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The INDIAN REVIEW

59th Year



Vol. 59.

MAY 1958

No. 5

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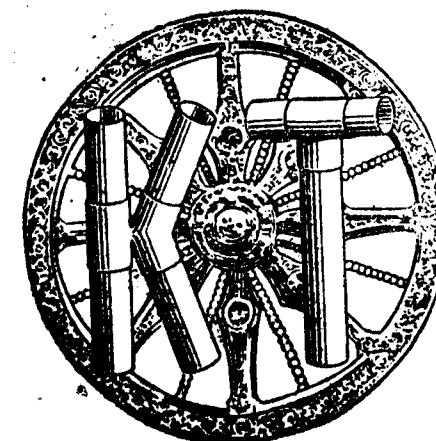
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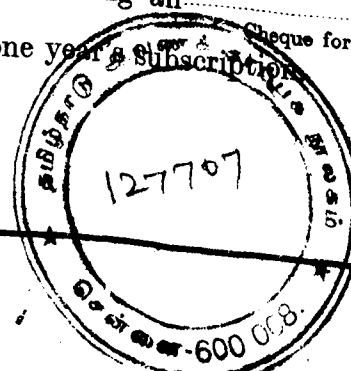
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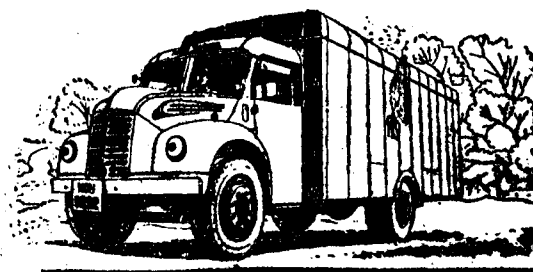
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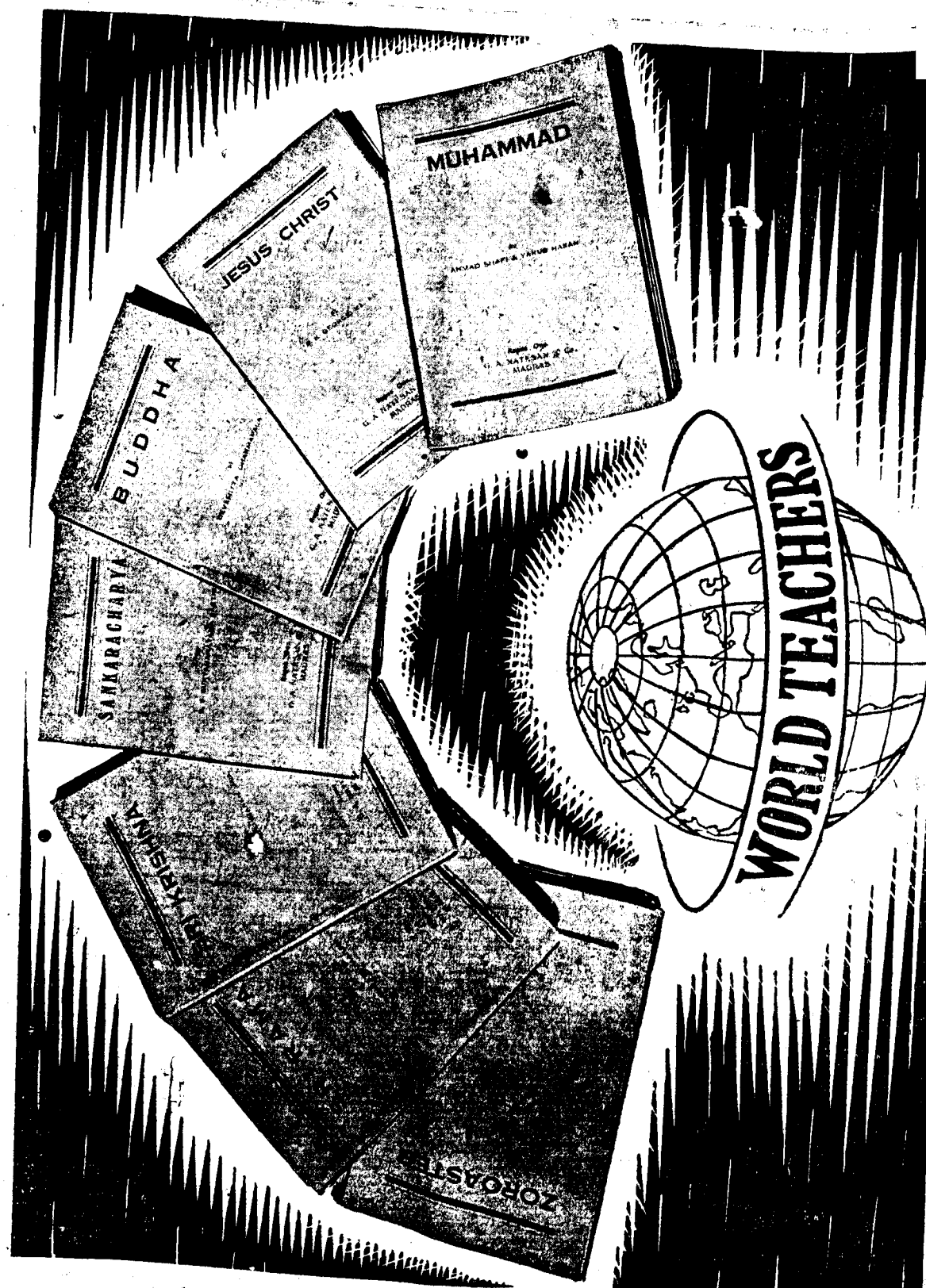
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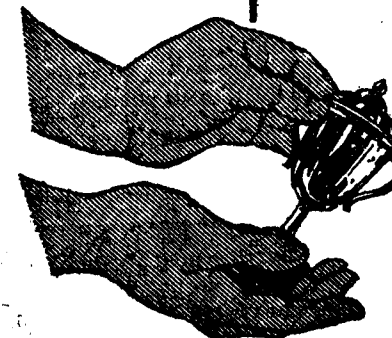
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A MONTHLY PERIODICAL DEVOTED TO THE DISCUSSION OF ALL TOPICS OF INTEREST

Managing Editor: MANIAN NATESAN

Vol. 59]

MAY 1958

[No. 5]

EDITORIAL

THE INCREASE OF INDISCIPLINE

There is an intimate relationship between the hooliganism by the students of the Annamalai University, the strike by the employees of the Indian Bank, the frequency of train accidents, the unheard of attempt by the army to coerce the railway officials by threatening to shoot them and the developing indiscipline within the Congress.

The students of the Annamalai University went to the Ladies' Hostel to attend a function and returned late. The gatekeeper refused to let them in as it was after hours. They proceeded to the Vice-Chancellor's Lodge, but he was apparently frightened and refused to see them. They went back and promptly set about damaging property. One should expect a certain amount of horseplay from the young, a motiveless expression of exuberance, like tarring and flustering and ducking in the pond and perpetrating hoaxes on the authorities; but one does not expect them to behave like drunken illiterates who have gone on an animal spree. The fact that the authorities could have dealt with the situation more tactfully is no extenuation of conduct that would be condemned in an industrial slum. What is the inverse alchemy that is turning into dross the youngmen of this country? One heard sometime ago that in another University the students walked out of the examination hall because they said the questions were too difficult for them to answer. In Hyderabad they wanted to decide who should be Vice-Chancellor. One shudders to contemplate the future if the most educated sections of the community are reared in an atmosphere of utter indiscipline.

The employees of the Indian Bank struck work because they did not get a five-months' bonus. They paralysed the working of the Bank, and finally compromised on a total of two-and-a-half months' bonus. The Manager of a leading Bank complained that the habit of rising on seeing the officers has gone out of fashion, but the habit of getting seated on entering the officer's room has taken its place. The expression "work-load" has been introduced into the clerical and accounting fields and just as a brick-layers' Union fixes a maximum for the number of bricks that a workman can lay in a day, so also, the clerks are counting the number of entries they make.

Intelligent persons are alarmed at the increase in the number and frequency of railway accidents. The more serious aspect of these accidents is their cause—carelessness and deliberate sabotage both of which have been mentioned during the course of the recent enquiries. It is coming to be recognised that travel by train is not much less dangerous than travel by plane.

Whoever heard of the army taking up arms in order to compel the Railways to run a train as they wanted and shooting those who did not obey them? But it has happened in India.

In the field of politics, the indiscipline in the ruling party, (which was for long mentioned in private as if it were a domestic scandal) has now become the major concern of the High Command. But the Congress will not face up to facts. They introduced adult suffrage before adult education, and have let loose such a spate of corruption at election time that they themselves have to collect funds and spend them in

ways that are contrary to the laws that they have enacted. They profess to be shocked at the increase of corruption among the officials, but the increasing affluence of several of the party men has become a matter of cynical acquiescence. In Bengal, Mysore, Orissa Punjab, there are open factions. In Andhra the congressmen voted for non-congress candidates. In Tamilnad the alliance between the Ministers and the D. K. is not even denied to save face. Electioneering has become a competition in the making of promises. The 'Left' is receding more and more to the left in response to an omnivorous give-all politics which can end only in indiscriminate expropriation. Every now and then the parliament revels in a 'scandal' which an avid public swallows with glee.

Churchill said that every country gets the Government it deserves. Students of politics and administration should relax and think about the all-round rake's progress that is taking place. Tact is the armour of the slave, the means by which the old time clerk climbed to the Deputy-Collectorship. It is the obverse of fear, which appears to have taken possession of administrators to begin with, and is slowly permeating into other spheres. Can any one say honestly that we have a free press? The Press is "Big Business and has to play up to the Government. On the other hand, in a democracy, and especially one in which the party in power has a huge majority, the Press is the natural opposition to the executive, the only possible means of ventilating an opposing point of view or an unredressed grievance. The Press also has developed tact.

Sober elements should come forward and sponsor a rightist cult, one that holds out for personal liberty, regional cultures, lesser Government, slower prosperity, and an economics based on Government supervision rather than Government ownership. We need a revaluation of values, and this can be done only by a wise conservatism.

AT THE SUMMIT

It is difficult to comment about events that move with such speed and take such dramatic turns that one becomes out of date as the ink dries. But there are, nevertheless, certain enduring features behind the alarms and excursions of the international scene. Foremost among them is the persistence of mutual mistrust. The U.S.A. seems convinced that the Soviet declaration of suspension of nuclear tests is inspired by (a) a secret belief that they can evade detection and carry on tests in some obscure part of their large territory and (b) the possible circumstance that they have done all the testing that they need for the present, and are anxious to stop the U.S.A. from going ahead with their immediate test programme. It is strange that so clear a point of view is sought to be masked by pseudo-scientific gibberish like the 'clean' bomb that will minimise the dangers of radiation fall out and wise shakings of the head about the possibilities of secret tests. The common man may well ask, what is the culture or civilisation, that is sought to be protected at such great hazard? And who is to live and enjoy them?

The existence of mutual suspicion makes of every minor move a grave issue that well may break up the whole conference. As soon as Khrushchev made his momentous declaration, U.S.A. tried to belittle its significance. The stopping of the tests was not enough, it was necessary to stop manufacture, it was essential to agree to a system of inspection. Khrushchev agreed to inspection. Then the U.S.A. said that it was not use holding a summit conference, it was necessary for the foreign ministers to meet and pave the way. The U.S.S.R. agreed. But the Soviet foreign minister wanted to meet the foreign ministers of the other powers separately, and this became another issue. Now Khrushchev has asked for the inclusion of Czechoslovakia and Poland in the foreign ministers' meet. Meanwhile a few bomb-laden American planes flew near the Russian

border and Russia has hinted that this is sufficient provocation to start a war. In other words the world should be prepared to acquiesce in destruction if some careless pilot should drop a bomb near the Russian border. Why are these flights necessary for the U.S.A.? Because in a war of quick missiles the enemy can be paralysed if he is not almost simultaneously combat-ready. At the same time all kinds of extraneous noises seem to give the same warning as a missile attack, and so the air force has to go up every time they think they hear the missile. It is almost comic, a huge force on the *qui vive*, for fear of being caught unprepared.

Even as a piece of political strategy, the Western nations should take Russia at her word and hold a conference. Recrimination should be subsequent, if at all, and not a preliminary brake on the conference itself. The American demand for the inclusion in the agenda of comprehensive disarmament and proposals like the unification of Germany seems singularly unimaginative.

Tito has asked for the inclusion of the non-bomb nations in the conference. There seems to be little purpose in adding to the number of voices at the conference. Ultimately the conference is bound to be divided into the accepted pattern of the "free" countries that side with U.S.A. and the "satellite" countries that side with Russia. If world opinion is to be mobilised, then, it would be better if all the countries which do not possess nuclear weapons hold a separate conference and clearly lay down the issues that confront the world. This is the opportunity for a neutral country like India, unless, of course, India is frightened of losing the help that she is now getting from the U.S.A. and therefore, prefers to maintain a tactful non-interference, for we have a Plan at whose altar the sacrifices that are being made approximate to what others fear from the bomb.

CO-OPERATION vs COLLECTIVISM

The Prime Minister said the other day that he was all in favour of co-operative cultivations, that absurdly, it was not collective farming, and he deprecated the tendency to confuse the two. One may assume for the sake of argument that he was conscious of the degrees of ownership—diminution in various forms of co-operative farming. There is, first, the "service" co-operative that pools all the purchases required for the farmer and also undertakes to sell all that the farmer grows. This form of servicing is not only consistent with the economy of the small peasant, it is a necessary concomitant of successful small holding. In Japan, where the system has been developed fully, the State also buys the rice at a guaranteed price and becomes the sole seller of it. But cultivation is individual. Ownership is jealously guarded. Secondly, we have the pooling of the surplus labour and equipment for the common cause. These labour units formed the first stage in the Chinese process of collectivisation. It was followed by the retention of land ownership in theory, but the practice of common agriculture, each owner being remunerated for ownership as a basic quota, and on top of it, in accordance with the units of labour that he has contributed. This is co-operative cultivation as commonly understood. But it is folly to think that any economic compromise of this kind can be possibly permanent. Mao Tse Tung deliberately made this a half way house to collectivisation in which even the vestige of theoretical ownership is taken away; and very rightly too, because, once the incentive of ownership is destroyed, there is no further object in holding on to the theory of ownership. It then serves no practical purpose, and like the appendix in the system of man, becomes an excrescence that can become a wound. It is surprising that any one should consider the partial loss of ownership as a consummation and not a half way house. Unless therefore, we are prepared for the

ultimate logic of loss of land, ownership, and the emergence of the full fledged collective farming the half-way experiment of co-operative farming is certain to lead to one of two things either a slip back into the *status quo ante* in response to the ties that bind the farmer to the land, or, rush forward to the collective farm. In the latter event, let us be aware of the inevitable repercussion on all forms of ownership. In China it has been deliberately planned that the collective farm should be the agricultural counterpart of the collectivised industry. The Mao has said so in his recent speech on 'Let a hundred flowers bloom.' He said "We have a farm population of 500 millions, so the situation of our peasants has a very important bearing on the development of our economy and the consolidation of our state power. In my view the situation is basically sound. The organisation of agricultural co-operatives has been successfully completed and this has solved a major contradiction between Socialist industrialisation and individual farm economy." There is logic here and sense. The other point of view, that of asking for co-operative cultivation as an end in itself, is being blind to the inevitabilities that are inherent in the move.

THE SHORTAGE OF FILMS

The film industry is naturally excited and deeply worried that the import of films should have been cut. It is not denied that it is one of the major industries of India, and that its employment ratio is high and that it also earns a certain amount of foreign exchange. The sacrifice of various essential industries for the sake of the core of a pre-concieved plan raises

a different issue. That is a problem in which the crisis in films is but one aspect. But reference to the film industry itself, it seems to be assumed that the villager has become used to a four hour entertainment and just will not change. There is a pathetic fear of fatalism in this outlook. Is it seriously suggested that a film of thirteen thousand feet with one thousand feet of documentary will attract another thousand feet on a subject of scientific or other interest will not attract the people?; or that if such a change were to come about, and become universal the people will give up the cinema habit which has taken hold of the father, the mother and the children in every family? While therefore, one may question the wisdom of robbing Peter, on grounds of general policy, one may join issue with those who foresee in this cut a great and irreparable catastrophe.

Further, has any one gone into the question of the colossal waste that takes place in the use of films? How many feet are used up in production?

Over and above all, why are not films being manufactured in India? If, as is suggested, the industry is one of the most important in the country, then, one would naturally expect the production of the basic raw material of the industry to figure among the priority production plans. Actually, considering the huge earnings of the industry, the producers themselves should have sponsored the move to start producing raw films in India. We export bones and get them back as films. It seems as if this is the basic approach and that somehow has got lost in the sound and fury engendered by the sudden cut in the import of films

South Africa's Indian Minority

By

Prof. SUDHANSU BIMAL MOOKHERJI, M.A.

THE Union of South Africa, a member of the Commonwealth of Nations and of the United Nations, has earned an unenviable notoriety for its policy of racialism culminating in apartheid. Division of South Africa into watertight racial compartments is the goal of this policy. The 410,000 South African citizens of Indian origin are among the victims of this neo-barbarism, a classical example of man's inhumanity to man, "which makes countless thousands mourn." The doors of the Union have long been shut against Indian immigration and attempts have been afoot for a long time to send the Indian Settlers back to India.

The Indian problem in South Africa if it is a problem at all, is the creation of the European planters and the European Government of Natal, a province of the Union of South Africa. They invited — seduced, we might almost say, — Indian labourers to what is the Union of South Africa to-day. The first batch of Indian labourers reached the South African shore when the S. S. Truro cast anchor at port Natal (Durban) at the fag end of 1860. Indian labour played a vital role in building up the prosperity of Natal. It played a major part in the economic development of the Union of South Africa as a whole. In return, for the last fifty years and more, right after right has been taken away, disability after disability has been imposed on the Indian community in South Africa till it has been practically reduced to the position of "hewers of wood and drawers of water" in the land of its adoption.

Efforts of the Governments of India — before and after independence — for a fair deal for the Indian Settler, including representations to the United Nations, have borne no fruit so far. On the contrary, they seem to have stiffened the Union of South Africa's attitude to the Indian Settlers.

White South Africa contends that the Indian settlers in South Africa are alien interlopers. Are they? Were not many of them tempted to migrate to that country by the European farmers and the European Government of Natal? Moreover, between eighty-five and ninety percent of the Indians in South Africa to-day have been born and brought up in that counting. A majority knows no home other than South Africa. Return to India is never contemplated. Most of the Indian settlers have a typically South African outlook. Indians in blood and colour, they are South Africans — as good as any one else is — "in taste, in opinions, in morals and in intellect." They constitute an indispensable element in the socio-economic set-up of the country. By no stretch of imagination can the Indian Settlers, therefore, be regarded as foreign intruders into South Africa.

Indians, it may be noted further, went to Natal only twenty years after the English and to the Transvaal only twenty years after the Dutch. Poor logic, therefore — if logic at all — it is to brand the Indians as aliens and to regard the Britons and the Dutch as indigenous communities.

Indians are accused of entering into unfair economic competition with the European traders. The former, it is further alleged, have an abnormally low standard of living. The first allegation have absolutely no foundation in fact. The Indian trader's success is due more to his thrift and industry, his contentment with a comparatively modest profit, cheaper rates and his consideration for his customers than to any other factor. Cheap rates of Indian stores attract customers and are a blessing to the middle and poorer classes of people. Their rates are more reasonable than those of the European stores. The former

accept, besides, payments in easy instalments, whereas "cash and carry" is a matter of principle with the latter. The facility of paying in convenient instalments is a real boon to the lower income groups. Little wonder, they patronise the Indian stores. The consequent popularity of the Indian establishments causes heart-burning to the Europeans, who accuse the Indian traders of rate-cutting, unfair economic competition and commercial malpractices.

Lord Crewe, the Secretary of State for India, exposed the hollowness of the allegation that the Indian standards of living are low when he told the Imperial Conference in 1911—"There is nothing wrong in a man being a vegetarian and a teetotaller, and his family also, and being able to live very much more cheaply than the people who adopt the European standard of comfort.....If a man is content on (!) rice and water and does not require pork, beef and rum, he naturally is able to support his family on a very much lower scale. Consequently, you have to convert the entire Indian nation to a theory of economics which they do not hold at present and to which I think it will be extremely difficult to convert them."

The Europeans themselves are not a little responsible for making the Indian standards of living what they are. Sir Benjamin Robertson, a representative of the Government of India, aptly pointed out to the Asiatic Enquiry Commission appointed by the Government of the South African Union in 1914. "He (the Asian) is blamed as a poor spender, but any attempt to find an outlet for expenditure is either resented or prohibited." Disabilities under colour bar compel the Indians to practise economies.

The maintenance and extension of the western civilisation in South Africa, it is argued, necessitate the exclusion of the Indian and his civilisation from there. The argument is asuistical. The roots of the western civilisation have penetrated so deep into the South

African soil that none standing on his legs can seriously think or speak of replacing it by any other civilisation. All the non-European communities in South Africa—the African, the coloured, the Indian, the Chinese, the Malay—try to adapt themselves to the western way of life. An overwhelming majority of the Indian settlers in South Africa have adopted European manners and customs. Their outlook on life are more western than eastern. The Indian colonisation Enquiry commission (the Young Commission) appointed by the South African Government in the thirties said of Natal Indians "Generally speaking, the Natal-born Indian is educationally and socially in advance of his parents.....while retaining his religion (he) has become largely westernised and is no longer content to live as his father did on the limited rewards of rough and unskilled labour." The observation, let us add, applies to Indians all over the Union of South Africa.

Mrs. Vijay Lakshmi Pandit rightly told the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1946: "When South Africa contends that the presence of Indians in that country constitutes a threat to Western civilisation, what is meant, of course, is that it is a threat to European domination. It is not the (Western) civilisation that is threatened, but the doctrine of white supremacy, which means, in effect, safeguarding the domination of a particular race over all others." "South Africa", Mrs. Pandit added, "uses the pretext of western civilisation to retain control over 8,000,000 (the number is actually about 10,00,000) non-Europeans. This is a classic example of the state representing the wishes of those who control it."

The Europeans themselves corroborate—perhaps unconsciously and certainly involuntarily—Mrs. Pandit's contention by arguing that the doors of the union of South Africa must be closed to the Indian immigrants for all time to come as further immigration will

make the Indians a power in South African politics. A politically powerful and well-organised Indian community, the Europeans fear, will put an end to European supremacy in South Africa in the long run. The fear, however, is absolutely without any foundation. Neither the proportion of the Indian population to the European nor the former's rate of increase warrants the apprehension. The Indians are hated and feared—much more than the Africans—because of their intellectual leaderships and influence on the black masses.

How unreal the bogey of an Indian inundation of South Africa is becomes evident when one remembers that the Immigrants Regulation Act of 1911 absolutely prohibits the entry of Asians into the Union of South Africa. The Smuts-Gandhi Agreement (1914) and the Cape Town Agreements (1927 and 1932) accept the basic principle of the Act. From 1914 only a handful of Indians—mostly teachers and priests—have been admitted into the union.

The Indian settlers are charged with exercising an unhealthy influence on the European character by intruding upon the European society. Their presence, it is contended is, therefore, prejudicial to European interests. The apprehension is no more real than the other anti-Indian allegations examined above. Let us elaborate. The South African Indians have, by and large, adopted the European way of life. Their contacts with Europeans are purely formal and professional. There are far less personal and intimate than Anglo-Indian contacts in India before and after 1947. A handful of Englishmen and women in India were and are in no social danger from nearly four hundred million Indians, who have, by and large, clung to the traditional way of life. How can then nearly three million of Europeans in South Africa be socially threatened by Indians in that country, who are so few in number—less than half a milli on

—fewer, in fact, than the Europeans themselves and are handicapped by restrictions-prohibitions and disabilities of all sorts? Some of the European witnesses examined by the Savage Commission (1930) complained of extramarital relations between Indian men and European women. But the women concerned, the witnesses themselves admitted, were all uneducated, backward and extremely poor. The Commission observed, "Such occurrences are admittedly rare, and would probably be found as frequently amongst the coloured population of the country as amongst the Asiatics. The evidence certainly did not disclose any serious grounds for the fear of miscegenation in the future which was expressed by some of the witnesses. Apart from other considerations differences of religion would go a long way towards averting such a danger."

Indians in general are accused of having a standard of morality and it is argued that their presence in South Africa has a deleterious effect on the moral standards of the country. But no less a man than Mr. Henry Burton, a South African delegate to the Imperial Conference, 1915, refuted the charge unequivocally when he told the conference. "It is only fair to say and it is the truth that we have found that the Indians in our midst in South Africa, who form..... a substantial part of the population, are good, law-abiding, quiet citizens, and it is our duty to see.....that they are treated as human beings with feelings like our own, and in a proper manner."

The Indian in South Africa has his virtues and vices, his strong points as well as weak ones. He is not an angel. Nor is he the Devil either. He is just-human with all the virtues and vices the flesh is heir to. Heavy odds notwithstanding, the Indian community has made a considerable headway in commerce and education and has raised up a middle class, which supplies leadership to the community. The Indians demand racial equality and equality of opportunities with the Europeans.

They are no longer willing to accept a second or third class citizenship in the land of their adoption, a land which owes much of its present prosperity to them. "A comprehensive solution of the South African problem in all its aspects," points out Sir Shafa'at Ahmad Khan, once, the Indian High Commissioner in South Africa, "is a vital necessity and the time has arrived when it should be studied in a dispassionate manner. Segregation is no solution of the Indian problem in South Africa."

The powers that be will do well to bear in mind that "Men and women all over the world are on the march physically, intellectually and spiritually. After centuries of ignorance and dull compliance, hundreds of millions of people.....have opened their books. They are beginning to know that men's Welfare throughout the world is interdependent... Men and women.....are conscious of their potential strength." (Wendell Wilkie in *One World*).

"THE CRADLE OF SELF-GOVERNING INDIA"

MANCHESTER GUARDIAN'S TRIBUTE

A little more than sixty years ago the publishing house of G. A. Natesan and Co. was founded at Madras; and a stout volume commemorating its Diamond Jubilee has just reached us. The House fully deserves the congratulations which have been poured upon it; for it was in a sense the cradle of self-governing India. Within a year or two of its start, it began to publish the "INDIAN REVIEW", which soon won an assured position as a forum of serious discussion on public affairs; its motto, "Absit Invidia" ("Let there be no ill feeling") was an expression of the sober and friendly atmosphere in which the foundations of Indian nationalism were laid. Its series of cheap books on Indian philosophers and saints gave Indian education a cultural background which it then lacked. Then (as Sirdar Panik'ar's note in the present volume puts it), "his four-anna biographies of eminent Indians was for at least two generations the first introduction to nationalism, while the collected speeches of political leaders, which he published regularly, may be considered the beginnings of our political literature." He brought out Gandhi's "Indi Home Rule" in 1907, when the idea of home rule was almost unheard of; and Annie Besant's translation from the Sanskrit of the "Bhagavad-Gita," and English classical works such as "Childe Harold" and "Ivanhoe." A contributor to this volume calls the late G. A. Natesan the "Trumpet-major to Young India." Yes, but always "invidia aberat." (22-4-58)

The Yugoslav Federal People's Assembly

BY

Prof. Dr. JOVAN DJORDJEVIC

THE four-year existence of a political institution is too short a period to support the view that it has found its place and fulfilled its role in full measure or that it has perfected its working methods and organizational forms. This institution of Yugoslav political life, true, has benefited by the experiences of the preceding assemblies, notably the Assembly founded under the Constitution of 1946. In addition, the organization and working methods of the Federal People's Assembly also bear the stamp of the experiences of democratic parliaments which have functioned in other countries for centuries. But the Federal People's Assembly is the result of a relatively new conception; the conception of government by the assembly. Simultaneously the Federal People's Assembly is the basic institution of Socialist Democracy and the protagonist of definite basic principles of this political system.

The general premise about the value and the further development of the Assembly springs from the Yugoslav social and political system, as well as from the ideology of the progressive Socialist forces of the country, which impart the impulse, the stamp and the basic direction to this movement. This movement demands a further and fuller affirmation of the forms of Socialist Democracy. The value and the further development of Yugoslav Parliamentary institutions consists not in the delegation of authority to some executive centre, but rather in minimising it in favour of different forms of direct democracy and in strengthening socio political bodies exercising not only functions of authority, but functions of social management of "administrative matters".

The first group of these problems involves the internal organization and work in the procedure of the Assembly, its houses, committees and commissions. The committees of both houses represent a very important mechanism

of internal working. They are empowered to prepare the work of the houses, are preparatory work cells and, in the Yugoslav assembly system, do not share authority with the Assembly. Such a Constitutional conception has undergone no change in practice. Use has only been made, and exceptionally, of the independent right of the committees to issue recommendations which do not pass through the sessions of the houses.

During the last convention, the committees were not merely bodies which only approved the proposals submitted by the Federal Executive Council. They were a factor in the legislative process, demonstrating independence and breadth. The legislative committees are called upon to examine the draft laws primarily from the point of view of the legal system and legal form, yet they also may take an attitude on questions of substance. These committees have contributed considerably to the Yugoslav laws, as legal Acts, simultaneously representing a harmonious part of a complex legal system, to their being textually systematized, logical terminologically uniform and possessing all characteristics of sound legal documents. Even when they did take an attitude on some questions, the committees on legislation as a rule did not come into conflict with the committee of prime competence.

Therefore, the positive experience in the work of the committees would not demand any essential change in their role and working methods. It is certain that a still larger activity of the committees in the legislative process, as well as in preparing the remaining activities of the Assembly, corresponds to the further strengthening of the role and political authority of the highest representative body of the federation. In this context, committees are likely to be called upon to meet more frequently and with more impact (the Foreign Affairs

Committee). It is to be expected that the committees will take up more than heretofore—the examination of different reports which are presented to the Assembly, notably so the reports of the Federal Executive Council.

The second group of problems upon the solution of which depends the further development of the Federal People's Assembly is connected with the further elaboration and perfecting of the entire mechanism of Socialist Democracy.

During the past convention, too, the Assembly had pursued the practice of the so-called Deputy's questions which are addressed to the Federal Executive Council. These questions have a two-fold importance. They serve publicly to move examination of certain problems which otherwise are not the subject of the Assembly's normal work. In addition, here, too, is exercised the function of control by the assembly over the work of the Government. Development of this institution corresponds both to the further strengthening of the Assembly's role and to the whole process of democratization of social and political life. It is to be expected, hence, that the newly-elected Assembly will pay still more attention to utilization of this means, whereby it not only realizes its own function, but contributes to this process.

In the main, the Assembly has already taken over the whole legislative function delegated to it under the Constitution. The future Assembly will have the possibility, one corresponding to the objective political needs, too, to develop its activity toward the examination of a series of political and other questions of a general interest. From such an examination there stem, too, the framework and instructions for the work to the Federal Executive Council and other State organs, as well as independent organizations and institutions.

The relations between the Assembly and the Federal Executive Council spring from the assembly system itself and, particularly, from

the status of the Federal Executive Council as the executive body of the Assembly, the latter electing and relieving this executive body.

One form of the relations is represented by the yearly and intermittent reports which the Council presents to the Assembly. The reports afford an opportunity to the Assembly to fulfil its function of political control over the activity of executive authority, as well as in relation to certain views and proposals of the Federal Executive Council for the solution of these questions. These reports possibly have not yet assumed a full role in the Assembly's work, yet the public have accepted them today already as important documents concerning the development of Yugoslavia and the basic lines of the forthcoming policies.

There are other forms, too, in the relations between the Assembly and the Council and practice itself is certain to keep on creating more. However, the question arises whether the so-called instrument of confidence also exists in these relations. This instrument is a component part of the parliamentary system wherein the electorate (as in Britain) or the Assembly approve the policy of the Government but do not form this Government. Under the Yugoslav Constitution, the Assembly may at any time, on its own initiative, relieve all members of the Executive Council or the individual members thereof. The Council itself may propose that an individual member be relieved of office. So, the classical mechanism of confidence is not necessary in the system of government by the assembly, since confidence actually constitutes the sinews of this system.

The Constitution makes provision for a special jurisdiction of the Council of Producers. According to it, this Council, the highest representative body of the producers, and a kind of Supreme Workers' Council of Yugoslavia, should also deal with questions affecting Workers' Management and issue certain recommendations in this respect, and decisions of a

binding nature, on the basis of special law. Such a law has not been enacted up to now. According to a new Law passed in 1957, this house of the Assembly is competent to confirm the statutes of chambers. The view is current that the conditions have matured for expanding and making more precise these independent competencies of the Council of Producers,

Generally speaking, the Assembly and the Council of Producers are assuming more and more the role of the supreme body of social self-government in the process of strengthening this principle of direct Socialist Democracy. This gives rise to problems of the Assembly's jurisdiction, especially in relation to the reports on the work of the chambers, of the Federal Social Insurance Institute and similar independent bodies performing public functions.

Simultaneously there arises the still more important question of the relation of the Assembly, that is of public control, toward the financial and generally economic operations of the whole system of workers' and social management of major public functions and funds (in the fields of transport; the postal, telegraph and telephone services; banking; and economic enterprises integrally). The Assembly's development in this direction will depend on supplementing and perfecting the entire mechanism of government.

Government is characterized by a developed political-territorial and functional autonomy the base of which is constituted by Workers' self-government and the self-governing commune. Emancipating itself from the methods of administrative and State-bureaucratic centralism, this system of self-government demands a specific process of unification on a democratic basis. It is a matter of unification of the self-governing bodies on the level of the

Republic and the Federation. These bodies are exercising those functions which still have to be realized in a unified way. As a result, the Federal People's Assembly, as well as the republican assemblies, have an important place in this process of democratic unification of the social and political system of the country. Herein lies the possibility of new functions which these bodies will be assuming and which shall differ from the classical system of authority.

The Federal People's Assembly is a representative body of citizens who perform definite political, social and public functions in various organs and institutions, as well as of producers who remain the active creators and material values. This invests the Assembly with a new representative appearance. It is a democratic unification in the structure of a society changing on bases of social ownership of the means of production and on bases of new social relations in which the antagonistic relations are liquidated but there remains a series of old and new contradictions characteristic of every society in transition from capitalism to socialism. All this, still and primarily, makes the Federal People's Assembly a political institution.

Such a character of the Assembly indicates the great political importance of the elections. These are not only an act of realization of the basic rights of citizens, but a component part in forming the policy of the Federal People's Assembly. In this function of the elections an important place falls to the institution of candidates' nomination through assemblies of voters with the participation of a District Nominations' Commission, which is being introduced for the first time in the elections of March, 1958.

The Middle East and the Policy of the Baghdad Pact Powers

By

Mr. ADITYA PRASAD SEN GUPTA, M.A.

THE original object of the Baghdad Pact was to bar political and economic infiltration of Soviet Russia into the Middle Eastern area. But Soviet infiltration could not be checked as a result of the split in the Arab world immediately after the conclusion of the Pact. On account of differences among the Arab States the United States of America still hesitates to be a full member of the Baghdad Pact Council. No doubt the U.S.A. has formulated Eisenhower doctrine for extending her influence over the entire Arab world. But even that doctrine is a failure.

On returning from Ankara Mr. Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, who led the U.S. observer delegation to the Pact's Ministerial Council declared in Washington on February 1, 1958 that the five Baghdad Pact members and the United States of America stood United to bar Soviet armed aggression from the North. He believed that the identification of the U.S.A. with the Pact, pursuant to the Eisenhower Middle East doctrine, constituted an important fortifying element.

It was decided at the N.A.T.O. summit conference in Paris that the N.A.T.O. countries should be given atomic weapons and after three years there should be stationed on the territories of these countries the medium-range rockets. But it seems that at the present moment the U.S.A. is not in favour of stationing rockets on the territories of the Baghdad Pact powers, because first of all she will have to provide N.A.T.O. countries with atomic weapons. Not only that. For two reasons the question of giving atomic weapons to the Baghdad Pact Powers does not arise at present. Firstly the rockets have not yet been manufactured in the U.S.A. Secondly according to the provisions of an Act the U.S.A. is not legally competent

to give such weapons to other Powers. As Norstadt, the U.S. army man, is the supreme commander of the N.A.T.O. the atomic weapons manufactured in the U.S.A. may possibly be furnished to the N.A.T.O. Powers in keeping with the Act. But the case of the Baghdad Pact Powers is different. Even now the Pact Powers have not yet been able to set up a united command, and the U.S.A. is not a full member of the Pact council. Besides there is no likelihood of any U.S. army man being supreme commander of the Pact Powers, even if a united command is set up. If, of course, the U.S.A. considers it necessary to provide the Pact Powers with atomic weapons, she will either have to be a full member of the Pact Council or the Act prohibiting export of such weapons will have to be amended. Here it may be mentioned that it will not be difficult for the Pact Powers to have atomic weapons from Britain, because Britain is a full member of the Pact Council and the export of atomic weapons from Britain is not prohibited by any Act.

In its final communique issued in Ankara on January 30, the Baghdad Pact Ministerial conference urged, on the one hand, co-operation between the Pact and "other free world regional collective security organizations" and called on U.N. members to accept the concept of the U.N.E.F. as an instrument for use in areas of disturbance on the other. The conference also called for "constant exposure of the familiar communist tactics and subversive penetration, falsely presented as friendly co-existence with under-developed countries." But it is doubtful whether the Baghdad Pact has actually developed into a cohesive organization representing the best hope for the safeguarding of peace, liberty and independence of the Middle Eastern area.

When An Egyptian Chief Ruled Arabs from Cairo

By

Mr. M. V. C. RAU.

EGYPT and Syria first came together under a single kingdom in the latter half of the twelfth century during one of the most notable periods in the early history of the Middle East, under the famous monarch of Egypt, Saladin the great. Salah ed-din Yusuf Ibn-Eyyab, as Saladin's full name was, rose to the Egyptian throne in 1170 and became the master of Damascus and Aleppo by 1175 and exacted from the Caliph of Baghdad the title of "Sultan of Egypt and Syria." He thus established a new Arab Empire with its capital at Cairo acknowledging the orthodox Sunni Muslim faith. He also conquered Mesopotamia and most of Asia Minor. Saladin carved an unique niche for himself in the history of the East as the Conqueror who stemmed the tide of Western conquest on the East and turned it instead, from the East to West. The Union of Mohammedan East which he achieved dealt beyond question, the death blow to the Latin kingdom.

To begin with, however, Saladin did not assume the title of the Caliph, which implied the kingly as well as the sacerdotal office. The fact all the more significant to note today—was that he was only of an ordinary birth, as the son of a Kurdish Chief and did not inherit the blood of the prophet or of the Royal family. He had therefore to content himself with the title of 'Sultan' and entrusted all sacred royal duties to the care of Holy Priest of the sacred lineage.

Saladin rose to power after the downfall of the Fatima dynasty, the last of whose kings by name Aladin died leaving no heir to the throne. After Caliph Nur-ed-din's death in 1174 his vassals rebelled against the youthful heir es-Salih, and Saladin came from north nominally to his assistance. But gradually in course of time Saladin worked

for political independence and suppressed the name es-Salih in prayer and on the coinage and was declared Sultan in 1175.

Saladin's era coincided with that of a famous contemporary in England Richard the Lion Heart and it is perhaps particularly significant today to note again that the unprecedented rise of this Egyptian Chief was stemmed towards the end by his western contemporary during the course of his famous Crusade. A tax called 'Saladin Tithe' was levied in England for the Crusade against Saladin. Saladin's career broadly falls into three parts—Conquest in Egypt (1164-1174), Annexation of Syria (1174-1187), and lastly the destruction of Latin kingdom and subsequent campaigns against Christians during 1187-1192. The opportunity of Saladin fundamentally lay in the fact that his life time covered the period when there was a conscious demand for political union in defence of Mohammedan faith.

Saladin faced two powerful factions opposing his authority: the King of Syria and the adherents of the Fatima dynasty. The former dreaded war with a neighbour while the latter wished to retain the sceptre in their possession. He, however, crushed the plans of the Fatimites in a successful battle with 10,000 men at his command and proceeded to combat the Christian of Sicily led by King William in a campaign which he considered to be of crucial importance to his reputation and future career. He successfully laid siege to Alexandria by both land and sea, but on the way to his Sicilian campaign, his crusaders, in spite of their mighty number, were smitten with such a sudden panic that they beat a hasty retreat, leaving behind them even their stores, baggage and military Engine! Encouraged by this the

Syrians, anxious to stem the tide of Saladin built by alliances with their neighbouring countries and made bold to fight out a battle. But the encounter resulted in such a convincing victory for Saladin that he returned home as the undisputed master of the whole of Syria.

Saladin next directed his attention to the enlargement and fortification of Cairo to make it a capital worthy of his extensive domains and worthy of comparison with the glory of the ancient cities adorned by Ptolemy, Menes and others. He tried to encourage schools and national literature amidst the diversion of the din of arms and war.

Saladin's next campaign in 1187 to subdue Palestine at first met with a serious reverse due to the animated opposition and dogged spirit of the Christians. But pressing on with his courageous commanders, he managed to triumph over the allied forces of Lusignan, the King of Jerusalem and Arnold, Lord of Karnac, who were taken prisoners. The former was treated with respect but the latter was put to death for having inflicted great loss to the followers of the Prophet. Saladin further annexed Ptolemais, Neapolis and Caesarea among other cities and marched to the enemies' capital, whose Governor, after dogged resistance was forced to propose a capitulation. Saladin, enraged by the delayed submission, however, refused the terms and announced the sacking and demolition of the holy city though it was equally venerated by Mohamedans and Christians. The cruel threats roused deadly feelings in the defenders who threatened back to put 5000 of his prisoners to death' extinguish all life in the city as also every valuable possession, including the sacred rock of the Kornan: This forced Saladin to content himself with a ransom in money.

The last stand of the crusaders was on the saddle shaped hill, Kurn Hattin—popularly associated with the "Horn of Hattin"—which rises to the double crest rock, the traditional

site of Christ's immortally calassical sermon. "Blessed are the Peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God... Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father who is in heaven. Here the scattered remnant rallied round the holy "True Cross" but perished or were taken prisoners along with the seige of a precious relic of Christianity. In the picturesque words of Sir George Adam Smith, "The defeat was utter. A militant and truculent Christianity...met its judicial end within view of the Scenes where Christ proclaimed the Gospel of Peace and went about doing good".

Of all the many sieges Jerusalem none was ever more grotesque than that of Saladin. No serious resistance was offered; only two refugee knights could be found in the city. "There was not a prince in all Christendom who would have treated a helpless Muslim city as Saladin treated Jerusalem".

The enlarged authority of Saladin from Thebes to Damascus inspired the King of France, Emperor of Germany and Richard Cocur de Lion of England to make a joint attack. They encamped before the stronghold of Ptolemais—the present Acre—but their lack of complete harmony helped Saladin to resist without much loss for a considerable time. But the approach of a famine weakned his position and he was forced by terms to refund to them a part of the booty he has extorted from their allies and march out with honours, leaving behind the town which he had sieged at the cost of three hundred thousand men, including the flower of European Chivalry and the best warriors of the East.

After several other vicissitudes in which his valour combined with internal jealousies among his foes secured him great advantages, Saladin finally died in the fifty-fifth year of age, after a short illness.

Saladin was in many ways a typical Mohamedan—in keeping with his name which means "Honouring the faith"—and fiercely hostile

towards unbeliever. "Let us purge the air of the air they breathe, was his warning for the demons of the cross." Educated in the most famous centre of Muslim learning, he represented the best tradition of culture. He showed a distinct pride in his race and would say, "God reserved this triumph for the Ayyubites before all others. His generosity and hospitality was shown in his gifts to the Richard and his treatment of the captives. He had the Oriental's power of endurance alternating with violent and emotional courage. Among other virtues of his, were his extreme gentleness, his love for children, his flawless honesty, his invariable kindliness, chivalry to women and to the weak. Above all he typified the Mohamedan's utter self surrender to a sacred cause. He was however, no statesman and left no constitution or Code to the East. On his death, his empire was divided among his relatives.

As a strategist Saladin was no comparison to Richard. As a General he never organised his army. His lack of fleet seemed to enable the Christians to receive reinforcements and recover from defeats by land. "My troops will do nothing, save when I ride at their head and review them" Saladin confessed curiously as a Military leader. Saladin placed but little confidence in the native troops of Egypt. He had around him a guard of foreigners, composed of slaves purchased or made captives in the provinces bordering the western shores of Caspian Sea. The power and privileges of these attendants was gradually increased by the latter Egyptian Sultans until at length they acquired the entire sovereign authority. The Manlouk dynasty founded by these underlings in spite of repeated convulsions directed the affairs of Egypt for no less than one hundred and twenty years!

Folk Music of India

By

Sri D. T. JOSHI, Deputy Chief Producer, Music, A.I.R.

THE history of the folk art of India, as indeed, of any other country, is the history of varying cultural trends in the life of the people. No other human activity reflects so faithfully the genius of a land as her folk art do. They emanate spontaneously from the very life of the people; their roots buried deep into the soil.

All classical arts—and music is no exception—have their origin in folk art. Some of the more sophisticated musical forms of today have been borrowed from simple folk songs. The Dhamar, for instance, a highly stylized musical form today, has evolved out of an established common variety of folk songs sung in areas around Mathura and Vrindaban.

The amorous exploits of Lord Krishna in the context and surroundings of the Holi festival constitute the burden of these songs. Gra-

dually, with the evolution of the Dhrupad, these simple songs became more and more sophisticated and are recognised classical forms today.

The roots of all stylized classical music are to be traced to the folk music of different regions of the country. A critical survey of the evolution of classical music would show that most of the Ragas are only refined and sophisticated versions of some of the popular airs of folk music. Jhinjhoti, Piloo, Des, Bhimpalasi, to name only a few, owe their origin to folk tunes.

Some of the comparatively recent musical forms like the Tappa and the Jhumri claim their descent from folk music. Originally the Tappa was a type of folk song associated with camel drivers of the Punjab. It was Ghulam Nabi who popularised this folk variety and

gave it a refined form. Today, Tappa has earned a place of pride in the repertoire of every eminent classical musician.

Likewise, the Thumri, too, looks for inspiration to the rich wealth of folk lore in which India abounds. Folk varieties of the North, like Kajri, Chaiti, Birha, Sawan, Holi, etc., can be regarded as the precursors of the modern Thumri.

Indeed, in this process of transition from the crude to the refined, brought about through historical accidents, the songs and the tunes became more stylized with the result that except for the language and the theme content, the urbanised version of these folk songs move hardly have anything of the folk about them.

But, the rich heritage of our folk music has, to this day, remained untainted by the touch of sophistication and has come down to us as the living expression of our mass culture. Folk music has a direct and spontaneous appeal and has a way of touching the innermost chords of the heart. It pulsates with feeling and throbs with emotion and is symbolic of the hopes and aspirations, the joys and sorrows of the people.

It has always been the common property of the rich and the poor alike. From Kashmir to Cape Comorin and from Assam to Saurashtra, our land abounds in a rich and colourful variety of folk music. While some of the finest types of folk songs of Europe are almost forgotten, India has been able to preserve her rich heritage of folk songs.

Even today, our folk songs are as much alive in the villages as they were hundreds of years ago. It is amazing that our folk music, in spite of its diversity, has been able to retain its unity and is responsible for a strong undercurrent of kinship that runs through the varying cultural pattern in the life of the people.

During my tour of Saurashtra some years ago, I was particularly struck by the tune of a *Garba* which bore a strong resemblance to a folk tune I had heard in Bengal much earlier. Similarly, I have occasionally noticed a marked affinity between some of the folk melodies of Garhwal and those of Himachal Pradesh.

India is a vast country with different climatic conditions, beliefs and practices. Naturally, every region has its own distinct variety of folk music. The Kajri and Chaiti of Uttar Pradesh, the Mahia and Bhangra of the Punjab, the Baul and Bhatiali of Bengal, the Lavani and Powda of the Maharashtra and the Ras and Garba of Gujarat and Saurashtra are some of the widely known types of folk music extant today. These, however, by no means exhaust the list.

Our folk songs almost cover the entire range of human activity. India lives in villages and the village folks have evolved different types of songs to suit their respective vocations. The song of a boatman would, therefore, differ from that of a peasant, and the song of a cowboy would not be the same as that of a wood cutter. There are seasonal varieties, devotional melodies and songs sung on festive occasions, in addition to different types of choruses and solos sung by men and woman.

Periodical concerts of folk music by parties of folk singers from different regions of the country are held before invited audiences frequently. Besides, folk songs are regularly broadcast by different stations of A.I.R. These concerts have greatly helped in fostering and popularising the folk music.

The folk music of India is coming back to its own and is gaining in popularity both with the urban and rural people. It had a past but is certainly assured of a bright future.

Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II

By

"A HISTORIAN"

QUEEN not only of Britain but of other great nations beyond the seas, and Head of the Commonwealth, M. Queen Elizabeth II is by inheritance the holder of one of the most illustrious positions in the modern world. The air of happiness which she radiates reflects the joy of her family life and extends to all her public activities.

It is required of royalty to present to the world an inspiring symbolic figure and yet be so completely a natural human being that the two characters are wholly fused together. Nature and training have combined in Queen Elizabeth to bestow on the Queen this graceful quality.

While on the ceremonial side she carries herself with serene stateliness, the moment formal requirements have been met she can be on terms of unassuming friendliness with duke or dustman. Among people of high rank there is scarcely anyone easier for a stranger to talk to. Queen Elizabeth's courteous and friendly manners proceed from an inner warmth of heart.

At Clarence House, and later at Buckingham Palace, since the birth of Prince Charles and Princess Anne there has been a happy family with which the public, and especially the younger generation, could identify themselves and to which they could look for an ideal.

One of the most important duties of the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh is bringing up their children. It is never easy to bring up a child; how much harder it is when his role in the future is that of constitutional Sovereign of a great Commonwealth.

Queen Elizabeth and the Duke try to bring up Prince Charles as much as possible as a normal boy. The Queen once said to one of her household that her son must be brought up first to be a good man, because, if he is not a good man, how can he be a good king?

Prince Charles is now a sturdy and independent boy of almost nine years old. He has an open and friendly nature, is intensely curious about life around him, and is plucky and game for anything. Like Princess Anne, he has been brought up to take the bumps and knocks of childhood without complaint. His parents would strongly resist any suggestion that the Prince is exceptionally gifted, but he is a clever boy, with aptitude and perseverance above the average for his age.

The Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh see as much of their children as their duties permit. When they are at home in Buckingham Palace the children see their parents after breakfast, and again the Queen spends the time between tea and bed time with them. When the Royal Family is out of London, the children are with their parents most of the time. They walk and ride together, the Queen and the Duke teaching the children their special skills and interests, and even when Princess Anne's governess is present, it is the parents who control them.

It is noticeable that the children, when with their parents have a wide measure of freedom and are allowed to stray quite a distance, but they are instantly obedient. Both children have natural good manners. They are friendly, and enjoy meeting people.

The parents particularly share their hobbies with the children. The Queen gave Prince Charles and Princess Anne their first lessons in riding, and the family often rides out together, Prince Charles on "Greensleeves" and Princess Anne on wise old "William." The Duke of Edinburgh taught both children to swim, and Prince Charles to dive, a comparatively new accomplishment. He taught Prince Charles the rudiments of cricket. He taught him to steer a boat, and took him for a week's sailing in boisterous weather at Cowes in August.

The relaxations of Queen Elizabeth II and the Duke of Edinburgh centre first in their family, and in their homes and the pleasant surroundings in which they are set. Like any other parents, they delight in introducing their children to the sights and skills which they themselves enjoy.

Both the Queen and the Duke prefer a country life. To picnic with the children, walk with the dogs, ride over the open spaces of Windsor Great Park or along the hill paths around Balmoral, always gives them intense pleasure. Both have a keen eye for the countryside, and both like to plan improvements on the royal farms.

But, although a large proportion of their relaxations coincide, they are not carbon copies of each other's.

The Queen was brought up in the country, and enjoys sports. She is a good rifle shot, and was taught to stalk when only a girl. She is fond of salmon-fishing, and, wearing rubber thighboots, will wade deep into the swift river Dee, which flows through the Balmoral estate.

Music is another of her recreations. She plays the piano well, although she seldom goes to concerts.

But undoubtedly Queen Elizabeth's chief hobby is horses and every form of equitation. Here she is a real and considerable expert, keenly interested in the breeding of racehorses, and in every form of stable management. The

Queen's knowledge is underlined by the fact that she is one of the few British racing owners who make racing pay, although she does not bet. In 1954, thanks chiefly to Aureole, she was leading flat race owner in Britain, with total winnings in nine years of £40,993.

It is obvious that Queen Elizabeth feels completely at home on a horse. Her horses, of which perhaps the present favourite is Betay, a black mare, are pleasant backs chosen for their comfortable paces and good manners, rather than for pedigree or value.

The Duke of Edinburgh, too, is a good horseman. He is also an enthusiastic polo player with drive and initiative.

The Duke prefers taking part in sports. He plays games well, but, not unnaturally, he has little time to practice. A keen cricketer, he follows the fortune even of the County second teams.

Like all naval officers the Duke of Edinburgh is keen on yachting.

Both the Queen and the Duke of Eninburgh realise the value of outdoor relaxation, not only for themselves but for others, and in consequence have associated themselves wholeheartedly with such bodies as the National Playing Fields Association, of which the Queen is interested Patron and the Duke a very active President, the Central Council for Physical Recreation and the Outward Bound Trust and Schools Exploring Society.

Limitations of Deficit Financing

By

Prof. K. C. CHAKRAVARTI

AT the time of depression, if the Government adopts a deficit budget i.e., if the Government spends an amount in excess of what it receives as revenue, the net additional expenditure in the economy goes to augment the income of those people who receive what the Government spends and this flow of extra incomes stimulates demand, revives trade and

leads to what is known as recovery. This however, is true in the case of cyclical unemployment. Industrially advanced countries periodically suffer from this kind of cyclical unemployment when labour and resources remain unutilised. Employers do not employ them because, in the absence of any demand for consumption goods, they do not find it profit

able to engage labour and resources in production. At this stage, if deficit financing is to produce the desired effect there must remain in the economy, a stock of unemployed labour and resources. And because of this unemployed pool, at this stage, the factors of production have an elastic supply, which means that the employers can have any quantity of labour and resources at the same price. Normally an increase in the supply of labour and resources is possible by offering a higher rate. But here no higher remuneration need be given. There exists the unemployed pool and at the same rate of remuneration the employers can have any quantity of these factors of production.

Unemployment in India is not of this nature. We have in India what is called underemployment. We have labourers, we have land, we have also capital and resources but these exist potentially. They cannot immediately be set to production and their supply is not elastic. If due to deficit financing, money income increases and demand is stimulated, employers will like to engage more labour and resources, and set them to production. But whom will they employ? We have plenty of labourers in India but they are not trained and skilled; land exists but without irrigation water, manure etc. it is not immediately available for cultivation. Had labourers been trained before and if they had the experience of working in mills and factories, they could have been appointed at once. Had land been cleared, had irrigation canals been dug and had factories producing chemical fertilisers been working, then, land could have been immediately used. This is the sense in which we say that India is not properly and adequately developed and this development is exactly what the planners want to do. In the absence of such development, which requires time and capital, if the employers appoint labour and purchase resources, those which are already employed will have to be brought by offering them a higher rate. In that case the wage rate, cost of production and

prices will increase. Deficit financing, therefore, will lead to inflation.

The volume of deficit financing in our Second Plan, however, is negligible. Out of an expenditure of 4800 crores, deficit financing will cover only 1200 crores i.e. 25% and that also in five years. In that sense, the theoretical implication of inflation due to deficit financing will be 5% every year. If the price level rises by 5% every year, there cannot be any serious objection. Even if it involves some loss to the wage earners and consumers, this can be ignored considering the benefit that will accrue to India. The development that will take place is a positive gain and therefore this 5% inflation cannot be a serious objection.

But this is not likely to happen. First, even theoretically, in 5 years the rise in price will be cumulative and on a modest estimate it will rise by some 36 to 40 percent. Secondly, apart from the 1200 crores covered by deficit financing the expenditure by the Government will not always lead to real production of wealth. Government expenditure in most cases is extravagant and wasteful. Against every pie spent by the Government, there will not be a corresponding amount of wealth produced. Thirdly, and this is the most serious consideration, deficit financing cannot help up in getting plants and equipments from abroad. By deficit financing, the Government first gets command over the resources. Rise of prices takes place later and what really takes place is that purchasing power goes to the Government from the ultimate consumers. The Government gets the purchasing power and through that, has command over goods and services. When the price rises, because of the rise of prices, consumers find that they cannot purchase and consume as much as they did before. The amount lost by the consumers goes to the Government treasury and this would have been the position if the consumers were taxed. Deficit financing, therefore, is a form of taxation and possibly the worst form of taxation.

Socially and politically this is undesirable. The aim of planning is to increase consumption and raise the standard of living but if consumption is reduced and the standard of living is lowered, the very purpose of planning is frustrated. Our people are living virtually on subsistence level and if they are forced to reduce their consumption, the result socially and politically may be disastrous.

It is, therefore essential that the price structure should remain what it is and it should not be allowed to alter. The Planning Commission seems to be conscious of this and states clearly and categorically that "the objective of price policy for the next few years should be, firstly, to prevent a further rise in prices and, to

the extent possible, to bring down;" (The First Five Year Plan: A Draft Outline, 1957, P. 28).

Lastly, even if the Government gets purchasing power by depriving the consumer that purchasing power can only be utilised within the country in making plants and equipments if that is technically possible. But when that is not technically possible, the Government will have to import them from abroad. This can be done only when the country has foreign exchange. Deficit financing gives the Government command over resources within the country but it cannot earn foreign exchange. This, therefore, is a serious limitation on developing a country by deficit financing.

The Indian Air Force

By

SQUADRON LEADER VED P. BHASIN

FIRST April 1958 is indeed an historic day, when the IAF completed 25 glorious years in the country's service. On this occasion, the Service could only glance back on its past career of endeavour and achievement with a sober sense of satisfaction but can, at the same time, look forward with heightened self-confidence to playing a progressively more effective role in the nation's battles of peace, no less than war should the menacing clouds precipitate one. In keeping with the tradition, on this day of commemoration, the IAF dedicates itself anew to the devoted, disciplined and loyal service of the motherland in the future as in the past.

From the slow supine Westland Wapitis to the trans-sonic modern Mysteres and Hunters—that is the story of the IAF. Let us retrace the salient steps by which this no mean transition has been accomplished. Protracted birth-pangs and prolonged teething troubles characterised the birth and infancy of the Service.

Though conceived as early as 1927 by the renowned Skeene Committee, it was not until April 1, 1933, that the IAF crystallised into shape by virtue of an enactment of the then Indian Legislature. It was five years before the initial Flight formed at Karachi, comprising six Cranwell-graduated pilots, 19 airmen (then graphically designated "Hawai Sepoys") and four outfashioned Wapitis, was supplemented by two additional Flights to enable the famed No. 1 Squadron of the IAF to be formed.

Schooling in Army co-operation, then considered the prime purpose of air power, punctuated by two active spells of operation against insurgent tribesmen on the North-West Frontier filled the first formative five years of the IAF. The Frontier operations not only provided our pioneering pilots, some of whom are at the helm of affairs today practical training in Army co-operation but what is more, gave them experience in low-flying over rugged, undulating mountainous terrain.

At the outbreak of World War II, the IAF was still an inconsequential body consisting of 16 officers 269 airmen and a bunch of thoroughly outmoded Wapitis. Early reverses sustained by the Allies pinpointed the need for strengthening the IAF. Steadily things began to move on the path of expansion. As a first step, a training school for volunteer reserve cadets was set up. This was followed by the establishment of a ring of coastal defence reserve flights at Karachi, Bombay, Calcutta, Madras, Cochin and Vishakapatnam to guard India's 3,000-mile coastline. Initially independent, these coastal flights were integrated into the structure of the Service in 1942.

The year 1941 witnessed the raising of two new squadrons and the replacement of Wapitis by Lysanders. This was indeed some progress, but it was really the Pearl Harbour disaster that energised the pace of development. As a result of the fillip, within two years the IAF grew into a nine-squadron force, seven equipped with Hurricanes and two with Vultee Vengeance dive-bombers.

Immediately on the opening of the South-East Asian Theatres of War, the IAF rushed to the Burma Front, where, along with the air forces of the other Allied Powers, it did yeomen's service for its size. As an element of the Allied Tactical Air Force, flights of the IAF spearheaded strategic bombing sorties, carried out visual and photo-reconnaissance projects and Army co-operation mission with prodigious success. For the vital part it later played in the Arakan and Imphal campaigns from April 1943 to August 1945, the IAF earned the significant sobriquet, "Eyes and Ears of the 14th Army"—a tribute worthy of a more seasoned Service. Grant of the then coveted titular prefix "Royal" to the IAF (later shed when India became a Republic) and inclusion of No. 4 Squadron, IAF, in the Commonwealth Occupation Force sent to Japan on the termination of hostilities came as a welcome recognition of the commendable

contribution of the IAF to the Allied war effort in the Eastern Theatre.

On V-Day, the IAF could boast of nine squadrons, with the tenth, a transport squadron, in the offing, besides some supporting maintenance and training units. This clearly represented a tangible improvement on the pre-war position. Nonetheless, the resources of the IAF were unquestionably far from adequate for the defence requirements of a country of the proportions of India.

In the immediate post-war period the process of the so-called Indianisation of the Service, was set on foot. Soon after Independence re-organisation and modernisation of the Service were taken in hand. All the training institutions had been taken over by IAF officers overnight, and but for a very few appointments of highly technical nature, all executive posts at Air H.Q. and all other Formations, were taken over by Indian officers.

The process of complete nationalisation culminated four years ago, on April 1, 1954, with the assumption of the overall command of the Service by Air Marshal Subroto Mukerjee, the first Indian Air Chief, under whose stewardship the Service has accomplished some epoch-making advance. The day also marked the 21st—coming of age—anniversary of the IAF. On this day the President, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, presented his Colours to the Air Force, in appreciation of its services to the nation.

Partition posed perplexing problems for the Service. Not only did it result in the loss to the IAF of two squadrons but, what is more, of a large number of vital permanent stations which happened to be located in territory which went to Pakistan. The suddenness with which dismemberment came was staggering and threatened disintegration. Thanks to an inspired programme of reorganisation pushed through with deftness and determination, the Service soon emerged a well-knit, revitalised force ready to do its bit in the defence of Free India.

The evacuation of refugees from West Pakistan and the defence of Jammu and Kashmir came in swift succession in the very first year of independence, and the IAF in every case answered the call of duty with distinction. The decisive part it played in stemming the tidal wave of marauders surging into the Kashmir Valley and subsequently beating back the invaders is too well-known to need recapitulation. The history-making exploits of our air-crew in the defence of the Valley will go down as outstanding achievements in military aviation.

Under the programme of reorganisation launched soon after partition, the regional "Groups" of the IAF were transformed into functional commands—Operational and Training—to which was later added the Maintenance Command in 1955, thus rationalising the organisational structure of the Service.

Likewise, since independence, the equipment of the IAF has undergone progressive modernisation. Acquisition of the first batch of Vampires in 1948 signalled the dawn of the jet era in the IAF. Since then, expansion and modernisation have systematically gone hand in hand. In recent months, increased threat of aggression against national security has imparted special urgency to the pace of development. As a result, the IAF today can claim to be a compact, balanced force of considerable potential capable of doing its duty as the sentinel and spearhead of India's defence.

Among its assets the IAF can today count on a sound, streamlined training structure designed to meet the requirements of an expanding organisation. Thanks to her broad-based network of schools and colleges, which are also serving the needs of India's friendly neighbours like Afghanistan, Burma, Egypt and Indonesia, the quality of IAF's performance is second to none in the world. Several N.C.C. Air Squadrons, doing good work in fostering air-mindedness among the youth of the country, are indeed a significant link in the IAF's chain of training establishments.

Exchange of goodwill missions with the air forces of friendly countries, now a regular feature, has created a fund of goodwill for the IAF abroad and participation of the IAF in our campaigns of peace in Korea and Indo-China has helped augment its prestige in the international field.

"Mercy missions" to places affected by natural calamities, such as floods, earthquakes and typhoons within the country, and recently to Ceylon, aerial surveys of inaccessible areas, air-sowing of arid deserts, antilocus and anti-malaria operations—these and such like other activities—are some of the ways in which the IAF plays its part in the peace-time life of the nation.

Indeed, the IAF today is a far cry from the early Wapiti days. Nonetheless, the fact must be acknowledged that it has yet to travel far to rank among the world's major air powers. Dependence on foreign sources of supply and financial stringency are plainly formidable factors inhibiting its full-paced development. Prospects, however, are heartening. With the planned growth of the national aviation industry, which is already making measured headway, and the regeneration of the national economy, the IAF is bound to keep going forward from strength to strength, playing its manifold role in the vital and varied tasks of peace as also the defence of the motherland.

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THE HARD WAY

Jesus was one day walking along the sea-shore when a devotee approached him and asked, "Lord, how can one attain God?" Jesus directly walked into the sea with the enquirer and immersed him into the water. After a short time he released him and raising him by the arm, asked him, "How did you feel?" The devotee replied, "I felt as though my last moment had come—the condition was desperate." "Upon this Jesus said, "You shall see the Father when your heart pants for Him as it has panted for a breath of air just now."

SRI RAMA KRISHNA.

Dr. D. K. Karve, the great Pioneer of Social Reform

By MR. P. DANIEL

India celebrated on April 18 the centenary of Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve, great pioneer of social reform and founder of the Indian Women's University.

Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve, "grand old man of Maharashtra," was felicitated on the occasion of his 101st birthday under the auspices of the Dr. D. K. Karve Centenary Celebration Committee at the Brabourne Stadium, Bombay.

Mr. Nehru, who specially flew to Bombay to attend the celebration, declared that he had come to attend this unique occasion not to congratulate Dr. Karve but "to seek his blessings and get guidance and inspiration from him." [Editor, "I. R."]

DR. Karve advocated social reforms at a time when such advocacy involved great unpopularity.

He also put into practice the social reforms he advocated.

When his first wife died nearly 70 years ago he married a widow, facing the wrath of the orthodoxy.

He was ostracised from his own community; the very institutions which he had helped to establish put a ban against his attending any of their gatherings.

He could not stay even with his parents, and had to live in an outhouse where the newly-wedded couple were subjected to several indignities.

The Brahmin neighbours, especially the orthodox women, took a sadistic delight in keeping non-stop watch on the movements of the couple and made fun of them whenever an occasion arose.

But Karve carried on his work undeterred by public insults.

In his native village there lived a young woman of character and excellent upbringing whose husband had disappeared.

Karve had great admiration for the family, but as it happened this unfortunate woman fell a victim to the machinations of a wicked person and was driven out of the house.

Therefore, she spent the rest of her life in a temple far away from her native village, rendering service to the temple.

Karve saw her in that condition, and was so deeply moved by her misery that immediately he decided to do all he could to improve the condition of women in general and of widows in particular.

Thus came into existence the Widows' Home, which was first started in his own house and later shifted to Hingne.

Karve had a keen sense of duty towards the Widows' Home.

Daily he would go on foot from Poona to this place, about four miles away, carrying a load of provisions on his shoulders.

And he did not allow even domestic difficulties, including the sickness of his wife and children, to interfere with his daily routine.

Karve was no rich man's son.

As a student he had to give private tuitions from morning to midnight to meet his college expenses.

After graduation he worked for some time as a teacher in Alexandra Girls' High School in Bombay.

There he saw Parsi girls participating in games and physical culture activities.

Why should he not have similar institutions for Hindu girls? he asked himself, and started the Stree Shikshan Sanstha, which established a full-fledged high school for girls at Hingne equipped with a hostel, a play-ground, a swimming pool and all other paraphernalia of a model educational institution.

One day a postman brought him the day's mail which contained a pamphlet.

He tore open the wrapper, hurriedly turned over the pages of the pamphlet, dropped it into the drawer of his table and gave no more thought to it.

A few months later he was elected president of the Indian Social Reform Conference, and while looking out for material for presidential address, he came across this discarded pamphlet, went through it very carefully, and felt convinced that India must have a full-fledged Women's University.

The presidential address was composed almost entirely of a strong plea for establishing such a university.

He had no funds for putting the scheme through.

The Government was of course, not going to give it any grant or recognition because the scheme followed a completely unorthodox path.

But what was more surprising was that even some of his friends in the field of social reform were opposed to the idea.

In spite of such adverse circumstances, within a few months of the Conference Karve announced the personnel of the Senate of the University, including some of the foremost leaders of education in the country with Dr. R. G. Bhandarkar as the Vice-Chancellor.

The University was unique in at least three respects.

Firstly, it was the only university in India exclusively meant for women.

Secondly, it was the only university at that time (the Osmania University of Hyderabad came into existence a little later) which made Indian languages the media of instruction.

Thirdly, it was the only university which laid emphasis on the study of domestic sciences and other subjects of special interest to the practical life of women.

Each one of these features was an obstacle to the progress of the university.

The university was not recognised by Government.

And what students want most is a government-recognised degree or diploma at the end of their educational career so that they may be able to earn their living.

Indian languages as the media of instruction proved a great problem.

English was the medium everywhere, and there were no books available in Indian languages on many scientific subjects. Professors had to be trained to give Lectures in Indian languages.

In spite of this heavy handicap, Karve went ahead with his plan and plodded on till one fine morning Sir Vithaldas Thackersey came forward with the gift of Rs. 15 lakhs; the interest of which was used for running and expanding the university.

The university had so far been run with contributions received from the middle and lower middle classes.

This princely gift lifted the university out of its financial difficulties for some time, but it

had to face the same problem again after a few years because the trustees of Sir Vithaldas Thackersey refused to hand over the interest of the amount to the University.

This was quite a nerve-breaking affair.

Karve is a man of action.

Immediately he decided to cut the salary of the staff to the bone and the university carried on.

Ultimately, a settlement was arrived at between the University and the trustees, and the interest began coming in again.

Donations poured in from other sources, and in 1937 the Bombay Government gave it recognition. To-day, of course, it is getting generous grants both from the Centre and the State Governments.

An instance of the unbending will of Dr. Karve can be found in an incident that occurred soon after the university was established.

It happened that on return from Africa Gandhiji saw Karve, and greatly appreciated the idea of the University, but insisted that the study of English, which was a compulsory subject, should be made voluntary.

Karve, with his educationist's experience, replied that he could not do it.

On this Gandhiji said that unless that was done, he would not be able to co-operate with the University. "In that event" replied Karve, "we would have to go without your co-operation."

Gandhiji, was taken aback, stood silent for some time reflecting over the matter and then said, "I agree to co-operate only because of you," and thereafter, for several years, Gandhiji used to collect donations for the university and send them on to Dr. Karve.

In spite of his hundred years Dr. Karve maintains excellent health.

What is the secret of his health? I happened to ask him this question recently and he gave me two reasons, (1) heredity and (2) keeping a cool, even temper whatever the circumstances.

It is impossible to imagine Dr. Karve ever losing his temper; he is so cool and detached by nature.

Though he is the founder of a network of educational institutions in Poona and Bombay he is at heart a recluse, a rationalist recluse, because he claims to be a rationalist.

Dr. Karve is undoubtedly in the front rank of men who have helped to build modern India. [Courtesy, Sunday Chronicle.]

The Accra Conference

By

"A CHRONICLER"

A conference of independent African States met at Accra on April 15 for a nine-day session. Dr. Kwame Nkrumah, Prime Minister of Ghana inaugurated the session. He urged the countries of Africa to avoid "entanglement in the quarrels of the great powers," follow a policy of nonalignment like India.

This imperialism, he said, "endeavoured to achieve its ends, not merely by military means, but by economic penetration, cultural assimilation, ideological domination, psychological infiltration and subversive activities even to the point of inspiring and promoting assassination and civil strife."

The nine-day conference was attended by delegates from Egypt, Ethiopia, Liberia, Libya, Morocco, the Sudan, Tunisia and Ghana and United Arab Republic. They discussed the future of dependent African countries, the Algerian problem and racial discrimination.

Algerian nationalist observers were also present.

Dr. Nkrumah appealed to "all powers concerned to cease testing nuclear weapons." "Radio-active winds know no international frontiers and it is these tests which can do more harm than anything else to threaten our very existence."

"But at the very moment when a summit conference is being contemplated, it is reported that plans are being made to use the Sahara as a testing ground for nuclear weapons."

Dr. Nkrumah said: "We vehemently condemn this proposal and protest against the use of our continent for such purposes. We appeal to the U. N. to call a halt to this threat to our safety."

Speaking on colonialism, he said: "Let us face facts. Today in this continent, the dynamic forces of African nationalism can only be resisted by resorting to armed force, such as we are now witnessing in Algeria."

The conference has decided that the permanent United Nations representatives of the eight nations which participated in the conference should form the permanent machinery to implement the decisions taken at the conference.

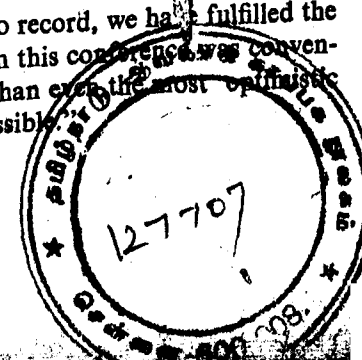
It approved a resolution urging an immediate end to the fighting in Algeria and calling on France to enter into negotiations with the outlawed National Liberation Front.

The conference passed a resolution to the effect that in addition to this permanent machinery, meetings of the Foreign Ministers and other Ministers of the independent African States would be convened from time to time when necessary to "study and deal with particular problems of common concern."

The Accra conference like the historic Bandung conference may not achieve practical results which would help subject countries to achieve independence from foreign domination and escape the evils of the colour bar. But none the less, it is as significant as the Bandung Conference. So far, we have been hearing of the Afro-Asian attitude: now an effort is being made to give expression to the hopes and aspirations of African countries.

Dr. Nkrumah in winding up the proceedings said:

"I am happy to record, we have fulfilled the purpose for which this conference was convened, more amply than ever the most optimistic of us thought possible."



THE CALL OF THE VILLAGE

By
Sri JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN

OUR great Prime Minister said only the other day in Parliament that India meant the villages of India and that the development of India meant essentially the development of the villages.

Why are the villages so important? One obvious reason, of course, is that the vast majority of the people of our country live their lives out in the villages. If there were no other reasons, this single reason by itself should have been sufficient, overwhelmingly sufficient, I should say, for the villages to receive our utmost possible attention. The very arithmetic of the situation, particularly in the context of democracy, should have been compelling enough for every patriotic Indian to harken to the call of the village and hasten to its dutiful service. This call should be irresistible particularly to young men on whose shoulders lies the burden of creating the new India of the future. But I am afraid, not one in a ten thousand of you heeds this call to-day and responds it with all mind and heart. For you the shoddy attractions of the towns and cities are more appealing. Most youngmen, particularly if they have received some education, develop an attitude of contempt for the village. They do not find congenial social life there, means of recreation, of prospects of employment. And so they turn their backs to the villages and swarm into the towns, become uprooted, ill-adjusted individuals whose lives have no zest or savour nor any uplifting and guiding ideal and goal.

For youngmen to lead lives that have no sustaining roots and no ideals to reach for, is to live without meaning and purpose—it is mere animal existence. Youngmen must have a mission in life that will elevate them and draw out the best in them. For the youth of India I do not think of any nobler mission than the service of the backward, neglected and forsaken villages. I am saying this not only because 80 per cent of our people have their homes in the village. That is no doubt im-

portant, but that was not the reason why Mahatma Gandhi said that the village was the soul of India. That is why Vinobaji has been wandering for years now from village to village to awaken them to a new life.

Man is born a social animal, but the society that he created denies his nature. It has estranged man from fellowman. The relationships that hold men together are the impersonal relationships created by the economic and political institutions of a complex civilization. In the modern cities and towns man, instead of living together, is huddled together. The cities and towns are not communities but human conglomerations. The basic, primary unit of the great non-violent society—Gandhiji taught—should be the community in which men could live visibly and concretely “with” and “for” one another.

It is for this reason that Gandhiji laid such great emphasis on the Indian villages. They were to him the primary bricks out of which to build the non-violent society of the future. Surely, Gandhiji did not mean that the villages, as they were today, could become the bricks of that society, but he believed that the villages, because of their very nature, could be made into those bricks.

This is exactly what Vinobaji is trying to do. The villages, as the towns and cities are completely atomised societies today. That is to say, there is no community spirit in the village now, every family of which is not only physically separate from every other, but also thinks and works for its own separate interests. There is no conception of a community of interests for which every member has to work together. The distinguishing feature of true community is that every one of its members thinks and willingly works for the interest of all and all together think and work for the interest of each. Unless such a spirit and way of life are created in the villages, they are bound to perish and with them as Gandhiji said, India will perish. (A.I.R.)

Trumpet Major to Young India

BY
SRI N. RAGHUNATHA AIYAR

IN the first year of the century when the Good Queen lay dying at Windsor, a small boy lived next door to a prosperous little book shop on Main Street in the famous temple town K...m, (pardon the harmless deception) With the more serious stock in trade piled up in dusty shows he had no concern. The proprietor seemed to have little either. Most of his time in the shop was taken up with what looked like an endless game of chess. For the relay race there were zealous competitors waiting in the wings. They watched the game with pursed up lips and gleaming eyes, while Mr. N. was locked in a death grip with his vis a vis. A news addict might walk in, take a copy of his favourite newspaper from the stand, drop his coin into the slot in the desk and after idly watching the silent vigour of the game for a while, go his unheeded ways. Or one of the elite of the town might turn up in quest of a book, and the proprietor would without taking his eyes off the board, tell him where to look for it.

But what fascinated me was neither the unintermittent chess nor the books, big and small, on the shelves, but an open basket of bright coloured booklets with impressive pictures on the covers of men who were very much in the news then. We were in the thick of the Boer War. And W.T. Stead had put out a whole series of penny books on the British warriors who were manfully upholding Imperial Rule against the onslaughts of the dour Krugar and the incomparable DeWitt. Sir Edward Redvers-Buller, Roberts of Kandahar, the hero of ill-fated Mafeking and quite a number of other long-forgotten worthies were presented in those books for the young Briton with a vividness of colour and a sense of drama which captivated us aliens though our sympathy was all with the gallant Boers. And grandmother often had to stint on the marketing in

order to satisfy my itch for possession. Looking back across a gulf of eleven lustrums, one marvels that in those backwoods there should have been so enterprising a book-seller. When a year or two later, there began appearing on Mr. N's side-racks four-anna booklets on our national leaders with the now famous “G. A. Natesan & Co.,” imprint, we youngsters grabbed them and began looking on G.A.N. as our W.T. Stead. It was borne in upon me only much later that an enterprising publisher was even rarer than an enterprising book-seller.

Money was not over plentiful, as I said and there were formidable competing attractions. Stead provided poetry as well as patriotic propaganda for the bairns. Dim coloured paperbacks, closely but clearly printed and securely stitched included such titles as *The Prisoner of Chillon* and *Childe Harold's Pilgrimage*, selections from Wordsworth and Shelley, all to be had for an anna each. Then there was Henry Morley's Universal Library, where you could have your choice from Mrs. Barbauld's *Tales* and Lucian's *A Trip to the Moon* for three annas. There were, too, the aristocrats—Nelson's six penny classics, scarlet and substantial. I vividly remember the many sleepless nights I passed, planning to acquire a copy of *Ivanhoe*. It was no easy task for “G.A.N's” younglings to soar into the empyrean peopled by such strong winged birds. But the Time spirit and G.A. N's unfailing flair won against odds. B. C. Pal was making the welkin ring and out-thundering the breakers on Madras beach with his stentorian philippics against the iniquities of the Britisher. Those Titans, Surendranath and Tilak had not yet parted company. The Congress was an organ voice with a magnificent diapason. It accommodated the sweet reasonableness and merciless logic of Gokhale as well as the coruscations of Pherozeshah

Mehta, the majestic periods of Rash Behari as well as the glowing patriotism of Aurobindo. And Mr. Natesan conceived the brilliant idea of presenting the outlines of the lives and achievements of *Eminent Indians* (including tantalising excerpts from their speeches) in 30 or 40 small pages of simple straight-forward narrative. Later there were to be *Eminent Mussalmans* also. Did G.A.N. sniff the accrid smell of Pakistan from afar? That was the beginning of his many triumphs. But for us of that susceptible generation it was these little four-anna pamphlets that placed Indian Nationalism square on the map.

But he was not content to be a pedlar of political cheap books. He was our Moxon and Dodsley as well. Mrs. Besant's translation of the *Bhagavad-Gita* was a treasure trove. Doctrinal nuances and scholarly niceties meant little to us school boys. But there was strange exhilaration in the clear, strong nervous English as there was enchantment in the music of the half-comprehended original. A little later came the pocket books on *Indian Poets*, on the *Friends of India*, on *Indian Statesmen*, and on *The Saints of India*, all, again at the unbelievable price of four annas. Even now it would be difficult to pick up anywhere else such useful information in so brief a compass on so many facets of our national heritage. With the *Saints of India* I may claim a green-room acquaintance in the making. Mr. K. V. Ramaswami, a brilliant man who had drifted into the Law as many of us had done but whose heart was in books, was a close friend of K. S. Venkataramani's and one of our immediate circle. It was he who, besides writing an attractive book on *Indian Psalms and Hymns*, planned the 'Saints' series and I believe, he wrote quite a few of the books himself. For this he did a lot of reading in the public libraries on subjects which were arcaic to most of us. The way he used to stir up with the infectious enthusiasm for Tukaram's *abhangs* and the mystic wisdom of

Jnanadeva (whom he insisted, with whimsical inaccuracy, on calling 'Nyendev') is a fragrant memory that still abides.

It would be, however, doing injustice to Mr. Natesan to regard him as a mere light weight in the realm of publishing. He showed striking discrimination as well as true catholicity in putting out solid books which could never have become best sellers, but some of which have since attained the status of minor classics. Of these, I best remember Baba Bharati's rhapsodical out-pourings on Sri Krishna, *Bureaucratic Government, Essays and Discourses on Ramakrishna—Vivekananda* by their Eastern and Western disciples, Prof. Kale's *Indian Economic Problems* and *The Vaishnavite Reformers of India* by my old Hindu Law Professor, Mr. T. Rajagopalachariar. Prof. Suryanarayana Sastri's brochure on Sankara, a little masterpiece, came later. From the full dress *Speeches and Writings* of our national leaders—of whom the last but not the least was the Mahatma whom G. A. N. discovered for the Indian reader long before he brought him in the flesh to Sunkurama Chetti Street—to *Lift Irrigation* by Alfred Chatterton, all was grit to G. A. N.'s mill. His eager, questing mind was always raging wide in search of 'copy.' For he had the Editor's eye for significant material as well as the publisher's instinct divining the public taste. *The Indian Review* and the publishing side of the pioneer firm which is happily celebrating its Diamond Jubilee, owed their common inspiration to Mr. Natesan's indefatigable zeal for doing good through the printed world.

DIAMOND JUBILEE NUMBER OF
G. A. NATESAN & CO. (1897 TO 1957)

Contributart, President of India, Vice-President,
Prime Minister and many other dignitaries. Printed
on Art Paper. Rs. 5.

G. A. NATESAN & CO. G. T. MADRAS 1.

WORLD OF BOOKS

1. ILLUSTRATED TECHNICAL DICTIONARY. Rs. 3/75.
2. YOUR MIND AND HOW TO USE IT. W. J. Ennever Rs. 2.
3. HOW WE SPEAK. Frank Jones. Rs. 1/50.
4. MEMORY EFFICIENCY. Rs. 1/50.

Jaico Publishing House. Mahatma Gandhi Road, Bombay, 1.

The Technical Dictionary is a useful addition to the inexpensive reference books that are badly needed for the student and the scholar. The book follows the standard definitions promulgated by the various United States engineering, trade, technical, and industrial organisations as well as by Government agencies. With the spread of technology, every new field has developed its own terminology, and without a proper understanding of these terms, subjects like aeronautics, plastics, etc., cannot be appreciated. This dictionary will serve to improve an understanding of these new fields of knowledge. War technology is another field that has been well covered. A point that deserves special mention is the addition of suitable illustrations that facilitate an understanding of certain new processes and machines.

The three other books in the list represent a type of literature that is becoming all too common these days. The training of the mind, the building up of the processes of selective remembering which is popularly called memory and the ways of developing it, the linguistic aspects of speech—these make an interesting study in themselves, even if one does not propose to take up the minutiae of the training courses that are recommended in the books. The book on "How We Speak" is especially interesting as containing several illustrative quotations in which the same letter has to be pronounced differently, and one may say that the differences become clear in the very act of pronouncing them; as for instance

"Oh, what a spree
For you and me
By the side of the sea
Together we be
From Wye to Dee
In meadow and lea
We'll search each tree
To try to see
The humble bee" etc.

to show the various ways in which the letter 'E' has to be pronounced.

The book on the mind is a self-instruction course, and contains instruction about the ways of mind training. It will be of use to young men who have entered a business house and who have to be on the QUI VIVE all the time. Incidentally, it is also a good course of self-discipline.

USSR. REFERENCE BOOK (1957) THE USSR
Embassy in India. New Delhi. Rs. 3.50. (330 Pages)

The Russian Embassy has certainly done a great service to the public in issuing this handy volume. The book is neatly got up and gives an enormous fund of information about USSR. All these years the public had no access to Iron curtain and now the book under review gives useful information on USSR's population, its political bodies, on Art, Drama and Stage, the Press, the Labour Welfare, Education, Scientific establishments, Armed Forces, Religious organisations etc. It is well illustrated and is a useful Guide Book for visitors to USSR as well.

IMMORTAL INDIA. Vol. I. By. J. H. Dave. Bhavan's
Book University, Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, Bombay
Rs. 2.

This is the first part of the book. The author has first selected 24 sacred shrines and cities in India. He has very briefly given all interesting accounts of the places and their shrines and importance attached to each. It is just a valuable guide book for travellers and foreign tourists. We await the second part for other similar places. It is a welcome addition for one's library. The price is moderate and is within each of every one. The get up as usual is nice and handy.

PLANNED DEVELOPMENT AND SOCIAL JUSTICE, by Radha Krishna Khanna. Deepak Publications. Hakim Baga St. Delhi. Price Re. 1.

This is a diatribe on the Planning which concludes by saying that "the full success of the Plan which implies elimination of all private enterprise, will bring full-fledged communism into the country by non-violent means and not planned development of the country."

HOW TO SOLVE YOUR INCOME TAX PROBLEM? by R. D. NAGPAL. Chartered Accountant. Kitab Mahal, Allahabad-3. Price. Rs. 7 nP. 50

This is an excellent comprehensive account of the income Tax Law, dealing also with Capital Gains Tax, Wealth Tax, and Expenditure Tax. Thanks to the English Law of the responsibility of the Husband for the Wife and Children and the Indian Law of Benami and the decision that on the one hand he that earns or receives an income shall part with a portion of it to the State under threat of coercive process and on the other hand he that inflates and deflates his lungs and will not work and has not been wise in the choice of his parents shall receive the same after the State has deducted its commission for collecting it, a premium is put on fraud, chicanery, idleness, and evasion, and the only way to save at least a reasonable residue for living and working and pursuing Life, Liberty, and Happiness, is to be thorough with the complications lucidly set forth in this guide. Of course, if one can afford it, one should also employ a reliable Bank or firm of Chartered Accountants or an Income-Tax Lawyer to resist the myrmidons of the rapacious Finance Minister.

DRINK, DRUGS, AND GAMBLING, by M. K. GANDHI, Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. 14, Rs. 2.

As Mr. Gandhi said in Young India (23-2-22) I would rather have India free than sober if freedom has to be sold to buy sobriety. His pseudo-sishyas are throwing millions into jails and making them persistent jail-birds for making them sober at the expense of freedom under the oppressive Prohibition Laws. They are driving them to foreign drugs concealed in attractive cartons and inhibiting reasoned use of them in indigenous forms. They make them run after Derby Sweeps and New York Cotton Futures and bucket shops by the hypocrisy of Governors and Ministers patronising and attending races at which only the affluent can gamble while the poor are persecuted or have to patronise gambling hells which pay monthly "protection money" to "police patrons" with attached condition of serving up some whipping-boss to satisfy statistics as in New York, London, Delhi, Madras, Bombay or "anywhere" for the matter of that. Even now as complained of by some one (page 142) special buses and trains are run for Races Exhibitions of wasteful luxuries while the normal worker has to go short of transport

monopolised by Government for his daily business and innocent pleasures. Gandhi must be rolling in agony in his grave at the mess made by his political sons and successors.

AN ACT OF VIOLENCE, by Edwin Fadiman, Jr., A Signet Book, Published by The New American Library, New York Price : 25c.

This is a phantasmagoria in which a school mistress of 35 seduces her backward pupil aged 18 and forces him to marry her in her wishful thinking that she is pregnant. When she is debunked as exhibiting only "false pregnancy", the hare-brained youth tries to kill her off by planting a time-bomb in the airship she travels in. A horrible but fascinating story on the whole.

THE TWO REVOLUTION. An Eye-Witness Study of Russia, 1917--by R. H. Bruce Lockhart, Published by Phoenix House Ltd., 31 William IV. St. Charing Cross, London—Price 10s. 6d. net.

This account of Sir Robert Bruce Lockhart of the Kerensky and Bolshevik revolutions is characterised by his clearness of observation and thorough accuracy in the selection of details. What eggs should be broken to make what kind of omelets is a question which will be answered only by breaking the eggs. As Pandit Nehru has said recently India is happy that her Revolution of 1947 has not yet swallowed up its first leaders as the French and Russian Revolutions did.

OF THE IMITATION OF CHRIST, by Thomas a Kempis. A Mentor Book published by the New American Library, New York, Price 50c.

This is a lovely new translation of the classic Imitation of Christ by Thomas a Kempis. The language lingers in the memory with convincing force as when the Soul cries to the Lord "Grant me help as Lord in my tribulation for vain is the salvation of man".

WHAT AM I DOING HERE, by Abner Dean, A Signet Book, Published by the New American Library, New York—Price 25c.

This is a phantasmagoria of pictures about bare-skinned pilgrim's progress through an outlandish world. Like much psychological art, the quality and totality of its content will vary with the individual eyes and mind which see and ponder over these pages.

INDIA AND CHINA, by K. M. Panikkar, published by P. S. Jayasingjee, Asia Publishing House, Bombay—Price Rs. 4.75.

Mr. Panikkar is almost as thorough as Professor Berriedale Keith in being able to master any subject and present it in brief compass. The long history of Indo-Chinese culture is described with a sure and polished touch.

INDIANS OUTSIDE INDIA

CEYLON

INDIANS IN CEYLON

Ceylon Premier Bandaranaike is consulting the Indian High Commissioner for a conference to discuss the latest ~~move~~ sent by the Indian Government on the subject of repatriating Indian nationals with expired residence permits.

Reporting this on the 16th of last month the *Ceylon Times* under the headline "Fresh move by India", said that in a fresh note, the Indian Government has asked the Ceylon Government to suspend immediately repatriation of Indian nationals with expired residence permits until the Ceylon Government evolved a clear cut policy on the subject of Indian residence permit holders in general. The paper added that this latest note was handed over to the Ceylon Government by the Indian High Commissioner.

MALAYA

INDIANS LEAVE MALAYA

Many Indian labourers are now returning to India following the fragmentation of estates. The breaking up of rubber estates into small-holders' plots has faced the authorities there with the biggest shipping problem in years. Many are now believed to be waiting repatriation and in one district alone there are 350 applications, although only 30 tickets are available each month.

A Labour Department official said: "We have had Indians going back to their country before, but it has now suddenly swelled to a torrent."

FIJI

INDIANS IN FIJI

Until 1916, Indians were indentured for work in the sugar industry. One of the conditions of their engagement in India was that the immigrants themselves, and their children, if they wished be given free passages after the end of the indenture period.

Many of the party who are now returning to India have little knowledge of their native land, having spent most of their lifetime in Fiji.

AUSTRALIA

INDIANS IN AUSTRALIA

Sir Ian Clunies Ross, Chairman of Australia's Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organisation calls for token migration of Indians to Australia to overcome anti-Australian prejudice.

TIBET

INDIAN TRADERS IN TIBET

Discussions were going on with the Chinese representatives at New Delhi last month regarding the difficulties alleged to be experienced by Indian traders in Tibet, the Minister of State in the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Mr. N. Kanungo, said in the Lok Sabha on April 16.

In a reply to Mr. Bhakt Darshan, Mr. Kanungo said that it was not possible at this stage to fix a time limit for these negotiations, as a number of difficulties alleged to be experienced by Indian traders had to be discussed with a view to arriving at mutually acceptable solutions.

BURMA

INDIANS IN BURMA

Indians intending to leave Burma for good can now do so without having to go through the tortuous process of securing foreigners' registration certificates, according to a decision taken by the Burmese Immigration Department.

They now need submit only their applications expressing their desire to leave together with relevant papers and copies of their photographs.

S. AFRICA

DISCRIMINATION IN S. AFRICA

Mr. Sadath Ali Khan, Parliamentary Secretary for External Affairs, told Mr. N. R. Munisamy in the Lok Sabha on April 18 that the introduction of new measures of discriminatory nature appeared to be a "continuing process" in South Africa. The South African Government had now decided, according to reports, to reserve all skilled jobs in the clothing industry for white workers, he added.

U.S.A.

INDIAN STUDENTS IN U.S.A.

There are about 300 Indian students in the U.S.A. Many of them have gone there after taking the M.A. degree of an Indian University. "Your boys study hard. Some of them are so good that they hold responsible highly-paid posts in American factories and workshops," said an American educationist.

The wages paid to these young Indians are so attractive that they are now less inclined to return home. Some of them are married to American ladies, and by virtue of this marital tie have even got temporary American citizenship.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Mar. 27. Mr. Nikita Khrushchev takes over the Soviet premiership in place of Mr. Bulganin.
- Mar. 28. Mr. Hammerskjold leaves Moscow for U.S.A. in London.
- Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri takes over charge of the Union Commerce of Industry.
- Mar. 29. Mr. S. K. Patil takes over charge as Minister for Transport and Communications.
- Pt. Pant inaugurates the Rajasthan Canal Work.
- Mar. 30. Asian Socialist Congress concludes its session at Kathmandu.
- Mar. 31. Russia decides to stop her nuclear tests.
- The Awami-League Coalition Ministry of East Pakistan and Mr. Fazl Huq, Governor of East Pakistan are dismissed.
- Mr. Bulganin becomes chairman of the State Bank.
- Annamalai University is closed *sine die* owing to unruly action of the students.
- India warns Pakistan re. firing by Pakistan troops across Sylhet-Cachar border.
- Uproar in West Bengal Assembly. Speaker walks out adjourning House.
- April 1. Ataur Rahman Khan who was dismissed becomes again Chief Minister of E. Pakistan.
- April 2. Dr. Frank Graham submits to U.N. 5-point interim plan of Kashmir dispute.
- Mr. A. Chakravarti takes over Indian fleet command.
- The new Union Ministers are sworn in.
- April 3. Language frenzy in Ceylon.
- Police open fire in Colombo. Fracas between the Tamils and the Sinhalese.
- April 4. Nehru rejects totally and absolutely unacceptable, Dr. Graham's proposals re. Kashmir.
- April 5. Working Committee of the Congress meets at New Delhi.
- April 6. Canada decides to supply metals to India under Colombo Plan Aid.
- April 7. Tunisia rejects plan on frontier control.
- April 8. Ike calls on Khrushchev for urgent study of disarmament control.
- April 9. The extraordinary meeting of the Communist party of India concludes its session at Amritsar.
- April 10. U. K. Labour party leaders reach agreement re. neutral belt in Europe.
- April 11. Russia accepts West's proposal to hold diplomatic talks re. East-West Summit conference.
- Tamils in Ceylon decide to start satyagrah as a protest against repudiation of pact on language issue.
- April 12. Dr. Radhakrishnan leaves London for India.
- K. P. S. Menon meets M. Khrushchev the Soviet Prime Minister.
- April 13. Turkish-Syrian border clash; Turkish troops shoot at Syrian soldiers.
- April 14. Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali is elected first Mayor of Delhi Municipal Corporation.
- April 15. Independent African States meet in conference at Accra. Dr. K. Nkrumah inaugurates.
- April 16. M. Feleix Galliar, French Prime Minister resigns as the Govt. sustained a defeat on the Tunisia issue.
- April 17. General Elections in S. Africa result in the return of the ruling party to power.
- Mr. C. S. Jha succeeds Mr. Arthur Lall as permanent representative at the U. N.
- April 18. Dr. D. K. Karve celebrates his 101st birthday.
- India and Ethiopia sign a trade agreement.
- April 19. P. C. C. Presidents and Secretaries meet at New Delhi.
- April 20. Goa Congress calls of Satyagrah.
- All India Backward classes conference meets in Hyderabad.
- April 21. Russia charges U. S. with manoeuvres of nuclear bombers in the frontiers of Soviet Union.
- April 22. Admiral Katari becomes chief of naval staff (Indian navy).
- April 23. The Lok Sabha passes Finance Bill by 95 votes to 23.
- April 24. Sir Stephen Carlill ex-chief of the naval staff leaves Bombay for U.K.
- April 25. The Governor of Malta bans all meetings and demonstrations and takes over control of all Maltese civil service.
- April 26. Governor of Orissa dismisses Mr. Arup Singh, Dy. Minister.
- April 27. Pt. Nehru inaugurates all-Kerala Kala Parishad at Trichur.
- April 28. North African political conference meets at Tangier and proposes "Liberation Committee" for Algeria.
- April 29. President Nasser arrives in Moscow.
- April 30. U. S. A. navy fails to place its 4th satellite in orbit around earth.

READERS' DIGEST

THE NEW RED POLICY

The declaration of the recent Amritsar Congress of the Communist Party of India for "full democracy and socialism by peaceful means" was described by the Congress General Secretary, Mr. Shriman Narayan, as an attempt on the part of Indian Communists "to confuse the public mind in a subtle but cunning manner."

In an article entitled "Communism and Democracy" published in the *A.I.C.C. Journal*, "the *Economic Review*, Mr. Shriman Narayan said, "But they (Communists) should bear in mind that falsehood and deception never last long."

Referring to the revised constitution of the Communist Party adopted at the Amritsar Congress, Mr. Shriman Narayan reminded the Indian Communists of the "basic differences between Marxism and democratic Socialism based on Gandhian thought" and declared that the Congress "is determined to pursue the ideals of democratic Socialism based on Gandhian thought and will not allow the Communist Party to delude the masses of India by their hollow and illusory professions of democracy and peaceful methods."

In its revised Constitution, the Communist Party has declared that it will strive to "build a Socialist society, which ensures rapid advancement in all spheres and also guarantees the widest possible extension of individual liberty, freedom of speech, press and association, including the right of political organisation to Government so long as they abide by the constitution of the country."

"We are glad to find," Mr. Shriman Narayan said, "that the Communist Party has, after all, realised very clearly that it would be impossible for them to make any headway in this country without professing to achieve Socialism through peaceful and democratic means."

He added, "If the Communist Party really believes that democratic Socialism and not totalitarianism is the proper objective, which should be realised for the benefit of the common man, the only honest course for them is to dissolve their existing party and either join the existing democratic parties in India or establish a new one with their revised policies and programmes."

The Congress General Secretary went on to say, "The Communist Party may change its preamble and the objectives, but nobody would take them seriously so long as they do not give up their faith in the Marxist techniques and methods."

"In other words," he said "Marxism and democratic Socialism are irreconcilable; the differences between them are not superficial but fundamental. Any attempt to reconcile the two systems and philosophies would be hypocritical."

Giving instances of Soviet Russia and China, Mr. Shriman Narayan said, "The people of India cannot be made to believe that once the Communists come into power, they would behave differently from their friends in other countries."

"The Communists," he said, "cannot change their policies merely by changing their party constitution. If they really mean what they profess, they must be frank enough to admit that Marxism should now be replaced by the much more dynamic concept of Sarvodaya or non-violent Socialism."

THE CZECHS AND THE POLES

People in the democratic world are accustomed to think of Eastern Europe as one whole mass of indistinguishable Communist States, conveniently labelled "Satellites." It probably made sense during the Stalinist days, says A. M. Abraham in his London letter to *Thought*, but it does not any more.

The contrast between Czechoslovakia and Poland in their attitude to Russia is striking. In Poland it was difficult to meet someone who had a good word to say about Russia, while in Czechoslovakia people regard Russia as a close ally. This difference in attitude is partly due to differences in the cultures and temperaments of the Czechs and the Poles, but it is more a result of past history. For two to three centuries the Czechs have thought of the Russians as their great friends and have looked to them for their liberation from the Germans, the Austrians and the Hungarians. Even Dr. Benes regarded a defence alliance with Russia as indispensable. The history of Poland's relations with Russia, on the other hand, is one of suffering and bitterness. Intellectually Western, but politically tied to the Communist bloc, the Poles seem to be moving more and more towards neutralism.

SINHALESE TAMIL HOSTILITY

The influential Ceylon Tamil Daily, "The Virakesari," recently urged, in the Island to maintain an attitude of neutrality towards the Federal - Party - sponsored civil disobedience campaign in the island.

In an editorial, the paper said in the present crucial stage of Ceylon's history, where the Tamil and the Sinhalese communities found themselves sadly divided, the balance was bound to swing sharply in favour of the side these "one-million stateless and voteless" people of Indian origin chose to support.

The fact that the Federal Party had made enfranchisement of these people a major item on its programme ought to bring them close to the Federal Party, the paper said, apart from factors such as language, religion and culture that bound them with the Tamil people of Ceylon, whom the Federal Party claimed to represent.

But they should not, at the same time, forget that they had been living among the Sinhalese people for generations in complete harmony and friendship. Despite their political leaders, these Sinhalese people had shown no trace of hostility in their attitude towards them, it added.

The paper said that wisdom and statesmanship on the part of the leaders of the stateless people where the chief needs at this moment of challenge, for a decision to throw their lot with either claimants for support in the present strife in the island was bound to tell on them for many, many generations to come.

KERALA UNDER COMMUNISM

Under this heading *Freedom First* offers a downright criticism of the Government in Kerala with charges of corruption and inefficiency. The indictment refers to various aspects but we must have content with one. It will be remembered that when the communist Ministry took office in April last we were told that the Ministers believe in simple living in people's service etc., they would live a Spartan life and move on cycles; while Congress Ministers drew high salaries the Reds would take only Rs. 300. But what are the facts?

"By the Payment of Salaries and Allowances (Amendment) Bill, 1957, the Communist Government decided to reduce the salary of Ministers from Rs. 700 to Rs. 500. The consolidated petrol allowance for a Minister was

also reduced from Rs. 250 to Rs. 100 per month. In addition they are now entitled to Dearness Allowance of Rs. 65 per month. Formerly Ministers were also entitled to halting allowances for journeys performed within the State. It was considered by the Communists that it would be more rational to provide for road mileage for journeys performed within the State. It was considered by the Communists that it would be more rational to provide for road mileage for journeys performed within the State instead of a halting allowance. The Ministers now instead of getting a halting allowance are entitled to an allowance at the rate 50 nP (Rs. 0.50) a mile when they travel for official work in government vehicles and at a rupee a mile when they travel in private cars. The new system adds up to more than the old consolidated allowance and the total salary of a Minister now exceeds the salary which Ministers were entitled to under the former system. Thus the approximate average income of a Communist Minister would be Rs. 1,585 per month."

It will be interesting to compare the salaries of the Communist Ministers with those drawn by the Congress and PSP Ministers.

"The Congress Minister drew salary of Rs. 700 per month. He took Rs. 75 as Dearness Allowance, plus Rs. 250 Travelling Allowance (fixed), plus Rs. 120 as Halting Allowance. His total emoluments amounted to Rs. 1,145."

The PSP Minister's salary was fixed at Rs. 500 per month. He drew Dearness Allowance Rs. 65, plus Halting Allowance Rs. 120, plus Travelling Allowance Rs. 250 (fixed). His total income was Rs. 935."

Thus the Communist Ministers would be drawing more than what PSP and Congress Ministers ever earned.

"Thus year's Kerala budget bears out the hollowness of the Communist claim to austerity. According to the budget figures, the estimated expense on Ministers for 1957-58 was Rs. 2.50 lakhs. But the revised estimate is Rs. 4.26 lakhs. The proposed expense for the next year is 4.98 lakhs! Even the "wasteful" Congress Ministers in 1953-54 spent only Rs. 2.47 lakhs. The eleven Communist Ministers will now cost Rs. 4.98 lakhs, which means each Minister will now cost not less than Rs. 45,272 per year or Rs. 3,772 per month."

HINDI vs ENGLISH

In the course of a very informing article in *The Illustrated Weekly of India* Dr. C. P. Ramaswamy Aiyar points out that retention of English can by no means be derogatory to Indian dignity. He writes:

No one can say that resurgent China is very friendly either to the United States or England. And yet, it has recently perfected a law to replace its rather difficult ideograms with the Roman alphabet, that is the English alphabet. Why is that country abandoning its artistic picture-writing, which has been described as one of the peaks of human achievement? The answer is: for the purpose of contributing to the unity of the world and making the nation more effective as an international unit and to enable it to play its role as one of the progenitors of the new industrial and Communist policy.

Further, he says that although Hindi may be a language of the future, today it is only a half-developed language to which translations of basic books have still to be added and in which the terms of art, science and literature have not yet become acclimatized. Comparing the present state of Hindi to the English language 300 years ago, he writes:—

Until the 17th century, people preferred not to write books in English. Bacon choosing Latin to write his *Novum Organum* and *De Augmentis Scientiarum*, said: "I am trying to produce some philosophical works which may be read all over the world, especially in the lettered world of Europe, but if I write in the English dialect, very few will understand it and that is why I am writing in Latin." Similarly, Spinoza, the great Dutch philosopher and one of the truest citizens of the world, did not write either in Dutch, French or German, in all of which he was proficient. He wrote his *Tractatus Theologico Politicus* in Latin, so that it might have a good circulation.

Commenting on this *Aryan Path* observes that assimilation and synthesis are the characteristics of Indian civilization; there is no reason why these vital traits should be ignored in the matter of the evolution of a common language in the country.

AFTER FRANCO AND TITO

According to Bogdan Raditsa in the *New Leader* Washington may have to pay price for its steady support of two dictators "with Spanish and Yugoslav youth growing restive." In the past year, he says, both Tito and Franco have moved farther away from Washington.

"Franco has established trade relations with East Germany and Poland, and is moving toward trade with Czechoslovakia and the USSR as well. Faced with rising anti-American and pro-Communist sympathy among the intelligentsia, he is capable of bidding for new popularity by adopting a Pro-Soviet orientation under the guise of "positive neutralism" or some such label. And Tito, apart from his well-publicized ideological manoeuvres in Eastern Europe, has been working closely with Nasser and others in the Middle East against U. S. and West European "imperialism." Tito used U. S. dollars to help build Syria's Latakia harbor and the Asab harbor in Ethiopia, and has been helping the Algerian rebels as well."

In both countries, he says U. S. aid has neither purchased the affections of the dictators nor won new friends among the people.

"Is it too late to reverse our policy of ideological non-intervention and to attempt to assure both Spain and Yugoslavia future freedom from Moscow and peaceful progress? I think there is still time for a major diplomatic effort in both countries. Franco could be urged to formally establish the monarchy under young Don Carlos, with himself as temporary regent if necessary to insure a smooth transition to constitutional rule. Tito, who is not in good health, should be reminded that Yugoslavia's national interest calls for at least the disarming of pro-Soviet elements in the Party and a political decentralization as outlined by Djilas—if not for a public Tito-Djilas compromise establishing a defined program of transition to democratic socialism."

One thing is sure according to him: Without such diplomatic initiatives, the vast U. S. investment in the two dictators will be in grave peril when they leave the scene—and both Spain and Yugoslavia may well be in store for renewed civil strife.

SUSPENSION OF NUCLEAR TESTS

If the West ignored the Soviet decision to suspend unilaterally nuclear tests, "the world reaction will be ten-fold adverse to them," said Mr. C. Rajagopalachari in an interview with Moscow Radio, released here on April 16 by "Tass."

If America continued her tests and even then Russia abstained, "the glory that will accrue will burn up all the wretched petty-mindedness that we now see and deplore. The people of America will compel their Government, to cease being small and to do something noble."

Mr. Rajagopalachari said, "I wish Mahatma Gandhi were alive now to express his appreciation and give his comments and advice to the Government of the U.S.S.R. He alone knew the technique of unilateral action and the value and implication of the approach in the context of the modern world and its materialistic climate. Had he been alive now, he would have been the happiest man (because of the Soviet decision). He would have given most convincing advice to both parties."

"I am much disappointed by the way in which America and her friends have received this great Soviet step. Instead of approaching it sympathetically and appreciatively, they have applied to it a mind full of suspicion and cynicism, probably owing to their own inner feeling of disappointment with themselves at being unable to do such a thing. Unilateral action is unprecedented in the annals of political history. Taking into account the long-standing differences and doubts that have prevailed among the nations fearing one another, we should be patient with one another until the moral force has had time to work. The effect of the decision to act unilaterally will be found to be irresistible in spite of all the detraction poured on it at present."

"Unsatisfactory reactions of the Western Governments are, indeed, the external symptoms of the internal unrest of heart created by the right step so unexpectedly taken by the U.S.S.R. After some interval of time, we shall and hope their reactions among the peoples concerned. That is now such things must work and we should not be deceived or deterred by the first cynical reception. Something akin to jealousy is now operating. Soon, emulation will take its place. What is called

for on the side of the party that has taken the unilateral step is patience and calm and continued faith in the correctness of that moral strategy, if one may use such a gross word for describing a very noble step of high spiritual quality. If the other side seeks to ignore this step and proceeds with its own tests the world reaction will be ten-fold adverse to them. Indeed, disgust will grow with accelerated force among the people inhabiting this great and wonderful planet."

"In answer to the doubts and allegations about propaganda motives, Mr. Khrushchev has said all that should be said. To every right act each one can give his own meaning and can attribute selfish motives. But one thing is clear — that the people of the world, who want this poisoning process to cease, do most cordially welcome the brave step and its detractors are not going to be admired for their foolish firmness. No one wants to be poisoned because America is afraid."

BLUFF OR BLACKMAIL?

Referring to an interview given by the Pakistan Ambassador to Tokyo — re-emphasizing the statements of Mr. Malik Firoz Khan to the National Assembly that "Muslims would prefer Communist to Hindu domination" — the *Manchester Guardian* says, "The trouble with such statements is that while they may rally support at home, they have the opposite effect abroad. As Mr. Kennan put it, in one of his Reith lectures, when suggestions are made to us that if aid of one sort or another is not forthcoming people will, as the saying goes, go Communist, surely there is only one answer: 'Very well then go. Our interests may suffer but yours will suffer first.'"

This, says the *Guardian*, is pre-eminently true incidentally of the Republican Party which Mr. Noon leads.

"But, of course, we find it hard in Britain to take such threats seriously. We assume that we are being bluffed if not crudely blackmailed and our sympathies are accordingly edged over in the India direction."

The *Guardian* concludes that there is a danger "that if you conjure with the devil's name he may eventually materialize."

"At any rate Mr. Noon has made him a little more real in Pakistan. That, however, is his affair just as it is ours to decide whom we shall try to aid — India or Pakistan or both."

"AMERICAN ARMS" FOR REBELS

Indonesian rebels are well supplied with American arms the *New York Journal American* reported on April 9.

Reporting from Bukittinggi, rebel headquarters in Sumatra, the *Journal's* American correspondent, Key Beech, said that "arms are unmistakably American for I have seen them with my own eyes. But where they come from and who is dropping them is another matter. Some observers see the expert hand of General Claire L. Chenault's Formosa-based civil transport company, which has specialised in such unorthodox missions since World War Second."

The correspondent said, "enough American arms have been supplied to Indonesia's rebel Government to arm the entire Central Sumatran army of 8,000 men. This was disclosed here by rebel Prime Minister Sjafruddin Pruwiraneegara who said that rebel troops have all arms and ammunition they need."

Beech said that in the course of his talks with Mr. Pruwiraneegara the rebel leader "slyly referred to recent arms drops over Sumatra as 'manna from heaven'."

'NEHRU'S INDIA'

Kingsley Martin's personal "progress report" on India in April 11, *New Statesman and Nation* has provided plenty of talking points for politically-minded British people.

His reference to Gandhiji's advice to Mr. Nehru and Sardar Patel a few months before his assassination, that they should split up the Congress and thus provide India with a two-party system, aroused special interest.

On the question of India's "alarmingly high divine expenditure when she needed to utilise foreign exchange for economic development, it is felt Kingsley Martin could have usefully drawn attention to the impact on Indian thinking of the rearmament of Pakistan going on under the NATO and SEATO pacts."

In an otherwise well-balanced and comprehensive survey of "Nehru's India," Kingsley Martin did not discuss India's policy of non-alignment in the cold war and the manner in which the West's supply of arms in Pakistan had caused Indo-Pakistan relations to deteriorate.

In his one brief reference to Kashmir, he also omitted to express an opinion on Dr. Graham's latest report.

RACIAL PROBLEM IN U.S.

The *New York Times* said in an editorial on April 12. Prime Minister Nehru's statement on racial segregation in the United States, made in his own Parliament, should be warmly welcomed here. His is a powerful voice in Asia and it has been raised on behalf of a better understanding of what is being attempted in this country. The United States Government, he said, wants to solve the problems of racial discrimination and public opinion is helping in the solution.

This is peculiarly important because the very existence of a discrimination problem in this country has been widely and effectively used in Asia by Communist propagandists. A championship of freedom and individual liberty by the United States has always been assailed by our enemies on the sensitive ground that we did not practice what we preach.

Mr. Nehru has become our advocate by pointing out that we are at least making an honest effort to do the right thing. His words will carry weight.

At the same time, the Indian Prime Minister made his own appeal against discrimination in his own country, saying that India's own hands were not very clean in this respect. Whether he intended to do so or not, he was drawing something of a parallel between his country and ours.

The precise basis is somewhat different, but the problem of how to cope with discrimination is the same: In India the question is one of caste: here it is one of race. In each case, however, the Government has adopted the correct legal measures to outlaw discrimination. The Indian Constitution provides that no discrimination is lawful, just as do our constitutional amendments and our statutes.

In both cases, however, it has been demonstrated that legal ordinance is not enough. The actual end to this injustice must come from within the society itself, by its own free intelligence and will.

India and the United States are confronted with the same grave problem. We are glad to know that Mr. Nehru feels we are making gains.

PROHIBITION POLICY

There is a world of difference between moderate drinking and excessive drinking, says Lt. Col. C. R. Krishnaswami, in a view of Prohibition Policy in *Swarajya*. Moderate drinking in his view, is not at all bad while excessive drinking is positively bad. Anyway, condemnation of Prohibition policy should not be considered as incitement to or encouragement of the drink habit. We must remember the essential difference between the two English terms, "a man having a drink" and "a man drunk."

The Doctor admits that alcoholic drinks are by no means necessary "in the sense that food, water and air are necessary to life. But there is no gain-saying the fact that alcohol adds a little more pleasant colouring to life." That is a sober and dispassionate judgment on the most controversial topic of the times.

But the Doctor is appalled by the consequences of the policy pursued in the teeth of opposition with varying degrees of success or efficiency. He sees no good in persisting in a course which has a harmful effect on the character of the people in every grade.

Illicit distillation, which has become rampant, has not helped the class of persons which it was the purpose of the Government to save. They are ruined both financially and physically by having to pay much more for a vicious and unhealthy stuff. They are forced to drink in private, and in private they drink to a greater degree than if they were permitted to do so openly and in company.

It is a far better policy for the State to allow people to indulge in a few harmless things than clamp down on them impossible and repugnant laws so as to drive them to satisfy their cravings in secret. This latter does great harm to the personality of the individual. The individual should feel that the State is not at his tail at every step. Full freedom, even freedom to harm oneself and suffer the consequences, brings about a correct atmosphere of democratic independence.

Why asks the Doctor, why should the State reduce a man who wants a drink to the status of a sick individual by insisting that he can do so only on a medical certificate?

Is it not degrading the man to force him thus to tell a lie, which he does not want to, in order to satisfy a need to which he has become accustomed?

While no honest medical man will declare that drink is absolutely essential, are not the Prohibition laws forcing him to tell this lie? Is it not disgraceful for the State to drive men belonging to a learned profession who wish to be honest and live up to the traditions of their noble calling, to dubious practices?

U. S. AID TO INDIA

On March, 4, the State Department in Washington announced that the United States had agreed to lend \$225,000,000 dollars to help finance our Second Five-year economic development plan, which will end in 1961. Senator John Sherman Cooper, former U. S. Ambassador in India, writing in the *New York Times Magazine*, observed that India, with help from U. S., may be a bastion of democracy. He wrote.

India's problem is a foreign exchange gap of \$1,400,000,000 in her Second Five-year Plan. While the new loan of \$225,000,000 will be of substantial assistance in closing the gap, additional loans approximating \$500,000,000 will be needed from the United States during the remainder of the plan if India's economic program is to be successful. And it is necessary that we give India the maximum assurance possible that the loans will be available. * * There are steps that can be taken this year which will give evidence of our purposes. An additional allocation of \$75,000,000 from the Economic Development Fund can be made after July 1. And if, as I have recommended several times, payment by India of the balance of our 1951 wheat loan of \$187,000,000 is changed to payment in local currency, to conform with our present policy of agricultural surplus sales, India would be enabled to extend its credit at the World Bank by \$125,000,000.

These two steps, coupled with the \$225,000,000 loan, would provide India with \$400,000,000 of credits during our fiscal year ending July 1, 1959, and would meet India's needs for that period. The additional \$300,000,000 that would be needed before 1961 could be provided by loans from the Export-Import Bank and the Economic Development Fund. If it is not possible to provide the full amount, the Administration should submit to the Congress in 1959 its request for a direct loan to India.

A SECRET CLAUSE DISCLOSED

It looked as if a new bomb was being dropped into Britain's raging controversy over U. S. missile bases in the country when the 'News Week' magazine announced recently that a U. S. commander could launch his missiles without consulting the British.

It said: "Already agitated British pacifists will be stirred still more by this: An unpublished part of the Anglo-American missile bases pact permits a U. S. commander, if under enemy attack, to launch his I. R. B. M without stopping to consult the British. He may, in such cases, consider 'previous general discussions' equal to pre-firing consultation mentioned in the published part of the agreement."

LIFE AFTER DEATH

Belief in life after death is widespread around the globe, according to the findings of the *New York Herald Tribune*, World Poll, conducted by International Research Associates. Faith in some sort of immortality, says Elmo C. Wilson, Director, World-Poll a precept of most of the great religions is widespread.

"In six out of nine countries surveyed by World-Poll, half or more of the people believe in a life after death. The proportion rises to a high of four out of every five adults in a predominantly Catholic country like Italy. At the other extreme, in Japan, the number who affirm an existence after death drops to 30 per cent despite the fact the two principal religion in Japan, Buddhism and Shintoism, include belief in immortality. In Mexico and Austria there is an almost equal division of opinion on the question: the proportions who deny that there is a life after death are roughly equal to those who affirm it."

It is interesting that relatively few were unwilling to venture an opinion. In nearly all the countries, half the public had very definite views: they said there "definitely is," or "definitely is not" a life after death.

"This definiteness of opinion is obviously related to the fact that it is a matter to which considerable thought has been given. In each country, at least half the public—in Italy and Norway, almost nine out of ten—said they had thought about this question before the interviewers confronted them with it."

"Have you ever thought about whether or not there is a life after death?"

In most countries men and women do not differ in their views about life after death, or in the extent to which they have given thought to the question.

"In Italy, Norway and France, however, women lead in the belief in life after death. This is linked, no doubt, to the traditionally accepted greater religious feelings of women."

"Do you believe that there definitely is a life after death, do you think it is likely there is, unlikely there is, or that there definitely is not a life after death?"

	Definitely or likely is	Definitely or likely is not	Don't know
ITALY:			
Men	72%	19%	9%
Women	85	10	5
NORWAY:			
Men	59	17	24
Women	74	11	15
FRANCE:			
Men	46	41	13
Women	69	22	9

As people get older, they tend more to the belief that death is not the final end; that there is some future existence.

ART TREASURES OF SAHARA

Sahara, the great, mysterious, mineral-rich Libyan desert once nourished a thriving civilization. There is abundant pictorial proof of this the proof that is to be found in a magnificent exhibition of reproductions of paintings discovered in caves of Central Sahara by a French expedition which recently spent 18 months there. Says Geoffrey Hoare in the *News Chronicle* that a huge wall painting from 5000 to 8000 years old was discovered by the expedition.

M. Henri Lhote, a well-known explorer, led the French expedition which included four young artists and a photographer. They flew to the oasis of Djanet and in a caravan of 35 camels carrying three tons of baggage, set forth on the long, slow trek to the Tassili mountains.

There they spent 18 months working in conditions of great difficulty.

But the work was passionately exciting. Each day brought thrilling discoveries: the whole area was a treasure house of pre-historic paintings.

"And in almost every instance it was not just a case of one painting representing one epoch in the intense ancient life of the Sahara but several, all from different periods, superimposed one on the other."

"It was as if the limited number of caves and rock walls was far too small to provide the outlet for self-expression which afflicted, relentlessly, invariably, one after another the different peoples who lived there for several thousand years."

M. Lhote counted as many as sixteen different layers in thirty different styles on one painted wall.

It will take years of expert work to decipher and classify the 800 reproductions the expedition brought back — covering in all about half an acre of canvas for some of them were thirty feet long.

It is already clear, however, that the earliest inhabitants of the Sahara were the hunters, little roundheaded negroid men — the Bubale, M. Lhote calls them.

"The Bubale probably lived around 8,000 B.C. and used clubs, bows and arrows and sometimes long spears in hunting the wild animals which surrounded them and on which they lived."

Some 3,000 years later came the pastoral people, the farmers and the herdsmen whose great flocks of cattle are reproduced with striking veracity and admirable vitality. The paintings of this period include fantastic menageries in which wild and domestic animals are intermingled.

Coming probably in between these two periods was the Egyptian epoch.

"Marked by really beautiful drawings of typically ancient Egyptian deities with human figures and animal faces, surmounted, often by symbolic head-dresses. And latter, chariots, horses, camels — different peoples, a different kind of life. That dates possibly down to the beginning of the Christian era. And then the paintings end — as life itself ended in the Sahara desert."

STILL NO ONE TO REPLACE NEHRU?

"The Daily Telegraph" in its issue dated 5th May expressed the view that India is in a state of "precarious dependence" on the continued health and vigour of its Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru.

"Tired and stale" though he has confessed himself, Mr. Nehru can hardly fail to feel some elation at the loyalty and devotion that have over-riden his desire for temporary retirement," this Conservative newspaper comments.

"Nearly 11 years after he became independent India's first Prime Minister, there is still no one else who could control the ruling party. Nor, apparently, is there anyone whom Mr. Nehru can trust, under his own leadership, with the key Ministries of External Affairs and Economic Planning. To a democratic Prime Minister, this gives just cause for pride, but it reveals the country's precarious dependence on his continued health and vigour."

BERTRAND RUSSELL'S HOPE

Bertrand Russell (Earl Russell), the eminent philosopher and writer expresses the hope that the U. S. and Russia would gradually become more aware that their common interest in the preservation of peace outweighs the rival interests of power politics.

In a letter published in the independent Sunday newspaper, the "Observer," he endorses the suggestion recently made by the "Observer" for co-operation between the U. S. and Russia to safeguard peace by preventing the spread of nuclear arms.

Bertrand Russell also supports the "Observer's" plea that all powers, other than the U.S. and Russia, should acquiesce in a more or less subordinate role.

"Britain has hitherto refused to do so, and France and Germany and perhaps China seem likely to follow Britain in this dangerous course," the letter adds.

"CLEAN" BOMBS

In an article published in an Italian Communist newspaper, Mr. Kurchatov says: "Soviet scientists have shown that 'Clean' bombs will also harm humanity because of the radioactive carbon which it formed at the moment of the explosion." "The only difference between so-called 'clean' bombs and others is that clean bombs will cause less suffering among men living at the time they explode, but in return a greater number of generations will be struck by hereditary diseases."

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

DAG'S APPEAL FOR TRUST

Mr. Hammarskjöld, U.N. Secretary-General, on the 30th of last month dramatically intervened in the Security Council to appeal to all members to "try the line of trust as a way out of the disintegration and decline from which we all now suffer."

Speaking as a representative of the peoples of the world, he said they were "eagerly and anxiously expecting leadership to bring them out of the present nightmare."

The Government taking fruitful initiative would be hailed as a benefactor by mankind and the government which responded to that initiative would also share the merit, he said.

Mr. Hammarskjöld, whose intervention came towards the end of the long debate on an American resolution on setting up an Arctic inspection zone to guard against surprise attack, praised this U.S. initiative.

He realised that he had recently similarly praised the Soviet unilateral decision to suspend nuclear weapons tests. He noted that the American action was in response to an expression of fear by the Soviet Union arising from the "present state of extreme preparedness in the field of armaments."

It would be against his rights and duties, he said, for him to comment on the Soviet initiative or the U.S. response. He was concerned only with the consequences.

The stalemate in the field of disarmament had been allowed to last far too long, Mr. Hammarskjöld said. Attempts to break it through negotiation had, for different reasons, ended in "deeply worrying failure."

One reason was that there had been a tendency for each Government to wait for others to take the first step. Still another, and the basic one, Mr. Hammarskjöld said, had been "the crisis of trust from which all mankind is suffering."

This was reflected in a refusal to take any moves in a positive direction at their face value and a tendency to hold back with a positive response for fear of being misled.

Mr. Hammarskjöld did not directly refer to the Soviet criticism of the American proposal,

but he said the U.S. initiative could make a "dent in the disarmament problem and might have a major impact if treated in good faith."

He said "of course," that was not the same as to let down one's guard.

At the start of his statement, Mr. Hammarskjöld admitted that it was "most unusual" for the Secretary-General to intervene in a Security Council debate. Indeed, it would be out of order and rightly criticised if such an intervention meant taking sides in a conflict before the Council, he said.

However, he had on previous occasions stated his opinion that the Secretary-General had not only the right but the duty to intervene when he thought he should, in support of the purpose of the organisation and the principles laid down by it.

He said, he hoped that all Governments represented around the Council table would "wish to try the disintegration and decline from which we all now suffer."

M. Georges-Picot of France said all Governments would wish to study Mr. Hammarskjöld's statement.

Mr. Ritchie of Canada who is the President for this month agreed to the proposal for consideration of this appeal.

Mr. NEHRU

An indication of what is really afflicting him and what influenced him to seek temporary retirement from the routine duties was given by Prime Minister Nehru to the Congress Parliamentary Party, which met at New Delhi on May 1 to consider his statement made on April 29.

Later, on the 3rd of this month Prime Minister Nehru announced amidst deafening cheers his acceptance of the Congress Parliamentary Party's resolution urging him not to relinquish his office.

Mr. Nehru's announcement — the Party meeting brings to a close the five-day old crisis set in motion by his statement expressing a desire to be "an individual citizen" at least for a short period.

Mr. Nehru said, "In all humility and with my deep feelings for what you have said, I shall not proceed to take the step that I suggested on 29th April."

Utterances of the Day

PETHWICK-LAWRENCE ON INDIA

Speaking at the East India Association, Lord Pethick-Lawrence said at London on April 17, that the people of India and Pakistan "remember that nice and happy events in Britain's association with them and have no such thing as a bitter memory. For our people and our way of life they have a very fine affection."

"There is a tremendous feeling of unity in India, and though there are considerable divergencies of view among various States on certain matters, India's cohesion will prevail and India is assured of stable Government."

MR. MACMILLAN ON WAR

Mr. Harold Macmillan, British Prime Minister said at London on April 13, war had become too dangerous, there were too many risks, open and blatant aggression could not pay. He was addressing a meeting of the Empire Industries Association.

"If we cannot, by the beginning of 1959, find some way of procuring a greater economic unity in Europe, we face not only economic dangers but also the political periods that go with an economic division of Europe."

G. L. MEHTA ON ASIAN INDEPENDENCE

Mr. G. L. Mehta, the retiring Indian Ambassador, said at Philadelphia on April 20, that the independence of Asian nations would be incomplete "until they can get rid of foreign bases as well as their stagnant, undiversified economies."

"The emancipation of Asian nations is not complete until life is made more comfortable for millions of people and giving them some sense of hope and direction", he declared.

"It is because Communism claims to be able to remove the social and economic evils of the poorer countries methodically and completely that it appeals to many down-trodden peoples."

MR. NEHRU ON THE CONGRESS

Prime Minister Nehru declared at New Delhi on April 20, that Congress had not lost its inherent strength in spite of some temporary drawbacks here and there and all talk by the opponents of the party that the Congress had become weak was futile and useless talk.

"The fact of the matter is that during the last few years, particularly after the Second World War, there has been certain amount of

deterioration in the political and moral standards of the nation as a whole and not of any particular party or action. It is therefore the duty of the Congress, the oldest party, to raise the standards of public life."

DR. RADHAKRISHNAN ON AID

Urging aid for under-developed nations, Dr. Radhakrishnan said at London on April 8: "In the international world the more favoured ones should assist the less advanced..... Backward nations should be helped to acquire the economic apparatus by which they can raise themselves....."

"People will put up with any amount of political terror if they are earning and eating," the Indian statesman commented. Millions in Asia and Africa are intent on improving their material condition: until that happens they will not find the value of freedom.

"We need a world economic development programme," he suggested, "If we do not wish to destroy the world, advanced nations should set apart a small fraction of their national income for the purpose of this programme."

DR. TELLER'S FEARS

Dr. Edward Teller, the so-called "father of the H-bomb," said at Washington on April 16 he feared that if nuclear tests were stopped, Russia would still be able to explode small nuclear weapons underground.

Dr. Teller said it would be difficult to inspect a ban on nuclear production for war purposes and almost impossible to check on stockpiles of nuclear weapons.

The Hungarian-born nuclear physicist, acknowledged as one of leading authorities at atomic weapons, was opening a series of hearings held by the Senate Disarmament Subcommittee on the possibility of an international agreement to suspend nuclear tests under a central system.

WHO ILL-TREATED HARIJANS?

The much maligned Brahmin who had been singled out for attack by the Dravida Kazhagam in Madras, was given a good chit by a Harijan member of the Lok Sabha, on April 15.

According to him, "It is non-Brahmins who are ill-treating the Harijans more than the Brahmins." Mr. Balakrishnan went further and paid tributes to the many Brahmins who had dedicated their lives for the cause of Harijan uplift.

Political

Mr. GOPALAN'S REJOINDER

Speaking at Bombay on April 24, Mr. A. K. Gopalan said: "Hitherto the Congress leaders and others were accusing Communists of being violent. Now, when we say that we will strive to achieve full democracy and socialism by peaceful means, they are scared about it. I do not know why."

Mr. Gopalan noted that the Congress President was shortly touring Kerala. He said he would request the Congress President to see for himself whether the activities of the Congress Opposition in Kerala were in consonance with the declared ideals and policies of the Congress.

Mr. Gopalan, accusing the Kerala Congress of aligning with communal parties and creating lawlessness and trying to defeat the Anti-Eviction Act of the State, said, "Will it not be better if Mr. Dhebar sought to bring the practice of the Kerala Congressmen in consonance with the professed Congress principles instead of trying to find inconsistencies between Communist theory and practice?"

INTEGRATION OF KASHMIR

Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed, Kashmir Premier said at Srinagar on April 22 that the extension of jurisdiction of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India to Jammu and Kashmir and the integration of the State's services with the rest of the country was in accordance with the "wishes expressed by the State Constituent Assembly and stemmed from the accession itself."

Addressing a Press conference Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed referred to Pakistan's latest complaint to the Security Council about the extension of the Comptroller and Auditor-General's jurisdiction and the integration of the State's service and said that "these steps were for our benefit."

"Pakistan has no basis for complaint. In fact, there is nothing new in these routine matters," he added.

Mr. R. K. NEHRU

A Government of India communique dated April 23 says that Mr. R. K. Nehru till recently, Ambassador of India to China and Mongolia, has been appointed Ambassador of India to the United Arab Republic. He will assume charge of his new assignment this month.

CONGRESS AND P. S. P.

Speaking at Bombay on April 13 Mr. Jaya Prakash Narayan, Bhoodan leader, advocated the merger of all democratic parties having identity of purpose so that the developing national crisis and the problem of lightening international tensions could be effectively tackled.

The initiative for this, Mr. Narayan said, must necessarily come from the Congress, particularly from Prime Minister Nehru.

When asked by the U.P.I. whether that would mean that he wanted some sort of coalition Government, Mr. Narayan said: "In a way, yes, you may put it that way."

Elaborating this idea, Mr. Narayan pointed out that the country to-day was at the crossroads of history. The manner in which, and the success with which, the problems confronting the nation were tackled, would determine for generations, the pattern of life in India. That was why he suggested that political parties, which are wedded to the democratic way of life, ought to get together and work in co-operation.

INDIA'S NEUTRAL POLICY

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan, India's Vice-President, said at San Francisco on 2nd April that the United States leaders realise the importance of India's non-involvement policy. The U.S. leaders were also "conscious of the strategic importance of India in Asia," he told a group of Indian students there.

Because of this non-involvement policy India receives loan to further her economic growth, Dr. Radhakrishnan added "and through economic development the lot of the masses can be improved."

He said, "even if there had been no neutral India, there would have to be another neutral nation to further the spirit of international understanding."

SHEIKH ABDULLAH

Sheikh Abdullah was taken into custody on April 29 at his home in Sown, a village six miles from Srinagar and again removed to Kud Sub-jail. The former Premier of Kashmir has been arrested under the Preventive Detention Act as his activities, since his release on January 8 last, were considered dangerous to the security of the State. Abdullah's close associate, Kashapa Bhandu, has also been arrested.

Educational

3-YEAR DEGREE COURSE

Enough funds would be given to colleges and universities for changing over to three-year degree course, assured Dr. K. L. Shrimali, Minister of State for Education, in the Rajya Sabha on April 23.

Dr. Kunzru was expressing his doubts if the assistance provided for, Rs. 2.5 crores by the University Grants Commission and Rs. 5 crores by the Central Government, would in fact be given to enable the change-over.

The Minister, who interrupted Dr. Kunzru's speech, said universities and colleges had already been intimated that full financial assistance, as recommended by the Desmukh Committee, would be given for this purpose.

DR. J. M. MEHTA

Dr. Jyotindra M. Mehta is appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Baroda University. He is already associated with the University as Fellow and Member of the Syndicate and Senate since 1949.

Dr. Mehta is a distinguished educationist. Born in 1894, he was educated in London and Oxford. After working in several colleges as professor of history and economics he became Commissioner of Education in Baroda State in 1939.

On the merger of Baroda he became a Joint Director of Public Instruction in Bombay State. In 1950 Dr. Mehta was appointed Chairman of the Public Service Commission in Saurashtra State.

Dr. Mehta was on the Senate and Syndicate of the Bombay University for almost 20 years. His close knowledge of educational problems should stand him in good stead in his new assignment.

AID TO POOR STUDENTS

The Minister for Education, Dr. K. L. Shrimali, told the Rajya Sabha on April 22 that Government had instituted a scheme of scholarships to help meritorious students who, on account of financial means would not normally be in a position to join colleges.

He said it was proposed to make 200 awards every year. In a socialistic State financial barriers could not be allowed to stand in the way of a person to enable him to make his contribution to society. The institution of the scholarships was a small beginning in this direction.

NATIONAL DISCIPLINE SCHEME

Over one lakh of school-going children in the Bombay, Punjab, Madras and Andhra States would be brought under the National Discipline Scheme of the Union Government from the current year.

Disclosing this at a press conference on April 17 Major Gen. J. K. Bhonsle, Adviser to the Union Education Ministry told newsmen that nearly 190 refugee schools with a total strength of over a lakh of children and spread all over the country were already covered by the scheme.

The Union Government have set aside a sum of Rs. 19 lakhs for this scheme. In addition the Bombay Government have sanctioned rupees five lakhs for the operation of the scheme in the State.

Mr. Bhonsle said that the primary aim of the scheme was to instil a sense of discipline and nationalism in the younger generation. The scheme would impart physical, spiritual, administrative and environment training.

Mr. Bhonsle said that there was a shortage of instructors for the speedy operation of the scheme.

VOCATIONAL GUIDANCE

Dr. K. G. Rama Rao, Director, Central Bureau of Educational and Vocational Guidance, Delhi, stressed the need to develop the personality of students through educational and vocational guidance.

Dr. Rama Rao, who was presiding over the first annual conference of the All-India Educational and Vocational Guidance Association at Jubbulpore on April 17 said what was lacking in the present-day education was integrity in the teaching profession, and better methods of teaching both in the school and university stages. Teachers should help students to develop their personality both at the school and university stage, and this could be achieved only through the instrument of educational guidance and other agencies.

NATIONAL INTEGRATION

Addressing the Seminar on National Integration at New Delhi on April 16 Dr. C. D. Deshmukh, Chairman of the University Grants Commission, referred to the "bitterness" left behind by the recent reorganisation of States and said smaller multi-lingual unit would have been more appropriate purely from the point of view of administrative success.

Mr. Humayun Kabir inaugurated the seminar.

Legal

ESTATE DUTY ACT

The Speaker, Mr. Ananthasayanam Iyengar, gave a ruling in the Lok Sabha that the Estates Duty (Amendment) Bill could not be passed till at least two State legislatures had adopted resolutions urging the Lok Sabha to do so.

The ruling was given on a point of order raised by Mr. Periaswami Gounder (Cong.) that inasmuch as the Bill covered agricultural land which was in the State list of the Constitution, a similar procedure as was done in the case of the parent Act, of obtaining the consent of two State legislatures by way of resolutions passed by them, was essential in the case of the amending measure also, under Article 255(2) of the Constitution.

ABOLITION OF DEATH SENTENCE

On April 26 the Union Home Minister, Pandit Govind Ballabh Pant, turned down suggestions for examining the question of the abolition of capital punishment pointing out that there was no need for any change in the present law in this regard.

"I do not think," he said, "that any sort of public opinion exists in the country in favour of abolishing capital sentence. Really, the general feeling is that we are lenient and our courts are still more lenient so that criminals prosper and thrive because of the liberality of views which is shared by all of us."

DISPLACED PERSONS' PROPERTY

India and Pakistan have agreed to ensure "immediate" restoration of movable property in respect of which lists have already been exchanged, it was officially announced at New Delhi on April 21.

The two countries have also agreed to complete, within a period of four months, enquiries into cases, in which documentary evidence has been supplied by the displaced persons in support of their claims.

INTERNATIONAL LAW COMMISSION

Mr. Radhabinod Pal, of India, was elected Chairman of the 10th session of the International Law Commission, which opened at Geneva on April 28.

CHIEF JUSTICE OF RAJASTHAN

The President has appointed Mr. Justice Kanwar Lal Bafna, a Judge of the Rajasthan High Court, to perform the duties of the Chief Justice of that High Court, during the absence on leave of Mr. Justice K.N. Wanchoo.

POLLUTION OF SEAS

The second committee of the 87-State conference on the Law of the Sea which met at Geneva last month unanimously adopted a new article providing for measures to prevent pollution of the seas by radio-active materials and waste.

Proposed jointly by Argentina, Ceylon, India and Mexico and incorporating suggestions by the U.S., Britain and Czechoslovakia, the text of the article reads:—

"1. Every State shall take measures to prevent pollution of the seas from the dumping of radio-active waste, taking into account any standards and regulations which may be formulated by the competent international organisations.

"2. All States shall co-operate with the competent international organisations in taking measures for the prevention of pollution of the seas or air space above, resulting from any activities with radio-active materials or other harmful agents."

INDIAN OATHS ACT

The Lok Sabha passed on April 26 without discussion a Bill to amend the Indian Oaths Act. The Bill sought to repeat provision in the original Act which did not require new entrants to Government service to make any oath before entering upon their duties.

Mr. R.M. Hajarnavis, Deputy Minister for Law, said that the repeal was necessary as the practice of administering oath to new entrants to Government service was introduced in August 1947 and was being continued since then. He added that Government thought that administration of oath was a very welcome feature and it ought to be preserved.

DE JURE TRANSFER OF PONDY

Addressing a Press conference at Pondicherry on April 26 Mr. S. Sen, Joint Secretary, Union Ministry of External Affairs, announced that if any gap existed between the Indian and French systems of constitutional procedures in the present administrative and legislative sphere of the Pondicherry State, the natural tendency would be to adopt the Indian constitutional procedure. Mr. Sen was replying a question regarding the holding of general elections in the Pondicherry State under the provisions of the Indian People's Representation Act and thereby extending the Indian Parliamentary and Legislative procedures and conduct of business regulations without prejudice to the existing French system.

Trade and Finance

W. GERMAN AID TO INDIA

The Governor of the Reserve Bank of India, Mr. H. V. R. Iengar, conferred with officials of the West German Foreign Ministry and the Economics Ministry on relations between the two countries at Bonn on Apr. 10th.

Among the officials he met was Herr Hilger Van Scherpenberg, Secretary of State in the Foreign Ministry. Mr. Iengar met the President of the West German Federal Bank, Herr Karl Blessing, in Frankfurt.

West German sources said it was expected that Mr. Iengar would raise the question of credits in his talks at the Economics Ministry.

The sources said it was unlikely that West Germany would be in a position to grant India new credits. She recently prolonged for three years a credit of about 660 million marks (about 55 million sterling) granted to India for the Rourkela Steel Project.

SUEZ CANAL COMPANY

Agreement has been reached between Egypt and the shareholders of the former Suez Canal Company on the question of compensation on Apr. 23.

The formal agreement bringing to an end the 20 month-old dispute is expected to be completed ere long.

Mr. Abdelgelid Alemamy, Governor of the Egyptian National Bank, who made the announcement in Cairo has been empowered to sign on behalf of Egypt.

Mr. Alemamy told reporters, "What is left now is to formulate the final text of the agreement."

MR. C. RAMASUBBAN

Mr. Ramasubban, seniormember of the Tariff Commission, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Tariff Commission.

Mr. Ramasubban took over charge last month from Mr. K. R. Damle, who has been appointed Secretary to the Food Ministry.

NEW BUSINESS BY L.I.C.

The total amount of new life insurance business completed by the Life Insurance Corporation during 1957-1958 was about Rs. 300 crores—a record so far, the Deputy Minister of Finance, Mr. B. R. Bhagat, said in the Lok Sabha on Apr. 15th.

Replying to Mr. D. C. Sharma and others, Mr. Bhagat said that the amount of business completed in 1957 was Rs. 276.59 crores. The Southern Zone came first with Rs. 74.14 crores,

the Eastern Zone second with Rs. 68.05 crores, the Western Zone third with Rs. 64.70 crores, the Central Zone fourth with Rs. 35.71 crores and the Northern Zone last with Rs. 33.90 crores.

Mr. P. A. Gopalakrishnan, I.C.S., took over as the new Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation last month from Mr. G. R. Kamat, I.C.S.

INDIANS' ACCOUNTS IN FOREIGN BANKS

Notices were served on Indian nationals who were found to have unauthorised accounts in foreign banks when definite information came into the possession of Government, Mr. R. Bhagat, Deputy Minister for Finance, told Mr. Heda and Mrs. Renu Chakravarty in the Lok Sabha on Apr. 18.

He added that it was common knowledge that such illegal accounts existed but until Government came into possession of some definite information they could not ask the person concerned to furnish details. The foreign banks, where the accounts were kept, were not under the control of the Government of India and were not obliged to give information to the Government of India.

Earlier, Mr. Bhagat told Mr. Ghosal that Indian nationals proceeding to foreign countries for approved purposes were allowed to open accounts with foreign banks with the amount of exchange sanctioned to them. But all such accounts had to be closed when they returned to India and the unutilised balance, if any, had to be repatriated to India.

LOANS FOR CALCUTTA AND MADRAS PORTS

The World Bank has approved two loans totalling \$43 million (about Rs. 20 crores) for the improvement of the ports at Calcutta and Madras, says a Press release issued by the bank on Apr. 16.

According to the Press release, issued by the U.N. Information Centre here, one loan of \$29 million, is being made to the Commissioners for the port of Calcutta and the other of \$14 million, is being given to the trustees of the Port of Madras.

Both loans will be for a term of 20 years and bear interest of 5-1/2 per cent, including the 1 per cent. commission which is allocated to the Bank's special reserve. Amortization of the loans will begin in April, 1963.

The loans are guaranteed by the Government of India.

Women's Page

ARUNA ASAF ALI

Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali was on April 14 elected first Mayor of the 86-member, Delhi Municipal Corporation by 56 votes as against 28 secured by the Jan Sangh nominee, Mr. Hari Chand.

Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali was supported by the Congress, the Communists and Independents.

Mrs. Aruna Asaf Ali became a legendary figure in the "Quit India" movement. She even went underground, organised a militant movement all over the country and evaded arrest despite the frantic efforts of the authorities. Like the elusive Scarlet Pimpernel, Aruna was everywhere in those hectic years.

After freedom, Aruna joined the Socialists and later the Communist Party. Her present party affiliations are undefined though latterly she has associated herself with the Bharat Sewak Samaj. Her election as Mayor gives a new fruitful field of activity to her restless spirit and those who know her capacity for selfless service are confident that she will prove a great success as the first Citizen of Delhi.

EVE'S SPECIAL

The Calcutta Tramways Company have introduced an "Eve's Special" to take home working girls after office hours from the Dalhousie Square business area to the fashionable Ballygunge residential locality in south town.

If this proves popular among the girls, more may be put on the schedule.

There is no quota system in the city transport services and girls have been complaining that they are being crowded out though a percentage of the seats are reserved for "ladies only."

MRS. HANSA MEHTA

Mrs. Hansa Mehta who resigned her Vice-Chancellorship of Baroda University is one of the more prominent, and yet unassuming women leaders.

Daughter of the late Sir Manubhai Mehta and wife of Bombay's Finance Minister, Hansa Mehta owes little to reflected glory. She has been active almost all her life in various spheres and believes more in deeds than words.

Mrs. Mehta was intimately associated with the Congress movement for several years and acted as the President of the B. P. C. C. for some time. In the first Congress Government in Bombay she was appointed a Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Education and Health. She has represented India several

times on international bodies, notably on the Human Rights Commission.

Education, however, has always been Mrs. Mehta's first love. She was a Fellow of the Senate of the Bombay University for 15 years and also a member of the Syndicate of the Indian Women's University. She later served on the Secondary Education Commission.

MISS PEARL BUCK

Miss Pearl Buck, the American novelist, has disclosed that she had been writing for many years under the masculine pen-name John Sedges, as well as her own. Miss Buck said she used the other name for five books with American back-grounds to prove that she could write something completely different which would be accepted on its own merits. Her first book under the name of John Sedges, called "The Townsman", was published 13 years ago and was well received by critics.

IMMORAL TRAFFIC

The Government have issued orders for giving effect to the Suppression of Immoral Traffic Act from May 1, the Home Minister, Pandit Pant, informed the Lok Sabha on April 15.

VOTING RIGHT FOR PEERESSES

The House of Commons last month gave its final sanction by 272 votes to 251 to the House of Lords for the first times in its 700 years' history.

Only Queen Elizabeth's formal assent expected this month, is now needed for this break with tradition to become law.

WOMEN'S AGE

Women live longer than men in nearly all countries of the world and the average life span of both sexes has lengthened considerably as a result of improved living standards and medical care, according to statistics published at New York on the 30th April in the 1957 U.N. Year Book.

DHEBAR'S APPEAL TO WOMEN

Addressing a meeting of the women's section of the District Congress, Coimbatore on April 24, Mr. Dhebar said they should equip themselves to give a lead to the women of the country to fight on the social, economic and political fronts.

Mr. Dhebar said women in India were not free. Few were permitted to take jobs. There was some kind of feeling of suffocation. "I do not know who will free them unless they themselves come out and fight," Mr. Dhebar said.

General

DR. D. K. KARVE

The grand-old-man of Maharashtra Dr. D. K. Karve, completed 100 years on April, 17.

A well-known social worker, educationist and a pioneer of women's education. Dr. Dhondo Keshav Karve started his career as Professor of Mathematics in a college in Poona. He established the Widow Re-marriage Association in 1893, and the Hindu Widows Home Association in 1895. In 1936, Dr. Karve started another movement of village education and toured a number of villages for that purpose. In recognition of his services to the cause of education and to the uplift of women, he was presented Rs. one lakh by the public at the age of 91 in 1949. In 1955, he was awarded the Padma Vibhushan. In January, 1958, the President bestowed on him the Bharat Ratna, India's highest award.

The S.N.D.T. Women's University which was founded by him, will ever remain a monument to his spirit of service. By his courage and self-effacement, he has truly earned the title of "Maharshi."

MR. G. PARTHASARATHI

Mr. G. Parthasarathi, at present India's Ambassador in Indonesia, has been appointed Ambassador to the People's Republic of China and concurrently to Mongolia. Mr. Parthasarathi will reach Peking early in June.

Mr. Parthasarathi before his being appointed to his current assignment as Ambassador in Indonesia, had been Chairman of the International Truce Commission, set up under the Geneva Agreement, first in Cambodia and then in Viet Nam.

MR. G. RAJAGOPALAN

The Prime Minister has appointed Mr. G. Rajagopalan, M.P., a Parliamentary Secretary. He will be attached to the Minister for Information and Broadcasting, says a Press Note issued by the Cabinet Secretariat on April, 21.

PROF. VOGEL

Prof. Jean Philippe Vogel, a Dutch scholar and renowned archaeologist, died on April 10, at his village, Degstgeest, near Leyden in Holland. He was 88.

Prof. Vogel had close associations with India. Even in the nursing home, he was giving finishing touches to a book entitled Hamsa Motif in Indian Art. This is likely to be published now posthumously.

MR. C. S. JHA

India's next Permanent Representative to the U. N. in place of Mr. Arthur Lall, who has been appointed India's Ambassador to Indonesia, is Mr. C. S. Jha, at present Ambassador to Japan, it was officially announced on April, 17.

It is understood that Mr. Jha, who has been Ambassador at Tokyo since May, 1957, will take over his new assignment in June.

Born in 1909, Mr. Jha joined the Bihar and Orissa cadre of the I.C.S. and came to the Government of India in March, 1948. He was India's Ambassador to Turkey in 1954 and served as a member of the Indian delegation to the U. N. General Assembly from 1946 to 1949. Returning to headquarters thereafter, Mr. Jha was appointed Joint Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs in May, 1954.

MR. V. S. NAIPAUL

John Llewelyn Rhys Memorial Prize was awarded on April, 24 to Mr. V. S. Naipaul, of Muswell Hill, for his novel "The Mystic Masseur."

The prize, for fiction, non-fiction, poetry or drama by Commonwealth authors, was presented by Lord David Cecil.

Member of a Hindu family, Mr. Naipaul was born in Trinidad and came to England in 1950 to enter University College, Oxford. Since he left Oxford he has been a freelance broadcaster.

Mr. Naipaul, who is in his early 20s, is married to an English girl. The prize-winner novel is his first book and was written in 1957.

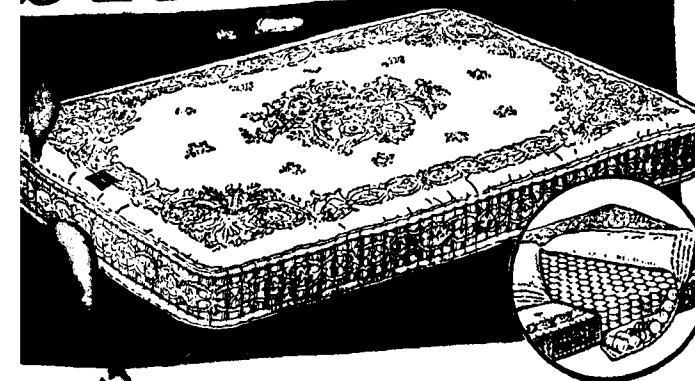
TWO INDIAN BLIND AUTHORS

Two blind authors from India have won prizes in the competition conducted by the Jewish Braille Institute. Miss Usha Mohini, medical student of the K.E.M. Hospital, won the first prize for foreign language entries in non-vocation literature. Mr. Balwantrai Bhat, principal disciple of Pandit Onkarnathji, won the second prize in the poetry section for his poem "self-realisation."

MR. MANJERI RAMA AIYAR

We regret to record the death of Mr. Manjeri Rama Aiyar at Calicut at the age of 81. He was one of the leading criminal lawyers of Malabar for over 30 years. A disciple of Dr. Annie Besant, Mr. Aiyar was associated with the Theosophical Society in Malabar. He was a Liberal in politics and a pioneer in social reform movement.

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