

CONTENTS

Preface page v

Chapter I. India and the Indians

India a subcontinent—Elemental forces of nature: the Monsoon—Size of population—Provinces and States—Diversities of race—Diversities of religion; the bond of Hinduism—Diversities of language—Masses of people, peasants—Village the social unit—Modern growth of towns—Educated and uneducated; the masses still illiterate, with a small highly-educated intelligentsia—Extremes of contrast but underlying unity.

Chapter II. Indian Customs and Culture

9-20

The Hindu religion—Buddhism an offshoot of Hinduism—Caste—Other features of Hinduism—The Depressed Classes—Comparison between the Hindu and Mohammedan religions—Causes of communal strife—Social customs: the Hindu joint family; child-marriage; purdah; position of women in the home—Sanskrit literature—Development of vernacular literatures—Influence of Mohammedan culture—Indian music—Art and architecture—Mohammedan architecture—Painting and handicrafts—The complex pattern of Indian culture.

Chapter III. Historic India

21-28

The ancient civilisation of the Indus valley—The Aryan invasions—Birth of Buddha in the sixth century B.C.—Invasion of Alexander—The reign of Asoka—The Golden Age of the Gupta Empire—The first Mohammedan invasions—The early Mohammedan dynasties—Empire of Muhammad Tughlak—The invasion of Babur and founding of the Mogul Empire—The reign of Akbar, the greatest of the Mogul Emperors—First British contacts with India; founding of the East India Company—The court of Shah Jahan—Aurangzeb, the last of the Great Moguls—Decay of the Mogul Empire; rise of the Marathas; invasion of Nadir Shah—East India Company's settlement attacked by the French—The Company at war—Clive seizes Arcot—Battle of Plassey, 1757—Establishment of British rule in Bengal.



viii

CONTENTS

Chapter IV. The Building of Modern India

page 29-36

Misrule in the early years of the Company's government—The great work of Warren Hastings—Trusteeship; Pitt's Act of 1784—The East India Company ceases to be a trading company—Threats to the Company's territories—Extension of British rule—Struggle with the Marathas—Foundation of liberal administration—Reform of social customs—Encouragement of education; Despatch of Sir Charles Wood—The Sikh wars: Annexation of the Punjab—Annexations without war—Economic development—The Indian Mutiny—End of the East India Company; Proclamation of Queen Victoria of 1858.

Chapter V. The Indian States

37-44

The Indian States—Their relations with the Crown—The States have their own internal administrations—Progress towards the association of the people with their governments—Picturesqueness of life in the States—States of Rajputana: Udaipur, Bikaner, Jodhpur, Jaipur—Nawanagar—States of Central India: Baroda, Gwalior, Indore, Bhopal—Hyderabad, the richest and most populous of the States—States of Southern India: Mysore, Travancore, Cochin—Kashmir—Sikh States of the Punjab—The Chamber of Princes—The Princes and Federation—The standpoint of the States.

Chapter VI. India's Natural Wealth

45-53

India's mineral resources—Her forest wealth—Agriculture, the mainstay of her people—A land of small holdings—Land revenue system—Legislation to protect tenants—Indebtedness of the peasantry—Food crops of India: grains; pulses; sugar—Tea-plantations—Other commercial crops: jute; cotton; oil-seeds; tobacco—Improvement of agriculture—Co-operative movement—Improvement of animal husbandry—Co-ordination of research—Development of irrigation—Hydro-electric schemes—Reconstruction plans.

Chapter VII. India's Industries

54-61

Changes caused by the Industrial Revolution—Development of railways and communications—Impetus to industrial development given by war of 1914–18—Cotton and jute, the oldest manufacturing industries of India—The Tata steel industry—Protective tariffs since 1921—Other manufacturing undertakings—Use of electric power—Conditions in factories—Trade unions—Hand and home industries—Accusation of 'exploitation'—British capital in India—Indian 'Public Debt'—New financial position—Future industrialisation—Plans for post-war development.



CONTENTS

ix

Chapter VIII. India's Administration and Social Welfare

page 62-72

Administration—The Central and Provincial Governments—The Indian Civil Service—The Police services—Small proportion of British to Indians in Government service—The Postal service—Vast field for social service—Education and Literacy—Secondary and university education—Primary education—Education of girls—New methods in education—Work of missionaries in India—Medical and health services: lack of provision in rural areas—Progress of the women's movement—Problems of rural reconstruction—Plans for development of social services.

Chapter IX. India's Advance to Self-Government 73-80

First inclusion of Indians in Councils—The Morley-Minto Reforms—Rise of Indian National Congress—Mr Montagu's Declaration of 1917—The Reforms Act of 1919—Mr Gandhi and Non-cooperation—Political alignments in India—The Simon Commission and the Round-Table Conferences—The Communal Award—The Government of India Act of 1935—Part I of the Act in operation: Provincial self-government—Growth of communal tension: the Moslem League—Opposition to Federation—The outbreak of war and resignation of the Congress ministries—The Moslem League adopts policy of Pakistan—Suspension of preparations for Federation.

Chapter X. India and the War

81-90

The Indian Army in peace-time—Burden of military expenditure: demand for Indianisation—Changes due to the war; great expansion of all arms—Large recruitment of Indian officers—Gallantry of the Indian Army in action—Indian States Forces—The Royal Indian Navy—The Indian Air Force—India's industrial war-effort—Training for war-industries—A.R.P. and women's services—Contributions to War Funds—India's great part in the Allied war effort—New strains on her economic system: the Bengal famine—Food policy—India's place in the struggle of the United Nations.

Chapter XI. Political Developments of the War Years 91-98

The political deadlock; general sense of frustration—Main developments since the outbreak of war; Congress policy changed from non-embarrassment of war effort to mass non-cooperation; hardening of demand for Pakistan by the Moslem League—Course of events since 1940; Poona Resolution of Congress—The Viceroy's offer of August, 1940—



х

Index

CONTENTS

Mr Gandhi's movement of 'limited' civil disobedience—Expansion of Viceroy's Executive Council, July 1941—The Cripps Mission, 1942—Resignation of Mr Rajagopalachari—Mr Gandhi develops 'Quit India' policy—Arrest of Congress leaders, August 1942; serious outbreaks of disorder—Mr Gandhi's fast—Lord Linlithgow succeeded by Lord Wavell as Viceroy—Release of Mr Gandhi—Gandhi-Jinnah talks—Deadlock unresolved, but a general desire in Britain to assist India to full freedom—Conclusion; hopes for the future.

Appendix Tables from Census of 1941

I.	Areas and Populations of Provinces and larger States	page	100
2.	Increase in total Population of India		101
3.	Rural and Urban Populations		101
4.	Population of the twenty largest Tow in India	ns	102
5.	Population of India by Communities		102
6.	Progress of Literacy		103
Short	Bibliography		104
			107

Map of India, showing Provinces and States

at the end of the book