**Nehru and Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan.**

Sir Owen Dixon, who was appointed U.N. Mediator in Kashmir on April 12, arrived on May 27 in New Delhi, where he had discussions with Pandit Nehru, the Indian Prime Minister, subsequently proceeding to Karachi on June 1 for conversations with Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan, the Pakistan Foreign Minister. From June 7 to July 12 he made an extensive tour of Kashmir, including the "Azad Kashmir" territory, during which he met Sheikh Abdullah, the Kashmiri Prime Minister, and Chaudhuri Ghulam Abbas Khan, the head of the "Azad Kashmir Government."

At Sir Owen Dixon's request, talks between Pandit Nehru, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan (the Pakistani Prime Minister), and the U.N. Mediator began in New Delhi on July 20. In reply to detailed proposals put forward by Sir Owen Dixon for the demilitarization of Kashmir and other preparatory measures for the holding of a general plebiscite, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan stated that Pakistan was prepared to withdraw her troops from Kashmir, and to reduce the "Azad Kashmir" forces, provided that India would do likewise with regard to her own army, the Maharaja's forces, and the militia; these conditions, however, proved unacceptable to the Indian Government. Sir Owen Dixon then proposed that a plebiscite should be held only in those areas where the people's desires were uncertain, notably in the Valley of Kashmir, and that those areas where the inhabitant's desires were known should be partitioned between India and Pakistan, due regard being given to geographical, economic, topographical, and demographic considerations. In order that both Governments might consider this proposal, the talks were adjourned on July 24.

The Indian Government having informed Sir Owen Dixon on Aug. 2 that it would be prepared to consider a settlement along these lines, on condition that Pakistan was also prepared to consider it, the Mediator flew to Karachi to obtain the Pakistani Government's consent to the holding of another conference on his proposal. In the course of discussions, which continued until Aug. 9, Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan and Sir Muhammad Zafrulla Khan made it clear, however, that Pakistan continued to base its stand upon the U.N. Commission's resolutions of Aug. 13, 1948, and Jan. 5, 1949, and the Security Council's resolution of March 14, 1950, all of which specified a general plebiscite for the whole of Kashmir as the manner of settlement. During subsequent negotiations a suggestion by Sir Owen Dixon that it might be possible to arrange a partition of Kashmir without a plebiscite also proved impracticable, as (according to his report, published on Aug. 22) "it was evident that both parties would in that event insist upon having the Valley of Kashmir." Sir Owen Dixon finally put forward a plan for partition combined with a limited plebiscite in the Valley of Kashmir, during which the Kashmiri Government would be replaced by a U.N. authority; this proposal, however, was strongly opposed by the Indian Government and in consequence withdrawn by Sir Owen Dixon, the negotiations concluding on Aug. 21.

In a statement issued on Aug. 22, Sir Owen Dixon announced that he had come to the conclusion that there was no immediate prospect of India and Pakistan composing any of their differences over Kashmir, and that no purpose would be served by his remaining any longer in the sub-continent. After summarizing the course of the negotiations, he expressed his regret that neither Government had put forward any proposals of its own for the settlement of the dispute, and that the burden of formulating plans had rested throughout upon himself.

Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan and Pandit Nehru, in statements issued on Aug. 23 and 24 respectively, commented on the negotiations, both disclaiming responsibility for their failure.

**Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan** declared that the deadlock was not due to any lack of effort on Sir Owen Dixon's part, or to the want of co-operation on the part of Pakistan, but "lies squarely on the shoulders of India." Pakistan, he maintained, had constantly endeavoured throughout the dispute to ensure the creation of the necessary conditions for a plebiscite "free from all pressure and intimidation," and was prepared to withdraw her forces provided the Indian forces were likewise withdrawn. India, however, was apparently "not willing to risk a free and impartial plebiscite even in an area where it claims to have the largest measure of support from the local population, unless Indian troops are in control, an Indian-sponsored administration is in charge, and Pakistan is denied access to the plebiscite area. A plebiscite under such conditions, would be a complete farce." After asserting that "the occupation of Kashmir by Indian troops in support of the tottering tyranny of the Hindu Maharaja over a Moslem State against the will of its people" was an "act of aggression" designed to bring about the "encirclement and economic strangulation of Pakistan," and that "the refusal of India to withdraw its troops in defiance of the Security Council's resolution is a challenge to the United Nations," Mr. Liaquat Ali Khan con-

by pressure to create conditions of special advantage to itself." Th
breakdown of the negotiations had, he declared, necessitated a retur
to the "fundamental realities" of the dispute, which had bee
caused by the Security Council's failure to answer the question as t
who was the aggressor in Kashmir. India was prepared to have th
question examined from every point of view, practical, legal, an
constitutional, and when the matter came again before the Securit
Council it was from this basic point of view that they should conside
it.

Sheikh Abdullah stated on July 10 that the Kashmi
Government could not accept any suggestion of partition, o
any other solution except a general plebiscite. It would oppos
a plebiscite for the Valley of Kashmir only as it would inevi
ably give rise to communal feeling, which had, he affirmed
never previously existed in the State.—(Offices of the Hig
Commissioners of India and Pakistan, London - The Statesma
Calcutta - The Hindu, Madras - Pakistan Observer, Dacca
Times - Manchester Guardian) **(Prev. rep. Kashmir, 10692 A**

## B. LITERATURE. — Book Selections.

Book selections for August are given below.

**Great Britain**: Blake, George—"The Piper's Tune." (Collin
10s. 6d.).

Clay, Lucius D., General—"Decision in Germany." (Heinemann
21s.).

Dallin, David J.—"The Rise of Russia in Asia." (Hollis & Carte
18s.).

Fergusson, Bernard—"The Black Watch and the King's Enemies
Foreword by the late Lord Wavell. (Collins, 15s.).

Jennings, C. O.—"An Ocean without Shores." (Hodder
Stoughton, 12s. 6d.).

McLaren, Moray—"The Capital of Scotland: A Twentieth
Century Contemplation on Edinburgh." (Douglas & Foulis, Edi
burgh, 21s.).

Orga, Irfan—"Portrait of a Turkish Family." (Gollancz, 16s.).

Paterson, Neil—"Behold Thy Daughter." (Hodder & Stoughto
10s. 6d.).

de Saint-Exupéry, Antoine—"Letter to a Hostage." Translate
from the French and published posthumously. (Heinemann, 6s.).

Tomlinson, H. M.—"The Face of the Earth." (Essays). (Duck
worth, 12s. 6d.).

Verga, Giovanni—"The House by the Medlar Tree." Translate
from the Italian. (George Weidenfeld & Nicholson, 10s. 6d.).

Walker, David—"Geordie." (Collins, 7s. 6d.).

Young, Douglas—"Chasing an Ancient Greek." (Hollis & Carte
12s. 6d.).

**United States**: "Collected Stories of William Faulkner." (Rando
House, New York, $4.75).

Lattimore, Owen—"Ordeal by Slander." (Little, Brown & Co
Boston, $2.75).

**France**: Henriot, Emile—"Le diable à l'hôtel, ou Les plaisi
imaginaires." (Plon, Paris, 270 fr.).

(Ed. K.C.A.) **(Prev. rep. 10879 C**

## C. PERU. — General Odria elected to Presidency.

General Manuel Odria temporarily relinquished the Pres
dency of Peru, which he had held since seizing power in Octobe
1948, in favour of Vice-President Noriega on May 31, pr
paratory to Presidential elections scheduled to take place
July. The candidature of his only opponent, General Ernest
Montagne, was declared void on June 11 by the Nation
Electoral Board, which alleged that his nomination pape
were fraudulent. An attempted uprising at Arequipa on Ju
12-14 was suppressed after about 30 people had been kille
General Montagne and a number of his leading supporters we
subsequently arrested, but were released on June 27.

In the Presidential elections, which took place in an order
atmosphere on July 2, General Odria was returned unoppos
for a six-year term. On July 28 he formed a new Cabinet
six officers and six civilians to replace the *junta* of milita
and naval officers which had previously held power, the offi
of War Minister, Foreign Minister, and Minister of the Inter
being held by General Noriega, Dr. Manuel Gallagher, and
Ricardo Ganoza respectively.

(South American Journal - New York Times) (9623

## D. UNITED KINGDOM. — Cost-of-Living Index.

The general cost-of-living index at July 18 remained
changed at 144 points (June 1947 = 100), while the index
food dropped one point to 122 points. Indices for the
group of items making up the general index were as follo
food, 122; rent and rates, 101; clothing, 119;

Representatives appointed to Bengal Cabinets.

The progress made in the implementation of the Delh
ment of April last for the settlement of communal distu
was reported to the Indian Parliament on Aug. 1 by Pandi

Pandit Nehru stated that the Indian and Pakistani Gove
had each appointed a Minister responsible for the implemen
the Agreement, and that the two Ministers had already
together many districts in East Pakistan, Assam, and West
In addition, representatives of the minority communities
included in the Cabinets of East Pakistan and West Bengal;
Commissions had been set up in West Bengal, Assam, a
Pakistan; and Inquiry Commissions had been appointed t
into and report on the causes and extent of the communal dist
in February and March, and to make recommendations wit
to preventing similar troubles in the future. The two
Governments had issued instructions to ensure easy travel for
between the two countries, and had appointed liaison office
that these instructions were carried out. Legislation was beir
taken in West Bengal to facilitate the restoration of their
to returning immigrants, and to set up trust committees for
pose of looking after the property of the migrants who had
not to return before Dec. 31. Search service bureaux for the
of abducted women had been set up in West Bengal and East P
and an agreement had recently been reached for the establis
homes for women who had been recovered. A number of
goodwill missions had gone from one country to another, w
Newspaper Editors' Conferences of India and Pakistan ha
up a code of behaviour to which most newspapers were adheri

Pandit Nehru gave the following figures for mig
between East Pakistan and West Bengal, Assam, and
whilst pointing out that, although accurate records o
ments by train were available, it was impossible to e
exactly how many persons had crossed the frontiers o
(a) migrants from East Pakistan to India before the Ag
from Feb. 7 to April 8), 857,579 Hindus and 6,847 M
(b) migrants from India to East Pakistan during th
period, 378,778 Moslems and 65,573 Hindus; (c) m
from East Pakistan to India after the Agreement (from
to July 25), 1,284,623 Hindus and 297,408 Moslem
migrants from India to East Pakistan during the same
541,251 Hindus and 449,968 Moslems; (e) total nu
migrants from East Pakistan to India before and af
Agreement (excluding those travelling on foot), 2,
Hindus and 304,255 Moslems; (f) total number of m
from India to East Pakistan during the same period,
Moslems and 606,824 Hindus. About 250,000 Mosle
migrated from Uttar Pradesh (the United Provinces) t
Pakistan; of these, 5,000 had returned, and arrangeme
the return of others were under consideration.

Following a meeting between Pandit Nehru, Mr. I
Ali Khan, and Dr. B. C. Roy (the Premier of West Be
New Delhi on July 24, at which the working of the
greement was discussed, it was decided that the two
inisters should meet Mr. Biswas and Dr. Malik (the res
inisters for Minority Affairs in the Indian and Pa
overnments), as well as the chairmen of the M
mmissions in East and West Bengal. In accordanc
s decision, Mr. Biswas and Dr. Malik held discussion
mbers of the Indian Government in Delhi from Au
with members of the Pakistani Government in K
Aug. 9-10, at which agreement was reached on a num
sures intended to remove some of the difficulties expe
he implementation of the Agreement, and to speed
peration of confidence in the minds of the minorities
was decided that all communal incidents should be pr
stigated with a view to preventing their recurrence, and e
n taken against those responsible, including Gove
nts guilty of failure to implement the Agreement; that
persons, particularly from the majority community, sh
inted and charged with the responsibility for preventing inc
that collective fines should be imposed on the inhabit
cts where serious disturbances occurred. Other matt
agreement was reached included: (a) that their m
rty should be restored to returning migrants, and that
ensation should be paid them for houses or lands requis
e Government; (b) that private employers should be a
ate returning migrants in their original employment;
nly statistics of migrant traffic agreed on by the Gover
st and West Bengal should be published.

Dwarkanath Barori, a member of the Scheduled
rn in on June 12 as representative of the minority
the East Bengal Cabinet. Dr. P. Ahmad was