with great trouble by one of us. (Mr. G. C. Mookerjee.) It was, sent to him for perusal and return after correction, but we saw it no more. It was a valuable document lost through his unpardonable negligence.

In the face of such collateral evidence, it is difficult to exonerate the Registrar from carelessness and general inefficiency which could easily lead to leakages. Important papers connected with the conduct of examinations have been lost by him and blunders have been committed, in connection with the custody of other examination papers, than those forming the subject matter of this enquiry. It is therefore not possible to eliminate the Registrar and his staff from the list of the probable sources of the leakage.

Paper-setters:—This extremely important factor, too, had not been sufficiently investigated. None of them were asked to give evidence, not even those whose papers leaked out. Some set questions were however framed on the 26th May, 1917 and the Registrar was asked to forward them to all the paper-setters of the Second Matriculation and B. A. and B. Sc. examinations. Out of 119 circular letters sent out, answers were received for 69 only i. e. about 58 per cent. of the paper-setters replied. A more liberal response to our appeal for help with information, was certainly expected.

Officers in charge of centres of Examinations:—A series of set questions were also sent to these officers. Altogether 64 were sent out and 58 answers were received. The answers reveal the fact that the question first leaked out in Calcutta and were subsequently communicated to the muffasil centres only a day or two previous to the date of examination. No printed question could be traced.

Meetings of the Committee:—The Committee met 16 times before the first draft report was drawn up by the Chairman and circulated to the members on 17th September, 1917. It could not go on with its work on two occasions, once for want of a quorum and on the other occasion for the absence of the only witness, the Registrar, who was otherwise engaged. Thus there were 14 actual sittings and the attendance was as follows:—Sir Asutosh Mooker jee 14, Dr. Sarbadhikari 13, Dr. Das 14, Mr. Turner 14, Dr. Howells 9, Mr. Mukherjee 11 and Mr. Dunn 9.

The Minutes of the proceedings of the Committee:—At the request of the Chairman Mr. G. C. Mookerjee took down the evidence of the witnesses during the first five sittings of the Committee. The work has been arduous and without Mr. Mookerjee's help the minutes would have been incomplete. Fortunately, the services of a stenographer could be secured by the Executive of the University, from the sixth meeting. The minutes are thus complete and should in due course be laid on the Senate table along with the report of the Committee.

Conclusions:—(1) The Press as a probable source of leakage, may be fairly excluded. (2) There has been only an incomplete and unsatisfactory enquiry generally and specially, into two of the most important sources of leakages viz., (a) the Registrar and the University Office and (b) the paper-setters.

In the circumstances set out above we feel that the scope of the enquiry entrusted to the Committee was greatly and unnecessarily narrowed and that its work was to a considerable extent hampered thereby. The prestige of the University and the interest of the public alike demand that a more thorough, impartial and searching enquiry should be instituted, so that the authors of this dastardly outrage may be traced and brought to condign punishment. We respectfully suggest that the First Leakage Committee, which has evidently not closed its labours, should be called upon to undertake such an enquiry in collaboration with the second.

It is understood that Sir Arthur Anderson will succeed Sir Robert Gillan as President of the Railway Board.

CALCUTTA GAZETTE

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

In the second Half-yearly Departmental Examination of Probationers held on the 18th and 19th November 1918 the Probationers, named below, are declared to have passed the examination completely in order of merit:—

Babus Ramesh Chandra Mukharji, B A, Bhupendra Nath Gupta, Maulvi Saiyid Sharfuddin Husain, Babus Umesh Chandra De, B A, Rakhal Chandra Banarji, Atul Krishna Banarji, Rai Mohan Mazumdar, B Sc Priya Gopal Chaki, Maulvis Mahbubar Rahman, Maniruddin Ahmad, B Sc. Ulfatul Karim, Abu Ahmad Abdulla.

JUDICIAL DEPARTMENT.

Babu Trailokya Nath Ray, Munsif of Narail, is allowed leave for twenty-four days.

Maulvi Muhammad Ibrahim Hussain, Munsif of Tamluk, is allowed leave for fifteen days.

Babu Nata Bihari Ghosh, Munsif of Nabinagar, is allowed an extension of leave till he 25th January 1919.

REGISTRATION DEPARTMENT.

Babu Akshay Kumar Ray, Sub-Regr of Shibganj is appointed to act as Sub Registrar of Gaibandha. until further orders.

CIVIL MEDICAL DEPARTMENT.

Temp Asst Surgeon Charu Ch Banerji, offg at the Kandi Sub-division and Dispensary, is appointed temporarily to be Resident Medical Officer, Police Hospital, Calcutta.

Asst Surgeon Sarat Chandra Biswas of the Sirajganj Subdivision and Dispensary, is allowed privilege leave for two months and twenty days.

PROVINCIAL EDUCATIONAL SERVICE.

Miss Nishamoyee Biswas, is appointed to act as Asst Inspectress of Schools, Mymensingh.

Babu Ramesh Chandra Das, Offg Asst Inspr of Schools, Rajshahi Division is confirmed in that appointment.

Babu Akhay Kumar Mukherjee, offg Asst Inspr of Schools, Presidency Divn is confirmed in that appointment.

Babu Mati Lal Das, offg Asst Inspr of Schools Burdwan Divn is appointed to be an Asst Inspr of Schools in the Chittagong Divn. He will however continue to act as an Asst Inspr of Schools, Burdwan Divn.

Babu Ram Ch Banerjee, Dist Dy Inspr of Schools, Burdwan is appointed to act as an Asst Inspr of Schools, in the Chittagong Division.

Miss Hridaya Violet Mitra, Asst Inspectress of Schools, Presidency Divn (Nadia and Murshidabad), is allowed leave for eighteen days.

Pending the arrival of Dr. Anukul Ch Sarkar, Babu Satish Ch Ganguli Demonstrator in Chemistry, Dacca College is appointed to act as Profr of Chemistry in that College.

ORDERS BY COMMISSIONERS OF DIVISIONS.

Babu Abinash Chandra Barman, Sub-Dy Collr, Rajshahi, is posted to the Thakurgaon Subdiv.

Babu Anadi Nath Lahiri, sub pro tempore Sub-Dy Collr, of Nadia Sadar is temporarily transferred to the Chuadanga subdiv.

NOTES FROM THE "INDIA"

"KING OF BURMA HAS RUN AMOK"

The King of Burma has run amok again. Not content with prohibiting the entry into that province of the "Hindu," whose editor has been invited to this country as the guest of His Majesty's Government, Sir Reginald Cradock, the "Ruling Chief" and the most reactionary man in the Indian Civil Service has now had served upon Dr. P J Mehta, of Rangoon the well-known Congressman, an order of externment. The only reason why it had not been given effect to at the time of the departure of the mail was that Dr. Mehta was being treated in hospital for a serious illness. Dr. Mehta is lawyer, doctor, and business man combined. He is a leading member of the Burma Provincial Congress Committee and of the All-Indian Congress Committee. He was also appointed by the Burma Government to be a member of the Committees to investigate the grievances of deck passengers and the question of vaccination, when he sbmitted strong notes of dissent. Dr. Mehta is an upright man of independent judgment, and an old and intimate friend and follower of Mr. M K Gandhi. To extern such a man is an insult to the Indian people. Evidently Sir Reginald Cradock, in the enervating climate of Burma, has lost all sense of proportion. He must go, and Dr. Mehta must remain. We respectfully urge the Secretary of State to countermand at once this extraordinary order and recall this prancing proconsul immediately.

INDIAN REFORM AND COALITION MANIFESTO.

The Coalition Ministry, having explicitly reaffirmed, in their election manifesto, the terms of the declaration of August 20, 1917, and announced their intention to give effect to it, without, however, indicating the nature of the measures to be brought forward, the "Near East" says:—

The question of Indian reform having once been raised requires a prompt settlement. Everywhere we meet with paralysing uncertainty at a moment which calls for sustained and vigorous action. Neither officials nor politicians nor men of business know where they stand and delay can serve only to strengthen the sinister forces which are already at work. We can only hope that in the coming struggle for priority India will be able to hold her own, and that her representatives in this country will have the knowledge and the energy required to apply pressure at the decisive point, not at the fringes of political activity, but at the centre where half a dozen men in effect decide what Parliament is to do.

That is plain common sense, and it is the way Sir William Wedderburn, who was a shrewd judge of political values, used to look at things.

TIMES' CORRESPONDENT ON THE BENGAL EXTREMIST PAPER.

The "Times" Delhi correspondent takes the trouble to cable that a leading extremist newspaper of Bengal which violently attacked the Rowlatt Committee, is now assailing the Allies on the ground that they are imbued with a passion for vengeance. Their thanks givings, it says, have no greater or spiritual value than the Sacrifices of primitive men to his war gods. If the paper has said this it is of course exceedingly silly; but, after all, it is no worse than is being said here in certain Labour circles. Why, then, as the "Times" did, head the item of news "Indian Anglophobia".

INDIAN EDITORS IN AN ELECTION MEETING.

Mr. S Kasturi Ranga Iyengar, the editor of the "Hindu," and Mr. H P Ghose, the editor of the "Basumati," attended the meeting at the Finsbury Town Hall on Thursday last (December 5) in support of Mr. Cotton's candidature for the borough of Finsbury. The principal speakers were Sir John Simon Private R E Cruickshank, V C (late London Scottish) and Mr. Cotton himself. There is a straight fight in this constituency between Liberal and "Coalition" Tory.

ANOTHER IRISH REVOLUTION

HOW IT WAS PLANNED.

(Pioneer's Special Cable.)

Allahabad, Jan. 7.

London, Jan. 2.—A hotel employee of Baltinglass, County Wicklow, was court-martialled in Dublin yesterday charged with possessing a document of possible use to the enemy. The document which was seized last October detailed how on receipt of orders to strike, battalion headquarters should be established at Baltinglass, the police barracks, railways, and post offices should be captured there and elsewhere and how communication should be maintained with brigade headquarters and military law should be enforced by volunteers. Persons of hostile intention should be arrested and dealt with and motor lorries and cycles commandeered. The male section of the populace should be set to whatever work was necessary. Food Committees should be formed to ration the civil population. Ammunition was to be kept at headquarters and supplied to companies that should first need it. Directions followed for the destruction of places seized when orders to abandon them were given, also of railway rolling stock permanent way, food stores and bridges specially mentioned. It was directed that trenches should be dug every half mile on the main road with barricades at intervals.

The prisoner refused to plead on the ground that the court represented the enemy in occupation. The Court's decision will be promulgated later.

WILD ELEPHANTS IN CHITTAGONG

WHITE TUSKAR ROGUE.

Great havoc to buildings and crops is reported as having been wrought in the Sungoo area of the Chittagong district by a herd of some one hundred wild elephants which have come out of the hills into the plains, apparently as a result of Khedda operations being carried on in the neighbourhood. For days together the animals have had the whole country side at their mercy, going where they list, pulling down huts, trampling down and devouring the rice crop wholesale, besides making a clean sweep of the sheds in a bazar. The worst feature of the visitation is that the invaders have no fear of human beings and people are being driven from pillar to post and then on to the next one, in spite of shouts and tomtoms and gunshots, none of which, nor all combined, do the marauders appear to fear. The most vicious beast of the herd is said to be a tucker albeco, or white elephant, which takes the lead in all mischief, and, as an instance of the audacity of the beasts, it is mentioned that some cultivators, who had banked up fires to protect their stacked grain and were themselves armed with guns were driven from their position by the herd which then proceeded to put out the fires by throwing earth thereon, and wound up by devouring the stacked grain. The area affected is that lying between the Sungoo and Chandpur tea gardens, and the concern of the villagers now is as to whence compensation for the immense damage done is to come.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

THE PRESIDENT AS I KNOW HIM

(By Ignatius Phayre, Author of "America's Day")

How comes it that the famous "Professor" of the German satiric papers—in their "victorious" time—is become the arbiter of the world, with all nations, great and small, looking to the White House for a lead along a new and brighter road? It is because the Old World is weary of the ancient way; and war—with Science harnessed to it—is plainly revealed as a fearful menace, leading to the pit of mutual extermination.

No man living has had the universal limelight turned upon him as Woodrow Wilson has. And what is the secret of his sway? Forthright simplicity. Sheer sincerity of purpose, with no "arriere pensee" at all: nothing devious or complicate, no Machiavellian twist of purpose, no double dealing like Frederick the Great's, but only a brushing aside of all the older state-craft and a proposal to make of all mankind one vast family, with the cooperative motto; "Each for all, and all for each."

There is nothing of the superman about Woodrow Wilson. His principles are fixed—consistent, tenacious, and passionate. His prime creed is the weal and uplift of the "common people," that Lincoln loved; the masses everywhere, whether in Ireland, Latin-America, or Armenia. Yet this simple statesman is not "obstinate" at all. And when political opponents twit him with a change of mind or methods—and Wilson has known very many since 1914—he calmly reminds them that Washington and Lincoln were taunted in like manner, when the lessons of life made them surrender to facts, and see things from a new angle. "I don't think much," the Slave Emancipator said, "of the man who isn't wiser today than he was yesterday."

And the Wilson who, in his "hour of utter disillusionment" (at Baltimore) proclaimed his conversion to "Force without stint or limit," was much wiser than the Wilson of 1915. who was "Too proud to fight"—even when the bodies of American women and children were washing ashore off Queenstown from the "Lusitania." Wilson's fault—if a fault it be—is that he will take no momentous step until he is sure that his "composite and cosmopolitan people" (his own phrase) is with him heart and soul.

In other words, he marches with democracy, and not ahead of it, no matter what his own convictions may be. It is this cautious trait which accounts for America's long neutrality in the face of unexampled German aggression, both at home and abroad. The two Imperial Embassies in Washington, remember, were cynical centres of saborage and murder, on a truly continental scale. Bernstorff and Dumba were gold-laced thugs, their diplomacy was 'new' indeed, dabbling as it did in dynamite and reckless intrigue. "Were behind you, Mr President," cried the press of the Eastern States. "So for God's sake don't step on us!" Wilson was waiting for the West and South-West—which the Zimmermann Eckhardt letter roused. He was his own Foreign Minister; and when he declared war upon the "furious and brutal Power" America rose as one man (and woman) throwing all traditions overboard with a fervour which changed the whole world's aspect. Wilson became "the despot of democracy." No Tsar or Kaiser ever swayed a hundred million people as this citizen monarch did; and where Washington and Lincoln failed, Wilson had success unprallaled in American history.

In Lincoln's day, military conscription was fiercely resisted. The Sovereign States turned deaf ears to the pleading of their First President: Congress has blocked and hampered all the Chief Executives, from Madison to Roosevelt, whose "Big Stick" appropriations were always whittled down by a Legislature which had a horror of all things military by land and sea. But Wilson's demand for universal service saw ten million men marching to the booths on Registration Day!

Who was this Wilson? He was a Professor at Princeton University, a man of letters, an historian through whose writings you can trace all the democratic ideals which the world has read in his famous Notes to the German Government and in his classic Addresses to Congress. Next, he was Governor of New Jersey: then Democratic candidate for the Presidency in 1912, and again in 1916, when he was undoubtedly re-elected as the apostle of "prosperity and peace." Wilson was long aware of the German drift: he gave a hint of his own ordeal to the late Seth Low, to whom he sent a cryptic reference to Ezekiel dealing with the "Watchman and the Sword."

His people needed educating to the tremendous issues at stake. This done, he and they hurled themselves into the fray—as Marshal Joffre said—"to the last man and the last dollar!" Materially they have less than nothing to gain: morally—as Wilson has so often urged—they have every thing to win and uphold for which "Americanism" stands.

He is a paradoxical person, this Woodrow Wilson. Under his "regime" the Whie House is a more unapproachable place than Buckingham Palace, or the Elysee.

The President is total- unlike his White House predecessors. Lincoln would meet a farmer in the street and take him home to lunch, where rustic manners were not blame worthy at all, but suggested "home." In Andrew Jackson's day mobs rushed in for free feeds. The White House was "the people's"; the President was 'one of us' and a 'Howdy' and a handshake was every citizen's right. Under Roosevelt, the Executive Mansion became a social centre—a sort of Court, with brilliant preceptions and dinners, garden-parties and concerts. But Wilson is in no sense a "popular" man. He is not "lonesome," as W H. Taft was. He sees very few callers, and makes little use of the Executive Offices which his predecessor built so as to leave the White House proper free for diplomatic and general entertainm-

Wilson's "den" is Lincoln's old Cabinet Room on the second floor. There he sits alone at the historic desk, tapping his own typewriter, and reading his own notes, which are jotted down in shorthand—"I find it saves time," the President explains. All business, all visitors, filter through Secretary Tumulty's office down below. Joe Tumulty is the President's friend; Wilson reads memos all day addressed, "Dear Governor"—an echo of the old New Jersey days.

His Cabinet Members are likewise friends—Baker, of the War Department; Daniels, of the Navy; McAdoo, of the Treasury, Lansing of the State Department, or Foreign Office. None of these Executives are responsible to Congress; all are the Presidents own nominees; so that his powers are unique under the American Constitution. Let me say again that Woodrow Wilson is no "popular" figure. He is glad to be spared the old orgies of hand-shaking. He insists that callers put their business in writing.

The President is methodical and precise et by no means the frigid ungenial person which even American papers have described. He is a baseball "fan," watching the game with all the enthusiasm of a boy. He loves a comic turn at Keith's Music Hall; he can tell a capital yarn at the Gridiron Club, and has been known—is it possible?—to lead a nigger clog-dance with all the exuberance of irresponsible youth!

When the day is over, the President takes a mass of papers to his bedroom and scribbles notes for Joe Tumulty in the margin. Last of all, he takes a book—no high-brow tome, nor even a "superior" novel, for fear it should deal with problems. "I have enough of those all day," Dr Wilson protests. His favourite distraction is—"a rattling good detective yarn that chases the criminal from page to page!"

So the great man is very human, with sympathies that are world-wide. It is for that reason that Woodrow Wilson's passion is to make "safe for democracy" this war-wear earth of ours and give all mankind a hearty lift into the sun of joy and creature comfort.

CHAMPARAN ENQUIRY SEQUEL

SUIT AGAINST MR. IRWIN.

At the High Court on Wednesday before Mr Justice Rankin Mr. Amir Ali, who appeared with Mr Langford James, instructed by Babu Debendra Nath Bose of Messrs Sanderson and Co., applied on bthalf of the plaintiff in the suit instituted by Donald James Reid against William S. Irwin for the issue of a commission to examine the Hon. Mr. **F. C. Sly, C S I.** and G Rainy.

Mr Reid is an indigo planer of Mazafferpore. The defendant is also an indigo planter of Champaran. On the 10th June, 1917, the Government of Behar and Orissa appointed a Committte known as the Champaran Agrarian Enquiry Committee to enquire into the relations between the land lords and tenants in the Champaran District. The Hon. Mr Sly was appointed President of the Committee and Mr. Rainy was one of its members. The plaintiff who was a Member of the Behar and Orissa Legislative Council at that time was also appointed a member of the Committee. The President invited the defendant and other indigo planters to meet the Committee with a view to an amicable settlement as to the reduction of "Sharabeshi." They attended the meeting and the Committee duly lished its report in the "Behar and Orissa Gazette" on the 4th October 1917. In October, 1917, the defendant, the plaintiff alleged caused a letter to be published in the "Englishman" and the "Statesman". On the 24th of the same month a communique was issued by the Government of Behar and Orissa stating that the attention of the Lieutenant Governor in Council had been drawn to a letter from Mr Irwin which appeared in the "Englishman" and the "Statesman" making certain aspersions against the President and the Members of the Enquiry Committee and the Lieutenant Governor in Council was unable to believe the allegations made by Mr. Irwin that the Committee obtained his consent to the reduction of "Sharabeshi" by leading his distinctly to understand that "Tawan" would not be interfered with. On the 30th October the defendant caused to be printed in the "Englishman" and the "Statesman" letters, which the plaintiff alleged, meant that at the meeting the plaintiff dishim distinctly to under stand that "Tawan" would not be interfered with and would not be taken into consideration, that the plaintiff did so fraudulently and with the deliberate object of misleading the defendant and concealing from him the true states of affairs, that the plaintiff fraudulently and dishonestly caused or allowed the defendant thus to be tricked and misled into granting a concession under a false impression so induced by the plaintiff, that the plaintiff was an utterly dishonest and dishonourable man who did not scruple to employ underhand means and flagrant false pretences to gain his object and that the plaintiff was a person upon whose words and assurance no reliance could be placed, the plaintiff alleged that as a result of these statements he had been greatly injured in his credit and reputation and had been brought into odium and contempt. The plaintiff instituted the suit under the circumstances to recover Rs. 50,000 as damages from the defendant for making that alleged false and malicious statement. The defendant had field a written statement pleading justification.

Mr Amir Ali said that the Hon Mr Sly and Mr Rainy were now in Calcutta as Members of the Reforms Committee, that they would leave Calcutta on the 11th instant and that they were very material witnesses in the case. They should be examined on commission on Saturday, the 11th January.

The Advocate General, instructed by Mr. J. V. Watkins of Messrs Watkins and Co., represented the defendant.

His lordship after hearing both sides ordered that the witnesses be examined "de bene esse" on Saturday next.

SCRAPS

Babu Russick Chandra Das Gupta, in course of his Presidential speech, delivered at the seventh Muktears' Conference, held on the 26th and 27th December 1918, at Comilla, pointed out that the village self-Government Bill, if passed into Law, would interfere with the personal safety of the people and may add to the Julum and Jabardastism of the rich and powerful over the weak and poor. "It will as a matter of course create a class of unscrupluous village-touts who will in fact represent the poor and illiterate before those Village Benches as is now the case in the trials held by Naibs in mufossil cutcharies far from the ken of law courts. They will take the place of the educated members of the loyal profession who are now by legislation attempted to be disqualified for the business."

The first session of the All-India Cantonments Conference will be held on the 25th and 26th January next. Rao Shahib Laxmi Naravan Rais has consented to preside. All arrangements for lodging and food will be made free of cost by the Reception Committee.

From a copy of the Draft Resolutions forwarded to us we understand that some im-ortant items of business will be taken for consideration in the Conference. The Conference will discuss upon such matters as the desirability of increasing the number of additional non-official members of the Cantonment Committee, the separation of judicial and executive functions, abolition of Professional and grazing taxes, introduction of the element of popular control in the constitution and working of the Cantonment Committee and others. It is hoped that those who are interesed in the matter will muster strong in the Conference to make it a success it deserves.

Babu Surendra Chandra Roy Chaudhury, Zeminder and the Hon. Secretary, North Bengal Zeminder Association Rangpur has submitted the opinions of the North Bengal Zeminders' Association to the Government of Bengal as regards Patel's Inter-caste Marriage Bill. This Association is of opinion that the Hindu marriage is not a social contract as understood by a certain school of moralists, sociologists and economists but it is a religius rite enjoined on all householders by the Shastras and that for no mundane or secular purposes. Further the Association is of opinion that if the Inter-caste Marriage Bill is passed into law it will cripple the basis principles of Hindu religion. Though reasons of expediency may be urged in support of the Bill, the Association submits that the questions of religious principles and accepted ideals should never be submitted to the considerations of expediency which are always amenable to the stress of ever-changing circumstances. The Association is also of opinion that the Bill will also militate against the recognised general principle of inheritance and will, most probably, in many cases, cause the estrangement of filial relations. On these grounds the Association submitted their opinions protesting against the Hon. Mr. Patel's Bill.

The Commissioner of the Bombay Municipality has forwarded to the Corporation a lengthy report from Dr. J. A. Turner, Health Officer of the Municipality, on the two epidemics of influenza in the city during the last year. Dr. Turner pays a high tribute to the voluntary agencies and individual volunteers who took so large a part in fighting the epidemics, and in assisting the sufferers and has recommended for their rewards. The first epidemic lasted for barely four weeks. In that short period, it cost the city over 1600 lives, at least a million working days, and incalculable amount of discomfort, expense and inconvenience. The second epidemic began in September. From the 10th September the mortality began to rise reaching the climax on the 6th October when the death number registered was 768. Even during the worst plague epidemic the daily mortality did not exceed 433 and that number was registered on the 15th Feb. 1900. Dr. Turner is of opinion that influenza in itself is by no means a fatal disease. Among the victims of influenza "adults die of Pneumonia and Bronchitis and the aged sink from heart exhaustion and the children while prone to disease enjoy a comparative immunity from its complications and dangers." From the figure it appears that during the first epidemic the sickness rate was 29 per cent or about 3,00,000 persons suffered. Of these 1640 died. During the 62 days of the second epidemic (from 10th Sept. to 10th Nov.) the total number of deaths was 20,258 averaging 326 deaths per day. Of these 10,506 were among males and 9,752 among females. It was found that 36.2 p. c. of death occurred among persons from 20 to 40 years old. Thus the men in their full vigour, fell victims to this fell disease. The report shows that the death rate among the Hindus was 18.9 per thousand. It was 19.2 for Mahomedans, 9 for Parsis, 14.8 for Jews, 18.4 for Indian Christians, 11.9 for Eurasians and 8.3 for Europeans. This heavy mortality is simply staggering. People died like flies from this fell disease. Bengal is not yet immune from this disease, but its virulence has considerably decreased here on account of timely precautions.

We have received some serious allegations regarding the conduct of the Station Staff of Chhatna Station of the Bengal Nagpur Railway. We understand that complaints were lodged with the Superintendent of Goods, the General Traffic Manager, B M Railway Kidderpore, the District Traffic Superintendent, Adra, and the Director Industries, Bengal; but all proved futile. The allegations are in their nature very serious and we hope the authorities will enquire into the matter in the interest of the public.

NEPOTISM AND PUBLIC SERVICE

BY M. K. BOSE, M. A., B. L.

The one important aspect of Public Service which has not received the measure of attention it deserves is the method in which the Services are manned. Our Congresses and Conferences have been very anxious to secure a larger number of appointments for Indians in the Public Service, and have given but little thought to the method of selection of men for it. Commissioners have sat, and their attention has also been largely, if not wholly, drawn to the race-question involved in the subject. No one can deny the great importance of it, and in spite of what interested parties may say about Brahmana oligarchies, it stands to reason and common sense that a Brahmana or, rather, a Brown Oligarchy will understand the people and will, therefore, be in a position to do more good to them than a White Oligarchy can ever hope to do. But our quarrel is more with the "system" than with the "personnel." We want the government of the country to be democratised not so much because we wish to have more High Court Judgeships and councillorships for our countrymen, but because we hope that more light will be let into the dark cellar where the affirs of the nation are discussed and determined. Publicity, which is the vital breath of democracy, is all that we want to see established in the affairs of our country.

We want that whatever the Government will do, it will do in broad day light and not in obscure corners of the secretariat. As a great writer (President Wilson) has said, with reference to public affairs, "secrecy means impropriety," and the secrecy of the ways of the bureaucracy is perhaps, the greatest factor which makes our people impatient of its rule, and promotes discontent.

Let us examine how this love of secrecy has affected the Public Service in the country. We shall not discuss here how the higher appointments are filled on racial principles, how a raw European is set to lord it over the "Native," his superior in every respect. We shall not consider here how the Indian Civil Service, the Indian Educational Service and the other services, which are, perhaps euphemistically, called Indian, as Indians are conspicuous by their absence in them, are recruited. Sufficient attention has been drawn to this anomaly and injustice, and we hope to see an end of this disgraceful chapter of British Rule in India sooner or later.

But what about the nepotism, the jobbing, that is practised in the recruitment for Public Service when no question of colour or creed is to be considered? The Provincial Services—Judicial, Executive and Educational—are not unoften filled by men not with an eye to efficiency, but on considera tion which will not bear scrutiny for one moment.

It is widely believed that not a few appointments under Government are practically settled when, if at all, applications are formally invited for them.

Since the abolition of competitive examinations for appointments in the Executive Branch of the Provincial Civil Service, the gate to jobbery and nepotism has been thrown wide open. A candidate may be appointed a Deputy Magistrate, not because he possesses qualifications superior to those who are rejected but because he happens to be the son or son-in-law, brother or brother-in-law and so forth of some brown oligarch, in active or "passive" service, who, in his turn, is the favourite of a white bureaucrat. A munsiff may be apponted, not because he is the best qualified man available, but for some one or other inscrutable reason which reflects but little on the sense of justice of that "Palladium of justice," His Majesty's High Court of Judicature.

How demoralising has all this been on the Public Service will be apparent to anybody who has come into official contact with its members.

The independence of the Public Services cannot but be a myth where the conditions of recruitment are generally so despicable. A public servant who owes his appointment for his having been able to approach some high official or other through a relation or friend, cannot be expected to have that strong sense of justice and that courage to do justice which can be legitimately expected of a man who owes his position to his merit alone.

The plea in defence of this system—if any body can have the hardihood to raise it openly—will be, I anticipate, that qualifications are not lost sight of when the other "claims" of the candidate are considered. But the point is, when more qualified men are available, why should the public be compelled to have the services of men less qualified when the remuneration is the same?

I do not dispute that there are men in the Public Services who have justified their appointments, though they might have got in by means which I have animaderted upon. But the efficiency of all of them would not in the least justify the means by which they were appointed, if these were not above board. It is no justification for theft that the proceeds of it were most usefully spent.

The purity, the independence and,, above all, the honour of the Public Service demands that the members thereof should owe their appointments solely to "what they are", and not what adventitious advantage they were able to secure.

The oriental mind is naturally prone to curiosity. In my experience, I have found people assiduously enquiring after the origin of the appointment of a Munsif or a Deputy Magistrate and when ,as it often happens, it is discovered that he had got in through some patron, people at once come to have a poor opinion of him, however able he might otherwise be. I knew of a Deputy-Magistrate who was nominated by the University for his high academic distinctions command ing a measure of respect from the public, in comparison with his colleagues, some of whom were his seniors, which was remarkable.

It is desirable that our public servants should not rely wholly on their office for their prestige, like the ancient "Darogas", but should command that measure of esteem and respect which one who is a parvenu can not expect.

There is another matter to be considered in this connection. Much of the unrest and discontent among our educated young men is due, in no small measure, to the grievances which not only they, but an impartial man, will consider to be well-founded. However undesirable it may be, it is a fact that many of the "alumni" of our Universities look for Government service as a means of living. The limited number of posts at the disposal of the Government disappoints many as a matter of course, but when better qualified men are left to vegetate and men less qualified are fortunate enough to secure service under Government, the disappointment turns into positive discontent and not unoften breeds hatred of the very system which renders such a thing possible. On the other hand, the candidate who cannot secure appointment through circumstances over which Government has no control, comes to harbour the belief that had he been fortunate enough to get at some "Sahab" or other, like Mr. So-and-so, he also might have got his heart's desire.

In fact, by far the greater importance has come to be attached to patronage, rather than qualifications, and the result is that discontent has spread to the vast body of our educated young men. It may be said that if merit be laid down as the sole test for admission into Government service, the number of the disappointed will not be any the less. But if we consider what human nature is, we may confidently predict that in that case the disappointment will not gain in strength, as the conciousness of wrong done will be absent. Man is more envious of his fellow man who has not risen by dint of his own industry or ability but by some accidental circumstance. If our young men come to see that Government Service is available only to those who have got the highest qualifications the many mediocrities will take to other means and seek other training to earn their living. But the existing system of recruitment to Public Service leads everybody, the talented as well as the mediocre, to hope, and the result is widespread disappointment and deep discontent.

There is yet another danger which is assuming proportions and to which sufficient attention has not been given—I mean, the tendency to belittle the value of education and make much of patronage. The impression has gained ground that educational attainments will avail little if one cannot get influential patronage. This has exercised such a demoralising effect on the minds of our countrymen that education is losing its proper place and charlatanism is gaining ground.

The Government, therefore, by the system of appointment by nomination is demoralising the Public Service and the people at large, and is doing no small injury to the cause of high education.

What then should be the substitute for th existing system of distributing offices by patronage? The method which is open to the least objection is open and competitive examination.

I do not for one moment suggest that the sole test of a man's capacity is his ability to pass an examination. What I say is that this system tends more to secure the purity and independence of the Public Service than any other. There may be failures, just as there are among those who have got in by clandestine means. But of this I am assured, that a Competitive Examination is not only on 'principle' but on consideration of the efficiency of the Public Service itself a better one than the present system which is incapable of improvement, as the personal element will always play a part in it. It cannot be gainsaid that much of the efficiency of the Indian Civil Service is due to its being recruited by open, competitive examination. It is a pity that while the greatest and the "finest" service in India should be recruited by examination, the subordinate services should be left to the caprice of individual men who, as human beings, cannot be expected to be immune from those failings to which human flesh is heir. (Reproduced from "The Commonweal").

Sinn Fein Demand for Independence

The Rev. Father O'Flanagan, acting president of Sinn Fein presided at the annual convention of that organisation at the Mansion House, Dublin.

He said that new nations were appearing over the horizon every day, and there was no people in Europe whose joy was more genuine than the people of Ireland whether those nations were like Finland, Poland, and the Ukraine liberated from the yoke of one set of belligerents, or whether they were like Bohemia or other nations of Austria, liberated from the other side. They made no distinction.

He did not pretend to be a phophet, but there was one thing he could say and that was that Ireland could go to the Peace Conference with hand up. If the people who were going to conduct the Peace Conference meant to carry out the programme that had enabled them to carry their own peoples with them into the war, Ireland could go publicly before the door of the Peace Conference and demand entrance.

A resolution was adopted demanding, in view of the proposals of the Government of the United States, the independence of Ireland its complete evacuation by British military forces, and the release of all Ireland military forces, and the release of all Irish prisoners.—"Reynold's Newspaper."

According to the return published by the Department of Statistics, the grand total of gross Indian Sea and Land Customs Revenue (excluding Salt Revenne) collected during the nine months, April to December 1918, amounted to Rs. 13,55 lakhs as against Rs. 11,87 lakhs in the corresponding period of that year. Import duties contributed Rs. 9,22 lakhs, export duties Rs. 2,81 lakhs, excise duties on cotton manufactures Rs. 1,06 lakhs and on motor spirit Rs. 31 lakhs, and land customs and miscellaneous Rs. 15 lakhs.

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"DEAD AND DAMNED."

This is the "Englishman's" verdict on the Congress. This is not the first time that the Anglo-Indian papers have passed such kindly benedictions on the National Institution. We are old enough to remember the camouflaged contempt with which the Anglo-Indian press tried to kill the Indian National Congress in the eighties of the last century. In those days they tried to hold up the Moslem opponents of the Congress as repositories of all wisdom and loyalty in the country. The Congress was a Hindu institution, they said, and even the Hindus that really counted gave it a wide berth. The landed aristocracy did not join it. Men with a stake in the country would have nothing to do with it. The Congress represented only a microscopic minority of English-educated malcontents in India. And their bite was not half as bad as their bark. But contempt could not kill the Congress.

It was next sought to be killed by abuse. The Congress however outlived this new operation also. From a contemptuous it grew to a dangerous institution. But it was tolerated by the wise Bureaucracy of those days as an useful though somewhat nerve-racking safety valve.

Then came the Swadeshi Agitation, giving birth to a new and sensitive patriotism and initiating a new policy of self-determined and self-reliant patriotic activities, aiming at National Autonomy as its ultimate goal. The old Congress methods of supplications and prayers commenced to be contemptuously brushed aside as "political mendicancy.' The dictum—"Nations by themselves alone are made"—received a new meaning and inspiration and became the motto of our new national policy.

The Anglo-Indian press now started another campaign with a strategy. They commenced to divide Indian politicians into two parties, calling one "Moderates" and the other "Extremists." "Rally the Moderates" became the avowed policy of the Bureaucracy here and the India Office in London. The so-called Extremists were hounded down as seditionists. Their meetings were proclaimed. Their newspapers were suppressed. Their leaders were imprisoned or deported. While on the other hand the Government commenced to pat the so-called Moderates on the back, set them up as the real spokesmen of the people, hugged them to their bosom and by all the means that a powerful bureaucracy has at its disposal they tried to set up a new political party in the country which would work in support of Bureaucratic policy. The reforms introduced by Lords Minto and Morley had professedly for their main object this "rallying of the Moderates" round the Government. Morley's Lollipops did satisfy the Moderates for a while. They commenced to suck the soft baby-comforters under the impression that sucking itself by capable lips had the magic virtue of converting a baby-comforter into a real feeding bottle full of sweet and strengthening milk.

In less than ten years they found out the futility of the operation and publicly declared the Minto-Morley Reforms as an egregeous failure. There was a revolt in the Moderate camp against these reforms which became vocal in 1915 in the celebrated Memorandum of the Nineteen. During Christmas of that year at the Congress held at Lucknow the failure of the Minto-Morley Scheme to secure its avowed end, of rallying the Moderates was proclaimed by the united voice of India and confirmed by the vote of a united Congress. The sheep entered, as the "Englishman" put it the fold of the goats at Lucknow. The distinction between Moderates and Extremists was lost; they all became Extremists.

Advantage was taken in Bengal of the difference of opinion over the election of Mrs. Besant for the Presidential Chair of the Calcutta Congress of 1917, to work up a cleavage between the so-called Moderates and Extremists. But the attempt ignominously failed; and Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea who had threatened to abjure the Congress could not overcome the temptation of making a thundering speech in support of the reforms proposals. And the handful of men who had threatened to follow him into the wilderness also joined the Congress at the last moment. The sheep did not stray away from the fold of the goats. No tempting pasture was as yet in sight.

When Mr. Montagu came to India and received addresses and deputations from numerous public bodies, the Congress with all its auxiliaries practically presented a united front and asked for complete provincial autonomy as the first step or stage in the process of the progressive realisation of responsible government in India as an integral part of the British Empire, as was announced in Parliament as the objective of British policy in this country. Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea asked for this full Provincial Autonomy in the Address of the Indian Association. That was Moderate opinion last winter. Then came the appointment of Babu Bhupendra Nath Bose to the India Council creating a vacancy in the Imperial Legislative Council in the representation of Bengal. This developed a new "reasonable attitude" in Babu Surendra Nath, who wanted to step into the shoes of Babu Bhupendra Nath. He succeeded in reaching the goal of his ambition. Then came the formulation of the Reform Proposals at Delhi. The main features of these proposals, it is admitted now, were confidentially communicated to selected public men, with a view to secure their general approval of the Scheme and thereby to guarantee their support of it when it was published. This is the secret history of the new cleavage in Nationalist ranks that has followed the publication of the Montagu-Chelmsford Report. It is only a repetition of the old, old story. Whether this new manouvre will succeed better than that of Lord Minto during the progress of the Reform Bill of 1909, remains to be seen.

The "Englishman" comments on the commonsense of he seceders from the Congress. For a long time previous to the passing of the English Reform Act of 1832 this new kind of commonsense prevailed also, we know, in British politics and British Parliament. History has put on record the various methods by which the British Crown in the Georgian period sought to preserve its prerogatives against the demands of the new British Democracy by winning over capable popular leaders to its side. The Crown worked upon the commonsense of the leaders of the popular party by offering them office, emoluments, titles and honours. This commonsense is not very uncommon in this world. Prospects of personal gain and preferment always appeal more powerfully than the call of truth and idealism to the man of the world endowed with a strong commonsense. The man of commonsense is not troubled with inconvenient ideals, nor has his sleep disturbed by the vision of far off future.

We admit that this commonsense has commenced to prevail in certain quarters in our present political life also. But history has not recorded one single instance when this commonsense was able to do duty for far-seeing statesmanship or smooth the way of human progress. The prevalance of this commonsense has always demoralised public life everywhere. And not even the most inhuman oppression of the most heartless autocracies has been able to create more trouble in the political life of any country as the demoralisation of its public men has always done. It prolongs the struggle for freedom, and endangers the course of peaceful evolution. The Englishman may vote the Congress as "dead and damned." But death even it be true, is not the last word in creation. After death comes resurrection. But the Congress is not dead. The "Englishman" knows it. It knows more—the national institution is growing in volume and strength year after year. If the Congress were dead, the "Englishman" would not devote so much valuable space to announce its obituary. Because the Congress is living and is to-day a very potent force in Indian politics that the "Englishman" wishes it to be dead. The "Englishman's" wish for the death of the Congress is the same as was the wish of Kansa for the death of Krishna or of Herod of the death of Christ.

SIR WILLIAM DUKE'S "REPLY TO EXTREMISTS."

Those of our countrymen who still cherish the fond hope of securing India's political emancipation through the generous sympathy and co-operation of the British Bureaucracy in this country, would do well to read, mark, and inwardly digest the address delivered by Sir William Duke, one-time Lieutenant-Governor of Bengal, at Caxton Hall, London, in the last week of November. A lengthy summary of it, sent by the London Correspondent of the "Englishman," appeared in a recent issue of that paper and the Editor has invited prominent attention to it as "A Reply to Extremists."

Sir William Duke was in his own way rather a liberal and sympathetic official. But his sympathy for the people over whom he was set to rule could not be expected to be stronger than his loyalty to the Service to which he belonged. This Civil Service means the Government of India. There is no Government of India, as Mr. Lionel Curtis frankly admitted, outside the Indian Civil Service. Sir William was really the spokesman of this Civil Service at the "At Home" of Britain and India at the Caxton Hall and he trotted out all the familiar arguments regarding India's unfitness for self-rule. Great Britain was in India for the salvation of the people of India. She was the trustee of the dumb millions who were not able to manage their own affairs and protect and promote their own interests. As long as the people of India were in their present state of ignorance and helplessness, so long Great Britain owed it to these people themselves and to Humanity as well, to bear the burden of this sacred trust.

We have heard all these things over and over again from our British masters. At one time educated India accepted the validity of this specious plea. They honestly believed that England's mission in India was to train and equip her for a free and independent national life. That was Lord Macaulay's ideal. That was the goal which successive British statesmen publicly set before themselves in regard to their government of India. The Charter Act of 1833, the Education Despatch of 1854, the Queen's Proclamation of 1858, Lord Mayo's Decentralisation Scheme of 1871 and Lord Ripon's remarkable Resolution on Local Self-Government of 1881—all these were more or less inspired by this idea. And all these helped to create the conviction in the mind of our educated countrymen that they would be able to attain complete national freedom and independence under the training and with the help of their present British rulers. But that conviction has been killed by the actualities of British administration and the trends of British policy in India during the last thirty years.

Lord Dufferin was the first to frankly tell us that we were moved by an inordinate ambition which had absolutely no hope of fulfilment within any conceivable measure of time. Our ambition to govern our own affairs just as Englishmen govern theirs, Lord Dufferin declared, was like the desire of mortal man "to ride in the chariot of the sun." Our demand for the reform and reconstitution of the Legislative Council upon a thoroughly elective basis was as dangerous. His Excellency said, as the desire to "make a long jump into the unknown." This was thirty years ago. And to-day Sir William Duke tells us practically the same thing only in a different language. But it was Lord Curzon who finally killed our confidence in the genuineness of all the ancient professions and pledges of British statesmen by his outspoken, though somewhat imprudent, declaration that as long as India was governed by the British people, so long the people of India must consent to take a subordinate place in the administration of their own affairs. In plain English it meant that as long as the British were powerful enough to keep the people of India under subjection, so long it was idle for the latter to expect or demand any place in the controlling gear of their administrative machinery. His lordship went further, and so shaped his educational and economic policy as would help to indefinitely prolong, if not to eternally perpetuate, India's political and economic dependence. Lord Curzon further said in effect that the Queen's Proclamation of 1858 was a waste paper, or a scrap of paper, as the late Kaiser had it.

The new school of British Imperialism which Lord Curzon represented, commenced to openly preach the ideal which his lordship pursued in his Indian policy. The ideal British Empire is, as the "Times" put it (in its special Empire Day Supplement in 1909), a Dual Empire, composed of the self-governing Dominions and the United Kingdom in the one part and India, Egypt and the Crown Colonies in the other part. These latter might be called the Dependent Empire and it existed for the benefit of the self-Governing Empire. The two supplemented each other. The one could not exist without the other. They are parts of one organic whole. The Dependent Empire furnished, in the first place, the necessary opportunities for the exercise and development of the capacity to rule to the self-Governing Empire; and secondly, it placed large masses of men to be utilised both for military and industrial purposes by the self-Governing Empire, at the latter's disposal; and thirdly, the Dependent Empire provided immense raw Materials and extensive markets for the production and consumption of commodities manufactured by the Self-Gverning Empire. In plain English it meant that the Dependent Empire existed and was essential for the preservation and advancement of the political, economic and military position and power of the Self-Governing Empire.

A more frank statement of the ideals of British Imperialism, as represented by the "Times"-Milner School, which is practically the only one school of imperialism that counts, it would be impossible to make. In justice, however, to these Imperialists, it should be noted that in return for all these contributions to the preservation and advancement of the Self-Governing Empire(the Dependent Empire would have the benefit of a higher civilisation and the training which their association with the British would give them in the art of government also, so that in course of time however remote it may be, this Dependent Empire would gradually attain the high level of civilisation and capacity for self-rule which is the heritage of its dominant partner in the Imperial concern. This gospel of British Imperialism killed what little confidence the people of India had in British policy as likely to, work for their political and economic emancipation.

We have recalled all this ancient story to our mind to-day, because it is the only correct key to the interpretation of Sir William Duke's speech, and indeed, of the policy enunciated in the Montagu-Chelmsford Report which came out Juno-like equipped with a number of certificates including one from Sir William Duke himself. No honest student of the history of British policy and administration in India can refuse to admit that there has always been a fundamental conflict of interests between the ruling power and the ruled in this country. This conflict was inevitable in the earlier stages of British Indian history. It was the product of the very conditions under which British suzerainty came to be established in India. No reasonable man can or ought to make any grievance of this inevitable conflict. We do not blame the British for it. Conflicts are the universal conditions—precedent of conquests; and they continue by the impulse of the very forces that lead to the conquest, long after the open physical conflict is over.

The British could not avoid this conflict in the earlier stages. The earlier statesmen hoped, however, to overcome this conflict by working out a gradual reconciliation between the government of the foreigner and the legitimate rights of the children of the soil, by so shaping the policy of the new rulers that ultimately they would reap their highest reward for the trouble of ruling an alien people by removing the needs of a foreign rule over them. The earlier statesman hoped that the British rule in India would succeed ultimately in removing it altogether from over the head of the Indian people. But those earlier British statesmen dreamed of a new day when there would be universal equality, liberty and fraternity among the nations of the world. They were under the spell of the French Illumination. A new heaven and a new earth had commenced to dawn before their eyes. Those were the days of Mill and Bentham in England. But their successors lost the light that illumined the path of those earlier British statesmen, who proclaimed the principle that England stood in India in the position of a trustee.

The old word still persists in the utterances of British and Anglo-Indian statesmen, though the vision and the ideal which gave truth and reality to it have long passed away. The conflict of interests in every department of life between the present Bureaucracy and the people of the country has become too much pronounced and patent to be ignored by either party. The Bureaucracy, for which Sir William Duke claimed the right of trusteeship in India, has interests adverse to those of the people. Every expansion of the rights of the people means a corresponding diminution of the irresponsible authority and privileges of this Bureaucracy. In the face of this undeniable conflict, no one can, without outraging every principle of equity and justice, claim the position of the trustee for the British Bureaucracy in this country. Sir William Duke has not carefully weighed his words. For, if he had done so, a man of his intelligence and education, could not possibly have failed to recognise the unfairness of it. This plea may go down with interested ignorance. But the day is long past when this sort of specious pleading could influence Indian opinion. The only effect of it will be to increase the existing want of confidence in British policy and add strength to the determination of the people to work out their own salvation by their own exertions. Pronouncements like those of Sir William Duke serve no useful purpose; the only effect they produce is irritation and resentment on the Indian mind.

"WHO WON THE WAR?"

This is the heading of a leading article in the "Indian Daily News" of January 8th. Our contemporary quotes the following article from the Radical paper, the "Nation," which was written before the Election:—

"Before the Election, we find the Radical paper, the "Nation" writing: "If the Election is to be a plebiscite, a 'Vote for Lloyd George,' it is singular that this attractive man, with his engaging personality, his energy, and his fame as a successful War Minister, is not popular. It is true that our ex-Bolshevist has become a kind of club idol, the hero of the sofa strategists, the admirals of the arm-chair. So was Mr. Chamberlain, and so are all the race of the democratic *ci-devants*. But the people are either cold or resentful, and the army, I should say, distinctly hostile. When Mr. George's portrait is thrown on a screen at the cinema, it is hailed with slight applause, Mr. Wilson's with acclamation. At the Albert Hall on Sunday the great audience, composed almost entirely of workmen and workwomen, did not seem to contain a friend. No politician will be thought to have won the war, any more than our forbears would have endorsed a claim of Lord Liverpool to have won the Battle of Waterloo. Therefore if Mr. Lloyd George wins the election, the vote for him will not be a demonstration either of affection or of confidence. It will be a vote partly of apathy, partly of apprehension, and partly of the power of mechanical imposition exercised by the Gramophone Press."

The "I. D. News" makes the following comment on the above:—

"That is one estimate: but although we have no great belief in the splendour of Mr. George's character, or that he is the equal of either Clemenceau or Wilson, we think it, in fact, he did, as far as the British are concerned, a great deal to win the war. It is difficult to get behind his apparent hostility to General Haig, of which so much is being made, but it is clear that after the March 21st disaster he acted promptly and on March 26th General Foch was appointed Generalissimo. That ended the war: we rallied, submitted to one general plan and after the 15th July had unbroken success. As we read it, Mr. George was convinced that Napoleon was quite right "that one bad General is better than two good ones." His views as to the unity of command were for a long time combated by our Army Staff and they had to give in. Hence the trouble. Therefore, as far as we are concerned, Mr. George, by that act of overruling the Army, won the war. The three winners are Foch, Wilson and Clemenceau and lastly Lloyd George in so far as he clinched the Generalissimo question. It may be true that Lord Liverpool could not claim to have won Waterloo and the populace will always put it down to the General but they have realised that the brains of this war lay in the French General Staff and that brain is superior to brawn, and the mind is greater than the instrument it directs. The istrument may be and was good but the directing mind is infinitely superior."

General Foch has worked on the field with a skill and masterly strategy without which it would have been impossible for the Allies to bring the war to such a speedy and victorious end. The unity of Allied command was essential for this success. The Allies acted wisely in subordinating their national conceits to the imperative demand of the military situation and placing their respective armies at the direction and disposition of General Foch. It is not difficult to be wise after the event, and it may now seem strange to the student of this war that this unity of command was not secured much earlier.

That was however inconceivable until the Allies had been reduced almost to their last extremity. For political friendships do not readily kill all international jealousies and conceits. We can very well understand the nature of the great sacrifice that Great Britain made in giving such prominence to a French general; and it speaks a great deal for the patriotism of Mr. Lloyd George and his colleagues in the War Cabinet that they were able at last to accede to the necessity of the military situation, and place a foreigner in command of their own army.

Such a thing had never happened before in English history, not even during the Napoleonic wars. Waterloo was won by the British, English history says, practically through the superior force and strategy of Wellington. This is the first time that history will have to record a great victory won by our rulers through the supreme command of a French general. And this is why General Foch is being hailed to-day by all the world as one of the saviours of the present world civilisation. The downfall of German militarism has been mainly worked by him.

But even General Foch and the unity of the Allied High Command under his direction, could not have possibly achieved all these things, if President Wilson had not thrown himself on the side of the Allies. Whatever stories the future nationalist historians of the different powers may record the present generation knows it full well that the timely intervention of America has been the principal cause of the downfall of German militarism. Inspite of the extreme exhaustion to which the Central Empires had been reduced, Germany would have successfully held on for an almost indefinite period, and might have even achieved considerable success even if she ultimately failed to keep it up, if America had not come into the field just in the nick of time. It was the coming of America that checked the last German push and suddenly turned the tide of war in favour of the Allies.

Junkerdom in the British Empire may not like the ways of the American President. Already murmurs of discontent have been heard both in England and India from the lips of the representatives of Jingo-Imperialism, with President Wilson's peace talks. If they could, these people would have openly repudiated the foolish and academical dissertations of the schoolmaster who has been pushed to the head of the United States. But whatever these people might think or say, the world knows and fully recognises it that he has been the chief saviour of the Allies' position in European and world politics. Without his help, General Foch would have as surely failed to achieve this victory as his colleagues had failed before.

But President Wilson's service to the military operations of the Allies dwindles into utter inconsequence when compared to what he proposes to do for the settlement of the far more complex and nervous problem of peace. No other statesman could have so firm a hold of vital moral issues which will come up before the Peace Conference as President Wilson clearly has. If General Foch's military skill and strategy and the help of the American armies have won this victory in the field, President Wilson's high humanity and far-seeing statesmanship promises to achieve a still more important moral victory for all the world, in the work of the coming Peace Conference.

The Inevitable Barter.

Reuter cables that January 13 is the probable date on which the preliminary peace discussions will commence between Great Britain, France, America and Italy which "will decide the general lines of the terms to be imposed on the enemy." We are told further that "the work of the conference has been greatly simplified by President Wilson's concessions to France and Great Britain on the subject of the freedom of the seas and the retention of the German colonies, and on the other hand by the Allies' concession to President Wilson on the subject of the league of nations."

So it is clear that the much advertised Peace Conference which is to lay solid foundation for lasting peace to the world and the members of which would be animated by no other but altruistic sentiments, is likely to be run on much the same line as previous conferences after a great war. The "give and take" principle has always regulated the conduct of the great powers of the Western world to the prejudice of the nations outside "the charmed circle of free nations." In this particular case of barter President Wilson's portion is "the League of Nations." Is the President sure that what he has got will not ultimately turn out to be a 'horse's egg?" The League of Nations means the "brotherhood and friendship of the world." But will these lofty ideals take root in the soil of Europe from where God has practically been deposed?

Mr. Sandbrook, the Editor of the "Englishman," who is now in England, writes to that paper a signed article in which he says. "His (President Wilson's) League of Nations is looked by some with benevolence by others with generous and even ecstatic approval, by most, I fear, with the indifference that comes of healthy and profound scepticism." That is to say, it is a wild dream which will never materialise. The attitude of Italy is an interesting object lesson. While its King and people gave an unprecedented ovation to the President and cheered him lustily when he talked of the League of Nations they are laying plans to rob territories belonging to South Slavs. Indeed the process of the division of the spoils has practically begun. Constantinople will be wrested from Turkey and made over to the Christian Powers. The German colonies will be probably distributed to England, France and Australia. And with the disruption of Germany, Austria and Russia there will be three conquering powers in Europe instead of six, namely, England, France and Italy. President Wilson is an idealist, the people of Europe are thorough practical men of the world. So the chances are that he will not be able to convert them but he himself will be a convert to their views.

War Measures in England and India.

All the war measures introduced in Great Britain are gradually vanishing away with the cessation of hostilities. One of these was of an extraordinary character. It is known as the "notorious 40D," which authorised the arrest at sight of young women suspected of suffering from venereal disease. The measure was possibly required to protect the soldiers from catching this dirty and dreadful malady. We are, however, told that if this regulation had not been withdrawn it would have lost Government a good many votes, perhaps seats at the General Election. An official communique on the subject states that revocation was brought about upon the recommendation of the Committee presided over by Lord Moulton which "without pronouncing any final opinion on the merits" of "40D" advised that in its present form it should be regulated only as a war measure and should be dropped on the cessation of hostilities. In India we have no "40D," but the Defence of India Act with its innumerable tentacles whose grip is much more terrible than those of the octopus. Though the war has ended not a single of them has yet been withdrawn.

Mean and Dishonest Tactics.

The "Bengalee" and the "Englishman" have joined hands in trying to prejudice the proceedings of the Delhi Congress in certain quarters by misrepresenting the attitude and

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action of the Congress in regard to the rumoured visit of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales to this country. People know the value of the "Bengalee's" loyalty, both here and in England. Until very recently, no "Englishman" who knew anything of the history and antecedents of the editor of the "Bengalee" ever seriously suspected the presence of any ardent love for the British Throne or the British Government in him. Everything in this world has its own price; and even Anglo-India knows, both at Simla and Calcutta, at what price the "Bengalee's" new-born loyalty has been bought.

And have we not got that wise saying amongst us that a woman who has not led a respectable life in her younger days becomes virtuous in her old age when she has lost her charms? As regards the deletion of the draft resolution relating to the Prince of Wales' visit to India from the final programme of the Delhi Congress, we took the trouble of ascertaining what actually happened from at least half a dozen gentlemen who were present at the Subjects Committee when the matter came for discussion. They assure us that a grosser and more dishonest representation of the real facts cannot be conceived than what has appeared in the "Bengalee" regarding the subject. They tell us that when the draft resolution was read out one of the members pointed out that as no official announcement of His Royal Highness's visit to India had been made the Congress would go out of its way to bring forward such a resolution. And the matter dropped. And out of this simple incident the "Bengalee" is trying to prejudice the Congress in the eyes of the Government. The very fact that Pundit Madan Mohan was in the Chair belies the statement of the "Bengalee" that any disrespect was allowed to be shown to our future Emperor. Babu Surendra Nath Banerjea has however been found out by his countrymen. His malicious effusions in the "Bengalee" to injure the Congress need not therefore be taken seriously by them.

Heartless Writing.

Who may be the writer of the "Here and There" column in the "Statesman"? An impression prevails that it is in charge of Mr. Blair who, in spite of his connection with an unfriendly Anglo-Indian paper, is held in esteem by the educated Indians. He must have greatly changed if the following paras are really from his pen:

"Having obtained its wish and seen the release of a large number of political suspects, is the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" satisfied? Need one put the question? It is not.

"What will these political suspects do after their release," wails the Orphan this morning. "Already one thousand of them have been set free and hundred others are likely to regain their liberty within the next few months." But now, the question is—what are these gentlemen going to do, now that they are released?

"Apparently they find it rather difficult to obtain employment, or to pursue their studies. The fact is hardly surprising, but the self-conducted newspaper makes it a further grievance against the Government. It appars to think that the Government should either pension them, or provide private tutors for such of them as may exhibit a preference for that form of State aid.

Even if the Government yielded to these modest demands the "Patrika" would probably increase them. Of course the "Patrika" could help some by pulling itself together and filling up the chronic vacancy on its editorial establishment, but this would at once tend to diminish the grievance and deprive the "Patrika" of one of the numerous features to which it owes its unique position."

We frankly confess we are extremely loath to believe that Mr. Blair is the author of the above. Whoever he may be, the writer is quite free to abuse us or cut jokes at our expense to his heart's content But it is simply monstrous on his part to write in this fashion about hundreds of young men who were interned or imprisoned, the bulk of them for years together, without rhyme or reason and then thrown back upon society to shift for themselves as best as they can, ruined and unfriended. Did they commit any crime? Apparently not. For, then they would have been charged and tried. What happened, however, was that they incurred the suspicion of the police and they were deprived of their liberty But so long a man is not convicted after a regular judicial trial he must be held as innocent and his freedom must not be taken away. That is the first principle of the glorious English jurisprudence. This sacred principle was violated in the case of these one thousand detenus and political prisoners. But the writer, evidently an Englishman, instead of protesting against this violent abuse of authority, falls foul of us because we have suggested that the Government which detained them in prison or particular localities without putting them on their trial should arrange that no obstacles are thrown in their way to pursue their studies or enter service. He does more. He mocks the unfortunate young men by observing in a satirical vein "Government should either pension them or provide private tutors for them." This is prostitution of journalism. The sacred duty of a journalist is to protect and not to trample down the weak and the oppressed. It would have been a different thing if these detenus and State prisoners had been punished after a regular trial. Even then they should have been pitied and not looked upon with abhorrence, and steps taken to make them useful members of society. But the writer would have them treated pitilessly like wild animals. Is he himself immaculate? Has he never done a wrong either in deed or in thought? Judge not others lest ye be judged.

Government Communique on a Detenu's Death.

We published a letter under the signature of Mohendra Nath Samanta in our issue of 23rd December last in which it was stated that a detenu Kumud Bandhu Bhattacharjee, a second year student of the Cooch Behar College, interned in 1916 at Egra, District Midnapore, had died under painful circumstances on the 15th December. Our correspondent made three statements: (1) That though suffering from malarial fever for a long time the detenu got no proper medical treatment despite repeated prayers, (2) That though three telegrams, "it is said" were sent to the Police Superintendent by the Head Constable who was in charge of the detenu relating to the latter's serious illness no arrangement was made for his proper treatment, (3) That there was no Government dispensary nor any qualified doctor except one unschooled quack in the village. The correspondent wanted to know why the Sub-Divisional Officer or the Deputy Police Superintendent did not arrange a proper treatment for the boy though the Sub-divisional town of Contai was only eight miles away from the village where the boy was interned.

A Government communique on this subject is published elsewhere. Some of the statements made in it have simply taken away our breath. We are told that no petition was received from the detenu complaining of malarial fever. It is, however, admitted that he told the Sub-Divisional Officer during his three visits that he "suffered from malarial fever at distant intervals." So he *did* complain about the state of his health. The Sub-Divisional Officer states, the detenu "seemed to him quite happy." He was not only happy but "quite" happy! That is what the Sub-Divisional Officer says. And why should not the detenus be happy when they are treated like sons-in-law by the State? But here is an outrageous statement. We are told that "the detenu was leading a fast life with prostitutes and his transfer from Egra was recommended." Why was this gratuitous insult offered to the memory of a dead young man? None of the allegations of our correspondent called forth such a reply. As the boy cannot return from the other world and rebut it, such a statement should never have been made, specially when it had absolutely no bearing with the queries of our correspondent. It also looks very extraordinary that a boy led a dissolute life in a village during the day time, for he must shut himself up in his hut after sunset and cease communication with every human being.

The communique does not contradict the statement of our correspondent that there was no dispensary in the village. As regards the medical treatment of the detenu he was placed under a local practitioner, Uma Prosad Gangooly. What his qualifications are is not mentioned. When the disease took a serious turn the local practitioner asked for the help of the Assistant Surgeon who visited the patient and "recommended his removal to the sudder hospital as soon as he was fit to travel." The detenu was then left to his fate under the charge of the local practitioner. And he died! Was there not one palkee available in the village to remove him to the sudder hospital?

A Curious Government Order.

Babu Ram Chandra Mazumdar is now in the Hazaribagh Jail as a State Prisoner. His mother died on the 24th December last. Her last moments were naturally embittered as she remembered of her son who had been snatched away from her. Just before she expired she said, "I am not destined to see my only son in my last moments, wretched that I am, but I am sure that our benign Government will allow my son to perform my Sradh ceremony here at Calcutta." After her death some relatives of Babu Ram Chandra applied to the Government to permit him to perform the last duty of a son to his mother and quoted the dying words of the mother in the petition. The following reply has been received by them on the 9th January:

GOVERNMENT OF BENGAL.
POLITICAL DEPARTMENT.
SPECIAL INTELLIGENCE BRANCH.
No. 296 X.
MEMORANDUM.

Calcutta,
The 8th January 1918

With reference to their joint petition, dated the 28th December 1918, praying that State prisoner Ram Chandra Mazumdar may be allowed to come to Calcutta to perform the Sradh Ceremony of his mother, Babus Pulin Behari Gupta, Protap Chandra Gupta and Purna Chandra Barat are informed that in the interests of the public safety Government have not been able to recommend this course. They are, however, informed that the Government of Bihar and Orissa have been requested to give the State prisoner at Government expense such facilities for performing the ceremony within the jail as are compatible with the conditions of his confinement.

(Illegible.)
Addl. Secy. to the Govt. of Bengal.

Is the Additional Secretary to the Government of Bengal so ignorant as not to know that Sradh is a most solemn and sacred ceremony with the Hindus, and it cannot be performed in any and every place? Such a performance in jail is a gross outrage on the religious sentiment of a Hindu. Then again certain things are essential in this connection. The party doing the Sradh must have his family priest with him. He should also have the image of "Salagram" before him. At least some of his blood relations should be present on the occasion. There are also certain other rites he must go through which are impossible in a place like the jail. To perform Sradh in the jail, in short, is simply unthinkable to a Hindu. Here is a graver aspect of the case. The belief of the Hindus is that the soul of a mother or a father cannot rest in peace unless her or his Sradh is performed by the son strictly according to the religious formula. We are quite sure that if the Additional Secretary had known all these facts he would have never passed such an un-Hindu order. The blunder should be atonce corrected and surely the sky would not fall down if the state prisoner is permitted, under proper escort if necessary, to come down to Calcutta for a few days and perform his mother's Sradah ceremony in due forms. Be it stated here that Babu Ram Chandra Mazumdar is the only son of his mother and unless he is allowed to come out and perform her Sradh she will go without one. It is impossible for a foreigner to realise what this means to a Hindu. We again appeal to the Government to accede to the prayer of the relation of Babu Ram Chandra so that this mother's soul may live in peace in the other world. We are surprised to learn that though the relation of Babu Ram Chandra submitted their application on the 25th December last that is, immediately after the death of the lady, they got the reply on the 9th January, the very day of the Sradh.

Leakage of University Questions.

The Report of the Committee of the Calcutta University appointed to investigate this matter and the Note of Dissent must have been read with interest by every one interested in the welfare of our boys and in the honour and good name of the University. It is impossible to rise from a study of these papers without a feeling of keen disappointment. After two years of suspense we are told the awful truth that the leakage was not the work of examinees wanting to use unfair means to pass but that it was brought about by an organised body whose sole object was to bring into discredit the Administration of the University. But the Report signed by four members says that we should leave the matter where it is, as nothmore can be done or said about it Dissenters do not agree to this proposition. They give ample material for every body to reflect upon. They press for a rigorous pursuit of clues. They point out where the enquiry has stopped short and they demand that the Senate should not acquiesce in the advice of the majority Report. We consider this proposition to be eminently reasonable and just. A stupendous conspiracy such as this, should be run to earth at all costs. We are therfore pained to see that Babu Mohendra Nath Roy, a member of the Senate is seeking to expunge the Note of Dissent and has sent in a motion to that effect. We cannot conceive of anything more un-fair. If the senate which has not lately risen in public estimation by its handing of questions of national importance agrees to it then it will fall still further in general esteem.

Grievances of a Detenu.

We have more than once noticed in these columns the case of Sreeman Mohini Mohan Samanta now interned at Kagdwip, 24 Parganas. Since his arrest he has been put to troubles in various ways and suffered imprisonment for some months. We are told that no one took any proper care of him when he was ill with the result that he was left helpless and unattended in his sick bed. We also understand that during his illness the detenu more than once jumped into a pond in a delirious condition brought on by high fever. Mohini had submitted a petition to the Superintendent of Police complaining of the treatment to which he was subjected. But he has got no reply nor is he in any way better off than before. We trust this matter will attract the notice of the authorities and proper steps will be taken to redress his grievances.

RELEASED DETENUS AND EDUCATIONAL AUTHORITIES.

TO the Editor.

Sir,—I have read with interest your Paragraph in the editorial columns on the "Dismal future of the released detenus." I myself was a detenu and was a student before my arrest. After my release I tried to get admission into a college. First of all I tried in the City College and my application to the Principal of the college was sent to the Additional Secretary to the Government of Bengal. On the receipt of Government remarks, the Principal of the City College refused to take me in as he said that charges against me were serious. I saw the Hon. Mr Stephenson and explained to him my difficulties to get admission which was due to his remarks on my application. But he said to me that he had no objection to allow me to prosecute my studies and he wrote to the Principal of the City college to that effect. But it did not move Babu Heramba Chandra Maitra in the least on my behalf. Then I saw the Hon Mr Surendra Nath Banerjea and prayed to him to take me into his college, I mean, the Ripon College. Mr. Banerjea also dismissed me curtily with the remark that he could not quarrel with the authorities for my sake. Though the Govenmenrt told the detenus that it had no objection to allow a detenu to presume his studies, practically its assurance was a dead letter. Next I saw Sir Ashu Tosh Mukherjee to get admission into the South Suburban College. He too sent me away with a curt reply.

Similar efforts of mine at the Metropolitan Presidency, C M S. Bangabashi and other colleges proved futile.

Thus my educational career has been nipped in the bud. Who is to be blamed for it? I know of several other cases who are also similarly circumstanced like me.

"A released detenu."

Calcutta, Jan 8.

At a meeting of the Bombay Srivaishnavas followers of Ramanuja, it has been resolved to hold an all-India Srivaishnavas Conference in Bombay under the presidency of H H the Jagatguru Srimad Anantacharya Swamin of Riadivadibhayankar Mutt of Kanchi. The Session commences from the 30th instant and terminates on the 2nd proximo. A reception committee has been formed. Efforts are being made to make the conference a representative mody of Srivaishnavas, residing in all parts of India, and deputations have been organised to invite Srivaishnavas for the occasion. Many important questions pertaining to Srivaishanava sect including Mr. Patel's inter-cate marriage validity bill, will be taken up. It is being so arranged that at least two delegates from each district may attend the conference. Preparations for the conference are being made.

SIR J. C. BOSE'S LECTURE

MARVELS OF GROWTH AS REVEALED BY THE "MAGNETIC CRESCOGRAPH."

Sir J C Bose has recently invented the "Magnetic" crescograph. It is a supersensitive instrument and the very high magnification obtained by it surpassee all existing appliances. By this instrument, phenomena hitherto beyond the reach of investigation can now be studied with great precision. It shows ultra-microscopic changes inducted in a growing organism even by a puff of smoke or a gentle breeze, by a passing cloud or fleeting brightness. This super-magnifier was exhibited for the first time by Sir J. C. Bose before an appreciative gathering yesterday A number of lady students, professors, lawyers doctors and several eminent personages gathered to hear the great Indian scientist.

In his Discourse on the above subject on Friday Sir J C. Bose illustrated how the limitations imposed on the advance of science by the imperfection of our senses, may stimulate the invention of super-sensitive apparatus which reveals to us the existence of phenomena hitherto unknown. Thus the invention of the microscope from a simple lens magnifying 3 or 4 times into progress up to 1500 diameters has given birth to new sciences. But still higher magnification is demanded in unrevelling the mystery of movements associated with the simplest type of life as seen in plants. Greatest potentiality in life is often latent; the gigantic banian tree grows out of a thing which is smaller than the mustard seed. Within the seed-coat the dormant life remains in safety, protected from dangers outside. The seeds may thus be subjected without harm to cold so intense as will freeze mercury into solid and air into liquid. Winds and hurricanes scatter the seed of life and the cocoanut rides the tumultuous waves till anchored safe in an island yet to be inhabited. In due season there begins a series of most astonishing transformations; the latent life wakens, and the seedling begins to grow. The root turns downwards and the shoot upwards. Underground, the root winds its way round stones and obstacles towards moist places. Above ground the stem bends as if in search of light. Tendrils twine about a support. These visible movements are striking enough, but within the unruffled exterior of the plant-body there are others, energetic and incessant, which escape our scrutiny. The bending of a growing organ towards or away from stimulus must be due to unequal growth on two sides of the organ, a retardation of growth on the proxdmal or acceleration on the distant sides. Various theories have been advanced which have proved inadequate. For the identical stimulus of gravity produces one kind of curvature in the root and the very opposite in the shoot. The possibility of direct experimental investigation has been frustrated by the excessive slow rate of growth rendering accurate measurement impossible.

THE SLOWNESS OF GROWTH.

The movement of growth is two thousand times less rapid than the pace of the proverbially slow-footed snail. Taking the average annual growth in height of a tree to be 5 ft., it will take a tree a thousand years to cover a distance of a mile. We take a pace of 2 ft. in the course of half a second, during the interval plant grows through a length of 1-100,000 part of an inch or half the length of a wave of light. For investigation on the effect of external conditions on growth we have to measure even a fraction of that excessively small length.

The peasant has eagerly watched the growth of his plants on which his own life and the world's depend and even realised something of its vicissitudes, so the vegetable physiologist has here one of the many problems of his science. The invention of growth-measuring instruments has thus been one of his main endeavours. He has hitherto succeeded by the use of lovers with unequal arms to obtain a magnification of about 20 times, and even then it takes many hours for growth to become perceptible; owing to the practical impossibility of maintaing the external conditions constant for so many hours, the results of measurement of growth become vitiated. It is therefore necessary to produce a magnification so high that growth should become measureable in less than a minute. The first improvement effected by the lecturer, now some fourteen years ago, was his Optical Lever, which at once raised the magnification from 20 to 1000 times, an advance which at the time seemed to many incredible, but it is at length coming into use in advanced laboratories in Europe.

THE RECORDING CRESCOGRAPH.

A new apparatus devised by the lecturer, the Recording Crescograph, is described in the Transactions of the Royal Society, and of the Bose Institute. By a compound system of levers the magnification is raised to 10,000 but this is not without great technical difficulties, which cost five years of efforts to overcome. Thus the levers require to be extremely light; this was secured by the use of an alloy of aluminium used in the construction of Zeppelins; this combines lightness with rigidity. Another difficulty almost unsuperable arises from the friction at the bearings of the fulcrum, the best watch jewels made of ruby were employed, but the supply was cut off from Germany by the war. This proved a blessing in disguise, for it forced the lecturer to devise a new principle of suspension using local material. This was found in practice to be far superior to jewel bearings, which became clogged by invisible dust particles present in the air. With this Recording Crescograph many phenomena of extreme interest have been discovered. The plant itself not only recorded its normal rate of growth but the slightest change induced in it by the action of different forces. So delicate was the apparatus that it analysed growth into a series of pulses, a sudden shooting out followed by a partial recoil. It showed how the growth of plant was retarded by a mere touch, and the time it took the plant to recover from the effect of contact, and all these in course of a few seconds. The effect of different food on growth, the effect of different drugs, on living activity these and many more became revealed by the automatic record made by the plant. This has opened out fresh and more exact method of medical inquiry, and of practical agriculture.

THE MAGNETIC CRESCOGRAPH.

Such unlooked for results called for yet higher magnification, and at first it seemed that further multiplying lever might be added to the previous system. But this failed on account of added mass and friction; and some altogether new solution had therefore to be sought. Material contact having proved unworkable the ideal weightless and frictionless linking was obtained by introducing a new magnetic contrivance, and this with the surprising potency of magnification from 5 to 100 million times. The mind can not grasp the meaning of this stupendous magnification; how then could we translate it in terms which may be understood? Let us take once more our slw-footed snail, a magnification of ten million times would convert its speed to something for which there is no parallel even in modern gunnery practice. The 15 inch cannon of the "Queen Elizabeth" has a muzzle velocity of 2360 ft. per second or 81 million feet per hour. But the speed of the snail when magnified ten million times would render it 200 million ft. per hour or 24 times faster than the fastest cannon shot. We may next turn to the cosmic movement for a parallel. A point in equator whirls round at the rate of 1037 miles per hour. But a snail with the magnified speed would beat the earth by going round 40 times during the period the earth makes but one revolution!

LIFE IN STATE OF SUSPENSE AND ITS SUBSEQUENT RESOLUTION.

With the experiments carried with the Magnetic Crescograph life becomes subservient to the will of the experimenter. The rate of growth is indicated by the speed with which a spot of indicating light moves across he scale. The actual rate of growth is fifty thousand part of an inch per second; this under magnification is seen by the indicating spot of light to move at the rate of 36 inches per second: this is the normal rate. The plant is made to imbibe soda water and the growth becomes suddenly exalted some ten times; but a puff of tobacco smoke instantly retards the rate. To induce further retardation a depressing drug is next applied. The growth gradually comes to a stop and the quiescent of the spot of light shows life in a state of suspense. The plant is now hovering in an unstable poise between life and death, a slight tilt one way, and life gets interlooked in the rigidity of death. But the antidote is applied just in time, the torpor and suspense is over, and life renews her activity once more with the fullest vigour.

It is true that man is but poorly provided for his voyage of discovery in seas unknown, he can hear little and see less. A single octave of light circumscribes his vision; even of the visible the size of the ripple of light imposes an impassable barrier. But he has not been deterred by his limitations but has on the contrary been spurred on its greater efforts in his exploration of the invisible. The mysterious movements of life are not to remain for him incrutable and indecipherable for all times: but his untiring and single-minded pursuit will someday reveal to him the secret that lies behind the manifestations of life.

THE PRIME MINISTER AND THE ELECTION.

"THE REAL POWER BEHIND THE SCENES."

The "Daily Mail" says: "The Prime Minister apparently has lost the support of every newspaper that was anxious to help him, with the single exception of one morning journal, for which £1,600,000 was paid by some of his personal supporters on the eve of the election".

Referring to what it calls the "scandalous and sordid engineering of the candidatures" the "Daily Mail" says:—

"We submit that when a Scotsman and a Welshman meet to discuss a difficult business bargain a particular result is probable. But when two Scotsmen tackle a Welshman the result is a foregone conclusion.

"Unfortunately Mr. Bonar Law, a shrewd Canadian-Scot with Glasgow training and a block of two hundred and eighty Unionists behind him, together with Sir George Younger, the Scottish Tory organiser, engineered a deal with our Prime Minister by which the real power behind the scenes at the present moment is Sir George Younger, who made a thoroughly Scottish bargain under which the Prime Minister is bound hand and foot for five years to our British Junkers. That was one result of the attempt of a Welshman to bargain with a couple of Scotsmen."

"Another result is that Sir George Younger and Lord Downham have insisted upon an unjust preponderance of Tory candidates who, with Coalition coupons and carpet-bags in hand, have been pushed in unmannerly fashion into constituencies where they have attempted in some cases to oust returned soldiers and patriotic Labour men."

CHITTAGONG MUNICIPAL CASE.

DECREE BY COMPROMISE PASSED

Chittagong, Jan. 7.—It will be remembered that Babus Atul Chandra Dutt and Upendra Mohon Paul brought a suit against the Chairman of the Chittagong Municipality for the inclusion of their names in the list of candidates and for the correction of the voters' list and got an injunction prohibiting the Chairman to hold the election on the date notified. To-day the case came up for final hearing before Babu Naravan Chandra Ghose the first Sadar Munsif who with the consent of both the parties passed the following order: "The suit be decreed in so far that the names of the plaintiffs would be included in the list of candidates, that the question about the correction of the voters' list will be considered by the District Magistrate who will have to be approached if necessary. That the injunction order be withdrawn at once. Each party to bear its own costs."

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS

WILSON'S INTERVIEW WITH POPE

AGREEMENT WITH OTHER ALLIED PREMIERS

Paris, Jan. 6.

Havas Agency states: The French press states President Wilson's call on the Pope was made in agreement with the French, English and Italian Premiers. The Pope will not take part in the Peace Conference.

SOCIAL CONGRESS AT LAUSANNE

Paris, Jan. 6.

Havas Agency states that Swiss reports indicate that the authorities at Lausanne are not anxious that Mr. Henderson's international Socialist Congress announced for January 13th should take place at Lausanne. If the Federal authorities do not act local magistrates will prevent the meeting.

RUSSIA IN PEACE CONGRESS.

Paris, Jan. 7.

The Havas Agency states:—The question is being debated at present as to the pari Russia will take in the Peace Congress. It is emphasised that there can be no relations between the Entente powers and the Bolsheviks and other little Russian Governments are not yet entitled to recognition. It is stated that Russia in all probability will not participate in the congress at all.

PEACE CONFERENCE

OPENS ON JANUARY 13.

REPRESENTATIVES OF STATES WILL BE PRESENT.

Paris, Jan. 7.

The opening of the proceedings of the Peace Conference has ben fixed for January 13th, when the heads of Govrnments and foreign ministers of the Associated Powers will exchange views. As soon as the agreement has been reached regarding the organisation, composition and procedure of the Conference, the first sitting will be held probably about January 18th. It is believed that the representatives of all States which broke off relations wih the Central Empires will be present and that they will settle definitely the number of delegates each State will send to the Conference. It is confidently asserted that France, Britain, the United States, Italy and Japan will have five delegates each. France will be represented by Clemenceau, Pichon and others, not yet designated. Marshal Foch, by the unanimous wish of the Allies will be invited to express his views on military problems. Probably Belgium, Serbia, Greece, Rumania and Portugal will have three delegates each while the States which only broke off relations with the enemy will have only two.

PRESIDENT WILSON RETURNS TO PARIS

Paris, Jan. 7.

President Wilson has returned.

SEINE IN FLOOD.

Paris, Jan. 8.

Owing to heavy rain the Seine is overflowing its banks. The cellars of foreign ministry and lowlying streets are flooded and the process of pumping is in progress.

LENIN ARRESTED.
REIGN OF TERROR APPREHENDED.

Copenhagen, Jan. 8.

A message from Moscow states that Trotsky has arrested Lenin because the latter has been becoming too moderate of late desiring to form a coalition with the Government. Tortsky is now the absolute Dictator and intends to pursue the Reign of Terror.

THE RULING PRINCES' CONFERENCE AT DELHI

Delhi, Jan. 8.

The following is a list of the Ruling Princes and Chiefs who have announced their intention of attending the conference at Delhi between the 20th and 25th January:—

From Bombay: Their Highness the Raja of Beria, the Maharaja of Dhrangadhra, The Thakur Sahib Gondal, Maharaja of Idar, Maharaja of Kolhapur, the Thakur Sahib Limbdi, the Maharaja of Navanagar, the Nawab of Palanpur, the Raja of Rajpipla, the Chief of Sangli and the Rai Saheb of Wankaner.

From the Punjab: Their Highnesses the Raja of Chamba, the Maharaja Nawab of Malerkotla, the Maharaja of Patiala.

From Central India: Their Highnesses Rana Barwani, Begum of Bhopal, the Maharaja of Dhar, Maharajas Dewas senior and junior, the Maharaja of Gwalior, Raja Jhabua, Maharaja of Panna, Raja Sailana, Raja Sitamau.

From Rajputana: Their Highnesses the Maharaja of Alwar, the Maharaja of Bharatpur, Maharao Bundi, Maharaj Rana of Dholpur, the Maharaja of Jaipur, Maharawal Jaisulmer, Maharaj Rana of Jhalawar, Maharaja Sir Pertab Singh of Jodhpur, the Maharaja of Kishengarh and the Maharao of Kota.

The Maharaja of Kashmir and the Maharaja of Sikkim.

On the 22nd January a banquet given by the Ruling Princes and Chiefs will be held in Delhi in honour of the Maharaja of Patiala, and during the visit of the Princes to Delhi there will be a polo tournament on the Durbar Polo Ground.

LADY CHELMSFORD SAILS FOR ENGLAND.

Delhi, Jan. 9. Her Excellency Lady Chelmsford left Delhi this morning accompanied by the Hon. Bridget Thesiger for Bombay to embark on the P. and O Nogoya' sailing for England on the 11th instant. It is understood she will be absent from India for about three months.

The Food Question in Europe.

MR. HOOVER'S STATEMENTS

SITUATION IN ENEMY AND ALLIED COUNTRIES.

AMERICA'S SUPPLY OF LOAN.

GRAVE ECONOMIC PROBLEM.

Paris, Jan. 3.

Mr. Hoover, the United States Food Administrator in a statement on the food situation in Europe said that since his arrival in Europe he had been investigating the situation, particularly in the liberated regions also in Germany to some extent and in the latter had found that there had been enough to carry on for a while except in regard to fats the shortage of which was causing considerable discontent.

The liberated areas of the Northern France and Belgium were the first concern also Trentino, Serbia, Montenegro, Rumania, Czechoslovakia Jugoslavia Poland Finland Baltic Russia Armenia and Syria. The total population was estimated at one hundred and twenty five millions. Under the enemy devastation the native production had greatly diminished and stocks from the last harvest would soon be exhausted. The Co-operation between the Food Department and the war Department had resulted in despatching up to date of one hundred and fifty thousand tons of food to the various ports of Europe. A steady stream was also being maintained into Northern France and Belgium at the rate of hundred and fifty thousand tons monthly. The transport difficulty was enhanced by the shortage of the railway stock also the demoralisation of railway systems and in many places it had been necessary to distribute by motor trucks.

One of the most difficult problems was finance. Our farmers and manufacturers must be paid for their food supplies. The liberated regions engaged in the war against Germany had been given loans by the United States with which to purchase the food and these loans were being continued and amounted to selling the American food on credit. But large areas existed such as liberated Poland the former states of Austrian the portions of Turkey, the Balkan States and others where the American Government was unable under the present legislation to make loans. These peoples were looking to th United States to save them from starvation and in some of these areas the Government had been so disregarded that it was difficult to set up any financial cycle for the lack of the Government. If they were to be saved it became a matter of private charity or long-time credits.

There was also a broad economic porblem. It was impossible to conceive considering the destruction done, that the liberated territories would be able to return to the production of the commodities they had exchanged for foodstuffs and they had no gold or securities. They must have credit. It was Govenment's function to furnish them with credits. We could not allow them to starve. It was also of the greatest possible importance to prevent the anarchy and if the world was to return to some form of order. Government we must somehow provide the food supply. As a large part of the difficulties was due to the ruthless action of the German nation it appeared to the Allies and the United States that the Germans should provide ships to transport supplies to the liberated territories. The question required a calm and showed leadership and this the United States had. If interest were maintained the United States could finish the job splendidly and banish the spectre of Bolshevism.

AWFUL SITUATION OF PETROGRAD

Helsingfors, Jan. 7.

The members of the Danish Legation who have arrived here from Petrograd state that the British Civil and Military Officers are kept imprisoned in Moscow and are being tyrannically treated.

The real Dictator in Petrograd is a woman aged 22 named Jacobleva, the Chief of the Anti-Counter Revolutionary Committee. Her cruelty surpasses all existing legends. Many die of starvation in the streets daily. The population has sunk to 800,000. Three quarters of all shops are closed and the tramways suspended. There is no coal and electric Light may only be used for two hours daily. The Red Guards in Petrograd number 50,000.

BOLSHEVISM IN ESTHONIA.

HELP IMPLORED FROM BRITAIN.

Helsingfors, Jan. 8.

Esthonia has requestd Britain to despatch 20,000 rifles, 6 field batteries and ammunition for the same urging their inability to withstand the Bolshevik advance without these supplies.

DEATH OF THEODORE ROOSEVELT FRENCH MESSAGE OF SYMPATHY

Paris, Jan. 7.

The Havas Agency states:—The French Press expresses keen regret at the death of Col. Theodore Roosevelt whose unbounded popularity made him the most picturesque American figure. France has not forgotten his address at Sorbonne years ago on a citizens' duties. M. Pichon has sent a message of sympathy to Mrs. Roosevelt expreing gratitude of France for the manner in which the late Colonel embraced France's cause in her time of peril.

SINN FIEN MEMBER RELEASED.

London, Jan. 4.

Sinn Fein M P Burgess has been released as no charge has been brought against him.

SHOOTING OF AN ALLIGATOR

Abanti Kumar Maiti, pleader, of Contai, Midnapur, sends a thrilling account of the shooting of an alligator 19 feet long. In killing it, he says: The first two shots were fired across the river (Rasulpur) and the alligator immediately took to the water. A week later it was seen again, when Mr Maiti taking a boat, managed to get to close quarters with the monster and emptied his magazine into it. Five bullets from a 16 bore Paragon followed, and, his bullets being then exhausted, Mr. Maiti had to send home for more. Meanwhile he spent the night "without food and clothing in the boat, keeping the brute between my boat and the bank". At 2 a. m. more bullets arrived and four of them were fired into the alligator. When daylight came an attempt was made to lash the alligator alongside the boat. The boat being in danger of upsetting, another boat was lashed on the other side. "Still then it also wanted to drown us all. I had to use 4 bullets and then it calmed a little. I brought it down at the Rasulur ferry-ghat and by means of two bullock carts drawn by human beings and coolies, I succeeded in bringing it to Contai and I then produced it before the S D O. When in the afternoon it was cut open, 49 items of ornaments rings, bangles, churis, etc., as well as one rule, a pencil and one spring were brought out. It will not be out of place to say that on the 19th October, 1916, I bagged another huge alligator, 20 feet in length, the skull of which is now in the Indian Museum and of which there is reference in the Annual Report of the Zoological Surrey of India, 1916-17. I think this is the female of that."

PROCEDURE OF PEACE CONFERENCE

SITUATION MADE EASY.

MAIN ISSUES BEFORE THE CONFERENCE.

Paris, Jan. 8.

The Havas Agency states that the Peace Conference will begin with the clauses of the preliminary peace treaty and the task is likely to occupy two months. There will only be a few plenary meetings the bulk of work being done by small Committees or individual conversations. Much ground has already been cleared by discussions in Paris, Rome, London and Tokio and with President Wilson. Three main points to be covered by the preliminary peace treaty are the acceptance of the League of Nations in its broad outlines, the amount of indemnity to be paid by Germany and the manner of payment and the drawing up of the new map of the world showing fresh frontiers of the European nations and of future German colonies. After the Inter-Allied treaty has been drafted the enemy plenipotentiaries will be invited to come to Paris. The great plenary Congress at Versailles is hardly likely to be held before the end of 1919.

GERMANY BUSY IN CONSTRUCTING SUBMARINES.

London, Jan. 4.

It is stated the British Naval Commission has discovered 170 U. Boats being construcoted in Germany, Altogether 550 submarines have been built by the enemy who is still busy in building them. The allies do not object because it is necessary to keep workers employed and the vessels will be disposed of by the allies when finished. 122 German submarines have been brought to British ports and 58 are still due.

BURIAL OF COL. ROOSEVELT.

New York, Jan. 9.

In a light snowstorm Col. Roosevelt was buried to-day at Oyster Bay after an impressive funeral service which was attended by President Marshall representing President Wilson also representatives of the Allied Governments and a distinguished body of Americans.

Mr. Lloyd-George sent a message of sympathy on behalf of the British people. Business was suspended at the time appointed for interment.

EXPEDITION TO AUSTRIA-HUNGARY TO NEGOTIATE PEACE.

London, Jan. 4.

Paris.—An expedition is being sent to Austria-Hungary by the American Commission to negotiate peace to study political, social and economic conditions in Austria and the surrounding States. It will have its headquarters in Vienna and sub-agencies at Prague Budapest, Agram and elsewhere and will report from time to time to the Enquiry Department of the Commission. The party is headed by Professor Coolinge of Harvard University who recently returned from Archangel. Among other members are professor Kerner of the University of Missouri for Bohemian affairs, Mr. C. M. Storey of Boston who for the last three years has been with the Department of Justice devoted to the control of alien enemies, Lieut Colonel Sherman Miles who served as military attache in the Balkans and Russia, Lieutement Reginald Foster, previously in Poland for Rockefeller Foundation, Captain Dellschaft, recently with the prisoners of war congress at Berne, Captain Passkowtok and Campagnoli.

A SINN FEIN MEMBER ARRESTED.

London, Jan. 4.

Mr. Burgess, a Sinn Fein member for Waterford has been arrested at Thurles and several arrests have been made in other districts.

PRESIDENT WILSON'S VISIT TO POPE

London, Jan. 4.

President Wilson's visit to the Pope made him the first President ever to set foot in the Vatican. He immediately afterwards visited the American Episcopal Church where he received delegations from all Protestant denominations. Rules of etiquette were carefully observed the President making American Embassy which is technically the United States territory, the starting point for both religious visits.

The President spent a busy day sight-seeing in the glorious weather. After lunching with the king and the queen the President went to the Embassy and thence drove to the Vatican arriving at 3-46 in the afternoon where he was met by the Swiss Guards. The band of Vatican Gendarmes played American anthem while the President entered the courtyard. The Gendarmes and the Firemen presented arms while Monsignor Tacci Majordomo, Monsignor Zampini, Sarrist to Palace, Monsignor Racca, Grand Almoner and four chamberlains received the President escorting him to the top of the grand staircase where a picturesque group of commanders of Vatican Guard and the staff greeted the President. A cortege was formed and on arriving at the threshold of the Clemenine Hall, the Master of Ceremonies welcomed the President in the name of the Pope and then escorted him through the hall of arms to the small door opening into the Throne Room. The Pope came out dressed in white with outstretched arms and shook hands with the President. The latter then entered the Throne Room for private audience while the President's party remained in the Hall of arms. After audience the bell rang and the door to the Throne Room opened when the President's party was formally introduced. The President afterwards visited Borgia apartments accompanied by Cardinal Gasparri. The same formalities as upon entering marked the departure.

REMOVAL OF JAPANESE TROOPS FROM SIBERIA.

London, Jan. 4.

The "Daily Express" Tokio correspondent says: The War Office announces the withdrawal of thirty four thousand Japanese troops from Siberia and says that henceforth the smallest possible forces will be maintained in Siberia.

SINN FEIN DEMONSTRATIONS PERMITTED.

London, Jan. 4.

The Irish authorities will permit Sinn Fein demonstrations tomorrow.

INTERNATIONAL LABOUR CONFERENCE.

NEUTRAL POWERS INVITED TO ATTEND.

Stockholm, Jan. 5.

Socialist leader Branting has invited the neutral powers to attend the International Labour Conference at Lausanne concurrently with the Peace Conference. He has notified the Socialists and the Central party of Russia of the fact.

PRINCE KROPATKIN MURDERED

A BOLSHEVIC SAVAGERY.

PRISONER'S STATEMENT.

London, Jan. 4.

A telegram from Bergen says an English manufacturer who was arrested in Russia and escaped stated in an interview that Prince Kropotkin who returned to Russia in 1917 had been murdered by Bolsevists.

HEAVY FIGHTING IN CENTRAL BERLIN.

SOCIALISTS' APPEAL TO SOLDIERS.

London, Jan. 8.

The "Frankischer Kurier" reports that the centre of Berlin has been the scene of heavy fighting. The Spartacists forced their way into the Chancellors Palace whence they fired on the "Vorwaerts" Buildings. Erchhorn with the troops has taken up a strong position in the Royal Stables. The Spartacists have mounted the machine guns before residence of the new Police President. Majority socialists have appealed to the soldiers and workers to rise en masse in defence of the new Republic. The Spartacists newspapers declare that the Spartacists are the masters of the Reichsbank and barracks.

A Rotterdam message reveals the Machiavellian policy of numbers of Soldiers Councils in Germany who have been secretly arranging for the demobilisation so as to ensure that the great majority of the remaining troops are imbued with the revolutionary spirit. Consequently the German forces still under arms are largely the Red Arm supporters. This policy has been specially successful in Brunswick where the Spartacists hold the reins of power and are bringing great influence to bear on Berlin.

RATE OF DEMOBILISATION.

London, Jan. 7.

Reuter understands that the general demobilisation cannot be ordered until after the peace conference, as an efficient army must be maintained in order to meet any contingency during the peace negotiations. Ten thousand soldiers were discharged daily at home last week, and the number dealt with in France was increased to over twenty thousand daily, including Dominion troops.

London, Jan. 10.

The Premier's plain statement on the progress of demobilisation and the sympathetic hearing given to the soldiers by Sir William Robertson had an excellent effect on the soldiers, who appeared to be reassured. There were no demonstrations yesterday and the day was marked by a constant flow of men taking advantage of the offers to speed up their release.

LATEST REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE DEMOBILISATION QUESTION.

THE FOLKESTONE INCIDENT.

London, Jan. 5.

Dissatisfaction amongst the Home troops at the alleged slowness of demobilisation led to an unparalled incident yesterday, when the departure of the Guards' colours for Germany was postponed owing to trouble at Folkestone. The colours were ceremoniously handed over to an escort at Wellington Barracks in the presence of Their Majesties and a huge crowd of spectators, and were then conveyed to Charing Cross headed by hands, and were cheered by thousands 'en route.' The troops on arriving at the station forme da square and gave a forewell salute, but the colours were not placed on the train, as it was learned that Folkestone was temporarily closed as a port of embarkation. Correspondents at Folkestone state that soldiers returning from leave to the tent camps on Friday paraded the streets as a protest against slow demobilisation. They were addressed by the Mayor at the Town Hall and returned to their camps peacefully. An official announcement issued last night says that the trouble at Folkestone among troops returning to Franco from leave has been satisfactorily settled. The War Office authorities, officials of the Demobilisation Department, and the Ministry of Labour are investigating each case individually. The Guards' colours leave London to-day.

London, Jan. 5.

The War Office announces that the discontent among the troops at Folkestone was due to the men discovring that some of their comrades had been granted extra leave in connection with the completion of their applications for discharge under a regualtion in the demobilisation scheme relating to cases where employers had undertaken immediately to reengage pre-war employeees. Some soldiers misunderstood and were unaware of the regulation, and had not availed themselves of it. The soldiers also alleged htat some of the applications were bogus ones, simply lodged with the object of obtaining additional leave. Soldiers who had been granted extended leave in connection with their applications were not permitted by their comrades to return to London, while others desiring to return to France were prevented frof going on board ship. The authorities decided not to treat the matter as a breach of discipline owing to the men's evident misunderstanding. A satisfactory arrangement has been arrived at providing for an extension of the time for applications for immediate discharge. The men have throughout been perfectly orderly and respectful. Similar trouble at Dover has been similarly arranged.

London, Jan. 6.

The Guards' colours have arrived at Folkestone and were conveyed across the Channel without incident.

DEMONSTRATION.
SOLDIERS DEMAND SPEEDING UP
PREMIER EXPLAINS SITUATION.

London, Jan. 6.

There has been trouble among the soldiers owing to the delay in demobilisation. Following protests by troops at Dover and Folkestone, two hundred Army Service Corps men at Isleworth seized motor lorries and drove to Whitehall. Finding that the Premier was not home, they sent a deputation to the Ministry of Labour, which promised that their grievances should be immediately investigated and that any men who had a job waiting for them should be demobilised within ten days. Several thousand soldiers at Shoreham marched to Brighton to protest against the delays in demobilisation, but dispersed after the Mayor had promised to communicate their grievances to the War Office.

London, Jan. 7.

Soldiers at Shoreham have decided to telegraph to the Premier demanding that all troops at Shoreham be sent home immediately, pending demobilisation. Officials of the Demobilisation Department have gone to France in order to deal with cases before men are sent home on leave, thus largely meeting the men's objections to having to rejoin units overseas before receiving their discharge.

PREMIER'S WARNING.

London, Jan. 8.

It is officially stated that the Prime Minister has been giving careful attention to the speed of he demobilisation. He considers that the first duty is to ensure that the fruits of victory, which have been won by the sacrifice of so many lives and by brave deeds, are not jeopardised by the apparent weakness of Great Britain during the critical months of the peace negotiations. Therefore it s imperative to maintain a strong army on the Dhine and the necessary services behind the front in France and at Home. Although the fighting has stopped the war is not over. The German armies are not demobilised and are still very powerful. We cannot tell what the Germans will do, or whether they will agree to the terms of peace and reparation we seek to impose upon them. Impatience now might lose in a few wek swhat it has taken years of heroism and sacrifice to gain. We must be strong and united in order to exert our proper influence among the other nations at the peace conference. Three hundred thousand men have already been demobilised, and steps are being taken to increase the speed consonant with vital British interests in the world and the safety of the troops in Germany. Instructions have been issued that will ensure the sympathetic hearing of the soldiers' complaints, but the work of demobilisation will not be kuickened by the men trying to take the law into their own hands. Public opinion has been tolerant of the recent demonstrations, but real harm is being done to the national cause and to the army's reputation. Therefore discipline must be maintained.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

KHARAGPUR STRIKERS' CASE

(From Our Special Correspondent.)

Midnapore, Jan. 9.

Before Mr J N Roy, Sadar Sub-Divisional Officer of Midnapore in the case of Sankata Mazar and 17 others under Section 154 I P C the following Prssecution Witnesses were cross-examined to-day by Mr A K Ghosh, Bar-at-law, who has been espe cially deputed by the Civil Rights Com mittee to defend the accused.

HARA PROSAD TEWARY, HEAD CONSTABLE, INTELLIGENCE DEPT.

Five men told the men not to go to their work. I went near the 'Golmal.' The 'Golmal' was held near the Midnapore level crossing gate and Kholi No. 1. 10 or 15 men were preventing men from going to their work and ran to the gate. There were Armed Reserved and Military Police. They joined the assembly. I went behind them on hearing 'Golmal' to see what had happaned there. I heard of men who were bayonetted and so they shouted "Sala Log-Ke Bandhuk Chhin Lo." All officers were present there. I don't know whether there was any Railway Officer. The officers asked the crowd "Wait don't make noise." I can't say the very exact words used by the 'Sahebs' to put a stop to the crowd and the D I G. and Add. S P came round in to the crowd. The people assembled almost on all sides. I could not hear the talk of those officers with the assembly. Mazahar Ali was saying—"A 'Log Ko Maro." Neither I can't say what the other accused persons were actually doing. Mazahar was in the midst of the mob. Nathan was also in the mob on the left hand side. When I saw Sankata he was in the front row I was there up to the end—up to 9-30 a.m. The mob was crying—"Bandhuk Chhin Lo." The mob was crying—"Sala Ko Maro." What particular officer I can't say.

Prabhu Sing, Constable I. B.

Cross-examination: I hear people saying let us go to the Maidan near No 1 Kholi. I can't say who said so. I went there after 6-30. There was nobody with me of Police. I found there on arrival Akshoy Babu—D. I G—Sub-Inspector of Town thana and Addl S. P. The mob collected and gathered between Midnapore level crossing and No. 1 Kholi. The mob was compacked but not in a line; they were 2000 to 2500 in number. I saw Akshoy Babu, Basarat and Seaman were standing in front of the mob. I can't remember whether they went inside the mob. I was standing within mob. Sankata and Mazahar were in my front. Mazahar was in my north and Sankata was in my west. I can't say what dress Mazahar had, most probably he had a cap or 'Pagree' in his head. Sankata had a Pagree on his head. I can't say what sort of colth he wore. I found Nur Bux stood. I can't say in which side of the crowd he was. When the men were coming back I followed Nur Bux. I came up to his house and knew his name. I did not know Sankata before. On the very day I ascertained his name. I know Mazahar from 10 or 12 days before. I saw before Sankata but I did not know his name. Sankata's house is close to the place of occurrence. I saw Sankata standing on his door after the crowd dispersed. I could not ascertain the names of the men who stood on my left and right. Dadu Mia was on the Maidan. I went a few steps to north and found body of men standing.

The road was 2½ cubits from where I stood. 5 or 6 men were in the crowd. I know Nathan by appearance. More than one or 1½ months before I saw him at different places. Sometime in Gol-Bazar and other places. Nathan was standing 5 or 6 cubits off from me. I cannot remember the colour of the coat he had on his body. I ascertained the name of Nathan from the men of the crowd. I saw Jhari. I don't know his name. He stood whither on my south or east. Jhari was 8 or 9 cubits off from me, when I went near him he was abusing—'Maro Sale Ko, Bandhuk Chhin Lo'! Some stones were pelted. I can't say who pelted stones There was shouting—"Maro Sale Log Ko, Bandhuk Chhin Lo" The crowd prevented the men from their going to work, as the Police protested that they abused. I have not seen anybody of Police who were beaten. I saw stone were pelting. I can't sa who were struck with stones. I can't remember Jhari's dress. Mir Bux, Sankata, Nathan, Mazahar, Jhari were abusing. Mazahar asked the people to send news to Kharida for collecting men to come. I can't say if any Kharida men were there. I did not notice if Kharida men came after Mazahar asked. I can't say who went to inform Kharida men. I saw the Police officers to ask the crowd to be dispersed. I can't say who did so. Akhoy Babu said to the crowd "Tom loke, Bainee Mat Karo Jao." I can't say what Basarat was saying. What officers said I could not hear. I was not beaten as no body knew that I am a Police man. I can't remember who was telling "Sale Loke Ko Bandhuk Chhin Lo." I did not hear about a man who was bayonetted. I can't say who said "Police Loke Ko Maro" I can't spe cify who said "Maro Chhin Lo". They were saying according to their whims.

Benode Behari Chatterjee, Clerk C. M. E. Office.

Cross-Examination:—I did not strike work. I am working here for 6 or 7 years. I know most of the strikers but don't know their names. I have to go to office at 9-30, at the time of strike. I stay in my "Basha," No. 2 Type. The place of occurence was 1 mile off from my "Basha". I went there on my own accord. Company had a great loss in the strike. Company issued note to the strikers to come and accept the terms, but they did not accept. I get 30 per mensem. I am a despatcher in Record section. I saw Mr. Gibbons when I was going there. I can't say whether Mr. Gibbons knows me. I had no reason to hide myself, nor Mr. Gibbons. He knows my name. He stood 50 cubits off from me. He was standing with Mr Coats and other "Sahibs" and talking with them. I can't hear the talking and Adl. S. P was there. Sahibs were standing together. I could not hear them talking. I saw Mr. Oldfield come. He came back after 10 or 15 mts. I was there for half an hour. Sahibs were standing on my south and the men assembled on the east. I was standing with my face to the Police and Military. I did hear many officers speaking the men assembled. The mob shouting Maro Sale Ko; amongst these I pointed out two men who said Maro Sale Ko. I don't know their names but I can identify. They used these abuses to Armed Police. I heard the S. I Basarat say Tomra Chale Jao Gole Karo Na. On hearing this, the mob shouted, Maro Sale Ko. This was also going from before. Two men said Maro Sale ko after the Police asked them to go away.

Bhika Singh, Constable, I B.

Cross-Examination:—I could not hear if the men in crowd said unless we get our term we won't go to work. I saw Mr Gibbons who also asked the crowd to disperse. I was standing within crowd. I can identify many men. I used to go to every Kholi since I came. I don't know Lachman Lohar, Basak Ali, Mana Lal Panday from before. Mana Lal Panday is known to me. I can't say where his Kholi is. He is at present at Khargpore. I asked the name of the man who said his name was Appalow Swamy. Lachman Lohar was at 10 or 12 cubits off from the Sahib within the crowd. Lachman had a white shirt on his body. He was 5 or 6 cubits off from me. He said "Ek Ek Admi Ko Uper Dash Dash Admi Baith Jao". He was telling only to snatch the gun as he has no power of doing so. I can't remember whether Lachman had Pagree. He had a cloth on his head. I can't remember what he had on his head. On that day he came to this Court. I can't remember about Apallow Swamy. Nathan had a short and waist coat on the day of occurrence. He had a cap on his head. Most probably he had a pant. I don't know how he was dressed on the day he came to court. I saw Nathan to-day he was dressed with a pant. I don't know Sankata from before. I can't say how Sankata dressed; he had a Pagree. I can't say whether he had a shirt or a coat. On the day he last attended Court he was dressed with a dirty coat. That will be white if washed. I can't recollect his dress on the day of occurrence. Sanlu also had a dirty coat on his body and some clothing like Sankata. Nathan and Sankata were in the mob. Sankata was, 5-7 cubits off from me. Sankata asked his men to pelt stone on the Police. Lachman pelted stones. I can't remember if I said Lachman pelted stone. I can't say, if anybody told this. I did not draw anybody's attention to Lachman's pelting stone. I asked Sankat and Lachman not to pelt stone. Nobody heard me forbiding Lachman. I can't remember if I told anybody of pelting stone. I can't mention any other's name who pelted stone or ordered. I can't say if Sankat is leader as I can't say who are the leaders amongst the accused. There was a daily meeting in Maidan. I daily attended the meeting. I suppose I have attended 4 or 5 meetings. I have seen Sankata, Sanlu, Mazahar, Ajodhya Prosad, Jagat Prosad and Mohun Ram who delivered lectures in the meeting. I saw them but I did not know their names. I can't say why the mob stood for two hours.

C. W. Seaman Inspector Town Police Khargpore.

Cross-Examination: Town Thana is 300 Yds off from Time Office. My duty was there to arrest the obstructors. One crowd of 200 men near Midnapore line and the large crowd of 2000 men. Large crowd was separated from the crowd of 200 men and the large crowd was an independent crowd. I first moved into the crowd and took with me some armed Constable. I went on..... I was concerned with that whole crowd not upon the six men. I thought my service would be of use in the large crowd because I had nothing to do with the six men. They were being prevented and threatened to go to their work. I did not ask them to lodge any information in the P. S. as I was busy with the large crowd. I had no time to ask them. I saw the excited mob so I went to attend the larger one. I did not ask them even to wait till I came back as I did not think of it. I thought they could stay there. I don't know of those six men. I did not try to know those six men afterwards. I told on other day that cognizable offences committed not practically on my person. They were at a distance. My post was at Time Office, as I saw the crowd. I rushed on by bike for more than 300 yds. I did not take cognizance into the case as I had no time. When I came afterwards these men gone. Also it was my duty to look after if any offences were committed any where of such descriptions and by whom? It was my duty to take sognizance into such offences if occurred. So far I remember I did not ask six men to wait till I came back. I don't know the 6 men nor the 20. Since the strike I would notice the strikers. They were strikers I presume. The larger crowd was north of the line. The six men went and joined the big crowd. When I came back they shouted Maro. They shouted Maro because we prosecuted them.

ALLEGED ASSAULT ON A EUROPEAN.

FIVE ACCUSED ON TRIAL AT CHANDPUR.

Chandpur, Jan. 7.—The case in which Sabdarali, Abdul Kadir, Labai Khan of village Sriramdi and others stood charged for committing assault on Mr W N Belcham ber, Manager of Messrs. M David and Co, jute merchants Chandpur, will shortly come up before Mr. N K Roy, Subdivisional Magistrate of Chandpur for disposal. The complaint is that Mr. Belchamber went out shooting with his dog on December 32rd last. A crowd of youths and boys followed him while passing through the village and set their dogs upon his. Mr. Belchamber's dog was cornered in a khal so he shot a village dog dead. On his way back, the relations of one Yasin, who is reported to be the owner of the dog, assaulted Mr. Belchambr in the course of which he received injuries in his right hand and spine. The police held an enquiry into the case and has sent up five accused for trial, who are now let on bail of Rs 100 each. The case is pending.

REVIEW.

PRESIDENT WILSON, THE MODERN APOSTLE OF FREEDOM.

We have received a copy of "President Wilson, the Modern Apostle of Freedom," published by the enterprising firm of Messrs. Ganesh and Co., of Madras.

The book contains a life-sketch of the President by Mr. K. Vyasa Rao of Triplicane and a collection of speeches delivered by him during the most momentous period of the world's history. In the midst of this terrible and internecine struggle, its horrible, carnage and untold suffering human heart seeks for a place where it can breathe a sigh of relief. When the heart gets tired of the greedy kings and martial nobles who being driven by battle-hunger and earth-hunger play at chess with the lives of men and the fortunes of nations,—when the vision hangs back in affright and doubt from these cataclysmic changes, the life of the President serves as the beacon light in the midst of the groping darkness and cloud and thunderstorm.

His speeches are of special interest to the Indians at this stage of our national evolution. They are permeated with the spirit of freedom and liberty. Those of us who still think that we are weak and unfit for self-government and the Anglo-Indians who think that the colour bar stands in the way of our getting full autonomy will get a rude shock to their convictions from the speeches of the President. He pleads for liberty to all, to strong and weak, black and white, as freedom is the birth-right of all and no human agency can deny it to any one.

The foreword to the book by Dr. S. Subrahmanium is so ably written that we make no apology in quoting it in extenso. He says:—

One question which is uppermost in the minds of many of us is whether the great ruler of men whose memorable speeches are now being made accessible to the public in a collected form by Messrs. Ganesh and Co., will render substantial help to us in the forthcoming Peace Conference. On such a grave question it would be rash to make conjectures, especially considering the difficulties involved in the matter and the attitude of many politicians of rank and influence on both sides of the Atlantic. Of this attitude no stronger instance need be mentioned than Mr. Roosevelt's unabashed declaration that the Peace Conference should not meddle with Asiatic complications. Though European statesmen have not yet spoken out so plainly and bluntly to the same effect, one does not feel altogether encouraged to think that they will go the same length as President Wilson. For it is clear that President Wilson is almost and sole instance of thinker and ruler who has the courage of his convictions and the determination to put them into practice irrespective of the question whether the peoples concerned are inhabitants of Western countries or of the East. At the same time whether he will insist upon the practical and immediate application of the principle of self-determination to us among Asiatics as an item to be settled at the Peace Conference and whether if he does so he will be cordially supported by the majority of the Powers concerned is doubtful. That the outcome of the Peace Conference so far as India is concerned cannot be much, seems to me at any rate painfully probable.

Be this as it may, these speeches of Dr. Wilson cannot but prove of the utmost value to us if proper use is made of them. It is not sufficient that they reach the English educated classes only. They should be translated into all Indian vernaculars and spread broad-cast throughout the country so as to imbue the whole literate population with the spirit of freedom to all, which every line of the speeches breathes. As I have often observd our great difficulty now is that we are made to think that we are but fit to be a subject people. It is when this pernicious idea gives place to the conviction that we too in spite of our color are entitled to be free then the reaching of our goal will become really possible. And it is because Dr. Wilson pleads so strongly and nobly in favour or freedom to all that the speeches will go far to produce the required conviction amongst us too and thus prove of much indirect benefit thereby. Proceeding as these speeches do from the present ruler of the greatest of Western nations they must produce in the minds of the masses of our people an impression far deeper and stronger than anything that has seen the light of the day in recent times. I am aware that in dwelling so strongly upon mass education of this kind I may seem to some as utopian. But I hold strongly that if things do not seem to be so promising to us just now it is because of the exceptional nature of what our achievement is to be. No doubt hitherto a triumph against autocracy among nations has been won by revolution attended with bloodshed. Our case however is manifestly a very exceptional one. India's triumph in the same direction is to be conquest not by force but of reason and as a preliminary to this conquest it is necesasry that our masses should be made awake to their rights. Once this is done it will be sufficient that their voice is raised, for the required result will follow as a matter of sheer necessity. It is because I consider these speeches as useful in that direction I heartily commend this publication. With the highly instructive introduction of Mr. K Vyasa Row it would be perfectly superfluous fir me to dwell upon the inspiring career of the illustrious author of these speeches.

Before concluding one cannot resist stating that these speeches so authoritative and clear, reach the high water mark of public political morality as not only to constitute them the highest example of the kind known to history but also as presaging the advent of a new era of political liberty to the coloured and the white races alike. This fact alone ought to justify the widest reception in India to this volume containing as it does pronouncements made for the very practical purpose of a whole nation ensuing by its sacrifice freedom to Humanity as a whole. The sacrifices required for the at-

(Continued on next Column.)

PROVINCIAL JUDICIAL SERVICE

In reply to the letter No. 6280-89 A, dated the 21st November 1918, with its enclosure, inviting an expression of opinion on the questions raised in the Resolution No. 6279 A, dated the 19th November 1918, of the Government of Bengal with reference to the recommendations of the Public Services Commission regarding the provincial judicial service, the Committee of the Bengal National Chamber of Commerce desire to submit the following observations:—

ORGANISATION.

Whatever might have been the original idea underlying the formation of the provincial judicial service, it is no longer formed only "to fill charges of minor responsibility in the civil judicial administration of the province." As a matter of fact members even in the lowest rank of the service have oftener to try cases of considerable intricacy, while those in the higher ranks have the jurisdiction in civil suits to hear appeals and try civil suits of unlimited value and their works have been recognised to compare favourably with the Hon'ble judges of the High Court in their original civil jurisdiction. The importance of the field of action of the provincial judicial service and the admirable way in which the members of the service have generally discharged the duties of their posts would commend the case of the service to the special consideration of the Government.

RECRUITMENT.

With reference to recruitment, the Committee are strongly of opinion that it is highly desirable and necessary to give up the present practice of nomination in favour of competition and not less than 80 per cent of the vacancies in the provincial judicial services should be filled from amongst the applicants for those posts by following the results of the B. L. examination only; the remaining vacancies may be filled, due regard being had to the claims of the various communities and interests, without closely following the results of the B. L. examination. The practice of recruiting by nomination, by which preference is given to persons over others who have done better in the University examination, is a cause of real grievance to the educated youths of the country and is calculated to foment discontent amongst them. It would be wise and expedient to abandon this practice in favour of competition.

The minimum University qualification of a candidate should be in all cases attainment of the B. L. or a corresponding degree in Law.

A course of two years' training under an experienced judge after having passed the B. L. examination, is far more calculated to qualify a person for the service than an independent practice for three years in the bar. Besides under the present arrangement those only who, having tried their chance by practising three years in the bar, find no good prospect before them, offer themselves for service. So the cause of the service suffers.

The Committee quite agree with the observations made with regard to the age-limit and they support that the maximum age-limit should be 27 years.

PROBATION AND TRAINING.

The Committee agree as to the arrangement proposed under this head. They do not think that the cause of recruitment will materially suffer if the salary during the probationary period be fixed at Rs. 175 instead of Rs. 200 as recommended by the Public Services Commission specially when it will be raised to Rs. 300 on the expiry of the probationary period. The Committee would, however, in view of the increase in the cost of living, suggest that the recommendation of the Public Services Commission might be accepted and the salary during the probationary period fixed at Rs 200.

The Committee also recommend that money suits of not exceeding Rs. 50 should be allowed to be tried by probationers. This will help their training to some extent and accustom them to try cases independently.

SALARY.

The Committee are of opinion that the incremental system of payment proposed by the Commission in substitution of the graded system, would, if given effect to, be of distinct advantage to the members of the service. The rate of increment proposed is also an improvement on the present arrangement. The Committee, while fully recognising the importance of the duties entrusted to the provincial judicial service, do not think that a higher scale of pay would be necessary for the purpose of proper recruitment for the service.

A special system may be introduced with a view to ensure that only the members of proved merit in the service might be promoted to the post of a subordinate judge, for which the Committee would suggest that the service of the members of the provincial judicial service should be periodically reviewed having regard to the quality and quantity of the work done by them. The first may be determined by a reference to the result of the appeals against their decisions and the second by the number of cases disposed of by them. Excepting those who might fail to come up to the proper standard of efficiency by such a test, all the other members of the service should be eligible to the post of a subordinate judge and should be promoted to be so according to seniority.

PROMOTION TO HIGHER SERVICE.

The Committee recognise that until the question raised by His Excellency the Viceroy and the Right Honourable the Secretary of State in their report on the Constitutional Reforms as to the proportion of higher appointments which should be thrown open to the Indians generally, is settled, the subject of what number of district and sessions judgeships should be reserved for the members of the provincial judicial service cannot properly be taken up for discussion. The Committee however desire to observe that they do not share the views expressed by the Public Services Commission in this connection and cannot support their proposal that on the judicial side only four higher posts should be held by provincial officers instead of six as under the existing system, and that six judgeships should be thrown open to the bar. It has been rightly observed that the fact that the members of the provincial judicial service are eligible for appointment to the district and sessions judgeships, acts as a great incentive and attracts specially qualified persons to the service.

(Continued from previous column.)

tainment of that liberty so far as we are concerned are certainly far less onerous and it behoves us to realize that the efforts of other however well meant and unselfish, will be fruitless without our helping ourselves towards it.

BIG MILL STRIKE

100,000 MEN GO OUT IN BOMBAY.

Bombay, Jan, 9.—The strike is the most extensive that has ever happened in India. Nearly 75 of the 85 mills in Bombay have to suspend work. It has created a feeling of great uneasiness in the native town and its effects have been felt in the share market, where prices quoted were about Rs. 50 lower in big shares and about Rs. 10 lower in small shares. It seems that the trouble originated in the Century mill, and that if the millhands had represented their case in proper manner to the proper authorities there would have been no cause for going on strike. According to a trustworthy account the trouble started at Century mill owing to the fact that the textile millhands received an additional bonus over and above the full pay for armistice celebrations agreed upon by all the mill owners in Bombay at that time. The men of the Century mill went on stike on 27th December. Instead of placing their grievances before the Superintendent of the mill, they petitioned the agents, who replied they could not consider the petition unless it was forwarded through the proper channel. The Managing Agent declined to entertain their petition unless they returned to work. As the men did not return to work he declared a lock out. This was the beginning of a concerted movement to bring about a general strike. A number of millhands waited on the Police Commissioner this afternoon, informed him of their determination to go on strike, and assured him that they were anxious to keep the peace. The millhands on the whole seemed to be in good spirits and were enjoying the enforced holidays and making the best of the situation. The fact, however that 100,000 millhands are idle is one which one cannot contemplate without anxiety. The Police Commissioner held informal meeting with members of the Bombay Millowners Association. The proceedings were private but it appears that the general feeling is that the millhands ought not to have gone on stike without making any representation to their managements of their grievances, and that before an understanding can be arrived at the strikers must return to work. The shops in the mill areas have been opened and three has been no sign of panic up till now. There has been no call for the armed police and the Commissioner of Police has not yet thought it necessary to requisition military aid. Some mill members, who were reluctant to strike, were intimidated into doing so.

Bombay, Jan. 9.

At a conference of mill-owners with the Commissioner of Police in connection with the mill-operators' strike the mill-owners represented that most of them were not aware of what the strikers really wanted and that if the men returned to work and then formulated their grievances the Mill-owners Association would sympathetically consider them. A notice to this effect will be posted in all mills.

THE MILLHANDS STRIKE.

STILL CONTINUES.

(Associated Press of India.)

Bombay, Jan. 10.

The Bombay millhands strike continues to-day. Not a single of one hundred thousand and odd employees who downed tools yesterday have gone back to work.

ASSAM GAZETTE

Mr. G D Madhok, Offig Civil Surgeon Cachar, is granted privilege leave for one month. Temp Civil Asst Surgeon Jitendra Mohan Sen Gupta is appointed temporarily to act for him in addition to his own duties.

Mr E W Dunn, Supervisor, is placed tem porarily in charge of the Cherraponjee sub division in addition to his present duties.

Babu Jogendra Nath Gupta, Overseer, is placed in charge of the Shillong subdivision.

Civil Asst Surgeon Girija Sankar Kar is appointed temporarily to hold medical charge of the Haffong subdivision and Dispensary.

Temp Civil Asst Surgeon Jogindra Nath Chatterjee, a supernumerary at Dhubri, is appointed to hold medical charge of the Sadr subdivision, Goalpara. This cancels previous notifiaction.

Civil Asst Surgeon Jamini Nath Ghosh, Goalpara, is appointed to be Teacher of Anatomy and Medical Jurisprudence, Berry White Medical School, Dibrugarh. This cancels previous notification.

Temp Civil Asst Surgeon Jogesh Chandra Das, Goalpara subdivision, is appointed to hold medical charge of the Sadr subdivision.

Temp Civil Asst Surgeon Jogindra Nath Chatterjee, is appointed to hold medical charge of the Goalpara subdivision.

M. Amanat Ali Khandkar, Sub-Dy Collr, is appointed to hold charge temporarily of the Tajpur Circle.

Srijut Khageswar Barua, Sub-Dy Collr, Nazira, is transferred and placed in charge of the Kalaigaon Circle.

Srijut Premadhar Gohain, Sub-Dy Collr, Kalaigaon is transferred and placed in charge of the Rangia Circle.

Maulvi Nural Hussain Hazarika Sub-Dy Collr, Rangia, is transferred and placed in charge of the Nazira Circle.

Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Calcutta

DEATH OF A DETENU.

A PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

The following Communique has been issued by Mr. J. N. Roy, the Press Censor, Government of Bengal:—

On the 23rd December, 1918, a letter was published in the "Amrita Bazar Patrika" on the subject of the death of a detenu named Kumud Nath Bhattacharji.

The following statements were made:—

1. That the detenu had long been suffering from malarial fever and that no medical attendance was rendered to him despite repeated prayers to the authorities and that consequently the detenu succumbed to malarial fever on the 15th unnoticed and untreated.

2. That the Sub-Inspector of Police was in the mofussil during the detenu's illness and an officiating Head Constable was in charge of the thana, who sent three telegrams to the Superintendent of Police detailing the seriousness of the illness of the detenu, but the Superintendent of Police did not make any arrangements for the treatment of the detenu, nor did he reply to any of the three urgent messages sent by the Head Constable.

3. It is stated that there is no Government dispensary nor any doctor except an un-schooled quack in Egra where the detenu was domiciled, and that an explanation is required why the Sub-Divisional Officer and the Deputy Superintendent of Police did not arrange proper treatment for the detenu.

The following are the facts in connection with this allegation:—

No petition was received from the detenu complaining of malarial fever. The Sub-Divisional Officer during the five months previous to the death of the detenu visited him three times. The detenu seemed to the Sub-divisional Officer quite happy but said that he suffered from malarial fever at distant intervals. The sub-inspector's periodical reports received in November were to the effect that the detenu was well and had no complaints to make, but, as it had been reported in October that the detenu was leading a fast life with prostitutes, his transfer from Egra was recommended. Government therefore issued orders for his transfer from Egra. These orders reached the police-station on the 7th December. Just before this the sub-inspector had reported that the detenu was suffering from malarial fever and that he had placed him under the medical treatment of Babu Uma Prasad Ganguli, a local practitioner. The sub-inspector subsequently reported that the detenu was better and the local doctor said that in a few days he would be in a position to travel. On the 12th the temperature of the detenu was 99.4 and he had very slight fever, but owing to more unfavourable symptoms appearing the local doctor asked that the detenu might be seen by the assistant surgeon. A second doctor, Babu Uma Charan Ganguli, V L M S, also prescribed medicines pending the arrival of the doctor from headquarters. On receipt of the news the assistant surgeon at once visited the detenu and recommended his removal to the sudder hospital as soon as he was fit to travel. He also prescribed for the detenu and left every instruction with local doctor and the police officer of Egra. Orders were then passed for the removal of the detenu to hospital as soon as he was fit to travel. The detenu continued under the treatment of Babu Uma Prasanna Maity, a passed student of the Cuttack School till the 15th and his health showed some improvement. Arrangements were made meanwhile for his reception in the Midnapur Hospital. On the 15th his heart suddenly failed, and he died.

The second allegation is equally untrue. The head constable did not send three telegrams to the Superintendent of Police. The Police officers of Central and Midnapur took immediate action on receipt of the reports received.

The allegation that no medical assistance was available at Egra is not true. Reference has already been made to Babus Uma Charan Ganguli and Uma Prasanna Maity who both attended the detenu.

CHANDPUR SHOP LOOTING CASE

SEVEN ACCUSED SENTENCED.

Chandpur, Jan. 6. At the Court of Mirza Shegupta Bakht, Deputy Magistrate of Chandpur, Umedali Pradhania and others were prosecuted by the police, under Sections 379, 114, 143 and 34 I P C on the complant of one Nabin Chandra Podder, a shop-keeper of Kachua Bazar, within this sub-division, alleging that at the instigation Umedali, the accused persons and some others looted the cloth shop of Nabin Poddar, and many other small shops after sunset on the 29th October last and that cloth and cash worth Rs. 350 were looted from Nabin's shop. The Magistrate delivered judgment to-day convicting Umedali Rradhania and six others to various terms of rigorous imprisonment ranging from two months to six months under Sections 379, 114 and 34 the sentences to run concurrently. One of the accused died of pneumonia while under trial in jail. Umedali Pradhania and three others were also found guilty of the charge of rescuing an accused from lawful custody and sertenced to undergo rigorous imprisonment to various terms from two to three months, under Sections 225-147.

The second conference of the Indian Mathematical Society will be held in Bombay on Saturday Sunday and Monday, January 11, 12 and 13. Sir George Lloyd Governor of Bombay, will open the Conference on Saturday. Sessions will be held on the first day in the Sir Cawasji Jahangir University Convocation Hall, Fort, Bombay, and on the second and the third days in the Elphinstone College Buildings.

WOMEN'S EMPLOYMENT BUREAU

A PRESS COMMUNIQUE.

The following press communique has been issued by the Government of Bengal, Commerce Department Calcutta, the 7th January 1919:

In order to assist in the employment of women in clerical and other work during the war a Bureau was constituted under the supervision of the Association of University Women in Calcutta. The Bureau secured employment for nearly two hundred women candidates, and there is on record much appreciation of the work done by those engaged through its agency. The wish has now been expressed, and endorsed by the Bureau (of whose good work the local Government is fully appreciative) for a further co-ordination of womens' work in Bengal by establishing an agency on a wider and more effective scale. With this end in view the existing Bureau has been incorporated in the Women's Employment Bureau, Bengal, the Committee of which comprises Lady Wheeler as President. Lady Stewart, Mrs. Grice, Miss Kell, and Mrs. Johnstone, with Mrs. Shelley Bonnerjee and Mrs. Bowie, as Joint Honorary Secretaries.

Since the constitution of this Bureau, however the Armisice has been signed, but as conditions arising from the war persist, the need for the organization of women's work is still felt. The objects of the Bureau are to assist employers and head of firms, etc., in obtaining suitable candidates for posts that may fall vacant or for other suitable work, and in securing employment for women whether under Government (Civil and Military) or private employers, and whether of a clerical or other description.

At the present time the Bureau has on its books the names of a number of women candidates registered for employment in various capacities, holding excellent testimonials for services rendered during the war but now out of employment, and employers of firms, etc., requiring the services of suitable women to fill vacancies or other posts are invited to apply, or send a list of posts for which women would be suitably employed, with details of qualifications nenessary, pay offered, etc., to the Joint Honorary Secretary Women's Employment Bureau, Bengal, Writers' Buildings (4th Block), Calcutta.

The Bureau has at the same time several vacancies to be filled immediately, and all women resident in Bengal desirous of obtaining suitable employment are requested to submit their applications to the Honorary Secretary of the Bureau. Forms of applications can be had at the above address.

U. & O. GAZETTE

Mr. H. W. Williams, Jt. Magte. and Dy. Collr of Saran, is posted to the headquarters station of that district.

Maulvi Muhammad 'Abdul Ahad, Dy Magt and Dy Collr. of Singbhum, is transfered to Angul Sadar.

Lala Ashutosh, Dy. Magte and Dy Collr. is posted to Singbhum Sadr.

Babu Indu Bhusan Mukherjee, probationary Extra Asst. Conservator of Forests, is granted an extension of leave for two months on medical certificate.

Babu Upendra Narayan Datta Gupta, Hd. Master of the Balasore Zila School is allowed leave for one month.

Babu Keshab Lal Saha, an Asst. Master in the Puri Zila School, is allowed an extension of leave for two months.

Babu Satish Chandra Mookerjee, pleader, Chinsurah, has been appointed Vice-Chairman of the Hooghly District Board.

Administrative approval has been given to the Central Provinces Local self-Government Bill for introduction in the provincial Council.

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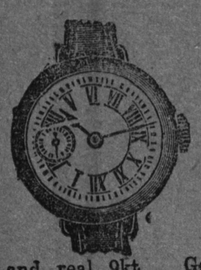

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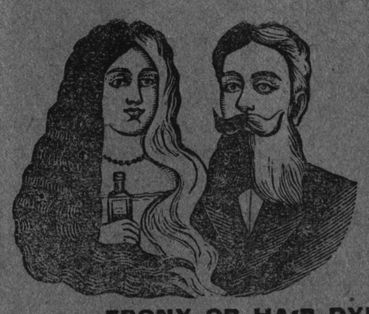

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