HAND OPERATED OVERHEAD TRAVELLING CRANES

RICHARDSON & CRUDDAS

Engineers

BYCULLA IRONWORKS—BOMBAY.

thacker's book of the week

VERDICT ON INDIA, by Beverley Nichols, Rs. 8/12.

BEVERLEY NICHOLS was in India for little over a year but into that period he packed a great variety of experience. The result is a book which is dynamic, disturbing and of real value to all those who have asked themselves the question 'to Quit or Not to Quit.' One of its most remarkable features is its revelation of the manner in which orthodox Hinduism still dominates the modern scene, spreading religious fanaticism through politics, art, medicine, and even the film industry. Many of Mr. Nichol's conclusions will be at variance with popular tradition, for example, his description of the recent famine in Bengal and its tragic cause. A section of great topical interest is devoted to the unborn empire of Pakistan, for which Mr. Nichols presents the most lucid and convincing plea yet published.

THACKERS PUBLISHERS, BOMBAY.

The Times of India

Friday, Dec. 29, 1944.

A Thought for Today

Of all virtues, magnanimity is the rarest. There are a hundred persons of merit for one who willingly acknowledges it in another.—Hazlitt.

THE INDIAN PATIENT

Lord Wavell's reference in his Calcutta speech to India as a patient requiring fresh air and a faith cure has loosed a flood of political comment in the same strain. The latest to employ the Viceroy's metaphor is Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee, the President of the All-India Hindu Mahasabha, in his presidential address to that body at Bilaspur. Like most of Lord Wavell's critics, Dr. Mookerjee insists that the fault lies more with the doctor than with the patient. Why should not a consultative board of disinterested medical advisers from America, Russia and China, asks Dr. Mookerjee, be called in immediately and "if they sit "alone with the Indian patient "and the bungling British doc-"tor and proceed on the basis "of the four freedoms prescrip-"tion, the Indian patient will "immediately recover". This sounds like the familiar demand for outside arbitration to settle India's internal affairs. It might, as we said before, be possible for American and Russian arbitrators to give an award, but who would enforce their decision if trouble arose over it? Faced with that problem the outside doctors—to return to Dr. Mookerjee's metaphor—are likely to decline a thankless task. But Dr. Mookerjee is not without his remedy for at least one of India's ills. While Mr. Jinnah talks of the necessity for "a "major surgical operation" to divide India in two, Dr. Mookerjee sees in Pakistan "nothing short of a cancerous "growth" which must be "up-"rooted". Here we have at least two Indian doctors—or should we say surgeons?—whose prescription for the unfortunate Indian patient differs radically.

The trouble is, of course, that neither Dr. Mookerjee nor the Hindu Mahasabha has a practical solution for India's complaint. There was much talk at the Conference about India's need for freedom and much denunciation of the policy of the British Government, the Muslim League and the Congress, but nothing in the nature of a realistic approach to a settlement was indicated. True, the Mahasabha approved of a draft constitution for India, but is it a constitution which is likely to find general support? "If "British rule is withdrawn after "a forcible division of India", declares Dr. Mookerjee, "who "will prevent the free State of "Hindusthan from re-establish-"ing its authority over the "entire Indian territory?" That is precisely why the British Government are insisting on agreement in India before they hand over power to a succession Government or Governments—and they have never concealed their dislike of a divided India, as Mr. Jinnah can testify. India's freedom was inherent in the Cripps offer, and also in an agreed Indian alternative. In the face of Dr. Mookerjee's scarcely veiled threat, Whitehall's demand for a solution of the Indian problem by the Indian people themselves does not sound so unreasonable as its critics allege.

But there is one item in Dr. Mookerjee's suggested treatment which is eminently sound. He agrees with Lord Wavell and Mr. Rajagopalachari that there should be a return to constitutional methods in the provinces. Few will deny his assertion that "a boycott of the "constitutional machinery is "sometimes more harmful to "the interests of the people "than its utilisation as a wea-"pon for fighting reactionary "forces and for preparing the "field for wresting larger "powers". Here, at least, is a prescription which should commend itself to the general public as the beginning of a cure for the ills of the Indian body politic.

Land Tenure

Sir Manilal B. Nanavati's plea for land tenure reform, made at the fifth conference of the Indian Society of Agricultural Economics, raises an issue which most rural planners have unfortunately ignored. Fragmentation of holdings and the tendency of land to pass to the non-cultivating classes are, he points out, steadily reducing the cultivator to the standard of a serf; no amount of technological or financial reforms can cure these basic weaknesses though they may to some extent mitigate them. Sir Manilal Nanavati's remedy is the reconstitution of land holdings on the basis of peasant proprietorship. Apart from the fact that this reform would conflict with powerful vested interests in many parts of the country, it is also likely to be resisted by those who think that only the best results can be achieved by practising agriculture on a large scale. Sir Manilal Nanavati believes, however, that peasant proprietorship, wisely managed, could give India yields in no way inferior to those obtainable from large sized farms worked on a joint stock basis.

The vital necessity for land tenure reforms should not blind us to the difficulties involved. At present the system of tenure and tenancy is hopelessly tangled, and before any planning can be done a large amount of detailed information is needed. Sir Manilal Nanavati put forward five essential points on which information should be collected on a uniform basis in all provinces and States. They were the ownership of the land, the cultivation of the land and the terms on which it is done, the cultivator's equipment, crops raised and approximate value of produce. These are simple questions, but it is typical of the backward state of India's economic information that not even a rough estimate can be given for any of them. Sir Manilal Nanavati's remark that our knowledge on the subject is at present superficial places the situation in its best light. Yet land tenure is an aspect of national development which can be ignored only at the country's peril.

READERS' VIEWS

Grow More Food

TO THE EDITOR, "THE TIMES OF INDIA."

Sir,—I read with interest the letter of Mr. T. S. Thakkar published in your issue of December 12. One of the suggestions made by him is that Government should give cultivable waste lands on five years' instead of three years' leases with a view to bringing more land under crops. Although I am not opposed to this suggestion, I would like to emphasise the point that it is not easy to bring new land under cultivation even if the leases are for five or more years. It is, therefore, essential to utilise the lands already under cultivation in such a way that these lands would increase our food production to the maximum possible extent.

That it is not an easy task to bring new land under cultivation is borne out by the fact that a very large area of occupied land lies under current fallows every year. According to the Season and Crop Report for 1942-43, the area under current fallows in Bombay province was as much as 58 lakhs of acres. Much of this area under current fallows is not left as such as part of a regular rotation of crops. Generally speaking, these lands are not cultivated on account of the inability of the ryot to do so in time. The main difficulty in bringing fallow lands under cultivation lies in the inadequate resources of the ryot to plough up the land. His difficulty has much increased during the present hard times when he may not be in a position to secure the necessary live-stock and iron implements at prices which he can afford to pay. I would, therefore, like to emphasise the point that there is a better chance of achieving our object by concentrating our attention on producing more food crops from lands already under cultivation than by extending the area under tillage.

DINKAR DESAI.

Bombay, December 14.

SOME RECENT BOOKS

Studies Of Italy And Germany

THE EVOLUTION OF MODERN ITALY, 1715-1920 by A. J. Whyte (Blackwell, 18s.).
A SHORT HISTORY OF GERMANY by S. H. Steinberg (Cambridge University Press, 12s. 6d.).

THERE is a great deal in Dr. Whyte's book on Italy that is of particular interest at the present time when Italy, with an extraordinary diversity of political parties, is once more confronted with the task of shaping her future. In relying mainly on Italian sources Dr. Whyte has endeavoured to link the story of the Risorgimento to what preceded and followed it, and in doing that he stresses the importance of the Napoleonic period and throws new light on the activities of Metternich in Italy.

A LONG STRUGGLE

Nothing is more striking in the history of Italy than the fifty-year struggle which led to the unity of a free, independent country under a constitutional government with the King in Rome. Dr. Whyte notes "the pertinacity with which Italy clung to her ideal and the amazing resilience of the national spirit in the face of disappointment, defeat and failure" and the fact that "when men were wanted they arrived.... The whole movement was alive with paradoxes and contradictions. Mazzini quarrelled with Garibaldi and both hated Cavour, Victor Emanuel intrigued with Mazzini, conspired with Garibaldi and submitted with an ill grace to the genius of Cavour. Yet all were working for the same end."

Why was the sequel disappointing? A reaction after a period of strain explains it in part only. At the end of the 19th century there was a conflict between force and reform as the basic principle of the State. Later, under Giolitti, "Parliament worked in a vacuum, isolated from the national life, creating little interest, doing little harm and some good, and steadily losing its power to lead or stimulate the country."

In 1914 Italy was unprepared for war, but had in Cadorna a masterly organiser, Dr. Whyte passes swiftly, almost gently, over that; but he quotes a Minister as saying that "Caporetto saved Italy from moral collapse". That indeed was proved on the Piave where Italian troops "revealed a courage and tenacity as praiseworthy as her previous state of panic had been lamentable".

VIOLENCE & FASCISM

With peace came the reign of violence and Fascism. Several incidents in the history seem to foretell that calamity. The author relates the curious fact that one Count Jacini coined the word "megalomania" for Crispi: it was not inappropriate, but had it not been coined in 1890 it would surely have been necessary to find the word for Mussolini. Some Italians credit the Fascists with originality, but this book shows how from the Catholic ranks came ideas which the Fascists adopted and developed. For example, one writer saw in 1900 the germ of "Corporations" and referred to "strange political conceptions of parliaments representative not of localities but of trades and professions".

As for the instability of Italians, it is on record that in July, 1870, Mazzini wrote to Bismarck, offering 3,000 men to fight against France. After Sedan those men turned Garibaldini and joined the force in France, commanded by Garibaldi, to fight against the Prussians. Early in the book Dr. Whyte notes the Italian love of illusion. "It might fairly be argued that the deepest quality in the Italian character is its love of colour....To bring colour into the drab debates of Parliament by the splendour of words, to conjure up visions of moral perfection and colourful pictures of imperial greatness both past and future, has been a feature of Italian parliamentary life throughout its half century of existence".

It is a valuable and important book. Not all the writer's opinions—for instance on the famous doctrine of Papal infallibility—will be universally accepted. But it is a temperate and exceedingly well-written history. It is a pity that so good a book has a thoroughly bad index, which omits even to mention Abyssinia, Eritrea, Barattieri and Lissa. If there is a second edition that defect should be remedied.

* * *

To condense the history of Germany into 285 pages is no small achievement. It has been done by Dr. Steinberg who starts with the early tenth century and brings his narrative to the beginning of the present war. Much of it is in the nature of an encyclopaedia article and the scale of the book, which permits a much fuller account of recent events, makes that inevitable.

The author's thesis is that "the history of the Germanies is the history of the unending struggle of the continental Teutons for a working compromise between uniformity and disruption. Uniformity was and is contrary to the racial, cultural and political divergency of the Germanic tribes; the complete independence of each part would have been and will be contrary to the economic, cultural and political interests of those very parts. What the League of Nations failed to achieve (in its own provenance) in 20 years, the Germanies have not been able to achieve in a millennium."

EMPIRE IN DECAY

That thesis is perhaps best proved in the able picture of the Empire in decay, 1648-1786, which is drawn by the author; but it is illustrated too in the story of the German Confederation of the 19th century. "A centralised state built on a national foundation could never satisfy the natural seeds of the Germanies: it could only be brought about if a single state assumed the hegemony by overriding all the other members".

The parliamentary leaders of 1848 would not take that responsibility, but Bismarck had no such scruples and made Prussian militarism the foundation of an Empire. When he took office in 1862 it was expected that "the unrestricted rule of the bayonet would be the order of the day". He was too subtle for that and the appeal to brute force was the least of the instruments he used in making Prussia supreme in Germany. But by 1869 Bismarck thought it would take another thirty years to accomplish the unification of Germany, and before that period had ended Bismarck had been thrown over by William II.

CURRENT PERIOD

The final chapters of the book are devoted to the Weimar Republic and Hitler's rise to power, a rapid factual survey of a period about which much has been written and which will serve for the present as a summary. One significant comment in it deserves to be quoted. "In fact the Germans had never achieved any political and social progress by their own exertions, but had always been granted it from above....Self-determination seemed a burden rather than a privilege to a nation which for so long had been relegated to barren criticism, and they continued to look for guidance to the government, until they were finally relieved of all responsibility by the Leader". That is an acute observation, typical of a book that is distinguished by sound political sense.

Current Topics

Lloyd George Retires.

Burma Refugee Association.

EVERY Briton will regret Mr. Lloyd George's decision to retire from Parliament after 54 years of continuous service. Even at 82, the Welsh Wizard can dominate the House with his vigour and fiery eloquence. Mr. Churchill has said of him: "There is no personal story like the story of Lloyd George in living memory."

Fifty-four years as an M.P. is by no means a record. The late Mr. C. P. Villiers was returned for Wolverhampton in 1835 and represented that borough until his death in 1898. A Mr. Cristopher Talbot sat for a Glamorgan seat for 60 years from 1830 to 1890. Ll. G. became the "Father" in 1929, at the death of T. P. O'Connor, who had been an M.P. since 1885.

Of his 17 years as Cabinet Minister, Ll.G. was Prime Minister for six—two and a half years less than Mr. Asquith who preceded him. William Pitt was Prime Minister for 18 continuous years and Sir Robert Walpole for 21 years. Ll.G. fought 13 general elections. If he had continued and survived one more, he would have equalled Villiers's record. Mr. Churchill summed up his career in these words, "Distrusted always, but trusted most when things were worst."

Jap Cabinet

RECENT Japanese cabinet reshuffles indicate that big business is trying to establish itself in the Government at the expense of the Army. Mr. Fujiwara's removal from the Ministry of Munitions is significant for he was an advocate of complete fascist control of Japanese industry.

One of the problems which the Japanese Premier Koiso has not been able to solve is munition production, perhaps because of friction between industrialists and Government. It is known that one of the causes of Tojo's fall was the failure of his munitions production programme.

Koiso is also trying to bolster up Japanese morale. Admiral Kobayashi, appointed Minister without portfolio, is the President of the Imperial Rule Political Aid Association, an organisation connected with the maintenance of home morale and the improving of relations between the Government and the people.

Noted Educationist

A VERY popular Madras educationist has been removed by the death of Sir Meverel Statham, who for well over two decades worked hard for the educational uplift of all classes in the province.

He joined the I.E.S. in 1913, and as Professor of History and Principal of the Government colleges in Madras, he was a source of great inspiration to thousands of students who came in contact with him. As Chairman of the Travancore Education Reforms Committee of 1932 he did valuable work, which served as the basis for that State's phenomenal progress in education.

Sir Meverel Statham, almost alone among provincial education chiefs, exposed a flaw in the Sargent Report on post-war education development, and this was echoed by Sir A. Ramaswamy Mudaliar in his recent Convocation address at Patna University. The selective scheme came in for trenchant criticism at his hands. It was his view that this part of the Sargent Report, if adopted, would benefit only the already educationally advanced classes and not the backward and depressed communities. Those classes in Madras will mourn the loss of an ardent sympathiser.

An Appeal

TWENTY thousand refugees are now being cared for at Myitkyina (Burma). Because they have lost everything, the Army has undertaken to feed them. An appeal is made by the Burma Refugee Association, Bangalore, for gifts either in cash or in the form of reasonably serviceable clothing and footwear of all kinds for both children and adults. Toys, too, would be welcome.

Packages should be addressed to the Senior Staff Officer, C. A. (Supplies), 2, Short Street, Calcutta (Telegraphic Address—Burcala, Calcutta). They should not exceed one maund in weight and for preference should be between 50 and 80 lbs. They should be sent by rail and their despatch advised by telegram. Gifts of money should be sent to the Honorary Treasurer of the Association, Mr. W. C. Fuller, 19A, Vivian Road, Richards Town, Bangalore; and gifts in kind to Mrs. E. Buchanan, 25, Richmond Road, Bangalore.

"Folly Of Fecundity"

YESTERDAY "A.C.G." inveighed in verse against a Government rule that a key business man allotted passage in the priority Home Leave scheme could travel with his wife and family only if he was accompanied by not more than two children. "A. C. G." deftly pointed out that this rule penalised fecundity.

Since these verses were written we learn that the Government of India have seen the absurdity of the rule, so that it may now be possible for the separation of large families to be avoided when the time comes for father to make his long overdue trip to the United Kingdom.

And How

"Is it very efficient?" queried a farmer, who was being shown a new idea in scarecrows.

"Efficient?" echoed the demonstrator. "Why, when first we tried it one crow was so frightened that he brought back corn he had stolen three days before."

Danger Of Fascism In India

MR. ROY ON CHOICE OF NATIONALISTS

CALCUTTA, December 27: Mr. M. N. Roy, presiding over the second conference of the All-India Radical Democratic Party here today, said: "The country has to make a choice between a capitalist national Government and a radical democratic people's Government. It is a choice between Fascism and freedom."

He added: "History placed this choice before India five years ago. The Radical Democratic Party rose out of that crisis to advocate the choice of freedom. Today the issues are sharper The choice of freedom against Fascism can no longer lay one open to the malicious charge of helping Imperialism. Today, being Imperialism is seeking an alliance with rising Indian Fascism. That unholy alliance must be smashed if India is to be free."

Mr. Roy claimed that the People's plan to economic development presented the picture of freedom needed by the overwhelming majority of the Indian people. Endorsement of the People's Plan, therefore, was the test of the political regime which would replace the present Government.

Mr. Roy continued: "This war will end both Fascism and British Imperialism. India will be confronted with a new choice—this time not an imaginary one. It will be the choice between Imperialist America and a democratic Britain advancing towards socialism.

"Nationalist India, dominated by big business with a distinct Fascist ambition, has already made the choice. It looks towards America for patronage and protection. The ghost of British Imperialism still haunts it."

"Will political independence from a social-democratic Britain, buttressed by American finance, mean freedom for the Indian people? That is the challenging question of the moment which this conference of the Radical Democratic Party puts to all thoughtful Indians for whom freedom is not just a word.

"The chain of gold will be more galling than political dependence, as far as the toiling masses are concerned. British Imperialism was an enemy of Indian freedom so long as it could bind India with a chain of gold."

DICTATORSHIP OF BIG BUSINESS

Mr. Roy continued, "Despite the discomfiture of the Congress and the political of the Government to be lured by the olive branch held up by it, a nationalist capitalist state is growing within the framework of the decaying Imperialist State. That is the basic feature of the present political situation. Whoever fails to notice it would be living in a world of unreality. Power is being transferred to Indians, but not to the Indian people. Big business is stepping in the shoes of British rulers and is planning to establish its dictatorship. The ominous significance of the appointment of an author of the Bombay plan in charge of the key Department of Planning and Development of the Government of India should not be missed."

Mr. Roy asserted that the danger of Fascism had grown in India: the Radical Democratic Party, he said, had, however, grown equal to measure up with the task of fighting the danger.

CONGRESS A CAUCUS"

Mr. A. N. Chattopadhya, inaugurating the conference, said that the Indian National Congress was established with a view to creating a parliament of India where all ideologies would have a common platform and from where the people of India would have an opportunity to choose what political scheme could suit them. It had ceased to be such a platform and had been turned into a caucus, so to say, where none but the "Gandhists should have a platform."

A new leader who could possibly democratise this esteemed and well organised national institution should be the leader of future India.

Mr. Chattopadhya asserted that the Congress, the Muslim League, the Hindu Mahasabha, the Scheduled Castes, and the Non-Party Liberals could not either singly or jointly speak on behalf of the people of India. They represented "at the maximum 13 per cent. of the people who had some education, position and wealth."

He claimed that the People's Plan of the Indian Federation of Labour would serve the purpose of the people better than the Bombay Plan, whose signatories "have already evinced their desire to have power to exploit labour according to their genius."

Mr. Arthur Greenwood, in a message to the conference, said, "At a time when the principles of democracy are threatened both in the East and the West, it is vital that all who believe in radical democracy should stand four-square in its defence.

Delegates from various provinces attended the conference.

The chairman of the reception committee, Mr. J. C. Mukherjee, former Chief Executive Officer of the Calcutta Corporation, emphasised the need of eschewing religion from politics.

The conference was marked by a demonstration against the Radical Democratic Party by a number of people, who tried to gain admission into the conference and threw stones into the *pandal*. The demonstrators, however, dispersed on the arrival of the police.

Mr. Roy's Draft Endorsed

CALCUTTA, December 28: A draft constitution of free India, prepared by Mr. M. N. Roy, was endorsed today by the All-India conference of the Radical Democratic Party.

The draft constitution is appended to a "Bill of Succession of the British Parliament" declaring the transfer of power to the Indian people.

As regards the methods of transfer of power, the introduction to the draft states that the constitution of a free India must either be enacted by the British Parliament in fulfilment of its pledge to the Indian people, or else the Indian people will have to assert their sovereign right by electing a Constituent Assembly to enact the constitution, and that in either case popular support must be mobilised as a sanction behind this constitution.

The "Bill of Succession" envisages a Provisional Government as the agency for promulgating the constitution. It will be responsible to the British Parliament and will resign after the constitution has been promulgated.

The Provisional Government has to promulgate the constitution over the whole of India, including the territory hitherto covered by Indian States. This is to be done by virtue of previously concluded bilateral agreements between the British Government and Indian Princes by which the latter will have surrendered their right of government over Indian States in return for some monetary grants.—*Associated Press.*

All-India Weather

POONA, December 28: The following is the weather chart showing the maximum and minimum temperatures and rainfall in inches recorded at 9 a.m. on Monday:

Allahabad 78 40 0; BOMBAY 85 70 0; Calcutta 85 60 0; Cawnpore 75 52 0; Cuttack 87 65 0; Delhi Dun 69 41 0; Delhi 71 40 0; Darjeeling 48 36 0; Jacobabad 74 41 0; Karachi 79 50 0; Lahore 68 35 0; Lucknow 70 49 0; Madras 83 68 0; Nagpur 80 60 0; Patna 79 55 0; Peshawar 68 37 0; Shillong 62 43 0; Simla 49 38 0.—*Associated Press.*

Earthquake Shock

A slight earthquake shock, with its epicentre about 5,925 miles away from Bombay, and its origin about 100 miles below the surface, was recorded by the seismographs in the Colaba Observatory at 10-8 p.m. (I.S.T.) on December 27.

SIR T. B. SAPRU'S PLANS

Consultations With Free Congressmen

NEW DELHI, December 28: Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru, Chairman of the Conciliation Committee, arrived here this morning. Members of the Committee who are in Delhi had an informal meeting with Sir Tej later in the day.—*Associated Press.*

Allahabad: "I am not going to ask anybody who is not free to express his own opinion," said Sir Tej when asked whether he intended to enter into correspondence or desired to interview members of the Congress Working Committee with a view to eliciting their present views on the political and communal problems in India. He further said: "I have not thought of these things at all. I have only asked Gandhiji to send me a memorandum giving his own viewpoint," says the *Orient Press.*

Asked as to who will represent the Congress under such circumstances Sir Tej Bahadur said: "Well, the Congress resolutions are there, and besides Gandhiji's memorandum I can write to any free leader of the Congress".

Mr. Tushar Kanti Ghosh, editor, *Amrit Bazar Patrika* and a member of the Sapru Conciliation Committee, left for Delhi this afternoon to attend the first meeting of the committee to be held on December 29, 30 and 31.

MOVE SUPPORTED

Mr. Carl Heath, Chairman of the India Conciliation Group in London, has sent the following cablegram to Sir Tej Bahadur Sapru:—

"The Indian Conciliation Group in London sends its warm support to your colleagues in the Non-Party Committee and hopes that in spite of difficulties you will achieve outstanding results."—*Associated Press.*

Karachi League Elections

KARACHI, December 27: A deputation of the Karachi Muslim League has left for New Delhi to discuss with Nawabzada Liaquatali Khan, General Secretary of the All-India Muslim League, certain matters connected with the annual general elections to the city Muslim League fixed for next month.

The Sind Provincial Muslim League has nominated Mr. M. H. Gazdar, Finance Minister, to hold the elections. A section of the city Leaguers, however, is opposed to this appointment.—*Associated Press.*

Appeal To Mr. Jinnah

KARACHI, December 28: Mr. Yusaf Haroon, Mayor of Karachi and a prominent Muslim Leaguer, has addressed an open letter to Mr. Jinnah pointing out the dissensions among the League Ministers and the open conflict between the Ministry and Mr. G. M. Syed, President of the Provincial Muslim League. He says that Mr. M. H. Gazdar, Minister, was intriguing against the Premier despite the assurance of loyalty conveyed through Mr. Jinnah.

Mr. Haroon says that Mr. Syed had arrogated to himself the position of a dictator of Sind and has defied both the Sind and the Central Parliamentary Boards in regard to the Shikarpur by-election. Concluding, Mr. Haroon appeals to Mr. Jinnah to put the Sind Muslim League in order.—*United Press.*

The *Associated Press* says that Mr. Haroon is leaving for Bombay to discuss Sind ministerial affairs with Mr. Jinnah.

Gen. Sir H. Hudson Dead

LONDON, December 27: The death has occurred, at Winchester, on Christmas Day, of General Sir Havelock Hudson, who, like his father before him, Lieut.-General Sir John Hudson, won great distinction in the Indian Army.

General Sir Havelock Hudson, who was born in 1862, was transferred to the Indian Army in 1885 after four years' service in the Northamptonshire Regiment. After filling many important military positions in India, he served with an Indian corps in France in the last war, returning to India in 1917 on his appointment as Adjutant-General at Simla. In 1920 he was appointed General Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Command, and retired from the army four years later.—*Reuter.*

Mrs. Teasdale

MOUNT ABU, December 28: The death occurred on Tuesday of Mrs. Teasdale, the brilliant amateur pianist, as the result of an accident a few hours before she and her husband were due to leave Abu. She was a talented musician and delighted audiences at concerts and on the radio.

Jap Warships Off Mindoro Repulsed

U. S. SUBMARINES' TOLL

WASHINGTON, December 27.

Japanese warships shelled the American positions on Mindoro but were repulsed. American air and naval units sank three Japanese destroyers and scored hits on a cruiser and a battleship.

American warships and aircraft bombarded Iwojima yesterday in a third sea and air attack, says a *communique* from Admiral Nimitz, Commander-in-Chief of the Pacific.

Fourteen cruisers and 44 destroyers are among 99 Japanese warships sunk to date by American submarines, according to figures issued by the United States Office of War Information, based on official announcements already made. Among 835 non-combatant ships sunk by United States submarines are 575 cargo and supply ships and 133 transports. Altogether 3,500,000 tons of Japanese shipping have been sunk by United States submarines.

An air raid alert was sounded this afternoon on Ryushu Island, the southernmost of the Japanese home islands, according to a Japanese radio broadcast picked up in New York.

FIRES IN TOKIO

Super-Fortresses started fires in the Musashima aircraft plant and other industrial targets in Tokio on Wednesday, it is announced.

A U. S. War Department *communique* said that the raid was carried out in daylight by a medium force.

Brigadier-General Beywood Hansell (Junior), head of the 21st Bomber Command, says that between November 24 and December 24 more than 1,500 tons of bombs were dropped on targets in Japan and two of Japan's biggest aircraft plants were temporarily knocked out.

General Hansell adds: "The B-29 has proved itself a magnificent weapon of war." Two Super-Fortresses were lost over the targets in all the operations. Some were lost at sea, but exact figures cannot be given because of security reasons. Operational losses, however, were fewer than expected.

Describing the results of the attacks on Nagoya on December 13 and 18, General Hansell says: "The Hatsudoki plant, the largest of its kind in Japan, is at this time out of business with at least 40 per cent. of its buildings destroyed or gutted by fire. The Kokuki plant has also suffered extensive damage with the resultant interruption in production. Two substantial fires in the second assembly building were seen. The Nagoya steam power plant and shipyards immediately adjacent to the factory area were damaged. In the case of the Hatsudoki plant reconnaissance photographs showed conclusively that 600,000 square feet of the factory area was destroyed or gutted by fires with the inside of building entirely burned out. This represents 40 per cent. of the factory area."

JAP AIR BASE PLASTERED

Liberators with Lightnings for cover, on Boxing Day again plastered the Clark airfield. Japan's main air base north of Manila, shooting down 13 out of 20 Japanese planes which attempted an interception. The American lost one.

Thirty-nine Japanese planes, not previously reported, were destroyed in a Christmas Day attack, 30 on the ground and nine shot down from the air.

During the general mopping up operations on Leyte on Tuesday, 827 Japanese were killed. The strange feature of the last phases of the Leyte operations is the disappearance of General Suzuki, the Commander of the 35th Japanese Army. He was last heard of at Valencia, and it seems likely, it is reported, that he has deserted his troops.

The customary neutralisation raids on the Visayas and Mindanao airfields were again carried out by American heavy and medium bombers, while Liberators dropped 160 tons of bombs on aerodromes in Borneo.

Sun, Moon And Tides

FRIDAY, December 29

Sunrise: 8h. 11m. a.m.; Sunset: 7h. 11m. p.m.
Moonrise: 19h. 02m.; Moonset: 07h. 43m.
High Tide: 12h. 34m. 12.7 ft.; ——; ——.
Low Tide: 07h. 02m. 3.3 ft.; 18h. 40m. 1.2 ft.

The Armed Police at Nawabshah are reported to have arrested 26 persons suspected to be Kurs from the village of Shahpurchakar, says a Karachi message.

REGAL The Theatre Magnificent

AIR-COOLED : 'Ph. 85017.

DAILY 3 SHOWS: AT 4, 6-30 & 9-30 P.M.

From MONDAY, Jan. 1

SPECIALLY SELECTED FOR NEW YEAR!

A screen-scream of GHOSTS..GAGS..and HAUNTING GALS!

OLSEN & JOHNSON in GHOST CATCHERS

with LEO CARRILLO, ANDY DEVINE, LON CHANEY, GLORIA JEAN, MARTHA O'DRISCOLL, WALTER CATLETT, KIRBY GRANT and his ORCH.

and MORTON DOWNEY, ELLA MAE MORSE

All Songs

Produced and Written by EDMUND T HARTMANN Directed by EDWARD F. CLINE

A UNIVERSAL PICTURE 2E

NOW SHOWING

MARIA MONTEZ, JON HALL, SABU in COBRA WOMAN in TECHNICOLOR with EDGAR BARRIER as Colliar, Mary Nash as Mamoni Olsen, Samuel S. Hinds and LON CHANEY

SUNDAY, 10-30 A.M.

"HIT THE ICE"

Bud ABBOTT — Lou COSTELLO

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