

# THE Servant of India

Editor: V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI.

VOL. I., NO. 12.]

POONA—THURSDAY, MAY 9, 1918.

[ ANNUAL SUBSN. RS. 4.

## CONTENTS.

	PAGE.
TOPICS OF THE WEEK	133
ARTICLE :—	
The War Conference	136
SPECIAL ARTICLES :—	
Native States in the Indian Constitution. By Prof. H. G. Limaye	137
Indian Delegation at the Imperial War Cabinet: A Constitutional View. By H. B. B.	138
The Bhagini Samaj: Two Years' Work. By K. J. Chitalia	141
REVIEWS :—	
The Auditor-General's Report. By K. M. T.	141
Development of Forests in Mysore. By K. M. T.	142
LETTERS FROM THE PROVINCES :—	
Sind	142
CORRESPONDENCE :—	
The Urdu-Hindi Question. By Jabali	143

## TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

LAST week it was again reported that the force of the enemy offensive in the West was dying down. Later telegrams, however, show that the enemy is at it again. He has consolidated his position at Kemmel and is making a great effort to force the hill chain to its west. It has now come to be understood that these periodical lulls in the enemy offensive are indications of the exhaustion of the enemy or of his advance being held up: but they are only the intervals during which the enemy moves forward his whole paraphernalia of war and consolidates his gains. All this makes the situation on the Western front anxious. But as against this have to be put the counter-bombardments of the British and the local successes of the Allies which are not altogether inconsiderable. They are signs of the enemy offensive being resumed on the Italian front. What the force and extent of it will be it is difficult to foretell. In fact no one can be sure that it is a serious effort. Recently there have been reports more than once to this effect, but they did not pass beyond the stage of mere reports. In Mesopotamia, Palestine, and the Sinai Peninsula the advantages already gained have been maintained and a steady forward movement is being made.

MR. GANDHI'S letter to the Viceroy is characterised by his usual directness, penetration and earnestness of purpose. That he made no allusion to these sentiments in his speech at the conclud-

ing-sitting of the Conference in Delhi and that he refused to sign Mr. Khaparde's resolution are but consequences of his policy of high chivalry towards constituted authority as tested more than once in South Africa. Most Indian politicians would endorse Mr. Gandhi's emphatic statement of the incapacity of the country to make any further contribution to Great Britain in money; and the Government of India will be well advised to bear his warning in mind when they meet the Indian Legislative Council in September next. We do not forget that the Viceroy mentioned a further money demand as a possibility, and that if no immediate proposal has been made in this direction it is perhaps due to a fear that India may have to bear additional military burdens on her own account by reason of the enemy advance in Central Asia. If India be actually invaded or even threatened with invasion, her resources will be subjected to a crushing burden, but even without an invasion she is certain to find herself in extreme financial embarrassment in the near future. And there are only certain ways in which her poverty will allow her to discharge her admitted obligations to the Empire.

IN pursuance of the plan settled at Delhi, provincial conferences are being held in the provinces. Thus in Bengal, the Punjab, the United Provinces Bihar, &c., such conferences were held, at which the resolutions adopted by the Delhi Conference were reaffirmed, and measures decided upon there were put in train. It would appear from these proceedings that the pay of the sepoy was likely to be increased from Rs. 11 to Rs. 17. Mr. Surendranath Banerjee and Mr. Chakravarti have expressed the view that this increase, though undoubtedly considerable, was not adequate to the need. As regards the further grant of King's Commissions, it was announced that the Government of India had already submitted their proposals before His Majesty's Government, and that an early decision might be expected on the question. The Punjab Conference passed a resolution that the Punjab should supply during the current year 2,00,000 recruits to the army and a minimum of 2,000 recruits to the Indian section of the I. D. F. It was also resolved that if the voluntary system failed to produce the respective quotas assigned to the provinces, Government should not hesitate to enforce these quotas by a form of conscription—the taking, for instance, of one fit man in ten or fifteen

or twenty by lot with the option of some pecuniary forfeit to be paid to the State. Lord Ronaldshay, however, warned in the Bengal Conference that talk about compulsory service was more likely to create panic among those who did not understand it than to do good. All these conferences were successful in so far as enlisting non-official support to the measures contemplated by Government was concerned.

REFERENCE is made in our leading article to the standpoint of those members of the Delhi Conference who did not sign the resolution of the Hon'ble Mr. Khaparde. The attitude of these gentlemen has been severely criticised, and one has heard more than once the remark that they have sold the country. Allowance must no doubt be made for the strong feelings roused by political controversy; nor is the expression "selling the country" more offensive than several others that one reads of in exciting times, whether in England, America or India. Our present concern is only to point out that the application of such an expression to your opponents implies that the course that you proposed to take would infallibly have led to the salvation of the country. Is it so clear that a resolution containing twenty signatures would have carried India to its political haven, while one carrying fourteen signatures did not come near doing so? The margin of difference between the two views is not sufficient to invest one with the attributes of wisdom, courage and patriotism and the other with the opposite qualities.

SPEAKING last Friday night at a *pansupari* party in Bombay, Mr. Tilak is reported to have observed that the departure of Mr. Montagu a few days before the Delhi Conference was a proof of the disinclination of Government to commit themselves to an early fulfilment of their promise of political reform in India. We feel almost sure that this interpretation is too pessimistic. Those that have conversed with Mr. Montagu cannot believe that he would be a willing party to a sinister course of promising and defrauding India; nor is it possible to entertain serious doubts of the intentions of the Government of India after reading the latest speech of the Viceroy. In opening the Conference on 27th April, His Excellency gave us hope that the proposals would be published as soon as possible after the Secretary of State should reach England. In fact, so far from endorsing Mr. Tilak's theory, we should, considering the probabilities of the case, hazard the conjecture that Mr. Montagu was anxious after the Premier's message to avoid all possible delay in the announcement of the reforms calculated to evoke a generous response to that message from the people of India.

MR. K. NATARAJAN, who so worthily filled the presidential chair at the Social Conference of the Bombay Presidency the other day, voiced a com-

plaint that Government, who formerly used to take a lead in social reform, had for the last thirty years ceased to be a force favourable to social progress, and inveighed in scathing terms against ex-Governors like Lord Sydenham who, themselves opposing such measures as the Elementary Education Bill of Mr. Gokhale and the Civil Marriage Bill of Mr. Basu, when they had an opportunity to support them, recommend social reform as the most suitable field for Indians to engage themselves in and thus seek to draw a red-herring across the trail of Indian politicians. He showed how even in the interests of social legislation, which the Government have latterly become unwilling to support out of deference to the prejudices of the orthodox masses, constitutional reforms of a drastic character were rendered absolutely necessary. If after such political readjustment the party of social reform found themselves in a minority, as was likely, they would have at all events a chance of pressing social reform in a responsible manner, which was not possible under the present constitution.

HE also showed up the hollowness of the plea of some home rulers, who argued that social reform should wait till home rule was obtained. Home rule would give us the power to enact measures of social reform, but not the will, which too often was found to be lacking. "It is hard to believe," said Mr. Natarajan, "that persons who in these matters do not display any degree of liberalism will, as soon as home rule is granted, become suddenly converted to social reform." Finally, he commended to the attention of the country a programme of social reform consisting of universal free and compulsory education, including the education of girls, improvement of all those customs and conditions which lead to enormous infant mortality, the problem of high mortality rates, the problem of housing, etc.

THE Hon'ble Mr. V. J. Patel in the first part of his speech as president of the Bombay Provincial Conference showed, by referring to a paper read by the late Mr. W. C. Bonnerjee to the East India Association in 1867, that self-government was no new revelation by any "modern prophet" but it had always been the gospel of the elders and stalwarts of the Congress, and refuted the several objections raised to the Congress-League scheme. He argued that there was no substance in the criticism that the announcement of policy made by the Secretary of State on 20th August had made the Congress-League scheme obsolete. The very fact, he said in effect, that the object of the Congress was defined to be the "attainment of a system of government similar to that prevailing in the self-governing members of the British Empire," and the Congress-League scheme of reforms was proposed as the first step towards it, proved that though the goal of responsible government was kept steadily in view it was not

necessary to provide for a removable executive in the reforms to be introduced as a first stage in our advance towards it. He then canvassed the Curtis scheme which has been put forward in opposition to the Congress-League scheme and showed how under it the immediate advance would be but inconsiderable and how a guarantee of future progress was lacking in it.

\* \* \*

MR. PATEL drew on his experience in the Bombay Legislative Council to show how ineffectual in practice have been the reforms known as Morley-Minto reforms. The power given under them to the President of the Council to disallow any resolution as being opposed to public interest had helped to remove a large number of inconvenient resolutions out of the way. In 1916 24 out of 68, and in 1917 31 out of 72, resolutions of which notice was given were thus disallowed. The few he quoted by way of illustration cannot by any process of reasoning be regarded as other than in public interest. Since the Morley-Minto reforms came into force only five resolutions could be carried in Council in the face of the opposition of the official minority—which showed what value really attached to the non-official majority that existed at present in provincial councils. He showed again how the institution of a Finance Committee had failed entirely to give non-officials opportunity to influence the financial proposals made by the executive. For these proposals were not placed before the non-officials, and in their absence non-official members obviously could not make any useful suggestions. All this proved that the powers of legislative councils must be considerably widened.

\* \* \*

THE hardening effect of partisanship even on the gentlest natures is strikingly exemplified in the case of Sir S. Subramania Aiyar. His criticism of Principal Paranjpye for his articles on National Education and of this paper for publishing them betrays intolerance and ill-temper which one associates only with an inferior order of disputants. Principal Paranjpye is one of the few Indians who have brought conspicuous ability, character and self-sacrifice into the work of education, and his services in that field and the eminent success that has attended them entitle him to be heard with respect on all matters connected with education. He is likewise a virile personality, always thinking for himself and expressing himself without fear either of the Government or of the public. Such independence is none too common, and would have won unstinted admiration from Sir Subramania Aiyar not many years ago. What a tragic change!

\* \* \*

THIS paper is likewise condemned by him as unworthy of its name. It is apparently doing disservice to the cause of India, while calling itself the *Servant of India*. One act of disservice is the harbouring of treason against the national education. We cannot help it. We believe

that there is no sound thought or well-judged plan behind the cry of national education and Principal Paranjpye has done a public service in exposing the fallacies underlying it, and indicating the evils to which it may lead, and we are glad that he has used the pages of this journal for the purpose. We take no pleasure in running contrary to public opinion; on the contrary, we grieve to have to do so occasionally. We are sustained by the faith that truest service to society consists in an honest and fearless expression of genuine opinion, even when it happens to be in conflict with the generally received opinion. We have no intention yet of changing our name.

\* \* \*

WE have a further instalment of the conclusions of Lord Balfour of Burleigh's Committee on trade after the war. Therein are made certain recommendations as to the measures the Committee thinks it necessary to take for safeguarding and promoting the industrial interests of England and the Empire. In such matters there is often more zeal than cool consideration of what is practicable and what is not, and while the reorganization of the commercial intelligence service of the Board of Trade, which has been recently effected, is to be welcomed, we must guard ourselves against the formulation of extravagant schemes of reconstruction and building excessive hopes thereon. Lord Balfour of Burleigh's Committee itself has thus uttered a note of warning in respect of the prohibition of certain exports to enemy countries after the war as it feels that, besides raising a question of great international difficulty, the idea is not likely to be effectively put into practice. While, therefore, much may be done to improve the trade and industries of England, the position of the Allies and of the several component parts of the Empire must be duly considered before any cut and dried scheme of reconstruction is formulated. The economic interests of India will have to be properly and carefully safeguarded, or there is the fear of their being ignored or sacrificed. This is an aspect of the problem of imperial reconstruction which Indian leaders have to insist upon being attended to with that solicitude which the subject demands.

\* \* \*

ON the occasion of the last birth-day of His Highness the Maharaja of Bhavanagar, some important privileges were granted to the subjects of the State. By conferring the right of electing two-thirds of its members, the city municipality is brought on an equal level with the municipalities in British India, except for the right of an elected President. The inauguration of the People's Representative Assembly for the whole State is a step, though it must be confessed a short step, in the right direction. The members are at present to be wholly nominated and their duties to be merely advisory, but we strongly hope that the Assembly will, in due time, develop into a really representative body with substantial rights and privileges.

## THE WAR CONFERENCE.

THE Delhi War Conference, which met from the 27th to the 29th of April, assembled on one of those rare occasions when, if it were only possible in human nature, differences of every kind should have been absolutely silenced and all parties and communities, including those bearing the burden of government, should have had their minds filled with one sole and sovereign idea. The Empire's crisis and India's peril stood out in grim vividness and no one could take his gaze away from the fearful vision. It was of the utmost importance that by a striking demonstration the minds of the entire Indian population should be riveted on the measures necessary to meet the situation and the essential identity of the interests of the Empire and India brought home to every single citizen. Not only this. The world at large had also to be made to realise how united, in the face of the danger to the country, were the Government and the public, prince and peasant, the classes and the masses. Looked at from this point of view, the Conference did achieve a great moral object. There can be no doubt that this moral object was the principal end sought by those who summoned the Conference. At the same time the unanimous consent of the representative gathering was obtained to measures of enormous importance which for prompt and effective fulfilment could not rest on civil authority, however competent legally, but demanded the concurrence of wise men of affairs.

Critics, who have not much imagination or have allowed their imagination to be overborne by the grosser aspects of its proceedings, have complained that the results of the Conference have not been commensurate with the expense and trouble involved. The rigid official is apt to think that, as he has the necessary power and knowledge, a grave crisis is the last time for showing moral weakness of any kind and seeking the co-operation of the public. To him, therefore, the necessity of having to parley with representatives of all shades of opinion and coming to terms with the restless agitator must appear as galling as unnecessary. On the other hand, it is easy to realise the moral perplexity of those who, having long striven for great national causes, felt that the fateful moment had come when by the exercise of unshaken firmness they could wrest by the aid of inexorable necessity what in ordinary times seemed hopelessly out of reach. Between these sharply contrasted points of view were various others which, while accepting the supreme need of the hour for united effort, tried to harmonise it with the attainment of aims, only slightly less important but obviously indispensable to the success of that united effort. To the political worker whom unsuccess has not yet brought to the verge of impatience the resolutions of the Conference, recommending a substantial proportion of army commissions to Indians and the training of those selected for the purpose, taken along with the

other suggestions calculated to give Indian opinion more real weight in shaping important acts of administration than it has hitherto enjoyed, must bring genuine satisfaction. Pessimists may also feel their doubts resolved as they contemplate the lone figure of Gandhi, worn thin in the fearless pursuit of *satya*, standing up to proclaim in calm and decisive tones that he fully comprehended the obligations imposed on patriotic citizens by the principal resolution of the Conference and that he wholeheartedly accepted them. Other spokesmen of popular opinion were equally clear in the acceptance of these obligations but added in terms more or less sanguine the expectation that the political aspirations of the country were nearing realisation. It is thus impossible for any but unscrupulous and mendacious enemies of India to say that there is no great yearning in this country towards responsible government as it did not find expression on the one occasion on which it should naturally have sought expression. The speech of Sir Sivaswamy Iyer should be conclusive evidence that in the most sober and responsible circles the ideals embodied in the Congress-League scheme are cherished, not as distant goals but as claimant needs of the hour.

In the public comments on the work of the Conference much importance has naturally been given to the resolution which the Hon'ble Mr. Khaparde sought to bring before the Conference, and which was backed up by several weighty names. With the substance of this resolution the popular representatives present in Delhi, it need scarcely be said, were in hearty accord; Mr. Sastri doubtless voiced the universal feeling among them when he said that although the President had felt constrained to rule it out of order it embodied the national aspiration. Opinion, however, was not unanimous as to the propriety of raising the issue in a specific resolution at the open Conference. It was apprehended by some that that course might be made by unfriendly critics to wear the look of conditional or qualified co-operation on the part of the people, which it was obviously desirable to avoid. The essential thing was to make it clear to the authorities that in the mature judgment of Indian leaders the participation of India in the great blessing of self-determining freedom would be the greatest factor in evoking the fullest and most cordial response from her sons to the call made on them in the moment of danger; and considering the composition of the Conference, the circumstances in which it was convoked and the attention that it would draw from the world abroad, it was appropriate that allusion should be made to it in the speeches without giving it the overshadowing prominence with which a special resolution would inevitably have invested it. Even those who disagree with this opinion will be inclined to allow that it has much force. The members of the Conference who hesitated to support the resolution by attaching their names to it need not necessarily be as not

of timid or unpatriotic conduct. They might even claim that they showed a just sense of the gravity of the situation as a whole and likewise of its component factors.

### NATIVE STATES IN THE INDIAN CONSTITUTION.

THE war has brought to the front many problems which otherwise might have not been seriously considered so soon. Not the least important of them, so far as India is concerned, is the problem: What position should the Native States hold in the future Indian constitution? Recently special attention has been directed to it by the protest entered in some quarters against the inclusion of Ruling Princes in the Delhi War Conference, and this has been echoed and re-echoed in various places, sometimes by persons who are not suspected of holding identical views on burning political topics of the day. This seeming unanimity is likely to mislead public opinion and obscure the real nature of the point at issue. The question is simply this: Was the Government of India ill advised in inviting Ruling Princes and Chiefs to attend the Delhi War Conference? We think the only possible or conceivable answer to this question is in the negative. In fact we think it is too late in the day to enter protests, emphatic or otherwise, against the participation of Indian Princes in imperial affairs. If such participation is to be condemned, it should have been last year when His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner was nominated by the Government of India as one of its representatives at the Imperial War Conference. This has since been followed by the nomination of His Highness of Alwar to attend this year's session of the Imperial War Conference. These are hard facts which cannot be ignored and they will continue to stare the protestants in the face, however inconvenient their existence may be. The Delhi Conference had its own defects both as regards its constitution and the business that was to be considered at its session. For instance, the cessation of all political agitation in British India should not have been an item on the agenda of a mixed Conference of Ruling Princes and British Indian officials and non-officials, and Government did well to drop it out at the time of discussion. But the presence of the Rulers of Native States stands upon a different footing. It was not and could not be a defect in the constitution of the Conference. On the contrary, it made the Conference really imperial and representative of all the important Indian interests.

It is a commonplace of Indian politics to refer to the Native States as constituting one-third of the area and one-fifth of the population of the Indian Empire. No Conference can claim to speak for the whole of India unless it includes a substantial representation of Native States. There is a good deal of loose thinking in regard to these things. It cannot be too often pointed out

that India and British India are not convertible terms. What pertains only to British India may have no application to the Native States, which are from a constitutional point of view outside British India, and so the Congress-League scheme of reforms does not refer to Native States. But when questions relating to the *whole* of India, or the Indian Empire, as we would call it, are discussed, the Native States cannot be left out. Defence, customs, railways, posts and telegraphs, &c. fall under this category. At the present moment Native States are consulted and their co-operation is sought only in matters of defence. It is to be deplored that in regard to other matters this is not done. But it would be a very curious method indeed of righting wrongs to refuse to recognise the position of Native States in regard to questions of defence, because they are not consulted about customs or railways. Every relation has both its duties and privileges. It is rarely that both are recognised simultaneously. Sometimes it is the one, sometimes it is the other that is first recognised. The duties of Native States as regards defence have been long recognised. Their privilege to be consulted about measures of defence is being slowly and insufficiently respected. That they have any rights at all as regards the customs and railways of India, the British Government does not seem to be conscious. The Imperial Service Troops of Lord Dufferin inaugurated the new era of co-operation in defence. The war has enabled the Native States to take a long stride in advance in the same direction. Perhaps the end of the war may bring about a closer union between British India and the Native States and the foundations may be laid of a federal constitution for the Indian Empire. That is a consummation to be devoutly wished for and all tendencies pointing in that direction must be cherished and developed.

The problem of the constitutional position of Native States in the Indian constitution is a complicated one, and its solution bristles with difficulties. In fact it is a problem the proper solution of which depends upon the solution of two subsidiary ones. The relations of the rulers of Native States to the British Government and the constitutional position and rights of the people in them must be considered before any real beginnings are made of a federal constitution. The relations of Indian Princes and chiefs to the British Government are not regulated by statute. They are determined by the existing treaties and agreements between the parties and as such are entirely within the sphere of executive action. What those relations actually are, it is unnecessary to describe at great length. Although signs are not wanting of a new awakening, the main lines of Macaulay's description written about eighty years ago are substantially correct, namely, that Indian Princes carry out the orders of British Political Agents which they give in the form of advice. Unless and until this is radically changed all talk of

consultation and co-operation is bound to be empty. Indian Princes will be declared to have enthusiastically offered what may perhaps have been extorted by executive decree. But as has been observed above, there are signs of a new spirit inspiring these Rulers, which finds expression in some of their utterances. The Chiefs' Conferences of last year and this year have marked a new departure in the policy of the British Government. There are grounds to hope that in future the lives and character of Indian Rulers will not be entirely at the mercy of Political Agents and their superiors and that due safeguards will be provided for securing their independence of action. The constitutional position of the people of Native States is another serious difficulty. No federation of Native States with British India is possible or desirable until the people of Native States are lifted from the position of subjects to that of free citizens. A federation is possible only between States having constitutions of the same character. The objection of the Colonials to the admission of India as a member of the British Commonwealth on a footing of equality was valid, and the declaration of August 20 followed by a substantial instalment of self-government will meet it in an effective manner. So also British India, fully or partially self-governing, cannot federate with autocratically governed Native States. In any federal constitution for India the people of the States must be represented along with the Governments. This is possible only when constitutions are granted by the Rulers of Native States to their people. Here also small beginnings can be traced. Representative Assemblies have been established in some of the important States; some others are thinking of following suit. Thus if an attempt is being made to draw the Native States closer for purposes of common defence, there are signs of a corresponding improvement in the status of the people of the States and also their relations to the British Government. No one says that what has been accomplished is sufficient or that the rate of progress is satisfactory. But leaders of public opinion should not denounce what has been done. They should rather address themselves to accelerating the pace so that the goal may be reached earlier.

H. G. LIMAYE.

## INDIAN DELEGATION AT THE IMPERIAL WAR CABINET:

### A CONSTITUTIONAL VIEW.

THE reply officially given to Mr. Surendranath Bannerji when he raised the question of India being represented by a representative elected by the non-official members of the Viceroy's Council is in substance a repetition of similar statements made on former occasions. But mere repetition does not carry conviction. I should like to look a little more closely into the question from the constitutional point of view and see how far the position

of the Government is tenable and how far the question raised by Mr. Bannerji admits of a satisfactory solution. The following remarks are offered not in any carping spirit, but with a sincere desire to help the Government and the people in arriving at some working compromise.\* I hope to show that the Government is not bound hand and foot in the matter as is sometimes represented, but that they can act freely so far as the question raised is concerned, and that the demand voiced by Mr. Bannerji can be granted without overstepping constitutional limits. The Government want to abide by the authoritative explanation of the Imperial War Cabinet offered by the Prime Minister to the House of Commons on May 17, 1917. It was interpreted in India by Lord Chelmsford, but I beg to submit that that interpretation is not quite correct. The Premier's explanation is capable of another interpretation which will enable the Indian Government to grant the demand put forward by Mr. Bannerji. The Premier said:—

"The Imperial Cabinet should consist of the Prime Minister of the United Kingdom and such of his colleagues as deal specially with imperial affairs, of the Prime Minister of each of the Dominions, or some specially accredited alternate possessed of equal authority, and of a representative of the Indian people to be appointed by the Government of India... We hope that the holding of an annual Imperial Cabinet to discuss foreign affairs and other aspects of imperial policy will become an accepted convention of the British constitution... The essence of it is that the responsible heads of the Governments of the Empire with those Ministers who are specially entrusted with the conduct of imperial policy should meet together at regular intervals to confer about foreign policy and matters connected therewith and come to decisions in regard to them which, subject to the control of their own Parliaments, they will then severally execute."

Lord Chelmsford thus explained the situation, so far as India was concerned:—

"It follows that the responsibilities for the choice of the representatives must rest with the Government. I think that our critics have misapprehended the nature of the Conference and of the representation. The Conference is of the Mother Country, the Dominions and India. Each Dominion is represented by its Prime Minister and has but one voice in the Conference. But the Prime Ministers are permitted to bring with them such other Ministers as they desire and may invite these Ministers to speak on behalf of the Dominions on any particular question. It is obvious that in the case of India, so long as the Secretary of State is directly responsible to the Parliament for the policy of the Indian Government, the Secretary of State must be the head of the Indian delegation, and the policy propounded by India must be the policy of the Secretary of State in Council."

This explanation of his Excellency the Viceroy is, I am afraid, not consistent with what has been laid down by the Prime Minister. It cannot lead to any proper representation of Indian affairs and Indian needs in the determination of a course of truly imperial policy.

Before proceeding to analyse the argument, we should do well to bear in mind one fact about

\*This article was written before the appointment of Indian delegates to the Imperial War Conference was made.

the Imperial Cabinet 'that this piece of constitutional machinery is only a rudimentary growth whose functions and composition have not yet become clearly defined.' The Prime Minister also says that 'the institution in its present form is extremely elastic.' In these circumstances it would be better statesmanship on the part of the Government not to cast in an iron mould the framework of the Indian delegation at the Conference. It does not behove British statesmen to maintain too rigid an attitude in working out a scheme, the lines of which are to be as elastic as possible in the beginning, according to the Premier himself. If at this initial stage India is denied her proper share—a share rightly given in accordance with the principles enunciated by the Prime Minister—the only effect will be to hamper for an indefinitely long period her onward march in line with the Dominions. If, on the other hand, the words of the Prime Minister are construed in the liberal spirit in which they have been uttered and accordingly acted upon, the result will undoubtedly be to accelerate India's progress and conduce to the harmony and the glory of the Empire.

If we carefully look to what the Prime Minister declared on May 17, 1917, we shall have to admit that it is the heads of the Governments in the Empire who are to meet together to confer on questions of imperial policy. Lord Chelmsford may have referred to this when he said that 'in the case of India, so long as the Secretary of State is directly responsible to the Parliament for the policy of the Indian Government, the Secretary of State must be the head of the Indian delegation.' In this announcement the use of the words 'responsible' and 'policy' is ambiguous and consequently misleading. Let us take 'policy' first. 'Policy,' as generally used, includes both home and foreign policy; but the 'policy' intended by His Excellency the Viceroy is surely foreign policy only; because it must be foreign policy which is the chief matter for decision at meetings of the Imperial War Cabinet; that is, 'imperial policy' as it is said to be by the Prime Minister. Now, Lord Chelmsford says that as the Secretary of State is directly responsible to the Parliament for this, the imperial policy of the Indian Government, he must be the head of the Indian delegation. One may naturally ask whether the Colonial Secretary is not directly responsible to the Parliament for the imperial policy of the Dominions, and if he is why he is not the head of the Colonial delegations. Sir Robert Borden once said, with reference to the Imperial War Cabinet, "We meet there as equals and he (the Prime Minister) is *primus inter pares*." The 'we' of Sir Robert Borden includes the Prime Minister, the Colonial Secretary and the Secretary of State for India. If Lord Chelmsford's reasoning be correct, the Colonial representatives had no right to meet the Colonial Secretary 'on terms of equality,' as declared by Sir Robert Borden, and the Imperial Cabinet would have consisted of the Prime Minister, the

Foreign Secretary, the Colonial Secretary and the Secretary of State for India. But this has not been so and thus the criterion of direct responsibility to the British Parliament as regards imperial policy fails to be applicable to the Colonial delegations. It is therefore fair that it should not be applied to the Indian delegation as well.

A similar ambiguity is to be seen in the case of the word 'responsible.' Lord Chelmsford means to say that those representatives who are directly responsible to the British Parliament can be the heads of the delegations. The Secretary of State for India is no doubt such an one; but the Colonial Prime Ministers do not come under this category. They are responsible to their respective Parliaments, as is indeed acknowledged by the British Prime Minister; they are not directly responsible to the British Parliament. Sir Robert Borden is clear and emphatic on this point. Says he:

"Ministers from six nations sit around the Council board, all of them responsible to their respective Parliaments and to the people of the countries which they represent. Each nation has its voice upon questions of common concern, each preserves unimpaired its perfect autonomy, its self-government and the responsibility of its ministers to their own electorate."

The second test also will thus be found to fail when applied to the Colonial delegations. Direct responsibility to the British Parliament cannot be the reason for the Secretary of State for India being the head of the Indian delegation.

Thus the grounds put forward by the Government of India do not support the claim advanced on behalf of the Secretary of State for India. Lord Chelmsford attempts to make out that the position occupied by the Secretary of State for India is the same as that occupied by, for instance, the Prime Minister of Canada; but this analogy is defective. If the Secretary of State for India corresponds to the Premier of Canada, to whom does the Colonial Secretary correspond? The Colonial Prime Ministers are accompanied by other Ministers and the Secretary of State for India by Indian representatives; but it can hardly be said that the Indian representatives hold positions any way like the Colonial Ministers.

We must however concede that the Secretary of State for India must remain the head of the Indian delegation, so long as India continues to be in her present position. India is not a self-governing nation like the Dominions. For all practical purposes, therefore, the Secretary of State for India is the head of the Government of India, and thus he remains the head of the Indian delegation. He is so, not because he occupies a position identical with that occupied by a Colonial Prime Minister, but because there is no other head of the Indian Government as required by the terms laid down by Mr. Lloyd George; not because he is directly responsible to the British Parliament but because responsible government not having been introduced in India as yet, there is no head of the Indian Government who is respon-

sible to the Indian people just as the Colonial Ministers are responsible to their respective people. Such is, in plain terms, the reason why the Secretary of State for India must remain the head of the Indian delegation at the Imperial Conference. So long as it is a Conference of the heads of the Governments in the Empire—and I believe it cannot be otherwise—it is but inevitable that under the present circumstances the Secretary of State for India should be at the head of the Indian delegation.

But when Lord Chelmsford declares with regard to the other representatives of India that their choice must remain with the Government, there is ample room for a difference of opinion. Here, again, let us see what the Prime Minister says. He wants 'a representative of the Indian people to be appointed by the Government of India.' This is entirely different from what Mr. Fisher recently declared on the question. According to him it was a meeting of the representatives of Governments; but the Prime Minister requires a representative of the Indian People. Mr. Fisher's statement is thus in direct contradiction to that of the Prime Minister. That the Prime Minister's 'representative of the Indian people' is not the Secretary of State for India is clear enough for the simple reason that he neither represents the Indian people, nor is he an official appointed by the Government of India. How could we expect the Government of India to appoint the Secretary of State? In fact, he takes his seat at the Imperial Cabinet in neither of these capacities. The Prime Minister has declared that the Imperial Cabinet should include himself and such of his colleagues as deal specially with imperial affairs; and obviously the Secretary of State for India must be taken as being one of these. Again, if by 'a representative of the Indian people appointed by the Indian Government' the Prime Minister had meant the Secretary of State for India, he would have clearly said so and not have described him in such ambiguous and unusual terms. What is therefore meant is that over and above the Secretary of State for India there must be one Indian representative or more appointed by the Indian Government.

Could the Indian Government have acceded to the Indian demand given expression to by Mr. Bannerji, consistently with the principle which materialised in the Imperial War Cabinet and was clearly explained by the Prime Minister later on? Could there be a third way besides the one preferred by the Government of India and the one advocated by Mr. Bannerji? Can we not arrive at some compromise which would enable the Government, without departing from the policy as foreshadowed by the Prime Minister, to satisfy Indian needs and independent Indian opinion in this matter? Let us see what the requirements as stated by the Prime Minister are. First, there should be a representative of the Indian people, and second, that he should be appointed by the Government of

India. I believe here is a way out of the difficulty. These two together qualify a person to attend the Imperial Cabinet; any one by itself does not. As it is, at present the Government lay emphasis on the second, practically ignoring the first, while some of the Indian politicians would like to have the first as the only qualification required of the Indian delegate, a representative being taken as one who represents the people because of his being elected as such by the non-official members of the Indian Legislative Council. Both these views appear to me to be extreme, the true view lying between them. No person is entitled to attend the Imperial Cabinet as an Indian representative simply because he is nominated a delegate by the Indian Government, nor can any one expediently or advantageously become an Indian representative simply because he is elected by the non-official members of the Indian Legislative Council. Election by the latter combined with appointment by the former would alone invest the person selected with the rights and responsibilities of an Indian delegate at the Imperial Cabinet, because he then fulfils both the conditions which are evidently taken by the Prime Minister to be essential in the case of an Indian representative.

I believe this is a solution of the problem fairly satisfactory from the point of view of both the Indian people and the Indian Government. The Indian people will thus be satisfied to see that the person elected by their representatives in the Viceregal Council will meet the Colonial representatives on equal terms. But at the same time a great responsibility rests upon the non-official members of the Viceregal Council. They will have to take good care to see that the person elected by them commands the confidence of the Government and is therefore most likely to prove a useful and trusty delegate at the Imperial Cabinet. It is the duty of every responsible Indian politician to work in harmonious co-operation with the Government, and at the same time keep in view the best interests of India. I would request the Government also to accept some such solution as I have ventured to offer. In acting upon it they will be working strictly within the lines defined by the Prime Minister and in addition they will raise the political status of India a step higher. They need fear no curtailment of their powers or subversion of constitutional principles on which sure basis the superstructure of Indian polity is to be erected. In fact the final decision rests with the Government of India, and if the non-official members of the Indian Legislative Council are found to exceed or abuse their right, the Government could in justice and statesmanship refuse to sanction the election. I have however full trust in the Government and the members of the Indian Legislative Council, and I am confident that such an untoward contingency will not arise.

H. B. B.



**THE BHAGINI SAMAJ : TWO YEARS' WORK.**

THE Bhagini Samaj was founded on the 19th February, 1916, in memory of the late Mr. G. K. Gokhale with the object of making such efforts as will help forward the advancement of women and of co-operating with institutions that have the same object in view. During the two years of its existence the Samaj has been able to show some substantially useful work, being fortunate enough to secure the assistance, both pecuniary and personal, of a number of public-spirited and enlightened ladies and gentlemen. At present the members, workers and sympathisers of the Samaj number over 300, and the activities of the Samaj are not confined to the city of Bombay, but have been extended to several towns and villages in the mofussil.

**DISTRIBUTION OF PAMPHLETS.**—The Samaj has published during the last two years 38 pamphlets and 2 books on various subjects interesting and instructive from Indian women's point of view and some 99,000 copies of these pamphlets and books have been circulated broadcast.

**READING ROOMS FOR WOMEN.**—About 500 reading rooms for women have been opened at different places, and the management of 26 out of these 500 reading rooms is in the hands of women themselves. These reading rooms are also centres for other kinds of activities in the interest of womenkind. There are reading circles which regularly meet for the purpose of reading out books and pamphlets on useful subjects to illiterate women at 31 places, and 12 reading rooms have classes for imparting religious and industrial education or for teaching Gujarati and English attached to them. The average number of women to whom books are read at reading rooms is 15. In all 765 women attended the meetings of the reading circles, and altogether 867 women took advantage of all the activities in connection with the reading rooms.

**MEETINGS AND SOCIAL GATHERINGS.**—In Bombay lectures for and gatherings of women are arranged every now and then under the auspices of the Samaj. About 100 lecture-meetings and social gatherings were held in Bombay during the last two years. The average attendance at each of these meetings and gatherings was 74. The lecturers belonged to both the sexes, and Mr. M. K. Gandhi and Mrs. Annie Besant may be prominently mentioned among them. The range of subjects was very wide; biography, history, astronomy, physiology, education of women, religion, social service and also national politics. These meetings and gatherings also served to foster social intercourse and a feeling of sisterhood among the women of different castes and classes. It is proposed to have small social circles which will meet from time to time to discuss such subjects as are intimately connected with the social and domestic life of Indian women and where an informal exchange of ideas is calculated to lead to closer relations of friendship and co-operation, it being found out from experience heretofore gained that such informal meetings on a small scale are of more practical use than big gatherings. Also some meetings and gatherings were held in the mofussil.

**HOME CLASSES FOR MARRIED WOMEN.**—In order that married women and widows and grown-up girls who have to attend to domestic work, should have an opportunity to acquire a knowledge of reading and writing and of other useful subjects in their spare time, Home Classes have been opened by the Samaj. The time of holding these classes is such as suits the convenience of those for whom these are held. Besides the teaching of reading, writing, arithmetic, knitting, sewing and embroidery, lectures are given on biography, history, geography, hygiene, domestic science, the upbringing of children, &c., &c.

Some of the workers of the Samaj pay visits to women in their homes and induce them to take advantage of these classes and also to such women as are not regular in their attendance to ask them to become more regular and more in-

terested in their studies, by explaining the benefits they would thereby achieve.

There are three such classes in Bombay, (1) in the Fort, (2) in Girgaum, and (3) on Sandhurst Road, and three classes in the mofussil, at Amreli, Dabhoi and Sinor. Three other classes in the mofussil had to be closed for certain unavoidable causes.

A monthly scholarship of Rs. 10 is given to a girl of poor means, learning English in the VI standard, the necessary amount being placed at the disposal of the Samaj by a kind friend.

A library of 1000 selected books for women is maintained by the Samaj. A number of women take advantage of this library, and from time to time inquiries are made as to how the books issued have been used by the members and suggestions are invited regarding the selection of books from those who use the library.

**TOURS IN THE MOFUSSIL.**—The Samaj having its centres in the mofussil at about 80 places, it has been found necessary for the office-bearers and workers of the institution to undertake tours in the mofussil in order to supervise the work which is being done under the auspices of the Samaj and to make themselves acquainted at first hand with the difficulties and requirements of the local workers and guide and encourage them in their work. The President, Mrs. Sharada Sumant Mehta, B. A., with her husband, Dr. Sumant B. Mehta, went on a tour in the district of Navasari and visited several towns and villages. This tour resulted in the opening of several new centres. Mrs. Mehta, during her stay in Bombay in December last, also visited several chawls and institutions with a view to enlarging and improving the work done by the Samaj. The Vice-President, Lady Lakshmi Bai Jugmohandas, and one of the Secretaries, Mr. Chitalia, visited several places and institutions with the same object.

**FINANCIAL POSITION.**—During the two years of its existence the Samaj received Rs. 10,501-0-0 from various sources and the expenditure during the same period amounted to Rs. 7,937-6-0. Thus a balance of Rs. 2,563-10-0 is in hand. The Samaj has no permanent source of income and it has to depend on the members and casual donors for its maintenance. The work is fast increasing, and it is hoped the necessary financial help will be forthcoming from those who are interested in the advancement and well-being of the women of Gujarat.

K. J. CHITALIA.

Servants of India Society,  
Bombay.

**REVIEWS.****THE AUDITOR-GENERAL'S REPORT.**

AUDIT AND APPROPRIATION REPORT OF THE ACCOUNTS OF THE GOVERNMENT OF INDIA FOR 1916-17.

THE report deals with the Civil, the Public Works, the Railway, the Post and Telegraph, and the Army Departments. At the end some general observations are made by the Auditor-General on the changes introduced to make the work of auditing more effective. The financial irregularities met with in the course of the audit have been fully described with a narration of concrete facts. They are generally of the following nature: Drawal of money in advance of requirements with a view to avoiding lapses of grants, frauds or defalcations occasioned by negligence, double claims, prepared and paid, irregular use of Government money, delays in accounting for advances drawn, insufficient auditing of bills, adoption of irregular methods to meet deficiencies in permanent advances, payment before due dates, postponement of liabilities to avoid audit objections, charges to false accounts, purchases of materials in advance in excess of requirements, laxity in keeping terms of contract, inaccurate estimating, over-drawals from savings

banks accounts, bogus money order payments and double payments. It is quite clear that some of them are of a serious nature and must be attributed to something more than mere negligence. Strict disciplinary action is therefore quite necessary if their occurrence in the future is to be prevented. The Auditor General's remarks, however, show that proper steps are not being taken to enforce stricter discipline. He observes:—"It is disappointing, however, to note that on the whole there has been no appreciable decrease in the number of irregularities which have had to be brought to notice in the present report although there has been a slight improvement in some provinces. These irregularities have already been brought to the notice of the Local Governments, or the superior administrative authorities concerned, by the respective audit officers. In most cases, the authorities concerned have merely expressed their disapproval of the methods of procedure adopted or warned the officers responsible or drawn their attention to the rules on the subject at issue. General orders have also been issued from time to time in regard to more common types of irregularity. I doubt, however, whether much benefit can now be hoped for from the issue of general orders and am confident that more advantage will be derived from adequate action in individual cases."

The Auditor-General himself visited some principal Civil Account offices and found them to be in a satisfactory condition. Owing to a shortage of officers in the department the work of inspection and test-audit by Civil Deputy Auditors-General had to be suspended from the middle of May to the end of December 1917.

The following measures have been adopted for the improvement of audit:—

- (1) Orders were issued for the efficient review of the audit of works expenditure by gazetted officers of the works audit branches of the account offices.
- (2) Steps were taken to apply audit to recovery of rents in case of public buildings.
- (3) For facility of reference all rules relating to the powers of the Provincial Governments, the departments of the Government of India and the minor Local Governments have been compiled in one book.
- (4) A scheme of Public Works accounts has been submitted to the Government of India for sanction.
- (5) Revision of the Public Works Code has been nearly completed.
- (6) Suggestions made in Mr. Heseltine's report as regards the reduction of work in civil account offices have been all examined and no questions of importance have been allowed to remain pending.
- (7) It has been decided to dispense with the preliminary editions of provincial Appropriation Reports.

Besides these, it is proposed to make some changes in the railway portion of the Finance and Revenue Accounts. The six months' estimates and Revised and Budget estimates which were submitted by the Railway Administration at short intervals were amalgamated into a combined revenue six months' Revised and Budget estimates and they have been introduced on railways from the current year.

In accordance with the Secretary of State's despatch dated 31st July 1917, the Auditor-General is invested with discretionary powers to raise questions which would lead to economy. He utilised these powers in one case only, and suggested to the Government of India methods of saving unnecessary expense. The Government of India and the Local Government were not in a position to effect economy in the direction suggested during the year under report but the question has to be borne in mind for future consideration.

K. M. T.

#### DEVELOPMENT OF FORESTS IN MYSORE.

The annual report of the Forest Department of Mysore shows that the State authorities are fully alive to the possibili-

ties of forest development within the State area. The area under forest increased from 2946.37 square miles to 3103.74 sq. miles during the year under review. The generally accepted theory is that 1/3 of the total area must be under forest. Of course in Mysore the area falls far below the proportion as the total area of the State is 29,000 sq. miles., but the Mysore Government always keep in view its extension. The Conservator is very keen on the conservancy of Amrut Mahal. Kavalis as the tree growth, especially sandal, has considerably suffered. A special committee was appointed to consider the question carefully, and it is satisfactory to note that the report of the committee is at present engaging the attention of the Mysore Durbar.

Next to reservation comes the question of settlement of reserved areas. The pendency under forest settlement and reservation proposals, viz., 53 blocks measuring 393 square miles is certainly heavy, especially when the fact that a special settlement officer has been appointed for the purpose is borne in mind.

Working plans for forests covering an area of 110 square miles were prepared during the year. Two whole time officers have been deputed for the purpose, but the Conservator, looking to the magnitude of the work still to be accomplished, rightly asks for a third officer.

There was a slight increase in the number of forest offences during the year under review, but over 90 per cent. of them were of a trivial nature. The percentage of conviction also does not compare favourably with that of the previous year as it was 61.4 as against 69 last year. The Mysore Government complain that in spite of repeated warnings there has been no appreciable improvement in the direction of a speedy disposal of cases of injury to sandal trees.

The seasonal conditions have been very satisfactory for natural production; so also is the progress under artificial production. New experiments have been made in planting ornamental fruit and flower trees on some selected hills and the experiments are awaited with keen interest.

The output of timber has been much in excess of that of the last year owing to intensive working and steps have also been taken to remove the transport difficulties by constructing a Thalasa-Hebbe tramway and one metre-gauge railway. The sandal wood market has resumed its former vigour. The gross revenue from sandal wood was Rs. 33,02,288, the working expenses amounting to Rs. 72,081. A proper survey of the sandal wood area has been sanctioned with a view to taking stock of the growth and also to find out the necessary preventive measures against spike disease. Most prominent among the industrial activities are the investigation of the seasoning of the ghaut forests, the antiseptic treatment of timber, the seasoning of soft woods and the preliminary investigation of the paper pulp industry. It is satisfactory to note that steps are being taken to train up experts in various departments at State expense. The training of the subordinate service is also taken in hand with a view to making the department efficient.

The forest revenue was the highest on record. It amounted to Rs. 44,45,457. The total demand, including last year's balance, came up to Rs. 60,81,606 but at the end of the year under review a balance of Rs. 35,84,045 was left. The outstanding balance is rather heavy, and Government therefore rightly insist upon its speedy recovery.

The total expenditure amounted to Rs. 9,38,005, thus leaving a net income of Rs. 35,59,556. The Mysore Durbar in their review express satisfaction with the working of the department on the whole. As the area under forest is increasing and as the range of activities is to be considerably widened, a thorough reorganisation of the department is an absolute necessity, and it is satisfactory to note that the Mysore Government have faced the question in a broad and statesman-like spirit.

K. M. T.

#### LETTERS FROM THE PROVINCES.

##### SIND.

##### THE RASAI COMMITTEE.

The Hayward Committee for investigation into the Rasai, Lapo, and Cher scandal held its first sittings at Sukkur. The Committee consists of Mr. Hayward, the chairman, the Hon. Mr. H. Vishindas, Hon. Mr. G. Hussain, Mr. Sawhney and Mr. Mahmudshah. Mr. Rothfield, the first witness, admitted that the system of Rasai, Lapo and Cher was actually in vogue and the evil ought to be suppressed. The bills of touring of officers paid by him were not in proportion to the actual cost of the materials. The zamindars supplied carts on officials' tour, taking them from haris; the poor haris had to

sleep on grass without getting any remuneration for loss of their personal comfort. The tapedars took a larger quantity of supplies from the zamindars than what was actually required. Mr. Rothfield reviewed and strongly commented on the activities of the P. W. D. and its personnel. He said that in matters of illegal gratification, the Public Works Department was as bad as revenue and sometimes worse. He remarked that the P. W. D. was out of the control of the general executive of the district. Mr. Isani, another witness, lucidly described the working of the Rasai system. Twenty Cheras were required for pitching and unpitching tents and about six were required to fetch water. Nothing was paid for jars, nor for vegetables. The circular of 1914 was not workable. Labour was supplied free and it was a sort of forced hospitality. Mr. Jan Khanbho stated that he spent about Rs. 800 a year on camps of officers. If Rasai was not made with the Police Department, the officers instigated some rogue to make a fabricated charge against them. Both Rasai and Lapo were given out of fear. In his detailed evidence Dewan Naraindas Motiram remarked; "I condemn Rasai, because it is bribery, which has brought discredit to the administration. The P. W. D. is the greatest sinner. The agricultural community have been deprived of their liberty, which every man and woman values the most. The Sahib's butler, and the Collector's Jamadar have proved themselves to be the greatest enemies of the administration. Even the Indian Deputy Collectors take undue advantage of the Rasai. The Dalis of fruits are essentially bribes. The Lapo to the tapedar is paid to prevent him from harassing the landholder with respect to boundary marks." At the Hyderabad sitting Mr. Chandosing said that Rasai had not decreased among the Police since 1914. Exactions were made from the zamindars, suspects or absconders. The annual expenses with shikar came to Rs. 1000. He had been superseded several times because he refused Rasai and once he was assaulted by his Sahib. The accumulating evidence will, it is hoped, bring home to the officers the extent of the evil and lead to its early abolition, root and branch.

## CORRESPONDENCE

### THE URDU-HINDI QUESTION.

SIR.—IN reply to some remarks of Azad Begamsahiba in her, on the whole, thoughtful article in your issue of May 2, let me assure her that there is no danger ahead. Not only is there is no possibility of Urdu being swallowed up by Hindi, but, on the other hand, there seems to be little chance of the just claims of Hindi being even partially recognised in the near future.

To be plain, Urdu has just now got an undeservedly high place as the sole court language, in more than one province of India, where the majority of people speak Hindi. Even in the Punjab, where the Moslem element is very strong, 50 per cent. of the population are Hindus. In the U. P. the proportion of Hindus and Mahomedans is 3:1. In the Nizam's State the proportion of Mahomedans is still smaller. And yet, for reasons which we need not enumerate here, whatever language a Hindu might use at home in all these provinces, in everything official, he must use Urdu! It is against this injustice that the Nagari Pracharini Sabha has been fighting for the last quarter of a century, and it is only recently that the Government have been pleased to permit the use of Nagari characters in writing applications, &c. But this permission has produced little practical effect, because the Government have not made it obligatory on every executive as well as judicial officer to know both Hindi and Urdu. The result is that the officers as well as their clerical staff, bred up in the use of the Urdu language and Persian script, often manage to set the recent regulation at naught and refuse to accept applications if they happen to be written in Nagari script. Now is this anything like the "aggression of a strong majority against a weak minority," of which the Begum Sahiba is afraid? On the contrary, here is a clear case of the domination of a strong (because backed up by an over-conservative-officialdom) minority against a weak majority. To quote only one instance of this anomaly, the Nagari Pracharini Sabha has been incessantly bringing to the notice of the Government, the advisability of embossing Nagari characters on the Indian coins and currency notes. In spite of the fact that this request is being repeated from year to year. The Government have, with perfect indifference to public opinion, continued to emboss only Persian characters on the rupee and other coins (as if that is the only script commonly understood in the whole of India), and on the recently introduced One-Rupee Note they have printed ten different scripts in India, but have omitted the Deva Nagari, which is really

more widely understood than all the others, and for which there has been so much clamouring of late. Is this anything like Urdu being swamped by Hindi?

I purposely desist from making any comments on the practicability of Mr. Gandhi's Pan-Hindi propaganda or the feasibility of the National Educationist's ideal. Supposing, for argument's sake, that both of these ideals are, by some magic, realised in the near future, what possible danger would it mean to the legitimate interests of Mahomedans? I know the *amour propre* of Mahomedans will be slightly touched if they find that the long neglected Hindi after all comes by its own and is recognised as a *co-ordinate* official language in the provinces where it is current, and adopted as the language of inter-provincial communication by the people of India. But should this narrow feeling get the better of their good sense and patriotism?

Why should the recognition of Hindi as a *second* court language in the Punjab and the U. P., and the adoption of it as a convenient *third* language (the second of course being English) be construed to mean a total extinction of Urdu? The Mussalmans would certainly be at liberty to speak and write their own language in their own way. It is hard to understand, therefore, the strange attitude of antagonism which many Mahomedans seem to bear towards the recognition of the just claims of Hindi.

I agree with the Begam that the problem ought to be solved on the principle of "live and let live". Let cultured Mahomedans exert their influence in removing idle fears and bringing about perfect amity between the two sister communities.

JABALI.

May 5, 1918.

## BOSS OIL STOVES.

Are the most perfect Kerosine oil stoves. They save time. SAVE MONEY. SIMPLE, SAFE & CLEAN.

In 1-2-3-4-5, Burners Price Rs. 55, 85, 120, 150, 180 respectively. For particulars write to:—

L. ROYSAMPAT & Co.  
S. 70, Apollo Street, Fort  
BOMBAY.

**K**ASHMIR refined Silajit, well-known tonic and specific for diabetes, Spermatorrhea @ Rs. 8, pure saffron @ Rs. 1/8, Genuine Musk @ Rs. 35 tola. Best Hing @ Rs. 2/4 lb. THE KASHMIR STORES, SRINAGAR, No. 99.

**T**HE NEW SHORTHAND AND TYPEWRITING INSTITUTION, Kirloskar Theatre, Poona City. (recognised by Government) The largest and the best equipped school in the Presidency. Further particulars will be supplied free to bona fide enquirers.

### Books of the Hour.

	Rs.	A.	P.
1. A Case for Compulsory Military Service by Mr. Cotton	7	8	0
1. Speeches by Tilak and Gandhi each	1	8	0
1. Heroes of the Hour	1	8	0
1. Mohamad Ali Jinnah	2	0	0

For other National literature.

Write to:—A. P. BAPAT & BROTHERS, Poona City.

**Rates of Advertisements.**

Casual advertisements will be charged for the first time at Annas six per line of a single column, for the second time at Annas five and for subsequent insertions at Annas four per line, the head lines being charged twice the ordinary charge. For terms of contract advertisements please apply to the Manager, *Servant of India, Kibe Wada, Budhwar Peth Poona City.*

**Servants of India Society, Poona.****Political Pamphlets:—No. 1.****Self-Government for India  
UNDER THE BRITISH FLAG.**

BY

**HON. MR. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI,**  
*President of the Servants of India Society.*

Crown 16 mo. pp. 153. Price As. 8.

The pamphlet ... is couched in language clear and dignified and leaves no doubt in the minds of the readers. It is a comprehensive pronouncement worth the perusal of every Indian. *New India.*

**Political Pamphlets:—No. 2.****The Public Services in India.**

BY

**HIRDAY NATH KUNZRU, B. A., B. Sc.,**  
*Member of the Servants of India Society.*

Crown 16 mo. pp. 216. Price As. 14.

Mr. Hirday Nath Kunzru, a member of the Servants of India Society has analysed the report in an excellent pamphlet. It is impossible to go through the book without being shocked at the hopes raised in Indians and shattered, promises held out and broken.—*Indian Patriot.*

**Political Pamphlets:—No. 3.****The Congress-League Scheme.**

AN EXPOSITION

BY

**HON. MR. V. S. SRINIVASA SASTRI,**  
*President of the Servants of India Society.*

Crown 16 mo. pp. 66 Price As. 6.

It (the pamphlet) is a scholarly exposition of the scheme put forward by the National Congress and the Muslim League and explain the demands of these national bodies and answers the various objections levelled against it in a convincing and forcible manner. ... The whole pamphlet, crammed as it is with facts and with convincing arguments, deserves the careful study of all.—*The Leader.*

*( Will be out Shortly. )***Political Pamphlets:—No. 4.****The Co-operative Movement.**

BY

**V. L. MEHTA,***Manager of the Bombay Central Co-operative Bank,*  
AND**V. VENKATASUBBIYA,***Member of the Servants of India Society.*

For Copies apply to :—

The Aryabhushan Press, Poona City.

**INDO-AMERICAN TRADING CO.***Engineers and Importers of Machinery.**Servants of India Society's Home, BOMBAY.*

Large stock of Electric Motors, Generators, Rectifiers, Transformers, & Electric Instruments, Oil Engines, Pumps, Agricultural implements, Grinding & Crushing Mills, Municipal and factory requirements.

BABAN GOKHALAY, Proprietor.

**HAVE YOU SEEN**

*The Wealth of India.*—An illustrated Monthly Magazine of practical information and useful discussions, presenting in the briefest manner possible the views of experts on the various problems bearing on the progress of India.

*The Wealth of India* is indispensable to statesmen, publicists, business men and students of economics, in fact to all busy men who wish to be informed of the latest and best opinions on all matters of literary, social, political and economic interest, but who cannot spare the money or time necessary to procure or peruse the widely scattered literature on these subjects.

Annual subscription: Inland Rs. 5, Foreign 12 Shillings, post free. Free sample copy on receipt of postage stamps for two annas.

Important Notice—Subscribers to the *Wealth of India* and the *Janabhimani* (Tamil Monthly) are allowed a discount of 12½ per cent. on our own publications and 6¼ per cent. on other publications stocked by us.

**G. A. Vaidyaraman & Co.,***Booksellers & Publishers,*

Opposite the High Court,

3 &amp; 4, Kondi Chetty Street, Madras.

**Books of the Day.****Gokhale & Economic Reforms: 2-0-0**

By Professor V. G. Kale, M. A., Fergusson College, Poona, Crown 16 mo. pp. 250. Cloth Bound.

**Indian Administration: 2-4-0**

By Professor V. G. Kale, M. A., Fergusson College, Poona. Demi. 8. vo. pp. 432. Cloth Bound. Third Edition thoroughly revised, enlarged and brought up-to-date.

**Indian Economics: 4-8-0**

By Prof. V. G. Kale, M. A., Professor of History and Economics, Fergusson College, Poona; Demi 8vo. pp. 470 Cloth Bound.

**Life of G. K. Gokhale: 0-4-0**

By the Hon. Mr. R. P. Paranjpye, Principal, Fergusson College, Poona; with nine fine illustrations and facsimile of Gokhale's handwriting. Crown 16 mo. pp. 88.

**Life of Prof. D. K. Karve: 0-4-0**

By the Hon. Mr. R. P. Paranjpye, Principal, Fergusson College, Poona; with six fine illustrations. Crown 16 mo. pp. 73.

**Writings & Speeches: 5-0-0**

Of the late Hon. R. B. Ganesh Venkatesh Joshi. Demi. 8vo. pp. 1300. Cloth Bound.

**A Gist of Mr. Tilak's Gitarahasya: 0-8-0**

By Vaman Malhar Joshi, M. A. 2nd Edition, Foolscap 16 mo. pp. 80.

**Native States and Post War Reforms: 1-0-0**

By G. R. Abhyankar B. A., LL. B. Pleader, Sangli. Demi 8vo. pp. 110

**Memorandum on the Question of: 1-0-0**

The proposed chief's conference and the subjects of Native States by Mansukhalal R. Mehta of Bombay.

ALL THESE BOOKS CAN BE HAD OF

The Aryabhushan Press, Poona City.