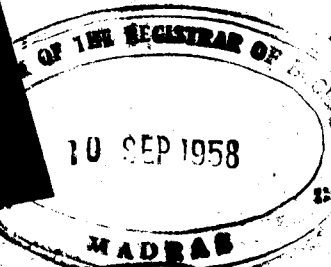


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59th Year

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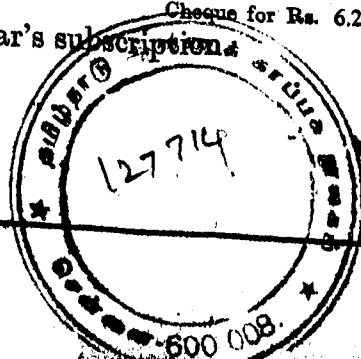
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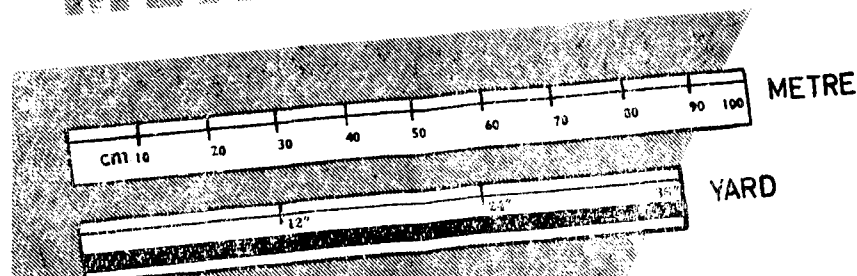
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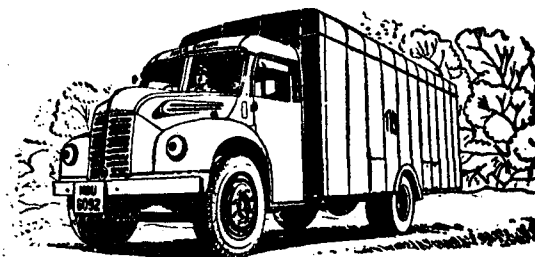
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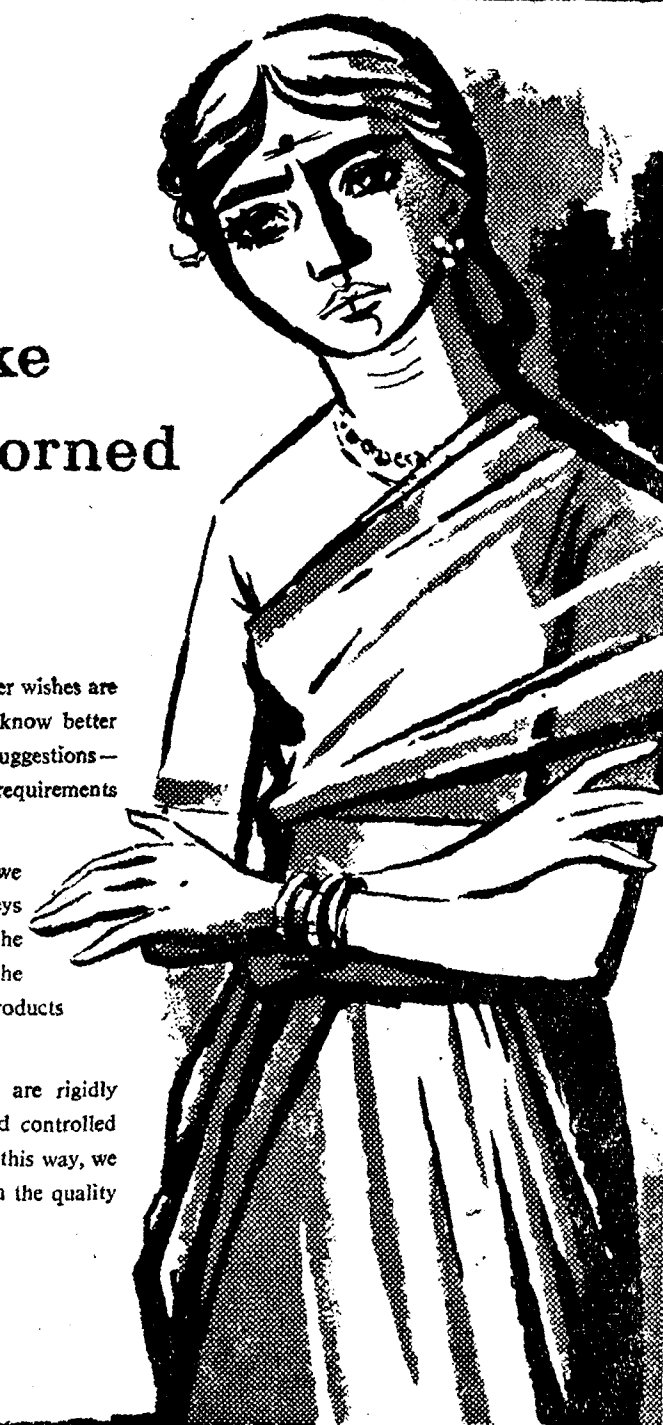
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EDITORIAL

FOREIGN AFFAIRS

The Shifting Scene

When the Middle East crisis was on us, we thought that a major war was imminent, and that this time it will be really a war to end war, in the sense that, as in the case of the Kilkenny cats, nothing will be left after the fray except the two tails. But the crisis shot up like a rocket and came down like a stick. The time is not yet for trying to assess the reasons for the snuffing out of what appeared in the beginning to be so major a crisis. Let us hope that at the back of the minds of the great powers was the dim realisation of what a major war portends to mankind. One thing is clear. The United States and the United Kingdom may have got away with a petty military *démarche* for the time being, but these expedients have never been sufficient to stifle the upsurge of a new nationalism anywhere, at any time. It is one thing for the West to prevent external aggression in a country which seeks its protection. It is quite another for the West to sustain a particular regime within a country. What the West has done is precisely the latter. It may be that the methods of the Soviet agents are subtle and that indeed there was external interference from them in a surreptitious manner. But then how will the landing of troops in a country solve the question of steady and quiet infiltration? So, even from the point of view of expedient and intelligent counter-action, the military landings by the U.S.A. and U.K. are seen to be useless. On the other hand, the most likely consequence of such interference will be what happens when outsiders enter a

family quarrel, it helps to unite the erstwhile domestic antagonists. This is likely to be the most valuable result of the elephant-heaviness with which the U.S.A. and U.K. have jumped into the complicated maze of the Middle East.

But the scene is shifting to the Far East. When comrade Krushchev flew to Peking and had a long conversation with the Mao, the world was lulled into a feeling that it was one of those counterparts to the Ike-Mac meetings of the "Free World." But since then, we have heard of the massing of the U.S.A. fleet in Eastern waters, and the shelling of Quemoy by the Chinese forces. The latest, at the time of writing, is that the world is left guessing. The Chinese have shelled the offshore islands of Matsu and Quemoy. Technically, the U.S.A. is committed to defend only Formosa and the neighbouring Pescadores islands. But Chiang has, it is understood, massed a proportion of his forces, in the offshore islands, so that to refuse to defend those islands will, more or less, be equal to refusing aid to Chiang. At the same time, with equal, if not greater technical justice, the Chinese can say that since the U.S.A. is not committed to defend the offshore islands, and since they themselves have done nothing in respect of Formosa, U.S. action in interfering with their present show of force is a deliberate move to stifle the communist Government of China.

A neutral observer of the world scene may well wonder at the ostrich-blindness of the U.S.A. in trying to bolster up and sustain the Formosa regime, which is so obviously un-Chinese in the true sense of the word; to the

extent, one sees, of keeping them in the U.N.O. as representing China and keeping out the Government of China. This background itself is replete with unreality, and any move to help Formosa seems more a part of an ideological world strategy than the result of a desire to

maintain peace in the Far East. The previous case of Korea should be a lesson to any one who seeks to use the army in the region. At best a compromise, at worst, a face-saving withdrawal. Otherwise a world war. What a prospect for the neutral nations of the world!

INDIAN AFFAIRS

The Creditors' Meeting.

The kind of jubilation that overtakes some of us when a foreign expert says that the economy of India is fundamentally sound and that its troubles are of a temporary duration, caused by the inexorable demands of the Plan, has become the commonplace of a blind and self-deluding palliation. It is not generally realised that what is called the exchange-gap is caused by circumstances and policies which are not part of the capital programmes of the plan. The first major drain is the import of food. The second is military expenditure.

Food is like a chronic complaint with us. We forget it sometimes in the stress and urgency of some other immediate issue, like the Mundhra deal, but it is there all the time. Just now it has again come to the forefront of the news. The High-ups are agitated. The Food Minister says, with a charming and utterly dangerous irrelevance, that he has done what he could, but that food is primarily the responsibility of the State Governments. The State Governments may well say that it is the responsibility of the farmers. The Food Minister has threatened to resign because he has been heckled in Parliament. Why does he threaten instead of doing so? That also we have become used to. In any event, what kind of a solution is this of a major problem? The Prime Minister has said that he has now realised the importance of food. But has the core of the plan been changed in order to suit this belated and vociferous realisation? Will the Government now alter their policy and slow down or scrap the grand plans of industrialisation, and concentrate on the task of growing more food? Will they suppress the

longings of their soul for imposing ceilings and parcelling the land among a large number of cultivators who will not be able to improve the methods of cultivation for some years to come? The fact of the matter is that the Government wants too many things in too short a period and even the crisis in food has not shaken them into a cold sense of reality.

Food-production in India is primarily a matter of intelligent organisation. Every one knows that the land wants water, seed, fertilisers and tillage. No one has yet discovered anything else to increase the yield of land. And yet, after fifteen years of intensive work along these lines, we have failed to make the country self-sufficient. The truth of the matter is that we have not been able to make it a movement of the people in the full sense of the words. We are wedded to departmental methods of work. Unless we make a radical change in the organisation that handles food, and align it along the boundaries of natural regions like river valleys and minor catchments, irrespective of the political boundaries, we shall only succeed in scratching the surface of the problem. Also, the Government must make up its mind on the question of land reforms. The attempt to make a social revolution in a small way can never succeed. A major communistic sweep is one thing. Flirting with the left and trying to maintain democratic chastity is another. If more food has to be produced, what is needed is not a moral readjustment of property in land, but the maintenance of peace and goodwill in the villages. We have succeeded in ruining peace in industry. Indeed, one may say that the outmoded Marxian theory of the class war seems to be

going on only in India today. Other countries are realising the uselessness of direct action in a welfare state and a planned economy, with legislative protection at all levels. Today we are carrying the class war into the villages, so that the urge to fight the other side is taking the place of the urge to produce more. One may well wonder whether in this atmosphere of State-sponsored tenant-landlord conflict, any one will think of or be really interested in producing more. One is afraid that our leaders have to do a great deal of rethinking in the matter.

So also in respect of Defence expenditure. Whom do we want to fight? It is agreed that we have no intention of causing or participating in any major war. Our accepted and advertised policy is peace and neutrality. But then we are informed that Pakistan is getting American help and that we have therefore to spend at least as much as will give us military parity with it. This really means that we shall have to go on spending as much as will amount to what the United States is willing to give Pakistan free, which is not quite the same thing as competing with Pakistan. It becomes a competition with the USA in respect of its world strategy. To consider that we should step up our armaments to the level of American strategy, which is at the back of American help to Pakistan, is folly, even if it were possible. Further, if we fear that Pakistan will use American arms to attack India, then, is it not equally within the realms of probability that we shall also get aid from other nations? It therefore comes to this, that American aid to Pakistan is unlikely to be used against India, and that if it were to be so used, it can be met by corresponding ad hoc aid from others. Nor, in the context of the present great economic aid to India, will the West allow Pakistani aggression. Yet another suggestion has been recently made, that if the armaments race between India and Pakistan is only due to mutual fear, then they may both agree to a lower level of parity, but this ignores the free availability

of arms of Pakistan and their being kept there as part of world strategy against possible Communist aggression. There is only one way out of this impasse. India will have to take a bold and unilateral decision to reduce armaments to the minimum needed for internal security. This is the suggestion that has been made by Rajaji in a sister journal. In fact, he points out that even such measures as increased food production will take time and that meanwhile the foreign exchange crisis will snowball itself. The only immediate step is, therefore the reduction of armaments.

The way in which we feel happy when some one abroad lends us money is a sad commentary on our national strength of character. It is something to be worried about that we are merely putting off the evil day when all of it has to be repaid by increasing our exports. Now we are being asked to tighten our belts because the plan is being built up. Then we will be asked to tighten our belts because we are paying our foreign debts and so have to 'export or die.' The horizon of plenty thus goes on receding into a more and more distant future.

The Students' strike in Kerala.

There was a private ferry that took a few students across a river to their school. Each student paid one anna to be rowed across. The Government took over the ferry. They raised the charges. The students protested. There was a local 'strike' of the students. It would have been more appropriate if the parents had struck. But then some political elements took hold of it and made it a State wide sympathetic students' strike. It spread like wild fire. A resident of one of the towns in Kerala gave us an amusing and graphic account of the incidents. At first the students who struck lay on the steps of the school and prevented the good boys from attending school. They were aided by some political elements in opposition to the Government, and together they manhandled some of the

boys who went in. Then the Communists came on the scene and manhandled the man-handlers. So every one got beaten, the strikers, the non-strikers, and the partisans of every side !

But the strike raises a serious question. Is it the function of an Opposition in a democracy to work as part of a system within parliament, criticising and making alternative suggestions, or is it their function to concentrate on opposing the Government everywhere and in all possible ways, including fomenting the most uncalled for and dangerous strikes among the young and immature students ? For, if one thing is clear from the recent strike, it is that it is not a spontaneous and self-propelled movement amongst the students themselves. They have been made the tools of a more sinister political purpose. So what is happening in Kerala is that democracy has passed from the legislature to the streets, and both the Government and the opposition are fighting it out, in students' strikes, and in murder-infested meetings in and around Trichur.

But the opposition do not see that if and when they come to prower, these weapons of strike and turmoil-fomentation can be practised with greater efficiency by the communists who will not be worried about the responsibilities of office then. It is an invitation to undemocratic violence that will recoil in the form of a destructive whirlwind.

The "Hindu" strike.

One slides into the topic of the Strike in the "Hindu" almost naturally. The issue is not the strike itself ; there have been and will be

right and wrong strikes in industry, and both sides will proclaim the justice of their cause. But the public are aware and have seen with their own eyes the violence and the hooliganism practised by the workers in open daylight, in Mount Road. That the whole of Mount Road was strewn with the torn copies of the 'Hindu' which were forcibly taken away from the company's lorry, is not a matter for argument, is a question of fact. A few weeks earlier, when brickbats were thrown by the strikers in the harbour, they were shot at. And yet, the police looked on and did nothing when the Mount Road incidents happened. Why? No one has come forward with an explanation of this strange excursion into satyagraha by the police. And after the proprietors of the Hindu had staged a magnanimous and lightning surrender, and placed their supporters who had arranged meetings in their favour in a position of acute embarrassment, and themselves in a position of permanent under-doghood to labour, they filled the columns of their paper with accounts of labour misdeeds as reported and commented upon in the other journals, and finally rounded off their heroic resistance by calling for a meeting of all parties over which the Chief Minister himself presided.

The latest phase of this ignominious drama is that certain workers of a neighbouring industry, aggrieved and enraged at a suggestion that they had interfered in the 'Hindu' demonstrations, tried to give the lie direct to it by staging another demonstration in front of the 'Hindu' office. This latter demonstration is anyhow a fact !.

Sanskrit — the common link of Indian Languages

By

KAKA SAHEB KALELKAR

I am very happy indeed to have got this opportunity of paying my homage to Sanskrit, the common link of all Indian languages. In fact the affinity to Sanskrit is not the characteristic of Indian languages alone ; it extends to many languages beyond the borders of India.

I cannot claim to be a student of the history of all languages of humanity. Yet I think that I can safely say that perhaps no language on earth has received, in the past, so much attention, devotion and reverence from its votaries as Sanskrit has. And in modern times, the study of Sanskrit promises to become almost universal. Philologists the world over have come to realise the importance of Sanskrit, particularly its most perfect scientific study of grammar and structure. Psychologists and philosophers too are paying greater attention to Sanskrit for the great treasure-house of knowledge it contains, epitomising the intellectual activities of the Aryan mind.

It is rather curious that Sanskrit should have been called the "Deva-bhasha" or the language of the gods when history shows that Sanskrit is the result of conscious efforts of the Aryans to fuse many original Prakrit dialects into a polished speech. The very name Sanskrit means polished speech ; this is sufficient to prove that Sanskrit was something like a successful Eperento in the hey day of Aryan culture.

I am tempted to compare Sanskrit with the divine stream of Ganga, which is in reality a man-made river. Three generations of the rulers of Bharatvarsha engaged themselves in collecting and diverting the waters of the Himalayas, taking them through Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Bengal to the sea where the sons of Sagar were waiting for the blessings

of the holy waters so that they might be released from the curse of aridity.

All the languages and dialects of ancient India have contributed to and enriched the vocabulary of Sanskrit. Sanskrit as a language has a wonderful elasticity and vitality. Its grammar and philology can be regarded as the highest achievement of the Aryan brain. And Sanskrit literature is a veritable treasure-house of thought and achievements of the various races of India.

Linguistics, grammar, phonetics, philology and semantics all acknowledge their debt to Sanskrit. In fact it was only after the study of Sanskrit that the scholars of the world received a clear perspective and direction for the study of languages. It is said that the greatest discovery of the last century in the field of linguistics was the establishment of affinity between not only Sanskrit, Pehalvi and Avesta ; but between Sanskrit, Latin and Greek. And now, the whole range of the languages of Europe and South-East Asia have come under a comparative study. Even the languages of Northern Eurasia are yielding significant similarities with Sanskrit.

Sanskrit thus bids fair to be a common link for all the Eurasian languages barring perhaps the languages of the Mongol family.

In India, Sanskrit is by far the most important influence which binds all the Indian languages big and small together. Bengali, Assamiya, Oriya, Nepali, Marathi, Gujarati, Rajasthani, Sindhi, Punjabi, Kashmiri and Hindi with all the innumerable dialects—in fact all the languages of Northern India are direct descendants, daughters of Sanskrit.

Even the Dravidian languages of the South are greatly influenced by Sanskrit and we may not be surprised if, some day it is discovered

that those Dravidian languages also belong to the Sanskrit family, not only so far as their vocabulary is concerned but also in their essential structure.

In the Dravidian family of languages it is significant and refreshing to note that the language of the extreme South, Malayalam, contains maximum number of words of Sanskrit origin. It is aptly said that Sanskrit and Dravidian words mix freely and harmoniously in Malayalam and the composite style glistens like a garland of corals and pearls (Mani-praval shaili).

Even Urdu with Arabic-Persian script is replete with words of Sanskrit origin. It is not surprising to note that almost all the verbs in Urdu can trace their origin to the Sanskrit stock. After all Persian is a near sister of Sanskrit.

We talk of evolving a new national unity and solidarity through the development of a common language. Efforts in this direction are no doubt laudable and should be pursued vigorously. The task is made smoother for us because most of it has already been achieved by all pervading influence of Sanskrit.

Saints and poets of India made a close study of Sanskrit literature—Scriptures, Epics, Drama, Philosophy and all—before rendering it in their own languages, in a style simple enough to be understood by the masses and yet not losing the sweet, rich aroma of original Sanskrit.

While studying the various unifying factors, the far reaching influence of Persian on Indian culture during the Muslim rule cannot be ignored or minimised. Nor can we disregard the common heritage of the short-lived British rule in India, which is to be seen in our knowledge of English language and literature. This too has been unifying factor of some magnitude and, as such, must not be ignored. But the unity of life and aspirations already achieved through Sanskrit language and literature is something colossal. All other unifying factors are as nothing before the unity, rich-

ness and subtlety that Indian language achieved through the blessing of Sanskrit.

Sanskrit language and literature have always been and will ever remain, at once the bed-rock and superstructure of Indian culture. Even the early Christian missionaries felt that their efforts at proselytisation would not be complete unless they translated the Bible into Sanskrit. The Rubayats of Omar Khayyam, a gem of Persian thought and culture will be found rendered into Sanskrit. Any noble thought happily expressed in any of the Indian languages has always been immediately rendered into Sanskrit making it difficult later on to make out which was the original and which the translation.

A Sanskrit pandit found it well worth the effort to explain all administrative and military terms of Persian and Arabic origin in Sanskrit verse. The book received royal patronage at the hands of Chhatrapati Shivaji and is known as 'Rajvyavahar Kosh'. This passion appears to have persisted even in fairly recent times. I remember to have seen a Sanskrit book on modern mathematics dealing with the differential and integral calculus! Even in modern times—our own—the desire to immortalise everything in Sanskrit has not been wanting. Many may not know, but the life, thought and martyrdom of Mahatma Gandhi have already been rendered into chaste Sanskrit. Sanskrit, therefore, is not quite the dead language many would have us believe although of course it is not a spoken language.

Just as Latin unified religious and cultural life in Europe through Catholic Christianity, Sanskrit has unified the entire religious life of the people of India. Not only the orthodox Sanatani faith, but the scriptures of the Buddhists and the Jains too, have been nobly expressed and preserved for all times in Sanskrit language. The Shakta and the Vaishnava doctrines and their devotional outpourings likewise are to be found in Sanskrit verse.

Turning to the influence of Sanskrit on the neighbouring countries, we find that Persi-

an scholars in the heyday of the Moghal rule translated Sanskrit literature into Persian with the same enthusiasm with which Russians are today translating the Mahabharata in Russian.

At the request of the Government of Iran and Turkey our Indian Council for Cultural Relations have sent Sanskrit scholars to those countries to satisfy the longing of the people there who are keen to study Indian classics.

Indian psychology and philosophy, contained in Sanskrit treatises are gradually influencing the western thought in the field of metaphysics and sociology. Various art forms of India and greater India—images, statuary, temples, town-planning, music, drama, dance, painting are all being studied now with an emphasis on original Sanskrit texts in order to understand the standards and tastes evolved in India through ages.

In foreign countries wherever they have started a systematic study of Sanskrit, it has proved to be the beginning of a silent renaissance with unlimited possibilities in undreamt of fields.

Sanskrit has not exhausted its vitality, potentiality or prevasiveness. In this sense the language justifies the name given to it as the language of the immortals. Sanskrit literature indeed promises to be a literature of universal culture.

And yet, we must not forget that Sanskrit became dead in the sense that it stagnated, the very moment we felt that it had reached its perfection. We fondly believed and proclaimed it to all, that the grammar, literature, metaphysics and poetics of the Sanskrit language had reached a stage where everything was the last word. This was unfortunate because anything that is supposed to have grown fully, ceases to grow; and our belief that Sanskrit had achieved finality and perfection meant that the language was dead, however glorious the death may have been.

We should cease to treat and worship Sanskrit as idol or as a museum piece to be preserved. We should, equally, cease to accept even the metaphysical attainments of the India brain as the last word in that field of knowledge. Sanskrit still has plenty of scope and can grow both as a language and as a vehicle of the noblest thought that the human mind can conceive.

The language needs to be simplified and made popular with the masses. It lost its influence and vogue when it was made the preserve of the privileged few, who deliberately cultivated an involved and artificial style.

The structure of Sanskrit language has a wonderful vitality and elasticity. Its capacity for coining new words is inexhaustible. It is elastic enough to express the finest and subtlest shades of thought and feeling and volition that take their birth in the human heart and human brain.

We need not confine ourselves to the 2000 and odd roots collected by Panini and his successors. We must be able to adopt new roots which are discovered, deduced or assumed by philologists who are at present studying the languages of the world.

May I end by observing that in my opinion Sanskrit promises to be a world force, bringing about cooperation, solidarity and harmony among the various races of mankind. Of course, Sanskrit can only be one of the many forces that will go to bring mankind together. It would be a poor world in which only one influence monopolises the task of building the many sided social and intellectual structure of humanity. Sanskrit can be only one of the many elements that go to compose the grand symphony of life to the realisation of which all the peace-loving and progressive people of all nations are lending their energies. May Sanskrit attain her rightful position in that process.

Gold Bonds for Gold Hoards

BY SRI V. R. NATARAJAN

THE survey on gold hoarding in India recently published by the Reserve Bank of India and the Finance Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai's statement in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 13, that the Government was considering a proposal to mobilise the idle gold hoards in the country by the issue of gold bonds, has once again brought an old subject to limelight. The Union Finance Minister said that according to an assessment made by some people on behalf of the Reserve Bank and some economists, the value of hoarded gold in the country was estimated to be about Rs. 2,500 crores.

It has been pointed out that the demand for gold is chiefly governed by traditional and economic considerations which cannot be suppressed merely by regulations. Even in Europe the demand for hoarding gold is strong. On the other hand, the demand for gold hoarding is weak in countries such as Switzerland, Belgium and West Germany. The causes leading to the formation of gold hoards in India were social, political and economic in character. The suggestion has often been made that Government should make an attempt to mobilise a part of the idle gold hoards in the country by issuing gold bonds. There can be no two opinions about the desirability of putting the idle gold hoards in the country to some productive use. There are, however, various difficulties about the implementation of this proposal. The issue of gold bonds can take one of two forms. The issue of gold bonds is likely to have appeal only to the richer sections of the community who own gold in the form of bars or bullion.

Various methods have been suggested for fighting the gold hoarding habit out of the country. Apart from its attraction as a hedge against inflation in future, there are two other factors which account for the continuing demand for gold in India, namely, the preference for gold ornaments which is decreed by social customs and the absence of the banking habit and facilities over large parts of the country which makes it difficult for people to invest in forms other than gold, cash or commodities. It is impossible in a country like

India to prohibit private ownership of gold. The fact is that a solution of the problem of gold hoarding in India can only be sought on a long-term basis by way of gradual process of education and extension of facilities for investment in alternative forms. Even with sustained propaganda and with the provision for investment in alternative lines, the attraction for gold will remain. And as long as the basic sociological and economic considerations which lie at the root of the demand would not only be unsuccessful but would also be a source of a number of abuses. A proper approach should be made to bring to the surface the extent of gold hoards in the country. For instance, if an assurance is given that there will be no enquiry into the manner in which gold stocks had come to be acquired and interest paid will be tax-free, it should be possible to tap substantial sums. If an all-out effort was made and if attractive terms were offered to the holders of gold, the attempt will certainly succeed in producing the desired results. It has been suggested that the Post Office Savings Bank should offer more attractive terms to attract deposits from the public. The extension of banking facilities is still another remedy. National Savings Associations on the British model may also be started to meet the evil. Above all, what is urgently required is the planned economic development of the country. With the development of industries and opening of new and profitable channels of investment, people will automatically begin to invest in industrial enterprises.

In this connection, it will be of interest to mention the French scheme whose success is primarily due to the fact that the authorities decided to waive the penalty for anybody who had not previously disclosed his gold holding and who, under the French law, was subject to a penalty of 25% of the value of gold. The French Government had recently issued gold bonds and it mobilised gold worth Rs. 75 crores. If similar assurances can be held out by the India Government, the task of collecting gold held in the form of bullion could be made much easier in this country also.

The Welfare State as Envisaged By Our Constitution

By

Shri. J. C. JOHARI, M. A.

WELFARE state represents a happy compromise between the exploitive freedom of a *laissez-faire* state on the one hand and the regimentated justice of the communist state on the other.

The welfare state may be defined as a half way house between two principles of state activity, viz., individualism on the one extreme and communism on the other. It, therefore, implies the existence of two fundamental requisites—that the essential liberties, as of speech, writing, association, study, union, assembly, worship, profession, trade, property, political, parties, industry, etc., should be perfectly maintained and, secondly, the State should follow a policy of abolishing the gigantic political, economic and social evils, as ignorance, poverty, disease, unemployment and squalor without involving the loss of individual liberties.

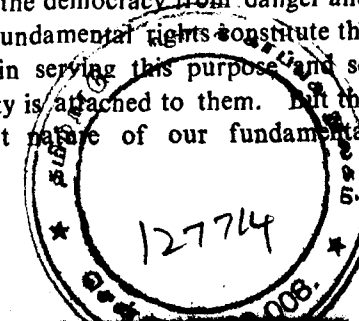
The exponents look upon our constitution as a testament of wel-state in India. They believe that India has adopted the ideal of a wel-state and is committed to its realisation in full. Since every democratic state has adopted this ideal, India is no exception. Especially the provisions of Part III on Fundamental Rights and of Part IV on Directive Principles of State Policy attempt to lay the foundations of welfare state in our country. The first essential requirement is fulfilled by the provisions of Part III where fundamental rights have been guaranteed to the citizens and it has been declared that any law inconsistent to them will be treated as void, and another characteristic obligation is fulfilled by the next chapter which contains a comprehensive list of the provisions named as "directive" and declared as "fundamental in the governance of the country."

But the premises of welfare state as built by

the main provisions of our constitution are neither very healthy nor very satisfactory, for they do not meet the essential obligations of a welfare state in a substantially adherent degree. With modesty it may be alleged that their implications are shallow if not delusive.

The first essential aspect of a welfare state is the recognition of the liberties of the citizens. It therefore, commits suicide under a totalitarian regime. Hence, our welfare state fails in standing as a living issue when a passage has been left, not only for peeping, but even for the entry of totalitarian tendencies. The many qualifications on our fundamental rights, the large and over-riding powers of the central government, the restricted role of the Supreme Court and, above all, the Emergency powers of the President make our constitution a document of 'power organisation' paving way for the emergence of those tendencies under which a welfare state cannot survive. A constitutional document going to fulfil the first essential obligation of welfare state needs sanctity to the liberties of the citizens, limitations, on 'state absolutism' and decentralisation instead of concentration, centralisation and elaboration of powers.

Welfare state has been devised to meet the challenge of communism. A communist State is not accepted as welfare state, for its regimentation of justice leaves no room for the liberties of the citizens. Since a non-democratic regime is anti-thetical to its first essential principle, sincere and stable attempts are undertaken to save the democracy from danger and extinction. Fundamental rights constitute the chief agency in serving this purpose and so eternal sanctity is attached to them. But the non-permanent nature of our fundamental



rights makes the first aspect of our welfare state non-permanent naturally. Is it then unfair to say that the first side of our welfare state is meeting only a temporary phase and can we not dare argue that the list of our fundamental rights is though exhaustive yet exhausting?

Welfare state, precisely speaking, breathes vitally under a democratic set-up. The ghost of despotism devours and kills its tender germs. Above all, the Emergency provisions invite bitter criticism in this context inasmuch as they destroy the primary feature of our welfare state. The police character of our state during the hours of emergency gives birth to non-democratic regime—something contrary to the doctrine of a welfare state. Quite reasonable seems the statement of Mr. Kamath in the Constituent Assembly, "they lay the foundations of a totalitarian state, a police state."

Welfare state is a very delicate and sensitive issue, since it can survive only under a constitution representing an organisation of liberty. In it the personal liberties of the citizens are given top priority. An academician can plead that articles on right to freedom satisfy our required query. But it should be remembered that welfare state is a subject having more practical than theoretical dimensions. The critic feels sure to get dissatisfied when he passes from theory to practice. The utility or the 'rights to freedom' is reduced to rather disutility when we find certain restrictions imposed on them and some legislation running counter to their very spirit. The contents of the Preventive Detention Act are so imposingly forceful that they kill the soul of our rights guaranteeing freedom and attempt to cause an extinction of democracy. It were some open and some hidden limitations on our fundamental rights that led the critics, like Dr. Bakshi Tek Chand to say, "They constitute a charter of oppression and a denial of liberty," and Pt. Thakur Dass Bhargava to utter, "they exhibit a crown of all our failures."

Property is one of the essential factors which help the member of the community to achieve their development. Along with other liberties, right to property is given full recognition in a welfare state. Our constitution too recognises this right to the citizens and declares that none shall be deprived of the property save by authority of law and on payment of compensation. But there is no mention of its being fair or equitable. It is admitted that the courts can interfere in the acquisition of property only in case of no compensation or when there is a "fraud on the constitution". The constitution is dumb not only on the issue of fair compensation, it also restricts the jurisdiction of the court in case of illusory payment. This affair runs inconsistent to the principle of welfare state.

Welfare state is entirely a new idea on the functions of state. The emphasis has changed from state being regarded as a police agency to it as a principal instrument to promote the economic interests of the citizens. In other words, another chief characteristic of welfare state is the assumption of responsibility the provision of minimum standards economic security to the citizens. It is here that Dr. Abraham considers it as "a community where state power is used deliberately to modify the normal play of economic forces." Similar is the observation of Dr. Sirkar, "The determining factor of a welfare state lies in the about assumption of certain basic responsibilities by the state."

While taking this standard, we fail to accept our constitution as a guardian of economic security to its citizens. The founding fathers did not care for the statement of Lenin that political liberty is a sham without economic liberty. Perhaps, they did not take into account a living fact that a man dying of hunger needs something to eat and not to vote. Today Stalin constitution stands second to none for the simple reason that it contains an imposing impressive bill on economic rights of the citizens. If a welfare state implies the end of

restrictions on individual liberties, then free liberty implies the end of oppression, exploitation, unemployment, fear of the morrow, etc. Does our constitution fulfil this necessary condition and Part III bear any sign of economic rights? Our answer goes in negative. We begin to feel that we can get nothing concrete out of this chapter here for our purpose and much could be gained out of 4th chapter, if it would have been declared enforceable.

Part IV by bearing an exhaustive list of the directive principles of state policy, throws ample confidence in the heart of a constitutional protagonist. Undoubtedly, the phraseology, as it appears on the surface, is highly commendable and it tries to satisfy the second need of a welfare state in a very praiseworthy manner, yet their utility is greatly doubtful and questionable. The very language of Art. 37 declaring them unenforceable destroys their usefulness and leaves them as a code of pious wishes or moral precepts. Logically they deserve to be scoffed at as window curtains of arresting plume or taffetta; they are mere consolation given to those who were after finding a blueprint of their longed desires in the constitution. The lack of imperativeness swallows up even the hope of their being taken as fundamental in the governance of the country and we cannot have good prospects of compelling state for implementation.

Perhaps, they cannot even be taken as standing reminders to the government or milestones in the way of national progress, for their worship has been left on the discretion of state. At most they constitute the principles of a holy book and so their significance remains confined to the theocrats and not to the secularists who dominate the government. Mr. Santhanam's statement seems appealing, "It is rather a delicate question whether a Governor or a President can call the attention of his ministry to their duty under this part or refuse assent to any law on the ground that they are contrary to any of the Directive Principles of State Policy. "The very word delicate connotes

the sense that their importance is itself delicate and, therefore, the second side of our welfare state is purely a delicate phenomena.

Moreover, welfare state is a social service state within the philosophical framework of liberalism restated to meet the present needs. Its another essential obligation is to guarantee social security to the citizens. Today U.S.A. is regarded as a welfare state, for she provides to her citizens a wide range of social services like old-age pension, unemployment pay, facilities for public health and public assistance, etc. It is here that we come to regard U.K. as mother of this concept. In the post-war period, she is the first country where attempts were made to eliminate the gigantic evils, as ignorance, poverty, disease, unemployment, squalor, etc. through social legislation undertaken by the Parliament on old-age pension, minimum wage, facilities in case of sickness, disablement, etc. along with a scheme of social insurance. T.W. Kent, thus, defines it a "state that provides to its citizens a wide range of social services. The primary purpose is to give to the citizens a security. The state undertake to help him, if the ordinary member loses his source of income."

A welfare state provides to its citizens minimum wage, public assistance, etc., and implies a kind of guarantee in case of risks, hazards or contingencies of life. By the measure of social security, the life of the citizens is protected in the event of the loss of earning power, injury, sickness, want of work, physical unfitness, etc.

Our constitutional provisions in regard to social services and security are equal to nothing; they furnish no real alternative to begging for the destitute, work to the unemployed, guardianship to the orphans, and provisions of assistance to the naked, blind, ragged and diseased. A good number of beggars, orphans and destitutes in the nook and corner of the society produce a different picture. The ingredients of Art. 41 convey a mere academic importance.

Welfare state demands clear-cut expression. Henceforth, it becomes a difficult job to acknowledge our state as a model welfare state when the necessary implications have been placed under serve limitations. In a way, we cannot admire the provisions of our constitution in this direction and if we do out of obstinacy, it will be tantamount to exaggeration

and boastfulness. In fine, it may be alleged that a long list of objectionable features illustrates an ugly infringement of the principles of welfare state as embodied in our constitution. Our welfare state, as provided by the constitutional provisions, is not an appreciable creation for the men of mature judgment.

Research in Agriculture

By

Mr. PIERRE DE LATIL

AGRICULTURE is the oldest of all human techniques. It is also one of the most essential and will become increasingly so in years to come as the world population grows and there are millions more mouths to feed.

Agronomy, on the other hand is the newest of sciences, a branch that has only just been opened up. That may seem a strange statement—most people will tell you that agronomy is a well-established science, that has already stood the test of time and experience—but just let me prove my point.

How does a physicist or a physiologist, or for that matter any scientist, set about studying a scientific process? He conducts his experiments in such a way that all the factors, save one, are invariable, and he demonstrates the effects of this one variable factor by giving it different values. Through this method he can unravel a complex process and show how it hinges on different factors. That is the ABC of all scientific research.

But it is not so easy for the agronomist who wants to study the influence of soil and climate on, say, ten new varieties of wheat. He would begin by saying that he requires ten or may be twenty years to complete his study in co-operation with research workers in other countries and plenty of funds at his disposal.

But even so he will not be over ambitious, for he knows that it is practically impossible

to show the influence of a single factor—such as the dryness of the soil, the moisture in the air, or an early cold spell on the growth or size of the grains of wheat, because all the factors are interrelated and you cannot make one vary without affecting the others. The dryness of the soil, for instance, is usually related to the dryness of the air: if you change one, you change the other. As for an early winter—which may occur only once or twice during the long experimental period—it will probably be accompanied by other exceptional meteorological conditions.

Since the agronomist has to rely on Nature to change the conditions of growth and climate it is impossible for him to conduct a really scientific study in plant physiology, as research workers do in all other branches of science, to unravel all the complicated influences involved in plant growth. What he really needs is a means of making Nature obey his least commands, a way of modifying for instance, the dryness of the air without changing any other climatic factor.

To-day man has built machines to do just that they can produce artificially, all the conditions required by science. The idea of building these machines—or *phytotrons* as they are called—stemmed from the work of a Dutch botanist Blaauw who, in 1918 conducted research under artificial lighting to study the effects

of different temperatures upon tulips. Another Dutchman Dr. Frits Went of the California Institute of Technology at Pasadena in the United States, developed the same method even further in 1949 and he installed a series of air-conditioned rooms where he could vary any factor at will. His colleagues chaffed him, joking about his “*phytotron*,” for the nuclear physicist’s cyclotron was then the pride of the Institute. But the term, from the Greek *phytos*—plant—was taken up again by the famous physicist Clark Millikan, at the inauguration of the new laboratories. The *phytotron*, he predicted, would become as important for plants as the cyclotron is for atoms, only its economic scope would be much greater.

By varying the length of “days” and “nights” in the *phytotron*, and modifying the rhythm of their alternation Prof. Went was able to demonstrate the importance of the duration of periods of light and darkness in the life of a plant. He proved in particular, that heat is much less important for certain tropical plants than days and nights of equal duration.

A few years ago a smaller *phytotron* was set up at Liege University in Belgium under the direction of Prof. Bouillenne. Another on a much larger scale is now undergoing final machinery tests at Gif-sur-Yvette, near Paris. This *phytotron* is bigger even than its American counterpart. It includes a “suite” of 21 experimental chambers where Pierre Chouard,

Professor of Plant Physiology at Paris University will be able to control an equal number of “micro-climates” with absolute precisions. Environmental factors will be established independently in each laboratory. Conditions can be made to change in a matter of minutes from the dampness of the tropical forest to the extreme dryness of the desert. Specialists will be able to raise or lower the prevailing temperatures almost instantly by 20 or 30 degrees, to shorten or lengthen the duration of the “day,” to vary the intensity of the light, to concentrate whole “winters” in a few short weeks, or “years” in a few months.

The experiments will continue until the Spring of 1959 when the Gif-sur-Yvette *phytotron* will be opened to botanists from all countries. “We want it to be a laboratory on a European scale” Prof. Chouard commented.

“And how long would my hypothetic study of the ten new varieties of wheat take in your *phytotron*?” I asked.

“A fortnight to draw up the research programme, four or five months to conduct the experiments, and a few more days to collate the results. Say, six months at the utmost. But we would really have studied the problem from every conceivable angle, and we would know exactly what influence each individual factor exerts, independently from all the other on each of the new wheat varieties.”

So meet the *phytotron*—the machine that creates climates and can change the seasons.
— Unesco.

Liquidation of Illiteracy in India

By

Mr. SHAMSUDDIN, M.A., M.Ed.

LEARNING has been a time-honoured tradition in India and has given birth to various Institutions. It has been a successive means of transmission of knowledge from generation to generation. Ancient methods of transmission of knowledge, viz., Kathas, Kirtans, folk dances and so on, somehow came

to be neglected during the past few centuries. Very recently India grew conscious of standing in line with the modern civilised countries.

In India from time to time, the fate of Adult Education has always been subservient to the nature of various National movements. During 1937-38, efforts in the field of elimi-

nating illiteracy in India were made to a certain extent, when the popular Ministries in the Provinces came into being for a brief time. Then the National Government was formed in 1946, Educationists endeavoured to search for a formula in this field, which would link up with the new National aspirations.

In 1948, they gave it the name of 'Social Education' which is the broader concept of "Adult Education." Since then the emphasis has been not only on literacy but also on a better standard of living. In 1952 the scheme of 'Community Projects' infused marvellous enthusiasm among social educationists.

Social Education aims to strengthen social harmony and social solidarity among people. Social harmony and social solidarity are things of value, and they gear up towards achievement of larger national ends. The social harmony aimed at by social education is thus a part of the dynamic social movement in India. It makes people conscious of the significance of the country's Five-year Plans and enthruses them to participate in it. It also serves as a bridge between centres of research and the homes and hamlets where the common people live. It helps to bring down to the people the benefits of the new knowledge. It helps people to understand and gain knowledge of the basic essentials of a healthy life, civic education, etc.

As a large part of Indian population is illiterate, literacy has become one of the most important programmes of social education. The following figures present a fairly good picture of literacy in India :

- | | |
|--|-----------|
| (i) Percentage of literacy in 1951
(the latest census year) | ... 16.6% |
| (ii) Percentage of literacy if children
below 10 (ten) are excluded | ... 20% |
| (iii) Literacy among men | ... 24.9% |
| (iv) Literacy among women | ... 7.9% |
| (v) Literacy in Urban Areas | ... 34.6% |
| (vi) Literacy in Rural Areas | ... 12% |

If India wants to keep pace with the advancement of the modern world, the raising of the general standard of living everywhere and achievement of total literacy are most essential. This was the sole aim of the Adult Education movement in the country prior to 1948. The social education movement too inherits the same aims and is endeavouring to deepen its significance.

Before the community projects commenced working, there were about 40,000 classes in India imparting literacy to nearly 400,000 people annually. By the beginning of 1956, the community project organisation had run 75,000 literacy classes with an enrolment of over 600,000. This is a good contribution towards the liquidation of illiteracy. Yet we have to admit that the present literacy effort in the country is inadequate in the face of the challenge presented by the mass illiteracy in India and hence needs greater momentum.

Sometimes literacy classes develop into follow-up groups and these into community centres which provide a meeting place for the community. But this means it is hoped that the community may develop esprit de corps.

The community centres in India have various programmes, most of which are taken up by the State Education Department. By the beginning of 1956, 63,000 community centres were established in about 800 Development Blocks throughout the country. These community centres organised 169,000 programmes, mostly recreational. The organisation of the community centres has been encouraged as well by the Ministry of Education. During the First Five year Plan 454 schools were started to function as school-cum-community centres and 160 model community centres were actually set up.

Youth clubs as well, have been formed and are inspired with a deep social education spirit in as much as they teach youth new ways of group life. They undertake the responsibility of protecting the villages against outside un-

desirable influence. They are also responsible for agricultural projects.

As a follow up of literacy classes for the education of the masses libraries have a place of importance. No doubt, for the present, the library service in the country are in their infancy. There are hardly 32,000 libraries throughout the country and these too are not well furnished and have a considerable portion of trash. In short there is hardly one book for every 50 of our people and only 10 of them are estimated to have read only one book in a whole year.

In order to knit them together the Government of India has established District and Central State Libraries to serve the towns and villages in their respective areas. During the First Five-year Plan out of a total of 320 districts in India, about 100 were equipped with libraries. It is hoped that every district in India will have its own library by the end of Second Five-year Plan.

All India Radio plays an important role in liquidation of illiteracy in India. 22 stations throughout the country broadcast programmes for women, children, farmers and villagers in almost all India languages and in English too. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting have set up nearly 22,000 community sets all over the country by sharing the expenditure on the radio sets with State Governments.

Exhibitions and Film shows have also played an important part in eradicating illiteracy in the country. Up till March 1956 the community projects in different states had distributed 20 fully equipped mobile cinema vans, 335 fully equipped trailers and 208 magic lanterns and filmstrip projectors. Some States have good audio-visual departments to support their programmes of visual education.

Literature has been considered to be the most extensive and the most convenient device for awakening the social and National consciousness of the people. The Government of India with the cooperation of the Idara-

Talim-o-Tarraqui published 'Easy to Read' pamphlets on various subjects. Many state Governments are also publishing journals which are meant for adults.

As regards personnel for the work, there are the local voluntary workers in villages, towns and cities in India, who devote a part of their time to work out one or the other aspect of social education for liquidating illiteracy,.....during leisure hours and without any remuneration. By the beginning of 1956, 11,325 village level workers were on the job in the country.

In fact it is the social education organiser who is the backbone of the social education personnel of the country. State Education Departments also organise short course for the training of literacy teachers. Recently in cooperation with the Ford Foundation a scheme was worked out to train 42,000 teachers in the course of the next five years for a comprehensive course. The Government of India have also been sponsoring illiteracy workshops since 1953 for the training of authors for producing material for neo-literates. Each workshop trains about 20 to 25 authors within the period of a month. Besides learning the techniques of writing for neo-literates the authors are also expected to produce some reading material during the workshop period.

In brief the movement has certainly some ideals before it but ideals cannot be measured in terms of mathematics, yet people can realise them only in terms of their striving and capacity. Thus it can be said with certainty that the community projects have brought a sense of purpose and joy to the lives of the people in villages and that social education has played a satisfactory role. If the villagers of India, today, are buzzing with greater activity than ever before, credit for this should go to the social education movement only.

Our Population Problem

By

Dr. S. CHANDRASEKHAR

THE population problem has come to be recognised as one of the most basic of all human problems because it affects almost every aspect of man's social life. It affects the health and happiness of individual families; it affects the material prosperity and social progress of nations; and it affects international security and peace, for population problems have led in the past, and may lead in the future, to war.

Our population problem has numerous aspects and these touch almost every sphere of human endeavour ranging all the way from biology and cultural values to marital patterns and preventive medicine. But the most fundamental aspect of the problem is the ratio between the total available natural resources and the minimum needs of man. In other words, the problem is how to bring about a better and a more stable balance between the fertility of the soil and the fertility of man; between human production and human reproduction.

I shall attempt to examine the problem under three headings—the facts, the problem, and a policy or solutions.

I cannot, unfortunately, go into all the relevant facts or the cumulative significance of their inter-relationships. But what are some of the important, demographic facts? Our population has been growing at a fairly rapid rate of 1.2 per cent per annum during the last several years. Actually, this rate is not very high, because there are certain countries in the West which exceed this rate. But because we have a massive population to begin with, even a nominal rate of increase gives us a net annual addition of some five millions. This means that we add every decade about fifty millions, or as much as the population of Great Britain or Western Germany. It is obvious that this rate of growth and the net addition progressively increase under the conditions prevalent in our country.

Today our population is probably around 398 millions, and I am afraid that the 1961 Census—only three years away—will reveal that we have passed the 400 million mark. The projection of our growth, of course, depends on the nature of assumptions one makes about the trends of our birth and death rates.

What about our birth and death rates? The crude birth rates do not reveal as much as fertility rates, or even better, what are called specific fertility rates. The fertility rate represents the number of female children born each year per 1000 women between 15 and 45 years of age. Since there are variations in the age groups in the proportion of total women of child-bearing age, specific fertility rates give a more accurate picture of our population growth. But unfortunately we do not have reliable statistics to do any detailed refinements. Such evidence as we have, after adjusting the rates, shows that the birth rate is around 40 per thousand. The important point here is that our birth rate is not only high but that it has shown no definite declining trend during the last decade. A decline in the birth rate will, of course, depend on the number of girls born, the number and the age at which the girls marry, the number of children they bear and whether they complete their reproductive period, etc. Anyway, we have not witnessed so far any definitive decline in our birth rate.

What about our death rate? Any scientific answer to this question must examine the various components such as the infant mortality rate, the maternal mortality rate, their sex differentials and the overall mortality rate for both sexes in all age groups. Further, the infant mortality rate (which is the number of infants who die per 1000 live births in a year) must be examined in the light of pre-natal loss of life, still-birth, peri-natal (one week) mortality, neo-natal (one month) and post-neo-natal mortality. Here again we do not have accurate

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figures but such figures as we have and as we can accept after refinement, reveal that our death rate is one of the highest in the world—around 30 per 1000. But fortunately it is declining. For instance, the infant mortality rate which is a sensitive index of our socio-economic conditions, shows a decline. Our infant mortality rate, if official figures are accepted, is around 115 per 1000 live births, whereas in most advanced countries the rate is between 20 and 30. But even here, the rate is declining. This is a very welcome feature, for the nation's children are too precious to be wasted by premature death or preventable disease.

What about the future? Thanks to the efforts of our Second Five-year Plan, we have declared war on disease with better preventive, diagnostic and curative services, better sanitary and hygienic facilities, more medical personnel and hospitals, and new wonder drugs. But a welcome decline in our death rate has an unfortunate effect on our population problem for it increases the net addition to our population if nothing happens to our birth rate. For instance, if we can reduce our infant mortality by, say, fifty percent, our net annual addition to our population can increase from its present five millions to almost ten millions—an alarming prospect! And yet all of us are dedicated to the ideal of alleviating human suffering, postponing death and prolonging human life. And we also want to raise the expectation of life at birth for our people.

What about our standard, or rather level, of living. No matter how one defines the concept of a level of living, we all know that our level of living is relatively low. This does not need any statistical evidence! Even those who do not believe in abundant living and want simple and austere living, must grant that our per capita "consumption" of food, clothing, housing, education, medical help, cultural amenities etc., is far from satisfactory according to any Asian (not European or American) optimum standard of living. All of us are agreed that

we do not want any citizen of our country to go chronically hungry, much less die from hunger; to go about semi-naked; to live on our pavements in squalor; to suffer or die from curable disease; or to be illiterate or ignorant.

We want everyone in our country to attain the highest possibilities and develop to the most their inborn and acquired abilities. This can be possible only in an economy of abundance and not one of scarcity. Our low living standard is simply an index of too many people trying to share very limited resources.

There are numerous other demographic, socio-economic facts bearing on this question. I can only recommend the reader to read the 1951 Census Report. Usually government reports, particularly census reports, make dull reading; but Mr. R. A. Gopalswamy's census report makes fascinating reading and it is well worth any interested layman's perusal.

The population problem in its simplest formulation is this. How can we raise our standard of living (which means more of every thing for everybody) and cut down our death rate (which means keeping alive more people who would otherwise die) when we are unable to support the existing population even at the present miserable standard of living, if at the same time our population continues to increase by five or more millions every year? It is simply impossible. We should forget all about raising our standard of living and perhaps even lower our already low standard. Or else we must raise our death rate. But no one can seriously sponsor such a proposal. What then is the way out?

What is the solution to our population problem? There are obviously two approaches to the question. One is to increase tremendously our agricultural and industrial production so that the per capita income in our country is raised. Or rigidly control our population growth. But if we increase production and also add to our population, then we

can only maintain the status quo. That is, we shall have to run very hard to stand still.

Therefore, the better way is to raise the production of our food and manufactures as far as possible on the one hand, and control population growth on the other so that standard of living can go up.

What about increasing our production? The Government's efforts as seen in our two plans are dedicated to this ideal. We are doing our best to bring more land under cultivation; we are trying to raise better crops; in fact, we are trying to raise our total food supply so that we can be self-sufficient and save the much needed foreign exchange. Secondly, we are trying to industrialise our economy. Industrialisation needs raw materials, skilled labour, capital, machinery and technological "know-how." We are trying to import Western machines and hire foreign experts. Despite numerous difficulties we are trying to shift under-employed people from over-crowded agriculture to productive urban factories. I am one of those who believe that large scale and rapid industrialisation will go a great way to solve our population problem. Apart from raising the level of living of our people through more goods, and services, industrialization may also result in a lower birth rate.

The second major solution is that of family planning. The mere mention of this term raises heat and controversy in many parts of the world. I have travelled in many parts of the world and have discovered that the mere mention of this term raises heat and controversy. There is so much cultural, political and religious prejudice on this question that our country stands high for having taken a courageous and progressive stand on family planning. Prime Minister Nehru, who has taken this position, that we should control our numbers, deserves all the praise, for this policy is an effective step in promoting international peace in the long run.

The Government and voluntary agencies must carry this reform to the nooks and corners of our country. Our fashions must change and it must be considered unpatriotic for any young newly-married couples to have more than two or three children. I realise that there are numerous very real difficulties in the path of implementing family planning in rural India, but we must pioneer and perhaps explore methods of permanent conception control. Here again we are fortunate that the Ministry of Health and Shri D. P. Karmarkar are not only aware of the magnitude of the problem, but are making serious efforts in the right direction. Once our family planning movement gets under way and gains momentum, then we shall be able to stabilize our population at some desirable number till economic standard are perceptibly raised.

The third and last approach is women's education. In technical demographic discussions, women's education is never mentioned but I think the solution of our population problem will be nearer and easier if all young women can have some liberalising education. By education I do not mean what is conventionally imparted in our colleges and universities. We need new educational values for our women so that they may cultivate a sense of dedication to the cause of our country and a new awareness of their role in enriching our life and heritage. When our women realise their rights and have children by choice and not by chance, by design and not by accident, then half of our battle has been won.

The objective of our population policy must be to build a better, healthier and richer India, an India that will give to its citizens first of all a higher standard of living so that in the midst of possible sufficiency, no child will cry for food and go without it: an India where the inventions of modern science and the conveniences of modern civilization will be at the disposal of every family, not merely for the few that can afford them today; an India where people will have no sense of frustrating insecurity and which will make it possible for all groups, regardless of caste, creed, or languages to live in friendship and prosperity; an India that will carry forward her mission of peace to other countries of Asia and the West without the least thought of exploitation of anyone, anywhere either in the realm of mind or material possessions.

Export Prospects of Handicrafts

By

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Chief Executive Officer, A. I. Handicrafts Board

UNTIL recently our handicrafts industries depended largely on the support of old aristocracy, the landed nobility, the Rajas and Maharajas. Export was a marginal phenomenon except in the case of a few industries like carpet-making which depended primarily on foreign demand. With the dawn of independence, there has been a shift in the internal demand as well as expansion of export demand, especially in countries with high level of income such as the West European countries, the British dominions, and the United States of America. From the Government point of view the need to earn the foreign exchange has also made it urgent to explore the prospects of expanding handicrafts exports.

In the current official statistical publications, the figures of handicrafts articles are combined with those of the corresponding mill-made articles and classified in a few broad categories such as silk piece goods, apparel, hosiery, shawls, haberdashery and millinery leather goods, toys and sports goods, furniture and cabinetwares, etc. Therefore authentic data as to the total amount of exports of handicrafts are not available. Therefore, in analysing the trends in the export trade in handicrafts, we have to reckon with only limited data of an indicative nature. The following table is indicative of the value and trends of the export of handicrafts in recent years:

Year	Value in Rs.
1951-52	7,96,27,286
1952-53	5,58,61,572
1953-54	6,92,18,903
1954-55	7,03,72,475
1955-56	7,68,85,723
1956-57	6,16,02,519

It will be observed that during the period under review, 1951-52 was the peak year when

the exports of handicrafts reached the figure of Rs. 7.96 crores. In the year 1952-53, the value of exports fell down to Rs. 5.58 crores. However, the subsequent years witnessed a considerable recovery of exports and rising trend has since been maintained. The value of exports for the first ten months of the calendar year 1957 was Rs. 7.97 crores. The fall in exports immediately after the peak period of 1951-52 is attributed mainly to the cut-throat competition among the handicraft exporters which resulted in a deterioration in the standards of quality, especially in exports of carpet.

A study of the export picture during the first ten months of Calendar year 1957 indicates that the exports of Handicraft goods, mentioned as separate category in the 'Monthly statistics of the Foreign Trade of India' rose from Rs. 18.1 lakh in Jan. 1957 to Rs. 32.00 lakh in Feb., Rs. 43.00 lakh in April, Rs. 46.00 lakh in August. It may be emphasized here that the figures given above do not represent the total value of the exports of Handicrafts during the particular month, but are to be regarded as mere indicators of the general trend. There are indications that the rising trend will continue in the remainder of the year. The exports of innumerable handicrafts items like Lacquered Woodenware, Textile fabrics, carpets, etc., during the period Jan. to Oct. 1957, was to the tune of Rs. 7,90,04,569.

Carpets and Rugs: Carpets and rugs are the most important item of Handicraft exports exported from India. The demand for carpets and rugs emanates from countries situated outside the topical zones and having high real incomes. The industry was hit hard during world war II due to material shortages, transport difficulties and several other restrictions. After the war, conditions were again favourable

and two peak periods were recorded in 1946-47 and 1950-51. In 1951-52 the value of export touched the record figure of Rs. 5.8 crores. But a decline followed owing principally to shift of competition from the mill made carpets industries of importing countries and the deterioration in quality of indigenous production. In 1952-53, the figures were as low as 2.8 crores. Again, there has been a considerable rise in the export figures. U.K. is our largest importer of carpet. U.S.A., Canada and Australia are the other important markets. These markets require to be fully explored and steps are being taken to do so.

Brocades (Silk piece goods): Upto 1947, silk piece goods had no foreign markets, but were consumed mostly in West Punjab and Sindh. Even after partition, Pakistan imported silk goods to the tune Rs. 89 lakhs in 1948-49, but the figures fell down to Rs. 2.4 lakhs in 1949-50 due to the imposition of heavy import restrictions and exchange difficulties. Export of silk goods to U. K. and U.S.A. has been on the increase due to the growing demand of silk scarves and skirt lengths. Other countries which import are Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Burma, Ceylon and Malaya. Silk dress material including brocades adopted to the dressing habits of the different countries have a substantial export potential.

Prints: Indian block printed cotton and silk fabrics have been gaining increasing popularity in the U.S. Market. Other important markets are U.K., France, Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Switzerland, Sweden and Norway. Prints have bright prospects for export provided there is greater publicity, continuous design development and enforcement of strict quality control.

Brassware: Export of Brassware has also been on the increase. While the Asian market buy utility goods, U.S.A. has been absorbing increasingly large quantities of Art Brassware. The prospects for further expansion of art brassware exports are considered to be very

bright. Increased emphasis would be necessary on the development of new articles with simpler but traditional designs and better finish, and quality control.

Jewellery: Jewellery exports have also registered a marked increase from Rs. 2,37,114 in 1951-52 to Rs. 80,03,513 in 1956-57. The increase is due to large purchases by the Middle East countries. Turquoise jewellery from Kashmir is very much liked in U.S.A.

Ivory Manufacture: The export of ivory manufacture has also been on the increase. The U.S.A., is an important market for our ivoryware. Also there is a growing demand for ivoryware in European and Middle Eastern countries. New Zealand and Canada are also good markets. There are bright prospects for utility articles such as tobacco pipes, cigarette holders, pin cushions, cocktail pins, letter openers, etc.

Our handicrafts have not yet been, with a few exceptions, able to secure for themselves a stable and lasting position in the world market. This has been so in spite of considerable encouragement by the Govt. to the export trade and an increased awareness among the trading community of the sales merits of the handicrafts. The public response to our handicrafts in foreign trade and exhibitions proves without any doubt that our handicrafts have a tremendous export potential. This is affirmed by the results of market surveys made by the All India Handicrafts Board.

While the export potential for Indian Handicrafts is undoubtedly, very large, the current volume of exports does not correspond with the gettable volume of business. However as the Indian handicrafts trade with the incoming of the All India Handicrafts Development Corporation becomes more organised and better informed, the exports of handicrafts are bound to rise substantially. Since the Indian Handicrafts export is still in its early stages of the development, the members of the Trade Community do not have adequate experience,

knowledge of export techniques and the requirements of foreign markets in respect of designs and styles. The absence of a system of quality control is another major factor limiting the export of handicrafts. Furthermore, the export trade in handicrafts is not organised in as much as there are no trade associations which can exert effective commercial practices in the way of fixing price levels and setting down a code of conduct for the exporters. The result is that during the recent years, the exporters of handicrafts have been indulging in cut-throat competition with each product and the current level of export prices in most fields of handicrafts does not provide incentive to the prospective exporters. Also the competition in prices has resulted in deterioration of the quality as well as in the loss of foreign exchange to the country.

With a view to solving the problem of export trade the All India Handicrafts Board established an Export Branch last August. This Branch as a preliminary step is registering the exporters of Indian handicrafts on a country-wide basis with a view to assisting the exporters through providing active assistance to the exporters. The Export Promotion Branch has organised a specialised trade opportunity service and stands ready to answer trade enquiries from exporters of handicrafts. The Branch is also equipped to make surveys of the individual industries and to recommend suitable remedial measures for relief. Periodic circulars are issued to the members of the trade on matters of specific interest to handicrafts exports covering such subjects as Trade Opportunity Information, Government of India Export Import Trade Regulations, Trade agreements, reports from our traders and the results of marketing research conducted directly or indirectly by the Board. Schemes are under-way to open show-rooms in important foreign markets which will be equipped to display our handicrafts in those markets and to big business on behalf of exporters in handicrafts. To further assist

the Indian Handicrafts Export Trade, the Board is considering the proposal to open a chain of trade information centres throughout the country. These information centres will be equipped with such materials as Trade Directories, Trade Magazines devoted to individual crafts, periodicals on designs and styles, books and magazines on packaging and general guides of the export trade. The centres will be run by experienced staff specialised in export of handicrafts who will devote themselves to guide and assist export trade in the day-to-day business. The exporters will be encouraged to personally visit these centres and make use of the libraries in modernizing their businesses.

The Board has also planned to publish a number of publications for the benefit of the handicrafts export trade. These publications will include Directory of the export of Indian handicrafts for wide-international distribution. Also it plans to publish guides and Directories for distribution among the Indian exporters. In addition to the above, the Board's programme for participating in foreign fairs and exhibitions will be further intensified. So far Indian handicrafts have been exhibited in practically all the major foreign markets where they have received enthusiastic response both from the trade and the public. Apart from these measures, the Board has established four Design Centres in the country which are providing themselves to the task of developing new designs to cater to the tastes of foreign countries. 28 pilot Centres have been opened with the objective of reviving moribund crafts. A study of the existing trade associations is also underway so that the formation of effective trade associations may be encouraged. Plans are also being made to start shorttime training courses for our handicraft exporters at principal export countries.

With the implementation of the above schemes, the Indian handicrafts export trade will be placed on a sound footing. Our current

exports of Indian handicrafts may therefore be regarded only as beginnings of a major export industry. The handicrafts export trade has experienced considerable expansion during the recent years. It is estimated that there are over 600 firms in the country engaged in this field at this time. As these units are given the information they need and are imparted training that they require in the way of technical data on packaging, designs and styles, our exports will increase several times their present level. The task of organising the trade and providing it with technical information as well as undertaking development projects abroad in the way of marketing research,

opening of showrooms and participating in foreign exhibitions is an immense one. The task has been undertaken and we are well on our way.

Very recently, the Indian Handicrafts Development Corporation has been established to undertake and speed up the promotion actively. This Corporation will endeavour to achieve the objective through organising production and exports of handicrafts in a commercial scale. In the coming years, therefore, we can, with confidence, look forward to greatly expanded export trade both in terms of value, quantity and diversification of export merchandize.

Indo-Arab Understanding

By

Mr. GALAL EL-RASHIDI

THE ever-growing understanding and friendship between India and the Arab Nationalist World is one of the most remarkable and encouraging developments of our times. This is not only the coming together of two of the most ancient civilizations of the world, but also of two peoples whose forward march to strength and prosperity is bound to exercise a profound influence on the tide of human affairs in the years to come. The Greek historian, Herodotus, who is regarded as the Father of History, once said: "I shall devote as much attention to small countries as to great, for those which were great in the past have mostly become small, while those which were great in my time had been small before. Conscious as I am of the perpetual instability of human affairs, I shall make no distinction in my treatment of the two."

This wholesome precept has been largely forgotten by power-drunk statesmen of the modern world. But the time is not far off, when the so-called smaller nations of the East will regain their ancient glory. It is extremely

necessary that the peoples of the East, in this period of their re-awakening, do not repeat the mistakes of the West; that they shun the path of conflict and clash and firmly cling to the path of friendship and understanding.

This is the path which has been chosen by both India and the Nationalist Arab World, the path which was outlined at the great Bandung Conference. The Bandung Charter eloquently demonstrated that Asian awakening was not a narrow parochial development; indeed, it was declared in the Charter that Asian-African countries had no intention of forming a regional bloc. The Charter stated that the cradle of the great religions and civilizations of the whole world were at the same time themselves enriched in that process. It went on to say: "True to the age-old tradition of tolerance and universality, the conference believed that Asian and African cultural co-operation should be developed in the larger context of world co-operation. Side by side with the development of Asian-African cultural co-operation, the countries of Asia and

Africa desire to develop cultural contacts with others. This would enrich their own culture and would also help in the promotion of world peace and understanding."

It is a matter of pride and satisfaction that the increasing friendship and co-operation between India and the Arabs has followed the lofty principles outlined at Bandung. For it has been amply demonstrated that whenever India and the Arabs have stood together, they have stood for the defence of human rights, for the birth-right of every nation to independence and sovereignty, for international peace and amity and for reduction of world tension. Indo-Arab friendship has been a powerful factor in safeguarding the interests of Asian-African nations in their forward march to national liberation and economic reconstruction. On every international issue affecting the fate of the human race, whether it is Colonialism or Cold War, or Racial Discrimination or Atomic Energy, India and the Nationalist Arab Countries, of which the United Arab Republic under the leadership of President Nasser is the vanguard, have always stood to champion the very liberal principles which were once the glory of the West and which the West has now so tragically abandoned. Thus, the fountain-source of Indo-Arab understanding is not the narrow interests of a particular region of the world or of two or more particular countries, but the welfare and progress of the entire mankind.

This, if I may venture to say, is in tradition with the ancient dialogues between the two great civilizations of the East, Indian and Arab. Even before the birth of Christ, an intimate dialogue of cultural and commercial intercourse prevailed between India and the Arabs. Many historical evidences of that ancient dialogue have been discovered and others will come to light as painstaking research goes on. The Arabs not only introduced the legendary products of Indian workmen to Roman Europe, it was also through them that the West came to know of some of the price-

less contributions of India's ancient civilization. Indian astronomy and Indian arithmetic went to Greece and Rome through the Arabs and the famous Indian collection of fables, Panchatantra was translated in the Sixth Century A.D. into Arabic and the Arabic translation made the book well-known all over the Western World. It will be outside the scope of this short article to attempt a detailed account of the age-old contacts between the Arab and Indian Civilizations. Suffice it to say that India's trade and commercial contacts with Egypt and Arabia date back as early as the Sixth Century B.C. and these contacts were both direct and indirect.

It is given to our generation to revive those ancient contacts and not only to renew them, but to make them infinitely stronger in a world which has transcended the barriers of seas and mountains and brought the Arabs and the Indians to neighbourly closeness. Geographically, politically and economically, the Arab World and India are very close to one another; whatever happens in the one is bound to affect seriously the interest of the other. This is not merely a truism, but a fact proven by recent developments. The liberation of the Arab Middle East from European dominance is of vital interest to India, because it will complete the process of Asia's emergence from the long period of European Colonialism. India's trade routes with Europe pass through the Arab World from where India draws her requirements of petroleum and where Indian trade and commerce has been gaining an expanding market. If the Cold War settles down on India's Arab West, it is bound to affect India's own affairs. It is, therefore, in the interests of India as well as the Arabs that the Arab World emerges into complete sovereignty and unity and is liberated from the glacial winds of the Cold War. Like peace, liberty also is indivisible, and no one realises this better than the leaders of Modern India.

If India's independence, eleven years ago, was hailed by Arab Nationalists all over the

Arab World, it was because they realised that India's liberation from European domination would work as a catalytic force sustaining and invigorating the freedom struggles all over the East. The Arabs watched with breathless interest and profound admiration. India's steady progress to prosperity, for they knew that a strong, unified prosperous India would be a bulwark of Peace, Freedom and Progress throughout Asia and Africa. India's great Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, in his memorable speech delivered at midnight, on August 15, 1947, proclaiming the birth of Independent India, rightly declared that "It is a fateful moment for India, for Asia and for all the World." This was fully realised by Nationalist Arabs, who were then themselves fighting for their own liberation from foreign domination. It is no wonder, therefore, that India is warmly greeted on her National Day, not only by the Arab Leaders, but also by every citizen of the Arab World.

It is to the abiding credit of India's Prime Minister that he has always been a sincere and disinterested friend of Arab freedom and progress. In his first broadcast to the Nation after assuming office of the Vice-President of the Interim Government of India in September 1946, Mr. Nehru visualised closer relations between India and the Arab World. "We are of Asia," he declared, "and the People of Asia are nearer and closer to us than others. The future is bound to see a closer union between India and South-East Asia on the one side, and with Afghanistan, Iran and the Arab World on the other. To the furtherance of that close association of free countries, we devote ourselves."

The first Goodwill Mission from Independent India went to the Arab countries under the leadership of the late Maulana Abul Kalam Azad. Soon after her independence, India had to play a role in Middle East affairs when she was made a member of the United Nations Palestine Commission. The Arabs remember with appreciation India's valuable contribution to the Palestine debate in the United Nations. With all her sympathy for the persecuted Jews, of Europe, which the Arabs also fully shared, India opposed the creation of a Jewish State in Palestine and, instead, favoured a Cantonal form of Federation between the Jews and the Arabs of the Holy Land. As Mr. Panikkar, the eminent diplomat-historian, who was a member of the

Indian Delegation to the U.N. Session discussing Palestine, has stated in one of his books, India had always been sympathetic to the Arab case in Palestine and that in spite of the human sympathy for the Jews, believed that it would be unfair to the Arabs if a Jewish State was thrust upon them in Palestine.

Soon after her independence, India exchanged diplomatic representations with Egypt; and in 1949 both countries concluded their first Trade Agreement.

Prime Minister Nehru had his first meeting with President Nasser in Cairo in the summer of 1954 and the two leaders at once came to understand and respect each other. This understanding grew into a firm friendship during President Nasser's visit to New Delhi in April 1955, and even more at Bandung where the two leaders stood together in defence of the fundamental rights of the Asian-African countries.

Since the Bandung Conference, three years ago, India and the United Arab Republic (Egypt and Syria) have stood together on every international issue and there has been an ever-growing flow of friendship and understanding between the two countries.

The Arabs are fully aware that no world statesman has driven home to the West the dangers of the Baghdad Pact more vigorously than has the Prime Minister of India; that no country has championed and supported the cause of Arab freedom more strongly and disinterestedly than this country; that India's eloquent support was invaluable to Egypt during the dark days of the Suez aggression and that India's prompt rallying to the side of Arab nationalism contributed immensely to the strengthening of the Arab movement at every critical period including the one we have just witnessed.

It is the duty of everyone who desires Indo-Arab friendship to grow from strength to strength to consolidate the present period of enchantment. This can be done by a mutual desire and by mutual facilities to know more of the two countries by exchange of more and more cultural and economic delegation, by increasing facilities for the study of Arabic in India and of Hindi and other Indian languages in the Arab countries, by sponsored translations of Indian works into the Arabic and of Arabic works into Indian languages, by fortifying an expanding trade and commerce and by more opportunities of the peoples of the two countries to come together.

Family Planning

By

Dr. P. LAKSHMI

THE institution of family is as old as man himself and is deeprooted in society. The need to discipline it on some precise and practical grounds has only recently dawned on the consciousness of the human mind. When man was still predominantly a hunter and later on an agriculturist, the bigger the family the greater it was an asset from an economic and security angle. With advance in Scientific medicine and the discovery of the causation of epidemics and preventable diseases during the nineteenth century, the methods of control of these diseases were studied and gradually introduced. Nature's method of control of population was thenceforth disturbed and there being no planned attempt at birth control before, led to unprecedented increase in population. However food production had not kept pace with the torrential increase in the population of the World, with the result that we are faced today with the problem of "too many people to the sum resources of all kinds" as the Socio-economic conditions in many countries are such that rapid increase in population militates against rising standards of living.

The World's population is now larger than it has ever been before; it has increased from about 540 million in A.D. 1040 to nearly 2737 million today. It is increasing by some 25 million a year of which India and perhaps China are said to contribute 5 million each. The population of the World is increasing at the rate of more than one percent per annum and it is estimated that it will become 4,000 millions in 1980 and 6,000 or 7,000 millions by the end of the century.

In 1901 the population of India, excluding the area of Pakistan, Jammu and Kashmir was 235.5 million; In 1951 it was 356.83 million. Therefore in the course of half a century the population of India had increased by about 50 per cent. Between 1921 and 1941 it had increased by 27 per cent (an increase unparalleled in the whole world) and between 1941 and 1951 it has increased by 13.4 per cent. At the present rate of growth our population will increase from 36 crores in 1951 to 41 crores in 1961 and 52 crores in 1981. The net increase in the population of India is said to be 5 millions a year and an official Indian report esti-

mated that the introduction of health measures in India in the near future would save three million lives a year, giving a net annual increase of 8 million—"One extra mouth in less than every 4 seconds or the equivalent of a new town of over 20,000 inhabitants everyday of the year."

Already the average standard of life in India is very poor, far below the desirable minimum for health, energy, productivity or education. Taking the basic factor of nutrition alone—an average Indian gets only 1,600 calories or so as against the 2,200 accepted by the FAO in its Second World Food Survey of 1952 as the daily minimum standard, or the 3,000 and 3,200 actually enjoyed by Canada and Switzerland respectively. This only means that the majority of India's 370 million people are permanently and habitually starved, undernourished and therefore incapable of achieving full growth, health or energy. The majority of them are denied even the bare necessities of civilised existence. Therefore an increase in its population any further addition to the number of poor families may well be disastrous and will mean further deterioration in its standard of living. With the increase in population it is generally accepted the number of undernourished and physically and mentally disabled men and women has increased. Throughout the country there are born every year more mouths to feed than there is scope for more hands to produce, there are more Children than there is room in schools, and more diseased men, women and children than there are facilities for treatment and accommodation in dispensaries and hospitals. The percentage of prodigal, superfluous parenthood in this country, i.e., child bearing by mothers who have three children or more of whom at least one is alive is 43 as compared with only 19 in U.S.A. 14 in U.K., and 34 in Japan. A heavy proportion of dependents, the direct result of indiscriminate multiplication, acts as a serious drag on production and improvement of living standards. In India for every 100 earners there are 250 dependents as compared to 154 in the U.S.A. and 121 in the U.K., which shows that there are more mouths to feed and less hands to work in this country—the census Commis-

sioner's conception of "improvident maternity" (births of the fourth and higher orders) therefore assumes an urgent and tragic significance. Therefore, "the increase in the population of India which would have been an asset, if only every man and woman enjoyed the bare minimum requirements of decent human existence in terms of food, shelter, clothing, health, education and employment constitutes a danger to her overall economic and social development and to her place in the modern world." As the majority of India's 370 million people are starved and as the quality of the people is related to quantity, it cannot be improved with the present available resources without controlling the quantity. This glaring disparity between the increase of population and the increase in the resources for the maintenance of that population, taking into consideration only the fundamental necessities of life, has urged, an increasing number of experts in various walks of life to find a solution now, so that a catastrophe may be avoided.

India today leads the world in her official recognition of the implications of population growth, for the Government of India is committed to a national policy of attempting intelligently to balance population growth with the production of food and other resources. The First Five-year Plan was directed "in building an active public opinion in favour of Family Planning, and the promotion of Family Planning advice and service on the basis of existing knowledge." The Second Five-year Plan has provided a sum of nearly 5 crores for setting up 2500 Family Planning clinics (500 in urban and 2000 in rural areas) on the basis of one clinic each for 50,000 of population. These Clinics are intended for creating "a general awareness of the problem and to provide advice and service." The Plan also aims at "the establishment and maintenance of a sufficient number of centres for the training of personnel," "development of a broad based programme of education in family-living, which should include within its scope, sex education, marriage, counselling and child guidance" and "research into biological and medical aspects of reproduction and of population problems." The main recommendation of the Family Planning Research and Programme Committee was in regard to the development of Family Planning programmes as an integral part of maternal and child health services and of health services in general and this has been accepted

by the Government. In Madras State 14 urban and 52 rural Family Planning clinics have been opened of which 3 urban centres are in the City. Family Planning advice is incorporated with maternity and Child Welfare services in the Government Maternity Hospitals in the City, in the District Headquarters Hospitals and most of the Taluk Headquarters Hospitals. The Family Planning Staff in the rural clinics visit the Primary Health Centres and give Family Planning advice.

In the City of Madras Family Planning Mother Information and Father Information Centres have been opened in most of the Corporation Child Welfare Centres and Birth and Death Registration offices respectively. Family Planning advice is given by trained doctors, nurse tutors and male tutors for the mothers and fathers attending these centres. Contraceptives are issued free and at subsidised rates to the public in all the family planning clinics in the City. The "Family Planning Manual" published by the Government of Madras gives valuable advice to every married couple, regarding the methods of contraception available and also the surgical methods of family planning.

The importance of educating the public in family planning has been fully recognised. Although family planning work is being enthusiastically done in many places all over the country yet we have to recognise that many obstacles have to be faced. Various factors based on psychological, religious, traditional, cultural, social and economic grounds have to be taken into consideration. A large number of our people, specially in the rural areas, associate child birth with the will of God and consider restricting or stopping it a crime against Him. We cannot at the same time leave them untouched, because it is they who need family planning most, for their own health, betterment as individual and as members of the Society.

Every married couple should adopt family planning because (1) it is the duty they owe to their offspring. Every child born must be born by choice because it is wanted and could be taken care of properly, not because of chance; for, "every married couple who beget a child undertake a serious responsibility. They owe a duty to the child to make sure that they are in a position to protect it against premature death, feed it properly and promote its health

and welfare and give it the best start in life which it may be in their power to provide". (2) "It is essential that there should be an interval of at least three years between the end of one pregnancy and the beginning of another, to safeguard the health and strength of the mother". Therefore "family planning is necessary in order to enable every husband to discharge his duty to his wife of safeguarding her health and strength.

As the Planning Commission has declared "the problem of regulating India's population is of the utmost importance to national welfare and national planning". (3) Therefore the practice of family planning is necessary for every married couple to discharge their duty towards the nation. The present problem of India now is a very high birth rate accompanied by a relatively high but declining mortality. If every married couple refrain from having more than three children (except in exceptional circumstances) "improvident maternity" in India would be materially

reduced and an improvement in the standard of living will ensue which is bound to reduce the infant mortality rate which is very high now. It is said that approximately 100 lakhs of people of all ages die every year of which 40 lakhs are amongst infants and young children under the age of 5. Therefore it is very important for the welfare of the nation that both births and deaths must be reduced and brought into approximate balance so that the size of the nation will become stabilized and every individual can hope to get at least the bare necessities and minimum requirements of life in terms of food, shelter, clothing, health, education and employment, etc. Therefore it is the duty of every Indian married couple to help the nation to achieve this end by adopting family planning for their own and the nation's welfare. Towards this end they should make it a dictum (1) to space pregnancies properly and (2) "when they have given birth to three children, to refrain from having any more (except in exceptional circumstances)".

The U. N. and the Middle East Plan

By

"A CHRONICLER"

THE special and urgent session of the United Nations General Assembly met last month on the 13th for resolving the Middle East crisis. President Eisenhower attended the session on the opening day and addressed the meeting. He even proposed a six-point programme. Afterwards several resolutions were introduced. But none helped to ease the situation. So a deadlock was threatened. But on Aug. 20 the crisis suddenly evaporated as quickly as it was created two months ago. With the United Nations General Assembly completely deadlocked over what to do to resolve the crisis and even the Arab-Asian group itself badly split on the question, Arab countries, including Jordan and the Lebanon, put their heads together and reached an understanding among themselves on the steps to be taken to stabilise the situation in their part of the world. It was a dramatic development. For the Arab members of the U.N. reached an agreement and presented a resolution which was passed unanimously, eighty nations voting

for the same. The following is the text of the resolution:

The General Assembly, having considered the item. 'Questions considered by the Security Council, at its 838th meeting on August 7, 1958:

"Noting the Charter aim that States should 'practise tolerance and live together in peace with one another as good neighbour';

"Noting that the Arab States have agreed in the pact of the League of Arab States to 'strengthen the close relations and numerous ties which link the Arab States, and to support and stabilise these ties upon a basis of respect for the independence and sovereignty of these States, and to direct their efforts towards the common good of all the Arab countries, the improvement of their status, the security of their future and the realisation of their aspirations and hopes,' desiring to relieve international tension.

"(A) : 1. Welcomes the renewed assurances given by Arab States to observe the provisions of Article 8 of the Pact of the League of Arab States that 'each member-State shall respect the systems of Government established in the other member-States and regard them as exclusive concerns of these States' and that 'each shall pledge to abstain from any action calculated to change established systems of Government.'

"Calls upon all member-States to act strictly in accordance with the principles of mutual respect for each other's territorial integrity and sovereignty, of non-aggression, of strict non-interference in each other's internal affairs, and of equal and mutual benefit, so as to ensure that their conduct by word and deed conforms to these principles :

"B: Requests the Secretary-General to make forthwith, in consultation with the Governments concerned and in accordance with the Charter, and having in mind section A of this resolution, such practical arrangements as would adequately help in upholding the purposes and principles of the Charter in relation to the Lebanon and Jordan in the present circumstances, and thereby facilitate the early withdrawal of the foreign troops from the two countries.

"C: Invites the Secretary-General to continue his studies now under way and in this context to consult as appropriate with the Arab countries of the Near East with a view to possible assistance regarding an Arab development institution designed to further economic growth in these countries.

"D: 1. Requests member-States to cooperate fully in carrying out this resolution; 2. Invites the Secretary-General, to report hereunder, as appropriate, the first such report to be made not later than September 30, 1958."

Under the resolution all Arab States re-affirm the pledge that they made under the Arab League Pact to respect "each other's system of Government and to abstain from any action calculated to change established systems of Government." The Arab States also pledge themselves to observe those five principles of non-aggression, non-intervention in other's internal affairs, etc. which have now come to be well known as Panch Shila. The resolution then directs the Secretary-General to make such practical arrangements as are necessary to bring about early withdrawal of foreign troops from the Lebanon and Jordan and report back to the United Nations by September

30 next. The Secretary-General should also look into the question of economic development of the Arab region.

The Arab resolution is a compromise evolved out of the Western, Russian and Indian proposals and has been careful neither to imply condemnation nor approval of the Anglo-American military intervention. However, since the formula set down for withdrawal is more or less as Americans and the British wanted it and also since the Lebanon and Jordan backed the resolution, withdrawal of foreign troops may not be long delayed.

Hammarskjöld will, it is understood, appoint his representatives in the area and they will report on such violations of the pledge as the smuggling of arms, espionage, propaganda wars and so on. It is also expected that the existing foreign forces in Lebanon and Jordan will be withdrawn within the next two or three months.

There is good reason to believe that the *status quo* in Jordan and Israel will not be disturbed. As for oil, says a contemporary, recent Italian and Japanese negotiations with the Arab oil countries make it obvious to the U.S. and Britain that oil will henceforward have to be procured on a commercial basis and that some sort of producer-buyer grouping may be better than political interference in the oil kingdoms.

Thus the Arab resolution adopted unanimously open the gate for American and British troops to leave gracefully from Lebanon and Jordan respectively.

Speaking at Aurangabad on Aug. 23, Mr. Nehru welcomed the Arab initiative and extended his "whole-hearted congratulations" to the Arab nations who sponsored the resolution in the United National General Assembly on the West Asian situation and to the United Nations for its acceptance.

Mr. Nehru said that the joint Arab resolution had brought about a situation in which the possibilities of a dreaded war had receded. "We have been saved from the tribulations of war", he said addressing mammoth public meeting there.

Mr. Nehru also said that the situation in the Lebanon and Jordan, following the revolution in Iraq, had spelt dangerous potentialities of war a few days ago. "These dangers have now very much receded after the acceptance of the joint Arab resolution by the United Nations General Assembly," he said.

WORLD OF BOOKS

THE NATURE OF NON-WESTERN WORLD by Vera Michels Dean—A Mentor Book, published by The New American Library, New York. Price: 0c.

The author Dr. Dean has taken great pains to collect information from all quarters. But failure to revise and verify her facts, she calls Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first President of India. When will humanity realise 'For the heart of the matter is that while there is, and it must be hoped there always will be, great diversity between the many civilisations of the human beings who compose them, Black and white, and brown and yellow, Muslim, Hindu, Buddhist, Christian, Jew, Pagan, or atheist, men and women of West and non-West are moved by the same hopes and fears, the same aspirations and anxieties'

AN AMERICAN POLICY IN ASIA by W. W. Rostow in collaboration with Richard W. Hatch, published jointly by The Technology Press of Massachusetts Institute of Technology and John Wiley & Sons, Inc., New York.

As the book says the underlying basic consideration of U. S. interests in Europe and Asia is "the inescapable fact of the existence of the new weapons of mass destruction. The frustration of Communism in Asia cannot be achieved by military means alone. The Communist challenge has to be met by showing that enlightened self-interest prescribes co-operation with U. S. A. rather than with the Communist bloc. The interaction of ideals and interests in a changing world will naturally lead to unpredictable solutions. How far in Rajaji's words we can accept foreign aid from the American or the Communist bloc without injury to our material interests, let alone spiritual culture, is a problem which must be faced, discussed and concluded upon.

CRIME AND KARMA. CATS AND WOMEN by M. N. Roy Renaissance Publishers, 15 Bankim Chatterjee Street, Calcutta 12. Price Rs. 7 nP. 50.

This is a revised reprinted first volume of Fragments from the Prison Diary of Ex-Communist Roy. It contains The Memoirs of a Cat, The Ideal of Indian Womanhood, Crime and Karma, Why Men are Hanged, The Cult of Asceticism and Renunciation, and the Philosophical Revolution. The Memoirs of a Cat are in the best Voltairean tradition as seen by the following obiter. "Gods are too egoistic to bother about the fate of man; they are too busy with their drinking bouts and

Apsaras.2. "If you want to find the philosophy of Gita, Nishkam Karma, practised, then turn your back on the spiritually minded human beings, and regard reverentially, the biological process of propagation among the so-called lower animals." "Hinduism is the ideology of social slavery. The Ideal of Indian Womanhood is a devastating attack on the impractical propositions arising from the dogmatic moral injunctions of Gandhi. Crime and Karma and why men are hanged are of special interest to the reviewer who has fought an unceasing fight sometimes fully successful, sometimes partly so, and sometimes totally unsuccessful to remind the ultimate Court of Last Resort namely the Sovereign People that Courts of Law are only human institutions run by human beings and so liable to error. Mr. Roy says "I know many a man serving long terms of imprisonment for crimes they did not commit. They are reconciled to it as divine dispensation. Such resignation is not a token of spirituality. It is moral degeneration." It is criminal moral degeneration as I found Congress Ministers and High Court Judges and Leading Lawyers unwilling to move for compensation to the victims of the decisions of stupid if not wicked foreign Judges even after a review by an eminent Committee had proved that there was not an iota of admissible evidence to justify the sentences of death and transportation, for life. The Cult of Asceticism and Renunciation superimposed on Hinduism by Buddhism is vigorously attacked and naturally leads to the concluding dissertation on The Philosophical Revolution. An excellent thought-provoking reprint.

BAL GANGADHAR TILAK : by T. V. Parvate. Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. Price. 7/-

This book by Sri T. V. Parvate is a biography of Lokmanya Tilak written to commemorate his Birth Centenary in 1956 and is published under the auspices of the Navajivan Trust. It is a narrative and interpretative review of Tilak's life, career and contemporary events. The book is very well documented. The reader will find in the book a very interesting and instructive record of the life and work of the great Lokmanya, with copious sidelights on the times in which he lived and the human material amidst which he worked. The volume is a fitting tribute to one who proclaimed to the world that "Swaraj is my birthright."

THE INDIAN REVOLT OF 1942. by Amba Prasad M.A., Ph. D., Price Rs. Five. S. Chand and Co. Asaf Ali Road, New Delhi.

This is a Master Degree Dissertation for the Stanford University. The Background, the sudden change brought by the outbreak of War in 1934, and the decision are explained with ample quotations from contemporary sources. The famous instruction of K. G. Mashruwala that "cutting of wires, removal of rails, destruction of small buildings, etc. are permissible in a nonviolent manner without endangering life" was the wind which was sown and student indiscipline, labour troubles, and communistic inclinations are the whirlwind which we are now reaping. Non-violence indistinguishable from violence begot open violence on both sides. Finally, after verifying that the Army and the Navy were no longer to be relied on and safeguarding existing assets and providing for continued commercial exploitation of India, the British withdrew, in 1947, though the revolt apparently failed in 1942. The friends of the British crept back into power in the Administrative Machinery and are continuing to help them and that is the tragedy of present-day Indian Administration.

PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION. by A. R. Tyagi, Lecturer, University College, Hoshiarpur. Price Rs. Twelve Np. Fifty Aima Ram and Sons, Kashmir Gate, Delhi 5.

This can confidently be recommended as a very sound text book both for University students and the general reader. General Administration, Organization, Public Personnel, Methods, Procedure, and Responsibility are fully explained and analysed. The treatment is both historical and scientific. Full references to contemporary and previous writers and excellent bibliography make it a most useful publication.

THE CALL OF THE JAGADGURU. Discourses of H. H. Sri Jagadguru Sri Sankaracharya of Kanchi Kamakoti Pitham. Compiled by Prof. P. Shankaranarayanan. Ganesh & Co., Madras 17, Rs. 4.

This is a great fascinating book. Prof. P. Shankaranarayanan is to be congratulated for giving the public an easy English translation of H. H. Sri Sankaracharya's discourses (in Tamil) addressed to the public in various centers of Madras since September 1957. A study of 43 discourses on various aspects in this book, gives a source of relief as one goes through its pages. The discourses in 'Forms

of worship, caste system, the core of Bhakthi, etc., are quite invigorating. This should be read by one and all.

TOM BROWN'S SCHOOL-DAYS: By Thomas Hughes; **THE TWO DIANAS** by Alexander Dumas. Jaico Publishing House, Mount Road, Madras 2, each. Rs. 2-50

These two books are reprints in handy pocket size issued by the enterprising Jaico Publishing House. Such reprints of well known classics are always welcome and the publishers deserve to be thanked for bringing out such cheap editions of great classics at a price within easy reach of all.

LETTERS TO SARDAR VALLABHBHAI PATEL: by M. K. Gandhi. Navajivan Publishing House, Ahmedabad. Price Rs. 2, 50 np.

V. G. Deasi and V. S. Desai have done a lovely translation of the correspondence ranging from 8-7-21 to 29-12-47 between the rugged Iron man, Patel, and the feminine smiling Saint, Gandhi. The pity is the letters from Patel to Gandhi are not included and so some of the references are obscure. The quaint humour of the following would be unforgivable in any one except Bapuji. "A strange epidemic seems to have attacked children in Ahmedabad. Some say it is due to the cinema. I would not be surprised if it is. Observers say that it imposes a great strain on the brain and the eyes."

THE PRIMEVAL AND OTHER STORIES: by Manik Bandhopadhyaya. Price Rs. 5 np. 50. People's Publishing House, Private Ltd., New Delhi.

These collections from the talented Bengali who died at the early age of forty-eight in 1956 has a tragic interest also. They are all about persons on the wrong side of the Law and the grim ironic humours of their contretemps. The Anti-Fascist writer that he is, he enjoys sardonic situations as in the case of Bribe-giver leaving his beloved wife with the Bribe-monger with all the eloquence of the unspoken word. He lashes out against social inequalities and class arrogance.

REALM OF THE INCAS: by Victor W. Vod Hagen, a Mentor Book. published by the New American Library, New York. Price 50 cents—

This account of a buried civilization by a distinguished American explorer keeps up the high quality of Mentor Books. This is a detailed account of the geography, social anthropology and political ideology of a civilization whose remains still excite wonder and admiration.

INDIANS OUTSIDE INDIA

S. AFRICA

INDIAN RESIDENTS

Pakistan has asked for a General Assembly debate again this year on the treatment of people of Indian origin in South Africa.

The U.N. published the text of a letter from Mr. Agha Shahi, Deputy permanent representative of Pakistan, to the Secretary-General, Mr. Hammarskjöld, asking for inclusion of an item in the provisional agenda as follows:

"Treatment of people of Indian origin in the Union of South Africa. Report of the Government of Pakistan (General Assembly resolution 1179 (XII) dated 26 November, 1957."

BURMA

INDIAN'S LANDS

The Government of Burma have called for applications for compensation from owners of agricultural lands in Burma, which were nationalised during 1957-58. The forms of applications can be had from the concerned authorities in Burma or from the Nattukkottai Chettiers' Association, 74, Moghul Street, Rangoon. The applications completed in every respect have to reach the authorities in Burma before September 30, 1958.

Cases of lands which have been nationalised during the preceding four years and compensation for which has not been claimed so far, may also be brought to the notice of the Compensation Authority this year.

CEYLON

FUTURE OF INDIANS

Dr. N.M. Perera, leader of the Opposition in the Ceylon House of Representatives, said in the House on Aug. 15 that the only solution to the problem of those of Indian origin in Ceylon was either to drown them, put them in the gas chamber or in the alternative absorb them. In any case, if the problem was not solved satisfactorily, it would leave behind bitterness in India, which would be disastrous to Ceylon, he said.

Dr. Perera said, Government should give up the idea that these persons were Stateless. It was wrong to make out that unemployment in Ceylon was due to the presence of people of Indian origin in Ceylon; was it caused by the capitalist system. There was unemployment in other countries as well where there were no persons of Indian origin, he said.

MALAYA

MALAYAN INDIAN CONGRESS

The Central Working Committee of the Malayan Indian Congress will meet shortly to discuss the pros and cons of the present Alliance Party Constitution, which lays down a ratio of seats in the Federal Legislature. Indians being given a negligible minority representation on the Alliance National Executive Committee.

Under the original scheme, the Malaya were to be given six seats, Chinese six and Indians three in the Committee. Later, it was amended, giving the Malaya six, Chinese five, and Indians three seats, against which the Malayan Chinese Association had already lodged its protest. The Malayas Indian Congress is expected to lodge its protest at the forthcoming meeting of the Working Committee.

This communal ratio has been giving a big role in recruiting employees to Government services, as a result of which several Indian Federal citizens have been rendered jobless in spite of their education and other qualifications.

AUSTRALIA

MIGRANTS TO AUSTRALIA

The Minister for Immigration Mr. A.R. Downer, rejected suggestions that Australia should admit an annual quota of Asians. An annual quota would create new problems rather than alleviate existing ones, he said. Speaking recently at Sydney he said there are 11,000 Asians in Australia to-day. Half of them were students and half, to all intents and purposes, were permanent residents.

"If we substitute this discretionary policy for a strictly calculated quota, the Asian countries will find that the balance of advantage will turn against them and that the present policy operates more to their benefit than the alternative proposed."

Mr. Downer added that Australia must help the nations of Asia towards higher living standards, assist them in their own colossal social and economic tasks, develop a much wider understanding of their religion and cultures and buttress them in their resistance to Communism.

DIARY OF THE MONTH

- Aug. 1. U.K. & Canada recognise the new Iraqi Republican Government.
—More American troops arrive in Beirut (Labanon).
- Aug. 2. U.S. recognizes Iraqi Republic.
—Kerala Govt. meets students' demand.
- Aug. 3. Mr. Khrushchev meets Mr. Mao. Tse Tung, Chinese President.
—Br. troops launch large scale operation in Cypress.
- Aug. 4. Pak. troop mobilisation in East Bengal border. Tripura-East Pak. Frontier is sealed.
- Aug. 5. Ceylon's House of Representatives pass the official bill to provide for the use of Tamil Language in Ceylon.
- Aug. 6. Communal fracas in Vaniambadi; Police fire at crowd injuring 6 persons.
- Aug. 7. Pak. forces occupy Tokergran, village in Assam border.
- Aug. 8. Security Council meets and unanimously agrees to summon a special U.N. Assembly session at once.
- Aug. 9. Indian Security forces drive the Pakistani intruders from Tokergram (on Suma River).
- Aug. 10. U.N. General Assembly's Scientific Committee publishes its report urging immediate cessation of Nuclear weapons' test.
- Aug. 11. Monsoon session of the Lok Sabha meets in New Delhi.
—Prince Nerodom Sihanouk, Prime Minister of Cambodia arrives in Delhi.
- Aug. 12. Tramwaymen in Calcutta strike work.
—Firing and curfew in Ahmedabad as a result of the crowd resorting to violence.
- Aug. 13. President Eisenhower addresses U.N. General Assembly proposing a six-point programme for Middle East.
- Aug. 14. Nehru rejects Ike's proposal for U.N. force in Middle East.
- Aug. 15. Independence Day Celebration throughout India.
- Aug. 16. Archbishop Makarios rejects partnership plan for Cyprus.
—Quake rocks West Iran inflicting heavy casualties.
- Aug. 17. Non-stop Pak. firing on Sylhet-Cachar border is reported.
- Pakistan re-opens East Pakistan—Tripura border.
- Hartal in Ahmedabad. Curfew is extended. Mr. I. Yagnik, M.P., President of Mahagujarat Parishad is arrested.
- Aug. 18. African delegates to the World Assembly of youth meets in New Delhi.
- Aug. 19. Burmese President U. Win Maung cancels Burmese Parliament Sessions.
—Army takes full charge of water supply in Delhi.
- Aug. 20. Lok Sabha approves India Government's foreign policy.
- Aug. 21. Mr. B. P. Wadia is dead.
—French Cabinet approves draft text of the New Constitution.
- Aug. 22. U.N. Assembly adopts Arab resolution on Middle East unanimously.
—U.S. and Britain announce their decision to halt Nuclear tests for a year.
- Aug. 23. Chinese Communist Guns pound Quemoy Island.
- Aug. 24. Mr. Johannes Strydom, South African Prime Minister is dead.
- Aug. 25. Mr. N. V. Gadgil is appointed Governor of Punjab.
—Atar Rahman Khan of the Awami League forms the East Pakistan Ministry at Dacca.
- Aug. 26. Mr. Morarji Desai leaves New Delhi for Montreal for attending the Commonwealth Economic Conference.
- Aug. 27. Five-Power talks in Washington for giving financial aid to India begin under the Chairmanship of Mr. Eugene Black, President of World Bank.
- Aug. 28. People's China asks K.M.T. forces of Quemoy to surrender.
- Aug. 29. Pakistan Government abolishes basic travel quota for India.
- Aug. 30. The Ninth International Congress on the History of Religions meets at Tokyo.
- Aug. 31. Mr. Dag Hamarskjöld opens "atoms for peace Exhibition" at Geneva.
—Mr. Eisenhower signs U.S. Foreign aid programme Bill providing 3,298,092,500 dollars.

READERS' DIGEST

PRINCIPLES OF PLANNING

Writing in the *Kurukshetra*, Prime Minister Nehru says that if we stick to any rigid formula or doctrine as regards the shape of things to come, we will only block the onward march of the country. To move with the times is called 'yugadharma' and 'yugadharma' must carry everybody with it."

Mr. Nehru's article is published in the latest issue of the official organ, *Andhra Pradesh* released on the 25th Aug.

The Prime Minister points out that principles never undergo a change; their application to the exigencies of life alone undergoes changes. "The necessities of time dictate the policy to be followed and that policy becomes a rule for the time being. We must reckon with the fact that the world has been undergoing changes along with it, society and mankind also. No country has remained static so far; only a deadman stays put. But so long as he is alive he changes, grows and must advance. So will society advance and we have to keep pace with society. This law of evolution applies to every social structure."

Instancing the case of a growing child Mr. Nehru says that "if you do not change his clothes according to his age, the child would still grow and would feel uneasy in those clothes, he would outgrow the clothes and tear them and would go ahead. This process is called social revolution. The child outgrows the garment. He marches ahead in spite of the denial for change or perishes in the attempt. Similarly, the society either outgrows dogmas or stagnates and dies. These are the ways of social revolution. The society always undergoes transformation and revolutionary changes."

Mr. Nehru continues: "If we pause a moment and review the history of the past 1,000 years, we would discover the story of the gradual progress of man. The cultivation of

soil absolved him from the anxiety of hunting for food which was now plentiful for him. But with the growth of population, the need for food increased. Food did not grow in proportion to the increase in the population. There was no system of census in those days. None of us can give the figures of population in India some 2,000 years ago. But it is certain that it must have been some lakhs and not crores. The land was abundant and the population was not very large.

"Our population has grown to the tune of 37 crores of souls, but there is no proportionate increase of land. New problems confront us every day and the country is undergoing a change every day. We have no means to check the growing population. It is bound to increase. Social changes have created new problems and if we cannot find suitable solutions for them we can never go ahead. These are the plain facts which we must face boldly."

About village industries, the Prime Minister says they can be worked with small tools. What is a charkha or an amber charkha? They are instruments. They can be called machines as well. It is well known that the pre-historic man had stone implements and he used to cut wood with their help. Gradually, these primitive implements underwent a change for the better and machines came in. Now we have the knife which has replaced the old chisel. We do not say the knife is bad. We all use it. If one were to use a knife to cut another man's throat, the fault does not lie with the knife. Remember that the machine is not a problem in itself. It is the way in which a machine is applied to serve society that matters. Machines, large or small, should not be allowed to dominate and oppress human society."

"India to-day needs large as well as small industries and both should co-exist. We must protect the things of beauty created by khadi."

THE WASHINGTON TALKS

Satisfaction is expressed on the outcome of three-day conference at Washington as the World Bank designed to help India meet its immediate balance of payments crisis. According to the *New York Journal of Commerce*, the United States agreed to defer until 1967 repayment of about 55 million dollars in principal and interest due on a 1951 loan of 190 million dollars to cover Indian purchases of United States wheat U.S.A. have offered to make available 200 million dollars worth of farm surplus products to India in exchange for rupees.

"The United States would also provide credits totalling 100 million dollars from its development loan fund, repayable in rupees. About 75 million dollars of this would be disbursed by the end of March and the rest by the Middle of 1959".

The report also said Britain would put up 108 million dollars for India's foreign exchange needs in the next seven months.

India needs 350 million dollars by March 1 next year to cover essential imports and a further 650 million dollars by the end of the second Five-year Plan in March 1961.

The *Journal of Commerce* also said West Germany would provide 40 million dollars between now and next March and up to another 60 million dollars in the following two years. Canada would provide a total of about 45 million dollars, of which an expected 17 million dollars would be made available by next March.

Japan would provide a credit of 10 million dollars for India's needs between now and March.

In addition, the report said that the World Bank would provide 100 million dollars in the next seven months and was willing to negotiate new credits totalling 225 million dollars for the following two years.

CHINESE PRESS ON U. S. MARINES

American naval units landed in Singapore last month. President Eisenhower said that the marines had been on ships that had been out on cruises and the time had come for them to call at a recreational centre.

The British Government had been asked for permission for the marines to land. That had been given and that was all there was to it.

But the Chinese press views it differently. For the Peking *People's Daily*, Chinese Communist Party organ, said in its issue dated Aug. 20 that the dispatch of American naval units to Singapore was a "direct threat to peace in South-East Asia."

The newspaper said American and British "imperialists" were conspiring and intriguing to create a new crisis in the Far East.

The arrival of American forces at the British military base was fresh proof that "American imperialists, like mad dogs, seek quarrels everywhere", the *People's Daily* said.

The newspaper added: "The fact that Britain permitted American forces to land at Singapore demonstrates the decline of 'great' Britain. Britain plans to rely on American influence to maintain its Far East colonies and to deal with independence movements in South-East Asia".

The newspaper *Ta Kung Pao* said the landing at Singapore was a new "brink of war" move by Mr. John Foster Dulles, U. S. Secretary of State.

It showed Washington was "plotting to expand its aggression in Asia and create tension in the Far East."

The presence of U. S. troops, *Ta Kung Pao* said directly menaced the people of S. E. Asia and Malaya and constituted a threat to Cambodia, North Viet Nam, India, Burma and Ceylon.

THE JORDAN RULER

King Hussein of Jordan sits guarded by British bayonets in his Royal Palace "trembling with fear," according to an article in the Russian newspaper, "*Sovetskaya Rossiya*."

"To cover up his fear, he is making childish statements in which he curses Communism and godlessness—one moment invoking the assistance of Allah, and of Dulles the next."

"His arms are, of course, too short to reach Iraq, whose no longer existing throne he is claiming. Therefore, he is fighting his own people and even his own army. According to Western correspondents, 200 Jordanian officers, one-third of the entire officers corps in the country, have been arrested."

The paper asked how long the regime can last, and answered "The facts indicate that its days are numbered."

"MECHANICAL COW"

British scientists are reported to have created a "Mechanical Cow" that may point the way to better feeding for millions of people.

The scientists are quoted by *Reynolds News*, a Sunday newspaper, as saying that their cow is more efficient than nature's version.

It is operating at Rothamsted experimental station, Hertfordshire, near London, under the supervision of the Bio-Chemistry Department.

The idea is to produce the proteins humans need for a healthy diet from grass, leaves, and other green stuffs.

The newspaper adds: "Human beings are unable to digest grass. That is why it is fed to cows and other animals, which convert it into highly-concentrated protein in the form of steaks, milk, pork chops, and eggs."

"But we only get out of animals one-tenth of one-twentieth of the food they eat. The Rothamsted 'Cow' extracts five times more protein from plants than we get from animals. It does so by mashing up green stuff to produce a juice, which on heating turns solid."

"Mr Pirie points out there are millions of people in the world, particularly in Asia, who cannot get or afford, steaks. They are starved of both animal and vegetable protein. They suffer from malnutrition."

"Now, Mr. Pirie hopes that protein, produced by the Rothamsted method might be used to help keep these populations healthy."

NUCLEAR POLICY AND HUMANITY

Dr. Geoffrey Fisher, the Archbishop of Canterbury—No. 1 in the Church of England Hierarchy—declares in a new book that "for all he knows" it may be God's will that humanity destroy itself with hydrogen bombs.

In a contribution to a book entitled "The Fearful Choice, a Debate on Nuclear Policy," he says "For all I know, it is within the providence of God that the human race should destroy itself in this manner. There is no evidence that the human race should last forever and plenty in scripture to the contrary. Anyhow policy should not be based simply on fear of pain."

Another contributor to the book, Canon L. J. Collins, Preceptor of St. Paul's Cathedral, is quoted by the *Reynolds News* as describing the Archbishop's view as "wicked." The

Canon, an opponent of the Hydrogen Bomb, told the newspaper: It is one thing to accept suffering in one's own behalf. It is quite another and a wicked thing at that—to think lightly of suffering caused to other people. There is no justification for anyone, even the Archbishop of Canterbury, to try to put himself in the place of God."

BRITAIN'S HELP TO INDIA

We learn that Britain is to lend India money to help in her present sterling crisis. In a leading article the *News Chronicle* says in its issue of August 19:—

"Wisely the British Government intends to help in a bold way."

"The amount of investment capital we possess is strictly limited. But there is no better cause than investment in India. Economically her enormous population is potentially a huge market if only it can be raised from the slough of extreme poverty. Politically India is the largest experiment in democracy. The failure of the Five-Year Plan would be a shattering blow to her free institutions."

"The planners in new Delhi have made mistakes. Their plans were too ambitious. But faced with poverty and population on the Indian scale, the planners could not afford to be cautious. The West will be wise to underwrite the Plan and it is good that London should give a lead."

The paper says that Britain would lend India upto £100 million. "The cash is a face saving loan for India," the paper said. "When she asks the World Bank in Washington for a further loan she will not appear as a defaulter."

The paper said: "More than 90 per cent of India's debts to British exporters are guaranteed by the British Government through a special department. If India could not pay Britain would have to honour the guarantees to the firms who sold her the goods. It has been decided therefore to put up the money in the first place and so avoid default."

"India is heavily in the red. She has available free sterling balances of about 80 million sterling. Against them are external debts of about 200 million, falling due before June. Bill for another 420 million sterling are due between now and the end of the Five-year Plan in April, 1961. About half these debts are owing to British firms. Next in importance are creditors in Germany, Japan, and the United States."

C. R. ON ATOMIC TESTS

"We do not want to be infected and we do not want our children and grandchildren to become victims of hereditary diseases merely because the Great Powers do not trust each other and cannot resolve their problems" writes Mr. Chakravarti Rajagopalachari in a preface to a collection of his articles, speeches and statements published in Russian by the State publishers of foreign literature in Moscow.

The volume, titled "Mankind Protests" is devoted to problem of elimination of the threat of atomic war and suspension of nuclear tests.

A preface by the publishers says that the materials in the book patently shows the dangerous road to which the United States has pushed the world by discovering and using atomic weapons and which it compels the world to follow by its policy of arms race and preparations for a new war.

The common people who should control the policy of Governments do not realise the real extent of the threat which specialists are seeking to minimise, it says.

Mr. Rajagopalachari urges the Great Powers to act unilaterally to suspend nuclear weapon tests—and regards this as a concrete step towards an improvement of the international situation.

SOVIET ECONOMIC OFFENSIVE

The U. S. State Department warns that the Soviet Bloc of nations is out "to exploit the aspirations as well as the dissatisfactions of the less-developed countries of the free world," through its new economic offensive.

In a foreword to a 111-page book which the Department published at Washington on June 15 on the new economic offensive, Mr. C. Douglas Dillon, the Deputy Under-Secretary of State for Economic Affairs, says:

"This offensive represents an attempt by the Sino-Soviet Bloc to employ its growing economic and industrial capacities as a means for bringing the newly-developed free nations within the Communist orbit."

VISIT TO MOON

Professor Vladimir Dobronravov, a Russian scientist, says in a Soviet magazine he believed man would soon be able to visit the moon in spite of the lack of atmosphere and sharp temperature changes there.

In an article in *Literaturnaya Gazeta* (literary gazette), quoted by *Tass*, the Professor discusses the respective possibilities of unguided missiles like Sputniks and guided space ships. There was no doubt, he said, that Russia would soon be able to launch a Sputnik which would encircle the moon and return to earth with radio photographs of it.

But adds Professor Dobronravov, it would be impossible for man to travel in one of these Sputniks, for there was no way of bringing him home alive. A space ship, on the other hand, could carry a crew of several men, because it would be possible to bring it back to earth at a previously determined time and place.

He says Russia's rapid progress in designing Sputniks indicated that she would be able to build a space ship fairly soon.

WHO OWNS OUTER SPACE?

What are the rights of the world's nations in regions beyond the atmosphere? asks a writer in *Unesco*. Since artificial satellites will soon be invading outer space, this is no longer a subject for a Jules Verne fantasy, or a problem for supermen. Aviation experts discussed a report on the subject at the Tenth General Assembly of the International Civil Aviation Organization, held last year in Caracas, Venezuela.

The ICAO Convention on International Civil Aviation gives each of the 67 countries adhering to it complete and exclusive sovereignty over the airspace above its territory. The question whether this sovereignty extends into outer space was not, however mentioned in the agreement.

NUCLEAR-POWERED PLANE

The United States first nuclear-powered plane may be radio-controlled and capable of circling over an area for a year or more, according to a booklet published there.

The booklet, issued by the General Electric Atomic Products Division, speculated that after a year in the air, the plane would then be landed for detailed studies of radiation.

The company did not say when nuclear aircraft were expected to fly. Defence spokesmen have said it will be several years before such a military plane can be developed.

The booklet said atomic powered planes could be used either as bombers, missile launchers, or for global reconnaissance, anti-submarine duties and weather and rescue patrol,

CHINA'S REVOLUTION

Mr. Mao Tse Tung, Chinese Communist head of State, in his first published pronouncement for the year, praises the poverty of the Chinese people as an incentive to revolution.

Mr. Mao in writing in the first issue of *Red Flag*, new fortnightly theoretical review of the Chinese Communist Party.

He says "Apart from their other characteristics, China's 600 million people are first of all poor and secondly while (politically pure).

"This seems a bad thing, but it is in fact a good thing. The poor people want a change, want to do things, want revolution."

Mr. Mao says that "the political consciousness of the masses is rising rapidly" and "never before have the masses been so spirited, with such high morale and so strongly determined."

He adds "The decisive factor besides the leadership of party is 600 million people. The more people, the more views and suggestions and the more intense the fervour and greater the energy."

Mr. Mao, who headed his 500-word contribution "introducing a co-operative, named a farm in North China's Honan province as a symbol of the masses' morale."

The article, which bears the stamp of Mr. Mao's classical literary style, is rich in metaphors and includes a Manchu Dynasty poem.

MUSIC AS MEDICINE

Music can cure diseases, says Coimbatore Hindustani and Carnatic music scholar, Mr. S. R. Kuppuswami, who is also the editor of a music journal. He quoted a number of incidents in support of the theory.

Speaking on "Musical Therapeutics" at the Madras State Sangeeta Nataka Sangham, Mr. Kuppuswami quoted Biblical and Vedic sayings that the "whole universe depends upon sound." The following are a few instances he quoted:

The Buddha preached his doctrines to the accompaniment of the veena. David in the Old Testament petrified the animal kingdom by his music. Pythagoras prescribed music to cure ailments.

Saint Thyagaraja brought a dead man back to life by the raga Amritavahini; Muthuswami Dikshitar, one of the "Trinity of Carnatic Music" cured stomach disorders by the raga Yadukula Kamboji.

Mr. Kuppuswami also pointed out instances of similar cures through music in the Hindu, Muslim and British periods of Indian History.

Quoting similar examples from Hindustani music, Mr. Kuppuswami said that the raga Jayajayavanti cured paralysis; Behag created a feeling of joy: Deepak kindled fire; and Megh brought rain. Haridas Swami, the guru of Tansen, is stated to have subdued poisonous snakes by singing Asaveri.

NEHRU'S IDEA OF SOCIALISM

According to *Washington Post* India's Prime Minister, Mr. Jawaharlal Nehru, was something of a Marxist in his earlier days, but he had shown the capacity to grow beyond blind dogma and revise his ideas in the light of new facts.

The *Post* makes the statement in a leading article, commenting on a recent speech by Mr. Nehru to the Indian Congress Party.

Quoting Mr. Nehru's statement: "My idea of Socialism is that every individual in the State should have equal opportunity for progress", the newspaper said: "That, in a nutshell, is the key to a great deal of the Socialism which has become a slogan in many countries of Asia, and it has very little to do with the other doctrines of Karl Marx."

"Mr. Nehru himself was something of a Marxist in his earlier days, but he has shown the capacity to grow beyond blind dogma and revise his ideas in the light of new facts."

The *Post* notes that Mr. Nehru had warned against nationalisation of private industry for the sake of nationalisation.

It adds: "These frank words ought to help Americans understand a little better what India seeks through a combination of private and public enterprise—and India's objectives are similar to the more inchoate strivings of other Asian countries."

"There is of course the danger of cheap and false panaceas. But what these countries really want, whatever they may call it, is a higher standard of living through democratic means—and it is the substance, not the label, that counts."

"Mr. Nehru's words also give a hint to Americans who praise the capabilities of regulated private enterprise. Equality of opportunity is by no means perfect in the United States, but it is the most really revolutionary doctrine the country has to offer."

INDIAN ADMINISTRATION

Shri V. P. Menon, former Secretary of the States Ministry, Government of India, speaking on 'Administration in India—past and present' at Bombay on the 5th of last month is reported to have said that "we have neither administrative efficiency nor properly trained personnel." He asserted that "the country is not what it was in 1950 or earlier."

The summary of the speech as reported by "Organiser" (Delhi, Aug. 11th) is as follows:

"We have great opportunities. We have a richness of human material. We have a past history. In fact, everything is in our favour except the bungling politicians. What we should realize, and sooner the better, is that in the ultimate analysis the country will not be saved by its institutions if it is not saved by its own people. Can they, will they?" he asked.

Turning to the administrative problems after 1947, Mr. Menon said: "At the time of transfer of power, the total number of I.C.S. officers was about 1,150. This steel frame was broken up after partition when the British officers went away on retirement. Muslim officers opted for Pakistan. Thus India inherited about 400 officers in the I.C.S. Some British officers agreed to stay on. In any case the total number of officers could not have exceeded 450. The position was more or less the same in the I.P.S."

"Out of a small number of I.C.S. officers, many went to the External Affairs to man the various embassies. Later we took some officers to man the key appointments in the Indian States after their integration. You see, how the experienced officers available in the I.C.S. cadre were reduced to a very small number to man the provincial and Central administration."

Shri Menon stated that during the years when he was the States Secretary, the Home Ministry which was very important consisted of a member-in-charge, a principal secretary, a deputy secretary, and one or two under secretaries. But he said sarcastically that in 1958 he found that one of the Union Ministries consisted of "the minister, the deputy minister, one secretary, one additional secretary, four joint secretaries, 14 deputy secretaries and 33 under-secretaries."

Analysing the political conditions and the administrative setup in the country he said that "there is corruption at the politician's level and politicians are interfering in the day-to-day administration."

He charged the politician with "lack of knowledge, bungling" and added that they suffered from "lack of education."

"The politicians who have now acquired power were suspicious of the civil servants and the civil servants were not sure what treatment they would get from the Ministers. Such Ministers are more interested in their personal affairs than those of the States."

"Added to incompetence there was corruption among them. Two standards were adopted in dealing with corruption, one for politicians and another for services."

"The position of a Governor is reduced to a mere figure-head. A functionary without responsibility is a very dangerous thing in any administration. A distinguished Governor of a province told me that he was a qualified hotel-keeper and he knew nothing about administration. He had no contact with administration whatsoever."

"Now the Prime Minister has written round that they should help administration and give up their pomp and show. This he should have done ten years ago."

CONGRESS PARTY IN RAJASTHAN

"The High Court agitation in Jaipur has spotlighted the weak points of the organizational structures of the Congress. Of the three major political parties—the Congress, the Jana Sangh and the Communist—the Congress has been found to be the least disciplined, says the *Statesman* (August 9th) reporting from Jaipur."

"The Jana Sangh attracts only those to its membership who believe that Indian culture is endangered by the onslaught of modernism and must be preserved at all costs. Moreover, the hard core of the Jana Sangh is provided by the RSS which functions as its volunteer force. The RSS gets its recruits when they are young and impressionable and indoctrinates them with its ideology. Its votaries are never known to have failed whenever the organization has given the call."

"The Communist Party recruits members only after they have proved themselves worthy of it during their probation."

"On the other hand, Congress membership is open to every adult who pays the small yearly fee signs or puts his thumb impression on the membership form. An inquiry by an AICC representative a few years ago had resulted in the discovery of 200,000 bogus members in Rajasthan. Anyone who can

afford Rs. 11 as annual subscription can become an active member by signing a pledge which includes faith in prohibition. But some Congressmen are known to advocate prohibition in public though they drink in private."

"The threat of expulsion from the Congress is no terror for most, since exoneration after some time is common."

"Anti-Praja Mandalists of pre-Independence days are now in a strong position in certain city Congress Committees."

"During the High Court agitation the Congress has not held a single meeting to defend the action of its Government."

"There are three Hindi morning dailies in Jaipur—each voicing the opinion of a different Congress group."

"But for Congress group rivalries, this agitation would not have gathered such strength as it has acquired with some of the Congress newspapers themselves crusading in support of it."

INDIA'S FINANCE

Under the caption "India's problem" the *New Statesman and Nation* publishes the following:—

"However calculating—and sometimes uneasy—may be the Russian leaders' attitude towards Mao Tse-tung they do at least provide their main ally with the long-term assurance that capital equipment and technical advisers in known and substantial quantity will be steadily forthcoming for Chinese economic planning. As a contrast India, the largest democracy ever created in the world history, is continually having to go cap-in-hand to America, Britain and West Germany. At present she must secure £ 400 million in foreign loan or aid if her endeavour to raise the industrial production by 64 per cent and agricultural output by 28 per cent during her second Five Year Plan is not to fail. The sum required is about what the United States gives every two years to Chaing Kai Shek, South Korea and South Viet Nam to lavish on arms. Nor is India's shortfall of foreign exchange her own fault. Inflation in Europe and Suez folly swelled the cost of her capital equipment purchases in 1956; the American recession lowered the prices paid for India's commodities this year. Nevertheless so far from finding partners to 'plan with' her as the Russians do with the Chinese, India must periodically tremble on the verge of bankruptcy."

CANAL WATERS DISPUTE

The Times (London, August 8), published an editorial captioned "Sharing Indus Waters." It said:

"Everyone must hope that the unexacting atmosphere of London summer will have carried a little farther forward the problem of the division of Indus Basin waters between India and Pakistan. At least it seems that the plan originally put forward by the World Bank in 1954 whereby the waters were to be divided as to three western rivers for Pakistan and three eastern rivers for India is now accepted as the basis of discussion. On this basis Pakistan submitted a detailed plan of link canals required to meet her needs from Indus, Jhelum and Chenab rivers which are designated for her sole future use together with an estimate of cost. This plan now has been passed to the Indians."

"Leaving aside suspicions that colour all relations between the two countries, the dispute is now over time and money. Pakistan wants to ensure that regular supply will continue to satisfy the needs of the population already *in situ*: India wants more and more water as her plans progress. So long as India will let the water flow—and Pakistan's legal claim is strong—there is no particular sense of urgency in Pakistan. But so long there is delay in reaching settlement India must choose either between holding up her own plan or setting time-limit that will enforce settlement by gradually drawing off water from the eastern rivers for her own use."

"Pakistan alleged that this had already been done in May this year whereas India's reply is that the water-flow is exceptionally low at that time. India therefore wants quick and cheap settlement; Pakistan wants to hang on her rights while seeking generous settlement. But whatever the arguments now, even those over time, the cheap settlement India hoped for some years ago has now vanished. In part the World Bank accepted some Pakistani objection to the original 1954 plan; in part the cost of replacement canals itself has risen. But worse than either of these changes is the deterioration in India's own financial position. Whatever cost India may now agree to meet, she will have to borrow it from somewhere. When the Bank meets in Delhi in October there would not only be opportunities for discussion at higher level but also chance to see where money can come from."

NEHRU'S ROLE

Nehru, according to the *New York Times*, has always been a strong exponent of democracy. He does not believe that the fate of the nation or its ultimate course should rest in the hands of one man or that such a burden should be laid on one man's shoulders. His spiritual mentor, Mohandas K. Gandhi was able to escape such a position in spite of his pre-eminence, precisely because he had the support and help of Nehru and some other gifted political leaders. Gandhi could become a sage, counsellor and saint. Obviously such a role would now suit Nehru, but his party followers will not trust themselves to take up the task that he would be obliged to lay down. The least that they can do however is to grant at least part of his wish. He has worked prodigiously and has again and again driven himself almost to breaking point. It is not a career that he, as a philosopher, would have chosen for himself. He knows well enough that his inner dissatisfaction has often led him to assume attitudes that others have described as abrupt and impatient, when he would have preferred to be serene. It is to be hoped that some wise course can be worked out in which Nehru can retain his nominal leadership but can have time for contemplation. He may be gratified by the demonstration of the extent of the trust that has been placed in him, but he should also be allowed to have sympathy and understanding.

U.S. FOREIGN POLICY

All the economic aid in the world will not win us friends and allies unless the U.S. regains for itself its reputation as an anti-imperialist power, observes Sidney Hook in *The New Leader*.

"Here we have followed French policy and sometimes British policy with disastrous consequences. The policy of France in Indo-China and now in North Africa, the adventure of Suez, the repressions in Cyprus have alienated large sections of the uncommitted peoples of the earth from the cause of the free world. They have made it difficult for us to put Soviet Russia on the spot as the chief colonial power in the world. From the North Sea to the Pacific Ocean, from the Arctic to Turkistan, the Communists have imposed their rule by force on a score of non-Russian peoples. But instead of the Soviet Union being the target of Asian-African scorn, it is the U.S.

because of our allies' sins of commission and omission, which is widely regarded as imperialistic."

The writer does not underestimate the difficulties of a coalition of powers, but, as the strongest member of the Nato group.

"We are called upon to give leadership. Our greatest mistake is that we followed the lead of France and Britain too long. It is alleged that our abrupt reversal on the Aswan Dam, which led to fateful developments in Egypt, was taken at the request of Great Britain—which didn't prevent our British friends from criticizing the action after its consequences were clear. We would be more respected by our allies if you took a strong stand against colonialism and made bold and imaginative proposals to counteract Communism politically, diplomatically and economically. Many people scoff at the idea of a war of propaganda despite the fact that the Kremlin has been winning the cold war mostly by its propaganda. The war of weapons is much more likely to break out when we lose the war of words and the war of ideas. And it is our ideas, the common ideas of the free world, the heritage of the Atlantic democracies and their allies, which can inspire a continuing offensive against Communism all along the line. To us, much more important than a cultural exchange of technicians, metallurgists and farmers with the Soviet Union should be an exchange of philosophers, historians, literary critics, economists and sociologists. We can open our gates safely to thousands of Soviet students and teachers, no matter how indoctrinated they are, provided they permit thousands of our students and teachers to study and travel in the Soviet Union."

It is often said that democracies cannot successfully wage cold wars. They are not geared for it. They are too self-critical. And the factions of normal political life sometimes regard each other with more hostility than the enemy at the gate.

"All this is true. But a democracy also possesses the virtues of its defects. Once it is informed, its voluntary discipline can accomplish more than columns that are dragged into goosesteps. It is tougher in crisis than its totalitarian enemies, but this will not avail for victory or even for survival unless it follows the lead of intelligence."

MULTUM IN PARVO

NEWS

DEPARTMENTAL

NOTES

Questions of Importance

SUSPENSION OF A-TESTS

The U.S. and Britain on the 22nd of August announced a conditional suspension of nuclear weapons' tests for one year beginning on Oct. 31.

President Eisenhower, in a formal statement, said this trial suspension would be subject (1) to the Soviet Union agreeing to negotiations for an international agreement to suspend nuclear tests, and (2) provided the Soviet Union continued to abide by their unilateral decision to halt testing.

A similar British statement in London said Britain would complete "as soon as possible" (before Oct. 31) an impending short series of tests.

President Eisenhower said, in his statement, that if the Soviet Union accepted the proposal to begin negotiations for an international agreement on Oct. 31, "the U.S. is prepared, unless testing is resumed by the Soviet Union, to withhold further testing on its part of atomic and hydrogen weapons for a period of one year from the beginning of the negotiations."

White House officials said it would be wrong to suppose that the U.S. was proposing a permanent suspension. They said the President's action was designed to open the door to further negotiations.

The President's statement said the proposed international agreement should also deal with the problem of detonations for peaceful purposes, as distinct from weapons tests.

White House officials explained that what the President had in mind was to continue atomic detonations for purely peaceful purposes and that the U.S. would ask U.N. observers to be present at such tests to see that they were for peaceful purposes only.

The decision on the one-year suspension represents a major change in U.S. policy.

In the past, demands for a halt, made by such countries as Japan and India, have been resisted.

The decision to agree to a trial suspension now represents a victory for Mr. Dulles, who has argued in favour of it against the opposi-

tion of members of the Atomic Energy Commission and some Defence Department chiefs.

The White House spokesman said definitely that the U.S. tests which have been going on in the Pacific since last May, would be concluded by Oct. 31.

The spokesman said the U.S. did not want to be in a position of depriving mankind of the benefits of atomic energy.

The spokesman left little doubt that the U.S. intends to go ahead with underground test shots for peaceful purposes even if an international ban on weapons testing is achieved.

The President's announcement is a direct follow-up to the agreement arrived at in Geneva by Western and Eastern scientists on methods for checking of clandestine testing.

REPORT ON RADIATION DANGERS

The U.N. General Assembly's Scientific Committee warned against under-estimating the effects of atomic radiation and said the cessation of nuclear weapons tests would "act to the benefit of human health."

The 228-page report (published last month) compiled by top international experts, based on two years study of mass data, said: "Radioactive contamination of the environment resulting from explosions of nuclear weapons constitutes a growing increment to world-wide radiation levels."

"This involves new and largely unknown hazards to present and future populations. These hazards, by their very nature, are beyond the control of the exposed persons."

"The committee concludes that all steps designed to minimise irradiation of human populations will act to the benefit of human health," the report said.

"Such steps include the avoidance of unnecessary exposure resulting from medical, industrial and other procedures for peaceful uses on the one hand and the cessation of contamination of the environment by explosions of nuclear weapons on the other."

"The committee is aware that considerations involving effective control of all these sources of radiation involve national and international decisions which lie outside the scope of its work."

Utterances of the Day

PRESIDENT PRASAD'S HOPE

On the occasion of the 11th Independence Day celebrations at Bangalore on August 15, President Prasad, while sending his greetings and best wishes to his countrymen in India and in foreign lands, has expressed the hope that "undeterred by difficulties, we shall continue to march forward for the many-sided development of India so that our dream of establishing a welfare state in this country is realised as soon as possible."

President Rajendra Prasad has expressed the hope that the goodwill and commonsense of millions of men and women all the world over would enable Governments to pass over any crisis that might arise.

Dr. Prasad has pointed out that unreserved acceptance of the principle of peaceful co-existence and its practical implementation by individuals and nations are a 'sine qua non' for enduring peace.

Dr. RADHAKRISHNAN'S ADVICE

The Vice-President who was addressing the World Assembly of Youth last month at New Delhi told the delegates from 60 countries gathered there that they should not think that progress in the world was inevitable. Man was capable of evil as well as good and "the contrast between man's intellectual power and immoral deeds has depressed thinking and sensitive people all over the world."

Dealing with the discovery of nuclear power and its potential possibilities of both harm and good, the Vice-President said: "The extinction of humanity will not be the result of impersonal forces or supernatural plans. If it happens, it will be the direct result of man's obstinacy and pride, what the Greeks called 'hybris', undisciplined love of power which has made ugly many pages of human history."

MACDONALD'S TRIBUTE TO INDIA

Mr. Malcolm MacDonald, the United Kingdom High Commissioner told the delegates of W.A.Y. at New Delhi that "equality and fraternity among all peoples is the element most needed if we are to banish mutual suspicions and fears which lie at the root of world's troubles."

Mr. Macdonald commended the example of India which gained its sovereign independence peacefully under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, "that gentle and yet potent, saintly and yet severely practical immortal."

KHRUSHCHEV'S WARNING

The Soviet Premier Mr. Nikita Khrushchev, warned the Western Powers, that in the event of an aggressive war by them Russia and People's China will do all in their power to crush the imperialist aggressors, and establish, peace on earth for ever.

Mr. Khrushchev was speaking in the Soviet town of Zhigulevsk on the occasion of inauguration of a hydro-electric dam, on August 20.

The Soviet Premier said the Soviet Union and China will take all necessary steps to silence the most aggressive and the most reckless Western circles in order to ensure peace."

Mr. Khrushchev added: "But if contemptuous of all commonsense these circles impose a new war on the nations we will do all in our power to crush the imperialist aggressors, and establish peace on earth for ever."

But he said the U.S.S.R., China and all the Socialist countries were resolutely and systematically carrying out a policy of a peaceful co-existence among States with different political systems, and could continue to do so.

Mr. DULLES ON THE MIDDLE EAST

After the special Session of U.N. passed unanimously the Arab-sponsored resolution Mr. Dulles, U.S. Secretary of State, said the Assembly dealt with a most difficult and delicate problem. While Jordan and Lebanon should be given political stability and independence, they had to make sure this was done in ways which did not themselves encroach on political independence.

"The world must be made safe for small nations. We acted for that purpose and for that purpose alone," he said. The preferable solution would have been collective action represented by the U.N. but that would have taken time. So the U.S. went to the Security Council and sought action to replace its own. When this was frustrated "we came here."

Dr. C.P.R.'s OPTIMISM

Delivering the Independence Day address and declaring open the open-air theatre at the Ethiraj College, Egmore, on August 15, Dr. C. P. Ramaswamy Iyer proudly proclaimed that in the 11 years India had demonstrated to the world that she could not only acquire freedom but "digest freedom."

"We have on the whole established that stability of Government, that poise of action, which a freedom-loving country is supposed to possess. That undoubtedly is an achievement to our credit," he said.

Political

DE JURE TRANSFER OF PONDICHERRY

The Government of India has recently been told that the 'de jure' transfer of Pondicherry and other French possessions might take place sometime in November or December when the French Parliament was expected to ratify the treaty of transfer.

Prime Minister Nehru made this disclosure in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 11 while answering a question by Prof. D. C. Sharma.

Mr. Nehru told Mr. Sharma that from time to time the French Ambassador in New Delhi had been telling the Government that the *de jure* transfer would take place soon. On the last occasion he had told the Government that it should take place before the end of May 1958, when the French Parliament was to have met. But as the House was aware, various developments had taken place in France, which brought about a change in Government and the Parliament was adjourned. "The French Parliament may now meet at the end of the year. We have now been told that this (ratification) can only be done by Parliament when it meets at the end of the year, may be in November or December."

INDEPENDENCE DAY

India on the 15th of last month celebrated the eleventh anniversary of her independence with country-wide festivities, including military parades, public rallies and cultural programmes.

In a stirring speech after unfurling the Tricolour on the ramparts of the historic Red Fort at New Delhi, Prime Minister Nehru called on the nation to take up the challenge of all forces which might seek to weaken the country's unity and freedom.

"Let everybody understand clearly that whoever raises his hand against India and tries to weaken her unity will be faced and put down," he declared.

FUTURE OF GOA

Member organisations of the International Union of Socialist Youth all over the world have been asked to take "energetic steps" to educate public opinion in their respective countries about the true nature of Goa's liberation struggle, "so that the pressure of world public opinion may speedily facilitate the end of Portugal's colonial occupation of Goa."

The call was sent out by the Executive Committee of the Union which met for a three-day session at Bombay last month.

PAK-AFGHAN-IRAN FEDERATION

Pakistan Prime Minister Feroz Khan Noon, explained his recent proposal for a federation of Iran, Pakistan and Afghanistan at a Press conference at Lahore on Aug. 26.

He said he was not calling the union of the countries, proposed by him, either a federation or a confederation because details had still to be worked out. Nor, he added, he had any talks with the leaders of those countries on this point.

The idea had come into his mind, he explained, that if the four countries of the Baghdad Pact and later Afghanistan could come together into an economic union, it might prove beneficial to all of them. "I thought over this matter soon after I became Prime Minister. I feel, that to begin with Afghanistan and Iran should join hands with us in abolishing passports and international customs duties. That may be the beginning of greater friendship and co-operation."

ADMINISTRATION OF NAGA HILLS

Prime Minister Nehru declared in the Rajya Sabha on Aug. 28 that the policy pursued by the Government of India in the Naga hills area and its surrounding territory had met with a large measure of success. This policy, the Prime Minister explained, had two aspects, namely, one of firmness in dealing with acts of violence and insurrection, and the other was to win over the people of those areas as fellow-citizens and co-sharers of the freedom of India.

NEW MINISTRY FOR E. PAKISTAN

Parliamentary Government was restored in East Pakistan on Aug. 25 with the swearing in of Mr. Ataur Rahman Khan, leader of the Awami League Coalition Party as Chief Minister at a simple ceremony at Government House, Lacca.

The six-man Cabinet headed by Mr. Khan is the ninth ministry—and Mr. Khan's third—since partition.

Dr. SALAZAR

Rear-Admiral Americo Tomas, who was sworn in at Lisbon on Aug. 10 as Portugal's new President, has reappointed Dr. Antonio Oliveira Salazar as Prime Minister, it was officially announced.

Members of the old Cabinet presented their resignations, and Admiral Tomas entrusted Dr. Salazar the task of reshuffling the Cabinet.

Educational

TWO NATIONAL PROFESSORS

To mark the Independence Day this year, the Government of India have created two more posts of National Professorships of India with effect from August 15, 1958. Prof. Satayendranath Bose and Dr. K. S. Krishnan have been appointed to these posts with effect from that date.

The first post of National Professor was created in February, 1949, and Dr. C. V. Raman was appointed as the National Professor of India, which post he still holds.

Prof. Satyendranath Bose, F. R. S., is well-known for the Bose-Einstein Law in Quantum Mechanics and Dr. K. S. Krishnan, F. R. S., at present Director of the National Physical Laboratory, is a well-known expert on crystallography.

The National Professorships carry a salary of Rs. 2,500 p. m., and have been created so that the holders may devote their entire energies to research work, which they may carry on in any university or institution of their choice. Prof. Bose and Dr. Krishnan have been appointed for a term of five years in the first instance.

NATIONAL INTEGRATION

The Seminar on National Integration organised by the University Grants Commission in New Delhi has come to the conclusion that one of the remedies for removing factors working against the emotional integration in the country is rapid economic development of the country, accompanied by measures promoting equality of opportunity and leading to a reduction of inequalities of income and wealth of the country.

Mr. Humayun Kabir, Union Minister for Scientific Research and Cultural Affairs inaugurated the seminar, which was presided over by Mr. C. D. Deshmukh, Chairman of U.G.C., and attended by representatives of various universities, cultural organisations and others.

IARI MADE A UNIVERSITY

The Indian Agricultural Research Institute in New Delhi has been declared a university under Section (3) of the University Grants Commission Act. The associate I. A. R. I. diploma will now be replaced by courses leading to the award of M. Sc., and Ph. D. degrees in agricultural science.

It is stated the higher training for which Indian students have been proceeding to foreign countries will now be available in India itself.

THE MADRAS CONVOCATION

A call to the people to preserve the national unity of India was made by Mr. V. K. Krishna Menon, Union Minister for Defence delivering the Convocation address of the University of Madras on Aug. 18 at the Senate House, when Mr. Bishnuram Medhi, Governor and Chancellor of the University, presided.

Mr. Krishna Menon said that no part of India was greater than the whole of India and no State of India had any frontiers. There might be State boundaries for administrative purposes: but the frontiers were the national frontiers of India. It was this living sense of national unity that would enable them to survive as a people in dignity. "No part of this country, no language, or no way of life is greater than the unity of our land, which is the priceless heritage of ours and the result of the labours of those who have gone before us," Mr. Krishna Menon added.

Pointing out that "we stand either united or we fall", Mr. Krishna Menon counselled the graduates to set their faces sternly against any counsel of division and help India to make her contribution for the peace of the world.

FRENCH SCHOLARSHIPS

France has offered 36 study scholarships to Indian applied Science Research Centres, the Industry and Commerce Ministry revealed at Paris on Aug. 19.

The announcement followed the visit of Prof. Thacker, chief of India's Council of Scientific Industrial Research.

The Ministry's announcement added that it would send French technicians to India and would also invite directors of Indian research centres to visit France.

TECHNOLOGY INSTITUTE

India and West Germany agreed to set up jointly an Indian Institute of Technology in Madras expected to open in a year's time.

West Germany will supply teachers, laboratory, and workshop equipment, and a library, and India will contribute buildings and accommodation, according to the agreement.

BOARD OF TECHNICAL STUDIES

Prof. V. N. Adarkar, Director, Sir J. J. Institute of Commercial Art, Bombay, has been elected Chairman of the All-India Board of Technical Studies in Applied Art in place of Mr. D. P. Roy Chowdhury, who has retired.

Legal

DEFILEMENT OF SACRED OBJECT

A division bench of the Supreme Court on August 25 held that any object "however trivial or destitute of real value in itself, if regarded as sacred by any class of persons" would come within the meaning of Sec. 295 of Indian Penal Code.

Sec. 295 reads: Whoever destroys, damages or defiles any place of worship or any object held sacred by any class of persons with the intention of thereby insulting the religion of any class of persons or with the knowledge that any class of persons is likely to consider such destruction, damage or defilement as an insult to their religion, shall be punished with imprisonment of either description for a term which may extend to two years, or with fine or with both."

The above interpretation of the Section was given by Mr. Justice B.P. Sinha in his judgment on an appeal by Mr. S. Veerabadran Chettiar against Mr. E.V. Ramaswami Naicker, leader of the Dravida Kazhagam, and others against a decision of the Madras High Court.

E. V. R. MANI AMMAI

Srimathi E.V.R. Mani Ammai, Editor, Printer and Publisher of the Tamil daily, *Viduthalai*, and C.N. Natarajan, alias Tanjai Nedumaran, were found guilty and convicted of a charge under Section 153-A. I.P.C. (promotion of class hatred) by Mr. R. Sadasivam, Chief Presidency Magistrate, and sentenced to pay a fine of Rs. 100 each in default to simple imprisonment for one month.

Srimathi Mani Ammai did not pay the fine and went to jail.

The case arose out of an article written by Natarajan and published in the *Viduthalai* on January 19 this year, entitled "Ilan Tamizha, Purappadu Porukku."

V. K. K. MENON'S ADVICE

Mr. V.K. Krishna Menon, Union Minister for Defence, inaugurating the Bar Council Lectures, at Madras on August 18 emphasised the need for strict adherence by lawyers to their code of conduct particularly because lawyers were a necessary ingredient of a society based on the rule of law. Mr. Krishna Menon stressed that they should all be alert that there was no violation of the rule of law in any part of the country in any way, like tampering with the judiciary, making it impossible for the judiciary to survive by the use of methods of transfer, promotions, etc., or the introduction of any extra legal machinery.

DETECTION OF I. T. EVASIONS

Concealment to the tune of Rs. 21.97 crores was involving in 399 cases which were reassessed by the Government under Section 34 (IA) of the Income Tax Act upto May 31, 1958. A total collection of Rs. 5.23 crores has been made against this amount.

A statement showing the progress of action in cases dealt with under the section was laid on the table of the Lok Sabha on August 13 by Mr. B.R. Bhagat, Deputy Minister of Finance.

The total number of cases taken over from the Income Tax Investigation Commission was 901 according to the statement.

HIGH COURT JUDGES

Five permanent and seven Additional Judges are required by High Courts, according to the information given by Mr. Govind Ballabh Pant, Union Home Minister, in reply to a question by Sardar Iqbal Singh.

Vacancies for permanent Judges are one in Bombay, three in Madhya Pradesh and one in Rajasthan, while vacancies for Additional Judges are one in Allahabad, and two each in Kerala, Madhya Pradesh and Patna.

HINDI LEGAL TERMS

Two hundred and twelve original Acts and 45 amending Acts had so far been translated into Hindi by the Ministry of Law, the Minister of Education, Dr. K.L. Shrimali, said in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 26.

Replying to Mr. Mohan Swarup, the Minister said that the Expert Committee set up by the Ministry for evolving legal terminology in Hindi had so far evolved 3,910 legal terms in Hindi.

Dr. PRASAD ON LAW'S DELAYS

President Rajendra Prasad called upon judges, lawyers and the public to work for the revision of the country's laws and reconstruction of legal procedure "to make the whole thing simple and easily intelligible to the man in the street."

Opening the new building of the Supreme Court of India at New Delhi on Aug. 14 the President deplored the great delay in disposal of disputes by courts and observed: "Delay is an important factor for the litigant because, in many cases, justice delayed means justice denied."

FINANCIAL AID TO INDIA

International talks on ways and means of meeting India's balance of payments problem, were held at Washington on Aug. 27 for the final session under the chairmanship of Mr. Eugene Black, President of the World Bank.

A world Bank spokesman said after closing session that the meetings had been "quite successful." "Intentions were expressed around the table by the participating countries and the Bank itself. On the basis of these intentions it appears that substantial additional aid will be given to India during the coming year."

TAX ON DIVIDEND AND BONUS

For the fiscal year 1956-57, the tax demand by way of additional super tax on excess dividends amounted to Rs. 3.67 crores. For 1957-58, the corresponding tax demand was for Rs. 4.11 crores. The tax demand on bonus issues during 1956-57 and 1957-58 amounted to Rs. 26.5 lakhs and Rs. 164.4 lakhs respectively.

The categories of companies whom the provisions relating to tax on excess dividends and bonus shares did not apply had been indicated in the relevant Finance Act. Other companies were not exempt from these provisions and no exemption had in fact been granted.

The above information was given in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 26 by the Finance Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, in a written reply to a question by Mr. Morarka and Mr. Nathwani.

RAILWAY FREIGHT RATES

The Railway Minister, Mr. Jagjivan Ram, announced in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 18 that new freight rates for goods and parcels traffic would take effect from October 1, 1958.

Under the new freight structure the overall freight burden on foodgrains has been reduced. There will be no overall increase in the freight structure on fruits, vegetables, kerosene oil and salt while special treatment continues to be accorded to handloom products, khadi, books and milk.

OUTSTANDINGS FROM PAKISTAN

Outstanding dues from Pakistan to India on four major issues totalled over Rs. 138 crores, the Finance Minister, Mr. Morarji Desai, told Mr. Iqbal Singh in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 18. Besides, there were other amounts due on several minor issues.

Mr. Desai said that no date had been fixed for an Indo-Pakistan conference to settle these pending issues.

BANKS IN INDIA

There was one banking office for every 9,543 persons of the population of India served by banks at the end of 1957, as compared to one office for every 9,937 of the population a year ago.

This is revealed in "statistical tables relating to banks in India for the year 1957" published by the Reserve Bank of India.

The number of offices of joint stock banks in India went up by 155 to 4,153 in 1957, as compared to a rise of 65 in 1955. The State Bank of India accounted for as many as 84 additional offices, as against a net increase of 54 offices in 1956.

RECESSION IN U. S.

India's export earnings have been adversely affected by the recession in the U. S. economy, Mr. B. R. Bhagat, Deputy Finance Minister, stated in the Lok Sabha on Aug. 10.

In a written reply to Mrs. Parvati Krishnan he said the Government had made an appraisal of the effects of the U.S. recession on the Indian economy. For the period January-May 1958, the export earnings were lower by Rs. 28 crores as compared to the corresponding period of 1957. There was a decline of Rs. 2.6 crores in the export to the dollar area and of Rs. 25.5 crores to the rest of the world. A large part of this latter decline was due to special factors, such as the earlier overstockings in case of tea in the U.K. The recessionary trends abroad had reacted adversely on Indian exports of manganese ore, copper, etc.

WORLD BANK'S RESOURCES

President Eisenhower proposed a general increase in the resources of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund to help world economic development.

His three-point plan was:

1. To give prompt consideration to the advisability of a general increase in the quotas of the member-Governments of the International Monetary Fund.

2. To consider an increase in the authorised capital of the World Bank and to the offering of such additional capital for subscription by the Bank's member-Governments.

3. The initiation of prompt negotiations looking towards the establishment of an international development association as an affiliate of the World Bank.

MRS. ANASUYABAI KALE

Mrs. Anasuyabai Kale, Member of Parliament from Nagpur, died in a hospital at Bangalore on Aug. 12. She was 62. Mrs. Kale had been ailing for sometime.

Mrs. Anasuyabai was first nominated as a member of the C.P. and Berar Legislative Council in 1927. She resigned her membership in 1930 to take part in the Congress civil disobedience movement and was imprisoned for four months.

In 1936, she was elected to the C.P. and Berar Legislative Assembly of which she was later elected as Deputy Speaker.

She was President of the All-India Women's Conference in 1938 when she presided over the Madras session.

She strived very hard to secure the release of the prisoners of Ashti and Chimur episode in 1944.

SREEMATI TAN WEN

Sreemati Tan Wen, the Chinese student who stood first in B.A. Hons. in Bengali of the Visva Bharati University in 1955, has again stood first class first in M.A. in Bengali of the Visva Bharati University this year.

She will continue her research in Bengali specializing in Rabindra Literature at the Visva Bharati University, Santiniketan, for the Doctorate degree. She intends to translate Rabindranath's Bengali works into Chinese none of which has been done yet by anybody.

MADRAS WOMEN'S HOSTEL

On August 8, the Rashtrapathi, who declared on the Rs. 11-lakh luxury Government Women's Hostel in the idyllic setting of the Government House Estate in Madras, told the girls that if all went well a time would come when it would not be necessary to have separate hostels for women at all and our boys and girls would be educated together just as they were working together in offices, factories and even the Armed forces.

MISS RAMACHANDANI

Miss Mohini V. Ramachandani, a Bombay student, received the Hallett prize for the best performance in the primary examination for the Fellowship of the Royal College of Surgeons, London, last month. The award was made by the President, Sir James Paterson Ross, the Queen's surgeon, during a private ceremony in the College.

MUSLIM WOMEN IN MALAYA

Muslim women in Malaya are complaining about the "matrimonial irresponsibility" of men and want a tightening of Muslim marriage and divorce. The women's section of the United Malays' National Organisation—one of the Government parties—met on June 6 to complain about the divorce rate in Malaya. Under Muslim law, a man may end a marriage by saying "I divorce you," three times and registering with the Muslim authorities. One delegate, Puan Rogwyah Binti Haji Mahmood said: "We have no protection at all from irresponsible husbands under the present Muslim laws." Another said: "If the present loose laws are not tightened up more women will be on the streets because of the gross irresponsibilities of our men." The section passed a resolution calling for a tightening up of the laws and the setting up of authorities to "guard" Muslim marriages.

WOMEN IN W. GERMANY

A law establishing the complete equality of sexes came into force in West Germany on the first of last month. The basis of German law on marriage has been the Code of Napoleon, which categorically laid down that a man's duty was to protect his wife and wife's duty was to obey her husband.

This has been modified over the last century and half but even though the German woman gained the right to vote some years ago, she has so far not been recognised as an equal to man. This the new Act, which has been in gestation for the last nine years, does in full measure. Indeed the position of the "hausfrau" will now be far better than in most other countries.

A married woman will now be a full business partner of her husband. Half the family possessions and income belong to her and will remain so if the husband dies without making a will. She can claim house-keeping money in advance and is entitled to spend her own money any way she likes.

MISS C. V. STRUM

Miss Clarissa van Strum, pretty 22-year-old American girl, who was a student in California, became a Buddhist nun at Singapore on August 12.

Shorn of her long blonde hair, she was ordained Sister Dhamma Dinna in the temple of Sri Lan Karamma. "I am convinced that only through Buddhism can I find happiness," she declared.

General

MR. B. P. WADIA

We regret to record the passing away of Mr. B. P. Wadia, at the age of 76, at his residence in Bangalore on Aug. 31.

The late Mr. Wadia was a staunch Theosophist, a well-known Labour leader and a journalist, and he was the founder, along with some others, of the Madras Textile Workers' Union, the first Labour Union to be started in India. He represented India at the First International Labour Conference held at Washington in 1919. He founded several United Lodges of Theosophy in the U.S. where he lived from 1921 to 1928.

Mr. B.P. Wadia, who took keen interest in the Home Rule Movement, was, along with Dr. Annie Besant and Dr. Arundale interned at Ootacamund during the time of the First World War. He was a co-worker with Dr. Besant, and was Assistant Editor of the "New India."

DR. AIYAPPAN

Dr. A. Aiyappan, till recently Superintendent of the Government Museum at Madras, and one of the country's leading anthropologists, has joined the Utkal University as its first Professor of Anthropology.

The Post-Graduate Department in Anthropology of this University has been started from the current academic year and is now functioning at Bhubaneswar. It is the first Department of the University to function at this new University campus now under construction.

MR. B. V. RAMANJULU

Mr. B. V. Ramanjulu, Superintendent of the Madras Zoological Garden, has been appointed Deputy Superintendent of the Delhi Zoological Park, which is being developed by the Union Ministry of Food and Agriculture.

Mr. Ramanjulu has been connected with the Madras Zoo since 1948 and contributed much to its development. A keen student of wild life, he has been a member of the Indian Board of Wild Life since its inception and Technical Secretary of its Zoo wing.

THE L. I. C.

Mr. P. A. Gopalakrishnan, I.C.S., Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation of India, said, at Bombay on Aug. 31, that the financial position of the Corporation was quite sound.

He said that the Corporation's premium income, which was Rs. 4.6 crores per month in the first year of its working had gone up to Rs. 5.4 crores per month in the first 11 months of the second year. The average claims paid per month had also gone up from Rs. 1.3 crores in the first year to Rs. 1.4 crores in the first 11 months of the second year. While surplus funds available for investment amounted to Rs. 30.2 crores in the first year, these funds had gone up to Rs. 34.7 crores in the second year.

MR. J. STRYDOM

Mr. Johannes Strydom, South African Prime Minister, died at Cape Town on August 24.

Mr. Strydom, Nationalist leader, outspoken Republican and staunch advocate of racial segregation, had been Prime Minister since 1954. He declared that *apartheid* was the only practical policy to ensure the survival of the white race. 57-year old Dr. H. F. Verwoerd, considered to be the most extreme of all nationalist party leaders and the chief architect of the policy of apartheid, succeeds Mr. Johannes Stridjom as Prime Minister.

DR. EARNEST O LAWRENCE

Dr. Earnest O Lawrence, winner of the Nobel Prize for Physics, died in hospital in Palo Alto, San Francisco on Aug. 28.

Dr. Lawrence was Professor of Physics and Director of Radiation Laboratory in the University of California. He was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1939. He was 57. He was an Honorary Fellow of the Indian Academy of Sciences.

In 1937 Dr. Lawrence built the first cyclotron for the production of high energy particles and used it to study the transmutation of elements and artificial radio-activity.

MR. B. K. NEHRU

On August, 27th The Indian Embassy at Washington announced the appointment of Mr. B. K. Nehru as India's first Commissioner-General for Economic Affairs, with headquarters in Washington.

Mr. Nehru formerly Secretary for Economic Affairs in the Indian Finance Ministry, will have Ambassador's rank and hold a roving assignment with responsibility extending to Europe as well as Canada and the United States, officials said.

Mr. Nehru is known as one of India's most skilful negotiators. Last year he negotiated a large United States aid agreement.

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