

Calcutta will be the venue of the 1st Quadrennial Conference of TNAI to be held in October. The write-up given below covers the salient tourist attractions of Calcutta.

## CALCUTTA—THE CHARMING CITY

by

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It is heartening to note that the city of Calcutta has been chosen as the venue of the next Conference of Trained Nurses Association of India in October. Calcutta offers her heartiest welcome to all delegates and participants to this Conference.

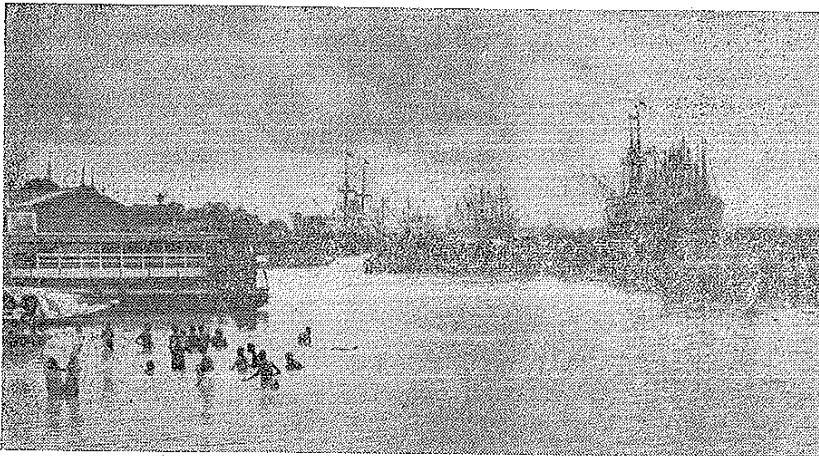
Here is a city which was born in 1690 when Job Charnock found the

splendour of the bygone days. This city has also been the scene of activity of great social reformers through centuries. The apparent dullness of the metalled roads or the greyiness of concrete structures of the gradually modernising city has offered many a flicker in the hearts of poets and litterateurs, of painters and sculptors.

hinterland of Calcutta.

Places of interest in and around Calcutta are many. **Belur Math**, the centre of activities of the Ramakrishna Mission ; **Botanical Gardens**, covering an area of 110 hectares having many tall trees, wild flowers, shrubs and ponds ; **Eden Gardens** with a superb wooden Pagoda within and housing the renowned **Ranji Stadium**—the Cricketers' paradise ; **Pareshnath Jain Temple** ; **Kali Temple** and **Kalighat** ; **Marble Palace**, full of rare collection of antiques of immense artistic and historical value ; **Nakhoda Mosque**, modelled on Akbar's tomb at Sikandra ; **National Library**, the largest library of India with a collection of more than one million books ; **Shahid Minar**, a monument situated on the Maidan ; **Rabindra Sarobar** with rowing clubs, a Japanese Buddhist temple, a public swimming pool and the **Rabindra Stadium** ; **Victoria Memorial**, an architectural splendour, built in white marble ; **Zoological Gardens** in Alipore, are but a few to mention. Besides, there are quite a few museums of importance in Calcutta. Some of them are **Academy of Fine Arts**, **Art in industry Museum**, **Ashutosh Museum**, **Birla Industrial and Technological Museum**, **Birla Planetarium**, **Gurusaday Museum**, **Indian Museum**, **Nehru Children's Museum**, **Rabindra Bharti Museum** and **Victoria Memorial Museum**.

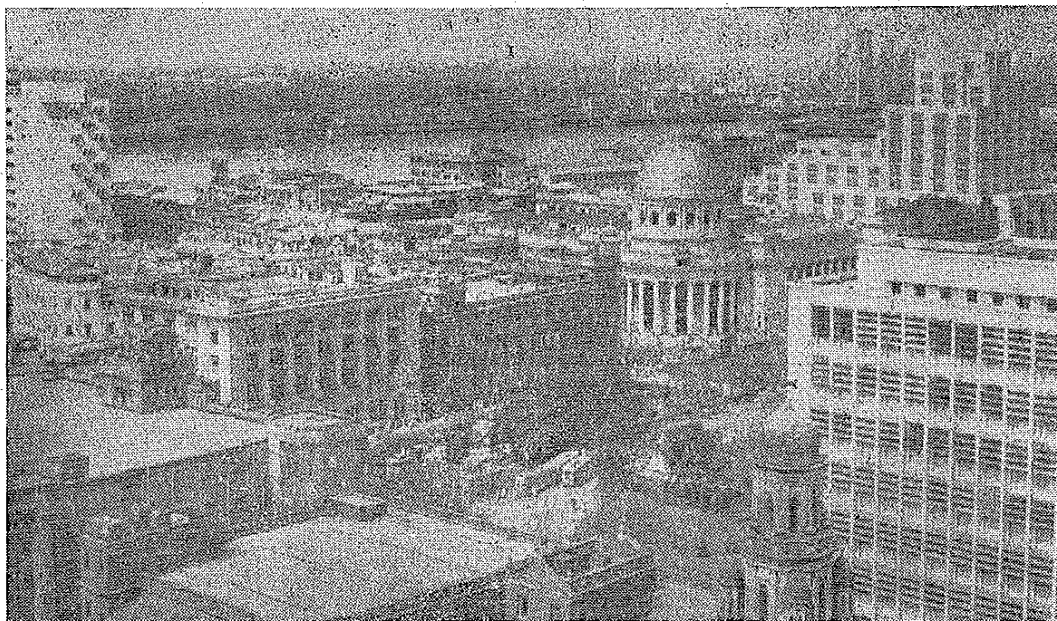
Calcutta, as the most important city of Eastern India, has convenient air, rail and road links with other parts of India. Naturally, for an international tourist as well as



Quiet flows the Ganga !

place by the side of the river Hooghly, a safe and a convenient one for the establishment of a base. Calcutta, though not known by that name then, cast her charms on the first-ever settler on her land. For Charnock, Calcutta meant not a base only but much more. Since then, Calcutta grew up. With the growth of the British settlement here, the development of Calcutta also started. Calcutta served as the Capital of British India. Calcutta has given shelter to many who have come here to try their luck. Calcutta bears evidence of many a

Thus Calcutta was the nerve-centre of renascent India. In the fields of culture, politics, social reform as well as economics, Calcutta held a dominant position in the map of India. Developed means of communication, greater industrialisation and such other factors have contributed to the subsequent development of other cities as well. But even then Calcutta holds her own in these days as well. Better communication has brought remote places nearer to Calcutta. Now the whole of enchanting Eastern India is a



A Panoramic view of the sprawling metropolis that is Calcutta.

for a domestic tourist to Eastern India, Calcutta is the most convenient base. A tourist bound either for Bihar and Orissa or for Assam, Manipur, Tripura, Mizoram, Nagaland, Meghalaya and Arunachal, has to use Calcutta as the port of entry. As far as her own state is concerned, Calcutta is conveniently linked with the main points of tourist attraction in West Bengal. West Bengal with its varied charms can well be called a complete tourist region by itself. It has charming hill resorts like Darjeeling and Kalimpong, sea resorts like Digha and Bakkhali, extensive forests like the Sundarbans, and the verdant Gangetic plains. The forests of West Bengal abound in wild life and there are as many as eight wild life sanctuaries in West Bengal. Places like Sandakphu and Phalut near Darjeeling offer

facilities for trekking. Besides, Santiniketan, hallowed by the memory of poet Rabindranath Tagore and now the seat of an international University, Gour and Pandua in Malda and Murshidabad and Vishnupur, famous for their historical relics and ornamented terra-cotta temples are the other spots of tourist interest in West Bengal. Calcutta with all her beauty and charms has always been a great attraction to the visitors to this city.

Here, the whistle of a sea faring ship rings loud over the Calcutta sky. A lone tree on the concrete pavement blooms. The clock on the tower of St. Paul's Cathedral chimes away the time. The vast Maidan lies green. The theatres stage reproductions from Brecht. Jatra performers sing away the glories of Epic or historical heroes.

Might crowds throng at the football and cricket grounds. Fashionable shopping arcades in the Chowringhee area cast bright reflections in the eyes of the pavement-dwellers. Busy markets show an abundance of vegetables, fish and meat that find easy buyers. The temple of Kalighat, built to the patron goddess of the city draws thousands of men. Films of international fame are made here. **Precisely, Calcutta marks a strange combination of the old and the new, of the sacred and the profane, of culture and of industrial enterprise, of creative arts and of vibrant sports activities.**

Calcutta gives every tourist and guest a friend's welcome and shares with them the warmth of hearts of all Calcuttans and the rich beauty of this great city.

### TNAI Flood Relief Fund

The TNAI has organised a fund called "TNAI Flood Relief Fund" to provide assistance to the people in the flood-affected areas.

State Branches or institutions may collect funds for the purpose and remit the same to the H.Q. Individual members may send their donations direct to the Secretary TNAI, L-16, Green Park, New Delhi-110016, endorsing specifically on the M.O. Coupon "For TNAI Flood Relief Fund".

While receipts will be sent for all the payments, donations of more than Rs. 10.00 will be acknowledged through the Nursing Journal.