

# The Behar Herald.

Bankipur, Saturday, Feb. 23, 1918.

## THE VICEROY'S SPEECH.

At the first meeting of the cold weather session of the Imperial Legislative Council held on the 6th February last, a notable speech was delivered by His Excellency the Viceroy touching the policy of Government in regard to several important matters of state.

The first announcement that was made by His Excellency was in connection with the procedure now to be followed for the discussion of the Financial Statement in Council. Under the present system the Statement is introduced without any general discussion of its proposals, and members have powers to move resolutions on the financial policy of Government only when the Financial Statement reappears in the Council as the Budget in which the financial proposals are embodied in their final shape. This system, it was observed by His Excellency, was unsatisfactory, in as much as members were precluded from expressing their views on the general policy of Government and they were handicapped in dealing with the Government Budget proposals when they were presented to the Council in the final stage. A discussion at the end of the session, which was purely of an academic character, proved infructuous.

The change of procedure in this respect, which has now been announced with the sanction of the Secretary of State, is that after the Financial Statement has been introduced, its further consideration shall be postponed for a few days in order that members may have an opportunity of making themselves acquainted with its contents. On the appointed day there will be a general discussion of the Financial Statement, members being at liberty to offer any observations on it they might seem fit to make either as a whole or on any question of principle involved therein. Then when the Financial Statement reappears in the Council, they may move resolutions in the same manner as they can do now under the existing rules. At a subsequent date the Budget will be laid on the table, when the Financial member will explain the changes if any which have been made in accordance with the suggestions of the members. This amendment in the procedure will according to His Excellency, provide a more effective and satisfactory method on the part of members offering their criticisms and suggestions on the policy of Government at a stage when it has not been cast into final shape.

On the subject of the proposed constitutional reforms, His Excellency, as might be expected, was rather guarded in his speech. Allusion was made to the fact that for the past three months both he and the Secretary of State had been engaged in taking into consideration the numerous addresses which had been presented to them embodying the aspirations, hopes and fears of the various communities (many of which, it was remarked, were drafted with great care and ability), in receiving deputations and granting interviews which enabled them to ascertain how far the views expressed in the addresses were based on genuine conviction and solid thought.—His Lordship concluded his remarkable and momentous speech with the following words:—"We are threshing out the great problems with which we have to deal and I have every hope that the Secretary of State may be able to take home pro-

posals embodying a small and sober advance with future steps duly outlined so that provided we get that co-operation on which the announcement of the 20th August laid stress we shall be able to progress towards the realisation of responsible Government"—Further, "I do not disguise from myself that there will be those who will criticise our proposals, whatever they may be, as not going far enough, while others will regard them as going dangerously far."

As for the suggestion that a deputation should go Home and lay the case for the Congress-League scheme before His Majesty's Government it was approved of by His Excellency, who said that it was not the intention of Government to hamper any such representation, but that on the contrary he would gladly give all the advice and all the help which lay in his power to give.

## THE PREVENTION OF FLOODS.

In spite of the much-vaunted mystery of man over the elements, the long history of man's ineffective attempts to fight with floods is but another illustration of the saying of the poet—the best-laid schemes of mice and men gang aft a-gley. The almost pathetic confession of helplessness which His Excellency the Governor of Bengal frankly made in the course of his reply to a deputation that recently waited on him brings home in a forcible manner the ultimate futility of all attempts to check the activities of rivers.

A river, by spilling over its banks during floods and depositing silt on the adjacent country gradually builds up a ridge along which it flows, and then sooner or later it bursts its banks and finds for itself a new course through land below the level of the ridge which it has built up. This happened to the Damodar between one and two centuries ago, when it left its old channel by which it fell into the Hooghly about 40 miles above Calcutta, and took a more westerly direction, joining the Hooghly 35 miles below the city. The river then built up the land adjoining its new course and when the time came for it to leave that channel, and swing once again on to lower land to one side, it could not do so because it had been confined between embankments constructed on each side. The enclosure by embankments had the effect of hastening the raising of the river bed, and the admitted impossibility of keeping the continually rising river pent up by embankments led to the decision to remove the right embankment and allow the river to spill over to the west. But the left embankment was not removed, with the result that the spilling has raised the land on the west so that it is now several feet higher than the land on the east of the river. The people of the villages on the west of the river see the waters flowing over their land in a violent flood carrying not only silt but sand whenever the river rises high, while the dwellers in the villages on the east of the river live in security behind the embankment, and it is not unnatural that they should ask the Government to replace the embankment on the west of the river also and protect their lands from the floods even as their confreres on the east are protected. His Excellency was able to show that an attempt to hold the river to its own channel would fail because of the rising bed, and the impossibility of periodically raising the embankments higher. The only cure for the floods which now sweep into specially low lying areas with such destructive severity must be the gradual filling up and raising of low ground by the deposit of silt from the river as it annually spills over. This will

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slowly raise all the land on the west of the river, so that floods will by and by spill over them less harmfully.

The only way to mitigate the severity of floods would therefore seem to be the occurrence of more floods. Similia similibus curantur. But the prospect of building our hopes of safety from floods on the remote chance of the enemy becoming *felo de se* is dreary and we turn with a sigh of relief to another means suggested by His Excellency, the *modus operandi* of which is to control the floods to some extent by catching them in a reservoir and releasing them more slowly, the idea being to prevent the waters from coming down in such strong floods as to carry sand as well as silt on to the land, and if a site can be found for a reservoir of the required magnitude, say 10 square miles with a depth of 70 feet, without having to go too high up the river, it would undoubtedly have this effect.

It may be remembered that in our article on the floods which occurred in the Patna and Gaya Districts in August last, we threw out a similar suggestion. We said at that time:—

It is high time therefore for the authorities to organise a systematic line of action in regard to these floods. It would be an insult to British engineering skill if methods could not be devised of stopping these deluges once for all, or at least of restricting the sphere of their mischief. It would be interesting in this connection to note what has been effected in other countries subject to riparian floods due to excessive rainfall: such as in the Mississippi and the Nile regions. We are not experts and so we cannot say how far immense dams erected near the head waters of the Falgou and the Poonpoo, might serve to check these floods. We offer the suggestion for what it is worth and in all diffidence. Two other things should also be noted. The first is that with every flood the channels and moats which used to drain away rain water get silted and consequently increase the chance of future floods. The second point is, that with the gradual extension of the *Nugli* system of rents the attention that Zamindars used of old to pay to *Gilandazi* operations in their estates has been considerably slackened to the great detriment and obstruction of the natural drainage. Much as we have heard of the evils of the *Bhaoli* system, there was this to be said in its favour that it served to keep up the channels of drainage unobstructed and as such made floods of rarer occurrence.

It is a pity that there was no one here to take up our cry. The result was that after the first excitement of the floods was over, and new and fresh sensations engrossed the public attention, the matter gradually lapsed into oblivion, so that not a single interpellation on the subject was put at any of the meetings of the Provincial Legislative Council that have been held since then. We would however earnestly request His Honour the Lieutenant Governor to take up the consideration of the question and all the issues involved in it in all seriousness, though no deputation has waited on him. In fact no one casually acquainted with the exact depths of political activities in Bihar would expect such a trifling matter as the floods being made the subject of vigorous and sustained agitation. It would therefore be a great blunder to defer the tackling of the problem till such time as it is taken up by the public leaders, for in that case the chances are of its being postponed indefinitely.

## THE NECESSITY OF FREE PRIMARY EDUCATION IN BIHAR & ORISSA

SPECIAL FOR THE BEHAR HERALD.

III.

The population of Bihar and Orissa, excluding the Native States was 34,490,084 according to the last census. This population was divided into 16,859,929 males and 17,630,155 females. The percentage of females was a little higher than that of males. In the subsequent discussions, we shall deal only with the males, for it is generally admitted that the question of universal education of girls is not within the range of practical politics in India, at least for some time to come. In the course of his speech at the introduction of his Bill on primary education at the meeting of the Bihar and Orissa Legislative Council, the Hon'ble Mr. Sahay admitted that the time is not ripe for the introduction of any such measure for the girls and that he had ventured to insert a clause for girls because he thought with the old saying that he might as well be hanged for a sheep as for a lamb (if matters came to that). It is extremely probable that the question of extending the provisions of the proposed Bill to girls may be dropped, and so we may confine our observations to the boys' side of the question.

There are 70 towns and 87,675 villages in Bihar and Orissa, the area of which (Native States always excluded) is 83,181 square miles. The total male population in urban areas is 666,006 and in rural areas 16,193,923. On the average, therefore, there is one village to every square mile with an average of 184.7 males in each village. In a scheme of compulsory education, we cannot accept the one school to every  $2\frac{1}{2}$  square mile basis. The proper standard would be one school to every square mile on the area basis. This should give, on the average, one school to every village in the province, and as the average number of males in a village was 187.4, taking 15 per cent to be of the school-going age, we shall then have one school to every 30 persons of the school-going age. We have already pointed out the dangers of making calculations on averages. "It must not be assumed," as was pointed out by the Hon'ble Mr. LeMesurier, "that they are universally correct or hold good of any local area." If, however, we base our calculations on the basis of one school to a village, or of one school in every square mile, or of one school to every 30 possible scholars, we cover such a large ground that the difference from actualities may safely be taken as inconsiderable. From each of these standpoints, we require in round numbers 88,000 primary schools in this province. There are already 24,413 schools. What we want therefore is 64,000 more schools.

Coming to the question of ways and means we find that there were 133 primary schools for males in the province managed directly by Government with 6,418 scholars. The total expenditure on these schools in 1916-17 was Rs. 62,598 out of which only Rs. 3,670 was met by fees. The number of primary schools managed by local funds and Municipal Boards was 318 with 17,409 scholars. The total cost on these schools in the same year was Rs. 93,322 which includes Rs. 14,433 from fees, Rs. 2,192 from subscriptions and Rs. 173 from provincial revenues. There were 16,085 schools with 474,524 scholars in them which were under private management but were aided by Government, by local funds, or Municipal Boards. These schools cost Rs. 20,53,082, nearly half of which was met by fees and subscriptions, provincial revenues contributing Rs. 1,68,111, and local and Municipal funds Rs. 8,17,363 and Rs. 56,783 respectively. There were 5,628 unaided schools under private management with 121,005 scholars in them. The cost of these

institutions was Rs. 2,77,582, out of which Rs. 1,98,752 was met by fees, Rs. 76,395 from subscriptions and Rs. 2,435 from endowments. An examination of these figures proves once more the inaccuracies that might result from a calculation of the probable cost of universal education from general averages. Thus the total number of primary schools for males and of the scholars in them were 21,164 and 619,356 respectively and the total cost was Rs. 24,86,584. This gives an average of 29.26 scholars for every school while the average cost per school and per student works out at Rs. 117.49 and Rs. 4.01 respectively. The difference between these averages and the figures for each class of schools is best brought out by the following table:—

	Public Schools Managed		Private Schools Aided Unaided.	
	by Govern- ment.	by local bodies.		
No. of schools	133	318	16,085	5,628
No. of scholars	6,418	17,409	472,524	121,005
Average No. of scholars per school	43.25	54.74	29.50	21.5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Total cost	62,598	93,322	2,053,032	277,582
Cost per school	470.66	293.46	128.26	49.32
Cost per pupil	9.75	5.36	4.32	2.29

From the above table, it is apparent that the incidence of cost in Government schools is too high, while that of unaided private schools is again too low. We have to choose between the remaining two classes, namely those managed by local bodies, and those under private management but aided by local bodies. The last class of schools teach more than 76 per cent of the total number of scholars receiving primary instruction. Though the present policy in the matter of elementary education is to bring primary schools under the maintenance and direct management of local bodies, yet so far as the cost of instruction is concerned, we should like it to conform to the scale adopted in those schools which teach more than 76 per cent of the total number of boys in our primary schools. The standard cost of an average school of 30 students should be Rs. 120 per annum or Rs. 4 per student which gives Rs. 10 per month to the one guru necessary for each such school. This, though a poor sum, is still something more than what is actually being received in nearly 95 per cent of the primary schools.

**NOTES.**

**The Late ex-Sultan.**

The death of ex-Sultan Abdul Hamid, which is announced removes an interesting personality from the Near-Eastern politics. Born in 1842, he succeeded to the Turkish Throne in 1876, after the deposition of his brother and filled that exalted office for a long number of years. Not a progressive ruler, he was yet a strong man and was a formidable match to his European adversaries in the art of diplomacy. But in his closing years, the good fortune that had attended him in the earlier years of his rule deserted him and he fell a prey to the machinations of his European rivals. The advent of the Young Turk Party led to his final deposition from the throne and relegation to Salonica where he led an unexciting life until his death.

**Imperial Council Procedure.**

The new rules of business for the Imperial Legislative Chamber will prevent a repetition of

the undesirable incident which occurred at Delhi last year when a member who had given notice of a resolution opposing India's war contribution delivered a vehement speech in support of his motion and then immediately announced that he had decided to withdraw it. Under the new rules a member in whose name a resolution appeared on the list of business will be required when he is called on either to withdraw the resolution, in which case he will have to confine himself to a mere statement to that effect, or to move it, in which event he will have to commence his speech by a formal motion in the terms appearing on the notice paper. It is also provided that after a resolution or an amendment has once been moved it may not be withdrawn without the leave of the Council. These rules are very salutary ones. It may be said that in the House of Commons strong exception is taken to the conduct of members who attempt to "run away" from a resolution and in such cases leave to withdraw has often been refused.

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**The New Finance Member**

It is now officially announced that Sir James Meston has been appointed to succeed Sir William Meyer as Finance Member of the Governor-General's Executive Council. It is a reversal of the usual, and we may add the bad, custom for a high official of the Government to pass from a Lieutenant-Governorship to the Executive Council. The usual destiny of the ablest men in the Indian Civil Service is to become members of the Executive Council first, and to receive their reward in the shape of a Lieutenant-Governorship, passing thence into honoured if often forgotten retirement. The custom has not been attended with success. The expectation of preferment has too often interfered with the independence of judgment of the members of the Executive Council, and that important body—the most important in India—is regarded merely as a stepping stone to something better instead of as the highest goal of ambition to the official in India. It is interesting to recall that when Sir James Meston left the Finance Department in 1912, the late Mr. Gokhale expressed the hope that he would return as Finance Minister and he went on to add that "membership of Government of India should be the last rung of the official ladder in this country, and that those members of the Civil Service who are marked out for Lieutenant-Governorships should complete their tenure of office as heads of Provinces before they come and join the Viceroy's Executive Council." Whether Sir James Meston's appointment is the beginning, as we hope it may be, of a saner and more appropriate method of official promotion remains to be seen.—*The Englishman.*

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**Language and Nationality.**

Many people, perhaps, will sympathise, to a certain extent, with the object of the resolution regarding the redistribution of provincial areas, which the Hon. Mr. Sarma moved and lost in the Imperial Legislative Council. But it will be widely admitted that Mr. Sarma could not have chosen a more inappropriate moment for the consideration of the question. It is not surprising, therefore, that he could hardly secure any support from his Indian colleagues in the Council, who all agreed that it would, besides interfering with the satisfactory solution of the reform scheme for which the Secretary of State has come to India, retard progress in the country. Mr. Sastri's lucid speech provided very cogent arguments against the acceptance of Mr. Sarma's proposals. As he pointed out, a mere community of language, which

seemed to be the basic consideration of the resolution, does not constitute the full bond of nationality. The life of nations is not, any more than that of an individual, merely a process of logical sequences. Many would believe, Mr. Sastri truly said, that a political institution which brought Mr. Sarma and the speaker, by over 500 miles, in one legislature, would not be inferior as an efficient means of social welfare to an institution which brought together Mr. Sarma and somebody close to him who merely spoke the same vernacular. The present disposition of provinces was a haphazard growth without doubt, but we could not go into this matter with a Frenchman's logic. History has brought about the present state of things and historical associations have grown round the present arrangement, which would form a barrier to a merely logical rearrangement.

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#### Maharaja of Kasimbazar on Social Reform.

At the opening meeting of the All-India Hindu Conference held at Allahabad, on the banks of the Ganges, the Maharaja of Kashimbazar, the Chairman of the Reception Committee, delivered a long speech during the course of which he said he was glad to find included in the agenda such subjects as imparting suitable education of women and ameliorating the condition of widows, the discouragement of child marriage, and the raising of the condition of Sudra and untouchable castes. The existing caste system of to-day was only a travesty of its ancient original. Exhorting those present the Maharaja concluded:—"We must realise the fact that so long as we do not take care to interpret at every step the great truths of our philosophy in terms of our social and national life there is no hope of our again occupying a place in the sun. Do your very best to resuscitate the best precepts of Hindu culture and to put them into practice every day of your life, to preach what you practise, and practise what you preach, to have old Hindu ideals always before your mind's eyes, and to take courage in both hands to translate them in your life and conduct, and so soon as you have done that or at least begun to move on those lines in an honest way I have no doubt the renaissance of India will dawn upon us at the close of the long night of darkness and decadence."

The meetings were presided over by Jagatgurus Shankaracharyas of Puri, Dwarka and Kholapur and there were good attendances.

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#### Sir James Meston on Legislative Councils.

A meeting of the United Provinces Legislative Council was held at Lucknow the other day the chief feature of which was the farewell speech with which Sir James Meston closed the proceedings. In the course of this he touched on the work done by the Council in the past and spoke of the future of India's legislative bodies. The present type, he said, has been tested and tried and cannot run on indefinitely. It has grave defects and the days of its utility are numbered. It is accused of unreality and contains an element of irritation in what is described as the solid official block. Sir James went on to say that "the future of our constitution is yet obscure, but there is one factor which is beyond all doubt. With the growth of political liberty in India every form of liberty must also grow. There must be liberty of speech and of the Press. There must be no false ideas of prestige and no worship of shibboleths. At present it often seems to me that we all suffer from being afraid to speak the plain unvarnished truth to each other and from resenting it when it is spoken. Too much is made of tact and how often do we hear that some one or other has done the right thing but in

the wrong way? If a thing is intrinsically right it is very far from easy to do it wrongly and we ought surely to think more of the spirit than of the method. Liberty from excessive susceptibilities and liberty in handling plain facts are essential if we are ever to hope for that co-operation between thinking men of all races and creeds which alone will make our political progress possible. This Council of ours has done nothing but good if, as I hope and believe, it has made us all a little more familiar with that form of liberty."

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#### Imperial Legislative Council.

The first meeting of the cold weather session of the Imperial Legislative Council was held on the 6th instant. His Excellency the Viceroy in his opening address, referred at the outset to the Shahabad disturbances in the following words:—

"It is with regret that at the very outset of your deliberations I find myself constrained to refer to a very painful topic. It is however impossible to pass over without a word the gross outrage so recently perpetrated upon the peaceful Moslem population of Shahabad and certain neighbouring areas. I speak not only for myself but for the Government of Bihar and the Government of India and I am sure that I carry with me the whole of my Council and I hope the great mass of Hindu opinion as well when I say that those outraged people have our profound sympathy. The Local Government are doing their best to bring the culprits to justice without delay. They are pushing on their investigations regarding compensation as quickly as possible and taking measures to strengthen the police. But I cannot conceal from myself that it must take time to soothe the sore and injured feelings produced by these events and I can only hope that the leaders of both communities will continue the efforts which I am glad to see that some of them have been making to heal these wounds as speedily as possible. I know well that the question at issue in these disturbances is linked with unhappy memories of hatred and violence but India has long since advanced beyond the stage when the appeal in such matters lies to the discreditable agency of brute force. In these days recognised leaders stand forth who are capable of influencing the masses of their fellow-countrymen and surely it is not too much to hope that on their initiative and through their guidance methods may be devised to prevent a recurrence of these regrettable incidents."

His Excellency then announced a change in the procedure of Budget discussions, for which

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a discussion of the Financial Statement is proposed to be substituted. His Excellency then referred to the position of the planters, the tonnage difficulty, the coal problem, the high prices and the steps taken by Government in connection with them. Education and Lord Ronaldshay's scheme of village government were then dwelt upon. After detailing the work of the Indian Defence Force, which it was announced, will be disbanded, His Excellency concluded with a statement on Constitutional Reforms wherein he gave the assurance that he would request publication and discussion of the schemes that may be proposed. The Income Tax Bill and the Cinematograph Bill were then introduced and referred to select committees. The Hon'ble Mr. Sarma's resolution on territorial redistribution was lost. At the resumed meeting of the Council on the 20th, after questions, Sir William Vincent moved that the Usury Bill be referred to a Select Committee consisting of no less than 13 members. Sir Claude Hill introduced a Bill for the levy of a cess on indigo exported from British India. Sir William Meyer next introduced a Bill to amend the Indian Coinage Act 1916 for the replacement of the silver two-anna piece by a nickel coin of the same denomination.

### LOCAL & PROVINCIAL.

THE report of the Select Committee on the Champaran Agrarian Bill has been published. Almost all the members have signed subject to notes of dissent. By the way we find that an amendment of the Patna University Act is going to be made to remove the defect pointed out in these columns some time ago.

MISS Amiya Pal, a daughter of Mr. Damodar Paul, proprietor of the well-known tailoring firm of Patna, has been awarded a special junior scholarship of Rs. 10/- per month tenable for two years at the I. A. classes attached to the Ravenshaw Girls' High School, Cuttack.

THE claims of the Patna University to participate in the benefits of the six scholarships established under the Government of India (Home Department) Resolution dated the 12th February 1886, have recently been urged on the consideration of the Government of India and they have decided that, in supersession of the arrangement laid down in their Educational Resolution No. 399, dated the 1st May 1916, the two scholarships to be awarded in the year 1920 shall be placed at the disposal of the Punjab and the Patna Universities.

IT was stated in reply to a question at the last meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council that sums expended on the Patna excavations by Government amounted in six years to Rs. 17,612, the remaining cost being borne by Sir Ratan Tata. The discoveries include moveable antiquities, and wooden and brick structures. The moveable antiquities are preserved provisionally in the office of the Archaeological Superintendent, while the wooden structures of Mauryan date can only be preserved either by flooding them with water or covering them again with earth. When the excavations are complete, Government will decide which of these two courses will be followed, meanwhile they are being preserved by water. The brick remains are of later date and a small proportion of them will be permanently conserved and kept visible to the public, the remain-

der will be buried again beneath the soil. The site of Pataliputra is protected under the Ancient Monuments Preservation Act, 1904, and chaukidars are maintained there. Government is satisfied that all necessary precautions are being taken for the preservation of these remains.

AT the last meeting of the Imperial Legislative Council, in reply to a question by the Hon'ble Rai Bahadur B. D. Shukul, it was admitted that the inadequate strength of the superior staff interferes with the expansion of the activities of the Agricultural Department over a wider area in the various Provinces of British India. "Local Governments and Administrations", said the Hon'ble Sir Claude Hill, "have been addressed regarding the extent to which it will be necessary or desirable to expand the Provincial Agricultural Departments after the war. All replies have not yet been received and the matter is still under consideration. Difficulties have been experienced by the India Office in securing suitable candidates for the Indian Agricultural Service during the war for the posts already sanctioned. Every endeavour is, however, being made to secure candidates for the superior Service either by direct recruitment of *qualified Indians* and others, or by promotion of qualified men from the Provincial Service." From the words we have italicised, it appears that the Government of India are not averse to the appointment of qualified Indians to the superior Agricultural Service. In the face of this statement, the appointment of the juniormost officer in the Bihar Provincial Service to officiate in a temporary vacancy in the Imperial Service is difficult to justify and we do not wonder that there is a strong feeling among the senior Indian members of the Service against the favouritism thus displayed to a raw Anglo-Indian officer.

THE *Bengalee* writes as follows on the Chairmanship of the Patna City Municipality:—

"We understand that the Chairmanship of the Patna City Municipality has been lying in abeyance for several months past, consequent upon the transfer of Mr. A. L. Inglis and the Vice-Chairman has put himself in double harness for that purpose. It is said that there is a dearth of European Civilians, which accounts for the continuance of the vacancy for such a long time. But is there any express stipulation anywhere that the Chairman of the Patna City Municipality should necessarily be a nominated European member of the Indian Civil Service? In these days, the experiment of appointing non-official Indian gentlemen to the Chairmanship of District Boards has been found to be successful. The experiment has also proved a notable success in connection with the important Municipality of Howrah, the gateway to Calcutta. Why should the Patna Municipality, then, still continue to remain under Civilian Chairmanship? The fact that there is a dearth of European officials at present which makes it difficult for the authorities to get hold of a suitable person for the purpose, affords in our opinion, a special opportunity for initiating the experiment of a non-official Indian Chairman. Let the Behar Government take note of this and desist from saddling the Patna City Municipality with a Civilian Chairman."

For our part we do not see why Mr. Saiyid Ismail, who is at present officiating as the Chairman should not be confirmed in the post. During the short time that he has held the reins of the City Municipality in his hands, Mr. Ismail has shown powers of organisation and control, and in responding to public opinion, he has at least set an example which the Municipality had so long been lacking.

THE reply given by the Hon'ble Mr. McPherson to the Hon'ble Mr. Bishun Prasad's question on the reservation of certain appointments for Eurasians and Anglo-Indians raises important questions of principle. It was said that in the case of confidential posts in the Gulzarbagh Press and the Chief Secretary's Department experience has shown that it is safest to employ Europeans and Anglo-Indians who have no family or social ties with the persons or classes to whom the secret information which passes through these offices ordinarily relates. A general statement like this unsupported by any specific instances, we submit, is always difficult to meet, but as the statement in question casts an unmerited slur on Indian ministerial officers, than whom it would be difficult to find a more loyal and faithful class of servants, we consider that it should not go without protest. Armed as they are with uncontrolled powers, it is of course, open to the authorities to appoint whomsoever they like, but to support the appointment of Smith or D'cruz or Gomes by casting aspersions on men like Rai Saheb Kailash Chandra Das or Rai Hari Sadhan Mukherji or Babu Nalini Mohan Das Gupta or Rai Saheb Ramjadu Bhattacharya who have been handling the innermost secrets of administration for more years probably than Smith, D'cruz or Gomes can count towards their age, is adding insult to injury. As regards the 70 posts of Inspectors and Sergeants reserved for Eurasians in the Police, may we enquire whether that fact has anything to do with the inefficiency of Inspectors so strongly commented upon by Mr. Ryland in his last administration report? Discipline is good, but prevention and detection of crime are much better things, and it would interest the public to know how much was the contribution of Eurasian Inspectors towards the last named objects.

AT the Patna High Court on Monday before the Chief Justice and Mr. Justice Mullick, Mr. P. C. Manuk moved three analogous petitions on behalf of one Sheo Nandan Singh, zemindar of Narga, who was sentenced by the Special Tribunal at Gaya to seven years' transportation in connection with the recent Bakr-Id disturbances. The first petition was for a prerogative writ of habeas corpus, the second for the admission of an appeal from the judgment of the Special Tribunal under section 20 of letters patent of the High Court and the third was for the exercising of the Court's powers of superintendence under section 107 of the Government of India Act.

In moving the application Mr. Manuk dealt with the *habeas corpus* question first and said that the point he took was a very grave one. Act IV of 1915 took away from the High Court functions which it had no right to take away and his second point was that his client had not been tried under the Act at all but was tried under rules laid down by the Local Government. The Tribunal had sentenced a lad of sixteen years old to seven years' transportation and had ordered the forfeiture of the rents and profits of his property during that period. Rules he submitted could not be subversive of an Act itself but here the Local Government had framed rules which practically repealed section 5. In these trials they had no notion of the case against them except what they could gather from the sketchy opening of the Public Prosecutor. The witnesses were not tied to their statements and when A was cross-examined B came in and filled up all the gaps and repaired all the damage done on a previous day.

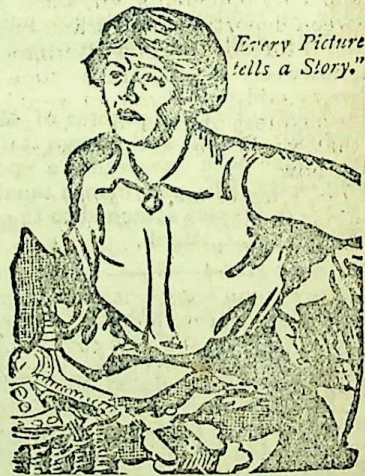
After some further arguments the Chief Justice desired to know on whom he wished the notice to be issued. Mr. Sultan Ahmad, the Govern-

ment Advocate, who was present in Court, suggested that the rule should not issue on the Commissioners as they very respectfully denied the High Court's jurisdiction. If their lordships thought that a case was made out for the issue of a rule they might issue a notice on him to show cause why the rule should not issue. Their lordships agreed with the Government Advocate and issued a notice on him to that effect making it returnable about a month hence.

### LORD MORLEY'S "RECOLLECTIONS."

(Continued from our last issue.)

"The question is the Future. 'Tis like the Czar and the Duma. Are we to say, 'You shall have reforms when you are quiet. Meanwhile we won't listen to a word you say. Our reform projects are hung up. Meanwhile plenty of courts-martial, lettres de cachet and the other paraphernalia of law and order.' People here who have been shouting against the Grand Dukes in Petersburg for bullying the Duma, will shout equally vociferously against you and me if we don't in our own sphere borrow the Grand Duke policy. Percy (a thoroughly good and extremely clever fellow) told me to-day that the strong feeling in society and the City is that rows in Lahore and Pindi are results of accepting the resignation of Fuller. Was there ever such unreason and absurdity? On the other hand, a Radical friend of mine is to ask me on Monday whether I will repeal the Regulation of 1818 (allowing deportation). Of course I shall tell him No. But you know the ground too well in



### As Long As You Are Well

You probably Overdo:

**O**VERWORK and worry don't pay. No-body can defy Nature's Laws. We all need peace of mind, exercise, and eight hours' sleep to keep well. We must not over-eat, nor drink much, except of milk or water.

Careless habits load the blood with uric acid poisons. The kidneys act as safety-valves, filtering the blood, and passing off the poisons, but are bound to weaken under any continued strain, and once they falter, you feel tired and nervous. Your back aches, you have headaches, dizzy spells, and urinary disorders.

The first thing to do to get relief is to get back to simple, sensible habits. But you must also help the weakened kidneys. You can depend for this on Doan's Backache Kidney Pills.

This medicine will prove of great service in restoring the activity of the kidneys, and helping them to expel uric acid and the body's fluid waste. Doan's Pills are guaranteed free from any injurious ingredients whatever.

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

"Ball Mall" "Westminster", and the "City of London", for me to need to draw a picture of the forces that will wax active in the various directions. I daresay they will all die down. That will depend on India. Nobody in the world has better reason for desiring us to suppress the row than the Moderates among the Congress party, for they will be dished if disorder prevails. It is no use saying more until we know more—that is to say, until events have shown us what the sedition is made of and amounts to. I fancy you are of a good temperament for troublesome times, and I believe that I am not bad. So we come well out of it; only don't be too economical in telegraphing."

May 16.—"Deportations is an ugly dose for Radicals to swallow; in truth, if I did not happen to possess a spotless character as an anti-coercionist in Ireland, our friends would certainly have kicked a good deal. As it is, if a division is forced after my speech, we shall have against us the Irishmen, most if not all of the Labour men, and a fair handful of our ordinary rank and file. This may put me personally into something of a hole; for I don't see how I could carry on, if I found myself opposed by a majority of our own party. However, we need not say good-morrow to the Devil until we meet him."

May 24—"I am only one quarter ready with my discourse to the H. of C. next Thursday, so I shall only send you today a mere note of amicable greeting. It will be a delicate sort of performance, as you may easily imagine, and words will have to be pretty carefully chosen. The only comfort that my immediate audience will be not all unfriendly in any quarter of it, though Radical supporters will be critical, and Tory opponents will scent an inconsistency between deporting Lajpat and my old fighting of Balfour for locking up William O'Brien. I shall not, however, waste much time about that. I have always said that Strafford would have made a far better business of Ireland than Cromwell did, but then that would be an awkward doctrine to preach just now."

June 7—"Forgive me for adding a single line, to beg you not to allow any of your officers, great or small, to abuse or press too far the good position in which we now stand. That is a very possible danger, so pray keep a good strong curb-chain on. To tell you the truth, the more I think both of . . . and . . . the less do I value the judgment of either the one or the other. And now, by the way, that we have got down the rusty sword of 1818 (Act for deportation), I wish you would deport . . . and . . . (two officials). What do you say? I should defend that operation with real verve."

"When I hear or read some malicious or injurious word in politics, I find real comfort in saying to myself "Nabochilish!" with convinced emphasis. What does it matter? Why need I care? It won't alter the facts. Time will prove. Wait. The facts are what justifies—facts and time. There's a grand dose of philosophy for you! And yes, from . . . 's account, you stand in no need of it, and so much the better. In one sense I need it more than you, for since deportation began, I am often wounded in the house of my friends—"shelving the principles of a life time," "violently unsaying all that he has been saying for thirty or forty years," and other compliments of that species. This from men to whom I have been attached and wine, and then out comes my talismanic "Nabochilish!"

July, 18.—"I must say a single word about interception of suspicious correspondence." I have enjoyed a considerable familiarity—to borrow John Bright's sarcasm about people "enjoying bad health"—with operations of this sort in a country nearer home than India, and came slowly but rather decidedly to the conclusion that they are mostly futile."

December, 20.—"I was amused the other day at

his (Curzon's) fishing out some old writing of mine, in which I seem to have denounced Warren Hastings as a great criminal, a tyrant, and sundry other compliments, no doubt borrowed by me from Burke, then a high idol of mine, as, for that matter, he remains to this hour (and perhaps also he does to a descendant of Gilbert Elliot). However, my assent to deportation has atoned for all youthful indiscretion in Burke's direction, and Curzon magnanimously recived me into the bosom of the Imperialistic Church."

(To be continued.)

## ADVERTISEMENTS.

### NOTICE.

(SEC. 209 OF ACT VII OF 1913.)

Notice is hereby given that a meeting of the creditors of the **INDIAN GOODS SUPPLY CO. LD.**, will be held on the 1st March 1918 at 6 P.M. at the Company's Office, Ranchi.

Ranchi, 6-2-18.		ASHU TOSH ROY, EKKARI SEN, Liquidators of the Indian Goods Supply Co. Ld, Ranchi.
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## Bihar and Orissa Forest Service.

One nomination will be made for the Provincial Forest Service Course 1919-21 commencing at Dehra Dun on the 1st April 1919.

Further particulars are published in the Bihar and Orissa Gazette.

Ranchi, The 6th Feb. 1918. (3-1)		H. H. HAINES, Conservator of Forests, Bihar & Orissa.
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### Notice.

In supersession of previous notices, it is notified that the booking of Military and Government traffic has been resumed, but booking of Merchandise traffic for the Public will continue to be temporarily restricted, and as it is not possible to give previous intimation of the imposition or removal of restrictions in Goods booking, the Public are 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.

EAST INDIAN RAILWAY, GENL. TRAF. MNR'S OFFICE, Calcutta, 8-2-1918.	}	By order, C. M. PEARCE, General Traffic Manger.
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## NOTICE.

(SEC. 206 OF ACT VII OF 1913.)

Whereas the INDIAN GOODS SUPPLY CO. LD., Ranchi cannot by reason of its liabilities continue its business and that it is advisable to wind up, and whereas at a meeting of the share-holders of the said Company held at the Company's office on 3rd February 1918 at 6 P.M. the following Resolution was passed:

"It is resolved that the Company be voluntarily wound up and that Babu Ashutosh Roy and Ekkari Sen be and they are appointed Liquidators:"

Notice is hereby given to all concern-

ed of the above Resolution to wind up voluntarily the said Company.

Ranchi,  
6-2-18.

ASHU TOSH ROY,  
EKKARI SEN,  
Liquidators of the Indian  
Goods Supply Co. Ltd.,  
Ranchi.

## NOTICE.

### GATECHISM ON THE INDIAN PENAL CODE.

By S. N. Singh Esq. B.L. An excellent guide to examinees for the B. L., the Departmental and Mukhtearship examinations. Price Re. 1/- to be had of the author S. N. Singh Esqr. Assistant Manager Hathwa Raj.

## ALLAHABAD BANK, LIMITED.

ESTABLISHED 1865.

AUTHORISED CAPITAL	...	...	Rs. 40,00,000
CAPITAL (Subscribed and fully paid up)	...	...	" 30,00,000
RESERVE FUND No. 1 (Invested in Government Paper)	...	...	" 45,00,000
RESERVE FUND No. 2 (For adjusting the value of the Government Paper held in Reserve Fund No. 1.)	...	...	" 5,25,000

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Bankipur (Patna).	Jhansi.
Bareilly.	Jubbulpur.
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Cawnpur.	Mussoorie.
Dehra Dun.	Nagpur.
Delhi.	Naini Tal.

#### SUB-AGENCIES.

Allahabad City.	Hathras City.
Aminabad Park. (Lucknow.)	Lucknow City.
Amritsar.	Lyallpur.
Benares City.	Moradabad.
Chandausi.	Rai Bareilly.
Fyzabad.	Sitapur.

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#### FIXED DEPOSITS

Received on the following terms:—

Repayable after	12 months	5	per cent	per annum.
"	" 9	" 4½	"	"
"	" 6	" 4	"	"
"	" 3	" 3½	"	"

Currency Notes of any Circle, Cheques and Hundies are received for credit in Fixed Deposit Account free of charge.

The Bank continues to receive money in Fixed Deposit "payable to either or survivor" in the case of two persons, or "payable to them, any one of them, or the survivor, or survivors" for three or more persons; thus avoiding the necessity of any steps being taken towards obtaining Letters of Administration.

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Sums as small as Rs. 5 received and interest allowed at 3% per annum. Maximum amount allowed at credit of any one account is Rs. 3,000. Copy of Rules can be had on application.

#### LOANS AND CASH CREDITS granted on approved Security.

The Bank undertakes the Safe Custody of securities, etc., and to negotiate the purchase or sale of Government and other securities, drawing interest and dividends on the same as they fall due.

Banking business of every description transacted. For further particulars apply to

ALEX. SMART,

Agent, Patna Branch.