CONVOCATION OF THE DELHI UNIVERSITY

4th March 1927.

His Excellency the Viceroy attended the Convocation of the Delhi University on the 4th March and delivered the following address :—

Mr. Vice-Chancellor, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It must be a pleasure to anyone who realises what a University may stand for in our modern life to take part in a ceremony like that of to-day, and it gives me great pleasure thus to find myself associated with a foundation in which my predecessor Lord Reading took such a genuine and lively interest. I thank you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, for the cordial words in which you have bid me welcome to the first Convocation which has been graced by your presence, and I may here echo the tribute you have paid to your predecessor in office, Sir Hari Singh Gour, to whose energy and force of personality this University owes a great obligation. I do not propose to do more than touch on the University's history during the past year. The steady increase in numbers is a testimony to the growing part it is playing in meeting the Educational needs of the areas which it serves. It may be that to some the pace of development judged merely by the opening of new faculties may appear disappointing. But, apart from the inevitable limitations imposed by financial considerations, it will be realised that it is essential in the circumstances in which this University is placed that a new faculty should be opened only in response to a genuine and extensive demand for it, and that consolidation of the ground already covered should precede further advance if progress is to be sure and permanent. The only academic developments in the University have been the institution of honours courses in Economics, English and Mathematics. Hitherto an honours degree has simply been obtained by the answer of certain additional papers supplementary to those set for the ordinary pass degree. The new courses allow for specialisation in one main subject and one subsi-

diary subject. The University is contemplating the opening of additional faculties in Commerce and Oriental languages towards which donations have been offered by members of the Delhi public, and the schemes for the constitution of these faculties are at present under consideration by the University.

We have listened to-day to many interesting and sagacious speculations from the lips of your Vice-Chancellor as to the real function of Universities and the manner in which they meet the needs of everyday life. I do not propose to do more than to add some very general remarks to his observations. I think that a good many people to-day are inclined to judge a University training by its commercial value to its graduates. They try to make up a nicely audited balance-sheet, expressing culture and learning as an asset to be valued in pounds, shillings and pence, and treating knowledge that has no market value as a bad debt. Such people have, I think, fallen into that fallacious reasoning which, as Hazlitt once said, confuses the knowledge of useful things with useful knowledge. Here in India many look on a University as little more than a turnstile leading into the arena of Government service, and if they find no service open to them are apt to feel that they have been cheated, as if they had paid for admission to a place of entertainment and then found there was no room for them. We must obviously clear our minds of any such false sense of values. Not that I minimise the necessity of practical application of learning to the business of a competitive world, though even here I think it is well to bear in mind that, unless industries and vocations already exist which demand men equipped with special qualifications, the provision of vocational training for such callings may simply have the effect of aggravating the problem of unemployment. You, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, have reminded us that the character of Universities has

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of course greatly changed since those early days when the fame of great teachers attracted crowds of poor scholars to an atmosphere of seclusion from the daily throb and contest of the outer world. The printing press, among other reasons, has changed all that and changed it not wholly for the better. The old instinct of inquisitiveness, the divine thirst for knowledge, finds in books and periodicals the satisfaction which could formerly be won only at the feet of learned teachers. Economic competition too has changed many of our canons of social life, and a University fails if it does not respond to and to some extent reflect these changed conditions.

Now, it is perhaps dangerous for one who has been so short a time in India to venture to pass any judgment on Indian University teaching, but it has occurred to me that in one respect Indian Universities lack something of the individuality that is enjoyed by Universities elsewhere. In England and Scotland each University has its own very definite individuality, and each makes its own very special contribution to the sum total of knowledge and culture. The Northern English Universities, for example, reflect with great fidelity the needs of their industrial and textile environment in their thriving technological studies. Bristol University is a great centre for agricultural research, Edinburgh leads the way in certain forms of medical research, while even those, who are in no way connected with them, will acknowledge that Oxford and Cambridge play a great part in the general intellectual life, not only of Great Britain but of the whole English-speaking world. That is the sort of thing which I believe might be of great advantage to India. I see no reason why Bombay should not be the great centre of textile research, both as regards fabric and machinery, for the whole East. Similarly, Patna University need not be deterred by the institution of the new school of mining at Dhanbad from developing a strong school of mining

engineering and geology. Calcutta, the headquarters of the Bengali people with their ancient culture, might win place and renown as a centre for the study of the humanities. In short, there might well be division of labour among the Indian Universities in which each could make its own unique contribution to the intellectual life of the whole. Apart from the stimulus to the growth of knowledge which such a development would give, it would have another notable result through the migration of students from Province to Province, so far as considerations of distance permit, and thus by the way of knowledge encourage a truer and stronger spirit of nationalism than to-day exists.

I should like here to say a word or two about a recent venture which I cannot but think may have an important bearing on the future of our Universities. The importance of good secondary schools in which physique, mind and character can be developed, and which are not forgetful of the practical needs of modern life, has wisely been recognised as a necessary link in the chain of a nation's education. The greatest educationists have always been disposed to lay stress on the importance of variety of types of school, and we have therefore recently heard with interest of the proposed attempt to reproduce here a type, familiar enough in England, but which hitherto has not taken root in India. I refer to the movement made on the initiative of Mr. S. R. Das for the establishment of a school on the lines of the great English Public Schools. Now, those Schools have had their critics, and it is not for one of their own sons to praise them. I am content to let their record speak for itself and to allow the world to form its own judgment of their worth. But I have little doubt that it is very well work India's while to make the attempt to establish such a foundation here, and I shall watch with

deep interest and good-will the work to which the Organising Committee, of whom your own Vice-Chancellor is an active member, have set their hands.

But whatever be the precise direction in which a University may set the main current of its activities; whatever may be the influence exerted upon it by other scholastic institutions, the fact will remain that at its highest a University is as you, Vice-Chancellor, have so wisely said, the embodiment of the desire of men to pursue the truth for truth's sake, and thus to lay the foundations of real knowledge. Two of the principal qualities or faculties of human nature, viewed in relation to other manifestations of life, are this appreciation of knowledge and the power of criticism. Each postulates a sense of ultimate truth, and each is impossible without some standard of truth and judgment. This sense of ultimate truth is the intellectual counterpart of the æsthetic sense of perfect beauty, or the moral sense of perfect good, and it is this standard, influencing and appraising as it does our thoughts and actions in everyday life, which it is the principal function of a University to supply. Many of you will probably remember the definition which that great philosopher-saint Cardinal Newman gave of a University's purpose:—"A University training", he said, "is the great ordinary means to a great but ordinary end; it aims at raising the intellectual tone of society, at cultivating the public mind, at purifying the national taste, at supplying true principles to popular enthusiasm and fixed aims to popular aspiration, at giving enlargement and sobriety to the ideas of the age, at facilitating the exercise of political power, and refining the intercourse of public life."

I can wish nothing better for the Delhi University than that it may, though those who have to-day received degrees and wherever its influence extends, be the instrument of achieving these high purposes.

BANQUET AT BHOPAL.

14th March 1927. H. E. the Viceroy delivered the following speech at the Banquet at Bhopal on the 14th March :—

YOUR HIGHNESS,—

I thank Your Highness for the kind words you have just spoken. The very brief visit which we paid to Bhopal last July was only enough to make us hope that we should before long have an opportunity of becoming better acquainted with Your Highness' State, and both Lady Irwin and I are grateful that Your Highness' kind invitation has provided that opportunity so soon. On Lady Irwin's behalf as well as my own, I thank Your Highness sincerely for the cordiality with which you have welcomed us, and I know that all Your Highness' guests would wish me to express to you their gratitude for all the hospitality you have shown us. My only misgiving is that our visit, falling as it does within the fast of *Ramzan*, may have caused Your Highness and Your Highness' people no small inconvenience.

It is, however, a pleasant thought that another page is being added to the long tale of friendship between Bhopal and the British Government, a friendship which dates right back to the early days of the British connection with Central India, and has remained staunch ever since, and was never more firm than at those times when it was most greatly needed, in the dark days of the Mutiny and of the Great War.

It gives me particular pleasure to come to Bhopal during the first year of Your Highness' rule, and I can wish you no better fortune than that your period of rule may be as peaceful and successful as that of your mother, who has recently vacated the *masnad* in Your Highness' favour. Her Highness the Begum indeed deserved well of the State and of India. For nearly 25 years she has devoted herself to the administration of her State, and we all wish her many years of happiness in the retirement

which she has so richly earned. In giving place to Your Highness she has honoured you with her full confidence, and I know that in the years before her she will find her greatest satisfaction in the wise Government of her State by the son in whom she has reposed her trust.

Your Highness is indeed fortunate in having at your side—I hope for many years to come—an adviser who will give you the full benefit of her sagacity and wide experience.

I think it probable that on no previous occasion has a Viceroy visited Bhopal when a man was on the *masnad*, and it is therefore fitting that I should express my admiration for the strong and skilful administration carried on for so long by a succession of able woman rulers in Bhopal. An Englishman indeed has only to glance at the history of his own country to see what a power for good the rule of a wise woman may be, and I think India too may be grateful for having had a ruler like Her Highness who, with all her high and varied responsibilities, has never forgotten that she is a woman and has taken a constant interest in all that makes for the improvement of the condition of her fellow-women in India.

It is indeed quite possible that Bhopal will again come under a woman's rule in the person of Your Highness' daughter, for the Government of India have agreed that the succession is to pass to the heirs of your body. There has been so much uncertainty as to the rule of succession in Bhopal that it may not be inopportune if I here state three important principles which I conceive to be applicable. A son takes precedence of all daughters. Among sons the eldest succeeds, and among daughters too the eldest succeeds.

I have made this announcement in the hope and belief that, if any element of doubt ever existed in Your Highness' mind to distract you from the business of administration which lies before you, that doubt may now be

effectively dispelled. I look confidently forward to a period of continued prosperity for the State under Your Highness' rule. As a graduate of Aligarh University and as an experienced member of your mother's Council you start with advantages which are by no means given to all. You have the energy and fitness of youth, and the nerve and gift of quick decision which we have all admired in the polo field will stand you in no less good stead at the Council table.

In wishing Your Highness every success in your administration, I feel sure that we shall not look in vain for all those varied qualities necessary to a successful ruler, among which not the least valuable is generosity, and fair-minded appreciation not only of his friends but also of those who differ from him.

I know that certain difficult problems of administration already confront Your Highness, none perhaps more important from your subjects' point of view than the difficult question of land tenure. I shall be interested to learn what decision your Council arrives at on this question, and I shall hope to hear that success has crowned the efforts of the Agricultural Department which the State has wisely established.

I heard with much interest the desire which Your Highness has expressed for the foundation of a training centre for the officers of State forces. The idea of such a school has for some time been under the consideration of Government, who hope shortly to evolve a scheme which will commend itself to Rulers who, like Your Highness, realise the importance of giving their officers a sound military training. I am glad to take this opportunity of offering my congratulations to Your Highness on your recent appointment to the rank of Lieutenant-Colonel in His Majesty's army.

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Not long ago I had occasion to speak of the mutual obligations of British India and the Indian States in the future Government of this country.

The problem is one of great dimensions and complexity. Measured in terms of population, the Indian States represent 72 millions or nearly one quarter of the entire population of India ; measured in size two-fifths of the surface of India falls within the administration of Indian States ; and, if the question is one of this magnitude, it is certainly one of the most difficult and delicate that constitution-makers have ever had to solve. Yet the changing conditions of the present time, counteracting and even destroying the influences that have hitherto permitted life to move within well-defined compartments, will sooner or later force India to attempt its settlement. Where so many forces are at work in this direction, supported by powerful affinities of race, religion, custom and tradition, it is safe to suppose that time, the wise and patient guide, will point the way towards solution of the problem.

We are often tempted to desire that it might be possible for us to exercise the occult power of the crystal-gazer, and penetrate the mysteries which the future holds concealed. Such vision of the complete design would no doubt greatly facilitate the work of those whose task it is to weave a complicated fabric, and who, as they weave, see only a fraction of the whole. But that is not the condition of our labour, and no man to-day can with any certainty forecast the conclusions on these issues which careful deliberation and discussion may finally suggest. It may well be that we shall find that both British India and the States have something to learn from one another, and that each side can give much which will be to the benefit of both. The machinery of Government to-day in British India and the States is widely different. With you it is personal, however this personal rule may be qualified and

assisted by the advice of those summoned by the Ruler to his counsels. We, on the other hand, have set the feet of British India upon the path that leads to such self-government as permits the will of the majority of the electorate to become the repository of political power. If, however, the object of Government is the same, namely, to promote the welfare of those committed to its care, and if we may be agreed that, as Your Highness has said, whether exercised through one form of Government or another, power is an instrument entrusted to our hands for public, not private, benefit, I should foresee no insuperable difficulty in devising means by which in mutual respect both British India and the States should join as partners to bring their peculiar gifts to India's feet.

In conclusion I will only say once more how great a pleasure it gives me to visit a State of whose loyalty and hospitality I have heard so much. I shall carry away the most pleasant recollections of this picturesque town, its blue waters and green forests—a more kindly landscape than the rugged Northern hills from which your intrepid ancestors came to found here their dynasty. We look forward with keen anticipation to the sport which Your Highness has taken such trouble to arrange for us and for some of the four-footed subjects of the State, and we shall hope to play our part in it without discredit.

I will now ask the company to rise and drink the health of His Highness the Nawab of Bhopal.

BANQUET AT SRINAGAR.

12th April 1927. H. E. the Viceroy delivered the following speech at the Banquet at Srinagar on the 12th of April :—

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—It is not easy to find words in which to thank Your Highness enough for having given us such a delightful fortnight in your

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beautiful country. I know that all my fellow guests are as sorry as I am that our visit has come to an end, and that they would wish me to express their gratitude to you for the unstinted hospitality which you have shown them and for the cordiality with which Your Highness' officials and Your Highness' people have received them wherever they have gone. For my own part and on behalf of Lady Irwin I must also thank you for the very kind words with which Your Highness has just proposed our health and expressed your pleasure in welcoming us to your State.

I suppose that no country in the world has been more often praised for its beauty than Kashmir. The fame of its beauty was carried to Europe in early days by travellers who had lived with the Court of the great Moghul Emperors, and who had caught something of the fervour which led the Emperor Jehangir often to say that he would rather lose all his Empire than Kashmir. It was the custom in those times for poets at the Imperial Court to vie with each other in describing the glories of this country, and one of them, arrested by that wonderful contrast of green fields and valleys below and dazzling snows above, was moved to declare that it was right that this King of all the Kingdoms of the world should have the most precious crown—whose base was emeralds and whose summit diamonds. Such a description might well occur to any one whose eyes rest upon the wonderful view of lake and field and mountain from the windows of the Gulab Bhavan Palace where Your Highness has so royally entertained us.

When a Viceroy last visited Kashmir, the late Maharaja Sir Pratap Singh was on the *gadi*. The interesting note on Jammu and Kashmir, which Your Highness recently presented to me, gave me an insight into the many works of public utility and advancement

which His late Highness carried out. By his death, Government lost a loyal friend and staunch supporter, and Kashmir a Ruler whose first thoughts were always for his people. The State granaries, to which I paid an interesting visit with Your Highness some days ago, and in regard to which in their early days you were responsible for framing the main lines of action, are one of the many monuments to your uncle's rule. I was greatly pleased to have the opportunity of witnessing in operation a reform which, in the exceptional circumstances of Srinagar, must have meant much in the way of economic stability and security both to consumers and producers. I am sure that both residents of Srinagar and cultivators will not soon forget the debt they owe to those who originated the idea.

Your Highness, who has now succeeded him, is no novice in the art of Government, for, before your accession, Your Highness had acquired, as Senior and Foreign Member, an intimate knowledge of the details of administration which, as events have shown, have enabled you to preserve the personal element in your Government and to lose no time in applying yourself to schemes for the improvement of your State and the welfare of your subjects. I trust that the constitutional reorganisation, of which Your Highness has just spoken, will assist you in your work by facilitating the despatch of public business.

It is indeed no small achievement that, within less than a year of your accession to the *gadi*, Your Highness should have brought into being the Regulation to which you have just referred, designed to free the agriculturist from the fetters of indebtedness. It would surely be unnatural that, in a country where Nature has bestowed her benefits so lavishly, the peasant classes should live in a state of debt and penury. ' Borrowing ', it has been said, ' dulls the edge of husbandry ' and, now that Your

Highness has shown the agriculturists that you are ready and anxious to help them, I hope that they will be encouraged to rely rather upon their own labour and effort than upon the not wholly disinterested philanthrophy of the money lender. Their surest way of achieving this end is, I feel little doubt, by mutual co-operation, which I understand Your Highness is doing your best to encourage. I am glad to hear that this year agricultural conditions throughout the country are satisfactory, and I trust that the blight, which despite all the protective measures taken by the Darbar caused such damage to the fruit crop last autumn, will not this year repeat its unwelcome visit.

Another measure which, thanks largely to Your Highness' own efforts, is likely greatly to benefit your subjects, is the abolition of the system of forced labour for private and State purposes, and the framing of rules by which labourers receive fair wages for their work. I feel sure that any extra cost which may now fall upon the State as a result of this enlightened action is money well spent for the relief of hardship and the promotion of the contentment of your people.

On the first day of my visit to Your Highness' territories I had evidence of the standard of Your Highness' organisation in the review of your troops which I saw at Jammu, and I am glad that Your Highness' own services have recently been recognised by your promotion to the rank of Colonel in His Majesty's army. The extensive programme for the reorganisation of your State Forces, which Your Highness has undertaken, is a work of no small magnitude. The re-arrangement of the whole Army Administration and Commands, the raising of three squadrons of Cavalry, the perfecting of the training and equipment of your Artillery and Infantry Units, are an achievement of which Your Highness has every reason to be proud. I have no doubt that, should occasion arise,

the remodelled Army of Kashmir will excel even the Kashmir troops which gained high distinction in many fields during the Great War, and which received many tributes of praise from Generals who had the good fortune to command them.

I would here take the opportunity of thanking Your Highness once more for your recent offer of personal service and the resources of your State for use in China. I can well believe that it was, as you have said, a bitter disappointment to Your Highness that the situation did not necessitate the acceptance of this generous offer ; but I am glad to know that, should the occasion ever arise, we can rely on Your Highness to give such practical expression to the traditional loyalty of your House. I shall have great pleasure in conveying your loyal sentiments to His Majesty the King-Emperor.

Your Highness has touched on the question of the future relations between the Indian States and British India. You are right in thinking that I always welcome the opportunity to visit Indian States not only for the pleasure it gives me, but for the insight, as Your Highness has said, that I can obtain through personal exchange of thought into this unique and profoundly absorbing problem.

I need not repeat what I have recently said on this subject. It is not yet time to come to any decision, but it is time to start thinking, and thinking seriously, of what steps it may be feasible to take towards the discovery of the right solution. You will believe me when I say that it is constantly in my thoughts, and I would ask Your Highness and your Brother Princes to have it not less constantly in yours. There is much clearing of the ground to be done before we can begin to build, and I

Address of Welcome from the Quetta Municipality.

can assure you that I shall always welcome frank discussion and shall be anxious to consider carefully any constructive suggestions you may have to make.

Your Highness, I must conclude by thanking you again for the unfailing kindness you have shown us throughout our visit, which I fear has been long enough to tax the resources of even so good a host. There was one passage in Your Highness' speech with which I think none of your guests will agree—I refer to your apology for the lack of sport at this time of year. Few of us I think can ever have seen a duck shoot such as you gave us at Hokra and Hygam, while Your Highness' famous trout streams have provided such sport that even fishermen had no occasion to exaggerate the size and number of their catch, and were denied any occasion for the exercise of that quality of patience, peculiar to their fraternity. The invitation you have extended to us to renew our visit to your State is a temptation which we shall find very hard to resist, and Your Highness may be sure that we shall remember it with gratitude, and live in hopes that circumstances may allow us to accept it.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to rise and drink the health of our host, His Highness the Maharaja of Jammu and Kashmir.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE QUETTA MUNICIPALITY.

In replying to the Address of Welcome presented by the Quetta Municipality on the 20th April, H. E. the Viceroy said :— 20th April 1927.

It has given Lady Irwin and myself great pleasure to be welcomed, on our arrival at the headquarters of your Province, by the cordial address to which we have just listened. Though, as you point out, only half a century

has passed since Sir Robert Sandeman first made Quetta his headquarters in Baluchistan, the town with whose welfare you are entrusted is already one of the historic places of the British Empire. Its position as one of the bastions of India and the part it has played and is yet destined to play in the history of the North-West Frontier make Quetta a name which will always have a peculiar interest both to Englishmen and Indians. A particular interest is lent to my visit this year by the fact that it is the Jubilee of your Municipality.

I am glad to hear from Mr. Johnston of the satisfactory state of the Municipal finances and affairs in general, and, from an interesting list of figures which he has given me, I see that your receipts from octroi, which form a large part of your income, have risen steadily during the last 14 years and have in fact doubled in value since 1913. At the same time I am sorry to hear that you have latterly been passing through a period of trade depression—a state of affairs which I am afraid has not been peculiar to your city. But I notice from your octroi returns that for many years the amount of refunds, which would indicate the volume of export trade, has been small, in fact almost negligible, and this seems to show that your city has never been a great distributing centre and that the Quetta trader has to rely rather on the custom of the resident population than on export. I trust therefore that such external trade as your Municipality may have recently lost has been compensated by the increased trade within the city caused by the rapid growth of the civil population.

I have listened with pleasure to your account of the public works carried out by your Committee during the last 10 years, and of the keen public spirit shown both by officials and private individuals. I noticed recently that in the last Census Report a special word of commendation

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was given to the markets of Quetta, and I am glad to hear that in the matter of public buildings and modern improvements your Municipality still maintains its progress. I well know the value of an adequate water supply both to the health and the comfort of the people, and I feel sure too that the erection of a Town Hall and Municipal Offices will help to facilitate the despatch of your business and maintain the proper dignity of your body. During my visit I hope to see some of these improvements for myself, and to confirm my expectation that they will compare not unfavourably with those which I have visited in less isolated parts of India. But I am not sure that we ought any longer to speak of Quetta as an isolated part of India. It was indeed a striking feat that in September 1925 the Royal Air Force should have delivered mails from Quetta at Simla within the space of nine hours. The fact is that, with the development of modern communications, isolation is a word which is rapidly losing a good deal of its old significance.

Gentlemen, the tone of your address has confirmed what I had already heard of the harmony with which your Committee, consisting as it does of all creeds, carries out its important duties, and of the good feeling and friendly spirit which exist between the various communities under your charge. I can wish you nothing better than that this happy state of affairs may continue. I am always glad to have the opportunity of meeting those who, like yourselves, voluntarily devote so much of their time and energy to the benefit of their fellow townsmen, for whom it may not always be possible to express their appreciation of the service given on their behalf. That service it is your responsibility to render and on behalf of Government I should like to thank you for the way in which you are discharging your honourable obligation.

DURBAR AT QUETTA.

21st April 1927. The following speech was delivered by H. E. the Viceroy at the Durbar held at Quetta on the 21st April :—

Chiefs, Sirdars and Headmen,—Nearly 10 years have passed since the representative of the King-Emperor had the opportunity of visiting Baluchistan, and I am indeed glad that I have been able, within little more than a year of my arrival in India, to come and make the acquaintance of your country and its people. At the time of Lord Chelmsford's visit to Quetta, India and the whole British Empire were still in the throes of war, and he then expressed his gratitude to His Highness the Khan of Kalat, the Jam of Las Bela, and the Chiefs and Headmen of the whole Province for their loyal support of the British Government. Baluchistan did not however remain entirely unaffected by the storms which during those years swept over so great a part of the world. The rising of the Marri and Khetran tribes, which occurred not long after Lord Chelmsford's visit, was a regrettable outburst, but it was quickly suppressed, and I am glad to say that our relations with those two tribes have since then been excellent.

The peace which brought warfare to a close in Europe was however only as the false dawn of peace for the frontiers of India, for within a few months we were involved in war with Afghanistan. Although on the whole the tribes of this Province stood the strain of those hostilities well, the general feeling of uncertainty had its effect not only on some sections which assumed an attitude of open lawlessness, but on the Zhob Militia which succumbed to the pressure brought to bear on it from different quarters. With the re-establishment of friendly relations between ourselves and Afghanistan, Government, as you know, took the necessary measures to restore their authority where it had been called in question, and adopted, so far as was possible, a policy rather of conciliation towards the misguided than of vindictive repression. For a year or

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two a period of unrest followed, marked by raiding and other offences all along the border. I am glad however to find that since then there has been a steady decrease in serious crime, and though I know well that in a Border Province there is need for constant vigilance, and if necessary for stern measures, I feel sure that the wiser heads in all your tribal councils realise that in the end no good can come from lawlessness and disorder, and with the help that your Sirdars and natural leaders can give I look forward confidently to a period of peace and advancement for your Province.

It is a matter of great regret that a succession of years of unfavourable rainfall should have caused serious loss to certain parts of the Province, and especially to the Marri and Bugti tribes whose flocks have suffered severely from lack of grazing. I trust however that the improvement in the general condition of the country, which has lately been evident, will be maintained and that, with the help of the contract recently concluded with the Burma Oil Company and the development of its mineral resources, the prosperity of the Bugti tribe will be speedily restored. I may here take the opportunity of expressing the acknowledgments of Government to the Bugti Tumandar to whose loyalty, force of character and wise administration are due in great measure the tribe's constant good behaviour and contentment. I feel sure too that the Marri Tumandar will fulfil the expectations he has already raised and prove himself a good Chief to his tribe.

Efforts as you know are being made to render parts of this Province less liable to disaster from the lack of normal rains, and before long a branch of the Lloyd Barrage canal is to be brought into Western Nasirabad. I know well the uncertainty of your present system of irrigation by inundation canals, and that a perennial

supply of water will be of inestimable value to all those who are fortunate enough to own land within its reach. It has, as you know, been decided to allot a considerable part of the Government waste land, which will now come under cultivation, to the Marris and Bugtis and other tribesmen whose economic conditions are difficult. Government has a right to expect that those of you who are to benefit by this scheme will not forget the obligations incumbent on all land-owners to look upon their tenantry as in the nature of a trust, and to see that they are provided with those opportunities for education and general well-being which will assist and permit them to be loyal and useful members of their communities. Permanent irrigation on a large scale is of course only possible in the plains, but Mr. Johnston has told me that an effort is being made to obtain water in the hill country also by the boring of deep wells, and possibly by the construction of dams to hold up or regulate the floods which so often bring destruction instead of benefit in their train. I am inclined to the belief that we have by no means yet reached the limits of what is possible with modern resources in this latter direction, and I hope to have the problem of better conservation and utilisation of the rain water supply carefully studied by a competent expert before long. Meanwhile you may be certain that I shall always listen with a sympathetic ear to any practical proposal of this nature likely to improve the condition of the agriculturist class, whose welfare will always be a matter of the greatest concern to me.

I have learned with great pleasure that the improvement in the administration of the Kalat State has been well maintained under the guidance of His Highness the Khan, whose absence to-day owing to reasons of health I so much regret. It would have been a pleasure to congratulate him in person on the success of his wise reforms,

and to thank him for the loyal support and collaboration which have been so valuable an asset to Government for many years past. The change in the conditions of the finances of his State is by itself an index of the advance which has been made. The institution of a regular treasury with a satisfactory audit and properly framed budget has had the result of doubling the fluctuating revenue of the State. Money bags which a few years ago lay empty in the State Treasury are now comfortably filled, and the balance of over 20 lakhs of rupees has given His Highness opportunities, which he has used to advantage, of framing schemes for the welfare of his subjects. Funds have been provided for schools, hospitals, roads and buildings, on which not long ago there was no money to spend. In communications perhaps most of all has the development of the State been evident. It is only a few years since Mekran and Jhalawan were remote and inaccessible. Journeys were arduous and the demands on local transport for travelling officials often entailed considerable hardship on the people. Since then 2,000 miles of road have now been made throughout the State, and the furthest point of Mekran is within four days' journey of Quetta. I am confident that this will make for the peace and prosperity of this area. No dispute or trouble which now takes place will be beyond the easy reach of Jirgahs or State Officials, and I hope that the tribesmen of outlying areas, while surrendering nothing of their independence of life and thought, will remember that these roads are surely destined to extend to them the same peace that has gradually been spread by the British Government from the Southern to the Northern limits of India.

All present here to-day are aware what a large share of the credit for this satisfactory state of affairs is due

to the high character and unfailing vigour of the Wazir-i-Azam Nawab Sir Shams Shah. The improvement in the administration has perhaps been most apparent in Mekran, where until five years ago His Highness had to meet a large deficit for its administration. In 1922 Mekran was handed back to the State for administrative purposes, and this year and last it has shown a substantial surplus of revenue over expenditure. The Mekran frontier, however, was for some time a source of anxiety to my Government. The unsettled state of this part of the border resulted in cattle-lifting raids and often in murder, and the conduct of the Mekran Levy Corps and the local people was a matter for deep disappointment to Government. It is satisfactory to know that the spirit has now changed, and that the Mekran Levy Corps, assisted by the local people, have thoroughly established their ascendancy, and indeed not long ago inflicted severe punishment on a formidable raiding party from beyond the border.

Nothing perhaps could give better evidence of the improvement in the administration of the State of Kalat or of the general contentment of the people than the issue of the decree by which His Highness the Khan has abolished slavery. From ancient times this custom had existed in Kalat, and men and women servants were in some cases the absolute property of their masters. The masters on their side had no corresponding obligations, and could if they wished cast out their slaves unfed and unclothed to suit their own convenience, or sell children away from their parents. This system had from time to time been made less rigorous, but until last year it still existed, with varying harshness, in certain parts of the State. On 4th November 1926 His Highness signed a decree which, in view of the importance I attach to it, I

Durbar at Quetta.

will quote in its very words—

> "It is hereby decreed that from this day forth private property in *ghulam* and *kaniz* shall cease to exist throughout the Kalat State. Those *ghulam* and *kaniz* who so desire may remain with their masters ; but hereafter no man, woman or child shall be sold, bought, gifted or inherited, nor shall they be forcibly separated from their kin."

This decree, which will bring happiness to many homes, is proof of His Highness' wisdom and far-sighted policy. It is proof too that he realises that custom is a living growth, not a dead weight around our necks, and that if *riwaj*, by which the affairs of this Province are so largely guided, is to retain its vitality, it must be ready to adapt itself to the changing conditions of the world and of human society. I am glad to hear that the decree has been loyally received and acted on by the Sirdars, for I am determined to see that no evasion of it shall take place, and I have given Mr. Johnston, in whom I repose the fullest confidence, orders to take the most stringent measures to ensure its universal observance.

Baluchistan, thanks largely to the wisdom of a great administrator, Sir Robert Sandeman, has already a large share of that self-Government which so many countries in the world are still striving satisfactorily to achieve. The management of affairs and the decision of disputes are left, so far as may be possible, to the Sirdars, tribal Chiefs and Headmen, and it is essential that every one of these should realise that the successful maintenance of the present system must depend on his own integrity, diligence, good faith and active co-operation. Government have no reason to regret the confidence they have so long placed in the leading men of Baluchistan, or to doubt

that they will continue to lend the strength of their full support to a form of administration so well suited to their needs and aspirations. But, just as your Chiefs and Sirdars have great privileges, so they have great responsibilities, and it is only by the whole-hearted and faithful discharge of those responsibilities that their privileges can be justified. By watching over the affairs of his people, as a father over his children, by using his authority for the good of his whole tribe and not for selfish purposes of his own, by giving true advice in Council and fair decisions in Jirgah, without fear or favour, a Chief will prove himself the best friend both of his own tribal system and of the British Government who so earnestly desire to maintain it.

OPENING OF THE OPIUM CONFERENCE AT SIMLA.

26th May 1927. His Excellency the Viceroy opened the Opium Conference at Simla on the 26th May with the following speech :—

Gentlemen,—It is my pleasant duty first of all to extend a warm welcome to the representatives of the Indian States who are assembled here to-day. I know that many of you have travelled considerable distances to attend this Conference, over which Mr. Das has kindly consented to preside, at a season of the year which unfortunately adds in a material degree to the fatigue and discomfort inseparable at all times from long journeys. I know, also, that absence from other duties and preoccupations at this time has been arranged by many of you at considerable personal inconvenience. I and my Government highly appreciate the readiness with which the States have responded to our invitation. I announced the decision of the Government of India to convene the present Conference in my speech at the opening of the Session of the Chamber of Princes on 22nd November last. I then appealed for the co-operation of the States in the solution of the

problems arising out of certain features of the present situation in regard to opium in their Territories. I pointed out that this was a matter in regard to which they and we must work together. "The decision", I said, "whatever it may be, must be the product of the combined wisdom and the voluntary co-operation of the Government and the Durbars". In his speech at the Session of the 25th November His Highness the Chancellor of the Chamber, while emphasising the complexity and difficulty of the opium problem, assured me in the most gratifying terms that the Government might rely upon the whole-hearted co-operation of the Princes in their endeavour to solve it.

The keynote of our deliberations then should be that spirit of co-operation, to my appeal for which His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala so cordially responded. We are here to take counsel together for our common good, for the good of India and for the good of humanity. If our discussions are to be fruitful, it is essential that they should be conducted in an atmosphere of the frankest mutual understanding and mutual confidence. Let no echoes of past controversies ring in our ears. Let us endeavour to see the facts of the present situation clearly and to study them disinterestedly, with a single determination to find a solution of the problem with which we have to deal. His Highness the Maharaja of Patiala, in the speech that I have already quoted, suggested, regretfully, that the great sacrifices that India has already made in relinquishing large revenues that she once derived from opium, had not brought to the world any gain corresponding to the loss that she herself had thus suffered. But he supplied the answer to this somewhat pessimistic observation in the next sentence, in which he described the Government's policy as the noble pursuit of an admirable ideal.

We are bound by international undertakings to a certain policy. We have given our word and we must

keep it. Let me remind you briefly what those international undertakings are. The Treaty of Versailles, by which the League of Nations was brought into being, and which automatically involved the ratification of the Hague Opium Convention was, as you remember, signed by representatives of India, including a Ruling Prince, His Highness the Maharaja of Bikaner, and thereby India, and not merely British India, became a party to this Convention. India is thus pledged to the ultimate suppression of opium-smoking, to the limitation and control of the export of opium, so that none may reach other countries without the consent of their respective Governments, and to prevent the smuggling of opium to the Far East.

By her ratification of the Geneva Dangerous Drugs Convention and Opium Agreement of 1925, India has further pledged herself to take effective measures to prevent the illicit traffic in raw opium from presenting a serious obstacle to the suppression of opium-smoking, a habit which though rare in India is sadly prevalent further East. A Commission of the League of Nations will visit India and other producing countries in the course of the next few years in order to determine whether this has been done.

The first problem that we have to consider is therefore international. In the States taken as a whole there are, as you know, enormous stocks of opium for which there is at present no legitimate outlet. There is also extensive cultivation of the poppy which is retarding the absorption of these stocks. So long as there is this immense stock and this considerable area under poppy in their midst, the Government of India will be severely handicapped in effectively discharging their international obligations in regard to the smuggling of opium. What answer can they give to the Commission of the League of Nations, to

which I have already referred, or to the Central Board to be set up under the 24th Article of the Geneva Opium Convention, when they draw attention to the formidable accumulations of opium held by private persons in the States, and to the potential danger that they constitute from the international point of view? For the statistics of seizures show clearly enough that a stream of smuggled opium is flowing from the States towards the sea-ports.

The internal problem is scarcely less serious. No one, I believe, can deny that large quantities of opium are smuggled out of Indian States, not only into British India, but into other States as well. Almost every Province in India, and several of the States themselves, complain that no further progress can be expected in clearing up its "black spots", where consumption is excessive, unless internal smuggling can be effectively repressed. I am endeavouring to state the facts accurately and fairly. It is no part of my present purpose to pass censure or to apportion blame. I recognise, as we all must, that the immense disparity between the selling prices of opium in the States and in British India, respectively, and the demand for opium at any price in Far Eastern countries, offers an incentive to smuggling powerful and indeed irresistible. And this demand from abroad, always a disturbing factor, is being, and will be, further intensified by our policy of extinguishing exports in ten years.

It is hardly to be expected that the States should incur on preventive measures heavy expenditure which from their point of view would be a dead loss. The financial position of some States precludes the very possibility of such a course. And in fact, having regard to the ease with which considerable quantities of opium can be concealed, it seems practically certain that mere preventive measures will never suffice to stop this illicit traffic. Moreover, they would leave untouched the

problems created by huge stocks, extensive cultivation and a dwindling demand. Another solution must therefore be found, if we are to effect improvement.

Yet a third problem is that presented by the high rate of consumption in some of the States. Here the States are more directly concerned than the Government of India. The eyes of the world are on them, and the conscience of the civilised nations is intensely sensitive upon this subject. The policy of the Government of India in regard to opium does not aim (except in regard to smoking) at prohibition, but it does aim at enforcing moderation. The high rate of consumption in the States is bound to arouse increasingly unfavourable comment in India and outside India, and bring discredit on both the States and the Government of India. The representatives of the Government of India are here, as I have said, to discuss—not to dictate. But we have formulated a tentative policy which my colleague, Sir Basil Blackett, will explain to you in detail. Broadly, it would involve the ultimate discontinuance of poppy cultivation in the States and the supply of opium for their consumption in accordance with their requirements by the Government of India at cost price. The States would thus be placed in exactly the same position, so far as their supplies of opium are concerned, as the Provinces of British India.

The financial aspects of this proposal are important. Sir Basil Blackett will deal with them. As you know, I have always a very warm corner in my heart for the cultivator. It is out of regard for him that our own programme of extinguishing exports has been spread over ten years. I fully realise—and I fully share—the solicitude of the Durbars in regard to the effect of any great contraction of opium cultivation on their own farmers. But I believe the problem to be less serious than it appears. Drastic reductions of the area under cultivation in the United Provinces, amounting to no less

than 50 per cent. in three years, have not caused any appreciable hardship there. I would also remind you that between 1906 and 1916 the total area under cultivation in Central India and Rajputana was reduced from 244,000 acres to no more than 10,000 acres. In fact opium cultivation was under a fair way to extinction—and yet, so far as I am aware, the economic life of the States was not disorganised. On the contrary, it was reported that, in spite of the hereditary taste of the cultivator for opium cultivation, it was difficult to induce him to adhere to it owing to the profits to be made out of wheat and other crops. Even between 1923 and 1926 the area fell from roughly 72,000 to under 35,000 acres. The results of the researches of Mr. Howard, Director of the Institute of Plant Industry, Indore, entitle us, I think, to hope that in Java sugarcane and in the improved variety of wheat known as Pusa 4 practicable and profitable crops are to be found which can replace poppy on the lands irrigated by wells that are now devoted to it.

However this may be, we are prepared to render every assistance in our power in the investigation of such problems. This is not, of course, the only aspect of the matter that has to be investigated. I fully realise that before any policy can be decided on, still more before a single step forward can be taken, the fullest investigation must be made of all aspects of the subject, among which its bearing upon the finances of the Durbars is not the least important.

The object that I have had at heart in the calling of this Conference will, in fact, have been secured if all the States represented here consent—as I feel confident all will consent—to co-operate with us in a thorough investigation of the whole subject. I trust that this will be unanimously agreed to without hesitation or qualification. It will then be for you freely and frankly to explain your several points of view, and to state your doubts and the

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difficulties that you anticipate. You may be assured that the representatives of the Government will listen with the utmost sympathy to all that you have to say, and will be ready to the best of their power to explain any points in regard to which you may desire enlightenment.

We shall then be better equipped to decide the exact nature and scope of the investigation to be undertaken, and what machinery is best suited for it. I shall feel profoundly disappointed—and so I may add will the Secretary of State, who is keenly interested in this departure—if in due course the investigation does not furnish a solution of our problem satisfactory to all concerned.

If, on the other hand, we can succeed in our endeavours, we shall have done something which will free the Government of India, the Provinces and many of the States from their several embarrassments, international and domestic. On your side also we shall, I am firmly convinced, have assisted the moral and material progress of the States, and greatly enhanced the prestige of their Rulers before the world.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE ST. JOHN AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION AND THE INDIAN RED CROSS SOCIETY.

24th June 1927.

His Excellency the Viceroy presided over the Annual General Meeting of the St. John Ambulance Association and the Indian Red Cross Society at Simla on the 24th June, and delivered the following address :—

Your Excellencies, Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen,—We have listened this afternoon to the two speeches, full of information and interest, with which His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief and Sir Henry Monerieff Smith have presented the reports of the St.

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John Ambulance Association and the Indian Red Cross Society. They have called attention to the salient features in these reports, and I do not propose to detain you long by referring in detail to the activities of the two bodies during the last year. There are, however, one or two points in the reports which seem to call for special notice, to which I may be allowed briefly to refer. The first is the arrangement with the military authorities, by which the Red Cross Society will undertake the care and treatment of soldiers invalided from the Army for certain chronic diseases. It will be a cause of pleasure and satisfaction to us all that we shall thus be enabled to make a definite contribution to the solution of a concrete problem, and to discharge part of our obligation to a class who have deserved so well of their country's sympathy. We shall follow the development of this scheme, which is now in its initial stages, with warm hopes for its successful growth. There are two other features in the work under review which seem to me to afford grounds for especial satisfaction. The first is the rapidity with which classes in first-aid have increased among the police forces in various Provinces. The other is the large increase in work on child welfare, and we are much indebted to Provincial Committees for their whole-hearted co-operation in a matter so vital to the future of India's future citizens.

Here we are moving upon lines that are generally familiar wherever these societies pursue their beneficent operations. But in the scheme for Travelling Dispensaries I think we are sowing a seed of a plant, peculiarly adapted to the soil of India, which may grow well if properly tended and cared for in the early stages of its life. In a country of vast epidemics like India, a system of mobile units, which could like an efficient fire bridage at short notice take the field in an organised and trained condition would find an almost unlimited field for usefulness, not

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merely in treating the sick but in that prevention of disease where epidemics threaten or exist, which is at once cheaper and worth more than cure at a later stage. We do well to remember that, however complete may be the State organisation of preventive and medical policy, there will always be the need of voluntary effort such as our two societies can give. And I am especially glad to see that Provincial Red Cross centres have continued to concentrate on Public Health propaganda. The modern State can do much, and indeed is sometimes tempted to think it can do everything ; but no official regulations can exercise direct or continuous control of the personal health or habits of the normal individual, and there is little use in the State launching extensive schemes of social benefit if the mind of the people is not fully aware of and alive to their objects and possibilities. In the task of thus leading public opinion in support of Government and the best way of progress, voluntary societies such as ours can, as experience in other countries has shown, do immense public service.

For more detailed information I would refer you to the reports themselves, but I am sure that you would wish me to give expression to the pleasure that we all feel in knowing that each Association is so steadily and surely pursuing the policy it has marked out for itself. You would also, I know, wish me to express our gratitude to those who are charged with the superintendence and organisation of these manifold activities. We are fortunate in having Chairmen of our central bodies, who are possessed of all the keenness which is the parent of success, and a staff under Colonel Bhola Nath, who continue to carry out their duties with efficiency and enthusiasm. Our gratitude must also go to all those who have assisted in various parts of India in carrying on the work of these two great institutions, whose basic objects are both the

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same—the relief of human suffering—and which have the same ideals of labour for love and service without reward. Many of these voluntary helpers have to devote scanty and hard-won leisure to this work ; and it would be small wonder if they felt sometimes in the rush of modern life that their time was already over-full. But my experience is that it is generally those people whose lives are the most crowded, who can somehow make room to undertake new voluntary tasks of philanthropic charity. You may remember the words of the French historian of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem which he described as "an Order which, amidst the noise and clashing of swords, and with a continual war upon their hands, was capable of joining the peaceable virtues of religion with the most distinguishing courage in the field ".

It only remains for me, Ladies and Gentlemen, in conclusion to thank you for your continued interest and support. The good attendance at these annual meetings of the two institutions is in itself an encouraging indication of the good-will with which a large section of the public follows the fortunes of the Red Cross Society and the St. John Ambulance Association. That neither body can succeed without sustained interest and enthusiasm is an obvious truism, and every day that passes serves to bring into more clear relief how much there yet remains for us to do. The figures which Sir Henry Moncrieff Smith quoted this afternoon—5,000 members of the Red Cross Society in India compared with two and a half million in Japan—may well give us food for thought, and strengthen us in the determination to extend the activities with which these institutions are concerned. Let us remember the achievement, and attempt to emulate the faith and vision, of one who was perhaps the greatest of all the Grand Masters of the Order of St. John of Jerusalem—Raymond de Puy, who found the Order a little community of monks

Inauguration of the Indian Radio Telegraph Company's Wireless Beam Service.

tending the sick in a hospital and left it one of the greatest and most powerful organisations devoted to the unselfish service of mankind.

I trust that as years go on we may realise more and more how wide a scope is here offered to the ordered efforts of those who desire to better the conditions of the less fortunate of their fellows, and that the efforts directed to that end may win an ever-widening measure of firm achievement.

INAUGURATION OF THE INDIAN RADIO TELEGRAPH COMPANY'S WIRELESS BEAM SERVICE.

23rd July 1927.

His Excellency the Viceroy delivered the following speech at the ceremony of the inauguration of the Indian Radio Telegraph Company's Wireless Beam Service at Bombay on the 23rd July :—

Your Excellency, Sir Ibrahim, Ladies and Gentlemen.—Rather more than half a century ago communication by telegraph between India and England was first established. It is difficult for us now to visualise what this meant to residents in India in those days, and how great a change it brought into the lives of those who had interests and friendships in both countries. The gulf of space which had hitherto separated India from England by a 5 weeks' journey was from that moment bridged in as many days, and five years later, when direct submarine cable communication was completed, the separation could be counted in minutes and seconds of time. Those of us who all our lives have looked on telegraphy as a commonplace can scarcely picture a time when news between the two countries travelled no faster than a ship could sail and—try how you would—you could send or receive no news, seek no advice, expect no instructions within a month and more.

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The further great development in telegraphy, now about to take place, will indeed make no such dramatic change. Cable communication between India and London is now virtually direct, and the new Beam System, though it must make us renew our wonder at this strange taming of Nature's mysterious powers, can hardly repeat the revolutionary innovation of the "sixties". But no one, I think, will be disposed to minimise the importance of this occasion, or to doubt that to-day we are forging a fresh link that will bind India to Great Britain and to the Empire yet more closely than before. I am very grateful to the Directors of the Indian Radio Telegraph Company for granting me the historic privilege of making the first use of a Service that creates another of those invisible ties, whose influence we do not easily measure and which, impalpable as they may seem, have a strength that will outlast even cables of woven wire.

You will be both interested and gratified to know that, recognising the importance of the connection of India with England by the Beam Wireless System, His Majesty the King-Emperor has graciously consented to receive the first message to be sent by the new Service. With your permission I will read to you the message which I now propose to transmit to His Majesty, and I will ask you then to have patience for a few minutes while it is sent out into space and, as I trust, a reply is received from His Majesty.

The message I shall send is as follows :—

> "Before a new Service is opened which will render possible for the first time reciprocal communication by wireless between India and the United Kingdom, I send to Your Majesty a message of respectful greeting on behalf of India. This Service will not only be of practical assistance in bringing more closely together the British and Indian peoples, but it is an expression of

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the closeness of the ties which unite them in loyalty to Your Majesty's person."

Gentlemen.—Since I left you a few minutes ago the message which I read out to you has been despatched to London, and His Majesty's gracious reply has just reached Bombay.

It is this—

"I thank Your Excellency for the loyal greeting which you have sent me on behalf of India to mark the inauguration of reciprocal wireless communication between India and this country. I am deeply sensible of the feelings of loyalty which unite my Indian and my British peoples, and I am confident that the improvement of communications between the two countries which this new Service will achieve cannot fail to bring them still closer together to the advantage of both."

It is not necessary for me to express the gratification we all feel at this Royal Message to India. As we marvel at the speed and certainty with which it has been carried on unseen wings, ignoring all obstacles of sea and land we feel that we have witnessed an arresting exhibition of man's scientific knowledge and achievement, and we are pleased to think that the first application of this knowledge should have been to establish so swift and direct a personal contact between the King-Emperor and his Indian subjects.

INAUGURATION OF THE INDIAN BROADCASTING COMPANY'S BROADCASTING SERVICE.

23rd July 1927.

At the ceremony of the inauguration of the Indian Broadcasting Company's Broadcasting Service at Bombay on the 23rd July, His Excellency the Viceroy said :—

I am fully conscious of the importance of this occasion and much value the opportunity, which the Directors of

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the Indian Broadcasting Company have given me by asking me to open their Bombay station, of speaking through the medium of their service to a wider audience than I suppose a Viceroy has ever addressed before. Broadcasting in India is to-day in its infancy, but I have little doubt that, before many years are past, the numbers of that audience will have increased ten-fold, and that this new application of science will have its devotees in every part of India.

It is by a happy coincidence that I should have been able to inaugurate to-day two great features of wireless development. Earlier this afternoon I attended a ceremony in connection with the Beam Wireless Service between India and England, and witnessed an impressive example of the possibilities of that means of communication. A message of loyal greeting, which was despatched to His Majesty the King-Emperor, received a reply within five minutes. His Majesty's message to India, which I know you would like me to read to you, was as follows :—

> "I thank Your Excellency for the loyal greeting which you have sent me on behalf of India to mark the inauguration of reciprocal wireless communication between India and this country.
>
> I am deeply sensible of the feelings of loyalty which unite my Indian and my British peoples, and I am confident that the improvement of communications between the two countries which this new Service will achieve cannot fail to bring them still closer together to the advantage of both."

You will not be slow to appreciate the significance of the fact that the Royal message which I have just read to you was despatched from London barely an hour ago and is now being repeated to listeners scattered far and wide over this country. It should bring home to us

forcibly the unifying power of wireless telegraphy and broadcasting ; and I do not doubt that in this new form of intercourse not only will all parts of this country find a common bond of union, but India itself will be placed in closer and more intimate touch with Great Britain and other parts of the British Empire.

India offers special opportunities for the development of broadcasting. Its distances and wide spaces alone make it a promising field. In India's remote villages there are many who, after the day's work is done, find time hang heavily enough upon their hands, and there must be many, officials and others, whose duties carry them into out-of-the-way places, where they crave for the company of their friends and the solace of human companionship. There are of course too in many households those whom social custom debars from taking part in recreation outside their own homes. To all these and many more broadcasting will be a blessing and a boon of real value. Both for entertainment and for education its possibilities are great, and as yet we perhaps scarcely realise how great they are. And here I must say a word in acknowledgment of what your Chairman has just said—that the policy of his Board will be carried out not only with a view to commercial profits but in a spirit of public service. There is, I think, nothing incompatible in the two. To achieve success broadcasting must, it is true, offer fare that is attractive to its public, and it must offer it in attractive form. This will be particularly true of India, but, though Indian conditions present peculiar difficulties, unless I sorely misjudge the skill and enterprise of those charged with this side of the work, I feel sure that they will produce such a programme that their public will succeed in deriving both instruction from pleasure and pleasure from instruction.

Address of Welcome from the City Municipal Council of Bangalore.

You need have no doubt, Mr. Chairman, that my Government are as anxious as you are yourself for the success of the Indian Broadcasting Company, and in now declaring your Bombay Station open I am glad to give you an assurance that the Government of India will watch your progress with close and sympathetic interest, and will do everything in their power to assist the development on sound lines of this Indian enterprise.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE CITY MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF BANGALORE.

5th July 1927.

In reply to the Address of Welcome from the City Municipal Council of Bangalore, presented to His Excellency at Bangalore on the 25th July, the Viceroy said :—

Mr. President and Gentlemen.—The pleasurable interest which Lady Irwin and I feel in this our first visit to Southern India has been heightened by the cordial and loyal welcome which we have received, on our arrival, from the City Municipal Council of Bangalore. We thank you sincerely for your address, and for the whole-hearted friendliness which it expresses towards us.

The greater part of your address confines itself, with happy brevity, to a history of progress achieved. I hope and believe that the inference I may draw from this is that Bangalore is fortunate in having already solved many problems which face those who, like yourselves, have been entrusted with the welfare of their fellow-citizens, and that you are keeping pace both with the constant growth of the city under your charge and with the gradually improving standard of life which recent years have, we may hope, brought to many cities in India. I feel sure that, in any further schemes you may contemplate for the improvement of your municipality, you will continue to enjoy the practical sympathy which you have in the past

Address of Welcome from the Municipal Commission of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore.

received from an enlightened and progressive Ruler, His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore.

I think, gentlemen, that you can congratulate yourselves and your predecessors in office on having built well and wisely in the past, and look forward with confidence to the future of your town. It is not perhaps everyone who appreciates what a high standard of civic duty is demanded by the manifold activities which a Municipal Committee is called upon to undertake. I can assure you however that Government is fully alive to the value of the service done by bodies such as yours, and you yourselves have no doubt found in your work the unique satisfaction that comes from unselfish labour generously expended for the good of others.

ADDRESS OF WELCOME FROM THE MUNICIPAL COMMISSION OF THE CIVIL AND MILITARY STATION OF BANGALORE.

25th July 1927.

The Municipal Commission of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore presented an Address of Welcome to the Viceroy at Bangalore on the 25th July, to which His Excellency made the following reply :—

Gentlemen.—My first duty is to express the pleasure which Lady Irwin and I feel at the friendly welcome which Bangalore has given us, and we thank you, gentlemen, sincerely for the address which you have just been good enough to present to us on behalf of the Civil and Military Station. As representative of His Majesty the King-Emperor, it is my privilege also to acknowledge the expression of your loyalty to the Crown, to which we have listened with much gratification.

Bangalore has, I am afraid, not been alone in having to face a period of economic depression during these last few years, and I can only express the hope and belief that the courage and optimism with which you are facing your

Address of Welcome from the Municipal Commission of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore.

difficulties will be rewarded before long by an era of continuing prosperity.

I fully sympathise with you in your anxiety about the adequacy of your water-supply, for there are few spheres of Municipal administration which must claim greater attention on the part of those who are genuinely interested in the welfare of their fellow-citizens. I understand that the request of your Commission that a reduction should be made in your contribution to Government for your water-supply will shortly reach the Government of India. In the meantime I can give you no definite assurance except that your request will receive the careful and sympathetic consideration that it deserves. With you, I regret the delay in bringing to fruition the scheme for an increased water-supply which was approved in 1925, and I fear that in the intervening period your citizens, and especially perhaps the poorer classes, have been much inconvenienced by the lack of an adequate supply of water owing to successive failures of the North-East monsoon. It is a matter for congratulation that your measures for safeguarding from pollution the numerous wells which had to be opened owing to this scarcity proved so successful. I am informed that the delay in carrying out the main scheme has been due to technical difficulties inseparable from a work of this intricacy and this magnitude. In this matter wisdom demands that these obstacles should be clearly recognised in advance, and the sole desire of the Government of India is to arrive at a comprehensive and satisfactory solution of the whole problem, which, we must remember, concerns not only the Civil and Military Station but also the City of Bangalore.

I was pleased to listen to the assurance you have just given me of the interest your Commission takes in education, and I welcome this opportunity of congratulating you on the progress you have made, and of expressing my sympathy with the policy you have outlined of introduc-

Address of Welcome from the Municipal Commission of the Civil and Military Station of Bangalore.

ing compulsory primary education. Government will follow the development of your plans with interest, and will continue, so far as they are able and as financial conditions permit, to support the educational demand that you may feel impelled to make.

I hope to have an opportunity, while I am in Bangalore, of seeing for myself the tangible proof of the progress which you have made during the last four years in carrying out works of public utility in your Municipality. I have heard of the active steps you have taken to relieve congestion in the more crowded areas, and to provide the poorer classes with living conditions in keeping with a progressive city such as this. I cannot but suppose that these improvements are entitled to some of the credit for the satisfactory decrease in infantile mortality which I noticed in your last annual report. I may perhaps make special mention of the works you have carried out in the two areas known as Austin and Tasker town, and I shall hope, if time allows, to visit some of your more recent model towns and to see for myself the way in which you are meeting your responsibilities in this direction.

The question which you have raised in your address of the amalgamation of civil and criminal work appears to be primarily a matter for local representation, and I have no doubt that careful consideration will be given to any arguments you may bring forward. I would however point out that the scheme, which is an experiment warranted by financial conditions, was only initiated in November 1926, and it is perhaps too early yet to judge finally of its merits or defects.

It only remains, gentlemen, to thank you again for the way in which you have welcomed us and to express, on behalf of Government, the gratitude that is due to you for devoting so much of your time and thought to the interests of this town, and to work which is so essential to the well-being of your fellow-citizens.

ADDRESS FROM THE MYSORE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

On the occasion of His Excellency the Viceroy's visit to Mysore, the Mysore Municipality presented an Address of Welcome, to which His Excellency made the following reply :— 29th July 1927.

Mr. President and Gentlemen.—It is with no ordinary pleasure and interest that Lady Irwin and I have been looking forward to our visit to the historic and beautiful city of Mysore, and it is particularly gratifying to us both that our arrival should have so nearly synchronised with the celebrations by his people of the Silver Jubilee of His Highness the Maharaja. In the ordered loveliness of Mysore City the influence of 25 years of his peaceful and beneficent rule is everywhere discernible. The natural beauties of your situation, under the shadow of holy Chamundi Hill, have been improved upon until, as you have not unjustly claimed, a few workmen's huts have been transformed into a veritable Garden City.

In thanking you, gentlemen, most sincerely for the cordial address of welcome presented to us this morning, I cannot but remark that it must be in no small measure due to your foresight and enterprise that Mysore to-day presents so smiling and so fair a countenance to delight the new-comer. The excellence of Mysore roads is proverbial ; and the perfection of your system of electric lighting is at once the envy and the despair of many a township in British India.

I look upon this auspicious occasion as my formal introduction to Southern India ; for, apart from a short visit to your sister-city of Bangalore, I have as yet seen only the North. It is therefore with keen interest and expectation that I approach for the first time the immemorial civilisation of the Dravidian Peninsula, and one of the most admirably administered of the Indian Principalities. Since the Rendition of 1881, Mysore has been steadily earning the reputation of a Model State. Two wise and merciful Princes in the last half-century, aided by experienced officials, both Indian and British, and

Convocation of the Mysore University.

sustained by an enlightened popular opinion, have built upon solid foundations an edifice of good government of which all of you must indeed be proud.

This spirit has evidently spread widely over the field of local administration, and it is a source of the utmost satisfaction to Lady Irwin and myself to observe the rapid progress which is even now being made by the Municipality in the provision of much-needed social services. The extension of housing accommodation on modern lines for the poorer classes of your fellow-citizens, the solution of the beggar problem, the prevention and cure of that dread scourge tuberculosis, and the betterment of sanitation, are, I understand, among the laudable objects which you, the City Fathers, are at present labouring to achieve. May the highest success attend your efforts! In other directions the Mysore University, the State Agricultural Department, the Sivasamudram Water-works, and the magnificent Krishnarajasagara Reservoir stand as permanent testimony to the vision and genius of the people of Mysore, who may thus be stimulated by the tradition of achievement to keep burning the torch of enlightened progress.

Mr. President and Members of the Municipal Council, on behalf both of Lady Irwin and myself I thank you most heartily for the loyal and open-handed welcome which you have extended to us to-day.

CONVOCATION OF THE MYSORE UNIVERSITY.

29th July 1927.

His Excellency the Viceroy attended the Convocation of the Mysore University on the 29th July and received the Honorary Degree of a Doctor of Science from the University, making the following speech on that occasion :—

I am conscious of the high honour which this University has done to me by conferring on me the Honorary Degree of a Doctor of Science, and I value the

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words which you, Mr. Vice-Chancellor, have been good enough to speak in regard to what you have termed my hereditary connection with Indian University. I thank you, Your Highness, and you, Sir Brajendra Nath Seal, and the members of the University Senate for having given my name a coveted place in the rolls of this great seat of learning.

Degrees come to most of us by sheer hard work and study, by burning the midnight oil, by scorning delights and living laborious days. Most of us—may I say ?—achieve degrees. Others more fortunate, like myself, have degrees thrust upon them. And I confess that, after reading the syllabus of subjects required of a candidate for the Degree of Bachelor of Science, I am not sorry that—as your Statutes put it—my "eminent position" has qualified me to take a short cut and easy path to my academic honours.

I too however, in my time, have trodden the more difficult road, and we must all ask ourselves, as I am going to ask you—especially the younger among you—, to think for a moment what it means to us to have reached the end of our University career. When the Bachelor's hood and gown are at last thrown upon our shoulders, what do we feel they really represent? It should not be merely a feeling of relief that we have finished a series of troublesome examinations, which have pursued us since boyhood. And, if we think only of the material gain or position which our success is to bring, we have clearly been wasting the precious opportunities which a University education offers us. We no doubt derive legitimate satisfaction from the thought that the letters after our name are henceforth a token of intellectual achievement, but there are few, I hope, to whom a degree means no more than this. To those at any rate who have taken with both hands what a University has to bestow, it ought to mean that they have learned to think things out for themselves, have tested

them in the great laboratory of truth, and have allotted to each its proper place in their scheme of life ; that they can show, in their culture and their character, the twin stamp of all that is best in University training ; and that they are now going out into the world determined to extend the frontiers of their knowledge, and to repay the debt they owe to their University by using to the best advantage the lessons it has taught them.

BANQUET AT MYSORE.

29th July 1927. His Highness the Maharaja of Mysore gave a Banquet in honour of Their Excellencies' visit to his State, and in reply to His Highness' speech His Excellency the Viceroy said :—

Your Highness, Ladies and Gentlemen.—Lady Irwin and I are deeply grateful to Your Highness for the welcome which you have given us and for the kind things you have said about us to-night. Throughout our stay in Your Highness' State, we have been touched by the evidences of friendship and hospitality shown to us on every side.

Your Highness has been good enough to make the most generous references to me in your speech. I am indeed glad that I have been able to visit Mysore at the beginning of the second year of my office, and to make friends with Your Highness and Your Highness' people so early in the period of my Viceroyalty, though I confess that the warmth of the welcome we have received here has made me feel from the beginning that we were old friends. The kindly feeling that existed between Your Highness' grandfather and mine 65 years ago forms a fitting prelude to our friendship in the more peaceful but no less difficult times of to-day.

I feel that this friendship is begun—I might rather say renewed—on the eve of a most auspicious occasion, the celebration of the twenty-fifth anniversary of Your

Highness' accession to power ; I take the liberty of offering Your Highness, on behalf of Lady Irwin and myself, the most sincere congratulations on Your Highness' Silver Jubilee.

We have looked forward with keen anticipation to our first visit to Your Highness' territory. I was naturally attracted by the prospect of visiting a State which has played so large a part in the history of Southern India from remote times, and which calls to mind so many interesting recollections of the first days of British Rule in India. I was anxious too to take an early opportunity of seeing for myself the proofs of the efficient and progressive administration which I had always understood was a feature of the government of this State. From the time of the rendition Mysore has fashioned her growing institutions on the model set by British India, and has striven faithfully to carry into effect the principles of good government. I do not hesitate to say that all that I have seen here has confirmed my expectation of finding a contented people and a State wisely governed.

Your Highness has asked for my advice on two matters—the development of irrigation and agriculture, and your scheme for railway extension. As regards irrigation and agriculture, I may say that, after reading the recently published report on the progress of agriculture in Mysore, I feel that there is little on which your Agricultural Department need ask for advice ; but I can assure you, as one who has been interested all his life in farming, that anything that I can do to assist the lot of the agriculturist in India will be done with the greatest pleasure and readiness. I must, however, express my great admiration for the irrigation works which Your Highness' Government have recently taken in hand so energetically. I understand that works have been sanctioned costing sixteen lakhs, of which nearly two-thirds is to be spent during the next three years on the reconstruction and repairing

of tanks. It is hardly necessary to emphasise the enormous importance of this problem in Mysore as in so many other parts of India. I notice in the report to which I have just referred that the value of land in the State appreciates twenty times the moment perennial irrigation water is assured to it. Further evidence does not seem to be required as to the gain which will accrue to the State from a wise policy of irrigation, and I shall be keenly interested to hear of the progress of the scheme for constructing the high level canal which is intended to irrigate one hundred and twenty thousand acres.

I have heard too with great pleasure of the contemplated establishment of agricultural colonies for the depressed classes and also of the extensive organisation of preventive measures to combat epidemics among cattle. These measures afford further evidence of the extent to which Your Highness is alive to the importance of taking practical steps to promote the progress of your State.

The desire which Your Highness has expressed that the Mysore railways should be properly connected with the great neighbouring railway systems is natural and laudable, and my Government have been carefully considering the possibility of an extension towards the South, and a connection with the metre gauge system of the South Indian Railway. As Your Highness is aware, the problem is not an easy one, owing to the stretch of hilly country beyond the southern borders of Mysore and the expensive engineering works which the passage through these hills will entail. Surveys have, however, recently been made with a view to the connection with the South Indian Railway, and, until the results of these surveys have been examined and the financial implications properly assessed, it is not possible to promise that the necessary construction can be undertaken. It is, however, my hope that some solution of the problem may be found which will permit Your Highness' desire to be fulfilled.

Banquet at Mysore.

I now pass on to another subject, on which there has been much correspondence between Your Highness' Government and the Government of India, and to which Your Highness has referred to-night.

As Your Highness is aware, after the fall of Seringapatam and the overthrow and death of Tippu Sultan in 1799, the British Government restored Mysore to your grandfather, as the representative of the old Hindu Ruling family, and stipulated for an annual subsidy of 24½ lakhs of rupees as the price of protection. The dangers against which protection was required were then hammering at your doors, and, if, as a result of the protection extended, those particular perils have disappeared, and Your Highness lives in the heart of profoundest peace, he would be a bold, and I would add a foolish, man who could assert that the need for the protecting hand was less great than it had ever been, or that the dangers, if more remote, were any less real than in the early years of the 19th century.

In 1881, after 50 years of British administration, the State of Mysore was handed over to Your Highness' father, and certain Treaty obligations of the State were commuted, on terms favourable to the Durbar, for a further payment of 10½ lakhs.

Your Highness' Government has made frequent representations to the Government of India in favour of some reduction of these payments. The Government of India, while not failing to appreciate your point of view, has always held, as it holds to-day, that, having regard to the benefits conferred upon the State, the subsidy was not disproportionate. But there is room in the relations between a Paramount Power and those Rulers who acknowledge its paramountcy for other qualities besides strict justice. For many years we have watched and admired the maintenance and development of those high standards of administration which you have inherited

from the great British administrators who nursed your State. We have not forgotten the noble services you have rendered to the British Government when the need for service was the greatest, and we are not blind to what Your Highness personally has done to set an example of the fashion in which the government of a great State should be conducted.

But we have also felt that so long as the Provincial contributions remained unliquidated, the Provinces must have first claim on any surplus we might enjoy. The analogy between the Provinces and the States is not of course complete, but they are alike in one respect—both have important work to do for the millions committed to their charge, and both want money to enable them to do it. We have now been able to remit for this year, and I hope for ever, the contributions formerly payable by the Provinces, and we have been therefore more free to consider your representations, no longer hampered by that particular impediment. Mysore has perhaps a longer tradition of progressive government than any other State in India, and the Government of India can feel assured that any relief which they may feel it in their power to give will enure to the benefit of the people of your State.

Your Highness, the Government of India, reviewing all these and other considerations, have come to the conclusion that generosity may often be the highest statesmanship, and have accordingly decided to remit in perpetuity, with effect from next financial year, 10½ lakhs out of the annual subsidy you now pay, thus reducing the amount to the sum originally fixed by the Treaty of 1799. The remission I now announce might have come more appropriately three or four years hence on the fiftieth anniversary of the Rendition, but it is a matter of real pleasure to me to be able to announce, on the occasion of my first visit to your State, this practical recognition of the regard we have for the spirit in which Your Highness

has maintained the traditions of government, to which you found yourself the heir. In this matter too we are not acting without precedent. This extra payment was, at its first imposition, out of consideration for the financial situation in the State, remitted for a period of years, and, as those responsible for the government of India in that day decided to assist Mysore at the moment when those entrusted with its administration were on the threshold of their task, so we are inspired with the desire to assist Your Highness to make further progress in the discharge of the trust committed to your hands.

Ladies and Gentlemen, I ask you to join with me in wishing all prosperity to the State of Mysore, and to drink to the health of our distinguished host, His Highness the Maharaja.

ADDRESSES FROM THE MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF OOTACAMUND AND THE HILL TRIBES OF THE NILGIRIS.

2nd August 1926.

His Excellency the Viceroy made the following joint reply to the Addresses of Welcome from the Municipal Council of Ootacamund and the Hill Tribes of the Nilgiris, presented at Ootacamund on the 2nd August :—

Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen.—Lady Irwin and I are most grateful to the Municipal Council and the Hill Tribes for this cordial welcome to Ootacamund. We have heard its praises so often sung that we have looked forward with more than usual pleasure to visiting your hill station, and from what we have already seen of the country, we feel confident that our anticipation is not likely to be disappointed. To Englishmen in India Ootacamund has an attraction of its own, for there is no place, I think, in India which reminds them so vividly of the green rolling downs of their own country.

Addressees from the Municipal Council of Ootacamund and the Hill Tribes of the Nilgiris.

The brief sketch of the history of Ootacamund contained in the Municipal address has recalled the fact that it is now exactly a hundred years since, owing largely to the enthusiasm of Mr. Sullivan, this place was formally established as the sanatorium of the Madras Presidency. In the century that has passed since then, man's hand has certainly made the most of the bountiful gifts of nature, and you, gentlemen, have under your charge what must be one of the most beautiful municipalities in India. I feel sure that you and your successors will not fail to maintain this enviable reputation, or to meet the further responsibilities which may be thrown upon you by the growing popularity of this station as a health resort.

I had, as you say, already taken much interest in the Pykara hydro-electric scheme and the possibilities of industrial expansion which a supply of cheap electric power will offer. I trust that this enterprise has before it a great future. The financial success of the venture will depend largely on the rate of growth of the load, and I hope therefore that all owners of industrial concerns will take full advantage of the project.

I must thank you for your hospitable invitation to visit your hill station again, later in the period of my Viceroyalty. Lady Irwin and I well realise that we shall find our visit all too short, and that Ootacamund is an easier place to come to than to leave. But the Viceroy unfortunately cannot always consult his own pleasure, and I dare not at present indulge too freely the hope that I may be able to repeat this enjoyable experience. I am therefore particularly glad that I should have been able to-day to meet such a large number of the various peoples of these hills. The address in which the Hill Tribes have picturesquely described their history and their customs was so interesting that I would willingly have listened to them at greater length, and I hope during my stay here

Visit to the Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School at Lovedale, the Nilgiris.

to make myself better acquainted with them. I envy them the country in which they have dwelt so long. Indeed the spell which its beauty casts on the beholder is, I believe, as strong as any magic that a Kurumba can exert upon a Badaga.

At the close of the Municipal address you have offered me your good wishes for the heavy task which lies before me—rather, which lies before us all—of helping to shape the future of this country. The vastness and diversity of the problem are indeed powerfully borne in upon anyone who has done a continuous three days' railway journey from the north to the south of India, and has watched all the differences of country, climate, character and race which meet his eyes. I am glad to know that I shall have behind me the good-will of bodies such as yours in approaching this intricate and absorbing problem, and I can only echo your hope that wisdom may be given to all, whose work it is to guide India—as you well say—to her haven of peace, concord and good-will.

VISIT TO THE LAWRENCE MEMORIAL ROYAL MILITARY SCHOOL AT LOVEDALE, THE NILGIRIS.

7th August 1927.

His Excellency the Viceroy attended a Service in the Chapel of the Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School at Lovedale, the Nilgiris, on Sunday the 7th August. His Excellency afterwards inspected a parade of the boys and girls and, on being asked to address a few words to them, spoke as follows :—

Your Excellency, Ladies and Gentlemen, Boys and Girls,—I am not going to make you a speech, so you needn't be afraid that you are going to be kept here very long as far as I am concerned. But I want to tell you how glad I am to have had the opportunity of seeing you this morning on parade and of speaking to you here. I always like looking at Schools, but I have a particular reason for

Visit to the Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School at Lovedale, the Nilgiris.

being glad to have had the chance of seeing you this morning. I have always heard about Lovedale, of what it is and what it does, and I have always wanted to see it ever since I came to India ; because a great many of you here, some time or another—either while I am Viceroy or under some future Viceroy—will pass into the service of Government in India ; and I am therefore glad to have had the chance of seeing the material from which a good deal of the service of Government in the future is likely to be recruited.

I suppose that it is more true of a school than of anything else in life that a great part of it is its tradition ; and you are quite old enough here to have your traditions—as I know you do have them—and to realise something of what those traditions stand for. In all walks of life ' tradition ' is a word we very often hear used. It means, I think, the unwritten experience, the unwritten codes of conduct, that we inherited from those who went before us. All that mass of inherited experience—unwritten—is what we call tradition, and, as you will all learn to know, it is a very powerful thing all over the world. Nowhere is it more powerful—or, I think, ought it to be more powerful—than in a great school ; and the larger of those among you know —and I want the younger among you to know too—really what a ' public school tradition ', as we call it, is. Most of it was contained in that psalm that we sang in Chapel just now, and I think, for the rest, it may be summed up in trying to be loyal to your friends, to be perfectly straight with yourself, to play the game, and always to throw your weight upon the side of straight living and clear thinking. That is what we call the public school tradition. But no tradition can afford to be only a thing of the past. If a tradition is to do what it ought for a school, or for any part of society, the tradition must all the time be, as it were, being brought back to youth—

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Visit to the Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School at Lovedale, the Nilgiris.

being enriched, being made new, being made fresh, by becoming a real part of the life of each and every person who owes allegiance to it. That is what you have got to do in your school, and that is what we all have to do—the oldest among us—in the great school into which you will pass when you leave this school—the School of Life.

One other thing the public school tradition does. It teaches you the power and the faculty of command, of leadership. You have your corporals and your sergeants among you, boys in charge of your dormitories, and they are learning to use authority over other boys, to see that the show runs straight, and so on, and that is training them in the faculty of leadership. And I think that the English race—we, you, your parents, all of us—can say that that gift of leadership is one of the best things that the English race has got. Now, it is not a thing to swagger about, nor ought it make us think that we are better than other people ; but it is a thing to use for good wherever we may happen to be. And I want you—all of you—, if you will, as you get older to try and exercise that leadership in the one way in which it is open to everybody to exercise it. It is not open to everybody to have what are thought to be important jobs, important positions and so on, but it is open to everybody to have an opportunity of leadership in service. Now there is lots of work for everybody to do in the world—in India and elsewhere—in all of which you can exercise that leadership of service. Most of you are the sons of soldiers. To most of you—certainly the younger ones—the Great War in which your parents took part is, I suppose, only a bit of history. You are not old enough to remember it. I want to tell you something connected with that war, and it is the last thing I want to say.

Visit to the Lawrence Memorial Royal Military School at Lovedale, the Nilgiris.

Towards the end of the War a great many officers and men, who had had to do much of the fighting in Flanders at a place you must have heard of often enough—Ypres—gradually—almost by mistake—founded and came to use together a house in a place called Poperinghe, where they all used to meet, irrespective and regardless of rank, and where they used, as it were, to make a little bit of home before they went in to the battle. After the War the people who had been mainly concerned with it organised a little sort of society, a fellowship to keep alive, as it were, that spirit of oneness and of comradeship that had grown out of those dark and sad days in that little spot in Flanders ; and that society exists to-day all over the world under the title of Toc H. And when they enrol a member, they have a little ceremony in which he is urged to give what he can to the cause of what I have called service, that is to say, trying to make the world a little better than you found it. Then he is asked " What is service ? " and the answer that he has to give, which I want you to remember, is that " Service is the rent that we pay for our room on earth ".

Well, that is the last thing that I want to say, but it is the thing that I want you to remember as you get older. I want you to remember that whether it is your time, or your talents, or your opportunities, or your training, for all of that you and I are trustees and have to do the best we can with them, not to amuse ourselves and please ourselves, but to try and make the world a little bit better than we found it.

That is all that I am going to say, and I am afraid it has been rather like a tiresome lecture. I don't want it to be that, but I want you, if you will, to try and remember as you grow older just that one thing about service.

His Excellency the Viceroy's Address to the Combined Legislatures.

Now I want to say something much more pleasant—I see one or two have already begun to guess what I am going to say—and that is that in honour of my visit I have asked Mr. Padfield if he would add a week on to the next term ! (Laughter). I mean if he would add a week on to your next holidays. He said that he would be very pleased indeed to do it. He is not sure whether you would like it but, if you would, he would be very pleased to do it either at Christmas or some other convenient time.

I hope that when you have that week you will enjoy it. I don't think I can wish you anything better, all through your school life and after it, than that as you grow up you should grow up worthy of the great soldier-statesman, in whose memory we are all here, and as he would himself have wished you to be. (Loud applause).

HIS EXCELLENCY THE VICEROY'S ADDRESS TO THE COMBINED LEGISLATURES.

His Excellency the Viceroy addressed the Combined Legislatures at Simla on the 29th August as follows :— 29th August 1927.

Gentlemen,—Little more than a year ago I invited India to pause and consider seriously the communal situation, and I then appealed to leaders and rank and file to pursue peace and cultivate a spirit of toleration towards one another. For several months past I have had it in mind again to speak to the conscience and heart of India upon that question which still dwarfs all others in her life, but I have felt some doubt as to the most convenient means of doing it. I finally came to the conclusion that there was no more appropriate way of reaching the ear of the multitudes of India than by addressing them through the representatives of India in the Central Legislature. Accordingly I decided, in exercise of the statutory privilege conferred upon me by the

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Government of India Act, to ask the members of the Legislature to meet me here to-day, and I am gratified that so large a number of Hon'ble Members of both Houses should have been able to attend.

Let me recall the salient incidents of India's recent history.

I am not exaggerating when I say that, during the 17 months that I have been in India, the whole landscape has been overshadowed by the lowering clouds of communal tension, which have repeatedly discharged their thunderbolts, spreading far throughout the land their devastating havoc.

From April to July last year Calcutta seemed to be under the mastery of some evil spirit, which so gripped the minds of men that in their insanity they held themselves absolved from the most sacred restraints of human conduct. Honest citizens went abroad in peril of their lives from fanatical attack, and the paralysis that overtook the commercial life of a great metropolis was only less serious than the civic loss that flowed from a naked and unashamed violation of the law, which perforce had to be reasserted by methods drastic and severe. Since then we have seen the same sinister influences at work in Patna, Rawalpindi, Lahore and many other places, and have been forced to look upon that abyss of unchained human passions that lies too often beneath the surface of habit and of law.

In less than 18 months, so far as numbers are available, the toll taken by this bloody strife has been between 250 and 300 killed, and over 2,500 injured. While angry temper reigns we are not always sensible of the tragedy that lies behind figures such as these. The appreciation of it is dulled in the poisoned atmosphere, which for the time prevails, suggesting that such things are inseparable from the defence of principles jealously revered, and

tempting men to forget how frequently in history the attempt has been made to cloak such crimes against society in honourable guise. But let us translate these things into terms of human sorrow and bereavement, and let our minds dwell in pity and in shame upon the broken human lives that they represent, mothers robbed of sons whose welfare they counted more precious than their own, the partnership of lives severed, the promise of young life denied. The sorrows of war are often mercifully redeemed, as many of us have known, by an element of self-sacrifice that transfigures and consecrates them to the achievement of some high purpose. But here, over these domestic battlefields, sorrow holds sway unredeemed by any such transforming power, and speaks only of the senseless and futile passions that have caused it.

Nor are the many houses of mourning the only measure of the damage which is being done to India. Is there not much in Indian social life that still cries out for remedy and reform and which enlightened India of to-day would fain mould otherwise ? Nowhere perhaps is the task before the reformers more laborious ; for in India civilisation is agelong, immemorial ; and all things are deep-rooted in the past. United must be the effort if it is to gain success ; and on the successful issue of such work depends the building of the Indian nation. Yet the would-be builders must approach their task sorely handicapped and with heavy heart, so long as the forces to which they would appeal are distracted and torn by present animosities. For nothing wholesome can flourish in unwholesome soil, and no one may hope to build a house to stand against the wind and the rain and the storm of life upon foundations that are rotten and unsound.

And what shall we say of the effect of these troubles upon India's progress in the field of constitutional evolution ? There are many who hold that the very

reforms that were designed to lead India along the peaceful road of political development have by reason of the political power that they conferred been directly responsible for the aggravation of these anxieties. True it most certainly is that national self-government must be founded upon the self-government and self-control of individuals. Where private citizens do not possess these qualities, political self-government of a nation is an empty name, and merely serves to disguise under an honourable title the continuance of something perilously akin to civil war.

And thus this problem, of which the reactions upon the future of India must be so intimate, is a problem with which Great Britain not less than India is vitally concerned. For India desires to win self-government, and it is Great Britain's self-appointed task to guide her to this end. Surely it is evident that those who desire to win, and those who desire to lend assistance in the winning, are mutually and vitally confronted with the necessity of laying the spectre that besets the path of their common hopes. By the logic of our purpose or desires, we are partners in the task, and no one of us can here shirk or decline responsibility. Of the burden which India's unhappy disunion imposes on Government, the figures I gave earlier in my speech are eloquent. It is our inalienable duty to preserve order and to vindicate the law. We may make mistakes in doing it ; there are few human beings who can avoid them ; but if we make them, they are, believe me, mistakes made in the cause of a genuine attempt to discharge the difficult and painful duty that is ours.

But I cannot reconcile it with my conception of a real and effective partnership in this matter between Great Britain and India to confine the responsibility, either of myself or my Government, to a mere repression of disorder. Necessary as that is, the situation, as I see it to-day, demands a more constructive effort.

His Excellency the Viceroy's Address to the Combined Legislatures.

A year ago an appeal was made to me by many men of influence and distinction that I should take the initiative in convening a conference to examine any means that might hold out promise of amelioration. For reasons which seemed to me convincing, I thought it inadvisable to take that step ; and I have not wavered in my conviction that my decision was well-founded. But the passage of events between that time and this has compelled me perpetually to review the grounds on which I then formed my judgment. I had hoped that, in answer to my appeal to the communities, it might not have been impossible that they themselves, freely taking counsel together, might have reached an agreement genuine, convinced and thus effective, that would have brought much desired and long-sought relief from these distractions. In this respect my hopes have been disappointed. Partial agreements, it is true have been reached in regard to this or that aspect of the problem, reflecting much honour upon those who exposed themselves, I do not doubt, to considerable risk with many of their own friends in making them. But, so far as I can judge, those agreements have failed to offer that fundamental solution of the problem, and to gain that measure of acceptance, which are necessary if we are to win through the present distress. And one condition remains constant, which is, as I said last year, that no conference can offer any hope of success unless those participating in it are truly inspired with a will to peace.

It was with real pleasure that I observed statements recently in the press which indicated that fresh efforts might be made to bring together Hindus and Muslims for the discussion of these matters. Any such attempt deserves the active good-will and support of all who care for India's welfare and good name. I myself have long been considering anxiously whether any action by Government could help to stimulate that general desire of reconciliation without which nothing can be done. It is not easy, or