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The INDIAN REVIEW

59th Year

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Vol. 59.

APRIL 1958

No. 4

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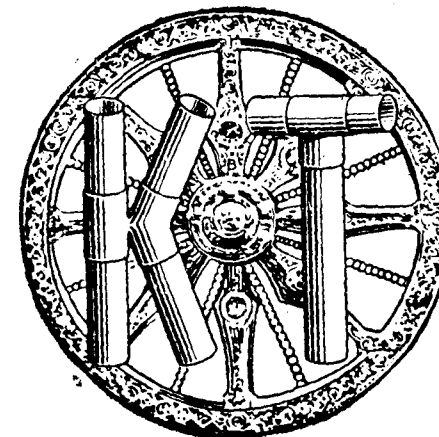
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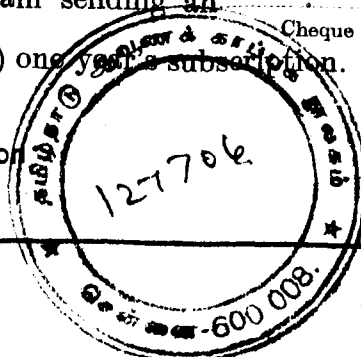
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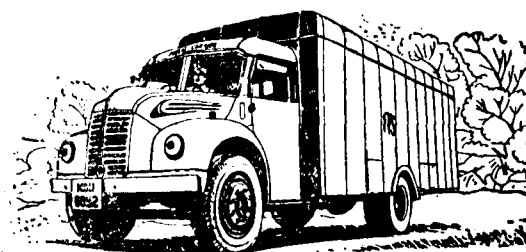
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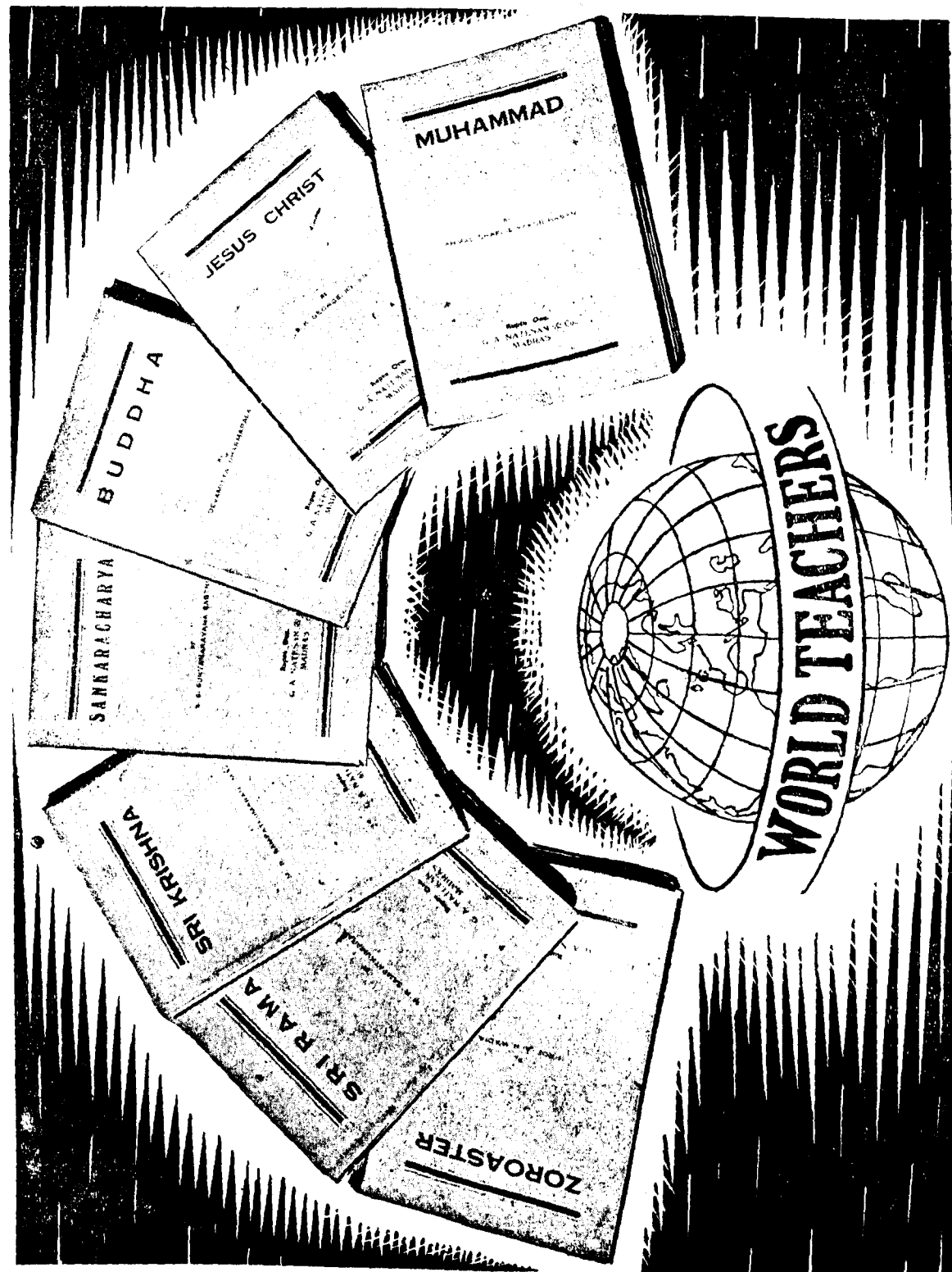
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APRIL 1958

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EDITORIAL

THE RECESSION AND THE PLAN

By the end of 1957, it became clear that world business in general was facing a setback. In accordance with the present tendency to (psycho) analyse, rather than state plainly, the experts called it a 'recession' and not a 'depression'. Prosperity was still round the corner, but business was halting in order to get its second wind, after a long race. Winter was a slack time and with the advent of spring, things would brighten. In USA they waited for spring. It has arrived, but still business has not picked up of its own accord. So they are applying the Roosevelt-Keynes formula of public spending to ward off unemployment and create the necessary purchasing power, as the first initiative in a chain reaction of productive betterment. The Federal Highway programme is to be doubled, the targets on new houses is stepped up, federal aid is to be given to a hospital construction programme, unemployment compensation is extended with Federal help, and they are thinking of tax cuts on excise levies and also a short moratorium on tax payments, so as to pump money into the community. The Federal Reserve Board has cut the discount rate for the third time in four months.

In Europe slack trade has again been met by lowering interest rates. The Cohen committee on Prices, Productivity and Incomes has drawn attention to the abnormal pressure on money that has resulted from the country having too many programmes. Actually, the ships laid up in London (490,000 tons as against 32,000 tons last year) indicate that there is a definite slowing down of demand.

In India the Government has come out with a reduction of the excise duty on cloth and a moratorium for the compulsory deposit scheme. But the core of the plan is to be implemented, whatever be the sacrifices it may involve; and the core consists of steel, coal, lignite, ports, and certain power and irrigation schemes. In other words it is the public sector

and capital schemes that yield late that form the core. On the money side, American help has contributed to saving the face of the reduced plan, but neither public loans nor small savings have come up to the mark, and to the extent that the plan depends on such money, it needs a re-orientation.

We are thus faced with a world situation and an Indian situation. Everywhere in the world it is being recognised that people are inclined to buy less, but in the USA it hurts them to confess that there can be any possible limit to prosperity. They prefer to take the view that all that has happened is a temporary lag in purchasing power, which can be built up by public spending. This is a doubtful theory, because at one stage public spending and high taxation have to meet at a point, and the availability of private purchasing power is largely dependent on a low taxation policy. Further, one may suspect the validity of ever rising prosperity as a normal economic possibility. The margin of upper satiety is sure to show itself, just as some persons have started refusing to earn beyond a level as they derive no satisfaction from such earning, and this is a psychological, as much as an economic phenomenon. That a purely prosperity economics is based on higher wages, higher costs, and a consequent spiral of inflation is not often appreciated.

What seems to be taking place is a forced infusion of realism and readjustment, in a world in which the starvation of the war years gave a fillip to production that was not normal. Now a more sensible norm is establishing itself. It would be wisdom to make a readjustment rather than seek a revival. The lowered tempo is not a lag but a descent to the level of a firmer base.

The lesson for India is clear. We have to slow down and also make a readjustment. The latter has a monetary as well as an ideological angle. The monetary side of it consists in leaving more money in the hands of the people, instead

of scooping up every possible amount into the exchequer because there is a plan to be fulfilled. While USA is thinking of tax relief, we are still demanding advance taxes, and the way in which officers who have to dispense favours go about collecting small savings is to be condemned. It is not real saving, but a new imposition that leads in turn to further borrowing. The ideological side is more important. We have developed allergies towards men and institutions by means of words and not facts. Private capital, the capitalist, the profit motive, the managing agent, and such like words have fallen into the category of 'isms' that are not good for the people. The 'ism' is the drug on which the communist bosses boost all kinds of hatred, and we are falling into the same line. Why is capitalism bad, or the managing agency pernicious? Because they are foreign to the 'ism' that goes with a vague ideal. If government realise that private enterprise has a vital part to play, and that the public sector is not, *ipso facto*, better for the people, a more realistic approach to industry and trade will result, and for the sake of this realism, it is worthwhile sacrificing a part of the great prosperity that the 'ism' men are working for. A lowering all round plan, taxation, prices, in fact a "go slow" (which is well known to Indian labour) is an economic necessity for India. The other kind of prosperity will be won, if at all, at the cost of much suffering, and will please only the receding posterity of an ever suffering present.

THE STRUGGLE IN INDONESIA

The internal struggle that is going on in Indonesia is of particular interest to the countries of Asia that have recently emerged into freedom from colonial rule. Of the numerous islands that lie along Eastern Asia, Indonesia is alone uncommitted to the West. Needless to say, it will be a valuable prize for the communist block.

The surrender of Japan came with dramatic suddenness after the last war. This was the chance that Sukarno took. Before any allied force could land he had formed a Government in Java. For four years the Dutch fought a losing battle, and in the end they gave in. All the Dutch colonies except West New Guinea became the new Republic of Indonesia. There are four political parties in Indonesia—the Nationalists led by Sukarno, the Masjumi, which is Muslim and progressive, the Orthodox conservatives, and the communists.

The conflict in Indonesia arises because of the concentration of power and of public expenditure in the island of Java. The military commanders in the other islands felt that all else was being subordinated to Java island. In 1955 the military administrators in the Celebes started to export copra on their own and they spent the proceeds in improving the Islands. In Central Sumatra, Colonel Ahmed Hussian sent Rubber to Singapore and he was followed by the administrators in north and south Sumatra also. They invested the money in improving the island.

Meanwhile Sukarno, after extensive foreign travel, came back with a distrust of the old kind of parliamentary democracy. He wanted his country to be governed by a system of "guided democracy", with no majority vote, but a parliament and a National Council made up of representatives of various groups, and selected by the President. Then followed the claim to West Irian from the Dutch and the freezing of the Dutch assets in Indonesia.

The present struggle looks as if it is a rebellion, and from recent news it looks likely that it may break down, but it is a significant development that may occur, though not in the same form, in the other Asian countries also. When the colonial power left the best organised party took power. But the facility with which power was gained gave a false feeling to those who did get power that they alone represented the country, and this very feeling of security drew them away from the people and their real thoughts and aspirations. The struggle of the various forces within the country takes place after the attainment of freedom from foreign rule. In the USA it occurred nearly a century later. Today time moves faster in terms of events, and those who have seated themselves in the thrones of the Colonial powers should pause to digest the lesson of history, that anything won with ease can be lost with ease, and a national struggle comes to the surface sooner or later, before the freedom that lasts is attained.

This is what is happening in Indonesia today. The Java group is powerful, and it may win the day now, but a re-orientation of structure and policy, which takes into account the differing needs of the component parts of the republic, and a sympathetic attitude towards those problems, is the only lasting way to maintain the republic from lapsing into recurring struggle. Geography has conditioned

Indonesia into an ideal federation with possibilities of regional autonomy. Any current that flows against this movement and makes for centralisation will not endure for long.

Regional interests; are not anti-national; rather, they ultimately make for a richer national life and preserve local cultures from being lost in the drabness of an omnivorous uniformity. It is to be hoped that the fortunate heirs to British rule in India will watch and realise the meaning of national struggles within a national Government.

CEILINGS ON LAND

Amongst the various impediments to increased agricultural production, the attempt to impose a ceiling on land holding has been referred to by some as perhaps the most important one. On the other hand, it is contended with force that a non-functional landholding class is a negation of socialistic justice, and that a redistribution of the means of production amongst the actual producers will, after the subsiding of the clamour and the noise of entrenched interests, lead to better production.

The subject was dealt with in an interesting and original manner by Sri S. Y. Krishnaswamy in the recent Srinivasa Sastry Endowment lectures that he delivered last month. He pointed out that what agriculture needs today is not a ceiling, but a floor. The average holding in India is about five acres, and the income from it is less than what is earned by a casual labourer. There is no use in the further distribution of poverty amongst more persons, which is what the Bhoodan and other milk of human kindness movements are doing. A labourer and his wife earn Rs. 3 per day between them, and this gives an income of Rs. 90 per month or about Rs. 1000 per year. Mr. Krishnaswamy showed that this was the net income from about ten acres of wet or twenty acres of dry land. Unless, therefore, we bring into being a class of solvent farmers, the problem of Indian agriculture will for ever

remain one of spoon feeding an impoverished peasantry.

He was not against the imposition of a ceiling on land, but pleaded for a policy of land re-distribution amongst the small holders, and also for the payment of a compensation to the landlords which is not regressive and nominal, but adequate and spread over a large number of instalments. He also suggested that a Bank on the model of the Land Mortgage Banks should be formed, so as to undertake the financing of these proposals.

It seems as if nowhere has the "Isms" mind run riot as in regard to the problem of land. It may be conceded that the possession of a vast extent of land by one person is not a social good. In a country where the population presses heavily on the soil, the small farmer is always to be preferred to the big landlord, from a purely production point of view. Japan has shown how intensive production and small holdings go hand in hand. To the small farmer agriculture is neither a business nor an investment, but a way of life, and he does not calculate the relative ratios between input and output. He gets more out of the land and there is a greater proportion of farm retention. But this does not mean that an economy that has been built around the landholder who has been advancing the cost of seed and manure and has been paying the taxes, can be substituted by a peasant economy all of a sudden; nor that a wholesale expropriation which is camouflaged by a thin theory of compensation can lead to anything but chaos and political upheaval. It is a well known truism that no one enjoys what he gets free. Every kind of incentive depends on the payment of an adequate compensation to the landholder and taking it from the person to whom the land is given. Burdens should be eased by framing as many instalments as possible and not by abolishing compensation in effect.

It is to be hoped that the idea of strengthening agriculture from below for which Mr. Krishnaswamy made such a cogent plea will be properly appreciated and given effect to.

CURRENT EVENTS

BULGANIN'S EXIT

Dramatic events had taken place in the last week of March. On March 31 Mr. Nikita Khrushchev announced that Marshal Nikolai Bulganin, from whom he took over as Soviet Prime Minister last month has been appointed Chairman of the State Bank, Gosbank.

Marshal Bulganin, who replaces Mr. V.F. Popov, was present when Mr. Khrushchev announced his new Cabinet to a joint session of the two Houses of the Supreme Soviet (Parliament) in the Kremlin.

There were no significant changes in Mr. Khrushchev's list, Mr. Andrei Gromyko, Mr. Anastas Mikoyan, Marshal Rodion Malnovskiy, and Mr. A.G. Zverev retain their posts as Foreign Minister, First Deputy Premier, Defence Minister and Finance Minister respectively.

ASIAN SOCIALISTS' CONFERENCE

The Asian Socialists' Conference which met at Kathmandu last month has decided to afford aid to the freedom movements in Africa. A statement on the subject was discussed at the meeting of the Bureau of the conference.

The conference has also drawn up a programme for co-ordination of Socialist activities in Asia and popularisation of the Socialist movement throughout the Continent.

The Bureau meeting of the conference has also decided not to send any fraternal delegation to attend the forthcoming Congress of the Yugoslav Communist Party in Belgrade.

Nomination of an Asian Socialist delegation to Belgrade was on the agenda for the Bureau, but it is understood some delegates did not like the idea of "participating so intimately in a conference which basically is Communist."

Instead the conference has sent a goodwill message in the name of Mr. Wiyono the Vice-Chairman of the conference.

RUSSIA GIVES UP NUCLEAR TESTS

After all, Russia has decided unilaterally to stop her nuclear tests.

Mr. Gromyko, addressing a joint session of the Supreme Soviet just after being re-appointed Foreign Minister in the Cabinet of Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, criticised Britain and America for not showing readiness to agree to ban nuclear weapons.

Mr. Gromyko began by saying only three countries now possess nuclear weapons—the United States, Britain and the Soviet Union.

Mr. Gromyko said the Council of Ministers proposes that as a first step the Soviet Union unilaterally cease conducting tests of all forms of nuclear weapons in the hope that Britain and the U.S. will join.

THE GRAHAM REPORT

India has found unacceptable Dr. Frank Graham's recommendations released on April 3rd. that there should be a conference of the Prime Ministers of India and Pakistan under his auspices to settle problems arising from the Kashmir question.

India has told Dr. Graham that such a conference in their view would place the aggressor and the aggressed on the same footing. They therefore considered it contrary to the Charter of the United Nations and all considerations of international ethics and equity.

The proposals submitted by Dr. Graham were briefly these:

(1) There should be a renewed declaration by the two Governments appealing to their peoples for the maintenance of an atmosphere "favourable to further negotiations."

(2) The two Governments should reaffirm the inviolability of the cease-fire line.

(3) In order to speed up the implementation of Part II of the resolution of August 13, 1948 (withdrawal of Pakistani troops from Kashmir), prompt study under Dr. Graham's auspices, should be undertaken as to how the territory evacuated by the Pakistani troops could, pending a final solution, be administered in accordance with the provisions of that resolution. Following the withdrawal of the Pakistani army from the State, Pakistan should give consideration to the stationing of a U.N. force "on the Pakistan side of the Pakistan and Jammu and Kashmir border."

(4) The U.N. representative will consider with the two Governments "the means and timing under which agreement might be sought" on the interpretation of Part III of the August 13, 1948 resolution and plebiscite portion of the January 5, 1949 resolution.

(5) There should be a conference of the Prime Ministers of the two countries under Dr. Graham's auspices in the early spring, and if this recommendation was not acceptable to either or both Governments, the two Governments, should keep under consideration the idea of holding such a conference "at the earliest practicable date."

Can the Catholics Solve the Goa Impasse?

BY

Mr. WILLIAM D. ALLEN

Editor, *WORLD IN BRIEF*, New York

INDIA'S process of liberation and of rebuilding into the present modern nation she is day includes numerous steps depending on orthodox, imaginative, novel methods. In my humble opinion as an American Catholic, but detached from contact with higher Catholic Church thinking), the Goa situation calls for urgent solution and tentatively I suggest that this be attempted through negotiations within the Catholic Church. The following information may lead to peaceful negotiations and eventually to a formula by which the Indian and Portuguese governments may come to agreement on a matter of utmost importance for the future.

That the Goa problem is, even from a Portuguese viewpoint, primarily one involving guarantees of religious freedom, is evidenced by the following: Recently I bought in an antique shop of New York a beautifully bound volume of travels in French, published in Paris in 1766. When I got home I read casually in it the following, at page 220; Relating to the year 1695 A.D.

"One cause of the decline of the Portuguese in India was their conquest of Brazil (South America). There they obtained much greater financial profits which led them to look down upon their India venture. The King of Portugal for some time was inclined to abandon entirely the India possessions of Portugal. Only the Missionaries (Catholics) stopped him from so doing. They said that if he gave up those territories, all the Christians there would revert quickly to Idolatry or to the religion of Mahomet. What is now left to the Portuguese in India is so unimportant that these possessions can scarcely cover the costs of their upkeep."

The above statement published in 1766, referring back to the travels of the great Italian

"explorer" Gemelli writing in the year 1695 A.D., suggests that the solution of the Goa problem can be classified among *religious* rather than nationalistic and political matters. We are at present going through a period of acute emphasis on "national prides." To an irrational extent, nations are being split up according to local chauvinistic divisions, India herself is threatened with linguistic and cultural divisionism. The tendency to think of Goa as an entity cut off from the mainstreams of India's life is not only a Portuguese illusion but also a twist of India's own divisionistic trend.

The present suggestion is that the Goa problem be thrown into the lap of the Catholic Church of India. It is suggested that "Goa" is not a political but a religious problem. If the Portuguese and other Europeans can be convinced that the Catholics of Goa will have their religion safeguarded under India's Constitution, then the main Portuguese resistance may be given up peacefully. May be a very specific amendment to India's Constitution, defining more in detail existing safeguards of religious freedom, would lead Portugal to a friendly agreement on Goa.

Aside from the religious reasoning presented above, one may seek for a peaceful surrender by Portugal inspired by the following fact. In 1878, a Treaty relating to Goa was made by Portugal with Britain; by it the right of making salt, and all Goa's customs duties, were ceded to the Government of India in exchange for a yearly payment of 4 lakhs of rupees, which were hypothecated for construction of a railroad. This suggests many conciliatory arrangements, may be under United Nations supervision, by which "the Goa Problem" could be handled without recourse to bitterness or violence.

The Indian Classics

By

MAHAMAHOPADHYAYA DR. P. K. ACHARYA, M.A., Ph.D.

IT is to the credit of Great Britain and other western countries including Russia, Germany, France, Italy, Greece and others that even at the time of World War I and II there was a mutual understanding to avoid destruction of ancient records and monuments and those preserved in store houses like the British museum and famous libraries and art galleries in all civilised countries. The British museum, for instance, contains Egyptian monuments which are no longer found in Egypt. Similarly the former India Office Library contains manuscripts and printed records concerning India which no longer exist in India. The famous St. Petersburg Sanskrit Dictionary was published in German but in Russia. This work was the foundation stone of Sanskrit literature, which induced and facilitated the study and research of India's contribution to world culture and civilization.

Reactionaries like Miss Katherine Mayo of *Mother India* notoriety representing the New World were hardly able to undermine the Old World appreciation of Indian civilization.

Indeed it was due to the Indo-British Government that Indian monuments and Sanskrit records were not only preserved but also classified and published. But for that act of British love for scholarship wherever extant the policy of destruction adopted by certain fanatic governments would have removed altogether not only the sculptures and temples of some 3000 caves but also the written records housed in libraries connected with all big temple establishments in various places.

It is on record that the early Moslem invaders of India, disfigured and destroyed Hindu temples and idols all over the country. But no definite instances of burning of the sacred books, as the Roman Catholic Priests did in the 15th century in Europe, are met with in India.

Thus the enlightened Indo-British Government, during their eventful administration of not more than two hundred years were able to gather together, to arrange and to preserve for us not only the Vedic scriptures but also those of the Buddhists, the Jains and all other sects as well as works on science and arts, philosophy and religion, on mythology, on dramas, on epic poems and lyrics, on stories and fables.

Preservation, publicity and popularity are, however, not the same thing. No doubt our independent India has been showing sympathy with those who are fond of our heritage. In this age of science and technology, however career-seekers and livelihood-earners are forgetting our classical literature. Not to speak of the Vedas, Puranas, Upanishads and Silpsastras, how many of our educated people can claim to have read even the great epics, Ramayana and Mahabharata?

It is befitting therefore on the occasion of the Diamond Jubilee of G. A. Natesan & Co., publishers of the INDIAN REVIEW, to recall the great services they have rendered during the past 60 years. Sri G. A. Natesan, the lamented founder of the firm, has made additional contribution by publishing summaries of the original texts with line-by-line English translation. He had the unique knack of including learned scholars to make such summaries and competent translators to retain the letter and spirit of the original Sanskrit. He approached the leading personalities in the country to introduce such texts and to review works of outstanding merit.

In his Foreword to PRAYERS, PRAISES AND PSALMS, Mahatma Gandhi writes truly :

"I am no Sanskrit scholar, I have not read much of the translations of the originals. Nevertheless the collection presented in this volume does enable even one like me to

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THE INDIAN CLASSICS

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know how our ancestors prayed to the one Supreme Lord of the universe and in what words they derived solace in the hour of their trial or gave praise in the hour of their so called triumph. May this collection help the reader to dispel his unbelief or strengthen his belief."

In his editorial Note to this volume Mr. G. A. Natesan himself said that the selection was made not only from the ancient and medieval literature but also from modern writings so as "to render this book representative, comprehensive and up-to-date." So it is undoubtedly ; its 500 pages are full of charming stotras (Prayers and Psalms) from the Vedas, the Upanishads, the Ramayana, the Mahabharata, the Bhagavad Gita, the Srimad Bhagavata, the Puranas, the Agamas, the Tantras, from the classical poems of Kalidasa, Bharavi, Magha, Bhartrihari, Mayura Bana, Subhandhu, Bhavabhuti, Krishnamisra, Srihamsa, Vaidya Gadadhara and Bhavananda, from seventeen Acharyas beginning with Sankaracharya (8th Century) and ending with Chaitanyadeva and Rupagoswamin (15th-16th Century) ; and from 37 known and numerous anonymous works.

The usefulness of this laudable collection has been immensely enhanced by notes on works and authors, and Index to them and to Deities and Ideas. It is truly said that "We are in these songs and prayers face to face with the Hindu soul." By this single publication the name of G. A. Natesan would have been everlasting and the gratitude of lovers of Hindu thought and philosophy of life would have been insured. But he has done more and added to the indebtedness of the readers much more effectually than the Histories of Sanskrit literature or the brilliant lectures of the learned Professors of Sanskrit language.

The volume named the Upanishads contains condensed versions of twelve major Upanishads and ninety seven minor Upanishads. The Vedas are the earliest recorded literature of the world. The mantra portion of the Rig,

Yajus, Saman, and Atharva Vedas consists of hymns in praise of the Vedic gods. And the Brahmana portion gives practical guidance in the correct performance of the sacrificial rites of the Veda in its vidhi (rule) section. The Upanishad forms the 'end' portion of the Aranyaka (Forest Book) section of the Brahmana. Thus the Upanishad is known as Vedanta, the 'end' or essence of the Vedas. The seers of the Upanishads preach the Brahmana as the cause of creation, preservation and destruction of the universe. Thus the goal of intelligence is to realise Brahman. That is possible by developing a detachment, the spirit of renunciation, cultivation of cardinal virtues, devotion to the deity, passion for inquiry and the knowledge of the Absolute. Therefore Max Muller declared, "Upanishads are the sources of the Vedanta philosophy, a system in which human speculation seems to me to have reached its very acme," and Schopenhauer further elucidates by saying :

"From every sentence (of the Upanishads) deep, original and sublime thoughts arise and the whole is pervaded by a high and holy and earnest spirit. In the whole world there is no study so beneficial and so elevating as that of the Upanishads. They are products of the highest wisdom...It is destined sooner or later to become the faith of the people (of the properly educated world.)"

This should make all educated Indians proud of our achievements. But how many of us can claim to have any direct acquaintance with such a source of knowledge as the Upanishads? Thus we should feel grateful to G. A. Natesan for "presenting to the general reader a compilation which will enable him to form an idea of the greatness and sublimity of the philosophy of Upanishads."

The popularity of such condensed texts may be illustrated by Natesan's edition of the "Bhagavad Gita" with an English translation by Mrs. Annie Besant. The book has already gone through 18 editions. The "Srimad Bhagavata" with foreword by Sir S. P.

Sivaswamy Ayyer created similar popularity. During the 38 years preceding 1935 G. A. Natesan published several such works not only dealing with religion but also on political and economic subjects of which no full reference is possible in this article. But he himself feels great self satisfaction in publishing condensed versions of the two great Epics in 1935.

The Right Hon'ble V. S. Srinivasa Sastri in his Foreword to Natesan's "Valmiki Ramayana" correctly assures the reader :—

"There is nothing in this abridgment which is not Valmiki's. No vestiges are visible of the dismemberment, no transfusion from a foreign organism, no prose-link, no variation."

Yet both the story and the interesting incidents have been cleverly retained by the learned compiler, including the renowned dialogues, beautiful character sketches and some of the inimitable descriptions. Rama's twin sons Lava and Kusa born in Valmiki's hermitage at Sita's banishment were the first reciters who sang to music this famous poem. No other epic poem retains the novelty and pathos everytime one reads or listens to it.

In the Foreword to G. A. Natesan's summary and translation of the MAHABHARATA Dr. S. Radhakrishnan endorses Srinivasa Sastri's views when the former says that "there is ample justifications for the claim that the abridgment represents the main theme of the story as well as its dominant teaching."

The lessons to be learnt from this great epic are to be found in the correct answers to Radhakrishnan's four questions. What is man? What is his place in the Universe? What is his ultimate destiny? What constitutes noble living? The modern reader who has little time and less inclination to read or listen to the one lakh verses of the MAHABHARATA will find this clever abridgment very useful.

The enterprising Natesan got Sir C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar, the versatile scholar-statesman to write the Foreword to his sixth volume of the series of condensed selections published

in 1942 under the title of UPAKHYANAMALA (garland of stories) from the encyclopaedic texts known as Itihasa (history)—Purana (old mythology). This is a sort of abridgment of the Great Puranas of which the five main topics are the primary and secondary creations, geneology of gods and Prajapatis, chronicles of Manus (fathers of men) and the histories of Royal dynasties of the RAMAYANA and the MAHABHARATA. The topics are illustrated by stories, epilogues and parables which are condensed in the Upakhyanamala in thirteen episodes. All these stories are instructive and inspiring. Some of them bring out in bold relief the noblest ideals of Indian womanhood; others draw attention to the basic Aryan virtues of courage, perseverance, charity and truthfulness.

Thus G. A. Natesan as a distinguished publisher, has earned the gratitude of readers who have little time and less inclination to go through the extensive texts, by publishing condensed versions in the original Sanskrit together with English translations from the Vedas, Upanishads, Epics, Gita, Puranas, Agamas, Tantras, Kavyas, and the writings of the great Acharyas. These comprehensive selections cover the entire field of Sanskrit literature.

In paying homage to the memory of G. A. Natesan it is a matter of gratification to note in conclusion that his worthy sons and succeeding Editors of the INDIAN REVIEW have been emulating the founder and carrying on the noble ideals.

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English Authors

By

Mr. FRANK SWINNERTON

THIRTY or forty years ago a celebrated foreign author, visiting Great Britain for the first time, noticed with annoyance that no band played for him in the quayside. There were no guns, no civic reception, and no massed journalists to receive his wisdoms. He returned at once, in dudgeon, to the land of his birth.

The author was not a Frenchman; but this is something that, in Laurence Sterne's words, "they order better in France," where authorship is taken seriously. There should have been a band; there should have been massed journalists. No discourtesy, however, was intended. In Britain no writer expects any notice to be taken of him, unless he has lately achieved distinction in another field. As a V.C., a golf champion, or a famous cricketer he might be recognized by a few spectators. As a film star he would probably be mobbed. But as an author he need expect neither stares nor kowtows. He would be thought very peculiar indeed if he drew attention to himself.

The foreign author did not know this. He was aware of his great popularity with British readers, who bought his books. He was used to acclaim. He thought of Britain as a land of celebrated authors, and remembered the legends of Shakespeare and Ben Jonson at the Mermaid Tavern, Burns and Scott in Edinburgh, the Irish poets and dramatists talking like titans in Dublin. He saw in his mind's eye the rolling figure of Dr. Johnson passing up and down Fleet Street, Tennyson and Carlyle in their great cloaks, Dickens and Thackeray meeting on the steps of the Garrick Club, Robert Louis Stevenson in his velvet jacket, and Bernard Shaw striding in winter without an overcoat but with red woollen

gloves. He thought with awe of the world's anxiety when Kipling lay desperately ill of pneumonia in New York in 1899. Yet this degenerate people ignored him. He would have none of it.

The irate visitor was out of his element. He knew that French Academicians permit themselves to decorate life with what Stevenson called "a bit of purple" that they sometimes dress fantastically, and have strange pets and mannerisms which seem quite proper to men of genius. He did not realise that in Britain the authors of his day were all identifying themselves with "the common man," and that they had abandoned all outward peculiarities, and every claim to special privileges.

Walter de la Mare once confessed that in youth he had allowed himself a few poetic extravagances of dress, hair, and carriage; but the vanity quickly passed, and he became as sedate in appearance as a businessman. Nothing but a hat could conceal the fine head; but out of doors he wore the hat and passed unseen. Kipling himself was a completely insignificant figure. Thomas Hardy was so modest, and so unobtrusive, that people who met him were amazed at his literary fame. H. G. Wells and Arnold Bennett, though Bennett carried himself with dignity and dressed with care, did not look like celebrities and did not expect to be recognised as such. Wells, who introduced himself into his own novels as "little Wilkins, the novelist, cared only for the acceptance of his "ideas", nothing at all for personal fame. He would walk everywhere, a plump, twinkling-eyed man with no pretentiousness at all, and pass for a suburban builder.

The next generation was the same. Its unwritten law was: "No show. No ostenta-

tion. Be quiet, ordinary; smoke your big pipe, like Barrie, if you must; but don't look odd." The law was helped by something else, which was the attitude of the British public towards authors. This needs to be defined.

In Britain, books are read; a few enthusiasts intrude upon their author's privacy by letter or visit; but in general the book is simply a book. The name upon its title-page is hardly noticed. And there are so many books, and so many authors, that it is hard to tell one from another. Only when he writes for a newspaper with an immense circulation does the author attain wide popular fame. He may then be applauded at the first performance of a new play in London's West End. If this happens, he is much embarrassed, and creeps into his seat with a red face.

So the two elements combine. British heroes have been great cricketers, footballers, or jockeys, with a sprinkling of sailors and sol-

diers. With the sole exception of Sir Winston Churchill, they have not been authors. The author's occupation, compared with that of other men, is regarded as effeminate trifling.

The British author knows his place in the eyes of his countrymen. He also has tremendous pride. He thinks Shakespeare was a greater man than Dr. Grace, the cricketer, or Lord Nelson, much as he admires those two heroes; but he will not argue about it. Nor will he compete by any personal show with the popinjays in other walks of life. Eschewing every mannerism, he looks as much like other walks of life. Eschewing every mannerism, he looks as much like other men as possible; and if he remains unknown to those who pass him in the street that is exactly what he wishes. In any case he knows it would be useless to expect bands or massed journalists. Even Shakespeare did not have them. Shakespeare, in fact, was so modest that some people have doubted his ability to write his own plays.

Family Planning

By

SHRI V. K. B. PILLAI, I.C.S.

LAUNCHED as an official programme in the later part of the First Five-year Plan, as part of Government of India's policy for population control, the family planning programme is gradually gathering momentum.

During the Second Five-year Plan period, the programme is being intensified in different directions; firstly, by the opening of a large number of clinics, urban and rural, and the sanctioning of financial assistance to State Governments and voluntary organisations and others to establish clinics and to run family planning centres and secondly, by the extension of the training programme for different categories of the personnel who will implement the programme. Side by side a scheme for promotion of research into demographic and

population problems, with special reference to conditions in this country, has also been taken up. Greater and systematic efforts are also being made to educate the public on the methods of family planning and thus to base it on public co-operation.

Crowning the organisational and educational machinery thus being set up is the Central Family Planning Board, with the Union Health Minister as Chairman, and a representative membership, and a standing committee, while similar bodies are being set up at the State level in different States. The co-operation and assistance of voluntary organisations is being increasingly sought—and increasingly given—in popularisation of the message of family planning.

For execution of the various facts of the programme, a sum of Rs. 497 lakhs has been allocated for the Second Plan period, Rs. 400 lakhs of which is intended for scheme to be undertaken by the Centre, and Rs 97 lakhs for schemes in State Government's plans. They are intended to educate and impress upon the people the implications of the programme not only in respect of the need for limiting families but also in respect of the significance of such limitation in the larger context of national economic development, in the context of social progress and the preservation and improvement of the general health and standards of living of the community as a whole. Stress is laid on the apprehension of these objectives in the correct spirit and in the proper perspective. Also necessary it is to ensure that effective propagation for family planning does not treat on the susceptibilities of the Indian people. It should be carried on in a manner which would most readily appeal and would be most readily acceptable to the population as a whole, and particularly those in the rural areas.

The fundamental consideration in this connection is that population in India is growing at the rate of 5 million persons on an average every year and the various programmes for economic development envisaged in the Five-year Plans would be in danger of being upset by a continuous increase in the population at this rate. A plan for national progress should indeed make provision for the growth of population in its assessment of food requirements, cloth requirements and other requirements like housing. But with an unrestricted and uncontrolled increase in the number of mouths to be fed and the number of persons to be clothed and housed, the possibility of any such assessment being upset is indeed present.

The principal task at the moment is to translate the growing public appreciation of the implications of family planning into a means of ensuring the success of the cam-

paign. Important among these is to educate the people at large to accept and make use of the methods of controlling conception and regulating child birth that scientific knowledge has evolved. This has to be undertaken at official as well as non-official levels; and it can be effectively and usefully undertaken by persons specially trained for the purpose, aided by voluntary welfare workers who can create the required confidence in the public mind.

A large-scale opening of family planning clinics and centres at which instruction in family planning would be combined with popularisation of the methods by which the objectives can be attained, as the first item in the programme. During the Second Plan period, 2,000 rural and 500 urban clinics are proposed to be established throughout the country in addition to 147 set up in the First Plan period. Up to the end of November 1957, 64 rural and 50 urban clinics had been opened during the Second Plan period.

Next to it, priority is to be given to the training of persons like doctors, health visitors, social workers and field workers. Placed in charge of the clinics, they will conduct field surveys, provide advice and assistance to those who come to the clinic and carry out follow-up work at the homes.

For the training of personnel, provision has been made at three institutions, namely, the Family Planning and Research Centre in Bombay, the Family Planning, Demonstration and experimental Centre at Ramanagram and the All-India Institute of Hygiene and Public Health, Calcutta. Facilities in this regard are proposed to be extended by the establishment of six regional training centres in the near future. Side by side, short term in-service or orientation courses for doctors, social workers and health visitors, who are already engaged in the work, are also being organised at different places in different States. In the family planning programme, as in some others, the lack of trained personnel constitute the bottle-

neck and every effort is, therefore, being made to clear that bottleneck as quickly as possible by increasing the number of training centres and by providing stipends for those undergoing the training, on the understanding that, after completing the training, they would serve the State Government, local board or voluntary organisation as the case may be, for a period of at least three years.

Of equal need is the carrying out of further studies in population trends and research work on better and effective contraceptives, which would be suitable for use by different sections and income groups in the country. The demographic studies programme, which is also being pursued, aims at obtaining reasonably correct estimates of fertility and mortality rates and studying the long-range effects of family planning on the quality of population.

Two Demographic Centres have been started and are functioning — one at Bombay in collaboration with the Dorabji Tata Trust, which will also function as a regional centre of the United Nations, and the other in Delhi under the auspices of the Delhi University.

The family planning programme, it will be seen, is an integrated and co-ordinated programme, and is being executed in a planned and systematic manner. It is realised that without such implementation, results achieved in one sphere and progress made in one respect or in one sphere of the family planning programme, will be in danger of being countervailed by lapses and failures or lack of progress in respect of others.

Family Planning, it has been said, is an essential programme in the wider context of national development and economic progress of the country. An important way of looking at it is to consider it as the hard core around which other programmes for promoting the socio-economic well-being of the community and improving the standards of public health in the country as a whole, could be built up. Family planning will assume then the form of a vital aspect of community welfare in the real sense of the term. In an increasing measure this objective will be achieved as family planning work becomes an integral part of the work done at primary health centres in the rural areas. It will incidentally become an important programme in raising the general standards of living of the people and a part of the overall plan for progress and prosperity.

Wealth Tax and Expenditure Tax

BY

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IN the field of direct taxation, 1957-58 budget, by introducing wealth tax and expenditure tax, will have far-reaching effects on the economy. An annual tax on wealth, and expenditure along with income tax and capital gains tax now constitute an integrated system of direct taxation in India. The Taxation Enquiry Commission while giving 'a clean bill of health' to wealth tax, dropped

it from its bunch of proposals on the grounds of administrative difficulties. In March, 1956, Prof. Kaldor, the noted Cambridge economist, who was invited by the Government of India to investigate our tax structure in view of the revenue requirements of the II Five-year Plan, in his Report on Indian Tax Reform, recom-

* This article was written before the introduction of 1958-59 budget.

mended the levy of wealth tax, expenditure tax, gift tax and capital gains tax in addition to income tax. While wealth tax in some form or other already exists in West Germany, Norway, Sweden and Finland, Expenditure tax has not so far been tried in any country.

An integrated system of direct taxation has the advantage of removing 'inconsistencies' and 'loopholes' of income tax by bringing within its scope all types of gains and wealth which go untaxed in its absence. Integrated tax system is of evasion proof nature. An entry in one transaction may cast doubts on another entry. Any statement reducing the tax liability of an individual will simultaneously have the effect of increasing tax liability of another. Such a reform in the Indian tax structure was long over-due. The exigencies of finding resources for the II Plan led to the broad-basing of our tax structure.

In a developing economy, in the absence of special measures, inequalities of wealth are likely to increase. The objectives underlying the imposition of these two taxes are (a) reduction in inequalities in incomes (b) making our direct tax structure an integrated one. (c) checking loopholes for tax avoidance. (d) curbing conspicuous and non-functional consumption. Progressive income tax alone cannot achieve redistribution of wealth. As Kaldor points out "In the U.K., though the combined income and surtax rates for the last 15 years have exceeded 90% in the top brackets and estate duties reached a maximum of 80%, vast fortunes are still being made, and the degree of concentration in the ownership of wealth.....has not been reduced." It is this recognition of the failure of income tax to lessen inequalities that led Prof. Kaldor to recommend a tax on wealth, a tax on capital gains, a personal expenditure tax and a gift tax.

An integrated tax system of direct taxation must strike a balance between the two conflicting claims of reducing inequalities and increase in production and investment. The

overall burden of taxes constituting the integrated system should not act as a disincentive to work, save and invest and should not impair the productive efficiency of the community. Administrative efficiency is another test by which we can judge this system. Prof. Kaldor's most important pre-requisite to the introduction of wealth and expenditure taxes, that the maximum rate of income tax should not exceed 45% as against the present 92%, has been neglected. Prof. Kaldor's other recommendation is that wealth tax should be extended to agricultural properties by amending the constitution to make it comprehensive and general. Partial implementation of Prof. Kaldor's recommendations will make our tax structure 'inequitable and unjustifiable.' While wealth tax is justified on the grounds of 'equity, revenue, earning capacity and administrative efficiency of the tax,' expenditure tax is justified on the grounds of curbing conspicuous consumption and saving of unproductive expenditure.

Wealth tax is an annual tax payable on the entire wealth of an individual, undivided Hindu families and companies, irrespective of the income-tax it is a recurring tax, with the fundamental difference that while former is levied on annual income, the latter is levied on total assets owned by a person. The tax has come into force from 1st April, 57, and the first assessment is made from the valuation year 1957-58 on the basis of previous year ended 31st March, 57. All assets of an Indian national, whether within the country or outside the country, are chargeable to wealth tax. But in the case of foreign individuals and companies, only that part of wealth will be subjected to tax that will be in India. The valuation of the property will be made by the Wealth Tax Officer on the valuation date on the basis of what that property will fetch on that date. Dr. Kaldor suggested, "the best method to follow is according to the normal accounting rules i.e., to value each particular item of property at its 'book value'

until it is sold." Exemption limits in the case of individuals, undivided Hindu Families and companies is 2 lakhs, 4 lakhs and 5 lakhs Rs. respectively. The rates of tax vary from $\frac{1}{2}\%$ to $1\frac{1}{2}\%$ as against Kaldor's recommendation of $\frac{1}{3}$ to $1\frac{1}{2}\%$.

Certain items of property will not be included in the net wealth. These include, property held under trust, interest in coparcenary property; agricultural land; growing crops; livestock, tools, implements for raising agricultural crops; jewellery to the extent of Rs. 25,000; tools & implements to the extent of Rs. 20,000, shares held by one company in another. The Act gives tax holiday to certain industrial undertakings for a period of five years. Banking and insurance companies, financial corporations and shipping companies are exempted from the payment of this tax. Prof. Kaldor suggested the imposition of this tax only on individuals and not on companies, but agricultural property to be included.

The tax would be payable nearly by 26,000 individuals 4,000 Hindu undivided families and 6,000 companies. The yield expected from this tax which was originally put at Rs. 15 crores has now been put at about 7 crores. The estimated cost of collection of this tax is put at about Rs. 40 lakhs.

While Shri T. T. Krishnamachari the then Finance Minister claimed that this tax "would contribute towards the more effective taxation of richer classes without diminishing incentives to earn"; the business community regards this "a confiscatory and ill-conceived measure," that will do more harm than good.

The wealth tax may be criticised on the following grounds; (a) It makes no distinction between productive and unproductive wealth. This may have a good effect also by giving incentive to invest in productive assets. (b) In the case of companies it amounts to double taxation. (c) A part of wealth tax on companies may be passed on to consumers, thereby defeating the very purpose of its imposition (d) It will open the way for corruption, as the

Act gives wide powers of valuation to the Wealth Tax Officers. The greatest difficulty would be in the field of valuation of property in view of the present defective municipal records of urban property. So far as shares and debentures are concerned, stock exchange quotations can serve the purpose. The major difficulty would be with regard to the valuation of individual assets. The Colwyn Committee in 1926 did not favour such a tax, as it regarded its valuation not 'worth the while.' Mrs. Hicks in her evidence before the same committee was also "sceptical about the prospects of the initial valuation." In our country, where we have local property taxes, estate duty, and taxes on property, expenditure incurred would be 'worth the while.' The Local Finance Enquiry Committee also favoured the creation of a Central Valuation Organisation. Once the task of initial valuation is complete, subsequent revaluation at regular intervals should prove less formidable.

About the disincentive effect of wealth tax, economists like Hicks and Pigou are of the view that a tax-payer would try to meet this charge by reducing as far as possible his correct consumption expenditure. The proportion in which the tax-payer would divide his liability between consumption and wealth would depend upon his elasticity of demand for the two. "A recurrent tax based on capital exercises a decidedly less deleterious effect on the incentive to invest than does a tax on income...Capital tax impringes on investment incentive only to the extent the income expected from investment is intended for accumulation and not for current consumption." Similar views are held by Prof. J. R. Hicks, "It is possible that a capital tax might have a less discouraging effect on enterprise than an income tax with an equivalent yield." Mr. Kalecki in his Economics of Full Employment has suggested the imposition of annual wealth tax as a substitute for income tax at the stage where it exerts an inhibitory effect on invest-

ment. Thus all authorities on public finance agree that wealth tax does not act as disincentive provided the rates of income tax for higher brackets are low. In India revenue consideration weighed heavily against lowering the rates of income tax.

India is the first country to impose this tax. Prof. Kaldor advocated this tax for his own country in the place of income tax but the proposal was turned down by the British Government. In India like the wealth tax, this tax will supplement and not replace income tax. The tax also forms a part of the integrated system of direct taxation in India. It would be payable by individuals and Hindu undivided families and not by companies, firms and association of persons. All expenditure of Indian nationals above the exemption limit incurred whether in India or outside India would be subject to expenditure tax. Expenditure has been defined, "as the aggregate of all sums in money or money's worth spent or disbursed by an assessee." Certain amounts which are not spent by the assessee but by their employers or friends on their behalf would be included in taxable expenditure.

Like the wealth tax, certain exemptions have been allowed from the expenditure. Capital expenditure on purchase of jewellery, ornaments, furniture, household goods and cars is spread over a period of five years and only one-fifth thereof will be included in the taxable expenditure of one year. Some allowance has been given to those who have dependents. Other items to be deducted from taxable expenditure are business expenses, expenditure on immovable property, investment in deposits, loans, shares and securities, repayment of borrowed money, life insurance premium, contribution to provident fund, duties and taxes paid to the state, expenditure on the marriage of any dependent upto Rs. 5,000 for each; books and medicines to a limit etc. No expenditure tax is payable by any person in respect

of an assessment year if his total income assessable to income tax does not exceed Rs. 36,000.

The then Finance Minister regarded this tax "as a potent instrument for restraining ostentatious expenditure and for promoting savings." Revenue is only the secondary consideration. Prof. Kaldor also stated that, "A tax on expenditure is a most potent weapon for inducing economies in personal expenditure among the well-to-do..... Luxury consumption is in fact the only part of the national expenditure that could be compressed for the sake of releasing resources for a higher rate of capital formation and a graduated progressive tax on personal expenditure is undoubtedly the ideal instrument for attaining this end." But as the tax will be payable only by about 6,000 assesseees, the evil of dowry system, unproductive expenditure on marriages, festivals and funerals cannot be checked, as middle class families among whom such evils are too common, do not come under the scope of this tax. Moreover, propensity to consume in the case of higher income groups who would be liable to pay this tax, is already low.

As in the case of wealth tax so in this case also Prof. Kaldor recommended lowering of income tax rate for higher income brackets. Prof. Kaldor remarked in this context, "In the present context of India, it would not be practicable to impose expenditure tax on the top of present taxes on income." But a lowering of tax on incomes would have meant a substantial loss to the exchequer.

The greatest advantage of wealth tax and expenditure tax claimed by their exponent is their self-checking character. The chances of concealment becomes less. A gift tax as suggested by Kaldor does not form a part of the integrated tax structure. It is possible a part of wealth may be transferred in the form of gift to lower income groups in return for meeting a part of tax-payer's expenses. Apart

from this evasion, the two taxes will cause great harassment to the assessee as they would be required to submit long statements of their wealth and expenses. This amounts to interference in personal liberty.

After having examined the salient features and the pros and cons of the two taxes, it may be concluded that while such taxes are neces-

sary to make our direct tax system integrated, at the same time it may be recommended that the rates of income taxes should be so adjusted as to provide incentive for investment and saving. The great need of the hour is more production. The 'carrot' and the 'stick' should be very carefully used by the Finance Ministers.

East - West Trade

By

Mr. RADOS STAMENKOVIC

THE last meeting of the Trade Committee of the European Economic Commission revealed several encouraging tendencies in the development of trade relations between the East and West European countries. This, however, is a field in which sensational changes cannot be expected to take place in a single day. For even if we leave aside the political aspect of the problem, which has been influencing the economic relations between the two European regions since the war, there are other elements which would make such sudden changes impossible even in a much more favourable atmosphere. The process of industrialization in the East European countries, which determined their post-war economic policy, could not but affect the structure of their foreign trade and introduce certain changes in it. If we bear in mind that this process of industrialization was an integral part of the development of a new social order, it becomes clear that these changes, some of which would in any case have been caused by industrialization alone, in these circumstances assumed a more important and specific character.

There is no need to emphasize that bloc conceptions have been responsible for the drastic reduction of trade between the Eastern and Western parts of our continent; and neither is there any need to emphasize that

this reduction in trade harms the economic development of Europe, as well as her economy. These are well-known facts, and we do not propose to dwell on them. It must be stressed however that the process of normalizing trade relations between Eastern and Western Europe must, by its nature, be a long one, that it necessitates planned actions to tackle, not only one but many aspects of the problem. The two areas have been living without considerable contracts for too long. The structure of their production, particularly that of the East, has changed considerably since pre-war times. The trade before the war, when the Eastern countries practically exported only agricultural products and the West industrial goods, would no longer correspond to the existing conditions. Both regions have developed their regional organizations with specific institutions and rules of conduct. And at present there are no contacts between these organizations—no machinery which could lead to general European co-operation. It is understandable therefore that in the improvement of East-West trade progress must be gradual, and that every action which contributes to this progress, however little, must be supported.

In view of all this, the 20% increase in East-west trade (reckoned by its value) which was recorded in 1956 was a step forward in the development of economic relations between

the two regions, the more so since data released by the European Economic Commission show that the rate of export increases in both regions was almost the same. The problem of balancing trade, which was acute in the previous years, was not so sharp last year. And although no final trade figures for the last year have been issued, the available data show that the expansion of trade, started last year, is continuing at a somewhat quicker pace.

The articles exported by the East European countries were more varied than earlier. The traditional articles of export—grain, coal and timber—which once accounted for more than half of the total volume of export from these countries, made up only one-third of this volume in 1956. This was partially due to decreases in the export of these commodities, but mostly to changes in the structure of production. The effects of industrialization are also beginning to be felt in foreign trade.

Industrial articles exported by Eastern Europe last year were mostly machines and motor vehicles. It is interesting to note that cars made in Czechoslovakia and Eastern Germany are successfully marketed in the West European markets, including those of such highly developed countries as Sweden, Holland, and Western Germany. Naturally, cars exported from these two countries make up only a small percentage of the number of cars imported by Western Europe, but the figures are not insignificant. And this shows that the ability of the East European countries to compete with other countries has increased.

The efforts which are being made in the East European countries to decentralize economic administration may prove to be of decisive importance for the expansion of trade between the East and West. In Poland, for instance, the relationship between decentralization and endeavours to expand trade is evident. The decentralization of the commercial machinery consists of granting greater autonomy to trading enterprises in relations with foreign countries and to set aside a certain percentage

of the funds earned by exports to the East European countries for purchase of goods and raw materials in Western Europe. As the quarterly bulletin of the European Economic Commission states, Poland has not renewed her triangular trade agreement with Finland and the Soviet Union, under which Poland imported goods from the Soviet Union and paid for them by funds she earned by exporting products to Finland. From now on Finland will pay for her imports from Poland in pounds sterling, and this will enable Poland to increase her purchases in Western Europe. Besides this, Poland—with her trade agreements with the West European countries—is endeavouring to increase the export of articles which are paid for in sterling, so as to be able to import a greater variety of goods.

For the time being it is difficult to say anything definite about the effects of economic decentralization in the Soviet Union. This does not affect her foreign trade machinery, which is functioning as before. But as decentralization in general changes the distribution of production and increases the effectiveness of production enterprises, it may act as a stimulus for devoting greater attention to the benefits to be derived from a wider international division of labour. It may be presumed that the new territorial division of Soviet industry will encourage the frontier regions to think about the advantages of developing trade relations with foreign countries, since in some cases such relations may prove more profitable than trading with far-off centres or the markets in the country itself.

In the West European countries, too, there have been signs to show that they are ready to expand their trade with Eastern Europe. First of all, a certain number of countries have lately eased controls affecting trade with the East, at the same time taking other steps which make it possible for the East European countries to market more of their produce in the West. Particularly interesting are the payment facilities granted by Western Germany

and Italy to their East European trading partners—facilities which may be an encouragement to other countries as well. Western Germany offers the Bekomark, which is convertible in certain areas, to all East European countries except Eastern Germany, with which she trades on the basis of bilateral clearings. At the beginning of this year Italy, too, declared her intention of introducing the convertibility of the lira, in order gradually to replace her clearing arrangements with the East European countries. The first step in their direction was the new trade and, payment agreements with Eastern Germany which should be the model for trade relations with other countries.

Finally, no one should disregard the procedure of multilateral compensations within the European Economic Commission, which started functioning last year. This is a simple process, based on the voluntary actions of interesting trading partners, and not on any agreement. And it is in this that its value lies, since it does not bind any one to anything, but makes it possible to transfer funds earned in bilateral trade to other partners. By itself, this machinery cannot solve the problem of accounts between the East and West European countries, which is a formidable obstruction to the development of their mutual

trade. But in view of the new possibility of using the convertible mark and the lira, as well as the pound sterling, multilateral compensations within the European Economic Commission constitute an important instrument in facilitating payments between the two European regions.

Today one of the greatest obstacles to the normalization of economic relations between East and West is the lack of contacts between the two chief regional (or sub-regional, to be more correct) organizations—the Organization for European Economic Co-operation and the Council for Economic Assistance. These two organizations are exclusive, and this is what prevents a general European approach to a number of problems which are more or less common to both regions. Contacts between the Organization for European Economic Co-operation and the Council for Economic Commission, could lead to important changes in the economic relations between East and West, and so usher in a new period in European co-operation. Naturally, political considerations play an important role in this too, but many facts recorded in the last few years permit us to come to the encouraging conclusion that economic matters are now being approached in a more sensible way on both sides of the Continent.

Banking Facilities in India

By

Sri R. B. MATHUR

THE Economic Development of a country is judged by the Banking and financial structure of a country. Banks are the distributors of money and the more sound the Banking structure, the healthier is the economy of a country. Indian Banks have at present earned a very high reputation both in India and abroad in spite of the fact that they had to face many difficulties. Some of our Banks

have come most successful out of many jerks and jolts of the country's social, political and economic revolutions. It was the great zeal and courage and patronage of the pioneers of the Banking industry in India which has led to the present day progress of the Banking Industry.

Despite this progress, India is still the most under-developed country of the world so far

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as Banking industry is concerned. The number of Banks here is very small as compared with the size and population of the country. Branch Banking is also not properly developed. Whatever the number of Banks and branches there are, they exist in the bigger towns to cater for the commercial requirements of big commercial centres. The following figures give the number of Banking offices in India per million of population during the years 1950 to 1955 :—

1950	14.4
1951	14.0
1952	13.4
1953	13.3
1954	13.3
1955	13.6

These figures are very poor and inadequate as compared with the number of Banking offices in other progressive countries of the world. The corresponding number of Banking offices in the U.S.A. is 127 and the U.K. is 230 per million of population whereas it is only 13 in India.

A study of Branch Banking in India reveals that the total number of branches in the country of the Scheduled and non-scheduled Banks was 3959 in 1955 out of which the scheduled banks accounted for 2791 whereas the non-scheduled Banks accounted for 1168 branches. This expansion of branch banking is more concentrated to particular areas whereas the other areas are practically lacking in banking facilities. Thus out of 3959 branches in the country, Madras, Bombay, West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab and Travancore Cochin in all were having 2660 offices or nearly 67% of the total. This clearly shows that there is a wide scope for the growth of Banks in other states of India.

If we study the figures of total deposits of Banks in India including those of the State Bank of India, we cannot be very happy about the position. The following table compares the growth of total deposits of Banks and the notes issued in India during 1951-56.

In crores of Rupees.

	Notes issued in India : Average	Total of deposits of Banks- Average
	Total	
1951-52	1189.84	804.55
1952-53	1148.41	855.49
1953-54	1133.95	855.00
1954-55	1197.06	911.55
1955-56	1350.00	1016.59

It is evident from the above Table that there is a wide gap between the Note issue and the amount deposited in Banks. In the U.K. the deposits of Banks are many times higher than the amount of currency in circulation. In June 1956, the deposits of Bank of England were £ 6000/- million against the currency in circulation of about £ 1800/- million. Similarly in the Federal Republic of Germany the deposits of Banks in July 1956 amounted to 56556 million D.M. as against the currency in circulation of 14000 million D.M.

Apart from the above deficiencies in the number of offices and branches and lack of deposits, the services rendered by Banks in India hardly cater for about 3% of the country's Commercial and Industrial needs. The type of Banks mostly operating in India are the Joint Stock Banks mainly confining their functions to financing of the trade and commercial requirements for short periods. The Industrial type of Banks which are common in European countries are altogether absent in India and the long term needs of industry have never been financed by Banks in India. In other words one of the causes, among other things, of the Industrial backwardness of India, has been the lack of long term finance for Industry which function could not be undertaken by Private Banking Institutions (Profit being their main motto) because of the risks involved and time taken for repayment of such loans.

After the announcement of the Industrial Policy statement of 1948, more and more need was felt for institutions which could finance the long term requirements of new industries during the initial periods of installation of

machinery and erection of factory sites. Such functions could be undertaken only by some State body and hence the Industrial Finance Corporation was formed in 1949. After the Industrial Finance Corporation, a number of financial institutions have come into being and these are the National Industrial Development Corporation, The Industrial Credit and Investment Corporation and the State Financial Corporations.

In spite of the establishment of these institutions the problem has not been completely solved firstly because of the lack of experience and secondly because of the fact that these institutions aim at helping the big industries. As is wellknown the big industries are very few in India. What is required is the development of medium sized industries which can be undertaken by pioneers of moderate means.

India is passing through a critical period of its 2nd Five Year Plan. Lack of resources internal and external and the unhealthy and the contradictory economic policies pursued recently have created a bad atmosphere in the money market. An idea of the lack of resources as compared to the growing demand, can be had from the fact that between November 1955 and November 1956 the deposits of the Scheduled Banks went up from Rs. 1016 crores to Rs. 1109 crores *i.e.*, by about 93 crores but their advances in India including bills discounted went up from 597 crores to Rs. 761 crores *i.e.*, by Rs. 164 crores which is nearly twice the amount of increase in deposits. While the above figures indicate the inability of Banks to meet the demand for advances, the Index number of Industrial production and the general Index number of wholesale prices indicate increases of 49% and 17% respectively which indicates a rising tempo of economic activity and these facts bear that the demand for credit is bound to increase.

In order to meet the increasing demand for loans the basic fact is that Bank deposits must increase and for this there should be a sound economic policy of the Government—A policy

which takes cognisance of the fact that Banking is not a separate subject but is correlated with allied subjects like currency, investment, Balance of Payments, taxes, labour, wages etc. A change in any one of these can affect the other. The main thing is that our Government should change their attitude towards investments, money and credit so that there should be maximum contributions to the economic progress from these directions. The Reserve Bank of India should follow a liberal policy of lending to commercial Banks at a low cost and should try to solve the credit difficulties.

Money in India is highly diffused and scattered among hundreds and thousands of villages and money lenders who are not connected with the organized money market because there are no means of communications. The State Bank of India must take up this expansion of their offices in the remote parts of India irrespective of the cost because a well-knit structure of Banking offices will not only place the hidden money in the hands of the Banks but will also create new industries in villages. Not only this, money will be more mobile because of the remittance facilities. Money and savings are encouraged not by laws and regulations but by a proper atmosphere for their investments and by inducements. Some proper Committee should examine the question of development of Banking offices on proper lines and it should be the task of such committee not to ignore the basic fact that persuasion and not coercion is the best method of attracting deposits. The depositors of money should be protected properly. The Government should also encourage the other commercial Banks to open new branches by a proper inducement, incentive and assurance in the initial period of at least five-years from the date of establishment of a new office of some relief in the establishment expenses. The village Mahajan or Bania should be given a befitting treatment and if possible he should be given the task of acting as an Agent to

attract the diffused money on some lucrative terms. Thus the link between the banks and the villagers can be established through the village Mahajan.

Apart from the above, a definite Plan must be framed by the Reserve Bank of India to go into the various aspects of our Banking and credit structure with a view to familiarise the popularity and use of Banking habits among the masses and also to remove the obstacles experienced at present by a Banking institutions in practical working. First of all, the complexities and difficulties experienced by Banks in their day to day work due to the complex and ever changing Regulations promulgated from time to time, a complete knowledge of which is very rare, affects the progress of the Banking industry. In India the Banks have to follow at present not only the usual laws of contracts and Negotiable Instruments, but also to conform to the various clauses of the Indian Company's Act, the Banking Company's Act, The Exchange Control Regulations and the Foreign Exchange Act etc. A good deal of time is spent in conforming to these requirements whereas in other countries, although laws are there, they are not so many. The Government should simplify these laws in consultation with the Reserve Bank of India who should most seriously get the correct views of the various Banks in the country.

Secondly, there is a feeling at present among the Commercial Banks of the country that the Government is following a policy of discrimination towards them *vis-a-vis* the State Bank. While every encouragement should be given to the State Bank in its development programme, any action to subsidise the State Bank at the expense of the other Banks may lead to disincentives and at a time when the entire Banks of the country should contribute to the progress of our Five-year Plan, any discrimination may lead to unhealthy results. Moreover, a fair competition among the Banks will not only

remove inefficiencies of working but also tend to minimise the cost to the public. In a healthy spirit of patronage the Reserve Bank should evolve a scheme whereby more and more use can be made by the other commercial banks of the various branches of the State Bank for facilities of free flow of funds from one centre to the other.

Thirdly, it is thought by some responsible quarters that the Reserve Bank should take a keen interest in the development of Banking and Credit Institution in the country. Initially the Central Banking Institution of a country is expected to work not with a profit motive but with the more important task of developing and coordinating the activities of other institutions who work on a profit basis. It is thought that the huge profit that the Reserve Bank is making is at the cost of the Banking Industry of the country. According to the latest report the profit of the Reserve Bank amounted to more than Rs. 36 crores. If a part of this is earmarked for developmental work, the country can expect to have more banking institutions. Some money can be spent on a properly organised publicity by the Reserve Bank to familiarise the use of Banking habits among the public.

In order to give a concrete shape to the above suggestions, it is suggested that a high powered Banking Commission should immediately be appointed to go into the various details of all questions relating to the Indian Banking structure and the various deficiencies in the country's credit institutions as compared to the growing requirements. The last Banking Enquiry Commission was appointed about 25 years ago and in view of the various developments in the country and in view of the increasing role that the Banks are expected to play in the implementation of the plan, it is time this question should immediately be taken up.

The Scheduled Tribes in Andhra Desh

By

Mr. AMIT KUMAR NAG

THE integration of the backward population as an organic part of the Indian nation is a compelling problem of the day. Driven by man, or by circumstances into the hills and the backwoods and the Malaria belt, the tribal population—rather their amelioration—presents a challenge to the administrator, educationist and politician.

In recent years, especially, after we have given ourselves a Constitution which provides for special treatment to the backward people and lays great emphasis on the welfare of the Scheduled Tribes, much attention has been paid to them.

The literature and customs of the tribal population of Hyderabad have been enriched by Baron Christoph von Furer-Haimendorf's excellent pioneering and anthropological works in his capacity as the Anthropological Adviser to the H.E.H. the Nizam and those areas have already to their credit a programme of Welfare schemes. The Government of undivided Madras appointed in 1950 a Special Agency Development Officer with a team of experts, who undertook a survey of the Scheduled Areas and drew up a plan for their development and amelioration.

The main characteristics, which are common to all the Scheduled Tribes are segregation and isolation, habitation in remote and less accessible areas, out in the hills and forests, primitive way of living, belief in sorcery and black magic, nomadic habits, love for drink and dance, wealth of ancient culture and dialects and tribal integrity. They are very poor and their standard of living is deplorably low. What they produce is not sufficient even for a few months, they eat all sorts of un-wholesome food like mango kernels, bamboo shoots; bitter roots, tamarind seeds, etc. In general, the tribals are exploited by the plains merchants to whom they are always

indebted. They are primitive in their methods of cultivation and cattle-breeding. They are subject to constant attack of malaria and Yaws. Small wonder, therefore, that the tribals are economically, socially, culturally and educationally primitive.

The Scheduled Tribes of Andhra Pradesh may be classified into the following four categories.

(i) *Tribal Communities.* Tribals, who confine themselves to original forest habitats and are still distinctive in their pattern of life. The main characteristics of this category are (a) shifting cultivation, (b) hunting, and (c) bachelors' dormitories.

(ii) *Semi-Tribal Communities.* Tribal people who are more or less (a) settling down or (b) settled down in plains areas taking to agriculture and other allied occupations, primitive agriculture included.

(iii) *Acculturated Tribal Communities.* Tribals who have migrated to urban or semi-urban and rural areas and are engaged in civilised occupations in agriculture and other vocations and who have discriminately adopted traits and culture of the other population of the country.

(iv) *Totally Assimilated Tribals.* Those that do not fall in the first three categories.

Scheduled areas of Andhra. The extent of the Scheduled Areas notified by the Scheduled Areas (Part A State) Order, 1950, has been amended by the issue of the Madras Scheduled Areas (Cesser) Orders, 1950, 1951 and 1955. After excluding such portions notified as Non-Scheduled Areas, the net extent of the Agency areas in the Andhra Region covering five complete taluqs and portions of seven taluqs in the four Districts of Srikakulam, Vishakhapatnam, East Godavari and West Godavari, is 4811.67 square miles. There are 26 main tribes, including 3 ex-Criminal tribes (now

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THE SCHEDULED TRIBES IN ANDHRA DESH

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known as Vimuktajathis) in the Andhra Region. Similarly, there are about 10 main tribes in the Hyderabad region.

The following are the details of the ameliorative schemes undertaken in the State and the targets achieved during the First Five-year Plan period.

Education. Being primitive and illiterate, the tribal people are reluctant to send their children to schools. There are 423 Elementary Schools, 15 Higher Elementary Schools and 2 Secondary Schools catering to the needs of 19,500 pupils in the four Agency Districts of the Andhra region. There are also 20 Elementary Schools and 1 Higher Elementary School for the Chenchus in Kurnool District.

In order to attract school-going tribal children to attend schools, midday meals, clothing and book allowance, full fee concessions and scholarships are granted. 14 Boarding Houses and 7 subsidised Hostels have been opened under the First Five-year Plan.

There are also arrangements for imparting training to tribal candidates.

Cultivation and Occupation. The tribals are accustomed to "podu" or shifting cultivation, which is wasteful. In order to preserve Forest growth which has great national importance and also to settle the tribals by inducing them to adopt improved methods of permanent cultivation, the following development schemes were started in the State during the first Five-year Plan period.

1. Improvement of Agricultural facilities in Seethampeta and Gummalaxmipuram areas of Srikakulam District: two Agricultural seed supplying Depots were opened with necessary field staff to give advice to tribal cultivators on improved methods of agriculture.

2. Reclamation of 250 acres of land belonging to the members of the Agricultural Association at Sarabhannapalam, Visakhapatnam District: this was done to help the poor hillmen of the Agency tracts.

3. Opening of Demonstration-cum-exploratory Farm at Rampachodavaram for fostering horticulture in tribal areas.

4. Training of Hillmen for carrying propaganda activities under the Department of Agriculture.

5. Development of pisciculture in tribal areas with a view to providing a supplementary source of wholesome food.

Animal Husbandry. The cattle wealth in the Andhra tribal areas is poor, though plenty of pasture is available. For intensifying agricultural operations through cattle of good breed and to prevent cattle diseases, various schemes were sanctioned and implemented under the First Plan.

Similarly steps have been taken to develop poultry, livestock and veterinary services in the tribal areas.

Other measures. Ambitious schemes have been implemented to improve medical and public health services and communications in the areas inhabited by the tribal people.

The tribals have no protected drinking water supply and they are habituated to use water from streams and stagnated pools. A ten year programme was therefore drawn up to provide drinking water wells to cater to the needs of the entire tribal population. The programme was started in the year 1951-52 and 115 wells were sunk during the First Plan period at a total cost of Rs. 3.68 lakhs out of which half the cost was borne by the Union Government as grant-in-aid.

Araku Valley Colonisation. The Araku valley 2 miles in width and 7 miles in length is in the Agency tract of Visakhapatnam District. It has an altitude of 2,500 to 3,000 feet above sea level.

The scheme on which Rs. 10.54 lakhs was spent from the State Fund during the First Plan period, has three main objectives—(a) eradication of Malaria; (b) protection of the rights of the tribals and improvement of their social, economic and cultural conditions. (c) improvement of methods of cultivation.

Land Colonisation. The object of the scheme was to wean the tribals from the practice of shifting cultivation and settle them in agricultural life with the necessary facilities.

Four land colonisation schemes, namely, (i) Gannavaram, (ii). Pochavaram, (iii). Aminabad in East Godavari District and (iv). Jeelugumilli in West Godavari District were sanctioned in 1952- 3 on the recommendation of the Special Agency Development Officer and the Board of Revenue. The schemes were taken up from the year 1953-54 onwards.

Co-operation. In order to improve the economic condition of the Scheduled Tribes and to save them from the vagaries of merchants, traders and money-lenders from the plains, co-operative societies have been started in the Agency areas.

The object in starting these societies is mainly to improve the economic conditions and sale of hill produce and supply of requirements, including domestic requirements, to hill people through these societies.

The following societies and stores were started in the Agency areas under the supervision of the Co-operative Department.

(i) Co-operative stores in East Godavari District.

(ii) Co-operative stores in Addatheegala-Yellavaram Agency.

(iii) Co-operative stores in Polavaram Agency, West Godavari.

The tribals were supplied with domestic requirements costing upto Rs. 9.07 lakhs during the First Plan period.

Women Welfare. The main object of the scheme is to promote family and community welfare with preventive and rehabilitation services among the women folk of the tribal areas. Six women welfare centres were started. Women are taught healthy modes of living and clean habits besides making them learn domestic economy and to utilise their leisure gainfully. Adult literacy classes were held by the organisers during which the women folk were also taught various handicrafts like tailoring, dress making, embroidery, spinning, etc.

Due attention was also given to maternity and child welfare services.

Andhra scheduled tribes finance & development co-operation corporation: The object of the Corporation is to prevent the exploitation of the tribal people by the plainsmen, to provide them with credit facilities to procure and supply them their requirements and to arrange for the marketing of their produce.

Prior to the sanctioning of the Corporation, the Government of India sanctioned an amount of Rs. 3 lakhs for construction of godowns and garages and for purchase of Vehicles as a preliminary step for starting the Corporation.

Tuberculosis Control in India

By

DR. P. V. BENJAMIN

IN recent years there has been a marked change in the outlook on tuberculosis. From being dreaded as an incurable or only partially controllable disease, it can now be considered as a disease with good prospects of cure and control. Years ago, the method for dealing with the disease was costly and the progress long drawn-out.

In most of the western countries the death rate from tuberculosis has dropped down to

more or less insignificant figures; rates which varied from about 100 to 200 about fifty years ago have now come down to about 4 to 20 per 100,000 population. There are several reasons for this spectacular change. Better standards of life and adoption of improved and rational public health methods have played a vital role in this matter. Facilities for the diagnosis and treatment of the tuberculosis have also undergone rapid improvement. In more recent

years the discovery and use of anti-bacterial drugs have revolutionised old methods of the treatment of tuberculosis. We also have clearer knowledge as to how specific resistance to tuberculosis can be developed and increased to prevent its inroad and spread.

In India the tuberculosis problem today is almost the same as it was in many of the developed countries some fifty years ago. We are now in a better position than they were then to deal with the problem, as we have the advantage of drawing on the accumulated knowledge and experience of those countries. For example, we can apply specific measures such as B.C.G. vaccination for prevention and the new drugs for treatment and possibly for prevention also. These factors have been taken into consideration in planning anti-tuberculosis schemes for India.

Though public health and medical relief are the responsibilities of State Governments, the Union Ministry of Health has in its Health Directorate, sections whose functions are mainly to advise, stimulate and co-ordinate health measures in the country as a whole, and there is a section for tuberculosis also. The Central Government has now taken up tuberculosis as one that needs to be dealt with on a national basis in the same way as it does with malaria. In this it helps the States to initiate certain schemes and gives financial and other assistance to implement them. The tuberculosis schemes included in this national programme are:

1. Intensification of the BCG Vaccination programme so as to complete the first round coverage of the entire susceptible population in the country (170 million) by 1961.
2. Establishment of about 200 new clinics.
3. Establishment of about 10 additional Training Centres in association with the medical colleges existing in the States.
4. Establishment of at least 10,000 additional beds for isolation and treatment of persons from over-crowded houses.

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5. Establishment of eight work centres for rehabilitation of ex-TB patients.

6. Expansion of research.

One of the most important items in this programme for which the Central Government is giving substantial assistance is the mass BCG Vaccination Campaign. This vaccination was introduced in India in 1948 on a small scale and extended a year later to include organised groups such as school children, factory workers, etc., in the larger towns of the country. It was, however, realised that if this programme was confined only to certain groups in urban areas it would protect only a small proportion of the susceptible population and will not materially reduce the incidence of tuberculosis in the country as a whole.

A programme was, therefore, chalked out to protect all susceptible population in the country by this vaccination. Attention was directed specially to people below the age of 20 estimated at about 170 millions. This entailed expansion of the campaign on a mass scale. This was done in 1951 and is now being carried out in all States. Upto the end of September 1957, 96,330,000 persons had been tuberculin tested and 33,796,000 vaccinated. This campaign is the largest single immunisation programme attempted by any country in the world. In India this is the first nation-wide campaign instituted against a particular disease. A remarkable achievement of this campaign is its contribution to the education of the people in matters connected with the improvement of health. Posters, pamphlets, films, filmstrips and public address equipments were extensively used for this purpose.

Associated with this campaign was the provision of a laboratory, under the control of the Government of India, for the production and distribution of the vaccine. The laboratory at Guindy, Madras, is working according to international standards and is the largest single supplier of vaccine in the world. It not

only meets the entire demand for the vaccine in India but also supplies this to Burma, Ceylon, Malaya, Thailand and Pakistan. It has produced about three million cc. of vaccine and six million cc. of tuberculin dilutions during 1955-56 and has distributed 11.5 million cc. of vaccine and 24.4 million cc. of tuberculin dilutions since its inception. In the BGG Vaccination Programme in India we have the assistance of international bodies such as U.N.I.C.E.F. and W.H.O.

A tuberculosis clinic is visualised as the central unit for the execution of programme for the control of the disease in a particular area. Its main function is to find out TB cases and deal with them in their homes by giving them the necessary treatment and advice. It has also to engage in educating the patients and their families in the methods of prevention of the disease. To serve these functions the clinics should have modern equipment and trained staff. We have today 180 clinics only in the country, but these are completely inadequate. The second Plan has provided for about 200 new clinics. While the State Governments are expected to provide the necessary buildings and staff for these clinics, the Central Government will provide for them modern X-ray outfit and laboratory equipments. The Central Government will also help in the training of the various categories of staff needed for the efficient functioning of these clinics and it is proposed to have a Central Training Institute for this purpose as well as Centres in the States for subsidiary training.

Though priority in the National Plan is given to B.C.G. vaccination and the establishment of clinics, the architects of the Plan have not been unmindful of the need for increasing the facilities for institutional treatment of tuberculous patients. We have in India today only about 23,000 beds, while we need many thousands more. Beds have to be provided by the States, but the Central Government has plans to assist the States for providing beds

for isolation and treatment of TB cases living in over-crowded and unhygienic conditions, for whom home isolation or treatment cannot be satisfactorily arranged for. The Union Government has also provided during the past two years for the care of tuberculous children in a few places and for whom little or nothing had been done so far.

Provision for the rehabilitation of patients treated and improved have also to be made. Generally almost all TB cases require some form of sheltered work after completion of treatment and these have to be provided under medical supervision. Only very few institutions exist for this purpose in India today. The National Plan has provided for about eight work centres in association with TB clinics to give training to TB patients and even for some members of their families in certain handicrafts which will enable them to earn at least part of their living.

For sometime past isolated and limited investigations on tuberculosis problems had been undertaken by individuals and institutions. The efficacy of anti-bacterial drugs in the treatment of tuberculosis and limited epidemiological surveys of groups of population for finding out the incidence of the disease were done during the last ten or fifteen years. Recently a national sample survey, the first of its kind, was undertaken by the Indian Council of Medical Research with financial assistance from the Government of India and about 200,000 persons have been X-rayed. The results show that the average prevalence rate for TB in the country varies between 0.7 to 3 per cent. A field research programme for assessing the effectiveness of anti-tuberculosis measures in the country has been in progress since 1951 in an area with a population of 60,000. Certain factors connected with BCG Vaccination such as post-vaccination allergy are also being studied. At the TB Chemotherapy Centre, Madras, the effect of various anti-biotics in

the home treatment of tuberculosis is being studied.

Since the fight against tuberculosis needs the active co-operation of the people, it is necessary that Government effort should be supplemented by voluntary work. The Tuberculosis Association of India is actively engaged in this field. It has affiliated bodies in all States. To augment funds for non-official work the Association undertakes yearly the Tuberculosis Seal Sale campaign. This campaign in addition to raising funds also helps in health education.

These are some of the main features of the

TB Control Programme in India at present. They by no means can be considered complete or adequate, but have to be augmented in coming years. While these efforts can reduce the incidence of tuberculosis in the country it is necessary to emphasise the importance of improving the standard of living and education of the people. These are, however, being attempted through the various plans now undertaken by the Government of India and the States. With these combined efforts in various fields we can confidently hope for a substantial reduction in the TB problem in the country during the next generation.

The Indian Institute of Karl-Marx University at Leipzig

BY

PROFESSOR DR. PHIL. FRIEDRICH WELLER,
Director of the Indian Institute, Leipzig

THE Indian institute at the Leipzig University, which has been in existence for about fifty years is a centre of research of Indology.

For many decades the Indian Institute had been combined with the Indo-Germanic and the Slavic Institute in the United Institutes of Philology. Only after the Second World War was this union dissolved the Indian Institute thus becoming an independent unit, taking its place on an equal footing with the other institutes of linguistics and philology, attached to the university. The courses in indology were increased in number and depth, and the study of this special branch was no longer carried through merely from the historical point of view; that means, the time when India and its ancient history was of interest only to historians, is gone. Not only the ancient India, but the India of today has become the object of research. This makes it necessary to teach modern Indian languages and, moreover, to engage in their linguistic research. Mr. Pandit

Shanti Bhikshu Shastri, from the university Shantiniketan, who is an outstanding expert in the Hindi language, is already engaged at the Indian Institute in Leipzig. There are currently a number of courses in Hindi, which are not only attended by students of indology. Furthermore, it is intended to include besides the modern Indian official languages also Tamil as the main language of the Dravidic languages in the instruction-plan. The library of the institute will be modernized and equipped with modern instruction-means, so as to be able to conclude the studies successfully.

In addition to all endeavours to give modern India her due and proper place in the Leipzig University, the classical courses in indology and research work of ancient Indian history will be further pursued. They are to give the students an idea about the cultural history of Indians, whose great achievements in the past had so enduring an influence on so large a segment of mankind.

The great extent to which the studies of Indology at the Leipzig Indian Institute have been increased and deepened is shown by a glimpse into its history: How modest were the beginnings! The first director, Professor Dr. Ernst Windisch, disposed of but scanty means for the purchase of new books. The library could scarcely call itself a library, for it contained only a handful of the most elementary dictionaries, hand-books and a few texts in Sanskrit! The bookstocks were so small that it seemed to be a sensation to the students when on the occasion of the 500th anniversary of the Leipzig university in 1908 a Leipzig publisher presented as a gift the complete series of publications of the Pali Text Society to the Indian institute!

In contrast to these early difficulties, the institute, under the management of its second director, Professor Dr. Johannes Hertel, experienced an unforeseen rapid growth. The book-stock was considerably enlarged. The individual sections of Indological literature were painstakingly filled. The Vedic literature texts were almost complete. All essential Sanskrit texts and two complete collections of the Pali-texts were at the students' disposal. Although the Prakrit was less studied at that time, the institute dealt with the collection of works in modern Indian people's languages. The initiative for this work was given by Professor Hertel, who had used for his research literature written in different Aryan-Indian people's languages, mostly of early origin. At times he also held introductory lectures in the field of Gujarati. The texts formed so to say the "backbone" of the library, but also a number of excellent dictionaries, grammar-books and scientific dissertations were available to the students. The institute currently received the most important scientific magazines. Thus the Indian Institute had become an institution that was able to perform a scientific work.

When Professor Hertel retired, the library contained some 3,000 volumes, which figure

was roughly estimated. All these valuable book-stocks and basic pre-requisites for the further extension of the institute were completely destroyed by a bomb-attack in 1943.

Since that time attempts have been made to provide the Indian Institute anew with all necessary scientific material. In spite of the difficult situation this has been achieved to a certain extent. Thankful mention should be made of the generous gift of the Baroda Oriental Institute. It presented to the Indian Institute all available volumes of the Gaekwad Oriental Series, thus creating the possibilities for a further fruitful activity of the institute. Apart from buying single books, the institute now managed, with the assistance of the university, to buy Professor Hertel's Indological library. Thus the institute disposes of a basic stock of books for studying purposes. The painful losses which the institute suffered through the war have not yet been made up for, but the institute received new, valuable books in their place. There is the prospect of obtaining in the near future a small collection of Tamilian works. This means that the institute will, for the first time since its existence dispose of a basic inventory of Dravidic literature.

Corresponding to the increased demands put to the Indian Institute, the number of teachers has considerably increased. For the first time a Pandit teaches at a German university, conveying his knowledge of grammatical literature written in Sanskrit to the German students. Most probably a teacher for Tamil and Hindi will join the teacher's staff very soon.

Through this combination of studies of ancient and modern India and the respective languages, the traditional fame of German Indology will not only be maintained, but rather be heightened. Last not least, this enlarged research work will contribute to deepening the relations between the Indian and the German people.

WORLD OF BOOKS

THE AGE OF ADVENTURE: The Renaissance Philosophers by Georgio de Santillana, Published by Houghton Mifflin in hardcover series called "The Great Ages of Western Philosophy", A Mentor Book-New American Library of World Literature, Inc., New York—Price: 50 c.

The Mentor Philosophers in this volume deal with the Renaissance Philosophers. From Nicholas of Cusa, the selection proceeds to discuss Cusanus, Leonardo da Vinci, Sir Thomas More, Machiavelli, Erasmus, Luther and Durer, Michelangelo, Copernicus, Montaigne, Paracelsus, Kepler and Boehme, Galileo, and Hakluyt. It ends with Giordano Bruno and contains a select bibliography. The peculiar unclear nature of Renaissance thought, born of conflicting emotions and of a too rich intellectual mixture is well developed in this selection.

THE AGE OF IDEOLOGY: The 19th Century Philosophers, Selected, with commentary, by Henry D. Aiken, published by Houghton Mifflin in hardcover series called "The Great Ages of Western Philosophy", The New American Library—A Mentor Book—50c.

This is another Mentor Book giving an account of the 19th century Philosophers and includes Kant, Fichte, Hegel, Schopenhauer, Comte, John Stuart Mill, Herbert Spencer, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels and Nietzsche, Kierkegaard and Ernst Mach. In both the 'Introduction' and in the 'Concluding Unscientific Postscript', Professor Aiken of Harvard attempts his own interpretation of the 19th Century as progressive from the Age of Reason of the 18th Century to the Age of Scientific Analysis of the 20th Century.

THE INTEGRAL YOGA OF SRI AUROBINDO, Part Two, by Rishabhchand, Publishers: Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry, Price Rs. 4.

This second part keeps up the excellent promise of the first part and describes the higher and lower natures and sadhana prescribed by Sri Aurobindo for their purification and metamorphosis. The difficult task before the sadhaka of retreating into the inner quiescence of his being is explained and overcome. The instructions move harmoniously towards the hour of God when the soul cleansed of weakness and hypocrisy enters a New Age with the Victory of a new Light.

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A YOGI. By Paramahansa Yogananda, with a preface by W. M. Evans Wentz, Rider & Co., London.—Price Rs. 16-10-0.

First published ten years ago the Yogi's "Autobiography" has already passed through seven editions. Translations of this extraordinary book of revelations and experiences of an authentic Hindu Yogi of undoubted spiritual vision and exemplary character have appeared in more than half-a-dozen languages. The present edition, which is the fruit of the co-operative efforts of English, American and Indian interests, is enriched with notes and explanations prepared by the Yogi himself. The Paramahansa has evidently more disciples and followers in Europe and America than even in India. His fascinating picture of a little-known phase of modern India, his vivid and at times breath-taking accounts of his master Yukteswar and other Sadhus, his colourful chapters on Gandhi and Tagore and Therese Neumann—all recorded with scientific precision, yet intensely human and fascinating have profoundly impressed western readers. Having lived for over thirty years in the west he knows how to present Indian thought to western readers and he is vastly interesting, and there is added charm in his delightful wit and easy flow of language with compelling sincerity.

THE DIVINE COLLABORATORS by Rishabhchand Publishers: Sri Aurobindo Ashram, Pondicherry,—Price: Rs. 1-4-0.

As in the case of Mrs. Besant, Madame Blavatsky, Col. Olcott and C. W. Leadbeater in respect of the Theosophical Society, Rishabhchand has analysed and described the collaboration between Sri Aurobindo and the Divine Mother. As God is always a God and a guide of the living, he has naturally closed with an emphasis on following the living Guru, the Divine Mother.

LETTER WRITING IMPROVED. By J. S. Bright, Jaico Publishing House, 7 Imperial Bank Lane, Mount Road, Madras Rs. 2.

Letter writing is a decaying art—what with our hurry, our preoccupation with business, and the increasing use of the typewriter and the habit of dictating to the stenographer. Mr. Bright offers excellent advice on how to write correctly, effectively and in a pleasing manner. There are specimen letters for all conceivable occasions. A very useful book indeed.

SEARCH FOR PURPOSE. By Arthur E. Morgan. Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. Rs. Three.

The Navajivan Publishing House has done well to acquire the right to issue an Indian edition of Mr. Morgan's thoughtful and provocative book. Mr. Morgan an Engineer and first Chairman of the Tennessey Valley Association, is not merely an international consultant on technical projects; his interests extend to problems of education and political and social philosophies. He served on the Radhakrishnan University Commission, and to him we owe the idea of a Rural University. "Search for purpose" is an inquiry into the nature and destiny of the human species, an effort to express an overall view of what he describes as "achieving a life—outlook from the view points of several fields." In what he aptly calls his "spiritual biography" Mr. Morgan records his conclusions about human life resulting from his varied experiences. "Through the years I have endeavoured to discover and define valid purpose for my life, and as such purpose has emerged I have tried to examine and test it by whatever data and insight were at my command."

INDIAN PUBLISHING

Sri K. M. MUNSHI

I am glad that G. A. Natesan & Co., Publishers of the INDIAN REVIEW, are celebrating their Diamond Jubilee. The Review is a landmark in Indian journalism, for it was one of the first English Magazines in this country which gave encouragement to many new writers.

About fifty years ago, when I first began to write for English Magazines, INDIAN REVIEW was the most prominent, if not perhaps the only English Review which had an All-India audience and was looked forward to by young men in the College for instruction and inspiration.

I am proud of my association with it. About forty-five years ago, when I scarcely knew I could write anything worth publishing, I forwarded one or two articles to its editor, never in the hope that the editor would pass it. But Mr. G. A. Natesan, the father of Indian periodical journalism, was a very kind man. He gave me encouragement, accepted my article for publication, and if I remember right, sent me a nice letter of appreciation. It was a great event in the life of a struggling student of Law. All budding writers will realize what I must have felt to suddenly find myself in the INDIAN REVIEW.

The Magazine has throughout maintained an intellectual detachment and an impartial national outlook, which, in these days, are at a discount with readers.

I offer my congratulations to the proprietors of the firm and the editor of the INDIAN REVIEW and wish them every success in the future.

HINDU CIVILIZATION: By Dr. Radha Kumud Mookerji. Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay in two volumes.

Dr. Radha Kumud Mookerji has dealt with the story of Hindu Civilization from the earliest days up to the invasion of Alexander in two volumes. The first volume deals with the pre-historic culture of India and its geographical and social background. Naturally the Vedic civilization and the impact of the Aryans with the non-Aryans are dealt with in great detail. The democratic elements connected with our ancient institutions are specifically outlined. The author gives a valuable account of the popular assemblies and Sabhas as well as of the larger bodies the Samitis. The rules of studentship and of organisations for advanced study in the nature of Academies which were called Parishads, are also described. The existence of group life, popular Governments and democratic institutions as recorded by Panini and other authors are also dealt with.

The second volume gives the history of the North Indian kingdoms and describes the democratic politics that were established in the pre and post-Buddhist Era.

The volumes give a mine of information and they recall the comprehensive scholarship and facile penmanship of the well-known historian of India.

INDIANS OUTSIDE INDIA

INDONESIA

INDIANS IN INDONESIA

Forty thousand Indians now living in Indonesia are forging a permanent link between their homeland and this island republic.

As one walks in the more fashionable parts of Jakarta, one is impressed by the big departmental stores. And it does not take long for the visitor to realize that a great deal of this show of prosperity is due to the efforts of the small but enterprising Indian community.

Mr. P. Chandra writing in *Free India* says that the Indian settler speaks Indonesian with the same fluency as the native, even participates in the local festivals.

Indians here are always ready to help Indonesians. Given a more stable political situation, Indian traders told this correspondent they would be willing to invest more in this country.

The average Indian trader is self-made and prosperous. Many have lived here for generations. To them this country is as their homeland, though they still visit India periodically. Yet not many Indians are desirous of acquiring Indonesian citizenship. The reason for this lies in the constantly changing political scene in Indonesia which gives rise to anxiety in the minds of Indians.

Perhaps the Indonesian's lack of capacity for hard work is his biggest single barrier to progress.

The Indian Association of Indonesia watches over the welfare of the community. It maintains branches in Central Sumatra, Celebes, Java and the other islands.

Indian children have their own school in the capital. Two hundred-and-fifty children are taught by teachers from India. They learn Indonesian and English in addition to Hindi. Another such school is to be opened shortly. Indonesian children are also permitted to attend the Indian school—a gesture which has earned the appreciation of the Indonesians.

One fine example of racial co-operation here has been the building of a temple under the joint auspices of the Chinese and Indian communities.

PAKISTAN

VISALESS INDIANS IN PAKISTAN

Malik Feroze Khan Noon, Pakistan Prime Minister told the National Assembly last month that 550 Indian nationals, who were in East Pakistan without visas and passports had been "arrested and prosecuted in 1957."

Mr. Noon was replying to supplementary questions during question hour in the Assembly.

The Interior Minister Mr. Ghulam Ali Khan Talpur was asked by the leader of the Muslim League group Mr. Yusuf Abdullah Haroon whether he was "aware that 2,00,000 Indians were roaming about Pakistan without visas or passports."

The Minister replied: "That is an allegation. We are not aware of it."

Mr. Mohamud Ali of National Awami Party asked for the circumstances under which 550 Indians without visas and passports were arrested. Mr. Talpur said he wanted notice to reply to the question.

CEYLON

INDIANS IN CEYLON

Mr. Solomon Bandarnaike, Ceylon Prime Minister, declared on March 16 that exclusion of stateless persons of Indian origin from the benefits of the proposed National Provident Fund would close the doors on further Indo-Ceylon talks on the future of these persons.

Their exclusion would be construed as an act of discrimination and it would make the problem of their future political status even more difficult than it was, he told the House of Representatives.

The Prime Minister urged that the measures of success attained in dealing with the problem of citizenship would largely depend on a friendly and co-operative approach of all parties and every effort should be made to encourage that friendly approach.

The Prime Minister was answering critics of the Government's National Provident Fund Bill, which seeks the extension of benefits of a comprehensive provident fund scheme to all sections of the Island's working population.

Members from both the Government and the Opposition benches representing the teagrowing Kandyan districts questioned the wisdom of including within the scope of the scheme the stateless persons of Indian origin.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Mar 1. Yemen joins United Arab Republic of Egypt and Syria.
- Mar 2. First-land crossing of Antarctic by Dr. Vivian Fuch at Scott Base.
- Mar 3. China resumes trade with Japan.
- Mar 4. Terms of U. S. aid to India are announced.
- U. S. rejects new Soviet terms for Summit meeting.
- Mar 5. Russia offers to go to America for Summit Conference.
- America launches the second earth satellite.
- Mar 6. Morocco seeks merger with Tunisia and Algeria.
- Ecafe meets at Kuala Lumpur.
- March 7. Russia announces her readiness for ban on outer space for war use.
- Mar 8. Russia warns Asian members of Seato not to link with Western Aggressive plans.
- Mar 9. Rumanian Premier Mr. Chivu Stoica in New Delhi.
- Mar 10. Massive economic aid to India to the aggregate amount of 900 million is announced.
- Mar 11. Madras Assembly rejects D.M.K. amendment on Union Language issue.
- Mar 12. Jakarta forces strike at rebel Sumatra: Capture airport and town.
- Mar 13. Government of India decides to establish an Atomic Energy Commission with full executive and financial powers.
- March. 14. Dr. S. Radhakrishnan leaves for U.S.A.
- Mar 15. Egypt inaugurates Legislative Council in Gaza strip acclaimed by Arab refugees from Israeli territory.
- Mar 16. All-India Shia convention meeting at New Delhi calls upon the U. N. to ask Pakistan to vacate her aggression in Kashmir.
- Mar 17. U. S. sends up second baby moon.
- Reduction in Textile Excise duties to the tune of 15 crores is announced.
- Mar 18. India and Soviet Union conclude an Air Transport Agreement.
- Kerala Education Bill is referred to the Supreme Court.
- March 18. Mr. Felix Gallard, French Prime Minister, wins a vote of confidence on his constitutional Reform Bill.
- Mar 19. Supreme Court sets aside Journalists' Wage Board decisions.
- Sudan cabinet resigns.
- Mar 20. Indonesian Premier warns foreign nations against intervening in Sumatra rebellion.
- Mar 21. All India Muslim Legislators' convention meets at Lucknow.
- Mar. 22. Pakistan rejects world Bank's plan re. Indus waters.
- Mr. Morarji Desai takes charge as Union Finance Minister.
- Mar. 23. Syrian Region Army chief resigns.
- Dr. Hammarškoed arrives in Moscow.
- Mar. 24. The 33rd session of the Historical Records Commission meets at Bhubaneswar.
- Mar 25. Moscow declines to discuss German re-unification at Summit conference.
- Mar 26. Mr. Morarji Desai is appointed member of the Planning Commission.

READERS' DIGEST

ROLE OF ENGLISH

Acharya Vinoba Bhave, Bhoodan leader, says that "English cannot continue to occupy the position of omnipotence after freedom. It is a foreign language and will henceforward, remain as such."

In an article published in the *Bhoodan Weekly* published at Poona, Acharya Bhave deplores the language controversy raised in Tamil Nad and described as a "fallacy" the argument that the administration cannot be carried on in Indian languages because they were undeveloped. He declared that the world was "bigger than English."

"If our languages were really undeveloped for public administration, why did we ask the British to quit India?" Acharya Bhave asks. "We should have then asked them to stay here to carry on administration. It is fallacious to think our languages are so weak and undeveloped."

While he does not under rate the importance of English as a "gateway to modern knowledge", he wants people to know that the "world is much too large for English." Indians and Chinese together made up nearly two-thirds of the world population and yet very few people know English in these countries.

The Boodan leader says that English was once the dominant language in the world and it still has a privileged place, but the world has now become enlarged. Russia, China, India and many other countries have arrived on the world stage. It is "stupid" to ignore the change in the world situation. "We will have to study Chinese, Russian, Japanese, Arabic and other languages of the countries which are our neighbours."

By describing English as the world language, he says that we will be denying "ourselves the rich heritage of this great and vast world and its peoples," Acharya Bhave adds.

"I do not wish to drive English from India, but at the same time I will definitely not allow it to become the master of my mind", he declares.

As regards the language controversy raised in Tamil Nad, he says he was "constrained" to say that the persons responsible for it, were "narrow-minded and short-sighted."

24.

TASK FOR SANTA CLAUS

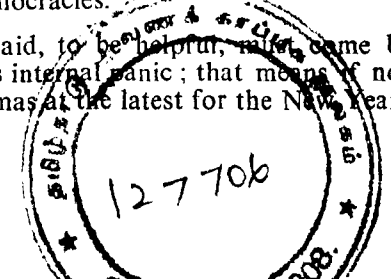
Taya Zinkin, the *Manchester Guardian* correspondent in India, puts the case for urgent aid for India as imperative in the interest of world peace. The correspondent reports the views of three different classes—types representing businessmen, congressmen and officials—and all of them are agreed and unanimous that India should get the aid she needs from the West.

"Will India go Communist?" asked a senior official, who answered himself: "Yes, if we get help when it's too late and there's been a flight from the rupee, a rocketing inflation." And a cartoon in the *Times of India* rounds up the mood beautifully, with the common American backing away at the dollar symbol of aid and then standing back aghast at finding that what's left of the dollar sign looks mightily like a hammer and sickle. The cartoonist has answered with a few strokes of the pencil both the businessman and the official, though not the politician.

The question has begun to worry people in India, what with Kerala on the one hand and, on the other, the slow squeeze of the red octopus in the surrounding area, from Indonesia to Syria. Obviously there cannot be once answer. If India finds no foreign aid in her Christmas stocking, if the arms race with Pakistan finally ruins the second five-year plan—India has just placed an order for nearly £ 30 millions worth of Hunter jet aircraft—if there is no sterling backing left for the rupee, things will go very badly.

It is feared that it will be too late if America (and all except the Communists think it must be America) realises at Christmas that India needs and deserves to be helped. It would then not be possible for Uncle Sam to play Santa Claus before the next Hallowe'en because of the wheels within wheels of the American way of politics. By then India might well have had its crash, its crisis, its inflation, and its collapse. If this were to happen there would be great bitterness against the democracies.

The aid, to be helpful, must come before there is internal panic; that means if not for Christmas at the latest for the New Year.



SCIENTIFIC FOUNDATION OF ASTROLOGY

This is the subject of a talk made by U.P.'s Chief Minister Dr. Sampurnanand before the Society of Scientific Workers of India at Lucknow last month, defending the science of Astrology. Dr. Sampurnanand said :—

"Astrology, like medicine, is a body of knowledge which deals with verifiable phenomena." It was, therefore, the easiest thing in the world to test its truth. Nothing could be more unscientific than to discard it merely on the basis of some kind of *a priori* reasoning.

Citing what he described as a remarkable set of parallelism between earthly events and certain astronomical phenomena, the Chief Minister quoted Dr. Gore of the College of Science, Raipur, according to whom the ruling Zodiacal sign for Bharat was Capricorn. Exactly 180 degrees from Capricorn comes Cancer. Saturn happened to be in Cancer from June 1946 to July 1948. This particular astronomical conjunction witnessed the independence of India, the birth of Pakistan and the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi.

Calculating this conjunction backwards for 4 centuries Dr. Sampurnanand concluded that the presence of Saturn in Cancer somehow coincided with important events in Bharatiya history. To name a few : Lord Montague's declaration in Parliament (1917), the birth of the Indian National Congress (1885), the first War of Independence (1857), the first Mysore War (1757), the death of Aurangzeb, the Second Battle of Panipat (1557), the First Battle of Panipat (1527) and Vasco da Gama's voyage to India (1497).

Similarly, Jupiter's revolution round the sun in 12 years seemed to coincide with another set of important events. In 1942 when Jupiter was in 'Meen' the "Quit India" movement began. Calculating backwards for the last two centuries this conjunction was found to produce the following events : the Congress declaration of complete independence and the Salt Satyagraha, the partition of Bengal, the end of East India Company and assumption of power by the British Crown, the appointment of Warren Hastings, and the rise of Hyder Ali.

Following this calculation regarding Jupiter alone into the future Dr. Sampurnanand said one would be justified in predicting important

events in 1964, 1967 and 1978. Similarly, keeping in view Saturn alone, another set of important events were likely to happen in 1977, 2007, 2037.

Dr. Sampurnanand established that it is as correct to speak of a planet influencing events in the lives of men as to speak of the weather influencing the barometer."

THE VEDIC OUTLOOK

According to Mr. Guru Dutt (in the *Aryan Path*) the relevancy of the Vedic outlook to Modern times stands or falls by the acceptability or otherwise of the notion of *yajna*.

"If the principle is accepted, the form that *yajna* takes is capable of infinite variation, as emphasized in the *Gita*. Or as the Veda puts it : Let the ritual be born afresh (*Navyo jayata ritam*). But the question is, Does it work? Will it deliver the goods? The answer of the Vedas was a confident affirmative."

The objectives of *yajna* were pre-eminently realistic : health and longevity, progeny, food and wealth, vigour of the senses and understanding, and collective welfare.

"We do not find in the Vedas any opposition between matter and spirit, between body and soul, or between this world and another. The Vedic outlook reconciles the antinomies. Thus it is without shamefacedness that the Veda says : This world is the most beloved of all (*Ayam lokah priyatamah*!)."

The Veda knows nothing of the conflicts within the "sick soul," to use William James's well-known phrase; nor is it morbidly pre-occupied with eschatological problems.

"Through *yajna* it seeks to remedy the imbalance inherent in unregenerate human living, and to integrate the instinctive and the spiritual, the individual and the social, and the contemplative and active faculties of mind; between the religious power (*Brahma*) and the secular power (*Kshattra*), or the "Sacerdotium" and the "Regnum" as Dr. Ananda Coomaraswamy put it. In short, it aims at a certain wholeness through expansion (*Brihmana*) of the consciousness, and its enrichment in quality by the cultivation of the positive virtues like heroism (*Virya*) and friendship (*Sakhya*), against a background of austerity (*Tapas*), liberality (*Dana*) and compassion (*Daya*)."

LARGEST UNDERWATER ROADWAY

Mr. Kenric Hickson, writing in the *Coming Events in Britain*, says that the Mersey Tunnel is the main traffic artery joining Liverpool and Birkenhead and is the largest underwater roadway in the world. It took an army of workmen nine years to build at a cost of nearly eight million pounds, and was finally opened in July 1934 by King George V. The length of the roadway between the entrances in Kingsway, Liverpool, and King's Square, Birkenhead, totals 2.13 miles.

A tunnel under the estuary of the river Mersey had been a subject for conjecture and discussion for many years, until, by the early 1920s, existing ferries were unable to deal with the ever-increasing motor traffic, and the need for a new means of communication between Liverpool on the one hand and Birkenhead, Chester and North Wales on the other became a matter of urgent importance.

The possibility of a bridge was discussed, but for various reasons this was ruled out in favour of the tunnel, and excavation work on the Liverpool side commenced in December, 1925. Three months later work began at the Birkenhead end, and on April 3rd, 1928, both borings met under mid-river within a fraction of an inch as planned. The tunnel was driven through sandstone rock for more than two miles, and it drops down to a maximum of 170 feet below high water level. It is lined with cast iron segments bolted together and caulked with lead against possible leakage of water into the tunnel.

From the entrances there is a gradual descent of between 1 in 20 and 1 in 30, until the level mid-river section is reached; then, after about a third of a mile, there is a gradual ascent as the exit is approached. The roadway consists of iron setts covered with a dense bituminous surfacing, and the side walls are lined with sheets of black glass held in position by stainless steel glazing strips. The roof is sprayed with cream enamel paint, and illumination is from the soft glow of about 1,600 lights recessed into the tunnel arch.

The 36-feet wide roadway is clearly divided into four lanes : two in each direction—one slow (maximum speed, 21 m.p.h.) and one fast (maximum speed, 30 m.p.h.) Crossing from one lane to another is not allowed, except as indicated at junctions. Other rules are that headlights may not be used, hooters must not be sounded, and coasting (free-wheeling) downhill is prohibited. All these restrictions are necessary to ensure the smooth and steady flow of the heavy daily traffic through the tunnel.

On each side of the river are two entrance-exits—one main and one secondary—and within the tunnel the junctions which serve these are controlled by electromatic signals. Traffic may also be controlled by the Mersey Tunnel Traffic Police, members of which are on constant patrol and have full authority in the tunnel. No car may stop in the tunnel, and if a vehicle breaks down through lack of petrol or any other cause, it is quickly towed clear by one of the patrolling policemen in his specially equipped van. For such a mishap, a "fine" equivalent to twice the amount of the toll charge is the standard imposition.

To ensure clean air in a tunnel on this length presented an engineering problem in itself, and the solution was found by providing six special ventilating stations, each with a massive fan 28 feet in diameter in an enormous shaft. Fresh air is pumped at a uniform pressure into the tunnel through continuous slots situated immediately under the kerb on both sides of the road, and stale air is extracted through ducts in the roof.

For all this, and for the convenience in crossing the Mersey quickly and easily, the motorist pays a very reasonable toll charge of between one shilling and two shillings, depending on the size of the car. Commercial and other vehicles pay varying amounts, according to weight.

All visitors to Liverpool and Birkenhead should see the Mersey Tunnel, but it should be remembered that pedestrians are not admitted, and for those without cars perhaps the best way to see it is by taxicab. The journey takes only about five minutes—just sufficient time to appreciate some of the wonders of this triumph of modern engineering.

THE MANIPURI DANCE

The *Indian Cultural Review* has a very interesting article under the title "glimpses of the Manipuri School of Dancing" by Mr. Khagen de Sarkar. According to the writer the grip of dancing on the Manipuri people is best appreciated from their mythology that associates dancing with the creation of the world out of a watery expanse. Lord Siva (the creator) and his Consort themselves appeared on the "Navel of the Earth," that is Manipur. (Manipur is a centrally administered state, S. E. of Assam). It is known for its traditional school of dancing.

Emulating this dance of Shiva and Parvati, the Manipuris have evolved one of the most famous styles. They have completely humanised the religious aspect of it and made it into a great saga of dance. It is called the Laiharaba and is performed in three stages:—

(i) the "Laitainomdai Jagoi" (worshipping the gods Indra, Buddha, Varuna and Kuvera); (ii) the "paringa-langasanga" (interpreting the creation of the earth); and (iii) the "Laipao-jagoi" interpreting the birth of the Supreme Being and of Man including the various stages of the growth of a human being.

In a major way, the Manipuri dance can be divided into (i) folk and (ii) classic.

Dances on social occasions such as births, marriages and offerings for the dead are predominantly of the folk-type. One of the principal occasions is that of the advent of the spring festival. Held in the open on moonlit nights, it is called "Thabal Chonga." No costumes are worn.

Dance sequences in some religious celebrations as the Goshthalila, the Rasalila, are also associated with pure folk-forms. For instance in Goshthalila, scores of brilliantly-clad little ones appear in the role of Krishna (Lord Krishna). Balarama (Krishna's foster brother). Sudama (Lord Krishna's best friend) and the cow-herds, dancing in open air in a circle and Krishna, in the finale, killing the bull-demon and the stork-demon (the demons, which to the glee of the youngsters make their appearance wearing huge masks).

The main classical forms of Manipuri dances are: (i) Rasa, (ii) Karatali (danced before the temple of Jagannatha during the Rathajatra); (iii) Adhivas Nritya—non-stop, week-long dance; (iv) Mandira Nritya—sometimes, the whole village takes part in it; (v) Chouda Madal—a rhythm dance with Mridanga when

two parties of 28 dancers compete in working out difficult measures.

Ancient Natya-Shastras point out that art of dancing is best expressed through a dance-drama—a ballet. The Manipuri school of dancing, combining within its fold the trio of the expressive arts—literature, music and dancing—can be held as one of the richest media for a dance-drama. Unlike Kathakali of the South India (a masculine form of dance), it has in it both the Tandava and the Lashya parts, that is both the types of emotional forms respectively divided as masculine and feminine attributes. The Kirtan compositions of Vidyapati, Chandidas and Jayadev and others add a priceless literary excellence to Manipuri dancing.

With the classical heritage of music, Tala (beat) and the Mudras—graceful body movements form the core of Manipuri dancing. While facial expressions and the Mudras are emphasised in Kathakali and the Bharatanatyam (the other wellknown schools of classical dancing) limb movement is pre-eminent in Manipuri dancing, though employing of the Mudras is as much unavoidable in it as in the other two former schools. The difference is entirely of emphasis.

THE LAGGING CHILD

"Great care should be taken, in the treatment of the backward child and a sympathetic treatment also is essential" is the theme of an article on the above subject by "Shyamali," in the *Hindu Weekly Magazine*. The writer's observations are given below:—

A lagging child should be more carefully watched and it should be especially watched that he does not run into loneliness. Anybody who is discarded by his associates or condemned by elders wants to be lonely. A lonely mind feels more bored and the boredom leads him to a more tragic end. Any child who loses the affection of his parents or the society of children of his age turns to be more foolish.

Foolishness or intelligence to any child also depends largely on his environments. A classroom fool may be a good peasant boy for he watches and learns farming. A bookish boy who stands first in the class may be a total failure in practical farming. It is only reasonable none of these boys should be called fools. But surely their backwardness in one or the other subject may be made up for if pains are taken by their parents and teachers to help

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them to learn things. There are instances where children, disinterested in 'paraded letters of books' grow up to be great lovers of humanity. They study more deeply the way of the living man. Such men grow up to be reliable mediators in disputes. When a child, lagging in one subject, is found to be quite forward in others, he should be given more chances to master the subjects he prefers. He may make up for the defects in the rest as he grows older if he is properly handled.

Paradoxically enough lagging children do not lag in detecting unsympathetic treatment they are subjected to. The result is that such children turn cruel and disinterested in anything others call good. Consequently, they lag farther in other's estimation.

Whenever it is detected that a child is falling back, parents should be careful. They should treat the child more sympathetically avoiding criticism. They should create interest in the child's mind by allowing him to do things that he likes, even in his own way at the same time diverting the child's mind to the better side of living without, of course, making him conscious that anything is being done against his wish or choice.

BUFFALO'S MILK

Two research workers of food in an university in Giza, Egypt, have performed experiments on the digestibility of cow's milk and the buffalo's milk on human beings.

A copy of the report of their experiment has been received by the Madras Government. They say that the digestibility co-efficients of different constituents of buffalo's milk are practically equal to those of cow's milk.

The relatively higher amounts of fat in buffalo's milk did not affect the digestibility of proteins and fat.

The final average data for digestibility of the different constituents of both types of milk are as follows:

	Dry matter
Co-efficient	per cent
digestibility	79.21
Cow's milk	77.04
Buffalo's milk	Fat
Protein	per cent
per cent	97.07
83.18	97.62
83.87	

The experts also conducted separate experiments as regards "protein digestibility" using pepsin and hydrochloric acid and they have reported 95.01 per cent for cow's milk and 94.47 per cent for buffalo's milk.

WASTE IN GOVT. OFFICES

Bihar Government is spending about Rs. 4 crores per annum under the head of contingency. Lavish expenditure has been the cause of such enormous increase says *Organiser*, the organ of the Hindu Mahasabha. What is said of Bihar is true of other states as well.

Hundred and eightynine Burma teak wood tables costing Rs. 1,70,000 and 756 Burma teak wood chairs costing Rs. 60,000 have been purchased. If sesum wood furniture were preferred, total expenses would have been only Rs. 39,000. Thus Rs. 1,99,000 have been wasted. Even Britishers had preferred sesum wood, and not Burma teak. During 1956-57 expenditure to the tune of Rs. 4,50,000 was incurred on telephone calls. At present there are 629 main and 66 extension sets. So many are quite unnecessary when actually there are only 329 officers in the Headquarters at Patna. If the recommendations of the Economy Committee are accepted the number would come to 70 main and 70 extension sets in the entire secretariat.

The disparity between budgeting and actual spending has become a notorious feature in various departments. During the year 1956-57 an amount of Rs. 57,000 was spent over refreshments in the Civil Secretariat although the Budget provision was only Rs. 15,000.

Paper writing pads have been replaced by "Glass Pad," without any increase in efficiency. 298 glass pads were purchased at a cost of Rs. 2,980. Dunlop seats and carpets for office rooms have been purchased for Rs. 1,470 and Rs. 15,000, respectively. It may be mentioned here that a pair of Kalin was purchased costing Rs. 1,000 to decorate the office of I.G. of Police, for which one Class-I Assistant was specially sent to Shahjehanpur in U.P. There is annual expenditure of Rs. 36,000 approximately over the khas tates.

There is an expenditure of Rs. 30,000 per annum over news-papers and magazines and periodicals which are neither restricted nor controlled. All these contingency expenditure can be minimised if proper control is made which may save Rs. 1.5 crores per annum.

Officers draw mali (gardener) allowance for their bungalow gardens to the tune of Rs. 1.5 crores which can be abolished immediately.

Increase in staff cars and other vehicles is so high that maintenance cost is increasing every month. In 1956-57 cost of maintenance alone was Rs. 94,000.

BUDDHISM AND HINDUISM

In a paper published in the *Bulletin of the Ramakrishna Mission Institute of Culture* Dr. Satkari Mookerjee discusses the Influence of Buddhism on Indian life and thought. He points out that Buddhism was not a hostile religion in the sense in which Islam or Christianity could be described in relation to Hinduism. In fact it served as a complement to the the Brahminical religion. It is an expansion of Hinduism. Even in the present day, he says, in Thailand, it is the Brahmana priest who unites the couple in marriage by performing the ceremonial rites. In India such was also the custom.

The position of Buddhism *vis a vis* the laity in India in the past is comparable to that of the Ramakrishna Mission in the present day.

"The Mission has no programme of social reform. People of all castes and stations in life pay their homage to Sri Ramakrishna and Swami Vivekananda and the Order of monks, though there is no caste restriction in the Order. A Brahmana, Ksatriya, Vaisya, Sudra, in fact, a Hindu of any caste, may be a devout and sincere follower and worshipper of Sri Ramakrishna, but his religious faith does not interfere with his social position. I am inclined to believe that this was the case in the past so far as the influence of Buddhism was concerned."

A Brahmana could be a lay worshipper of the Buddha without forfeiting his social status.

"Ramachandra Kavibharati, a Brahmana of North Bengal, went to Ceylon in the time of Parakramabahu and studied the Buddhist scriptures. He became a lay Buddhist and worshipped the Buddha as the only God. But he styles himself a Brahmana by caste. Durveka Misra, evidently a Brahmana and layman, salutes the Buddha in preference to other gods. If Buddhism is to re-establish itself as a religion of the lay community, it ought not to fritter away its energies in the prosecution of a social programme. Buddhism was not hostile to Hinduism, which is a latter-day term, and has a comprehensive connotation. It is not therefore a matter of surprise that the Buddha came to be worshipped as an incarnation of God by the followers of the Brahmanical faith."

PROBLEMS OF SOVIET AVIATION

The *Bulletin* of the Institute for the study of the USSR (published in Munich, Germany) is an attempt to present the free world an analysis of contemporary events and studies of Soviet history and culture. In the issue before us (Dec. 1957) Joseph Baritz discusses problems connected with the development of Soviet aviation. He says that constant attempts are being made to create new types of jet engines and high speed airplanes capable of carrying heavy loads. According to one authority the main problems facing Soviet aviation today are:

"(1) to improve the present jet engines; (2) to devise new cooling systems; (3) to manufacture better material for airplane and engine construction; and (4) to find more efficient types of fuel. Research on airplane engine construction is directed at making them more powerful at the same time lighter. A target of speeds in excess of 3,000-4,000 kilometers per hour and altitudes of more than 25 kilometers has been set. Soviet specialists consider that long-range flights at such speeds are impossible with the old-type jet engines, and that engines with up to 100,000 horse power will be needed. Since the largest, heaviest part of a turbojet engine is the compressor, ways are now being sought to make this component lighter and smaller, while giving in more power. Heat is a major problem in high speed flight, for the faster an airplane flies the greater is the heat produced by friction. The Soviets seem to be tackling the problem from two angles: the development of light, heat-resisting materials from ceramics and plastics and from such metals as titanium and beryllium, and the use of porous materials with good heat conductivity."

REDISCOVERY OF DOSTOEVSKY

There has been a significant softening in some aspects of the official attitude toward the prerevolutionary Russians cultural heritage. The outstanding example of this is the recent Dostoevsky revival. Writing in a recent issue of the trimonthly *Problems of Communism*, Victor Erlich observes that under the new 'dispensation' Dostoevsky's masterpieces are at least being made available to the Russian reading public.

"Moreover, the new emphasis on Dostoevsky's greatness as a writer helps to focus attention on the importance of literary vs.

political criteria. Yet the principal grounds on which Dostoevsky is being readmitted to the Soviet literary Pantheon are ideological rather than esthetic. In undertaking to make him ideologically acceptable, the party-line critics have demonstrated their stock techniques of dealing with an "embarrassing" master—among them, partial distortion of the writer's message (exemplified by gross over-emphasis of the anti-capitalist character of Dostoevsky's critique of individualism); fatherly chiding (e.g., condescending remarks concerning Dostoevsky's "confusion"); and outright doctrinaire insanity (*Pravda* notwithstanding, The *naire* insanity (*Pravda* notwithstanding, The "Possessed" is far from a "weak" novel). It is noteworthy, too, that virtually all of the recent articles on Dostoevsky make precisely the same points in their analyses, down to the "insight" that the "Possessed" was an artistic failure."

In short, the rediscovery of Dostoevsky has all the earmarks of a carefully-blueprinted party line, albeit a somewhat more "liberal" one.

UNITED ARAB STATE

It is natural for the Arab States to be drawn together into a federation but we cannot ignore the factors that in recent years made that union urgent and imperative. It is definitely the result of recent political trends in the Middle East—Particularly the basic conflict between the national aspirations of the Arab peoples and the political, economic and strategic interests of the great powers in this part of the world. For this reason, according to the *Review of International Affairs* "The unification of Egypt and Syria into a single state is not only a further achievement of their struggle for national emancipation, but also such a unification of forces as will strengthen their position in relation to the Great Powers. However, the federation of Egypt and Syria will also be of great significance in the relations between the Arab peoples themselves. The problem of Arab unity, viewed through the prism of the Arab League and through the prism of the Arab League and concrete political oscillation, has been a Gordian knot for decades. This certainly results from the clashing of various trends in the Arab world, many of which draw their strength and objectives from outside. If the basic motive of Arab unity was a common attitude towards Israel, the motives for Arab disunity were manifold. Of the latter we may mention,

for example, the Baghdad Pact and the Eisenhower Doctrine, in order to show how eager the Great Powers are to intersect the Arab world with bloc barriers. In this context the United Arab State can play the useful role of the beacon of Arab unity which, in this situation, is not only welcome but also capable, by its example and its operation, of exercising a favourable influence on the political and national orientation of other Arab peoples."

INSIDE PAKISTAN

A columnist in the *Hindustan Times* says that Chaudhri Mohammed Ali, Ex-Prime Minister of Pakistan "who is known for his bitterness towards India, and the Hindus in particular" has been at work in East Pakistan.

"The considerable influence that he still wields with the Services has enabled him to turn the so-called anti-smuggling campaign against the Hindus."

"He is bent on eradicating the Hindus from East Pakistan, as he firmly believes that their existence in the province was responsible for the defeat of the Muslim League in the general elections of 1953, and the continuance in office of the Awami League."

Although according to the Anti smuggling Ordinance the area to be covered by the military authorities extends only five miles from the border, Chaudhri Mohammed Ali's agents are active up to even 30 to 40 miles.

"They are seizing jute and paddy stocks, and even gold and silver ornaments belonging to Hindus, on the ground that they are to be smuggled to India. Respectable Hindus are marched publicly in handcuffs by the anti-smuggling military authorities to make them realize the low standing of non-Muslims in Pakistani society."

The elements who are not against the Hindus are being crushed in every possible way, and it is rumoured that "Mr. Naqvi, who was Chief Commissioner of Karachi for a long time, has been sent to East Pakistan ultimately to replace Mr. Fazul-Haq, the present Governor, who is said to oppose the total eradication of the Hindus in East Pakistan. It is time the Government of India took serious notice of these happenings, and revised its policy of sealing the borders against migrants."

POOR MAN'S BALANCED DIET

In view of the food shortage which is now admitted on all hands, Prime Minister Nehru has appealed to the people to change food habits. 'A day will said come', and he, 'when we have to stand on our own legs and stop further imports. We have, therefore, to produce more rice and more wheat. But what is more important is that we should change our food habits and take a balanced diet instead of consuming rice only.' But, says Artha-Sastri in the *Amrita Bazar Patrika*, habit being second nature, it is as much difficult for a Bengalee or a South Indian to give up rice and eat *Chapati* as to a North Indian to take rice in place of *Chapati*. "Further, balanced diet sounds more like a slogan than a practicable proposition to a population whose average daily income per capita is 75 np. only. According to the Nutrition Advisory Committee of the Ministry of Health, Government of India, the normal food requirements per head per day in our country should be as follows :—

Cereals	... 14 ozs.
Pulses	... 3 "
Green leafy vegetables	... 3 "
Root vegetables	... 3 "
Other vegetables	... 3 "
Fruits	... 3 "
Sugar and jaggery	... 2 "
Fish and meat	... 3 "
Egg	... 1 per day

HUMAN MONEY BOX

A 54-year-old man, admitted to hospital at Sedgefield (Durham) suffering from "loss of appetite," was found to have 424 coins and 27 pieces of wire in his stomach, it was disclosed.

The total weight of the "jack-pot" discovered by surgeons inside him was five and a half pounds.

The coins consisted of 366 half pennies, 26 six pences, 17 three-penny pieces, 11 pennies and four shillings—total value: one sterling 17 shillings 5 pence.

The "human money box" is described in the *British Medical Journal* as an exceptional surgical case.

He is a mental patient, who, for a long time, was paid two shillings and six pence weekly as pocket money.

He always insisted on being paid in small coins—and now the authorities know where the change went.

RAIN-DISPERSING

Rain-making experiments are in the news these days, with the application of science to the problems of developing arid lands. But in Norway the problem is exactly the reverse; frequent heavy rains in the coastal areas do damage to crops and scientists have been trying to find a means of reducing rainfall in these regions.

Recent experiments consisting of spraying the clouds with silver iodide have proved successful in preventing the humidity from condensing into rain-drops for long enough for the winds to blow the clouds elsewhere.

According to Prof. Finar Hoiland of Oslo University, who is conducting these trials, the method should have the added advantage that clouds dispersed in this way would finally gather and shed their rain over the mountainous regions inland.

THE WRITER

Whatever his particular work, the writer is a singular and lonely person, says Howard Fast in his latest book. In the small hours of the night, tearing out of himself his particular story, he is perhaps more alone than almost any other person can be. He is the prisoner of his thoughts and fancies and visions, and he must struggle with them, capture them and order them into a structural whole. No matter how bad a writer he is, he is still a creature of conscience and is dedicated to the truth as he may see such truth within his own limitations; and no small part of his being less than a great writer is the result of limitations, both inner and outer, in his search for the truth.

LAND PRICE IN MARS

More than 500 "landlords" of estates on Mars have been invited to attend a New Year's Eve party at a big Tokyo hotel to celebrate their "investment."

Mr. Toraji Kishida, Secretary-General of the Japan Astronautical Society, which is organizing the party, said more than 8,000 people had "bought" estates on the planet about 45 million miles away.

The Society at first sold the land for about 4 sh. for about 80 acres. But the launching of the Soviet Sputniks had created a boom forcing the price up to £ 1.

More than 5,000 would-be-purchasers had queued outside the Society's office in Tokyo after the launching of Sputnik II.

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

BULGANIN'S LETTER TO
MACMILLAN

Marshal Nikolai Bulganin, in his latest letter to Mr. Harold Macmillan, claimed that "no great progress has yet been made" towards a summit conference.

He charged the West with attempting to hinder the convening of a summit conference by arranging a meeting of NATO Defence Ministers in Paris next month.

The 3,000-word letter issued by British and Soviet authorities at London on March 20 resisted Moscow's standpoint on terms for summit talks conveyed by Marshal Bulganin to President Eisenhower in his letter of Mar. 6.

Marshal Bulganin's letter (dated Mar. 14) charged there was "complete contradiction and inconsistency" being pursued in convening the Atlantic Pact Defence Ministers' conference and in proposing summit talks.

The Soviet Prime Minister said that he "has no right to keep silent about the fact that" the recent Anglo-American agreement to establish rocket bases in Britain had introduced a "considerable element of tension into the international situation and into the relations between States of East and West."

After summarising the known Soviet standpoint on preparations for and the agenda of an East-West summit conference, Marshal Bulganin told the British Prime Minister: "But unfortunately no great progress has yet been made because the representatives of some Western countries still insist that the agenda should include issues which are known to be unacceptable and postpone it for an indefinite period."

"Even more alarming is the fact that while delaying a solution of the question of convening the conference, the Governments of Great Britain, the U.S. and some other member-States of the North Atlantic Alliance are hastening the implementation of practical steps in the sphere of war preparations, which cannot but worsen the international situation."

25

Mr. DULLES ON DISARMAMENT

Mr. John Foster Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, said at Washington on Mar. 24 that the United States was arriving to achieve a limitation of armaments and to find solutions for the basic political problems that gave rise to tensions.

"If the Communists will negotiate in good faith towards these ends, we believe progress can be made, which will make it safe to spend far less on armaments than is now the case," Mr. Dulles declared in testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee in support of President Eisenhower's foreign aid programme.

Mr. Dulles said he knew that cries that the foreign aid programme was a "foreign give-away" were louder at a time-like the present, when there was unemployment and a business recession in the United States and when there was much that needed to be done at home. "This is no 'give-away' programme but an absolutely essential part of our great national effort to maintain peace and opportunity for our country," he said:

"Not to have this programme would be a 'give-away.' We would then indeed give away to Communism the control of a dozen or so nations with their hundreds of millions of people. We would indeed 'give away' bases essential to our national peace and security. We would indeed 'give away' the access which we and other nations have to essential resources and to trade, upon which our own well-being depends.

"Unquestionably, we all wish for additional roads, schools, reclamation projects and other facilities here at home. But we will gain little and lose much if in our drive for them, we recklessly tear down the very structure of the free world which makes it possible for us to enjoy in peace and freedom the material blessings we now have."

The Soviet note said the Soviet Government considers the United States "is actually trying to take the entire problem of the summit conference back to the starting point."

Utterances of the Day

CABOT LODGE ON INDIA

Mr. Henry Cabot Lodge, United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations, said last month that India "would be a very hard country to subvert" to Communism.

Speaking in a broadcast and televised interview programme, "Face the Nations", he said that the Indians had a "great feeling for democratic institutions" and he did not think that Communist efforts at subversion would work there. He added that he did not think the Soviet Union was using economic schemes to try to subvert India.

In India, he said, there was "a tremendous amount of friendliness for the United States and appreciation and gratitude for what we have done and a strong determination to be independent."

THE AGAKHAN ON INDIA'S ACHIEVEMENT

Addressing a large gathering at Bombay on Mar. 11, the Agakhan said: "To guarantee, as your Government has done, that every man and woman should have a right to speak, write, vote and worship as he or she thinks best, subject only to the common rule of law, is a tremendous undertaking for any nation. For a country with a population of more than 350 millions, a country with a civilisation as old, and a Government structure as new as this one, wrestling with what must often seem an almost intolerable burden of poverty and illiteracy, it is one of the most courageous political experiments the world has ever seen."

MR. RADHAKRISHNAN ON PEACE

Dr. Sarvapalli Radhakrishnan, India's Vice-President, has appealed to the United States to lead the world to peace and security, "not by the force of deadly weapons but through understanding, justice and imaginative compassion."

In a lecture prepared for delivery at Columbia University on Mar. 20, he said: "There is no magic formula or short cut to peace. We may proceed step by step, reach limited agreements, improve the political climate, strengthen the confidence among nations and foster policies of live and let live, of co-existence. It is, therefore, essential for the leaders of the Great Powers to start negotiations in an atmosphere of goodwill, sincerity and imagination, with a determination to reach agreement on the suspension of atomic tests as the first step."

Mr. MACMILLAN'S PRAISE OF INDIA

Mr. Harold Macmillan, British Prime Minister, declared in London on March 14 that India could play an important part in the defence of the democratic way of life by the strength of her example, and by her traditions of democracy and justice. He said:

"India does not belong to any of the great defensive pacts to which we and many other members of the Commonwealth belong—NATO Baghdad Pact or SEATO. But this is not out of any feelings of sympathy with Communistic doctrines."

"It is by the strength of her example and by her traditions of democracy and justice that an uncommitted country like India can play an important part in the defence of the democratic way of life."

Mr. V. K. K. MENON'S HOPE

Union Defence Minister V. K. Krishna Menon, addressing the plenary meeting of the National Conference annual session at Jammu on March 16 said, "We are not prepared to be walked upon". He called upon the people to work unitedly for the economic development of India as a whole.

Mr. Menon's speech was conspicuous by the absence of any reference to Sheikh Abdullah, Pakistan or even the U.N. Security Council, except in passing side references, such as: "We have no desire to use language that would create ill-feeling": The people of Kashmir made their choice long ago."

MR. WALTER NASH'S TRIBUTE TO GANDHI

Mr. Walter Nash, Prime Minister of New Zealand, who was in New Delhi on Mar 18 on a three-day State visit, paid warm tributes to Mahatma Gandhi at a Civic reception held in his honour at the "Dewan-i-Khas" in the Red Fort.

Mr. Nash said: "The evident fact that Gandhi's ideas survive and find expression throughout India and indeed beyond its borders and that his influence far from waning has actually grown since his tragic death, is at once a testimony to their vital and permanent force and importance and tribute to the genius of the Indian people, who have made these ideas their own."

Political

INDIA'S DEFENCE BUDGET

United States Secretary for Defence, Mr. Neil McElroy, was asked on Mar. 19, whether the United States was not "inspiring a little arms race between India and Pakistan."

The Defence Secretary said that "that may turn out to be the case."

Mr. McElroy was appearing as a witness before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

Senator William Fulbright (Democrat—Arkansas) noted that India had increased its defence spending by 25 million dollars avowedly in response to an alleged threat from Pakistan. Mr. Fulbright recalled that the United States had just agreed to supply 225 million dollars worth of economic aid to India and asked whether United States military aid to Pakistan might not increase India's defence burden. "Are we not inspiring a little arms race between India and Pakistan?" he asked.

SEATO AND OTHER PACTS

The Council of Ministers of South-East Asia Treaty Organisation called for closer links with NATO and the Baghdad Pact.

A communique dated Mar. 13, issued at the end of the Council's three-day meeting at Manila said the SEATO Secretary-General, Nai Pote Sarasin, has been authorised to enter into contact with the Secretaries-General of these organisations.

The Ministers emphasised the defensive nature of SEATO and declared that Communist and Communist-inspired activity continued in the area.

There was no specific reference to the Indonesian problem.

ATOMIC ENERGY COMMISSION

Dr. H. J. Bhabha, Secretary of the Atomic Energy Department, Government of India, announced at a Press conference at Bombay on Mar. 14, that the Government had decided to set up a new Atomic Energy Commission with full executive and financial powers.

Dr. Bhabha said that the Commission would be modelled to a certain extent on the U.K. Atomic Energy Commission. There will be full-time and part-time members.

As far as the administrative powers were concerned, it would function like the Railway Board. The whole object of setting up the Commission was to expand the atomic energy programme. It was necessary, even two years ago, to have set up the Board, Dr. Bhabha said, and naturally this would function for the development of atomic energy in the country.

THE EISENHOWER DOCTRINE

President Eisenhower said at Washington on Mar. 15 that the United States' Middle East doctrine had played a decisive role during the past year in strengthening nations in that area to resist the "insidious and ever-present threat of international Communism."

The President made the comment in a report to Congress on U.S. activities under the joint Congressional resolution, known as the Eisenhower Doctrine, authorising it to defend the Middle East, with military means if necessary, against international Communist aggression and subversion.

The President said that the determination of the United States to use armed forces, if requested by the victim, to repel Communist aggression in the area had been particularly heartening to the nations in the Baghdad Pact.

"It has unquestionably contributed to the steadfastness with which they and other States in the Near East, resisted the campaign of intimidation and disruption conducted by the Soviet Union and its agents," he declared.

CO-ORDINATION OF WESTERN DEFENCE

Agreement between Britain and the United States for the establishment of rocket bases in England has already been signed but some other NATO countries, though they have accepted the idea "in principle," have not yet signed agreements.

Observers noted with interest an editorial in *Daily Worker*, which warned that a "summit" conference should not be taken for granted.

They said this warning, which could be taken as an authoritative Communist viewpoint, suggested that the Soviet Government recognises there is a serious prospect that exchanges towards a "summit" meeting will break down.

We understand that plans for holding a meeting of the Asiatic Pact Defence Ministers in Paris in April are certain to go ahead.

KHRUSHCHEV'S NEW ROLE

Mr. Nikita Khrushchev on Mar. 27, took over the Soviet Premiership in place of Marshal Nikolai Bulganin—while retaining the still more important post of Communist Party Secretary.

The new appointment for the most powerful figure in modern Russia was announced at the meeting of the Supreme Soviet in the Kremlin by Marshal Voroshilov, who was himself, re-elected Soviet President.

REPORT OF THE U. G. C.

The first report of the University Grants Commission was presented to the Lok Sabha on March 3, 1958. The report deals with the period December 1953 to March 1957.

Dealing with higher education in the country, the Report says that the need of the day is consolidation rather than expansion. An attempt has to be made to secure a right balance between the humanities, the social and the natural sciences and the professional and technological course.

The report says that the average direct expenditure per university student in India is about Rs. 500 a year whereas in Britain and the United States it is more than Rs. 5000. Only about 2.2 per cent of the University age group students (estimated at 10 per cent of the national population) are on the rolls of Indian Universities.

The report shows that the Commission has given the highest priority to the improvement of teachers' salaries both at the university level and in the affiliated colleges.

HINDI IN ANDHRA

The Andhra Pradesh Government have ordered that Hindi shall be a compulsory subject for S.S.L.C. Public Examination from 1959 onwards, and that the eligibility of the candidate for University studies shall be determined on the basis of marks obtained in Hindi also.

This modifies the Press Note dated October 30 on this subject, according to which only the candidates who had appeared for the S.S.L.C., public examination in 1957 or in the previous years and failed would be exempted from appearing for Hindi in the S.S.L.C. examination of March 1958. The present order of the Government extends this exemption to all candidates appearing for the S.S.L.C. examination in March and October 1958.

MULTI-PURPOSE SCHOOLS IN
MADRAS STATE

In a written reply to Mr. L. Elayaperumal in the Lok Sabha on March 12 Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Minister of State in the Ministry of Education, said the total number of multi-purpose schools at present in Madras State was 146, and the Union Government's contribution to the State was Rs. 3,19,241 during 1956-57, and Rs. 11,02,000 in 1957-58 for the multi-purpose schools.

FREE AND COMPULSORY
EDUCATION

The Estimate Committee of the Lok Sabha has suggested that "a perspective plan" for the introduction of free and compulsory education for children up to the age of 14 may be evolved by the All-India Council of Elementary Education with a phased programme for the whole country to be implemented within a specified period.

Such a Plan, the Committee adds, should be evolved with due regard to the financial resources, the existing conditions and the recommendations of the various Committees, which have already given thought to the "vast problem."

The 4th report of the Committee was presented to the House on March 14 by its Chairman Mr. Balwantrai Mehta.

The report has dealt in detail with problems of elementary education and has made various suggestions to improve the standard of teaching in pre-primary, primary and basic schools.

FUTURE OF ENGLISH

Dr. C. D. Deshmukh, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, declared at New Delhi on March 25 that the development of Indian languages would be more meaningful if we maximized the chances of the development of our minds through English, which was one of the most advanced and widely-used languages of the world.

Dr. Deshmukh, who was inaugurating a conference on problems of English, warned against grave consequences of intellectual isolation in this scientific age and said that the changeover to Indian languages should be spontaneous instead of being hustled through futile and costly experiments.

AWARD TO SANSKRIT SCHOLARS

India's eminent scholars in Sanskrit, Persian and Arabic will be awarded a certificate of honour with Rs. 1,500 per annum for life from this year.

The distinction, meant to encourage the scholars, will be conferred by the President once a year on the Independence Day.

The procedure for submitting the recommendations will be somewhat similar to that followed in the case of other awards given by the President.

MR. Z. H. LARI

A Judge of the West Pakistan High Court, Mr. Z. H. Lari, gave up his career on Mar. 22, to resume practice in the Bar and to enter politics as a protest against what he called "injustice" done to him. Mr. Lari, who did not explain what that injustice was, said "that injustices are strewn across the path of every citizen in social, political and economic spheres."

Mr. Lari made these remarks as he stepped down from the Bench to the ovation of members of the Bar in the court. He said "it is my wish and desire to help the nation as far as possible to remove or at least mitigate those injustices."

Mr. Lari, a practising lawyer, had been picked up for the Bench in 1952 as Additional Judge of the then Chief Court of Sind.

JOURNALISTS BOARD DECISIONS

The Supreme Court delivered judgment on Mar. 19, setting aside the decisions of the Wage Board, constituted under the Working Journalists (Conditions of Service and Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1955, holding them to be "illegal and void," as the Board had failed to take into account capacity to pay as would be required under Section 9 (1) of the Act.

The Supreme Court, however, held that none of the provisions of the Journalists Act, except Section 5 (1) (a) (3) relating to gratuity even for voluntary resignation, contravened the provisions of Articles 19 (1) (A) and 19 (1) (G) of the Constitution of India.

The judgment was in respect of the special leave petitions filed by the Express Newspapers Limited and a batch of several other newspaper establishments questioning the validity of the provisions of the Working Journalists Act and the decision of the Wage Board.

KERALA EDUCATION BILL

The Kerala Education Bill has now been transmitted by the President to the Supreme Court for its advisory opinion under Article 143 (1) of the Constitution.

Article 143 (1) provides: "If at any time it appears to the President that a question of law or fact has arisen, or is likely to arise, which is of such a nature and of such public importance that it is expedient to obtain the opinion of the Supreme Court upon it, he may refer the question, to that Court for consideration, and the Court may, after such hearing as it thinks fit, report to the President its opinion thereon."

DE JURE TRANSFER OF FRENCH
INDIA

The Overseas Territories Committee of the French National Assembly decided by a majority of one vote to ask the Assembly to postpone ratification of the Bill authorising the cession to India of French establishments on the sub-continent.

It asked for the postponement pending the conclusion of additional agreements between the French and Indian Governments.

The Committee's motion was adopted by 13 votes to 12 on Mar. 12.

Earlier, during the debate on the ratification Bill, the Committee turned down by 13 votes to five with one absention, the proposal moved by Communist Deputy Charles Benoist for ratification of the cession treaty as it now stands.

The treaty was signed in New Delhi on May 28, 1956, and provides for the cession to India of the French establishments of Pondicherry, Karaikal, Mahe and Yaman.

"CONTINENTAL SHELF"

India accepted as "reasonable" the draft articles submitted by the International Law Commission on the problems of the continental shelf.

Addressing the fourth committee of the 85-nation conference at Geneva on Mar. 13, codifying the law of the sea, Mr. E. E. Jhirad said the Indian Government regarded the draft articles as "a reasonable code of law on the subject."

The Commission's draft said: "For the purpose of these articles, the term 'continental shelf' is used as referring to the seabed and subsoil of the submarine areas adjacent to the coast but outside the area of the territorial sea to a depth of 200 metres (approximately 10 fathoms) or beyond that limit, to where the depth of the super-adjacent waters admits of the exploitation of the natural resources of the said areas."

THE L. I. C. ENQUIRY

Mr. Justice Vivian Bose, Judge of the Supreme Court, will preside over the board of inquiry which will initiate investigations into the conduct of the officials responsible for the Life Insurance Corporation investments in Mundhra shares.

Two senior civil servants, are associated with the inquiry.

AMERICAN AID FOR INDIA

Senator John Kennedy of Massachusetts, a leading foreign policy spokesman for the Democratic Party, appealed to the United States Government on Mar. 25 to make a long-term economic aid pledge to India, in a manner similar to the Marshall Plan commitment for the post-war reconstruction of Western Europe.

Senator Kennedy, who was speaking to the Senate meeting at Washington also proposed that a sub-committee of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (O.E.E.C.) should go to India and recommend plans to furnish long-term assistance for India's Second Five-year Plan, through an International Consortium.

Mr. Kennedy said:

"At the present time, the United States is furnishing India about 70 million dollars in hard currency assistance, most of it on a loan basis..... Although the total is thus already larger than we were providing under the first Plan, it falls short of her requirements—even after the assistance likely to come from other nations and the World Bank."

EXCISE DUTY ON CLOTH

Prime Minister Nehru's announcement on Mar. 18 reducing excise duty on all varieties of cloth, was characterised by textile interests here as a timely relief which, they said, would avert the impending crisis in the country's textile industry.

Though excise reliefs will reduce the Central Government's cotton textiles excise revenue by Rs. 15 crores to about Rs. 78 crores during the current financial year, they will give the relief to marginal mills which, according to textile sources, were overburdened with accumulation of stocks.

DEPOSITS FROM COMPANIES

The Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, announced in the Lok Sabha on Mar. 18 that the Government had decided that, for 1958-59 no deposits would be called for from companies either in respect of accumulated profits and reserves or current profits.

STERLING ASSETS

Mr. Harold Macmillan, the Prime Minister of England said that Commonwealth countries had the right to draw on their balances if they required them and they were well aware of the need to keep sterling strong.

PER CAPITA INCOME

India's 'per capita' national income rose from Rs. 266.4 in 1952-53 to Rs. 294.3 in 1956-57 on the basis of 1948-49 prices, the rise was from Rs. 255.6 to Rs. 284.

The Prime Minister, Mr. Nehru, giving the two sets of figures for five years during his reply to the general debate on the Budget in the Lok Sabha on Mar. 18 referred to the fact that national income had shown a decline in 1954-55 and the following year. The figures for 1956-57, he added, were preliminary estimates.

The comparative figures were:

	Based on current prices	Based on 1948-49 prices
	Rs.	Rs.
1952-53	266.4	255.6
1953-54	280.7	268.7
1954-55	254.2	271
1955-56	260	273.6
1956-57	294.3	284

STATE BANK OF INDIA

Mr. T. C. Bhattacharya, Chairman of the State Bank of India, addressing a Press conference at Bombay on Mar. 14 said that the State Bank of India had reported all-round progress for 1957, both in its traditional business as well as its developmental activities. The Bank's deposit received a significant expansion during 1957. Total deposits in India increased from Rs. 221.5 crores on December 28, 1956, to Rs. 344.3 crores on December 27, 1957—an increase of Rs. 122.8 crores or 55.5 per cent.

It was noteworthy, he pointed out, that out of this increase of Rs. 122.8 crores, time deposits accounted for Rs. 103.1 crores. The increased deposits helped the Bank to add to its investments by Rs. 77.8 crores to Rs. 170.4 crores, to strengthen its cash reserves by Rs. 10.9 crores to Rs. 25.8 crores and to dispense with borrowings from the Reserve Bank.

KERALA FINANCIAL CORPORATION

The Kerala Financial Corporation has announced the issue of ten-year bonds for a total sum of Rs. 50 lakhs to augment its resources.

The bonds will carry interest at the rate of 41 per cent. The issue of Rs. 98.50 for every Rs. 100 of the bonds.

AFRASIAN WOMEN'S CONFERENCE

The Asian-African conference of Women social workers ended its eight-day session at Colombo last month.

A spokesman for the conference said, "We ended our deliberations in an affectional note. We have decided to develop the contacts we have now established and to hold further meetings later on with greater representation."

The concluding session, which was closed to the Press, considered the reports of the study groups on problems affecting women and children in Asia and Africa such as health, education and civic rights.

The conference did not adopt any resolutions but the findings of the study groups approved by it would be released later on.

Over 120 delegates from 19 countries of Asia and Africa attended the conference which was the first of its kind. It was sponsored by representative women's organisations of the five Colombo Power countries—India, Pakistan, Ceylon, Burma, and Indonesia.

NEHRU'S ADVICE TO WOMEN

No woman in the country should accept the epithet of "abala" (helpless), Mr. Nehru told a meeting consisting of, besides men a large number of village women at Banasthali last month.

"I do not know who found this epithet of 'abala' but certainly by describing our women as such we are disgracing them and giving them a bad name. Rajasthan has given birth to many a woman who had been worshipped as a heroine and had acted very gallantly," he said amid cheers.

WOMEN IN U. N.

So big a part are women playing in the United Nations that some observers in New York predict that, if the present trend continues, the world organisation could become one big women's club in about ten years from now.

Some 75 women served as delegates or advisers at the last session of the General Assembly compared with no more than a score or so at the 1946 and 1947 sessions. Thus, the figure had almost quadrupled in ten years.

Over the same period, the total strength of all delegates, allowing for the United Nation's increased membership has not quite doubled.

VATICAN ON CO-EDUCATION

The Vatican has expressed its disapproval of co-educational schools and ordered that no member of a Catholic religious order may become head of a secondary grade co-educational school "except in case of extreme necessity."

An instruction issued by the Congregation of the Religious, the Vatican Ministry in charge of one million members of religious orders, said that where co-education "is unavoidable," boys and girls should not take part in gymnastics, sports or games, that they should be seated separately in class, and that they should use separate gateways for entering and leaving school.

The Congregation also ordered that there should be "scrupulous separation" of the sexes for lessons on the Sixth Commandment (against adultery) and on biological and psychological subjects.

FRENCH DECORATION FOR INDIAN WOMAN

The French Ambassador to India, Count Stanislas Ostrorog, last month conferred on behalf of the French Government the Cross of the Legion of Honour on Lady Ranu Mookerji President of the Academy of Fine Arts Calcutta.

This was for the first time, the decoration was received in India. Lady Ranu Mookerjee, who has been connected with the Alliance Francaise for many years, was chosen for the honour for the French culture.

Count Ostrorog said on the occasion that acquiring the culture of one country by another was a sure foundation of the principle of co-existence. It was gratifying to find that more people in this country were now willing to know the culture of France, he said.

QUEEN SORAYA

Queen Soraya of Iran, at present the subject of sensational "divorce" is said to be considering the possibility of a film career.

If Soraya was unable to remain Iran's sole Queen, she would want to make a career for herself we learn. She is stated already to have received "one or two offers" from motion picture interest. She is at present in Germany, visiting her father.

SMT. M. RAGHAVAN

Srimathi Mythili Raghavan has been appointed Barbour scholar for 1958-59 by the University of Michigan.

General

RAJAJI ON HINDI

"I have come out of retirement to lead the movement against the imposition of Hindi as India's official language because I realise that this error will affect the future of our country, especially our administration which will deteriorate and consequently create disunity," stated Mr. C. Rajagopalachari, winding up the two-day All-India Language Convention at Calcutta on Mar. 8.

Added to this was the fact that the present generation had no right to mortgage the future of the younger generation of our country," Rajaji said.

Mr. Rajagopalachari said he was handing over the leadership of the movement to Bengal but cautioned them against launching any movement of action. "It was imperative," he added, that "we should proceed calmly and cautiously." He was sure that the Prime Minister was not in the Hindi movement and he was essentially a man of peace bent on achieving modernisation and progress. If people approached the language problem calmly he was sure they would meet with success.

Prof. M. Rutnaswami, who presided in the unavoidable absence of Dr. Radha Binode Pal, President of the Convention in his concluding remarks, stressed that the Convention had dealt only with the question of official language and not of the national language, which had to be settled by the people of India. He trusted that the Government of India would study the resolution of the Convention bearing this in mind.

THE BARD OF KERALA

With deep regret we record the death of Vallathol Narayana Menon, eminent poet of Kerala at Ernakulam on Mar. 13.

Vallathol lived to the ripe old age of 79. His death removes from the literary landscape of Kerala the most towering personality it had.

Hailing from a small village near Tirur, he lispied in poetry early in life. He took to Sanskrit with avidity.

His early pieces attracted considerable attention and the title of "Maha Kavi" was bestowed on him. There was Tagore's profound influence in his verses.

SMT. K. B. SUNDARAMBAL

The talented South Indian artiste and an ardent Nationalist has been nominated member of the Madras Legislative Council for six year.

SIR JADUNATH SARKAR

Sir Jadunath Sarkar is the father of the modern school of historical research in India.

This 87-year-old scholar is only dimly known to the present generation, but his mind is still vigorous and his standards of scholarship are scrupulously exacting.

Sir Jadunath has given almost 60 years of his life to the reconstruction and rewriting of Moghul and Maratha history, on which he remains the foremost authority in India.

DR. ABDUL HUQ

We regret to record the death of Dr. M. Abdul Huq, Chairman of the Madras Public Services Commission, at his residence at Madras on March 15.

A noted educationist, Dr. Huq had served in the Government Mahomedan College as Principal and after serving for some time as Deputy Director of Public Instruction, he again served in the same institution, re-named as the head. He was later Principal of Presidency College, Madras. For a short period he was Acting Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh University in 1952. Since 1953, Dr. Huq has been in the Service Commission.

THE AGA KHAN

The 21 year old Aga Khan who visited Delhi last month is free from communalism. He visited Raj Ghat and paid tribute to Prime Minister Nehru.

He was educated in the United States and is unmarried. He inherits some of the talents of his grandfather who was a romantic figure, aloof, renowned, yet reticent.

The Aga Khans are the heads of the Ismailiya community which is spread all over the world. Every Ismailyan is expected to hand over to the local Mulkhi two per cent of his income, to be given to the Aga Khan. The flow of this Peter's Pence from the scattered centres into the Treasury of the Aga Khan never stops.

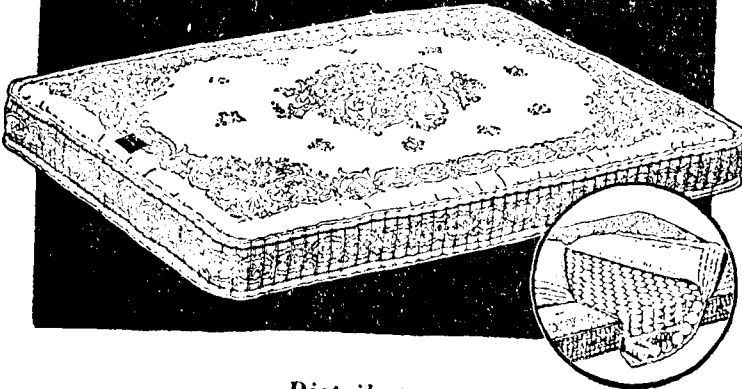
CENSUS IN ASIA

The United Nations announced early last month that the Ford Foundation had offered up to 300,000 dollars to help Governments in the Far East and Asian in their forthcoming census of population, housing and agriculture.

The project is part of U.N. 1960 world census programme.

A U.N. progress report indicates that at least 147 countries and territories are already planning census in 1960. The final number is expected to be even larger.

SIMMONS



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