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Topics of the Week.

Summer School Ban Once More.

IN the course of a recent communique the Madras Government repeat their charge against the Summer School at Kottapatam about violence having been preached at it. They go further and affirm that while military drill was openly practised secret instruction was given in shooting and bomb-making. All this sounds very authoritative but one wonders whether military drill is in itself open to any objection. The fact that it is allowed elsewhere at any rate shows that even Government have not much exception to take to it. As for the alleged instruction in shooting it is difficult to see how this instruction could be noiselessly given unless of course theoretical instruction is intended. But seeing that books on shooting are freely available, the objection against theoretical instruction in shooting appears rather too far-fetched.

BUT perhaps we might well spare ourselves the trouble of examining the contents of this communique too closely. For, after all the charges levelled against the school are no more than mere allegations to which little value need be attached. In the case of the summer school at any rate the Government's love of truth was effectively proved by the fact that though the lathi charge in the dispersal of the school was witnessed by many persons, the Government continue to hug to their bosom the delusion about its not having taken place. Can anybody then be blamed if he were inclined to take their statements not without a big grain of salt? If the Government

are anxious that their statements should be taken at their face value it is necessary that their veracity should be established in a court of law by the usual legal processes. Till this is done the public will continue to look upon the organisers of the school as not having been guilty of the charges so ostentatiously levelled against them.

Encroachments on Civil Liberty.

THE latest bulletin of the Indian Civil Liberties Union gives an extraordinarily long list of prosecutions for sedition. About the merits of these cases nothing can obviously be said till the completion of their hearing by courts. But we cannot allow this opportunity to pass without recording our protest against the increasing tendency on the part of the executive to bind over well-known public workers for good behaviour under section 108 Cr. P. C. This section is intended to be brought into play only in the case of notorious bad characters and its application in the case of public workers, however inconvenient to the authorities, is a clear misuse of its provisions. Equally condemnable is the prostitution of the Criminal Tribes Act for crippling political and labour work, of which some instances are chronicled in the bulletin. It is amazing that a Muslim member of the Bengal Legislative Assembly should have been directed to register himself under the Act and a respectable public worker sentenced to a year's imprisonment for being found outside his jurisdiction.

TO what harassing restrictions internees in Bengal are subjected is seen from the fact mentioned in the bulletin about an internee having had to face arrest because of mere attendance at, not participation in, a public meeting! The celebration of the birthday of a man who in his life-time had zealously exerted himself in the public cause was banned in the Madras Presidency on the ground that the man was "an arch rebel" by which, we suppose, nothing worse is implied than his being a non-co-operator at one time. Why the celebration of his birthday should have been thus arbitrarily prohibited we for our part fail to comprehend. Is it not enough that the man, while he was alive, paid for the sin of his non-co-operation by suffering the punishment awarded to him? Must the sin be supposed to attach to him even in his grave? Such cases of official overzeal might perhaps have been excused in the case of the erstwhile bureaucratic government but they become absolutely unpardonable in the case of the present provincial governments which avowedly owe responsibility to the people. One can certainly make allowance for individual officers sometimes running amok and playing indefensible pranks with public liberties, the responsibility for which cannot in fairness be visited on the provincial ministries. But the least they can do to deserve public confidence is by

calling the culprits to account as soon as their misbehaviour is publicly brought to their notice.

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THE Bhopal State is reported to have prevented its people from attending a political conference held in adjoining British Indian territory by forbidding them to cross the boundaries of the State. Such an unobjectionable book as "Hind Swaraj" by Mahatma Gandhi is now refused entry into Bikanir and the only secular journal so far issued from the State had to go out of existence because its editor was asked for an undertaking to eschew politics from its columns. In the case of Indian States we are of course prepared for all kinds of imaginable and unimaginable restrictions on the subjects' liberty imposed at the sweet will of the ruler. And so, frankly, we cannot pretend to be surprised at these happenings in Bhopal and Bikanir. That, however, in no way alters the fact that these restrictions are deserving of the strongest censure.

Political Prisoners and Andamans.

IN a recent statement to the press Raizada Hansraj, M. L. A., gives his support to the public demand for the repatriation to India of political prisoners numbering over 300 in the Andamans. Mr. Hansraj visited the penal settlement last year and made a firsthand study of conditions in Port Blair. This invests his support to the demand with a value all its own. He says that the climate of the Andamans is damp and humid and the rainy season lasts for nearly nine months out of twelve. The continuous perspiration to which this gives rise has an enervating effect on one's health which is further undermined by the bad and deficient water supply in the island, leading to digestive maladjustments and other stomach troubles.

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AS a matter of fact Mr. Hansraj found the general health of the prisoners extremely unsatisfactory and he gives the startling information that as many as eight had to be brought back to India for tubercular treatment, sufferers from diseases like asthma, heart disease, dysentery, etc., being fairly numerous. That the climate is anything but salubrious is further proved by the fact that a large number of political prisoners were found by Mr. Hansraj to be continuously losing weight.

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AS if these physical troubles were not enough punishment, the political prisoners unlike the non-political are subjected to mental and intellectual starvation by their complete isolation from the rest of the world. Their relatives find it exceedingly hard to get at them and Mr. Hansraj states that during the last four years only five prisoners were interviewed by their relatives and that too in the presence of police officials. A great deal is sometimes made of the facilities for games provided for the political prisoners. Raizada Hansraj makes the surprising revelation that the so-called football ground measures hardly more than a tennis court and that the allowance for games amounts to the princely sum of less than half an anna per head per month! What is styled a library is very much out of date and for Indian news the prisoners have to rely largely on Anglo-Indian papers. Nobody has a right to expect ideal conditions of life in a jail but one certainly has a right to hope that they would at any rate not be such as might result in a shortening of the prisoners' life. But even apart from this, if, as Mr. Hansraj found, the prisoners are pining for a return to the mother-country, it is but proper that they should be brought back without delay.

Anti-Corruption Crusade.

THE Chief Justice of the Punjab High Court deserves congratulations on his relentless war against corruption in Government Offices. His efforts in the direction of stamping out the evil do not happily stop with speeches; he does not hesitate to take practical action to uproot the evil. And one is glad to note from the Punjab press that his efforts so far have not gone altogether in vain. The evil is no doubt there but in a much less aggravated form. Its reduction is generally attributed to his well-known desire to give no quarter to anybody, however highly placed, who, despite repeated warnings, fails to improve his ways. In such cases the Chief Justice has not shrunk from dismissing the offenders out of a feeling of mistaken pity or compassion.

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THUS we find two clerks in the High Court being recently sent away because they were found to be corrupt and one has been punished by permanent reduction in grade for the same reason. The name of a Lahore counsel has been struck off the approved list and, what is more, he is being prosecuted for forgery. Two official Receivers are under suspension with a view to the complaints against them being carefully gone into. Allegations of corruption have been made by responsible people even against some District Judges and Sub-judges. Inquiries into their conduct were swiftly set on foot, and the results of the inquiries will be published to the public disgrace of the culprits. It will be seen from this that every care is being taken to see that his official position does not give the offender improper and adventitious protection.

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THE Chief Justice's latest attack on official bribery has taken the form of a special department to deal with the evil. It will deal with all complaints about corruption having any connection with the judicial department. It is to be hoped that he will receive the whole-hearted co-operation of the public of the province in his anti-corruption crusade. There will be no fear of evil consequences to a bona fide informant, for the risk has been minimised by the assurance about his interests being duly safeguarded and the information given by him being treated as confidential. There is no doubt that the efforts of the Punjab Chief Justice to purify the judicial administration are deserving of the highest praise. We can only hope that his example which is doubtless worthy of emulation will be followed everywhere in India.

Egypt and India.

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THE speeches (now to hand) made in the special session of the League of Nations Assembly on 26th March, when Egypt was admitted to the League, cannot but force some reflections on Indian observers. Egypt was warmly congratulated on her being enabled to take out, as M. Politis put it, "her letters of naturalisation in the family of free nations", but this consummation became possible only because she first became free and an equal of every other nation. Nearly a year ago she won her freedom and secured the recognition of her independence, actual as well as titular, by the protecting power, and some eight or nine months afterwards she was emancipated at Montreux from another form of guardianship which appeared incompatible with her political liberty. As a development of this process Egypt became finally free on the day on which she took rank as an equal among free and independent nations. But her entry into the League is valuable only because of her previous liberation from her bonds and achievement

of full independence. For, as the French delegate, M. Delbos, said, "independence is the strongest guarantee both of the probity and of the permanence of international relationships". India's accession to the Geneva institution was on sufferance; being still unfree internally, she was admitted as an original member of the League to make her contribution to the solution of international problems of free peoples. Her delegates are not of her choice, nor are they at liberty to express the views held in the country. If representative Indians happen to be selected they find their position to be greatly embarrassing and naturally are unable to give any useful collaboration in the solution of the problems to be tackled. No one could congratulate Egypt on her attainment of a new status more heartily than Indians who aspire to the same position, in fact as in law.

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Mysore Demands Constitutional Advance.

A STRONG desire for a further constitutional advance found expression in the course of the recent budget debate in the Mysore Legislature. It was clear from non-official speeches that the present constitution was generally looked upon as too inadequate to satisfy the political hunger of the people. Their ultimate aim is responsible government and as steps leading to this goal several suggestions for reform were put forward. In the first place larger powers were demanded for the two legislative bodies in the State, viz., the Representative Assembly and the Legislative Council. In the next place the appointment of a non-official as a member of the Executive Council was pressed for. The neglectful attitude of the Imperial Government towards the people of the Indian States in the framing of the federal constitution was also not forgotten. It may be recalled that under this constitution the States will be represented in the Federal Legislature by the Princes or their nominees and that the people as distinguished from the Princes are not allowed any representation in it. Indeed so far as the new constitution goes, they are nowhere in the picture. Mr. D. V. Gundappa, who prominently and pointedly put forward the two demands referred to above, took occasion to refer to this matter and voiced the deep dissatisfaction of the people of the States at the arrangement. Though his complaint cannot now perhaps have any practical effect, he did well in putting the rulers in mind of the discontent engendered among the States' people by a constitution which severely leaves them in the cold of studied neglect.

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Elementary School Teacher's Licence.

SINCE the transfer of elementary education to local bodies loud complaints are oftentimes heard about the teachers in their service either not being paid at all for months together or being paid a smaller salary than the one agreed to. These remarks also apply in a general way to aided schools managed by private agencies not fully equipped with funds. The non-payment or delayed payment of salary, naturally affects the teachers' efficiency and has a prejudicial effect upon their work. The problem is not confined to this province or that, but is an all-India one and cries for urgent remedial action. And it is a matter for satisfaction to note that such action is being officially proposed in Madras. The proposal is to provide every elementary teacher in an aided recognised school with a licence to teach. This would be issued by the Education Department and would be in addition to the certificate testifying to his professional qualifications.

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THE licence will clearly set forth the terms on which the teacher is employed as also whether his employment is temporary or permanent. The salary which his employers have agreed to pay him will also be stated in the licence. The licence will have to be countersigned by the employer of the teacher, which will act as a guarantee against anything not mutually agreed to finding its way into it. The advantages of such a licence may not be obvious at first sight. But can it be doubted that it will greatly help the poor teacher in demanding compliance with the agreed terms from his employers?

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THE absence of such a clear statement of the terms of the teacher's employment has so far acted as a handicap to Government in their desire to give him much-needed protection. With the effectuation of the proposal about the teacher's licence this difficulty at any rate would be removed from their path. All that remains for them thereafter is to insist on the agreed terms being fully satisfied, if need be even by the withholding of the Government grant. This is exactly what is being thought of in the Southern presidency where one of the new grant-in-aid rules will authorise Government to stop the payment of the yearly grant in cases of non-payment of salaries or improper deductions from them. The enforcement of the new rule is expected to result in an improvement in the elementary school teacher's lot and its working will be keenly watched even outside Madras.

COST OF ROYALTY.

THE unfortunate incident of King Edward VIII's abdication enables us to bring, only a year after the fixation of his Civil List, the principles on which Parliament votes money for the maintenance of the Royal household and the dignity of the Crown once again to the notice of our readers. To these principles the rulers of Indian States may well pay some attention. We may enunciate them as follows:

1. His majesty the King surrenders all his hereditary revenues to the nation and, retaining nothing of these resources to himself, depends wholly upon the generosity of Parliament to place him in funds for the performance of his duties and for the maintenance of himself and his family.

2. The monies so voted have to be accounted for and are subjected to independent audit. Only that portion of the Civil List which consists of the King's Privy Purse is exempt from detailed examination of the manner in which the money is expended. All the rest is scrutinised as closely as any other item of national expenditure.

How much does the King give to the nation in the way of hereditary revenues and how much of it does he get back from the nation? The net income from the Crown lands in 1935 was £1,320,000 and from other minor sources £108,145, or £1,428,145 in all. This is exclusive of the income from the Duchies of Lancaster and Cornwall, which technically are not regarded as Crown lands. The income from these Duchies in 1934 was £168,000. But in settling a Civil

List on a King, the income which either the King or the Prince of Wales derives from this source is taken into account, and the amount of the Civil List is reduced accordingly. King George VI's Civil List is fixed at the same figure as was that of his elder brother, viz. at £410,000. Thus the King pays into the Exchequer something like £1,430,000 annually and takes out of it, with the consent of Parliament, a fixed sum of £410,000. That is to say, he gives to the State nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ times as much as he receives from it.

What proportion does the cost of royalty bear to public expenditure in general in the United Kingdom? The Civil List of the present King is £410,000, "and (says C. B. Cockaine in the *Times of India* of 13th May) even when raised from £410,000 to £535,000 by the inclusion of the annuities totalling some £125,000 which the State pays to other members of the Royal family, the list still stands at only about 1/1500th or under 7/10,000ths of the total of the national budget." To settle a civil list at a certain ratio of the revenue or expenditure of a country is of course not possible. This method would operate unfairly in the case of countries whose resources are limited. We may, therefore, state here how this ratio works out in a small European country. In Sweden the total revenue expenditure budgeted for in 1935-36 was 867,299,850 kronor; and of this the sanctioned budget for the expenses of the Royal household was 1,729,000 kronor. That is, the charge of royalty was about one-fifth of one per cent. in Sweden, whereas in the United Kingdom it is one-fifteenth of one per cent. It must be admitted that even the larger of these proportions will be too low for Indian States, but certainly there is no excuse for our Princes to retain to themselves the revenue from their private lands and to appropriate from the State treasuries anything like 10 to 20 per cent. of the total revenue, without any reference to the legislative councils even where they exist and without submitting an account of the monies so spent.

In the United Kingdom, however, even the one-fifteenth of one per cent. that is expended on the Royal household is considered too big an amount, and an attempt was recently made, not by republicans, but by those who believe in the institution of Monarchy to cut down this figure. Of the Civil List of £410,000 only £110,000 constitutes the King's Privy Purse. No detailed expenditure of this amount is officially given, but Mr. Cockaine gives a rough distribution of it as follows:

For a start the expenses of travelling and processions alone might be placed at £25,000. Royal trains are not provided free by the Railway Companies, and with the charge of about £1 a mile for specials the cost of a single journey to, say, Balmoral must be in the neighbourhood of £500. £10,000, therefore, would be quite a modest allotment for railway fares, and at least the same amount must be spent on the royal motors, carriages and yacht. Finally, it must cost about £5,000 to maintain the sixty horses in the Royal Mews.

Donations to charity and purely personal expenditure on dress, doctors and so forth might each be assessed at £5,000, and the army of 150 to 200 pensioners unprovided for by the State, for whom the King maintains a splendidly equipped home at Sandringham, may easily cost another

£25,000 and thus bring expenditure up to £60,000. Then His Majesty also provides annuities for several members of the Royal House who, unlike the Queen Mother, the King's brothers and sister, the Duke of Connaught and certain others, receive no Parliamentary grants. These annuities probably total at least £25,000.

The remaining £300,000 is subject to strict audit, and the public knows how the money is spent: "£150,000 for upkeep of the Royal residences, £120,000 for staff salaries, £15,000 for building and repairs, £7,000 for bounties on recognised occasions (the birth of triplets being one) and £8,000 for incidental expenses."

A reduction in the expenses of the Royal establishment, small as they are, is now widely desired for two reasons: first as a measure of economy and, secondly, and still more, as a measure of making the people look upon the King, not as a divinity, but as an ordinary man. That on both these counts a change is desirable is admitted not only by political radicals but also by men belonging to higher classes in society and holding moderately progressive views. Recently the *Sphere* urged reform in both these directions. It advocated the giving up by the King some of the Royal palaces—Buckingham Palace, Windsor Castle, St. James's Palace, Balmoral, Sandringham, etc. Since half of the Civil List outside the Privy Purse is accounted for by these palaces, the most promising direction in which to effect economy is indicated by the cutting down of a superfluity of palaces. The *Sphere* wrote:

If the question be raised as to a redundancy of Royal residences, let us not dismiss it as an outrageous impertinence. The Royal family is to-day embarrassed by too many residences and if one or two were disposed of and the proceeds remitted to the public exchequer or towards the cost of social services, what a magnificent gesture of the promise of the new reign it would be! There are four or five satellite Royal residences in commission round Windsor; three or four more round Balmoral; two or more in Norfolk; in London there are Buckingham Palace, Marlborough House, York House, Clarence House, not to speak of 'private' houses in Royal occupation. Some of these are permanently redundant henceforth, and examination of the problem of disposal and retrenchment must not be dismissed as impertinent.

Keeping of the palaces involves maintenance of a large army of retainers. Col. Wedgwood observed in the House of Commons in the debate on the Civil List on 24th May: "I object to voting these sums not because it is money which the Royal family will get, but because of the enormous vested interest all round the Royal family, which will get it at the present time. Every one of the palaces has its staff; the vast accumulation of offices connected with the household—private secretaries, equerries, aides-de-camp—are at the present time bleeding not this House, but bleeding the Royal purse. We have put this amendment on the paper (the nature of the amendment will become clear later) in order that that form of parasitism may be checked," and in order that the "greedy gang of flunkies who are hanging on to the Court" may be disbanded. On the second ground also the *Sphere* made a strong plea as follows:

During the coming debate on the Civil List the Labour Opposition will raise a number of points envisaging further simplification and even further democratisation of the business of kingship and the Court. This point should not be pettishly dismissed as 'vulgar obstruction' or 'ill-man-

nered criticism of our beloved Royal Family.' The Government and Parliament should receive these criticisms in a spirit of co-operation and as offering suggestions for reforms which may be overdue.

On account of the Civil List being fixed once for all for the whole duration of a King's reign, no opportunity is afforded in the interval for changing the amount to be spent on the King's household in accordance with the changing standards of living for the Royal family, and the provision made follows necessarily the precedent of such provision made in the past. The Labour Party, therefore, moved an amendment in the Commons to the effect that the proposed Civil List be in force for a year, whereupon an inquiry should be made into the ways in which the provision might be reduced. Major Attlee, speaking on the Civil List, said :

In these matters there is a tendency to rest upon precedent. The Chancellor of the Exchequer referred to well-established precedents. In fact you will find the utmost difficulty in getting any change made in a Civil List just because of the following of precedents; because a queen received so much 100 years ago it is considered almost a slur if anyone should suggest anything less to-day. Therefore, one is stabilising certain standards which were laid down in a very different age from that in which we live.

We cannot acquiesce in establishing for a long period what we believe are entirely false standards. The whole conception of what is suitable provision for a monarch to-day really rests on the ideas of more than a century ago, when it was thought desirable to have the greatest possible gulf fixed between classes. In the days of the great Whig families, the days when you had great palaces throughout the country—many of them are now vacant—it was the natural thing, in a society based on inequality of wealth, that you should have a pyramid of wealth and of palaces, and that at the apex of all there should be a very dignified Royal establishment. The Monarchy was regarded as something quite separate from the common people. We think that that is an entirely out of date view and I believe that our opinion is generally held to-day.

We live in a democratic age. In this country, I am glad to say, we do not make gods of ordinary men. We leave that to totalitarian States. The strength of the Monarchy to-day is not in the differences but in the human sympathy that links the Monarchy with the subjects. So we think it is undesirable that we should emphasise the gulf between the ruler and the ruled. Such emphasis is very dangerous.

I do not think it is right that the King should be expected to live, so to speak, always on parade. I do not think it is right that he and his family should be always, so to speak, in the public eye. Of late years I think there has been far too much boosting of Royalty in the Press and on the wireless. I do not think it is fair to the Monarchy, and I am sure it is unhealthy for the community. A reasonable pageantry now and again, well and good, but what we have had has been a fulsome adulation, the vulgar snobbery of a large section of the Press, perpetually holding up the King and the Royal family and giving the utmost vulgar kind of publicity that they would give if they were selling some of their own goods. And there has been a more refined servility in other organs of the Press and in the B. B. C. It is undesirable that the public should be indoctrinated with an entirely false idea of the importance of the throne.

I cannot believe that enveloping the Royal family with a continual round of obsequiousness really makes for the stability of the Monarchy. I do not believe it makes for the strengthening of the Monarchy to base it on false foundations. Therefore, we oppose this Civil List as a whole and in its details. We do not consider that these

provisions for individuals are the right ones. What we ask is that the present provisions should continue for a time, and that there should be a thorough inquisition with the Monarch to see how best the Monarchy can be brought into line with modern conditions, and how best it can be fitted into the life of a democracy. We say this because we are looking not merely to the present but to the future. We believe that this country will move more and more towards equality, away from a class State to a classless State. We believe that it will be done, as has been done in this country before, by a steady adaptation. We believe that in the same way the Monarchy will be adapted to its new functions. At this time to stabilise old and outworn standards is a disservice to the Monarchy.

Mr. Pethick-Lawrence urged the same point of view. He remarked : " We want the King to be free from convention for the greater part of his life, as the Royal families in Scandinavian countries are. We want him to be able to mingle with his fellows of all sorts and we do not want him to be shut out from healthy relationship by wealth and by clothes. . . . It is recognised, I believe, very widely, that ostentatious display of great wealth is essentially vulgar. . . . What was thought right and proper a century ago, what was tolerated and even approved of a few decades ago, and what is still tolerated today, is becoming every day, less accepted, and that not only by the poorest section." Mr Arthur Greenwood reinforced the same plea for ending a system which, " by surrounding the Monarch with splendour, separates him from his people," and for introducing a system calculated " to bring the Monarch more closely in line with the general trend of our national life." He said :

In our view, if the Monarchy is to maintain its position as an Estate of the Realm, it must adapt itself to modern ideas and must truly reflect the national life. In my view it is an offence to the Monarchy, an offence to the idea of kingship, to assume that its dignity can only be maintained by excessive expenditure, excessive splendour and excessive display. There appears to be in some quarters a desire to retain the "divinity" that "doth hedge a king," to keep every device and tradition and every custom which marks off the King from his people; to keep the King and the chief members of the Royal family as a series of public exhibits, deprived almost entirely of the opportunity of living a normal family life, and confined to meeting very carefully selected sections of people from various sections of the national life. . . . The King is surrounded from morning to night by ceremonial and ritual, by expensive apparatus which was designed in days when grandeur was regarded as essential to kingship. . . . The Monarchy owes nothing of its inherent dignity to all that kind of splendour and it would lose nothing by getting rid of these artificial trappings and the magnificences of life which encumber it to-day. It would lose nothing by sweeping away all these gee-gaws and frippery, which have nothing essential to do with the constitutional functions of the Monarch. I believe kingship would gain in dignity and in confidence, on which ultimately it must rest, by permitting to it a privacy of life which it does not now enjoy, and by destroying these barriers which stand between the King and the people. We have not taken this line on a matter of funds or a matter of economy, but on a question of general principle in the interests of our democratic institutions.

The Labour Party's amendment was thrown out by 204 votes to 102 and the second reading of the Civil List Bill was carried by 240 votes to 112. The view pressed by it, however, is shared by all progressive-minded people. Will our Indian Princes note this trend even in a country where Monarchy is still held in respect ?

LABOUR SERVITUDE IN KENYA.

THE land and labour policy of Kenya came under severe criticism in the Colonial Office debate on 2nd June in the House of Commons. Major Milner condemned the whole White Highlands policy. He said:

I gravely doubt whether White settlement in the Colonies generally and in Kenya particularly is really worth while. I think a strong case can be made out showing that the whole system of White settlement, as hitherto practised, ought not to be further encouraged. There is no evidence, I think, that agriculture and ranching, as practised in Kenya, often of the most inefficient character, are the best for the country and will always be the best. Yet it is on that assumption that the whole policy of the proposed Order in Council respecting the White highlands is founded. We attack that policy, root and branch, and the right hon. Gentleman might do far worse than make an inquiry as to the value of White settlement in Kenya and elsewhere. I think the results would surprise him. White settlement has been propped up and bolstered in many ways, but I do not think it is likely to last satisfactorily for many more years.

The total area under occupation by Europeans in Kenya in 1934 was 5,138,324 acres, and of these only 556,182 acres were under cultivation, or 10·82 per cent. of the occupied area. If the area devoted to the maintenance of the live stock is taken into account (assuming that six acres are required for each head of cattle and three for each head of sheep), the total developed area becomes 55·7 per cent. of the occupied area. Even so, one does not know how long it will take for the area actually occupied to be utilised to the full. But the Government, regardless of this consideration, has only enlarged the bounds of the White highlands, on which any European may settle, to whatever nationality he may belong, but no brown or black subject of the British Crown!

The highlands comprising 16,000 square miles are reserved for the Whites, British and non-British, but the number of occupiers was only 2,027, in 1934. It is obvious, therefore, that they must depend to a large extent upon African labour. Some 150,000 natives thus work on the farms of these two thousand odd farmers. Thus there is a great demand for natives; only they must come as labourers and not as tenants and must not acquire any sort of interest in the land. These resident native labourers who come out of the reserves and work on European farms are called squatters. The Colonial Secretary Mr. Ormsby-Gore, thus described their present position on 9th July last year in the House of Commons:

They have come in there from various tribes and from various parts of Kenya, and they are there for purely annual tenancies. They are what is locally called squatters. The existing law and practice for a very long time past is this: the European farmer is not allowed to charge a rent. He has to provide the squatter with land on which to build a house and cultivate his own food. The squatter has to have an agreed amount of stock and domestic animals, which he brings with him. In return the farmer gets from the squatter 180 days' labour a year, which are to be paid for at rates specified in the contract and in the agreement which is come to within the knowledge of the District Commissioner. The practice has been that these contracts have been renewed from year to year. The result is that you have, quite frankly, a large

number of detribalised natives who have now become permanently resident on European estates.

The squatters form an exceedingly difficult problem. On account of the reserves being overfull, they find it necessary to go out with their families to work on European farms. There they have to enter into a contract that they themselves and all their adult male relatives (an adult is a man who has reached the sixteenth year of age for this purpose) shall labour for six months in the year. If the wages that they get are not particularly enticing, they at least get grazing for their cattle and sheep. When they once leave the reserves and go out they find themselves in a less and less strong bargaining position, for, however unfavourable labour conditions on the European farms, they often find they must stay there, as the native reserves have perhaps rapidly filled up in the meanwhile and as their stock, which is the only form of wealth they can hope to accumulate, cannot be easily removed. They therefore accept ridiculously low wages and sometimes go without wages and to all intents and purposes become the bond slaves of the white farmers. The farmers themselves are glad to have a permanent labour population on their farms and have not to depend upon casual labour. But they are not slow to exploit the squatters when they come within their grip, and the very lax condition of Government inspection, if there is any at all, helps them to have their own way with the labourers. The stock-raising section of the farmers, however, is bitterly opposed to these squatters, as the natives' stock roams all over and destroys their ranches. White opinion is thus in two minds on this problem. Some want more and more squatters, but others would have the whole lot out.

The Principal Native Labour Officer remarks in his report for 1935 that native wages have dropped approximately 33½ per cent. between the years 1926 and 1935.

It was found on inspection that in some cases the squatter or resident native labourer did not receive any pay, and, if he did, the payment was made in kind, and it has been proved that the native squatter is always loath to make a complaint, because he is well aware that if he does he will receive notice, and be ordered by his master to leave the farm within six months, and lose not only his grazing for his cattle, but, in many cases, his very home. This state of affairs will continue until such time as every farm is inspected by a Labour Officer. This is the one and only preventive measure that is likely to be effective. Resident native labourers' wages were even lower than in previous years, and the average wage was sh. 5 per month and no food. This needs no comment. During the year, on one inspection, contracts were seen that provided for no payment in money at all—food being the only remuneration provided during the six months' work.

On account of the widespread complaint that the squatter stock is increasing out of all bounds, the District Commissioners have limited the number of stock to 10 head of cattle per adult male squatter on attesting new contracts. Acute discontent prevailed among the squatters and frequent strikes occurred.

The present law governing the squatters is the Resident Native Labourers Ordinance of 1925. The demand of the white settlers for a change in the law led to the appointment of a Committee which has drafted a Bill. The Bill has been considered by the Secretary of State, but it is not yet known what the changes are. The Committee considered the request of the planters to have the minimum period of compulsory labour extended from six to nine months, but the Committee did not approve of the proposal. It appears, however, that the Secretary of State in the proposed new Ordinance makes it obligatory on squatters to work for a period of 270 instead of 180 days. Members of Parliament denounced this change and the whole squatter system. Mr. Creech Jones said:

This new Ordinance seems to be based on the belief that squatters can be driven back to the native reserves, that their present occupancy is of a purely temporary character, and that it is right to clear them from land which Europeans cannot or do not use or have no intention of using, certainly for a very long time to come. The new Ordinance repeals but repeats all the bad features of the 1925 Ordinance. It even goes so far as to extend the application of that Ordinance not only to the existing European lands but also to unalienated Crown lands. It imposes a servitude status of labour with a continuation of penal sanctions on a large scale. It gives power of removal to local councils, on which the natives are not directly represented. Not only is power given to these councils to remove natives irrespective of the wishes of the natives, but no redress in the courts is permitted to them. It extends compulsory labour from 180 to 270 days and involves not only the head of the family but all the male members of the family over the age of 16. It weakens the security of the native in his land by cutting down the period of notice from six months to three months. It makes no provision for the proper inspection of the contracts that are entered into and to see that the conditions of the natives concerned are properly observed or protected. This system of labour servitude does carry with it penal sanctions, because if the native refuses to obey the order of his master, if he is at all abusive to his master, if he absents himself from his daily work, he is liable to a fine of sh. 100, which he cannot pay, or, alternatively, to one month's imprisonment. We are following in this respect the wretched practice instituted in South Africa and Southern Rhodesia. I hope the Secretary of State will insist on a radical alteration of this draft Ordinance and will pursue a liberalising policy in respect of the unfortunate natives.

Major Milner also urged that the squatters who are merely labour tenants should be given some sort of leasehold interest. He said:

The present position is that they are to be evicted if their labour is not required, or to be reduced to the status of labour tenants. For these occupancy of the land is part of their wages, but their profit from it is limited and made insecure so that it is no longer a fair return for their services.

There is no future for natives who have built up holdings in White areas, or even for good labourers, except eventually, perhaps in old age, to be returned to reserves, where their stock will die from lack of pasture and probably they themselves from lack of nutrition. If they remain on the farm, their children are obliged to work for the owner on his own terms. The position of the squatters is one to which the right hon. Gentleman should give very serious attention. Their position is intolerable and reflects no credit on the Colonial Office, on the Kenya Government or on anyone else who has anything to do with the matter. It is a problem which cannot be solved on the lines at present adopted, and I hope the right hon. Gentleman will

consider the matter and try to find a better solution than has been found hitherto. It ought not to be the aim, as it seems to be at present, to clear the Highlands of all but temporary migrant labourers, and some system ought to be found of providing the so-called squatters with some security of tenure.

Reviews.

INDIAN POLITICS.

INDIA: TO-DAY AND TOMORROW. By MARGARITA BARNES. (Allen & Unwin.) 1937. 20cm. 304p. 7/6.

THE author of this book served as stenographer to Mahatma Gandhi when he had been to England for the Round Table Conference. She was also associated with a news agency both at its Indian and English ends. For about ten years she enjoyed very close contact with what might be considered the advanced political party in India. Her personal experiences during this period either in business or in social matters do not appear to have been encouraging, and though she tries to keep this part of the story in the background it cannot but raise a sympathetic protest from the readers.

But the main purpose of Mrs. Barnes's book is to place on record her impressions about the Second Round Table Conference, the course of later Congress politics in India and public life in this country. As the author is obviously a sympathetic and helpful observer of India's struggle for self-expression and as she is capable of writing in the best journalistic style her book has become extremely readable. Commenting upon the genesis of the Round Table Conference, and especially the Conservatives' support of the idea, Mrs. Barnes feels that the Conference was accepted in several British circles as an opportunity for Indians to let off steam and for the British to mark time till the Simon proposals could be safely put through. Her observations on the Britishers' position in India are no less interesting: "The entire British connection in India can only be maintained if firstly, India herself pays for the cost of the administration and, secondly, continues to be the best market for British manufactures and thus makes the administration necessary."

The description of the formal and informal incidents of the Round Table Conference given in the book is very interesting. The author feels that the lack of familiarity of the Indians with the technique of press propaganda was an obstacle in the way of a fuller utilisation of their opportunities. She feels further that the disunity and confusion of thought, especially among the Hindus delegates, was mainly responsible for the small net output of the Conference. She suspects that the caste Hindus had the ear of the Mahatma, and referring to later concessions to the Harijans observes: "the Mahatma, adamant at one moment, can concede whole points at another for no very clear reason."

The second part of the book dealing mostly with Congress politics in India, immediately after the Second Round Table Conference, is calculated to prove very interesting. If what the author reports about her conversation with the Mahatma when she complained to him about unfair treatment at the hands of her Indian employers be correct one is left in consternation over the real mind of the great Congress leader. Apparently the Indian news agency employing the author had failed repeatedly to carry out their contractual obligations. On this being mentioned to the Mahatma the latter is reported to have replied: "I will say to you what I have said before to English

friends. Whatever sacrifice you have suffered as a consequence of what has happened, you must regard it as part of the debt that England must pay back to India." One hopes that there is some misunderstanding here, as otherwise the Congress leader would appear to condone repudiation of private contracts with the English, let alone the public contracts, on the ground of the historical 'Debt of England to India.'

The author's comments on public figures in India are, to say the least, very interesting. After referring to Mrs. Naidu, among others, in eulogistic terms, she also refers to her as 'walking encyclopaedia on every one's affairs'. Her observation of events in India was keen. Two interesting events of the Bombay session of the Congress are noted. While Khan Abdul Ghaffar Khan was extolling the virtues of Swadeshi several coolies were moving packages bearing in a prominent fashion the mark 'Made in England.' When the Khan left the meeting the band struck up a tune, 'All the robbers are breaking through'. An equally inappropriate tune, it is recorded, was struck at a former meeting of the Congress when, as the President was mounting the rostrum, the Band struck 'The Girl I left behind me.' Mrs. Barns feels that a movement for a common national dress for India is overdue, as the differences in outward garb induce a preliminary prejudice which is a barrier to national unity.

The author is hopeful of the future contribution by women to India's public life and is appreciative of the contribution of the Congress movement in liberating Indian women from traditional restrictions of thought and action. Sympathetic as Mrs. Barns is towards all that the India of Today aspires to, she is frankly critical of the capacities of present-day Indians to achieve much in the near future. The capacity for sustained work, the ability to take criticism with a smile and the willingness to endure physical hardship—all these qualities necessary for a far-reaching national progress are, according to the author, rare in India. She criticises the Indian rich as being mostly engrossed in earning money, not spending it with an equal liberality as do their European compeers, and with being engrossed more in commerce than in production. Mrs. Barns regrets the unwillingness of the most dominant section of public workers to shoulder government responsibilities. "It is only by the linking up", she observes, "of the general public with the gigantic organisation of government, in all its phases, that Indian life can hope to gather that momentum which it so manifestly needs." In the light of recent developments in Indian politics this judgment is significant. The fact is that the Congress is hovering between two views, those who would set up a parallel government, and those who would use the existing governmental machinery for the furthering of mass interests. History would appear to be on the side of the latter who get considerable support in the pages of the book under review.

It is very interesting, and if the observer is endowed with sympathy and penetration it is also instructive, as it enables us to see ourselves as others see us. The book of Mrs. Barns is well worth being widely read in India.

D. G. KARVE.

RIZAL.

RIZAL; MAN AND MARTYR. By FRANK C. LAUBACH (Community Publishers, Inc., Manila) 20cm. 1936. 421p.

ONLY those who are acquainted with Philippine history know Rizal, the Filipino patriot, but even their knowledge of this great hero, prior to the pub-

lication of the book under review, must have been meagre. We must ourselves confess to our knowledge of Rizal greatly increased by this splendid biography, and we have no hesitation in saying that Dr. Frank Laubach has laid the reading public under a deep debt of gratitude by setting forth in this book a complete and authentic life-history of the apostle of Philippine independence.

Dr. Jose Rizal, the subject of this biography, was born in 1861 in a family famous for its independence of thought. Rizal was a precocious youth and early in life was able to compose beautiful verses. With his capacity for composing verses was combined a facility for acquiring many languages so much so that in course of time he became a master of 22 languages. Before he was 21, he had studied the abuses of the Religious Orders in Philippines, especially the Friars, and the evils of Spanish rule. He longed to make his country free and went to Spain where he was in close contact with Radicals and Revolutionaries. But Rizal had a definite mind set in favour of education and against revolution to achieve the freedom of the Philippines. To educate his people he wrote a famous novel, *Noli me Tangere*, which was published owing to the generous help given by one of his friends. This book which exposed the evils of Spanish rule and the exploitation systematically carried on by Friars in the Philippines, was condemned by the authorities, and so copies of the book were smuggled very cleverly into the Philippines. It was this book which made Rizal the leader of the Filipinos and started him on the road to martyrdom and immortality.

Noli me Tangere was not the only book published by Rizal. After a strenuous time in the British Museum Library and the French National Library, Rizal published his *Annotations to De Morga's History of the Philippines*. He wrote articles to several Journals and especially to *Le Solidaridad*. Another book which had a great influence on the Filipinos was the *El Pilibusterismo*, published four years after *Noli me Tangere*. These books made him popular and one party of Filipino Revolutionaries in Spain wanted to make him their leader, while another party rallied round *Del Pilar*. But Rizal was so pure and unselfish that he withdrew from the contest. As Spanish spies were shadowing him he felt it unsafe to go to the Philippines, and settled down in Honkong to practise as an oculist. He soon established his reputation as a great oculist and had good practice. From Honkong he formed a *Liga Filipina* to defend the whole Archipelago against violence and injustice and to encourage among the Filipinos instruction, industrial and agricultural. The objects of the League were certainly laudable and the League constitution did not contain one seditious sentence. Yet while Rizal was on a visit to Manila, he was accused of carrying on anti-Spanish, anti-Friar, and anti-Catholic propaganda, by the Spanish Viceroy and was taken prisoner. During his internment he had several opportunities of escaping, but Rizal did not do try to do so. It was at this time that he fell in love with an Irish lady Josephine Bracken, but as the Friars and priests would not allow him to marry, he took Josephine as his life-partner by following a crude Philippine custom.

It must be noted that Rizal was in love with his cousin, Leonor early in life, but Leonor's parents forced her to marry an English engineer. His love for Leonor was so constant even after her marriage, that he did not feel free to love another. Again when he met a girl, Adelina in Paris and found her attractive, he suddenly left Paris lest the attraction should develop into a love. His loyalty to Leonor was like the Rock of Gibraltar. Now, his marriage to Josephine

according to an old Philippine custom took place after Leonor's death.

In 1896 a revolutionary organisation known as the Katipunan organised a revolt against Spanish rule. When Rizal heard that his name had been used by the Revolutionaries, he denounced the revolution, and yet the Spanish Government accused him of being an accomplice and after a trial had him shot on December 30, 1896, when he was barely 36 years old.

Such is the career of Rizal, a true patriot and a genuine man. Love of country, hatred of injustice and all abuses masquerading under religion, firmness of character—these are some of the excellent qualities of Rizal brought out vividly in the book before us. In his admiration for his hero, the author does not forget to write at length about the controversial incident in Rizal's career, namely, whether he retracted just before execution and died a Catholic. In Chapter XVI the author places all available evidence for and against the incident, and though his view seems to be that Rizal, the firm man that he was, never retracted, we are inclined to say that the question of retraction is difficult to settle.

We have no hesitation in saying that this biography is not only a great contribution to historical literature, but that it ranks high with the finest biographies in history.

M. V. SUBRAHMANYAM.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT.

JUVENILE UNEMPLOYMENT IN SOUTH WALES. By GWYNNE MEARA (University of Wales Press, Cardiff.) 1936. 25cm. 141 p. 6/-

THIS book forms the substance of a study on juvenile unemployment in South Wales which was accepted by the University of Wales as a thesis for a doctorate. In recent years unemployment has formed the subject of many publications, but juvenile unemployment has not attracted the particular attention that it deserves. When one comes to think of the ulterior effects of unemployment, both economic and social, juvenile unemployment is by far a more important problem than adult unemployment. As the author puts it, "If it is tragic that a man of fifty should be unemployed, how much more tragic is it that lads of fifteen or eighteen should not be given the opportunities of creative self-expression which would be theirs if they could feel that they were performing some useful function in the society."

As the study is mostly factual and descriptive the explanation of causes is outside its scope. The nature, extent and forms of juvenile unemployment in the special area are carefully analysed. The institutional machinery set up by public authorities to cope with the various ameliorative and educational aspects of the problem are also carefully described.

Those who are interested in similar inquiries and those who would acquaint themselves with a very deplorable aspect of existing social economy would do well to read this book. Within the field that the author has chosen for intensive study, the conclusions arrived at are interesting. The immediate raising of the school-leaving age to 15 plus, and the provision of day continuation schools giving half-time vocational training are urged. It is also suggested that a vocational adviser should be established by every group of schools, if not by every school. An intensive attempt at creating a sense of social obligation and leadership among the school

population is also advocated. The book is an interesting study for all those who are interested in the problems of young persons and their employment.

D. G. K.

HINDU UNIVERSITY.

BENARES HINDU UNIVERSITY, 1905-1936.

Ed. by V. A. SUNDARAM. (The Author, Benares Hindu University, Benares.) 1936. 23cm. 632p.

THE Benares Hindu University is the most unique of all national institutions in the country and an outstanding example of India's urge for self-expression and self-determination in the field of higher education. In the words of the Maharaja of Bikanir who has written a foreward to the volume, "the object of the Hindu University is to create a synthesis of the East and the West; to assimilate the scientific knowledge and methods of Europe with the ancient wisdom and culture of the Hindus; to create in fact a new and inclusive civilization which, while preserving the best in the Hindu tradition, welcomes a new knowledge which gives Europe its material strength". Those who have had the privilege and fortune to visit the Hindu University and to study the working of the University and its achievements will not hesitate to say that with the resources at its disposal the University has been able to achieve results which have exceeded the most sanguine of expectations. In the book under review we are told of the birth and the rapid and virile growth of the university.

A few facts about the University will give the reader an idea of its stupendous nature. The campus of the University covers an area of 1300 acres. Over 200 buildings have been erected including 8 colleges, 1 big library and 7 spacious hostels providing accommodation for over 2,000 students. There are 3,500 students and over 200 professors.

The idea of a Hindu University was first mooted in the year 1904 and the venerable Pandit Madan Mohan Malaviya, the present Vice-Chancellor of the University, has from the very inception worked for the realisation of this dream with a single-minded devotion and missionary zeal. The book contains important documents relating to the genesis, the growth and fulfilment of the Hindu University idea. Besides, the speeches delivered from time to time by distinguished people at the Convocations are also included in the book.

The chapter entitled "A Record of Progress" gives in a nutshell the achievements of the University. The University offers instruction in Mechanical and Electrical Engineering, Mining, Metallurgy, Applied Geology, Surveying, Industrial Chemistry, Manufacture of Oils and Soaps, Ceramics and Enamelling, Pharmaceutical Chemistry, Ayurvedic Pharmacy, and Agricultural Botany. On account of the high standard of instruction in these various subjects, the Hindu University has rightly come to occupy a very high place in the minds of the public. The Hindu University stands for a noble ideal and has an ambitious programme before it. The realisation of this ideal and fulfilment of the programme will depend upon the support that the public will give to it.

S. R. VENKATA RAMAN.

SHORT NOTICES.

I. L. O. : THE UNREGARDED REVOLUTION.

By KATHLEEN GIBBERD. (Dent.) 1937. 19cm. 152p. 2/6.

OF late there has been put on the market a number of books dealing with the I.L.O., or, to give the insti-

tution its full name, the International Labour Organisation. The majority of these publications, however, have attempted too full and detailed a treatment to commend themselves to the average lay reader. Miss Kathleen Gibberd's slender volume, on the other hand, gives an up-to-date account of the I.L.O., in a light, easy and popular form, and as such it is likely to be appreciated by a large reading public.

The book describes how the constitution of the I.L.O. came to be incorporated with the Peace Treaty, how the first session of the International Labour Conference held at Washington triumphed despite opposition, how Albert Thomas came to be the first Director, and how he founded the International Labour Office at Geneva, and made it a creative force working unremittingly for the welfare of labour the world over. The second part of the book deals with the I.L.O.'s work for particular categories of workers—seamen, native labour and juvenile workers, as also on behalf of the large number of "workers who are not at work", the unemployed. The brief compass of the book does not permit full-length descriptions of any of the varied aspects of the I.L.O.'s many-sided activities; rather the reader is presented with a series of thumb-nail sketches executed with such admirable artistry as to convey with a commendable economy of words an excellent idea of the aims, methods of work and achievements of the I.L.O.

To those familiar with the subject, many obvious omissions in the book will readily suggest themselves; but then, as pointed out in the introduction, the book is meant more for the lay reader who is vaguely aware of the I.L.O.'s existence, than for the research student in the field of international labour problems. A crowded canvas, with its multiplicity of details tending to blur the clear-cut outlines of the central themes sought to be emphasised, would certainly not have suited this specific purpose. As it is, Miss Gibberd's book serves as an ideal appetiser for those desirous of further and more intensive study of the work of the I.L.O. The book can, therefore, be confidently recommended for inclusion in the libraries of high schools, colleges and social service institutions.

K. E. MATTHEW.

MESOPOTAMIA. THE LAST PHASE. By A. H. BURNE. (Gale & Polden.) 1936. 22cm. 124p. 5/-

STUDENTS of military history must be aware of the disaster of the British Army under General Townshend at Kut—England's greatest disaster since Cornwallis surrendered to the Americans at York Town 150 years before. At this dark stage in the Mesopotamian Campaign, Major-General Stanley

Maude was appointed to the command of the Tigris force. Hitherto the Indian Government was in charge of the Mesopotamian Campaign, but on account of this disaster the War Office took over the conduct of the Campaign, and gave General Maude the necessary support in men, munitions, and money. The result was that General Maude was able to retrieve the disaster by capturing Baghdad and conducting military operations from Baghdad. It is the extension of military operations from Baghdad that is described in the book before us. This phase of the Mesopotamian Campaign was little known until now, and the book, therefore, supplies a long-felt need. The campaign conducted by General Maude is bound to interest students of military history, for it has several lessons to teach—all of which have been beautifully summarised at the end of the book.

We have no hesitation in saying that the author has fulfilled the purpose he has set before himself. With the help of a good selection of maps he acquaints the reader with the main events of this little-known campaign. The information contained in the book is authoritative; for the author has consulted all the relevant official documents, military despatches and standard books. The book is well-written and is a welcome addition to the growing literature on the Great War.

M. V. S.

THE LAW RELATING TO RELIEF AND PROTECTION OF DEBTORS. BY K. V. RAMA-SUBRAHMANYAM. (The Law Publishing Co., Madras.) 21cm. 1937. Rs. 3.

THIS work is a commentary on some of the legislative enactments dealing with money-lending and the debtors. The Usurious Loans Act of 1918, the Madras Debtors' Protection Act of 1934 and the Debt Conciliation Act of 1936—these three Acts are reproduced and elaborately commented on. In the introduction the author deals with the need for the intervention of the state in money-lending, and the growth of legislation in England and India to regulate the business of money-lending and the rates of interest. In the appendices are given many Indian and English laws bearing on the subject, and they greatly help a comparative study of the Madras Acts with the other Acts. The author has not given the legislative measures passed by some of the progressive Indian States dealing with this problem of indebtedness. Whether helpful to the lawyer or not, they would have certainly helped a better understanding of the problem. The notes of the author are elaborate and they are useful especially to the lay readers.

N. S. S.

THE SERVANTS OF INDIA SOCIETY. ACTIVITIES DURING 1936-37.

(Continued from our last issue.)

The third school is at Nadiyirapu, the distinguishing feature of which is the presence in it of several Muhammadan (Mapillah) girls of good families. It is an indication of the confidence which the Trust enjoys among all classes of people in Malabar that recently two teacher-managers of Mapillah schools have handed over the management of their schools to the Trust and have themselves become teachers under it. The night schools are special institutions with a special curriculum which includes, besides the three R's, instruction in civics, hygiene, co-operation, world news, &c. They are in charge of full-time

secondary trained teachers who during the day promote welfare activities of different kinds such as co-operative societies, agricultural improvement, poultry-keeping, &c. They are chiefly in the Mapillah area, and it is pleasing to record that each school can claim to have made a number of illiterate adults literate enough to be able to read newspapers and to obtain the literacy franchise. The work is spread over seven different centres which are at considerable distance from one other.

Co-operation.

Co-operation has always been one of the important activities of the Society's members. A new type

of co-operative society was started at Shendurjana by Mr. Dravid by the inauguration of what may be called the Lessees' Co-operative Society consisting of lessee-farmers who own no land but cultivate other people's fields on stipulated terms. Mr. Dravid has two co-operative societies of this type under his personal supervision. They are working satisfactorily and have paid back their borrowings of last year.

Mr. Venkatasubbaiya's connection with co-operation in Madras is too well-known to require detailed recounting here. He continued to be the Secretary of the Madras Provincial Co-operative Union and the Editor of the *Madras Journal of Co-operation*. The Union, which was conducting half a dozen Rural Reconstruction Centres, decided to close down three of them in December last and to utilise the money so saved for educating the members of the co-operative societies in co-operation. A scheme for such education with Government help is being worked by the Union, and Mr. Venkatasubbaiya was mainly responsible for drawing up the syllabus and preparing notes for instructors and posters and charts for the use of the classes. This scheme is being financed out of the special grant given by the Government of India for co-operative education and will continue for four more years. Mr. Venkatasubbaiya is also a member of a Special Committee appointed to manage the Central Co-operative Printing Works which was on the verge of liquidation and a director of the Madras District Labour Society. He attended two conferences of select co-operators called by the Registrar in Madras and Ootacamund to discuss the problems of Central and Urban Banks.

Mr. Suryanarayana Rao was till August last one of the Directors of the Madras Provincial Weavers' Society and still continues to be a Director of the Madras Co-operative Milk Supply Union. He has been appointed an Arbitrator to decide references brought by the Madras City Societies. Mr. Sahu continued to be a Director of the Cuttack Central Co-operative Bank and a member of the Orissa Co-operative Bank Organisation Committee. Mr. Dube is the Honorary Secretary of the U. P. Co-operative Union and a member of its Executive Committee and the Provincial Committee. He was also a co-opted director of the Lucknow District Co-operative Bank. He worked as the Secretary of the U. P. Co-operative Conference during the year under report.

The co-operative society of the Industrial Settlement at Jalgaon in East Khandesh conducted by Mr. Sharangpani continued to do useful work. Mr. Nayanar was a Director of the Malabar District Co-operative Bank, the Secretary of the Calicut Co-operative Union and Editor of the *Paraspara Sahayi*, a co-operative monthly journal in Malayalam, during the year under report. A new District Loan and Sale Society was organised at Calicut during the year of which he has been elected a director. Besides attending to routine work of these institutions, Mr. Nayanar started the Riksha-pullers' Co-operative Society, of which he was elected secretary. He addressed the departmental Inspectors' Refresher classes and the Panchyatdars' training classes organised under the auspices of the Provincial Co-operative Union. In addition to these he conducted a number of magic-lantern shows on the benefits of co-operation.

Mr. Bakhale initiated discussion in the Bombay Legislative Council on a rule framed by Government under the Co-operative Societies Act, the rule being of a retrograde character and objected to by co-operators in the province.

Depressed Classes.

The Depressed Classes Mission is being looked after by Mr. Suryanarayana Rao. A building grant

had been sanctioned by Government for the construction of hostels for the boys and girls of the Mission, but unfortunately owing to unexpected difficulties, their construction could not be taken in hand. The site chosen for the purpose being found unsafe, a suitable plot with two buildings on it was purchased for a favourable price. During the year the Mission secured two donations for an endowment for maternity benefits to Harijan women. In spite of these donations the work of the Mission is suffering for want of funds.

The Harijan Sevak Sangh has indented upon the services of several members of the Society. Mr. A. V. Thakkar, who has been lent to the Sangh ever since its inception by Mahatma Gandhi in 1932, continued to be its General Secretary with his headquarters at Delhi. He devoted all his time to the work of the Sangh and had to tour largely throughout the year to inspect the work carried on by the branches of the Sangh. The most notable event connected with the work of the Sangh in the course of the year was the proclamation of the Travancore State throwing open all State temples to untouchables. The Sangh spent during the year Rs. 4,26,177 on its work.

Mr. Kunzru is the President of the U. P. (East) Harijan Sevak Sangh and Mr. Negi its Secretary. Mr. Venkatasubbaiya is the Secretary of the Madras Branch of the Sangh. Mr. Kaul is a Vice-President of the Lucknow Harijan Sevak Sangh. Mr. Bakhale was a member of the Executive Committee of the Bombay Presidency Harijan Sevak Sangh. The services of Mr. Venkat Raman were lent to the Sangh's headquarters at Delhi for six months in 1936. Mr. Nayanar is the President of the Malabar District Harijan Sevak Sangh.

Apart from this, some members of the Society are connected with local institutions in their parts of the country doing social and educational work among the depressed classes. Mr. Bakhale was a member of the Backward Class Board of Bombay Presidency.

Industrial Settlement.

Mr. Sharangpani has been in charge of the Industrial Settlement at Jalgaon for four years now. The population of the settlement which was 383 at the end of the last year now stands at 351, the reduction being due to releases and transfers. It is proposed to build for the inmates, who were so far left to their own resources, huts of a uniform size from the profits earned by the settlement co-operative society from building contracts during the last four years. The work will be undertaken as soon as the proposal has been approved by the Backward Class Officer. The settlement has made its own arrangements for sanitation and lighting. Education for children in the settlement is made free and compulsory and medical help is also free. Classes in sewing, cooking etc., for the women were continued. The fall in the population of the settlement affected the number of children in the settlement school which decreased by 24 pupils. There is almost an equal number of boys and girls on the rolls, viz., 40 boys and 41 girls. The morale of the settlement was admirable, there being only two convictions from it during the year under report.

The land acquired by the settlement last year for a free colony to encourage the released families to settle down was divided into plots each measuring 30 ft. x 30 ft. and priced at Rs. 15. Three families have so far taken advantage of the colony. As there is no arrangement for the proper custody of juvenile under-trials at Jalgaon, the local Magistrates entrusted a number of such cases to Mr. Sharangpani. But there is no accommodation for them in the settlement and the City Magistrate,

Jalgaon, has, therefore, recommended that a set of rooms should be built for the purpose in the settlement. The proposal is now under the consideration of Government.

Educational.

Mr. Sastri continued to be the Vice-Chancellor of the Annamalai University. Mr. Kunzru was a member of the Executive Councils of the Allahabad and Hindu Universities and of the Senate of the Agra University. He served on several Committees of the Allahabad University. In January last he was invited to Cuttack to address the students of the Ravenshaw College on the annual college day. He also delivered a few lectures on educational problems at Delhi and elsewhere. Mr. Joshi is a trustee of the Gokhale Education Society in Bombay. Mr. Dravid is president and Mr. Gupte is secretary of the Model Education Society in Nagpur. Messrs. Vaze and Patwardhan continue to be on the Executive Council of the Seva Sadan Society. Mr. Kaul is a life-member of the Mahila Vidyalaya, Lucknow, and Mr. Ambekar the vice-chairman of the Poona Students' Brotherhood. Mr. Suryanarayan Rao was appointed by the Madras Government as a member of the Committee to frame courses of study for elementary schools. He submitted a memorandum on the changes proposed in the rules made under the Madras Elementary Education Act. Mr. Shahane continued to be a member of the Court of the Nagpur University and was elected to its Committee of Reference. Mr. Dube was re-elected to the Lucknow University Court. He was also a member of the Committee of Reference of that University. He continued to be on the U. P. Christian Board of Higher Education. Mr. Nayanar was a member of the Malabar District Secondary Education Board and of the Standing Education Committee of the Malabar District Board.

Scouting.

If labour is the *forte* of the Bombay Branch, scouting is that of the Upper India Branch. Mr. Kunzru is the Chief Commissioner of the Seva Samiti Boy Scouts' Association and the Chairman of its Executive Council. Mr. Bajpai is the Chief Organising Commissioner of the Association and gave almost all his time to it. The chief characteristic of the Seva Samiti Boy Scouts' Association is its adaptation of the principles of scouting to the needs, customs and traditions of India. Its branches have spread to almost all provinces and to some Indian States, and to rural as well as urban areas. Its efficiency is indicated by the success of its teams in some of the All-India scout contests. The total number of scouts in the organisation is now about 1,00,000. During the year under report much attention was paid to the development of girl guiding. Training camps for girl guides were organised in many parts of the country and as the demand for such camps is increasing, the appointment of an additional lady organiser is in contemplation.

During the year under report Mr. Bajpai spent 260 days on tour in North India in connection with the work of the Association. Two Scout *melas*, one provincial and one All-India, were organised, the former at Lahore and the latter at Lucknow, attended respectively by 4,000 and 6,000 scouts. Mr. Bajpai's book on "Scouting and Village Service" has been translated into Urdu and a few other books written by him have been adopted for use in the Anglo-Vernacular schools in the U. P. Mr. Venkatasubbaiya continued to be the treasurer of Madras District S.S.B.S. Association and was elected secretary of the Madras Provincial Council

of the S. S. B. S. A. when it was formed in April 1936. Mr. Venkata Raman continued to be an Organising Commissioner for Madras. Mr. Dube continued to be the District Scout Commissioner (S.S.B.S.A.) of Lucknow and was also on its National Council. Mr. Sahu assisted in organising Seva Samiti Scout Associations at Puri, Cuttack and Chowdwar. Mr. Nayanar organised two troops in Calicut while Mr. Sharangpani organised a cub pack and a blue bird flock of the B. P. organisation at the Industrial Settlement at Jalgaon.

Temperance.

Mr. Dube has been the Honorary Secretary of the U. P. Temperance Association for several years. He delivered a number of lectures under its auspices. He organised propaganda on temperance during *melas* and the Lucknow Swadeshi Exhibition. He represents temperance interest on the Lucknow Excise Board. Mr. Suryanarayan Rao continues to be a joint secretary of the Madras Temperance League. During the year under report he submitted two memoranda on the question of the location of shops, etc. to the Government of Madras. The press gave good support to the suggestions put forward by him in this connexion.

Libraries.

The Poona, Bombay, Allahabad, Lahore, Cuttack and Nagpur libraries of the Society were as usual allowed to be used by the public. The number of books in the Poona Library now approaches 30,000. The League of Nations continued to favour the Poona library with its publications. The Nagpur library has been reorganised and a growing number of readers is taking advantage of it.

G. I. P. E.

The Report of the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics for the year 1936-37 is given as an Appendix to this report. The Institute continued to do valuable instructional and research work in Indian economics. It had 56 students on its rolls; it also prepared students for the Ph.D. and M. A. degree examinations of the Bombay University. It published a thesis on "Urban Handicrafts of the Bombay Deccan" by Mr. N. M. Joshi and initiated two fresh surveys, one on farm profitability in Wai taluka in Satara district and the other an economic survey of Poona City, covering industry, trade, labour, transport and the income and expenditure of sample households.

Periodicals.

The Society conducts three newspapers: the *Servant of India*, the *Dnyanprakash* and the *Hitavada*. The *Servant of India* continued to absorb the energies of Messrs. Vaze and Ambekar throughout the year. Mr. Shahane worked on it for a couple of months during the year under report. The *Dnyanprakash* is the oldest Marathi paper in the Deccan. Mr. Limaye continued to be its editor and Mr. S. G. Gokhale was placed in charge of its managerial side.

The *Hitavada*, which was converted into a tri-weekly in the previous year, continued to gain ground steadily. Mr. Shahane was in charge of it till the end of July, after which Mr. Mani took his place, the former being at Poona on special duty. It played a conspicuous part in the C. P. elections, being almost the only non-party paper in that province. Mr. Misra studied certain administrative problems for the *Servant of India* and contributed articles to it.

(Concluded.)