

NOTICE

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Justice

THURSDAY, SEPT. 2, 1937

AN APOLOGY

WE DEEPLY REGRET THE fact that on Tuesday last, August 31st 1937, an abusive and totally unwarranted personal attack on His Excellency the Governor of Madras appeared in this column.

We desire to withdraw unreservedly all the imputations therein contained and we tender our most sincere apologies to His Excellency for the subject-matter of our leading article on that date.

SECOND THOUGHTS ON THE BUDGET

WE REFERRED TO TWO of the important features of the Budget yesterday—the salary "cut" and the grant of Rs. 2 lakhs to the Congress movement of hand-spinning. There are other features of the Congress Party's Budget which deserve the close attention of the electorate, which has been expecting big things from the Party which it has returned in large numbers. The question of land revenue remission is most important, but the Congress Ministry is not in a position to afford any measure of relief. It may be recalled that land revenue reduction was a major plank in the election programme of the Congress, and there were some Congressmen who even went to the extent of promising that land tax would be abolished altogether if the Congress Party came to power. Voters in rural parts believed, and believing, voted for the Congress. I at now the Congress Ministry has said it cannot do anything further than what the previous Ministry has already done. The Premier and Finance Minister has asked the people "to exercise a little patience." Why? Because if adequate land revenue remission is given, the Budget will be diked! But when a similar explanation was offered by the Justice Ministry, it was condemned by Congressmen as unsympathetic to the ryots and

unresponsive to the demands of the people. Mr. Rajagopalachari says, "the grant of relief on a scale which would be of material assistance to the individual small ryot would involve such a dislocation of the Budget of the Province that not even a beginning could be made with other ameliorative measures and reforms for the well-being of the masses which, in the opinion of the Government, are of great and urgent importance, and which it would not be right thus for the Government to disable itself from undertaking."

But Congress leaders have been saying that there is no problem more important, no ameliorative measure or reform more imperative and urgent, than reduction of land revenue. But what has been done—and that by a previous Ministry—is only remission of land revenue, and even that not as adequate as the situation demanded. The question that the Congress Ministry should have seriously considered was whether it was necessary to deny the ryots the much-needed reduction or remission of land revenue, because it wanted to make "a beginning" with "other ameliorative measures and reforms," which are stated to be of "great and urgent importance." The Congress Ministry deserves to be reminded that there is no greater and more urgent reform than land revenue reform. All other reforms can wait, and take their time, but this one has to be tackled immediately.

The Ministry, however, attached more importance to certain spectacular things. We pointed out the unwisdom of giving Rs. 2 lakhs to the hand-spinning movement. That amount could have been better utilised to give some more relief to the ryots, and the amount of Rs. 26 lakhs lost to the Government on account of the prohibition experiment in Salem District might have been used to relieve the land revenue burden weighing on the ryots, like the Old Man of the Sea on Sindbad the Sailor. A little more relief would have been welcomed with gladness by the suffering ryots. The previous Ministry gave a remission of Rs. 75 lakhs, the Congress Ministry could have postponed prohibition and hand-spinning experiments, and given the amount saved thereby, namely, Rs. 28 lakhs, to the ryots. Thus the burden on the ryots could have been lessened by a crore and three lakhs of rupees in all. If the Congress Ministry had only thought more of the ryots and less of party organisation and experiments, it could have earned the gratitude of the toiling masses by supplementing substantially the relief that was already given.

Rip Van Winkle

"WE HAVE INDEED A GREAT reputation to maintain" as

regards "good administration and efficient working of parliamentary institutions," said H. E. the Governor of Madras in his address to the joint session of the Legislature. By that he referred to the successful working of Dyarchy in Madras, testimony to which was borne by successive Governors and a Secretary of State for India. It was during the dyarchic regime that the foundations of a well-defined party system were laid, that the Legislature was worked on the model of the British Parliament, that healthy and sound conventions were built which are necessary for the success of democratic institutions. But our contemporary, "The Hindu," which is usually well-informed on such topics, believes that His Excellency was referring to the Minto-Morley Reforms period! It is in that belief it says: "Madras deservedly won for herself in the past a reputation for good administration; it was very nearly lost during the dyarchic regime. If it is to be resurrected and maintained, it should be securely grounded in the efficient working of parliamentary institutions." If our contemporary had read His Excellency's speech with greater attention than it seems to have done, it would have found that His Excellency's reference to the responsibility of the present Government to maintain the "great reputation" of the past in regard to "good administration and the efficient working of parliamentary institutions" was to the dyarchic regime, not to the days previous to 1919. But our contemporary, is evidently living in the days of old; it seems to have forgotten to march with the times.

WISE SAYINGS

Wit like every other power, has its boundaries. Its success depends on the aptitude of others to receive impressions; and that as some bodies, indissoluble by heat, can set the furnace and crucible at defiance, there are minds upon which the rays of fancy may be pointed without effect, and which no fire of sentiment can agitate or exalt—Dr. Samuel Johnson.

After friendship it is confidence, before friendship it is judgment.—Seneca.

The secret of our existence is the connection between our sins and our sufferings.—J. G. Holland.

The fruits of labour are sweeter than the gifts of fortune.

Leisure is time for doing something useful.

So live, that when they summons come to join. The innumerable caravan, which moves.

To some mysterious realm, where each shall take His chamber in the silent halls of death. Thou go not, like the quarry-slave at night, Scourged to his dungeon, but, sustained and soothed By an unfaltering trust, approach thy grave Like one who wraps the drapery of his couch

About him, and lies down to pleasant dreams.—W. O. Bryant.

JAPAN'S BIG OFFENSIVE ON ALL FRONTS Bombings Exceptionally Severe

CHINESE DENY SECRET CLAUSES IN PACT

Shanghai, Sept. 1. The setting for Japan's prospective big push on all fronts in the Shanghai and Woosung area is being completed. Today's fighting, though severe, is regarded only as a curtain raiser. The positions are apparently unchanged, although the Japanese bombings are exceptionally severe. Seven bombs fell within 100 to 300 yards of the outpost held by a party of the Royal Welch Fusiliers on the western outskirts of Shanghai. The Chinese officially deny that the Japanese have captured Paoshan.

Chinese Denial

Nanking, Sept. 1. The spokesman of the Foreign Office denies the alleged secret clauses of the Sino-Soviet Pact. He characterises the "Le Jour" story as pure fabrication, circulated to suit the purpose of those forces working for a general war in Europe.

3 Chinese Planes Shot Down

Tokio, Sept. 1. The Japanese lost one plane in yesterday's air raids on Canton, but shot down three Chinese planes, states an Admiralty Communique.

Extension Of Japanese Operations

Shanghai, Sept. 1. It is officially announced, that the Japanese navy are extending their operations on China coast and air raid all Chinese aerodromes and military establishments.

The Japanese navy announcement adds that the navy might resort to "effective and suitable measures to prevent the importation of munitions into China". The Japanese blockade at present does not apply to ships of third parties, although they may be inspected by the Japanese naval officers in order to ascertain their true nationality.

Hurricane In Hongkong

Hongkong, Sept. 1. A hurricane struck Hongkong at 02.00 hours. It is feared that considerable damage has been caused to the harbour which is now crowded with shipping, including liners and steamers, sheltering in Hongkong owing to the Japanese blockade.

Settlement Used By The Japanese

Shanghai, Sept. 1. Eight Japanese transports, laden with reinforcements, tanks and artillery, have arrived at Woosung following its capture yesterday. The Chinese quarters regard the disembarking operations of the Japanese troops in the eastern district of the International Settlement—officially admitted by the Japanese—as a confession of poor success attending the previous landing operations along the Liuh-Woosung coast line and assert that the presence of Japanese troops is the final confirmation of the Japanese using the Settlement as a base of operations.

General Fengyuh Siang told the interviewers that the Chinese would fight to the bitter end for the sake of world peace and China's own existence.

Japanese Planning A Rush

Peking, Sept. 1. The Japanese forces in Chahar are planning a big rush either south-westward into the Shansi Province, across the mountains, or westward into Suifu, according to Lieut.-Gen.

Itagaki, Commander of the Japanese troops, who has captured the Nankow Pass. Interviewed, Lieut.-Gen. Itagaki admitted that the conquest of Shansi, as far as the Yellow River, has attracted the Japanese military authorities but for strategic reasons, they might decide on Suiyuan. The Japanese are now in control of the Paiping-Kalgan railway. Engineers are busy clearing the long tunnel under the Great Wall at the head of the Nankow Pass where the retreating Chinese blew up eight locomotives. The Japanese military headquarters at Tientsin has issued a proclamation threatening that spies and others guilty of "treacherous actions" against the Japanese army with drastic punishment adding that even the neutrals cannot be guaranteed freedom of action and will be dealt in accordance with international law.

Attempt To Scatter Chinese Troops

Shanghai, Sept. 1. The Japanese in the morning, began a sledge-hammer attempt to scatter the Chinese troops concentrations—westward of north station and the Kiangwan sector while planes bombed the Chinese lines and the Japanese warships and artillery ashore pounded them with high explosives. Hampered by lack of anti-aircraft guns the Chinese replied to the bombing with machine-guns, while the Chinese artillery replied by land and sea bombardment. The Japanese apparently attempting to drive northward with the object of isolating the Chinese forces in the Kiangwan and Woosung area.

All British troops will be incooled immediately owing to the outbreak of cholera in the French Concession where five cases are reported. This is the first outbreak in four years and is believed to be due to the insanitary conditions under which the refugees are living.

Ambassador's Improvement

Rugby, Sept. 1. According to latest messages received in London, the British ambassador to China, Sir H. Knatchbull-Hugessen, continues to make steady progress.

UNIFICATION OF TEXTILE TERMS

Rugby, Sept. 1. An interesting and important scheme for authoritative definition of textile terms and for unification on scientific basis of testing methods, is now under the consideration of about 200 trade organisations, covering every branch of textile industries. A draft scheme has been prepared by the textile institute in consultation with the British standards institution and aims at equipping the textile industry with standards such as had already been established with success for building, engineering and chemical industries.

EARL HAIG'S FUND

Rugby, Sept. 1. A record sum of £544,301 was raised by the sale of poppies on behalf of Earl Haig's Fund on Armistice Day last November.

DISTURBED CONDITIONS IN PALESTINE

4 ARABS AND 3 JEWS KILLED

(Reuters Cable)

Jerusalem, Sept. 1. Renewed feeling of uncertainty has been produced in Palestine by the killing of four Arabs and three Jews. Four Arab casualties to-day occurred in northern Palestine. While the authorities do not believe the necessity for apprehension, precautionary police and army stand-by is being maintained. The Jewish National Council has issued a manifesto urging the Palestine Jewry to exercise restraint and maintain national discipline. The Arab Higher Committee issued a similar appeal to the Arabs yesterday.

MONKEY WITH "OCCULT" POWERS

Successfully Resists All Efforts Of Capture (Associated Press)

New Delhi, Aug. 29. A monkey is reported to have established itself as a terror for the residents of Palahganj, a locality on the border of the two Delhi. The animal, which is credited with "occult" powers, is stated to have attacked and seriously injured one woman and one child. In keeping with one of the attributes of "occultism", the monkey starts its nefarious activities after nightfall. It is stated to have hitherto successfully resisted the combined efforts of the panic-stricken people of the locality to kill or capture it alive. Bazaar rumour has it that the animal "mysteriously" disappears when pursued. The police categorically repudiate even the existence of such a "mysterious" being, but persistent rumours to the contrary continue.

RAJSHAHI GOVT COLLEGE ORDERED TO BE CLOSED

Students To Be Assisted To Migrate To Other Colleges (Associated Press)

Rajshahi, Sept. 1. Following the incidents at the Rajshahi Government College, the Government are understood to have ordered the closing of the college until further orders. The Governing body met this evening, the District Magistrate presiding, and discussed the situation and adjourned for further discussion.

It is understood that students will be assisted to migrate to other colleges. The permanent teaching staff have been transferred and the college staff discharged, the college remaining closed for long time to allow the situation to return to the normal.

BREACH ON RAIWALA-RIKHIKESH RY. LINE

Repairs Delayed (Associated Press)

Moradabad, Sept. 1. The Divisional Superintendent E.I. Railway, wires as follows:—Repair operations to the breach on the Raiwala-Rikhikesh branch at the Song river bridge, reported on August 29, are being delayed due to the frequent and sudden rise of water in the Song river. The branch is likely to remain out of commission longer than expected. Provided the weather remains fair and the sudden rises in the river do not impede the progress of works, it is expected that through communication over the branch to be restored in about a week's time.