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Vol. 57]

MAY & JUNE 1956

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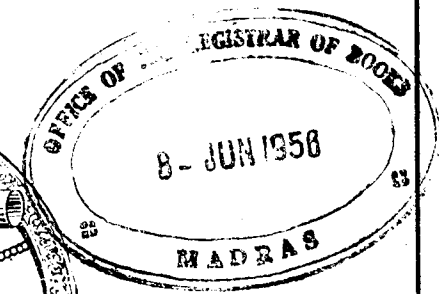
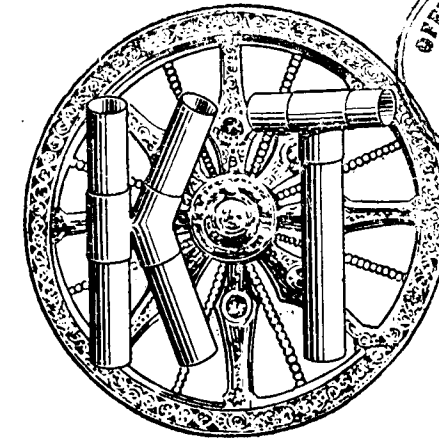
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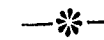
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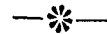
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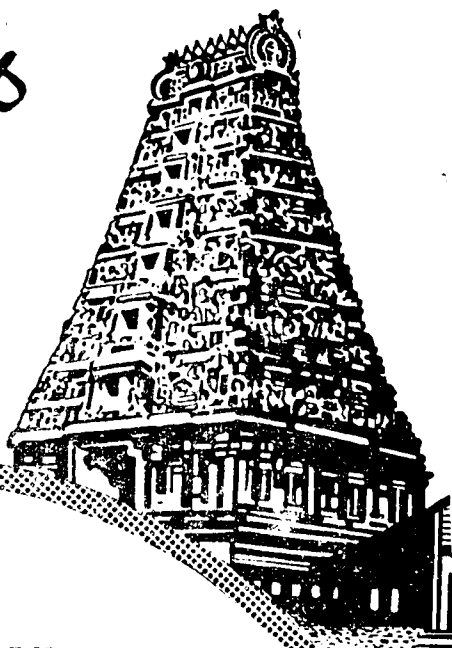
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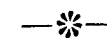
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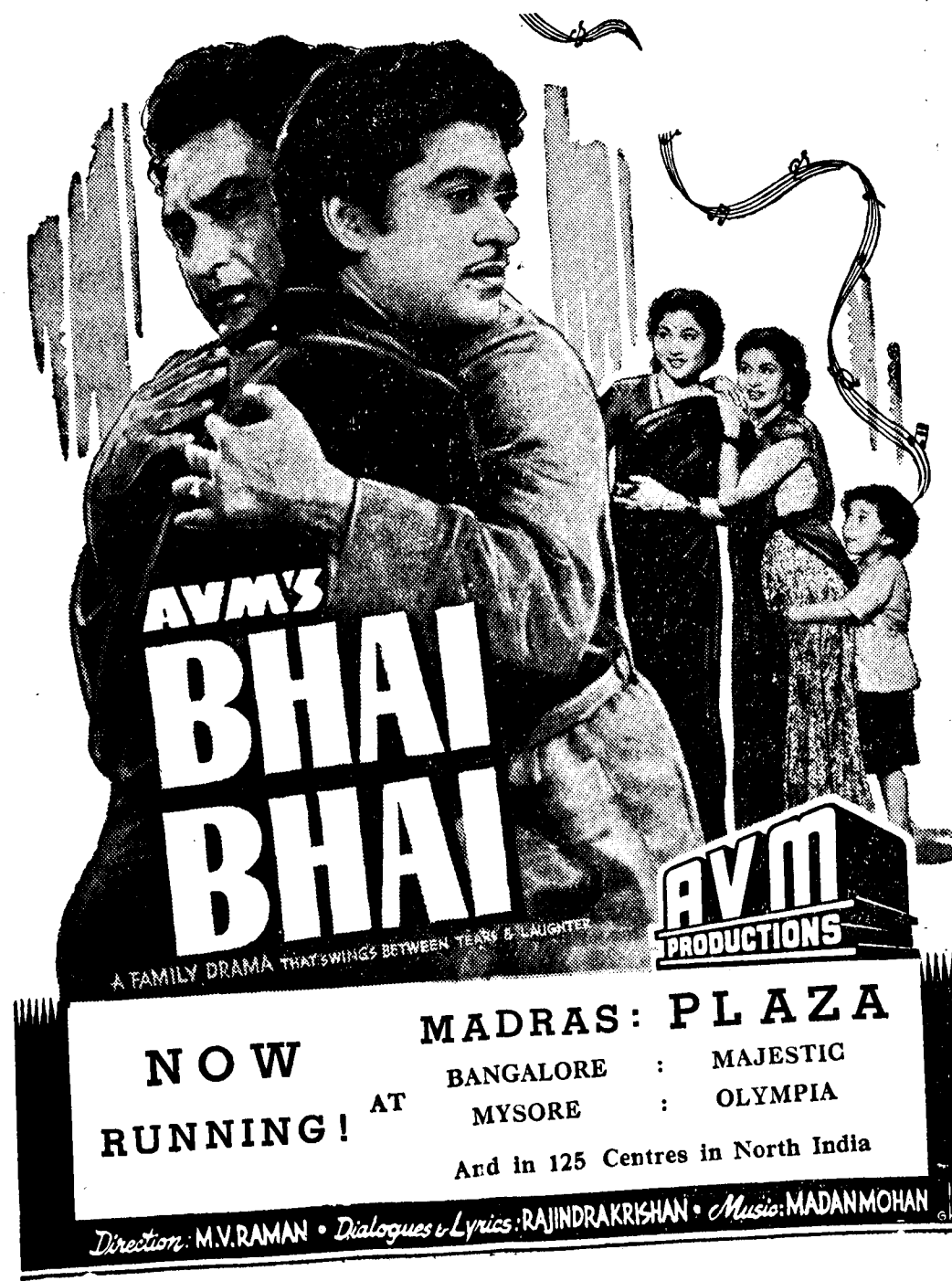
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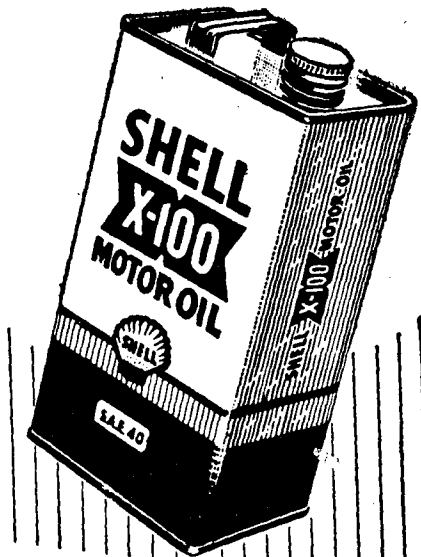
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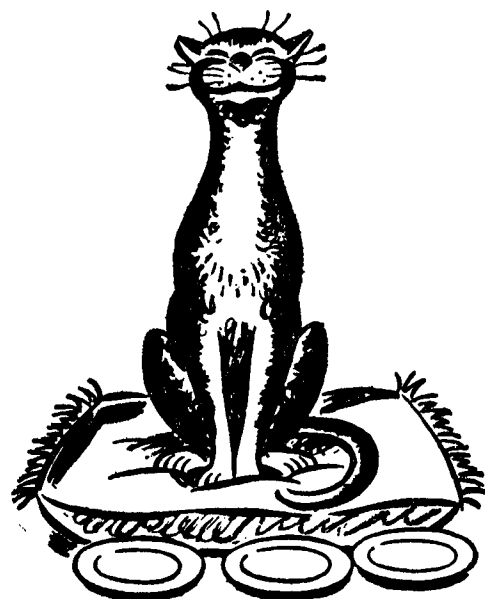


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Managing Editor: MANIAN NATESAN

Vol. 57 ]

MAY & JUNE 1956

[ Nos. 5 & 6 ]

## The Arab-Israeli Conflict and the Western Powers

By

SRI ADITYA PRASAD SEN GUPTA, M.A.

It was promised during the first World War that the Jews would be given opportunities to have their national home. That wartime promise is the basis of the present Israeli State, apart from sympathy for Jews oppressed during the regime of Hitler. The Israeli State derives its strength also from rich American Jews. *The News and World Report* observes that the military preparations of Israel are complete inspite of the fact that its geographical area is less than that of New Hampshire and its people number only seventeen lakhs. Every Israeli whose age ranges from seventeen to fifty is a well trained soldier and is equipped with modern weapons. *The News and World Report* thinks that in response to the demands of the situation Israel is in a position to engage 2,00,000 soldiers within forty eight hours.

It will appear from history that the Israeli State, since its establishment, has been facing Arab opposition which aims at its effacement in view of apprehension that the only object of the Israeli State is to harm Arab interests in the Middle East. We all possibly know that immediately before the Second World War there was a serious anti-British rising in Palestine. One of the objects of that rising was to oppose establishment of a separate State for the Jews. When the Second World War came to an end, the United Nations decided in favour of an Israeli State. But before completion of arrangements for establishment of such a state five Arab States decided to take up arms, as a result of which Ben Gurion declared the independence of Israel, the Jews went on beating back the advancing Arab troops and in defiance of

the directives of the U.N. personnel concerned with cease-fire work occupied a strip of land whose total area was much more than that contemplated in the U.N. proposals. It seems that the present Arab-Israeli conflict is the result of three principal factors. The first factor is that the Arabs do not forget the sad story of their defeat in the hands of the Jews. The second factor is the unauthorised and illegal occupation of an Arab area by the Israeli State. The third factor is the miseries of the unfortunate Arab refugees.

According to some political observers the total area of the Arab home is greater than that of the United States of America. But a considerable portion of this home is a barren tract of land. Besides though the Arabs number about four crores, they are militarily weak. As per rough estimates Egypt has only one lakh soldiers. Not only that. A portion of the Egyptian army is not upto the mark. It is reported that each of the two states, Syria and Iraq, has forty thousand soldiers most of whom have neither been given good military training nor been equipped with modern weapons. The military observers state that the Arab army is not placed under an Allied Command and does not move according to a joint war plan.

The reports received recently indicate that the Arab Israeli border conflicts have resulted in a situation which threatens to verge on a full-fledged war. Israel complains that the Egyptian raiders are being sent to Gaza and other Israeli areas. One may recall here that on April 5, 1956 bombing started for the first

time in the Gaza strip. It is no doubt true that the United Nations intervened to stop it. But the U.N. intervention had only temporary success. Because there started again exchange of fire on the 6th April between the Arabs and the Israeli forces.

It may or may not be true that the Western Powers desire evolution of a strong Jewish State in the Middle East. But the Jews themselves rely mainly on force to have a strong state of their own. That's why they are trying hard to re-inforce their strength without depending wholly on their Western sympathisers.

On the other hand the Arab strength has also been considerably increased as a result of certain recent events. The first event is conclusion of a military pact between Syria, Egypt and Saudi Arabia. Secondly Jordan, recently freed from British influence to a considerable extent, is now in a position to co-

operate with Egypt and Saudi Arabia. The third event is that the Arab States are receiving arms from the communist countries. So there is every possibility of a full-fledged war, if the Arab-Israeli disputes are not settled in time. Besides it is difficult to say whether the peace mission of Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld, the U.N. Secretary-General, to the Middle East will yield good and permanent results. If on the other hand, the American President decides to take steps against the aggressor, he will not find it easy to fix up responsibility for first aggression as in addition to mutual recrimination of the parties involved in the conflict, the question of preserving American interests in the Middle East will have to be given top priority. In other words the U. S. policy in respect of the Middle East is hesitant and determined by U. S. oil interests, as well as the desires of the rich American Jews who exercise great influence on the Government:



## Birth of the Buddha

By  
Mr. V. B. MENON

Two thousand and five hundred years ago the Indian prince Siddhartha Gautama gave up his throne, roamed about as an ascetic seeking freedom from the travails of cyclical re-birth and became the Buddha, the Enlightened, proclaiming the doctrine known to moderns as Buddhism. The year 1956 marks an epoch especially in the history of Asia as we celebrate the Jayanti in this month.

The upheavals of history and the changes wrought by time have not in any way weakened the influence of Buddhism on the minds of Asian millions. In fact it has spread to attract more and more adherents in the West.

Since Buddhism has survived inspite of contrary forces, it needs must possess tremendous pulling power. A religion teaching absolute tolerance, forbidding force in any form, refusing to serve Nationalism and exacting the strictest moral conduct from the faithful, has apparently little chance of holding its own in

a world of violence and self-interest. Why is it then that it has performed the miracle of survival and growth?

First, it has a hypnotic appeal to the highest human ideals, so much so that even non-Buddhists really concede that Buddhism sets before them the noblest goal to which they could aspire. Its humane teachings are matchless. Buddhism is not only humanistic, nor is it merely an ethical system. Its humanism and morality are woven into the pattern of its global philosophy, itself resting not on supernatural beliefs or unproved dogmas.

The religious records of Buddhism are strewn with examples of miracles having happened but these are not essential to the doctrine. One could reject all these and yet be a convinced Buddhist by applying to oneself the practical methods the Buddha prescribed for attaining a higher state of consciousness.

Gautama was called the Buddha not because he performed miracles. The instances testifying to his intense psychic power, for long ridiculed as superstitions and now being scientifically studied, were common achievements of the ascetics of those days. The Buddha himself despised them. He was hailed as the "All Enlightened" because of the perfection of that insight he had attained, a perfection assured as capable of being achieved by one and all.

During the past few centuries knowledge of the Universe has advanced by giant strides. Many beliefs once considered religious essentials have been exposed. It is remarkable that not one of the many teachings the Buddha gave in his 45-year-ministry has been disproved. In fact there is the claim that the conception of the Universe provided by science strikingly agrees with that given by the "All Enlightened."

The Buddhist believes that matter is mostly an illusion, that the Universe is a system of continual flux and change and that phenomena consist of processes rather than things. His knowledge of all this is necessarily conditioned by the degree of his own intelligence. Buddhism prescribes no limitations. Hence its slow but steady conquest of the West.

To the Asian the 2,500th anniversary of the Buddha's dispensation has tremendous significance. Lord Gautama, it is said, had declared that his teachings would last for 5,000 years after which they would vanish, all things being impermanent. In the middle period (at the end of 2,500 years) the present Buddha Sasana would face dire danger, but it would emerge stronger and faster than ever before. Hence the significance of the anniversary.

During the past two centuries Buddhism had faced decay and disruption. Buddhist countries in Asia had been subjected to inimical influences. True, there was no persecution by the foreign rulers. The educated strata were taught to respect alien traditions. The official and professional classes were impressed by the technical superiority of the West. The fall of

Buddhism was manifested more clearly than anywhere else in Ceylon. In that country it fell to an American, Colonel Olcott, to rekindle in the people a sense of their invaluable spiritual heritage. He started a new Buddhist movement which spreads apace. The decay however went on in other countries and another challenge loomed large in the horizon.

This was Communism. It had the attractive advantage of serving as a revolt against Colonialism. Today its orthodox tenets are somewhat discredited. Communism came as a great revelation filling the vacuum caused by the degeneration of religion. It became itself a religion to fiery nationalists and vibrant youth, providing them with a revolutionary impulse and a momentum to rush forth even to martyrdom. Communism had in it two non-Buddhist sanctions—nationalism and violence.

Things change and the blood-red revolutionaries of yesterday are mostly seasoned leaders today. Their countries are free. Hangover of the Marxist political outlook may still influence them but they realise that Communist evangelism conflicts with true Buddhism. Therefore they accept an eclectic via media by favouring a Marxist economic programme rejecting the extremes of Communism, including its anti-religious dogmatism.

The 2,500th anniversary of Buddha Jayanti comes in this Asian context. In many Buddhist countries where celebrations are being held there are bright prospects for a Buddhist revival. Free Governments unite with the people in this observance. Buddhists see their greatest hope for the future in this high endeavour. If the hope is realised they are certain Buddhism will enable Asia to spearhead the march of human progress providing a new method to solve the problems of a world darkened by war clouds, the message that was first wafted by the winds from Sarnath in the land of the Ganges.

As the world observes the Jayanti it leans and listens to the profound message of peace and benevolence proclaimed 2,500 years ago and now echoing louder than ever before through the corridors of Time.



# The Sudan

By

Prof. S. B. MOOKHERJI, M.A.

The 20th century will go down in history as the century of the resurgence of enchained humanity. To quote America's Supreme Court Justice William O. Douglas, "There are rumblings in every village from the Mediterranean to the Pacific. A force is gathering for a mighty effort." Diverse forces have been at work to bring about this renaissance. A grim struggle for political and economic emancipation is on. The struggle, suspected to be communistic by many, is nationalist in origin. It has taken different forms in different countries, according to the culture, tradition and genius of the peoples concerned. The struggle has been already crowned with success in quite a few countries. For many again the hour of fulfilment is yet to arrive.

The Sudan in North-Eastern Africa is the youngest nation of the world so far. Bilad-es-Sudan (the Land of the Blacks) or the Sudan proper stretches, on the south of the Sahara and Egypt, from Cape Verde on the Atlantic to Massawa on the Red Sea. The name Sudan is however generally applied to what was known as the Egyptian Sudan before the revolt of Mahdi Mohammed Ahmed in 1881-85 and as the Anglo-Egyptian Sudan since its re-conquest by the combined armies of Egypt and England in 1896-98. It is a predominantly Mohammedan country with a sprinkling of Christians and Pagans. The country is about a thousand miles from north to south. It is about a thousand miles from east to west as well. About one-fourth the size of Europe—976,750 square miles—it has a population of about 8,766,000.

Cotton is, by and large, the principal agricultural wealth of the Sudan. Cotton and cotton seed account for 75% of the country's exports. Cotton textiles and piece-goods, silk piece-goods, iron and steel products, machinery, motor vehicles, petrol and food stuff constitute the principal imports. Most of the trade is with the United Kingdom. A brisk trade is carried on with India and Egypt as well. Besides cotton, citrus fruits, gum arabic, oil-seeds and dates are the principal agricultural products of the Sudan. It is also rich in

mineral resources and has valuable gold, copper and iron mines. These however have not been properly exploited so far.

The Sudan is divided into nine Provinces. The Capital, Khartoum, has a population of 83,000. The neighbouring city of Omdurman is much more populous and has a population of 130,000. Port Sudan and Atbara are the other important towns. The population is 61,000 and 37,000 respectively.

Sudanese history before 1820 is a bewildering maze of feuds among the various principalities into which the country was divided. The greater part of the country was conquered between 1820 and 1822 by Mohammed Pasha, the Turkish Governor of Egypt. The acquisition was however a doubtful boon to the conqueror and proved a constant drain on the Egyptian exchequer. The Sudan too suffered. The country was misgoverned. The people were ill-treated. Their well-being was utterly neglected. The Mahdist movement in the early eighties of the 19th century was in part a re-action against Egyptian tyranny and aimed at overthrowing the Egyptian authority. Mahdi Mohammed Ahmed proclaimed himself the long-awaited "Guide" or "Messiah (Mahdi) of Islam. He preached "universal equality and a community of goods." He denounced the Turks, i.e., foreigners, as unworthy Muslims on whom "God would execute judgment." The first pitched battle between the Mahdists and the Egyptian army took place in August, 1881. The rebellion spread far and wide and before long almost the whole of the Sudan rallied under the Mahdis' banner. Khartoum fell to the Mahdists early in 1885 (January 25). Egyptian authority in the Sudan was completely overthrown within the next six months. But the Mahdi died in June, 1885. He was succeeded by Khalifa Abdullah, who ruled over the Sudan during the next thirteen years. He was completely defeated by an Anglo-Egyptian army under Sir (later on Lord) H. Kitchener in the battle of Omdurman on September 2, 1898.

Since then Sudan had been reconquered with British help. Great Britain demanded her pound of flesh. Nothing less than a share in

the administration of the country would satisfy her. Egypt, weak that she was, had to yield and the Anglo-Egyptian agreement of January 19, 1899, placed the Sudan under an Anglo-Egyptian Condominium. It established the joint sovereignty of the signatories over the Sudan. The supreme power in the country was vested in an English Governor-General responsible to both the British and the Egyptian Governments.

Egypt began to take more and more interest in the Sudan since the recognition of Egyptian sovereignty by Great Britain in 1922. Egypt's policy aimed at the unification of the Nile Valley, i.e., the union of Egypt and the Sudan. The Sudan too had been coming of age at the same time. The Sudanese opinion clamoured for a share in the administration. World War II stimulated nationalism all over the world and the Sudan was no exception. An Anglo-Egyptian Agreement of 1953 recognised Sudan's right to independence. A substantial measure of self-government was introduced. Complete independence was to follow within three years. The Sudan elected its first Parliament in November, 1953. The Government of India lent the services of their Chief Election Commissioner to the Government of the Sudan. Shri Sukumar Sen, the Chief Election Commissioner did his work so well that as a mark of admiration and gratitude the Sudan has named a street in the city of Khartoum after him. The National Unionist Party under the leadership of Ismail El Azhari swept the polls in the 1953 election. The Sudan Parliament met on January 1, 1954. The National Unionist Party formed the Government with Ismail El Azhari as the first Prime Minister of the Sudan.

January 1, 1954, was the beginning of a transitional period of three years during which the Administration, the Police and the Defence forces were to be completely Sudanised. All British and Egyptian forces were to be withdrawn from the Sudan at the end of the three-

year period. The country was to be ruled in the meanwhile by a Governor-General aided by a bi-cameral legislature. The Upper House (the Senate) is composed of 30 elected and 20 nominated members. The latter were nominated by the Governor-General. All the 97 Deputies of the Lower House (The House of Representatives) are elected. The Prime Minister was appointed by the Governor-General. Other Ministers too were appointed by him on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. The Council of Ministers must command the confidence of the Parliament to which it (the Council of Ministers) is responsible for all administrative matters excepting those relating to Foreign Affairs and Defence, which were the special responsibilities of the Governor-General.

Franchise qualifications are not uniform. The elections are "based on a continuation of indirect elections by specially qualified voters in some areas and direct election by all adults in other areas."

The Sudanese Parliament took a momentous decision on August 15, 1955, when it resolved to put an end to the Anglo-Egyptian Condominium of 1899. The last British troops withdrew from the Sudan by November (1955). Governor-General Sir Knox Helam continued as the Head of the State for a few days more. But he bowed down to the popular demand and resigned on December 12. The Sudanese Parliament unanimously voted for complete independence within a week on December 19. The Sudan declared itself to be a sovereign State on January 1, 1956, exactly two years after the beginning of the three-year transition period on January 1, 1954. Egypt and Great Britain gracefully accepted the *fait accompli*. A new member was thus added to the comity of nations. The Sudan will soon elect its own Head of the State. Pending the election, a committee of five constitutes the executive head of the Sudanese nation.

# World Food Situation Since 1945

By Mr. AMRIT KATYAL, M.A., Hons. (PB.)

The human race is a family. This has always been the gist of the teachings of all the great religions of the world. This idea of one world has somewhat become more concrete due to economic, social, political and scientific developments in recent times. But if the idea of one world is to be made more concrete or the world peace efforts are to be encouraged, hunger must be fought in all corners of the world.

Just after second World War, the food situation in the world became critical due to the diversion of resources to war-side and destruction caused by enemy countries in the war period. Secondly, the magnitude of the problem still aggravated as the structure of the international trade was completely truncated and the result was that food prices in almost all the countries went up.

This situation was at once realised by almost all the countries and most of them began to rehabilitate the truncated agricultural sectors to remove the food shortage. With their best efforts, the world seems to have, at present, turned the corner, and the global food deficit has been wiped out. For the first time since war, world food production has caught up with world population speed in 1954. According to recent F.A.O.'s report "world agricultural production is estimated to have increased by 3% annually, compared with an increase in world population of about 1½% annually."

The latest F.A.O. survey of a decade of post-war agricultural trends in the world has given the estimate that in 1954-55, world-food production was 30% above the war-end level (1946-47), as shown below :—

| Countries or Regions                  | Percentage of increase in world Food Production |
|---------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------|
| 1. Western Europe                     | 61                                              |
| 2. Near East                          | 41                                              |
| 3. Africa                             | 34                                              |
| 4. Oceania                            | 29                                              |
| 5. Far East                           | 24                                              |
| 6. Latin America                      | 22                                              |
| 7. North America                      | 10                                              |
| .....                                 | .....                                           |
| All above regions                     | 26                                              |
| World (including Communist countries) | 30                                              |

The world supply of food grains has increased by 100 million metric tons. Total grain-yields in the world (excluding U.S.S.R.) is 641 million metric tons split up as follows:—

| Countries or Regions.        | In million metric tons. |
|------------------------------|-------------------------|
| 1. Asia                      | 271                     |
| 2. North and Central America | 186                     |
| 3. Europe                    | 113                     |
| 4. South America             | 31                      |
| 5. Africa                    | 33                      |
| 6. Oceania                   | 7                       |
|                              | 641                     |

From the above two tables it is clear that in non-communist countries, progress in food production has been enormous, while in communist countries there has been low food production. The reason given by F.A.O. is that the communist countries have provided low priority to agricultural sector

On the other hand North America, Africa, Middle East and Western European countries have recorded the largest gains. Western recovery in agriculture is all the more significant because it corresponds with a period of development in industry also which has increased by 25%. Both processes of increase have been largely assisted by Marshall Aid on one side and the great efforts of their people themselves for their economic recovery.

In Asian countries, progress has also been noted. Land reforms in China, Five-year Plan in India and strenuous efforts in other parts of Asia are responsible for the progress made in food production. Colombo Plan has also played an important role in stimulating agricultural production in Asian countries.

Other causes for the improvement in the food situation are increase in grains area, excessive mechanisation and increase in yield per acre. Since post-war the area under grains has increased by about 30 millions hectares for the world as a whole. Mechanisation has played a vital role in revolutionising agriculture. Over six million tractors are used in the world. Production of fertilizers has increased by 70% and

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its consumption also has increased at the same rate. Lastly, due to scientific methods, grains yield for the world has increased from 1200 kgs. per hectare to 1320 kgs. per hectare. Yields have increased in all regions except in Asia where it has decreased from 1260 to 1180 kgs. per hectare.

There is no doubt that the world food production and per capita availability of food have increased, but the main difficulty at present is that some countries are wallowing in surpluses while others still go hungry. On this basis food situation still remains extremely uneven. The question of surplus disposal is also very important and it has engaged the attention of U.N.O. experts. Mr. Cardon, Ex-Director General of F.A.O. suggested in 1953 to dispose of these excessive grains in one country to other hunger and low production country.

But this suggestion seems to be somewhat not useful as the disposals may press down international prices and ultimately may harm the borrowing undeveloped countries. The conclusive remedy underlying it is that the developed countries should help them with financial and technical aid. Moreover, as regards the capital I.B.R.D. should provide ample funds to undeveloped countries.

The above survey shows that in order to meet adequately the food requirements of a large part of the world rapid development of agriculture in the less developed countries is urgently needed, and for this the advanced areas must help them with resources and know-how. There is no doubt that underdeveloped countries have to pull themselves by their own boot-straps, but in such fruitful co-operation alone rests the hope for peace and prosperity of the world.



## Man's Knowledge of the World

By

Mr. A. L. KURSANOV

The progress of nuclear physics, which has broadened the scope of our knowledge of the world, has opened up new great prospects for scientific research in biology and agriculture. Man-made radioactive elements as well as non-radioactive isotopes have now become readily accessible means of investigation, and are widely used by Soviet scientists in their work on perfecting methods of nourishing plants and of improving their economic properties.

In contrast to engineers who are striving to employ the energy of radioactive decay by transforming it into the work of electric stations and new types of engines, biologists and agronomists now turn to radioactive elements for their tracer properties.

The method of tracer atoms, better than any other, permits to observe processes occurring in the soil, assimilation of nourishing elements by plants, the movement of diverse compounds in their tissues, and, lastly, the

most intimate reactions of metabolism in their cells.

A relatively short time has elapsed since radioactive elements began to be widely used in biological and agricultural laboratories. But already in this brief period tracer atoms have helped to reveal many aspects of plant life, the knowledge of which makes it possible to organize properly the nourishment and care of farm crops. Research is conducted with a view to determining permissible harmless doses of radioactivity in physiological experiments, and for influencing more deeply the structure and heredity of organisms.

Governing of the physiological activity of plants is most accessible through their root nourishment system. That is precisely why many investigators using radioactive phosphorus, calcium, sulphur, and other elements, have concentrated their attention on the questions of distribution and conversion of nourishing substances in the soil, and on their

assimilation by plants. Results have already been obtained which essentially amend our previous conceptions regarding the use of soil fertility elements by plant roots, and the transformations of the absorbed elements. On the basis of these data scientists are developing new rational methods of applying fertilizers, their distribution in the soil, top-dressing, irrigation and its combination with mineral nourishment of the plants, etc.

With the use of radioactive elements it is now easier to observe the movement of nourishing substances (organic as well as inorganic) in the body of the plant, their storing up there, their consumption or redistribution in various organs. Applying the necessary agritechnical measures the farmers already can practically approach the question of governing the processes of the movement and accumulation of nourishing substances in plants, which opens up wide prospects of increasing the contents of sugar, starch, fat, proteins, or other valuable products in those parts of the plant which are more important as food or raw materials.

The method of tracer atoms makes it possible to observe not only the movement and accumulation of nourishing substances in plants, but also their further transformation. It is precisely with the aid of radioactive isotopes that Soviet scientists have succeeded in recent years to get a good insight into many complex biochemical processes occurring in plant cells. Among other things, notable progress has been made in the study of photosynthesis—this basic biological process on earth, which leads to the accumulation of solar radiation energy in organic compounds.

We, therefore, have every ground to assert that the use of radioactive decay energy in studying plant life is exceptionally effective for the development of biology and agriculture.

The use of this research method will help scientists to achieve further successes in studying the laws of plant development, and in the effort of considerably raising crop yields.

## Mahatma Gandhi--The Last Phase

BY

Mr. E. G. VAIDYANATHAN.

Mahatma Gandhi once observed that great men have always left two sets of teachings inextricably intertwined in their lives, one set intended for their contemporaries containing purely temporary values and the other meant for all time containing eternal values. An inevitable corollary to this is that such great men also leave two sets of followers, one set following the temporal and the other interesting themselves in the more lasting. While the former live in the full blaze of the name and fame of their leader the latter have always had to tread a lonesome furrow through hard soil unaided and seldom recognised. The satisfaction to these souls lay in the realisation that they are closer to their leader and are more fully and completely in possession of all that the leader stood for than the others. In relation to Gandhiji, his latest biographer

Pyarelal falls to the latter group and the very fact that the present volume has come from such a person entitles it to very respectful perusal. The only other person who could have claims to closer association with Gandhiji entitling him to record the Mahatma's biography would have been Mahadev Desai and since the hands of Fate have decided otherwise his successor, the present author has dedicated this monumental work\* to Mahadev.

The present work commences almost where and when the author took over the responsibilities of Mahadeva Desai and became Gandhiji's secretary number 1. The material for the volume has been drawn extensively from the

\* MAHATMA GANDHI: The Last Phase. By Pyarelal. Vol 1. 1956. Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. pp. 700. Price Rs. 20.

notes kept by him as the Mahatma's secretary supplemented even more extensively by recorded evidence of a diverse nature. The result has been a highly documented incontrovertible account of Gandhiji's last years which also means a cross section of the country's history in all its political, educational, social and other aspects of that period. During the thirties, the publication of Nehru's autobiography created a sensation in the country. It awoke the dormant spirits of young men, began to make them dream of independence and taught many of them elements of politics. It became the student's bible. It may not be a surprise if the present volume of Pyarelal with its companion volume which is expected proves to be an even more powerful instrument of regeneration, of course of a different type altogether.

The author's telling of his story is certainly chronological but the needs of chronology have not been elevated to the extent of sacrificing the interests of readers in some of those topics which have to be read in a single sequence to maintain fascination and interest. Chronology is again resumed, the moment the interest of the reader has been satisfied. The English style employed by the author will be well worth close study by even students of English. It is simple, austere, terse almost to the point of rigidity but very powerful. Pyarelal's pictures of the desolations in Bengal and Bihar present a moving spectacle more richly painted than would have been possible even in an elaborate motion picture in spite of the fact that he has not changed his style even here.

The story begins in the Aga Khan's Palace where Gandhiji and his personal entourage had been imprisoned by the Government of India and ends just before the arrival of Lord Mountbatten on the Indian scene. In between have been sandwiched the entire pages of the quickly shifting scenes in India. The story of the Cabinet Mission has been given in full detail. The negotiations with Jinnah and the intrigues of the Muslim League find their proper place. The activities of the Congress and the latter's relationship with Gandhiji are accurately portrayed. In fact, on reading through the pages of this fascinating book one comes across many an important event or fact which has affected the history of this

country in recent years and which remains unknown.

There has always been a belief in the country that there were differences between Gandhiji and Sardar Patel but little has been known about them. The book has provided a few instances. On one occasion (pages 488 and 489) when the Mahatma was still in Noakhali on his barefooted pilgrimage for peace, after a visit by Pandit Nehru, Gandhiji wrote to the Sardar: "I heard many complaints against you—Your speeches are inflammatory and made to please the crowd; you have left behind all distinction between violence and non-violence; you are teaching the people to meet sword by sword; you miss no opportunity to insult the League in season and out of season—There is not that unison in the Working Committee that there should be. ROOT OUT CORRUPTION—you know how to do it. Send some trustworthy and intelligent person, if you think fit, to explain things to me and understand my mind—" The Sardar's reply contained a tinge of hurt feeling. After replying to the various charges which were of a serious nature, he concludes: "If there are divisions in the working committee they are not of to-day's growth. They have been there for a long time. At present on the contrary, there is a very large measure of accord in most matters etc." The letter also contained the information that the then Bengal Government and Governor were sending confidential reports regarding Gandhiji's continued stay in Bengal, that the reports were bad and that the Gandhiji's exit from Bengal was being desired.

Referring to the aspersions regarding differences in the Congress working committee, the present volume throws considerable light on the human beings who constituted the working committee. It is clear that these, who, though individually were great were so more due to the influence of Gandhiji than to individual merit. Almost all of them were not without personal drawbacks. The author has cryptically observed in Page 646 "The Congress organisation had begun to show symptoms of inner rot which became so marked immediately before and after independence." The worst of the incidents took place when Gandhiji was told by Sir Stafford Cripps during the Cabinet Mission that a well-known Congressman, a

close follower of Gandhiji though not an actual member of the working committee had written in a compromising manner about a particular aspect of the problems before them to the Mission. This had been done without the knowledge of either Gandhiji or even the working committee. On Gandhiji hesitating to believe the same, Sir Stafford produced the original which certainly gave a shock to the Mahatma. Perhaps similar events succeeding one after another must have been responsible for making the Mahatma even giving up his four anna membership earlier. A number of incidents and events, both critical and appreciative of the top congress leadership like these have been provided by the author, which throw considerable light in explaining the deep descent of the body from the high ideals set before it by Gandhiji to its present position after taking charge of the Government.

The sinister roles played by the Civil Services then in India, and the Viceroys Linlithgow and Wavell, their unwritten conspiracy with the reactionary forces in India have all been written in a very objective manner to which even the men attacked cannot take objection. That the author is entirely unprejudiced in his accounts of these people is evident from the fact that while he is highly critical of Wavell's role in India of Lord Wavell as an Individual, the author writes "A man of great dignity—tight lipped straight-forward, warm-hearted—'guinea a word Wavell'" as he was affectionately nicknamed, Lord Wavell was altogether a lovable personality. His sincerity was beyond question. No doubt, he too wanted, in his own way, to help India on the road to Freedom. He had a wonderful loyalty which on more than one occasion made him take upon his shoulders other people's blame, and a blunt soldierly manner which was very endearing. But he totally lacked historical sense and imagination, and his soldier's single track mind understood little and cared less for legal and constitutional proprieties. They appeared to confuse and sometimes even irritate him. The British officials in India made the fullest use of his goodness as well as his limitations to further their own plans. The result was a tragedy, the like of which India had not known before and which ultimately necessitated his recall."

Though the immediate and apparently

interesting value of the volume may lie in these recordings of unknown facts of recent history, the greatest value of the book is provided by the innumerable teachings it provided on things of lasting value. It is through these that the author has done his greatest service to his master and the people of India. These provide Pyarelal's interpretation of Gandhiji and his life. While hundreds of Gandhiji's political followers from Nehru down to the soap box congressman in the village shandy claim to follow Gandhiji in representing the great cultural values of India it is doubtful whether any of them has bothered to state what these are and how they were understood by their master and wherefrom he himself derived them. The President Dr. Rajendra Prasad has in a very learned and lucid introduction to the book attempted an answer to these and has suggested that Gandhiji's idea of Satyagraha was itself taken from Patanjali's Yogasutras. But the present author has used almost all the teachings of Gandhiji to convey to his readers his interpretation of his master. According to these, Gandhiji emerges not as a new fangled seminaked fakir with an innumerable number of fads, making himself felt politically because of his rare character and discovery of a novel method of winning a war but as the true follower of those great sons of India who made her what she is who on account of austerity of livelihood and truthfulness in thought word and deed, succeeded in stretching themselves beyond the realms of time and space into the immeasurable beyond. In the context of such longings the activities of Mahatma Gandhi in the realms of Independence for India, Educational activities and the like look some what strange and even contradictory but No, says the author. Even the Independence of India was not an end in itself to Gandhiji. It was only a landmark in the course of his search for eternal truth and happiness. He did not want it if it interfered with his principles, in other words he was not prepared to buy India's freedom at the cost of truth and Ahimsa which to him were greater truths.

On words like Truth, Ahimsa, Brahmacharya and the like, a lot of confusion has existed everywhere including India and critics have not been wanting to see contradictions even in Gandhiji's own interpretation of these. In fact western critics of Gandhiji's on this

ground have never been able even to understand him. It is customary to explain Hindu shastras in terms of sthula, sukshma, sukshmathara and sukshmathama meanings. The same thing has happened to these great words used in this country certainly not for the first time. Their meanings have been gross, or fine or refined or true according to the state of advance of the recipient's mind. Thus while Satyagraha to many common men has been synonymous with civil disobedience for good or bad, to a more educated man, it is civil disobedience for a good cause, while to a still more advanced man it is not synonymous with passive resistance or civil disobedience but an active form of warfare calling for the highest form of courage in the individual practising it. Here the author has done the greatest service to his readers by showing that not only did Gandhiji's idea of Satyagraha comprehend all these gross forms but that it went beyond all these and had for its goal the attainment of realisation of absolute truth and nothing short of it. It is

thus that Gandhiji is line with the in great ones who enlightened this land from times immemorial. Similar interpretations have been provided for almost all the phases of Gandhiji's life, activities, teachings and mission. The author has successfully portrayed the field, the plants, the grain and chaff and has beautifully sifted the grain from the chaff for those who need it. For the others, there is plenty of straw, bran and waste to relish.

There is little doubt that this volume will prove probably along with its companion which is eagerly awaited to be one of the most important books of this century and the greatest Indian publication of recent decades. To suit its character, the volume has an excellent get up and a beautiful dust cover. The price of Rs. 20/- considering its contents and make up is certainly reasonable but the publishers will be doing a service if a cheaper edition could be brought out so that the book can reach the poor people of the land.



## Nationalised Insurance

By

Sri ISHWAR DASS

Nationalisation of life insurance may appear to be arbitrary. But it would not have come about if the companies had set their house in order. They have throughout failed to realise that, apart from the protection it offers to the buyers, life insurance has also to perform an equally genuine function of building the nation.

It cannot be denied that most of the companies have abused the various provisions of the Insurance Act quite frequently, and the Government, in its anxiety to check the evil, had to introduce a number of amendments to the law from time to time. But no Government can take the headache to promulgate ordinances or introduce amendments to the law every now and then and thus waste public money on such matters. Through nationalisation, the problem has been solved once for all.

Resources from the industry will now be used to build the nation as a whole, and this will mean an additional benefit to the policyholders also. While getting the protection provided in the policy contract, they will now be contributing to national uplift instead of feeding a small number of people.

Some have expressed the fear that the State is not psychologically fit to discharge the functions of life insurance, and the policyholders may not get due consideration or service. Such fears have no ground and seem to have been spread to espouse the cause of private management. Success will, no doubt, depend on the form of organisation and the force of workers selected to run it. It is to be hoped that Government will design the new structure very carefully. We have to take stock of the size

and functions of the brokers who now exist between the insuring public and the insurers in order to judge the merits and demerits of the present organisation.

Firstly, there is a Branch (in some case the Chief Agent) in which a highly paid officer called the Branch Manager or Secretary works with a number of clerks. He has a car at the Company's expense. The branch is expected to produce a certain amount of premium income through its field staff, to collect and forward the insurance papers to the Head Office and communicate the acceptance to the insured, to pay the field staff and the doctors on receipt of advice from the Head Office or even before if required towards the completion of rebated business, and tell the field staff methods to procure business if they cannot get enough on the principles laid down in the law.

Some companies had empowered their branches to deal with matters relating to paid-up, surrender values and loan on the policies. Broadly speaking, there is hardly any justification for such expensive staff, particularly when the same functions could conveniently and quickly be discharged by the Head Office directly without any or little extra financial burden. The total cost of the branches alone run into several lakhs of rupees, and it can safely be termed unnecessary.

Secondly, there are organisers or inspectors. They are employers or agents and are paid according to the size of the premium income produced through the organisation set up by them. Some are paid on a regular basis, but they also have to produce a certain amount of premium income for the insurer. These people generally have one or more "dummy" agents and go about themselves to procure business. Thus they are able to take both the benefits, i.e., salary plus agency commission, and are in a fit position to offer rebate to the buyers. Quite often they create an agency in the name of some influential persons just to extract business from their circle of influence. Such agencies do not survive long, and this is an indirect method of rebating.

Then there are Special Agents. The special agent works on an over-riding commission basis and has to employ at least two agents under him. In other words, one special agency

consists of three persons, and it is a known fact that two out of them in nearly all cases are dummies. One person alone works and derives the benefits of both the agency commission.

The categories of brokers mentioned above are mainly responsible for lapses in business and also for contempt of Section 41 of the Act. The nature of their agreement with the Insurance Company forces them to indulge in unbusinesslike methods. The position now is that the insuring public have begun to give more weight to the size of the rebate than to other aspects of life insurance.

Lastly, there are the agents, the backbone of the industry, but the most uncared for. It will be news to many that there are very few agents working on the scale allowed under the Code of Conduct and a large number of them have begun to work as Organisers, Inspectors or Special Agents directly or indirectly. This has been the natural result of the wrong action taken by the Insurance association to stop abuse of Section 41 of the Insurance Act, under which offering or acceptance of rebate is a punishable offence. The Association, instead of striking at the root cause, selected to hit the agents and minimised their commission.

Agents who actually produce results for the insurer and a fortune for the said intermediaries, should have been paid adequately and allowed to exist in the original form. To kill the evil of rebating the right course was to remove the entire organisation functioning between them and the insurer. Section 41 came in for miserable treatment, and this has been mainly due to the Government's failure to give due consideration to the agent's rights and training.

All this forces one to the conclusion that the present system of working should be changed. The objective behind nationalisation is not merely to obtain funds for the public sector but also to clean up the prevailing abuses. If this is not kept in view, the whole purpose of nationalisation will be defeated.

Government have introduced a Bill which provides for the establishment of a Life Insurance Corporation and four zonal offices for the present. The following suggestions are submitted :

Next to the Corporation there should be sub-zonal offices, say, one or two in each State. This should be a complete office entrusted with all the functions now performed by the Branch Office. It should be entrusted with publicity work to popularise life insurance in the rural areas too.

Next, there should be insurance officers in district and tehsil headquarters. These officers should be trained and made to work as a team under one District Officer. They should get a

salary plus bonus according to the results shown. The agents should be given a place of respect and paid adequately with guarantee of security tenure.

Agencies may be formed in the rural areas with the Panchayats alone on a commission basis which should be auditable income of that body. That way the procurement cost will be substantially reduced, and every genuine insurance man will have a proper standing, to the benefit of all concerned.

## The Oxford Chair of Poetry

By

Sir MAURICE BOWRA

Until 1928, when the Charles Eliot Norton Professorship of Poetry was founded at Harvard University, in the United States of America, Oxford was the only university in the world to have such a chair. Even now its character and conditions are unusual both in the academic world and at Oxford itself. The chair was founded in 1708 by Sir Henry Birkhead and was first held by Joseph Trapp, fellow of Wadham College, a good Latinist who also wrote English verse. Except for three years in the Second World War the Chair has been continuously occupied since the foundation, though never for more than ten years by a single man.

It was clear at the start that the founder did not intend it to be just another academic post but wished to vary the intellectual curriculum of Oxford by creating a chair which should not be held for too long by a single person. The period of ten years was reduced at the end of the nineteenth century to five, at the end of which the incumbent is not re-eligible....With this small change and with the removal of a restriction about not electing too many people in succession from the same college, the terms governing the professorship remain now what they were at the time of foundation.

It is precisely this which makes the chair an interesting anomaly in modern Oxford. In 1708 professors were of no great account, since teaching was done almost entirely by

colleges and a university professor was an ornament on the fringe of academic life. He was hardly expected to give many or even regular courses, and his chief duty was to be a man of distinction who gave lustre to the university by his learning. Such was the Professor of Poetry, and such he still is.

At a time when other professors are charged with heavy duties, he remains relatively free and can go his own way. His statutory duties demand no more than one public lecture a term, that is three lectures in a year. He has also to examine for the Newdigate Prize Poems and in alternate years to give the Creweian Oration in Latin at Encaenia about benefactions to the university. His life is easy, and his pay is correspondingly small. He cannot live on it and must hold some other post. This too has its advantages, since it means that the professor is often a man who does not belong to the immediate ambience of Oxford or even of academic life.

The professor is elected, not as is usual by an electoral board, but by the whole body of Convocation, that is of Masters of Arts who have kept their names on the university books. Candidates are proposed, seconded, and supported by various members of the university, and then an election takes place in the Convocation House, presided over by the Vice-Chancellor and Proctors, who check the votes and announce the result....These elections are

still a reality. The last of them took place this year on February 16, between Mr W. H. Auden, Prof G. Wilson Knight and Sir Harold Nicolson. Mr. Auden who got the largest number of votes was duly declared elected.

Of course, such a method of choosing a professor is open to many theoretical objections. It cannot be argued that the Convocation of a university is the ideal body to choose a professor of poetry, and it is clear that many of the electors may be moved by irrelevant or even by unworthy motives. Yet in fact the succession of Professors of Poetry at Oxford presents a distinguished list of names, and it is remarkable that very few indeed of those who stood unsuccessfully for it are of any importance. In this case the *vox populi* has justified its privilege.

This is not to say that the Oxford Chair of Poetry has always been held by eminent men. Like other traditional posts it has had its lean periods. Yet in the eighteenth century, when the intellectual slumbers of the university aroused the caustic comments of Gibbon, the historian, the chairs could number among its incumbents the two Wartons, Joseph and Thomas, who were both scholars of some powers and in their own way even poets. The worst period was the first half of the nineteenth century when most of the professors were nonentities elected for domestic or political reasons. Even so the saintly John Keble became professor, and though his lectures delivered in Latin have hardly weathered the years as contributions to literary criticism, they reflect an interesting and serious personality who knew that poetry was an important part of life.

A great change came with the election of Matthew Arnold in 1857. He marked out the path which subsequent professors have followed, and set a standard which they have at least tried to maintain.

Arnold broke with tradition and delivered his lectures not in Latin but in English. He spoke not in the old manner about taste and the rules of rhetoric but about a modern age "copious and complex" and of the "vast multitude of facts awaiting and inviting... comprehension." With his profound sense of poetry as "a criticism of life" and his earnest and eager interest in social problems Arnold made his chair the seat from which he

could deliver a message to his age, a message couched indeed with much grace and irony but none the less searching and at times disturbing. He set an important precedent by passing beyond the traditional limits of Greek, Latin and English literature to French and German and even Celtic. For him poetry was one, no matter in what language it was written, and he saw that England had much to learn from continental practice. He related his excellent insight and considerable learning to the art of life and was never afraid to pronounce judgments on manners and morals. If his method of criticism was highly personal, it was all the more forceful and impressive for this reason. His audiences listened to him with the respect due to a great master.

Since Arnold, the succession has been well maintained. In Courthope it had a man of great erudition who was among the first to try to see the development of English poetry as a whole; in A. C. Bradley a lecturer of astonishing power and a critic who combined a remarkable sensibility with great originality and philosophical grasp; in J. W. Mackail a classical scholar who believed in the European tradition and was equally at home with Greek, Latin, French, Italian and English; in W. P. Ker one of the greatest scholars of his age who was able to distil hours of laborious study into a single sentence and to open up an almost unknown world of poetry in the Dark and Middle Ages; in H. W. Garrod a subtle and acute thinker who displayed a highly personal romanticism in words of power and eloquence; in E. de Selincourt a devoted Wordsworthian who was deeply concerned with the purest and most natural forms of poetry.

The Professorship of Poetry is not tied to a faculty, and the professor can lecture on whatever subject he pleases. The lectures are public, and many are attended by several hundreds of listeners, of whom a considerable proportion are not members of the university. Though the professor's statutory duties are light, he may well feel called to lecture regularly to the university as Bradley did on Shakespeare. Though the chair is an academic anomaly, it fulfils an extremely useful function and is all the better for not being encumbered with obligations and administrative duties.

## J. Robert Oppenheimer - A Talented Scientist

### The Builder of Atom Bomb

By

Sri V. MANGALVEDKAR

One of the most valued Scientists of the Western World is the Director of the Institute for Advanced Science in U.S.A. He is a tall personality, 6 feet high and very lean. The top-most leaders of thought and research visited him frequently and found valuable suggestions in pursuit of their special branches of research.

Alfred Einstein, the celebrated physicist of quantum theory of energy, used to chat with him for hours on the problems of Relativity of Quatum of energy. Edward Mead Earle, the redoubtable Organiser of the American Air-Force and the greatest exponent on the bombardment of cities is another visitor discussing with him on his pet themes. Mr. John Von Newman, the builder of the World's foremost electronic brain found congenial relish in his company. George F. Kannan, ex-ambassador of the Soviet Union, often parleyed on the history of diplomacy in the recent phases of Word War II. Mr. Arnold Tonybee, the historian's historian, Mr. T. S. Elliot, the well-known poet who had ransacked rylmes and sound which pleased the ear in the art of poetics, were familiar associates of his. The Director of the Institute, a genius conversant with all the intricate questions in the various branches of studies, revelled in his wisdom. Who is this Mr. J. R. Oppenheimer who enjoyed such regard and high esteem from his fellow workers of eminence?

He is the man who built atom-bomb, a master of many languages, a profound student of Oriental philosophy an all round seasoned traveller. Benjamin Franklin, the renowned American Scientist and staunch fighter for the Human Rights, Benevento Callini, the Italian Goldsmith, sculptor, Pliney the Elder, the Great Roman scholar, all these historic names, noted for special merits, were combined in Mr. "Oppy", popularly nicknamed. The Director's Office is a rendezvous for all great talents of the different parts of the world representing different cultures, arts and sciences, such as botany, social sciences and slym-clearance, architecture, economics and politics and public health. They looked for

his advice in the special technique of their branches of study and sought his guidance.

Mr Oppenheimer came to the Institute as a Director in 1947. He is the One-man clearing house to guide all workers and stimulated their activities. He became the cultural-touch stone for his colleagues.

The work of the Institute is divided into three sections; namely, humanistic, economic and political and mathematic. "Oppy" is primarily a physicist and was keen to devote his free afternoon in studying the fundamentals of mathematics. In addition to his job in the Institute, he was the Chairman of the General Advisory Committee of the Atomic Energy Commission.

Like the Prometheus of Greek Legends, he brought the split-Atom in use from his 38th year. Atomic Energy meant a knowledge of the structure of atoms. In small quantities in laboratories and in large quantities in the sun and the stars, atomic or radio active energy is released. The 92 elements are the repositories of atoms with varying atomic weights and volume, such as hydrogen, Helium, Thealium up to the highest Uranium with 235 atoms. These elements are basically discontinuous in structure made of extremely small parts, so small that further division is not possible. The reduction of an element to its finest form by physical means of crushing it into powder is a molecule but the purification of the same element from its impurities though chemical process is atom. Atom itself is not free from further division though the atom of Hydrogen or Uranium possessed all the characteristics of its respective parent. Each atom of 92 elements differed in their individual weights. The atom is again split into further particles which did not possess the characteristics of the element of which it is an atom, but emerged as energy. J. J. Thompson discovered the electron. These electrons are charges of negative electricity. The development of atomic power was a menace during the second World War in the hands of the Germans. It was Alfred Einstein who drew the attention of President Roosevelt to the

growing menace of the nuclear weapon at its initial stage in the German hands. The Committee on atomic energy set up on 21st October, 1939 began the search into the secrets of the atom.

In the fall of 1942, "Oppy" was awakened from fast sleep at midnight by Major General Leslie R. Groves an emissary from Washington through 'Phone call. He was requested to take charge of the top-secret of the atom bomb project. The best minds of U.S.A. made this choice. It did not occur as a chance.

Two thousand years back, matter was classified and broken into its component parts. Fire, air, earth and water. The atoms were the blocks of matter which were used in building this Universe. Modern Science revealed

that atom is not the smallest unit conceived by the ancients. All the parts of an atom are held together by electrical attraction. Thirtysix billion atoms can sit comfortably on the head of a pin. The nucleus, the central core of the atom, and of infinitesimal particles, held all the atoms of elements in their orbits. One atom is said to contain one followed by 18 cypher units of energy—quanta. The other parts of the atom are protons, neutrons and mesons. Atoms are the miniature planets behaving as stars and planets on a bigger scale. The atoms are the immediate predecessors of energy at the point of ceasing its character as matter, while the large heavenly bodies are colossal giant-matter coursing through infinite space during millions and billions of years.

"Well What did you unlearn today?"



## Prince Vijaya and Ceylon

By

Mr. SHIBDAS BANERJI

The first prominent Indian, a Bengali, to have gone across the seas to Ceylon was Prince Vijaya Sinha.

Sinhalese research scholars have fixed the date or rather the period of the Bengali Prince's landing as synchronising with the date of the "Nirvana" of Gautama Buddha.

This event took place in B.C. 483.

Prince Vijaya founded the Sinhalese race and the island was named after him as Sinhala Dwipa.

Nearly nineteen hundred years later, the Cholas from South India began their major invasion of the island and it is their descendants who are now known as Ceylon Tamils.

They now live all over Ceylon, but predominate in the northern districts, mostly around the coast known as Jaffna.

In picturesque language the story of Prince Vijaya is narrated briefly in *Pujavaliya* which is written in Pali language.

The text is on palm leaves.

It is still debated in Ceylon as to where actually Prince Vijaya first landed on the island.

But there is evidence to show that on landing he found that the inhabitants were "worshippers of snakes and spirits."

These people were known as Yakshas and Nagas as were people of many other Naga Dwipas all over the Indian Ocean.

Vijaya Sinha had carried with him from India many elephants and a strong army.

The scene of his landing is immortalised in a fresco panel in an Ajanta cave in Hyderabad State.

A Ceylonese artist of repute Manjushri, who had training at Tagore's Santiniketan told me that this Ajanta panel might have been the work of Ceylonese artists and not of an Indian as is popularly claimed.

It is believed that the Indian Prince was met with vigorous resistance on the island in spite of his elephants and superior arms.

Legend says that all the men of Vijaya were mesmerised by the Yakshinis and put into deep slumber.

There are stories current, however, in Ceylon that the prince became enamoured of the enchanting beauty of Kuveni, the Queen of the Yakshas.

Romance had its way and the Prince from Bengal took Kuveni as his wife.

With the help of the Queen of Ceylon Vijaya Sinha killed all the resisting Yaksha chiefs and finally established himself as the King of Ceylon.

Kuveni had borne Vijaya two children, a son and a daughter.

When Vijaya Sinha had established himself as the undisputed King of Ceylon, his courtiers advised him to marry an Indian Princess, so that the royal issues would be purely Indian.

The nearest royal family from which Vijaya could bring a wife was of the Pandyan of Madura.

To this place envoys were deputed to negotiate the marriage.

Negotiations over, an Indian Queen was found for Vijaya Sinha, and she took her rightful place in the Sinhalese court.

Thereafter Vijaya callously discarded Kuveni and her two children.

They roamed about in the jungles, haunted and persecuted by Vijaya's men.

Living in the wild they led a miserable life.

They are today known as the Veddas whose life is one of misery.

They form the poorest section of the Sinhalese society and are known as "untouchables."

For centuries they have been prohibited to wear any clothing above their waists and not a few unscrupulous people have taken advantage of their low status.

After having remarried, Vijaya Sinha founded Sinhalese race.

This marriage proved to be a diplomatic success for Vijaya, for from then onwards, many kings in India recognised the Sinhalese

kingdom and it is probable that envoys were exchanged between the two countries.

Vijaya's brother Summitta who then ruled Bengal, also established contact with the Sinhalese court, and it was Summitta's son Panduvasa, who was nominated to succeed to the Sinhalese throne.

Thus the cultural ties between Ceylon and India were firmly established.

## Two German Armies

By

Mr. JURIJ GUSTINCIC

The reasons why the Western public opinion consented to the establishment of the new West German army were twofold. On the one hand the need for West German rearmament became obvious during the climax of the cold war and also enhanced the conviction that the defence of this country would have been impossible without indigenous forces. The second reason is a consequence of the first, the following reasoning having been adopted: if it is already necessary to create such an army, then it is best to establish it while a large part of Germany is still under Western control. Although the future army will be large it will be modelled along the same lines as that of its new Western allies. It will also form an integral part of a broader military combination and be placed under a joint command. Briefly, it will take part in the implementation of objectives which (or so it was believed at least) are common to all Western countries. In point of fact this military combination is the result of American political conceptions, so that West German rearmament was actually foisted upon Europe.

As for the rearmament of Western Germany particularly from the standpoint of public opinion in neighbouring countries, the principal problem lay in providing the necessary guarantees against the acquisition of too great an independence by the German armed forces. The actual numerical strength of the army contemplated in this light seemed less important, primarily because everyone seems to be willing to agree to larger German armed

forces in view of their own inadequate military strength, and second, because it was agreed that the German military forces will not receive nuclear weapons, without which no country can be considered a big power today. The West is aware that the future twelve West German divisions will, in view of their composition and modern equipment (with the exception of atomic weapons) be stronger than the forces of all the other West European countries together. It was considered, however, that as long as they do not become fully independent, i.e. begin to serve the German national interests, and as long as they are devoid of the "supreme armaments" and remain under a joint command they cannot represent a threat to the West.

The question which arose of late is whether the necessary guarantees exist which will prevent such a military force from gradually acquiring independence, regardless of the foreign policy Bonn may pursue in the future. Symptoms of new trends can already be discerned in this policy, however. This atmosphere is not manifested for the time being in any exaggerated amiability towards the Soviet Union, but the unusual ideological concessions shown by Vice-Chancellor Blucher toward Nehru's ideas of coexistence and the vigorous adjustment of Bonn to the situation in Asia and Africa, testify to the *new vistas* in the foreign policy of a Government which was blind until recently to everything except the common Western objectives. The new orientation towards Asia could easily be followed

after several years, — allowing for the affirmation of the West German international positions—by a new Eastern policy which would otherwise be in danger of reverting to its old forms and aims.

This gradual extension of foreign political activity, this increase of political and economic flexibility is developing at a time when the future complexion of the West German army is still far from clear.

The revolt of von Bonin who rose against the *atlantisation* of the army and in favour of *national tradition*, is extremely interesting, although the influence of von Bonin himself should not be overestimated. This revolt is inspired by two seemingly contradictory tendencies: on the one hand von Bonin is in favour of reverting to the old German military tradition, while championing political neutralism, i.e. a flexible policy enabling the adjustment of Germany to the era of coexistence, which primarily implies a policy of negotiation with the Soviet Union, on the other.

Although the revolt of von Bonin was isolated, it is impossible to ignore the fact that the fresh breeze which blows in the field of German foreign policy infuses such conceptions with new life and vigour.

Needless to say, extensive measures have been taken and a whole series of guarantees proposed to ensure that the army will remain under civilian control. The seriousness with which the parliamentarians approached this task should particularly be stressed. However, owing to the inevitable logic in the development of every country a more flexible foreign policy makes it necessary for the country concerned to rely to an ever greater extent on its national army. According to present estimates the West German army with its twelve divisions will be stronger than the allied forces in Germany. When it is finally established in a few years' time, it will not only dispose with the most up to date equipment but will also be in a position to *replace* the present allied forces. This will be a trump card which may easily be used by diplomacy. At the time the replacement takes place it will be easier to hold German-Soviet negotiations. It is queer but true: under the present conditions marked by sharp antagonisms, the creation of an army gives the country the final element of independence which will enable it to pursue its foreign policy in a new manner.

But this is only one part of the truth, however. The second part lies in the fact henceforward Eastern Germany which is not yet recognized by a majority of countries will also be able to play this card. It will also have its army. This army is not and will perhaps never be independent, but it provides that confirmation of independence which purely political and ideological factors were unable to give.

There are now two prospects of further development: these two German states will soon have substantial military resources at their disposal and will be in a position, while relying on their army to attempt the pursuit of a broadly conceived policy and the achievement of a gradual rapprochement at a time of international relaxation. On the other hand these two countries can, after the failure of Geneva conference, widen the rift still further, increase mutual antagonisms and, by relying on their military power, create a potential source of conflict in the heart of Europe. Even if they actually never come to actual conflict, the ever present danger would deeply contaminate the international atmosphere and political development on our continent. It should therefore be borne in mind that the legalization of the two armies marks the beginning of a new era, and that a different, far broader outlook on the German problem is therefore necessary.

If the problem of German unity is to be resolved within the framework of a security system, (if nothing else was achieved in Geneva, at least agreement on the need for organized security was reached) then the plans made so far seem inadequate. The proposals of the West are too narrow as the intricacy and the complexity of the problem, complicated still further at present by the existence of an East German army, can no longer be ignored. The proposals of the East, on the other hand, have laid excessive stress on this division, and consequently tend to make it permanent. Any new proposal on security with reference to Germany, however, will have to take into account the fact that military bands are now legally playing with equal gusto both in Cologne and Leipzig.

It would really be the pure irony of fate if, owing to ideological and political disagreements and extremist tendencies of bloc policy, the generals of both German armies, who belong to the same tradition and school, were allowed to seek some kind of "third" solution.

# India Has a Plan

By

Sri K. S. MEHTA

India wants to establish a "Socialist pattern of Society". This bold experiment in social and economic development is of vital importance for under-developed Asia and Africa.

The "Socialist pattern of Society" is to be achieved through a series of "Five-year Plans", democratically operated. The First Five-Year Plan is just nearing completion. The draft outline of the Second Five-year Plan, released for publication by the Planning Commission of the Government of India, envisages an outlay of Rs. 4,800 crores in the public sector and Rs. 2,300 crores in the private sector.

**Objectives:** The Principal Objectives of the Second Plan are: a sizable increase in national income so as to raise the standard of living in the country: rapid industrialisation, with particular emphasis on basic industries; a large expansion of employment opportunities and reduction of inequalities in income and wealth and a more even distribution of economic power. The goal of "socialistic pattern of society" will be the guiding factor in the Plan. The primary emphasis is on the industrial and mineral development and it is felt it will pave the way for rapid economic progress in the future.

Of the total outlay of Rs. 4,800 crores in the public sector, industries and minerals together with transport and communications claim 48 per cent; irrigation and power 18 per cent; agriculture, including community programme and national extension, 12 per cent; and social services, including housing and rehabilitation of displaced persons, 20 per cent.

Achievements attained by the First Five-year Plan:

Listing the realizations of the first Plan, the draft outline says: Both agricultural and industrial production have recorded substantial increases. Prices have attained a reasonable level. The country's external accounts

are virtually in balance. The important targets proposed in the First Plan have been realised and some of them have in fact been exceeded. Some 17 million acres of land have been brought under irrigation and the installed capacity for power generation has been increased from 2.3 million to 3.5 million kwts. Considerable progress has been made with the restoration of railways. A large number of industrial plants, both in the public and private sectors have gone into production.

On the whole, there is no doubt that the economy has been greatly strengthened.

The draft outline adds: "National income over the last five years is estimated to have risen by about 18 per cent as against the original expectation of about 11 per cent. Investment in the private sector has also been close to expectations. All this development has been achieved without excessive strains of imbalances developing in the economy. The First Plan has evoked a great deal of co-operation and participation on the part of the people. It has created an atmosphere of confidence and indeed, of heightened expectations".

Dealing with the objectives of the Second Plan, the draft outline says that a significant increase in national income and a marked improvement in living standards cannot be secured without a substantial increase, in production and investment. "To this end, the building up of economic and social overheads, exploration and development of minerals and promotion of basic industries like steel, machine-building, coal and heavy chemicals are vital".

For securing an advance simultaneously in all these directions, the available manpower and natural resources have to be used to the best advantage and in a country in which there is relative abundance of manpower, expansion of employment opportunities becomes an important objective in itself.

Further, the process and pattern of development should reflect certain basic social values

and purposes. Development should result in a diminution of economic and social inequalities and should be achieved through democratic means and processes. Dealing with employment opportunities the draft outline says that studies made in the Planning Commission indicated that, although the Second Plan would not have any significant impact on the carry-over of unemployment of the earlier period, it would provide employment opportunities for the new entrants in the labour-force and relieve under-employment in agriculture and in villages and small industries. The working force in mining and factory establishments, in building, in trade and transport and in services will increase relatively faster than in agriculture and related sectors.

As regards the achievement of the socialistic pattern of society — the objective of the economic policy of the Government of India — the draft outline says: "The basic criterion for determining the lines of advance is not private profit, but social gain. Major decisions regarding production, distribution, consumption and investment and in fact the entire pattern of socio-economic relationship must be made by agencies informed by social purpose. The benefits of economic development must accrue more and more to the relatively less privileged classes of society, and there should be a progressive reduction of the concentration of income, wealth, and economic power. For creating these conditions, the state has to take on heavy responsibilities as the principal agency speaking for and acting on behalf of the community as a whole.

The public sector has to expand rapidly and the private sector has to play its part within the framework of the comprehensive plan accepted by the community.

The draft outline says that the principal responsibility for mineral development must lie with the state. In the industrial field, new units producing basic capital goods and heavy machinery must be under public ownership and management.

In other industries, where Government assists substantially by providing long term finance, it should preferably offer equity participation, rather than loans on fixed interest. Enumeration and classification of industries to be placed in the various categories require close scrutiny and have to be decided upon in the light of practical requirements of each

case. The point to emphasise is that the increasing role of the public sector and its duty to provide entrepreneurship and management over a wide field must be clearly recognised and action must be initiated to equip it for the efficient discharge of these responsibilities.

The draft describes the cottage and small industries as a crucial sector of Indian economy and says that the need to promote, modernise and re-organise these industries is paramount. But unregulated or haphazard application of modern techniques in all sphere of production is apt to create or aggravate technological unemployment and, therefore, conditions have to be created in which modern techniques can be adopted and introduced more and more in these lines of production and the transition should be orderly.

It suggests that it will be desirable to organise in rural areas community workshops where workers engaged in different types of industries can come together and carry on their production activities in a suitable environment. It recommends encouragement of small and medium scale enterprises through a number of industrial estates with facilities for transport, power, and the like provided by public authorities.

"Special institutions," the draft adds, "are needed for assistance to, and promotion of small businesses and a beginning has been made in this direction through the establishments of State Finance Corporations and the Central Small Industries Corporations. It may be necessary also to develop further institutions which could provide the nucleus for a properly organised new issue market, especially as a diminishing role is being envisaged for the managing agencies system.

For reducing inequalities of income and wealth, the draft refers to fiscal devices such as steeper progression in income tax, increase of state duties, a small annual tax on wealth, taxation of higher incomes on the basis of expenditure rather than of income, and says: "Each of these proposals has to be examined in the light of its revenues, its administrative implications and the net contribution it makes to the objective in view, namely, the reduction in inequalities."

The draft expects the national income to increase to Rs. 10,800 crores in 1960-61, i.e., by about 25 per cent. This it is anticipated

will result in an increase of about 18 per cent in per capita income (from Rs. 280 in 1955-56 to Rs. 330 in 1960-61) as compared to an increase of 10 per cent over the First Five year Plan period (from Rs. 255 to Rs. 280). If the rate of increase in national income in the third and subsequent plan period is of the order of 25 per cent over five years as in the second plan, it will be possible to double the national income by 1967-68, that is, four years in advance of the time originally estimated.

Taking the public and private sectors together, investment in the economy over the

second plan period works out at Rs. 7,100 crore—Rs. 4,800 crores in the public sector and Rs. 2,300 crores in the private sector. A total investment of Rs. 3,500 crores was envisaged in the First Plan, of this about a half was in the public sector. Of the Second Plan, the total investment envisaged is some 75 per cent larger than in the First Plan and the ratio of public to private investment works out at 62 : 38.

The total outlay of Rs. 4,800 crores in the public sector has been distributed as follows for various development projects :

|                                                | First five year<br>plan (up to 1956) | Second plan<br>(1st April 1956-61) |
|------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| 1) Agriculture and community development       | Rs. 372 crores<br>(16%)              | Rs. 566 crores<br>(12%)            |
| 2) Irrigation and Flood Control                | Rs. 395 crores (17%)                 | Rs. 458 crores (9%)                |
| 3) Power                                       | Rs. 266 crores                       | Rs. 440 crores                     |
| 4) Industries and Mining                       | Rs. 179 crores                       | Rs. 891 crores                     |
| 5) Transport and Communication                 | Rs. 556 crores                       | Rs. 1384 crores                    |
| 6) Social services: housing and rehabilitation | Rs. 547 crores                       | Rs. 946 crores                     |
| 7) Miscellaneous                               | Rs. 41 crores                        | Rs. 116 crores                     |
| <b>TOTAL:</b>                                  | <b>Rs. 2356 crores</b>               | <b>Rs. 4800 crores</b>             |

For financing the Second Five-year Plan the draft estimates Rs. 4,400 crores to be raised as follows :

|                                               |               |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------|
| 1) At existing rates of taxation              | Rs 350 crores |
| 2) Additional taxation                        | „ 450 „       |
| 3) Borrowings from the public by way of loans | „ 750 „       |
| 4) Small savings                              | „ 500 „       |
| 5) Railways                                   | „ 150 „       |
| 6) Provident fund and other deposit heads     | „ 250 „       |
| 7) Foreign assistance                         | „ 800 „       |
| 8) Deficit financing                          | „ 1200 „      |

And leaves a gap of Rs 400 crores uncovered.

As regards the uncovered gap of Rs 400 crores, the draft says this has to come from

domestic savings. But it adds : “ It is not possible to indicate at this stage how this amount is to be raised.

The Commission calls for promotion of exports in view of the large foreign exchange requirements of the Plan, which are put at Rs 1,350 crores. It says that it is desirable to nurture and develop markets for exports, such as jute, tea, cotton, textiles, and oilseeds.

About Rs. 2,000 crores are proposed to be withdrawn from India's accumulated sterling balances. After this withdrawal India's sterling balances are expected to stand at Rs 500 crores at the end of the Second plan. This sum is regarded as the minimum necessary for enabling the country to tide over temporary balance of payments difficulties.

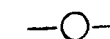
The draft anticipates foreign investment in India to the extent of Rs 100 crores during the

Second plan period as against the net inflow of Rs 70 crores during the First plan period.

The Planning Commission feels that the gap of Rs. 800 crores in foreign exchange resources can be bridged only by external assistance from international agencies and assistance obtained on a Government to Government basis.

The draft plan adds : “ Programmes abroad

for disposal of agricultural surpluses offer an opportunity for a greater flow of assistance. All these factors add up to a reasonable prospect of external assistance being available on a larger scale than in the past. Nonetheless, this is a field where uncertainties in the estimation of foreign exchange requirements and in the availability of external resources necessitate a periodic and continuous review of needs and possibilities”.



## Negroes in the American Armed Forces

By

“ A CHRONICLER ”

It is not usual for the Armed Forces of any country to indulge in radical social experiments. That is not their function. Yet the Armed Forces of the United States have succeeded in establishing conditions of complete equality of treatment and opportunity for Negro and white personnel in the years between 1948 and 1954.

The members of the President's Committee on Equality of Treatment in the Armed Services (appointed in 1948) were practical men. They knew in a general way the practices of segregation which the Armed Forces had carried out during World War II and after, despite various attempts and experiments designed to modify these conditions. They were convinced that such inequalities offended against justice and humanitarian principles, produced inefficiency and wasted manpower. The Committee's goal was to learn the conditions then existing : to plan improving these conditions, based on personal observations and statistical data ; to secure the cooperation of the Services in working out a program to do this ; and then to report to the President on the degree to which the suggested reforms had been put into practice.

The Executive Order which established this Committee stated : “ It is hereby declared to be the policy of the President that there shall be equality of treatment and opportunity for all persons in the Armed Services without regard to race, color, religion or national origin. This policy shall be put into effect as

rapidly as possible having due regard to the time required to effectuate any necessary changes without impairing efficiency or morale.”

Immediately following the war the majority of Negro soldiers were in segregated Army units. And, although the Navy and Coast Guard had made progress in integration, about 80 percent of Negroes in that service were cooks, stewards or stewards' mates. The Marine Corps accepted Negroes only in the stewards' branch.

Some attempts had been made, by 1947, to give better opportunities to Negroes. The Army had started experimental all-Negro units as parts of large white organizations. Five Negroes had entered the U.S. Military Academy at West Point—the largest number in 75 years. The Navy had adopted a policy of non-segregation and had officially opened all branches to all personnel, white or Negro. Both the Army and the Navy were conducting educational campaigns in the ranks to promote racial understanding and to widen opportunities for Negroes.

Discrimination was clearly not the only factor limiting Negro opportunity in the Armed Forces. Colored Americans did not volunteer in large numbers for the peacetime service—this was especially true of the abler and better-educated Negroes. Secondly, Negroes made much lower scores on the tests of general ability given on entering the Service. (For example, of 8.7 million white

recruits taking the Army General Classification Test between 1941 and 1946, 67.8 percent scored 90 and above; in the same period, only 16.8 percent of slightly more than one million Negroes tested scored 90 or above. The disparities were less in the peacetime services: in March 1949, 67 percent of the whites and 38 percent of the Negroes scored 90 and above.) A third factor was the generally lower work skills among Negroes.

One surprising aspect of the program of reform in the Armed Services was that the usually more conservative Navy showed the way to the Army.

At the beginning of World War II, the Navy was admitting Negroes only to the messman's branch (mainly cooks and stewards). It was only in 1942 that the Navy began to accept Negro recruits for general service. But even then it assigned them to duty in segregated units, for the most part in shore installations and on harbor craft.

As the war went on, however, the Navy—which had formerly operated entirely with volunteers—was forced to take men through Selective Service (conscription) and eventually was receiving 27,000 Negroes a month. It became evident there were simply not enough jobs for Negroes in shore installations and on harbor craft. So late in 1943 the Navy experimented by manning a destroyer escort and a patrol craft with Negro crews and white officers. This soon broadened out to 25 auxiliary ships with Negroes serving alongside whites but with a 10 percent quota of Negro personnel in any one crew. In July 1944, separate Negro schools for advanced training were abandoned, and exactly one year later Negroes were admitted to basic training ("Boot training") with whites on equal terms. In February 1946, the Secretary of the Navy took the inevitable step. Segregation was abandoned and all general ratings in the Navy were thrown open with no restriction at all.

By the summer of 1949, Negroes were serving aboard all types of ships and ashore in all the general Navy ratings (occupations).

Although integration in the Air Force and Navy proceeded at a slower pace, their programs proceeded ahead of the established time schedule. By June 1954, there were no longer any all-Negro units in the Services.

A report on integration published by the

Department of Defence in January, 1955, pointed out that "the abolition of racial quotas for Service school selection and the subsequent selection, training and assignment without regard to race or color have resulted in more than doubling the number of Negro officers and enlisted men in attendance at these schools...."

"Contrary to earlier predictions, removal of racial quotas and other restrictions has not resulted in any imbalance of ratios of Negro personnel in the Services. Moreover, additional opportunities in the Services for training and assignment on the basis of individual merit have resulted in a definite increase in the number of Negro officers.

"The following percentages of Negro personnel against total personnel in the military Services over a recent period give significant evidence:

|                           | 1 July 1949 | 1 July 1954 |
|---------------------------|-------------|-------------|
| "Army Officers            | 1.8%        | 2.97%       |
| Army Enlisted Men         | 12.4%       | 13.7%       |
| Navy Officers             | 0.0%        | 0.1%        |
| Navy Enlisted Men         | 4.7%        | 3.6%        |
| Air Force Officers        | 0.6%        | 1.1%        |
| Air Force Enlisted Men    | 5.1%        | 8.6%        |
| Marine Corps Officers     | 0.0%        | 0.1%        |
| Marine Corps Enlisted Men | 2.1%        | 6.5%        |

In summing up, the Department of Defence report said:

"The Negro citizen in the Armed Forces is now utilized on the basis of individual merit and proficiency in meeting the needs of the services.

"Throughout the Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, fully integrated units have replaced the all-Negro units which, until recent years, formed the only channel of military service for Negro enlistees and draftees since Colonial times.

"Thorough evaluation of the battle-tested results to date indicates a marked increase in overall combat effectiveness through integration.

"Economies in manpower, material, and money have resulted from the elimination of racially duplicated facilities and operations.

"The program has advanced more rapidly than had been considered possible in some quarters, and there have been no untoward incidents."

## WORLD OF BOOKS

TALES OF GOOD AND EVIL. By Nicolai V. Gogol. Translated with an introduction by David Magershack. The Chiltern Library, John Lehmann Ltd, 6 Henrietta St., London, W.C. 2

Gogol, an artist of genius second only to Pushkin in Russian literature, mistook his true vocation and thought to make his mark first as legislator and then as teacher. He failed in both and luckily by the time he was twenty-two turned to writing and proved himself a master craftsman and a literary figure of considerable importance in Petersburg. The volume which included his powerful story *The Terrible Vengeance* established him as a writer of genius—a position which his subsequent works in the same vein fully justified. Gogol was always 'preoccupied with the problem of good and evil and every one of his stories deals with this recurring conflict in some form or other. This characteristic is equally pronounced in *The Portrait* where evil originally in the form of a supernatural mechanism and later shorn of its demoniac elements is still the cause of man's helplessness and his ultimate destruction. Gogol, though a realist in his own way, condemns art that merely copies life: "Life should take a step forward in the work of a creative artist," he said; and in *Nevsky Avenue* the conflict between good and evil is shifted for man's blind subjection to the forces of evil to the incompatibility of man's idealised conception of life to reality. Though he finds the girl of his love a common prostitute he refers to accept the reality and prefers to live in a dream world of his own—with the ultimate tragic results.

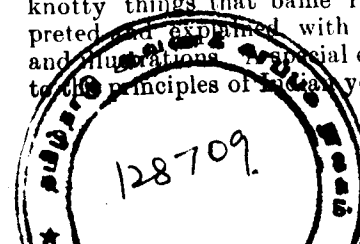
The Magershack's introduction lays bare the mind of the artist while giving a biographical picture of the man to whom "not to write means the same as not to live." For with the hurrying of the second volume of *Dead Souls* he pronounced a sentence of death on himself. He starved himself to death in his 43rd year, and not all the exhortations of the priests nor the efforts of Doctors could save him.

THE PSYCHOLOGY OF THE OCCULT. By D.H. Rawcliffe. Foreword by Julian Huxley. Derrick Redgway Publishing Co. Ltd., 1, Ladbroke Road, London W-1.

Belief in the occult is as old as time and the urge towards mysticism and the supernatural is almost fundamental in human nature. Primitive people have still their rites and incantations to appease the capricious gods; and today with all the advance in knowledge and scientific approach to things in general, with all our scepticism in matters of faith and religions, we are apt to wonder, when confronted with authenticated cases of the supernatural reported in the press, whether there might not "after all be something in it." Critical science and psychical research have done much to unravel the mystery behind the feats and apparently impossible things that happen. Intelligent people are forever busy trying to find a rational explanation of the things and occurrences that baffle reason. Abnormal and unusual phenomena naturally incline us to think that there are more things in heaven and earth than are dreamt of in our philosophy.

The author, a member of the society of Psychical Research for many years, has in these pages, made a careful scrutiny of every form taken by the so-called supernatural. For the first time all the baffling phenomena of psychical research from Voodoo and Werewolves to the latest experiments in telepathy and precognition are subjected to a critical analysis. In place of credulity and superstition he has opened up a rational approach which brings the mysterious noman's land into the domain of science and psychopathology.

A glance at the table of contents reveals the wide scope of this original work: Fire walking, mental healing, crystal gazing, water divining, telepathy, hypnotism, all the knotty things that baffle reason are interpreted and explained with copious incidents and illustrations. A special chapter is devoted to the principles of yoga.



**INDIAN THOUGHT AND ITS DEVELOPMENT.** By Albert Schweitzer. Adam and Charles Black, Soho Square, London W-1.

Albert Schweitzer was greatly influenced by the writings of Schopenhauer and Paul Deussen, and his German study of Indian thought first appeared in 1935. Next year Mr. C. E. B. Russell brought out an English edition which was completely destroyed in the war. After the lapse of some twenty years we are glad to have a fresh edition of a book which is greatly prized by scholars in the East and West alike.

All thought is really concerned with the great problem of how man can attain to spiritual union with infinite Being and "my attention was drawn to Indian thought," says Schweitzer, "because it is buried with this problem and because by its nature it is mysticism." Apart from anything that Schweitzer liked about Indian thought was that "Indian ethics are concerned with the behaviour of man to all living beings and not merely with its attitude to his fellowman and to human society." And then he was assailed with doubts as to whether the view made familiar to Europeans by the works of Schopenhauer and Deussen—the view that Indian thought is completely governed by the idea of world and life negation—is right. A critical study and examination of Indian thought through the ages from the Vedas down to Tagore and Gandhi compelled him to admit the fact that world and life affirmation is present at the back of this thought from the very dawn of history, and that "existence and interfusion within it of world and life negation and world and life affirmation constitute its special characteristic and determine its development."

Schweitzer's survey of Indian philosophy from the teachings of the Upanishads, through Jainism and Buddhism and Sikhism down to the interpreters and reformers of recent times offers a masterly study of Indian thought through the ages. He shows the relationship between the essential mysticism of Indian religions and ethics and shows how modern thinkers like Tagore have modified the traditions of their religion. A book of great value to Europeans as it offers a simple and straightforward narrative of the growth and development of Indian thought and the leading personalities who have moulded that thought through the example of their life and teachings.

**THE IDEA OF PROGRESS: A Revaluation.**

By Morris Ginsberg. Methuen & Co. Ltd., 36, Essex St., Strand, London.

The golden age is always in the remote past or in the remote future. There are some who hold that society advances and recedes in a cycle: a period of progress quickly followed by a period of regress. But theories of indefinite progress and human perfectability were common in the 18th century fostered no doubt by French Philosophers and revolutionaries. This belief in the irresistible inevitability of progress was the outcome of the industrial and social revolutions of the age of reason reinforced in the minds of men by the analogy of evolution in plant and animal life. "The human species," said Condorcet, "can be improved, firstly, by new discoveries in the arts and sciences and, consequently, in the means of well being and common prosperity, secondly by progress in the principles of conduct and moral practice and thirdly by the improvement of human faculty. This may be the result of improvements in the instruments which increase the intensity or change the direction of the use of our faculties or perhaps also of a change in the innate organisation itself." Two wars that have devastated society, and the threat of the Atom bomb and the Hydrogen bomb have almost shattered that belief and have led to sobering reflections. We have found that the human heart has as much to do with progress as the human mind. Duty and conduct have a bearing on the prospects of society no less than reason and the powers of intellect and organisation. In this closely recorded essay, Morris Ginsberg shows with a wealth of evidence from history and the advance of philosophic and scientific thought that the idea of progress albeit with setbacks in many directions, has greater vitality than is usually claimed for it and he presents to us the way for a sober hope for the future of society. The idea of progress has, however, fairly established as the animating and controlling idea of civilization and the only question that remains to be presented is that concerning the conditions in which it is realised. Thus the author examines with profound insight and judgment. Ultimately progress is just what it says, a moving on—"a conscious moving on," as Prof. Carr has said "towards progress which are felt to be worthy of human faith and human endeavour."

**DESERT CALLING:** The life of Charles de Foucauld. By Anne Fremantle. Hallis and Carter, 25 Ashley Place, London, S.W.

Anne Fremantle could not have chosen a more beautiful or appropriate title to her full length story of the one of the most mysterious figures of our time—Charles Eugene, Vicomte de Foucauld, soldier, explorer and priest who lived the life of a hero and died the death of a martyr in the desert sands of Sahara, far from his beloved France. Charles, born of a historic family of French aristocrats was endowed with every worldly gift but he chose to renounce everything in search of service and adventure. Most of his life was spent outside his mother country, in Syria or in Africa; and though little was known of him in France during his life-time he is today the most revered character in France, after Joan of Arc.

Anne Fremantle tells the story of his adventures with a fullness of material and a whole hearted appreciation of his extraordinary life and career that every page of her narrative bristles with dramatic interest. Charles explored forbidden Morocco disguised as a humble Jew; but the piety and fervour of Islam soon made him renounce the world and join the Trappist Order. For ten years there he led a life of silence and prayer in Palestine. Then at the age of 42 in 1901 he established in Algeria "the lonely Saharan mission that was to be his monument and his grave." Here at last he laboured for 15 years amid incredible hardships and solitude. In 1916 under the prodding of Moslem fanatics the tribes revolted and Charles died as he had lived, at his post, "a martyr to the tribesmen for whom he had laboured so long and so well."

The story of the great adventure is told with sustained interest by the author who has spared no pains to collect all the relevant material available. We get a vivid picture of the hero and his doings from his own writings which are amply quoted. What can be more illustrative of his character and his life of silence and prayer and utter humility than this inspiring record of his thoughts:

The more one gives to God, the more He gives in return; I thought I was giving up everything when I left the world to become a Trappist. I received more than I gave: again I thought I was giving all when I left the Trappist; I have been overwhelmed, completely overwhelmed; I

am infinitely happy being poor, dressed as a workman, a domestic, in the same humble condition which was our Lord's, and by an overflowing of exceptional grace, to be all this at Nazereth.

That such self-denying humility is indeed rare. No wonder the French venerate the name of Charles, as they venerate Joan of Arc and he is because "a sort of Talisman" with his countrymen.

**TREASURY OF PHILOSOPHY.** Edited by Dagobert D. Runes. Philosophical Library, New York.

The treasury of philosophy, as its name implies, is a comprehensive and authoritative collection of studies in the entire field of philosophical thought, Eastern and Western. The selections cover the whole span of recorded philosophy from the sixth century B.C. to the present day. As a dictionary of ancient and modern philosophy it is alphabetical in order each of the entries in this mammoth collection complete with a brief biographical introduction followed by a selection from the more important writings—the selections specially designed to amplify the thinker's central themes. From Abailard to Zeno the stoic the list of philosophers includes every variety of school and shade of thought from Greek and Roman periods as well as outstanding Hebrew scholars and church fathers of the Christian era, not forgetting the prodigious line of modern philosophers from the Renaissance and notable sufists and oriental mystics from Chinese, Arabian and Indian literature. Here is a compendious volume for quick reference which scholars and teachers will prize above all treasure. The exhaustive index and the references add to the usefulness of a volume indispensable for every literary man.

**SUNLIT SPAIN.** By Maurice Legendre. Gerald Duckworth & Co., 3 Henrietta St. London.

Here is a fine picture of ancient and modern Spain ranging over the Pyrenees and the rocky coasts or old cities of the plains with their castles and cathedrals and Moorish palaces—all caught by the faithful camera. It is not for nothing that the Director of the Casa Valesque of Madrid was exploring through the length and breadth of Sunlit Spain for five and twenty years. The result is a sumptuous book of 142 photographs designed (in the words of the preface) "as a keepsake for the visitor and a pointer to the armchair traveller."

**BERKELEY.** By G. J. Warnock, Penguin Books, London

This is one of the series of philosophical books designed to be original studies of the work of a number of outstanding philosophers. The fact that Berkeley like so many writers of the 18th century was distinguished alike for the elegance and clarity of his diction does not make his reasonings any the less difficult to understand. For Berkeley maintained a position which even to men of the intelligence and acumen of Dr. Johnson seemed preposterous. Who does not remember the Doctor's crude, though commonsense refutation of Berkeley by banging the table to prove its existence? Thus I refute Berkeley. But Berkeley's subjective idealism, for all its seeming contradiction, is something very much more than a perverse affront to commonsense. His theory that *to be is either to be perceived or to perceive* always been regarded as paradoxical. But it has been very difficult to refute, and his critical and constructive work has survived as a living influence on modern philosophy. In this book Mr. Warnock discusses different aspects of Berkeley's thought and explains their continued importance for contemporary philosophy. Mr. Warnock's own method of presentation is as lively and clear as Berkeley's defence of his peculiar ideas. A thought-provoking book designed to elucidate the most abstruse ideas of a great thinker.

**ANGLO-AMERICAN PLOT AGAINST KASHMIR.** By Vijay Kumar, Price Rs. 3 12-0. People's Publishing House Ltd., Bombay 4.

Though definitely propagandist in approach this detailed narrative of events in Kashmir from the days when Gulab Singh carved out a kingdom for himself to the day when the American "United Nations Negotiators" proposed carving the same into three portions reinforcing the recommendation by "military aid to Pakistan", makes most interesting reading. Kashmir like Germany in Europe has become the objective of political, religious, military, and sociological and ideological propaganda. As Ceylon is the centre of the Oceanic Regions and Dudley Senanayaka today talks of "sacrificing lives" to safeguard its culture and racial integrity, Kashmir is the centre of the land mass of Eurasia. With the U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R., East and West are all courting its peoples and those in power.

**ANNUAL REPORT OF THE INDIAN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH** for 1951-52. Manager of Publications, Delhi. Price of Rs. 3/2 or 5 shillings.

This very late publication of work done over three years ago is still interesting as the germ. Ideas broached then have developed since and some grandiose ideas like that of a Land Army have begun to wither having only shallow roots. The Indian Budget is a gamble on the Monsoons; Indian Agriculture in spite of Irrigation and Power Projects is still dependent on the two monsoons. It is submitted that the Official Year and the Financial Year and the Business Year may begin on December 1st, when the results of both the South-west and the North-east Monsoons have been recorded and end on 30th November. This will also correspond to starting the year in Margashirsha the month of Lord Krishna and the Lord Christ and of Conferences and Councils. The present arrangement of a Calendar Year, a Financial Year and a Budget presented without relation to prospects reasonably based on rainfall already received is most unsatisfactory.

**THE MIRAGE OF SOCIALISM AND INDUSTRIALISM.** By Radha Krishna Khanna. Atma Ram and Sons, Kashmere Gate, Delhi. Price One Rupee.

This is a polemical plea that measures to create total employment must have precedence over expensive industrialization schemes. His short point is that the private sector may be allowed to confine itself to the industrial side and the public sector can confine itself to primary production of food and raw materials till a surplus has been achieved.

**TOWARDS WELFARE ECONOMY.** By The Same author. Atma Ram and Sons.

Experience in running a refugee rehabilitation centre for sixty families has convinced the author that to banish hunger and poverty and build up a stable economy, in addition to producing an increase of primary and agricultural wealth, we must build for each family a reserve of consumption grains and seed grains and silver and gold ornaments whose value is not affected by debasing and inflation of currency by centralised governments and banks. He feels that the Government had better not tinker with the industrial and commercial set up under the plea of a "socialistic pattern of society" and had better confine itself to agricultural and social welfare programmes.

**ORIGIN OF THE SANKHYA** (Indian Philosophical Congress Silver Jubilee Gold Medal Essay) By Shri Manubhai C. Panda, M. A. LL. B., B. Sc. Price Rs. 2-8-0 'Author,' Coronation Building, Vithalbai Patel Road, Bombay 4.

This is a dialectical performance of a very high order. The author patiently unfolds his thesis that an approach which was originally theistic became purely logical and rational for a time and then became again transmuted by the Bhakti approach into a Theistic philosophy. The essence of it is found in the Twelfth Chapter of the Bhagavad Gita called Bhakthi Yoga rather than in the Second Chapter called Sankhya Yoga proper. For it is in the Twelfth Chapter that Sri Krishna explains how a good life devoted to the welfare of all living creatures can be distinguished from and yet is almost indistinguishable from surrendering the fruits of all action to a personal Supreme Deity. This is a good introduction to a more leisurely study of the abstruse problem by a learned savant.

**CATAclysm HAS BEGUN.** By J. J. Williamson. Archers' Court Research Group. (Society of Metaphysicians Ltd.) S. E. Asian Headquarters, 5, Routledge Road, Lucknow. Price Rs. 2.

This is a very interesting collection of evidences for truth of the genuineness of the apprehension of peoples all over the World that Daniel's prophecy and Cheiro's predictions and the prognostications of the Puranas that a Global Cataclysm or Cataclasm has begun. The probable effects of radio, atom bomb explosions, hydrogen bomb explosions and spiritual and mental unrest are canvassed and tabulated briefly. Rajaji's appeal to ban atom and hydrogen bombs will receive fresh support by a perusal of this pamphlet.

**BHANU BHAKTA'S NEPALI RAMAYANA.** Edited by Shri S. B. Gewali, B.A. B.T. Nepali Sahitya Sammelan, Darjeeling.

This Nepali version of Ramayana is not only valued as a scripture but is regarded as the earliest high class specimen of Nepali poetry. This edition contains over 1000 verses of four lines each written in standardised Nepali using Sanskrit metres. The need for a cheap edition of Nepali Ramayana was felt by the hill people and Gurkhas in and around Darjeeling and through the efforts of Mr. H. C. Mukherjee,

Governor of West Bengal and through the liberal donation of philanthropists it was possible to issue a cheap edition costing Rs. 2/- As Mr. Munshi says in his introduction "To the rest of India this work is of considerable interest in assessing the fundamental unity of modern India and the unity of religions and literary inspiration which have maintained the cultural homogeneity of the country".

**PRIVATE PROPERTY: THE HISTORY OF AN IDEA.** By Richard Schlatter, George Allen & Unwin Ltd, Museum St. London.

The concept of private ownership is one that has persisted through the ages from the Greeks down to the present day. Of course it has passed through varying phases of change in the Middle Ages and more so after the industrial revolution in England and the great revolution in France. But for all that there is an essential conformity in our traditional concepts of man and society. It is hardly possible that with such divergent experiments in the making and distribution of property in Capitalist America and Communist Russia, modern thought could remain unaffected by the need and urgency for a new pattern of property and ownership in accord with the growing demands of present day society. We are yet to evolve a new and satisfactory theory to suit our modern requirements. In this context Prof. Schlatter's Essay is an excellent study of the principal theories extant on the subject. It is a most comprehensive survey of the theory and institution of private property from the days of the Greeks and Romans, through the growth of the liberal and natural right theory of property in the seventeenth century down to the break up of that theory in recent times. Bred on much reading and research Prof. Schlatter's thesis is a thought-provoking contribution to the discussion of the principles of ownership. "In general," says the writer, "theories of formal right especially if they profess to be based on the immutable laws of nature, are not likely to be popular in this historically-minded age. Nevertheless, men are still fascinated by the theory that just ownership is based on labour. The natural right of property is not yet a dead idea and its future is clearly linked with the outcome of that struggle between rival social systems which dominates the thinking and acting of our age."

## The Buddha Jayanthi

President Rajendra Prasad, gave a message on the occasion of the 2500th Buddha Jayanthi celebration broadcasting over the A. I. R. on the night of the 24th May :

"On this auspicious day, which is the 2,500th anniversary of the parinirvana of Lord Buddha, I send my greetings to all fellow-beings in this country and outside it. It is a great day for the whole world as it focusses our attention on one of the sublimest of messages in the heritage of mankind. Lord Buddha's message appears to be in contrast with current world trends and yet it irresistibly attracts the moderner on account of its loftiness, universal peace and tolerance and its practical approach to the problems which man has had and will always have to face in the world.

As an humble admirer of Lord Buddha, I would commend his teachings, particularly his moral discipline embodied in the Eight-fold Path, to all men and all nations. Perhaps never before was the world so torn by strife and violence, and the need of Buddha's message of love, tolerance and peace was never greater than it is to-day.

Buddha did not preach from a high pedestal. His teachings are essentially practical, meant for common men in all walks of life. His principle of avoiding extremes and preferring the golden mean is a valuable contribution to world thought. The 'majhyam marga' or the Middle Path essentially makes for peace and paves the way for a practical solution of complicated problems with which the path of mankind has been beset in all ages and all climes. With the progress of science and all round advance in man's faculties, the present-day problems between man and man and nation and nation have assumed a proportion altogether unthought of in ancient or medieval ages.

Seen in the light of the present-day situation when atomic energy seems to be vesting man with boundless capacity to do good or harm, Buddha's philosophy of life and his message to mankind is of particular significance today. Far from being outmoded, it has assumed for discerning men an importance equal to life itself.

Humanity is literally on the cross-roads today. We shall have to decide whether with all the advance made by science we have to coexist, making scientific technique a real blessing for every man, or whether we must circumscribe our vision and pin our faith on weapons of aggression. The latter course is bound to lead to world-wide clashes, of which we have seen quite a few in living memory. This way lies destruction and, may be, the very doom of mankind. Following the path of peaceful co-existence as preached by the Buddha appears to be the only alternative to destructive wars and subsequent misery. Luckily, this fact is now beginning to be widely appreciated. The thinking persons in all countries realize that the time has come when the Buddha's path of love and peace, long enshrined only in books of history, were now adopted in practice in order to save the world from sure annihilation. I hope the 2,500th anniversary of the Buddha will give an impetus to this belief and thus create a climate of opinion in which the wisdom and the feasibility of the Lord's message are pondered earnestly.

The birth of Prince Siddhartha, who lived like any other mortal being and who attained nirvana or the state of highest bliss through conscious endeavour and persistent effort, is perhaps the biggest single event in the history of our country, if not of the world. Though India is a hallowed land where the Buddha trod, lived and preached, as a matter of fact Gautama, like other prophets, belongs to the whole world and his message is truly universal.

On this solemn occasion I have great pleasure in extending a hearty welcome to all those foreign visitors who have come to India in connection with the Buddha Jayanthi. Let me hope that in our joining together in paying our homage to the Enlightened One all of us will be inspired by his message and that the common fount of this inspiration will also bring different nations of the world closer to one another in realisation of the truth of the eternal values embodied in that message."

## INDIANS OUTSIDE INDIA

### CEYLON

#### REGISTRATION OF CEYLON INDIANS

Clarifying certain "misleading statements" that have appeared in a section of the Indian Press in regard to the question of voting rights for Indians registered as Ceylon citizens, a Press communique issued at New Delhi on May 11 by the office of the Ceylon High Commissioner in India said that upto the end of February 1956, the number of persons that had been granted Ceylon citizenship was 39,757, but only 3,000 out of them were entitled to exercise votes as the others were infants and minors.

It had been made out in the Press, the communique added, that the total number of applications amounted to 800,000 and that those granted Ceylon citizenship up-to-date amounted to only about 3,000.

### U. S. A.

#### INDIAN IMMIGRANTS INTO U.S.

"The quota fixed for immigrants to the United States of persons of Indian origin is 100 annually", the Deputy Minister for External Affairs, Mr. Anil Kumar Chanda, said in the Lok Sabha on May 22.

Answering Mr. Raghunath Singh, Mr. Chanda said that the number of Indian immigrants to the United States during the period, July 1, 1954, to June 30, 1955 was 116 inclusive of 38 persons who entered that country as non-immigrants and whose status was later on adjusted to that of immigrants.

Mr. N. C. Kasliwal asked whether the Government of India proposed to move the Government of the U.S. for a little increase in this quota.

Mr. Chanda replied, "As far as we know, even this quota of 100 is not filled up every year".

### KENYA

#### IMMIGRATION TO KENYA

The Committee of the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce and Industry have requested the Government of India to "effectively" bring to the notice of the Government of the United Kingdom the widespread feeling and anxiety over the immigration policy of the

Kenya Government, in India and among the Indian community in Kenya.

The Committee have also suggested that this issue may be raised at the forthcoming conference of Commonwealth Prime Ministers. They fear that unless firm action is taken at this stage, the history of South Africa will be repeated in East Africa also.

### RHODESIA

#### INDIANS IN RHODESIA

Lord Malvean, Prime Minister of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, said at Livingstone (Northern Rhodesia) on May 1st that the Federal Government did not intend lifting the ban on Indian immigration to the Federal territories.

Addressing the British Indian Association and the Indian Chamber of Commerce Lord Malvean said Indians might be allowed into the Federation when the African community was sufficiently advanced to look after itself, but this was not likely to be for many years.

Lord Malvean said it was desirable that openings should be created for Africans, who at present had little opportunity for advancement. He promised to consider a plea by Indian organisations for aged dependents of Indians now in the Federation to be allowed into the country.

### S. AFRICA

#### INDIANS IN NATAL

An inter-racial conference called by the Natal Indian Congress in Durban decided to set up Vigilance Committees throughout Natal, "to safeguard the existing rights of our people" in regard to the Group Areas Act, says a message dated May 17.

The resolution calling for Vigilance Committees was moved by Mr. Paton. It added: "This Conference and the organisations it represents must without delay make efforts to acquaint the European public in particular with the inequities of the Group Areas Act."

Another resolution said the Act would lead to increased racial tension and further disharmony among South Africa's multi-racial population.

## DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Apr. 28 India and Canada sign pact on Atomic Reactor.
- Apr. 29 Union Cabinet approves draft of Second Five-year Plan allotting an outlay of Rs. 4,800 crores.
- Elections in Burma: Big lead for Government Party.
- Apr. 30 Mr. S.K. Das, former Chief Justice of the Patna High Court is sworn in as Judge of the Supreme Court.
- Justice V. Ramaswamy is sworn in as the Chief Justice of Patna High Court.
- May 1 Egypt and Israel accept Hammarskjöld's plan for United Nations Observation posts.
- The National Development Council accepts new Target (increase in food production) in the Second Five-year Plan.
- May 2 The Coronation of King Mahendra of Nepal takes place in Kathmandu.
- May 3 Burma's ruling party secures absolute majority of 126 seats in the 250 member chamber.
- May 4 London disarmament talks fail.
- May 5 Indo-Pakistan ministerial conference on minority exodus meets in Dacca.
- May 6 The Big Three Western Powers decide to remove their 1950 "arms returning" system for the Middle East.
- May 7 U. S. A. decides to provide Nato partners with Atomic Weapons.
- Bombay Seamen's strike is called off.
- May 8 Lok Sabha passes Hindu Succession Bill.
- May 9 Rajya Sabha passes All India Institute of Medical Sciences Bill.
- May 10 Naga National council is dissolved; The rebel leader Phizo assumes dictatorial powers.
- May 12 Marshal Tito and M. Guy Mollet the French Premier issue a communique for strengthening the U. N.
- May 13 Russia announces cut in armed forces by 1,200,000 men.
- Acharya Vinoba Bhave starts the Bhoodan Campaign in Tiruvellore.
- May 14 Bihar Assembly throws out the no-confidence motion against the Ministry.
- May 15 London talks on Singapore fail.
- May 16 Syngman Rhee is elected for the third time as President of the South Korea.
- Egypt recognises Communist China.
- May 17 The Ninth World Health Assembly elects India on the Executive Board.
- The Japanese expedition conquers Manashu 26458 foot high peak in Himalayas.
- May 18 10 000 workers go on strike in Ceylon Tea Gardens.
- The first batch of 30,000 Soviet troops leave East Germany.
- May 19 A joint Franco-Soviet Communique is signed in Moscow agreeing for peace in Europe.
- May 20 Egypt signs arms pact with Poland.
- D. M. K. decides to contest next election.
- May 21 U. S. explodes Hydrogen bomb dropping it from an aircraft over Bikini in the Pacific.
- May 22 Nepal and France sign pact based on Panch-Shila.
- About 900 prisoners in Ceylon are set free in Ceylon to mark the Buddha Jayanthi.
- May 23 Mendes France resigns on the Algerian issue.
- Mr. David Marshall (Singapore) meets Mr. Nehru at New Delhi.
- May 24 Buddha Jayanti Celebrations throughout India.
- East Pak Assembly Prorogued.
- May 25 Both Egypt and Israel accept Hammarskjöld's plan to post U. N. Observers in Gaza border.
- May 26 Operation of the constitution is suspended in East Pakistan: President's rule begins.
- May 27 The 8th All India Sarvodaya Sammelan meets at Sarvodayapauram (Kancheepuram).
- May 28 The treaty of *de jure* cession of French India is signed in New Delhi.
- May 29 Syria recognises Communist China.
- May 30 China claims sovereignty over Nansha Islands.
- May 31 U. N. Command in Korea suspends work due to Red's alleged breach of terms.

## READERS' DIGEST

### INDIA'S FOREIGN POLICY

Bertrand Russell, the eminent philosopher, has expressed the view that "India is doing a very useful job by maintaining a neutral stand and not aligning herself with any side" in the international situation.

He told *Envoy*, the monthly journal founded by Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, that he thought it was best for India "to be neutral." In an interview he gave to *Envoy*, Bertrand Russell was asked whether he thought that the Indian Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru's policy was contributing to the lessening of world tension.

"Yes, I do," was his reply.

Replying to a question as to what he most approved of in India, Bertrand Russell said: "I approve, as I have said, of her neutral and pacific attitude in world affairs, of her efforts to industrialise the country and develop towards a modern community by democratic and not by communist methods, her recognition of the importance of birth control in a country of vast population and shortage of food."

What did he most dislike about India he, was next asked.

"What irritates me is the belief of some Indians that India has much higher ethical standards than other countries. This is quite untrue. Look at your attitude to child marriage, cows and religion."

If he were invited to lecture in India what would he talk about, he was asked.

"I would talk about the need to eradicate racial prejudices, to regulate the population, about the importance of India's role in international affairs" Bertrand Russell replied.

"I would talk about the rapid change in the relations between Asia and Europe. From the time of Vasco Da Gama until the end of the Second World War, Europe has been in the ascendant but the roles are now reversed—Asia is coming out on top."

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A question put to him was: Were more people in America coming round to his view that the only alternative to co-existence was no existence.

"That is rather a difficult question, but they may be," Bertrand Russell said: "I know that at any rate many people were shocked by Dulles's 'brink of war' statement. As for America herself I do not think the outlook is very bright. With Eisenhower standing for election there is little chance for Stevenson. In his present state of health Eisenhower won't be able to carry on very long as President and that would put Nixon in power. No, I certainly don't like it at all."

Asked to comment on Mr. Khrushchev's statement that instead of the NATO slogan "let us arm," we offer the slogan "let us trade," the philosopher said "It could be that Russia is very short of goods."

Of Soviet aid to Asia he remarked "What I don't understand is why when the Russians give a tenth of what, say the Americans give, they get ten times as much gratitude."

Bertrand Russell thought that India's "most useful contribution" to the world to-day "would be to discover a really efficient method of birth control. She should devote a lot of research to finding a method that is simple, effective and practical in a vast rural country like India—a device as easy as swallowing a pill with no nonsense about coloured beads," he said. "They should educate all the women in all the villages in the use of this method." India could lead in the planning of populations throughout Asia. "The West is much more superstitious than Asia about methods of regulating populations."

Apart from Gandhiji and Nehru, who was the most interesting Indian he had met, Bertrand Russell was asked. "Someone in my own line—Radhakrishnan—a very arresting personality and a broad-minded philosopher—a man of real philosophical stature," he replied.

## PRAVDA PRESS

The Bangalore National Weekly *Mysindia*, has an interesting account of Pravda Press in Moscow. The writer Mr. B. Ramachandra Rao who visited Moscow gives the following account:

"Pravda has a circulation of several million copies, about three million in Moscow alone. Therefore to facilitate printing and circulation *Pravda* is printed in twelve separate provinces also. *Pravda Central* is the paper which is published in Moscow; the others are called by local names.

This press publishes several important magazines also, such as *The Magazine of the Soviet Union*, *The Woman*, *The Peasant*, *The Woman Worker*, and the party paper *Life*, which are political magazines; literary magazines such as *November* and *October* are also published.

There are 5000 workers in this press, of whom 60 per cent are women. They take 3 1/2 hours to compose and print a paper of one Million copies of four pages of matter. The wages are fairly good. A compositor gets 1500 roubles, and a skilled workman gets 2500 roubles. But higher salaries also are paid according to their skill.

The work in a day is for seven hours, except on Sunday. They get a month's leave every year with full pay. They have the advantage of spending holidays in a health resort through their trade unions, for which a portion is paid by the press. They have living quarters within the same compound for which they pay flat rates; sanatorium and provident fund are also provided. After 25 years of work, they are entitled to old age pensions.

Women are given maternity benefits such as leave for one month before and two months after delivery. There is not much difference between the salary of the workman and the clerk.

For entry into service ten years' education is necessary. But in cases where the candidate does not possess the minimum qualification of ten years' education, facilities are afforded to complete their education in spare hours by holding classes within the press. They also run technical courses within the press in off-time to gain the requisite qualifications for unqualified people so that they may earn more. There

is a school attached to the press for this purpose. The unskilled workman, such as those who receive the paper from the machine, gets 600 roubles per month; I feel that it is absolutely insufficient for even hand-to-mouth living in Moscow.

The chief of the workshop was present and received us in the drawing-room, which is a big hall. The building belonging to this press is a large building with several storeys. Being a party organ, it is a very powerful paper with an international reputation. They invited us to contribute articles."

## AID TO ASIA

The *Time* Newsmagazine gives the following figures regarding aid to Asiatic countries by the U.S. as compared to that by the U.S.S.R.:

From Washington recently came the first statistics on the much-touted Communist economic offensive.

The big item; of a promised \$500 million in economic credits and grants-in-aid the Communists have delivered \$23.4 million—between 4% and 5% of their promises. The U.S. has sent \$37 billion abroad since the war, including \$4.3 billion to the Middle East alone.

Other sample comparisons:

*India.* Since 1950 the U.S. has made outright gifts of about \$266 million, plus loans of \$272 million; the Communists have contracted to build a 1,000,000-ton-capacity steel plant on an \$80 million to \$95 million loan at 2 1/2% to be repaid in twelve annual instalments.

*Pakistan.* Since 1951 the U.S. had made gifts of \$290 million and loans of \$65 million; the Communists have advanced 200 tons of tubing and three mobile electric stations for drilling rigs.

*Egypt.* Since 1952 the U.S. has given \$62.3 million in technical and development aid, recently offered \$55 million more to help start the new Aswan Dam; the Communists have made several offers of aid, including "a new railway network" and a \$5,600,000 electric plant.

*Indonesia.* Since 1949 the U.S. has given about \$142 million; the Communists have offered an \$8,000,000 loan to rehabilitate a sugar mill.

## ANOTHER VICTORY FOR BANDUNG

In the course of an editorial *Jana* for May—Ceylon's monthly Journal—observes on the winding up of the Cominform:

In April 1955, on the eve of the Bandung conference, *Jana* called for the dissolution of the Cominform. At Bandung itself this demand was reiterated by the Prime Ministers of India and Ceylon, and Mr. Nehru is believed to have taken it up personally with the Russian leaders on his visit to Moscow.

The end of the Cominform, exactly one year after the Bandung conference, is a major political victory for the Afrasian powers. Western commentators have made much of the fact that the announcement from Moscow coincided with the visit of Messrs Bulganin and Khrushchev to Britain, and that the disappearance of the Cominform will help in the current Soviet line of wooing the Socialist parties in Europe.

Whatever the elements of truth in these suggestions, the fact remains that the Cominform would not have been disbanded but for the continued pressure of the Bandung powers. For until they put forward this demand, the West would have rejected it as impossible of realisation. And as late as the twentieth congress of the Soviet Communist Party, at which the policy of collaboration with Socialist parties was announced. Mr. Khrushchev flatly declared that there was no question of dissolving the Cominform.

Like the Indo-Chinese truce, the opening of peace negotiations over Formosa and the admission of 16 countries into UN last year, the dissolution of the Cominform is proof of the impact which the Bandung powers have made on international relations. In this as in other issues, they have shown that they can succeed where the West has failed because they can talk to the Communist powers with complete sincerity. Their bonafides are not suspect because they have no vested interests to defend and no designs of power politics to advance. With the winding up of the Cominform another obstacle on the road to world peace has been removed. As the link between Russia and Communist parties in other countries, it provoked suspicions and fears which hampered any efforts to make peaceful co-existence a reality and not merely a phase.

It is to be hoped that now that the Cominform has ceased to exist the Communist powers will act fully in the spirit of this act and refrain from any form of interference in the internal affairs of other countries or from any assistance to internal political groups. This is no more than the Communist powers have already pledged, themselves to when they declared their acceptance of the Panch Sila.

The disbanding of the Cominform as a result of the initiative of the Bandung powers, has taken place at a time when the Western policy of building up military pacts in Asia and the Middle East has suffered considerable setbacks. The ideal of an Asia and Africa completely free of external interference—which was only an ideal when the Bandung powers met—has already, within the brief space of a year, approached realisation.

The Bandung policy of building up a strong independent Asia and Africa, not tied to either power bloc, is being vindicated by the course of events. Equally, the conviction of the Afrasian countries that the existence of different social and political systems need not stand in the way of peace, provided no country attempts to impose its ideology on another is gaining increasingly wider acceptance. Heartened by the political and diplomatic triumphs they have already gained, the Bandung powers should continue to take a bold initiative in the cause of world peace.

## RED LEADERS OF CHINA

Some Chinese Communist functionaries are enjoying themselves to the full under the present regime, the *Peiping People's Daily* reports in an editorial.

Notwithstanding the fact that "Communists are equipped with a new type of noble moral qualities for serving the great revolutionary ideals," the editorial declares, "the capitalist way of living is making inroads in the revolutionary forces" in China.

Some comrades, the editorial reveals, "are indulging in low-class recreational activities, and superstition in religion." Others, it says, "have the best houses and newest cars; they claim big re-imbursements for duty tours and for holding meeting; they regularly receive and see off guests and throw large parties; they make no differentiation between public

and private matters, claiming public funds for private use. In the building of the premises of their organisations, they are concerned with embellishment without the slightest regard for the wealth of the people."

"The Communist Party," the paper warns, "permits its members to establish their personal and family life in line with the interests of the party as a whole. Those who insist upon making mistakes should be punished, and even expelled from the party."

#### DULLES AND NEHRU

*The Christian Science Monitor* of Boston in the course of an editorial on 'Asia and the U.S.A.' points out:

"When the historians sit down to write the annals of this decade, one of their most decisive topics will be: What did the United States do about the hundreds of millions of uncommitted, underdeveloped nations of Asia?"

Did the United States have a definite objective? Did the people of the United States understand the stakes involved? Did they take effective action?

Because the Communists do have a program. And their leaders understand the stakes involved. And intelligence surveys show they are intending to take shrewd action.

John Sherman Cooper, United States Ambassador to India, has been alerting members of Congress, the State Department, and President Eisenhower, to the critical danger of 'losing' the uncommitted peoples of Asia, including India. Other American ambassadors on the spot, no longer intimidated by the recent security miasma, are sending back warning signals.

John Cowles, publisher of the Minneapolis *Star* and *Tribune* and of *Look Magazine*, is back from a tour of Asia with a sense of mission. Writing for his newspaper, he wonders 'whether we will wait passively until the backward countries begin to accept Moscow's political and economical philosophies as their model.'

The underdeveloped countries such as India, Burma, Indonesia, and the rest are intensely conscious that they missed the industrial revolution. Now they are trying to catch up.

They know that the Soviet Union by ruthless, force-draft methods, made stupendous strides in shoving a backward, illiterate, nation into the forefront of the twentieth century. Red China is embarked on the same course.

Will the underdeveloped neutrals follow the Red example, or the Democratic route? So far they are trying to industrialize by democratic methods.

Consider India, with 370 million people, second most powerful nation of Asia, leader of the neutralist bloc. Premier Nehru is a proud, over sensitive, complex individual, but a believer in the democratic way. India has an effective civil service, inherited from the British occupation, and has men of thoroughly independent stature in its cabinet. The English common law is practised in its courts. It now has the kind of government which, though neutralist, will certainly not succumb to the Khrushchev-Bulganin blandishments.

Those who criticize Mr. Nehru for not embracing capitalist principles and for not lining up with the West overlook the fact that the average Indian has an income of about \$25 a year. India is embarked on an impressive Five-year Plan, run along democratic lines. It needs two billion dollar worth of foreign exchange for acquiring the capital equipment—railroads, port facilities, power plants and the like—which will lay the industrial base for faster economic progress.

It must either obtain foreign loans for this purpose, or extract the wherewithal out of the hides of a populace already on a terrifically low standard of living—as did the Soviet Union. *That route leads to unrest, repression, and eventual communism.*

Ambassador Cooper is known to estimate that if the United States stepped up its annual foreign aid to India from 50 million to 75 million dollars, India could make sufficient headway with its Five year Plan. Help would also have to come from unexpended sterling balances, the International Bank, the Colombo Powers, and private investment. Mr. Cowles and others contend this increase in American aid to India won't suffice, and that actually the United States should be prepared to loan and grant India a billion dollars over five years.

But the over-all problem is also psychological—a question of attitudes. Perhaps it would help if President Eisenhower and Mr. Nehru could sit down together and thrash out American-Indian misunderstandings. Such a meeting has been proposed.

Americans may think they are paying out vast sums now on foreign economic development, since the 'foreign aid' budget runs to four billion dollars a year. But actually about four-fifths of this goes for the military bulwarking of our allies—Korea, Formosa, Indo-China, Spain, Turkey, and so on.

#### NEW COLONIALISM

Writing on the above topic, the Chinese Journal, *Jen Min Jih Pao* editorially points out that:

The Asian signatories are the first victims of the SEATO treaty. Let us see what privileges have been gained by the United States from the three Asian signatories and what harm the treaty has brought to the independence and sovereignty of these countries:

First, the United States has infringed the territorial air, land and sea sovereignty of these countries. It is privileged to build military bases, harbours and strategic roads and hold military manoeuvres in the territorial air, land and sea of these countries. It can even station troops in certain countries.

Second, the United States has gained control of their military command. U. S. Military missions follow Pentagon's instructions in formulating armament expansion plans and in training the troops of these countries. At the Karachi meeting, Dulles even proposed a SEATO force so as to put the military forces of those countries under the command of U.S. generals.

Third, the United States has legalized its interference in the political and social life of the three Asian countries. This is done through the so-called "anti-subversion" bodies of the SEATO bloc and the intelligence research centres as proposed at the Karachi meeting. Dulles has disclosed that the United States will send top FBI representatives to this organ.

Fourth, the United States has gained the financial control of these countries. Through

"military aid," the United States is able to decide on ways of spending the aid appropriations and meddle in the financial affairs of the recipients.

Fifth, the United States has hampered the freedom of trade between the signatories and other Asian nations.

Sixth, the large U.S. military missions in the countries of the Asian participants in effect enjoy extra territoriality.

It is obvious, therefore, that the privileges gained by the United States through the military bloc are in many respects are many. The three Asian signatories have gained nothing except commitments to provide cannon fodder and to be plundered economically.

To U.S. colonialists, such unequal relations are taken for granted. This is because there are two blocs in SEATO, the rich countries and the poor countries as described in Western news agency reports. It is generally known that the United States uses this kind of unequal relationship to maintain and strengthen its colonial power and subject a number of Asian countries under its enslavement and exploitation.

#### U. S. AID TO PAKISTAN

Mr. Chester Bowles, former U.S. Ambassador to India, strongly deprecates American supply of arms to Pakistan and calls for "new realism" in U.S. foreign policy, abandoning its "Maginot Line" concept.

"How realistic are we to assume that a military programme, which upsets the balance of power in South-east Asia by arming Pakistan, thereby opening the door into Afghanistan for Russians and further antagonising India, will increase the security of that critically important area?" Mr. Bowles asks in a signed article in the *New York Times Magazine*.

Mr. Bowles says that the United States must "seek a balance between ideas and defence" and regain the confidence of Asian neutral nations. For this she should make a reappraisal of her relationships with Asian and African nations and adopt an "intelligently conceived, expanded and long-range programme of economic assistance," Mr. Bowles suggests.

Mr. Bowles cites instances of "unrealistic"

policy decisions that, according to him, were responsible for diminishing United States influence and prestige in Asia and Africa. These included, he says U.S. support to the corrupt Chiang Kai-shek Government in China, staking of U.S. prestige on the fate of two off-shore islands in the China Sea, support to French colonialism in Viet Nam, crossing of the 38th Parallel in Korea, ignoring of Nationalist outcry in Africa and cutting of economic support to NATO.

He concludes that if Americans looked the world squarely in the face, "They must recognise the bitter fact that to much of mankind it is the totalitarian Soviet Union and not the democratic America which offers more persuasive vision." To continue to minimise the Soviet Union's "explosive appeal to the frustrated, hungry and insecure people, who are searching for some decisive way to cure the world's ills, would be ultimate folly," he adds.

#### H-BOMB RADIATION

The first complete case history of a man killed by the effects of radiation from Hydrogen bomb is published in the journal "Medical World."

It describes for doctors the death in 1954 of Mr. Aikichi Kuboyama, a Japanese radio operator, after a Hydrogen bomb had been exploded by the U.S. authorities at Bikini. Mr. Kuboyama died in Tokyo 207 days after the explosion.

A full account of the findings at the post-mortem were given to the International Medical Commission.

Parts of the dead man's organs were flown to Birmingham for study by the British member of the Commission, who wrote the article for the *Medical World*.

The case history recalls that Mr. Kuboyama aged 39, was aboard the Japanese vessel "Fukuryu Maru" at the time of the explosion on Mar. 1, 1954.

The vessel was steaming 80 to 100 miles east of Bikini, well outside the danger zone. A few hours later radio-active dust began to fall on the boat. All other men on board fell ill. Mr. Kuboyama was one of the most severely affected.

Radiation dermatitis which healed while he was in hospital, affected his skin wherever the dust had touched it leaving brown and white scars. In April, a month after the explosion, his white blood cells, which fight infection, were down to one third.

Examination of his bone marrow showed that the manufacture of both red and white blood cells had almost ceased.

Gradually his white cell count improved but he was still desperately ill and had to have many transfusions of blood plasma and almost continual penicillin, streptomycin and other anti-biotics to help him resist infection.

Jaundice developed towards the end of June and the yellow colour deepened slowly showing that his liver was being damaged by the radio-active particles he had swallowed.

In September his ankles and abdomen began to swell and his lungs to fill with fluid. Pneumonia developed and he died on Sept. 23.

Mr. Kuboyama was literally riddled with radio-active particles giving off death-dealing cancer producing rays all over his body.

That he survived for over 200 days, unlike the victims of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, was due to his receiving skilled medical care regardless of cost.

#### EVILS OF COMMUNISM

Of all the impediments to human progress, the biggest that I can see at present is that presented by Soviet imperialism and the international Communist movement which is its instrument in the drive to world domination" writes Mr. M. R. Masani in *Freedom First*.

"Looking back, I find that my opposition to Communism dates back to the Great Purges of 1936 and the years that followed.

Close contact with Mahatma Gandhi from 1934 to 1939 resulted in growing appreciation of his social and economic philosophy. Gandhi represents the complete antithesis to the communist. The Communist swears by dialectical materialism—matter is essence, the mind a by-product; Gandhi preached the supremacy of spirit and mind over matter. To the Communist the end justifies the means; to Gandhi, the means were everything—means and ends were like the seed and the tree; and so Gandhi pronounced Soviet Communism to be "repugnant to India."

Two fundamentals I accepted from Gandhi's thought—first, that the end does not justify the means

and that no decent social order can evolve through the use of force or fraud; the other that, in the second half of the twentieth century, the omnivorous State is in danger of becoming the biggest single threat to human liberty. No school of thought or system of government offends against these two beliefs as violently as does totalitarian Communism.

Since the end of World War II, we in Asia have happily seen India, Pakistan, Burma, Ceylon, Indonesia, the Philippines and Israel secure independent existence. During this same period we have watched with apprehension the rise of Soviet imperialism swallowing up no less than 10 countries of Eastern Europe and then bringing under its heel the peoples of Manchuria, North Korea, China, Tibet, and North Indo-China.

Mr. Masani is of opinion that in no part of the world can those alarming advances of a new tyranny create the same sense of urgency as they do to the more alert among those who belong to the newly freed countries of Asia. He continues:

For some of us there is something worse than World War III and even the hydrogen bomb. Violence is bad and, if possible, to be avoided; the physical destruction of human beings is tragic; but the pulverisation of the human mind and the degradation of the human spirit which are the very essence of the practice of Communism would—if given the opportunity to be perpetuated on a global scale—be the worst of all possible afflictions on humanity.

The basic issue between democracy and communism, according to the writer, is a moral one which none of us can evade. He is for democracy, because, with all its inadequacies and imperfections it is based on freedom to choose. Mr. Masani concludes:

I am against Communism because it represents, in the way in which it is practised in Soviet Russia and its empire, extreme Right-wing reaction; because for the freedom of the Asian peoples there is no greater menace; because it turns its back on the moral and spiritual values that represent the progress of Man.

I believe that Man is not merely raw material for social experiments but an end in himself; and the free inquiry of the human mind is the basis of all progress. I am opposed to the Communist system because there is no room in it for the intellectual attitude which I was early to learn from H.G. Wells: "I do not care if I am for a time in a minority of one against all mankind, because in the long run if I have hit off the truth that will win and, if I fail to hit off, I shall have done my best."

#### CLASS STRUGGLE

In a succinct definition of "How to treat your counter-revolutionary father and husband," the Communist Magazine "China

Youth" advises all good comrades to put the class struggle before husbands, parents, friends, etc. Do not be afraid, it counsels, to denounce old friends, for "new friends of the revolution will come."

On Love, too, the party line is clear and straight. There is no such thing as "love for love's sake" states the journal. All love must have a political foundation, it affirms, as it gives any romantically inclined comrades the new Communist ideal of love for the party's sake.

Question. What should a good Communist youth do when he knows that his father ('a despotic landlord') has escaped punishment for counter-revolutionary activity? The answer, according to the revised text of the Communist prophets, runs: Denounce him to the officials.

But, supposing his mother gets angry with him, the problematic question continues, or if his father escaping sentence of death should harm him? The answer to that, goes: He should explain to his mother that to keep his father's crime a secret is being "cruel to the people." If his father does go free, why he would be grateful to his son for "his salvation." And if by chance he didn't feel that way? Why, he can just denounce him to the party, again!

#### THE CEYLON ELECTION

Expressing the view that the results of the Ceylon election will give new support to Asian neutralism the *Manchester Guardian* says:

The change of Government has taken place very quietly. It is another proof that Parliamentary institutions are becoming acclimatised in Asia."

"The election was fought chiefly on domestic affairs. Though the new Government is pledged to various radical changes in foreign policy, it is not impelled towards them by strong feeling. It is therefore moving cautiously, but it is bound to act differently from its predecessor. The election will give new backing to Asian neutralism.

"The curiosity in the new Parliament will be the Trotskyist as the chief opposition party. They may turn out less militant than their

name suggested. But then name if it is not their fortune, may determine some of their future history. They can scarcely be indifferent to the way in which the Russian Communist Party decides eventually to reclassify Trotsky.

"The most disturbing feature of the general election has been the irruption of Buddhist monks into politics. "In Burma, the political mania which for a time swept the monks did the country no good" the paper claimed. Buddhism is an amiable religion but if the influence of the monks is thrown against modernisation, it may be as great a nuisance to the country as has been the overblown influence of the Mullahs in Pakistan."

### U. S. FAILURES IN ASIA

In the latest issue of *International Affairs*, Mr. N. Alexandrova reviews the book "Wanted, an Asian Policy" by Edwin O. Reischauer, the wellknown American Oriental Scholar in which he advocates a new strategy for U.S. policy in Asia that would take into account the vast changes in this continent.

The book reflects the U.S. monopolists' alarm at the rapid growth of the national liberation movement, and the resultant downfall of colonialism in a number of the biggest Asian countries, N. Alexandrova writes: "Reischauer by no means recommends a change in U.S. Asian aims. While critical of policy methods, he nevertheless attempts to explain why "it is there that we (the Americans) have experienced in recent years most of our major disappointments and failures in foreign policy."

Particularly noteworthy are those places where facts compel the author, despite his political sympathies, to draw a number of correct conclusions. This applies for instance, to his analysis of the situation in Japan and China. Very characteristic in this respect are his views on the situation in Japan. In particular, he doubts the sovereignty of Japan. "Her continued dependence on American economic and military protection, he writes, "casts a very real shadow over her..... independence."

Reischauer does not believe in the use of

armed force and is just as sceptical about the possibility of achieving success in Asia through the power of the dollar and the consolidation of U.S. economic positions there. He regrets that thousands of millions of dollars have been uselessly spent to support Chiang Kai-shek, and is unable to conceal the fact that the peoples of Asia "are in no mood to accept foreign investments on a large scale." They prefer to build their industries themselves.

### FAITH AND REASON

Under the above heading Dr. Walter Lieben-thal contributes a well-reasoned article to the May issue of the *Aryan Path*. He says:

"Let us define faith not as the belief in unverifiable opinions or dogmas, but as the belief in values articulated in symbolic outlines, poetry, pictures, legends, myths; and in the imagery of all kinds which contains our religious tradition. Faith is faith in the evaluations which we have been taught to accept as true and it is for that reason that we hold on to descriptions of the world which can be easily disproved by science. We love them and this is sufficient to prove that the values depicted therein are true."

We have to rely on reason when we build a factory or a space ship, but on faith when we are in doubt about the value of such an endeavour. We all are born into a religious tradition, which carries us and forms us and which we have constantly to develop. For tradition is nothing permanent: it is the root from which life grows when we apply our love to new fields. Let us make discoveries not only among the configurations of dead matter but in the understanding of world-interpretations. These we must be ready to reformulate at any moment lest we suffocate in the self-built grave of our knowledge and techniques, formulas and institutions."

## MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTE

### Questions of Importance

#### SECOND FIVE-YEAR PLAN

The Report on the Second Five-Year Plan, signed by the Planning Commission, was submitted to Parliament on May 15.

With an outlay of Rs. 4,800 crores in the public sector and an estimated investment of Rs. 2,400 crores in the private sector during the period 1956-61, the Plan aims at securing a 25 per cent increase in national income and a rapid industrialisation of the country accompanied by large expansion of employment opportunities.

It seeks "to rebuild rural India, to lay the foundations of industrial progress and to secure to the greatest extent feasible opportunities for weaker and under-privileged sections of our people and the balanced development of all parts of the country."

Initiating the debate on the Second Five-Year Plan in the Lok Sabha on May 23, Prime Minister Nehru urged the importance of increasing agricultural production twofold and threefold, not only to satisfy the internal requirements, but also for exports to earn foreign exchange needed for the implementation of the Plan.

#### TRANSFER OF FRENCH SETTLEMENTS

A treaty of cession of the French establishments of Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe, and Yanam, to the Indian Union was signed in New Delhi, on May 28.

Mr. Nehru, as External Affairs Minister, signed on behalf of India, and Count Ostrorog, French Ambassador in New Delhi, on behalf of his country.

The simple ceremony was held in the Conference room of the External Affairs Ministry. Others present were Mr V. K. Krishna Menon, Mr A. K. Chanda, Deputy Minister of External Affairs, and two high officials of the French Embassy.

India has had *de facto* possession of these territories since Nov. 1, 1954, when they were returned to India after having been under French rule for over 250 years.

#### JEEVAN DAN

A sixteen-point pledge for donors of Jeevan Dan, submitted by Mr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, was accepted by the Sarva Seva Sangh on May 28 at Sarvodayapuram.

Jeevan Dan, as defined by Mr. Narayan allows scope for all to participate in it, including those who pursue an avocation. It understood Acharya Bhawe has approved M Narayan's definition.

Following are the do's and don'ts prescribed: Land owners should give up part of their land. Lawyers should not appear in false cases. Doctors should not receive from patients more than what is necessary to meet the cost of maintenance and medicines. Merchants and businessmen should not do blackmarketing and evade taxes. Intellectuals should devote some part of their time for Bhoodan.

All should wear khadi, have faith in the dignity of labour and spin regularly; should use goods produced in village industries abstain from using any intoxicant; work for removal of untouchability; should not participate in elections and should actively participate in Bhoodan work. Disputes must be settled outside courts of law."

#### THE KASHMIR PROBLEM

Pakistan's decision to refer back the Kashmir question to the Security Council is ill advised, and betrays peurile politics. More so the U.S.'s reported advice to Pakistan to wait till the conclusion of the Nehru-Ike meet seem to have gone unheeded. Perhaps the implication is that the President may discuss Kashmir during his pourparleys with Indian Prime Minister. Why Kashmir should at all find place on the agenda is not clear--nor the sources from which the report emanates have any explanation to offer. Illuminating in this connection is Mr. V K Krishna Menon's declaration that entire Kashmir State is part of India and that Kashmir's accession to India is complete. Pandit Nehru has been equally emphatic on the question. This leaves little scope for discussion at the Security Council.

## Utterances of the Day

### C. R. ON DEFENCE EXPENDITURE

Unilateral reduction of India's military expenditure to the minimum as a demonstration of her courage and faith in Gandhiji's teachings was advocated by Mr. C. Rajagopalachari at Sarvodayapuram on May 27.

In a 45 minute speech at the Sarvodaya Sammelan, he said the followers of Gandhiji should not be panicky at the growing military might of Pakistan as a result of U.S. aid.

"If you are afraid of the strength of Pakistan, you do not deserve to be followers of Gandhiji," he told the Sarvodaya workers.

### EARL ATTLEE ON RUSSIA

Earl Attlee, former leader of the British Labour Party, said at Christchurch (Hampshire) on May 20 that if peace could be preserved for a few more years, "there will be internal changes in Russia which will prevent her from growing into a world menace."

Earl Attlee, who was addressing a youth club conference, added, "I am, on the whole, fairly hopeful. I have seen the position much worse than it is today. The danger was much greater in 1947 and '48."

### RADHAKRISHNAN ON BUDDHISM

Speaking during the Buddha Jayanthi Week on Buddhism Dr. Radhakrishnan said:

"All forms of Buddhism, agree that the Buddha was the founder, that he strove and attained transcendental wisdom as he sat under the Bodhi tree, that he pointed a way from the world of suffering to a world beyond, the undying and those who follow the path for liberation may also cross to the wisdom beyond. This is the root of the matter. The essential unity underlying the many differences in outlook and expression came to characterise Buddhism as it spread from India to other parts of the world."

### DULLES ON PEACE

Speaking at the concluding session of the North Atlantic Council, U.S. Secretary of State Dulles said:

"There is no tolerable substitute for peace in this world. But we all know from bitter experience that peace is not achieved merely by desiring it. Lasting peace depends upon dedication to principles of justice. Also there must be protective force to assure that these principles take root, spread and bear their fruit."

### SOEKARNO ON FOREIGN AID

Indonesian President Soekarno appealed to the U. S. in his speech at Washington on May 17 as follows:

"The approach to the question of foreign aid should be based upon different principles in different countries. Without adequate knowledge of those countries and even if your motives in granting aid were solely the stability of this region, the results could be adverse and the flow of even billions of dollars could lead only to strained relations." \* \* \*

"It will only serve to make countries accepting it more dependent upon America and their worth as genuine partners in the universal struggle for liberty, peace and prosperity will consequently decline."

"The main aim should be for the people of Asia, like the Western nations, to become economically stable but also politically stable and thus be able to defend their freedom against all assaults."

The Indonesian President then stressed the need for putting an end to the atom bomb threat. "We will support every action taken by you or by the responsible leaders of any country to remove the shadow of the atom bomb from this world," he said.

### NEHRU ON BUDDHA

Mr. Nehru, who was addressing a mammoth public meeting at New Delhi to commemorate the 2500th anniversary of the Buddha's Parinirvana on May 25th said: "Buddha was not a god, or a deva, or a devata, but only a man. Buddha raised his voice against the very evils and weaknesses of casteism, superstition and spurious prayers which are even today afflicting large numbers of our people."

"We have therefore to understand and learn the science of life, the science of the heart and the mind, which Buddha preached, to get over our old habit of paying superficial lip sympathy to principles, and at the same time retaining religious malice in our hearts against others."

### HAMMARSKJOELD ON ASIA

Speaking on Asian renaissance in the United Nations recently Mr. Hammarskjöld said:

"It is my conviction that when Asia can speak — as Asia — to the West and when the West learns to listen and to respond in the spirit of a new and equal relationship, mankind all over the world will profit by it."

## Political and Personal

### KASHMIR NATIONAL CONFERENCE

The Working Committee of the Kashmir National Conference, which concluded after a fourday session at Srinagar on May 22, unanimously welcomed Prime Minister Nehru's recent statements in and outside Parliament on the future of Kashmir.

In a resolution, the Working Committee said it was of the view that Mr. Nehru's statements, in accordance with the decision of the State Constituent Assembly and the people's aspirations, had settled that a plebiscite was uncalled for.

The resolution said: "The Working Committee wants to impress that plebiscite, which is said to be a solution of the Kashmir problem, will mean dragging this issue to unnecessary and uncalled for discussions. The Working Committee is of the opinion that attempts at seeking such solutions will result in stopping the democratic process and throwing all settled and determined issues in suspense. The Working Committee has, therefore, repeated invariably that a plebiscite is no solution of the Kashmir issue."

Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed, the Conference President, presided.

The resolution said Mr. Nehru's statements had removed the possibilities for the enemies of the people to create misunderstanding. Their attempts at creating confusion among the Indian people in general and the people of Kashmir in particular by raising the bogey of the Kashmir question "needing solution" were now bound to fail.

The Committee said Mr. Nehru's statements had, in accordance with the wishes of the people, made it clear that "the area occupied by enemies across the cease-fire line should not be liberated by war. The area should, on the other hand be liberated by peaceful means. The enemies of the state, the resolution said, were interpreting these statements in terms of a division of the State, whereas the Prime Minister's statements only meant peaceful liberation of the area occupied by Pakistan."

### U. S. HONOUR FOR DR. KRISHNAN

Dr. K. S. Krishnan, wellknown Physicist, and Director, National Physical Laboratory, New Delhi, has been elected a foreign associate of the National Academy of Sciences, Washington, premier science body in U.S. He is the first Indian to have been elected to the foreign associateship of the Academy.

### SOVIET HELP TO ASIAN NATIONS

A soviet delegate told the United Nations Economic and Social Council recently that Russia was helping with the industrial development of Asian countries and wanted "develop and strengthen" its trade relations with Latin America.

The delegate, Mr. G. F. Saskin, said that Russia would provide 200 fellowships, Russian high schools and medium technical schools to help train Asian students and increase the professional qualifications of specialists from Asia.

Speaking in the debate on the economic development of underdeveloped countries Mr. Saskin said that industrial plans were being constructed in China, India, Burma, Afghanistan and other countries with Russian help.

Credit of 21,000 million roubles (about £1,875 millions at the official exchange rate) had been granted to help the industrial development of these countries. The grants were 'not conditioned by any political demands', he said.

### LONG RANGE U.S. AID

Mr. John Sherman Cooper, U.S. Ambassador to India, who is now in America calls for long range aid to India—on the lines of the Marshall Plan for Europe—"to enable her to fulfil her economic revolution".

"A sum of five to ten billion dollars should be made available, and with certainty, for a period of five to ten years following the example of the Marshall Plan", Mr. Cooper told at the India League of America luncheon held to honour him.

He adds: "If we could assure India and other countries in Asia that they could count on the U. S. for fixed or average sums of money over a period of ten or five or even three years, they would be enabled to plan ahead to undertake wealth-producing enterprises and to place orders for deliveries two or three years hence."

### MR. R. T. CRUIKSHANK

The death is reported of Mr. R. T. Cruikshank, Editor of the *News-Chronicle* from 1948 to 1954. A fine writer with ample knowledge of the U.S.A. he produced an informal history of his own paper. The *Roaring Century* traced the course of the newspaper from the time of Dickens.

## Educational

### NEHRU ON BASIC EDUCATION

In his message to the All-India Basic Education Conference held at Kancheepuram during the Sarvodaya Week, Mr. Nehru sent the following message :

"While basic education is the recognised policy in our country, more or less accepted by very large numbers of people, there are certain differences as to the methods to be employed. It is desirable that full opportunity should be given for this kind of experimentation in various methods of basic education, so that we might have the advantage of learning from them, and finally adopting the most suitable one.

"Education is presumably meant to fit an individual as well as the social group to live the good life and to take us to the Welfare State that we aim at. This must lay stress on individual development, in character training, etc., and the capacity to co-operate with others in the social frame-work that is gradually evolving."

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR STUDENTS

A scheme of technical and academic correspondence scholarships for the benefit of students in India has been launched by the Australian Government under the Colombo Plan.

The scheme is intended not only to grant diplomas to students, but also help to improve their technical and professional knowledge. Technical courses are provided by colleges situated in various parts of Australia, and the courses, technical and academic, comprise a wide variety of subjects ranging from engineering, architecture, building construction, land surveying, animal husbandry, and farm mechanics to economics, mathematics, and English.

The Australian Government will consider the granting of scholarships for training in Australia in the case of students who show proficiency in their examinations after taking the correspondence course.

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry has circularised its member bodies asking them to recommend suitable candidates to the Union Commerce Ministry not later than June 30, 1956.

### NATIONAL BOOK TRUST

The India Government have decided to set up a National Book Trust in order to encourage the production of good literature and to make such books available at moderate prices to libraries, educational institutions and the public generally.

The Trust will publish more particularly the classical literature of India, translation of famous books from foreign languages, and translation of standard books from one Indian language into another.

Reproduction of Indian paintings, sculptures and other art treasures and publication of standard works of Indian authors and standard books in the educational, scientific, artistic and other fields of knowledge will also be undertaken by the Trust.

The Trust will publish books in Hindi and other languages recognised in the Constitution of India. It may also publish books in foreign languages.

The Trust will be an autonomous body, created and supported by funds placed at its disposal by the Government. It will be competent to receive donations and bequests for carrying out its purposes and promoting its aims and any income that may otherwise accrue to it in the course of its business.

The number of trustees will not exceed 15. Two of the trustees will be representatives of the Sahitya Akademi.

Regional Trusts may be constituted on the same lines as the National Trust in order to assist the National Trust. The Regional Trusts will consist of not more than seven trustees and will be financed mainly by the States or groups of States concerned.

A sum of Rs. 30 lakhs is understood to have been set apart for the Trust to carry on its functions during the Second Plan period.

### RESEARCH IN EDUCATION

The proposed National Institute of Research in Basic Education would conduct research in problems relating to Basic Education and would act as a general clearing house for information on Basic Education, the Education Minister, Maulana Azad, told Mr. S. N. Das and Mr. Jhulan Sinha in the Lok Sabha on May 8.

In a written reply, the Education Minister said that the Institute would be under the charge of a Director assisted by suitable experts.

## Legal

### MARRIAGE TO GRAND-DAUGHTER HELD ILLEGAL

Their Lordships, Mr. Justice P. Govinda Menon, and Mr. Justice Basheer Ahmed Sayeed of Madras held that the alleged marriage of Ramaswami Reddiar (now deceased) with his own grand-daughter, was illegal, and could not be recognised by a court of law.

Disposing of a civil appeal relating to the partition of the properties of the late Reddiar, of Virumampatti village, Koilpatti Taluq, Tirunelveli district, Their Lordships said no custom, which was opposed to public policy could be recognised by a court. "If such a custom can be recognised, there is nothing untoward in legally acknowledging that a man can marry his own grand-mother," they observed.

"We, therefore feel no doubt whatever that the civilised and cultured society in which we live, and the progressive country in which we are, should not approve of an incest, which would not find favour even under the primitive or tribal societies."

"The attempt in the case, they said was to get judicial recognition for a most revolting and obscene practice under the guise and pretext of usage or custom said to have the force of law".

In these circumstances, Their Lordships held the marriage illegal.

### DEATH PENALTY FOR SECOND MURDER

The House of Commons voted on May 16 that a murderer already serving a sentence of life imprisonment should hang if he committed a second murder...

It decided on this by a narrow majority of four votes—198 to 194.

Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth, a Conservative, who moved the amendment, said if a person was already serving a life sentence, it was futile to award him a second life sentence.

The abolitionists had earlier fought off another challenge to their Bill by defeating an amendment, again moved by Sir Hugh Lucas-Tooth which would have kept the death penalty for armed robbers who commit murder.

### JUSTICE S. K. DAS

The President has appointed Mr. Justice S. K. Das Chief Justice of the Patna High Court, as a judge of Supreme Court.

### PORTUGAL'S CASE

Shri Sadath Ali Khan, Parliamentary Secretary to the Prime Minister said in the Lok Sabha: "Portugal in her application to the International Court of Justice has claimed that her rights of passage to Dadra and Nagar Haveli are derived from the following:—(i) The treaty concluded between Portugal and the Peshwa at Poona in 1779; (ii) local custom observed over the said territories and general custom in the case of enclaves; and (iii) general principles of law relating to rights of access in respect of enclaved property.

### ACQUITTAL OF THE MALAY TAMIL

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council recently quashed the conviction of a Malay Tamilian, sentenced to death under the emergency regulations for possession of 20 lbs. of ammunition.

The man, Subramaniam, son of Muniswami, was said to have called out to a British Army patrol, which found him wounded in the Malayan jungle: "Don't shoot, don't shoot. I am a rubber tapper, and not a bandit".

His defence was that he had been captured by bandits, had acted under duress, and at the time of capture, had formed the intention to surrender.

Subramaniam was sentenced last August in the High Court of Johore Bahau. His appeal in Malaya was dismissed.

The Judicial Committee of the Privy Council allowed his appeal and quashed the conviction.

### SUPREME COURT FOR NEPAL

King Mahendra on May 21, swore in his country's first Supreme Court after abolishing the High Court of Nepal in a royal proclamation.

Law Minister Anirudh Prasad Singh was sworn in as the first Chief Justice of the Supreme Court. Mr. Singh had to relinquish his Cabinet post to accept the new office.

Four other Judges were also sworn in.

The Supreme Court, a new institution in Nepal, will have powers to issue directions including writs in the nature of 'habeas corpus,' mandamus,' prohibition and 'quo warranto' for the enforcement of any rights conferred on citizens and others by law. The decision of the Supreme Court will be binding on all courts within Nepal.

## Trade & Finance

### KHADI BOARD'S 195-CRORE SCHEME

The All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board has submitted to the Union Government a comprehensive programme for the decentralised production of handspun yarn qualitatively acceptable and quantitatively adequate to meet all the additional requirements of cloth during the Second Plan period.

The total cost of the programme was estimated at Rs. 195 crores, of which Rs. 62.40 crores would be working capital.

Giving details of the programme at a Press conference at Bombay on May 23, Mr. B. G. Kher, Trustee of the Bombay Suburban Village Industries Association, said it envisaged the introduction of 25 lakhs of Ambar Charkhas for the production of a little over 400 million lb. of yarn at the end of the Second Plan. Out of this yarn the additional requirements of 1,500 to 1,700 million yards of cloth were to be produced by the handloom industry. Successful implementation of this programme would result in gainful occupation for 36 lakh hand-spinners 12.5 lakh handloom weavers, 30,000 carpenters and other artisans.

The Ambar Charkha, Mr. Kher said, promised gainful employment for nearly 50 lakh people in the countryside.

There was great popular enthusiasm for the expansion of Khadi production with the aid of the Ambar Charkha. In Greater Bombay, he added, the Bombay Suburban Village Industries Association had decided to seek public co-operation to introduce 5,000 Ambar Charkhas. The plan costs over Rs. 5 lakhs.

Mr. V. L. Mehta, Chairman of the All-India Khadi and Village Industries Board, told the Press conference that the recent meeting of the workers of Khadi organisations in the country held at Ahmedabad noted with satisfaction the wide and enthusiastic response which the Ambar Charkha had evoked not only among those connected with Khadi organisations but among the general public, both rural and urban. The meeting decided that, pending consideration of the Ambar Charkha scheme by the Government of India, which might take time, arrangements should be made by different organisations to go ahead with the programme without depending on help from the Government. It was accordingly decided to arrange for 1,20,000 Ambar Charkhas to be manufactured and set to work all over the country during 1956-57.

### INDUSTRIALISATION OF INDIA

Mr. Ivan Perpeliev, Bulgaria's Deputy Minister for Foreign Trade, said at Bombay on May 23 that his country would endeavour to help India's industrialisation through trade.

He said in particular, Bulgaria would export goods which would be useful in the erection of (1) hydraulic power plants, (2) plants for the manufacture of electric porcelains and transformers and (3) floatation plants (useful in mining operations for washing ores).

Mr. Perpeliev, who led the Bulgarian trade delegation, which concluded a trade agreement with the Government of India recently said it was the first time Bulgaria had concluded a trade agreement in which no foreign exchange would be involved. "For instance, we will buy cotton from you and sell you insulators against that purchase."

He said it would be easy for the private Indian traders also to trade with Bulgaria.

Mr. Perpeliev said that the inauguration of direct shipping link between India and the Soviet Union would considerably help the expansion of trade between India and Bulgaria.

### STATE TRADING CORPORATION

The Government of India has on May 18 announced the establishment of a State Trading Corporation to facilitate further development of foreign trade, especially with the Communist bloc of countries.

The Corporation will have an authorised capital of Rs. 1 crore divided into one lakh shares of Rs. 100 each, while the subscribed capital will be Rs. 5 lakhs.

A provision of Rs. 10 lakhs was made in the current Budget for investment in the share capital of the Corporation.

All the shares will be owned by the Government of India and the Board of Directors are all officials of the Government of India.

### PRICE OF CLOTH

Concern at the rising prices of cloth was expressed in the Rajya Sabha on May 31 during question time.

The Minister for Commerce and Industry, Mr. T.T. Krishnamachari, said the steps to be taken by the Government in this regard were under consideration, but it would not be wise to divulge them at present.

## Women's Page

### WORKING WOMEN'S HOSTELS

The Central Social Welfare Board approved a scheme to set up hostels for working women in big cities.

The Board, which met under the chairmanship of Mrs. Durgabai Deshmukh, recently agreed that hostels to be started under the scheme should be for the benefit of working women in the categories of clerks, typists, nurses and telephone girls, whose monthly incomes range from Rs. 50 to 200.

In setting up these institutions, the Board decided to enlist the co-operation of voluntary organisations, which are already running such institutions, or which are prepared to start them in places where there is a need for them but where they do not already exist, under conditions to be prescribed by it.

The Board will make a grant to any such organisation, which will cover the construction of additional accommodation for locating the hostel, provision for social and recreational facilities for the inmates, and payment of the salaries of the necessary supervisory staff.

Earlier, the Board adopted the audit report of the accounts for 1954-55 and the progress report on the project centre buildings. Up to the end of last April, a total amount of Rs. 8,89,000 for buildings in 255 project centre in 11 States was sanctioned.

### EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN

The Soviet Union has endorsed the principle of equal pay for men and women for work of equal value, it was announced at Geneva, recently.

The Soviet deposited its ratification of the 1951 International Labour Organisation (ILO) convention which supported the principle and encouraged its application in all occupations.

Other countries which have ratified the convention's decision are Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cuba, Dominican Republic, France, Mexico, Philippines, Poland and Yugoslavia.

### MRS. PANDIT

Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, India's High Commissioner in Britain, was one of 11 prominent personages on whom the University of Leeds conferred honorary degrees on May 17.

Mrs. Pandit, a former President of the United Nations General Assembly, received the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws.

### MRS. INDIRA GANDHI'S APPEAL

The training camp for women was inaugurated at Allahabad on May 21 by Mrs. Indira Gandhi, daughter of Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru. In her speech she said:

"Since independence, women have not been taking much interest in its rebuilding."

She called upon women to throw away age-old social barriers, and work hand in hand with their brethren in the building up of the new India.

She said the Union Government was doing its best to remove the social disabilities of Women through legislation. But such legislation would have no effect if the necessary consciousness was not created among the people.

She said the Union Government was doing its best to remove the social disabilities of Women through legislation. But such legislation would have no effect if the necessary consciousness was not created among the people.

Some of the old customs, she said, were good, and some were bad. "We shall throw away bad things, and follow good things," she added.

Mrs. Gandhi appealed to the women to inculcate the spirit of honest and sincere service in the people of the country, in particular in the backward and the downtrodden. "We cannot make any progress if we do not uplift the backward," she said.

### GIRLS' SOCIAL SERVICE CAMP

The first combined cadre social service camp—girls' wing (Senior Division) of the National Cadet Corps in the Madras State was held in the last week of May at the Christian College High School, Madras.

One NCC Officer and 30 cadets drawn from Ethiraj College for Women and Presidency College attended.

The main object of the camp was to give intensive training to the selected cadets who will be the potential NCO's of the sub-troops. In addition to the training the cadets rendered social service to the inhabitants of Mangalapuram, Chetpet.

### Mrs. MAVLANKAR

Mrs. Shushilabai Mavlankar was officially declared elected unopposed to the Lok Sabha from Ahmedabad constituency. She was the only candidate to file the nomination for the by-election caused by the death of her husband, Mr. G. V. Mavlankar.

## General

### WORLD'S POPULATION

The number of people in the world increased faster than ever before during the period, 1950-54 (5 years). Figures given in the U. N. demographic year-book, published recently show that the world population reached a record figure, 265,20,00,000 in mid-1954; well over half live in Asia.

The report gives figures on national populations, rapidity of growth, sizes of cities, literacy, marriage rates, divorce rates and life expectancy. Here are some of them:

Area populations: Of the 265,20,00,000 people in 1954, 145,10,00,000 lived in non-Soviet Asia, 40,40,00,000 in Europe, 35,70,00,000 in America, 21,40,00,000 in the Soviet Union and 21,00,00,000 in Africa.

National populations: China had the world's largest population, 58,20,00,000 followed by India with 37,70,00,000, the Soviet Union 21,40,00,000, The United States 16,20,00,000, Japan 8,80,00,000, Indonesia 8,10,00,000 and Pakistan 8,00,00,000.

Population growth: Asia's population increased by 2,10,00,000 a year; Latin America by 40,00,030, and those of North America, the Soviet Union, Europe and Africa by 30,00,000 each.

### VINOBA BHAVE ON DELHI

A slashing attack on the social life of India's metropolis was made by Acharya Vinoba Bhave at a Press conference at Madras on May 20.

Delhi, said Vinobaji, ought to be an exemplar of Indian culture; it should be a symbol of the greatness of India. "In reality, however, New Delhi today is a place where wine flows freely like water. In Delhi every type of a civilisation in the world is in vogue, but not the traditional culture of India. The fashions of Paris and other centres of the world are fully represented in Delhi."

"Social life as it now obtains in New Delhi," he added, "is not the life-pattern that will lead India to her destiny. If India's metropolis is a centre of greatness it is probably of the greatness of other lands. At present we certainly do not find there the symbols of the greatness of India."

"Life in Delhi is very artificial, very unoriginal."

### NORWAY'S OFFER TO INDIA

Norway has offered to pay for the training of Indian personnel to staff a blood transfusion service at the largest hospital in Travancore-Cochin.

The offer was made by the Norwegian State-supported "Aid to India" fund which has been engaged for some time in modernising the fisheries in Travancore.

The Norwegian Director of Health, Karl Evang, said that the Fund had also offered to provide the equipment for the blood transfusion service. The offer has been accepted in principle by the Indian Government, it is understood.

### BRITAIN'S NEWSPAPER READERSHIP

Britain has the world's highest newspaper readership rate, with 609 copies of daily newspapers sold for every 1,000 of population. The United Kingdom also has the world's largest individual newspaper circulations—two national daily newspapers of over 4,000,000 each, and a Sunday newspaper selling more than 8,000,000 copies.

The number of licensed television sets in the U.K. increased from 560,000 in 1951 to slightly over 4,000,000 early in 1955. There are 9,750,000 radio sets. France has about the same number of radios, but only about 125,000 licensed television sets.

These facts are revealed in a UNESCO entitled "World Communications."

### THE U. S. I. S.

The U. S. I. S. have been sharply criticised "for noticeable lack of first rate reporting from field on substantive matters" by the U. S. Advisory Commission on Information.

The Commission, which made its eleventh semi-annual report to Congress, also suggested that the Information Services must not only devote more attention to the content of the U. S. message to the world but also "share with other Government agencies the larger tasks for shaping policies, particularly pronouncements of the U. S. Government."

The U. S. I. S.—often called the eyes and ears of the U. S. Administration—is presently concerned only with dissemination of information, the U. S. State Department strongly maintaining that the agency should not participate in policy-making at any level.

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Jyotishsamrat Pandit Sri Ramesh Chandra Bhattacharyya Jyotisharnab, Samudrikratna Jyotish Shiromani Raj Jyotish M.R.A.S. (Lond.) has one unique fame not only in India, but throughout the world (e.g., in England, America, Africa, China, Japan, Malaya, Singapore, etc.) and many notable persons from every nook and corner of the world have sent unsolicited testimonials acknowledging his mighty and supernatural powers.

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### A FEW OPINIONS AMONGST THOUSANDS.

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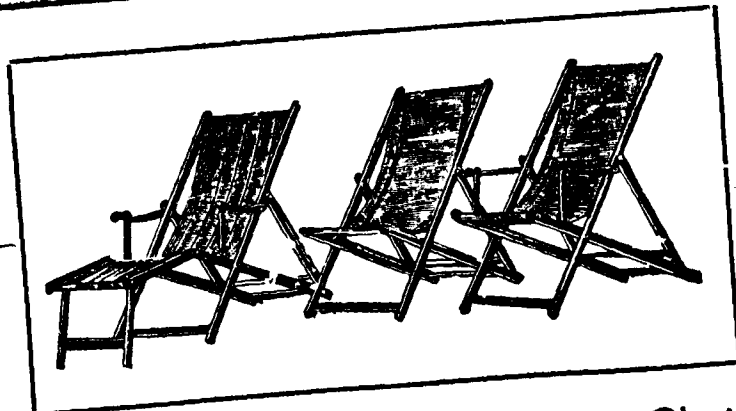
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