

MY MAGAZINE
OF INDIA

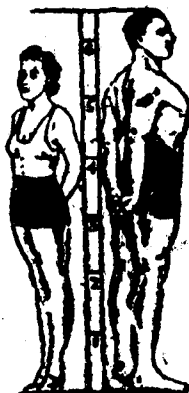
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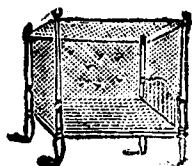
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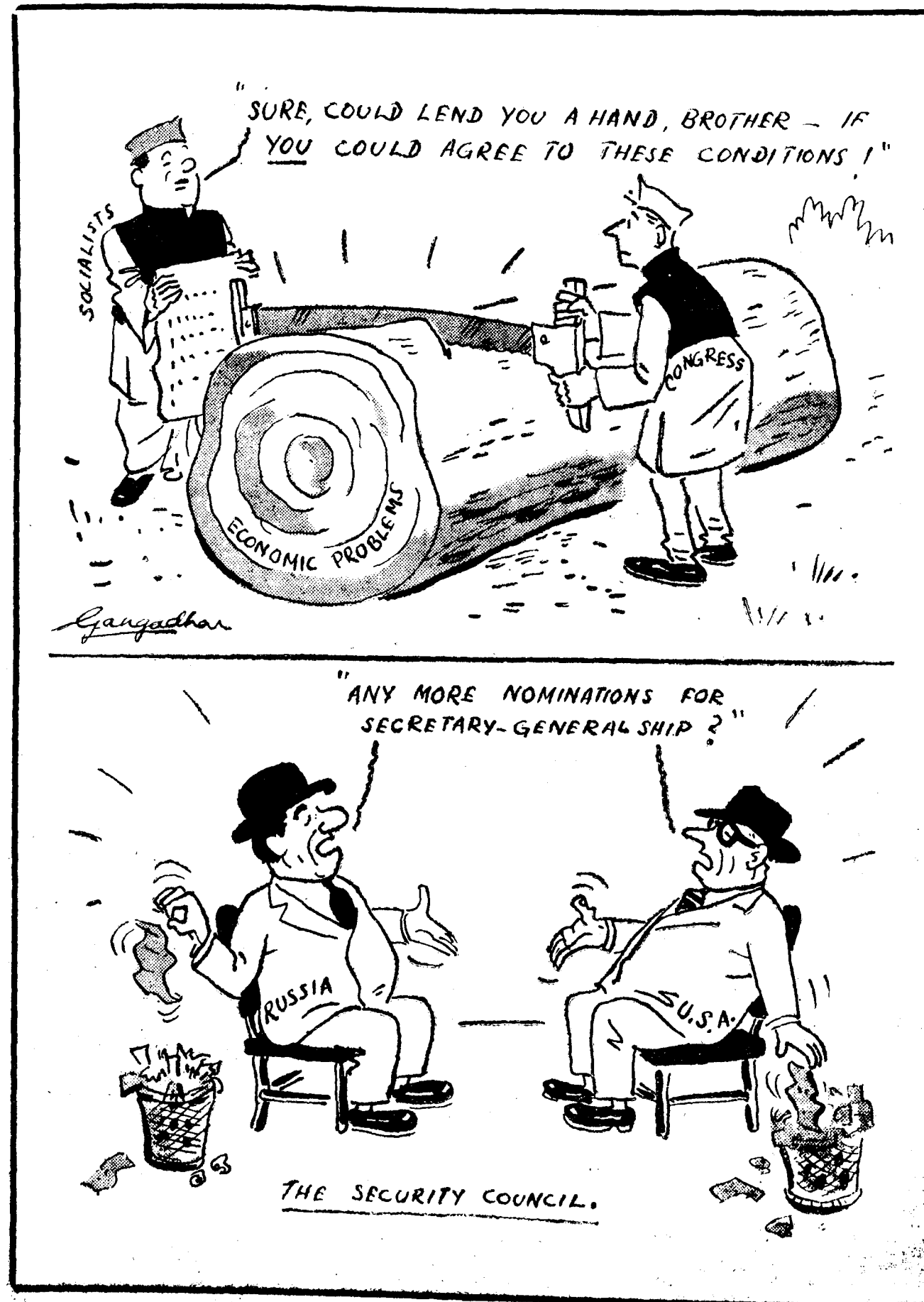
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MY MAGAZINE

OF INDIA

24th Year of Publication

Vol. 24 ::

MADRAS, 1st APRIL 1953

:: No. 7

Bowles On India's Role

AMONG Americans it would be difficult to think of a truer and more warm-hearted friend of this Nation than Mr. Chester Bowles, the retiring U.S. Ambassador to India. Forgetting dollar diplomacy, prestige and formality, he often mingled with the common folk in village and town and learned to admire and even to love the people of this country. It was he who fought hard with the American Senators and speeded up the grant of the wheat loan to India and secured liberal aid for the implementation of the community development projects. In the scheme for the village-to-village attack on poverty and famine he saw a crusade against Communism and its ultimate banishment from the land.

At a press conference in Delhi, on the eve of his departure for the United States, Mr. Bowles summed up his impressions of the country, the people and the foreign policy and programme of the Government. He was generous in the tribute that India as a democracy was succeeding very well. The thing which impressed him most was "India's determination to master, by democratic means, the vast problems which she faces in building a better future for her people."

Expressing his deep appreciation of India's foreign policy, Mr. Bowles said it was almost similar to the policy of the United States before the second World War. It was the policy of isolation or better still, opposition to "entangling alliances which we in America followed for 150 years." He, however, refuted the charge made by some eminent Indians that America was influenced by motives of world domination. His country was waging a relentless fight in the cause of democracy, he declared.

His further elucidation of our policy of peace could hardly be improved upon by

Indian spokesmen. India, preoccupied with her major task of reconstruction, was anxious to live in peace with all the world, including not only America, Russia, the United Kingdom and other nations, but also with her great neighbour China. While, in consistency with Gandhian ideals, India was building a dynamic, democratic economy and making a substantial contribution to the cause of freedom, China was pursuing a different goal. She was suppressing civil liberties and establishing a totalitarian State.

Mr. Bowles confessed to a feeling of perplexity that some Indians should choose to indulge in blind praise of Communist China's 'accomplishments.' At the same time, there was little criticism of the brutal means by which those so-called 'accomplishments' had been effected.

Although he was very mild and suave in his language, the outgoing Ambassador's warning to India against the Communist menace was unmistakable. He drew pointed attention to the danger to this country and its people, "presented by a new imperial power which has already seized the once free nations of Eastern Europe, and which has openly vowed to turn all Asia into a Communist appendage of the Soviet Union."

Also, the intentions of China so long as she is tied to the apron strings of Soviet Russia must be suspect. In her occupation of Tibet we can see a direct threat. But it was — and, perhaps, is — India's hope that a seat for New China in the U.N.O. would help wean her away from the Kremlin. Indians also would like to ask Mr. Bowles why the U.S. is assisting the Western Powers in retaining their colonial possessions in Asia and why it is bolstering up a discredited, moth-eaten regime like Chiang's.

News & Notes

Railway Centenary

Celebrations of the Centenary of the Indian Railways last month marked a unique occasion. The progress of the Railways was also the progress of this great Nation. When the East India Company laid the first railway tracks, it was mainly influenced by motives of strategy. Its vast possessions had to be guarded against the enemy.

Travel in those days was far from safe. Good roads were very few, the ekkas plied in the towns and the bullock carts drove along the beaten tracks in the countryside. But between one State and another mountains and forests presented huge barriers and were often impenetrable. Wealthy people and big business men were carried in palanquins but their journey was full of adventure and risks. Wild beasts and bands of robbers roamed about. If ever a tiger growled or a lion roared, the bearers would drop the palanquins and their precious charges then and there, and run for their lives.

Even sixty years ago, railway travel was a very risky affair. In 1894 a passenger train (the U.P. Mail) ran right into a huge wild elephant. "The engine and seven carriages were derailed," recalls a Delhi report. "The elephant was crushed to death. The engine driver, a Mr. James, took away one of its tusks as a trophy. The other graced the Board Room of the Railway in London. At the Eastern Railway stall in the (Delhi) exhibition, the giant skull of the elephant will remind visitors of the excitement of travel three score years ago."

Now, travelling over 34,000 miles of railway track involves very little risk. During the last War the Railways, however, suffered a serious setback. Railway lines were dismantled in places and rails and rolling stock were exported to the war theatres. The situation still further deteriorated under the scheme of partition.

There were very few coaches to transport passengers; still fewer were the wagons to carry the goods. The work of rehabilitation that faced the successive Railway Ministers after the attainment of freedom proved unwieldy, almost overwhelming. Nationalisation put an end to foreign exploitation, and zonal integration eliminated overlapping and ensured swiftness of service and efficiency.

Equipment and outfit later became increasingly available and the Tata and the Chittaranjan Works hold promise of brighter days for the Indian Railways. Dismantled lines are being gradually restored and there is every possibility of expansion with the growth of industry and increase in production.

What will India be like in 2053 A.D.? It is a thrilling thought. Several of the present lines may be electrified and the present "dungeon" on wheels, known as the third-class carriage, will serve as a curious relic, accorded its priority and pride of place in the next Centenary Exhibition! Will the Railways of the next century have to face serious competition from the air? It is not likely. Janata planes may not be feasible even then!

Parliament Of Religions

In this great and holy land of tolerance, a unique event of world-wide significance will be shaping itself early this week. At Rishikesh will be held, under the benevolent and watchful guidance of H. H. Mahamandaleswar Sri Swami Sivananda, a Parliament of Religions.

At this critical juncture in the history of the world when the cold war is "hotting up" on all accounts, when man has forgotten the purpose of life, when mass hysteria is much in evidence in several countries of Asia and Europe, it is but fitting that a Parliament consisting of representatives of the various faiths in the world is to meet and devise the

best plan to establish peace and carry the torch of Truth to the darkest corners of the earth.

There will be lively discussions and illuminating lectures and discourses by savants, leaders of thought and philosophers who each know their respective religions like the palm of their hand. The Parliament meets for a three-fold object. Emphasis will rightly be laid on the importance of religion in a man's life. Of course, it will have to be free of the bigotry and prejudices that poison the mind. The second aim is to foster a sense of universal brotherhood and international fellow feeling. Last but not least, practical suggestions will be made as to how best the different modes of approach towards the ultimate goal of life can be synthesised.

Many men have talked glibly of a one-world Government. As a valued contributor points out in a special article published elsewhere in this issue, the League of Nations became a dismal failure. The United Nations Organization, too, it is to be feared, cannot go very far because the voice of Truth is very often in a minority and one of the blocs with the strength of arms hidden behind overshadows the whole show.

Only when the peoples of the world come to realise that all religions, like so many roads, lead to the same goal can there be permanent peace in the world. And if they know also that war is something most abhorrent to the Divine Spirit and sets at naught the purpose of life, they can make it impossible for their Governments to engage in the pastime of piling up armaments. It is here that the Parliament of Religions can give a splendid lead and also meet from time to time to review the progress made and consolidate its ground. We wish it all success.

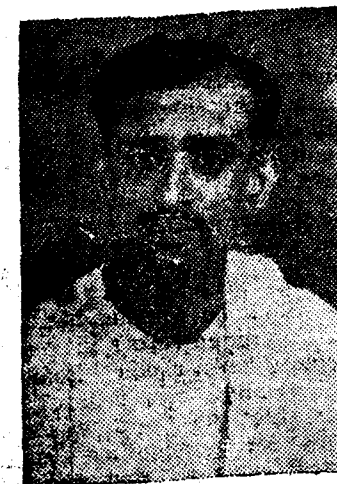
IN THE NEWS



Sri Mahavir Tyagi, the new Minister of Defence.



A reception was recently held by India's Ambassador to the U.S.A. at the Embassy in Washington. Several distinguished guests attended. Some of them seen in the photo are (L. to R.): Mrs. Shirin Banerji, wife of the Military Attache of the Indian Embassy; Mrs. James Barrington, wife of the Burmese Ambassador; Mrs. B.B. Mather, wife of the Asst. Military Attache of the Indian Embassy; Speaker of the House Mr. Martin; Mrs. C.J. Albert, wife of the Armed Forces Attache of the Philippine Embassy; and Mrs. J.C. Kakar, wife of the First Secretary of the Indian Embassy.



Sri N. Sanjiva Reddi, President of the A.P.C.C., who was unanimously elected as their Leader by the Andhra Legislators at a meeting held recently in the City.



Three new Bishops of the Catholic Church were consecrated by His Grace the Most Rev. Dr. L. Mathias, the Archbishop of Madras, recently at the S.I.A.A. Grounds, in the City. Photo shows (L. to R.): Rt. Rev. Mgr. P. Mariaselvam, Rt. Rev. Mgr. P.A. Carvalho, and Rt. Rev. Mgr. R. Sundaram.

"English Must Stay"

Better late than never. Our leaders are exhorting the younger generation not to neglect English. It is a world language now and we must retain it at all costs. Had this advice been given five years ago, the standard of English in schools and colleges would not have deteriorated so miserably.

Presiding at the Commemoration of the Foundation of Pachaiyappa's Charities in Madras, Sir C. P. Ramaswami Iyer deplored the attempts of the language fanatics to belittle the importance of English. He pointed out how in a country like Switzerland where the population in different regions — French, German and Italian — took pride in the regional language but at the same time spoke English. Similar was the case with Norway and Sweden also. "These countries, particularly Switzerland, were an example for all times of patriotism which transcended race and language, and stood for the vindication of the honour, integrity and entity of the nation."

This must be answer enough to those of our critics who so stupidly talk of the slave mentality that those who study English are said to be developing. Sir C.P. then recalled his experience in the Osmania University when he delivered the Convocation Address there some time ago. Students who tried to follow him were puzzled and baffled. Urdu was the only language that they knew.

If we were to keep pace with what was taking place in the world, went on Sir C. P., week after week, even minutely, to add to the storehouse of knowledge, it would only be done by possession, the acquisition and the easy handling of the great English language. It would take a long time for Hindi to become the national language in

the fullest sense. The literature, the science and the artistic creation of Hindi were yet in the making.

Finally, Sir C. P. emphasised that for the South Indian student three languages were essential — Tamil, Sanskrit and English. The first language was and should be Tamil. There was no getting away from that, and any attempt to decry it was foredoomed to failure.

On his view that Sanskrit must be assigned a second place, there are bound to be sharp differences of opinion. While many hold that Sanskrit will be of considerable cultural value, a large number of students may not take enthusiastically to it. English must be retained, he said, and accorded a third place. Few sensible people would question his verdict.

Shorter Medical Course

Among the advocates of a shorter medical course is our Chief Minister. They know full well that millions of the people living in the villages are beyond the reach of medical relief which is so easily available in the urban areas. The argument that either there should be very highly qualified doctors or there should be none does not take into account the actual facts of the situation. Colleges are very few but authorities would not touch the shift system even with a pair of tongs. It will be almost a century or even two, when we can have a well qualified physician for every group of villages, given the same annual output from colleges.

Will our dumb masses have to wait that long for doctors to hang up their impressive sign-boards and announce their readiness to examine the patients? The gulf in the matter of medical attention between the countryside and the city must be bridged somehow. Otherwise we will be failing in our duty. The fear that a shorter course will entail a fall in the general standard of efficiency is absurd and baseless. Writing on

the urgent need for more doctors *The Times of India* says: "It is difficult to understand how a short-term course for student willing to go back to the village from which they are drawn should affect the general standard of instruction in medical institutions. On the analogy of a clerk who does not deal with high policy files, a short-term doctor, provided he confines himself to the treatment of ordinary ailments, should be a help rather than a hindrance."

Authorities would do well to come down from the clouds and study the requirements of our village folk. They must learn to subordinate ideals to the dictates of practical wisdom and the urgent need of the hour.

A Gift Flown

At the Taj Mahal Hotel, the other day, a notable occasion was witnessed by a distinguished audience and press representatives in the presentation of a Silver Casket containing a Scroll to Mr. H. da Costa by Mr. Victor Paranjoti, founder and conductor of the Bombay Madrigal Singers, which will later be personally presented to Sir Adrian Boult in London by Mr. da Costa. The Scroll, encased in silver, has been specially made for the presentation and will nominate Sir Adrian as Patron in Chief of the Bombay Madrigal Singers.

Acclaimed as one of the finest groups of concert singers in India the Bombay Madrigal Singers, under the guidance of Mr. Paranjoti, has made tremendous progress since its inception in 1947 and will no doubt soon become internationally known for its excellent concerts.

Mr. Hubert da Costa of Pan American World Airways who will make the presentation to Sir Adrian Boult in London has had himself a unique career in music and comes from a great Bombay musical family. His father, the late Mr. J. P. da Costa, was responsible for promoting many orchestral concerts and musical dramas in Bombay and was the first Indian to make recordings of his works for distribution on gramophone records.

"Too Many Officers"

Debate in the Madras City Council on the Corporation Budget for 1953-'54 showed how exercised were the City Fathers over the mounting expenditure and wasteful extravagance on the part of the administration. Sri K. S. Ekambaram said that certain superfluous higher posts should be abolished. He was followed by another Councillor, Mr. Abdul Karim, who loudly complained there were too many officers for the Corporation.

Also, the general public feeling would seem to be that these officials are unaware of the need for economy in the Corporation, even when Government is cutting down expenditure whenever and wherever possible. Writing in a local weekly, an esteemed critic observes that the Corporation pampers its officers to such an extent that it would not think of reducing their car allowance under any circumstances. "It is said," he remarks, "that there is an assistant officer right under the nose of the Commissioner drawing his car allowance but not owning a car! Why should not the Corporation compel its officers to sacrifice a little?"

The critic also refers to other reported irregularities like waste of petrol in the name of trucks that transport water supplies to the drought-stricken parts of the City and the employment of casual labour. The Commissioner must investigate these and other complaints, and any drive for economy that he may launch will have the whole-hearted support of the public.

School For Drivers

In Madras City, Government Transport buses are responsible for forty accidents every month, on average. This disclosure was made by Dr. U. Krishna Rao, Minister for Labour and Transport, in the course of an address to bus drivers and conductors. More than half the number, he said, were due to faults on the part of

drivers. A little more care on the part of the men at the wheel, he suggested, would go far towards minimising the number of accidents.

According to the Minister, there were three types of drivers: first, those who were able and drove well, and secondly, those who bungled because of ignorance. "To the second category belonged the driver who never kept to the left side of the road, who always kept his foot on the clutch, who never signalled before he stopped or started from the kerb and who drove fast at turnings and corners."

The third type, went on the Minister, comprised those who were indifferent, rash and reckless. It was intended, therefore, to open a school where drivers would have to undergo a sort of refresher course. The Minister conceded that there were other causes also which conspired to bring about accidents. The running time between the starting point and the terminus was not sufficient. Besides, some of the buses had defects and were not roadworthy. And even if drivers pointed out the defects, they were not attended to promptly.

Generally speaking, drivers are not as cautious as they should be. Speed limits are ignored even on crowded roads. During the hours of the night between 7 and 10, they often go very fast so as to be first in the line to leave for the shed and go home. The knowledge that they are a privileged class and that in most cases of accident departmental action only will be taken against them has probably made drivers a bit careless. Things may improve if the law is allowed to take its normal course and Government Transport employees are made to pay the penalty like any other driver who has broken the rules of the road.

Practical Angle

Addressing the annual convocation of the Patna University, President Rajendra Prasad said that education must aim at the

development of social virtues in man "so that he may work and live with others." To achieve this end, he said, teams of social workers should be organised and they should vie with one another in the common task of promoting community welfare.

Secondly, said the President, the new generation must familiarise itself with the cumulative knowledge and experience of previous generations. The third aim of education, according to the President, was to cultivate in the student a discipline of the senses "so that he could meet his bodily needs and other requirements."

The country's wealth must be increased, he observed, and for stepping up production thousands of efficient workers were urgently required. It was imperative, therefore, that a practical angle should be given to education. "There are hardly any schools in India aiming at preparing young boys and girls in such a way as to enable them to support themselves in later life by working with their own hands. Primary and secondary schools have nothing to do with this kind of practical training."

But one would like to point out that the responsibility of training students to become useful citizens must be shouldered by the State. However, before entering any vocational school or technical institute, everyone must study up to a certain standard in the High School and acquire at least a little of polish and culture. Has basic education proved a success? Many are sceptical of its value. While crafts and manual labour must, of course, be given their due weight and importance, higher studies in arts and sciences have their own value. If the State wants more of men who can learn to make use of their hands and support themselves, it must not only restrict admissions to arts courses but also open technical institutes in every district wherein students can learn some craft or trade.

The Parliament Of Religions

THOUGH the United Nations Organisation (U.N.O.) was brought into existence immediately after the second World War and it was confidently asserted that it will ensure the peace of the world despite the failure of the League of Nations which was ushered into being immediately after World War I, it was felt by many persons that there were certain defects in its Charter which would militate against its usefulness. Since then the too puissant power-blocs led by the U.S.A. and U.S.S.R. have been in a state of cold war which might at any time become a hot shooting one.

Now that Stalin is dead, the minds of men are more confused and apprehensive than ever before because the shape of things to come is even less clear than it was formerly. It has been felt also that unless there is a U.R.O. (United Religions Organisation), the U.N.O. by itself cannot accomplish much.

We must remove the ideological conflict between rival groups of ideas before we can eliminate the danger of a military conflict between rival power blocs or rival nations. Only a federation of religions can lessen friction in the souls of men and spread the divine life everywhere and thus sow the seeds of universal peace. So long as religions are in a state of antagonism and conflict among themselves they will be unable to bring about the victories of peace in outer life.

This is why we must welcome, applaud and exalt the endeavour now made to hold a Parliament of Religions at Rishikesh on 3rd, 4th and 5th April 1953 under the auspices of the Sage of Rishikesh viz., His Holiness Swami Sivananda Mahamandaleswar. He has for

BY
K.S. Ramaswami Sastri

many decades been the preacher and protagonist of the Divine Life with its message of love of God and service of Man and its gospel of universal peace and welfare and happiness. Many leaders of various religions have acclaimed the proposal and have agreed to participate in the deliberations of the Parliament of Religions at Rishikesh.

When we think of the Parliament of Religions at Rishikesh our thoughts naturally go back to the first Parliament held at Chicago in 1893. After various rebellions within and assaults from without and after various reform movements effected some wise changes and kindled a spirit of enquiry, there came in the nineteenth century the resurgence of unified, dynamic, integral Hinduism assimilating the best in the old and the best in the new. Inaugurators of such Hinduism were Sri Ramakrishna Paramahansa, the saint of Dakshineswar, and his illustrious disciple Swami Vivekananda.

Sri Ramakrishna's integral basic Hinduism was based on the tripod of Religion as Realisation, of the concept of the Motherhood of God and of the harmony of religions. His teachings integrated the best ideas and ideals of Hinduism and swept away the erroneous ideas and institutions which come in the wake of foreign faiths and rebellious revolutionary movements from within.

Sri Ramakrishna embodied the softness of Hinduism whereas Swami Vivekananda represented

its strength. Such superhuman strength bent before such superhuman softness. Monsieur Romain Rolland says well: "Thus at the feet of the simple Ramakrishna, the most intellectual, the most imperious, the most justly proud of all the great religious spirits of modern India humbled himself." Thenceforward Swami Vivekananda carried all over the world such a superhuman combination of superhuman softness with superhuman strength. It is this combination that animates free modern democratic republican India today and is responsible for the modern Indian's commingled mood of spirituality and service, of mental fearlessness and mystical sweetness.

THE Parliament of Religions at Chicago which began on 1st September 1893—and this is the year of its jubilee—was for the purpose of showing the greatness of Christianity as the only universal religion. President Dr. Barrows was keen on propounding such a view and having it accepted by the followers of all the other religions. But Swami Vivekananda demonstrated how Hinduism is the religion which is most universal and which is also most consistent with modern science.

He pleaded for the brotherhood of religions as the real basis of the brotherhood of man. The huge audiences which attended the Parliament acclaimed him as "the greatest figure in the Parliament of Religions" and endorsed his view and accepted it enthusiastically and wholeheartedly.

It is painful to note that his own countrymen tried to harm him and cry him down when he became the idol of the Parliament of Religions. It is a bad habit with many modern Indians to

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applaud a man only after he is applauded in the West and with some modern Indians to "hint a fault and hesitate dislike" simply because he is applauded in the West and later on applauded here! But Swami Vivekananda went his way shown to him by God not caring for praise or blame.

SWAMI Vivekananda was not only a saint, a sage and a seer but also a patriot and a social servant. It was he who first lit the flame of patriotism in all Indian hearts and thus paved the way for Indian independence which is the miraculous achievement of Mahatma Gandhi in our time. It was he that first lit the flame of philanthropy and social service and succour and founded the Ramakrishna Mission for that purpose. The Servants of India Society and Mahatma's constructive programme came only much later. Swami Vivekananda based all his endeavours on the bedrock of spirituality and on the basic Indian concept of the oneness and the divinity of all life.

After establishing the greatness of Hinduism in the West and after pleading powerfully for universal brotherhood, peace and welfare based on devotion to God, Swami Vivekananda returned in a blaze of glory to India. From the time he set foot in Colombo till he reached Almora, his tour in India was a triumphal progress.

In his very first lecture at Colombo he struck the keynote of his attitude to life and uttered memorable words which all men who meet at the second Parliament of Religions at Rishikesh must remember vividly and for ever. He said: "If there is any land on this earth that can lay claim to be the blessed *Punya Bhoomi*, to be the land to which all souls on this earth must account for *Karma*, the land to which every soul that is wending its way Godward must come to attain its last home, the land where humanity has attained its highest towards generosity, towards purity, towards calmness, above all, the land of introspection and of spirituality — it is India.

"Hence have started the founders of religions from the most ancient times, deluging the

earth again and again with the pure and perennial waters of spiritual truth. Hence have proceeded the tidal waves of philosophy that have covered the earth, East or West, North or South, and hence again must start the wave which is going to spiritualise the material civilisation of the world. Here is the life-giving water with which must be quenched the burning fire of materialism which is burning the core of the hearts of millions in other lands. Believe me, my friends, this is going to be."

He asked the Hindus to be proud of the term 'mild Hindu'. The Hindus never cared for the military conquest of the world but achieved a cultural conquest everywhere. He pointed out how elsewhere religion is one of the many occupations of life whereas in India it is the chief solace and supreme joy of life. That is why he taught that India's mission was and is and will be to supply spirituality to the world, and that it is now very much needed by the West which is crushed by militarism and weighed down by world-weariness.

SWAMI Sivananda is akin by temperament to his two great predecessors mentioned above and combines in himself the sweetness of the one and the strength of the other. He is a master of both Vedanta and Yoga, whereas generally a Vedantin is seldom a yogi and a yogi is seldom a Vedantin. He is also a great *bhakta* or devotee and delights in *bhajan* and *nam sankirtan* whereas many Vedantins and yogis develop strange superiority complexes in regard to *bhakti* and many devotees dislike Vedanta as mere logic-chopping and yoga as mere auto-intoxication or catalepsy.

He is also a great servant of the lowly and the poor, the depressed and the downtrodden and delights in giving his all for them. He is also a great believer in the brotherhood of religions and infusion of philosophy and religion.

He is an irrepressible optimist in an age of diffused pessimism and an irrepressible believer in Fatherhood of God and the

Brotherhood of Man in an age of scepticism and atheism and agnosticism. He is a believer of the *Atman* in this Atomic age. He has boundless faith in the unity and divinity of life.

HE founded the All-World Religions Federation on the 29th December 1946 and it has been working well since then. He has also made a signal contribution to integral Hinduism and to perennial Philosophy. He is thus eminently fitted in every way to give a lead to the Parliament of Religions at Rishikesh.

Mr. H.G. Wells says in his *Outline of History*: "But out of this trouble and tragedy of this time and the confusion before us there may emerge a moral and intellectual revival, of a simplicity and scope to draw together men of alien races and now discrete traditions into one common and sustained way of living for the world's service...Religious emotion, stripped of corruptions and freed from its last priestly entanglements, may presently blow through life again like a great wind, bursting the doors and throwing open the shutters of the individual life, and making many things possible and easy that in these present days of exhaustion seem almost too difficult even to desire."

This splendid passage expresses briefly but brilliantly what must be the beacon-light of the projected Parliament of Religions and we stand for the fulfilment of such a hope as the result of the holding of the Parliament of Religions in our age which has gone through two World Wars and is in daily anguish and apprehension in regard to a third one. *Om Shanti! Shanti! Shanti!*

Worst Of It

Two modern youngsters were discussing money-boxes.

"I think it's childish to save money that way," little Mary opined.

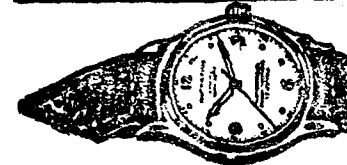
"I do, too," Annie replied, "and I believe also that it encourages children to become misers."

"And that's not the worst of it," Mary exclaimed. "It turns parents into bank robbers."

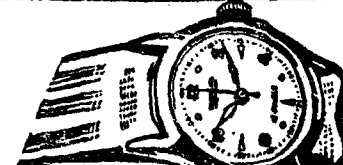
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Change For The Better !



IT was eight when he had tallied the accounts and the cash of the day. Late hours were usual, but at the end when the accounts tallied it did not matter what time it was. Ram Singh heaved a sigh of relief as he closed the shop and emerged into the darkness of the road.

Another day had ended, ended as far as this drudgery was concerned. But there were many more to come, interminably long chains of days with the same monotony and worry. From eight in the morning he had sat in that shop till eleven, examining ration cards and marking them and counting the dirty notes and coins from all sorts of people. Then an interval till three during which the previous day's accounts and cash were taken to the cashier in the office who benevolently accepted all torn-out and old currency notes and offered free advice to be careful about such notes in the future. Then from three to six-thirty again at the desk, attending to the public.

And what a public! That old woman who came round for one

day's rations with one anna short in the cash was a nuisance. She didn't ask for credit for that much cash; she expected it. Another woman unfolded the many folds of her card and flattened it on the desk challenging anyone to read anything written thereon. Still another customer, having already drawn his quota for the week, made a scene and threatened violence if he didn't get extra rations. It was the same every day, the same faces, the same stories.

YEAR after year this was going on without any chance of a break. After leaving high school, Ram Singh had nothing to do for two years and was a drain on the small resources of his widowed mother. The family lived on a small rental and the income from a plot of vegetable garden. And when he got this job in the ration shop with the help of his mother's brother the extra cash brought comfort to the little home.

Jaigarh was a small place. It was not even a small town. There were few social relaxations. There

was, of course, the annual festival at the temple and once in a couple of years a touring cinema camped at the railway station about two miles from Jaigarh. Ram Singh liked cinemas. He liked many other things, too; things that were not available. He liked long railway journeys that ended in a busy city. He liked electrically lighted roads and rows of illuminated and decorated shops. Thoughts of these left him morose and, still worse, made him unfit for the day's work.

Occasionally a friend came down to Jaigarh on leave and completely upset whatever mental balance Ram Singh managed to keep. The friend spoke of the city delights, tram cars, electric trains, big hotels. How Ram Singh pined to climb to the top storey of a building in a lift!

By PAM

He decided that a change was overdue. He didn't waste much time and went up to the Secretary at the office and asked for the three months' leave due. The Secretary darted a suspicious look at him and wanted to know why such a long period of absence was needed. He would be unwilling to entrust the shop to someone else. The shop was running on well and the accounts were kept all right. Though Ram Singh sulked and scowled and showed temper to the staff, they liked him for his honesty.

"My health is not quite good and I would like a change," said Ram Singh.

"Change? Why, I suppose you are all right as it is. I don't know if any change will be to your good," returned the official.

"I am going with Gopalram on a holiday," ventured Ram Singh, though he knew Gopalram was not in the plan, nor was he seeking a holiday. He was leaving for good. No more ration shop, no more this drudgery of Jaigarh. It wasn't quite right to tell lies to an elderly and kindly soul like the Secretary, but no harm was done.

"You can have your leave if you want it, but as a friend I would like you to stay at home with your mother and look after your affairs. Gopalram can tell wild stories. You had better ignore them. You know well enough that he can't earn a living in Jaigarh. That's why he's in Bombay. He's in Bombay, isn't he?"

"No. Just now in Poona. But he's going to Bombay shortly."

Gopalram worked neither in Bombay nor in Poona, but that didn't matter very much.

WITH three months' leave and some cash that he secured from his mother, a tenant and a money-lender Ram Singh got down from the train and mingled in the crowds that flowed from the great station into the broad tarred roads taking them to the different parts of the city.

A humble-looking hotel in a by-lane a couple of furlongs from the station gave him accommodation. It was a small room without much light and furniture. That did not matter. The food that he got at noon consisted of bread of some sort, two dishes of unknown vegetables and plenty of cold water. He paid for the food and returned to the room for rest and thought.

What was the bread made of? It wasn't *bajra* or maize. And the ghee, by God! It smelt foul. The big ball of butter that his mother placed on the top of the bread twice a day at home had the flavour that he liked. And when she cooked vegetables plucked fresh from the garden, they tasted like vegetables and one could say what they were.

Towards the evening he went out for a walk. The roads were heavy with traffic and he took to a sidewalk, a clean sidewalk with plenty of men and women going about. Why were they hurrying? And where to? Yes, they were leaving their work for the day. So early? Why not? They hadn't to make up accounts and cash in a ration shop. All strange faces. Not one could he recognise. Once he thought he saw the brother of Kishenchand, but no, it was someone else. Kishenchand's brother had a pot-belly and

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was not gray-haired. He was not much of a friend, but any one with a familiar face was welcome now.

These people were all well dressed. A few were in dhoti and they had tied their dhoties in a different fashion. He looked at his own. It wasn't dirty, but not the sort they wore. And shirt? Striped shirts were not in fashion. He had a striped one. Somehow he seemed different from them. He must get new clothes.

It was dark when he returned to the small room in the hotel. The room was lighted with one bulb hanging from the centre of the ceiling. It was some relief that at night the room was not dark as in the day. Inside he found two young men sitting on beddings and chatting. They stared at him as he entered. Who was the intruder? The proprietor of the hotel came in with a roguish smile and explained that the room had to take in one more member and Ram Singh was to stay in it. One of them protested.

"But tell me where's space to spread a third bed?" he asked.

The proprietor said it was only for a few days and he would make other arrangements.

But it mattered little. What really mattered was whether he would reduce the rent to two-thirds.

RAM SINGH spent a week seeing the city and its life. He made friends with his room-mates and spent small amounts on tea and cinema for their company and was fast throwing off the lonely feeling that had lately come upon him. The cash in his hand was evaporating also. He must find a job and — but how?

His friends helped him and got him work in the factory they were working at. It was the sort of work he was already familiar with. He added up long lists of sale proceeds — so many grosses of bolts and nuts at a given rate and so on. The difference being bolts and nuts, pulleys or belts instead of wheat, maize or sugar. He did not have to deal with the purchasers, true; but he sat at a narrow table all the

seven hours and added up dead figures all the time. And he found little sympathy in the looks of his fellow workers. All strangers coming from different parts of the country, perhaps. The work bored him before he was at it for many days.

OCCASIONALLY he remembered the old woman in Jaigarh who brought her crumpled ration card to the shop. He imagined that she had then brought a part of her life as well with that card. She had then bored him. Today, sitting at a lonely desk and counting up figures, he wished he could see her familiar and good-natured look though miles away. Poor thing, mother had helped her out from many a lean day; his own mother whose hands were strengthened by his own earnings. And it was more than two months since he left her. He had written encouraging letters to her, but sent no cash. He hadn't any to spare.

The clerk at the adjacent desk came up to him. "You are growing a beard, is it?" he asked suddenly. Who had ever thought of a beard? Ram Singh wasn't sure he was growing it, but he wanted to be polite.

"Yes, the beard has grown since some days. No time for a shave."

"Here they're particular about shave and dress," ventured the clerk. "The Assistant Manager gets displeased at the shabby appearance of anyone."

Nobody cared about one's beard in Jaigarh. It didn't matter, too, what dress you wore.

"A shave on alternate days is not costly," suggested the clerk. "I find it easy. Buy a shaving set and do it yourself."

Ram Singh hated this shaving business. He had other serious hatreds, too. Rent was what he didn't like to pay. He had never paid house rent before; cash down for every meal that he ate was also disgusting. He liked, of course, a cup of tea in a crowded restaurant. That pleasure he couldn't get at Jaigarh. But when it came to paying for it then and there! The tea itself was not better than the one he was used to. It wasn't that. It was not tea that he

wanted. What was it? He had told the Secretary at Jaigarh that he was going out for a change. It was the change that he was paying for. Not the tea or the food.

When he left the office that evening Ram Singh had time to take stock. He had been in the city for over two months. Two salaries he had drawn and now in the middle of the month he wasn't sure the cash in hand would last out till he drew another instalment. It wasn't right. The Secretary had said that Gopalram couldn't get a job in Jaigarh. That's true enough. But he himself had one, and looking from this distance it wasn't a bad one, too. He had friendly faces around him, the old woman with the crumpled ration card, the man who fought for extra rations and all the rest of them. He had a home with plenty of light and air and space and mother — well, he couldn't think of his mother and the garden and the neighbourly folk without tears.

BEFORE the three months had gone out Ram Singh boarded the train for the long return journey. From the small out-station he walked the two-mile distance home meeting an acquaintance or two on the way. They smiled their welcome and helped to throw out that feeling of loneliness that had come upon him. At home he was warmly welcomed, the neighbours making the utmost noise. His mother took it all silently.

He reported for duty the day before he was due. The Secretary was the same kindly soul sitting in the same chair and working in the same way as Ram Singh had seen him three months ago. He remarked that Ram Singh had thrown off his extra fat.

"You had a change, I believe," he said, trying to make conversation.

Ram Singh had little to say. He had had his change. That was all.

The elderly cashier looked over his glasses. "Ram Singh has really lost much weight, sure. But he doesn't scowl now. He's more pleasing."

"That has more than compensated for the loss of flesh," said the Secretary, laughing.

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The Mali's Gift

By Vijaya Radhakrishna

IT was a day of great rejoicing in the doctor's house. The doctor had prayed and longed for a son and heir. The fact that the new arrival turned out to be an "Evelet" fair did not in any way mar his great joy. Every member of that household rejoiced over the master's good fortune. Raju, the mali, was happier by far than the other servants. He loved children best, next only to the rare blossoms he tended with such affection and care.

He had prayed in vain for a child of his own, and he felt his wish was almost granted when the master's little girl was born. He sat visualising the happy hours he would spend with his little mistress when she was big enough to play about in the garden. In spite of the exultation he felt, a sigh escaped him, as he thought of his own cheerless, little house where no baby prattle dispelled the gloom.

Raju lavished all his pent-up affection on the doctor's little girl, Sona. Two years had passed by, and then, he, too, like the Doctor, became the happiest man. The cherished desire of his heart was at last fulfilled when his own little daughter was born. Every minute of his leisure, Raju spent admiring the frolics of his little darling. Never in his wildest dreams had he hoped for a child, so fair. Radha was one of those pretty girls, who, by some trick of destiny, are born into a low-class family. Her grace and charm took the place of birth and lineage. Raju thought nothing was good enough for his little goddess. With her intelligence and good looks, Radha would surely climb quite a few rungs of the social ladder.

Raju took great pains to get her properly educated. He could hardly afford it with his meagre earnings, but, with the greatest of difficulty, he managed to put by the extra sum required for Radha's schooling. He had to forego many

little pleasures and comforts to do it. He hardly ever joined his friends in their occasional carousals.

The advent of his own child did not in any way diminish Raju's devotion to little Sona. She was as dear to his heart as his own little one. Sona, too, had a warm affection for the simple-minded, doting mali. She would have made friends with the mali's charming little girl if it were not for her mother's vigilance and abhorrence. The lady of the house believed in social distinctions. It would never do to let her daughter seek the companionship of an inferior.

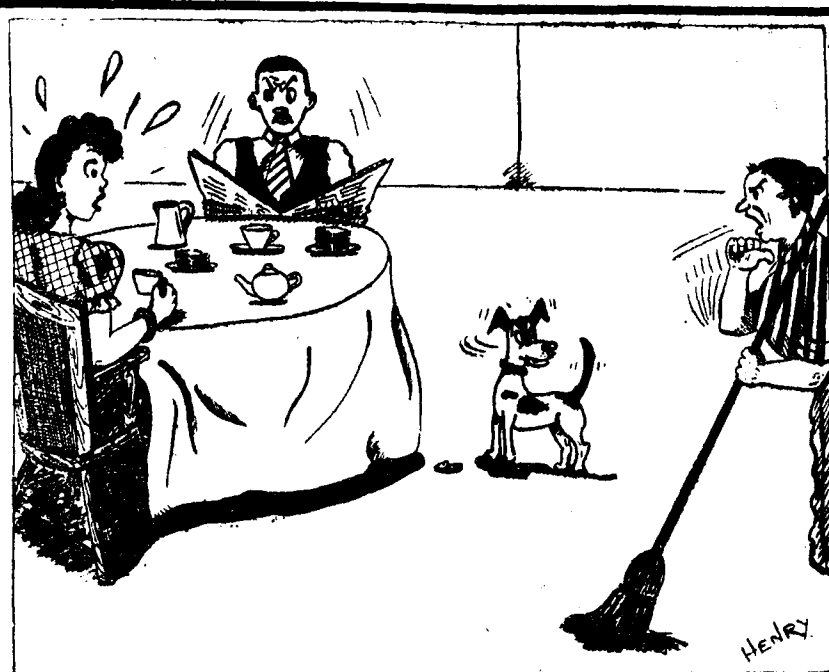
RADHA had blossomed into a slender graceful young woman. Raju realised in her his most cherished dreams. According to his standards, she was highly educated, having passed her Matric with distinction. Her charm and good nature stood her in good stead. In spite of the fact that she had no dowry nor expectations, quite a number of eligible young men sought her hand but as most

of them came from the same social level as Raju, he was not satisfied with any of them. He felt that her education made it difficult for her to marry below her standard. At long last, his expectations were fulfilled. A young schoolmaster came forward to marry Radha in spite of her lower social status.

Great preparations were being made in the mali's humble abode. Raju had the help and good-will of all his associates. The great day was approaching rapidly, and in spite of the great joy that filled him, he did feel uneasy at the thought of his daughter's impending departure. The little house was gaily decorated by his own loving hands.

THE blow, however, fell when it was least expected. One night there was a lull in the gaiety. Next-day, there was no need to continue the preparations for the wedding. The principal player had vanished from the stage. Raju never rallied from the shock. His stunned senses could not get accustomed to the fact that his dearly beloved daughter was no more. There was only a gaping void before him. Present and future faded out of his vision, and his mind dwelt only on the memories of the happy past.

It was a cruel fever that had suddenly carried away his only treasure, and cast eternal darkness on his soul. He could not



Maid-servant: "Mrs. Jones! There's a stranger waiting outside. That young man insists that there is a Miss Jones here who knows him and wants to see her!"

understand how fate could be so cruel to him. Surely, he had not harmed a soul. The ways of Providence were beyond human probing. Raju took to his mat and couldn't leave it. His stricken wife did not long outlive her beloved daughter but the kind neighbours saw to it that the broken old man did not die of starvation.

WEDDING drums beat in frenzy. It was all noise and bustle at the doctor's bungalow. It was a gala occasion, indeed. Friends and relations thronged the benevolent doctor's portals. Sona made a lovely bride, decked in the best of everything that money could buy. Her friends could not help envying the costly jewels and finery she wore.

Sona's father called to her, for there was someone outside waiting to see her. The young girl started as she looked into the woeful haggard face of her devoted old mali. She could hardly recognise him. He was a mere shadow of his former sturdy self. Tears gathered in her beautiful eyes as she gazed pitifully at Raju. He had brought a little present for her. It was a mere nothing, compared to all the costly gifts her friends had showered on her.

But Sona valued this thin gold necklace more than all the glittering jewels she possessed. Raju had bought the little chain for his Radha. The doctor's shrewish wife arrived on the scene just then. She flared up at the sight of the ragged mali and his ill-omened gift. She snatched it from Sona and flung it back at the mali and ordered him out of the house. She felt his ill-fated presence would shadow her daughter's future happiness. With tears streaming down his face, the broken old man threaded his way out silently through the crowd.

THERE was a lull in the crowded pandal as the beautiful bride approached the sacred fire. A continuous murmur passed round the gathering as all eyes were riveted on the lovely young woman. Sona's proud mother gazed with horrified eyes at her willful daughter, for no rich ornament adorned the wealthy bride except a solitary thin gold necklace that gleamed on the fair, slender neck!

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A Show for SALLY!

By W.A. Clarke

BOXING fans don't often see the same pair of boxers fight each other twice in one evening. The occasion when 'Tiger' Mason and I did so may very well be the only one on record.

First of all, I may as well confess that when 'Tiger' and I entered the ring that night we both knew exactly how the fight was to end. That detail had been taken care of weeks in advance.

I had had my day, but I was still a very useful performer compared to 'Tiger' who was little more than a beginner. However, my eyes had started to play me false and, although the public didn't know it, my manager and I had agreed that this was to be my last fight.

In other circumstances I might have gone on for a year or so. But when Sally Rankin came into my life, things altered a lot. She was a pretty little thing. Five feet nothing, golden hair that owed nothing to peroxide, big blue eyes and the cutest dimple when she smiled—yes, the kind of girl you read about in stories.

The first time I saw her I fell—and heavily, too. For some reason I made a hit with her, too, and pretty soon I began to think I could hear wedding bells. The only snag was I couldn't see her as often as I would have liked, she being a vocalist with quite a fair-sized dance band. Consequently she often had to travel around and I wouldn't see her for weeks at a time.

However, after several months, we reached an understanding but without becoming officially engaged. Sally felt we ought to wait a little longer before taking such a step. I didn't worry—I was fairly sure I had her in the palm of my hand.

Naturally I began to think about my future. And the more I thought about it, the more I considered quitting the fight game. Then, as I've already mentioned, my eyes started bothering me. When the fight with 'Tiger' Mason was arranged, I knew it would have to be my last.

When I mentioned it to Sally, she seemed delighted and instantly promised she would be at the ringside to spur me on. I was bucked no end to hear this. She had never been to one of my fights before.

I got so excited I gave it out to Barney Miller, my manager, that it was my intention to put 'Tiger' on the canvas for a full count of ten. He took it quite calmly.

"Take it easy, Bob," he advised me. "I know how you feel. You want Sally to see you dishing it out."

"Yes—and she's going to!" I told him.

EVEN today I can remember how Barney shrugged his shoulders and said: "Well, Bob, it's up to you. If you've changed your mind, I can cancel my bets. But, for your sake, I don't want to. With the odds the way they are and our money all sorted out, you're on to at least a thousand pounds. Think it over, Bob. Sally and you'll be able to do something with a sum like that. If you win this time, you'll want to go on, and a year from now you'll be a cats-meat fighter slinging blows that won't connect with anything. Maybe your lamps will give out. What will you do then?"

Much against the grain, I finally saw it his way. He was right, of course—but it seemed a pity

that Sally had got to see me go out in the fourth round.

On the night of the contest, 'Tiger' and I made a show during the first two rounds, but we didn't hurt each other. The only time we didn't pull our punches was when we knew we were going to hit the air. However, the crowd kept up a continual roar so I guess how our acting must have looked.

As I sat in my corner at the end of round two, I suddenly realised that I'd been concentrating so much upon not doing anything rash in the ring that I had forgotten about Sally. I looked around, and, seeing her sitting in the third row, I waved to her. Then the bell clanged and I was on my feet for the third round.

TO my astonishment, 'Tiger' came charging across at me and planted a vicious left on my chin. The surprise alone was enough to send me to the floor. I couldn't understand this turn of events at all. 'Tiger' might have made a mistake and taken this to be the round the fight should end. But there was no call for him to start lashing out as though he really had to earn the decision.

I rose to my feet at the count of five. "Ease up, 'Tiger,'" I whispered, "the next round is the one."

"Ease up, nothing," 'Tiger' snorted, "I'll show you!"

With that, he caught me with another stinging blow flush between the eyes. I remember thinking: "O.K! If that's the way he wants it!"

I was awfully annoyed, I can tell you. I went after him determined to get to work. In the heat of the moment I must have dropped my guard. Instantly, a torpedo hit me. At least, it felt like one. Next, I became aware of the tang of smelling-salts under my nose and I found myself back in the dressing room.

It was a few moments before I could make myself heard above the general hubbub that was going on all around me.

"Where's 'Tiger'?" I yelled. "Just let me get my hands on him!"

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Before anyone can tell me where he is, the dressing room door is all but kicked off its hinges and in stalks 'Tiger,' his manager and his trainer.

"What's the big idea, waving to my girl?" he shouts, hovering over me as I lay on the table.

Before anyone can stop me I'm up off the table and dragging 'Tiger' by the arm out into the arena.

"Now," I says to him, "where's your girl sitting? Point her out to me."

Of course, it's quite plain to me that he's let my gesture at the end of round two get in his hair. And all with no real need for it.

But, hardly are the words out of my mouth when he flabbergasts me by pointing unmistakably in Sally's direction.

It was too much for me. There and then, I clocked him. He immediately hit back and next second we were going at it hammer and tongs. Pretty soon, all one side of the building was in an uproar. There were whistles, catcalls and cheers coming from the crowd and sundry people hopping about trying to get between 'Tiger' and me. On the whole, they were pretty unsuccessful and we got in some hefty jabs at each other.

It caused the devil of a row, as I've already told you, and it finished our careers as boxers too. But it sowed the seed of a wonderful friendship.

You see, when 'Tiger' and I got round to exchanging notes eventually, we found that

dear, sweet, five feet nothing Sally Rankin had been giving us both the run-around.

SO, ten years ago, we joined forces and bought a nice little pub in the country. We have enjoyed every minute of our partnership. Neither of us is married, and we never intend to be. As far as we are concerned, women don't exist. We don't even relish having them as customers.

But, if you're a man, and particularly if you are a boxing enthusiast, we'll always be glad to see you. If you are ever in Ballymoriarty, drop in and see us. It's only a small village, but you'll find it has two pubs.

Ours is the one called "Adam's Paradise!"

Realisation!

"Do you ever have rows with your wife?"

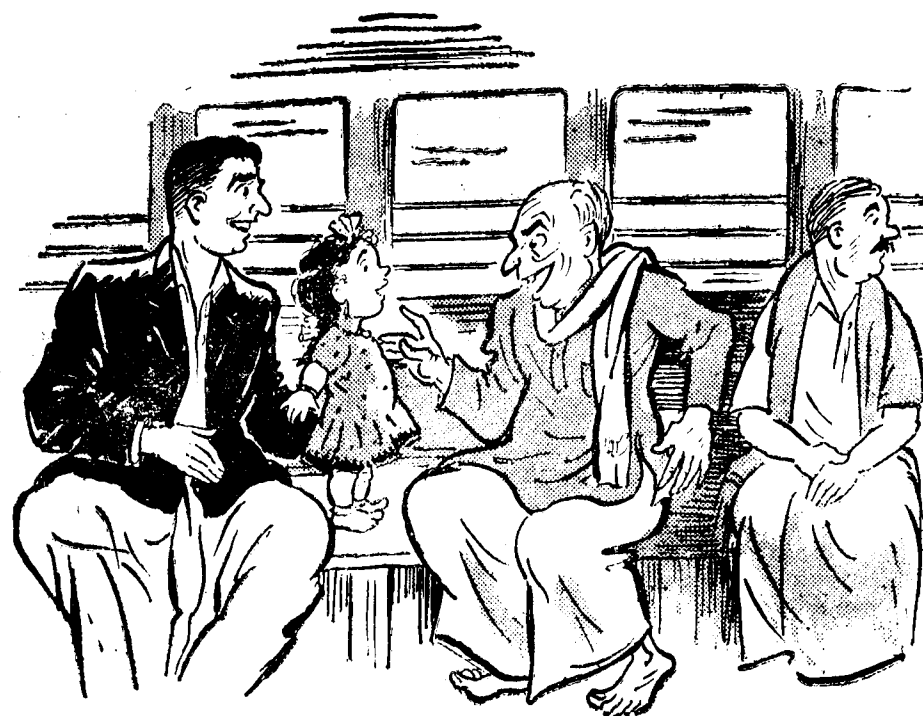
"We used to until we realized I was wrong."



After The Journey

||||| BY |||||

Jayaram
Subedar



It was the evening of Vijaya's second birth-day. She was in one of her ugly moods. She sat in the centre of the room yelling incessantly, with her playthings littered around her.

Janaki, her mother, offered her toys, picture-books, biscuits and everything else she could lay hands on. Vijaya just took the things and flung them across the room. Then she howled with renewed energy.

"Oh, it's impossible!" Janaki wailed in vexation and slapped the child on its bare back. The sudden screams that went up from the child brought Govind scurrying into the room.

"What's all this?" he asked his wife in anger as he placed the magazine he had been reading on the table.

"Can't you see? It was all your daughter who..."

"My daughter! So she has now become my daughter, eh? All right, be it so. But I want to tell you something. No, don't stare at me like that! You women, you can never do anything smoothly! You must always make a fuss over anything or there is no joy for you in it. Now, you may go. I'll take care of the child."

"Will you, really? Thanks very much," she smiled sardonically as she went out. "But don't trouble me with Viji, this evening. I'm tired of her."

Strange are the ways of little children! No sooner was the mother gone out than the girl stopped crying and, becoming playful once again, began to munch the biscuits. This utterly surprised Govind but did not lessen his sense of triumph as he carried back the child to the mother saying, "Look here, dear, what a gem she is! You said I'd never do it but I have done it now. Bah! you women, with your incorrigible ways of dealing with children!"

"All right, all right," she retorted, "I admit that you are exceptionally intelligent and full of worldly wisdom. But I don't want you to bore me now. Viji has done enough of it since this morning, but I want you to leave me in peace. So, don't bring her to me till it's night."

"Well, then, I'll take the little darling out for a stroll in Shivaji Park. Get her ready."

The child came back to him dressed in gay-coloured silken garments. Its hair was neatly done and a finely drawn *ilak* adorned her wide forehead. Govind

scanned her critically and asked Janaki, "But the bangles, dear?"

"My goodness! I forgot about them!" she exclaimed and ran in to fetch them.

It was a pair of gold bangles — expensive and beautiful. They were given to Vijaya on her birth-day. The little hands looked quite pretty when the bangles were put on her wrists. Govind took the girl in his arms and sallied out.

As he sat in the tram on his way home from the Park he felt very happy — the happiness a man feels when the task he set out to do has been done satisfactorily. He sat close to the window, holding the child in his arms, its cheek pressed against his. He pointed out to the child the bright shop-signs, the multi-coloured lights of restaurants and theatres and other radiant objects that rose out of the sea of darkness.

The girl clapped in delight. So wild was her joy that she pulled the father's nose and ears and began to kick him in the way children do to express the joy they cannot describe. Her foot even struck the man seated beside Govind in the closely-packed vehicle.

(Continued on page 28)

A MAN took his car to some instrument makers for attention to heater. The job finished, he paid the charge and drove away.

About half an hour later he returned. The foreman mechanic expressed surprise at seeing him so soon. "Has something gone wrong?" he asked.

"No," the man replied, "everything's all right. But I left my wife in your waiting-room."

Good Care!

When a national service man went to his lieutenant for his leave pass, the officer noticed that the boy was from his own home town and asked him to say "hello" to his mother.

Two weeks later, the private, back, stammered to the officer: "I called your mother, sir, like you asked ... and well, sir, I don't know how to say it like she did, sir ... but she told me ... I mean she asked me to take good care of you, sir."

True To Original

A well-known art critic was too fond of the bottle. He was sent to an exhibition, and found himself looking in a mirror. He took out his notebook and wrote: "At the entrance, is a picture of a drunkard. No signature. Full of of character. Very realistic. Picture certainly copied from an original, as I have already seen that face somewhere."

Confusing

In his old age a British judge, known for the speed with which he disposed of cases, was asked by a friend to explain his secret.

"I always listen to the plaintiff, and then I make my decision," he said.

"You never listen to the defendant?"

"Well, I did at first, but I found that it confused me."

Reaction

Doctor: "Did you hold the mirror to her face to see if she was still breathing?"

Nurse: "Yes, Doctor, and she opened one eye, gasped and reached for her powder-puff."



In The Same Boat!

Einstein was on his way to a scientific congress in Chicago. On the journey he felt hungry and went into the dining-car. The waiter showed him the menu, but, unfortunately, the celebrated professor found he had left his glasses in the compartment. Next to him was a Negro and he asked if he would kindly read to him what was on the menu. With a smile, the latter replied: "I am sorry, sir, but I've not learned how to read either."

One Or The Other

"Hello, Petersen—are you using your lawn-mower this afternoon?"

"Yes, I'm afraid I am."

"Splendid! Then you won't be wanting your tennis-racket—I've broken mine."

Warned!

It is stated that, in the United States, a beauty parlour put up the following notice: "Don't smile at the young lady you see leaving this establishment; it might be your grandmother."

Safe Side!

"He told me last night that I looked positively ethereal in the moonlight."

"What does that mean?"

"I don't know, but I smacked his face to be on the safe side."

A Little Doubt

A woman went to a domestic servants' agency and landed what looked to her like an ideal maid. She described the household duties to her, adding: "In our house, it has always been a custom to have breakfast in bed."

"Is that so?" was the chilled reply. "Yours or mine?"

MILLIONS of his friends and admirers know that the late Will Rogers was transformed from a rather shy, rope-twirling cowboy into America's outstanding comedian-philosopher. It's the story of how a chance remark changed Rogers' whole life. But not many people know just what the remark was.

It happened at the Union Square Theatre in New York one night when Rogers began his rope-twirling act and his lariat refused to work. Will paused, grinned broadly at his audience, and remarked: "Spinning a rope is lots of fun—if your neck ain't in it."

His audience roared with laughter. In that instant, the career of Will Rogers began.

Unreal Business

A very elderly professor who had lived alone for many years was thought to be a bit queer. A woman was quite sure of it when, one day, she paused to watch the old man holding a watering can poised above a flower box. At last she called, "Professor, there's no bottom in that watering can!"

"It's quite all right," he assured her. "These are artificial flowers I'm watering."

"Sounds Good"

Mabel arrived home with an engagement ring on her finger. "What kind of fellow is the man to whom you are engaged?" her father asked.

"Well, he says he had always wanted a home," Mabel explained.

"That sounds good."

"And he likes ours very much!"

Truth

"Are you always so quiet, Tommy?" asked the visitor.

"No," replied Tommy, "but mother has promised me sixpence if I don't say anything about your bald head and red nose."

So Many Released

Pamela: "Is Bill a popular boy?"

Pat: "Popular? I should say he is! Why, when he left the town thirty girls went back into circulation."

Prize Excuse!

The prize excuse was introduced during the trial of a man charged with wife-beating. A neighbour present during the assault was called as a witness for the prosecution. He described the blows in detail and the wife's helplessness.

In astonishment the judge turned to the witness and asked:

"Do you mean the court to understand that you stood by and saw this man strike the poor woman again and again?"

"Yes, I saw it all."

"And you made no effort to interfere?"

"I couldn't."

"Why not?"

"I was filling my pipe!"

The Stranger

A doctor came home tired and decided not to take any more calls. No sooner had he got into bed when the phone rang. His wife answered it. "Make any excuse you can think of," the doctor whispered to her.

"The doctor is away for the week end," the wife told the caller.

"This is Mrs. Jones. I want to know what to do. I have a pain again."

The doctor knew the case and whispered some instructions to his wife which she transmitted.

"Thank you very much," the patient said, "but tell me—is the gentleman who seems to be with you a qualified physician?"

In Practice

"At last, my angel," said the just-married man, "we are really and truly one."

"Theoretically, yes," rejoined the modern bride. "But from a practical standpoint it will always be advisable to order dinner for two."

Inseparable

"Jackson and Williams had a terrible row at the club last night," said Wilson.

His companion looked surprised. "That's strange," he said. "I thought those two were inseparable."

"They were," said Wilson. "It took six of us to drag them apart."

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Keep your body and mind always busy in doing good actions and thinking noble thoughts. This will prevent evil having a foothold in you. Always reflect on the Reality of God and the unreality of the world. Do intense *vichara*. My book *Concentration and Meditation* will help you a great deal. Study also *Lives of Saints*. You are bound to be greatly inspired.

There is no failure, everything is a stepping stone to success. Do not get disheartened. Great men have had great starts! Take heart, work hard, lead a pure life with the mind always firm and fixed on God.

If you determine to be a perfect *brahmachari* (celibate), all these obstacles will vanish. Have before your mind's eye the pictures of Sri Hanuman, Sri Bhishma, Sri Sankara and the other great saints. Never give room for evil. Mental weaknesses will soon vanish. Strength and vitality will be yours.

Seclude yourself for a good portion of the day and think and work vigorously. Do regular *japa* and *kirtan*. Practise *asana* and *pranayama*. Practise *Sirshasan* early in the morning. Your memory will develop.

To bear insults and injuries is almost the first step in *nivritti* life. Train your mind to receive all the taunts of your fellow beings with equanimity. Show them that you can bear their insults and still not retaliate, nor even feel the pinch in the heart. Then and then alone can you be considered to be fit spiritually.

Meditate. Repeat the Lord's name. Practise *asana* and *pranayama*. What can not be achieved in life by such a steady *sadhak*?

Precepts FOR Practice

BY
His Holiness Maha
Mandaleswar Sri Swami
**SIVANANDA
SARASWATI**



Om is the word that is the origin of all sounds. It is the 'Name' given to the Absolute. *Namo Bhagawate Vasudevaya* means "I bow to the Lord Vasudevaya ('Krishna')." The idea is that by repeating this Name, you surrender your ego to Lord Krishna and allow His will to flow through. You take him as your *Atman*, you renounce all desires, ambitions, greed, etc.

Close your eyes. Direct your gaze inwards (mentally). Imagine a big lotus in your heart or a big garden with flower-laden trees. Underneath a most beautiful tree (or in the middle of the lotus) instal Lord Krishna with His flute in the hand. Keep Him there. Hold His feet with both your hands. With each repetition of the *mantra* offer mentally at His feet a beautiful flower. You will soon have His *darshan*.

The world is full of *Maya*'s deluding charms. Beware of them. Always keep your heart and soul at the lotus feet of the Lord. Ever dwell on the transient nature of the world, the misery of birth, death, disease and old age. Develop *vairagya* and *viveka*.

Be ever vigilant. If you put off *sadhana* for "tomorrow", you will find that that "tomorrow" never comes. Start the right practices today, this very moment.

If you cannot get up at 4 a.m., I will tell you an easy way for

training yourself to do so. This month make it a point to get up, say 15 minutes, earlier than the usual time. Go on like this, waking up 15 minutes earlier, each month. Have an alarm clock to wake you up. Keep it a little away from your bed so that you will have to get away from the bed to stop it. Give it the full alarm-winding.

The seat of the mind in waking state is the right eye, *agnichakshu*. In the dream state, it is the neck. And in the deep sleep state, it is the heart. Therefore, when you go to bed, give a command to the mind that you will get up at, say, 5-30 a.m. the next morning. Send this message from one to the other of these three centres.

Many others who embarked on the spiritual journey have progressed rapidly. Hundreds of aspirants to whom I have written even fewer letters are regularly maintaining the spiritual diary and doing regular *sadhana*. When will you act upon my instructions? Give up idle dreaming! Wake up and be a man!

Good and evil are within you only; a good man will be a good man in spite of the worst surroundings and a bad man will ever remain a bad man even in a far off cave. Dive into your own Self. Perceive the Lord in your own heart. Seclude yourself, in meditation, in the cave of your own heart. Enjoy the bliss of God-realisation. Resign yourself into

His own hands and pray "Thy will be done, my Lord. Let me ever remember you!"

The temple is a haven of peace and solace, where everyone with a troubled heart, restless mind and confused intellect, can go and regain the lost balance through fervent prayers to the Divine, where the *bhakta* of one-pointed mind can commune with the Divine, where the *jnani* can see the seer of sight, where the *yogi* quells his thoughts and identifies himself with that, and where the *harma yogi* can come face to face with his own Self, the *Akarta Abokta Sakshi*, the Substratum and Essence of Existence.

Combine with selfless service other items of *sadhana*, *japa*, *kirtan*, *swadhyaya*, *dhyana*, etc.

Humility is the keynote and total surrender to the Lord its high note. Let not thy right hand know what thy left hand doeth. Go on with the Lord's work to the best of your ability and opportunity. It is bound to prosper and become a source of consolation and joy to many.

Take opportunity by the forelock and make it serve the purpose of dissemination of knowledge which is the greatest service you could render to mankind. Kindly be regular in your daily *japa*, meditation, *kirtan* and *swadhyaya*. Be an example to others.

Repeatedly man is awakened to the existence of God and of the power of the Lord that motivates all the activities in the world. Yet, he forgets! Do not make that mistake in your life. Wake

up! And, keep awake! Resign yourself into His hands. Never look back with regret.

I do pray that you might attain success in all undertakings and shine as a *Jivanmukhta* in this very birth. *Sraddha* or faith and earnestness, is needed in spiritual life. If you have this, then the mind will not be able to put up lame excuses for slackness. Come; gird up your loins and plunge into *sadhana*. Maintain the spiritual diary regularly.

Everything depends upon faith. If you sincerely admit your faults, repent of them, do the purificatory rites and then resolve never to repeat the sinful acts—surely you will be pardoned. You must have intense faith and must be strong in your determination to turn a new leaf.

A SAD LOSS

We deeply regret to record the death of Madhusri Balambal Ammal, wife of late Sri V. Krishnaswami Aiyar, and mother of Sri Venkateswarananda, Director of Arogya Asramam at Adyar, Madras. She died on 10th March, after a brief illness, and leaves behind five sons, and one daughter, besides a large number of relatives, friends and devotees to mourn the loss. Her pious nature, deep erudition, religious fervour, intense interest in the Asramam and help rendered to the devotees coming there endeared her so much to one and all that she was referred to as the Arogya Asramam Mother.

Sivanandaji To Tour South-East Asia

The Global Tour Committee have, for the time being, postponed the itinerary of H.H. Mahamandaleswar Sri Swami Sivananda Saraswati in the Continent and America. There are incessant and eager requests from several devotees in Malaya that His Holiness should, in the immediate future, undertake a tour in South-East Asia. The Mandali, therefore, have decided to visit Singapore, Penang, Kuala Lumpur, Rangoon, and Java, within a period of thirty days during the months of June and July, 1953. If proper arrangements could be made, the tour may also be extended to Hongkong, Tokyo and Australia, and Ceylon during the return journey. The Mandali will consist of eight members including His Holiness. A detailed programme with definite dates will be announced, in due course, in consultation with interested persons and organisers of different camps.

Swami Turijanandaji of the Divine Life Society, Ananda Kutir, Bishikesh, will proceed shortly to Malaya and other places in the itinerary to make the necessary arrangements in this connection.

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AFTER THE JOURNEY (Continued from Page 23)

"I beg your pardon," Govind said with instant courtesy.

"Not at all! After all, isn't it a child?" replied the stranger, laughing good-naturedly.

GOVIND looked at him. He was a middle-aged man with sharp little eyes that looked at people critically from under their bushy eyebrows. His thin nose was long and pointed; his sparse, grey hair made him look quite old.

The stranger gently pinched Vijaya on her cheek and said: "Beautiful child! Yours?"

"Yes, my first," replied Govind with the pride of a young father when his child is adored by a stranger.

"Ah, I envy you!" the man said with a smile on his weather-beaten face. He surveyed the child with screwed-up eyes.

"Ah, wonderful. Pretty face, soft as a lotus. Oh, the hands are most beautiful, I should say."

He took the girl's face between his bony hands and pressed the blooming cheeks caressingly. Vijaya looked at the man without batting her eye-lids for a while and then began to cry.

"Dear me! I'm quite a sight. Even a child knows it!" For a while he sat silent, with his head bent.

Very soon the old man was playing with the girl noisily, amusing her with puerile tricks which delight children immensely. Looking at them, one would have thought they were of the same age. The old man shouted and clapped as though in all his life he had never met anything so wonderful as this child.

Govind watched the man at play dubiously. Really, he could not find any reason for the man's spontaneous affection for the child. It appeared odd. But there must be some reason for this vociferous love, Govind mused. Was the old man a lover of children, by nature? He didn't appear to be one—the untidy old man with his sharp, shifty eyes and the long nose.

Hesitantly, Govind said: "Forgive me. But what do you find in my child that you like her so much?"

The man's countenance wore a puzzled expression as though he was surprised at the suddenness of the query. For some minutes he sat looking out of the window, thinking.

Slowly and with some effort he said, "I had a grand-child—my daughter's child. A pretty thing. She was all the pride of my heart. Last year she caught fever and— and died... Your child reminded me of her."

He broke off and was silent again.

Govind was moved. Poor old man, he must have suffered greatly. "What will I do if Viji dies?" he asked himself. The very query sent a shudder down his spine. Great heavens! what a desolate existence it would be? The thought softened his heart towards the old man.

Perhaps the man read into his thoughts for he sighed and murmured gloomily, "No more can I see that pretty face. Such a fine boy!"



Husband (to wife): "Dearie, this gentleman here wants the signature of the head of the family."

"You said it was a girl," Govind corrected.

"Yes, yes, it was a girl. How silly of me to forget even that!" he said laughing with an affectation of amusement. "Well, I'm damned, if I should forget even such things."

Poor man, he was gradually losing his memory, too. In genuine sympathy Govind said: "Since you like her so much, you may keep her with you till you get down."

The man was delighted. With alacrity he took the child to his lap and played with it more noisily than before. Happily conscious of the indulgence he had shown the old man, Govind watched him at play.

THE tram stopped near Sankar Mutt. The man prepared to get down.

"Why so soon?" Govind asked in surprise. "We are still a long way from Niranjan Circle. You said you'd get down there."

"Of course, I did. But, just now, I remembered a previous engagement."

So saying, he handed the girl to Govind, murmured his thanks and disappeared into the darkness.

"Fine evening, dear," Govind told Janaki after he went home. She was sitting on the carpet before him, undressing the child. "The darling behaved very well. Lots of people envied me, I'm sure. There was an old man in the tram who was almost mad after her."

He threw his coat on a chair and began to unlace his shoes. "Can't say why he liked Viji so much. It was fun watching him play with little Viji—he with his grey hair. He said Viji reminded him of his own..."

"Ooh!" Janaki screamed suddenly and sank into a chair.

Govind leaped up in his seat.

"Oh, look, look!" she cried pointing at the child.

HER eyes stared blankly out of her face as though she had seen an apparition. Her voice shook. Govind was alarmed.

"What's wrong with it?" he asked frowning and looked at the child as it sat on the carpet, beautiful in its under-garments.

"Oh, look at its hands!" she cried again in a paroxysm of despair, of anguish.

"Oh, you women! You must always imagine things!" Govind cried impatiently as he stooped and took hold of the child's hands. "Well, what's wrong with these?" he murmured dully while he examined the little hands.

Suddenly, he dropped them as though they were rods of hot iron. He drew back like one stunned and sank into the sofa.

The bangles were gone! The beautiful bangles that adorned Vijaya's wrists, the expensive gold bangles bought just four days before. The lovely gift had vanished!

Govind's brows cleared and a look of pain, of gloom, came into his face. At last, he could see that the old man's love had not been lavished on the child in vain.

The child looked at its parents in mute wonder and then toddled towards its mother who was repeating with vehemence, "You men, you are all such simpletons!" ♦♦

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FAIR GAME!

BY
Longbow

to celebrate the marriage of my sister. He wanted two thousand which I will make in forty months."

"You have taken the billet to help a girl," Gaurishankar remarked.

"To help myself, too."

Janakiram did his job well. The Manager was pleased as much by his work as by his looks. His shorthand was efficient. And the way he plied the keyboard of his typewriter displayed a graceful feminine touch, which was the envy of even the girl typists. Gaurishankar was proud of the new-found steno.

A week passed. Gaurishankar became chummy with Janakiram. He did not treat him as a subordinate. He nicknamed him "Janaki," much to the latter's annoyance.

"Janaki!" Janakiram repeated the word with tear-dimmed eyes. "How did you hit upon that name? She is the pretty sister for whom I am slaving day after day. But don't you humiliate a lad by that appellation! My sister's plight, however, has us all worried. My father is penniless. And who will marry a girl without a dowry, however pretty and accomplished she may be?"

"What's her age?"

"She is of my age," Janakiram replied. "The same height, the same complexion and the same

(Continued on Page 33)

"YOU have an alluring, feminine voice," Gaurishankar, Manager of the Mars Insurance Company, complimented his stenographer. "The girlish slickness about you is captivating. Your rosy complexion would shame a girl. Methinks, Brahma fashioned you out of woman's material and changed his mind at the last minute!"

It was a cruel joke. And that hardly half an hour after his appointment as the steno. Janakiram blushed like a girl. He was silent for a minute.

"I appreciate your remark, sir," he spoke softly. "Girls play a softening role in life. They bring beauty, grace and colour to the arid waste of humdrum existence and light up the gloom in men's hearts. And in many families, girls are the stays, and boys never-do-wells."

"You are veering round to my standpoint," Gaurishankar smiled. "You not only take after a girl but you seem to play the role of a girls' advocate. I hope you will one day be disillusioned by a nice

girl who will break your heart, the first thing after marriage!"

"I love girls no doubt," Janakiram replied. "But I draw the line at marriage. In fact, it is impossible for me to marry a girl."

"So you hate holy wedlock," Gaurishankar raised his eyebrows. "You believe in flirtations and escapades! Anyway, don't do it in my office. There are two girl typists and one of them is my niece, Rukmani."

"Don't you worry on that score, sir," Janakiram waved his hand, though respectfully. "As you stated, I am made of woman's material and like poles repel!"

Gaurishankar was mystified by a condition stipulated by Janakiram while he took up the appointment on a salary of one hundred and fifty rupees a month. He had laid down that he would serve him only for forty months.

Gaurishankar asked him why.

"My father is in straits," Janakiram explained. "I have taken up the job to save fifty rupees a month

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You Asked For It!

By K.R.S.

N.A.T. Raman, Palghat

Q.—I have seen the news regarding the convening by Swami Sivananda at Rishikesh of the Parliament of Religions. Can you tell me what can be the probable consequence of this Parliament of Religions?

A.—A faction-free Federation of Faiths.

A.R.M. Seth, Banaras

Q.—What will be the nature of a man's feelings when his life is without a woman?

A.—Denatured spirits.

Frank Miller, Seremban, Malaya

Q.—I, for one, firmly believed that no designing woman would ever be capable of enmeshing me in the web of love. But things happened! Well, what is the remedy, Mr. K.R.S.?

A.—You must play the game by giving the dame your name.

M. Casim, Bombay 3

Q.—Is woman necessary to every man?

A.—She is a necessity, comfort and luxury and therein lies the beginning and worsening of man's misery.

D. Sudhakar Rao, Eluru

Q.—Does man near love or does love come near man?

A.—What is more significant and tragic is the fact of love dividing man and man.

G.R. Chandran, Secunderabad

Q.—In these modern days of make-up and aids for anything and everything, is it possible to ascertain that a girl is really fine-figured from mere observation?

A.—The most reliable theorem to solve any problem of the geometry of the human figure is this. The two angles of the attractive angel would be the right angle if together and separately they keep the same degree of dimensional relativity in direct proportion to the degree of the law of gravity.

Ram Saran, Lucknow

Q.—How can I meet you?

A.—On this page, by previous appointment per post-card!

G.S. Kulkarni, Bombay 16

Q.—May I suggest your recommending to the Competition Editor that he should give up running MYWORDS in the Crossword form and run it instead in the 1 or 2 method in which R.M.D.C. Competition of Bangalore is being run? Don't you think it will help Competitors to be free from the botheration of not only filling up Fixed, Jumbled and "Reversed Spelling" words but also help all the classes of Competitors?

A.—Yours is a good suggestion, indeed. To my query, put on your behalf, the Competition Editor told me that he thought of it long ago but wasn't sure how the Competitors would take it. Yours is the first outside suggestion and if a sufficient number of Competitors write to this effect, the Competition Editor might publish and run MYWORDS on the lines suggested.

S.N. Swamy, Salem

Q.—I want to know (a) the names of the Secretaries of the Central Govt., (b) the names of the Indian Ambassadors and High Commissioners abroad, (c) the names of the Foreign Ambassadors and High Commissioners in India. From whom can I know all these?

A.—Contact any Communist of your place. He will furnish you these facts and quote you many more figures till you wish you hadn't asked him at all!

Ram Narain Mathur, Bareilly

Q.—What is this Moral Re-Armament Movement's activity in our Country?

A.—An irony of history. India is the home of all religions really well practised, the place where ideas of morality and allied virtues reached proportions that are unparalleled in the West. Vyasa and Manu, Gautama Buddha and Gandhi, Ramakrishna and Ramana, Aurobindo and Sivananda—all Indians, self-realised souls of our soil. Yet, a team from the spiritually bankrupt West made our men and women queue up to be told what moral re-armament is and can be. And we felt more proud of our Gandhi because the M.R.A. team said how great he was!

A.C. Verma, Jabalpur

Q.—How will you prove that 7 is half of 12?

A.—By pretending to be as deft as you are daft!

YOU ASKED FOR IT! should be mentioned on top of the letters intended for this column. The views of columnist K. R. S. do not necessarily reflect those of the Editor. The queries decide the answers—serious, frivolous or informative. And if the answer irritates you, remember YOU ASKED FOR IT!

FAIR GAME! (Continued from page 30)

alluring feminine voice. We are twins."

Janakiram was hard-working and sincere no doubt. But he did not suffer from any inferiority complex. He came to the office right on the stroke of ten and left it at 5 p.m. He conducted himself like one who did not take his job too seriously.

"A number of confidential letters has to be typed," Gaurishankar instructed the steno one evening. "Come along to my house. You can dine with me and dispose of the work. You may have to sit up till midnight. You may sleep in my house. I am a lonely bachelor enjoying single-blessedness, you know."

"I'm paid to do my work in office hours only," said Janakiram and refused to obey the Manager. "Moreover, I have promised to take out Rukmani to the pictures this evening."

"You have started fooling around with girls?" Gaurishankar snarled. "Don't flirt in haste and repent at leisure. At any rate, leave out Rukmani. She's my niece and I have a responsibility to her parent."

ONE morning, Gaurishankar came to the office breathing fire and brimstone and puffing at his cigar furiously.

"Are you still after Rukmani?" Gaurishankar snapped at Janakiram. "If you want to marry her, I shall settle it. Otherwise, I should warn you against unpleasant consequences. Tell me straight that you will give her up. Come on, speak up."

"I'm incapable of flirting with any girl," Janakiram replied. "I'm friendly with her, that is all. I like her big round eyes which harmonise with the simplicity and frankness of her heart. I go to pictures with her. I dine with her sometimes. She feels all alone in the world, poor thing. I'm afraid you are jealous of me."

"I'm not jealous of you," Gaurishankar retorted. "Rukmani is a slip of a girl and she is my niece. I fear her father will blame me if he comes to know of your

escapades with her. I can't permit her to misbehave with my own stenographer."

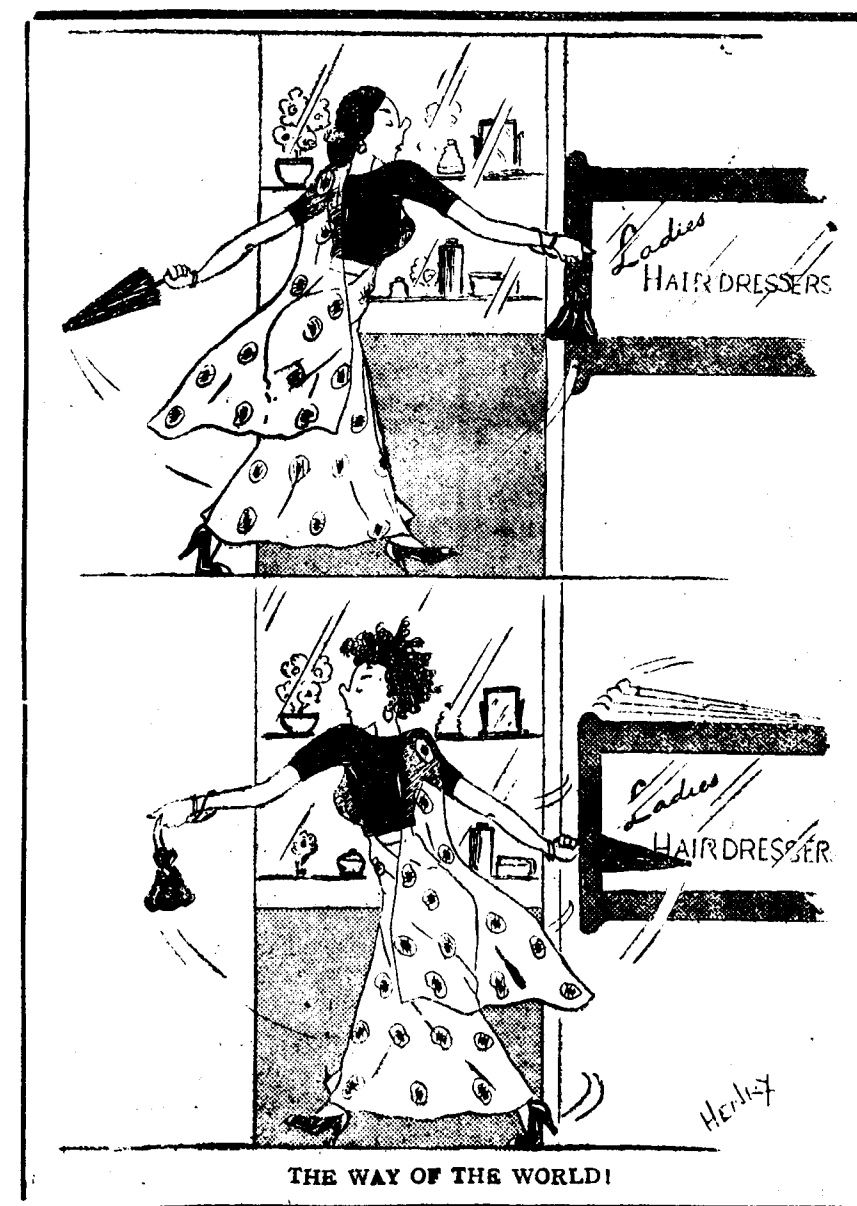
"You are doubly wrong," Janakiram explained. "You have not permitted her to do anything inasmuch as no sanction was sought from you. She has been guaranteed certain fundamental rights. She does what she pleases. Secondly, neither she nor I have made love to each other. One can be friendly with a girl and stop at that."

Gaurishankar administered a similar warning to his niece. He threatened to report the matter to her parent if she did not forthwith

stop her scandal-raising spins along the Marina with Janakiram. He also instructed one of his peons to watch their movements.

NO Scotland Yard sleuth would have gone about his job more conscientiously than the peon. He gave the Manager such succulent morsels of information as that he found them walking arm in arm opposite the Flower Bazaar. One evening, he whispered into his ears, Janakiram had gone a step further. Near a picture house he clearly saw his right arm entwine the waist of the girl.

Gaurishankar was naturally upset. He scowled at Janakiram. He flew into a rage.



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"You are a source of disgrace to the firm," he yelled one day. "You will be sacked unless you stop flirting with that girl."

Janakiram suppressed his laughter.

"I don't mind the sack," he replied, "provided you find a boy who will marry my sister without a dowry. I shall then leave you and your girls in peace."

"What about my marrying your sister?" Gaurishankar relaxed, grinning. "If I see her, I may like her. Who knows?"

"That would be fine," Janakiram laughed. "But please don't harm her in any way until her marriage is over. You are warned, sir!"

Fifteen minutes later, the peon turned up in hot haste panting for breath.

"We will catch them red-handed tonight, sir," he stuttered out. "I just now overheard Janakiram telling the girl that he would sleep in her room tonight, after witnessing the night show."

"That's the limit," Gaurishankar stormed pacing up and down. He muttered curses on Janakiram. "The scandal should be nipped in the bud!"

ESCORTED by the peon, Gaurishankar paid a surprise visit to the top-floor room occupied by his niece. He knocked on the door. The cook announced his arrival.

"I've come after a scoundrel and interloper in your house," he yelled. "What is Janakiram doing here?"

"What are you talking?" the girl said, surprised. "There's no Janakiram here! One Janaki is sleeping with me."

Gaurishankar was perplexed. He threw a scorching glance at the peon.

Immediately, a pretty girl draped in a diaphanous silk sari and velvet blouse greeted him.

"Here am I," she cooed in the most womanly of tones. "I am Janaki but I go by the name of

Janakiram in the Mars Insurance Company."

"Don't you go away with the idea that you have made a surprise raid," Rukmani added. "I gave the peon a couple of rupees to put you on this scent."

"Why?"

"Janakiram told me that you promised to marry Janaki, provided you saw her and liked her. I have arranged the meeting accordingly. The process of seeing has commenced and I hope it will lead you on to liking her."

"So you are Janakiram by day and Janaki at night!" Gaurishankar blubbered, turning his eyes on Janaki.

"Yes, all for the sake of an indigent father."

GAURISHANKAR'S face relaxed into a smile. It was a smile of admiration. He congratulated her on the courage with which she played the dual role.

Following close on the metamorphosis of Janakiram into Janaki, the latter became Mrs. Gaurishankar.

"I shall continue to be your steno and pay you fifty rupees a month on the dowry account," Mrs. Gaurishankar suggested to her husband. A bear hug and a loud kiss were his only reply.

Awful Truth

Professor Zoltz made his regular monthly week-end trip to New York City. Usually he took the train, but this time he drove.

On the return trip he forgot he had driven and rode in the train leaving his car in New York.

When he arrived he called Mrs. Zoltz and bawled her out for not meeting him at the station. Then he found out the awful truth! The car was in New York!

There was nothing else to be done. He marched straight to the ticket window and bought a return ticket to New York!

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Dear Sisters

I am neither a nurse nor a doctor or an Ayurvedic Physician but simply a domestic lady like most of you. Only a year after my marriage, unfortunately, I fell a prey to Leucorrhoea and periodic disorders. Menstrues were irregular, restricted and painful. My health was deteriorating and I was getting pale day by day. I felt no interest in my domestic duties. I always felt giddy and exhausted. I suffered from a severe back-ache. My husband tried so many costly medicines on me for this disease but with no effect. Thus I suffered for full two years and was actually disappointed.

One day fortunately, a Mahatma came to our door for alms and on seeing my pale face questioned the cause of my ill health at such a young age. I narrated to him the whole story of my trouble. He called my husband at his hermitage and prescribed a medicine for me. Only a fifteen days use of the medicine proved a panacea for all my internal troubles. By the grace of God now I am the mother of four children. I have cured hundreds of my ailing sisters with this medicine. I am distributing this wonderful medicine for the benefit of my sisters at cost price. I do not want to make money and profits out of it as God has already given me much.

If any of my sisters is suffering from this fell disease, she should write to me at once. I shall prepare the medicine with my own hands and despatch the same per V.P.P. Medicine for a course of fifteen days costs Rs. 2-14-0. Postage extra.

IMPORTANT NOTE: I know only this prescription. None of my sisters should write to me for any other disease.

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DO ANIMALS FORESEE DEATH?

THERE are some quite remarkable mysteries in the things animals do, and scientists are only beginning to try to explain a number of their more amazing feats, writes Dr. J.B. Rhine in the *American Weekly*.

The exceptional homing power of some animals is well illustrated—but not explained—by the following story which can be found in more detail in Eldon Roark's *Just A Mutt*.

Bosco, a handsome mongrel dog, belonged to the S.C. Flanigan family of Knoxville, Tennessee.

When Mrs. Flanigan closed her apartment and went on a visit to Glendale, California, she had Bosco crated and shipped to the coast. On arrival he was left at the express office overnight. Next morning his crate was found empty with a big hole gnawed in the side. All search for Bosco proved fruitless.

On her return to Knoxville, Mrs. Flanigan moved to a new part of town, and eight months elapsed before she visited her old neighbourhood. A lean and bedraggled dog sat on the steps of her old apartment house. He greeted her joyously. A later check of colour, spots, scars and other distinctive markings, as well as peculiar habits (including a way of walking due to an injury) adequately identified the dog as Bosco. Besides, Mrs. Flanigan and her three children knew him at once. A neighbour said that the animal had been sitting on the steps most of the time for two months.

Not Unique

How did he make the long journey home over thousands of miles of roads he never had seen before? His feat wasn't unique. We have many cases of long-distance homing of dogs and cats in our files. Do these animals, like humans, possess some power beyond their ordinary senses—some extrasensory perception (ESP)—that enables them to locate a distant object (home)?

Extrasensory perception is the ability to find out about something without use of the senses such as taste, smell, touch, seeing and hearing. In the case of human beings it may involve catching the thought someone else is thinking (telepathy) or getting a knowledge of some place or object that isn't within sight, sound or other sensory reach (clairvoyance). Sometimes it involves a kind of prophetic power (seeing ahead) which we call precognition.

At first encounter these animal stories seem incredible, but they become less and less so as the numbers increase. Even more puzzling are the instances in which an animal sets out to find his human companion in some place the pet has never been before.

Smoky's Come-Back

Take the case of the cat, Smoky, who was the special companion of the teenage daughter of a Tulsa, Oklahoma, business executive. A change of jobs caused the man to move his family from Tulsa to Memphis, Tennessee. They took Smoky with them, but lost him on the way. He first returned to the old home in Tulsa, then he disappeared and nothing was heard of him for nearly a year.

One day as his one-time companion sat on the porch of her home in Memphis, the cat calmly jumped into her lap. The first thought, of course, is that this wasn't Smoky but a stray cat. Would a stray cat have had the same little tricks like playing the piano as Smoky had been trained to do? Would he have jumped at once to the same spot in the car that Smoky always had? There was a special tuft of red hair under the animal's chin, and there were many other things that made the family feel that the cat was Smoky.

Queer Facts

In a house that was for sixty years the head-quarters of a firm of undertakers, two men will stay up all night to try to solve the riddle of ghostly happenings at night. Since the house, in Roundhay-road, Leeds, was split into flats, doors opened by themselves, a door knocked, and a radio switched itself off.

Wardens at Melmo Prison, Sweden, turned a blind eye when a pretty girl sent ham and cake to a prisoner by a home-made rope he lowered from his cell window; then she sent up a file—and they arrested her.

Undergrad Basil de Ferranti slept through a fire in his bedroom at Trinity College, Cambridge—until stones thrown through his window woke him.

Puzzling Story

If they were correct, how was the animal able to make right decisions day after day as he travelled towards a spot he had never seen? To find the right house and street in the city of Memphis is, in itself, a task that baffles any explanation except that of some form of extrasensory perception—and a great deal more of it than we are thus far acquainted with in Man.

Another puzzling story of a type that certainly raises questions is told by a banker in Wisconsin. His son's devoted dog Snippy was eager to go with him anywhere, but above all, to go hunting. He was all readiness and excitement the instant he saw his master appear with a gun. One day, however, he cowered in his sleeping box and refused to budge. The boy carried Snippy to the car where a shooting companion was waiting.

Once in the field Snippy lost his hesitation and routed out a rabbit. His master's friend, who was near-sighted, shot first. He accidentally killed the dog instead of the rabbit. The banker and his son believe that Snippy had in some way foreseen danger and had tried to avert it.

Classic Death Howl

The weirdest sort of behaviour—about which we have a great many reported instances—is the reaction of dogs to death or serious illness in their human companions. The classic "death howl" is so familiar that it has become a part of folk belief throughout much of our Western World.

An example of this is given by a woman from a southern State who says their dog was especially attached to an uncle who, having lived with the family for years, finally moved to another State. Soon after this the absent relative became ill. At a time corresponding with the beginning of the illness the dog got one of the sick man's old felt hats and would not give it up.

An attractive girl of seventeen made a "very skilful" drawing of a man who attacked her, and gave a clear description to the police. Geoffrey Rex Werry was fined £5 for assaulting the girl, shop assistant Sylvia Mary Rumford, of Laverstock.

Three constables of the British South Africa police, sentenced to seven days' detention, took so long to travel from Bulawayo to gaol in Salisbury that by the time they arrived their sentences were over. Reason: Floods.

Four furnished rooms in a house in East Ardale, near Wakefield, are being offered rent-free by the landlord, because: "If I charged rent it would all go in income tax."

MY TRUE PATHETIC STORY

Dear Brother, I am neither a Doctor nor a Vaid, but I am the son of a respectable millionaire. I fell a prey to various diseases in my prime of youth. I secretly tried so many medicines of well-known venereal disease expert doctors but of no use. On the other hand my parents were bent upon to get me married when I was not fit for it. I therefore ran away from home to Kashmir and decided to end my life. One day by the grace of Almighty God, I met an old Mahatma who gave me some medicine for internal use and oil for massage, the use of which gave me new life and made me He-man within seven days. But according to the directions of the Mahatma I had to complete full course of fifteen days. At the time of

departing the Mahatma gave me a prescription taking an oath from me that I will place my services for the welfare of mankind. I therefore according to my promise offer the medicine and oil to the persons suffering from loss of Debility, general weakness, nervous breakdown and private diseases so that they may rejuvenate themselves and enjoy prime of youth even in old age. The medicine can be taken in any season. Price 7 days course;

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French girls' pictures well dressed but
when seen through the spectacles the
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But if we would grow old gracefully
we have only to open our eyes and look
around us. Nature makes a pageant of
it. The trees hang out their banners of
crimson and gold. The hedgerows are
aglow with red berries against a back-
ground of russet. "Nothing is here
for tears."

Hope, then. I remember an old story
of a man whose business premises were
gutted by fire. Before long passers-by
saw that he had boarded up his shop
front, and on it he had written a notice:
"All lost, except hope. Business will
start usual to-morrow morning." That's
the spirit.

UNO's Skyscraper City

A stone's throw from the bright lights
of New York's Broadway and Time
Square stands the world's workshop of
peace, the new \$25 million city peopled
by a permanent population of 4,000 whose
address is simply United Nations, New
York, writes Michael Collett in *World
Digest*.

Ironically, the new United Nations
headquarters on Manhattan's waterfront
stands on the site of former slaughter-
houses and breweries. Some cynics have
ironically suggested that it might also
become the graveyard of world peace!

But whatever effect the new-found
permanency of the U.N. headquarters
has on the tempers of delegates, it
cannot fail to impress them.

The marble, steel, and glass buildings
which cover an 18-acre site (the site
itself was the gift of an American philan-
thropist) fronting New York's East River
give the effect of a giant Christmas
package in transparent wrappings. It
has altered the New York skyline and
become a jewel in what was once Manhat-
tan's most squalid slum area.

39-Storey Building

United Nations, New York, is a city
within a city. Under a special agreement
with the United States Government, its
grounds are considered "international
territory" which no federal, state, or
city police officials are allowed to enter
without the consent of the Secretary-
General, who in return has undertaken
to prevent the city from becoming a
refuge for persons trying to avoid arrest
or extradition.

Dominating the site, and giving the
"Christmas package" effect, is the
39-storey Secretariat building. On the
top floor is the office of the Secretary-
General, who also has a comfortable flat
there for his personal use.

After parking their cars in an under-
ground garage, members of the staff can
ascend to any floor by any one of a battery
of 21 high-speed lifts which start up
every 30 seconds. The lifts are intrigu-
ing: if they pass you by more than 60
seconds after you have pressed the
button, a "forgotten man pick-up"
automatically comes into action, and the
next lift will stop.

The air-conditioning system is the most
modern in the world, with separate
controls in each office giving a variation

of as much as twelve degrees. In winter,
the air is warmed.

Planned For Comfort

Everything has been planned for
comfort. Office enlargement is an easy
matter: you just unscrew the partitions
and move them along. There are shops,
a post office, cafeterias and restaurants,
and what the Americans describe as an
infirmary (the equivalent of a clinic).

A corps of male cleaners is paid
\$107,000 a year; the lifts cost \$67,000
a year to operate; lighting, heating,
and power amount to \$135,000; stationery
and office supplies cost \$43,400; the
telephone and telegraph bill comes to
\$100,500.

It takes five window-cleaners, working
ten hours a day, one month to clean the
windows, and then they start all over
again.

The next clutch of buildings is termed
the Conference area, with three large
council chambers provided for the
Security Council, the Economic and
Social Council, and the Trusteeship
Council. There are also three committee
rooms, the main delegates' lounge, a
restaurant, and several small conference
rooms.

When I was there, the finishing touches
were being put to the General Assembly
building, which was used for the first
time when the session began on October
14, 1952.

High in the dome of the hall is a
solitary circular shutter through which a
shaft of daylight falls in dramatic
contrast to the electric lights arranged to
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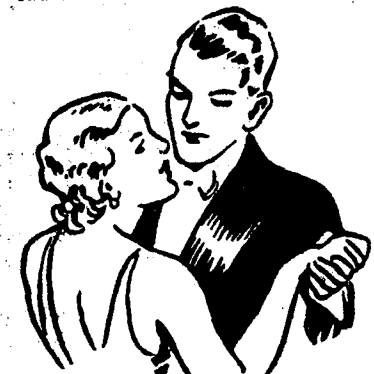
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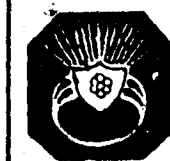
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By R.B.



SHE had a face like a pumpkin. It was set on a body like a barrel. Her hands were big as thighs. She — Bayankari — was fat and nearly forty-five. Jewels she had in plenty. Big gold chains dangled round her neck, big gold bangles jingled on her hands. Diamonds flashed on her ears and nose. Her looks were terrifying at times.

Though her husband Poplu had bought her all these jewels, she felt she had a sufficiently good reason to be annoyed at him. Though she had borne him a daughter and a son, he had seldom given her his company, often finding pleasure in the company of one or other of his numerous mistresses. Occasionally when she had asked him about it, his answers were evasive, peevish or petulant. Once or twice he had even thrashed her.

After retirement from service, Poplu returned to his village with his wife. Both the boy and the girl married and living far away

with their spouses, the old familiar surroundings gone, income decreased, health crippled, Poplu's attitude to his wife changed. He began to adopt a more friendly, a more conciliatory tone.

Bayankari's attitude also changed. The tall strong man that was her husband, whose personality had awed her a bit, had vanished. And in that place there was a sickly old man looking more aged than he was, getting increasingly dependent on her. Bayankari's tone became dictatorial. Her whispers whizzed like hisses, her words to him were sharp commands, her looks were daggers. Poplu, though he now and then murmured his protests and threats, had to put up with them all.

IT was an evil day when the poor man was stricken with paralysis and confined to bed. One hand, the right hand, and one leg, the right leg, went out of use. And then the tongue lost the power of speech.

The boy with his wife and the girl with her husband came to see Poplu. A doctor was fetched and he gave some injections. Finding no benefit, Ayurvedic treatment was resorted to. But it looked as if Poplu would be confined to bed forever and that his limbs would never resume their functions.

The girl and the husband left after a week, and the son and his wife were to quit soon. On the day previous to their departure, Poplu summoned his boy and began to weep profusely. By signs, gestures and other visible representations he urged his son to take him also with him. But how could the boy, a travelling agent in some firm, with frequent transfers to boot, undertake the responsibility of having an aged and infirm and ailing father of not-too-much-accommodativeness in his home and how could his wife be expected to nurse him when his mother was hale and hearty?

Bayankari also told him not to leave his father with her. "I have suffered enough at his hands. Now he will kill me and give me the torments of hell."

The boy, afraid of his mother, explained all his difficulties and promised to come off and on. After requesting her to take care of him and his father to be more resigned, he went off with his wife. Bayankari sent a dagger-look of good-bye to them and heaped curses on the little witch, her daughter-in-law, and the fool of her husband, her own son.

BAYANKARI'S teasings increased with every day. A demon seemed to possess her. Not a sweet word ever escaped her lips. All that she cared to remember was that the husband who was faithless to his marriage oath and who tormented her and who practically allowed her youth to go to waste was in her clutches now. His bed was not changed for days, his food was not to his taste, his daily bath became almost weekly. If he asked for any service she would snap, "Go and ask your mistresses!"

Nor was this all. She began to take a mischievous pleasure in giving him some kind of corporal punishment whenever he protested. She would catch hold of his ears and knock his head on the

wall. With terrible contortions on her face, revealing a demoniacal fury, she would pull and squeeze out his nose or catch hold of his tuft and give a few thumps on his back. After some time she began to inflict these things for absolutely no reason.

Poplu roared with pain. He called neighbours passing along the street and told them of his sufferings as best as a speechless man could.

This incensed Bayankari to greater cruelty. She changed her husband's quarters from the front portion of the house to the back. Here in the seclusion, not so open to prying eyes, she was able to practise her little cruelties.

SCANDALOUS tongues in a village are ever busy. One cannot do a thing in one's house without somebody or other knowing something about it and talking about it. How then can Bayankari's untoward conduct escape notice? Women, young and old, talked about it, morning and evening, in the river bed.

"Sundari, do you know what that wretched Bayankari did yesterday?" asked Kamala.

"You are going to say she beat him?" Sundari snorted.

"You have cut out the romance. She threw him — the poor man — on the ground, and squatting on him with all her hundred-and-eighty-pound weight said: 'God has robbed you of the use of a hand, a leg, and your mouth. I will supplement God's work and put out one of your eyes. Do you see it?' And then seeing that the man was getting choked she got up and administered a few kicks, using both her legs in alternate motion. The wretched woman seems to have no other occupation except teasing and troubling him."

Seeing Bayankari coming at a distance they changed their talk. They were all that much afraid of her. Bayankari came near them. She had come there to take water.

Wishing to talk something to her, Sundari asked: "Bayankari, how is your husband?" And then she added in a low tone of

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assumed sympathy: "You must be having a bad time. It is very difficult to nurse a sick man."

"Difficulty is too mild a word," said Bayankari. "I am living in Purgatory. Even now he makes faces at me and threatens with his fist and throws tumblers and vessels over my head. Yesterday he caught hold of my hand and attempted to drive his teeth in. God knows how I suffer. But I know that there are some wicked people, men and women, who go about talking ill of me, saying that I am not treating my husband properly. I wish I could catch them saying it so that I might throw the cow-dung pot on their heads and make them realise what it is to feel my new broomstick. For the present, I only pray God that they might also be struck with paralysis even as my husband is."

After this volley of insolence, abuse and curse, the other two women thought it prudent to just offer her one or two words of sympathy and take leave of her.

The village house in which Bayankari lived was a spacious building with a large wing in the ground floor and an upper storey practically unused. When Mr. Sankar, a Special Settlement Officer, who was posted to that locality, came there and looked out for quarters, Bayankari offered to lease the first floor and the downfloor wing with its separate kitchen bath, privy and tap. Sankar, who was impressed with the quarters, offered twenty-five rupees which was itself out of all proportion to the market rate. But Bayankari, miserly and avaricious, persuaded him to make it thirty-five and took a month's advance.

Mr. Sankar was forty, a widower with an only son who was studying in Madras. With no other commitments he was living an independent, care-free life cooking his own food when he was at home.

Sankar soon came with his bedding and turnks to Bayankari's house and took up his quarters. Within a few days of his arrival he was apprised by the villagers of the ill-treatment of Poplu by Bayankari as to what sort of a virago she was, and how he had been tricked

into paying such an enormous rent. Sankar said something nice to his informants and added that he had sufficient work not to bother about all those things. At the same time, he also promised to do what he could to stop the outrage, though he was not hopeful, for one could not change one's nature after a certain stage.

FROM the beginning Bayankari was very solicitous towards her tenant. She provided him with every convenience he desired. She insisted that he should not cook. Why should he? She was not overburdened with work. Anyway she was cooking for two and to cook for three was but very negligible additional work. He promised to think over the matter and, in the meanwhile, she should do nothing to force her opinion.

Sankar saw Poplu at least once a day when he did not go on camp. He also made it a point to see him as soon as he returned from camp. Poplu poured into the new-comer's ears his tale of woe and Sankar consoled him with soft and soothing words.

Bayankari did not relish this. But she did nothing to prevent it. And, in fact, when she found that Sankar was seeing her husband daily she effected quick improvements in the matter of his dress, bath and surroundings. He was removed to the inside hall, airy, roomy and bright.

Sankar noted the change. Was it perhaps due to his presence? Was Bayankari, after all, such a bad woman, as she had been depicted to be? Anyway he would keep daily contact with the old man.

Bayankari's insistent pressure to send meals, coffee and tiffin at last bore fruit. Sankar agreed and found no reason to regret his decision. She took considerable pains over her cooking and prepared excellent dishes. Even Poplu was given the benefit of this change and he began to relish his food once more.

Poplu wondered how the woman had changed for the better. What had come over her?

But the change was only partial. When Sankar was away she became

1st April 1953

careless and even insolent. And then, with Sankar or without, the little teasings continued. She would make some gesticular threats and squeeze his nose and pull out his ears, as usual. One day when he returned the compliment, she took a cane and administered it like a jailer half a dozen cuts, after bolting the doors in the front and back of the house.

Notwithstanding all this, there was a definite improvement in Poplu's 'nursing,' as she called it.

But, then, a dangerous idea was taking possession of her. Her paying guest was already shelling out thirty-five rupees for rent and another sixty-five for boarding for such of the days he did not go on camp. He sent his son a hundred rupees every month and still had for himself a couple of hundred more. He was comparatively young and alone. If only she could make him her own. ...

IT was a dangerous idea. Bayankari had many vices. But infidelity to her husband was not one of them. When the idea first dawned she resisted it with all her strength. Again and again it recurred and she was obliged to toy with it.

All her pent-up passion surged within her. With one excuse or another she contrived many opportunities to meet Sankar and throw her blandishments at him! She smiled sweetly at him, flattered him to the skies, and offered her sympathies profusely.

Sankar somewhat suspected her motives but did not take sufficient precautions. Nor did he give her any positive encouragement. Bayankari redoubled her efforts. All doubts that assailed her purpose had gone and in their place was installed a burning desire to win the man and make him her own. That was a better kind of retaliation than administering pinches and slaps to a man who was practically defenceless, she told herself.

One thing, however, troubled her. Was it not expecting too much that a man of the type of Sankar would stoop to conquer?

Bayankari often looked in the mirror. The mirror is always a

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soothsayer, a hope-giver. She was pretty old, it said, but she had strength and vigour. Her head was slowly turning grey, of course. But they could be dressed. She was short, she was too plumpy. What if?

It became increasingly clear to Sankar that his landlady was after him. Her persistent wooings were not to his taste. He must tell her, he thought. But how to say it? Tomorrow, definitely tomorrow, if not, most definitely the day after tomorrow.

It was a cold night but the full moon was flooding the village with beautiful light. Sankar, alone in the hall upstairs, was reading a novel and the clock on the wall was ticking on...ten...eleven...twelve.

In slow measured steps Bayankari stepped in, closing the door gently and bolting it.

"Still reading? You are spoiling your health," she said in a kind voice.

Sankar was startled. He almost jumped from his cot on which he was lying. She smiled at his discomfort. He showed her a seat. She sat down by him and passing her hand over his back, she again said: "You are alone. You need a woman's affection."

"Don't tempt me into committing a sin," he blurted out.

"Why not?" she retorted. "Even angels would seek your love!"

And she stayed on.

The reading of the novel which depicted the scene of a double adultery, the cool air outside which showed the need for warmth, the blandishments of the woman, the preceding period of long abstinence due to the death of his wife, the time, place and circumstance, all conspired to defeat his ingrained morality and contribute to the success of the woman's foul mission.

Flesh triumphed over spirit. Sankar felt guilty, confused and helpless. Triumphant once in her purpose, it was easy work for her to retain the hold. As the days

passed, Sankar became a pliable instrument in her hands, obeying her dictates as it were. Like a vampire she preyed on him, his income, his health, his susceptibilities.

No liaison can last for ever, though. The crisis came sooner than expected, within a month. A god-send order of a transfer came to Sankar and taking advantage of Bayankari's absence from home for a few hours in connection with a festival in the local temple, he got all his things packed up and sent. Disclosing to none the fact of his transfer, he decided to leave the place all of a sudden.

Not to excite her suspicion, Sankar took his bed downstairs.

It was a full-moon night. A month had passed since Bayankari had entered upon her new adventure. She sought him where he was and threw her arms round him in an ecstasy of passion. Sankar did not protest. It would be her last night with him. Engrossed in their amours they forgot Poplu, they forgot the window through which he could see them, they forgot the light that could help him to see them in their sin. Though sick, old Poplu knew his wife for a virago. But he did not suspect her of infidelity. His wife sinning with another man in his own house and before his very eyes, therefore, transformed him into a demon of fury. With set teeth he got up unaided and went limping to the door that opened on into what he considered the chamber of horrors and barged in.

Startled to her feet, Bayankari faced the Fury who threw at her head a big stone that was lying near. With a shriek that rent the very air she fell face down forward, knocking her husband also down. Terrible was the struggle that followed between husband and wife.....

"THE two had knocked each other down," said the assembled villagers. "We must send telegrams to the boy and the girl. The village is rid of a double nuisance."

As for Sankar, he left the place for good and thanked God for his miraculous escape.

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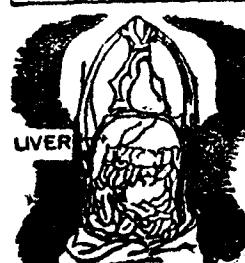
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SOUND AND SHADOW:

Abbas Had Tough Time Interviewing!

Ever since he advertised for a four-year-old boy to play the leading role in Naya Sansar's forthcoming film, *Munna*, which will go on the sets shortly, Khwaja Ahmad Abbas has been receiving on an average fifty letters a day from fathers, mothers, uncles, older brothers, aunts and a variety of other obscure relatives of children. The applications, which totalled 2178 on March 1, came from all parts of India and also from Indians settled in Indonesia, Malaya, Burma, East Africa, Fiji and Mauritius. The total age of the near two thousand children offered is 10,671 years and 3 months. The advertisement has obviously been loosely interpreted, for some of the children are as old as eighteen, although ingenuous (and sometimes unflattering) attempts have been made in the

narrative to show that they are no better than a four-year-old. Parental love has in some cases clouded sane judgment, babes-in-arms, sucklings and unsteady toddlers being some of the candidates.

A parent, more reasonable than most, wrote: "My six sons (photos enclosed) range in ages from 9 months to 15 years. I think you can use them all in your children's story." He added a postscript to the effect that his five daughters (ranging from two to seventeen years) could provide the female interest, if necessary! Another thought it "quite impossible to make a film for children without the aid of adults," and, in addition to his two boys, offered himself, his wife and his grandfather, aged 86, for suitable roles in *Munna*, reveals



Off-the-shoulder gown and cigarette a-dangle describe the nature of the role played by Lisa Daniely in *The Wedding of Lilli Marlene*.

a correspondent of the Bombay Press Features' Syndicate.

Innumerable other howlers enliven this otherwise humdrum collection of applications. In quite an impressive number of cases the boy can ride, swim, fence and do complicated acrobatics. In most cases his apathy to schooling and his natural preference for films are highlighted. One parent went so far as to say that his six-year-old boy was quite a bully, a terror among the juvenile population of his mohalla, and an actor of the deepest hue. "If you are looking for a boy villain, he is it!" But first-hand experience with children, of whom about five come to see him every morning, sometimes provides Abbas with his best laughs. A few days ago a suave parent came to the Naya Sansar office accompanied by a glistening boy of four. "Talk to him in English," he jayvited Abbas. The conversation proceeded very hilariously, a good time was had by all and soon the couple were ready to depart. It was then that the spine-chilling climax came. The youngster shook Abbas' hand, squeezed it as hard as he knew how and winked at him! "Too well trained," was Abbas' note on his file. But interspersed among the thousands of unsuitables are a few candidates who seem to fill the bill. It is from among these that Abbas will shortly make his pick. "Children are fun," he agrees, "but you've to have them in ones and twos. Two thousand can be quite overwhelming."

Motion Picture With A Message

Datta Dharmadhikari, who gave the memorable screen-gift *Nanhe Munne*, is now working hard on Alhad Chitra's latest offering *Mahatma* which is more than half complete. Producer-Director Datta Dharmadhikari has taken a bold step in selecting the novel and thought-provoking theme which depicts the life of a common man who, not knowing the luxuries of modern civilisation and working from morn to night for his daily bread, takes care of human values that are looked down upon as out of date by the so-called modern and cultured society even at the cost of his life. As the theme depicts Indian culture and its

greatness with a realistic background, Dharmadhikari is producing *Mahatma* in English version also, along with the Hindi and Marathi versions. *Mahatma* is progressing fast at Deccan Studios, Poona, and will be ready for release in the month of May.

Naya Sansar's "Rahi" A Grand Spectacle

Shantivardhan, well known terpsichorean now composing a riotous Holi dance number for Naya Sansar's English-Hindi film *Rahi*, thinks writer-director-producer Khwaja Ahmad Abbas can easily compete for the title of the world's worst dancer. He arrived at this unflattering conclusion after seeing Abbas carried away by the tumultuous rhythm of his composition and break into a brief dance of his own during a recent rehearsal. But he agrees that although not a very competent dancer himself, Abbas has a fine critical sense and can often interfere with accuracy and give a tip or two to an over-worked dance director. This dance number, for example, although very largely the work of Shantivardhan's, will nevertheless owe some of its perfection and infectious gaiety to Abbas' timely suggestions as a critic of the dramatic art.

Twenty boys and 20 girls enact this seven-minute dance with never-before-seen abandon and several new steps and body movements emerge from it. Shantivardhan rejected nearly four times that number in each sex category during preliminary rehearsals before finally stabilising his cast. *Rahi* is not merely a good story. It is also good music, good dance and grand spectacle. The utmost care is going into every single component of this ambitious Abbas opus No. 2 in a carefully planned series.

Film Critic Passes Away

The death occurred with tragic suddenness recently of Clare Mendonca, popular Indian film critic of *The Times of India* and *The Evening News of India* since 1930 and Screen Editor of both journals from 1935. Her death is a loss to the motion picture industry of which she was an indefatigable friend, and a wise and kindly critic.

"Metroscopix"—M-G-M's 3-Dimensional Film

A furore has been created in the motion picture industry throughout the world by the three-dimensional effect films. Experts have been astounded by the mounting wave of public enthusiasm for three-dimensional films, as until quite recently it had been an accepted fact in the industry that "the public will not wear glasses to see any movie."

The new evolution brings to the theatre a type of entertainment that can never be duplicated anywhere, and the public in many countries of the world has already shown that the best and truest picture is the one that has motion, colour, length, breadth — and depth. There is little doubt, therefore, that three-dimensional films are here to stay and that before long several major studies will be switching over completely to the production of their pictures in the third-dimensional effect.

In response to the enormous public interest already created in India for three-dimensional films, M-G-M has ready for general

release in the very near future a special feature-length film entitled *Metroscopix*, it was announced recently by Mr. W. T. Wilson, Managing Director of Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer India Ltd. Prints of this feature are scheduled to arrive in India within a few weeks and screenings for exhibitors will take place shortly thereafter. It was emphasized that no changes in theatre equipment will be necessary to show *Metroscopix*.

Mr. Wilson stated: "M-G-M, always the pioneer, answers the demands of the public for the thrill and wonder of three-dimensional films with *Metroscopix*. If the response to this picture in India is the same as reaction in other parts of the world, the public will storm the box-office to see for itself this giant step forward in the world of entertainment."

Metroscopix, named after the process in which it is filmed, devotes itself to demonstrating the potentialities of 3-dimensional films. The process, developed by J. F. Leventhal and J. A. Norling, revolutionizes motion picture viewing. As opposed to conventional pictures in the "flat," *Metroscopix* adds the dimension of depth with startling results, bringing a new sense of reality to the screen and apparently putting each person in the audience right in the middle of the action.

Nationalisation of Film Industry Urged

Banaras Hindu University's Vice-Chancellor Acharya Narendra Deva urged, while inaugurating the annual function of the local Film Sudhar Samiti, that steps should be taken by the Government early for the nationalisation of the film industry of our country. It was also stated by him that the present-day films were doing more harm than good to society. It was his view that any improvement of the industry would be possible only if it was nationalised. Children under 13 years of age should not be allowed to see films, he asserted.



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would never have recourse to them because they do not know them. Go in for SILLY.

19. "When censure is merited sensible parents do not allow their children to — them." CHECK, CHEEK?

Cheek means insolence. Censure is made by parents only after their children have been cheeky, insolent. If you read the Clue with Cheek filling up the blank, you will find that the Clue does not make any sense at all. Check means to stop, arrest, restrain, rebuke. When censure is merited, when something done or said calls for reproof, then sensible parents would certainly not allow their children to Check, stop them from doing so. If they allow it, then it would mean the end of all parental authority. CHECK wins.

20. "Persons with tendency to — usually make trying house-guests." MEDDLE, MUDDLE?

Both words seem quite apt. The only way to avoid permuting them is to take an intelligent peep into the actualities of a party. Guests would Muddle things only if they are entrusted with certain tasks. They will not be so difficult to bear as those with the tendency to interfere. The latter might not only cause confusion but may be even guilty of creating ill-will among the guests and the host though there was no intention at all to slight them. MEDDLE is better.

DOWN

1. "Sergeant-major usually soon gives slow recruits ——" PEP, PIP?

The sergeant-major of any company (of soldiers) is the man who trains them during the parade. He should be and is necessarily harsh, strict and overbearing. Whenever he finds any recruit not quite up to the mark either in the turn-out (dress, etc.) or in his steps or carrying out of other orders, he would take him to task in no ordinary manner. Pip means vexation, annoyance, spleen. The sergeant-major would no doubt irritate the slow and awkward recruits but it is matter for consideration whether "gives" can go well with Pip. I, therefore, reject it. The sergeant-major's exacting commands and untiring vigilance would soon give even the slow recruits Pep or vigour. This point needs no elaboration. Back PEP.

2. "Being late makes most of us — occasionally." RASH, RUSH?

The word Rush can be apt only if the "late" in the Clue refers to lateness in reaching a place or keeping an appointment. But that word may also mean late in arriving at a decision, late in voicing an opinion, late in getting things ready, etc. If we are late, we will always rush and not merely do so "occasionally" only. Reject Rush. When we are late, we would tend to act at times in a Rash manner. It must be remembered that we don't do so always but only occasionally. RASH wins.

3. "As a rule, success of — largely depends on person who directs it." FILM, FIRM?

Even an elementary knowledge of films and their success or failure would do to drop Film in favour of Firm. The director of a film should no doubt be a man of more than average abilities to make a successful film. But it cannot be asserted that the success "largely," to a very great extent, depends on him alone. The cameraman, sound-recorder, special effects man, make-up man, script-writer, dialogue-writer, etc., also play quite an important part in the success of a film, not to speak of the actors and actresses. It can be asserted that the success of a Firm, whether a small or big one, does depend to a large extent on its director. How far he is efficient and enterprising would determine not only its success but also the extent of such success. Bet on FIRM.

5. "Most of us — the painful lessons of experience." HEED, NEED, WEED?

To Weed or remove the painful lessons of experience (from memory, probably) is the silliest thing to do, if it is possible to do so. The "most of us" in the Clue provides the pointer here. If most of us were to Heed the painful lessons of experience (of our own or of others), then the world would be far different from what it is today. It is the inability or foolishness not to Heed the painful lessons of experience that is at the bottom of mankind's misery. A few men may be born with such foresight that they plan carefully, avoid mistakes and succeed and are happy. But most of us are not so gifted and so we definitely do Need, require, the benefit of the painful lessons of experience. Vote for NEED.

7. "Boss who tolerates — is seldom respected by his employees." INDOLENCE, INSOLENCÉ?

Insolence is something that will never be tolerated by any boss. If he does so, he need not be called a boss at all but only as the investor of money for the running of the concern. If boss does somehow manage to tolerate Insolence, then the employees would not respect him but would cease to do his biddings even. Indolence is laziness. A boss should not only be strict in his dealings with his employees but also be on the alert to pull up all those who have a tendency to idle away their office hours. If he, however, tolerates idleness or laziness, Indolence, then the employees would seldom respect him. They will merely look upon him as a necessary evil and would grumble and not care for the good name of the concern. Enter INDOLENCE.

9. "Great courage is usually needed to fight against —" ODIUM, OPIUM?

Odiu is society's censure, public disapproval, shame or disgrace. Only the really sensitive would feel the sting of this Odiu and they will certainly require plenty of courage to fight against it. Here, "courage" does not refer to physical strength but to moral courage

or mental fearlessness. Those who are not sensitive, those who do not care for what others say about them do not have to fight against Odiu. Hence, the general reference to all of us goes against Odiu. Those who are addicted to the Opium habit have to put up a very great fight, indeed, to overcome the habit. It is a craving which increases with every indulgence and so not only a physical fight but a great exercise of will-power, mental determination, would be necessary to overcome the Opium habit. Those who have read De Quincey's Confessions of an Opium Eater would know how much the addicts are slaves to the opium habit. OPIUM should score.

11. "Social climbers usually invite many —" REBUFFS, REBUKES?

The "social climbers" are those men and women who try to move with and try to belong to a circle of society that is above their own. Naturally, they will first meet with a certain amount of hostility and ridicule and patronising treatment. Rebukes would be administered only if they commit a definite breach of social etiquette or are guilty of wrong actions. The Rebukes are tangible things that can be grappled with easily and overcome. Rebuffs are in an altogether different category. Rebuffs are defeats, unexpected refusals, social slights meant to discourage and even put to shame the social climbers. These Rebuffs are administered or made in a subtle way and the social climbers are bound to invite many of them. It is the price they have to pay for their attempts to climb the rungs of the social ladders. REBUFFS wins.

13. "Most of us would if we saw a ghost!" SHRIEK, SHRINK?

To Shrink is to recoil with fear, terror. To Shriek is to cry out shrilly due to sudden fright. More than men, women would surely Shriek when they suddenly come face to face with a ghost. But it cannot be said that most men won't do so for it depends on how courageous they are. The timid or cowardly would certainly do so. It is equally true that most of us, whether men or women, would surely Shrink, recoil with fright, step back in terror when we see a ghost. The "most of us" in the Clue, in my opinion, necessarily makes the statement a generalisation and therefore it will not admit of Shriek here. Shrink is nearer the truth of the reaction here. Back SHRINK.

16. "Such men are seldom popular with women." GRIM, PRIM, TRIM?

Trim men are those who look and dress in a pleasing way. Surely, it is ridiculous to suggest that such men will never ("seldom") be popular among women! On the other hand they will be very popular, indeed. Grim men are those whose faces appear too serious and forbidding. They may not be popular at first sight. But their having other likeable qualities would make them popular among women. Men who are Prim, have strait-laced notions, will certainly never be popular among women. PRIM is a winner.

COMPETITORS' CORNER

"Easy And Simple" Says Teacher Winner!

Dear Sir,

I thank you for your letter of congratulations.

I had been working at your crosswords for a long time playfully and comparing with the Key Solutions when published. I was often within 3, 4, or 5 mistakes. This gave real encouragement and I attempted your bumper offer which was my first effort in the sense it was sent to you with the entrance fees. My cousin who was here with me for a short duration also helped me much and I should even say that it is her entry which had won me the Prize. As you write, why should I not win the First Prize outright some day?

I am in the teaching line for over 25 years. I am not quite new to crosswords and I was a regular Competitor for the Commonsense Crosswords for a very long time in which I had won many a small prize. I will say that your Competitions are easy and very simple which need no hard thinking or dictionaries.

Once again, I thank you for your letter.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) Mrs. M. KANAGARAJ.

Assistant,
Presidency Girls' High School,
Egmore,
MADRAS 8.

ENTRY FEE—Rs. 1

As the Government of Bombay do not allow Competition Promoters to offer Half Fee Squares and Free Squares, under the Bombay Lotteries and Prize Competitions Control Act, we have been forced to deny our Competitors the benefit of a Free Square as such. The Entry Fee for MYWORDS will hereafter be, with effect from MYWORDS No. 21 and onwards, Rupee ONE for Three Entries. Even if one or two entries are sent, the Entry Fee will still be Rupee ONE. That is to say, Rupee 1 is the minimum Entry Fee to be sent. Competitors will please note that they can still send 3 Entries for Rupee ONE as before. They cannot, however, now send one entry for annas eight as before. Remember! Rupee ONE for one, two or three Entries.

— Competition Editor.

Dear Sir,

I thank you very much for your immediate compliance with my request for "Free Entry Forms" which I have received in due time. I appreciate very much the Management and the setting of the Clues in your Competition MYWORDS. They are not only interesting and simple but are also very much appropriate and carefully studied by the Compiler.

Yours faithfully,

(Sd.) MARCUS DESOUZA.

Govt. Block No. 1,
Flat 6,
Khar, BOMBAY 21.

Dear Sir,

I am very thankful for your kind letter of congratulations on my sharing the First Prize with nine others in MYWORDS No. 19. I am sorry I could not thank you earlier due to some unavoidable circumstances.

I am aged 37 and am a land-lord, and solving Crosswords is my hobby. This is the first time that I have shared a prize in MYWORDS Competitions. In my opinion MYWORDS Clues are easy and interesting.

I have no specific method of Solving but correct and accurate study of Clues will, I hope, help anyone in winning a First Prize.

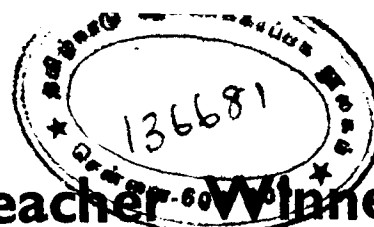
CONSISTENCY BONUS OF Rs. 1,000!

Competitors' attention is drawn to the Rs. 1,000 Consistency Bonus offer made in respect of MYWORDS No. 19 to MYWORDS No. 24, both included. The amount is divided into First, Second and Third Prizes of Rs. 500, Rs. 300, and Rs. 200 respectively and will be awarded to those who score 6, 5, and 4 points in the series covering MYWORDS No. 19 to MYWORDS No. 24.

Every Competitor who figures in the prize list of a MYWORDS Competition in the series shall be deemed to have scored a point. Irrespective of the fact whether the Competitor wins an All-Correct or One-Error or Two-Error or Three-Error or Four-Error Prize, the Competitor will be deemed to have scored one point in one Competition. Even if several shares in any one or all categories of the prizes are won, they will still be counted as one point in each Competition for the purpose of the Consistency Bonus award. In case several Competitors succeed in scoring the 6, 5 and 4 points, the respective Prize amounts will be divided among the tying Competitors.

Competitors should note that they will be eligible for the respective Prizes only if they send their prize-winning entries in the same name and address.

The Claim Form will be published along with the Prize List of MYWORDS No. 24 in these pages.





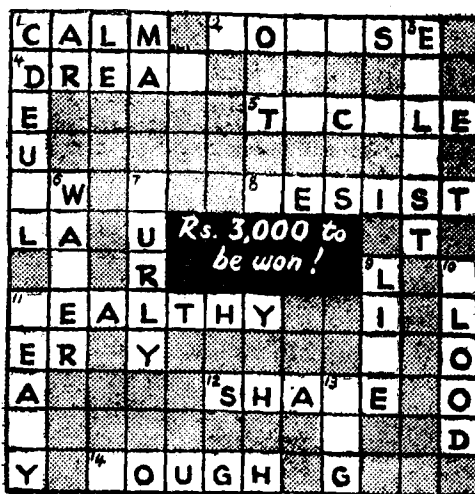
ACROSS

- Remember to tackle the Clues only when you are this of mind!
- Man who is — will find himself left alone at social gathering.
- To know what is behind a — calls for considerable psychological insight.
- Married life can continue to be an unending romance if the partners know how to — each other well.
- Champions of democracy have the conviction that the religious faith of the average Indian would make him — Communism.
- One who has always been — can never properly understand the plight of those who are not.
- The more sensitive a young man, the easier it is to — him.
- To treat a — with indifference may have unpleasant after effects.

CLOSING DATE in MADRAS:
7th May 1953 (Subject to Rules and Conditions.)

KEY SOLUTION will be published in the 15-5-53 and Prize List in the 1-6-53 issue of MY MAGAZINE OF INDIA

THIS SQUARE IS FOR PRACTICE ONLY.



Entry Fee is Rupee ONE for the Three Squares. If one Entry is filled up, leaving the other two blank, and sent still the Entry Fee is Re. ONE. Irrespective of the fact whether all the three Squares or only one Square in the Entry Form is filled up, the whole set must be sent intact. Competitors in Pakistan, Ceylon and Burma should send British Postal Orders to cover payment of Entry Fee. Sterling payments must be at the rate of 1s. 6d. per rupee.

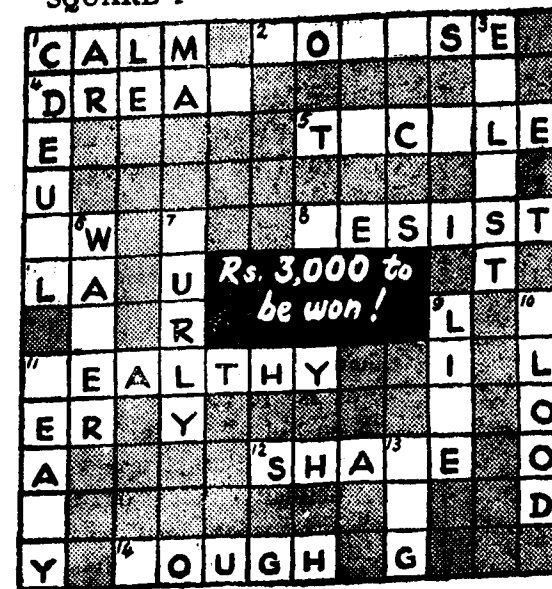
DOWN

- Jumbled spelling of the word CUDDLE.
- To enrol, to employ.
- That which ruins many racegoers is their tendency to — too much when in the enclosure.
- It is always advisable to think twice before getting involved in an argument with a — man.
- Instead of bemoaning Fate for his thorough failure, wise man would immediately embark on a new — altogether.
- Bad — can cause considerable damage.
- To a — mind, nothing can be as good as a long sleep.
- Man who is this is not likely to have cordial relations with his neighbours.

Address your Entries to:— MYWORDS No. 22, My Magazine of India, 82, Broadway, MADRAS. 1

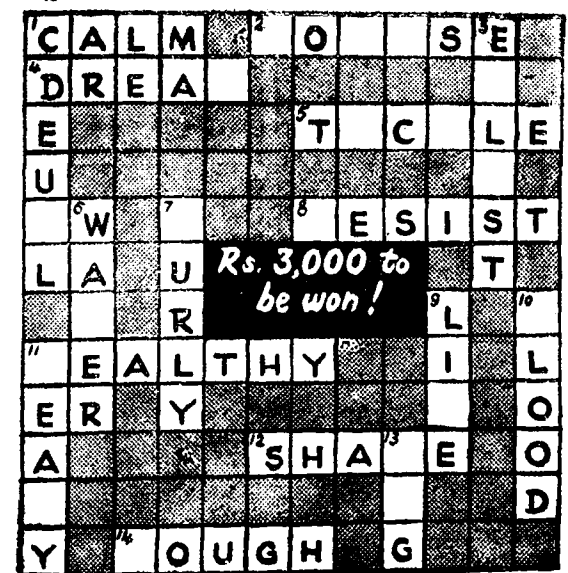
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SQUARE 1



MYWORDS No. 22

SQUARE 2



MYWORDS No. 22

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Enclosed Postal Order or
Money Order Receipt No. }

I have read the Rules and Conditions governing this Competition and agree to abide by the same and also to accept the Competition Editor's decision in respect of this Competition as final and legally binding.

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Letters) Miss

ADDRESS }
(In Full) }

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Comments On

"Mywords"

The Competition Journals mentioned below carry comments on "MYWORDS" Competition. Ask your News Agent for the Journal you require.

"BE-WISE,"

63, Muthiah Pillai Lane,
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"CROSSWORD BANKERS,"

9, Vinayagapuram, Vellore, S.Ry.

"CROSSWORD COMMENTS,"

116, Long Bazar, Vellore, S.Ry.

"CROSSWORD SOLVER,"

Malleswaram P.O., Bangalore.

"ENTERTAINER WEEKLY,"

21, Ghoga Street, First Floor,
Fort, Bombay 1.

"FAIRPLAY FORTNIGHTLY,"

3/27, Broadway, Madras 1.

"KEY" The,

Crossword Weekly, 21, Thumbavanam
St., Kancheepuram, S.Ry.

"THE MICROSCOPE,"

3, Poonaagar, Madras-16.

"THE PASTIME,"

101, Harrison St.,
Calcutta-7.

"PRECISE,"

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List of Fixed Words & Alternatives

Given below is the List of Fixed Words and Alternatives for MYWORDS No. 22. This can help the Competitors to know the words from which they can select the apt ones. They must, however, remember that this List is not an exhaustive one and only such words as are very apt in the opinion of "Spotter" are given. The alternatives given are neither binding on the Committee nor final. The Competitors are also advised to consult the Oxford Concise and Chambers' 20th Century Dictionaries before finalising their choice of the aptest words. — *Competition Editor.*

MYWORDS No. 22

CLOSING DATE:— 7th MAY 1953

FIXED WORDS

Across: 1. CALM.

Down: 1. ODEUDL. 2. ENLIST.

ALTERNATIVES

Across: 2. COARSE, HOARSE,
MOROSE.

4. DREAD, DREAM.

5. TACKLE, TIOKLE.

8. DESIST, RESIST.

14. COUGH, ROUGH,
TOUGH.

Down: 6. WAGER, WAVER.

7. BURLY, SURLY.

9. LIFE, LINE.

10. BLOOD, FLOOD.

INTERLOCKERS

Across: 11. HEALTHY,
WEALTHY.

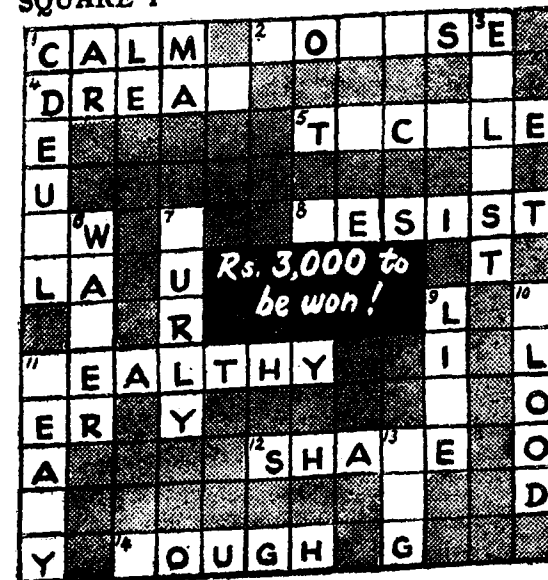
Down: 11. HEAVY, WEARY.

Across: 12. SHAME, SHAPE.

Down: 13. MUG, FIG.

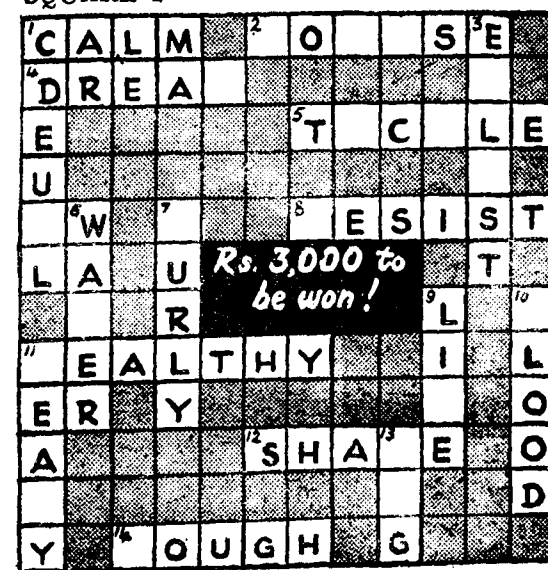
— "Spotter".

SQUARE 1



MYWORDS No. 22

SQUARE 2



MYWORDS No. 22

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I have read the Rules and Conditions governing this Competition and agree to abide by the same and also to accept the Competition Editor's decision in respect of this Competition as final and legally binding.

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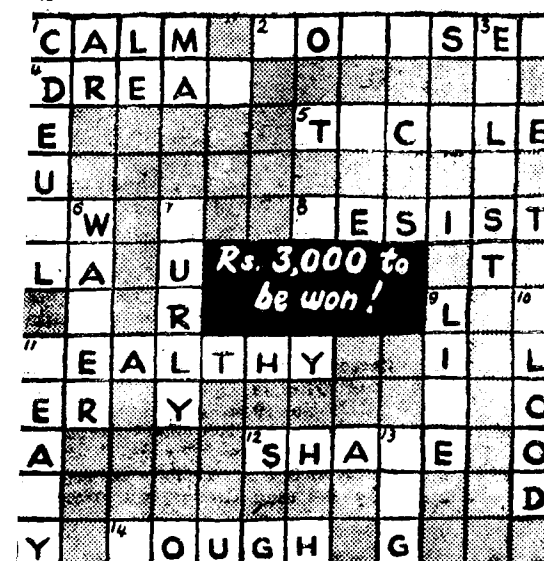
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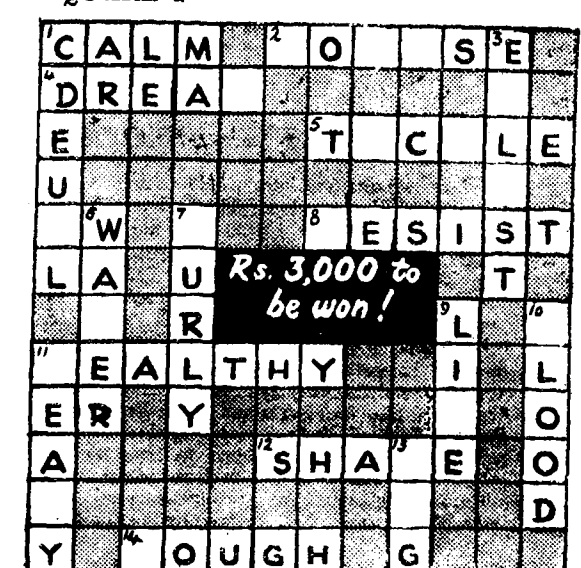
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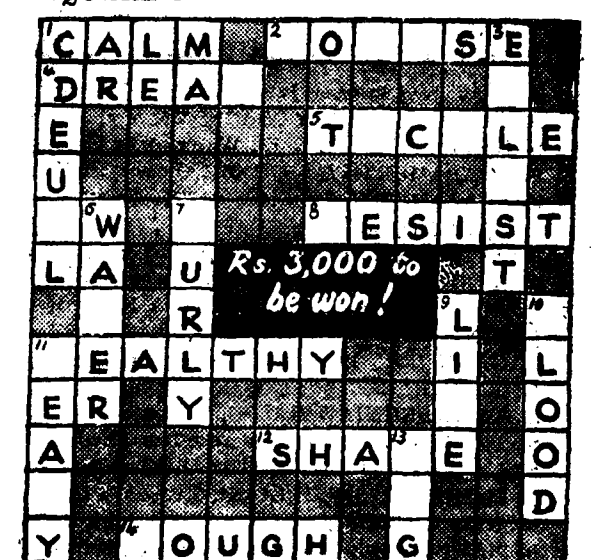
MYWORDS No. 22

SQUARE 2



MYWORDS No. 22

SQUARE 3



MYWORDS No. 22

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I have read the Rules and Conditions governing this Competition and agree to abide by the same and also to accept the Competition Editor's decision in respect of this Competition as final and legally binding.

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(In Ink & Block } Mrs.
Letters } Miss

ADDRESS }
(In Full) }

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"MYWORDS" COMPETITION

COMPETITION CORNER:

FIRST PRIZE SHARED BY FOUR SOLVERS!

RESULT OF "MYWORDS" No. 20

FIRST PRIZE: Rs. 2,000/-

Four clever solvers had succeeded in submitting All-Correct Entries for this Competition. They share the First Prize amount of Rs. 2,000/-, each getting Rs. 500/-.

The Rs. 1,250 prize amount for Runners up has been shared by 89 One-Error, 192 Two-Error, 567 Three-Error and 1206 Four-Error solvers. Each One-Error solver gets Rs. 5/8/0, each Two-Error solver gets Rs. 2/-, each Three-Error solver gets Rs. 10/- and each Four-Error solver gets Rs. 4/-.

Appearing below are the names and full addresses of the One-Error solvers alphabetically arranged. For want of space the full addresses of the Two-Error and Three-Error winners could not be given. Instead, their names and places, in alphabetical order, are given. The number shown in brackets indicates the number of shares won by a Competitor. Four-Error winners' List could not be published owing to pressure on space. Every Four-Error Winner would be informed by post on 5-4-'53.

All-Correct Solvers. Each Awarded Rs. 500/-

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Miss Munni c/o S.S. Agarwal, Luni Junction, J.Ry., JODHPUR STATE.
Miss Narasapur Lila Hanamant, c/o H.R. Narasapur, B.L.Ry. Dispensary, KURDUWADI (Sholapur Dt.)
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NAGENDRIAH M.N., Jain Street, Mandya.
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RUNNERS-UP: Rs. 1,250/-

The Prize Amounts declared as won by Competitors are subject to Scrutiny Claim Rules and Conditions.

If any Competitor feels he has won a Prize and it is not stated in the published Prize List that he has won such a Prize or has not been notified to that effect by the Competition Editor or that the number of shares won in a Prize has been incorrectly stated, the Competitor may demand a Scrutiny (see page 59).

Rs. 1,000 is being offered as Consistency Bonus for Competitors who figure as Prize Winners in the 6 Competitions commencing from MYWORDS No. 19 to MYWORDS No. 24, both inclusive. The amount is divided into First, Second and Third Prizes of Rs. 500, Rs. 300 and Rs. 200 respectively and will be awarded to those who score 6, 5 and 4 points respectively in this series. So, hurry up and send entries, win prizes and score points!

1st April 1953

MY MAGAZINE

59

Two-Error Solvers Each Awarded Rs. 2/-

ABDULLA K.M., Mattancherry; Abdul Samad Abdul Gafoor Ansari, Dhulia; Advani M.V., Indore.

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LIST OF FIXED WORDS & ALTERNATIVES

ACROSS: 1. FETCH 3. MAJOR, MAYOR 5. LAD, LAG 6. USE 7. BACKED, JACKED, PACKED 9. LIFT, LILT, LINT, LIST 11. TEAM, TRAM 12. CADS, DADS, FADS, LADS 13. GAME, GATE 15. DEAR 16. RUES 18. SCAMPS, SWAMPS 20. CABLE, TABLE 21. TIMID.

DOWN: 1. FLOATS 2. HEAL 3. MEET 4. REPAST 8. MALES, SALES, TALES 10. BASES, CASES, VASES 13. GROCERS, GROWERS 14. ERUPTED 15. DREAMY, DREARY 17. STRIFE, STRIKE 18. SLAP, SLIP 19. SIRE, SITE, SIZE 20. CRY, TRY 22. DIG, DOG.

ACROSS

3. "Man without ambition is not likely to become —" MAJOR, MAYOR?

A Major is a commissioned officer of the army. No man is straightaway appointed as a Major. A man is first made a Second Lieutenant and then gets promotion as Lieutenant, Captain and then as Major. Even though he might lack ambition, might not have many abilities, still he can become a Major due to a certain number of years of service in the army. So man without ambition can become a Major if he can first get a Second Lieutenant's job. But no man can become a Major unless he has the ambition to become one. He must have push, original ideas, influence, popularity, etc., to get several friends who will help him in his efforts to become a Major. Without ambition, he will never be a Major. Back MAYOR.

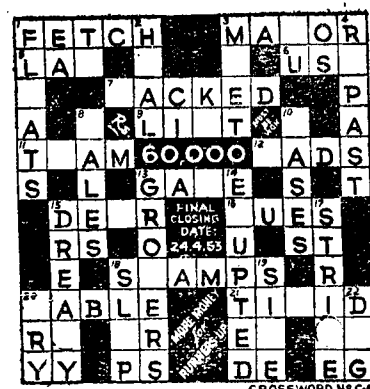
5. "It wouldn't be at all wise to entrust a — with large sum of money." LAD, LAG?

Before deciding on the apt word, we must remember that the Cline should refer to the normal experience of the average man. Taking this view we can easily see that no one will ever entrust a large sum of money to a Lag, an ex-convict. "Wouldn't be at all wise" clearly hints that some people do something and what they do is unwise. We know that the really wise persons would never entrust a large sum of money to a Lad, youngster. But there are persons who are foolish enough to do so. It is with reference to these people that the Compiler says that it isn't wise to do so. Go in for LAD.

7. "Much care is needed when a car has to be —" BACKED, JACKED, PACKED?

Jacked can be ignored as "much care" is not needed to operate a Jack when a car has to be raised from the ground. If it is to be Packed at all, then it is removed into several parts like wheels, engine, etc., and then Packed. The wording "much care" certainly exaggerates the necessity to be careful with reference to the word Packed here. When a car has to be Backed, reversed, driven backwards, there is undoubtedly necessity for being quite careful, if one is not careful, there is the chance of not only the rear part of the car being damaged but also the risk of running over someone standing, sitting or lying

The Square below is for practice only



"By SPOTTER"

behind, hitting into another vehicle or into a wall, etc. Back BACKED.

9. "When housewife goes shopping in big city store — often comes in useful." LIFT, LILT, LINT, LIST?

Lilt and Lint can be rejected without any second thoughts. If the big city store has many storeys, then only can the Lift be useful. It is doubtful if the city store will have a Lift. A big city store might have all its departments in the ground floor usually. Reject Lift. When a housewife goes shopping and buys things as she sees them or as she remembers them, then she will waste much time and energy doing so. If she were to prepare a List of all the articles she wants to buy and then goes out for shopping, she will not only not forget any item but can also plan her shopping by deciding what all she should buy first, when and where. LIST scores.

11. "So many young people are keen on sport these days that it's often difficult to get a place in —" TEAM, TRAM?

It is quite true that trams are crowded more these days than before but it will be thoroughly misleading to state that such a crowding is due mainly to the many young people being keen on sports activities. When only a few young men were sports enthusiasts in the country, they were all able to find place as members in various teams. Now, however, there are so many thousands of sports enthusiasts that it has become quite a tough,

difficult job to get a place in a Team. There are associations for every kind of game whose executive committees decide who shall be members of a team or otherwise. Bet on TEAM.

12. "Men of strong character won't want to waste any time on —" CADS, DADS, FADS, LADS?

Lads, youngsters, are not generally such loathsome beings as to warrant the statement that men of strong character won't want to "waste" any time on them. Fads are pet prejudices, hobbies or beliefs. Even men of such strong character as Napoleon, Hitler, etc., did have Fads. It cannot, therefore, be said that it is a "waste" of time on the part of men of strong character to have Fads. Men of strong character would treat their Dads with every consideration. "Strong character" should be taken to mean moral uprightness, integrity of a high level. Such men as have strong character would naturally feel it is a waste of time to speak or move with Cads, low, mean or vulgar fellows. The nature of the two types of men are so different, diametrically opposite, poles apart, that there should necessarily be a dislike of the Cads felt by men of strong character. Bet on CADS.

13. "Manager of touring side may well be worried if — has been disappointing." GAME, GATE?

This is one of those really well-set Clues which are the despair of the Competitors and the pride of the Compiler. "Touring side" means a visiting team or troupe. If we take "side" to mean a team of players like a foot-ball or cricket or hockey or such like team, then Gate becomes purposeless. Irrespective of the collections of the Gate, the team will play. The headache over the poor collections will be that of the host or home team's and not that of the visiting team's. If the touring side's Game is disappointing, then the manager of the touring side may well be worried for not only has the reputation of the team been lost in the place visited, but it would also mean that the team will not be invited for matches in other places. Enter GAME.

DOWN

8. "Authors are usually pleased when their publishers tell them how

1st April 1953

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MY MAGAZINE

1st April 1953

good then are." MALES

SALES, TALES. It is not enough to say that the characterisation of the Males in his novels are quite good. He will be quite happy that his book as a whole is a success. Tales here necessarily restricts the authors to those who write fiction or stories of adventure, etc., and does not and cannot refer to the other types of authors. I prefer to reject Tales on this ground of its reference to a less wide field than Sales. The word Sales refers to not only fiction writers but also to writers of serious books like those on contemporary politics, philosophy, spiritual values, etc. When their publishers tell them how good their Sales are, how well their books are being bought by the public, they are bound to feel quite pleased not so much because of the money they would make but because they would become more and more famous. SALES scores.

10. "When it comes to discussing important — great powers are usually at variance." BASES, CASES, VASES?

Ignore Vases here. Cases is vague here. Cases of what kind? Political, economic, military or what? Cases for consideration, discussion and disagreement arise only with regard to Bases. Here, Bases means places which are of strategic military importance. Bases for the navy, for the airforce, for army stationing, etc., are eagerly sought after by every important power. When one power acquires Bases, through diplomatic means like alliances or pacts, etc., then the other big powers tend to get alarmed. Naturally, therefore, the great powers are usually at variance, disagree, when it comes to their discussing about important Bases. Vote for BASES.

15. "Most of us find — types rather a nuisance!" DREAMY, DREARY?

We would tend to consider a person as a nuisance only when he so behaves as to inconvenience us or irritates us. The Dreamy person is one who spends most of the time not literally sleeping and then dreaming but indulges in what is known as day dreaming. That is to say, he indulges in flights of imagination. To be so Dreamy would be harmful to him only for he would cease to be practical and make a failure of his life. He cannot, however, be a nuisance to others. The Dreary person is one who is gloomy, cheerless. He will not only put on a long face but try to discourage others as well. This would undoubtedly irritate us. They would also become a nuisance by trying to tell others of their imagined woes, etc. Back DREARY.

17. "When workers are happy, there's rarely any — in industry." STRIFE, STRIKE?

Strike on the part of workers alone cannot be described as the only strike in the industry. If workers are not happy, they will not only Strike work but would also cause Strife, discord, trouble, etc. When they have no work to do and are leading about or indulging in unnecessary gossip and mischievous talk, workers

are apt to cause much Strife. If they are happy, surely there can be no Strife. Even Strike here has some aptness. Hence, it is safer to permute both STRIFE and STRIKE.

18. "Just one little — isn't going to worry the average school-boy very much!" SLAP, SLIP?

If the Slap is a light one, not administered with sufficient force, and is not received before others as to cause shame, loss of face, then the average schoolboy may not worry much about it. If the Slap was received before others thereby causing humiliation, then the schoolboy would worry about it. Even its being only a "little" Slap would not change or lessen the shame of having received it before others. A Slip is a mistake or error. If it is a serious Slip, the school boy will worry. If it is only a little Slip which will not only not cause any harm but which will also not be noticed by others will not make the schoolboy feel worried. The "to worry" in the Clue reads better with Slip only. Vote for SLIP.

19. " — doesn't usually help when it comes to getting an office job." SIRE, SITE, SIZE?

The word Site can be ignored. Sire means one's ancestor or a crowned head. Even if we take it to mean "father" it wouldn't be apt for the father who wouldn't usually help his son when it comes to getting an office job is yet to be born. The father would strive his best to do what he can for his son. Reject Sire. Here, Size refers to a man's girth or stature. For a man to get an office job, certain qualifications are necessary. His Size may be useful but it is not the decisive qualification. Just because a man has the figure of a champion boxer he wouldn't get a job unless he can show he has the necessary brains also. SIZE scores.

22. "Even a playful — is apt to annoy us when we are feeling listless." DIG, DOG?

Whether we take "playful Dog" to mean literally a dog that is in a playful mood or to mean a jolly fellow, matters little. When we are feeling listless, it is undoubtedly due to a physical and mental exhaustion. What one needs absolutely in such a condition is perfect rest and peace. So it is not wrong to say that even a playful Dog is certain to annoy us when we are feeling restless. A playful Dig, a witty remark or humorous thrust usually will not irritate one who is listless but on occasions it may. That is why the "apt to" is used to cover such exceptions. Go in for DIG.

INTERLOCKERS

Across: 18. "Wise parents will always keep their children away from —" SCAMPS, SWAMPS?

Even a casual reading of the Down interlocking Clue would confirm Grocers here. But let us discuss the merits or otherwise of the two alternatives on

their own merits here. Swamps are wet spongy tracts of land, low grounds filled with water. It can't be said that only wise parents would always keep their children away from the swamps. Even the not very wise would take such precautions. The average parent who is not necessarily wise would not bother over his children moving with Scamps, worthless fellows, vagabonds. But wise parents will always keep their children away from Scamps for they know the incalculable harm that might be caused to the character of their children if they are allowed to keep company with such friends. SCAMPS scores.

Down: 13. "Food distribution would be virtually impossible without —" GROCERS, GROWERS?

Not only does Scamps's selection at 18 Across fix Grocers here, but it also appeals to our commonsense for its aptness here on its own merits. Growers here undoubtedly refers to the agriculturists who raise food crops, grow pulses, etc. Their responsibility or part ends with their selling the produce to the merchants. Its "distribution" is undoubtedly done by the Grocers. In India, the provision merchant is the Grocer. In the West, the merchants who sell all things including food stuffs are known as Grocers. How distribution of food stuff would be virtually impossible without the Grocers needs no further arguments. Go in for GROCERS.

Across: 20. "Danger may result if damaged — is not speedily repaired." CABLE, TABLE?

Cable is a bundle of insulated wires laid underground or in the sea. This may be for transmission of messages or for conducting current. Danger is likely to result if damaged Cable is having high voltage current and that too if it is so exposed as to cause contact by us. If there is no current or the current is cut off then no danger may result. If a Table is damaged and it is not quickly repaired, then danger may result. We or the children may forget it is damaged and may try to use it when we may come to harm. Back TABLE.

Down: 20. "Some women get little sympathy from their husbands, however much they —" CRY, TRY?

To resort to crying alone to get sympathy will not be enough for a wife. If hubby is in an already irritated mood, then wife's crying would definitely tend to flare up his sore feelings and he may beat her even when the wife will have to Cry in real earnest! While some women have a knack of getting every wish of theirs fulfilled by their husbands, some women are so unfortunate that they fail to get even a little sympathy however much they might Try to elicit sympathy. They might use every artifice known to woman-kind since Eve, but they fail miserably to achieve any favourable results. Vote for TRY.

1st April 1953

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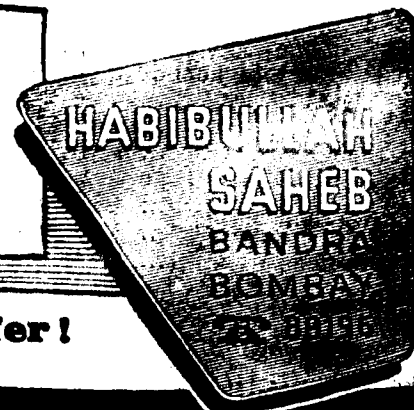
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