

for the homeward voyage. The extraordinary good fortune of the delegation in the matter of weather conditions, culminating in the brilliant hours of the visit to Darjeeling, has been recorded in a previous note. At Calcutta these conditions have continued, and it is said that the mean daily temperature has been as much as ten degrees above the normal for this time of year."

#### Broadcasting and Citizenship

At the North of England Education Conference on January 6 the Central Council for School Broadcasting and the Central Committee for Group Listening were represented by their secretary, Mr. A. C. Cameron, who discussed the principles on which these two bodies are at present shaping their policies and raised a number of questions as to the moulding and educating influences of broadcasting on the citizen of to-morrow and to-day. As regards school broadcasting, for the reception of which, by the way, in England and Wales some 7,000 schools are equipped, he emphasized its importance as fostering the interest of the child in life outside the school and the interest of the parent in the school. As evidence of the growing interest of parents he mentioned that a school broadcast recently brought him three hundred letters from parents who had listened to it. To promote group listening and discussion seven area councils representative of voluntary bodies, local authorities and the universities have been constituted. Many listening and discussion groups have been formed by such bodies as women's institutes, townswomen's Guilds and public libraries, and many are recognized by local education authorities as eligible for grants for "further education". Another speaker at the Conference, a member of the executive of the National Union of Teachers, argued that wireless receiving sets ought to be regarded as essential pieces of equipment for schools and for bodies such as juvenile organization committees and community centres which undertake to promote group listening as a means of adolescent and adult education. It seems open to question whether grants should be made for encouraging such listening and discussion groups without some sort of guarantee that they are conducted by competent leaders. With proper guidance (for which attendance at university extension tutorial classes would provide an excellent training) such groups could be developed into a powerful agency for education for citizenship.

#### Psychology of International Relations

In an address at a public luncheon given by the National Institute of Industrial Psychology on January 13, Dr. William Brown said that the psychology of international relations, otherwise the psychology of peace and war, can be adequately discussed only on the basis of a scientific study of the human mind. Dr. Brown is convinced that the latest war was not the last. He compared it with a manic-depressive patient who, after a state of deep depression, passes into one of exaltation and feels that never again will his old symptoms return. Of a

patient of this kind it is known that sooner or later he will have another relapse. Although psychological treatment can benefit such a patient, and in some cases produce recovery, the underlying physical and mental causes of the illness remain obscure. So it is with war and peace. Psychologists cannot yet claim that a solution has been discovered. All they can do is to go on and disentangle the various forces which are at work to produce war. Of these forces, one of the most important is the primitive struggle for existence. It is not possible, however, said Dr. Brown, to deduce the social behaviour of a man from his purely individual behaviour. Man still carries with him tendencies towards more primitive forms of mental reaction such as are appropriate to the early stages of national and social evolution. These primitive forms of reaction are very clearly revealed in criminal behaviour, in panic-stricken flight and in certain mass movements. The possibility of mass mental reactions have an obvious bearing upon the problem of war and peace. For such primitive forces as self-preservation and self-assertion, while valuable in many respects, yet if used in certain ways, are irreconcilable with ultimate peace between individuals or between nations.

#### Chinese Universities Relief Fund

THE damage inflicted on universities in the course of the Japanese invasion has been enormous, amounting in several instances to complete destruction of all the university buildings and equipment. Concerted action has been taken by students, professors and the Chinese Government to combine the relief of distressed students with the maintenance of some form of training in centres remote from the war theatres, such as Changsha in Hunan Province. Appeals to universities in other lands have been organized by International Student Service for the relief of destitute students and for equipping them in their efforts to carry on their studies. In England there has been a response from every single university and the majority of university colleges, the amount raised in this way up to date being £3,000. The English committee has undertaken, in addition to contributing to the international fund, to assist Chinese students in Great Britain whose funds have been cut off. In a letter to *The Times* of January 7, Sir Walter Moberly, chairman of the International Student Service, appeals for at least another £2,000. Contributions may be sent to Prof. Ernest Barker, the Hon. Treasurer of the Chinese Universities Relief Fund, at 49 Gordon Square, London, W.C.1.

#### Determination of Molecular and Atomic Weights

A COMMITTEE for the study of the determination of molecular and atomic weights of gases by physico-chemical methods, organized by the International Institute of Intellectual Co-operation assisted by the International Council of Scientific Unions and by the International Unions of Physics and Chemistry, met on December 17 and 18 in Neuchâtel (Switzerland). Two reports formed the basis of the discussion, the first on the method of limiting-pressures, established