

THE Servant of India

Editor : S. G. VAZE.—Office : Servants of India Society's Home, Poona (D. G.).

VOL. X, No. 43. }

POONA—THURSDAY, DECEMBER 1, 1927.

{ INDIAN SUBSN. Rs. 6.
FOREIGN 10s.6d

CONTENTS.

	Page
TOPICS OF THE WEEK	521
ARTICLES :—	
The Debate in Parliament	523
Consolidation of Holdings Acts—Some Comparisons	524
The International People's College, Elsinore, Denmark. By Peter Manniche, Principal of the College	525
OUR SOUTH AFRICAN LETTER	528
REVIEWS :—	
Elementary Economics. By Prof. D. G. Karve, M.A.	529
Civic Education. By R. Das, M.A.	530
SHORT NOTICES.	531
CORRESPONDENCE :—	
Floods in Orissa—An Appeal... ..	531
The Immediate Problem	522
BOOKS RECEIVED	532

TOPICS OF THE WEEK.

IN his presidential address at the twenty-first session of the U. P. Political Conference Mr. G. B. Pant on Pandit G. B. Pant covers a wide variety of topics on all of which he pronounces a thoughtful and well-balanced judgment. Treating of communal tension he regards it as the main obstacle to Swaraj but he is satisfied that the tension is not due to any incurable cause. He advises communal organizations to devote their time and energy to the work of social reform, instead of to bellicose schemes, and appeals to newspaper editors to help the two communities to arrive at a better understanding. He recommends a formation of unity-boards in every town, an idea which we endorse whole-heartedly. Mr. Pant holds "that no worse Machiavellian contrivance can be devised for the destruction of any political community than that of independent electoral compartments." All right-thinking men have condemned communal electorates. He has drawn attention to the 'Steel-frame speech' of Mr. Lloyd George in which it is said that if Britain withdrew her strong hand, nothing would ensue except division, strife, conflict; the implication being that so long as there are divisions the British services are absolutely necessary. He points to Canada and South Africa in support of the belief widely held, that the grant of self-government would remove racial and communal discords. As for the burning topic of the day, he is decidedly in favour of self-determination. "A self-respecting people cannot tolerate any alien body prescribing tests and limitations to determine their fitness for self-government." "The English and

Americans," he says, "loudly sang the virtues of self-determination during the war. But very soon the protestations of love for the weaker peoples began to be qualified and explained and have now been altogether abandoned." The exclusion of Indians is in his opinion deliberate and due to the desire of the Government in England to show studied contempt to Indian aspirations and Indian public opinion and he regards the Commission as a blessing in disguise inasmuch as it has unified men of all shades of opinion. Of course we do not agree with his suggestion for observing *hartal* as a protest against the Commission nor do we think that his appeal to every Indian to join the Congress is at all feasible. Along with protests however he recommends the preparation of a scheme of self-government by the joint action of all the leaders. This is just what we have been recommending as the most practical and constructive step at this critical juncture.

* * *

SIDE by side with the proposed inquiry by the Statutory Commission into the political future of this country, the question of the constitutional relations that should subsist between the Paramount

Power and the Indian States will be examined by a small committee of experts. The Committee will also enquire into the economic and financial relations between British India and the States. Ever since such an inquiry was contemplated, the rulers of these States have lost no opportunity of making it abundantly clear that whatever else they may tolerate, they would tolerate nothing which would have the effect of impairing even to the slightest extent their authority in internal affairs. In other words, they desire to be left undisturbed to behave with their subjects in any way they like. As everybody knows, this freedom from interference by any outside authority has in a large number of cases led to the life of the subjects being made miserable beyond words. And though the Government of India have recently given practical proof of the recognition by them of the duty they owe to the subjects of the States in cases of gross misrule, it is common experience that their intervention comes only after the subjects have had more than their share of suffering and hardships. It is essential that this aspect of the problem should not be allowed to escape the attention of the proper authorities and the need for provision for some timely relief to the subjects urged. But the pity is that though the

subjects are the people most interested in the proposed inquiry, they have no place in the picture! We urge therefore that the proposed committee should contain an adequate representation of subjects of Indian States and that their relationship with their rulers should also be settled on this occasion. Two important Conferences, the one the the all-India States People's Conference to be presided over by Dewan Bahadur M. Ramchandra Rau and the other the Deccan States Subjects' Conference to be presided over by Mr. D. V. Gokhale, Editor, *Mahratta*, are to meet in Bombay on the 17th and 18th inst. when we are sure the matter will not fail to receive at their hands the attention that its importance deserves.

DURING 1926-27 the policy of substituting excise advisory committees by excise licensing boards seems to have been steadily followed in Bengal. The number of districts however which came under its sway was of course not very large, being only four. An account of their working given in the latest excise administration report of the province for the year referred to above does not show that these boards have been able to achieve any very surprising results. The reasons are not far to seek. In the first place, they are so constituted that though non-officials may be in a majority on them, the majority is nowhere very decisive; and in the second place, their power to determine the number of shops is hedged round by restrictions which narrow down their scope still further. Even so, it can hardly be denied that the boards have generally been able to do much good, though of a negative nature, by preventing any addition to the existing number of shops. They have also tried to make themselves useful in other ways as well. Thus one finds that one of them turned its attention to the sanitary condition of shops within its jurisdiction and pressed for its improvement. Its example deserves to be widely followed, not merely by licensing boards but even by excise advisory committees. As for the working of the latter, one cannot get from the report an adequate idea as to how many of their recommendations were carried into effect. What we are told is only this that "in accordance with their recommendations 6 country spirit, 3 *tari*, 14 *pachwai*, and 6 opium shops were abolished, the sites of 16 country spirit, 7 *tari*, 13 *pachwai*, 4 opium, 5 *ganja*, and 3 *bhang* shops were changed, and 1 *tari*, 2 *pachwai*, 1 opium and 2 *ganja* shops were newly opened with effect from 1st April 1927." We hope that before recommending the opening of new shops, the committees did satisfy themselves by personal inquiries as to the existence of a genuine popular demand, and did not merely rely upon such evidence as was officially placed before them. The consumption of country liquor went down during the year from 632,351 to 627,962 gallons, while that of foreign liquors rose from 692,777 to 726,470 gallons. Beers have consistently contributed to the increase, their consumption during the last five years having mounted up from 278,764 gallons in 1922-23 to 463,984 gallons in 1926-27. Drastic measures are necessary to check their growing popularity so as to bring their consumption within manageable proportions. Some areas having consumed more than the League of Nations' standard of six seers of opium per 10,000 of population, the question has, at the instance of the Secretary of State, been referred for examination to a small committee consisting of two officials and two non-officials. In consequence of the decrease in the consumption of country liquor, the revenue from that source also went down, a large part of the reduction being due to the fact that during the communal riots in Calcutta of last years, shops could not remain open. There is thus

a silver lining even to the cloud of communal riots! On the whole drunkenness seems to be on the increase, the convictions in Calcutta alone on this account totalling 3241. One wonders why the figures in the statement showing the extent of drunkenness in the municipal areas in the province are not totalled up, as is done in the case of the other statements appended to the report.

WE wish to invite the attention of our readers to Mr. Andrews' letter on the subject of Orissa Flood Relief, flood relief in Orissa published elsewhere in this issue. As Mr. Andrews says, though the Orissa disaster attracted less public attention than the Gujerat one of July last, it was not less serious. The Servants of India Society through its representative in Orissa, Mr. Sahu, has of course all this time been doing its best to bring help and relief to the afflicted parts; but what little it could do with the very limited resources at its disposal did not even touch the fringe of the problem. We are therefore glad that Mr. Andrews has set his hands to the task. It has been estimated that the area affected is 750 sq. miles and the damage done by the floods nearly 10 crores. There is also the additional circumstance, about which officials and nonofficial workers seem to be at one, that as many as 80,000 houses have collapsed as a result of the floods. To set Orissa on its feet again is thus a stupendous task and will need all the assistance that India can afford. It is something that Mr. Andrews has been able to divert a portion of the Calcutta collections among the Gujerati commercial community to the relief of flood-stricken people in Orissa; and we hope his appeal will evoke generous public response and that the Gujerat Flood Relief Committee in Bombay will find it possible to consider his demand for a portion of their surplus sympathetically.

IT has been authoritatively declared that the cost of the Statutory Commission barring the contribution of £20,000 from the Statutory Commission. Parliament will fall upon this country. In this connection, the following proceedings of the Finance Committee of the Ceylon Legislative Council bearing on a similar point regarding the Special Commission which is at present inquiring into the problem of further constitutional advance for the Colony will be found interesting:—"At the last meeting of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council the following telegram from the Secretary of State for the Colonies was read:—"Your telegram of the 5th September. It is contemplated that the whole cost of the Special Commission will be met from Imperial funds and it is not proposed to ask the Legislative Council to make any provision for the passages. His Majesty's Government would however appreciate any provision which the Legislative Council may see fit to make for hospitality to the Commission in Ceylon, transport in the Colony and clerical assistance engaged locally. The Commission would be glad to have cars placed at their disposal."

AFTER trying prohibition at considerable financial sacrifice for nearly six years, Bhopal has recently decided to stop it. This is a circumstance of which anti-prohibitionists will not be slow to make much capital. But in our opinion the experience of Bhopal in no way goes against the demand for prohibition that is being made in British India. Those who take the contrary view apparently lose sight of the fact that the circumstances of Bhopal were peculiar. For one thing Bhopal abounds in Mahuwa trees which easily lend themselves to

illicit distillation. And for another, the adjoining territory being still wet from which Bhopal subjects could easily get drink to satisfy their craving, the effect of the enforcement of prohibition in the State was merely to transfer what should be the State's excise revenue to other pockets. But there is nothing in all this which should give any cause for jubilation to those who are opposed to prohibition. Far from detracting from the strength of the case for prohibition, Bhopal's experience goes to prove the wisdom of prohibitionists when they demand that for the experiment to be successful, it must be on a nationwide scale including even the Indian states within its scope. About Mahuwa flowers, the suggestion about their destruction made before the Bombay Committee on Prohibition Finance is obviously impracticable, because in some areas these flowers are used as food. But with a duly vigilant preventive staff, there appears to be no reason why their existence need be regarded as an insuperable difficulty.

* * *

ON 11th November Mr. Gubbay read a paper on 'Indigenous Indian Banking' before the Indian Section of the Royal Society of Arts. In 1925 there were, he says, 74 Joint Stock Banks with a paid up capital of Rs. 78.11 crores; of these six banks alone between them had a capital of Rs. 47.30 crores. Excepting one solitary instance there has been no fusion. Mr. Gubbay mentions a fact which speaks very poorly for the commercial enterprise of up-country towns, namely, that there is a lack of suitable banking investments available to branches of the Joint Stock Banks with the result that the rate for deposits is determined by rates for short-term loans at the presidency town or other commercial centres. The Indian Bazaar is characterized by a high rate of interest especially in the moffusil; and one reason of the high rates is the inability of Banks to connect a bill or an advance of money with any particular transaction in the absence of invoices and documents of title. The shroff on the other hand takes the risk and relies on the borrower's general position. This is the reason why, Mr. Gubbay urges, branch banking retires in favour of the private banker and simply collects deposits. To correct this and develop banking habit in India, Mr. Gubbay recommends the wider use of the cheque and he welcomes the increase of the number of branches of the Imperial Bank. But so far as the development of branch banking is concerned, the experience of the Imperial Bank is the same as that of the other banks. The greater vogue of the private bankers is due to their offering a higher interest for deposits than banks and to their conditions of security being more accommodating. The only link between the private banker and the Banks is the shroff. He monopolizes the Hundi business because the Banks do not compete with him and his operations are not affected by the credit policy of the Banks. The result of this, as pointed out by Mr. Gubbay, is the variations in the demand for money. Whenever a Central Bank is established it will have to control all these credit operations. One way to do it is to encourage the practice of financing by means of commercial bills. Even then Mr. Gubbay thinks that a large amount of financial transactions will not respond to the Bank rate policy. The way out of the difficulty is to modify the basis of the Bazaar hundi so as to make it a good cover. In order to bring about this *rapprochement* between the Bazaar and the Banks Mr. Gubbay repeats the recommendation of the Hilton-Young Commission for an extensive and scientific survey of banking conditions in India. We have no objection to the survey, if the object is not to drive away the shroff or the private lender altogether.

THE DEBATE IN PARLIAMENT.

THE speech of Lord Birkenhead on the motion for the acceptance of the personnel of the Commission hardly justifies his appeal for patience a few days ago. It is replete with inconsequential reasoning and apparently ornamental digressions into well-worn themes which have very little to do with the main theme. As examples of the latter may be mentioned his reference to the welter of anarchy from which the British saved India and to the depressed classes. The first was probably introduced to tickle the imperialistic palate of the noble lords, the latter to prove the utter futility of selecting Indians on the Commission. Ignoring these, we must heed now the burden of the song; and this is the ample opportunity given to Indians to influence the opinion of the Commission. The Committee to be appointed by the Central Legislature, in Lord Birkenhead's opinion, "has been given a function more important than that of the Commission itself" and this is to criticize the report of the Commission along with the Committee of Parliament. So this is the "opportunity which has never before been given in the whole history of constitution-making to any people who are in their position."

One or two things which an Indian cannot but construe as extremely disingenuous may be mentioned in passing. A few days ago the Premier in making a statement announcing the Commission clearly stated that the exclusion of Indians was based on a broad principle. Now it appears from the speech of the Secretary of State that the exclusion is the result of the difficulty experienced in making a selection of representative Indians. Are we to construe this as a sign of the utter indifference of the Cabinet to Indian affairs and a *carte blanche* given to the Secretary of State for India? The statement that "there is no one in all India who can speak officially in the name of the Hindu community" is equally disingenuous. Does Lord Birkenhead believe in his heart of hearts that he cannot select a Hindu leader to represent Hindu opinion? Again, we are told that there are about 220 millions of people in India who have never heard of the Commission at all; the inuendo being that the agitation in India is concocted by a small minority of people. When we hear this, we feel as if we are living in the eighties of the last century when half the energy of Indians like Sir Pherozeshah Metha was dissipated in demolishing these redoubtable charges and proving that after all is said and done Indians are far better able to represent Indian opinion and sentiments than members of a foreign bureaucracy. When a responsible statesman has to resort to such arguments for buttressing his case it must be a very weak case indeed! The argument again from parliamentary responsibility, which we are prepared to grant, to a parliamentary commission is clearly what the logicians call *non sequitur*. The Parliament can discharge its responsibility by other methods than the appointment of a parliamentary commission; apparently this is to be taken along with the later *obiter dictum* about the impossibility of having representative

Indians, which makes the procedure adopted, the only available one.

We have been assured that the Committee of the Central Legislature is invited in a spirit of great sincerity to cooperate as *colleagues* with the Commission. We hope that the actual conduct of the Commission will not belie the promise definitely given by the Secretary of State. In fact this seems to be the only oasis in the desert of vague generalities with which his speech abounds. We are prepared to waive the right of this Committee—or a Commission—to write a separate report, as this has been declared by Lord Reading to be “placing the Parliamentary Commission in a position which I describe as impossible”. But we have a right to expect after these solemn promises that the Committee will have the right to examine witnesses, assist in framing the questionnaire, and to have access to all the records placed before the Commission, official or of any other sort. One reason given by Lord Reading for not having any leader of Nationalist opinion on the Commission is that all of them have committed themselves again and again to certain opinions and they are sure to be bound by the pledges they have given to their followers; and to leave these men out would have added to the difficulties of a mixed commission. This plea is as disingenuous as the several others offered by Lord Birkenhead, as we are positively certain that a mixed commission without any nationalist politician on it would not rouse a single adverse comment. It must be said to the credit of Lord Olivier that he corrected Lord Birkenhead in his notion that the Indian people as such had no representatives, by clearly stating “that the Indian political reform parties generally did represent the conscious political will of the Indian people and they desired the means of self-government”. That there should be unanimity in the House of Lords about the resolution was a foregone conclusion.

Earl Winterton's speech in the Commons was more conciliatory than that of the Secretary of State. He was more solicitous of disarming Indian criticism and trying to prove that there was no intention of stamping the Indian Committee with the mark of inferiority. But the question arises as to who is responsible for this misunderstanding. Mr. Macdonald himself admitted later on in his speech that the form of the statement adopted by the Premier was unfortunate. It created the impression that the Committee of the Indian Legislature had no other status than that of a witness handing over its memorandum to the representatives of Parliament. Similarly the form of the statement issued in India was equally calculated to create a belief that the status of the Indian Committee was negligible. We may therefore take it for granted after assurances both from the Under-Secretary of State and Mr. Macdonald that the Assembly is a parliament meeting another parliament as an equal and that the Committee of the Assembly has almost the status of a commission with equal powers and equal dignity. It is to be seen whether these are empty words or have a significance which they ordinarily bear.

The debate has proved one thing: which has been often before borne in upon us, that in the discussion of Indian questions, an easy unanimity can be secured between several sections of the Parliament, irrespective of the merits of the case. They still adhere to the old policy of keeping India out of party-politics, the wisdom of which is questionable. Even the Labour members, with few honourable exceptions, have succumbed to the exigencies of party loyalty and have easily acquiesced in the appointment of the Commission and the procedure suggested by the Cabinet. There is strong ground for believing that the few improvements in procedure revealed by the debate have been due to the private influence exercised by Labour members and to that extent we must be thankful to them. It cannot be gainsaid however that the opinion generally held by Indians is that the Labour party did not take as firm a stand as they were expected to do, judging from the resolutions passed at the Blackpool Conference.

In view of the debate in Parliament, the different political organisations in India will have to assess the value of the several concessions afforded to Indian legislatures of working along with the Commission in the various stages. We are very sceptical of the possibilities of development in this respect. It will be a veritable masterpiece of political skill and diplomacy if the Commission will reconcile its own character “as a jury” with the self-determination of Indian people through their mouthpieces, the committees of the several Legislatures.

CONSOLIDATION OF HOLDINGS ACTS— SOME COMPARISONS.

THE morcellement of land and its effects on the efficiency of agriculture have arrested the serious attention of the provincial Councils all over India. It is therefore profitable to make comparisons between the measures proposed by different councils, their details and their effects on the general social conditions of the people. Today we propose to compare the C. P. Consolidation of Holdings Act and the Bombay Small Holdings Act (both of them being draft bills not yet passed.) In the Bombay Act no separate list of varieties of land is given, because all land here belongs only to one type, namely land held under the Rayatwari system with one person as the first tenant. In C. P. apart from varieties of lands there is the complication of the rights of occupancy tenants who are part owners.

In the C. P. Act any two or more permanent holder-holding not less than the minimum area of land prescribed by rules made by the Local Governments may apply to the Consolidation Officer for the consolidation of their own lands; whereas in the Bombay Act the Collector alone can make the application. We think the latter course is preferable because he is a better judge of the need of consolidation all round than a few stray holders who may take a fancy for consolidation for trifling reasons. But for a general scheme of consolidation both the Acts agree that the major portion of the holders in an area must consent to the consolidation scheme if it is to be binding on the whole area, this portion being fixed as two-thirds or more. In the case of Bombay however half of the owners of land must also give their consent. In the

case of the C. P. Act the Consolidation Officer himself admits the application and then prepares the scheme of consolidation. In the Bombay Act the Collector's application has to be approved by the Local Government which latter would issue a notification declaring that a scheme shall be made. Here again we think the C. P. Act gives an amount of discretion to the Consolidation Officer which is likely to be misused. In the Bombay Act the duties of this officer and matters to be considered by him are given in the Act itself; while in the C. P. Act these things are left to the discretion of the Local Government which shall make rules about all these and cognate matters. There does not seem to be any objection to this course because the Local Government can be trusted to make equitable rules about such minor things.

In the C. P. Act every scheme shall have to be submitted to the Settlement Officer who can confirm the scheme or if he cannot remove the objections to it, he shall submit it to the Settlement Commissioner whose decision shall be final. In the Bombay Act if there is no dispute, the scheme has to be submitted to the Governor in Council who will sanction the scheme after being satisfied that it will be for the benefit of the area. If however there is a dispute about apportionment the appeal lies to a Tribunal for Arbitration which is to consist of the District Judge as president, one assessor having no interest in the area appointed by the District Judge and the Consolidation Officer himself as second assessor. We are inclined to prefer an appeal to such a Tribunal to an appeal to the Settlement Commissioner, because the Tribunal includes one outside person free from red-tape influences. Of course we do not intend to cast any reflection on the Settlement Commissioner or to question his impartiality but an appeal from one revenue officer to another should, if possible, be avoided.

A peculiarity of the C. P. Act is the exercise of powers under the Tenancy Act by the Consolidation Officer. No revenue officer other than the Consolidation Officer is to take any proceedings under certain sections in respect of any holding affected by the scheme of consolidation. Similarly all applications and proceedings pending before a revenue officer under the same sections of the Tenancy Act are to be transferred to the Consolidation Officer. All this is due to the complexities of tenure in C. P. which fortunately do not exist in Bombay.

In the C. P. Act a clear provision is made for transferring encumbrances or leases to the new holding or a part of it assigned by the Consolidation Officer. This is an absolutely essential provision which we miss in the Bombay Act; if the intention of the Bombay Act is to leave out encumbered land then practically the scope of consolidation will be reduced to negligible proportion, as every scheme will contain an amount of mortgaged land. As an inducement to consolidation, the Bombay Act allows the remission of half of the assessment on the consolidated area for three years. This provision is absent in the C. P. Act and is worth copying. We hope some non-official member in the C. P. Council will suggest such an amendment.

In both the Acts we find the following common features which are commendable. All stamp and registration charges on any deeds or instruments concerned with such a scheme are remitted. New owners are put in possession of the new holdings by the issue of regular warrants or sanads so as to avoid any doubts or misapprehensions. The settlement guarantee is not affected by the reassessment under this scheme or transfer of holdings. There is to be no increase of assessment in any case, whatever might be the details of the transfer.

THE INTERNATIONAL PEOPLE'S COLLEGE, ELSINORE, DENMARK.

THE International People's College was founded in the autumn of 1921 at the small idyllic town of Elsinore, twenty-five miles north of Denmark's capital, Copenhagen. The aim of the founders, Cai Hegermann Lindencrone, a secretary in the Danish Board of Education, and Peter Manniche, its present principal, was to make the College a link in the efforts that are being made to bridge the gulf between the nations, that have been at war.

A predecessor of an International School might be found in the Paris University of the Middle Ages to which young noblemen and clergymen went from different countries in quest of information which would qualify them for positions as leaders in their respective countries; but the Paris University was attended by the privileged classes only, not by ordinary people, as is the College at Elsinore, and whilst Latin as a universal language was understood by all the students at Paris, the College at Elsinore has to provide lecturers in different languages, although the composition of the students has hitherto made English the most important one, and given English culture a prominent place.

The International People's College started on a small scale and had a troublesome birth. During the world war in 1916 the writer of this article went to England. First he addressed himself to the Quakers who were then eagerly engaged in the work of relieving the sufferings and stemming the hatred caused by the war. Through the Quakers he came into contact with such men as the late Canon Scott Holland, Oxford, Sir Oliver Lodge, Arthur Henderson, George Lansbury, Arnold Rowntree, and Sir Michael Sadler who supported the plan, realising that Denmark, as a small country and neutral during the war, was particularly suitable to be the home of an International College. Peculiar advantage, too, was ascribed to the fact that Denmark has a highly developed co-operative marketing system, worthy of careful study, and that it is enriched by the traditions of the "Folk High Schools," of which there are about 60. These schools which inspired the foundation of the International People's College are unique examples of adult education with a long-standing experience and a widespread influence. Shortly afterwards the plan was brought before leading men and women in Germany and America, Edward Bernstein and Jane Addams promising to become chairmen of their national committees.

So far things had gone on fairly smoothly. But it took a long time and many heavy efforts to provide the necessary capital for the establishment of the College. At last, in January 1921, gifts to the amount of £3000 were collected. This sum, however, was not enough to erect the building which the committee had under consideration, but at Elsinore a farm known as Sophienlyst was found and could be purchased with the sum that was available. The farm provided the opportunity of acquiring a knowledge of Danish agricultural methods, and, of course,

reduced the cost of board and tuition, which was fixed at £20, later £17, for a term of 11 weeks, and Elsinore was sufficiently near to Copenhagen to be easily accessible to university professors and agricultural teachers there, several of whom promised to give occasional lectures at the College.

The farm had been without occupants for two years and was somewhat dilapidated. The accommodations did not satisfy even the simplest demands for efficient instruction, but some workers, who formerly had been students at the university settlement of Copenhagen, helped the principal in the difficult task of putting the building, garden and farm into working order. In the beginning the tuition took a very primitive form, most of the time being used for manual work, which was not only necessitated by the conditions but was part of the educational programme of the school. Deeply influenced by John Ruskin, the leader of the College believes very strongly in the moral and pedagogic value of manual work, and even at the present stage of the College the students work at least one hour daily in the garden, field or work shops.

When the College began its regular tuition, in the autumn of 1921, there were 24 students: 2 Americans, 5 Germans, 3 Austrians, 1 Irishman, 1 Scotsman, and the rest Danes. Five of the students were university undergraduates, three or four clerks, a few farmers, but the majority were town workers. With such a mixed company, representing many conflicting points of view, it was no small problem to devise a method of tuition that would serve all and create unity and harmony. The problem was solved mainly by three means, song and music, manual work and language study.

The language of music is international, and long before the students could converse they could understand one another through the medium of song. In the atmosphere created by German love songs, Danish folk ballads, and English student songs, they received their first impressions of one another. The Germans especially were tireless in their singing. Their mandolins and guitars were just as indispensable to them as was the bath to the English.

Through manual work, however, the students got to know one another better. Manual work necessitates few words, and yet serves to reveal much of a man's personality—his perseverance and accuracy, his strength or weakness.

Though language difficulties were not a serious obstacle to the establishment of community life, the more the students got to know one another, the more they felt the need of closer intellectual intercourse and of breaking down the language barrier. The teaching of languages therefore became a matter of great importance, and it was found that this could be given under exceptionally favourable circumstances. Teaching and practice went hand in hand, daily intercourse providing many opportunities for the latter. During this first year the teaching was rather fragmentary; but in spite of this all the students learned so much English that they could follow lectures in this language, participate in the discus-

sions that followed and write essays on the lectures.

From this primitive beginning, the College has steadily developed. Bathrooms and a central heating apparatus have been installed, and the general equipment is now equal to that of other colleges in Denmark. The number of students, among which have been four Indians, has increased from year to year; in 1927 it reached 85. Danish Trades Unions, the Cooperative Movement, the Municipality of Elsinore and the Danish State have increasingly supported the College.

The staff and the curriculum have been enlarged correspondingly. There are now three terms, two winter terms from November 3rd to March 20th and one summer term from April 20 to August 30. The summer term would be of particular value to Indian students who want half a year to orientate them towards western life and get acquainted with German and English before they go to a European University. The winter terms are recommendable to those who especially want to study Scandinavian life and literature. Fees are £17 per term, everything included. Those for the winter term from November to March for Indian students would be £30, and for the summer term from April 20 to August 30, £25, the latter being somewhat less than the normal fee.

Like Denmark's most characteristic form of education, the Grundtvig folk high schools, the International People's College is personal in method, emphasizing personal intercourse between teachers and students, individualistic in principle and ethical in purpose. The school is individualistic in its principles in so far as it pays heed to individual attitudes and inclinations of the students. Consequently it does not lay down any fixed and invariable curriculum which the pupils must follow, but endeavours as far as possible to meet their needs.

History, sociology and human geography make up the fixed curriculum of the College. But round this nucleus common to all, the students will have a free choice of subjects, so that the pupils after consultation with the teachers can specialize in modern languages, Natural Science or other subjects. In this connection it may be of importance that study circles are set up as an important factor of the education of the school.

Since most of the students are supposed to wish to study History, and consequently this subject makes a part of the fixed curriculum, this needs further explanation. They don't want History written for the upper classes and dealing with the upper classes, but they want to be taught History which will set them right as to the life they live themselves with a deep underlying understanding of the feelings and forces that move in the deep of the peoples and which can depict for them the yearnings and cravings of the people, their regrets and longings, their groping striving after the high ideals: Liberty, Equality and Fraternity. Because of this history of literature and comparative literature is particularly dealt with.

The second subject of the fixed curriculum is Sociology. Great social problems press themselves upon us with ever greater demand for solution, and whatever class of society the pupils belong to, there can be no doubt it is of great importance to them to be set right as to the society in which they live, as to social movements and the work for social reform. Therefore the programme of the College covers the methods and results of modern social research, the administration of state and municipality, the history of industrialism and social hygiene. The pupils get a knowledge of the social ideas of modern time and of prominent personalities, and as the teachers of the College endeavour to give an impartial picture of the different movements, the social and political understanding of the students will be extended. They will see that the whole truth is not hidden in one system or dogma, that the Millennium cannot be reached in one day or by one method, and that one ought not to follow blindly the first demagogue or dictator that appears.

And perhaps the students will understand that behind the social problem there is a philosophic one, and that social reforms in themselves are not sufficient. Social studies will carry many of the students to philosophical and ethical studies, and for this reason alone it is natural for the school to offer courses in Philosophy and Ethics. These courses are not included in the fixed curriculum, but they take a prominent place, and Psychology—which is for individual life what Sociology is for the social life—is employed in such a manner that the students in the beginning are taught the elements of Psychology, which will be extended and applied to other subjects during the further instruction.

Human Geography is the third subject in the fixed curriculum. Internationalism is to a large and growing extent accomplished in fact, but the idea of internationalism is slow to develop. Unfortunately the common theory is not true, that men's minds respond to changes in their conditions of life; while a few of the greatest may be in advance, the minds of the mass lag behind the progress of events, and continue to live in the world of the past. It is especially difficult to look beyond the concrete facts of everyday experience, and to realise the existence and importance of things that lie outside one's immediate environment; this is the great mental obstacle to a grasp of internationalism. Hence it is necessary that information should be given and interest evoked in the conditions and life and literature of foreign countries to as large an extent as is possible. To European students it is of vital importance to know conditions in the Far East, and to students from the eastern countries it is equally important to get to know about the western development. From the very beginning the College at Elsinore has made a thorough study of the cooperative movement, which will be of special interest to Indian and Chinese students, and Professor Hall of Manchester Cooperative College, Axel Gores, secretary of the Swedish movement, Thomas Linding, lecturer in Cooperation at Oslo University, Norway, have given series of lectures at the College, and, of

course, the Danish Cooperative Movement, which is chiefly a farmers' movement, has been thoroughly investigated.

So much about the general curriculum of the College. It remains to emphasize that the international College like the Danish folk high schools is ethical in its aim. The College wishes that the students should get a thorough and exact knowledge of subjects even at the expense of extensiveness, but it regards knowledge as a means to an end, not as the end itself. "It is of no use," as John Ruskin has said, "to teach our youth the shape of letters and the tricks of numbers leaving them to use their arithmetic for roguery and their literature for lust."

It has been the great merit of the Danish high schools that they have paid special attention to the character of the individual. The teachers of the high schools have taken their inspiration from Christianity, and it is through its influence that they have been able to keep up the ardour that is necessary. The International College will be independent of existing creeds, but it is our hope that it should be one of the channels, small as the effort is, through which a new democratic and supernational conception of the Christian principles is led into our modern civilisation.

Before the great war the philosophic creed of Materialism was prevalent and the stronger individuals and the stronger nations felt, that when using their strength in oppressing the weak, they were in the strictest conformity with Natural Order. But the arrogance of nations also found support in an Old Testament conception according to which each nation was God's chosen people. This view has helped the growth of imperialistic ideas and militates against international cooperation. The latter is inspired by a conception of New Testament humility and of universal brotherhood, in which each nation has its particular, and consequently limited, tasks. It is the desire of the College that this conception shall receive every opportunity of development.

Internationalism is not promoted at the College by deliberate teaching, by endeavours to inculcate it as a doctrine but—as may be understood—rather by a varied course of education which has the international outlook as a probable, if not inevitable, result.

Besides it is hoped that the personal development of the students of the International People's College, who form a miniature league of nations, will make them better fitted to help the world towards a better future. When young people of nineteen to twenty-five—the age when the mind is most susceptible to friendship—have lived together for some time, have dined together, have played together and have worked together, there can be no doubt that this life will bear fruits. Without their knowing it the education they have acquired will help to bridge the gulf between the nations. Universal humanity, which English and Germans, white and coloured, have found in one another will make them forget the smaller differences. The common education will create a feeling of solidarity, and the students must, in a small way, experience that which the whole world must experience,

if there shall be harmony in the international orchestra, and they must go through somewhat the same ethical development which is a preliminary condition before the people can enter the League of Nations or any other form of international association in the right spirit.

PETER MANNICHE.

OUR SOUTH AFRICAN LETTER.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

CAPE TOWN, 5th NOVEMBER.

THE LIQUOR BILL.

MR. TIELMAN ROOS'S Liquor Bill has been postponed till the next session of Parliament in February 1928. That gives some breathing time for the Indian community to organise their protest and make their influence felt. There is however one disadvantage. The agitation which is bound to be kept up in the meanwhile might shake the faith of the Indian community in the Agreement and strain the relations between the European and the Indian. Meetings have been held in Durban, Maritzburg, Johannesburg, Kimberley and Capetown to protest against Clause 104 of the Bill. In reply, the European employees have organised in Johannesburg a counter meeting to support that section. They complain of unfair competition by the Asiatics and Natives, contend that "it was against the health of hotel patrons that Indians, who often lived in slums, should be employed"; and defend the Minister's policy on the grounds (1) of improving the standard of hotels, (2) of ensuring better control over the sale of liquor and (3) of providing employment for Europeans. The last is certainly not the least. A section among the whites hold that the poor whites are the last people to be entrusted with the handling of liquor, and it is not in the interests of either the poor whites or of the Europeans generally that they should be so entrusted. The *Natal Mercury* protests against the dispossession of the Indians, not only because it is so unjust but also because the dispossessed Indians would then compete with tea room girls, and throw them out of work.

TRANSVAAL BRITISH INDIAN ASSOCIATION.

The Transvaal British Indian Association has not met as a general body to consider the question of reaffiliation with the Congress. Since I wrote to you last saying that the Executive Committee of the Association passed by a narrow majority of five a resolution to rejoin the Congress, further reports have appeared in the press to say that no resolution was passed at all, and the Secretaries had so recorded the minutes. This version is being challenged. The Secretaries have declined to call a mass meeting of the Association. At the juncture appears in Johannesburg Mr. Anglia of the *Indian Views* of Durban, with his project of a new Federation to supersede the Congress. He does not however seem to have obtained much support.

THE *Mercury* ON MR. SASTRI.

The *Natal Mercury* seems to have softened a bit in its opposition to the Agreement. For in a leading article on Mr. Sastri's speech at Capetown, it says: "One factor more than any other that has served to improve the relations between the European and the Indian in South Africa has been the insistent optimism of Mr. Sastri. To the European who regarded the Agreement as being largely "eyewash" he has shown that its provisions, if rightly used, would serve to mitigate the competition between the two races; to the Indian he has shown that if they were prepared gradually to conform to Western standards

his position would become far more secure than it had been in the past. Mr. Sastri has probably found more difficulty in converting his own people to his view than he has the majority of Europeans, as indeed he virtually admitted in his recent speech at Capetown." This was obviously a reference to the Transvaal situation.

The *Mercury* has gone one step further and confesses itself pleased with the appointment of the Education Commission in Natal. "There was at the time some very serious doubt whether this recommendation would be accepted. *** Fortunately this attitude—if indeed it were ever adopted—has been abandoned". It must be remembered here that not long ago the *Mercury* ridiculed Mr. Sastri's plea for the Education Commission as putting the "cart before the horse" and opined that a commission was an unnecessary embarrassment. Having accepted the *fait accompli* as gracefully as it could, the *Mercury* shows its cloven hoof when it proceeds to suggest by way of anticipation that "The Commission probably will come to the conclusion that the Province can do more for Indian education only if the Union Government or the Indian community provide it with funds for that purpose. And if this is so it is well that it should be demonstrated."

THE *Mercury* VS. THE *Times*.

In the same article, the *Mercury* expressed a surprise that the first official announcement about the appointment of the Education Commission was made by Mr. Sastri at Capetown and not by the Natal Administration in Natal. On the same date the *Cape Times* commenting on Mr. Sastri's speech expressed grave doubts regarding the good faith of the Natal Administration in doing "something substantial to end the scandalous neglect of Indian education" having regard to the unsatisfactory nature of the personnel of the Education Commission. It ended up by supporting the suggestion of the *Natal Witness* that two or more South African educational experts should be added on to the Commission. "After all, this is only nominally a Provincial concern. The honour of the whole Union is at stake in the Agreement." This attack mightily irritated the *Natal Mercury* which forgot itself so far as to insinuate that Mr. Sastri, while publicly paying tribute to the beneficent change in Natal, inspired the attacks of the *Cape Times* on Natal's good faith. Of course, the *Cape Times* indignantly repudiated the insinuations as unworthy of the *Mercury* and insulting to Mr. Sastri.

TRADE LICENSES.

Injustice of the gravest kind continues to be perpetrated in the matter of licenses. I have already in a previous letter referred to the case of Mr. Karva of Ladysmith, who wished to transfer one of his licenses which has been there for over 27 years, to another person as he was in financial difficulties. The Licensing Officer and the Town Council vetoed it and Mr. Karva appealed to the Supreme Court. The Court decided that "as there was no manifest going behind or acting outside the jurisdiction of the Licensing Officer or the Town Council" and as there was "no suggestion of the judgment having been fraudulently invoked, obtained or given" they had no jurisdiction to interfere. The net result of this decision is that even existing licenses cannot be transferred to other Indians. In another instance, an Indian owned a shop premises; and the trader who rented it went insolvent. Since the premises are in the non-European quarter, no European wants them for a shop; the owner has been refused a license to trade in his own premises. The owner does not know what to do with his property.

THE AGENT'S STATEMENT.

The Office of the Agent has issued a statement clearing certain doubts that the Indians had regarding the new Immigration Act. Under the old law minor children born outside the Union, say India, could enter the Union at the instance of their fathers domiciled in the Union. The issue of a Registration Certificate in the Transvaal establishes the right of domicile of the child. In other provinces a stay of three years gives the same right. When once the child has acquired the right of domicile, it can go to India and come back within three years in *its own right* of domicile. In which case it need not be accompanied by its mother. But after the lapse of three years, the domicile is lost under the new Act; and then the child, if still a minor, can come in as the minor child at the instance of its domiciled father in the Union. In which case, it must be accompanied by its mother.

The complaint that the Immigration Officers have been demanding excessive security deposits from Indian immigrants pending enquiry regarding their right to enter the Union, seems exaggerated, as the following figures from the Department of the Interior show:—65 of £10; 19 of £15; 8 of £25; 1 of £30; 5 of £59; 1 of £75; 1 of £100. Indians themselves do not consider £30 as too high. In which case, in 93 cases out of the last hundred the deposit does not exceed the limit.

BISHOP WESTCOTT ON "MOTHER INDIA".

The Bishop of Calcutta has done a great service in denouncing Miss Mayo's "Mother India" at two meetings that he addressed in Natal, Maritzburg and Durban. He could not have chosen better places to give the corrective to that book. The Bishop addressed a number of Indian meetings in Natal and India has reason to be very grateful to him.

REVIEWS.

ELEMENTARY ECONOMICS.

ELEMENTARY ECONOMICS. By F. R. FAIRCHILD, E. S. FURNISS and N. S. BUCK. 2 vols. (The Macmillan Co., Ltd., New York.) 1926. 8¾ × 5¾. pp. 568, 661. 25s.

DISSATISFIED with the many defects of text-books on Economics the authors have prepared the present work for the purpose of helping college students to a knowledge of the fundamental facts and principles of the economic world. They do not claim to have made any contribution to economic theory and avow at the outset that "it is strictly a book for beginners and the teachers of beginners." The elementary purpose for which the book is designed was incompatible, according to its authors, with that type of discussion which presents arguments on both sides of a controversial question and leaves the reader to draw his own conclusions. Accordingly they have stated in many places somewhat dogmatically what they considered sound conclusions as to subjects upon which there still exists a real difference of opinion among economists of authority. The book itself embodies a novel system of presentment of the subject matter of economics. It starts with a description of the economic organisation extending over 217 pages. Such a course no doubt helps to arouse interest in the reader and to impart to him such preliminary informa-

tion, as is necessary for a correct understanding of the subject. The second part extending over 154 pages deals with the laws of price. The remaining portion of Vol. I covering 180 pages is utilised for a discussion of money, banking and exchange. The second volume is divided into five parts dealing respectively with problems of business organisation, distribution of wealth and income, economics of government, problems of labour and reform of the economic system. The book is calculated to be of interest not only on account of its arrangement but also on account of the many detailed references to American economic conditions on which the theoretical discussion is extensively based. Chapters on the industrial revolution, the form of business unit, organisation of marketing, money, banking, industrial monopoly, speculation, immigration, and customs tariff are particularly replete with much that will entertain and instruct an average Indian student.

It cannot be said, however, that the ambition of the authors to produce a text-book free from the alleged defects of existing works has been even distantly fulfilled. It may be arguable, at the outset, whether a book that suits the requirements of the beginners will also meet with the needs of teachers of beginners. In the second place, the superiority of a system of dogmatism over one of frank and full presentment in instructing college students on doubtful questions of economic theory may also be doubted. But even within their self-imposed limits the authors cannot be said to have prepared a scheme of economic study which is as correct, consistent and logical as it should be. They place great store by precise definitions in economics and upbraid the economists for their frequent failure to realise the importance of this requirement. In view of such a commendable zeal for correct definition one is led to examine the author's own attempts in that field with peculiar interest. The science of economics is defined as follows: "Economics is the science of man's activities devoted to obtaining the material means for the satisfaction of his wants." Not to refer to the many and different views held by modern economists on the wants and economic activities of human beings, it must be noted that the author's definition rules out all discussion of non-material means of satisfying human wants e. g. personal services. In spite of this definition, however, we find that all the field of human service in economic production is covered by the authors, under the plea that production consists of the creation of utility in wealth and the rendering of services by free persons. Such an inconsistent conduct raises the pertinent question: what do they understand by wealth? And here is the answer: "wealth consists of all useful *material* things *owned* by human beings... Having excluded from our concept of wealth all useless and all immaterial things we next limit it to those useful material things which are *owned* by man. The first effect of this limitation is to exclude those useful things which are furnished freely and abundantly by nature. Thus air is material and it is about the most useful thing in the world. But on account

of its abundance it is not owned; why should one take the trouble to own it."

According to our authors, therefore, for a useful thing to constitute wealth it is essential that it should be material and that it should be owned. Now, to argue at this time of the day that productive services are not wealth, in any reasonable sense of the term, is strange enough. But an attempt further to delimit the characteristics of such an economic entity as wealth by including such a juridical fact as ownership in its essential attributes, is positively unsound. In the particular instance that the authors have chosen, it will be easily seen that air is not ordinarily counted as wealth because no troubles are necessary to acquire it and not because it is *not owned*. Ownership, though an inseparable accident of wealth under modern social organisation, is not one of its essential attributes. The authors themselves feel shaky of the starting ground that they have chosen. They observe: "The usefulness of our definition will not be fully demonstrated of course until the student has finished this book, or better still after he has continued his study of economics with the aid of other authors or through his own research." Obviously a life-long, and perhaps a longer, research is necessary to convince one that ownership is of the essence of wealth! It is amusing to observe that our authors, who started with a reproach of the economists for not attending to definitions end by saying: "To argue whether these meanings are correct or not would be a foolish waste of breath. And nothing is to be gained by an argument over the 'correct' definition of wealth." This leads one to suspect that what they value in America is definition and not correctness. After this it will not come as a surprise that such important problems of economic theory as value and commercial policy, have been treated by the authors in a manner which at best can be described as superficial.

The United States possess one of the most advanced economic organisations of modern times. It is, therefore, natural that the treatment of such subjects as high prices, monopoly gains, profiteering, speculation, inequality of wealth and socialism, should attract special notice. A student who has been accustomed to the traditional treatment of these topics in English books will find in the present work much that is agreeably surprising. We are told, for instance, that high prices are a chronic complaint since the Middle ages, that the fundamental economic forces are working to preserve a state of active competition, that the entrepreneurs as a whole receive at best a surprisingly small income, that any action which would seriously interfere with the normal operation of speculation would be a costly blunder, that Karl Marx's charge against capitalism that it increases inequality must be dismissed as not proved and that the professed socialists are a relatively insignificant part of the population in the United States. All these are striking, if not startling, statements and they are only a sample. No doubt they substantially reflect the facts of American experience and it is to be hoped that

students of economics in this country would widen their ken by a perusal of the very interesting book under review.

D. G. KARVE.

CIVIC EDUCATION.

L'EDUCATION CIVIQUE AUX INDES. Par VISHNU SHIVADASANI. (Librairie Nouvelle, Montpellier.) 1926. 9¾ × 6½. pp. 164.

THE author starts with a description of the system of education that now obtains in the schools and universities of India. After pointing out many defects in the present system he has tried to show how these defects can be remedied.

His main criticism is that the education which we receive at present is theoretical, bookish and without any relation with actual life. (p. 31). But he makes other serious charges also. In his opinion our present education tends to damage the health of the child and paralyse its power of observation and thought. By requiring the student to cram for examination, it weakens his personality. It destroys his character by compelling him to accept blindly whatever is dogmatically taught by his teacher or book, and in thus making him doubt his own judgement, it becomes the cause of his imagination remaining in a state of stagnation.....It deprives him of his social heritage and renders him incapable of appreciating his own culture. (pp. 39-40). This is surely a very damaging criticism of our present system of education, and although it appears to be a little exaggerated it cannot probably be denied that the criticism is substantially true.

All education, the author thinks, is for life and students should, therefore, be given such education as would enable them to meet the problems of the country. In this connexion he has tried to determine the scope and the object of civic education and has pointed out 'the necessity of social and regional surveys as preliminaries to the creation of an environment most suitable for the people from material, moral and cultural points of view.'

In several chapters he has, in detail, dealt with the changes he proposes to introduce at various stages of our primary, secondary and higher education. The principal object he has in view is to develop the students into useful citizens and to prepare them well to solve the problems of life successfully. Although he admits that specialised researches may be good in themselves, he still thinks that all departments of knowledge—the arts, the sciences and the humanities—should be coordinated for the service of the community. (p. 112). He proposes to regionalise the studies at the university as far as possible and to introduce civic studies in its course along with sociology. The object of civic studies is to understand the concrete life of the city or the country whatever they are, to study the place, work and the population together with their interactions and to find out the means of ameliorating the surroundings with a view to bring out fully all their latent qualities. (p. 117).

The author has made a very good case for so reforming our present system of education as to make it square with the needs of our life. But evidently all knowledge cannot be made practical and useful in the vulgar sense of the terms. There should remain enough scope in our system of education for engendering in us a genuine love of knowledge for its own sake, apart from its mere serviceability.

There are appreciative references to Santiniketan-Viswabharati and an interesting description of the Outlook Tower of Edinburgh. The book is dedicated to Prof. Geddes who has been freely quoted in the

body of the book and to whom the author seems to be indebted for many of his ideas. On the whole the book, within its limit, is an excellent essay and deserves to be considered by all Indian educationists.

R. DAS.

SHORT NOTICES.

THE AGRICULTURAL GEOGRAPHY OF THE DECCAN PLATEAU OF INDIA. By ETHEL SIMKINS. (George Philip & Son., Ltd., London.) 1926. 9¾ x 6. pp. vi, 92. 5s.

THE above publication is the second of the series of monographs published by the Geographical Association. This was a thesis prepared by the writer for the Honours Examination in Geography at Liverpool University. Most of the material is obtained either from the India Office or directly from India from authorities like Dr. H. H. Mann. The writer of the books as well as the preface-writer have warmly acknowledged the help received from these officials. Most of the material is already published by Government and there is not much original work except some of the personal inferences and conclusions drawn by the authoress in Chapter III of her book. The numerous maps which illustrate the distribution of various crops are only amplifications of such maps prepared by Rao Bahadur P. C. Patil and published by the Bombay Agricultural Department as a bulletin (No. 109.) This book contains similar maps for the whole of the Deccan instead of the Bombay Presidency. We however welcome the present publication as it may draw the attention of our educationists to the desirability of teaching geography in its relation to the agriculture of the country instead of only its physical and climatic features. The material is there, already published, and the present book of Miss Simkins shows how the same can be utilised in teaching the Geography of our country and make the subject more instructive and really interesting to our school children.

N. V. KANTKAR.

THE BOARD OF EDUCATION. By Sir LEWIS AMHERST SELBY-BIGGE. (G. P. Putnam's Sons, Ltd., London.) 1927. 7¾ x 5. pp. 299. 7s. 6d.

THIS interesting book presents in a beautiful manner the process by which a public service of Education has grown up in the British Isles. In Chapter second the author has graphically described what the Board of Education has done for the benefit of the people. The obstacle of having to pay fees was met by special provision for necessitous children in 1870 and 1876; the claim to free elementary education was conceded in 1891 and the payment of fees in public elementary schools was prohibited in 1918. It has of course long been recognised that something more than exemption from fees was necessary to make public education accessible. The Inspector there is by no means engaged in inspecting and reporting on individual schools but acts as an interpreter of professional feelings and opinions to the lay mind and to his political chiefs.

Broadly speaking, the driving force behind the Service of Education has been and ought to be the belief that it is an active and necessary agency to make men and women better, wiser and happier; to make society more coherent, more stable and more prosperous. Further, Education must teach him to reconcile the interest of the individual and society so that he or she shall achieve the highest development of which he or she is capable and at the same time make the fullest contribution to the welfare and prosperity of the nation he or she lives in.

This book tells us how England is going nearer these objects and has already achieved some of them. It further reminds the Indian reader by way of contrast; how its present day educational system has failed miserably for want of political freedom. The book is also full of valuable information relating to other aspects of education and we recommend our readers to go through the same.

G. B. WABLE.

SIR JOHN WOODBURN. By HIS DAUGHTER. (Arthur H. Stockwell, Ltd., London.) 1927. 7½ x 3 pp. 32. 2s.

THE subject of this small biographical sketch was a distinguished civilian of his time; but very few of the present generation seem to know anything about him. Born in 1843, he passed his I. C. S. in 1862 when he was 19. Sir John Woodburn had a varied official career rising from the position of a district officer to that of the Lieutenant-Governor of an important province like Bengal. He had also the good fortune to be the administrative head of another, though a comparatively less important, province, viz. C. P. He died in harness in 1901 before his lustrum as Governor of Bengal was over, as a result, we are told, of overwork. A small sketch like this can hardly deal adequately with Sir John Woodburn's official career nor indeed does the present publication make any such claim. All the same those who wish to have a general idea of Sir John Woodburn's social and personal qualities will find enough to interest them in this book.

D.

INTERCOURSE BETWEEN INDIA AND THE WESTERN WORLD. By H. G. RAWLINSON. (Cambridge University Press, London.) 1926. 9 x 5½. pp. vi, 196. 8s. 6d.

DURING the ten years that have elapsed since the first edition of this work was issued to the public, historical researches necessitated some changes in the contents of the book. These are however not too numerous, the reading matter remaining for the most part unaltered. The bibliography has been brought up to date; so also the map of Bharatavarsha appended at the end. The book is of special use to those who wish to study India's connection with the western world in ancient times—a subject which deserves more careful study than is generally bestowed on it.

V.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FLOODS IN ORISSA—AN APPEAL.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SERVANT OF INDIA.

SIR,—May I make a personal appeal through your columns for help on behalf of the flood-stricken people of Orissa who have been sadly left out in the cold hitherto in the way of public relief at a time when public charity has been most generous on behalf of flood stricken people? The reason is not far to seek. The Gujerat disaster appeared so overwhelming, that there was not room in the public mind for a second appeal, of a similar nature, at the same time. But the flood in Orissa was no less overwhelming, though perhaps less extensive. Even in its extent, I am not quite sure, whether I may not be underestimating. The Servants of India Society's representative on the spot, Sjt. Laxmi Narayan Sahu, who has traversed the whole area, and knows local conditions, has estimated the region affected to be over 750 sq. miles in extent and the damage done at Rs. 10 crores. Probably the late advent of some very seasonable rains (since that time) reduced this estimate of damage.

done. Yet even here I am doubtful. The Rev. W. Boyd Tucker, whom I specially deputed to make an independent estimate in one region, reports that there was no exaggeration whatever with regard to the damage to the fields and the crops. Along with this, I also have the plain, outstanding statistic, about which there is common agreement between the Government and voluntary workers, namely, that in British territory and in the Feudatory States, a total of nearly 80,000 houses have collapsed and will have to be replaced. When I was in Bombay and recited the figure, I was met with sympathy and surprise. The Central Flood Relief workers had no idea whatever of the extent of the Orissa flood damage, before I told them the facts.

To show how comparatively unnoticed the Orissa flood has been, I can record one incident which came to my attention just in time to prevent the final step being taken, which would have been irreversible.

In Calcutta (which is close to Orissa and dependent to a great extent on Orissa labour) the Gujerati merchants had collected one lakh of rupees for flood relief. At a general committee meeting, they had decided to place 85 p. c. of this lakh of rupees to Gujerat, and 15 to Orissa. Fortunately, I was able to point out to them the extreme need of Orissa just in time; and I hope in consequence that they will be able to divert more than 15 p. c. to Orissa out of the lakh of rupees collected.

During my recent visit to Bombay, I made enquiries, and found that the total receipts for the flood relief in that Presidency, including Government loans, were likely to come to more than Rs. 200 lakhs. On the other hand, as far as we can estimate, the whole relief for Orissa, including Government loans, will not exceed eight lakhs.

Might I ask, through your valuable paper, that when the final accounts are made out for the Gujerat Flood Relief it may be seen whether it is not possible to spare a residue for Orissa. Yours, etc.
Shantiniketan, Nov. 25.

C. F. ANDREWS.

THE IMMEDIATE PROBLEM.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SERVANT OF INDIA.

Sir,—The appointment of a purely British Commission is regarded on all hands as implying a distrust of Indian politicians and a violation of her claims to self-determination. The situation demands united action by all parties. The present machinery to bring about their co-operation into a Round Table Conference is sadly defective. Conferences of leaders are very often failures as their compromises are repudiated by their followers. They have not often the time and money to back up their attitude by efficient publicity and have not the regular party-offices with paid staff to ensure dispatch of work.

The December gatherings should therefore try to make up for these defects. They should choose each say half-a-dozen men to represent the whole party at a Round Table Conference. The leaders should be given extensive powers for compromises and funds to carry on their work throughout the year. The attitude that they would be asked to take towards the Commission should also be carefully decided.

Since complete co-operation is impossible and a mere negative boycott is out of place this attitude may, in my opinion, range between:—(i) Making the best of a bad job and hoping for better things. (ii) Private unofficial discussions with individual

members of the Commission while maintaining an official boycott. (iii) Co-operation so long as facilities are afforded for cross-examination of official witnesses and for influencing the final report. (iv) Agreeing upon half-a-dozen names and getting the Commission to co-opt them for all practical purposes. (v) Ensuring that the committees of the central and local legislatures are controlled by or are identical with the working committee of the Round Table Conference. (vi) Treating with the Commission as the Irish leaders did on equal terms.

Lord Birkenhead has repeated his challenge to Indians to produce a constitution of their own and clear indications are given that Non-Co-operation has failed. We must not repeat our past mistakes but take up the challenge and fight it by constitutional means. Is it too much to expect that India would rise to the occasion at this supreme crisis in her national development? Yours, etc.

Yerandowna, November 29.

R. H. KELKAR.

BOOKS RECEIVED.

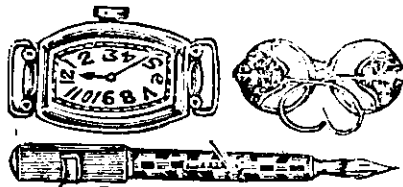
- A CHINAMAN'S OPINION OF US. By HWUY-UNG. (Chatto and Windus, London.) 1927. 8½ x 5. pp. 296. 7s. 6d.
DEMOCRACY AND FINANCE IN CHINA. By KINW WEI SHAW. (Columbia University Press, New York.) 1926. 9 x 6½. pp. 215. \$ 3.50.
IMPERIALISM AND WORLD POLITICS. By PARKER THOMAS MOON. (The Macmillan Co., New York.) 1927. 8½ x 5½. pp. 583.
CONGAREE SKETCHES. By F. C. L. ADAMS. (The University of North Carolina Press, Chapel Hill, N. C.) 1927. 8½ x 5½. pp. 116. 2s.
MOHAMMED—A BIOGRAPHY OF THE PROPHET AND MAN. By R. F. DIBBLE. (Hutchinson and Co., Ltd., London.) 1927. 9 x 5½. pp. 254. 12s. 6d.
OCCUPIED HAITI. By EMILY GREENE BALCH. (The Writers Publishing Co., New York.) 1927. 7½ x 5½. pp. 186.

FREE WITH COOLING GLASS & FOUNTAIN PEN.

Read Once and Think Twice.

Make your current money dead stock buying worthiness.
A FEW MORE LEFT. THE BEST OPPORTUNITY.

FREE !!



FREE !!

22-Carat Rolled Gold Golden dial Wrist Watch. All our Wrist Watches are guaranteed for 10 years stamped inside of the case. Handy to wear and looks beautiful. Manufactured with best mechanism and up-to-date. The best selection always. One Cooling Glass and a Fountain Pen will be given free to the purchaser of our Wrist Watch. Price Rs. 7. Apply to—OVERSEAS SWISS WATCH Co. P. B. No. 371, MOUNT ROAD, MADRAS.

LUCKY CHANCE

Invest rupee one and get thereby fifty thousand. Do not miss this golden opportunity, it comes seldom. Ask for prospectus. This advantage is only for four months.

DULICHAND JAIN, B. A.
Partabgarh (RAJPUTANA) Malwa.