

Tit-Willow

According to the magazine "Time," this parody of Gilbert and Sullivan seemed a very good joke to Mr. Gandhi. We quote from the "Times of India":

A MAHATMA sat singing on top of a fence
"Quit India, quit India, quit India."
He would pause for a while, then again
would commence
"Quit India, quit India, quit India."
And I said, "Oh Mahatma, I fear I am
dense
But your song doesn't seem to make
very much sense."
His reply was to chant in a tone more
intense.
"Quit India, quit India, quit India."
SO I said, "Oh Mahatma, pray why
do you chant
Quit India, quit India, quit India?
For with things as they are it's quite
clear that we shan't
Quit India, quit India, quit India."
And he answered indulgently, "Brother,
I grant
That at present perhaps it is true that
you can't,
But it's just the idea that I wish to
implant:
Quit India, quit India, quit India."

(continued from previous page)

a Hindu-dominated Dominion or Republic it might have less freedom and get much less government help in its huge educational and medical enterprises. Indians won't be able to get down to their basic economic problems until the political ones are disposed of. But I have noted that Christian institutions seem tending towards large-scale training for agriculture and village life. Again the stress, you see, is on making real local communities of real persons. You can't get either without the other."

Dr. Decker had for years lived in China. We had to ask before leaving about recent messages indicating breakdown of economic life and of national morale.

"The trouble," he said, "is that propaganda, as against straight information, over-idealises a situation or a people and then over-blackens it by contrast. The Chinese internal situation always has been precarious, politically and economically, and Chiang and other leaders always human. I last had tea

with the Generalissimo and Madame in 1939, but I know them to be devoted Christian people. However, it is foolish to expect them to have worked out from scratch the perfect Christian 'line' for their impossibly complicated situation. With centuries of Christianity behind us, we westerners aren't any too clear on applying the Gospel to politics. However, the Chinese people are socially democratic. Their industry and patience and adaptability will presently make their political institutions fit that fact."

Much Depends on Russia

"You know the Philippines, too, Dr. Decker?"

"I do, and I expect them also to make a good job of their forthcoming inde-

pendence—with plenty of mistakes and troubles on the way there. Their Christianity is real, but still crude. But we in America will have to give them a better economic deal than we promised if they are to keep up their standard of life and education. Most plans for the world, indeed, depend on getting rid of economic self-sufficiency and international insecurity. And that again largely depends on bringing Russia in the Peace Settlement out of isolation into the stream of the world's life. You will be interested to hear of some religious contacts already. An Orthodox party is expected soon in London to return the Archbishop of York's Moscow visit, and the Russian Baptists have invited a delegation from the American Baptists."

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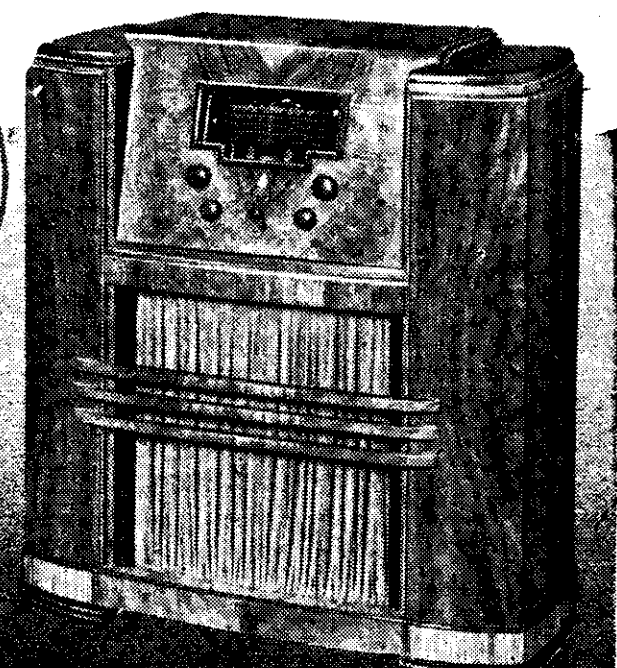
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