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Editorial Notes

NEW ERA

Now that the war has ended we enter on a New ERA of new Ideas with bright hopes for the future progress of industrial development and social intercourse of a great New India and a "brave new" World.

A great deal of thought has been expended on Planning for Post War Reconstruction and a large number of schemes are waiting for sanction of finance to be taken on hand. Some have already been given a start.

We have for publication in this issue particulars of the Mor Irrigation Scheme which were presented in the form of a paper read before the Association of Engineers at the Annual General Meeting on the 3rd April, 1946 by Mr. K. B. Banerjee, A.M.A.E., A.M.I.E. (Ind)

BANGODAYA COTTON MILLS

On the 6th April, 1946 the members of the Association of Engineers had the privilege of a visit to the Bangodaya Cotton Mills on Barrackpore Trunk Road near Calcutta. They were courteously escorted by members of the staff round the various departments of the mill and then treated to a delightful fare of "Light" refreshments which was immensely enjoyed by all and deserves the gratitude of the Association.

These Mills do not at present do any spinning but only weaving. They are intended, however, to be extended later on to carry out spinning also.

Yarn is at present supplied to them by Government and all production is for Government purposes—mainly "Standard" cloth.

Yarn of medium count is supplied in bales, and these are first opened out and wound on to reels or bobbins in winding machines having several spindles each. From some of these they are wound into several smaller reels which are later inserted in the shuttle for use as the "Weft", from others they are wound in 4 stages on to drums of the desired width of the cloth to form the "Warp". From these drums the warp is passed through a preparation of starch and over a large revolving drum, heated inside by steam, and wound on to another drum which is transferred to the weaving machine.

There are about 340 weaving machines of various sizes and capacities worked by belting off several rows of line shafting, each line being driven by a separate electric motor of power and revolutions to suit.

The weaving machine contains an arrangement whereby the longitudinal threads of the "Warp" are alternately raised and lowered while a shuttle containing the "Weft" thread is shunted back and forth through the "Shed" between them, forming the "Weft" across them over and under alternate rows of "Warp" thread.

After the cloth is woven it is inspected and then passed through a finishing process through a series of rollers heated by steam to a certain temperature that give it a gloss. It is then folded in a folding machine and cut to the required size, and passed on to printing machine where it is stamped according to Government Regulation.

It is then passed out to the sorting room where bundles are prepared for despatch. The bundles are then compressed under a hydraulic machine, wrapped in gunny and bound with hoops.

The air passing through the mills is moistened by water spray created by a current of air between rows of perforated vertical water tubes. The air current is induced by a fan worked by an electric motor.

The water is obtained by gravity from tanks filled by steam pumps drawing from a 6" tube well.

Steam is generated in a Thompson Boiler with firewood, (to overcome the difficulty due to present shortage of coal supply waggons). But the main power is obtained from Calcutta Electric Supply Corporation through a set of transformers.

An interesting sidelight was the demonstration of the tape mill or "Phêeta Col", in which some machines have been invented by an Indian in charge there.

"Mulajore Generating Station."—Members of the Association had also the benefit of a visit to the Mulajore Generating Station at Shamnagar on the 7th April, 1946. This will be described in a later issue.

Letter to the Editor.

INDIAN STUDENTS GOING TO ENGLAND

Dr. R. U. Hingorani.

128, Harley Street,
London, W.1.

December, 1st 1945.

Dear Sir,

The question of Indian students who come to England to study, raises certain problems which have to be faced and disposed of, if fresh bitterness is not to be added to Anglo-Indian relations. Unfortunately there is a tendency:—

1. for some Colleges and Universities to limit the number of students from India, and
2. for some Boarding-houses to refuse to receive these students from overseas.

These conditions place the student from India in a very unhappy position if he (or she) has not previously made definite arrangements. Often students desiring to come to England are not in a position to make such arrangements because of a lack of the right contacts in this country through which to make them.

Having studied medicine in England and lived and practised as a surgeon in London for 16 years, I have established many contacts with English people who are sympathetic to Anglo-Indian friendly relations. I am anxious to help intending students from India to avoid the difficulties I have mentioned, and if such students will write to me in the first instance, telling me what studies they desire to pursue here, I will put them into direct touch with a reliable source where every help will be given.

I shall be glad if you will please give this letter publicity.

Yours faithfully,
R. U. Hingorani.