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AUGUST 1957

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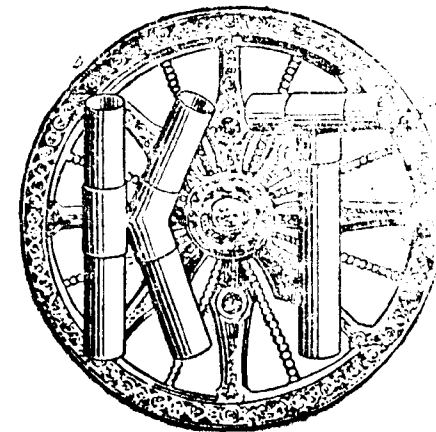
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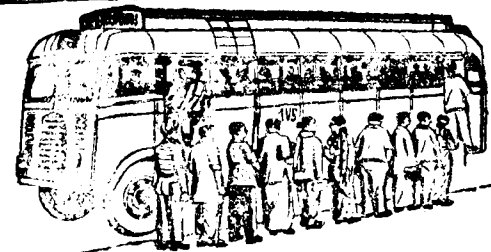
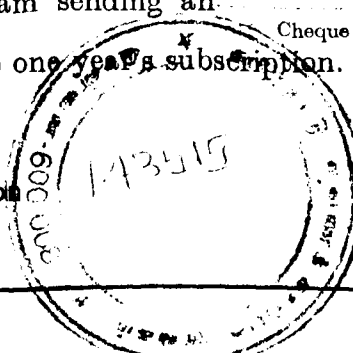
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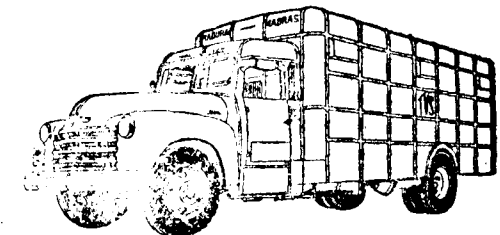
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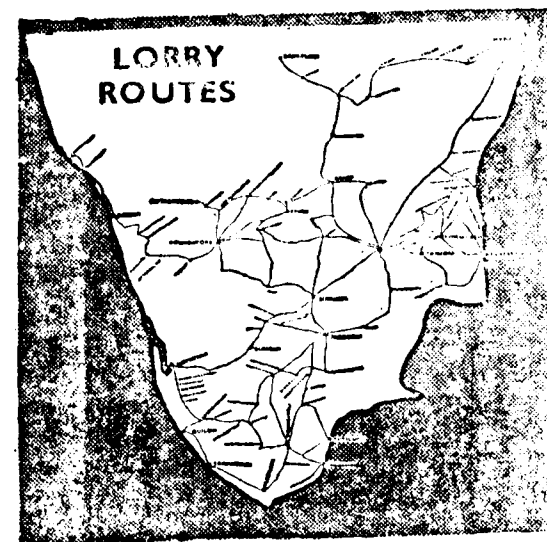
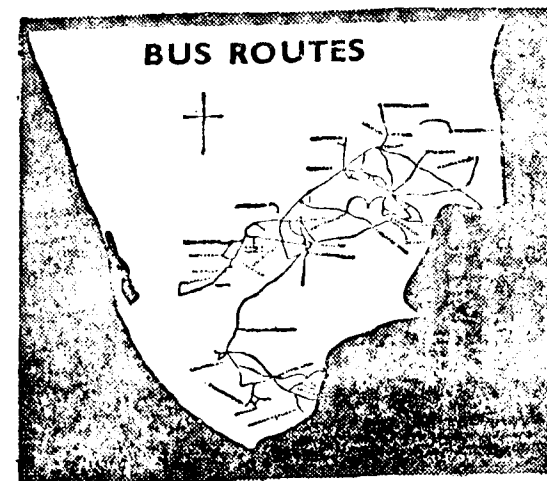
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Vol. 58]

AUGUST 1957

[No. 8]

The Individual and the Government in U.S.A.

By

Mr. WILLIAM H. HASTIE
 (Judge, Supreme Court, U.S.A.)

FROM the time of its drafting in the 1870s, and ever since, the Constitution of the United States has been understood as a charter designed to accomplish two things.

First, the political organization of society, so that its government will be stable and competent, and at the same time responsive to the popular will. Secondly, the protection of the individual from justice, and particularly from arbitrary action by the Government and its officers, regardless of the temper of the times or the mood of the moment. It is the second characteristic and the responsibility it imposes upon the courts which concern us here.

Most people are familiar with the principal types of protection our basic law seeks to provide for the individual. Perhaps the most discussed of our constitutional safeguards is that which covers freedom of speech, press and conscience. Quite distinct, but no less fundamental, is the general requirement that official action and procedure be fair to the individual and respect his personality. The constitutional pledge that all shall stand equal in the sight of the law is an equally basic and closely related safeguard. This design to safeguard personal liberty and to assure the just and equalitarian operation of law has played a major part in making our Constitution both a venerated symbol and an extremely valuable instrument of social control.

Let me approach the same thing in a somewhat different way. It is not just the institution of representative popular government, but the controls which keep it on course; not just democracy in action, but rather the improvements we have tried to make upon democracy which measure the value of the American political experiment. Undoubtedly it is a splendid achievement to set up representative institutions of government through which the majority will can find effective expression. But it is a far greater thing, and a far more difficult thing to so regulate democratic society that the Government will accord respect and justice to the individual, whether he is in step or out of step with the majority.

Those who wrote our Constitution made clear their thought and intention that the courts should and would become the special and careful guardians of individual rights and liberties as guaranteed in our Constitution. We frequently quote from the debate which attended the drafting of our Constitution these prophetic words: "If...(declarations of individual rights) are incorporated into the Constitution, independent tribunals of justice will consider themselves in a peculiar manner the guardians of these rights...they (the courts) will be naturally led to resist every encroachment upon rights which have been expressly stipulated for in the Constitution by the decla-

ration of rights." This prophecy was a principal reason for formally declaring basic individual rights in a written Constitution. It has proved an accurate prediction of the role of the courts in enforcing civil liberty.

Let us now review some of the things the courts have done in the discharge of the responsibility. We call those provisions of our Constitution which protect individual liberties the "Bill of Rights." The provision of the Bill of Rights most frequently invoked in our courts to protect individuals against unfair and arbitrary action is Article XIV of the Constitutional Amendments, popularly cited as the Fourteenth Amendment. It prohibits the State from depriving any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law, and directs the State to accord all persons equal protection of the laws.

It will be noted that these provisions are phrased as protection against action by the State only. They do not comprehend injustice perpetrated by private citizens. But protection against excesses and unfair action of the Government has been one of our major political and social concerns throughout the history of the Republic. We repeatedly quote this celebrated utterance of one of our great statesmen:

"If angels were to govern men, neither external nor internal controls in government would be necessary. In framing a government, which is to be administered by men over men, the great difficulty lies in this: you must first enable the Government to control the governed, and in the next place, oblige it to control itself."

In the hands of the courts the Fourteenth Amendment has been and is a notably effective tool for obliging the Government to control itself. This has been true even though the Constitution does not tell us how to decide whether a wrong has been done by the Government, as prohibited by the Fourteenth Amendment, or by private persons, so as to be

outside the protection of that provision. It is arguable that only legislation is State action subject to judicial monitoring by the national courts. But we have understood and applied the State action concept more broadly. Executive, or even judicial action may be nullified or corrected under this constitutional prohibition to the same extent that a statute may be invalidated. Indeed it is in this correction of oppressive and arbitrary action of officials minor as well as great, that our due process and equal protection clauses have found their greatest value. Sheriffs, governors administrative boards, local judges, all officialdom feel its constraint.

A great number of our due process cases deal with the ever recurring problem of fair and trustworthy methods and procedure in administering and enforcing the law. The history of the common law in England and our own American experiences have both taught us that the procedures followed in official inquiries are likely to be all important in determining whether justice or injustice is accomplished. Thus, our courts are insistent that before any trial or public inquiry affecting the vital interest of an individual, that person be clearly informed of the contentions or charges he is expected to meet and provided with adequate opportunity to obtain legal counsel and time to prepare himself for trial. Our courts do not hesitate to declare a proceeding invalid if these requirements have not been fully respected. In criminal cases we have emphasized the responsibility of the prosecution to disclose information favourable to the accused as well as that which tends to show his guilt. If such information is withheld and a conviction is obtained, the accused has been denied due process of law and the conviction will be set aside.

Particularly noteworthy are those cases in which the inhumanity or indecency of official behaviour toward an individual has been held

to deny due process of law, even though it may be clear that no unjust decision has resulted in the particular case. A rather celebrated recent case is illustrative.

Police officers suspected an individual of participation in illegal traffic in narcotics. Without warrant or authority they broke and entered his home in the night. Unannounced, they entered the room to which he and his wife, both partially disrobed, had retired, and there unceremoniously began a search. Moving quickly, the surprised householder succeeded in reaching a certain box ahead of the intruders, and quickly, disposed of the tablets it contained by swallowing them. Not to be outdone, the officers seized the householder, forcibly administered an emetic and thus caused him to vomit. The matter obtained from his stomach was analysed and found to contain a substantial quantity of the narcotic for which the officers were searching.

On this showing the house-holder was duly tried and convicted of illegal possession of narcotics. The evidence of his guilt was overwhelming, but our Supreme Court concluded that the procedures employed by public officers in this case were so shocking and so offensive in their disregard for human dignity and personality that conviction, even of an obviously guilty person, accomplished through such methods should be set aside. It was viewed as a smaller harm to let the wrongdoer go free in this case than it would have been to condone brutal and offensive behaviour by the law enforcement officers.

By similar reasoning in countless other cases the courts have set aside convictions of crime based upon confessions obtained by coercive methods. Of course it is recognized that one who is forced to confess may well be guilty. But better he go unpunished, than that official brutality or oppression be countenanced.

—*—

Population and Family Planning in India

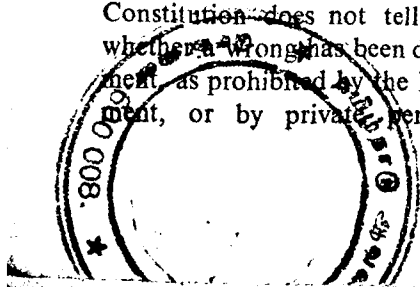
By

PROF. C. B. MAMORIA, M.A., M.COM.

THE population problem of India can be epitomised simply as one of too many births and too many deaths, resulting in a low survival rate and the surviving population live a life (because they cannot escape it), but not a good life worth living. Masses are born in poverty, live in poverty and die in poverty. They eat such inferior food that is given to animals in other countries (the average calorie supply per capita being only 1,600), wear clothes that defeat the very purpose (the capita consumption being only 15 yds. per year) for which they are worn and dwell in houses which make horses proud of their stalls. An average Indian is very badly nourished, inadequately clothed, unhygienically housed, poorly doctored and scarcely educated, and this is all be-

cause we are suffering from the torrents of "unwanted babies." Every year we are adding from 4 to 5 millions to our existing population. This massiveness in growth of our numbers in the context of our present economic set up is a matter of alarm rather than jubilation, because it is this large net addition that constitutes the problem as it nullifies all efforts to improve sub-human low standard of living of the masses.

Uncontrolled procreation involves serious problems both for a nation and a family. *Firstly*, it has outstripped the food supply which is not only insufficient but also lacking in nutritious elements. *Secondly*, it has marred the quality of population. Superfluous millions go down to fatten the tired earth which could



not fatten them. *Thirdly*, it has affected our agrarian economy with relentless pressure for those dependent on land are greater what it can conveniently support. *Fourthly*, super-abundant population is productive of a trail of social and economic evils, besides making millions without jobs. *Fifthly*, it has diminished the rate of capital formation and hence retarded the industrial development because of the heavy percentage of dependent population (60% being dependents as against only 40% working population).

India's population problem arises primarily on account of an extremely high fertility accompanied by high mortality (our respective birth and death rates are 26 and 13 per 1,000), and the depressing qualitative aspects of our population. (As the quality of the people is related to the quantity, it cannot be improved without controlling the quantity. Hence, it is better that the future growth of numbers should be controlled. In India the need for family planning and therefore for population control, arises for the following reasons :

Early and universal marriages and high fertility lead to a large number of births of unwanted babies and every child-birth puts enormous strain on the health of the mother, and quick following pregnancies also encroach upon the care and attention which each child should properly receive from its parents. Hence, if some sort of family planning devices are used, they will not only relieve the married couple of the haunting fear of unwanted children but will also provide necessary spacing between the birth of children (the spacing of children should not be less than 2½ years) so that enough time is left between two pregnancies to allow the mother to recoup her health and to allow the last child to grow up sufficiently.

There is a tremendous waste of human resources in India due to illness, injuries, impairments, premature deaths, pre-natal losses, permanent maternal disability and maternal

and infant deaths. It has been estimated that about 75 millions suffer from malaria in any normal year and it takes a toll of at least 3 lakhs. About 25 lakh active cases of T. B. exist annually and that five lakh deaths take place on this account. Maternal mortality is 20 and Infantile mortality is 113 per 1000 and hence, the low expectation of life — only 32 years). Hence, the conservation of human resources is a matter of primary and fundamental importance. This conservation can best be brought about by the increasing use of contraceptive methods both among the middle and lower class of people.

In India lakhs of defectives, infirms and socially inadequate and diseased persons are producing children who are deemed to suffer for life and remain burden on the society. (There are about 18 lakh blind and 6 lakh deaf persons, besides about 5 lakhs of beggars and vagrants and innumerable insanes, lepers, prostitutes, and other bodily deformed persons). Hence, some sort of population check among the certain classes—like the mendicants, criminals, prostitutes, and among the persons showing feeble-mindedness, V. D., consuming diseases and insanity—should be put. Such persons should be checked. This would not only decrease the present cost of these unfortunates to the society, but would also diminish the economic handicaps of the social normals besides reducing the number of undesirables very rapidly. Such a check can be brought about by following strictly a programme of compulsory segregation or sterilization as has been successfully practiced in U. S. A., England, Germany, Austria and U. S. S. R.

Apart from national considerations, for personal and family considerations also birth control is a necessity. It is a truism that a man of limited resources can do more for his children when they are few than when they are many. For a people so deeply sunk as our own in poverty, it is impossible to take ade-

quate care of the children in the shape of feeding, nursing, clothing and medical assistance, education and other comforts of life.

Family planning is more essential among the middle class than among the peasantry and proletariat because it is the middle class who have to wield power and it is to them that the country looks for the guidance and help. The middle class is all the more important because of the small numbers of the upper classes and the political bankruptcy of the very poor.

But contrary to the needs of the country, there are millions of persons who object to the limitation of families on one or the other grounds like (i) that the movement for birth control is irreligious and opposed to the Divine Will ; (ii) That it leads to clandestine immorality and is therefore, contrary to the high ethical standards of life. ; (iii) That it is likely to lead to race extinction, and (iv) that it is unnatural. But all these fears are baseless. My own view is that the extended use of family planning practices will be the most powerful weapon and direct means of controlling fertility without checking the enjoyment of the married life besides eradicating and eliminating the hereditary diseases from the society. Contraception makes the Eugenic aim a possibility without inflicting undue or intolerable hardship on individuals, condemning them to celibacy, loneliness and unhappiness. It will also prevent unwanted pregnancies and do away with the necessity for the skilled and unskilled abortionist. It will also provide the best for the children within a limited budget, safeguard the health of the mother, prevent population pressure and thereby remove a cause of hardship and poverty and guarantee every woman the right to say how many children she should have and when to bear them.

Fortunately the need for family planning has long been recognised both by the national leaders, experts, scientists, sociologists and the various authoritative committees set up by the Government. To mention the names of few,

Mahatma Gandhi, our Prime Minister, Vice-President, Shri S. Bose, Sarojini Naidu, Rajkumari Amritkaur. Dr. R. K. Mukerjee, Dr. Gyan Chand, Dr. S. Chandrashekhar ; the National Planning Committee, the Planning Commission, the Census Commissioner, and above all the Family Planning Association of India have very strongly advocated for the limitation of families by one means or the other.

Some have emphasised on the practice of abstinence, brahmacharyism, and coitus during the safe period, while others have recommended the use of modern methods of birth control like sheaths, condoms, vaginal diaphragm and plugs, suppositories, or the use of some kind of spermicidal jellies. My own view is that the methods suitable for the West are not suitable for the Indian conditions for they are not only costly and easily available but they need education, skill, care, and cleanliness and privacy which are not available among the masses. Therefore, what is needed more than anything else is the oral method of contraception, which should combine six features ; (i) it should be wholly effective ; (ii) harmless to the users and to the children later born ; (iii) fool-proof ; (iv) aesthetically unobjectionable ; (v) within the reach of the poorest user and, (vi) acceptable on moral and religious ground.

In my opinion oral method would come nearest to satisfying the first five and possibly the last of these requirements. No method short of permanent sterilization is completely fool-proof or proof against extreme forms of improvidence and fickleness. But a pill or a capsule which is swallowed by woman once a month most conveniently on the first day of her period—could prevent pregnancy in the ensuing month.

The birth-control programme should exclusively be left to the voluntary action of the parents, while the Government should be entrusted with the task of finding out most reliable, effective, fool-proof means of contraceptives especially a perfect pill or capsule.

The Planning Commission took a courageous stand on the imperative need for family planning for our country. Accordingly the Family Planning Board has been set up by the Union Ministry of Health to direct the family planning programme under the Second Five Year Plan. Its functions are to advise on the following matters :

(i) Research and studies on inter-relationship between economic, social and population changes, on reproductive patterns, attitudes and motivations affecting the size of the family.

(ii) Educating public opinion on matters of family planning.

(iii) Advice and necessary service in family planning as an integral part of the public health activities through hospitals, health centres and clinics.

(iv) Facilities for the training of personnel in family planning.

(v) Formulation of schemes for the improvement of the health of mothers and children and for bringing about better conditions of family living.

(vi) Research on and the production of contraceptives.

(vii) Literature and periodicals in furtherance of the objectives of the scheme.

This Board has suggested (i) the formation of an Executive Committee to implement the policy formulated by the Family Planning Board ; the appointment of a Family Planning Officer in each State, with a Central subsidy for three years, to coordinate Family Planning activities throughout the State and to act a liaison officer of the Central Family Planning Organisation ; (ii) and the provision of financial assistance to voluntary organisations after examining requirement of each case.

The Central Government have decided that the pattern of financial assistance to be given to the State Governments and local bodies for running their Family Planning Centres, implementation of Family Planning Programme dur-

ing the Second Plan will be ; Non-recurring 100% ; Recurring, first year, 80% ; second year, 70% ; third year, 50% ; fourth year 30% and fifth year, 20%.

The Board has also recommended the revision of thirty publicity vans equipped with Audio-Visual aids along with Propaganda Teams to selected areas as an experimental measure, to educate public opinion ; and the appointment of an additional woman doctor in Selected Primary Health Units to implement the Family Planning Programme. During the Second Plan period, the Government of India have made a provision of Rs. 497 lakhs (Rs. 400 lakhs at the Centre and Rs. 97 lakhs in the States) for family planning work. In July, 1953 there were 165 family planning centres in India working under difficult circumstances mostly with inadequate staff and meagre finances. During the First Plan period, 287 family planning clinics were opened including 164 by the State Governments, 90 by the Voluntary Organisations and 33 by Local Bodies. Grants in aid for family planning work were given as indicated below :

	1954-55	1955-56
State Governments	Rs. 2,70,339	Rs. 1,79,592
Local Bodies	Rs. 1,40,520	Rs. 1,33,886
Voluntary Organisations	Rs. 1,04,594	Rs. 3,12,397
Research	Rs. 2,15,632	Rs. 2,17,570
Total	Rs. 7,31,089	Rs. 8,43,415

In the Second Plan, a sum of Rs. 14 lakhs has been provided for the continuance of the clinics opened during the First Plan period. Certain States have proposed to open about 514 clinics and have provided a total of Rs. 97 lakhs for the purpose in their plans. It is proposed to open altogether 2,500 clinics (500 in urban areas and 2,000 in rural areas). The phased programme of opening these clinics will cost about Rs. 353 lakhs (Rs. 123 lakhs

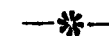
for urban clinics and Rs. 230 lakhs for rural clinics). It is proposed to provide one well equipped and adequately staffed centre for each urban area with a population of 50,000 subject to the condition that where a number of centres are opened in a large city, one doctor will look after five centres. In rural areas, the centres are to be associated with the Primary Health Units. Each clinic will be given a non-recurring grant of Rs. 500 for stocking contraceptives for sale and Rs. 1,000 for the distribution of contraceptives free of charge as recurring grant per year. A sum of Rs. 125,000 has been sanctioned for the purchase of the million foam tablets for distribution free of cost.

Indiscriminate reproduction is a serious handicap to improvement of the living standard. Therefore steps should be taken to arrest the growth and bring about an equilibrium of population. In order to achieve it every married couple should be persuaded to realise their own share of responsibility and obligation towards the planned economy of reproduction. However, birth control alone is an isolated remedy will not succeed in reducing population. It must also be linked with an overall social policy so as to inculcate new ambitions among the people and a new dignity in our women-folk.

While our multiple River Valley Projects and extensive distribution of cheap fertilisers along with the gradual improvement in the method of agriculture will go a long way in augmenting our food supply, a number of basic social programmes will have to be adopted so as to reduce "improvident" parenthood and develop new pattern of living. (i) The most important programme should be compulsory education, which will divert children from the fields and the threshing floors to schools. (ii) Improvement of our nutrition standards through

a large intake of proteins should be attempted as far as practicable. No preventive campaign against malaria, tuberculosis or leprosy, no maternity relief or child-welfare activities are likely to achieve any great success unless the nutritional standards are improved. (iii) Besides improving the diet of the people it is also essential that the existing medical facilities should be increased. Health development programmes must include modern, up-to-date and large special clinics on a nation wide-scale such as T.B. Sanatorias, Leprosarias, mental asylums, birth control clinics, psychiatric departments, mothers and children's Health Centres. (iv) Efforts should also be made for stricter enforcement of the Child Marriage Act. Marriages thus delayed will enable girls to take advantage of the opportunities of education and cultural pursuits and thus bring down about family limitation. (v) Lastly, there should also be a scheme of social security without which people cannot develop the proper psychological attitude towards their future. In the absence of security in old age, sickness, unemployment or accident, they would bank on a large family to afford them better security. Land redistribution, co-operative farming and case equality should also be considered as part of the programme.

To conclude, what is needed in my opinion, in India is to make two blades of grass grow with the help of modern science and technique, where one grew before : and to make every woman deliver one baby where she delivered two or more before. Population restriction as well as increase in agricultural production accompanied by industrialisation can achieve high levels in living and a high standard of living may by itself be unfavourable to fertility. Future of India lies not in "improvident maternity" by in "controlled fertility."



The International Geophysical Year

(July 1957—December 1958)

By

Sri MAHESH KUMAR MOONDHRA

The nations taking part in the International Geophysical Year, the biggest scientific enterprise ever undertaken, will spend more than £ 100 million on their examination of the earth and the physical environment that surrounds it. There can be no doubt that the Year will greatly extend man's knowledge of his environment, thereby not only expanding the boundaries of human thought but also creating new opportunities for man to use this environment for his benefit. (Ed. I. R.)

THE advancement of the studies of geophysics in its many different aspects requires international co-operation more than most branches of science. In 1882-83 the nations of the world held what was known as an International Polar Year, in which meteorological and geomagnetic observations were made at a number of stations grouped, with a few exceptions, in the north polar regions.

50 years later, in 1932-33 a second International Polar Year was arranged, in which in addition to meteorological and geomagnetic observations, there were included ionospheric observations. These latter broke new grounds and made a valuable contribution to our knowledge of the ionosphere and its variations.

Since 1933 many new methods of investigation have been developed and a large number of problem in geophysics require their solutions. A wide-spread feeling developed among scientists that a third year, devoted to concerted study of these problems, would be of great value.

In 1950 and 1951 a proposal to this effect was brought before the three international scientific unions chiefly concerned and was endorsed by them. The International Council of Scientific Unions approved the proposals, widened its scope to include observations in all latitudes and designated this enterprise as International Geophysical Year. An international committee was appointed to supervise the plans, and national committees were formed by the participating countries, which now

number nearly 55. The world Meteorological Organisation is also participating.

It was decided by the Special Committee for the International Geophysical Year (known as C.S.A.G.I., Comité Special de l'Annee Geophysique Internationale) that the "Year" shall extend from July 1957 to December 1958. It follows that the second Polar Year after an interval of 25 years.

The features to be studied during this period are : (1) Meteorology, including normal surface observations, as well as temperature, humidity, and wind in the upper air, measurement of ozone, solar and atmospheric radiation; (2) Geomagnetism; (3) Aurora and Air-glow; (4) the Ionosphere, including its absorbing power, atmospheric noise and drift over the earth's surface by the winds; (5) Solar activity; (6) Cosmic rays; (7) Longitudes and Latitudes; small variations affecting the accuracy of time signals; (8) Glaciology; measurements of rate of accumulation and movement; (9) Seismology; measurements of short period vertical movements of the earth's surface and of medium or long period horizontal movements; (10) Gravity measurements; (11) Oceanography.

The International Geophysical Year is the biggest scientific investigation ever launched by man. The world-wide programme of the 18-month period will occupy several thousand people. At the middle of the 20th century the manifold activities of this scientifically exci-

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ting enterprise will bring together the research workers in a common project.

For a scheme of this magnitude and this scope, preparations began far in advance of zero hour. Many of the instruments to be used were specially constructed, and some of them, as well as the teams to work them, had to be conveyed to, and installed in, the remotest parts of the globe.

In Antarctica the study will be on a scale hitherto unknown. The preparations for the main polar programme in that frozen continent was started even earlier than for the others.

The U.S.A. and the U.S.S.R. have announced that during the IGY some man-made satellites of the Earth will be launched in the sky.

They will be the "laboratories in space." The satellites will be spherical in shape. Their orbits will be a few hundred miles up.

A journal named "The Annals of the International Geophysical Year" will be published and in it all IGY documents will be reproduced. The first volume will deal in general with the IGY programme and trace its derivation from the first and second Polar Years. The text will be in French and English.

The success of the International Geophysical Year will be based on the co-operation of all the countries of the world. We are sure that it will add much to the knowledge and understanding of geophysical phenomena and will prove of great benefit to mankind.

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Recent Purge in U.S.S.R.

By

Mr. HARRY SCHWARTZ.

MAJOR political shake-ups in the Soviet Union, particularly the recent shake-ups of the transcendent importance are like bolts of lightning that illuminate the darkness on a jet black night. They lay bare vast areas of Soviet life that Moscow leaders had formerly sought to hide by every means at their command, fearing to tell the outside world too much.

Those Western diplomats and intelligence specialists whose job it is to assess Soviet strengths and weaknesses received a veritable gold mine of information. Beyond the dramatic shifts of personalities was the more important fact, to these analysts, that the communique announcing the downfall of Vyacheslav Mr. Molotov and his fellow victims stated the basic issues of the conflict that preceded the shake-up. That list of issues tells much that the West did not know, or could only guess at, before.

What is the present position of the Soviet Union in the light of the recent shake-up and its accompanying revolutions? The elements of strength suggested by this evidence seem to be these.

(1) The Soviet system has proved stable enough to survive such a tremendous political struggle as the one that undoubtedly preceded the disgrace or demotion of five of the eleven members of the Communist party's ruling Presidium : Mr. Molotov, Lazar M. Kaganovich, Georgi M. Malenkov, Mikhail G. Perukhin, and Maxim Z. Saburov. There had been no such wholesale shift of power among top Soviet personalities since the height of Stalin's purges in the Nineteen Thirties, yet Soviet life went on normally, and the only external departure from routine was the cancellation of the scheduled aviation show in the skies of Moscow.

(2) Mr. Khrushchev has emerged as a near,

Stalin, if he does not actually now have all of Stalin's power which is possible. At least at the top of the Soviet hierarchy, there can no longer be the kind of factional warfare between groups of equals such as occurred during the four years after Stalin's death. Mr. Khrushchev has packed the Presidium of the Soviet Communist party with his loyal backers and administered a vivid demonstration of what awaits those who would challenge his will. And the fact that Mr. Khrushchev's omniscience is now virtually axiomatic was implicit in the communique, which indicted the defeated men for opposing a long list of innovations, all of which Mr. Khrushchev had publicly championed in the most outspoken manner possible.

(3) A major precedent has been set for the orderly resolution of political conflicts at the top of the Soviet power pyramid. In a sense, the procedure used has been akin to that of a constitutional dictatorship. Rules Lenin suggested in 1921 were used for the first time in thirty years, as they had not been used since Stalin ousted Leon Trotsky and Gregory Zinoviev in 1927. The contrast is striking if this latest procedure is compared with the conspiratorial secrecy and techniques used to strike down the late Lavrenti P. Beria only four years ago.

But against the elements of strength must be set these elements of the weakness:

The very fact of the struggle and its nature is the most important portent of weakness. Implicit in the communique is a gigantic fact: The problem of maintaining Communist power in the Soviet Union is now so difficult that two groups of equally devoted and experienced Soviet leaders—the ousted men, it should be noted, are not accused of being anti-Communist—disagreed violently on the entire course of Soviet policy. The victory in the struggle, the communique makes clear, went to the side that favored vast concessions to the Soviet people, while the side that lost opposed such concessions. This may not be the whole truth,

particularly with regard to Mr. Malenkov, but the very fact that the matter is so stated is of great historic importance.

In language that is almost an explicit admission, the communique makes plain that there are major areas of dissatisfaction among the Soviet people that the victors feel compelled to try to reduce. The areas indicated by the communique are these: antagonism between different groups in the Soviet population, particularly resentment among minority peoples who have been subject to Russification; mass dissatisfaction with housing and living conditions; abhorrence against the bureaucratic control of every area of Soviet life and against the remaining police-state features of Soviet society; discontent among farmers at the low prices they receive for their produce taken by the state and their desire for an end to these compulsory state exactions from their produce. Not in many years has an official Soviet document admitted so imposing a list of domestic tensions.

The communique's section on foreign policy suggest strongly the victorious Khrushchev faction feels it is under serious constraint from public opinion in the matter of foreign policy. The communique was written to win public support for the victors, and it bases much of its indictment of Mr. Molotov on the ground he opposed measures to reduce international tension. The writers of the communique knew that this admission would give Western propagandists a tremendous weapon, yet they felt it important to present this picture to their own people. This was one weapon that even Stalin never felt compelled to use against his foes, presumably because he was mindful of what it implied in terms of fettering his own future foreign policy moves.

The communique and the purges administer yet another sharp blow to the confidence of the Soviet people in their leaders—particularly in the confidence of the rebellious younger generation, which was so badly affected by last year's revolutions about Stalin. Now this

younger generation knows not only that Stalin was murderer, but that top post-Stalin leaders, including two post-Stalin Foreign Ministers, Mr. Molotov and Dmitri T. Shepilov, were in effect warmongers. They are asked to believe that all the foreign policy speeches of these two Foreign Ministers in recent years, speeches abundant with claims of peaceful intent and desire to reduce tension, were false. The likelihood is that many Soviet citizens will conclude, as did a young Soviet poet who wrote last year, that "behind the long speeches some strange game is being played."

Balancing these strengths and weaknesses is no simple matter of arithmetic. One who would try to draw conclusions about the future

stability of the Soviet regime from these different facets must make some assumption about whether or not the Soviet people really believe that Mr. Khrushchev is the great, sincere reformer he is trying to paint himself, that he is really the man who will assure "peace and prosperity" for the Soviet people.

Foreigners have no adequate evidence on which to judge the temper of the Soviet people, but the fact that Mr. Khrushchev has felt compelled to go to his people on the terms described above after having won the party fight speaks volumes about the state of the Soviet Union today. The country has come a long way since Stalin died and, like it or not, his successors are being pushed ever farther from the iron mould the old dictator created.

Irrigation in India-Its Varied Aspects

By

Shri BALESHWAR NATH,

Secretary, Central Board of Irrigation and Power.

A rough assessment of India's land resources indicates that out of a gross area of over 800 million acres, only about 400 million acres are culturable. This too is not all sown every year. Of this only about 50 million acres are provided with some means of purposeful irrigation, besides the natural rainfall. As such, the existing irrigation facilities are only limited. Efforts are undoubtedly underway to bring about 250 million acres of area under planned irrigation on completion of the different schemes proposed to be executed through different Five-Year Plans.

Irrigationally, the country can be divided into five zones, their operational features depending upon their soil structure, topography, subsoil water levels, variation in range of temperatures and socio-economic conditions. First to be reckoned are the Indo-Gangetic plains of Punjab and Uttar Pradesh and also the North-Eastern parts of India, including some areas of

Bihar and Bengal. They mostly comprise alluvial soils, with a reasonably good subsoil water base.

Irrigation in these tracts had been going on for ages from open wells, artificial tanks and from rivers and streams on their marginal lands. Many perennial streams traverse plains. It, therefore, appeared possible to utilise their flow for irrigation of areas in different doabs or belts of lands between two waterways. The technique mainly consisted of diverting the surface flow into artificial channels, taking off from the river on either or both banks, catching up the watershed, running the channels on ridges and providing water for lands at lower levels. Many canal systems, like the Upper-Bari Doab canals, Western and Eastern Yamuna Canals and Ganga Canals came into operation during the last century.

These irrigation systems have caused great changes in the nature of the localities, where

they have been built. The network of main canals, distributaries and minors, supplies the land with tremendous quantities of water, amounting to millions of cubic feet. Every watering is almost a heavy rainfall. Some crops require multiple waterings staggered over a period of months. Irrigation waters also carry with them thousands of tons of silt, which alter the structure of the soils and add to their fertility. Instead of mere subsistence crops, cash crops are grown in canal commanded areas and the economy of the regions improve considerably. In certain tracts waste lands, like colony areas in the Punjab, become the granaries of the State.

In certain localities, where subsurface drainage is not effective, large amount of seepage from irrigation supplies get locked up in the subsoil and causes the ground water to rise, leading to water-logging. Vast areas in the Punjab have suffered from this malady. The consequences of this nature are serious, when rise in ground water raises the salt level of irrigated soils and lowers their fertility. This evil has to be combated by irrigation engineers on many fronts. A pre-planned drainage scheme become, therefore, a complementary part of every irrigation system. Lined canals have to be built in many reaches.

Irrigation engineering in India is fairly advanced. Works of great excellence exist all over the country. Diversion of water from one river to another is another technique employed for conveying water to needy regions. Having exhausted the surface water resources the other alternative for finding water for irrigation is to tap the underground reserves. A start in this direction had been made in Uttar Pradesh and, at present, in the alluvial plains of Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Punjab and their adjoining tracts, more than 10,000 tube-wells exist. An exploration programme for fixing areas suitable for irrigation by tube-wells is underway. Different regions of the country are being tested for implementation of tube-well irriga-

tion projects, on the line now in the operation in the Indo-Gangetic plain. There is some scepticism, however, even at expert levels, with regard to the advisability of wholesale introduction of tube-wells for irrigation purposes. Considerable research is called for in the field of ground water engineering, with a view to ensuring a judicious utilisation of our subterranean resources, and to obviate any such action as may jeopardize our existing agronomic development and stem its forward pace. As at present, tube-well irrigation in Western Uttar Pradesh is very profitable and popular. Vast tracts of land that were difficult of command by canals now benefit from tube-well irrigation. Besides, it is also possible, to a limited extent, to transfer some areas from canal commands to tube-wells in such tracts where tube-well construction is possible and relieve the canals of such loads and enable them to take up equivalent areas in semi-arid regions lower down, where tube-wells are not economic.

The second important zone from the point of view of irrigation comprises the coastal deltas bordering the Bay of Bengal and the Malabar Coast. The Grand Anicut on the Cauvery, Krishna Anicut at Vijayawada, Dhowlaishwaram Anicut on the Godavari and Naraj Anicut on the Mahanadi, along with the network of off-taking canals are irrigation works of great economic significance to the extremely fertile areas in the deltas. Climatically the areas are mostly rice-growing thus needing plenty of water for irrigation. The deltaic areas are comparatively flat and fork out from the main stream of the river. Drainage is therefore an important problem. Low-lying areas near the sea coast are subjected to tidal flooding. Still these irrigation systems operate admirably, and meet the needs of these regions in an unparalleled manner. Projects are in hand for extension of irrigation in the deltaic belts, and there is considerable engineering activity on this front in Orissa, Andhra and Madras. A new barrage across the Krishna near Vijayawada is nearing completion and

improvement to the existing systems are being made wherever possible.

The coastal areas on the western coast are somewhat differently constituted. The west-flowing rivers from the Western Ghats debouch into the sea almost as they descend to the coastal altitude. The coastal belt is narrow. The landscape and texture of soil therefore differ widely. Irrigation problems here are accordingly of a different nature. In a long strip in Kerala in the Kuttanad area, back-water reclamation is sought for. Here vast areas are subject to monsoon floods and tidal inflow during crop season. To overcome these difficulties a spillway has been cut across at Thottapally to speed up the passage of flood waters to the sea. Irrigation problems here are of a peculiar type, and involve in the first instance evacuation of salt and application subsequently of incoming fresh water from the rivers to the rice crops.

Next in order of merit from the irrigational point of view are the areas having red soils, occurring in Southern and South-Eastern parts of India comprising Madras, Mysore, Andhra and part of Madhya Pradesh. These soils are generally light textured and porous. They are suitable for irrigation. But topographical features being mostly undulating, they lack textural homogeneity. As such, they are suited to minor irrigation works, restricted to small areas. Numerous tanks and low dams exist in these tracts. They help in accumulating rain water for irrigation. In case of continued drought, however, they become ineffective. Interwoven into the red soil tract and on their periphery are laterite formations. They are similar to red soils, but are not subjected to agronomic operations. The rivers traversing these areas have, however, narrow valleys which are fertile. But their productive potential is almost negligible. With the population pressure on the land increasing, even areas ill-suited for agronomic operations are being developed and many more minor irrigation works have come up.

There is an extensive area of black cotton soil covering the States of Bombay and Madhya Pradesh and Southern Uttar Pradesh. They contain a large proportion of organic matter. But owing to their high clay content, they are generally poor in drainage characteristics and require great care and tending. Intricate system of surface and subsoil drainage have to be devised and laid out, for enabling agricultural operations to be carried out successfully. Numerous storage and canal scheme exist in these areas, which provide water for irrigation. More irrigation schemes are being proposed and built.

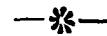
Besides these irrigable areas, there are large stretches of sandy soils. These occur mostly in desert and semi-desert regions of Rajasthan and North-West India. Technically speaking, they suffer from excessive drainage and retain no moisture required for plant life. Irrigation in these areas is very problematic. Surface resources of water are practically nil. Intensive geological and hydrological investigations are required to locate. If at all, sources of underground water, which could be exploited through tube-wells.

Investigations are also afoot for obtaining moisture from the atmosphere. But they may not afford an economically feasible solution. On the other hand, owing to high temperatures, in arid and semi-arid areas, the amount of evaporation is considerable. It is, therefore, necessary, as a complementary measure to every irrigation scheme, to encourage afforestation and provide shelter belts, which may reduce the wind-currents at the ground level, besides providing shades to large areas, thus keeping their temperatures comparatively lower.

Major part of the area in the Southern Peninsula is made up of the Deccan Plateau. This table land is interspersed with alluvial stretches as have formed in course of time. Innumerable tanks are found in Southern India, which date back to many centuries before the commencement of the Christian era. During the last century, a number of works

were built, which included weirs across many of the small rivers designed both to give direct irrigation by means of canals taking off above them and to replenish the supplies of small storage works in the commanded areas. The system of irrigation in the Peninsula varies considerably from that in operation in the alluvial plains of the north and in the coastal deltaic belts. Many new schemes are coming up, with a view to utilising the existing resources to an optimum level.

Another phase of economic and efficient utilisation of available supplies is through spray irrigation. This is in practice in some countries particularly in the United States of America. Experiments are underway on its practical application in India. If developed, the system will lead to great economies in the utilisation of irrigation supplies and will help command greater areas with existing resources. Hilly tracts, with undulating and contoured landscape, and water available in deep valleys can certainly benefit through a system of pumping-cum-spray irrigation. Normally, however, where water resources exist, hill slopes are best served through contour canals.



India and Tajikistan

By

Professor A. SEMYONOV

THE cultural and political ties between Tajikistan and India extend back into the hoary past. The eastern campaigns of Alexander of Macedonia contributed to the fusion of the cultures of the Hellenic world with those of the East, producing an original Hellenic culture. The origin of the Greco-Bactrian kingdom on the ruins of the empire of the great conqueror, a kingdom including almost all the territory of modern Tajikistan, helped to establish closer ties not only between India and the Greeks, but also between India and the local population. This cultural rap-

For making the most of available water, preparation of fields, methods of applying water, climatic variations, soil texture, the kind and variety of crops, soils fertility, crop rotations, crop diversity, price index and marketing conditions, all have to be considered for the irrigation plan to be evolved for a tract. There is, however, considerable waste noticeable all over the country. There is ignorance among the farmers. Cultivators do not know even certain basic facts pertaining to the art of application of water to the crops. Even the value of water conveyed over hundreds of miles, is not appreciated by the villagers. While going across the countryside, one comes across canal water flooding the village cart tracks and waste land submerged under canal water, even during periods of keen demand. Punitive action against improper use and wastage is prescribed under rules and regulations and under different legislative Acts. But that is neither sufficient nor has a wholesome effect on the public. There has to be inculcated in them water conservation consciousness, if we have to raise the standards of living and have to meet the challenge of the ever-increasing population.

prochement prompted the founding of the so-called Greco-Buddhist art (Gandhara). A splendid example of this art is a fragment of a sculptured cornice depicting some musicians (the so-called Airtam frieze) found in 1932 in the vicinity of Termez. Numerous fragments of terra-cotta statuettes of the Gandhara type were discovered by archeologists in various places in Central Asia.

Buddhism made its way from India to Central Asia in the 2nd century of our era, and took firm hold here until the 8th century of our era, when it was supplanted by Islam. In

Kushanir, the ancient city of the forefathers of the Tajik people, near the present town of Katta-Kurgan, where the cultural life of the entire valley of the Zeravshan was concentrated, there was a building, a Chinese tale tells us, on the walls of which the sovereigns of various countries were portrayed, and on the eastern wall of this building were pictured the rulers of the Indians and the Turkish people.

During the period of the Sassanidae the cultural ties between India and the peoples of the Middle East and Central Asia flourished. The Panchatantra was translated into the middle Persian (Pehlevi) language under the title of "Kolilok va Dimanaka" (named after two jackals). This became universally famous as "Kalila and Dima," and considerably later, in the 16th century, it was brilliantly retold in the Tajik language by the Herat scholar Husein Vais al-Kashefi under the title of "Anvar-i Suhaili." From India came the famous "Book of Sindbad the Sailor," which was also translated into the Pehlevi language. During the epoch of the Samanids it was translated from the Pehlevi language into modern Tajik.

The Arab invasion did not sever the cultural ties existing between the peoples of India and Central Asia. In the 10th—11th centuries the prominent mediaeval scholar, Al-Biruni of Khorezm, made an excellent study of Sanskrit, and the literature, customs and culture of India. One of the results of his work was his famous "History of India," the scientific importance of which has not diminished even to this day.

With the spreading of Islam in India (in the 11th century) and the formation of Muslim domains there closer contacts between India and Central Asia are noted. A number of works by Indian poets and prose writers who spoke the Persian language made their way to Central Asia where they became very popular with many people who understood and read the Tajik language. Their works were copied and circulated in large numbers. For instance, we

know that the writings of the famous Persian poet of India, Amir Khusro Dehlevi (died in 1325) were widely known in Central Asia where they are read with great delight.

Diplomatic relations between India and Central Asia in those days were reflected in the sending by Shahroh, Timour's successor, or a mission to India, to Emperor of Vijayanagar. This mission was headed by the historian Kemaleddin Aburrazzak ibn Iskhaq Samarkandi, who left Herat in 1442 for Ormus, making the trip to India and back by sea. He wrote a detailed and interesting account of his mission.

The Timurids, who were in communication with India in the 15th century, found themselves in that country in the next century. The Timurid Babar-Mirza who offered the greatest resistance to the nomad Uzbeks when they invaded Central Asia, was forced to retreat to Kabul, which served as his starting point for his conquest of Northern India, where he founded the Great Mogul Empire. All these events disrupted the cultural and political ties between India and Central Asia for several decades. But they were renewed approximately beginning with the 1530's. Some monuments of those days give us the names of certain poets, singers and musicians who went to India of the Great Moguls and worked very fruitfully in that land. The founder of the Great Mogul Empire, Babar, brought the first masters of miniature painting from Central Asia to India. Regarding some illustrated Indian manuscripts of the first quarter of the 16th century, there is some doubt as to whether they were executed in Central Asia or in Delhi.

Political and cultural ties between Central Asia and India developed particularly in the second half of the 16th century, when the Uzbek state in Central Asia had become sufficiently strong. Mushfiki, the celebrated Central Asian Tajik poet, lived at one time in India as a private person, and later visited India again as a member of the mission of the Sheibanid

Abdul Khan to Emperor Akbar. As a monument of that mission we have Mushfiki's odes to Akbar. Abdulkhan also sent several Bokhara and Samarkand artists to Akbar's court.

The next, 17th century, witnessed even closer relations between Central Asia and India. A source of those days tells us that a very large Indian colony existed in the city of Bokhara. It lived in a special part of the town, which was surrounded by a high wall. We also learn of diplomatic relations between the Ashtarkhanid Imam Kuli-khan and Emperor Jehangir and the role played in these relations by Hakim Hazik, well known in India then both as a physician and a poet. Diplomatic relations also existed between the Great Mogul Empire of India and Central Asia of the Ashtarkhanid in the second half of the 17th century during the reigns of Aurengzeb and Subhan Kuli-khan.

In the 18th—19th centuries, which brought with them great political upheavals in Central Asia, diplomatic ties between this country and India were disrupted. However, the local Central Asian population continued to seek inspiration in the culture of Muslim India. Indian poets, such as Bedil (died in 1721) and sufis, Sheikh Ahmed Faruk and many others, were highly respected among the Tajik-speaking population of Central Asia. A number of sufi sheikhs of India had numerous followers in Central Asia, who maintained lively contacts

with their spiritual leaders, and read, copied and distributed their mystical writings here. This explains why so many sufi manuscripts of works of Indian origin are to be met with in Central Asia.

On the other hand, Ismailism, which was introduced in Badakhshan in the 11th century by Nair-i-Rhosrov and was headed since the 18th century, by its supreme leaders, the Agakhans, who moved to India from Iran, contributed to the establishment of regular ties between the Pamir Ismailians and Bombay, the residence of the Agakhans. Although these ties were of a specific nature, they helped, to a certain extent to acquaint European scholars with interesting ancient monuments of Ismailian literature.

Finally, it was established recently that a tribal group had been in existence on the territory of Soviet Tajikistan for a long time, the members of which speak a language similar to the Hindi, and preserve to this day legends of their ties with India.

The ties between the peoples of India and Tajikistan are many and profound. That is why the Tajik people and their scientists are so deeply interested in the various achievements of the Indian people. They are happy to note that the peaceful policy of our Governments contributes to the unprecedented flourishing and strengthening of cultural and scientific contacts with this great fraternal people.

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Over-Eating and Under-Eating

By

DR. JEAN MAYER

WE read much nowadays about inequalities in production and distribution of farm produce. Surplus are accumulating in some of the "exporting" areas to such an extent that even storage becomes a prohibitive item of expense and outlandish solutions such as Arctic storage have to be envisaged.

A greater number of countries — and bigger populations — are faced with a chronically insufficient agricultural production and lack the means to buy the commodities necessary to maintain consumption at a desirable level.

The dilemma would be serious enough if it were purely economic. It is a much greater threat to human happiness in its effect on health itself.

As infectious diseases become better controlled, two things, lack of food and the eating of the wrong kinds of food, are emerging as the greatest causes of disease in economically under-developed areas, while in the richer countries over-eating contributes to the ever increasing toll exacted by the degenerative diseases.

The two dangers, consumption of an insufficient amount of food, and consumption of a diet lacking in indispensable element (such as vitamins), are generally found together. Both are detrimental to health almost to the same extent.

In spite of what has often been said, there is little bodily adaptation to underfeeding. What is unconsciously done by the under-nourished individual to conserve his substance is more generally behavioural, social adaptation—excessively prolonged sleep, torpor, inertia, and lack of initiative follow prolonged under-eating.

These effects in turn eliminate or at least drastically decrease the ability of the subject to work and help himself and thus are self-perpetuating.

Lack of essential nutrients also causes weakness, chronic disabilities and mortal diseases such as kwashiorkor (due to lack of good quality protein), beri-beri (due to lack of vitamin B₁) or pellagra (due to lack of the vitamin niacin and good quality protein), and again the vicious circle is completed. It can only be broken from the outside.

In this connection the case of kwashiorkor deserves special mention. This syndrome has now been recognized to be prevalent in many, if not all, so-called "under-developed" areas.

Thus, it has been described in West, Central and South Africa, in West Asia, India, Indo-China, and other Asian areas, and in Central and South America.

The mechanism of its development is becoming better understood, and we know now that simple administration of dry skim milk is a good preventive measure and in most cases can cure the disease.

This health problem is thus, in the last analysis, a problem in education, in agricultural production and in economics.

At the other end of the scale there is growing recognition in prosperous Western countries that obesity is a threat to health and that it is becoming more prevalent.

The main causes of this increase seem to be twofold. On the one hand there is much more food available, particularly concentrated, processed food of considerable energy-giving content, and on the other hand, there is much more labour-saving mechanization which makes expenditure of energy in physical work less and less necessary.

Recent findings indicate that, as physical work decreases to low levels, appetite does not follow suit and individuals continue to consume a quantity of food in excess of the needs and as a result become fat.

It has been shown that obesity is associated with a very much increased incidence of the middle-age type of diabetes and with liver diseases.

Pronounced overweight seems to increase the number of deaths from disease of the heart and blood vessels, which are the most frequent causes of death in Western societies.

Obesity seems also to increase directly the risks inherent in any surgical intervention particularly in the abdominal region.

Apart from its action in promoting disease, there is very little doubt that obesity impairs physical fitness and that its adverse effects on the appearance of afflicted individual can be the cause of considerable mental suffering, particularly in young women.

In the course of the past few years it has also been shown that, just as the eating of too little protein foods may have as serious consequences as taking in too little of the energy-providing foods, so the eating of too much

body-building fat may be of equal or greater import than over-eating of the merely engery-providing foods.

Recent work has indicated that death from heart disease is closely linked to the over-eating of fats, particularly hard fats, which have tended to represent an ever-increasing portion of the diet of prosperous Western nations.

Thus it may appear that one part of the world is still suffering from hunger and malnutrition while another part literally "eats itself to death."

Prevention of these two extremes entails greater understanding, on the part of both individuals and of governments, of sound nutrition, of nutrition education and of nutrition planning.

It is also to be hoped that, in the economic sphere, solutions will be found which will permit the moving of food from surplus areas and overfed populations to poor areas and underfed populations.

University Administration in Britain

By

PROFESSOR C. M. MACINNES

ANYONE who attempts to discuss the government of British universities is confronted at the outset with the problem of terminology. Not only foreigners but British people themselves are bewildered by the manner in which academic terms are used in this country. It is well, therefore, to warn the readers of this article now that they must accept these terms on faith. There is no reason in the matter whatever, but only history and use. Before the investigator goes very far he finds that the same word means partially or wholly different things in different places. Thus, the word Senate in Cambridge refers to one body, in Birmingham to another kind and in Belfast to still another. Court in one place

is called Council in another, though the functions of these two bodies are almost identical. When, therefore, the stranger has mastered the constitution of a particular university he must not delude himself by believing that he now has a working knowledge of them all, for that would be far indeed from the truth.

Assuming that these differences are taken for granted, there is also considerable variation in the size and structure, as well as the number, of the governing bodies in different institutions. Generally speaking, it may be said that the lay element is absent from the governing bodies of the ancient universities and that it is to some extent present in those of the modern ones. But the only way in which a general view can

be conveyed is to consider the constitutions of the various kinds of universities.

Taking the ancient universities first. The chief legislative and executive body in Cambridge is Regent House which consists of the members of Senate who are engaged in teaching and administration in the University. The equivalent body in Oxford is Congregation. In Cambridge many executive duties are exercised through the Council of Senate, elected by Regent House. The corresponding body in Oxford is the Hebdomadal Council. This is composed of university officials, such as the Chancellor and the Vice-Chancellor, together with 18 other members elected by Congregation. The government of Cambridge is controlled by the Senate. This is a body made up of Doctors and Masters, and of Bachelors of Divinity. The body roughly equivalent to it in Oxford is called Convocation.

In London the supreme governing bodies are Court and Senate. Roughly, the functions of Court resemble those of the Council in the civic universities. Senate is the supreme governing and executive body of the University in all academic matters. In Scotland the Council is a relatively formal body that resembles Court in English civic universities, while the Scottish Court resembles the English provincial university's Council.

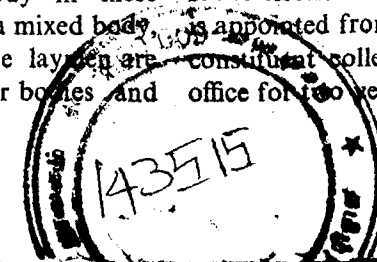
In the civic universities the highest governing body is Court. This is a large formal assemblage which meets usually about once a year. It normally contains all the members of Senate and Council, together with a varied selection of laymen. These include the Members of Parliament for the university's region, representatives of county and county borough authorities, professional and other organisations. Convocation, which is made up of the graduates of the university, is also represented on the Court. The chief executive body in these universities is Council. This is a mixed body, partly lay, partly academic. The laymen are elected by Court and various other bodies and

the academic members are elected by Senate and by the non-professorial members of the teaching staff. The chief academic governing body is Senate, which contains all the professors and a number of representatives from the non-professional staff, who in some places are co-opted by Senate and in others elected by their colleagues. Each university is divided into Faculties whose affairs are managed by the Faculty Board. The membership of these bodies consists of all the Professors and heads of departments in the faculty, together with a number of the lecturing staff. This may comprise the whole of the permanent lecturing staff or a proportion of the whole elected by the professorial members.

The chief official of the university is the Chancellor. He is normally a man distinguished in public life and it is customary for him to appear mainly on formal occasions, as when honorary degrees are to be awarded to distinguished people. Though he may have considerable influence in the university, he rarely concerns himself with its internal affairs. His advice, however, is frequently sought and, since he usually takes considerable pride in his office, he is a warm and energetic champion of his university's rights and interests. There may be one or more Pro-Chancellors whose function it is to act for the Chancellor in his absence. Though this office may be largely ornamental it may entail activities of one sort or another and its holder is chosen in recognition of his distinction in public life or of special services rendered to the university.

The chief academic administrative and executive officer is the Vice-Chancellor. In Oxford and Cambridge he is chosen from among the Heads of Colleges and holds his office for two or three years. In London he is elected by Senate for one year, but is eligible for re-election. In Wales the Vice-Chancellor is appointed from among the Principals of the constituent colleges in rotation and holds his office for two years. In the other universities

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the Vice-Chancellor is a permanent official appointed by Council after consultation with Senate.

The advantages and disadvantages of elected and permanent Vice-Chancellors have been discussed a good deal in the past, but in practice the system as it works at the present time is generally felt to be satisfactory and it is improbable that it will be changed. British universities, attach little importance to mere uniformity and in general the structure that is approved of is the one that will work efficiently. It is unlikely, therefore, that Oxford and Cambridge will decide to change over to a permanent vice-chancellor, and the civic universities have no wish for an elected one.

Whether elected or permanent, however, the vice-chancellor represents the university in a variety of ways too numerous to mention here. He speaks for his university; he presides at meetings of Senate and at innumerable other academic gatherings. He is responsible for the general direction of administration and for the formation of academic policy. He is not, like the rector in Continental universities, a government official, nor does he resemble the president of American universities in being the ruler of his academic world. The members of the staff are his colleagues, among whom he is first among equals.

At the head of each faculty is the Dean. In a few instances he is a permanent officer, but the normal practice is to elect him for a year or for a period of years. In addition to these officers there are various officials who do a

vast amount of administrative work, such as registrars, secretaries, bursars, finance officers. Between them they divide up the task of carrying out the day to day administration. Most of this work is entrusted to committees of Council or Senate or Boards of various kinds. All these bodies contain academic members—some of them indeed are purely academic—while those which are concerned with finance, property and material subjects are frequently partly academic, partly lay in composition.

Here it might be well to point out that in the English civic university a great deal is owed to laymen who give much time and valuable experience to university administration. Often, these ladies and gentlemen receive little thanks from their academic colleagues for this invaluable piece of public service, but without them university administration would unquestionably suffer. This purely voluntary co-operation of scholar and businessman has worked successfully and has on the whole been a happy one. The practice brings the university and the region closer together. These laymen interpret the university to the region and the region to the university.

In conclusion, it is necessary to repeat what has already been suggested, and that is that the reader should be wary in making generalisations about university organisation. Indeed, qualifications could be made about everything that has been said on this subject in this article. Nevertheless, it is hoped that it will convey in a very general, though by no means exact way, some impression of the structure of British universities as they exist at the present time.



Some Aspects of Hindu Religion

By

Mr. AMIT KUMAR NAG

ABOUT one hundred stone Sivalingas have been found at Phulbari in Garo Hills. It is learned that the Deputy Commissioner of the district has taken steps for their preservation. Apart from myths and legends, nothing historical is known about their origin. It is, however, believed that proper investigations may lead to startling disclosures relating to the origin and development of Hinduism.

The generally accepted view of the Hindu religion or society regards it as originating in Aryan invaders about 1,500 B.C. who came in with a higher civilization and a fairer skin to find the great peninsula inhabited by dark skinned barbarians on whom they imposed the religion of the Vedas. But this view can no longer be accepted. Doubts cast on it appear to be confirmed by discoveries including that of a figure of Siva among the remains at Mohenjodaro while Sir John Marshall has clearly shown that the pre-Aryan religion of the Indus Valley involved a cult of the bull, and of the snake.....stated to be typical Mediterranean cults, to be found in Crete.....and also of phallic symbols, including "ring" and baetylic stones.

However, it has been pointed out with some aptness that in modern Hinduism only those elements of Vedic rites have survived which are essentially social, such as the marriage ceremonies; the argument being that though society was, or aimed at being, Aryan, its religion is older than that of the so-called Aryan invasions.

The indigenous religion of any country inevitably starts with an advantage over that of an invading people, since it is the priest of the country who knows how to approach the gods of the soil and propitiate them, and for that reason there is always a tendency for a local religion to establish its ascendancy over an

intrusive one. According to Dr. J. S. Hutton, this appears to have been the case in India where the important position of Siva, Vishnu and Kali, as compared to the unimportant one which Indra now holds, signalizes the triumph of the older gods. The cult of snakes and the worship of a mother goddess were probably brought in by earlier invaders whose religion must also be associated with fertility cults, phallic symbolism, the Devadasi cult and probably human sacrifice.

Vishnu, Siva and Kali, the great gods of Hinduism, are not Rigvedic deities at all. Sakti is probably a cult derived from the Great Mother goddess, and the cult of Siva is inevitably associated with it, the two being bound up with the phallic religion of southern and western Asia. It is probably significant that the word "linga" is definitely of non-Aryan origin, as Przyluski has demonstrated, while the word "puja" is also believed to be a non-Sanskrit loan word. With the worship of Siva, too, is to be associated the snake cult of which there are so many survivals in modern India. The erudite scholar Przyluski ascribes a Dravidian origin to the name "Vishnu," while Dr. Hutton opines that Vishnu, apparently a post-Rigvedic god, is perhaps the fruit of the reaction of what we may call proto-Hinduism to the Vedic invaders.

The traditional view that the Hindu religion is a growth entirely subsequent to the Rigvedic invasions, is no longer tenable. The Greek traveller Strabo rightly remarked that "the Indians worshipped Zeus Ombrios is clearly Indra, the thunder god, the suggestion that the other gods worshipped are of indigenous origin is probably very near to the truth,

Controversy between the supporters of pre-Vedic and Vedic gods can be seen in many a Hindu scripture. We find in the Shrimad

Bhagvat that Shri Krishna is trying to convince every body that the Vaishava Bhakti and worship of Vishnu should replace the worship of Vedic gods like Indra.

Again, the Rigveda condemns "Shishnadev" (presumably the phallic god of the indigenous inhabitants). However, the later Aryans were compelled by circumstances to recognise the worship of the same god.....Siva. The Puranas.....Bamanpuran, Koormapuran, Sivapuram, Skandapuram, Lingapuram, etc..... tell us that the erotic wives of the thousand sages of the Deodar forest were instrumental in reviving the worship of Siva.

Now, the pertinent question arises : who was Siva ?

It must be admitted without hesitation that no definite answer could be given. In Rigveda, there is a passing reference to a human being named Siva. But it is not possible to say what relation that Siva had with Rigvedic Shishnadev or post-Rigvedic god Siva. It is however, certain that Siva of the post-Vedic period was a god of the people.....Ganadevata..... like Vishnu and Ganesha. (Cf. the MAHA-BHARATA : Souptik and Santi Parvas.) So, is it wrong to suggest that the people's god Siva originated from the pre-Vedic phallic god of the previous inhabitants ?

In this connexion it is interesting to refer to the fertility rites and beliefs of some Naga tribes of north-eastern India. I am quoting few excerpts here from a monograph on RENGMA NAGAS by J. P. Mills, ICS :

"Every 'morung' (bachelors' community house) has from two to five luckstones.....Of them, round ones are simply called TEGWO. These bring rice and general prosperity. Others are called TEKHI (kidney) from their shape. These bring game, of which the kidneys are a particularly tasty portion. Another kind is called ME THU GWO (cattle hoof-stones), and increases the herds of the 'khel.' Lastly, there are one or two of the type called TEZU

(male sex organ), and by virtue of these the men of the 'khel' have large families."

"A remarkable phallic stone is preserved in the upper 'morung' of the Lhota village of Sakitung. Its resemblance to a human penis is striking and, unlike most sacred stones, it can be handled by any man with impunity. At dances the young men in turn press it against the front of the women's skirts.....The women, with rather shy smiles, admit it is most efficacious in increasing their fertility."

We know that the historical Hindu religion first appears not in the Punjab, which must be regarded as the area most completely occupied by the Aryan invaders, but to the east of that in the Brahmarshidesha where stable fusion between these invaders and the previous inhabitants probably took place. The existing holy places (Tirtha) of the Hindus are outside Brahmavarta where one might have expected to find them, if it were really the fact that the religion actually arose in that area, while to find them elsewhere is consistent with the view that they are places regarded with devotion by the religions which preceded the invasion. This view is sometimes emphasised by the existence of Hindu shrines where priests and custodians are not Brahmans. However, Hindu religion and society finally took form and flourished as a result of the impact of the invading Aryan on the indigenous religion that he found in India.

It has rightly been pointed out that pilgrimage had no place in the practical religion of the Vedic people. To them "Yajna" offered occasions for social gathering. The pre-Vedic Indians, however, pinned their faith in the pilgrimage and used to undertake journeys to holy places. And the word Tirtha originally meant that part of river which could be easily crossed or navigated. Obviously, pilgrimage formed a part of the religious faith of the pre-Vedic civilization of the river-side Indians. That is why in post-Vedic India the term "Tairthik" view used to mean anti-Vedic views.

Besides, pre-Vedic Indians worshipped rivers and trees. In the opinion of some eminent scholars, even the name "Ganga" is the pre-Vedic. And it is amazing that the holiness which used to be attached to the name Ganga has been retained through thousands of years.

It is worthwhile to refer to Parasuramkund, the least accessible Hindu holy place, to show the extensiveness and the power of assimilation of the religion of India.

Parasuramkund is situated in an almost inaccessible part of the Mishmi—inhabited Lohit Frontier Division is Nefa. On "Uttarayan Sankranti" day (the last day of the Bengali month, Paus) every winter, pilgrims—mostly Yogis and Sannyasins—go there to take a dip in the holy water of the "kund" with a view to absolving themselves of sins. Traditions as well as scriptures say that the mythological hero Parasuram, who committed matricide with the help of an axe, of course, acting under his father's instructions, failed to remove the axe from his guilty hand. All his attempts having failed he came to a place in the north-east corner of India in search of the holy water of the "Brahmkund" and made two apertures 6 feet apart for the flow of the holiest water. The place thus apertured came to be known as "Parasuramkund." Bathing in the water of the "kund," Parasuram freed himself of the great sin and was able to remove the axe from his hand. Since then, the Parasuramkund has been recognized as the holiest of all holy places in eastern India.

Traditions still point out that Parasuram, the Hindu titan, had settled some Brahmans in the locality who afterwards due to isolation from other Brahmans and also due to ipso facto deviation from common Hindu religious practices became "Bratya" or fallen. Though the "kund" is situated in the Mishmi tribal area—far off from the Hindu plainsmen, it is yet interesting to note that the Diyu and Digabor Mishmis have certain important customs and traditions almost similar to those of the Hindus. Some of them even wear "sacred threads" (yajnopavit), made of skin, of course. According to some well-informed people, these Mishmi tribes are descendants of those Brahmanical settlers. It is, however, very difficult

to accept or reject such an interpretation. Obviously, I think it should remain an open question.

In this connexion it is necessary to refer to certain other allegories and traditions of similar nature. Puranas tell us that Princess Rukmini, the consort of Lord Krishna, was a daughter of Raja Bismak, a non-Aryan ruler whose capital was situated at a place called Kundin. Traditions associate King Bhismak with the Mishmi tribals. Moreover, there is a tributary of the Brahmaputra which flows in the Mishmi land still bearing the name Kundil or Kundin. Further evidences are also forthcoming. It is stated that Prince Rukma, Rukmini Devi's brother, opposed, although unsuccessfully, Lord Krishna's marriage with his sister; and when the Lord won the hands of the Princess, he ordered shaving of Prince of Rukma's head as a punishment. Since then, it is a practice with a Mishmi tribe to shave their heads. These Mishmis are known as "Chulikata" people.

Another aspect of the "Parasuram Kund" tradition should not be lost sight of. The story of Lord Parasuram's matricide might be the symbolic representation of the passing of the age of matriarchy or mother-right. This might be suggestive of the fact that when the original mother-family, with its privileges and prerogatives, was in a process of disintegration or transition into paternal patterns, Lord Parasuram initiated an age of patriarchal rule. And it comes as a corollary that the tribes still with matriarchal orders had to take shelter on hills and in jungles leaving behind the plains for the rising patriarchy. Does Parasuramkund stand to speak of a turning point of pre-historic history ?

Judging by all standards or yard-sticks; it will be found that Hinduism as a religion combines within itself many aspects of diverse peoples and their cultures. I believe, proper research and study will show that most primitive tribes living within the geographical limits of India missing links with the evolved religion and culture of the land. And their contribution to the growth and development of Hinduism is of immense significance.



Indians Overseas

By

Mr. BOBBY NAIDOO

MORE than four million Indians live and labour outside India, in all parts of the world. Where do they live, is the first question? For the sake of convenience, we may divide this into three regions.

The Indian Ocean Region — the biggest in population as well as area and comprises 30,00,000 Indians or 75 per cent of the total living abroad. India's neighbour Burma accounts for about 10,00,000. Ceylon and Malaya follow with 7,50,000 each. South Africa about 3,50,000 and Mauritius 2,50,000.

The Carribbean Region has a population of 5,00,000, about 10 per cent of the total population of Indian nationals overseas, Trinidad has 2,00,000, British Guiana about 1,50,000; and Dutch Guiana and Jamaica about 60,000 and 20,000 respectively.

The Pacific Region including Fiji, New Zealand and Australia has an Indian population of 1,30,000.

How did they emigrate to these countries in such large numbers? Here again the answers are different for the different countries in question. To countries like Burma, Ceylon, Canada and the United States of America, they went of their own accord mainly in search of fresh opportunities. But to countries like South Africa, Fiji, Mauritius, Trinidad, British Guiana and Dutch Guiana, they were taken out as indentured labourers.

Mr. Gokhale characterised the "Indenture System" as "monstrous, iniquitous in itself, a blot on the civilisation of any country that tolerates it." Its objectionable features included :—

(a) A lack of freedom to change employment or employer during the period of contract ;

(b) Compulsory term of regulated labour, without any regard to conditions of work, or

suitability of employment ; based on fraud and maintained by force, a system wholly opposed to modern sentiments of justice and humanity ;

(c) Recruitment of 40 women to every 100 men ;

(d) Low rates of wages which remained stationary even when profits and prices rose ;

(e) Unhygienic conditions of work.

Since an Indian labourer could be discarded like a sucked lemon after a period of five years, he was treated with more harshness and less mercy than the West African slave who had to be maintained for a lifetime.

The Indian was housed and fed in an inferior manner and wages were kept to the barest minimum to produce the maximum amount of work in five years ; no account whatsoever was taken of the Indian labourer when the five year term was over. It is no wonder then that complaints were legion.

India was roused and in the year 1920 the pernicious system was abolished and labourers still serving their terms were released. Even though the system does not exist any more, it has left behind a legacy of problems both urgent and painful.

Though some of the Indians have done well, most of them are living on a starvation level. Economic opportunities are not many. Wages are low, unemployment is fairly common and prices are high.

A bitter reason for this state of affairs is that it is being maintained with a purpose — that cheap labour should always be readily available. Another complaint against the authorities is that the Indians are not helped to settle down independently on agricultural land, even though the land is available. This is done probably to keep the prices up.

AUGUST 1957]

INDIANS OVERSEAS

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In our time, therefore, most of the disabilities are economic.

The European cannot compete with the Indian in fair trade or labour, hence the disabilities, racial, social and economic. The European wants to have it both ways. He does not want to do certain types of jobs himself and wants the Indian or the Negro to do them, but when they show signs of rising from their level, he is alarmed.

The indenture system had come into being after the abolition of slavery. The colonists were looking for fresh avenues of labour supply. For understandable reasons, the emancipated slaves refused to work for their erstwhile masters. China was the first country to be tapped as a source, but somehow it was not found satisfactory.

India came next. Between 1834 and 1837 about 7,000 Indians were taken to Mauritius. The first batch to British Guiana left in 1838, Trinidad 1844, Jamaica 1845, Natal (South Africa) 1860 and Fiji in 1879.

But once emigration was stopped under the indenture system, the doors of colonies and dominions were barred and bolted to Indian nationals under one pretext or another. South Africa was the first offender. Australia followed, Canada and the United States of America too did not lag far behind. Then came East Africa.

The pattern was the same everywhere. Immigration was prohibited. Anti-racial laws were passed. Civic rights were either not allowed at all or were granted on a basis of communal franchise. Schools, hospitals, places of recreation, clubs and other amenities were closed to them. While they were expected to observe all the responsibilities of citizenship, the privileges and advantages of this citizenship were denied to them.

Besides natural difficulties, which they shared in common with others, new disabilities were placed on their buying and owning property following certain professions.

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The contention of the Indian is simply this : Treat us exactly the same way in respect to both responsibilities and privileges, as other members of the community of any racial origin. Do not exempt us from any responsibilities, neither deny us our normal rights. Where special agreements already exist concerning us, we are prepared to re-examine them in the light of modern reason : the relationship between the individual and the State, and particularly in view of the origins of a great deal of Indian emigration, of the relationship between the employer and the employee. But this only provided, we have full and equal opportunities of influencing legislation and administration through the proper channels.

People were selected (by the Indian Government) originally with the best of motives. Most of them were neither acquainted with the problems nor anxious to deal with them. They did not mix with the people. Indian diplomacy followed the pattern of the British Foreign Service where pomp and ceremony ruled the day.

No wonder, then, the nation and the Indian people abroad were particularly disillusioned.

In Trinidad, Indians form about 45 per cent. of the total population. There are, however, no arrangements for the teaching of their mother-tongue, Hindi or Urdu. The Government allows the Indian population small grants for that purpose on a denominational basis.

In Singapore in 1939, there were 40 organisations for 5,000 people. The most interesting report came from a city in the Middle East where three Indians have two organisations !

Lack of co-operation with the local populations is due to two reasons ; the policy of "Divide and Rule" followed by the local Government, is responsible, at least, for a part of it, and the rest is due to the ideas that some Indians have imbibed from the Europeans to regard the Negroes as sub-human.

The lower standard of living is due to economic insecurity. Moreover, Indians are treated as an alien element in the Commonwealth Countries. When they go abroad, they do so with an idea of making money and returning to their Motherland. Naturally, they try to save as much as they can, which accounts for their low standard of living. But on the other hand Indians in South Africa and East Africa who would like to live on a higher plane are not able to do so because of the policy of social segregation practised there.

On the whole, one can be proud of Indian nationals abroad. They have kept the Indian flag flying wherever they have gone; they have upheld Indian culture and civilisation in many countries.

India still has to find a place of honour for her people who have gone abroad, in search of fresh opportunities and others who even now wish to do so. If Indians may not seek entry to areas which suit white settlers they should be able to go to these areas where the climate does not suit white settlers, the tropical and sub-tropical areas.

Instead of letting these lands lie fallow, selected emigrants should be allowed to settle down in these territories. The Indian is a very much better cultivator of the soil than most. He is accustomed to small-holdings and to mixed farming. Large tracts of land are lying vacant on many continents and Indians should be permitted to cultivate them. (*Mauritian Affairs*: Hindkitabs Ltd. 32-34 Vir Nariman Rd. Bombay 1.)

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Indian Economy in 1956-57

By

"AN ECONOMIST"

THOUGH 1956-57 witnessed higher levels of investment in both public and private sectors, the growth of real output and voluntary savings during the year was less than the rise in overall demand as well as investment expenditure.

This is disclosed in the Reserve Bank of India's report on currency and finance for 1956-57, which states that higher level of investment expenditure was attained with larger resort to deficit financing during the first year of the Second Plan.

"The overall budgetary deficit at about Rs. 250 crores was about Rs. 100 crores larger than that in 1955-56 in the result, the symptoms of strain on the economy which appeared towards the close of 1955-56 were marked practically throughout the year under review."

The strain was in particular reflected in a very heavy balance of payments deficit resulting in loss of reserves to the extent of Rs. 219 crores during the year, even after taking credit for net purchases of foreign exchange from the International Monetary Fund for Rs. 55 crores.

"Commodity prices continued to advance for the major part of the year, the Economic Adviser's general index of wholesale prices rising over the year by about eight per cent on top of a rise of about 12 per cent in the previous year. The working class consumer price index also recorded a rise of seven per cent over the year."

On the whole, the report adds, the stresses and strains in the economy—of which the rise in prices and rapid decline in foreign exchange reserves were striking symptoms—were much

more severe than in the previous year and consequently remedial action taken by Govt. and the monetary authority required also to be stronger and more varied.

The report says industrial production recorded a rise of nine per cent in the calendar year 1956 as compared to eight per cent in 1955 and provisional estimates indicate that overall agricultural production during 1956-57 will be "somewhat better" than in 1955-56.

Notwithstanding this trend in industrial and agricultural production the report says: The disquieting feature however, is the prospect of continuance of a large budgetary deficit which in 1957-58 is estimated at Rs. 280 crores for the Union Government as compared to a deficit of Rs. 167 crores in 1956-57.

"In the context of the order of development effort entailed in for Second Plan, the need for mobilising additional tax and non-inflationary loan resources is more urgent than ever.

The increased tempo of investment consumption and trade, scheduled banks' credit recorded an expansion during the year of 18 per cent following a rise of 23 per cent in 1955-56.

The expansion of money supply was, however, moderate at 5.9 per cent mainly because of heavy deficit in balance of payments. With expansion in the monetary sphere, the economy continued to be characterised by an acute financial stringency, reflecting mainly the sharp increase in demand, characteristic of a boom phase.

Activity in the new issue market was on a larger scale than in the previous year, notwithstanding an almost continuous decline in share prices during the year amounting to nine per cent as against a rise of six per cent in 1955-56.

The decline in share prices partly reflected the anti-inflationary measures of authorities on the fiscal and monetary fronts as well as a probable squeeze on profits as a result of higher raw material and wage costs, the report adds.

On the growth in outlay on development services, the interest-bearing obligations

of the Central Government rose in 1956-57 Rs. 364 crores to Rs. 5,676 crores.

Discussing the details of the public debt, the report adds of the total amount outstanding at the end of March 1957, internal obligations accounted for Rs. 3,514 crores and external debt for Rs. 162 crores. Total interest-bearing obligations are estimated to show a rise of Rs. 558 crores to Rs. 4,234 crores by the end of 1957-58, mainly due to the expansion of Rs. 275 crores under floating debt.

There was again widespread resort to monetary restraint measures in 1956 and also in 1957 to keep domestic investment within limits and to restore balance of payments equilibrium. This was reflected in discount rate rises, reinforced by open market operations, variations in reserve ratios as well as selective credit controls.

"The continuance of the rising trend of commodity prices, which has been evident since early June 1955, was one of the less satisfactory features of the Indian economic scene in 1956-57."

Over the year, the economic adviser's weekly general index of wholesale prices rose by nearly eight per cent, on top of the rise of about 12 per cent in 1955-56. The annual average of weekly indices for the year at 414 was 15 per cent higher than that for 1955-56 in contrast to the fall of about five per cent in the preceding year.

As in the previous year, the rise occurred mainly in three groups—food articles, industrial raw materials and semi-manufactures. The main stimulus to the price rise came from the steadily accelerating tempo of investment activity and the growing pressures of demand particularly for foodgrains and industrial raw materials, superimposed upon some decline in agricultural output from the earlier record levels.

In these circumstances, Government's efforts have been directed both towards increasing supplies of goods and restraining excess

demand. Increase in supplies especially of foodgrains, is being effected, in the short run, mainly through arranging for larger imports of foodgrains and distributing them through a net-work of fair price shops all over the country.

The quantity of foodgrains imported in 1956 was nearly 14 lakh tons as compared to seven lakh tons in 1955, Government have also imposed a ban since early 1955 on exports of foodgrains.

The impact of rising tempo of development activity was most severely felt on India's balance of payments. The current account surplus recurring throughout the greater part of the First Plan was sharply reversed during 1956-57, with the emergence of an overall current account deficit of Rs. 292.5 crores as against a surplus of Rs. 17 crores in 1955-56.

Referring to Government finances the report said the plan outlay had been continuously rising. The revised estimate of the Plan outlay

in 1956-57 is placed at Rs. 761 crores, as compared to Rs. 625 crores in 1955-56.

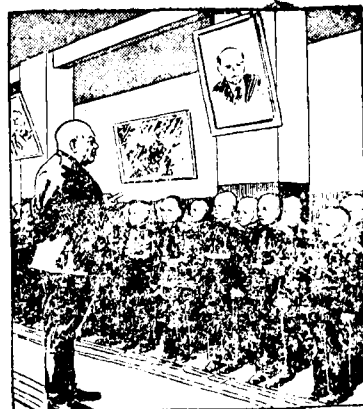
The resources for implementing the Plan outlay had fallen far short of requirements with the result that there had been increasing recourse to deficit financing, which was estimated at Rs. 253 crores for 1956-57 as compared to Rs. 157 crores in 1955-56.

For 1957-58, the Plan outlay has been estimated to be around Rs. 900 crores, and the deficit of the Central Government is placed at Rs. 280 crores, after taking credit for receipts from the new tax proposals contained in 1957-58 budget. The "far-reaching" tax proposals of this budget will "both deepen and widen" the tax base.

"So far as the State Governments are concerned the tax effort hitherto has been smaller than what was visualised at the time of the Second Plan was formed. In the 1957-58 budget, a majority of States have not made any tax proposals" the report said.



The most massive single issue of a newspaper yet published in the world was the 516-page edition of The New York Times of May 6, 1956.



In the Soviet "workers' paradise", the regime purposely keeps men's wages below the subsistence level, to force women into the labor force.



The world's lightest commercial wood is balsa, with a weight of only six pounds per cubic foot.

Cartoon by Scio.

WORLD OF BOOKS

THE TRIALS OF OUR DEMOCRACY : By Dr. Sampurnanand, Chief Minister, Uttar Pradesh, Published by Publications Bureau, Information Department, U.P., Price As. 12.

The Trials of Our Democracy, the first book of the series, contains four of Dr. Sampurnanand's articles — the one from which the book derives its name, the 'Nature of the State in India,' the 'Champion of Oppressed' and the 'No-violence and the World Order.'

All these articles have already appeared in the Press from time to time. This, however, does not minimise their intrinsic worth for anybody interested in the study of public questions. They are of much more abiding worth than discourses on purely topical subjects.

Three of the articles are of a comparatively non-controversial nature, while the one on 'The Nature of the State in India,' though written some six years ago, still has a relevancy to the situation which even the most enthusiastic of the admirers of our Constitution could hardly deny. Dr. Sampurnanand demands in this article to give to the concept of the Indian State a positive meaning and to enshrine it in the Constitution. India is an ancient country and even today despite all the adversities she has been the victim of, her message of Panchsheel stands out pre-eminently as the only salvation of mankind from the catastrophe towards it seems to be heading in its blind pursuit of hate and destruction.

The 'Champion of the Oppressed' is a homage to late Father of the Nation and savours of a deep-seated reverence which only a man of profound feelings for and appreciation of the Hindu ethics and metaphysics like Dr. Sampurnanand could afford.

The 'Non-violence and the World Order' is a plea for international co-operation and resolution of disputes through negotiations and peaceful methods.

BASIC EDUCATION - QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS : By The Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Government of India.

These questions and answers demolish with Socratic downright various objections raised to Basic Education. The only snag about Basic Education is that effective education in living as apart from literary learning can and will continue to be given only by parents and religious institutions.

THE FUTURE OF ENGLISH IN INDIA
By Prof. A. R. Wadia, Asia Publishing House, Bombay.

Prof. Wadia's brochure on the future of English in India is a serious and significant contribution to the language controversy, which, since independence has become a major problem in the country. In his view it has needlessly been complicated by sentimentalism and pseudo-patriotism. "The professor offers some cool and clear thinking on the subject in the eight chapters covering the language problem in education, administration, commerce and industries, defence and soon. Here is a very interesting chapter on what may be called Indo-anglian literature. Fully realising the corrective value of English literature to Indian minds he goes to observe that we cannot do without English in the future.

Are we in a position to do away with the study of English, he asks and says :

"My answer to this question is an emphatic 'No,'.....There are several excellent reasons why English should continue to be a spur and an inspiration to Indian writers. English literature has certain characteristics which have already forced themselves in our Indian literatures and there is a danger that we might lose those characteristics, unless our writers keep themselves in touch with English as a fountain of certain inspiring ideas."

"If under sentimental urges we give up English" says the report of the university Education Commission with which the author is in complete agreement, "we cut ourselves off from the living stream of ever growing language. Unable to have access to this knowledge, our standard of scholarship would fast deteriorate and our participation in the world movements of thought would become negligible. Its effects would be disastrous for our practical life, for living nations must move with the times and must respond quickly to the challenge of their surroundings. English is the only means of preventing our isolation from the world and we will act unwisely if we allow ourselves to be enveloped in the folds of a dark curtain of ignorance."

INDIAN TRADE UNION LAW : By V. B.

Kher. With foreword by the Hon'ble Sri V. V. Giri, N. M. Tirupathi Ltd., Bombay.

Trade Unions are of recent origin in India but they have come to stay. For it is by now well recognised that vigorous and healthy trade unions are an asset to industrial peace and prosperity. The Trade Union Act of 1926 has given a legal and concrete status to trade unions in India; it carries certain rights and privileges but it also imposes certain obligations which are binding as well. For effective exercise of such rights and obligations and for proper understanding of the law as governed by the Act of 1926 a guide book like this with full text of the Act coupled with notes and critical comments must prove useful. The author explains the scheme of the Act and the procedure prescribed thereunder and examines in detail the objectives of such unions and the methods employed to achieve them. As the work deals with the practical requirements of those who have to manage and deal with trade unions Mr. V. V. Giri in his brief foreword commends it "as very instructive and helpful." Lay men and lawyers alike will find the book equally interesting and useful.

LEADERS OF MODERN INDIA: By P. D.

Tandon, Vora & Co., Publishers, Kalbadevi Road, Bombay.

Here in a volume of 160 pages are twenty-one pen portraits of India's leading personalities giving a glimpse of their life and work in the cause of the country's freedom. Written at the time when the nationalist struggle was in full swing they are naturally conceived in a spirit of admiration and gratitude for their services. It would be captious to expect critical appraisal in such sketches. Gandhiji and Nehru and Sarojini and Thakkar Baba and C. R. are all heroes in their own right who played their part valiantly in the struggle for freedom. The sketches deal not only with the public life and activities of these leaders of Modern India but are inspired by genuine appreciation of their fine qualities of head and heart. The book provides a valuable introduction to current politics, and students desiring to throw something of the men behind the independence movement will find it of special interest.

SCIENTIFIC RELIGION by G. N. Gokhale

Shanti Kunj, 859, Shivaji Nagar, Poona-4.

This is the second and revised edition of a book published as early as 1930. It is difficult to talk of religion without treading on somebody's thesis but the writer is convinced that without a solid foundation of theistic attitude or scientific religion as he calls it, we shall be building on sand. He is on firm ground when he says that communal outlook is no more the result of religion than that poison gas is the product of science. He steers clear of materialistic science on the one hand and dogmatic religion on the other. In the present edition there is a fresh chapter on reconciliation between Religion and Science. The chapters dealing with the practical aspect of religion and the illustrations are welcome additions to the new edition.

THE INDIAN CULTURE : Collection of Essays, Bharat Sanskrit Parishat, 30/6c Doctor Lane, Calcutta.

The life and work of Dr. Mahendranath Sircar, the wellknown teacher and leader of contemporary Indian thought is brought to be commemorated in this Jayanti volume, Edited with care and devotion by Prof. Haridas Chaudhuri. Dr. Sircar is respected as an interpreter of the true spirit of Indian Culture, and as an Ambassador of India's philosophy and mysticism to the West. As such the collection of these 25 essays from the pen of eminent scholars all over the country is a fitting tribute to the life and work of one who embodied in himself the best traditions of our cultural heritage.

Among the Essays may be mentioned :

Hindu-Culture in Eur-America : By Prof. Beny Kumar Sarkar, The Spirit and Ideals of Hinduism : by Prof. S. N. L. Srivatsava, The Hindu Theory of the World : by Dr. S. C. Chatterjee, The Fundamental Principles in Indian Culture : by Sri Shib Chandra Dutta, The Message of Vedas ; by Dr. Matilal Das, Sankar's Interpretation of the Gita : by Sri Anilbaran Ray, The Psychological and Ethical Teachings of the Gita : by Dr. Matilal Das, The Siddhas in the Yogovasishta Ramayana and a Peep into their creed : by Prof. Shivaprasad Bhattacharya, Buddhist Philosophy : by Dr. B. C. Law, The Avesta from the Hindu point of view : by Dr. Matilal Das, The Vedanta as Purnandwaitavada : by Dr. Haridas Chowdhury, Vedanta and the ethical consciousness : by Prof. G. R. Malkani, and so on.

INDIANS OUTSIDE INDIA

CEYLON**CEYLON INDIAN PROBLEM**

Prime Minister Nehru declined to set any definite date for the settlement of the problem of Indians in Ceylon.

He told in reply to a question in the Lok Sabha on July 23, "I cannot say when the problem will be settled. It is an old-standing question and I would not like to give any kind of assurance as to when it will be settled."

Earlier Mr. Sadath Ali Khan, Parliamentary Secretary told Mr. D.N. Tiwary that up to the end of June 1957, 23,285 Indians served with quit notice by the Ceylon Government had returned to India. These Mr. Nehru pointed out were Indian nationals as different from persons of Indian origin resident in Ceylon. Besides this 26,198 Indians returned to India voluntarily during the same period.

PAKISTAN**INDIANS IN KARACHI**

The Chief Commissioner of Karachi, ordered all Indians residing in Karachi to obtain residential permits by August 20 next from the Superintendent, C.I.D., Karachi.

The order is dated July 20 and consequent on the recent Ordinance which withdrew certain Commonwealth citizenship privileges from Indians. The order said that failure would entail obtain prosecution.

The Ordinance had made it obligatory on Indians to obtain residential permits and the Pakistan Government had claimed it was in retaliation of the recent Indian legislation withdrawing certain Commonwealth citizenship privileges from Pakistanis and South Africans.

WEST GERMANY**INDIAN STUDIES IN W. GERMANY**

The Goettingen University's new faculty for Indian studies was opened at Goettingen on July 16 in the presence of Indian Ambassador A. C. N. Nambiar. The faculty building has been donated with a magnificent library by Prof. Ernst Waldschmidt, 60, Germany's expert on Indian studies.

Prof. Waldschmidt said at the ceremony that Goettingen University had a tradition reaching back more than 100 years in the field of Indian studies. Now, that India had during the last 10 years joined the circle of big powers, the study of the new India had taken its rightful place in the German Universities.

SOUTH AFRICA**INDIAN STUDENTS IN S. AFRICA**

In a written reply to a question by Mr. M. Valiulla whether the students of Indian origin in South Africa were admitted into schools and colleges where European students were also studying, the Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, said in the Rajya Sabha recently, "In most of the schools and universities in South Africa, there is racial segregation. In the universities of Cape Town and Witwatersrand where segregation does not exist, it will be enforced as a result of the 'separate University Education Bill,' which is now before South African Parliament."

"The Government of India have already brought to the notice of the U.N. General Assembly the wider issue of the status of Indians in South Africa in general and have also condemned the various *apartheid* measures of the Union Government," he added.

MALAYA**CITIZENSHIP OF MALAYA**

Citizens of British Commonwealth countries can be deprived of their Malayan citizenship if they acquire it, according to the final draft of Malaya's Constitution.

The Constitution released at Kuala-Lumpur on July 2 will come into force when Malaya becomes independent on Aug. 31.

Deprivation of Malayan citizenship can follow if any citizen of a Commonwealth country were to exercise rights or privileges, which are granted solely to citizens of that country.

The Malayan Government, if it proposes to deprive anyone of their Malayan citizenship, will set up a Committee of Inquiry to examine the case.

Any Malayan, who after independence day, acquires citizenship of any other country also, may be deprived of his or her Malayan citizenship.

FIJI**INDIANS IN FIJI**

Indians in Fiji do not suffer from any special political disabilities as compared to the indigenous Fijians, Prime Minister Nehru told Mr. Mahanty in a written reply in the Lok Sabha on July 31.

As far as the Government was aware, there was no legal discrimination against Indians in Fiji except that they could not own land marked as "native land reserve" or the "crown land" without the approval of the local Government. There was no colour bar as such against Indians.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- July 1 Pt. Nehru urges suspension of Nuclear Tests at the Commonwealth Conference.
- July 2 Western Delegates of the Disarmament Conference propose conditional suspension of Nuclear Tests for ten months.
- Pak Govt. "Squeezes out" Indians in Pakistan.
- July 3 The Central Committee of the Soviet Communist party dismisses in the Party Presidium, Messrs. Malankov, Kaganovich, and Molotov.
- President Ike announces the Development of clean Bomb and invites foreign observers for future tests.
- July 4 The wreckage of Pakistan International Airlines Dakota with 24 passengers sighted on Chorlakh is based in Bay of Bengal.
- July 5 Commonwealth Premiers agree unanimously to admit independent Malaya a member of Commonwealth.
- July 6 Socialist Congress concludes its sitting at Vienna.
- July 7 Prime Minister Tanka Prasad of Nepal resigns.
- July 8 Pt. Nehru visits the Hague and is given a grand reception.
- July 9 World Bank agrees to advance a loan of 90 million dollars to India this year.
- July 10 Trouble is reported on Syrian-Israel border.
- Mr. Nehru in Cairo: President Nazar's Cabinet greet Nehru.
- July 11 Pt. G.B. Pant inaugurates the Southern Zonal Council at Madras.
- H. H. The Aga Khan is dead.
- 15th Session of the Indian Labour Conference meets at New Delhi.
- July 12 Leading world scientists urge suspension of atomic bomb tests.
- Prince Karim, grandson of Aga Khan is named as his successor.
- House of Commons approve Malayan Freedom Bill.
- July 13 Bakshi Ghulam Mahomed, Premier of Kashmir resigns.
- July 14 President's rule of the W. Pakistan ends.
- Pt. Nehru returns to India.
- July 16 July session of Lok Sabha opens.
- Sri Jaiprakash Narain and Mr. Lohia meet at Lucknow.
- July 16 Sardar Abdur Rashid Khan is appointed Chief Minister of W. Pakistan.
- July 17 President Eisenhower approves a 100,000 man cut in U.S.A. armed forces.
- July 18 French National Assembly votes in favour of *De Jure* transfer of ex. French areas.
- July 19 H. H. the Aga Khan is buried at Aswan.
- The U. P. Government introduces Old Age Pension Scheme.
- July 20 World Philosophers meet at Warsaw.
- July 21 Ruling party of S. Africa meets at Bloemfontein and ask Afrikaners to boycott Indian traders.
- July 22 Indonesia withdraw her troops from the U. N. Emergency Force in Egypt.
- July 23 British offensive in Oman: Br. Troops help Sultan of Muscat against rebels.
- July 24 R.A.F. Planes bombard Nizwa.
- July 25 Tunisian Consamby votes for abolition of monarchy: Assembly also proclaims Tunisia a Republic.
- July 26 Bakshi Ghulam Mahomed is sworn in as Prime Minister of Kashmir.
- Mr. K. I. Singh forms Government in Nepal.
- July 27 Quake hits Mexico City.
- Ceylon Federal Party withdraws C.D. Plans.
- July 28 Flood havoc in Japan. More than 4000 people either killed or missing.
- July 29 Dr. Adenauer rejects E. German offer of Confederation Scheme.
- World Peace Festival begins in Moscow.
- July 30 British planes bomb Oman heavily.
- July 31 Agreement on Soviet aid for Afganistan is signed in Kabul.
- Y. N. Sukhtankor is Sworn in as Governor of Orissa.

READERS' DIGEST

THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

"There was no reason to expect any decisions from the meeting of the Commonwealth Prime Ministers that has concluded its sitting by the end of the first week of July," says the *New York Times*. There is not a uniform and agreed commonwealth policy, however much agreement there may be at many points. This was well explained in the following communique that was issued in this connection.

"In this association of free and independent nations it is inevitable that there should be some differences of viewpoint and opinion. But these meetings reveal a broad similarity of approach and purpose. It is not their function, nor is it the object of the communique, to record agreed decisions or formal resolutions."

The whole structure of this British Commonwealth of Nations, says the *New York Times* is something of a political phenomenon. Nothing quite like it has existed previously, and, indeed, at some points it has had the strong mark of improvisation to meet a given situation, as in the case of India.

The one really important thing to remember, and the final communique makes this obvious by the implication in the phrase "free and independent," is that there is no element of coercion at work here. This is, once more, not merely government by consent but association by consent. Like-minded peoples, with the same aspirations and ideals, can come together to their mutual and joint advantage in a curiously flexible political structure.

What we have all been watching for a very considerable period of time, without usually being conscious of it, is the gradual transformation of the old concept of an "empire" into something quite different. In some parts of the Commonwealth the "Crown" is still recognized as "sovereign," but that is no longer critical. In other parts the Crown is the symbol, merely, of a valuable association of ideas and purposes. A generation ago it might have been thought preposterous that there could be a "republic" within the British political structure. Now we know that it is quite possible and we accept it as normal.

THE PLAN AND THE BUDGET

The Special Number of the *Economic Weekly* contains over a score of special articles by well-known writers. It contains authoritative information on current economic and political affairs. The article on "The Plan and the Budget" by Mr. A. K. Dasgupta discusses the financial implications of the Second Plan. The writer is of opinion that we must turn to in future for the mobilization of domestic resources to meet the growing demands of the plan. About the proposed additional taxes, Mr. Dasgupta says:—

The additional direct taxes proposed are to be judged in their long run implication; the present yield is too small relatively to the requirements of the economy. The readjustments in income tax structure and the introduction of the Annual Wealth Tax and the Expenditure Tax are apparently inspired by the Kaldor proposals. Here again one would wish the Kaldor proposals to have been accepted in toto. Gift Tax is missing and the exemption limits in respect of both Wealth Tax and Expenditure Tax are considerably higher than those envisaged by Kaldor. On the other hand, the discrimination in favour of so-called 'earned income' seems to have been carried a little too far; beyond a certain limit there is hardly any clear case, either on social or economic grounds, for a distinction between income from property and professional income. The result is that the additional yield from direct taxes, in spite of a considerably higher marginal rate of taxation than Kaldor would allow, comes in the Budget estimate to only Rs. 25 crores as against Rs. 60—100 crores envisaged in the Kaldor proposals. There are no doubt political and administrative considerations which limit the scope for tax reform. But to bow down to these considerations too readily would be defeatism. If the industrialists and businessmen complain against the new Kaldor taxes, they should be asked to weigh their sacrifices against the tremendous benefits that they are deriving from the expansionist force released in the economy by the increasing developmental expenditure of the State.

PROHIBITION IN INDIA

Dr. Donald Soper, former, leader of Britain's Methodist Church, declared that he was concerned at the inferences which would be drawn from the possible failure of Prohibition in India.

He was writing in the Socialist journal *Tribune*. Dr. Soper said: "Is Prohibition in India going the same way that led to the ignominious failure of the Volstead Act in the United States?"

"The speech in Delhi the other day of an Indian Minister makes this a most relevant question and raises again for practical politicians everywhere the perennial problem of alcohol as a potent social factor.

"Apparently, as in the United States so in India the most significant effects of Prohibition in those States which have so far implemented the Government plan has been the emergence of a widespread and well-organised bootlegging racket.

"I should want a deal of convincing, however, that there has not been a tremendous improvement in village life as a result of this enforced sobriety to set alongside these bad effects.

"Nevertheless, India like the U.S.A. may be convinced that Prohibition tries to do too much and tries to do it too soon.

"What concerns me at this moment is the kind of inferences that will be drawn from the possible failure of this ambitious plan to make India a sober nation.

"The silliest and most dangerous will be that legislation is an inappropriate weapon to deal with the evils associated with intemperance—that you can't make people good by an Act of Parliament.

"The drinking of alcohol is much more than a personal idiosyncrasy outside the range of public action; it is a vested interest and a social activity which no responsible Government can ignore.

The unwary may draw from the non-success of Prohibition the inference that, because this kind of remedy for the evils of drinking is ineffective, no action is really necessary. In short, there is not a drink problem at all.

"Alcoholism is a major curse in Scandinavia and France and the most degrading effect of Western culture on primitive peoples generally.

"In this country sexual immorality would be reduced by 50 per cent, if those who now succumb to its temptations remained cold, sober and prostitution could be decimated.

"The drink trade is unadulterated capitalism, and the economic efficiency of the country is impaired by 13 per cent because of intemperance.

"The death toll on the roads is intimately connected with what is called moderate drinking, and juvenile delinquency goes hand-in-glove with juvenile drinking.

"Expenditure on alcohol is colossal and largely unproductive and drinking encourages the grosser forms of gambling and dulls the revolutionary fervour of the exploited.

"Every social worker anywhere in the world knows that sobriety is the prerequisite of any worthwhile social revolution.

POPULATION OF THE WORLD

Every minute of the day, according to a United Nations population study about 170 new babies come into the world. At the same time, about 90 people die, leaving some 80 new mouths to feed.

These estimates and the facts behind them are contained in 750 pages of text and tables which form the new issue of the "*Demographic Year Book*" prepared by the Statistical Office of U.N. from official censuses of over 200 countries and territories.

The difference between births and deaths means that the world's population of some 2,700,000,000 is increasing by about 120,000 every day. If growth continues at this rate, the U.N. experts estimate, there will be twice as many people by the end of this century.

The main reason why man is multiplying so rapidly is that people are living longer than they did. This, in turn, is mainly due to more efficient doctoring and sanitation. One country, the Netherlands, now has an expectation of life of over 70 years for both males and females. Twelve get the same result for females only. (Women almost everywhere live longer than men).

The fastest rate of population growth is reported from the countries of Latin America, where according to the U.N. records, 4,400,000 persons are added to the population every year. The biggest absolute increase takes place in Asia which already has more than half the world's population. Every year the number of Asians increases by about 24,000,000.

AUGUST 1957]

READERS' DIGEST

The two biggest populations in the world are those of China (582,603,417) and India (356,879,394). Estimates for the Soviet Union show that she comes third, but there has been no census of the Russian people since 1939.

This issue of the "*Demographic Year Book*" dated 1956, illustrates special treatment of language, religion, and ethical composition of the various nations making these breakdowns. Complications of language are illustrated by the case of India which reports well over 800 separate mother tongues.

THE ELEMENT OF UNCERTAINTY

"In spite of all venture of human intellect, God seems to have kept for himself, the true knowledge of future" says Mr. Abdus Salaam Akhtar in *Review of Religions*.

"Just as human will, considered from the ethical point of view, is partly free and partly determined, so the course of event, contingent. This, contingency or element of uncertainty, found in the world events, is truly speaking a great blessing. Methinks, the entire structure of religion, refers to this element of uncertainty or contingency as something which serves as a starting point, for the creation of hope, faith and prayers. If by any magic, man knew, that he would find a buried treasure two months hence, he would not pray nor strive for his own betterment. The essence of effort lies in being ignorant, and, therefore, in being hopeful of the future.

Does it mean, that the scientific attempts are predictability are incompatible with our spiritual life? Mr. Abdur Salaam Akhtar answers thus:

No! Science proceeds according to the Law of Uniformity of nature. The Law demands that whatever is true under a particular set of circumstances to-day, will always be true, if those circumstances are repeated. Science, therefore, aims to know more and more about the circumstances so that it may get greater and greater advantages in the contingent situations. Religion, on the other hand, is a spiritual approach to nature. If science seeks to satisfy the demands of our intellect and reason, religion affords the realization of our spiritual yearnings. The love impulse, which is rightly the data for religious endeavours, implies a struggle, a striving, towards the Beloved.

Hence the element of uncertainty or contingency, as we call it, becomes a fountain or an inspiration for our effort towards the Goal, the Beloved of all creation.

SOCIAL REALISM IN FILMS

"Social realism is the keynote of the European product which has been slowly entering the world market says a writer in the *Journal of the Film Industry* published in Bombay. The end of the last War was characterised by an increasing awareness by the film industry in European countries, particularly in Italy, of the powerful impact of social realism in films. It was realised that through the film, the people and creeds of the country could be made understandable to others. Italian films portraying ordinary men and women oppressed by war, "Paisa", "Open City", "Bicycle Thief" etc. brought to the picture-going public a glimpse of realm that had seldom been seen on the screen before. Other European countries France, Germany, Hungary and Czechoslovakia soon entered the market with the fullest support of their Governments. Russian films had realism in equal force, but they were flavoured with propaganda which could not be easily swallowed by the non-Communist countries. Apparently, Russia has realised this and recent Russian films are reported to be human stories unconnected with any political system.

Japan's progress after rehabilitation has been phenomenal. She has been greatly aided and inspired by Hollywood in her rise.

The Indian producer and public have been trained the "Hollywood" way and Indian producers did have a lot of inspiration from the Movie capital. Production trends in India after independence reveal a growing demand for "Social realism" and 'human' approach in films from the 'cultural' class, while the box-office fillers still clamour for music, dance and spectacle. Pictures in Bengali, Marathi and Malayalam have generally gone the 'realistic' way and could have had a better market in Europe, but for their technical weakness and purely local colour. Hindi films have followed the dictates of the box-office with a predominance of dance and music until the entry of the South to the Hindi market. With Vasan's spectacular "Chandrekha", Hindi films from the South have succeeded with spectacle, lavish sets, dance and music. Bombay productions of the type of 'Barsat', 'Anarkali' and 'Nagin' have eminently succeeded with their popular themes and music and dances. Hindi films have absorbed 'social realism' in several of the recent offerings like 'Do Bigha Zamin' 'Munna' etc."

WASHINGTON AND LINCOLN

Comparing Washington and Lincoln William E. Bohn Editor of the *New Leader* says that these two men, so different in origin, environment and training, turned out to be genuinely great. They were tested in great wars which came near to wrecking their country.

"The parts which they played were opposite. Washington was at the head of the army in the field and pushed through to victory despite all the failings of the civilian authorities who were in control in the capital. Lincoln, on the contrary, sat in the capital and tried desperately to counterbalance the failings of his generals. In the end, both won by the display of enormous will power, intelligence and skill in the management of people."

There was something very similar in the devotion with which these two were rewarded by the common people.

But as the years have gone by, there has come about a sharp contrast in the popular attitude toward these two heroes.

"Washington has taken his place as a supreme military strategist and wise statesman, but a rather cool and distant leader. If he had a failing, it was merely in the control of words. There was more dignity than warmth in his speaking and writing. Lincoln, on the contrary, probably excelled any other statesman in his mastery of speech. With the gifts of a poet, he was able to interpret his sense of democracy in terms which went to the hearts of the common people around the world. If today someone were to take an opinion poll on the matter, I feel sure that our Civil War President would stand higher than the Revolutionary General. It seems to me that there is an injustice involved in this popular judgment."

In the course of years, however, Mr. Bohn thinks that more knowledge and deeper understanding may swing the balance so that these two really great men will stand even in popular estimation.

THE BHAKRA DAM

India's Bhakra Dam, 680 feet high, on the Sutlej River in the Punjab, will be the highest straight gravity dam in the world. It will hold back the river to form a 64-square-mile lake. The storage of 7,400,000 acre feet will provide

irrigation for about 10 million acres of dry land—the largest area to be irrigated by any dam in the world so far. Besides, there will be a power potential of nearly one million kilowatts and a steady supply of 400,000 kilowatts of electricity.

This dam is only a part of the vast Bhakra-Nangal project of which the total outlay is estimated to be £ 126 million. Other parts of this multi-purpose project are: Nangal Dam, power-houses at Ganguwal and Kotla, and a network of canals.

The 93-foot-high Nangal Dam acts as a barrage and will divert part of the Sutlej River into the Nangal Hydel Channel to feed two power-houses at Ganguwal and Kotla, 12 miles and 18 miles downstream, where there is a natural fall of 93 feet at each place. The power-house at Ganguwal, with a capacity of 72,000 kilowatts, is already complete; the other power-house of equal capacity at Kotla soon.

The canal system has also been completed; it has 700 miles of main canals and over 2,000 miles of distributaries which will irrigate vast arid tracts extending up to Rajasthan.

Its construction involved highly complex problems, and is rightly viewed as one of the biggest tasks attempted anywhere in the world at present. Nearly five million cubic yards of rock had to be excavated for the foundation which is being laid at depths of up to 180 feet below the level of the river. Almost the same amount of concrete is being wedged into the V-shaped gorge at Bhakra. This quantity of concrete would be sufficient to build a 20-foot wide concrete road from Delhi to London.

Many subsidiary works had to be completed before beginning work on the dam; some of them are big projects in themselves. They have taken eight years to build and have cost nearly 50 per cent of the estimated total cost of the dam.

The Bhakra-Nangal Project is one of a series of river-valley schemes in India where irrigation areas have recently been increased by seven million acres and hydro-power by a million kilowatts. During the Second Five Year Plan the area under irrigation is to be increased by 12 million acres and power by 2.1 million kilowatts.

THE WESTERN MIND

There is fine material and plenty of scope for study, writes Sri C. Rajagopalachari in *Swarajya*, in the attitude and approach of Western nations and their leaders concerning non-western peoples and their countries.

"One cannot help wondering sometimes whether if an Asiatic Government held the secrets of nuclear fission and fusion and used that knowledge for warlike purposes and experimented as the nuclear powers are now doing with explosions, contaminating the air and waters of the world and spreading deleterious radio activity and perverting the genes of humanity and poisoning the food of men and live-stock everywhere—whether the Western nations and their governments would have sat quietly and watched. Would they not have thundered their just objection and demanded that these wicked processes should cease at once, being an infringement of the rights of other people all over the world."

Again, psychologists should examine how far and why the Western peoples take for granted that they have an exclusive right to colonise back-ward areas and create spheres of influence and penetrate in order to protect these people against enemies and against themselves!

"If and when India or China does that kind of thing to people who live in neighbouring areas, it is considered inconsistent with principles of independence and highly reprehensible; but the right of America, or Britain to do these things is not only a right but human obligation arising out of fundamental charity. 'Withdraw all military forces, hold a plebiscite and give what form of government the people desire under impartial external supervision' is a formula that cannot for a moment apply to South Africa or Kenya or Algeria or Cyprus, but it is a policy over which all political parties unite in western countries, being based on eternal truth so far as Kashmir or Tibet or Nepal or any other conceivable Asiatic territory is concerned."

These, he says, are not mere political controversies but interesting material for scientific psychological research. How it is that the human mind genuinely sees differently in different contexts and what is the remedy for the perversions noticed, if any? he asks.

UNIVERSITY AND THE VILLAGE

Considerable thought is being given to the idea of making University students do some social services particularly in the villages as part of their university training. This raises the question as to what should be the relationship between the university and the college.

Discussing this question in *Kurukshetra* the monthly organ of the University of Community Development Mr. A.P. Barnabas points out that independence has brought into focus the condition of the village.

If the primary function of the university is the search for knowledge, then rural reconstruction would not come within the purview of university training. Neither the University Commission nor the Committee on rural higher education suggested direct relationship between university and village. This does not mean that the university can completely ignore what is happening around it.

"The universities can set up an Extension department of their own. This department would have the function of trying to bring about, in a very broad sense, some relationship between the universities and the village. Extension department could carry on an action programme in the villages and it may be that for specific activities students who are inclined towards rural work may be used. Research can be undertaken by this department in the various fields such as economics, agriculture, medicine, sociology etc. The research which should be carried only by highly qualified people could then be used in giving some rural bias in the teaching of the universities. Training of the people who want to undertake rural work in the spheres of education, medicine, extension work could also be undertaken by the Extension Department. In introducing this department the universities will not be overlooking their primary function, but will be opening up a channel through which the knowledge that is available could be passed on to the village."

This department, says the writer, would have to be more or less autonomous. The relationship at the top level would of course be necessary. These departments could work in close co-operation with the National Extension Services.

AMERICA AND THE UNITED NATIONS

Thought is critical of the United Nations and its activities. The United Nations, it says, cannot by its very nature be an effective instrument for securing and preserving freedom and peace.

"The achievements commonly attributed to the United Nations in preventing continuation and extension of hostilities are a semantic trickery or results of the combinations of traditional pulls and pressures and fortuitous circumstances. Korea and Indo-China provide instances of the former and Palestine, the Suez and Kashmir of the latter. On the only issue of moment to man's future, the United Nations acquitted itself worse than a college debating society. While the people of Hungary lay writhing in agony under the jackboots of a foreign foe the 30-storey U.N. headquarters at New York was reverberating with meaningless sanctimony and cant or cynicism of the worst type. And if Hungary has died today, the same may be the fate of some other small or weak country tomorrow. Justice and international law prescribed by the United Nations Charter with as much verbal force as it did the need for peaceful settlement of international disputes lie scattered as scraps of paper in Eastern Europe as well as in South Africa. The United Nations merely looks on helplessly."

America is verily caught in a dilemma. The United Nations was the child of its conception—following its honeymoon with Russia during the last war. It cannot therefore have any unkind thought about it, says *Thought*.

"But somewhere deep down it seems to have doubts about the viability and efficacy of its offspring. The series of regional military and non-military alliances which it has subsequently created would otherwise be senseless. Rapping the knuckles of erring friends and then hurrying to apply balm to their paining limbs are an inevitable consequence of America's pre-occupation with the United Nations."

SHANKARA

In a study of Adi Shankaracharya, Mr. A. Iswaran says in *The Aryan Path*, that he embodied in himself the highest truth he taught and this more than anything else gave power to his utterances and undertakings.

"Many of his contemporaries and successors had scholarship and organizing ability; but he alone could be a spiritual dynamo capable of surcharging the whole Aryan conscience, then diseased and near to death. By his very presence he sent out a challenge that it was alive and could, even in its infirmity, bear the full fruit of its high aspirations. That presence is not physical but spiritual, and Shankara, like other prophets of the world, is essentially not a personality but a state of realization which must ever remain untouched by objective analysis. We can only gauge its impress upon the physical and spiritual lives of people and give it a name accordingly—a tower of strength to a tottering age, a beacon to souls adrift on the dark unknown."

MR. V. K. K. MENON

In a \$,000-word profile of Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon as an international diplomat, the magazine *"Esquire"* published the opinion of many prominent personages.

Sen. John Sherman Cooper, former U. S. Ambassador to India, said that in respect of the first four U. S. prisoners released by China, Mr. Krishna Menon deserved more credit than had actually been given to him.

"I have always felt that we Americans were ungenerous in not giving him more praise (in that respect), Mr. Cooper said. "But Mr. Krishna Menon was always willing to admit that Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld and others were also working on the same problem."

Another U. S. Senator, Mr. Hubert Humphrey (Democrat), said: "I think Mr. Menon, quite sincerely thinks of himself as a compromiser working for world peace. He will admit that he deals with the Russians, sure; but his point is that somebody has to. Otherwise, it is the U. S. on one side of the street and the Russians on the other and what happens to everybody else?"

THE SOVIET PURGE

The first official Soviet account of the great debate which preceded the recent expulsions from the Soviet Communist Party leadership was published by *Party Life*, official magazine of the party's Central Committee.

The report shows that Mr. Molotov, Mr. Malenkov and Mr. Kaganovich all spoke twice in their own defence before the Central Committee.

The account, issued in the form of an editorial said that in the week-long discussion "not a single person of the Central Committee supported the anti-Party group."

The discussions took place in "a very democratic atmosphere and altogether 215 people expressed a desire to speak. However, only 60 took the floor although the remainder expressed their views in the form of written statements.

Both the speeches and written statements unanimously supported Mr. Khrushchev's position, *Party Life* stated.

THE SECRET OF SEX APPEAL

The girl who captivates her boy friend into falling in love is really hypnotising him. In fact, modern research in hypno-therapy shows that the secret of all sex appeal is hypnosis.

This new slant on love came from Dr. S. J. Van Pelt, President of the British Society of Medical Hypnotists.

In a recent issue of the Society's journal, he instanced the "bad old days of stage hypnotism." Then it was common to see a young man dancing with a broom under hypnosis and even trying to kiss it.

In real life, the same kind of thing happens: The boy friend says his future wife is an angel, while friends warn that she was just a good-for-nothing. He ignores the advice.

But, suggests Dr. Van Pelt, disillusionment comes when the reality of marriage dispels this happy picture. This, he said, might be the reason why so many film stars marry and divorce so frequently.

SPACE ROCKET TO MOON

The Soviet magazine *Science and Technique* said that the sending of a space rocket to the moon would be a reality within five or ten years.

The magazine said the rocket composed of three detachable parts would take off from a mountain airfield. It would be tele-guided along a predetermined course into the moon's gravitation field. On arrival it would slowly land on the moon and a caterpillar laboratory would leave the rocket and transmit data from its recording instruments and television cameras to the earth.

RED GOVT. IN KERALA

The *Manchester Guardian* said it was clear that "a new look is coming over Communism in Asia."

This newspaper added in a leading article: "It may increasingly diverge in appearance—though perhaps less in reality—from Communism in Europe."

"It is not only China, or even principally China, which will be responsible for the new face of Communism Kerala—the Indian State which formed a Communist Government after the last general election—may have an importance which is hardly yet recognised in the West.

"The Communist Government in Kerala, led by some very able men, is advertising that it will bring about something approaching communism by means which keep just on the right side of the Constitution.

"If it succeeds, Kerala may become a new model for Asian Communists. Why pursue the discredited methods of armed rebellion if agitation, the ballot-box, and the circumstances of society of many of the Asian countries may offer a surer way?"

"In the Communist Parties of Burma and Malaya, the Kerala example is already being discussed. From one point of view, there will of course, be great satisfaction if Communist Parties in Asia should abandon violence and conspiracy."

The Paper added: "But it must also be recognised that if Communism in free Asia becomes constitutional in its methods—and if China seems to have developed a somewhat liberalised form of Communism—then Communism is likely to be more dangerous, not less.

"Its main disattractions to the intelligensia will have been reduced.

At the present moment, the Asian country in which Communism is most likely to cause an immediate crisis is Indonesia.

"President Sukarno, by insisting on his conception of guided democracy, is undermining the parliamentary cabinet. He has succeeded in including into the political system a National Advisory Council, whose object is pretty evidently to replace the Parliament.

"President Sukarno is not a communist. But the Indonesian Communist Party is supporting him vigorously, because it sees in guided democracy the opportunity of gaining a toe-hold on power, which it cannot hope to get by means of parliamentary politics."

The *Manchester Guardian*, continued: But their optimism will increase the resolution of the anti-Communist Parties. If President Sukarno presses these too hard, they may oppose by force."

BUDDHISM — INDIA'S GREAT CONTRIBUTION

Ben Gurion, Prime Minister of Israel, writing on the above subject in *Jana Ceylon's* Monthly observes three nations of antiquity have bequeathed eternal values to the human race and to a large extent moulded the characters of many nations in all parts of the Globe. These three peoples were Israel, Greece and India. And the greatest contribution of India, according to him, was the doctrine of Buddhism. Greece has enriched the treasury of humanity with great works of literature and arts.

"But we shall not be faithful to the truth if we say that the greatness of ancient Greece was confined to the spheres of beauty and intellect; in the writings of Plato, Aristotle and Plotinus we find a profound aspiration for the good and the righteous. We shall also be unfaithful to the truth if we say that the greatness of ancient Israel was limited to the religious and ethical message of her Prophets; the books of the Bible are full of supreme beauty and great wisdom."

"Nor is the doctrine of the Buddha confined to prescribing a way of life of nobility and redemption."

"It is also radiant with profound and original philosophic thought. But it is true that the principal emphasis of the Greek genius was on the field of art and philosophy, and the principal emphasis of Israel's prophets was on the supreme religious and ethical consciousness, just as the principal emphasis of the Buddhist doctrine was directed to the liberation of the individual from sorrow and suffering."

JEWISH MYSTICISM AND VEDANTA

"Vedanta teaches three basic truths: man is potentially divine; the aim of life is to actualize this potentiality; and all the great faiths are paths to the realization of god." Rabbi Asher Block, whose talk at the Vedanta Society, New York is published in *Prabuddha Bharata*, points out how Judaism is fundamentally in agreement with these principles.

Western theologians, he says, often like to draw a sharp contrast between the Oriental tradition and the Judeo-Christian heritage. The Eastern teaching, they say, by making Brahman and Atman as One, tends to negate the world and individual life, while Western religion, being dualistic, leaves room for individuality.

"For the vast majority of us, however this is a purely theoretical question, with no relevance to our real situation. Ramakrishna pointed out very often: As long as the body and the consciousness of self are with us, we cannot pretend that they do not exist. Hence, if we must have ego, let it be the ego of service, the ego of devotion and love."

So it is not a question of dualism or monism, it is only a question of whether our thoughts and actions shall be self-centered or God-centered. On this it seems, all the great faiths are wholly agreed: that our life has no other ultimate purpose but to seek to dwell in the Presence of the Eternal."

ISLAMIC REPUBLIC

Abdul Qayyum Malik, writing in *Iqbal*, a journal published in Lahore (West Pakistan), discusses the life and teachings of prophet Muhammad. Concluding the article he summarises the Islamic view of democracy the fundamental principles of which are listed presumably for the benefit of those now in charge of the new Islamic State of Pakistan. Islam, he says, "never tried a militant imperialism nor did it try to form a universal worldly Empire such as that of Rome." A Republican regime, divinely sanctioned in law, and however religiously inspired in constitution, is inclusive of Muslim and non-Muslim citizenship.

(1) The perfect Islamic state shall be non-monarchical and non-hereditary. It shall not be a theocracy as understood in the West. It shall be an all-embracing democratic unitary State.

(2) In the Islamic State all persons whether men, women, Muslims or non-Muslims, shall have equality before law;

(3) The Islamic Republic shall guarantee equal civil liberties to all its constituents;

(4) It will guarantee freedom of conscience, expression and movements and propaganda to Muslims as well as to non-Muslims within the limits of elementary human rights;

(5) It will guarantee rights to Muslim women of inheritance, matrimony and other contracts, according to the *Shariat* and will suppress customs repugnant to it, and so on.

And he prays to Allah in all humility "to give us the courage of our Islamic convictions to establish an ideal republic which will bless those who will work it as well as those who live under it."

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

ATOMIC ENERGY IN INDIA

Replying to the debate in the Lok Sabha on July 24, on the demands for grants for the Department of Atomic Energy, Prime Minister Nehru said that work relating to the development of atomic energy in the country had been "remarkably rapid and good" and scientists of other countries had appreciated the good progress India had made.

The Prime Minister said that the Government of India was looking ahead and planning for the next fifteen years to develop atomic energy. He reiterated that India would in no event use atomic energy for destructive purposes, but only for peaceful purposes. He was confident that this would be the policy of all future Governments in the country. The House passed the demands totalling Rs. 7 crores.

Mr. Nehru warned that an "atomic colonialism" might develop in the world if the fissionable material was in the hands of a group of powers.

EISENHOWER — SUHRAWARDY DECLARATION

A joint communique issued at Washington on July 13 on the talks between President Eisenhower and Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy, Pakistan Prime Minister, said that the President expressed the hope that regional disputes like Kashmir and the distribution of the waters in the Indus River basin "may be solved speedily, equitably and permanently in accordance with the principles of the United Nations."

The two statesmen had also discussed the threat to the security and integrity of the nations of the Middle East resulting from "the intrusion of Communist influence and subversion in that area" and agreed to exert their influence to promote conditions there "which will permit the nations of the area to work out their national destinies in freedom and peace."

NATIONAL INCOME OF INDIA

"The First Five-Year Plan was instrumental in bringing about a marked improvement in levels of production, both in agriculture and in industry. It also initiated a number of structural and institutional changes. The plan has evoked widespread public interest and enthu-

siasm and there is a new and insistent urge for rapid development all over the country."

Thus says the Review of the First Five-Year Plan (including the Progress Report for 1955-56), which is the fifth and last in the series of progress reports issued on July 31 by the Planning Commission on the First Plan.

SUHRAWARDY'S INDISCREET SPEECHES

Mr. Fazlur Rehman, a member of the National Assembly, has called upon Mr. H. S. Suhrawardy to quit his office of Prime Ministership since his recent visit to the United States "has conclusively proved his bankruptcy in statesmanship and diplomacy."

In a statement issued at Karachi on July 27 Mr. Fazlur Rehman who was a Minister for six-years in the Muslim League Government at the Centre, said, "Mr. Suhrawardy should be the last person to continue to be the Prime Minister of our country."

Utterances of Mr. Suhrawardy in the United States, Mr. Fazlur Rehman said, were "indiscreet, improper and reckless."

He said: "Use of sycophantic language in his references to America and Britain, his posing as the spokesman of Western policies and his speeches in the United States giving the impression that Pakistan was not an equal partner in the alliance with the Western Powers, but a satellite of the United States have done incalculable harm to Pakistan and its people."

INDEPENDENCE FOR MALAYA

Queen Elizabeth, on July 31, gave the Royal assent to a Bill to establish the Federation of Malaya as an independent sovereign country within the Commonwealth.

This was done in the House of Lords through a Royal Commission, a parliamentary instrument for conveying the sovereign's will to the legislature in the physical absence of the monarch herself.

The Federation becomes independent on August 31.

It will have two Houses of Parliament and a constitutional-monarchical system of Government.

Utterances of the Day

KARAN SINGH ON KASHMIR

Yuvraj Karan Singh pleaded for enlightened public opinion in the world to compel "the aggressor to admit its war guilt in Kashmir and to withdraw from our soil."

He addressed a joint session of both Houses of the State's new Legislature, on July 27 "It is a matter for deep regret that a large area of the State continues to be subjected to unlawful occupation by a foreign country, which is there by virtue of violence and aggression. This area naturally remains unrepresented in our Legislature, though our constitution provides for its representation after it is liberated from the aggressor."

"Continued aggression and occupation have thus not only brought about artificial division of the State but have denied a large number of our people the opportunity to exercise their democratic right along with the rest of their brethren."

A statement of this position has become all the more necessary as voices have been raised in certain quarters seeking to cloud the basic issues of this controversy. In the interests of maintaining peace and international amity, it is imperative that acts of aggression, wherever they occur, should be promptly investigated and condemned," the Yuvraj concluded.

NEHRU ON STRIKE THREAT

The Prime Minister, who was inaugurating the National Council for training in Vocational Trades, at New Delhi on July 30 said that Government servants might be facing difficulties and so also others too. These difficulties had to be considered in a calm atmosphere but not "by this business of using the big club," whether it was by the strikers or by the Government.

"These questions cannot be settled by threats. The matter is much too serious and it may affect the whole country and the community," Mr. Nehru added.

PANDIT PANT ON THE SERVICES

Mr. G. B. Pant, Union Home Minister, speaking at Madras on July 11 stressed the vital need for a "living bond" between the Services and the people of the country and said that even if a member of the Services was highly efficient, but was lacking in that sense of oneness with the people his efficiency could not prove adequate to the needs of the country.

Calling upon the Government servants to exert themselves in full in the discharge of their

duties, the Home Minister said that if every Government servant served the country honestly, faithfully and to the best of his ability, he was confident that the State would get more returns and the wages and salaries of its servants would automatically go up.

MR. V. K. K. MENON ON CHINA

Addressing a meeting at London on July 4 organised by Indian students, Mr. V. K. K. Menon, Defence Minister, referred to the People's Republic of China and said: "For the first time you have in China a Government that is not corrupt and is incorruptible, a Government whose writ runs all over the country, a Government which is able to gear the country to voluntary effort. It has been put in power by the people of China."

"To ignore it is to ignore many international problems, the problem of disarmament, the problem of the stability of Asia. The recognition of the People's Republic of China as an equal member of the comity of nations is absolutely necessary for the stability of Asia and of the world."

SIR C. P.'s WARNING

Addressing a meeting of the Madras Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association at Madras on July 2 Dr. Ramaswami Iyer said "that the duty of a legislator outside the Party was more onerous and comprehensive. In a big monolithic Party like the Congress, it was imperative that the member should be in constant touch with his constituency, study its problems and make himself master of all facts."

Dr. C. P. Ramaswami Iyer uttered a note of warning to the legislators that in a Welfare State, bureaucracy would involve and ultimately extinguish ministerial responsibility, unless legislators developed a tendency "to analyse, dissect, explore and expose." This tendency, he said, would be neutralised by an "unalert, indolent, patronage-seeking or dubious Opposition."

MR. HAROLD MACMILLAN ON ASIA

Mr. Harold Macmillan, British Prime Minister, told the American Bar Association in London on July 26 that "The growing nationalism of Asia and Africa" had grown from a "ripple" to a "tidal wave."

He added that it should be canalised "into the broad and safe channels: otherwise nationalism will turn to Communism."

Political

SOUTHERN ZONAL COUNCIL

Inaugurating the Southern Zonal Council at Madras on July 11 Pandit G. B. Pant, Union Home Minister, urged the need for the different States in the South making united efforts for the solution of the common problems confronting the region as a whole and promoting its development.

Referring to the proposal for the utilisation of the waters of the Godavari and the Krishna for the benefit of some parts of Madras State, he said: "With some luck and skill on our part this need not remain a dream."

THE COMMONWEALTH CONFERENCE

Commenting on the findings of the Commonwealth Conference Mr. Harold Macmillan the Prime Minister of England said on July 7th: "We agreed on some things, disagreed on others—as you would expect."

Then he added: "What warmed my heart was that there was such a large measure of agreement, goodwill and friendly understanding."

"These meetings are quite different from the sort of international conferences and meetings which you and I know so well, where the main purpose is to make a large number of set speeches and pass a long list of resolutions."

EVENTS IN MOSCOW

In another page we have published an article on "the Purge in Russia." Commenting on the same Mr. Nehru said that recent events in Russia "should certainly lead to two things: firstly, better relations with other countries—that is East-West relations—and, secondly, perhaps, more relaxation, and what is called liberalisation internally."

Mr. Nehru told a Press conference: in Hague on July 9, "A process has started in the Soviet Union which is going to continue. It had been checked somewhat by events in Hungary. I think that process of liberalisation was not just someone's decision at the top but a real change from the people up. I think it will continue perhaps a little more now—that is to say both internally and externally there will be relaxation."

FORMER FRENCH AREAS OF INDIA

The Foreign Affairs Committee of the French National Assembly Paris on July 18 voted in favour of ratification of the treaty by

which France ceded to India her former territories in India—Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe, Yanam and Chandranagore.

It approved by 26 votes against 15 with one abstention a report by a Radical Deputy, M. Paul Devinat, which was in favour of ratification.

Before the vote, the Committee heard the Foreign Minister, M. Christian Pineau. Committee members said he told them that ratification of the treaty would help to improve relations between Paris and New Delhi. He also said the advantages of ratifying the treaty outweighed the disadvantages.

INDIA AND U. N. COUNCIL SEATS

Earl Attlee said in London on July 25 that both People's China and India should be on the United Nations Security Council.

He said one had to get away from the "old obsession that it was only Europeans and those of European descent who mattered in the world."

"China and India should have a place on the Security Council and in time we must consider ex-enemy countries," he told the House of Lords during a debate on the structure of the United Nations.

END OF PRESIDENT'S RULE IN W. PAKISTAN

The President of Pakistan, Mr. Iskandar Mirza, issued a proclamation on July 15 revoking direct rule in West Pakistan and ordered restoration of parliamentary Government.

The proclamation said that the Government in West Pakistan could now function "in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution." On July 17 the new West Pakistan Republican Ministry led by Sardar Abdur Rashid Khan was sworn in by the Governor Mr. M. A. Gurmani. The new Cabinet consists of eight Ministers.

GOVERNORS OF STATES

Governors of States have informed the President that they have decided voluntarily to surrender ten per cent of their salaries in view of the present need for reducing administrative expenditure. The Maharaja of Mysore has been foregoing his entire salary since he assumed office as Governor of that State in November, 1956.

TEACHERS' SALARIES

Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, stated in the Lok Sabha on July 26 that the Government of India had given the highest priority in all its plans of educational development for improving the quality of teachers in the country, as the personality of the teachers had an impact on children.

Replying to the debate on demands for grants totalling Rs. 25 crores for his Ministry, which the House voted, Dr. Shrimali said the Centre was giving assistance to State Governments to increase the salaries of teachers at all levels, primary, secondary and university.

Dr. Shrimali said the country could be proud of the progress made so far in the field of technical education, and by the end of the Second Plan he hoped it would be possible to admit every year about 10,000 students for degree courses and 21,000 for diploma courses.

RURAL HIGHER EDUCATION

Dr. Radhakrishnan inaugurated the College of Rural Higher Education at the Ramakrishna Mission Vidyalaya at Trichinopoly on July 14th. He lighted a "Kuthivilakku" in the traditional way of inauguration.

He emphasised that rural higher education, which was the development of the Gandhian concept of basic education, should not in any way be inferior to urban university education. Training under this system of education should be such as to enable the trainees compete for leadership with those of urban universities. Dr. Radhakrishnan was of opinion that

"Even those, who came from villages to towns for study, were not inclined to go back to villages, and the scientific knowledge and technical skill they mastered were not at the disposal of the rural community. So the best talents were not made use of in villages, and it might be broken down without any kind of the true leadership."

SCHEME TO TRAIN TEACHERS

That steps are to be taken immediately to train a cadre of teacher-administrators who would train teachers to carry out a programme of education for workers. Candidates for training as teacher-administrators would be selected from trade unions, universities and other organisations.

This decision was taken by the Workers' Education Committee at its first meeting in

New Delhi on July 14. The Union Minister for Labour and Employment, Mr. Gulzarilal Nanda, presided over the meeting. The Union Deputy Minister for Labour, Mr. M. Abid Ali, and the former Union Labour Minister, Mr. Khandubhai Desai were also present.

UNIVERSITIES' CONFERENCE

Mr. C. D. Deshmukh inaugurated a three day conference at New Delhi on July 30th. The conference dealt with University administration. It was first of its kind in India. It was attended by Vice-Chancellors of 35 Indian universities. Secretaries of Education Departments of States and several educationists.

Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, advised universities in the country to take advantage of the recent developments in the field of Public Administration and to seek the assistance of the Organisation and Methods Division and the Institution of Public Administration established by the Government of India for "the continuous and systematic improvement of their administrative machinery."

BASIC EDUCATION

As far as the Government of India are concerned they have accepted the programme of basic education and the ideology on which it is based and the concept of basic education as explained by Gandhiji, said Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research.

Dr. Shrimali was presiding over the inaugural meeting of the Advisory Committee for the National Institute of Basic Education at New Delhi on July 27.

However, he said there could be no finality as far as methodology of basic education was concerned. Since the whole system was based on a social philosophy and ideology it had to be worked within the framework of that ideology. The main task before the protagonists of the basic education, was to expand the education and reorientate the present system.

DELHI UNIVERSITY

Dr. V.K.R.V. Rao, Dean of the Faculty of Social Sciences, Delhi University, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of the University in succession to Dr. G. S. Mahajani, who resigned some months ago. Dr. Mahajani has been appointed a member of the Union Public Service Commission. Dr. Rao is also the Director of the Delhi School of Economics.

THE MYSORE CHIEF JUSTICE

"It is possible for one to be a good Judge, though not a great Judge, by conforming to ethical standards and exhibiting intellectual qualities which the members of the Bar more than others can readily recognise and which can be better appreciated than described. I would attach more importance to the determination of what is right and fair than giving effect to technicalities and would stress the desirability of construing law so as to promote justice as far as possible in preference to a rigid mechanical application of the law."

Thus observed Mr. R. Venkatramaiah, the retiring Chief Justice of the Mysore High Court, replying to the farewell accorded to him by the Advocate-General in Mysore on July 15th.

Mr. Justice Subodh Ranjan Das Gupta, of the Calcutta High Court, has been appointed Chief Justice of Mysore.

LABOUR COURTS IN MADRAS STATE

The Government of Madras have notified in a Gazette Extraordinary issued on July 26, the constitution of an additional Labour Court at Madurai under the Industrial Disputes Act.

According to the notification, the Labour Courts in Madras, Coimbatore and Madurai shall have jurisdiction over the following areas:

Labour Court, Madras: Madras, Chingleput, South Arcot, North Arcot and Tanjore.

Labour Court, Coimbatore: Coimbatore, Nilgiris, Salem and Plantations in other districts.

Labour Court, Madurai: Madurai, Ramnathapuram, Tirunelveli, Kanyakumari and Tiruchirappalli.

MARUMAKKATHAYAM ACT

A Bill to amend the Madras Marumakkathayam Act was published by the Kerala Government on July 20th.

The Madras Marumakkathayam Act, in force in Malabar area of Kerala State, provides only for *tavazhi* partition so as to keep up the Marumakkathayam set-up.

The Statement of Objects and Reasons of the Bill says that this idea has undergone considerable changes in recent times and modern trend of opinion is in favour of individual partition. The Government consider that members of a *tarwad* or *tavazhi* should be entitled to claim individual partition.

LEVY OF ESTATE DUTIES

Appeals brought by the Attorney-General of Ceylon, contending that Ceylon portions of

estates left by a father and a son, coparcenary members of a Hindu undivided family living in South India, were liable to Ceylon Estate Duty, were dismissed with costs by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in London on July 10th.

The son and the father, both named Arunachalam Chettiar, died in 1934 and 1938 respectively.

In the case of the son, the District Court of Colombo ordered repayment to his Ceylon administrators of Rs. 283,213 paid in Estate Duty. This was upheld by the Supreme Court.

In the case of the father, the Supreme Court ordered repayment of Rs. 700,402 Estate Duty, thus reversing the District Court's finding.

HINDU JOINT FAMILIES

The Hindu undivided families in India are undergoing a process of "gradual disintegration," according to a Reserve Bank of India study on income tax revenue in 1955-56.

The study, published in the latest issue of the Reserve Bank of India bulletin, says that by types of tax payers, tax assessed on individuals shows "the most noticeable rise" followed by companies. "Only in the case of Hindu undivided families is there a decline in tax assessed as a result of a fall in income — presumably the result of the gradual disintegration of such families."

In 1950-51, there were 52,401 families with the assessed income of Rs. 64.41 crores. The number dropped to 39,633 with the assessed income of Rs. 62.25 crores in 1955-56.

JUDGES' SALARIES

While the Government of India is launching an all-out drive for economy in all spheres of public administration for saving the Second Plan, monetary emoluments for Judges of High Courts at the present level are stated to be not attractive enough for eminent members of the Bar to join the Bench.

The Second Schedule of the Constitution lays down that the Chief Justices of High Courts shall be paid a salary of Rs. 4,000 a month and any other Judge a salary of Rs. 3,500 a month, in respect of time spent on actual service.

It is understood that, recently as many as four eminent members of the Calcutta Bar have declined offers of appointment as Judges of High Courts because they considered the terms not attractive enough.

Trade and Finance

ECONOMIC SITUATION IN INDIA

The Reserve Bank's *Report on Currency and Finance* for 1956-57 published on 28th July, opens with a brief review of the general economic situation in India.

According to the Report, the year 1956-67, the first year of the Second Five-Year Plan, saw a further marked stepping up of the development effort in the economy, which was reflected in higher levels of investment in both the public and private sectors. Industrial and agricultural production recorded increases, but the growth of real output and voluntary savings during the year was apparently less than the rise in over-all demand.

On the whole, the Report states, the stresses and strains in the economy — of which the rise in prices and rapid decline in foreign exchange reserves were striking symptoms — were much more severe than in the previous year and consequently remedial action by Government and the monetary authority required also to be stronger and more varied. The Report then goes on to survey briefly world economic developments during 1956, which provide both interesting parallels and contrasts. The chapters that follow review in detail the trends and developments during 1956-57 in the various spheres of the Indian economy and are accompanied by comprehensive statistics and several graphs.

BONUS TO TISCO WORKERS

Profit-sharing bonus to be paid to workers of the Tata Iron and Steel Company for the year ending March 31, 1957, will amount to Rs. 1,07,02,600, according to Mr. Micheal John, President of the Tata Workers' Union.

Mr. John who made the announcement at a mass rally at Jemshedpur on 28th July, said each worker would receive bonus for the year equivalent to the wages of approximately 2.65 months. Profit-sharing bonus in the previous year amounted to Rs. 1,06,00,000.

STATE INSURANCE SCHEME

The Deputy Ministers for labour, Mr. Abid Ali, told Mr. S. M. Banerjee and Mr. Thangamani in the Lok Sabha on July 15th that the question of extending the facilities of the Employee's State Insurance scheme to the families of insured workers was being actively pursued with the State Governments and he expected that steps in this direction would be taken within a year from now.

CREDIT FACILITIES FOR INDIA

Mr. John Cronin, Labour member, suggested in the House of Commons on July 25th that the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Peter Thorneycroft, should consider "affording credit facilities to India solely with a view to maintaining the relative stability of the Rupees."

Mr. Nigel Birch, Economic Secretary to the Treasury, told him. "The maintenance of the stability of the Rupee is the responsibility of the Government of India. Its reserves of gold and foreign exchange are substantial and amounted on July 12 last, to £419 millions (about Rs. 556 crores)."

Mr. Cronin said Britain's position, as banker for the Sterling area, could become rather precarious if help was not given to the member-countries.

Mr. Birch: "India has very considerable reserves in this country which she is entitled to draw."

GERMAN AID TO INDIA

West Germany should give India an annual credit of about 300 million marks over a period of seven to eight years to stave off big deficits during the current Five-Year Plan period, the former West German Ambassador to India, Dr. Ernest Meyer, said on July 24. He was speaking on the Radio. He added that this deficit would be about 3,000 million marks which could be prevented through the extension of German credit.

Otherwise, said Dr. Meyer, India would be forced to stop imports from West Germany which would be a heavy blow to German interests.

SMALL SAVINGS SCHEME

Mr. V.T. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission, said at Madras on July 15th that the small savings movement should be a popular movement in which the Central and the State Governments should assist. It should be organised as a "permanent movement" for the success of the Second Five-Year Plan and of future plans, he added.

Mr. Krishnamachari who was presiding over the new savers' drive organised by the National Savings Organisation this evening at Rajaji Hall referred to the Second Five-Year Plan's objectives and said that the Plan could not be regarded at all as "ambitious."

Women's Page

RADHAKRISHNAN'S ADVICE TO WOMEN

Dr. Radhakrishnan, who was inaugurating the Avinashilingam Home Science College at Coimbatore on July 25th, said that women were capable of the great duties and obligations they were asked to undertake with credit to themselves and to the country.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, Vice-President, said the independence of the country synchronised with the emancipation of women, who were coming into their own, and it was necessary that they must use the few opportunities they had for the purpose of contributing to the welfare of the country and humanity.

The Vice-President said one of the major subjects that should be taught in any Home Science institution was human relationship. He considered it as a vital part of education. It was not something which could be acquired but could only be attained through hard and sustained application of mind.

ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN

A call to the women of this country to be vigilant, and strive for improvement of their conditions, was made at Madras on July 27 by Mrs. Lakshmi N. Menon, Union Deputy Minister for External Affairs, while addressing a meeting of the Women's Indian Association, at the Queen Mary's College.

CRAFT TRAINING FOR WOMEN

Mrs. Durgabai Deshmukh, Chairman of the Central Social Welfare Board, addressing a meeting of social workers at Mysore last month appealed to them to lend their unstinted support for the successful working of the Five-Year Plan.

H. H. Sri. Thripurasundaramma, Maharani of Mysore presided.

Mrs. Achamma Mathai, member of the Central Social Welfare Board, explained the social welfare schemes, proposed to be undertaken.

Mrs. Durgabai regretted that women's education was neglected and a large percentage of women were illiterate. She wanted more colleges for women, especially technical institutions, to teach them some crafts, which would enable them to supplement the family income.

FIRST WOMEN M. P. S. IN EGYPT

Two women candidates, Miss Rawya Attiya of Cairo, and Mrs. Amina Shoukri of Alexandria, became the first women members of Parliament in Egypt's history.

Miss Attiya, a 32-year-old university graduate, was elected for a Cairo constituency, one of 168 in which voters went to the polls for a second time because none of the candidates had obtained an overall majority on July 3. No women were elected in the July 3 poll.

Mrs. Shoukri, the only other woman to reach the second round was elected in Alexandria.

PETITIONS TO QUEEN ELIZABETH

Petition forms to the Queen signed by nearly 40,000 people were taken to Government offices in London on July 9 asking the British Government to stop Hydrogen Bomb tests pending international agreement.

The pile of forms was carried to the Home Office, through which petitions to the Queen are normally handled, by Mrs. Lucy Masterson, widow of a former Liberal Minister.

Mrs. Masterson afterwards left letters at the United States and Russian Embassies telling the Ambassadors of the petition and urging their Governments to give a lead by declaring their intentions to stop explosions in time of peace.

DEMONSTRATION BY AFRICAN WOMEN

About 3,000 African women demonstrated at Petersburg on July 25th in protest against the South African Government's move to make them carry reference books (identity cards).

The demonstration was outside the African Commissioner's office when a team of officials arrived to distribute the reference books, which must also be carried by all African males.

The women refused to accept them and marched through the town's roads shouting slogans against the identity system.

MISS UNIVERSE

Gladys Zender (Miss Peru) was elected "Miss Universe" at a contest held at Long Beach, California last month. The runners-up were: Miss Brazil, Miss Britain, Miss Cuba and Miss Germany, in that order.

Miss Peru, who is 18 is the youngest of the first five. The other four are aged 20, 23, 19 and 19 respectively.

NARHARI PARIKH

Mr. Narhari Parikh, a close associate of Mahatma Gandhi and his Secretary for several years, died at Bardoli last month at the Bardoli Swaraj Ashram. He was 67.

Stricken with paralysis, Mr. Parikh was confined to the Ashram precincts for the last three years.

Mr. Narhari Parikh wrote several books on Gandhian ideology and thoughts. His last book was on Gandhian Economy.

THE NEW AGA KHAN

Prince Karim, 20-year-old successor of the Aga Khan, proclaimed himself as the spiritual leader of the twenty-million Ismaili Moslems at a simple ceremony in his late grandfather's villa 'Barakat,' at Geneva on July 13th.

The slender brownhaired Harvard student received 50 leaders of the sect with their wives in the villa garden on the shore of Lake Geneva.

SIR JAGDISH PRASAD

Kunwar Sir Jagdish Prasad, former member of the Viceroy's Executive Council, died at Moradabad on July 23rd. He was 77.

Sir Jagdish was born in a distinguished zamindar family of Moradabad on January 17, 1880. His grandfather, Raja Jai Kishen Das, was a co-founder of the Agra College.

PROF. J. B. S. HALDANE

Prof. J. B. S. Haldane, eminent British biologist, came to India with his wife on July 25th. "I want to live in a free country where there are no foreign troops based all over the place," Prof. Haldane said.

"Yes, I do mean the Americans when I say foreign troops," he said.

The 64-year-old scientist and his wife, Dr. Helen Spurway, flew from London airport to Calcutta where they will work together in the Indian Statistical Institution.

"My decision to leave country was accelerated by the Suez affairs," Professor Haldane said. "These things make a difference to an old-fashioned person like me. I have long meant to leave my country."

He said he had nothing against American troops in particular. "I would feel the same if the troops were German, French or anything else," he added.

Professor Haldane, former lecturer at University College, London, left the Communist Party last year "because of Stalinist interference in science."

"MAX MULLER BHAVAN"

A German Reading Room and Cultural Centre named "Max Muller Bhavan," organised by the West German Government was opened at New Delhi on July 24th by Prof. Humayun Kabir, Union minister for Civil Aviation.

The library has, initially, 1,200 books produced in Germany. The 12-section library has books on all subjects, including Max Muller's well-known works on Hindu Religion, Sanskrit Literature and Indology.

SRI JAYACHAMARAJA WADIYAR

The Governor of Mysore, Sri Jayachamaraja Wadiyar, was elected an Associate member of the Institute International De Philosophie of Paris, which met at Warsaw on 19th of last month.

TRIBUTE TO TANSEN

The death anniversary of Tansen, the great singer, was celebrated at his tomb in Gwalior, where eminent musicians of the country gave recitals of their vocal and instrumental arts recently.

Dr. B. V. Keskar, Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting inaugurating the function, said that Tansen was the fountain of music from whom sprung all forms of Indian music such as Darbari, Kanada, Miaki, Malhar, Sarang and Drupad. He was both a composer and a singer.

INDIA AND EAST GERMANY

Automatic looms and other textile machinery and equipment worth about Rs. 1.2 crores will be supplied by East Germany under an agreement signed at New Delhi on July 26th with State Trading Corporation.

WORLD AIR SPEED RECORD

Britain's fastest fighter plane, the English Electric P-1, has broken the existing world speed record, on July 17th.

The plane had flown faster than the present world record of 1,132 miles per hour by the Fairey Delta Two. But the P-1's speed remains a secret.

English Electric, in their announcement, said the P-1, had, without attempting to make a record, flown in excess of it and was still accelerating when the pilot throttled back.—

GEN. THIMMAYYA

Gen. K. S. Thimmayya, Chief of the Army Staff, left for London on August 2 to attend the annual conference of the Army Chiefs of Staff of the various Commonwealth Countries convened by the Chief of the Imperial General Staff at Camberley from Aug. 7 to 9.

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THE INDIAN REVIEW

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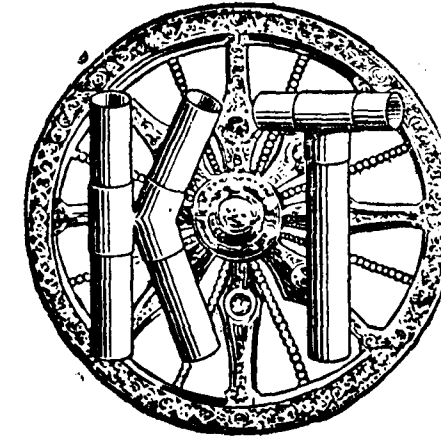
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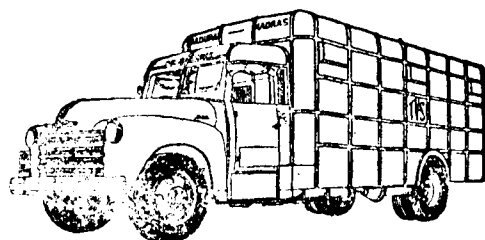
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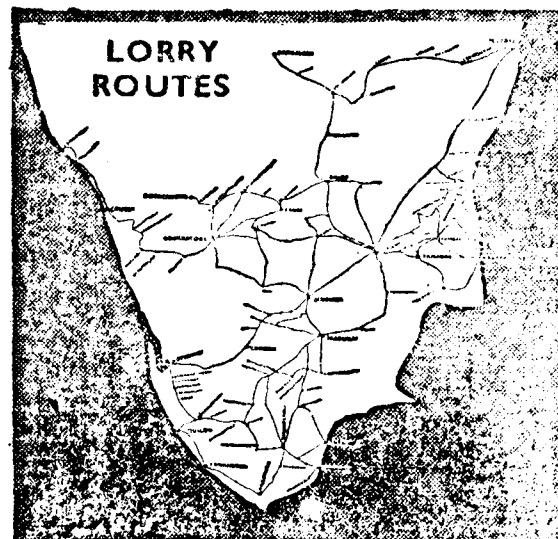
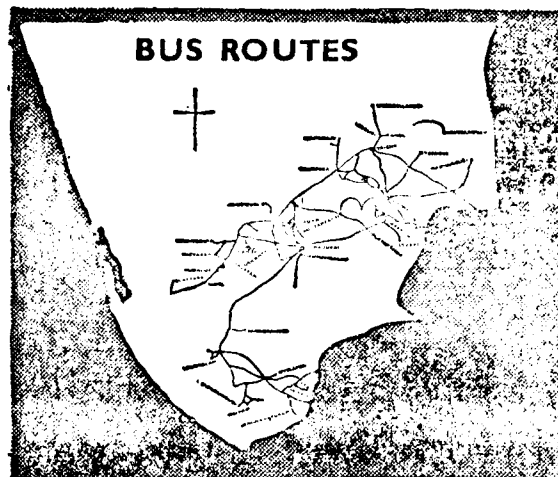
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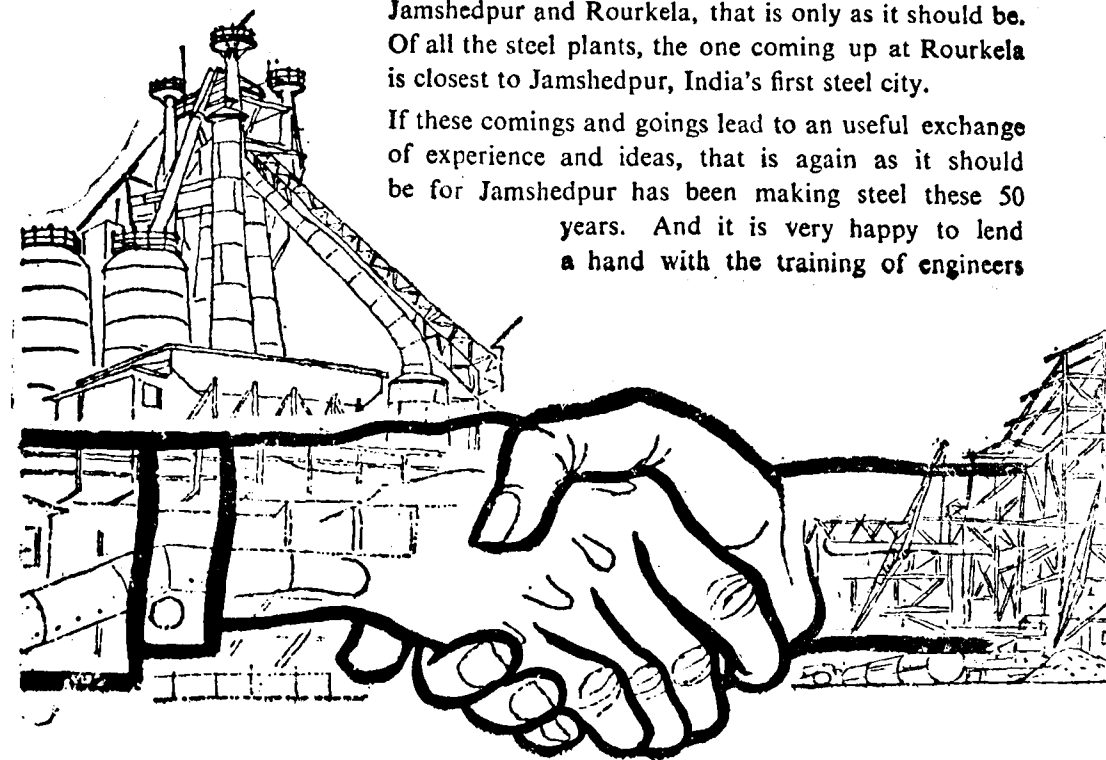
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| Sri B. Gopala Reddi, Finance Minister, Andhra-pradesh | Sri J. Sivashanmugam Pillai, Member, Union Public Services Commission |
| „ B. Shiva Rao, Member, Rajya Sabha | „ Lobo Prabhu, I.C.S., Home Secretary, Madras Government |
| „ Devadoss Gandhi, (since deceased) | „ K. Santhanam, Chairman, Finance Commission |
| „ K. P. S. Menon, Ambassador, Moscow | Srimathi Enakshi Bhavnani |
| „ G. L. Mehta, Indian Ambassador, Washington | Mr. K. J. Cleetus |
| Sir M. Visveswaraya | Mr. G. A. Johnson, Editor 'Statesman,' Calcutta |
| „ Vaikunth L. Mehta, Chairman, Khadi and Village Industries Board | Mr. R. E. Castel |

and others

The completion of 60 years' service to the nation is an occasion, you will agree, worthy of remembrance and record. It is therefore proposed to issue a special Diamond Jubilee number of Messrs. G. A. Natesan & Co. in October 1957 in commemoration of this event, to which many leading men of the day as detailed above are contributing. Please order for your copy.

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The President on The First War of Independence

IT is just one hundred years from to-day that as a result of the countrywide discontent against the rule of the British East India Company, India witnessed a great uprising. By whatever name one may be inclined to designate it, the movement of 1857-59 was not purely accidental. The people of India had never accepted the rule of the East India Company with alacrity.

The East India Company had established its rule gradually, almost imperceptibly, as a result of internecine dissensions. It was not long before the populace began to realise its evil consequences, with the result that while in one part of the country the Company was extending its possessions there were risings in other parts against its rule. It would indeed be hard to say if there was any span of time between 1757 and 1857 when in one part of the country or another Indians did not rise against the Company or demonstrate their resistance to its rule in a practical way. There were reasons for it. The East India Company and its officials had monopolised all trade, depriving local traders of all business facilities or reducing them to the status of the agents of the Britishers. The Company had deprived many of their ancestral lands by enacting various laws in different parts of the country, one of which was the authority to auction the entire land in case of default of payment of land

revenue. An altogether new set of laws and the new expensive and time-wasting law courts from which justice was difficult to get, ruined a large number of people. The new taxes imposed by the Company were realised with relentless harshness. The Christian missionaries had caused distress among the people by their proselytizing propaganda. New laws and practices like the ban on the Sati custom, retention of rights to ancestral and other property even after conversion to another religion, the introduction of new type of cartridges which it was thought contained animal fat and which the Sepoys were forced to bite with their teeth—all these led to the widespread impression that behind these happenings was the intention to convert the whole country to Christianity. Again, the East India Company's policy of annexation which led to the extinction of several Indian States and their merger with the Company's territory, their policy of grabbing whatever they could lay their hands upon and lastly the destruction of the cottage and small-scale industries which affected the rich and the poor alike—on account of all these a situation developed which caused widespread discontent throughout the country and many people resolved in their hearts to bring the rule of the Company to an end, even if some of these did so to protect their own interests. On the other hand, the East India Company

was getting more powerful and it was becoming clear that it would not be possible to challenge its might without a collective and organised effort."

The latter half of the 18th and the first quarter of the 19th century saw movements in different parts of the country to overthrow or at least arrest the growing power of the Company. It is a historical fact that the Movement of 1857 was the most determined and widespread of the risings which had taken place till then against the East India Company. There is little wonder therefore if writers and historians have described this movement as a national war of independence.

The rising which began in Meerut and which later on engulfed the whole of the present Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Bengal and parts of Madhya Pradesh and the Punjab need not be elaborated here, but it has to be admitted that behind these happenings was the feeling of discontent caused by the Company's misdeeds and that many of those who took active part in this movement were moved by patriotic motives. Besides, the injury caused to the people's religious susceptibilities also provoked many to join and reinforce the movement.

The revolt of 1857-59, besides bringing in bold relief the incontrovertible fact of resistance against foreign domination, also threw up quite a few personalities which have since come to be regarded as symbols of heroism and opposition to alien rule. Tanya Tope, Ahmed Ullah, Kunwar Singh and Rani Laxmi Bai of

Jhansi may be mentioned among them. Another significant fact which emerges from the happenings of 1857-59 is the remarkable sense of unity among Hindus and Muslims and the complete absence of communal feeling throughout the movement. Soon after the outbreak of fighting, the rebels or resisters were moved by the feeling that they had a common end to achieve and a common cause to serve. Even in the midst of the tangled history of the uprising, the community of interests among Indians is clearly discernible. It is a fact which cannot be lost sight of.

When we view those happenings to-day dispassionately and objectively, it is possible that some of those causes which led to popular discontent are not looked upon as altogether bad or objectionable. It is not however the question as to what we think of those things to-day after a lapse of 100 years. The thing to be taken into account is that those incidents and innovations had a very unfavourable reaction on the minds of the people at that time and they thought that the Company's moves were calculated not only to deprive Indians of their wealth, property, religious beliefs and freedom, but to make short shrift of them. We must also learn that unlimited self-sacrifice is essential for attaining independence and retaining it.

On this day when we are celebrating the anniversary of the movement of 1857, I send my greetings to all my countrymen and pray that we may ever continue to enjoy our hard-won freedom to achieve which the nationwide effort was made a hundred years ago.

THE LINCOLN WAY

"I do the very best I can, and I mean to keep on doing it until the end. If the end brings me out all right, what is said against me will not amount to anything, and if the end brings me out wrong, ten angels swearing I was right would make no difference."

(B.N.)

—Abraham Lincoln

Malaya's Independence

By

Mr. A. D. C. PETERSON

ON 31st August the Federation of Malaya celebrated its independence. It is the birth of a new nation to which many races — Malays, Chinese, Indians, and not least British — have contributed.

It was the vision of two Englishmen — Francis Light in Penang (1786) and Stamford Raffles in Singapore (1817) — which first brought to Malaya that contact with world trade on which her present high standard of living is based. At the end of the century the prosperity of these trading settlements led to the next expansion of British influence.

They were difficult times. Chinese tin miners were flocking in to a feudal Malay country of river and forest; new money, new techniques, the whole apparatus of the modern world, to which Malaya has owed so much since, were being met at first with feudal violence and bloodshed.

But the protection, advice, and control provided by the British Residents from 1874 onwards meant that the transition from the Middle Ages to the 19th century was made in peace and order. To have saved her from chaos at this period of her history was probably the greatest service any British government has ever done Malaya. And it was the work of a few individuals.

Britain gave Malaya not only peace and order at a most difficult period of transition: she provided the source of one-half of her wealth, the rubber tree. Tin was in the soil, but rubber tree had to be smuggled from the Amazon. Once established in Malaya, it has been planted over nearly 4,000,000 acres and today provides thousands of Malaysians with a livelihood, and not a few with considerable wealth.

In 1909 Britain negotiated a treaty with Siam, bringing to an end Siamese suzerainty over the four northern Malay States; and what came on August 31 as the new nation appeared in its present form on the maps of the world.



U. K. DELEGATION TO MALAYA

An official United Kingdom delegation, headed by Viscount Kilmauir, the Lord Chancellor, visited the Federation of Malaya for the country's independence celebrations on August 31. The other members of the delegation included the Earl of Perth, Minister of State for Colonial Affairs, and Mr. C. J. M. Alport, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for Commonwealth Relations. This picture shows the Earl of Perth, member of the delegation.

Two generations of orderly progress saw Malaya gain greatly in wealth and in the standard of living of her fast-increasing population. But in 1942 the British protection was tested severely, and failed. Engaged in a life-

and-death struggle with Germany in Europe and Africa, Britain could send no adequate forces to protect Malaya when Japan set out on its career of conquest.

We know now that a crack Japanese army found the campaign against the few Commonwealth troops available some of the toughest fighting of its career; but in the end the defenders were overwhelmed, and Malaya — like Siam, Indonesia, and Burma — was occupied by the Japanese.

The fleet of transports carrying the Commonwealth army of liberation to Malaya was actually at sea when the news of the Japanese surrender arrived, and what might have been a bloody battle became a triumphal return — a return to a warm-hearted and friendly welcome which proved that the ties between Britain and Malaya had not been broken by adversity.



THE QUEEN'S REPRESENTATIVE

H. R. H. the Duke of Gloucester was Her Majesty the Queen's special representative at the celebration of Malaya's independence on August 31. His Royal Highness was accompanied by Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Gloucester. The Federation of Malaya is the sixth country of the Commonwealth to achieve full self-government since 1947.

Post-war reconstruction, however, was as difficult in Malaya as elsewhere, and it is not surprising that the general series of Communist risings, ordered throughout South-East Asia in 1948, should have included an unsuccessful attempt to seize power in Malaya, by means of a so-called "anti-colonial" insurrection.

This Communist rising was almost entirely confined to the Chinese part of the population, and had little or no support from the other races. Some 70 per cent. of its civilian victims were Chinese and more than 90 per cent. of the terrorists killed were Chinese.

Even so, it never succeeded in winning the active support of the mass of the Chinese community, and within six months it was clear that, as a political rising, the movement had failed. As a gangster war, based on the jungle and operating through terrorism and blackmail, it still persists in these days of independence, though with diminished violence.

The tempo of Malaya's fight against this violence, and also of her progress towards self-government, was greatly stepped up by the arrival of Sir Gerald Templer in 1952, with Sir Donald Macgillivray (now the last British High Commissioner) as his Deputy. Under their leadership, the foundations of a genuine local democracy were swiftly laid, and in 1955 the first elections held for a national government.

It is with the multi-racial Government of Tunku Abdul Rahman, overwhelmingly returned at these elections, that the final arrangements for independence were made, in a spirit of the closest friendship with Britain. On August 31, Malaya became a new nation, freely choosing to retain her membership of the Commonwealth.

No one can foresee the whole future, but there are many who hope that this choice will be maintained, and that the now ancient ties between Britain and Malaya will long remain fruitful of progress and prosperity for both nations.

America's Contribution To India's Freedom

By

Dr. HARIDAS T. MAZUMDAR

THE role played by the United States in helping India's struggle for freedom is not generally known in this country. Yet it is true that since the early part of this century, the Indian independence movement received the active moral and material support of the American people.

This story begins during World War I, when the late Lala Lajpat Rai went to America as a political exile and undertook the task of winning friends in the United States for India's freedom. The work started by Lajpat Rai terminated around 1921, shortly after I reached the United States as a self-supporting student.

In addition to Lajpat Rai's work which promoted the Congress cause and was oriented to the Gandhian philosophy of non-violence, there was another organisation in America, led by Dr. Tarakanath Das, which advocated freedom for India through violent revolution.

Having newly arrived in the United States and having been under the magic spell of the Mahatma, I joined whole-heartedly in the task of educating American opinion in terms of Gandhiji's philosophy of soul-force and non-violent revolution. With this end in view, I began to speak on the street corners of New York City, graduating later to lecture halls and even to big public auditoriums. Between 1920 and 1929, when I returned to India, I must have spoken in at least thirty states in America and addressed altogether over two million American citizens.

During this time I was invited by Americans of Irish descent to fight for the common cause of freedom by attacking British imperialism. In this, it was my good fortune to know and work with such eminent fighters for freedom as Eamon De Valera, the present Prime Minister of Ireland.

While I was in India during 1930, I took part in Mahatma Gandhi's civil disobedience

movement; and I was also among those who participated in the Dandi salt march to the sea. Then I returned to America at the suggestion of the late Pandit Motilal Nehru in order to "interpret India's non-violent revolution from the inside to the American people."

Back in the United States, I reverted to the task of writing and speaking before groups both large and small. Between 1930 and the end of World War II, I was privileged to address meetings in every state in the Union and to enlist the support and co-operation of thousands of American friends in the cause of India's freedom.

On this the tenth anniversary of Indian independence, I feel we should pause and pay tribute to America, whose public opinion had a definite impact upon British policy toward India. I am convinced that the enthusiastic support which the American people, press and radio gave to Gandhiji was partly responsible for India's success in achieving swaraj.

As a concrete expression of American interest in Gandhiji and in India's freedom struggle, I would like to mention the spontaneous tributes that were paid to the Mahatma upon his martyrdom. Every few minutes U.S. radio stations would stop their regular programmes and make special announcement about Gandhiji's death; they would pause a moment in silent tribute and then sing a few verses from some of Gandhiji's favourite hymns.

On the other hand, America herself owes a considerable debt to India. In fact, the destinies of these two countries seem to be inextricably linked together. To begin with, the very discovery of America was a by-product of Columbus's quest for a sea route to India. Again, though this has not been fully appreciated by historians, the historical fact remains that the American colonies were served im-

measurably in their struggle for independence by the people of India, who tied up a number of British battalions on the battlefields of Hindustan.

Next, the cultural historian of America is impressed by the fact that the flowing of New England literature and philosophy was the direct result of the inter-action between the newly-emerging American cultural pattern and Hindu philosophy and literature, which had just been discovered by the Western World and had been translated into English and other languages.

The great leaders of the New England school of transcendentalism—Emerson, Thoreau and others—were tremendously influenced by Hindu philosophy. At least one of Emerson's poems contains a literal translation of some of the verses from the Bhagawad Gita. And Thoreau once remarked that he would "be glad to give away the whole state of Massachusetts for one wise saying of the Hindu." Some of Walt Whitman's writings also seem to be inspired by Indian thought and literature.

At the time of the World Fair in Chicago in 1893, the distinguished representatives of India

at the World Parliament of Religions made a significant impression upon the American public. The voice of Swami Vivekananda in particular was heard throughout America in a most appreciative manner.

Above and beyond this cultural inter-action between the two countries there was profound interest in America in giving concrete help to India. Whenever there was famine in India, or an earthquake, or a severe flood, or an epidemic, the American people generously came to the help of those stricken by the disaster. As an American citizen myself, I would like to state that there is and always has been a tremendous fund of good will on the part of the American people for the people of India.

It is my hope that India, which has one of the most ancient cultures and which is in another sense one of the youngest nations, and America, which is one of the youngest peoples in the world and yet one of the oldest democracies with a written constitution, may learn to look at each other sympathetically and understandingly and work together in the cause of peace, justice and goodwill.

—*—

Father Beschi—the Brahmin Catholic

By

SRIMATI S. RAJEE

ANYWHERE else but in India, where present history is boundlessly rich in the unexpected, it would be unbelievable to imagine that the father of modern prose in the Tamil language is... an 18th Century Italian priest.

Costanzo Giuseppe Beschi was born in 1680 near Mantua and educated in Rome where his aptitude for languages and his interest in India soon destined him for missionary work. He became a member of the Society of Jesus in 1698 and, ten years later, landed in Goa. There he learned Indian languages and he was trained

in his duties before being sent to the Madura Mission.

The Madura Mission had been the subject of bitter debate in the hierarchy of the Church for nearly a century, for Roberto de Nobili, an Italian-born noble, a relative of two popes and a nephew of a Cardinal, had established this mission on rather unorthodox lines. He claimed to be a Brahmin from Rome, where Brahma the God of Creation had appeared to the Pope, chief of the Roman Brahmins, to order the sending of missionaries to work in the Tamil country and save the high caste

Brahmins. Two native Brahmins were won over by him, taught him his Tamil and Hindu manners and presented him to the Queen Regent of Madura. He was received as a Brahmin and allowed to preach.

De Nobili took the Indian name of Tatwa Bodhaka Swamiyar—the Teacher who Teaches the Truth—and darkened his skin. Clad in robes of ochre, he wore sandalwood ash on his forehead in true Hindu tradition and wound the sacred thread of the Brahmins around his chest. He was full of missionary zeal and he spoke the Tamil language fluently. Though he converted hundreds of his caste Hindus to Christianity, the Church protested against his "going native." But he persisted and Rome finally recognized his orthodoxy. He died in South India in 1648 at the age of 76, honoured and revered as a saint.

Sixty years later, the newly-arrived Beschi decided to follow in his footsteps. In Goa, he learned the Tamil language and developed a passion for it which was to become overriding in his later life. When he arrived in Madura in 1714, he studied further under a great teacher, Supradipakkavirayar.

Beschi, too, determinedly followed in the path of his predecessor, but he was never reprimanded. He was respected greatly by the Indians of Madura, both as a spiritual leader and as a man of the world. Beschi, at one time, served as minister to Chundah Saheb at Trichy—the Chundah Saheb whom the French had named Nawab of Arcot in their struggle against the British for control of South India. Beschi had to flee Trichy in 1740 when the Maharattas defeated Chundah Saheb, but he enjoyed until his death a 12,000 rupee annual income from the four villages given to him by this prince.

But his honours did not stop there. Chundah Saheb gave him the name of a Moslem saint, Ismatti Sanyasi, and accorded him all the privileges of a noble of his court. Beschi was even presented with the ivory palanquin of Chundah Saheb's grandfather.

Beschi lived like a Hindu religious leader. Everyone respected him as a Sanyasi of the higher caste, and few, if any, knew him as a foreigner during his lifetime. His skill in languages was phenomenal. In addition to Italian, his mother tongue, he acquired Hebrew, Greek, Latin, Portuguese, Spanish and French. In India he had learned Sanskrit, Tamil, Telugu, Hindustani and Persian, the last two being the court languages of Chundah Saheb, Tamil and Telugu being the spoken languages of the land of his missionary activity. In all of them he was equally at home, fluent and scholarly.

Supradipakkavirayar, who taught Beschi the intricacies of Tamil grammar, also gave him a love of literature and a mastery of the written and the spoken tongues. Beschi's work in Tamil prose and verse proves he knew Tamil forms of literature perfectly.

"In 1724," writes a modern historian of Tamil literature, "there appeared Beschi's great work *Thembayani*, a work of considerable merit in verse vying with the five epics of yore. It is in thirty cantos, relating the incidents—historical and traditional—connected with the Old and New Testaments. In beauty of diction, in sweep of imagination, and in intensity of religious faith, it is usually compared with the Ramayana."

In honour of the Madonna, Beschi wrote three long poems in traditional Tamil from which are listed even today in Tamil literary histories as models of expression. A poem of the Sorrowing Mother is in 100 stanzas and is also considered a great poem of its kind. One other long poem in ballad folksong metre celebrates "the martyrdom of the holy virgin Kitteri, daughter of Sinayaken, King of Lusitan who suffered martyrdom with her eight sisters on the mountain of Bomber in 130 A.D." This is a poem of 1,100 couplets. It probably refers to Quinteria or Cithia, a holy virgin and martyr of Portugal. (*Martyrologium Romonum* P. 130. Calendar 22 May).

Beschi's books on Tamil written and spoken grammar are extremely useful and practical, for he cleared Tamil of many redundancies and absurdities. I, as a practising writer of prose in Tamil, find his grammar of the Tamil tongue useful even today.

It was Beschi who compiled the *Chatur Akarathi*—the first alphabetical lists in Tamil—and paved the way for modern lexicons. He was also responsible for a series of dictionaries from Tamil into French, Latin and Portuguese and he is even credited with an anthology of old Tamil verse which, unfortunately, has not survived. He translated two-thirds of a Tamil classic, the *Kural* into Latin.

Beschi's prose works are in a class by themselves. Most of his writings were necessarily on Christian doctrines to indoctrinate recent converts with Christian principles or sometimes to fight against Lutheran missionaries. Another prose work of Beschi deals with the science of astronomy with Christian applications.

The Tamil language has a verse tradition of nearly two thousand years as is shown by great epics such as the *Shilappadikaram* which is to be published in French in the UNESCO Collection of Representative Works. Yet Tamil had scarcely any independent prose tradition. Prose was not known in the past except to link two long poems or often as commentary on verse. Independent prose in Tamil was used for the first time by Castanzo Beschi in his *Paramartha Guru Katha* (the story of the Guru who was a simpleton). This is a prose classic in the form of a series of tales making fun of the Gurus or spiritual teachers of India and their idiot disciples. It is all in good fun with no offence

meant to anyone, and the Tamils took to the book from the very first. The stories of Beschi have gone into the folktales of India and have even been translated into many other Indian languages over the past 200 years. Subtle references to these satires can be found in every turn of speech in Tamil even today.

Here is an episode from Beschi's tales. It tells of a Guru who needs a needle. He tells his disciples to buy him a needle and four of them go to the bazaar to buy it. All four want the honour of carrying the needle to their revered master but the needle is too small for four pairs of hands. So they stick it into a long palm tree trunk and carry the trunk together to their Guru. But when they place the trunk before the Guru the needle is lost in the trunk and they are still looking for it.

Perhaps these were not original stories by Beschi but, with this collection of tales, he initiated the tradition of Tamil prose and, as far as Tamil literature is concerned, that is his most important contribution. UNESCO is to make a new translation into English of the *Kural*, one of the books which Father Beschi translated into English in the early 18th century.

Beschi died in 1746 and was buried in a village where he had been teaching Christianity to his flock. Like the Sanyasi of Indian tradition, even his grave bore no name and, today, it cannot be identified. But his contribution to Tamil literature is still very much alive, and he needs no other monument or memorial.

[Courtesy : THE UNESCO COURIER.]

MONTY AND THE RED ARMY

Field Marshall Montgomery always examines the films which have been listed for presentation to his troops. One day he noticed on the list a film entitled *The Red Army*. Monty called in his Officers, had a long talk about the strength of the Russian Army, its internal organization etc., Then they adjourned to the auditorium to watch the movie. The lights went out and on the screen appeared the full title of the film *The Red Army, The Life and Habits of Ants*.

(B.N.)

Radioactive Isotopes

By

MR. WILLIAM LAURENCE

RADIOACTIVE Isotopes — “clinkers” of atoms “burned” in great atomic furnaces — are yielding a total of \$400,000,000 a year in savings to American industry, the Atomic Energy Commission announced in its semi-annual report to Congress.

This is only a small beginning, according to Prof. Willard F. Libby, nuclear-scientist member of the A.E.C. Speaking at the dedication ceremonies of a new plant of the Beryllium Corporation at Hazleton, Pa., Professor Libby predicted that by 1960 these savings to industry and agriculture by the peaceful uses of the radio-isotopes “will attain \$5 billion a year, at an annual cost to the Government not in excess of \$20,000,000.”

“Within three to five years — probably more nearly three, sometime in 1960 —” he said, “isotopes probably will be paying the whole way for the atom, and the American people and the Western world will get their atomic armament and their atomic power development costs all free — in the sense that the benefits of the \$5 billion annual savings in industrial processing and agricultural costs are pretty well distributed among the taxpayers so that the Atomic Energy Commission budget can be offset against these savings in a fair and equitable way. Our nuclear weapons stockpile and the atomic power developments, costly as they are, are already beginning to be borne by the largely unsung but very benevolent isotopes.

There is need to emphasize this fact clearly. Professor Libby said, because of the common misconception of the value of these materials, “the task of dealing with their disposal in the sea and interplanetary space frequently being but forward as a major problem” for the development of industrial atomic power. It was “a misnomer,” he said, to refer to these materials as “waste,” as valuable use will be made of most of them.

Physicians, the A.E.C. report states, now use radioisotopes in diagnosing or treating the ailments of an estimated 1,000,000 patients a year. Radioisotopes have been particularly useful in such diagnostic procedures as analysis of thyroid gland function, determination of blood volume, location of tumors, and liver function. In medical treatment, some of the chief uses are in hyperthyroidism (goiter), thyroid cancer, the blood diseases — polycythemia (too many red cells) and leukemia (too many white cells)—heart disorders, pleural and peritoneal accumulation of liquid, prostate cancer, external whole body irradiation, and eye lesions. More than one hundred teletherapy (radiation) units are now in operation in the United States.

Radioactive materials are important tools for many types of agricultural studies. Major benefits that have resulted include (a) better placement and application of fertilizer, (b) new and improved growth regulators, herbicides, etc., (c) improved measures against plant diseases and fungi, (d) better knowledge of animal nutritional needs, (e) improved measures against animal diseases, (f) better insect control through sterilization, insecticides, and information on migration and hibernation, and (g) new and improved varieties of plants and breeds of animals.

The measuring, recording and controlling of the thickness of various materials, such as plastic, rubber, aluminium and cigarettes, Professor Libby reported, have already led to savings to American manufacturers of about \$120,000,000 a year “which probably will rise to \$1 billion a year in two or three years.” A new use for radioisotopes is to facilitate oil-well stimulation. Already savings of \$180,000,000 a year have been reported. This newly born use for radioactive tracers, Professor Libby said, “represents a large potential

source of profit to the oil industry in terms of getting more oil out of the same piece of ground and doing it more cheaply, and it seems likely that this will come to amount shortly to more than \$1 billion annual savings."

An extremely important potential development in the use of isotopes is in radioactive drugs and medicinals as well as organic chemicals. Some six years ago an isotope farm was established at the A.E.C.'s Argonne National

Laboratory, near Chicago, in which various plants yielding important drugs and chemicals are grown in an atmosphere of radioactive carbon dioxide and a soil containing some radioactive minerals. As a result, we now have "national treasure in a barnful of radioactive plants of many different types, all stored and ready for the chemical extraction and separation needed to produce the desired medicinals and chemicals."



A Rational Approach to Linguistic Problem

By

Dr. K. L. SHRIMALI

(Minister of State in the Ministry of
Education and Scientific Research)

ONE of the most difficult problems, which India has to face after Independence, is the linguistic problem. During the last ten years there have been several occasions which had given rise to linguistic controversies and great passions had been aroused which almost jeopardised national unity. In order that we may be able to tackle this problem, great patience and understanding will be required. In fact, the intricacy of the problem throws a challenge to the sagacity and statesmanship of the Indian people.

Before attempting any solution, a proper understanding of the psychological back ground of this problem is necessary.

On account of foreign domination, the growth of Indian languages was retarded for more than a century. Political domination was accompanied by cultural domination and languages, which are the repositories and vehicles of culture, naturally remained suppressed. After Independence, there is a natural urge among the people to develop the languages which had remained suppressed for such a long time.

The present enthusiasm and zeal which we find among the people for their own languages should be considered as a normal urge and should not cause any fear or anxiety among us. It is natural that people should love their own languages more than the languages of other people. The familiarity with one's mother tongue dates from the time of birth. There is a greater sense of security when people speak their own language.

On the other hand, even though when people acquire mastery over the acquired language, they do not feel at home with it as they do in the case of the mother tongue. There is a sense of spiritual achievement and emotional satisfaction, when people use their own language. People as a rule are emotionally attached to their mother tongue and they have a feeling of love and pride for it. Whenever they find that other communities are making an invasion on their language or show any kind of insult to it, it is bound to create strong reaction and resentment.

Much of the linguistic rivalry which exists in our country is due to this psychological factor—

fear and anxiety of losing linguistic sense of honour. The greater the fear of invasion over one's mother tongue, the stronger is the tendency to cling to one's own language.

In our country where there are a number of developed languages it is only through a spirit of utmost toleration that mutual understanding and appreciation of each other's language can be developed. Intolerance of languages is based on the feeling that one's own language is superior to other's languages. It is a sign of conceit and arrogance and is mainly responsible for creating discord among people and bringing about bloodshed and misery.

Regionalism is the greatest enemy to the development of a common language. Once people develop strong regional loyalties, they create linguistic barriers and prevent other languages from crossing the boundaries. The love of regional languages, when it turns into fanaticism, becomes the greatest menace to national unity and all our efforts should be directed against fighting this menace.

The tendency among different linguistic groups to create artificial barriers between themselves should be strongly discouraged. People should be made to realise that the best way to kill one's own mother tongue is to refuse to learn languages other than one's own.

For the normal growth of a language, it is essential that there should be a free intercourse of ideas and vocabulary. No language is rich enough to become the repository of universal knowledge. Each language, therefore, must borrow and lend. There should be no limit to the exchange of words. In fact, we must consciously cultivate and accelerate exchange of words between different regional languages.

The evolution of a language depends on the interplay of various forces, political, economic and cultural. Our people must be made to realise that we have many interests in common for centuries and we have lived together as a community. The common interests and na-

tional loyalties need to be greatly strengthened before a common national language can find its true place. A common language promotes social intercourse but in order to maintain and preserve national unity, deeper loyalties and community of interests should be developed.

The educational and cultural forces which can be brought under control more easily should also be mobilised for the development of a common language. In the formation of a national language, literature, for example, plays a very important part. Tulsidas, Surdas and Mira had done more to propagate Hindi than can ever be done by the power and influence of the State. The songs of these great Hindi poets cross the linguistic boundaries and are sung and appreciated all over the country.

Though the literature may not help in forming the national language, it certainly gives an impetus to the development of a common language. The great writers are regarded as literary models and the imitation of their literary excellences lead to imitation of them on the part of some of those, who would neither have spoken nor written the common language. The influence of literature is indirect and subtle and, therefore, of a more permanent nature.

Another method, which can exercise powerful influence on evolving a common language, is the theatre. The theatrical companies, which move out from one part of the country to another, cannot possibly change their languages and therefore try to use a language, which will be commonly understood by the majority of people. The theatre has lost much of its importance and popularity after the advent of cinema but in the interest of a common language, it would be useful to revive it.

We have also to make a special effort in our educational institutions to solve and mitigate the language problem. This should be done by making the children learn another Indian language in addition to the regional

language spoken by them. In this way, children in non-Hindi speaking areas will learn Hindi and those in Hindi speaking areas will learn another Indian language. We expect the minorities to learn the language of the majority. If we wish to create goodwill and understanding among the people, this should be done on a basis of reciprocity.

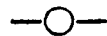
Argument is often advanced that by introducing too many languages in the school the curriculum will be overburdened. The experience of most of the European countries, where three languages are taught compulsorily will not allow this argument to hold ground. In any case, a language is only a means to serve a social end and should not be mistaken to be an end by itself. By learning the languages of our neighbours with whom we have close ties and relationship, we increase the sphere of social intercourse and this will go a long way in bringing the people to a closer understanding.

Lastly, the Universities of our country, if they rise above narrow parochialism and regionalism, can greatly help in developing a common outlook and a common language. The Universities in the past had attracted students

from the various parts of the country. Recently, there has been a tendency in our country to restrict the service of the University for the area in which it is situated. This tendency has been further strengthened in recent times by making the regional languages as media of instruction.

If regional languages become the media of instruction, it is obvious that the Universities cannot retain an all-India character and will serve only local interests. This will cut off the Universities from one another and students will have to confine themselves to their own States for higher education and employment. Students coming from different parts of the country will thus be denied the opportunity to develop intimate relationships with each other.

There should, therefore, be no haste to replace English by regional languages. When Hindi has fully developed and is ready to take the place of English, it should become the medium of instruction at the University stage and not the regional language. The Universities should aim at widening the horizon of our youth and not at narrowing it.



Foundations of Nationalism in Modern India

By

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THE differences between the ancient empire-building cycles and the modern cycles of nation-states can be illustrated by the distinction drawn by Aurobindo between peoples and nations. The Asiatic civilizations even during their most organised and flourishing political periods have been characterised by a predominant social, religious and cultural ethos and not by the "politicism" implied in the modern nation-states. They have been national "only in the sense of having a common soul-life, a

common culture, a common social organisation, a common political head, but not nation-states." In the language of modern sociology it can be said that they were dominated by status and not by contract, they were communities and not contractual societies. In Tagore also we find a distinction between nations and peoples. A nation, according to the Indian poet is a dead and soulless machine, "an organised gregariousness of gluttony". Europe is the land of nations. The East is a land of

peoples who behave like men with a soul. Of course, Tagore's typology betrays the intense hatred of his sensitive soul towards the mechanical aggressiveness of the Western peoples against the Asiatics and Africans. The basic point in Aurobindo and Tagore is that by peoples they mean a state of more or less political simplicity under a broad cultural organization. They equate nations with organised, mechanical powerful states with a predominant emphasis on political experience. On the other hand the German writer Bluntschli and the Austrian scholar Gumplowicz use the term people (*volk*) in a political sense because according to them there can be no people without a state.

The genesis of nationalism in India has been primarily motivated by the reaction against the west. Nationalism of the east is an attempt at achieving cultural and social and political homogeneity for fighting the west. But patriotic Indian writers trace the feelings of nationalism in the Vedas. The famous hymn of the Atharvaveda which says: "The Earth is the mother, I am her son" is interpreted to be an incipient formulation of the concept of the country as the motherland. Asoka is considered a fosterer of nationalism by his use of Pali in his inscriptions found throughout India. The anti-foreign political exploits and deeds of Chandragupta Maurya, Kharvela, Pushyamitra the Guptan emperors, the Rashtrakutas, Pratap Singh, Shivaji, Baji Rao and other great heroes are considered to be attempts at fostering nationalism in India. The great philosopher Sankara is regarded a nationalist who established four Vedantic centres in the four corners of India. The Arya Samaj scholars think that Dayananda is at least one of the founders of modern Indian nationalism because he gave a dynamic interpretation of the old Vedic concept of Swarajya. On the other hand, several western sociologists and historians consider nationalism to be a foreign Western product learnt by the East and they discover imitation of Western political phraseology and technics

in the nationalist movements of Egypt, Turkey, Persia and India. They think that the writings of Burke, Mill, Spencer and Mazzini have created the modern national spirit in India. John Stuart Mill's statement, "The Government of a people by itself has a meaning, and a reality; but such a thing as government of one people by another does not and cannot exist" is supposed to contain the inspiration of nationalist resistance movement in India. Western historians refer to the great role of the intellectuals of the East, who have received their higher training in the West, in the leadership of the nationalist movements both in China and India and these intellectuals only paraphrased and Vernacularized the Western political literature on liberty and nationalism.

In the sense of a unifying political and social bond nationalism is not a new phenomenon in the world. It is only the modern sophisticated form of the old tribal bonds of kinship, the social bonds that guided the operations of the Greek *polis*, the Roman city and the Indian states. Of course these ancient bonds were affectual, emotional and community-oriented. The modern bonds behind nationalism are political, territorial and legal but psychologically the structure of the bonds implying a trans-individual consciousness is the same. In this sense we can trace Indian nationalism to the Vedas but for the political conception of nationalism as a movement of resistance against absolutism and feudalism and as an ally of democracy we have to credit the British for having taught us nationalism. The combined effects of the study of Western political literature, the unifying role of the English language and technology in creating the mechanism of an organised central administration, have been indeed tremendous. To trace Hindu nationalism in Tukaram and Shivaji shows a blindness to the glaring facts of history which indicate that the Marathas were inspired only by a local and segmental consciousness of their own power and its expansion. They never thought in terms of "India first and India

above all" which is the essence of the nationalistic psychology. They did not want to play the role of Prussia in Germany or the House of Savoy in Italy, during the nineteenth century, but they were playing the roles the Normans in England or of the Teutons in Germany in the middle ages. Aurobindo at one time says that nationalism in India is external because Sanatana Dharma is eternal and Sanatana Dharma is nationalism. But here he is only using terms in a cultural and metaphorical sense. However even in his more historical writings he does not seem to accept the importation of nationalism from the west because he refers to pre-British national consciousness in India. He refers to the Rajputs, especially of Mewar "to whom the Rajah was in every way the head of the society and of the nation." Commenting on the role of the Sikhs he considers them "the people which having attained national self-consciousness came nearest to achieving also organised political unity primarily because of the organisation of the Khalsa by Guru Govind Singh. The Marathas are credited with having "established a secular head representative of the conscious nation." At other places he considers the nation to be a modern political phenomenon. As a general historical remark I would say that the consciousness of a cultural unity has been always there in India and this can be seen in the literature, art, mysticism, religion and ethics of the different parts of India but political nationalism in the sense that people linked by a sense of common belongingness should have the power of political self-determination is a definitely western phenomenon. Nationalism as the mere political perspective of a fight against alien rule can be traced in older history but the nation that common cultural or historical consciousness implies also the power of autonomous political decision is a phenomenon of the Western World. The affiliation of nationalism to the democratic ideology, is of course, primarily found only in England, France, and America. Hence cultural nationalism in the

sense of the consciousness of a broad cultural unity running throughout the lives of the peoples is to be traced in the history of India but India has learnt the concept of national self-determination from the West. One can trace according to Aurobindo a centripetal tendency throughout in Indian history. "The political history of India is the story of a succession of empires, indigenous and foreign, each of them destroyed by centrifugal forces, but each bringing the centripetal tendency nearer to its triumphant emergence. And it is a significant circumstance that the more foreign the rule, the greater has been its force for the unification of the subject people. This is always a sure sign that the essential nation-unit is already there and that there is an indissoluble national vitality necessitating the inevitable emergence of the organised nation." Although in the light of the achievement of independence in India we can discover retrospectively the incipient but a strong tendency towards unification in Indian history but Aurobindo cannot furnish any proof from indigenous Indian literature, not influenced either directly or indirectly by the West, indicating that there has ever been any consciousness of unity on the political plane animating the leaders of the land in pre-British Days. Even the great political leaders did not think of one territorially unified country activated by a common political aspiration and it is too much of a patriotic exaggeration to interpret the growth of Hindi literature in India from the sixteenth century onwards as a political movement. Nationalism implying the sense of political self-determination is an imported concept throughout the east, although it is equally true that in the course of its political manifestations it has become suffused with the revived traditions of cultural and religious unity that has always characterised the evolution of these countries. Hence Aurobindo's attempts to credit the Rajputs, the Sikhs and the Marathas with national consciousness have to be seriously modified.

There were various sociological and historical factors which created this uniquely dominant religious and revivalistic orientation of Indian nationalism. First, the continued social power of Brahmanical ecclesiasticism over the mind of intellectual India was a great factor. The decline of Buddhism which contained more critical elements in it left the field open for the sway of Brahmanism. The challenges offered to Roman Catholic ecclesiasticism by the rise of Protestantism and modern science did not have their parallels in India and hence the halo round the scriptures of ancient India was never shattered and the belief continued unabated that they must contain words of profound intellectual and spiritual worth. The inscrutability and obscurity of the language served to impress those books with a great glamour and awe-striking character. The researches of Dayananda and MaxMuller and the eloquent testifications to the supremacy of monistic philosophy of the Vedanta by Schopenhauer, Thoreau, Deussen and Vivekananda had very powerful effects in generating nationalistic sentiments of pride in India's past achievements. Second, the nationalistic movement in India came in the wake of a religious and intellectual revivalism while in Europe nationalism on a large scale was marked by the preceding growth of a powerful rationalistic philosophy. Diderot and Voltaire championed the cause of enlightenment and hence we find that a leader of the French Revolution like Robespierre worshipped reason. The championship of mathematical rationalism by Leibnitz and Kant further secularised the

European intellectual outlook and hence the pure emphasis on a political nationalism that we find in Cavour or Garibaldi or Kossuth or Bismarck, we do not get in India. The Indian liberals like Naoroji, ferozeshah Mehta and Gokhale were of course trying to bring the tone of Burke and Mill and Spencer in Indian politics but they never obtained the profound hold on the mind and heart of Indian people which the stalwarts of revivalism like Dayananda, Tilak and Gandhi had. Third, the presence of a militant powerful Moslem minority in India always made the religious question very acute. The British imperialistic policy of divide and rule intensified the separatist consciousness which in its turn accentuated revivalism. The Moslem minority was very sensitive against being suppressed by the probable chances of the victory of the Hindu majority. The rise of political pan-Islamism led to the accentuated growth of Moslem religious consciousness from Turkey and Egypt to India. Although the Hindu-Moslem problem did not play any significant part in the Bengal Nationalist Movement of 1905-1910, Aurobindo in his later writings considered the difference between the two communities to be a factor hindering the growth of nationalism in India. I think, the powerfully entrenched Brahmin Orthodoxy, the revivalistic nature of the Indian renaissance, the absence of a scientific rationalism and philosophical enlightenment movement and the presence of a very powerful religious Moslem minority—all these combined to impart a strong revivalistic note to the Indian Nationalist movement.

THE AMERICAN WAY

U. S. Headquarters in Versailles requested from the French Government 3600 telephones used by American Officers. The French telephone company inquired if the 3600 Officers could share less phones. They suggested 900—one for every four Officers. The U. S. Headquarters wrote back that there were only 900 Officers but they needed four phones each.

(B. N.)

India's Armed Forces

By
'A MILITARIST'

INDIA'S Armed Forces — Army, Navy and Air Force can look back on the last decade with justifiable pride and satisfaction for their many-sided achievements as custodian of the country's hard-won freedom. With a glorious tradition behind to live up to, they have spared no effort since Independence to maintain and improve upon the high standards of discipline and efficiency for which they have earned world renown.

In the present highly-advanced age of nuclear science no country in the world can afford to be oblivious of its security in view of the rapid technological developments that are taking place today. In keeping with her policy of aloofness from any armaments' race, India has steadily reorganised and strengthened the three Defence Services only to safeguard her frontiers on land, at sea and in the air against foreign aggression.

Soon after India took her place among the free nations of the world on August 15, 1947, the responsibility for her entire defence fell squarely on the shoulders of the Defence Ministry and the Armed Forces Headquarters, which together constitute the defence set-up of the Government of India. As a result of Partition and the consequent division of her Armed Forces, the country's defence machinery found itself thrown out of gear. This meant almost a wholesale reconstitution, involving a major administrative operation. At the same time, an additional strain was placed on the resources of the Ministry when it had to carry out the movement of millions of refugees following communal disturbances that came in the wake of Partition. Standing shoulder to shoulder with the Army, the Air Force gave valuable support in the accomplishment of this stupendous task of mass migration.

Another obligation that the Army and the Air Force were called upon to perform at short notice was to rush to the aid Kashmir at

a very crucial moment, when Pakistani raiders from across the border, after invading Indian territory, were on the threshold of Srinagar, capital of the State. Even as the Kashmir campaign was on, the Army had to fulfil yet another commitment in Hyderabad, where, resorting to 'short, swift and sure' police action against militant Razakars, who had let loose a reign of terror, they restored complete order in the State.

Free from these diversions, the Defence Ministry and the Armed Forces Headquarters found breathing time to launch on a programme of reorganisation of the three Services. Some of the significant developments that have since taken place are (i) formation of a Defence Production Board to evolve a co-ordinated policy in regard to the demand for defence equipment for the Army, Navy and Air Force, (ii) expansion of the Hindustan Aircraft (Private), Ltd., and establishment of the Bharat Electronics (Private), Ltd., at Bangalore, as the two major industrial enterprises of the public sector, (iii) setting up of a Defence Science Organisation to help the defence industry by developing new designs of weapons, (iv) acquisition of modern warships for the Navy and jet aircraft for the Air Force, and (v) introduction of military training for the people by the raising of the Territorial Army and the Lok Sahayak Sena.

The Service training institutions engaged the special attention of Government. A unique experiment in inter-Services training was the Joint Services Wing started at Dehra Dun as part of the Armed Forces Academy. Since then, the J.S.W. has moved to its permanent location at Khadakvasla, near Poona, and re-designated as National Defence Academy. Here three years' combined basic training is provided for cadets of all the Armed Forces before they join their respective Service establishments. Another major training institution is the Defence

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THE LATE AGA KHAN

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Services Staff College, at Wellington in the Nilgiris Hills to impart joint training of a very high standard to selected officers of the three Services and certain civilian officers.

A decision of far-reaching importance was taken by the Ministry when, with effect from April 1, 1950, it assumed overall control of and financial responsibility for the State Forces. This control passed to the Central Government when the former Indian States were integrated into unions, and the question then arose whether to disband these forces or merge them into the Regular Indian Army. Total merger was not, however, possible as it was found that in certain respects their standard of training did not compare well with those of the Regular Army and also varied from State to State. A process of selection had, therefore, to be devised and officers and men of the State Forces who came up to the requisite standard were absorbed in the Army.

By their disciplined conduct and behaviour, officers and men of the Army have endeared themselves to the people. Times out of number, they have been called upon to do humanitarian service during national emergencies, like floods, earthquakes and famines, in co-operation with civil power, which has afforded them opportunities of closer contact with the general public. For more than one year now our troops have been engaged in the task of restoring law and order in the Naga Hills Dis-

trict of Assam and the Tuensang Frontier Division of the North-East Frontier Agency, which were disturbed due to the hostile activities of a section of misguided Nagas, now surrendering in large numbers.

On many an occasion, the Army Medical Corps had to provide medical relief under difficult conditions. In addition to their normal duties, units of the Corps rendered service to the civil population of Jammu and Kashmir afflicted by the Pakistani invasion. Similar help has been given to the sick and wounded in times of natural calamities. Indian Field Ambulance earned world fame for service in Korea and was awarded the President's trophy.

Like the AMC, the Corps of Engineers has won the gratitude of the people by their ungrudging aid to civil power at all times. They have extended a helping hand in big projects like the D.V.C., the Assam rail link, the Mukerian-Pathankot rail link and the Tungabhadra dam. The most notable work executed by Army Engineers recently has been the completion of the Tribhuvan Rajpath in Nepal linking the Indian border with Kathmandu. Besides this Army Engineers have built an all-weather airfield at Gauchor, near the Nepalese capital, and also at Along in NEFA. They are at present engaged in constructing a road in the inaccessible area of NEFA.

The Late Aga Khan

By
Mr. A. C. VERMA

THE Aga Khan, or, to give him his full name and titles, His Highness the Right Honourable Sir Mohammad Maulana Hazer Imam Sahib Shah Aga Sultan Khan III, keeper of Time and Existence, repository of the Universal Soul, Privy Councillor, Knight Grand Commander of the Star of India, Knight

Grand Commander of the Indian Empire, Knight Grand Cross of the Royal Victorian Order and Doctor of Laws, is dead.

In this mid-twentieth century when the genius of democracy has been liberated from the trammels of feudalism and is struggling out of the tentacles of capitalism, the Aga Khan

may have appeared as a striking anachronism, or indeed as having walked out of the pages of Arabian Nights.

That need not, however, blind us to the versatility of his interests and the many sidedness of his personality.

It is true that he had a vast amount of wealth with which he could indulge his interests, his whims and fancies but wealth has not always been known to result logically in a capacity and zest for enjoyment.

The Aga Khan has drained the cup of life to its lees. It is small wonder that he can say, "Never in my long life have I for an instant been bored. Every day has been so short, every hour so fleeting, every minute so filled with the life I love, that time for me has fled on far too swift a wing."

In popular memory his name is associated with fabulous wealth and with a passion for gambling and horses.

If this were all, the Aga would not be the delightfully and incredibly paradoxical personality that he was.

He strode the continents like a living Roman in imperial decline, contemptuous of contemporary ends and means, calm in the security of ancient superstition.

He claimed direct descent from the Prophet's daughter Fatima and her husband Ali and was the spiritual head of the Ismaili Muslims.

Although this is a minor sect, the Aga Khan had absolute power over it.

They paid him an incalculable tribute in money.

His fortune was estimated at nearly a billion and his annual income at a crore of dollars.

In addition to the revenue from his followers a huge income flowed from the European investments and banking enterprises in which he was remarkably successful.

He had, at the same time, vast property holdings in India, Kenya, Syria, Iran, town-houses in Paris, London, Bombay, Karachi and Poona, a villa near Cannes, an Arabian Nights palace on the island of Zanzibar, a

shooting lodge in Scotland, a castle in Ireland—all of which were kept staffed the year round.

He was periodically weighed against precious metals. He was, with the doubtful exception of the Nizam of Hyderabad, the richest man of the world.

The Aga Khan took his role as spiritual leader with utmost seriousness.

It will, however, be difficult for the average man to share the Aga Khan's seriousness about his spiritual vocation and what really excites his curiosity is the Bohemian side of his character.

His first and foremost interest was of course horse racing. Racing was in his blood.

In his memoirs he has devoted an entire chapter to his experiences as a breeder of blood-stock and to his successes on the turf.

Although his knowledge of horse-breeding was unrivalled, he had never staked a penny in his life.

"I do not gamble because I do not believe in chance," he once remarked.

Besides being a great race-horse owner, he was keen on golf, poker, polo.

Some years ago he hired a boxing instructor. Tennis was another of his favourite sports.

He was a great gourmet and one of the world's best-dressed men.

He was also very much the ladies' man.

His first Begum was a native Indian girl Shahzadi, who became his bride when he was twenty. She did not last long.

In 1908 he attended a ballet and was captivated by Theresa Magliano, an Italian dancer. They were married that year and she bore him two sons.

One died in infancy; the other is Aly.

Three years later he married the daughter of a French hotel-keeper. This marriage survived 14 years and brought him another son Sadrudin. The fourth Begum who has survived him is a tall, strikingly beautiful woman who won the title of "Miss France" in 1930.

Thus he has been married four times to an

Indian, an Italian and in succession to two French women.

His grandfather, it is said, had a harem of hundreds, claimed to have sired 3,000 children and to have a household cavalry of 800 blood sons.

The Aga Khan was widely read and widely travelled and was eclectic in his intellectual tastes.

His French was as perfect as his English and on more than one occasion he astonished his friends by his knowledge of obscure French authors they had never heard of.

The Aga Khan was not only a prince, priest and 'bon-vivant' in one but he also dabbled in politics and public affairs.

His contacts were wide and numerous.

He was received by Queen Victoria, became a companion of King Edward VII, a friend for over fifty years of Queen Mary, and a constant visitor to King George V.

He first met Winston Churchill at Poona in 1896 and has been his friend ever since.

In the long years between that night when he dined with Queen Victoria and the afternoon in 1954 when he took tea with Queen Elizabeth, he has been acquainted with most of the great figures,—royal, political and cultural—of half-a-century.

His wide knowledge of the world, his extensive travels, his personal prestige and international contacts fitted him well for the part of "Ambassador without Portfolio" for the

British Government.

In the first World War he brought his influence to bear on the Muslim World in support of the allies, though he failed to win over Turkey.

Later, he headed the Indian delegation to the Round Table Conferences in 1930-31.

His book "India in Transition" powerfully affected the course of political developments, notably in the way they found expression in the Montagu-Chelmsford Reforms of 1919.

In 1937 his international status received fitting recognition by his election as President of the League of Nations.

The Aga Khan was indeed the most cosmopolitan man in living memory.

Though the spiritual leader of a Muslim sect, he had his schooling at Oxford and Cambridge.

He stayed largely in the West.

He enjoyed diplomatic immunities in all foreign capitals.

In France he did as the Frenchmen did; in England he wore a grey topper and morning coat; in Pakistan he donned a turban and at Rangoon the colourful national costume of the Burmese.

He was like an oriental nabob in his corpulency, in his lavishness, in his epicurism, in his luxuriousness, in his appetite for pleasure.

Here was indeed the most picturesque and colourful personality of modern times, whose passing away has left a void which will never be filled.

What Causes Earthquakes?

By

"A GEOPHYSICIST."

STUDIES in the field of seismology, which is concerned with earthquakes and earth tremors, will be an important part of the scientific programme of the International Geophysical Year, which started on July 1.

Earthquakes are caused by "faults" deep within the crust of the earth. These giant cracks are left over from the prehistoric days when mountains were thrown up and great canyons formed in the bottom of the oceans.

The faults are scars which have not yet healed completely, flaws under the surface where the earth has not yet settled down.

Microseisms, the much smaller tremors of the earth's crust, result from physical occurrences nearer the surface of the earth. The energy from atmospheric disturbances joins with that of the earth's surface, usually through oceanic waters, to jar the earth with a series of small shocks, which are recorded as background vibrations on such instruments as seismographs.

In addition, scientists can cause minor earth shocks, large enough to be recorded by seismographs, by means of explosives.

Earthquake waves and explosion waves provide information about the thickness and layering of the surface of the earth. In addition, seismographs can record the thickness of ice in such a place as the Antarctic, thereby giving scientists knowledge of the actual profile of the continent under the ice.

Seismologists study earthquakes to determine their mode of formation, their exact locations, and the energy released. This, they expect, will enable them to develop prediction methods for times of occurrence and location. They hope also to increase their knowledge of the structure of the earth, its crust, its outer and inner shells, and its core.

Seismological studies have long been conducted on an internationally co-operative basis. The International Geophysical Year, however, will give scientists the opportunity to make additional measurements in remote areas, particularly in Antarctica and the equatorial Pacific islands.

Virtually no measurements of this type have been made directly on the Antarctic Continent. But seismographic instruments elsewhere in the world have shown that some of the largest earthquakes have occurred in the sub-Antarctic region and that earthquakes are occurring on the continent itself.

"Although man seems helpless where such physical events as earthquakes are concerned, actually he can lessen the damage done by such disasters by improving his knowledge of their nature, by finding out how likely they are to occur in particular locations, and by determining how extensive they may be," the United States National Academy of Sciences pointed out recently in discussing the IGY seismological programme.

United States scientists will set up their instruments in the Atlantic and the Pacific, as well as on the North and South American continent and in Antarctica. They will record natural earth tremors and earthquakes, and they will make their own artificial tremors with dynamite charges in order to measure ice thickness in the Antarctic.

The information obtained by the United States scientists, combined with that obtained through world-wide seismic studies made by other nations participating in the International Geophysical Year, will enable scientists to make a much better map than they now have of the interior of the earth. It is hoped that this information will also lead to more accurate methods of forecasting the time and location of major earthquakes throughout the world.

Cultural Vignette from Assam

By

Mr. R. SUBRAMANIAN, M.A., M. Litt.

INDIA is the home of festivals and dances ; different kinds of festivals and dances are held in different parts of the country in a way characteristic of the part concerned ; that which is foremost in these festivals and dances in our country, is their diversified system of observance and performance ; yet a common strand runs through them. The Bihus in Assam, the Onam in Malabar, the Pongal in Tamilnad, to name a few, are one and the same in conception. Diwali is another festival of nation-wide rejoicing in India. The Birth of a New Year like the Tamil New Year, the Bengali New Year, the Assamese New Year, the Telugu New Year etc., is heralded with much religiosity and social fervour. The content of all such festivities and dances vary from State to State and from people to people ; for example the Manipuri dance in the east and the Kathakali of the south-western tip of India, the Kathak dance of the north the Bharatha Natyam of the south ; but their essence remaining an unanimous reality of harmony in variety.

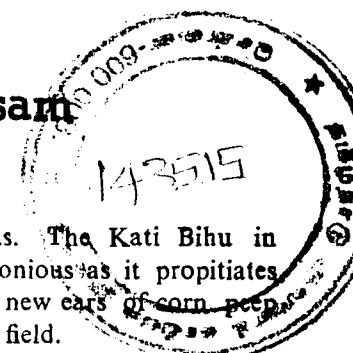
Assam is no exception to this ; the rural life in Assam has its many faceted activities, like dancing, singing, stage-acting and buffalo fights which manifest themselves in connection with the Bihus : and the word Bihus in Assamese language means festivals that are celebrated at certain cycles of Nature. There are three Bihus in Assam, namely, the Bohag Bihu, the Magh Bihu, and the Kati Bihu. Of these, the first is the most important one in respect of ceremony and position. This falls in the month of April every year corresponding to the ushering in of the Assamese New Year : it is interesting to note that such an occasion coincides with the coming off of the Tamil New Year in Madras. The Magh Bihu, with its characteristic bonfire which comes off in mid-winter in Assam corresponds more or less to

the Pongal in Madras. The Kati Bihu in Sept-October is ceremonious as it propitiates 'prosperity' when the new ears of corn peep out of the gay greenish field.

Assam is the abode of different races of people, for it is said that the Brahmaputra valley was once a home of the Austro-Asiatics from South-East Asia. Subsequent cultural invasions moulded an Assamese culture with an Austro-Asiatic tinge. It may be further pointed out that ethonologically, linguistically and morphologically this is nearer to truth.

This is also true of the Bohag Bihu dances and music, for they are expressive of the Austro-Asiatic influence ; the dance festivals are held in conjunction with the harvest season and the sowing of seeds in the fields. Such popular social events are suggestive of places like Java, the Nicobar Islands, Upper Burma and Australia. In Australia, for example, the Corroboree dances of the natives of Austro-Asiatic origin with their music produced by beating with fists on rugs that are tightly stretched between the knees connote the presence of this type of culture. The Bihu dances of Assam are but the pleasant relic of such a civilisation with its roots deep down in history.

Dances in all their form and glory, be they ancient or modern, have been and are a vital part of man's life on earth and its history is as old as man himself. Ancient art, historians say, is more ritualistic, for it was a magic art ; the Papuan and South African Landscape dances breathe the air of ancient in them. The hunting man developed the art of war in their dance ; and as years rolled by, he became an agriculturist and a cultivator and art for him was in dancing which was reflected in rituals, quite symbolic of his experience as an agriculturist. He was an animist and a 'Nat' worshipper, abandoning himself to Nature.



He believed in spirits; and the economic dependence on Nature and the growth of Population as the sole agency of survival against Nature, wove a cultural pattern typifying his temper and purpose. The field was his joy, the cultivation the symbol with which to weave the pattern of ancient art. A co-ordinated social effort in the form of folk dances was there to paint the picture in realistic hues. For, ancient art is spoken of as a 'communal' art in Nature and the collective experiences enriched and embroidered the already colourful drama of ancient life.

The Bohag Bihu dance festival of Assam evokes much interest from this point of view; they seem to revive an ancient art; folk dances generally denote freshness and beauty and peoples' imagination. Everything is rendered simple by music, yet complex in ideal: the Bihu dances are folk dances followed by music in chorus from boys and girls in teens drawn together by the Bihugits and Bongits, the folklore of Assam.

The Stage for the Bohag Bihu dances is set against the background of a mid-April Nature, bright and lively, brimming with the 'procreanturget'; winter is out of the scene and Nature in Spring enjoys the music from birds and reels in multicoloured smiles; peals of Her Laughter are heard in the monsoon clouds far beyond; but the sky is blue and bright and Nature soft and green; she seems to prepare the ground for the never ending activity again. Mother is earth to receive the magic touch of the plough; she gapes; she is put in; and creation

begins and fructifies. This, in short, is the theme of the Bohag Bihu dances: fertility of man and soil is reminiscent of spring festivals among the Konyak Nagas also in Assam. The primitive urge is being enacted through rites and rituals in honour of this natural fact. To this is added religious and spiritual fervour.

The Assamese enjoy the Bohag Bihu dances; folk songs and dances predominate throughout the season. They are at their best, being given out in good spirits; the youth and the maiden are aroused to subtle feelings and they do it with an open mind; caught in the ecstasy of delight, songs come forth in a melodious strain; music is accompanied by drumming that sends a thrill all over the body enthusing them to dance in genuine folk-joy; an indigenous flute called the Mahar Singa Pepa, made of buffalo horn, whistles faint notes and the people dance to the "cadence of consenting feet". The young hearts are tickled into a fantasy, an aspiration and an El Dorado that find expression in the Bihugits and Bongits. The songs personify Cupid and Nature. They flow spontaneously and have an aesthetic charm about them; they are erotic, born of spring time emotional instinct of heart. Beauty, romance and love are woven into finer notes like the songs of mediaeval France by the Troubadours.

In short, they convey what may be called 'the lofty' sincere romanticism' of an unsophisticated people. The dances know no bounds of sectarian bias and their influence on Assamese culture and social life is easily discernible.

Delhi Public Library, a New Home of learning

BY

Mr. R. S. MATHUR B.A. (Dip. Lib.)

When we think of educational progress or planning, we only think of setting up a few schools and colleges and be done with it. Our imagination does not go beyond that. The importance of library as a powerful instrument for preserving, exchanging and spreading of ideas is not ordinarily realised or recognised. The dynamic role which the libraries in the West have played and are still playing has caught but little imagination of the people in this country. We clamour for better roads, better houses, better health and sanitary arrangement and so on, yet we seldom ask for anything which may develop the growth of our mind. The physical needs always precede the mental ones. There is hardly any attempt to strike at the balance between the two. The result is that for the lack of reading facilities eight out of every ten persons after coming out of schools and colleges lapse into "illiteracy" and live virtually in the "implacable, invisible, inner dungeon of ignorance." A society composed of such intellectually static and mentally dwarfed people can hardly play a fuller part in any activity of national reconstruction. If the pattern of our life is to be improved and the democracy to thrive and flourish in our country, it is necessary that a network of libraries should be established which would create a "living and socially integrated service of ideas and information in society."

Believing that a library is a living force for popular education, the UNESCO, in co-operation with the Government of India, launched its first pilot project in Delhi known as the Delhi Public Library, which was formally declared open by our Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru on October 27, 1951. The Government of India deserve all praise for seizing the opportunity to have a project of this kind run in their country with the active support and cooperation of the countries of the

world. It ushered in a new dawn of progress and marked a new beginning in the history of the library movement in India. Though it may not appear to bear fruits immediately, is a sound one and its effect is bound to be felt in the long run.

The Delhi Public Library is housed in a single storeyed building opposite the Railway Station, Delhi. Although the building is by no means an ideal one for a library yet it fulfills most other conditions required for locating a library. A library is meant for popular use and if located in some dark corner beyond the reach of commonman, its very purpose is defeated. As such, no other more suitable place could be found than the present one, which is the hub and heart of the city and is accessible by rail, motor, bus, tonga etc. It has also got a small garden at its back which serves to make a delightful open air reading room.

The library is managed by an autonomous Board of 12 members consisting of representatives of the Government of India, the UNESCO and the Local Self-Governments. The Board guides the policy of the library and has power to co-opt persons whose special knowledge or experience in technical matters can be of use or help to the library. The library bids fair to be great success in the very near future due to the yeomen service of its very capable Director who has already put it on a firm footing and made of it a throbbing community centre in such a short time.

The Delhi Public Library stands out unique in many respects. Since UNESCO is the author and originator of this plan and has contributed materially to its growth and development, the library has got an international status and has also the blessings and support of many nations of the world. It is a democratic institution operated by the people for the people. A library in modern times is a live

workshop and in order that people may derive the maximum benefit out of it, it remains open every day of the week from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. The portals of learning are open to all regardless of any distinction of caste and creed, occupation, sex or nationality. Its greatest attraction is that there is no fee for membership and no charge whatever is made for any service rendered. It is a free public library in every sense of the word. It provides books, magazines, newspapers, maps, pictures, recordings, etc., almost all suitable material for propagation and dissemination of knowledge for the proper education, information, recreation and aesthetic appreciation. Besides, it is equipped with all the modern appurtenances and display methods desirable in a modern library.

The services of the library are, at present, available to the general public under four heads.

This is the busiest section of the library. The lending department is a spacious hall with rows upon rows of book-shelves to the left, tables and chairs in the middle for the readers, catalogue and display racks to the right and a big counter at the entrance for issue and receipt of books. The library has an open-shelf system and readers are free to pick up and choose books of their own choice. The lending department has also a good stock of reference books such as dictionaries, encyclopaedias, maps and atlases, etc., which are kept for consultation of the readers. To assist and initiate the readers in the use of the library the services of the Reader's Adviser are also available.

Up to the end of May 1954, it had a total stock of 54,168 books, of which 29,911 were in Hindi, 9,873 in Urdu and 14,384 in English. The immense popularity of the library can be well imagined from the fact that by May 1954, a little more than 2 years of its existence, the library had a total of 19,239 members comprising 11,771 adults, 4,556 juveniles, 2,106 of mobile library and 806 at deposit stations.

The creation of the separate Department for children shows that library authorities are fully cognizant of the needs of children, the citizens-to-be, in any programme of fundamental education. The Children's Department is one of the most fascinating sections of the Library. Tastefully decorated and aesthetically appealing to the eye, it bears a most inviting look for children. Furniture is low and small; books are bright and colourful and are arranged in small open shelves. Children are encouraged to pick and enjoy them as much as they like. The day is usually rounded off with some story, talk or other interesting feature in which children love to participate and cluster round the young and smiling lady librarian with a "tell-tale" look and cheerful smile.

A new feature of the Children's Department is the Activity Room equipped with toys and mechanicos of different varieties, woodcut letters and picture books. It admits children below the age of five. The idea of the Activity Room is to attract young children to the library and to introduce them to alphabets and picture books through play.

The Room is open between 2 to 4 p.m. on all days of the week and no fee is charged for its use. Story hours are arranged with the help of planograph pictures for the children visiting the Activity Room.

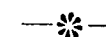
It is yet another interesting and new feature of library service in this country. Social education is a new concept and a new experiment in the field of education of adults. In a country like ours where 80 per cent of the people are illiterate, the growth of social education has a special significance and is vital to any work of national development. It's no good to make an adult read and write the alphabets and then leave him in the lurch. If it is desired that he should play a fuller and effective role in society, means will have to be found and opportunities explored so that he can develop his latent capabilities and aptitudes. The Social Education Department therefore through its multi-

farious activities such as film shows, discussion groups, play readings circles, lectures exhibitions, etc., affords encouragement and facilities for people to "educate themselves continuously, to keep abreast of progress in all fields of knowledge and to maintain freedom of expression and a constructively critical attitude towards all public issues; to be better social and political citizen of their country and of the world; to be more efficient in their day-to-day activities; to develop their creative capacities and power of appreciation in art and letters; to aid generally in the advancement of knowledge and to use their leisure time to promote personal happiness and well being. The main object of the Social Education Department is, in short, to stimulate reading interest in the public and to provide a forum for cultural activities. It is therefore rightly called a Community Centre.

Among the audio-visual aids with which the Social Education Department is equipped are a sixteen m.m. film projector, an epidiascope, a

tape recorder, a radio, and a Turn-table. The auditorium, where most of the meetings and other activities are conducted, is a specious hall with a seating capacity of about 400 persons. Exhibitions of paintings, handicrafts, posters, etc., are held in a separate room provided for the purpose.

The Library has got an elaborate programme of future development and extension of its services to other parts of the city and the rural areas. As a first step towards the education of the neoliterates, Deposit Stations have been opened at four of the Social Education Centres of the Delhi Municipal Committee. Follow-up literature is supplied by the library to the neoliterates at these centres. Realising the great dearth of right types of books for children and easy-to-read literature for neoliterates the library has taken upon itself the task of producing and publishing literature for the above class of readers which will set a new standard and also serve as a model for book production in India.



A Glance Over Ancient Burma

Upto 13th Century A.D.

By

Mr. BHAWANI SHANKER SHUKLA

THE ancient history of Burma is obscure. It is difficult to peep into it especially before the 13th century A.D. The best we can know is that the Pyu had their capital in the north at Prome and the Talaings in the South at Thaton. It is the period when a racial admixture in Burma took place. The ruins found near Pagan and Amarapura indicate the influence of Indian art and architecture. I found during my short stay in Burma a few wooden images of the Buddha in a ruined temple near Amarapura which betrayed a marked Indian influence over them.

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It is believed that the history of Burma begins from C. 850 B.C. This is mostly based on the Indian legends written in Sanskrit or Pali. Ptolemy in the middle of about second century A.D. refers to the people of Irrawaddy Delta as cannibals. 'According to the account given in the history of Myat-saw-nyinaung and Shin-binky-ank-Sank pagodas by U Scinda Dhamma of Toungoo our Lord, the Enlightened One, in his fifth year of Buddhahood was invited by two brothers Maha Bon and Chula Bon of Sunaparanta (Burma) to accept a sandal wood Kyaung built by them at

Legaing. The Supreme Lord, seeing that his religion would take root in that country thereafter, accepted the gift and went thither with five hundred disciples. The Lord visited many places in Burma where shrines would be put up thereafter.¹

It is further believed that Asoka, the emperor of India, sent his missionaries to the Golden Land (Suvarnabhumi) in the third century B. C. The Ceylonese texts though apparently do not corroborate the Indian version but also do not, at the same time, support a feeble view held by some Burmese that Buddhaghosha was the responsible man to introduce Buddhism in Burma.

In the second century A. D. the influence of Indian culture was fully established in Burma. The earliest archaeological finds particularly at Srikshetra and Halingyi also testify the same.

Chinese writers inform us that there existed a Buddhist Kingdom of Ling-yang in the third century A.D. By the end of 7th century and onward we know from certain inscriptions written in South Indian script and found at Halingyi (in Shwebo district) and old Prome that the earliest inhabitants of Burma were Pyu and that a Vikrama dynasty was ruling there at least from 673 A.D. to 718 A.D. which is thought to have inaugurated the Burmese era beginning in March 638 A.D. The same inscriptions further tell us that a second dynasty with an Indian name called the Varman also ruled 'over a neighbouring and rival city.' These inscriptions have thrown some light on the ancient religion also. There flourished both forms of Buddhism, i.e., Mahayana and Hinayana together with Vishnu worship. There have been found large stone statues in the Gupta style, bronze statuettes of Avalokitesvara and many stone sculptures of Vishnu. 'The people burnt their dead and stored the ashes in urns.'²

1. U Po Saung : 'The Myat-saw-ny-naung Pagoda', Burma. Vol. IV, No. 1, October, 1953.

2. D.G.E. Hall : Burma, P. 2.

Yet, a different dynasty called Chandra ruled over Arakan region. This dynasty was founded in the middle of the 4th century A.D. Vaisali was its capital. It ruled for about 230 years. A second dynasty was founded by Sri Dharmavijaya in the 8th century A.D. Dharmavijaya was of Kshatriya race and later his dynasty was matrimonially related to the Pyu King of Srikshetra.

Pyu were no doubt very powerful but they were defeated by Kolofeng, a ruler of powerful Tai Kingdom of Nanchao in C. 760. By the same time Pyu came into contact with Chinese rulers. Chinese historians have described the beauty of Pyu capital as follows: it (the capital) was "surrounded by a brick-wall of green enamel protected by a brick-lined moat. It had twelve gates and was fortified by towers at the corners. The city contained a hundred Buddhist monasteries decorated with gold, silver and multicoloured paintings hung with embroidered cloths. Near the palace was a gigantic image of a white elephant before which all litigants had to kneel and reflect upon the justice or injustice of their cases. In time of public distress the king would prostrate before the elephant burning incense and confessing his sins. Boys and girls were accustomed to live in monasteries from the age of seven until their twentieth year studying Buddhist faith."³ The Pyu kingdom was finally ended in C. 832 A.D. when Nanchao tribes plundered its capital and expelled numerous local people to Yunnan Pu.

Then came Mons (Talaing). They beat off Nanchao and established their power over South Burma. They were noble and art loving people and influenced the subsequent history of the country. Arab geographers also place them in Lower Burma which they called 'Ramannadesa.' Ibn Khordadzebeh (in the middle of 9th century A.D.) refers to might of Mon kings in the 'Book of Routes and of Provinces.' The country, the writer says, was prosperous. And it was probably by this

3. Ibid, P 10.

time the foundation of the city of Pagan was laid down.

The history of Burma during 9th, 10th and the first half of 11th centuries is more obscure. But it was actually this period when Burmese entered Burma whose original home was 'somewhere in the north-west of China, probably Kansu between the Gopi Desert and north-east Tibet.' While immigrating Burmese came into contact with Nanchao. The latter cast great influence on Burmese way of life "such as," writes Mr. Hall, "the use of the waterbuffalo, the terrace-cultivation of hill slopes and their system of wet rice cultivation in the plains in addition, they learnt the art of war and the breeding of horses."

The Burmese had to struggle hard for their existence in Burma, they seized some area of Mon Kingdom, the Ledwin and Kyankse and gradually spread out in several directions. The Burmese have variously been called as Mramma, Mirma or Mien in inscriptions or (Chinese) literature. Before they became Buddhist their religion was animism. And that religion still prevails dominating that outlook of many people of that land. The significance of dragons, peacocks, fish, quails, cats and flying animals indicates the same thing. Burmese worshipped an indigenous nature spirit, the 'nat' for the first 1000 years of Christian era. Mr. J. B. Prat says that "Burmans love the Buddha but fears the nats. The Buddha knows will never harm him but the nats may."⁴

The second half of the 11th century A.D. marks out a most important period in the history of Burma when king Anawratha (Aniruddha (1044-1097) of the House of Pagan ruled the country. Situated on the eastern bank of Irrawaddy about 120 miles South of Mandalay the city of Pagan provides most valuable historical relics. It is believed that originally there have been no less than 13,000 Buddhist shrines and monasteries over this region. It was king Anawratha of this place who may be credited to unite the country of Burma. His reign is marked with various activities. He was a powerful king and extended his territories by battles which included besides central Burma the Irrawaddy Delta, the Thaton area and the east of Sittang river.

4. J. B. Prat : India and its Faiths, p. 347. Quoted from Christmas Humphrey's Buddhism, p. 64.

The conquest over Thaton specially brought forth many important consequences. Thaton Buddhism was largely Hindu. And the contact of Thaton with Pagan therefore induced the Hindu character in the religion of the people of Pagan. Mr. Luce observes that Buddhism of Pagan "was mixed up with Hindu Brahmanic cults, Vaishnavism in particular. It was tinged with Mahayanism and towards the end of the dynasty at least with Tantrism. It rested doubtless on a deep bed of Naga and Nat worship."⁵

King Anawratha, a Buddhist of Theravada School (Hinayana), did his best for the propagation of his religion throughout the country. He was not a born Buddhist but was converted to it by a Shin Arhat from Thaton. He was also responsible to replacing Mahayana School of Buddhism for its Hinayana form. It is said that in 1056 king Anawratha of Pagan being displaced with the Tantric Mahayana Buddhism practised by some of his people requested king Manuha of Thaton to send him priests and texts for the dissemination of Hinayana doctrine. Manuha's refusal caused Anawratha to attack and conquer his kingdom with exceedingly important results." Hinayana supplanted Mahayana in Upper Burma, Pali replaced Sanskrit as the scriptural language and the people adopted the Talaing (Mon) alphabet and wrote their own language for the first time."⁶ The king Anawratha took keen interest in constructing Pagodas and with the result Pagan and its vicinity was studded with 5000 religious structures of stone or bricks decorated with covered stucco (In old literature the number of such Pagodas is 4,486,733). And it was due to such zeal for Dhamma that a century later one of the wonderful structures of the world, Edwin Arnold's "Pyramid of Fire," the Golden Pinnacled Pagoda, the Shue Dagon was constructed where the relics of Lord Buddha are still enshrined.

The dynasty of Anawratha ruled till the 13th century A.D. with Pagan as its capital. When Kublai Khan occupied Pagan in 1287 A.D. a new era dawned on the horizon of Burmese history.

5. G. H. Luce : Burma's Debt of Pagan, a paper in the Journal of The Burma Research Society.

6. Encyclopaedia of Arts, edited by Dagobert D. Runes and Harry G. Schrickel, p. 938.

Personalities purged in Kremlin Shake-up



Above : Lazar Kaganovich and Georgi Malenkov.
Below : Dmitri Shepilov and V. M. Molotov.

WORLD OF BOOKS

THE LOVES AND ADVENTURES OF OMAR KHAYYAM A Signet Book, New American Library, U.S.A.

The New American Library deserves the thanks of the reading public for publishing as 'A Signet Book'—*Life, The Loves, and Adventures of Omar Khayyam*. The author, Manual Komreff has divided the book into three sections. The first section comprising the life, Loves and adventures of the Great Astronomer, Philosopher and Poet, the second Section gives The Rubaiyat of Omar Khayyam with which the reading public are familiar and the last section is a note on the Paramount Picture in which the producer has treated the romantic figure of Omar Khayyam as 'More than the dream-like man who wrote the Rubaiyat'. The book furnishes excellent reading.

"SWEET SMELL OF SUCCESS" AND OTHER STORIES. by Earnest Lehman, A Signet Book published by the New American Library U.S.A.

It is an interesting and breath-taking story about the scandal monger of show business and how an actor however great he may be has to bow down before the whims and fancies of a top ranking columnist. This book provides interesting reading and will be especially welcomed and appreciated by the film going public.

EAST AND WEST. By T. L. Vaswani, Price 8 as. 10 Connaught Road, Poona 1.

As Yama said to Savitri, there is spiritual refreshment to the Taught and Regeneration of the Body to the Teacher in moral intercourse. Do not offer animal sacrifices; but offer yourself as a sacrifice, and every day mind you? How sweet and refreshing and thought-provoking it all is!

KARLIMA RANI. By Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. Price Rs. 4. India Book House, Purushottam Buildings, 193, Mount Road, Madras 2.

This purports to be an account of eighteen lectures on the Laws of Real Living given by Karlima Rani, abbess of Christo Cloisters, Mount Kailas to Hallgrimsdottir of Iceland who landed at Cape Camorin on 24-12-1918 and reached Mount Kailas on 24-3-1919. It is full of rare spiritual refreshment, containing the quintessence of Yoga which is Competency in Action. The directives are clear regarding Examination of Conscience and Conduct and Canalising of Aspiration and Efforts.

TATTWAJNANAM. By Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. Rs 5, published by Brahmakul, Gaurishankarmath, Scandinavia. Copies available with India Book House, 193, Mount Road, Madras 2.

This is a masterpiece of sweet forceful exposition of the central principles of Tattwam Asi, You are that, and Tattwajnanam or Cosmic Consciousness. As the Gita says in the Fourth Chapter, the seeker shall know by humility, cross-examination, and service of Tattwadarsins who have Wisdom and one such certainly is Swami Sri Ananda Acharya.

KALKARAM. By Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. Price Rs. Five. Brahmakul, Scandinavia. Distributors, India Book House, 193, Mount Road, Madras 2.

This is a miscellaneous collection of letters from high and low, and anecdotes and expositions of Dharma, carefully selected to enlighten the Aspirant on the Path by way of learning from the Experiences of Others. They that must learn by having heard from Others as the Thirteenth Chapter of the Gita puts it cannot find a better mentor than this volume. Even they shall transcend Spiritual Death or Mrityu as every World Teacher has proclaimed.

REPORT ON CURRENCY AND FINANCE. 1956-57 Reserve Bank of India. Price Rs. 4.50.

In spite of the innumerable charts and graphs and the careful compilation of statistics and a ballyhoo summary, which are all excellent after their kind, one is left wondering why the foreign balances are dwindling and the end of Inflation seems no nearer.

MODERN INDIAN LANGUAGES. Publications Division, Government of India, New Delhi. Rs. 2.50.

Experts on all languages and literatures appreciably spoken and known in India that is Bharath have given the pigs of the oranges after removing the seeds. They are nourishing, tasty, and gulpable. As Chief Justice Rajamannar warns, let us beware of the dangers of too much reginmentation and too much pre-digestion of mental pabulum.

HUNGARY. Corvina, Budapest.

It is so refreshing that in the midst of the turmoil and confusion of Mittel Europa Politics, the cultural life goes on almost uninterrupted and the writer and the painter and the printed can produce such a lovely guide-book.

EVOLUTION OF RURAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN UTTAR PRADESH. By M. P. Sharma. Professor of Political Science, Saugor University. All India Institute of Local Self-Government, Fort, Bombay.

This is a careful, well-written, well documented thesis approved for the Doctorate of Letters by the University of Allahabad.

LECTURES ON RATING AND ASSESSMENT. By L. H. Marathe. Local Self-Government Institute, Fort, Bombay.

Though written primarily for the benefit of students appearing for the Local Self-Government Diploma Examination, it is a complete guide to the problems of Rating and Assessment.

YOGA OF CONQUEST. By Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. Price Rs. Three. India Book House, 193, Mount Road, Madras 2.

This is a Calendar of Daily Counsel to Man on his duties towards all Creation. As the counsel of the Ninth of August says "If we think, we are of earth, we shall be filled with earth, and buried therein finally; but if we think ourselves as beings of Light, we shall go to Surya Loka."

SAKI, THE COMRADE. By Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. Price Rs. 2. India Book House, 193, Mount Road, Madras 2.

These little pearls of wisdom in verse-form breathe unbounded beauty and infinite mercy.

DEVELOPMENT OF LOCAL SELF-GOVERNMENT IN BOMBAY AND SAURASHTRA. By J. M. Thakore. Price Rs. 2. Local Self-Government Institute, Fort, Bombay.

This represents lectures given at Rajkot at the Local Self-Government Diploma Course Training Centre. It can almost compare with Maitland's Lectures in comprehensiveness combined with lucidity of exposition.

USARIKA—DAWN RHYTHMS. By Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. Price Re. One. India Book House, 193, Mount Road, Madras 2.

These little verses on Dawn the Bride of the Sun are sweetly melodious in their own inimitable fashion.

CAKRASAKHA. The Companion of God, by Swami Sri Ananda Acharya. Price Rs. Two. India Book House, 193, Mount Road, Madras 2.

These verse-forms which partly seem original compositions and partly imitative responses if not translations *per se* of portions of the Vedas are exquisitely entrancing.

POEMS. By D. M. Subrahmanyam. Price Rs. 1/8. Sadasiva Nivas. 41, Model House Street, Basavangudi, Bangalore 4.

These are specimens of Narrative verse in the didactic style of Watts and the felicitous style of Felicia Hemans.

THE MEANING OF THE CASTES. By Frithjof Schuon. K. N. Iyengar, 1/28 Edward Elliott Road, Madras 4.

This is a priceless little thought-provocative compression of a defence of Character, Caste and Swadharma.

BRITAIN IN BRIEF. Revised. British Information Services, Madras-1.

This reference material keeps up the high standard of the Central Office of Information, London.

THE U.K. DEPENDENCIES IN BRIEF. British Information Services, Madras-1.

An excellent little brochure on the Dependencies still left with Britain.

WORLD OPINION ON GOA. Publications Division, Government of India, New Delhi.

This is a well-collected compendium of World Opinion in favour of India's stand re. Goa.

GEOLOGY IN INDIA. Publications Division, Government of India, New Delhi.

A neat little guide to the mineral wealth of India that is Bharath, and the governmental organization trying to tap the same.

RAILWAYS SINCE INDEPENDENCE. Re. 1. Publications Division, Government of India, New Delhi.

This is a beautiful piece of publicity with lovely photographs showing the progress made in Railways since Independence.

POTTERY OF SARSOPATAK. By Janos Roman, Corvina, Budapest.

This lovely book with ravishing illustrations in Colour giving an account of the exquisite pottery of Sarsopatak in N.E. Hungary, cannot be too highly praised.

PUBLIC MANAGEMENT OF PRIVATE EMPLOYMENT. By Richard Hazelett.

Reprinted from the American Economic Review.

It explains as part of a controversy that Demand for Labour is not Demand for Output.

YUGOSLAVIA. Social Government, in Yugoslavia is described clearly in this compendium of 220 pages.

Dull at times but instructive at all times.

INDIANS OUTSIDE INDIA

GENERAL

INDIANS WORKING ABROAD

The Government of India are collecting information about Indians working abroad so as to know the possibilities of offering them alternate jobs in India.

A *pro forma* asking for detailed information, specially from the scientific and technical hands, is being sent to India's Missions abroad. The data thus collected will be made available to the various Ministries and other local employers so that they might consider to what extent they can make use of these persons.

The Directorate of Manpower in the Union Ministry of Home Affairs, set up last year for the purpose of assessing and meeting the technical requirement of the country, has, it is stated, also prepared a comprehensive programme of manpower studies during this year. The studies include the requirement and sources of manpower of various categories, for example, engineering, scientific, administrative, agricultural, health, educational, industrial management personnel and skilled and semi-skilled craftsmen.

S. AFRICA

APARTHEID IN S. AFRICA

In South Africa there are about 3,00,000 Indians. They have been segregated from the 'white' population and the South African Government further proposes to segregate them from the indigenous population as well, to force their repatriation. This caused serious riots three years back resulting in serious loss of property and life and ultimately forcing a few Indians to be repatriated.

The question of maltreatment of Indians in South Africa is before the U.N. The problem has indeed assumed a serious significance in as much as the ruling party is in power mainly due to the fact that its Government is pledged to drive out all Indians and Asiatics by any means possible.

India, Egypt and seven other countries demanded United Nations General Assembly debate on South Africa's apartheid policies on Aug. 27.

A note asking for inclusion of the item in the agenda of the 12th session, opening on September 17, was submitted to the Secretary-General, Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld.

The full list of signatories are: Bolivia,

Costa Rica, India, Indonesia, Egypt, Liberia, Sudan, Yugoslavia and Uruguay.

Dr. P. D. Saggi, President, Indian Overseas Cultural Congress, appealed to all social and humanitarian organisations to observe September 2 as a Black Day as a protest against the passing of the Segregation Bills in the Union of South Africa. By these measures, 6,523 coloured, 62,900 Indians and 82,500 Africans will be displaced. Indians would lose properties to the extent of £ 85,360,065.

PAKISTAN

INDIANS IN PAKISTAN

The Pakistan Government seems to have intensified, of late, the process of "gradually squeezing out" Indians working in Pakistan, according to a highly-placed Indian source.

This, the source said, was in marked contrast to the "generous attitude" adopted by India on the question of Pakistanis employed in India.

The source recalled that the Government of India had recently extended the time-limit for Pakistanis employed in India to obtain travel documents to facilitate their further stay in the country.

This measure, the source emphasised, had been taken, despite the confusion created in the country by over two-and-a-half lakh Pakistanis staying there without documents—and despite the Government's request—for over five to six years.

According to an estimate over three-and-a-half lakh Pakistanis are employed in India, as against twenty to thirty thousand Indians working in both the wings of Pakistan.

"Harassment is an old method by which the authorities and interested parties in Pakistan got a number of minorities, mostly, Hindus, out of Pakistan. The new method is refusal to grant and renew visas to Indian employees" the source alleged.

MALAYA

INDIAN DOCTORS FOR MALAYA

A Malayan mission to recruit doctors in India had been successful. Tumku Yaacob, Chairman of the Public Services Commission, said on August 30.

Tunku Yaacob, a member of the mission, said 200 of 1,000 applicants in India had been interviewed. The Indian doctors were keen to come and the Indian Government had been most co-operative.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- August 1. Dr. Radhakrishnan inaugurates National Book Trust at New Delhi.
- August 2. Devadas Gandhi is dead.
- August 3. Khrushchev meets Tito.
- August 4. The Syrian Military Mission arrives in Moscow.
- August 5. Agreement on transfer of power and of British rule in Malaya on August 31 is signed.
- August 6. Lok Sabha passes the Essential Services Maintenance Bill by 226 to 31.
- August 7. President issues an Ordinance banning all strike by P. & T., Aviation Staff etc.
- August 8. P. & T. workers withdraws strike notice.
- August 9. British troops forced to retreat from Oman.
- August 10. V. K. Krishna Menon visits Srinagar.
- August 11. S. African Churches resent Apartheid policy of the Government.
- August 12. The Report of the Official Language Commission is published.
- August 13. President revokes Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance.
- August 14. U.S.A. protests to Russia against the closure of Peter The Great Bay (near Vladivostok).
- August 15. Independence Day Celebrations throughout India.
- August 16. 100th anniversary of the First War of Independence (Mutiny of 1857) celebrated throughout the Country.
- August 17. Dr. Cheddi Jagan forms the new Government in British Guiana.
- August 18. Kerala Government modifies Bill on Education.
- August 19. U.S.A. tests another atomic weapon in Nevada.
- August 20. Dr. A. L. Mudaliar is elected Vice-Chancellor of Madras University for the sixth time.
- August 21. Arab move complaining British armed aggression in Oman to the Security Council fails.
- August 22. Personnel of the Central Pay Commission is announced.
- U.S.A. lifts ban on travel to China of 24 Reporters.
- August 23. Ceylon lifts ban on Rubber export.
- Budapest Government protests against U.N. debate on Hungary.
- August 24. Syria complains to U.N. re. U.S. interference in her internal affairs.
- Earl Jowitt, Lord Chancellor in Attlee's Govt. is dead.
- August 25. Syrian army is reported to be moving on Lebanese border.
- U.S. Congress experts warn about consequences of further nuclear tests.
- August 26. Nagas' convention decide at Kohima to give up their demand for Independence.
- August 27. W. Pak. Governor Mr. M. A. Gurmani resigns.
- Russia successfully tests an I. C. B. M. Rocket.
- August 28. Jaya Prakash Narayan quits P. S. P.
- Lok Sabha adopts the Finance Minister's Taxation Proposals for 1957-1958 by passing the Finance Bill.
- August 29. Reds reject West's new Disarmament Plan.
- Portuguese fire on Indian patrol at Daman.
- August 30. Congress Working Committee meets in New Delhi.
- August 31. Malaya celebrates her Independence: She joins the Commonwealth of Nations.

READERS' DIGEST

CONSERVATIVE GOVERNMENT IN ENGLAND

Discussing the position and prospects of the present Conservative Government in Great Britain Mr. G. D. H. Cole writes in the *Journal of International Affairs* that for the immediate future the British electorate is likely to be influenced much more by considerations of home policy, than by anything in the international field.

"The Conservatives are not, I feel, likely to be driven from office because of the grave defects of their international policy, or even of having none that can be at all clearly defined. If they can hold together despite their known differences, international events are not likely to bring their rule to an end until a General Election has to be held—and that need not be until 1960. What is probable is that their action in home affairs will render them gradually more unpopular, unless, the Labour Party makes some serious error of judgment. As I said, I think they would lose a General Election if it were held now, though not by a wide margin; but that is a sufficient reason for them not to allow an Election to take place in the near future. They have done badly in the recent by-elections at Lewisham, Wednesbury and Caermathen, which have enabled the Labour Party to win two seats in the House of Commons and—especially in the case of Caermathen, have shown a rising level of popular political interest. But, if there is no Election till 1959 or 1960, it is still much too soon to prophesy with any confidence what its results will be. All that can be said is that in the immediate future the tide is likely to flow further in the Labour Party's favour, even though the Labour Party still falls a long way short of having made up its mind what use it would make of a return to office. For the moment, Labour has noticeably closed its ranks, accepting Aneurin Bevan to a recognised position among its leaders and united in its opposition to the new Government as to the old, with plenty of immediate issues to stand upon without raising directly the more fundamental issues that will have to be faced before a General Election takes place.

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DISARMAMENT

Two powerful forces are now moving the U.S.A. Administration toward an arms compromise with the Soviet Union: President Eisenhower's deep compulsive longing for peace; and the revolt on Congress against the rising cost of government, writes James Reston in the *New York Times*.

"The first of these is even stronger than the second. A close personal friend and associate of the President was asked what he thought the President wanted to achieve in his second term more than anything else."

"Disarmament," he replied without hesitation. "A fair disarmament agreement with the Russians."

"The President talked about this at his news conference in intellectual terms. 'It seems to me,' he said, 'that the more any intelligent man thinks about the possibilities of war today, the more he should understand you have got to work on this business of disarmament.'"

This is much more than an intellectual problem with the President, however. It is a strong personal emotion that has not been removed by years of Soviet broken promises and deception.

It is something that goes back to the earliest teachings of his pacifist mother, who warned him when he went to West Point that "they that take the sword shall perish with the sword." It is in part the revulsion of an old soldier, who longs to secure the peace he did so much to win, and whose feelings about a nuclear war are so strong that he has never even permitted himself to see a test of an atom or hydrogen weapon."

The revolt in Congress against the budget is a far more intellectual motive. He knows all about the rising cost of modern planes and pilotless missiles.

"Accordingly, without some arms compromise, he knows that the United States budget is likely to rise rather than fall, and that the economic and political implications of this in a period of steadily rising costs is likely to be serious."

"It is not only that he hates war and would like to be remembered in history as the man who helped negotiate a more bearable peace, but that he honestly deplores big budgets, big government, and contention—all of which are provoked by the arms race."

JAPAN AFTER TEN YEARS

Japan in ten years has risen from a completely outcast nation to a power with a position of growing strength and dignity in the Free World. The transition has been a tremendous event.

Tokyo in 1945 was a deserted city, says Earnest Hobercht in *The Asian Review*.

"The people were hungry, thin and worried. Their main topic of conversation was 'something to eat.' Mentally, the Japanese were confused and dejected. They knew not what to expect, they knew not where they were going. They were beaten.

In 1955, Tokyo's 8,000,000 people are better dressed and better fed than they ever have been in history—according to Japanese statistics. It doesn't take statistics, however, to see that the petite and beautiful Japanese girls (many with Hepburn hair-do's) are among the best-dressed anywhere. It's also easy to see that "styles" are almost as important to-day as clothes themselves. The faces of the people are full and happy and a reporter walking unnoticed through the darkened residential sections at night will hear laughter and songs, undisguised symbols of people being themselves and enjoying themselves."

FOREIGN INVESTMENT IN INDIA

American firms were contemplating private American investment in India, according to a survey in the latest issue of the magazine *Business Week*. It said 15 new direct investment deals were "now in the works."

Among these are listed pharmaceuticals and fine chemicals, rayon, paper and sugar refining works, a carbon black plant, dye-stuffs and heavy chemicals and latex foam.

A \$ 70 million order to equip a fertilizer and heavy water plant is also in the "talking stage."

"Actually," it said, "in the last 18 months, there has been a tremendous private development in the Indian economy—and not only at the plant level. There has been a corresponding awareness that private enterprise must take the offensive in wiping out older, discredited business methods."

The magazine added: "The current exchange crisis is forcing New Delhi theoreticians to become more realistic. As a result, foreign investors may soon be welcomed, not just tolerated."

A CHARTER OF RIGHTS

Far more relevant than *Panch Shila* would be a Charter of the Rights of Small Nations and Backward Peoples, says *Mankind* editorially. These rights will not conflict with those of the bigger and more prosperous nations of today. They will certainly be incompatible with the unequal advantages and privileges which they have wrested for themselves at the expense of the former. The adoption of the Charter must be followed by concerted measures to secure its implementation. These measures, we think, will fall into categories. The first will consist of the foregoing of benefits derived from association with the masters of the world, such as "aid" of various kinds, interest-free loans, "technical cooperation" etc. The second category will embrace positive measures of non-cooperation, one of the most potent of which can be the weapon of boycott in various spheres. If the governments of the poorer and smaller countries can muster such courage, they can save themselves the futility of pouring out their life-blood in the accumulation of antiquated arms without in any way undermining their own feeling of security. They will also be in a position to moderate, if not halt, the mad competition of the two war blocs for the domination of other peoples, and thus strengthen the security of the world."

DISCIPLINE AND JOINT FAMILY

The basis of all *dharma* is discipline, writes Kumari Handoo in *Vedanta Kesari*. The greatest discipline imposed by society on the individual is his responsibility towards the joint family. "No man could live and work for himself alone, nor could he reserve the fruit of his labour for his children and grand-children exclusively. Whether from fear of social censure or from a traditional way of thinking, every man was obliged to share his home and fortune in varying degrees with a large circle of kinsmen. The same function is now being performed by the State through death duties and higher rates of taxation, only now it is obligatory by law and works mechanically, but then its rigour was redeemed by personal contact and the sacrifice made easier through family affection. Thus it was within the sheltered walls of the home that the seed of civic duty was sown and fostered. And so it is not surprising that with the destruction of the larger family group and the breaking up of the communal fraternity the civic sense of India has also suffered a very great loss."

RISE IN WORLD POPULATION

Every hour an average of almost 5,000 persons are added to the world population of some 2,700,000,000 according to the U. N. Demographic Year Book for 1956.

This large increase of about 120,000 per day or 43 million people per year is due primarily to a very marked reduction in the death-rate all over the world while the birth-rate has remained almost unchanged.

U. N. experts estimate the world birth-rate in 1955 to have been in the neighbourhood of 34 births per 1,000 persons each year while the death-rate is now about 18. This leaves a net gain of 1.6 per cent per year—an increase calculated to double the world's population by the end of the century.

On the basis of information from 142 countries and territories it is estimated that on the average 34 per cent of the world's population are under 15 years of age, 58 per cent 15 to 49 and 8 per cent over 60 years of age. By far the largest proportion of the populations in Africa, Central America and South-East Asia are children.

POLICE FIRINGS

In the course of an article in *Mankind* Mr. Omprakash Deepak discusses repeated police firings in different States and criticises the governments concerned for resorting to firing in cases which called for no such drastic remedies. Quoting from the Report on Police Firings under Congress Rule by Indumati Kelkar, a prominent Socialist worker of Maharashtra, the writer observes that:

"Mrs. Kelkar found 1,020 cases of police firings which had been reported in the press (the actual figure would be very much higher, as is evident from the case of Bombay State where, according to newspaper reports found by her, there were 665 firing incidents, while the figure given by the Chief Minister for the same period was 1107), in which 840 persons were killed and 3,136 injured. Of these 1,020 incidents, as many as 834 were political in character. Students faced bullets on 30 occasions, with 36 killed and 373 injured and workers on 52 occasions, with 67 killed and 249 injured. In all 648 persons were killed and 2704 injured, in these political incidents. The fact that more than 80 per cent of firings were on political demonstrations indicates a very serious threat to our democracy.

It is clear that firing, in most cases, is resorted to, not to maintain law and order, but to suppress political opponents of the Government. A glance at the yearly figures of firings shows that Communist violence during the period from 1948 to 1950 had not very much to do with it. While the average number of police firings during these three years was 74, it remained as high as 48.6 during the next three years, when no political party in India undertook any violent activity of any sort."

RISE IN INDIA'S NATIONAL INCOME

The national income of India at 1948-49 prices rose by Rs. 390 crores in the two years between 1953-54 and 1955-56.

The fourth issue of the annual paper on national income released by the Central Statistical Organization says that the national income was Rs. 10,030 crores in 1953-54, Rs. 10,280 crores in 1954-55 and Rs. 10,420 crores in 1955-56.

The *per capita* income according to the report, correspondingly rose from Rs. 268.7 in 1953-54 to Rs. 271.9 in 1954-55 and Rs. 272.1 in 1955-56.

According to the paper, during the first Five-Year plan period (1951-52 to 1955-56) the national income in real terms increased by 17.7 per cent as against the original Plan target of 11 per cent. The corresponding rise in the *per capita* income was 10.5 per cent.

The absence of any pronounced rise in 1955-56 over 1954-55 was mainly due to the fall in agricultural production revealed by the latest available crop figures.

Expressed at current prices, the national income, says the paper, stood at Rs. 9,650 crores in 1955-56 and Rs. 9,620 crores in 1954-55, or Rs. 830 crores and Rs. 860 crores lower than the 1953-54 level. The *per capita* income at current prices, correspondingly, declined from Rs. 280.7 in 1953-54 to Rs. 254.4 in 1954-55 and Rs. 252.0 in 1955-56.

The fall in the national income at current prices in 1955-56 and 1954-55 was entirely due to price changes, the national income in real terms having shown a rise in both the years. The level of agricultural prices, in particular, was considerably lower in 1956-56 and 1954-55 compared to 1953-54 and this also accounted for the sharp decline in the income at current prices originating in the agricultural sector.

UTOPIAN SOCIALISM

Only half a century ago, Peter Kropotkin asserted that mutual aid and co-operation are the natural way of man when he has free choice and is not coerced from above. According to Herbert Zvi Soifer in the *Jewish Frontier* Utopian socialism has undertaken the urgent problem of transforming this basic human emotion of mutual aid and love between man and man, and man and the universe, into concrete expression. It knows that:

"The only specific good that socialism can offer is the very thing that it had ignored in the past—the striving after *human dignity and social worth* for every individual." (Hayim Greenberg, *The Inner Eye*.)

Utopian socialism starts from the knowledge that human relationships exist only in the concrete reality of day-to-day affairs, not in abstract formulations of love and brotherhood. All men, from the most famous to the most obscure, move only within the radius of those whom they know, person to person. This is why, says Mr. Soifer, socialism can develop only in small primary community groups.

"Jayaprakash Narayan, one of the founders of the Socialist Party of India, has noted that it takes more than the control of parliament by a socialist party to make a country socialist. Rather, on every level and in every sphere, the people must possess self-government and the freedom of social action. Narayan advocates for India a multi-pillar society with the power resting not at the top but in the fundamental community unit through the organization of the peasants in villages, the workers' control of industry, and a corporate social control of utilities. In order to help achieve this, Narayan has renounced political ambition to join the landgift movement of Vinoba Bhave which is attempting a voluntary redistribution of land in a spirit of love and selflessness."

Marx was highly critical of such utopian attempts, claiming that they could have no effect within a capitalistic world. But Moshe Sharett of Israel has noted that:

"...socialism and a socialist society are not a condition but a process, an endless process at that, a social direction rather than a final goal. It is folly to suggest that any particular way of life contains total solutions to the problems of society, as if it were possible to crystallize a perfect way that would eliminate the need for man to strive after ideals and grapple with problems."

"If socialism is a direction, what are the objectives? Greater equality, justice, freedom for man to develop and enrich himself—not at the expense of others, but through cooperative effort. The socialist society I envisage is one that persists in solving each problem that arises from the point of view of a genuine socialistic objective which at the same time conforms to the needs of the whole society."

SOVIET SCIENTISTS AND NUCLEAR TESTS

According to a report in the *Hindustan Times* scientists of the Soviet Union are also demanding an end of nuclear test explosions for fear that the radio activity discharged into the atmosphere does grave harm to mankind. Evidently they make no distinction between bounds set off by Anglo-Saxon powers and those exploded by their own country.

The Moscow correspondent of the *Daily Worker* reports that the internationally known Soviet cancer specialists Prof. Englehardt, Prof. Blokhin, Prof. Mayersky and Prof. Larionov voiced "their anxiety at the dangers caused by continuing nuclear weapons tests."

"They are quoted as saying: 'We know that atomic weapons threaten mankind not only with mass destruction in the event of war. They are fraught with the menace of grave diseases which might become widespread if the tests of these weapons are continued. Among these diseases mention should be made first and foremost of malignant blood diseases. Nor is the possibility excluded of malignant tumours arising.'

"We are in agreement with our foreign colleagues in their desire to protect people from the harmful effects of atomic explosions. We stand for the complete prohibition of atomic and hydrogen weapons and insist on the need to ban the tests of these weapons as the first step in this direction."

THE STATES OF WESTERN EUROPE

In the course of his comments "on the watch-tower" the Editor of the *Theosophist* and President of the Society Mr. N. Sri Ram invites the reader's attention to the new money now being taken to create a common economy among the six States of Western Europe—France, West Germany, Belgium, Holland, Luxembourg and Italy. These territories have been the principal battlefields for a long time in Europe, and their peoples now feel that it

ill-serves the interest of any of them to stand apart from all the others.

"Not only are they agreed to constitute one trade area, without tariff barriers, but their plan is to include within the scope of a common administration the coal, iron and steel industry within their areas, and the development of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, pooling their nuclear resources. Although only the six States named above will form the free trade area to start with—free trade meaning also free travel, possibly a common currency and in due course many other things—it has been proposed by Britain that any other States in Europe that desire to come in should be allowed to do so."

Thus the unification of Europe, which has been for long only a dream, "is now at last taking concrete shape, though still only on the economic plane."

REVOLT IN HUNGARY

This document published by the Free Europe Committee of New York is a day-to-day record of the Hungarian peoples' revolt. This first hand report from Radio Budapest begins with the student demonstration Oct. 23, 1956, continues through the Soviet military intervention on Nov. 4 and includes significant excerpts from broadcasts through Nov. 9. The record is a historic document and speaks for itself requiring little commentary.

FUNDAMENTAL OF HINDU FAITH

Writing in the *Prabuddha Bharata* Dr. C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar says that the Hindu faith or religion is composite. It comprises many forms of belief and is essentially a synthesis of creeds. It relies on many scriptures and regards some as revealed but it is not the religion of a book or books.

"It exists and can function apart from and irrespectively of them. It is correlated with many stories, histories, parables, miraculous occurrences and descriptions of various worlds and states of existence and stages of being. But none of these is pivotal in the sense that if they are disproved or controverted the faith falls to the ground. The laws of irrevocable cause and effect and of evolution, the law of the unity of all life and all energy, otherwise termed the doctrines of Karma and transmigration, are the common and underlying features of all varieties of Hinduism."

He points out that the true Hindu eschews no faith and no path. He does not condemn any form of spiritual search or attainment.

"The true Hindu is also a true Christian and a true Muslim: and, in any case, sees no hostility between his creed and the fundamental tenets of those religions. There is no distinction, as far as the Hindu outlook is concerned, between the validity, the authenticity and the inspirational character of his faith and other great faiths of the world."

Hence 'to jettison a faith that has been ours and to take up another faith is a serious responsibility.' It is all right if such a step is taken after understanding that Hinduism includes 'all other religions within its all-embracing and ever-widening fold.' Is a genuine 'change of heart' effected by the mass conversions of the type we often see practised? Is it right to embark upon it for 'temporal advantages' or 'to procure or manufacture statistics favourable to a particular community'?

"Wherever such conversions have taken place, it is the 'right and duty of those who feel strongly on the eternal validity of the Hindu faith and way of life to strive to reconvert those who had left the fold.'"

Commenting on this the Editor adds that these 'Fundamental' ideas ought to reach every nook and corner of our land, and the lands of those whose narrow views create the agencies and tactics of mass conversions....

CIVIL RIGHTS AND SECURITY

In a letter to the *Manchester Guardian* Benn W. Levy, Chairman, Campaign for the Limitation of Secret Police Powers, writes:

"It is something that the recent telephone-tapping revelations provoked such widespread condemnation that information obtained in this manner should ever have been passed to a private body. (Incidentally, the Home Secretary's plea of justification on the ground that one of the persons eavesdropped on was a "criminal" is particularly shocking. Since when have ex-convicts been denied the civil protections open to the rest of us?) But to many of us it seems high time that the wider question be faced; namely, how far any infringement of essential civil rights is to be justified simply by trotting out the talismanic word "security."

SILENT REVOLUTION IN TUNISIA

Reginald Reynolds who had travelled extensively in Tunisia, gives in the pages of *The Aryan Path* a hopeful report on the progress made in the first year of freedom. Above all he is impressed by the progress made by woman in discarding old ways and the enthusiasm of Tunisian leaders for universal education. These two forces, he says, are marching in step.

"The political rights which will make women a power in the land and the educational programme which will help them to use that power with greater knowledge and understanding."

For a government of men experienced in resistance, but not in administration, found the plans and achievements of the Neo-Destour leaders in the first year of independence very impressive.

Already long-term policies of afforestation—so necessary in a country of long droughts and short torrents—were being carried out. New dams are to be built to preserve the water, of which Tunisia never has enough. For this purpose a new force of voluntary labour has come into existence—young men who give "national service" with picks and shovels. It is a young country and its young leaders take a special interest in the rising generation. But the greatest of their achievements, the silent revolution which may swiftly transform the whole country, was accomplished by two strokes of the pen which took Tunisia through 1300 years from the feudal, male-dominated structure of the Arab conquest to the twentieth-century conception of a living democracy.

BURMESE NEUTRALISM

In a study of Burmese Neutralism in the *Political Science Quarterly* (made possible by funds granted by the Ford Foundation) Mr. G. S. Thomson of the University of Wisconsin vindicates the mental attitude adopted by U-Nu in his relations with the two blocs. His government appears to support Peking, Moscow, Washington, London against the interests of the opponents of each. Thus it is open to the charges of sheer opportunism.

"But over the nine years since Independence neutralism is a principle that has been consistently applied. And when it is looked at in the light of the special problems Burma has had to face as a small, newly independent country in a vulnerable location, it stands up, certainly, as a reasonable and sound policy."

Much the same can be said of India's neutralism as well. As U-Nu has often pointed out the Communists form one of the two blocs which Burma will not join. The 1954 "Joint Statement" of the Socialist parties of Indonesia, Burma and India (and the Socialist party is the backbone of the government coalition) rejected both capitalism and "Cominform Communism," saying that the Cominformists "are essentially merely the vanguards, observers and informers of Soviet Russia."

Committed to neutralism, Burma has attained today a stature in world affairs probably considerably greater than if she were allied either to East or to West. To date it can be said that neutralism has served Burma well, as in her dispute with China, and that it is enabling her to be effective as a leader among the uncommitted nations of Africa and Asia.

A WRITER'S DECLARATION

The *American Review* reprints a revised version of an article originally carried in *The Atlantic* and is now part of William Saroyan's latest book, "The Whole Voyage." The writer is a spiritual anarchist, says the author "as in the depth of his soul every man is. He is discontented with everything and everybody."

"The writer is everybody's best friend and only true enemy—the good and great enemy. He neither walks with the multitude nor cheers with them. The writer who is a writer is a rebel who never stops. He does not conform for the simple reason that there is nothing yet worth conforming to when there is something half worth conforming to be will not conform to that, either, or half conform to it. He won't even rest or sleep as other people rest and sleep. When he is dead he will probably be dead as others are dead but while he is alive he is alive as no one else is, not even another writer. The writer who is a writer is also a fool. He is the easiest man in the world to belittle, ridicule, dismiss, and scorn: and that also is precisely as it should be. He is also mad, measurably so, but saner than all others, with the best sanity, the only sanity worth bothering about—the living, creative, vulnerable, valorous, unintimidated, and arrogant sanity of a free man."

I am a writer who is a writer, as I have been for twenty years, and expect to be for twenty more."

OVERHEAD AGGRESSION

Sometime in May last it was announced from Washington that the Inter-Continental Missile programme was forging ahead. "The Atlas will reach an altitude of 700 miles" we are told "and turn to a continually controlled S.E. flight of 2,200 miles. The red glare of the missile will tell Soviet Russia that America stands ready to defend the free world against communist aggression." Commenting on this C. R. writes in the *New Statesman*:

So it is claimed and further that here is the ultimate weapon against which there can be no conceivable defence—"the best possible protection to ourselves and our children who will come after us." When the thermo-nuclear missile programme is thus completed and made "operational," "it will no longer be necessary to draft our young men into the military service in peacetime." Thus everything will have been nicely made, mechanical, automatic, life-saving, frugal and easy!

The "Martin Bullpup" is, we are told, a naval missile which weighs 600 pounds and Kansas City is agog to see it go out. But it is just a "pup" compared to the coming inter-continental true bull-dogs.

"The rest of the world over which these missiles will move ballistically may also be reasonably alarmed, by the prospect and not alone the aggressive Communists, to frighten whom all this information is intended. It may ask the question whether it is a "free world," indeed, if without its consent or co-operation such trajectories could be ordered and held by America over the heads of its people. Apart from freedom, there is the question of what will happen if any wireless control goes slightly wrong."

The whole programme of inter-continental and other missiles must be gone into by non-partisan governments, he says.

"These matters deserve the close and unbiased attention of non-partisan and independent men of science and professors of public law and ethics, who alone must save the world from the insane governments that stand possessed of uncontrolled power, the form of government makes no difference."

A WAY OUT IN ALGERIA

Discussing the Algerian question in the *New Leader* Mr. Sal Tas observes that the new French regime's continuation of repression means that only NATO can stop war.

"When Robert Lacoste took power in Algeria as Resident Minister 16 months ago, he told the French Assembly: "Give me 70,000 men and in two weeks I can settle the matter." And now 400,000 French troops are in Algeria, and peace is farther away than ever.

Two courses are, of course open: abandonment or partition. But neither is practicable. Abandonment would mean evacuation of 1.3 million Europeans and economic catastrophe for Algeria itself. Partition makes little sense. For to please the French one would have to deprive the Arabs of almost every acre of decent land. And the Arabs would be fully justified in rejecting the offer.

Perhaps NATO channels offer the best possibility of solution. NATO has a stake in North Africa's military bases. It has the power to impose its decisions. And it has the funds to soften the economic effects (for both sides) of Algeria's separation from France.

But even so, little can be done without the co-operation of Tunisia and Morocco.

"It is through the frontiers of these two countries that the men and material come to support the Algerian rebels. Without such assistance, the FLN would have had to capitulate long ago. On the other hand, the governments of Tunisia and Morocco are far more realistic than the present Algerian leaders and realize the ill effects of the continuation of the war. Therefore, they could well play the role of the Arab voice of reason in efforts toward a solution."

FREE ECONOMY

Free economy, according to Prof. M. A. Venkata Rao (of the Libertarian Social Institute, Bangalore) differs from both the Capitalist and Socialist economy. Free economy, he said stood for the abolition of monopoly, which was inherent in both the Capitalist and Socialist economy. Free Economy did not mean unregulated private sector. It stood for such regulation of private sector as will maximise freedom. Free economy stood for free land, free credit and limited Government.

THE ATOMIC CLOCK

The first practical atomic clock, the most accurate time measurer in existence, has been developed in the U.S.A. It represents another important peaceful use of the atom.

The clock, called the Atomichron, will not vary more than five seconds in about 300 years, and may ultimately keep time accurately within one second in 30,000 years.

The "pendulum" of the new clock is the cesium atom, which oscillates at a never-changing frequency of 9,192 million megacycles (millions of cycles) a second. The cesium atom, placed in a vacuum tube to serve in the manner of a radio transmitter, is made to broadcast its signal to a device serving as a radio receiver, which vibrates at the same frequency.

The cesium atom thus serves the same purpose as the balance wheel of the watch or the pendulum of a clock.

The clock weighs about 500 pounds (225 kilograms, and is priced at \$50,000. It will run virtually for ever. Ten of them have been manufactured and sold to date.

Perfection of the clock is the result of years of intensive research at a cost of more than \$1,000,000, by the National Company Inc., of Malden, Massachusetts. The company is a pioneer in basic electronic research on the propagation of electromagnetic waves and in the development of communication receivers.

Actually, the action of the clock is based on fundamental discoveries made some 15 years ago by Prof. I. I. Rabi of Columbia University, New York, who won the Nobel Prize in Physics for 1944 for his pioneer investigations into the inner cores, or nuclei, of atoms.

'CLEAN' BOMBS & 'CLEAN' CIGARETTES

The Cigarette firms are very closely following the nuclear tactics, says Sri Rajagopalachari in *Swarajya*. "The cancer evidence that science has confirmed has become to the interests as great a headache from their point of view as the agitation against A & H Bombs to the Nuclear Powers. £ 250,000 have been placed at the disposal of the medical experts for a change of opinion on the Cigarette-Cancer issue. The firms are, it is now widely announced explaining how they are actively engaged in investigating, and will very soon succeed in the production of 'clean' cigarettes. It is to be seen which will come out first in the race, the 'clean' bombs or the 'clean' cigarettes. The tobacco interests pro-

pose to 'kill' the cancer-producing cause in tobacco as if that were a bug to be caught and disposed of. The semantic jugglery of it is obvious, but smokers will accept any argument for continuing their addiction.

THE BETTER WAY

There are certain things that Babu (Gandhiji) said "which have established themselves in my inner being like light houses on the voyage of life," writes Mira Behn.

"In these days of international wrangling there is one such saying which rings continually in my ear. Here it is:

"If you want to convert your opponent you must present to him his better and nobler side. Work on, round, upon that side. Do not dangle his faults before him."

The art of cold war seems to be to act on exactly the opposite principles. You present to your opponent his worst—and worse than his worst side. You work on, round, and upon that side with all the insinuations and exaggerations you can think of, and you continually dangle his faults (both real and imaginary) before him."

How can any agreement, ever be reached by such methods? she asks. Indeed they would seem designed especially to prevent rapprochement and to keep the fire of enmity smouldering until it flares up again in another hot war.

LIQUIDATION OF SAVINGS

The recent decree of the Central Committee of the Communist Party and of the Council of Ministers of the U.S.S.R. freezing for 20 years the Soviet state bonds of the staggering value of 260,000 million rubles exposes the severe financial crisis which the country is undergoing at present. The main points of the decree are: (1) Beginning in 1958 the issuance of state loans is to be discontinued, with the exception of the three percent convertibles; (2) The state is suspending for a period of 20 years the repayment of 260 billion rubles extracted from the population in the form of loans; and (3) In 1957 the last loan, payable in five years, will be floated to the value of twelve billion rubles, or one-third the figure for 1956. Subscriptions to this loan are not to exceed two weeks' pay, and the low-paid groups will not have to subscribe.

The decree is noteworthy, observes *Freedom First* "because it amounts, in practice, to confiscation of the enormous sum of 260 billion rubles, since repayment after 20 years or later is purely academic."

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

DANGER FROM NUCLEAR TESTS

The Joint Congressional Atomic Energy Committee in its report dated August 25 published at Washington says that the consequences of further nuclear testing over the next several generations, if conducted at the level of the past five years, could constitute a hazard to the world's population.

"If the level of future testing rises, then, the hazard could be greater and could arrive sooner", the Committee said in a summary analysis of its recent public hearings into the nature of radio-active fall-out and its effects on man.

The Committee's analysis revealed differences among the 50 scientific experts from whom it heard evidence.

"The differences hardest to reconcile appear to be those concerning the biological effects of radiation", the report said.

"It is very difficult if not impossible to forecast with any real precision the number of people that would be affected", the Committee said.

One of the main fears expressed was that Strontium 90, a Calcium-like substance produced by fall-out, was causing bone cancer and leukemia.

A major unresolved question, it said, was whether there was a "safe" minimum level of radiation below which there was no increase in the incidence of such non-genetic conditions as leukemia and bone cancer, or no decrease in life expectancy in a population.

But the Committee found general agreement that any amount of radiation, no matter how small the dose, increased the rate of genetic mutation in a population.

There was general agreement the report said, that there was a limit to the amount of radio-activity and hence to the amount of fission products that man could tolerate in his environment.

It added: "The extent to which existing and future generations will be affected by man-made radiation was shown to be intimately tied to certain decisions, moral as well as scientific, that must be made as to how much radiation can be tolerated by the people of the world".

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CANAL WATERS DISPUTE

The Minister for Irrigation and Power, Mr. S. K. Patil said in Lok Sabha on August 27 that India had informed the World Bank that she would be willing to extend the transitional period in respect of Indo-Pakistan Canal Waters only up to 1962.

Mr. Patel, who was making a prepared statement in the Rajya Sabha said: "We cannot go any further without jeopardising the vital interests of millions of our people."

Repudiating Pakistan allegations that India was cutting off supplies to Pakistan canals and was threatening to turn Pakistan into a desert, Mr. Patil said that the ad hoc transitional agreements had ended and there was now no agreement in force since April 1957. No request for any such agreement had been made and "it is understood that the three link canals already constructed in Pakistan are capable of replacing all the waters that the new Indian canals would withdraw during the current kharif season."

Under the Bank's proposals the transition agreements would have expired sometime in 1959. "Unfortunately Pakistan had imported a political bias" to an essentially economic and engineering problem and "while going ahead with her development plans on the western rivers has sought to hold up development on the eastern rivers in India by placing difficulties in the way of a quick settlement." India had shown great restraint by imposing restrictions on herself in the matter of withdrawal of supplies during the last nine years. Even though Pakistan had defaulted in payment of canal water charges, India had continued to supply water in order to avoid suffering to the Pakistan cultivators.

"We owe a duty to our own people and cannot wait indefinitely for a settlement." India had informed the Bank that the transition period could be extended up to 1962. "We cannot go any further without jeopardising the vital interests of millions of our people."

Utterances of the Day

SANKARACHARYA'S TRIBUTE TO FREEDOM FIGHTERS

Speaking at Kanchipuram on August 25 His Holiness Sankaracharya paid tribute to the Freedom Fighters of 1857. He said the Rani of Jhansi, Tantia Tope, Nana Sahib and many others fought for the preservation of our ancient dharma and culture, which form the basis of our ethical, moral and legal codes, nay our very life. "Our striving for the preservation of our heritage would have become impossible but for these martyrs of the 1857 struggle. Their martyrdom created a situation and paved the way for the proclamation of Queen Victoria, which allowed us to keep to our Vedic religion, even under foreign rule. It must be remembered that but for the sacrifices of the Rani of Jhansi, Nana Sahib and Tantia Tope and many an unknown soldier who laid his life at the altar of our motherland, our Vedic heritage would not have survived even in its present form. We shall, therefore, now pray for these great souls."

THE POPE'S WARNING

Speaking to Thirty Thousand young workers from eighty-four counties, gathered in Rome for their first world rally last month, the Pope said the world of to-day put terrible obstacles in the way of the natural optimism of youth. He continued:

"You see all round you masses of men struggling amidst insurmountable material difficulties, hunger, destitution, ignorance: some who forget even their dignity, lose their ideals, content themselves with vulgar satisfactions."

"Then false prophets insinuate their way into these depressed groups, sowing the seeds of hate and rebellion, deluding them with deceptive promises."

"On the pretext that the world's natural resources will not suffice to feed a growing human population, attempts are made even upon the dignity of marriage and of the family."

DR. RADHAKRISHNAN ON 1857 CENTENARY

Speaking on the Independence day last month at Delhi Dr. Radhakrishnan said that India should take inspiration "not only from the great leaders who are known by the name and fame but also the countless men and women, less conspicuous but equally brave and devoted, who dreamed, who fought, who struggled, who died for the sake of the freedom of this country."

THE PRESIDENT ON UNITY

President Rajendra Prasad, presiding over the public meeting held in the capital on August 16 to mark the centenary of the 1857 War of Independence, called upon the people of India to uphold the traditions handed down by the martyrs of the freedom struggle.

"Let us," he told the vast gathering, "take a vow today that the aim for which the fighters in 1857 sacrificed their lives and for which millions of our people struggled for a hundred years will ever remain in our memory and that we shall maintain the independence and dignity of our country whatsoever the difficulties."

NEHRU ON 1857 HEROES

In one of the most rousing speeches ever heard from him at New Delhi on Mr. Nehru told a mammoth meeting, held on August 14 under the chairmanship of President Rajendra Prasad in commemoration of the 1857 movement, "The time has come when every Indian has to search his heart consciously and make up his mind determinedly about his first loyalty to India which must have precedence over every other loyalty — family, community, caste or language."

VIJAYALAKSAMI'S TRIBUTE TO INDIA

Speaking in a B.B.C. programme in London on the occasion of the tenth anniversary of India's independence on 15th August Vijayalakshmi Pandit said "this position has been achieved almost entirely because of the turn given to our national movement by Mahatma Gandhi. His special contribution was the manner in which he translated ethical precepts into practical terms and made them the basis of mass political action."

"It was Mahatma Gandhi who, in an age when violence was on the march on an unprecedented scale, proved that non-violence could still solve a country's problems. It was this approach and this spirit which made possible that bond which ultimately developed between Britain and India and which, in spite of the strains imposed upon it by both sides, has survived."

Mr. MENON ON INDIAN ARMY

Speaking on Aug. 26 at Cannanore, Mr. V. K. K. Menon said:

"The army of free India has won renown as 'soldiers of peace' wherever they have gone. They have no aggressive intentions. Whether in Korea, Indo-China or in the Middle East, they have won credit. India has no enemies in the world but one country is not so friendly."

Political

MALAYA

Malaya became the 11th member of the Commonwealth last month. The Constitution came into force after the grand ceremony in Kaulalumpur on August 31 when Malaya became independent.

The Constitution provides for two House of Parliament and a Constitutional-monarchical system of government within the British Commonwealth.

Islam will become the State religion but freedom of worship has been written into the Constitution.

British settlements of Penang and Malacca will have the same status as the nine hereditary Malay States under the constitution.

Dual citizenship within the British Commonwealth is allowed, but the Malayan Government have the right to deprive British Commonwealth citizens of their Malayan citizenship in some circumstances.

SOVIET AID TO AFGHANISTAN

The Soviet Union has granted Afghanistan, a loan of 60 million dollars for the purchase of Soviet military equipment, says a communique dated August 22.

The sources said the aim of this aid was not to increase the size of Afghanistan's armed forces, but to modernise them by replacing outmoded material. With the Soviet aid the Afghan military forces are expected within a short period to be placed on a level with the Pakistani and Iranian armed forces which are equipped with American material.

Afghanistan has ordered planes, tanks, rolling stock and artillery from the USSR. A part of this material including MIG fighter planes has already been delivered.

RUSSIA'S HELP TO SYRIA

A Syrian Foreign Ministry spokesman says that Russia meant to build up Syria into an "extremely powerful nation both economically and militarily, at the same time preserving her independence to encourage other Arab States to turn away from the West and towards the Soviet bloc."

The failure of Russia to build up this model of Syria or to make interference in her internal affairs, continued the spokesman, would only result in an Arab move westwards and "Russia's main intention is to oust Western influence from the Middle East."

THE NAGA PEOPLE'S CONVENTION

The Naga People's Convention at Kohima on August 26 decided to give up formally the demand for independence.

The five-day convention, representing various Naga tribes, adopted a resolution on the concluding day empowering an 8-man delegation to meet the Assam Governor "with a view to arriving at a satisfactory political settlement by remaining within the Indian Union."

PROGRESS OF PROHIBITION

The Government of India were consulting the State Governments in regard to the appointment of a committee to review the progress of Prohibition in the country, the Minister in the Ministry of Home Affairs, Mr. B. N. Datar, told the Lok Sabha on Aug. 27.

Answering Mr. Sanganna, Mr. Datar said the Prohibition Enquiry Committee had recommended the setting up of such a committee (to review the progress of Prohibition.)

PROTECTION TO SCHEDULED CASTES

Although 1961 is four years away, representative of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes are already active canvassing support for the continuation of the special provisions in the Constitution in regard to these clauses beyond that year.

Mr. Reham Lal Jangde has tabled a resolution suggesting that the special provisions be extended to a further period of ten years from 1961.

Mr. Daljit Singh in another resolution suggests that the special provisions be extended to a further period of 20 years.

PAK. PROJECT IN KASHMIR

India on Aug. 21 protested to the U.N. Security Council over the Mangala Dam project of the Pakistan Government.

In a letter to the President, Colombia's Francisco Urrutia, Indian representative Arthur Lall said execution of the project was "a further instance of consolidation by the Government of Pakistan of their authority over the Indian territory of Jammu and Kashmir which they continue to occupy by force."

Mr. Lall said the Pakistan Government continued "the exploitation of the resources of the territory to the disadvantage of the people of Jammu and Kashmir and for the benefit of the people of Pakistan."

MADRAS UNIVERSITY CONVOCATION

Delivering the Convocation Address of the University of Madras, on August 22. Mr. Rajamannar advised the Graduates to realize that they had a vital role to play in national reconstruction and said that each in his sphere should seek to create an atmosphere of dedication.

Chief Justice P. V. Rajamannar called upon the educated youth of the country to serve the larger cause of humanity, not losing sight of spiritual value, whatever the avocations they might pursue.

S. INDIAN LANGUAGES IN PUNJAB UNIVERSITY

Dr. A. Joshi, Vice-Chancellor of the Punjab University, said at Chandigarh on August 28. that their decision to start a department of South Indian languages in the University would give lead in the promotion of inter-State understanding.

Dr. Joshi said a beginning would be made with Tamil and later on instructions would be started in Telugu, Malayalam and Kannada.

EDUCATION IN SOVIET UNION

A very high priority is accorded to education for national development in the USSR. The expenditure on education is considered essential to the success of all development plans and, therefore, no expenditure is stinted. The Soviet Government spends about 70 per cent of the budget on education and social services. The total annual expenditure on education thus is 23 milliard roubles or about 2,500 crores of rupees at the official rate of exchange.

This is revealed in a report submitted to the Government of India by the team of prominent Indian educationists, who visited Russia at the invitation of the USSR Government in September, 1956. The report of the team, which was submitted to the Government some time ago has just been published by the Ministry of Education on August 26.

BASIC EDUCATION

The Government of India's policy was to re-orientate elementary education on the lines of basic education, the Minister in the Ministry of Education and Scientific Research, Dr. K. L. Shrimali, said in the Lok Sabha on August 27.

Answering questions, the Minister said that basic education incorporated the best principles of elementary education all over the world and the State Governments were gradually introducing basic education.

COLLEGE OF PHYSICAL EDUCATION

India's first National College of Physical education was inaugurated at Gwalior on August 17 by Dr. K. N. Katju, the Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh.

Named after Rani Lakshmi Bai of Jhansi—who fought the British in the 1857 struggle and died on the battle field in this historic town—the college is being started in certain old buildings adjoining the site selected for the purpose.

THE DELHI UNIVERSITY

Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, University of Delhi, and Director of the Delhi School of Economics, has been appointed Vice-Chancellor of Delhi University to succeed Dr. G. S. Mahajani, who has been appointed a member of the Union Public Service Commission.

DEVANAGARI AS COMMON SCRIPT

President Prasad, suggested at Hyderabad on August 12, the adoption of a common script, preferably Devanagari, for the different languages in the country. He said this would facilitate the easy understanding of the provincial languages and also bring these languages on a common platform.

UNIVERSITY DEGREE FOR JOBS

A university degree should not be insisted upon except for the higher level of Government services, according to the majority recommendation of the Public Service (Qualifications for Recruitment) Committee's report, which was placed on the table of both Houses of Parliament on Aug. 27.

The ten-member Committee, which was headed by Dr. A. Ramaswamy Mudaliar, says that the University degree as a requirement for the public services should continue to have its appropriate place, but it need not be a necessary qualification for all levels of services.

CHANGE IN EXAMINATION SYSTEM

The Governor of Bihar Dr. Zakir Hussain, on August 27, at Patna, criticised the present system of examination and wanted the State Board of Secondary Education to take steps to "see that examination becomes a helpful educational device and loses at least some of its catastrophic effects and 'day of judgment' atmosphere".

INEXPENSIVE JUSTICE

Mr. A. K. Sen, Law Minister, revealed in the Lok Sabha on August 13 the Government was considering several measures to make justice inexpensive and expeditious.

Speaking on his Ministry's demands for grants, which were voted by the House, he listed among these measures the introduction of written arguments at the appellate stages, and introduction of administrative law to reduce the work of high courts and civil courts.

Mr. Sen said the Government would finalise its proposals after receiving the Law Commission report expected by the end of this year.

VACATIONS OF THE COURTS

The Government of India has proposed shortening of the present long vacations of the Supreme Court and the High Courts.

This step is being taken to speed up the disposal of cases in the country's High Courts and the Supreme Court. It is now proposed that instead of the present three months' vacation, the Supreme Court should only have a nine-week vacation while the High Courts should have a six-week vacation instead of the present ten weeks.

GOVERNMENT'S LITIGATIONS

Fundamental and other rights guaranteed by the Constitution and the conferment of powers to different High Courts to entertain petitions arising out of them were amongst the reasons why Government litigation expenses had been increasing, the Law Minister, Mr. A. K. Sen, told Mr. Anirudh Sinha in the Lok Sabha. He added that measures to reduce expenditure on litigation were under consideration.

Mr. JAGANNADHA DAS

Mr. Justice Jagannadha Das, of the Supreme Court, has been appointed Chairman of the Commission to inquire into the emoluments and service conditions of Union Government employees.

LAW COURTS IN INDIA

The Union Ministry of Law has put forward a proposal to set up joint committees consisting of Judges of the High Court and senior members of the Bar in each High Court to consider the question of delays in the disposal of cases and also to deal with other problems like corruption, litigation etc.

THE MYSORE HIGH COURT

The President has appointed Mr. A. S. Somnath Aiyar, Advocate, to be a permanent Judge of the Mysore High Court and Mr. S. S. Malinath, retired District and Sessions Judge to be Additional Judge of the Mysore High Court till March 23, 1959.

A Home Ministry Press note said that the appointments would be effective from the dates on which they assume charge of their respective offices.

Mr. M. C. CHAGLA

Mr. M. C. Chagla, Chief Justice of the Bombay High Court, who has been appointed a Judge of the International Court at the Hague on behalf of India in the dispute raised by the Portuguese Government, left Bombay for London by sea on August 25.

Mr. Chagla, accompanied by Mrs. Chagla, will reach London on September 14. He will reach the Hague by September 20, and the case against India will be heard by the International Court probably on September 25.

STEP-MOTHER'S RIGHT TO INHERIT STEP-SON

The acting Chief Justice, Mr. Justice Dayal and Mr. Justice Srivastava, of the Allahabad High Court, on August 15, expressed the opinion that, under the Hindu Law, a step-mother was not an heir to a deceased step-son.

Their Lordships said, "It is not possible to hold that, for the purpose of inheritance, a step-mother stands on a footing equal to that of a real mother. It is not possible to accept that contention that, because a step-mother is entitled to a share at the time of partition, she is entitled to inherit her step-son too. It cannot be said that a step-mother should be held to be an heir."

The above opinion was expressed by Their Lordships while dismissing a special appeal filed by Pabitra Kaur against the order of a single Judge of the High Court who had held that a step-mother was not an heir to a deceased step-son.

ESSENTIAL SERVICES ORDINANCE

On Aug. 18 the President has revoked the Essential Services Maintenance Ordinance, 1957, which was promulgated by him on Aug. 7, on the eve of the threatened strike of Post and Telegraph workers and other Central Government Employees.

ACHIEVEMENTS OF TISCO

When, as at present, India's capacity to produce steel has become the yardstick of her economic growth and a measure of her potential wealth, the vision of J. N. Tata who established India's first integrated steel plant shines the more gloriously. The Tata Iron and Steel Company was founded fifty years ago and over this half a century it has symbolised the industrial evolution of modern India as well as the best traditions of Indian industry.

If any of Jamshedji Tata's activities must be singled out as his most valuable contribution to posterity, it was this proving of India's unrealised steel potential which reputedly contain the world's greatest reserves of haematite, the highest quality iron ore.

MR. T. T. K. ON DE-VALUATION OF RUPEE

The Union Finance Minister, Mr. T. T. Krishnamachari, said in the Lok Sabha on August 24 that the core of the Second Five-Year Plan could be put through only with sizeable inflow of resources from abroad.

The Finance Minister refused to accept any suggestion to devalue the rupee as a measure to meet the foreign exchange crisis. He said that it "would be unwise to do so," because foreign exchange formed only an infinitesimally small part of the total economic transactions.

Mr. Krishnamachari was replying to the debate in the Lok Sabha on the demands for grants for his Ministry which were voted by the House. The House also passed the Appropriation Bill.

AMENDMENT OF RESERVE BANK ACT

The Lok Sabha passed the Reserve Bank of India (Amendment) Bill enabling the Reserve Bank to contribute to the capital of institutions that would be set up to provide medium-term loan to industries. Amendment to the Act had been necessitated by the fact that bodies like the Industrial Finance Corporation, the State Financial Corporations and Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation could not give adequate medium-term finance facilities in the private sector of industry.

In the interest of the overall objectives of the Second Five-Year Plan, it was found necessary to establish financial institutions to provide medium-term loan assistance to industries, according to the statement of objects and reasons of the Bill.

FOREIGN EXCHANGE AND 2-ND PLAN

The total foreign exchange commitment so far entered into up to the end of the Second Plan period is of the order of Rs. 900 crores in both the private and public sectors, Finance Minister Krishnamachari told the Lok Sabha on August 13.

It was expected that commitments for another Rs. 300 crores might be entered into while implementing the "core of the Plan." As against these some part was covered by credits and then "we have our normal earnings." The remedy to fill the gap would be to increase earnings of foreign exchange.

WORLD BANK LOAN TO INDIA

It is learnt that the 90 million dollar loan made available to India by the World Bank in Japanese yens, pound sterling, Italian lire and American dollars, will be adequate for India to procure from abroad 500 locomotives, 10,000 wagons, and 100,000 wheel sets, rails and other materials. Apart from this, under a supplementary project agreement, the International Co-operation Administration will make available 10,500,000 dollars of development assistance funds for the purpose of acquiring from outside India 28,400 tons of 90 lb. medium manganese rails, 28,000 tons of 60 lb. rails, 1,050 tons of fish plates for 90 lb. rails and 850 tons of fish plates for 60 lb. rails.

DROP IN CURRENCY RESERVE

Informed observers are not in the least perturbed by the imminent fall in the value of foreign securities held by the Reserve Bank below the prescribed level of Rs. 400 crores.

The proximity of the fall is clearly suggested by the latest statement of the Reserve Bank for the week ended Aug. 22, when foreign securities held in the Issue Department stood at Rs. 375.51 crores and the balances held abroad in the Banking Department at Rs. 26.31 crores.

PROTECTION TO EXPORTERS

A Corporation to provide protection to exporters against risks arising in export trade, as a measure for stimulating the country's exports, has been formed by the Government of India, says a Ministry of Commerce and Industry Press Note.

Known as the Export Risks Insurance Corporation of India (Private) Limited, the Corporation was registered last month under the Companies Act, 1956, with its headquarters at Bombay.

ASIAN WOMEN'S SEMINAR

Mr. Succheta Kripalani of India was elected First Vice-Chairman of the Asian Women's Seminar, which opened at the U.N. regional headquarters at Bangkok on August 15.

Earlier, Madam Laiad Pibul Songgram, wife of the Thai Prime Minister, opening the seminar, said its aim was not to put men in charge of cradles or to dress women in male's clothes.

"We are assembled here to promote fundamental human rights in dignity and the worth of a human person and in equal rights of man and woman."

WOMEN CADETS FOR FLYING

Two women cadets have been selected to undergo training in flying by the Madras Flying Club. They are Miss K. Nirmala and Miss Jayalakshmi.

A daughter of Dr. P. Krishnaswami, Miss Nirmala was a former student of the Ethiraj College and took her B.A. Degree last year. She is now a student of the diploma course in Social Service of the Stella Maris College.

Miss Jayalakshmi is a daughter of Mr. G. S. Subramaniam, Controller of Aerodromes.

Under a grant from the Union Government, the Madras Government selects 20 candidates for training in aviation each year.

MISS. MINATI DAS

Miss Minati Das, a master of arts in literature of the Utkal University, learnt Bharata Natya under Sri Pandallur Chockalingam Pillai at the Indian Institute of Fine Arts, Madras, and took the diploma of Natyakala Bhushanam last year.

Her study of the art in Madras was under the scholarship of the Orissa Government, instituted for the first time there, when the late Mr. P. S. Kumaraswami Raja was Governor of Orissa. She is the first Oriya girl to learn Bharata Natya.

FEDERATION OF UNIVERSITY WOMEN

Addressing the fourth biennial conference of the Federation of University Women in India at the Queen Mary's College, Madras on Aug. 4 Dr. A. L. Mudaliar said: "Let the womanhood of India be always a source of inspiration for all of us, and let them be the great protectors of these great traditions that have been handed down from generation to generation."

WOMEN'S CENTRAL SERVICES

Fifty-one women are at present serving in the All-India Central Services including the I.A.S., I.F.S., etc.

This information was given by Mr. G. B. Pant, Union Minister for Home Affairs, in reply to a question by Mr. Rahunath Singh, on Aug. 11.

Out of 51 women officers, 13 are in the I.A.S. eight in the I.A. and A.S., six in the I.F.S., seven in the Indian Income-Tax Service, and 15 in the Central Secretariat Service.

Twenty-two candidates belonging to the Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes have been selected for appointment to the Indian Administrative and Police Services during 1956-57 on the recommendation of the Union public Service Commission.

Mrs. P. PARIJATHAM NAIDU

Mrs. P. Parijatham Naidu has been appointed U.N. Adviser on Social Welfare to the Government of Indonesia.

Mrs. Naidu had been Chief Welfare Officer in the Welfare Department of the Madras Government and had also made a special study of Welfare programme in the U.S. At present she is connected with the Planning Commission.

WOMENS' RIGHTS

The Social Committee of the Economic and Social Council, meeting in Geneva last month adopted five resolutions proposed by the U. N. Commission on the Status of Women and dealing with the rights of women. It recommends that all members of the United Nations and of the specialized agencies which have not yet done so recognize the political rights of women, and also urges states, which have not signed, ratified or acceded, to become parties to the Convention on the Political Rights of Women.

Mrs. SARASWATI SRINIVASAN

Mrs. Saraswathi Srinivasan, Headmistress, Avvai Home, Senior Basic Training School Adyar, and Vice-President of the South Indian Teachers Union, has proceeded to the U.S. to study "Administration of Schools and Teacher Training" under the United States Award and the Fulbright Scholarship. She left Madras for Bombay on August 26 en route to the U.S.

DEVADAS GANDHI

Devadas died in harness. The evening in the first week of August he started out of his apartment in Bombay to keep an engagement, he felt pain in the heart and went back to his room but he never came out again. The next day he had another more than ones.

The suddenness of his death was something of a shock to the country. He was comparatively young, only 54. The last son of the Mahatma, he had much of the shrewdness of the father and not a little of the gentleness and loveableness of his character. There was an unmistakable expression of innocence in his chubby face and a disarming simplicity which won him many friends. Devadas was devoted to Hindi Prachar but his main work during the last two decades was done as Managing Editor of the Hindustan Times, Delhi. Under his stewardship it has become one of the leading dailies of India, and one worthy of the capital city.

It is sad to think that only the other day he sent a message to the Diamond Jubilee Souvenir in which he accorded tender recollection of his old association with the members of the late Mr. G. A. Natesan's family among whom in his teens he was a great favourite four decades ago. "I can never forget he says" "the kind care he (G. A. Natesan) bestowed on me over 35 years ago in your Thambu Chetty Street home. You and your brother were the pets of the family and were too young to make any sense of a strange man from the north in your midst who was then leading the hard life. But your father protected me from your jokes and pranks.when I fell ill and suffered rather badly I was looked after with tender affection by him and by your mother and aunt. But your grandmother naturally very orthodox pampered me most. It was she of all who, I believe, insisted on treating me as a family member rather than as an outsider or a guest."

MR. PURUSHOTTAM DAS TANDON

Tributes were paid to Mr. Purushottam Das Tandon, the veteran Congress leader, for his devotion and service to the country at a function held at New Delhi on August 21, in the Central Hall of Parliament House to mark his 75th birthday.

Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, who spoke with feeling, described Mr. Tandon as "elder brother",

who, he said, had stood like an "iron pillar" through the years and lived up to what he preached.

In a reminiscent mood, Mr. Nehru declared, amid applause, "if you want to see a picture of those momentous days of freedom struggle when we worked shoulder to shoulder look at Tandonji."

Mr. K. S. R. SASTRI

Felicitations were offered to Mr. K. S. Ramaswami Sastri, well-known figure in the public life of Madras on the occasion of his Sathabhishekam at a function held in Madras last month.

Loving tributes were paid to the youthful octogenarian for his services spread over many decades in the cause of Hindu dharma. Distinguished speakers who wished him many more years of useful endeavour referred to him as a man of erudition and culture, gentle and unassuming but marvellously vigorous in the pursuit of his far-flung interests.

LATE N. S. KRISHNAN

We record with regret the passing away on August 30 of Mr. N. S. Krishnan, eminent comedian of the Tamil screen. Mr. Krishnan died at the General Hospital, Madras where he had been undergoing treatment for hepatitis since August 12. He was 48.

DR. K. VENKATARAMAN

Dr. K. Venkataraman, Director of Bombay University's Department of Chemical Technology, took charge as Director of the National Chemical Laboratory in Poona from August 1. He is the first Indian Director of this National Laboratory.

SUDDHANANDA BHARATHIAR

The Shashtiabdapurthi of Yogi Suddhananda Bharathiar was celebrated at Rajaji Hall, at Madras on August 28. Mr. K. Kamaraj, Chief Minister, presided.

Dr. U. Krishna Rao, Speaker, Chairman of the Celebration Committee, welcoming the gathering said Yogi Suddhananda Bharathiar was well-known as a great writer, poet and true yogi. He came in the line of great men like Ramana Maharishi, Aurobindo, Subramania Bharathi and Mahatma Gandhi. He was a great patriot and through his writings, he kindled the patriotic fervour of the people during the freedom struggle.

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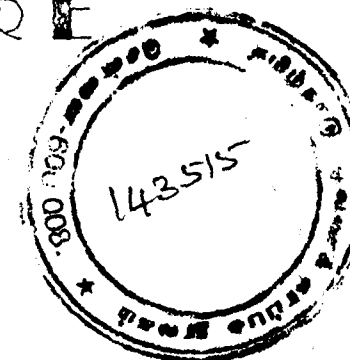
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