WRESTLING TONIGHT

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India's Kettle Boils

People Have to Foot Big Army Bill

(Continued from page nine.) independence. Two things none of them can do-negotiate with foreign states or make war.

In their internal affairs they are usually absolute, but they have British residents to check up on them and report if they seem to be going too far. They have their own armies, but those, too, are trained and supervised by British officers. They are no threat to the British, for there are only 40,000 of them. Sixty thousand British troops and 160,000 native troops of the Indian army always are on service in India.

In the World war the native states' armies were turned over to the British and did fine work for them. But the most famous of them, the Gurkhas, come from a little independent state, Nepal, which is not part of India, though lying on its borders and under British protection. Nepal supplied 200,000 fighting men from its total population of 5,000,000 during the World war.

The native rulers are familiar visitors to the west. They have created legend in America as well as England by their lavish living and spending. London is used to them, but it never gets tired of gaping at them and gossiping about their doings. They like to come here because it is part of the British policy to flatter them.

They bring their gaudily uniformed bodyguards and wear fortunes in jewels in their turbans alone. They take whole corridors of rooms in the big hotels and give lavish entertainments. They make dates not with single showgirls but with whole choruses at a time, and they shower the girls with magnificent presents. They go to all the big race meetings, and they shop



son; and Aga Khan, who is the supreme ruler of ten million Mohammedans.

("the Hindu pope"). They left on their honeymoon with 205 trunks.

The ex-maharajah bought a beautiful château near Paris, and his American wife has since presented him with three daughters. They have also a palace in Indore on which he is said to have spent \$10,000,000. One bathroom alone cost \$10,700.

He is not the only Indian prince married to a white woman. The Aga Khan, probably the best known of them all, has a French wife, daughter of a hotelkeeper at Chambéry. His first wife, who died in 1926, was Italian.

The Aga Khan is a familiar sight on English racecourses. He has a \$5,000,000 racing stable, is the first oriental ever elected to the exclusive Paris Jockey club, and in 1930 crowned his racing career by winning the Derby with Blenheim.

But in world politics he is a far more important figure than that. The British were pleased at his election this

ease has been virtually wiped out in western countries for generations.

Six cents per inhabitant was the education budget in the United Provinces in 1935-'36, according to the official report issued recently, and even then inhabitants of the British provinces are far better off than those under native rule.

Complicating all efforts to improve things in India is a rigid caste system that makes Britain's ironclad social classification seem easy-going and democratic. A Hindu must live and die in the caste of his father and grandfather, and he may not marry outside it. Even in the army care has to be taken to keep the castes apart. A Hindu is defiled if he is even touched by one of a lower caste.

Forty-three million Hindus, oneninth of the entire population, are untouchables, outside and below all castes, too low in the eyes of their fellows even to be counted as a caste. From them come nearly all the converts to Christianity and Islam.

Even the Indian princes are carefully graded. There are the big five -Hyderabad, Mysore, Gwalior, Baroda, and Jammu-and-Kashmir. The rulers of those states are treated as foreign sovereigns, with twenty-onegun salutes, and are independent in all except foreign affairs.

The nizam of Hyderabad, with a fortune estimated at \$1,000,000,000, gets on top of that an allowance of more than \$2,500,000 a year from the revenues of his state, and his huge official expenses are paid as well.

All the native princes are friendly to the British. They know that British rule is their chief protection st revolt of their own subjects as well as against invasion.

British rule has had its good side, too. In spite of all its disturbances it has been as peaceful a period as India has known. As far back as history goes India had been fighting, either against invaders or among its own warring groups, until the British took

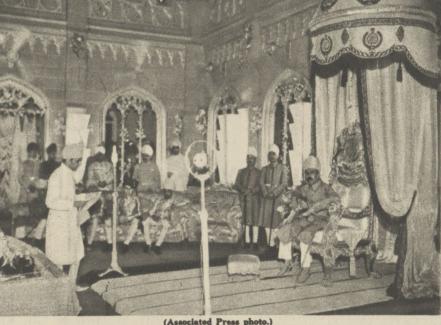
The British also are improving living conditions in India with western ideas of comfort and sanitation, but there again progress is very slow. In that and in education, however, British provinces are better off than the native states.

British justice has replaced the merciless tryanny of native rulers in the British provinces, and in the native states any ruler who is too consistently cruel is likely to find himself removed by the British. None of that has been done through pure altruism, but the people of India have benefited and it must be credited to the British.

But the masses in India are hostile to British rule and in some measure to their own princes. They are filled with the nationalist spirit that has swept the world, and they want independence. Italian and communist agitators have taken advantage of that opportunity to sow their teachings in fertile ground, and Indian demands for freedom get careful coaching from interested powers.

The new constitution does not suit the people of India, and they demand its replacement by real self-rule. If they do not get it India probably will see bloodshed on a larger scale than for many years past.

Significant, in the meantime, is the fact that the new king of Great Britain, George VI., has not been crowned emperor of India in the customary pageantry of that land. The ceremony, at first postponed indefinitly, now is not expected to take place at all. It is understood political troubles have their part in this cancelation of a his-



(Associated Press photo.)

The billionaire nizam of Hyderabad on his throne. He has an allowance of \$2,500,000 a year from state revenues, outside of the sum paid for his official expenses.

of three and radio sets by the half

Less than a year ago English newspapers were full of accounts of the \$75,000 super railway car built here for the maharajah of Indore to use on his private train at home. Just before the coronation the same maharajah again drew attention when he bought a \$150,000 chunk of the famous American Jonkers diamond.

His father, who abdicated in 1926 rather than face a British inquiry into his private life, is a familiar and famous figure in Europe. When he came to the throne in 1911 the former maharajah was hailed as an enlightened ruler whose only desire was said to be to improve the condition of his people. In 1925, however, his mistress and favorite dancing girl, Mumtaz Begum, deserted him for a rich Indian merchant, Abdul Kadir Bawla. A group of the maharajah's retainers tried to kidnap her, and in the scuffle Bawla was killed. British officers who happened to be passing beat off the attackers and rescued the girl.

Three of the assailants were sentenced to death, and the British ordered an investigation of the maharajah's part in the affair. Rather than consent to it he abdicated in favor of his son.

Two years later, although he already had two wives, he married Nancy Ann Miller of Seattle, whom he had met in his travels. Despite opposition from many quarters she became a Hindu-the first convert in history admitted to the princely caste -and under the name of Devi Sharmishta was married to him in March, 1928, on the banks of the sacred River Godavari, by the shrankaracharya

in the west end for automobiles in sets year as president of the league of nations assembly, because they think he can do more than any one else to keep the world's Mohammedan subject peoples peaceful.

In India he is a demigod. Ten million Mohammedans of the Ismaili sect there and in Africa believe he is superhuman. As a descendant of the prophet Mohammed his least word is law to them. Though he rules no territory, he is more powerful than any other Indian prince and has been of incalculable value to the British in keeping the Mohammedan world friendly.

His son, Prince Aly Khan, has an English wife, the former Mrs. Loel Guinness, born the Hon. Joan Barbara Yarde-Buller, daughter of the late Lord Churston. Indian princes completely stole the

show from other foreign visitors at the coronation this year. Even Gen. John Pershing's "General Grant" full dress uniform paled into insignificance beside their scarlet tunics, jeweled turbans, and magnificent collections of decorations.

On the other side of the picture there is dismal poverty. Most of the people of India live on a scale far below anything Americans know. While huge sums are spent on defense, and the opium trade is still an important source of wealth for the government, only one in ten among the native adults of India can read and write

his own language, or any other. The death rate for 1932 was 22 in every 1,000. In 1934 it had risen to 25 -one in 40 -- while in the United States of America it was only 11. In that year 80,000 persons died of bubonic plague in India, though the dis-