

# The Behar Herald.

Bankipur, Saturday, Jan. 5, 1918.

## MRS. BESANT'S PRESIDENTIAL SPEECH.

Mrs Besant's presidential address covering thirty-two pages of closely printed foolscap is an excellent review of the present situation and is a convincing document as to the necessity for, and the fitness of, India to have self government. It constitutes a clear and complete statement of the Indian case. It is a faithful and accurate exposition of India's grievances and India's demands and her high and unbounded hope and faith in the future.

It has long been patent, as Mrs. Besant said, that the war could not end until England recognised that autocracy and bureaucracy must perish in Europe as well as in India. India had shared Imperial burdens without sharing Imperial freedom and power. India would have been richer and the Empire safer had she been a partner instead of a possession. India's eyes were opening. Her people realised that they were men, with a man's right to freedom in his own country, a man's right to manage his own affairs. India was no longer on her knees for boons. She was on her feet for rights. The recognition of the Indian Government to make its voice heard in Imperial matters when they were under discussion in a Imperial conference was a move in the right direction. But disappointment was felt that while other countries were represented by responsible ministers, the representation of India's case was of the Government irresponsible to her and not the representation of herself. The women of India were awakening and the submerged classes were lifting their bowed heads and claiming their place in the household of the mother. The Brahmanas, awakening to a sense of their long-neglected duty, had done much to help them, and the prospect of their future brightened from year to year. It was time to give Indians a chance of doing for their own country work similar to that which Japan and other nations had done for theirs. They did not want to substitute Indian bureaucrats for British bureaucrats. They wanted to abolish bureaucracy altogether. The scheme of the National Congress had been long before the country and they were all working for it zealously. The present year would ever remain memorable for the change it had brought in the policy of Great Britain towards India. The Secretary of State himself was now in India and free and full speech had been granted to India's representatives, with friendly and patient hearings from both the Viceroy and Mr. Montagu. The outcome was on the lap of the gods. Strong and steady agitation in India would be required to support a deputation to England to discuss the statute which would have to be passed in Parliament to give effect to the reforms, and they would do well to give such a deputation a mandate to stand unflinchingly by the essential principles which were the substantial majority in the supreme and provincial Legislative Councils and the power of the purse.

Thirty-two years ago the Indian National Congress came into being as the concrete expression and embodiment of an impregnable conviction. That conviction was that Providence had linked the fate of India with that of England for an immeasurable purpose: a beneficent purpose, which

has unfolded itself with growing vividness with the passage of years. Notwithstanding all doubts and difficulties, it has been in the light of that conviction that the Indian National Congress has steered itself with staunch steadfastness for a whole generation, and interpreted alike the sentiment and the aspirations of the Indian nation. To day it stands a living vindication of that faith. It set out to win Self-Government for India. England herself has solemnly admitted the claim, and her statesmen at this very hour are engaged in considering the practical steps that would be necessary for its realization. It is an event for which India may well be grateful, and of which England may justly be proud. It marks the beginning of a new epoch, the shaping of a new synthesis, in the immemorial history of this land.

Mrs. Besant's clarion call is only the herald of the new era, being in tune with the new spirit which is guiding the better part of mankind. According to her,

*India demands Home Rule for two reasons, one essential and vital, the other less important but weighty. First, because Freedom is the birth-right of every Nation: secondly, because her most important interests are now made subservient to the British Empire without her consent, and her resources are not utilised for her greatest needs.*

Neither time nor the space at our disposal would permit of an adequate review of the exhaustive and impressive address of Mrs. Besant. Mrs. Besant's special contribution to the discussion lies, appropriately enough, in the spiritual interpretation she has brought to bear on the national demands of India. Not all the debates, and all the juxtaposition of *pros* and *cons* over conflicting "schemes" and "memorandums", can obscure or diminish the supreme justification of India's claim for a free and unfettered national existence. That central fact emerges with rare clarity from Mrs. Besant's address: "Self-Government is necessary to the self-respect and dignity of a People; other Government emasculates a Nation, lowers its character and lessens its capacity." Then again, what is a Nation? We have all heard a great deal in recent months of the principle of nationality, as a political maxim. Mrs. Besant has done well to remind us that it also, and primarily, connotes a spiritual truth of eternal significance:

"For what is a Nation? It is a spark of the Divine Fire, a fragment of the Divine Life, out-breathed into the world, and gathering round itself a mass of individuals, men, women and children, whom it binds together into one. Its qualities, its powers, in a word, its type, depend on the fragment of the Divine Life embodied in it, the Life which shapes it, evolves it, colours it, and makes it One. The magic of Nationality is the feeling of oneness, and the use of Nationality is to serve the world in the particular way for which its type fits it. This is what Mazzini called 'its special mission,' the duty given to it by God in its birth-hour. \*\*\* To render its full service to Humanity it must develop along its own lines, and be self-determined in its evolution. *It must be itself, and not another.* The whole world suffers where a Nationality is distorted or suppressed, before its mission to the world is accomplished."

India has too long been Another; it must now be Itself.

It would be easy, as the *Times of India* says, to pick holes in the address, but such a course would not be of any service to India. The address simply brings home the outstanding fact that the time has come not only for a step towards self-government, but for a bold step taken in a spirit of confidence and trust.

Among religious meetings we had the Theosophical Convention, the Theistic Conference, and the Jain Swetamber Conference. The Cow Conference, the Medical Conference and the Temperance Conference may also be mentioned as well as the All-India Shia Conference. The ladies were also active and had organised an exhibition of ladies' handiwork. The Arya Samaj Conference was also well-attended. What with the delegates, volunteers and Reception Committees of all these various Congresses and Conferences, Calcutta presented a lively sight all these days. Not the least interesting part of the whole programme were the open-air meetings in College square and Beadon Square at which Mrs. Besant, Mrs. Naidu, Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Tilak and other notable speakers addressed vast assemblies.

### NOTES.

#### Prohibition of Coffee Imports.

The Government of India have decided to prohibit the import of coffee into India, and a notification to this effect has already been issued. Licenses will be issued by Collectors of Customs for the import of consignments already *en route*, but otherwise no relaxations of the prohibition will be made, except in very special circumstances.

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#### A Prize Essay.

The Prayag Banga Sahitya Mandir (39, Goods Shed Road, Allahabad) offers a medal for the best essay in Bengali on "Criticism of the Characters in Nabin Ch. Sen's Raibatak, Kurukshetra and Prabhask" by any Bengali lady or gentleman domiciled outside Bengal. The essays must be written on Foolscap paper on one side only and must reach the Secretary of the Mandir, Prof. N. B. Mitra, M. A., Ewing Christian College, Allahabad on or before the 31st March 1918. Each essay must bear a nom de plume and the name of the writer with his full address must be sent in a separate cover (sealed) together with the corresponding nom de plume. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary on application.

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#### The Sugar Industry in India

For many years past the importance of improving the sugar industry in India has been a subject of discussion, and at the recent meeting of the Board of Agriculture at Poona it was decided to adopt the report of a committee appointed to enquire into the matter which recommended the creation of a bureau in order to enable Government to give authoritative information to capitalists and others. Meanwhile the success which has attended the efforts of Japan to create a sugar industry on modern lines in Formosa has led Japanese capitalists to extend their operations else where. A number of companies have been formed to carry on operations in Korea and Mukden and in the islands south of Japan, and the British Embassy at Tokio recently reported that two more enterprises were being established for the purpose of engaging in the industry in the Dutch East Indies. One of the latter proposed to carry on operations at Soerabaya, while the other, with a capital of £612,000, had acquired a sugar property in Sumatra and a tract of land in Java which was to be brought under sugar cultivation. The problem of establishing an efficient modern industry in India on an extensive scale is not a simple one, but the activity displayed by Japanese industrialists provides an additional reason why there should be no slackening of the efforts that are being made to remove the difficulties which stand in the way of its solution.

#### King-Emperor's Message.

The following message issued by His Majesty the King-Emperor is published:—

To My People:—The world-wide struggle for the triumph of liberty is entering upon its last and most difficult phase. The enemy is striving by desperate assault and subtle intrigue to perpetuate the wrongs already committed, and to stem the tide of free civilisation. We have yet to complete the great task to which we have dedicated ourselves, and I would call upon you to devote a special day to prayer that we may have the clear-sightedness and strength necessary to the victory of our cause. This victory will be gained only if we steadfastly remember the responsibility resting upon us, and in a spirit of reverent obedience ask the blessing of Almighty God upon our endeavours. Let us seek to be enlightened in our understanding and fortified in courage in facing the sacrifices we may yet have to make. I therefore appoint January 6th, the first Sunday in the New Year, to be set aside as a special day of prayer and thanksgiving in all the churches throughout my Dominions."

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#### Revolutionary Movement Committee.

We are at a loss to understand, says the *Patrika*, what good purpose the Government expect to serve by the appointment of "the Committee of investigation into the revolutionary movement in India." It would be something if its object were to ascertain the guilt or innocence of over 1,500 young men, most of them students, who are now confined in solitary cells in jails under Regulation III of 1818 or interned in some of the worst places in the country under the Defence Act. Even then the constitution of the Committee and the way in which they have to conduct the enquiry would not satisfy the public. The members are all nominees of the Government and though they are highly-placed men, not one of them has been chosen by the people. Besides, they will transact their business in camera where the public will have no access. What pray, will be the value of this sort of investigation?

The Government undertakes to place "all documentary evidence in its possession before the Committee bearing on the existence and extent of revolutionary conspiracies in India, and will supplement this with such other evidence as it may consider necessary". But all such evidence has very little importance so long as it is not tested by cross-examination in the presence of the accused parties by their counsel.

The second term of reference will cause a good deal of misgiving. It is "to examine and consider the difficulties that have arisen in dealing with such conspiracies and to advise as to the legislation, if any, necessary to enable the Government to deal effectively with them." So, apparently it is the intention of the Government to resort to further legislation on the subject, and such legislation in this country, generally speaking, means more repression. We fancy, however, repression here has reached its utmost limit. Indeed, any man may be arrested on mere suspicion and kept in confinement for an indefinite period. Such a law we have got. What more powers does the Government want to "deal effectively" with so-called revolutionary conspiracies? The Committee, instead of infusing hope, will thus produce a contrary effect. The people were expecting a declaration of general amnesty for all political offenders. That expectation has been dashed to the ground.

now, and 2,100 at Bombay the year before. Representative Indian public men from all the provinces were present. There were also present about four hundred ladies. Sir Rabindra Nath Tagore who was the earliest to arrive was given a warm ovation as also were Messrs. Tilak, Gandhi, Bomanji, the Raja of Mahmudabad and other leaders. Amongst the more distinguished of the visitors were the Maharanee of Cooch Behar, Justice Sir John Woodroffe, Lady Woodroffe, Justice Chaudhury, Justice Sadasiva Ayer of Madras, Justice Chandrasekhara Ayer of Mysore and Maharaja of Nattore. Shortly before two o'clock a procession was formed which entered the pandal from the eastern gate, crossed the whole length and then through the western stairs mounted the dais. The procession was formed of ex-presidents of the Congress present and the Chairman and members of the Reception Committee. Mrs. Besant, the President-elect, was in the centre of the procession and was received at the pandal with loud and prolonged cheers and cries of "Bande Matram."

The proceedings commenced with the singing of a sloka from the Rig Veda sung to an up-to-date Baptist Chapel tune. This was followed by the immortal strains of Bande Mataram sung by a number of girls and boys under the supervision of Miss Amala Dass, sister of Mr. C. R. Dass, who sang the Sanskrit part of the Anthem alone in accents which thrilled the audience. Miss Dass's singing alone was well worth coming to Calcutta for and by itself amply repaid our troubles. The whole house remained standing while the song was being sung. The song over, Mr. Bipin Chandra Pal read a number of sympathetic telegrams from India and outside supporting the cause of the Congress. Sir Rabindra Nath Tagore then offered a prayer in English. His figure, his dress and his delivery all combined to create as it were an ethereal halo round the rostrum whence he poured forth his benedictions. Give us power, said he, to resist pleasure where it enslaves us,

Make us strong that our worship may flower in love, and bear fruit in work.

Make us strong that we may not insult the weak and the fallen,

That we may hold our love high where all things around us are wooing the dust.

They fight and kill for self-love, giving it Thy name,

They fight for hunger that thrives on brothers' flesh, They fight against Thine anger and die.

But let us stand firm and suffer with strength for the True, for the Good, for the Eternal in man,

for thy Kingdom which is in the union of hearts,

for the Freedom which is of the Soul.

The prayer brought on a solemn silence in the midst of which Rai Bahadur Baikuntha Nath Sen began to read his address as Chairman of the Reception Committee. The speech could not be heard owing to the frequent interruptions which met in the frantic cheers which the audience sent forth at every report of Mr. Tilak's arrival. Mr. Tilak and his party of four hundred delegates at last arrived at about three and in the wild cheering that filled the pandal for full 15 minutes the Chairman of the Reception Committee managed to finish his speech. Mr. Surendra Nath Bannerjee then rose to propose Mrs. Besant to the Congress chair. The speech with which he supported it was a splendid piece of oratory showing Mr. Bannerjee at his best. Even at the age of 72, Mr. Bannerjee commands a voice which could be heard from every part of the pandal. Mr. Bannerjee was supported by one member from each Province and his resolution was

carried with applause. Mrs. Besant was then garlanded. She then delivered her address. In the beginning the address was followed with rapt attention and in particular passages excited deep emotion, but as the speech proceeded it became more and more inaudible the result being a regrettable loss of patience among the assembly and the pandal soon resembled a Babel of mingling shouts and voices. If this is the way in which the flower of Indian chivalry treated a venerable lady, it is high time that the reading of the Presidential address be discontinued till we learnt better manners. By far the greater portion of the audience however sat out loyally till the last and were rewarded for their pains by the inspiring song "Dash Desh Nandita Kari" with which the proceedings terminated. Before the meeting dispersed, it was announced that the election of the Subjects Committee and the meeting of the Subjects Committee would be held next day. The election from different Provinces was to be held at different places. As nothing was announced about Bihar and Orissa it was not till after the commencement of the second day's sitting on the 28th that many of the Bihar and Orissa delegates came to know that the election of Subjects Committee from this province had taken place the day before at 10-30 a.m. There were 453 delegates from Bihar and Orissa, out of which Tirhut Division alone sent nearly 170. Motihari and Chupra districts contributing 45 and 50 respectively. It was no wonder therefore that in the election meeting at which the other districts were not fully represented, very few people from the other districts were nominated. In fact only one indigenous Congress-walla from Patna was elected to the Subjects Committee the rest, not counting the 15 members of the last committee, being mostly new men. The other three Patna men who were in the Subjects Committee were Messrs. Sen, Das and Ajodhya Prasad. To the lasting disgrace of Bihar, Mrs. Kamini Ray, the gifted poetess of Chota Nagpur, was not elected, though offering herself for election. As the Subjects Committee could not come to a final decision about the self-government resolution on the 2nd day, the remaining resolutions were taken up and passed, by far the major part being put from the chair. The interment resolutions and the Press Act resolution brought out the best speeches, those of Mr. Jumnadas Dwarkadas, Mr. J. N. Banerjee and Mr. Horniman being the most effective. The outstanding feature of the second day's sitting was the presence of Mr. Mahomed Ali's mother. Her appearance raised the enthusiasm of the audience to the highest pitch. The songs also were well rendered and were received with rapture. The third day was mostly taken up with the self-government resolution. The most striking speeches in support of the resolution were those of Messrs. Jinnah, Gandhi, Tilak, Malaviya, Pal and Wadia. Mr. Banerjee's speech, though as rich as ever in oratory, was not however quite up to the mark. Mrs. Naidu however was superb.

Mrs. Besant, in closing the proceedings of the Congress, referred at great length to the hardships of the detenus and said she would bring the matter to the notice of the Viceroy in a private interview and send a memorial to the Secretary of State and would flood the English press in order to import knowledge to Englishmen of the hard working of Defence Act and Regulations.

Among the other noticeable functions that took place during the week were the Mahomedan Educational Conference, the All-India Moslem League, the Industrial Conference, and the Social Service Conference. The procession carrying Mr. Mahomed Ali's portrait, and the empty chair with the picture both produced a deep impression.

## SUGGESTED STRAND ROAD FOR BANKIPUR.

It gives us some pleasure to note that among the various suggestions that we have made from time to time for the improvement of Patna, one at least, namely that of establishing a road along the riverside, has caught the fancy of the local Press. The idea is not a new one, having in fact been first brought forward by us more than eight years ago, when the erosion of the old *chur* which formerly separated the town from the river had been completed. Much water has flowed under the bridges since then, and what was then considered as a dream impossible to be fulfilled has now been seriously considered to be a project fit for being taken in hand.

The explanation is obvious. The raising of a mofassil town to the status and dignity of a capital city has opened out long vistas of splendour and glory to the erstwhile despairing residents of Patna. We have a High Court and a University, a Government place and a Secretariat, a park and a theatre, in fact almost all the amenities of civilisation (save one) which are inseparably associated with the accepted and traditional notions of a metropolis.

The exception which is wanting is, of course, an esplanade or strand. The suggestion, therefore, of giving a finishing touch to the work of building the capital by supplying a river-side road to the town is worthy of consideration. The proposal can be supported not only on patriotic and sentimental considerations which in themselves are not negligible, but it can also be urged as an urgent practical necessity.

The city of Patna contains practically only one business road which even before the seat of Government had been transferred here was too narrow for the busy and congested traffic. Since it has been the capital, the traffic has increased by leaps and bounds. There are now more than a hundred motor cars in the town, not taking into consideration the large increase of private and hackney carriages, *ekkas* and bullock carts. From 8 a. m. to noon and from 4 p. m. till late in the evening the scene that meets the eye on the main road of Patna beggars description. The stretch of that road from the Maidan to Gulzarbagh is one seething flood of all kinds of vehicles rushing pell mell at breakneck speed in utter disregard of all rules of the road and the safety of the unhappy pedestrians. It is no wonder that accidents are frequent and that every week or other we hear of some unfortunate person being crashed or knocked down under the wheels of motor cars. The safety of those who have to walk through the main road, and their number is considerable, calls for an immediate provision of some less perilous high-way for foot traffic. This can be done by opening out a promenade along the river side at least in that portion of Bankipore where the traffic on the main road is so heavy and congested as to be dangerous to human life.

Our proposal therefore fundamentally differs from that recently made by a contemporary, who would have a regular eighty feet road along the river side to provide an airing ground for those who want to enjoy an evening drive in a motor car or ordinary carriage. The showy nature of this proposal is probably its only recommendation, there being many serious objections which can be urged against it. The first thing that would strike every one would be the enormous expenditure that the construction of such a road two or three miles long would involve. It is urged that a great part of this stretch of land being already in government occupation, the cost of acquisition would be small. That certainly is an argument in favour of our pro-

posal but against that of a wide boulevard for evening drivers. The width of this tract of land between the main road and the river is in many places not more than two hundred yards. The cutting off of a large slice from this narrow strip would in all probability cause substantial injury to the public institutions and buildings situated thereon and would draw down upon the scheme itself the strong objection of the officers in charge of the offices and buildings that may be affected. Besides though a great part of the alignment suggested of the proposed road is Government land, there is quite a large portion over which are private residences. The acquisition of a large number of dwelling houses of the poor for the satisfaction of the vanity of the rich cannot be justified.

What we propose however is not a carriage or motor road, but a promenade for pedestrians, along the river from near the Collector's house to Gulzarbagh. The promenade need not be more than 15 feet wide. It may be beautified with ornamental trees and *parterres* of flowers, while seats on circular projections may be provided at suitable intervals for the weary and the old. The street should not be open to vehicular traffic. If the cost is not prohibitive, the whole promenade may be lighted with incandescence or electric lamps burning on all nights. The little strip of land that would be necessary for such a project can be acquired at very little cost while so far as the existing public compounds are concerned the scheme would probably mean no serious encroachment on their space. A promenade like the one we propose will not only add considerably to the beauty of the city, but would meet the growing necessity for a safe channel for foot traffic and would provide a place where the suffocated residents of Patna may breathe and take exercise freely.

## HACKNEY CARRIAGE DIFFICULTIES IN PATNA.

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Whether for good or for bad change is a sign of the times. Even our new capital of Bihar and Orissa has not been able to escape this spirit of change, which is pervading everywhere. Various activities are in progress to make the town similar to other provincial metropolitan cities. There is the Drainage Scheme, the pure-water-supply scheme, the scheme for electric tramways, public latrines and many similar other projects. Like Calcutta and Bombay, we have also a Town Improvement Scheme. But up till now, although it is a crying evil, there is no scheme, far less, any attention is being given to or efforts are being made, to deal with the Hackney Carriage problem in the metropolis of Bihar and Orissa.

Regarding the horses and carriages which usually ply for hire in this town, though they admit of improvement, there is not much to complain, but the manner in which exorbitant fares are demanded and realised ought to have drawn the attention of the authorities and of the public in general to this question earlier. The foremost reason for this state of things is that there is no hackney carriage stand in the whole city excepting one at the Railway Station.

Under the municipal regulations also, a Hackney Carriage is supposed to solicit fare at the stand, and the Jehu cannot refuse to ply for hire when asked, provided the regulated fares are offered. The absolute want of any convenient stand makes the Jehu his own master in the castle of his stable, and enables him to flout the scheduled fares. He will refuse to stir out, and will be ready with an easy excuse unless a fare much higher than

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the regulated fare is offered. We know of one case in which a European gentleman, who had to catch an early morning train had to suffer much owing to the stubborn refusal of the ghariwalla to ply for hire. Some excuse, either that the horses are tired, or otherwise unfit for being harnessed would be glibly put forward, which however generally vanishes as soon as the Jehu succeeds in extorting an exorbitant fare. In another case, a fare of one rupee was realised for a journey from the vicinity of the Temple Medical School to the Durbhanga Bathing Ghat and back. A third case, which happily ended in a prosecution and conviction, occurred, when a Jehu refused to go from the station stand to the quarter of the Deputy Superintendent of Telegraphs in the New Capital for less than two rupees. After nightfall, it is extremely difficult to get a gharry even on offers of triple fares.

There are, we understand, two rates under the regulation, one according to distance, and the other according to duration. It is very funny to observe how the Jehu exercises his ingenuity to extort the highest fare in spite of contracts to the contrary. In one case a gentleman hired a carriage by the hour, and completed his journey to the Government House and back from Muradpur in a little over two hours, and paid Re. 1/8 i.e., the fare for three hours. The ghariwalla made a great row for Rs. 2 in spite of his contract, and desisted only when threatened with prosecution; vice versa, cases are not infrequent when after a journey of a short distance say from the civil to the criminal court and back they would insist on being paid by the hour.

The public, as a rule, are alive to the fact that on special occasions such as in heavy rains, or at unearthly hours, the ghariwalla is justified in asking for a tip over and above his regulated fare, but what we resent is the spirit of extortion in which a high fare is demanded, and unhappily in most cases, actually realised. On occasions of state or other special functions, the gharry hire follows the usual Law of Supply and Demand, but in most big towns special regulations and rates are provided to meet the hardship and inconvenience of the public. Unhappily in this town, the attention of the authorities has never been drawn to this question. During the last visit of the Viceroy here, the gharry hire from Muradpur to the High Court was so high as Rs. 16. It is high time that some steps should be taken to bring the Hackney Carriages under some recognised Department fully able to control the same, and that some stands should be erected at proper places, say one in Backerganj, another at Muradpur, and another near the Patna College and also at suitable places all through the city, steps being taken to ensure the presence of a sufficient number of carriages on the stands. We draw the attention of the City Improvement Trust to this matter.

We understand that like Calcutta, we have here an Inspector of Hackney Carriages, but we do not know in what directions his activities lie. Hackney Carriage prosecutions are seldom heard of here at the instance of the municipality. The absence of such prosecutions, we are afraid, does not denote that such complaints are unknown. On the contrary, the greatest sufferers have not the time or the inclination to initiate a prosecution in court, and the Jehu, knowing this full well plies his trade in his own fashion without check from or any control of the authorities, whose duty it is to see to it. We therefore also suggest that some responsible men be appointed and a municipal committee should be formed, to see that the Hackney Carriage rules, if any, are properly observed by the ghariwallas. We may suggest that on reports being made to such quarters, the authorities will prosecute in exemplary cases, and out of the fines imposed some reward may be given to the officers

concerned. This will go a great length towards keeping the ghariwallas under proper control and removing a long felt grievance of the suffering public.

THE NATIONAL WEEK AT CALCUTTA.

(BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT.)

Long before the Christmas recess people had been looking forward to the epoch-marking session of the Indian National Congress that was to be held at Calcutta. I was therefore not quite unprepared to find that even the slow train by which I had selected to travel was literally packed up not very long after it had steamed off from Bankipur. The largest number of its passengers joined at Mokameh Ghat being mostly Mozaffarpur delegates among whom was the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Dwarka Nath. Excitement and interest were visible on every face and animated discussions were going on all over the train regarding the forthcoming events. The first pleasant and novel indication of this year's Congress methods was received at Asansol where though it was midnight a number of volunteers came to each compartment of the train to enquire how many Congress delegates it was carrying. Accordingly we were not surprised when landing at Calcutta early in the morning when it was still dark, we found a large number of handsome young volunteers all dressed in wonderful uniforms waiting at the platform to receive us. "Were we delegates and did we want carriages," they all wanted to know with a sweetness and politeness that were extremely refreshing. Our luggages were unloaded in no time, and the few carriages that were on the stand were soon requisitioned to carry us to our respective quarters. The supply of carriages admitted of improvement, though as a matter of fact, there was hardly any complaint as all the non-Bengali delegates were accommodated while Bengali delegates from Bihar were rightly expected to help themselves in the matter, and this they did.

After I had deposited my things at the place where I was staying, I went out to find out how many delegates from our Province had arrived. It was while on this mission that I came across the only example of unsatisfactory organisation that I noticed during the whole show. I spent nearly the whole morning going about from this place to that, but I could not get the names of those that had arrived. Except in one place, no proper register seemed to have been kept and neither the gentlemen in charge of the various centres and residences nor the volunteers could afford me any information. The enquiry office and the head office were equally in the dark. The result was unfortunate as owing to this, there could not be that intercourse and exchange of opinions and views between the delegates from one province, which ought to be the most valuable feature of gatherings of this sort. This isolation between the delegates, though probably inevitable, was regrettable, specially in this year's Congress which from the number of delegates and visitors that attended was certainly a record affair.

The morning being thus uselessly spent, I wanted to make it up witnessing the arrival and reception of Mrs. Besant and her party. The arrival had been notified to be just at 10-30 A.M. by which time, a record crowd lined both sides of the entire length of the Harrison Road from Lawah Bridge to Sealdah. By eleven o'clock however, posters were put up at conspicuous places intimating that the president-elect and her following

law. He acts contrary to the provision of the law on the subject. Still Government decides to defend a suit to uphold the Collector's official prestige notwithstanding that such defence means depriving a subject of property which by law belongs to him. We fail to see the justification for such conduct. It cannot be pleaded that the Collector misunderstood the law. The correct interpretation of the law was placed before him by the parties. No man is excused for ignorance of law and ignorance is a most unjustifiable excuse in an official. The proper remedy in such cases is that the man so anxious to maintain his official prestige should be made by Government to pay the costs of both parties. He will thus have an opportunity to estimate his prestige in rupees, annas and pies. The Right Hon'ble Mr. Montagu once said, "As for prestige—O India, how much happier would have been your history, if that world had been left out of the English vocabulary."

THE New year's Honours List is in some respects original and displays great ingenuity in the various ways in which the itching for a pendant to one's name has been satisfied. Apart from this, the list is the usual one of superannuated officials and obscure mediocrities. Nobody will grudge Mr. Sly his K. C. S. I. after his labours in Champaran but the C. S. I. on Mr. Oldham is generally regarded as a counterblast to the determined outcry that has been raised against him in certain sections of the Press. Mr. B. C. Mitra's wounded vanity receives a sop in a knighthood. The New Chief Justice of Patna comes in for one, of course. The Bishop of Chata Nagpur and Mrs. Swain receive Kaiser-i-Hind Gold and Silver Medals respectively. The Maharaja of Sonapur's Services has been rewarded with a K. C. I. E. He also gets a permanent salute of 9 guns together with the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj and Patna. Lieutenant Colonel B. G. Singh's C. I. E. was overdue. The Kumar of Deo gets the personal title of Raja. The only Mahomedans to be honoured from this province are Saiyid Moinuddin Ahmad of Patna City and Moulvi Mir Abdul Bari, Assistant Surgeon, Jahanabad, who become Khan Bahadur and Khan Sahib respectively. Babu Bindeswari Prasad Singh of Mozaffarpur, Rai Saheb Lekh Narayan Singh of Barh, and Dr. Chandra Kanta Chakravarty, Civil Surgeon of Chupra, become Rai Bahadurs, while among Rai Sahebs we find the names of the following gentlemen from this province:—Babu Prafulla Chandra Patnaik, Balasore; Babu Lal Babu, Gaya; Babu Harinandan Dube, Bhabua; Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Rajmahal; Dr. Gokul Chandra Chatterjee, Angul; Babu Upendra Nath De, Bihar Secretariat; Babu Amarendra Nath Banerjee, Ranchi; and Babu Satish Chandra Sen, Superintendent of Excise, Mozaffarpur.

THE resolution on the report of the committee appointed to deal with the question of School-Leaving Certificate Examinations in Bihar and Orissa, published in the local Gazette of the 26th December last, is interesting reading. Appended to it are the draft rules in the form of which the committee, which included officers from Madras and the United Provinces, submitted its recommendations.

The main feature of the scheme devised by the Committee is the institution of special courses in secondary schools designed to prepare students for commercial or clerical careers or for further instruction in special institutions. This preparation leads up to an examination divided into three parts, namely, (a) a scrutiny of the record of progress in school, (b) a public examination and (c) in the case of those candidates who fail in one subject only at the public examination, an examination conduct-

ed *in situ* by the Inspector of Schools, with such assistance as he may require, in order to attain a final decision. Thus, while at the Matriculation examination a student passes or fails solely on the written work done on one occasion, the new scheme, while still giving due weight to the written examination, will take into account the work done during the period spent in the school.

The subjects for examination and the papers will be pretty nearly the same as in the existing Matriculation examination, except that there will be two papers on Mathematics which will include mensuration. History of India and Geography have been made compulsory while in English besides two written papers there will be an oral test of fluency. One out of thirteen optional subjects must be taken up, among which classical languages as well as the technical subjects have been placed. There will be an Administrative Board consisting of the Director and the Assistant Director of Public Instruction, *ex-officio*, together with eight members appointed by Government, of whom three will be appointed on the nomination of the University and two will represent recognised private schools. At least three members will be non-officials. The Administrative Board will be assisted by a Board of Studies (consisting of six to eight members) formed from among its own members together with such other persons selected by them and approved by Government as may be necessary. The examination will be open to candidates who have completed sixteen years of age on or before the 1st March of the year of examination, and who are furnished with certificates of good conduct and have kept 75 per cent of attendances at school meetings held during the three years previous to the latest date of sending in the applications. No fee will be charged for admission to the examination. There will be a prescribed syllabus for each of the optional subjects though schools will be at liberty to propose their own courses on similar lines. Recognition of schools will be granted or withdrawn by the Director of Public Instruction on the report of Inspectors of Schools. In cases of refusal of recognition schools will have an opportunity to be heard while recognition will not be withdrawn without giving the schools concerned at least a year's time to remove the defects.

The scheme will be introduced in the first instance in all Government high schools and in as many selected schools, aided or unaided, at the stations where Government high schools exist, as may succeed in obtaining recognition, with effect from the session of 1918. The first examination under the new scheme will be held in 1921.

## Notice.

Is hereby given that the surplus land acquired at Moharampore on Kadam Kuan Road for the improvement of the town measuring about 67 acres will be settled permanently with bonafide purchasers on term which can be enquired at the Municipal Office.

The plans and specification also of the sites proposed to be sold can be seen in the Municipal Office during the working hours on open days.

S. M. ISMAIL,  
CHIEF CLERK,  
Improvement Trust Fund,  
Patna City Municipality.

LOCAL & PROVINCIAL.

THE fifth Anniversary of the Amiya Library, Bankipur, was celebrated on the 1st January in the library premises. The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Purnendu Naryan Sinha presided.

THE Mukhtiarship and Pledership examinations will be held a week later than as previously announced, that is to say, the first will be held on the 25th February 1918 and the second on the 26th and 27th.

WE welcome to the ranks of journalism in this province, our new weekly contemporary, *The Oriya*. From the numbers to hand, we are confident of its success.

THE 34th anniversary of the death of Keshub Chandra Sen will be held at the B. Y. M. Institute, Bankipur, on Tuesday, the 8th January 1918 at 6 p. m. Mr. S. Sinha will preside.

LAST week's *Bihar and Orissa Gazette* notifies the terms of certain state scholarships offered by Government to students for technical, Sanskrit and Arabic studies in Europe and America, as well as those for a scholarship intended for Indian girls or women proceeding to England for study.

THE Hon. Justice Sir Ali Imam with the approval of the Government left here on the 3rd instant by the Punjab Mail for Patiala to assist the Committee of Princes appointed at the last Delhi Conference in its deliberation over political matters. He is expected to be away from the High Court for ten days.

THE Preliminary Examination in Law under the Patna University will be held from 4th to 6th February, the Intermediate Examination from 11th to 14th February, and the final Examination from 18th to 21st February 1918. Applications should reach the Registrar before the 7th January 1918.

A MEETING will be held at Surhid Parishad and Hem Chandra Library, Bankipore on Monday the 7th January at 6 p.m. to commemorate the death anniversary of the late Baladeva Palit, the veteran educationist of Behar. We have learnt that a portrait of the late poet will be unveiled and a short sketch of the poet's life will be read. The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Purnendu Narayan Sinha, M.A., B.L., is expected to preside.

THE appointment of Mr. Reazul Hussain as the Vice-Chairman of the Gaya Municipality will be a facer for those who set a premium on Hindu Mahomedan differences. In Patna, we remember how a Mahomedan gentleman was appointed as Vice-Chairman by defeating a Hindu candidate. And yet we are constantly told that Mahomedan interests will suffer if self-government were introduced in a country where the large majority of the people are Hindus.

A correspondent writes:—It is probably thought that the Patna Municipality now pays more attention towards the welfare of its tax-payers. But this is not at all so. At present its condition has changed from bad to worse, at any rate as regards street lighting. We have been long suffering from want of good lights on the roads. You may be aware of the fact that

the *Surhit Parishad and Hem Chandra Library* is situated at Langartoli, and that it opens in the evening just after candle light. Be it remembered that there is a lamp (a sorry excuse for one) just in front of the Parishad building. It is beyond the power of pen to describe the disgraceful state of the lamp. Three sides of the glass case (in which the lamp is placed) are broken and the remaining side is coated black with soot. Such is the illuminating power of the lamp, that it is impossible to see with the naked eye, any object situated at a distance of one yard from the the so-called lamp post. If any responsible officer kindly takes the trouble of coming over here one night, he will fully understand the wretched condition and the hardships which the people have to bear.

WE understand that there are strict rules that liquor shops should not be located on public roads or near places of worships. But it is to be regretted much that these rules are not properly respected by the local Excise Dept. Here you will find liquor shops located on public roads and just on the next walls of places of worships a fact to which we drew the attention of the authorities through our columns only last year. We have of course an Advisory Committee to look after such sort of things. But it is our regret to note that their workings are only a mystery to the public. Will our District Magistrate the pleased to issue a press communique to enlighten the public whether the attention of the Committee was drawn to the complaint regarding the location of a country liquor shop just on the next wall of a Hindu temple situated on a public road known as Tikari Road? And if so, what measure they adopted in the matter. Furthermore, we trust the Advisory Committee will also see that the nuisance caused by locating certain liquor shops on certain public roads of the town are soon removed by shifting of the said shops to secluded quarters of the town.—*The Bihar Advocate.*

THE *Oriya*, commenting on the failure of the recent case under sec. 292, 293 I. P. C. says:—  
“It was pointed out to local officers that the Chowkidari Act would not apply to the permanently settled estates of Orissa; but this was the opinion of non-official lawyers. The local officers had already acted under the Act. Litigation in the Civil Court went up to the Privy Council. Official prestige was demolished there like a clay figure, and Government had not only to give up the lands of the parties to the suits, but also of other landlords for fear of further litigation. The costs of litigation up to Privy Council made up a large sum. This was paid out of the public revenue to uphold the illegal acts of a Collector. The Collector is paid to carry on the administration according to

**ARE YOU CRUMPLED UP**  
with rheumatism? Then these words are your salvation.  
Perhaps you have been told that you cannot be cured.  
There are thousands who have been told that before you.  
They tried  
**LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM**  
rubbed it on to the aching parts, the swellings, the twitching drawn up hands and limbs. It stopped the pain. A few more applications and they grew daily better until a complete cure was effected.  
**Little's Oriental Balm** cures at all times. It is never too late to begin.  
Sold at Re. 1 per bottle. Of all Chemists and Medicine Venders throughout India.

would arrive by 1-30 P. M. The crowd was not to be balked and in fact remained at its place in patient expectation. The decorations, however, were nothing like those made on the occasion of Mrs. Besant's famous visit to Calcutta after her release. The crowd certainly was larger while the carriages that thronged the major portion of the road and the vast yard in front of the Howrah Railway Station were simply innumerable. Fighting my way through the crowd, I managed to enter the station platform when it was close upon 2 P. M. The train had not arrived even then, though it had been signalled. At the middle of the platform, the members of the reception committee were ready, while several little girls were conspicuous with huge quantities of flowers and garlands. Just five minutes before the arrival of the train there was some trouble among the volunteers due, it was alleged, to the preferential treatment accorded to some of them who were placed as guards of honour. The trouble which threatened to be serious was happily averted and quiet restored just in time when the thundering cheers from the overbridge ahead of the station announced the arrival of the long-expected train. The cheer was taken up right heartily by the surging wave of humanity outside the platform and just for 20 minutes after the train had steamed in, wild enthusiasm and almost tumultuous demonstrations were the order of the day. Thanks however to the volunteers and the guards of honour a way was cleared for the venerable lady who after being garlanded and presented with flowers was escorted to the richly decorated chariot drawn by twelve prancing horses, which had been in readiness to convey her. As she mounted the chariot with Rai Bahadur Baikuntha Nath Sen and Mrs. Sarojini Naidu, there was again a tremendous ovation which she gracefully acknowledged in the Indian style. It was fully one hour before the chariot could leave the station followed by Mr. Bomanjee's car containing Mr. and Miss Arundale and a four in hand with Messrs. Wadia and Telang. The members of the reception committee followed in the wake. Among them however we missed the Hon'ble Mr. Surendra Nath Banerjee.

The presidential cortège having left, I stayed on to see what became of the delegates. As I had anticipated, in the general bustle, they seemed to be very few hackney carriages, the Police having refused admission to any since the morning to prevent trouble. Through the exertions of the few volunteers that had not been drawn away in the presidential procession and of Mr. Biren Sen Gupta, a Bankipur man who is now Inspector of Carriages in the Calcutta Corporation, all the delegates were accommodated and packed off by about five in the evening.

From Howrah Station, I left for the Congress Pandal, which presented an animated and busy scene. Delegation cards were being briskly issued but the sale of tickets had been stopped. Five-rupee visitors' tickets had all been sold out, while ten rupee tickets were also running short. Nothing daunted many went in for Reception Committee and delegation cards. That is one of the reasons why there were so many delegates this year. I found that the Congress Office was not quite as efficient as it should have been. Many delegates from distant parts of the country were complaining that they had not obtained the delegation cards through some technical mistake. The clerks and other officers, not the volunteers, seemed to be unnecessarily curt, though much allowance should be made for the heavy strain that they were passing through. The arrangements for guarding and regulating the crowd outside the delegation counters left much to be desired and frequent complaints

were heard of losses of purse, money, watches and chains through the dexterity of pickpockets, a class which seems to be thriving in Calcutta. It was not till the third day that volunteers were stationed to warn the delegates of their danger and to drive out undesirable persons loitering about on no business.

In the Congress pandal, I found most of the executive officers. They seemed to be in mortal anxiety about something which however they concealed from us outsiders by speaking in stage whispers from which I gathered that some trouble was brewing and that the authorities feared that the space would be too small. Inside the pandal the ladies and gentlemen who formed the singing choir were rehearsing their pieces to the accompaniment of a splendid toned organ and a number of other instruments. As I left, I found several gentlemen from Ranchi and Hazaribagh complaining that they had not received any delegation certificates. I readily promised to get a few for them from Bacha Babu who I know had come to Calcutta, though I did not know his whereabouts. With this mission, I drove straight from the pandal to the Oriental Academy where some Bihar delegates were staying. They had mostly gone out, but I met two, both from Darbhanga. As it was quite late by this time, I returned home.

The next morning I went to the Oriental Seminary where I heard other Bihar delegates were being housed. Here I met with no better luck. On my way, a delegate from Patna had entrusted me with his delegation certificate to get a card. I first went to the Samavaya Mansions where gentlemen living in European style were accommodated. There was a register here from which I found that there were only two delegates from Bihar staying there. I had heard that several gentlemen including Messrs. Sinha and Imam were staying at Bhawanipur and several at the Leslie Mansions. I went to Bhawanipur only to learn that Messrs. Sinha and Imam had gone out in a car with Messrs. C. R. and P. R. Das. I returned to Wellington Square where fortunately I came across Bacha Babu who immediately supplied me with several delegation forms. I also got the delegation card which I had been asked to procure. I returned home at 2 p.m. After lunch, I went out again to make over the delegation forms to the gentlemen who had asked for them.

The next morning was spent in preparations, which finished, I left for the Pandal at about 1 p.m. When I arrived there, I found most of the delegates arrived except Mr. Tilak's party which was expected at two. The inside of the pandal was a thing of beauty, while the dais was covered with dark blue hangings. Most of the chairs on the dais had been filled up when I entered. A vast sea of human heads was the only impression that could be had of the audience. At the entrance of every well-known or popular figure there were loud cheers. Sir Rabindranath in his long flowing gown and rabbinical cap was an imposing figure. Many of the Bengalis present were in European costume which created an unpleasant impression. It did one's heart good to see Messrs. Chackervarti and Das in dhoties, while with Dr. Pramatha Banerji, the dhoti is the usual thing. Among the members of the old school, there were many in *choga* and *chapkan* which were certainly more graceful than the tail-coats and fancy waist-coats that many a butterfly barrister had put on.

By two o'clock the pandal was densely crowded with delegates and visitors beyond its holding capacity. The delegates registered up to 2 p.m. reached 4,000, Bengal contributing the largest number. So far as could be ascertained, there were 4,966 delegates as against 2,200 last year at Luck-

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now, and 2,100 at Bombay the year before. Representative Indian public men from all the provinces were present. There were also present about four hundred ladies. Sir Rabindra Nath Tagore who was the earliest to arrive was given a warm ovation as also were Messrs. Tilak, Gandhi, Bomanji, the Raja of Mahmudabad and other leaders. Amongst the more distinguished of the visitors were the Maharanee of Cooch Behar, Justice Sir John Woodroffe, Lady Woodroffe, Justice Chaudhury, Justice Sadasiva Ayer of Madras, Justice Chandrasekhara Ayer of Mysore and Maharaja of Nattore. Shortly before two o'clock a procession was formed which entered the pandal from the eastern gate, crossed the whole length and then through the western stairs mounted the dais. The procession was formed of ex-presidents of the Congress present and the Chairman and members of the Reception Committee. Mrs. Besant, the President-elect, was in the centre of the procession and was received at the pandal with loud and prolonged cheers and cries of "Bande Matram."

The proceedings commenced with the singing of a sloka from the Rig Veda sung to an up-to-date Baptist Chapel tune. This was followed by the immortal strains of Bande Mataram sung by a number of girls and boys under the supervision of Miss Amala Dass, sister of Mr. C. R. Dass, who, singing the Sanskrit part of the Anthem alone in accents which thrilled the audience. Miss Dass's singing alone was well worth coming to Calcutta for and by itself amply repaid our troubles. The whole house remained standing while the song was being sung. The song over, Mr. Bipin Chandra Pal read a number of sympathetic telegrams from India and outside supporting the cause of the Congress. Sir Rabindra Nath Tagore then offered a prayer in English. His figure, his dress and his delivery all combined to create as it were an ethereal halo round the rostrum whence he poured forth his benedictions. Give us power, said he, to resist pleasure where it enslaves us,

Make us strong that our worship may flower in love, and bear fruit in work.

Make us strong that we may not insult the weak and the fallen,

That we may hold our love high where all things around us are wooing the dust.

They fight and kill for self-love, giving it Thy name,

They fight for hunger that thrives on brothers' flesh, They fight against Thine anger and die.

But let us stand firm and suffer with strength for the True, for the Good, for the Eternal in man,

for thy Kingdom which is in the union of hearts,

for the Freedom which is of the Soul.

The prayer brought on a solemn silence in the midst of which Rai Bahadur Baikuntha Nath Sen began to read his address as Chairman of the Reception Committee. The speech could not be heard owing to the frequent interruptions which it met in the frantic cheers which the audience sent forth at every report of Mr. Tilak's arrival. Mr. Tilak and his party of four hundred delegates at last arrived at about three and in the wild cheering that filled the pandal for full 15 minutes the Chairman of the Reception Committee managed to finish his speech. Mr. Surendra Nath Bannerjee then rose to propose Mrs. Besant to the Congress chair. The speech with which he supported it was a splendid piece of oratory showing Mr. Bannerjee at his best. Even at the age of 72, Mr. Bannerjee commands a voice which could be heard from every part of the pandal. Mr. Bannerjee was supported by one member from each Province and his resolution was

carried with applause. Mrs. Besant was then garlanded. She then delivered her address. In the beginning the address was followed with rapt attention and in particular passages excited deep emotion, but as the speech proceeded it became more and more inaudible the result being a regrettable loss of patience among the assembly and the pandal soon resembled a Babel of mingling shouts and voices. If this is the way in which the flower of Indian chivalry treated a venerable lady, it is high time that the reading of the Presidential address be discontinued till we learnt better manners. By far the greater portion of the audience however sat out loyally till the last and were rewarded for their pains by the inspiring song "Dush Dash Nandita Kari" with which the proceedings terminated. Before the meeting dispersed, it was announced that the election of the Subjects Committee and the meeting of the Subjects Committee would be held next day. The election from different Provinces was to be held at different places. As nothing was announced about Bihar and Orissa it was not till after the commencement of the second day's sitting on the 23rd that many of the Bihar and Orissa delegates came to know that that the election of Subjects Committee from this province had taken place the day before at 10-30 a.m. There were 453 delegates from Bihar and Orissa, out of which Tirhut Division alone sent nearly 170. Motihari and Cnupra districts contributing 45 and 50 respectively. It was no wonder therefore that in the election meeting at which the other districts were not fully represented, very few people from the other districts were nominated. In fact only one indigenous Congress-walla from Patna was elected to the Subjects Committee the rest, not counting the 15 members of the last committee, being mostly new men. The other three Patna men who were in the Subjects Committee were Messrs. Sen, Das and Ajodhya Prasad. To the lasting disgrace of Bihar, Mrs. Kamini Ray, the gifted poetess of Chota Nagpur, was not elected, though offering herself for election. As the Subjects Committee could not come to a final decision about the self-government resolution on the 2nd day, the remaining resolutions were taken up and passed, by far the major part being put from the chair. The internment resolutions and the Press Act resolution brought out the best speeches, those of Mr. Jumnadas Dwarkadas, Mr. J. N. Banerjee and Mr. Horniman being the most effective. The outstanding feature of the second day's sitting was the presence of Mr. Mahomed Ali's mother. Her appearance raised the enthusiasm of the audience to the highest pitch. The songs also were well rendered and were received with rapture. The third day was mostly taken up with the self-government resolution. The most striking speeches in support of the resolution were those of Messrs. Jinnah, Gandhi Tilak, Malaviya, Pal and Wadia. Mr. Banerjee's speech, though as rich as ever in oratory, was not however quite up to the mark. Mrs. Naidu however was superb.

Mrs. Besant, in closing the proceedings of the Congress, referred at great length to the hardships of the detenus and said she would bring the matter to the notice of the Viceroy in a private interview and send a memorial to the Secretary of State and would flood the English press in order to import knowledge to Englishmen of the hard working of Defence Act and Regulations.

Among the other noticeable functions that took place during the week were the Mahomedan Education Conference, the All-India Moslem League, the Industrial Conference, and the Social Service Conference. The procession carrying Mr. Mahomed Ali's portrait, and the empty chair with the picture both produced a deep impression.

Among religious meetings we had the Theosophical Convention, the Theistic Conference, and the Jain Svetamber Conference. The Cow Conference, the Medical Conference and the Temperance Conference may also be mentioned as well as the All-India Shia Conference. The ladies were also active and had organised an exhibition of ladies' handiwork. The Arya Samaj Conference was also well-attended. What with the delegates, volunteers and Reception Committees of all these various Congresses and Conferences, Calcutta presented a lively sight all these days. Not the least interesting part of the whole programme were the open-air meetings in College square and Beadon Square at which Mrs. Besant, Mrs. Naidu, Mr. Gandhi, Mr. Tilak and other notable speakers addressed vast assemblies.

### NOTES.

#### Prohibition of Coffee Imports.

The Government of India have decided to prohibit the import of coffee into India, and a notification to this effect has already been issued. Licenses will be issued by Collectors of Customs for the import of consignments already *en route*, but otherwise no relaxations of the prohibition will be made, except in very special circumstances.

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#### A Prize Essay.

The Prayag Banga Sahitya Mandir (39, Goods Shed Road, Allahabad) offers a medal for the best essay in Bengali on "Criticism of the Characters in Nabin Ch. Sen's Raibatak, Kurukshetra and Prabhash" by any Bengali lady or gentleman domiciled outside Bengal. The essays must be written on Foolscap paper on one side only and must reach the Secretary of the Mandir, Prof. N. B. Mitra, M. A., Ewing Christian College, Allahabad on or before the 31st March 1918. Each essay must bear a nom de plume and the name of the writer with his full address must be sent in a separate cover (sealed) together with the corresponding nom de plume. Further information may be obtained from the Secretary on application.

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#### The Sugar Industry in India

For many years past the importance of improving the sugar industry in India has been a subject of discussion, and at the recent meeting of the Board of Agriculture at Poona it was decided to adopt the report of a committee appointed to enquire into the matter which recommended the creation of a bureau in order to enable Government to give authoritative information to capitalists and others. Meanwhile the success which has attended the efforts of Japan to create a sugar industry on modern lines in Formosa has led Japanese capitalists to extend their operations else where. A number of companies have been formed to carry on operations in Korea and Mukden and in the islands south of Japan, and the British Embassy at Tokio recently reported that two more enterprises were being established for the purpose of engaging in the industry in the Dutch East Indies. One of the latter proposed to carry on operations at Soerabaya, while the other, with a capital of £612,000, had acquired a sugar property in Sumatra and a tract of land in Java which was to be brought under sugar cultivation. The problem of establishing an efficient modern industry in India on an extensive scale is not a simple one, but the activity displayed by Japanese industrialists provides an additional reason why there should be no slackening of the efforts that are being made to remove the difficulties which stand in the way of its solution.

#### King-Emperor's Message.

The following message issued by His Majesty the King-Emperor is published:—

To My People:—The world-wide struggle for the triumph of liberty is entering upon its last and most difficult phase. The enemy is striving by desperate assault and subtle intrigue to perpetuate the wrongs already committed, and to stem the tide of free civilisation. We have yet to complete the great task to which we have dedicated ourselves, and I would call upon you to devote a special day to prayer that we may have the clear-sightedness and strength necessary to the victory of our cause. This victory will be gained only if we steadfastly remember the responsibility resting upon us, and in a spirit of reverent obedience ask the blessing of Almighty God upon our endeavours. Let us seek to be enlightened in our understanding and fortified in courage in facing the sacrifices we may yet have to make. I therefore appoint January 6th, the first Sunday in the New Year, to be set aside as a special day of prayer and thanksgiving in all the churches throughout my Dominions."

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#### Revolutionary Movement Committee.

We are at a loss to understand, says *Patrika*, what good purpose the Government expect to serve by the appointment of "the Committee of investigation into the revolutionary movement in India." It would be something if its object were to ascertain the guilt or innocence of over 1,500 young men, most of them students, who are now confined in solitary cells in jails under Regulation III of 1818 or interned in some of the worst places in the country under the Defence Act. Even then the constitution of the Committee and the way in which they have to conduct the enquiry would not satisfy the public. The members are all nominees of the Government and though they are highly-placed men, not one of them has been chosen by the people. Besides, they will transact their business in camera where the public will have no access. What pray, will be the value of this sort of investigation?

The Government undertakes to place "all documentary evidence in its possession before the Committee bearing on the existence and extent of revolutionary conspiracies in India, and will supplement this with such other evidence as it may consider necessary". But all such evidence has very little importance so long as it is not tested by cross-examination in the presence of the accused parties by their counsel.

The second term of reference will cause a good deal of misgiving. It is "to examine and consider the difficulties that have arisen in dealing with such conspiracies and to advise as to the legislation, if any, necessary to enable the Government to deal effectively with them." So, apparently it is the intention of the Government to resort to further legislation on the subject, and such legislation in this country, generally speaking, means more repression. We fancy, however, repression here has reached its utmost limit. Indeed, any man may be arrested on mere suspicion and kept in confinement for an indefinite period. Such a law we have got. What more powers does the Government want to "deal effectively" with so-called revolutionary conspiracies? The Committee, instead of infusing hope, will thus produce a contrary effect. The people were expecting a declaration of general amnesty for all political offenders. That expectation has been dashed to the ground.

**LOCAL & PROVINCIAL.**

THE fifth Anniversary of the 'Amiya Library, Bankipur, was celebrated on the 1st January in the library premises. The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Purnendu Naryan Sinha presided.

THE Mukhtiarship and Pleadership examinations will be held a week later than as previously announced, that is to say, the first will be held on the 25th February 1918 and the second on the 26th and 27th.

WE welcome to the ranks of journalism in this province, our new weekly contemporary, *The Oriya*. From the numbers to hand, we are confident of its success.

THE 34th anniversary of the death of Keshub Chandra Sen will be held at the B. Y. M. Institute, Bankipur, on Tuesday, the 8th January 1918 at 6 p. m. Mr. S. Sinha will preside.

LAST week's *Bihar and Orissa Gazette* notifies the terms of certain state scholarships offered by Government to students for technical, Sanskrit and Arabic studies in Europe and America, as well as those for a scholarship intended for Indian girls or women proceeding to England for study.

THE Hon. Justice Sir Ali Imam with the approval of the Government left here on the 3rd instant by the Punjab Mail for Patiala to assist the Committee of Princes appointed at the last Delhi Conference in its deliberation over political matters. He is expected to be away from the High Court for ten days.

THE Preliminary Examination in Law under the Patna University will be held from 4th to 6th February, the Intermediate Examination from 11th to 14th February, and the final Examination from 18th to 21st February 1918. Applications should reach the Registrar before the 7th January 1918.

A MEETING will be held at Surhid Parishad and Hem Chandra Library, Bankipore on Monday the 7th January at 6 p.m. to commemorate the death anniversary of the late Baladeva Palit, the veteran educationist of Behar. We have learnt that a portrait of the late poet will be unveiled and a short sketch of the poet's life will be read. The Hon'ble Rai Bahadur Purnendu Narayan Sinha, M.A., B.L., is expected to preside.

THE appointment of Mr. Reazul Hussain as the Vice-Chairman of the Gaya Municipality will be a facer for those who set a premium on Hindu Mahomedan differences. In Patna, we remember how a Mahomedan gentleman was appointed as Vice-Chairman by defeating a Hindu candidate. And yet we are constantly told that Mahomedan interests will suffer if self-government were introduced in a country where the large majority of the people are Hindus.

A correspondent writes:—It is probably thought that the Patna Municipality now pays more attention towards the welfare of its tax-payers. But this is not at all so. At present its condition has changed from bad to worse, at any rate as regards street lighting. We have been long suffering from want of good lights on the roads. You may be aware of the fact that

the *Surhid Parishad and Hem Chandra Library* is situated at Langartoli, and that it opens in the evening just after candle light. Be it remembered that there is a lamp (a sorry excuse for one) just in front of the Parishad building. It is beyond the power of pen to describe the disgraceful state of the lamp. Three sides of the glass case (in which the lamp is placed) are broken and the remaining side is coated black with soot. Such is the illuminating power of the lamp, that it is impossible to see with the naked eye, any object situated at a distance of one yard from the the so-called lamp post. If any responsible officer kindly takes the trouble of coming over here one night, he will fully understand the wretched condition and the hardships which the people have to bear.

WE understand that there are strict rules that liquor shops should not be located on public roads or near places of worships. But it is to be regretted much that these rules are not properly respected by the local Excise Dept. Here you will find liquor shops located on public roads and just on the next walls of places of worships a fact to which we drew the attention of the authorities through our columns only last year. We have of course an Advisory Committee to look after such sort of things. But it is our regret to note that their workings are only a mystery to the public. Will our District Magistrate be pleased to issue a press communique to enlighten the public whether the attention of the Committee was drawn to the complaint regarding the location of a country liquor shop just on the next wall of a Hindu temple situated on a public road known as Tikari Road? And if so, what measure they adopted in the matter. Furthermore, we trust the Advisory Committee will also see that the nuisance caused by locating certain liquor shops on certain public roads of the town are soon removed by shifting of the said shops to secluded quarters of the town.—  
*The Bihar Advocate.*

THE *Oriya*, commenting on the failure of the recent case under sec. 292, 293 I. P. C. says:—

"It was pointed out to local officers that the Chowkidari Act would not apply to the permanently settled estates of Orissa; but this was the opinion of non-official lawyers. The local officers had already acted under the Act. Litigation in the Civil Court went up to the Privy Council. Official prestige was demolished there like a clay figure, and Government had not only to give up the lands of the parties to the suits, but also of other landlords for fear of further litigation. The costs of litigation up to Privy Council made up a large sum. This was paid out of the public revenue to uphold the illegal acts of a Collector. The Collector is paid to carry on the administration according to

**ARE YOU CRUMPLED UP**

with rheumatism? Then these words are your salvation.

Perhaps you have been told that you cannot be cured.

There are thousands who have been told that before you.

They tried

**LITTLE'S ORIENTAL BALM**

rubbed it on to the aching parts, the swellings, the twitching drawn up hands and limbs. It stopped the pain. A few more applications and they grew daily better until a complete cure was effected.

Little's Oriental Balm cures at all times. It is never too late to begin.

Sold at Re. 1 per bottle. Of all Chemists and Medicine Venders throughout India.

law. He acts contrary to the provision of the law on the subject. Still Government decides to defend a suit to uphold the Collector's official prestige notwithstanding that such defence means depriving a subject of property which by law belongs to him. We fail to see the justification for such conduct. It cannot be pleaded that the Collector misunderstood the law. The correct interpretation of the law was placed before him by the parties. No man is excused for ignorance of law and ignorance is a most unjustifiable excuse in an official. The proper remedy in such cases is that the man so anxious to maintain his official prestige should be made by Government to pay the costs of both parties. He will thus have an opportunity to estimate his prestige in rupees, annas and pies. The Right Hon'ble Mr. Montagu once said, "As for prestige—O India, how much happier would have been your history, if that world had been left out of the English vocabulary."

THE New year's Honours List is in some respects original and displays great ingenuity in the various ways in which the itching for a pendant to one's name has been satisfied. Apart from this, the list is the usual one of superannuated officials and obscure mediocrities. Nobody will grudge Mr. Sly his K. C. S. I. after his labours in Champaran but the C. S. I on Mr. Oldham is generally regarded as a counterblast to the determined outcry that has been raised against him in certain sections of the Press. Mr. B. C. Mitra's wounded vanity receives a sop in a knighthood. The New Chief Justice of Patna comes in for one, of course. The Bishop of Chata Nagpur and Mrs. Swain receive Kaiser-i-Hind Gold and Silver Medals respectively. The Maharaja of Sonapur's Services has been rewarded with a K. C. I. E. He also gets a permanent salute of 9 guns together with the Maharaja of Mayurbhanj and Patna. Lieutenant Colonel B. G. Singh's C. I. E. was overdue. The Kumar of Deo gets the personal title of Raja. The only Mahomedans to be honoured from this province are Saiyid Moinuddin Ahmad of Patna City and Moulvi Mir Abdul Bari, Assistant Surgeon, Jahanabad, who become Khan Bahadur and Khan Sahib respectively. Babu Bindeswari Prasad Singh of Mozaffarpur, Rai Saheb Lekh Narayan Singh of Barh, and Dr. Chandra Kanta Chakravarty, Civil Surgeon of Chupra, become Rai Bahadurs, while among Rai Sahebs we find the names of the following gentlemen from this province:—Babu Prafulla Chandra Patnaik, Balasore; Babu Lal Babu, Gaya; Babu Harinandan Dube, Bhabua; Dr. Gopal Ch. Barman, Rajmahal; Dr. Gokul Chandra Chatterjee, Angul; Babu Upendra Nath De, Bihar Secretariat; Babu Amarendra Nath Banerjee, Ranchi; and Babu Satish Chandra Sen, Superintendent of Excise, Mozaffarpur.

THE resolution on the report of the committee appointed to deal with the question of School-Leaving Certificate Examinations in Bihar and Orissa, published in the local Gazette of the 26th December last, is interesting reading. Appended to it are the draft rules in the form of which the committee, which included officers from Madras and the United Provinces, submitted its recommendations.

The main feature of the scheme devised by the Committee is the institution of special courses in secondary schools designed to prepare students for commercial or clerical careers or for further instruction in special institutions. This preparation leads up to an examination divided into three parts, namely, (a) a scrutiny of the record of progress in school, (b) a public examination and (c) in the case of those candidates who fail in one subject only at the public examination, an examination conducted

*in situ* by the Inspector of Schools, with such assistance as he may require, in order to attain a final decision. Thus, while at the Matriculation examination a student passes or fails solely on the written work done on one occasion, the new scheme, while still giving due weight to the written examination, will take into account the work done during the period spent in the school.

The subjects for examination and the papers will be pretty nearly the same as in the existing Matriculation examination, except that there will be two papers on Mathematics which will include mensuration. History of India and Geography have been made compulsory while in English besides two written papers there will be an oral test of fluency. One out of thirteen optional subjects must be taken up, among which classical languages as well as the technical subjects have been placed. There will be an Administrative Board consisting of the Director and the Assistant Director of Public Instruction, *ex-officio*, together with eight members appointed by Government, of whom three will be appointed on the nomination of the University and two will represent recognised private schools. At least three members will be non-officials. The Administrative Board will be assisted by a Board of Studies (consisting of six to eight members) formed from among its own members together with such other persons selected by them and approved by Government as may be necessary. The examination will be open to candidates who have completed sixteen years of age on or before the 1st March of the year of examination, and who are furnished with certificates of good conduct and have kept 75 per cent of attendances at school meetings held during the three years previous to the latest date of sending in the applications. No fee will be charged for admission to the examination. There will be a prescribed syllabus for each of the optional subjects though schools will be at liberty to propose their own courses on similar lines. Recognition of schools will be granted or withdrawn by the Director of Public Instruction on the report of Inspectors of Schools. In cases of refusal of recognition schools will have an opportunity to be heard while recognition will not be withdrawn without giving the schools concerned at least a year's time to remove the defects.

The scheme will be introduced in the first instance in all Government high schools and in as many selected schools, aided or unaided, at the stations where Government high schools exist, as may succeed in obtaining recognition, with effect from the session of 1918. The first examination under the new scheme will be held in 1921.

## Notice.

Is hereby given that the surplus land acquired at Moharampore on Kadam Kuan Road for the improvement of the town measuring about 67 acres will be settled permanently with bonafide purchasers on term which can be enquired at the Municipal Office.

The plans and specification also of the sites proposed to be sold can be seen in the Municipal Office during the working hours on open days.

S. M. ISMAIL,  
CHIEF CLERK,  
Improvement Trust Fund,  
Patna City Municipality.

MR. B. K. Gokhale I. C. S. a first class Magistrate at Cuttack has disposed of an interesting case lately. The accused were Pandit Parikshit Das, Editor of "Gyanaprachar," an Oriya-Sanskrit monthly magazine and B. Sarangi, the Printer of the Orissa Patriot Press at Cuttack. The accused were prosecuted under Sections 292 & 293 I. P. C. for printing and publishing an alleged obscene book called "Uddishtantram" which was meant as a present for the subscribers of the "Gyanaprachar". Exception was taken to the book by the local authorities as it contained prescriptions by which a wife would be able to retain the love of her husband. Mr. Gokhale has acquitted the accused finding that the book which forms a part of the Hindu Scriptures is not obscene. The decision will certainly shock the susceptibilities of the official who launched the prosecution, and one is inclined to feel a certain amount of sympathy for him. But the really important questions in this connection are how this absurd prosecution was sanctioned and who will be responsible for the loss of public money incurred thereby?

OF all the accounts that have reached us about the celebration of the "Our Day", the most striking one comes from Sonapur. The Maharani Saheba, the Maharaja and the Yubaraj all threw themselves into the movement wholeheartedly. The usual 'tamashas' were held in important places in the State. The distinguishing feature of the celebration at Sonapur, however, was a meeting of the ladies of the place in the Raj Zanana under the presidency of the Maharani Saheba. The movement, writes a correspondent, was a great success in the State. The conspicuous services rendered by the people of the Sonapur State and their worthy Chief from the very beginning of the War has been, we are glad to see, recognised by the Government by the conferment of the title of K. C. I. E. on the patriotic Chief.

WE have shown in a previous issue how the replies vouchsafed by the Government of Bihar and Orissa to the interpellations of the Hon'ble Rai S. C. Sen Bahadur regarding the appointment of Mr. Fawcus are extremely unsatisfactory. The reply to Mr. Sen's interpellations regarding the establishment of a Subordinate Judge's Court at Dhanbad in Manbhum District is equally unsatisfactory. We will quote the questions and the answers once more.

Q. 8 (a) Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council why a Subordinate Judge has been stationed at Dhanbad Sub-Division?

A. (a) The posting of a Subordinate Judge at Dhanbad was recently recommended by the High Court as the most satisfactory solution of the problem of providing for the disposal of suits of more than Rs. 1000 value, in which members of the large mining community in the Jharia Coal Field are interested. Owing to the distance and difficulties of communication the attendance of mine managers for such suits at Purulia has been found in practice to be productive of serious inconvenience.

Q. 8 (b) Will the Government be pleased to inform the Council if there is any other instance where a Subordinate Judge is permanently stationed at a Subdivisional headquarters?

A. (b) No, but in the Subdivisions of the Santal Parganas, the Sub Divisional Officers themselves exercise the powers of a Subordinate Judge.

Q. 1 (c) Will the Government be pleased to lay on the table all the papers on the subject?

A. (c) Government do not consider that any useful purpose would be served by laying on the table the correspondence which led up to the orders referred to.

It is clear from the above that (1) there is no precedent for the establishment of a Subordinate Judge's Court in the Head Quarters of a Subdivision (the allusion of Santal Parganas is undoubtedly a huge joke) (2) that this unprecedented action has been taken for the convenience of the members of the large mining community in the Jharia Coal Field particularly the Mine Managers who cannot attend Purulia Court without serious inconvenience owing to the distance and difficulties of communications. So far as the public are concerned, in this we include a considerable section of the Mining Community, they knew nothing about the alleged inconvenience. They never made any representation to the Government. The Zemindars know nothing, and they did not want this change.

Was this matter, then, settled quietly when His Honour paid his last visit to Jharia Coal Fields? At least the papers on the table and refusal to do so confirms the common belief. It is a pity that the Government did not avail themselves of the opportunity offered by Mr. Sen to disabuse the public mind. The laying on the table of all the papers would have satisfied the public who rightly or wrongly believe that the initiative did not come from the High Court which yielded to the pressure of the Government.

On account of this the importance of the town of Purulia will be reduced to a considerable extent. The Government should have foreseen this before they spent quite recently a very large amount of money for Civil Court buildings at Purulia. Costly buildings will have to be built again at Dhanbad with the tax payers' money. We wonder if this is the sort of responsible Govern-

## Keep your child sturdy and strong

Your child's future depends on the thought and care you bestow upon him *now*. Are you doing your best for him TO-DAY? Are you sure that he does not suffer from weakness, disease or the effects of a trying climate?



A course of SCOTT'S will undoubtedly do him good. It will build him up, strengthen him and protect him from weakness and wasting ailments. No other nourishment is so good for growing boys and girls because no other kind of nourishment has the body-building power of the magnificent cod liver oil contained only in

# SCOTT'S Emulsion

ment for which the Anglo-Indians clamour. We will not for the present trouble our readers with a narrative of inconvenience and costs which the litigant public of Dhanbad have been put to by this novel change.

### CORRESPONDENCE.

[We do not hold ourselves responsible for the facts and opinions stated by our correspondents.]

#### MR. CURTIS AND HIS SCHEME.

To the Editor, Behar Herald.

Sir,—L. Curtis Esq. is now a very prominent figure in Indian political discussions. He does not require any introduction to your readers, I am sure. He gives himself out as a student of politics and I have every confidence that he is so. But as Lord Beaconsfield has said '.....they see a system in every contingency and principle in every chance', Mr. Curtis sees system in every contingency and a principle in every chance.

He has been publishing a series of letters in the press defending his scheme of 'Responsible Self Government in India' which has been declared as the policy of the British Government in India.

This gentleman has not been amongst us long but he is so very keen in his political acumen that as soon as he landed his feet in Indian soil and as soon as he became the guest of high officials in India he became aware of every thing in India.—Mr. Editor you will please excuse me if I digress a little from the subject.—Though the story that I am going to relate is not to be found in 'Tales of a Grand-father' but it is really a story of a Grand-father who told us the story and assured us that it was true—I believed it as he was in touch with *Sahibs* then and he was always truthful: of course Indian and for the matter of that Eastern veracity should be taken at its face-value and so to say is nothing in comparison with western veracity which is all perfect—an Ex-Viceroy of India was disbelieved in a court of justice in England and a Police Sergeant was—for my authority I refer to the memorable convocation speech of Lord Curzon of Kedleston—the Ex-Viceroy of India and late a Minister in England.

Now to our Grandfather's story which is as follows. A *Memsahib* landed in Calcutta in the seventies of the last century with a view to have some knowledge of uncivilized and pagan India, but the very sight of the port of Calcutta disgusted her—I do not know whether she fell in a swoon or whether there was fanning or not, the story is silent on the point,—so much so that she returned to her compartment on board and booked herself for return journey home.

After reaching home she gave a full description of India and stated that the great British dependency of India was populated and inhabited by people who do not wear shoes and wear cloth up to the knee only, having no or scanty dress for the body wearing an indigo-coloured turban—she stayed in India for half an hour and saw only the coolies who throng our ports at the advent of a ship from foreign countries.

Like the *Memsahib* Mr. Curtis has become aware of Indian affairs by only landing in India. I am sure he has not yet visited a single Indian village but he ventures to pass an opinion on every thing, Indian society, politics, religion and all. This is only possible for him and his ilk.

Mr. Curtis is admittedly now the drafter of the joint address of the Anglo-Indians and Indians

which was to be submitted to His Excellency the Viceroy and Mr. Montagu. Since the publication of the said scheme it was condemned not only by thoughtful Indians but also by the Anglo-Indians as evidenced from the utterings of two Calcutta Anglo-Indian dailies, the 'Statesman' and 'the Englishman' the accredited agents for the publication of Anglo-Indian views and opinions.

After blossoming forth in the press with this said 'Joint scheme' Mr. Curtis, in obedience or in compliance with the behests or requests of his good friends has been publishing letters in the press in support of his precious scheme and has been kindly giving us good and useful advice on representative Government in India—the possibility or impossibility of the same—from out of his long and studious experiences in world politics—Is he not a student of Politics?

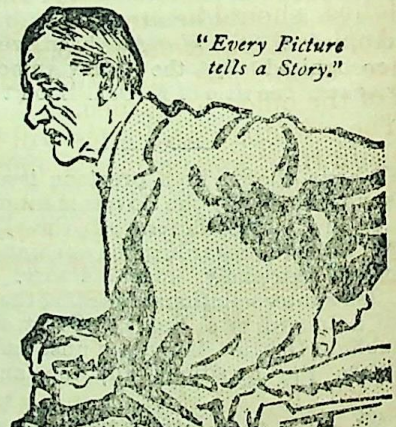
We are thankful to him for his selfless troubles for our sake.

He must be heard and listened to who comes from a long long distant country, without any travelling allowance from the Indian Exchequer only for the purpose of 'educating us in matters as vital as the very existence of ourselves.

We have been hearing him long these three months, we are now tired of his utterings and advices. I ask, I implore him for silence and hope and pray for his safe voyage home to feed his cattle there and oil his own machine and leave pagan India to her own fate.

(To be continued.)

'STUDENT.'



#### Harm May Be Done By Want of Thought.

HAVE you ever thought that your aching back, your nervousness, and your urinary troubles might be due to how you live?

Over-eating and the habitual use of alcoholic drinks, combined with the lack of sufficient outdoor exercise, rest and sleep, will surely weaken the kidneys in time. Then comes trouble.

Backache, Nervous disorders, Urinary ills, Headaches, Gravel, Dizziness, and Dropsical swellings are signs of too much Uric-acid in the blood, and there is danger of stone and incurable kidney diseases.

First moderate those bad habits. Then assist the weakened kidneys with a thorough course of Doan's Backache Kidney Pills.

Doan's Pills heal and soothe the kidneys, the urinary channels, and the bladder.

Fluid waste is drained from the system and uric acid deposits are dispersed.

The lasting benefit and comfort this kidney medicine brings to kidney sufferers is known all over the world. Doan's Pills not only make you well, but keep you well.

Doan's Backache Kidney Pills are Rs. 2 per bottle; 6 for Rs. 10.8; obtainable from all dealers.

**ADVERTISEMENTS.**

**WANTED.**

Office ... .. Sanitary Engineer, Bihar and Orissa.  
 Post vacant and pay (1) One Sanitary Supervisor on Rs. 150-10-250.  
 (2) Four Sanitary Overseers on Rs. 100-4-120.  
 Qualifications re- quired ... .. (1) B. E. with previ- ous experience. (2) Passed Upper- Subordinate with previous experi- ence.  
 Officer to whom ap- plication should be submitted. Sanitary Engineer to Government, Bihar and Orissa.  
 Date by which ap- plication should be submitted. 15th January 1918.

Applicants should be either natives of Bihar and Orissa or domiciled therein. If the applicants are not natives of the province, the grounds on which they claim to be domiciled should be stated.

Applications from persons already in service should be submitted through the head of the office concerned.

The selected candidates will be required to join their appointments, immediately.

F. C. TEMPLE.

SANITARY ENGINEER,  
 Bihar & Orissa.

2-1

**WANTED.**

WANTED for service under the Saran District Board 3 competent Doctors hav- ing Sub-Assistant Surgeon's qualification for epidemic duty temporarily (for about 6 months) on salary of Rs. 40/-a month as fixed Travelling Allowance and also a Local Indian Doctor to fill up a vacancy in the permanent staff on salary of Rs. 40/- rising to Rs. 85/-a month, according to District Board Scale.

Applications with copies of diploma and other certificates will be received by the Civil Surgeon, Saran, up to 25th De- cember 1917.

Selected candidates will be requested to join at once.

They will get no Travelling Allowance for joining the appointment.

BERENDRA NATH CHAKRABARTI.

Dated, Chapra, } For Chairman Dis-  
 The December } trict Board, Saran.  
 1917. } 2-2

**THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY CO LD.**

(Incorporated in England.)

**Tenders for supply of Oils for the year ending 31st March, 1919.**

The Agent, Bengal and North Wes- tern Railway Company, is prepared to receive tenders up to noon of the 1st February, 1918 for the supply of oils for the twelve months ending 31st March 1919.

Forms of Tender can be obtained on application to the Storekeeper, Bengal and North Western Railway, Samastipur.

The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest rate of any tender or to assign any reason for doing so.

J. WALKER,

Gorakhpur,  
 The 22nd December  
 1917.  
 2-1

Agent,  
 Bengal & North  
 Western Ry.

**THE BENGAL AND NORTH WESTERN RAILWAY COMPANY LIMITED.**

(Incorporated in England)

**NOTICE.**

**Tenders for supply of Miscellaneous Stores for the year ending 31st March 1919.**

The Agent, Bengal and North Wes- tern Railway Company, is prepared to receive tender up to noon the 1st February 1918 for the supply of Miscellaneous Stores for the twelve months ending 31st March 1919.

Forms of Tender, at Rs. 3/-each giving all particulars can be obtained on application to the Store-keeper, Bengal and North Western Railway, Samastipur.

The Agent does not bind himself to accept the lowest or any tender or to assign any reason for doing so.

J. WALKER.

Gorakhpur,  
 The 15th Dec.  
 1917.  
 2-2

Agent,  
 Bengal & North  
 Western Railway.

**EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.**

**NOTICE.**

**Kumbh Mela at Allahabad 1918.**

Pilgrims intending to travel by rail to attend the Kumbh Mela at Allahabad are advised in their own interests to refrain from doing so. During the period the Mela

is held, viz, from 13th January to 25th February 1918, the East Indian Railway will be required to carry large quantities of urgent Coal, Military and Government traffic, and it will not therefore be possible to run **Special Mela trains** for the convenience of pilgrims.

As the regular Passenger Train services have had to be curtailed to make room for Goods trains carrying urgent Coal and Goods traffic the Passenger trains now running will not have accommodation for pilgrims travelling in large numbers, and **Pilgrims are warned** that if they journey by rail to this Mela they are liable to suffer serious detention waiting for trains.

GENL. TRAF. MNGR'S. } By order,  
OFFICE, } C. M. PEARCE,  
Calcutta, 11th Oct. } General Traffic Manager.  
9-8 1917.

## EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

### NOTICE.

The Public are advised that it has been found necessary to place a restriction on the booking by passenger train of packages exceeding one maund in weight each to and from Delhi. This restriction applies to Public traffic only and not to Government and Military traffic and Personal Luggage booked as parcels.

By order,  
CALCUTTA, } C. M. PEARCE,  
28th Dec. 1917. } General Traffic Manager.  
3-1

## EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

### NOTICE.

The Public are advised that the booking of Goods traffic, except Live-stock and Perishables, is at present suspended and may continue to be suspended from time to time owing to the demand for wagons for the conveyance of coal for the Royal Indian Marine, the Admiralty and Railways.

As the requirements vary from day to day, it is not possible to give previous intimation of the imposition or removal of restrictions in goods booking, and the Public are, therefore, advised to communicate with the Goods Superintendent, Howrah, or the Station Master of the despatching station and enquire whether traffic is being accepted or not before sending goods to a station for despatch.

GENL. TRAF. MNR'S } By order,  
OFFICE, } C. M. PEARCE,  
Calcutta, dated 28th } General Traffic Manager.  
Dec. 1917. } 3-1

## EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

### NOTICE.

#### Kumbh Mela.

The public are hereby informed that during the period, January 3rd to 26th February 1918 (both days inclusive), no tickets will be issued to any person intending or believed to be intending to travel, for the purpose of taking part in the Kumbh Mela at Allahabad, any of the following stations:—

#### EAST INDIAN RAILWAY.

Allahabad  
Bamhauri.  
Manauri.  
Manoharganj.  
Bharwari.  
Shujaatpur.  
Sirathu.  
Kunwar.  
Khaga.  
Teni.  
Rasulabad.  
Faiz-ullah-pur.  
Fatehpur.  
Naini.  
Jasra.

Lohgara.  
Shankargarh.  
Bargarh.  
Dabhaura.  
Manikpur.  
Mirzapur.  
Bindhachal.  
Birohe.  
Gaipura.  
Jigna.  
Mandah Road.  
Unchdih.  
Meja Road.  
Bheerpur.  
Karchana.

#### ODDH AND ROHILKAND RAILWAY.

Benares Cantt.  
Lohta.  
Chaukhandi.  
Kapsethi.  
Parsipur.  
Bhadohi.  
Mondh.  
Suriawan.  
Sarai-Kansrai.  
Jarauna.  
Bhanaur.  
Salkhapur.  
Jaunpur City.  
Mau-Aima.  
Bhupia-Mau.  
Sarai Gopal.  
Ram-Chaura Road.  
Bhadri.  
Gotni.  
Unchahar.  
Daryapur.  
Jamnapur.  
Dalmau.

Jalalpur-Dhaf.  
Janghai.  
Barya Ram.  
Bibipur.  
Phulpur.  
Serai Chandi.  
Tharwai.  
Phaphamau Junc.  
Prayag.  
Allahabad Junc.  
Barsathi.

Mariahu.  
Zafarabad Junc.  
Siwait.  
Bishnathganj.  
Pratabganj (Oudh.)  
Atrampur.  
Lalgopalganj.  
Harnamganj.  
Pariawan.  
Lachmanpur.  
Rae-Bareli Junc.

#### BENGAL AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

Benares Cantt.  
Balapur.  
Raja-Talab.  
Kachhwa Road.  
Madhosingh.  
Konrh Road.  
Bhiti.  
Saidabad.  
Jhusi.  
Allahabad City.

Manduadih.  
Hardatpur.  
Nigatpur.  
Katka.  
Ahimanpur.

Jangiganj.  
Handiakhas.  
Hanumanganj.  
Izat Bridge.

By order,  
CALCUTTA, } C. M. PEARCE,  
24th Dec. 1917. } General Traffic Manager.

5-1