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Editorial

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RUSSIA WALKS OUT AT GENEVA

The much publicised Disarmament Conference at Geneva ended in a Flasco. This vital meeting of five West European Countries with an equal number of Communist countries evinced keen interest all over the world. We are passing through an era of suspicion and in International Politics we are facing a state of undeclared war. This situation is recently aggravated by the wellknown U 2 incident. Unless and until the powerful Nations reach some sort of arrangement between them so as to avoid a Third World War, the outlook for the future is grim and uncertain.

The Western Nations had prepared a detailed plan of Disarmament in March this year which was discussed at Geneva. This was followed by a new Soviet proposal in early June. There was general agreement on the French proposal which suggested that any control should begin with the possessors of Atomic Weapons. Later on the withdrawal of foreign bases and military installations was proposed to which United States could not agree. In order to come out of this deadlock Mr. F. Eaten of United States flew to Washington to discuss matters with the defence and Atomic Energy Chiefs. He returned to Geneva with a revised plan. At this juncture was staged the much talked about and widely lamented walkout of the Soviet delegate. According to the Soviet Spokesmen their withdrawal was effected "because it seemed obvious that the Western Nations intended to Sabotage the conference and the appearance of negotiations served to cover up a policy of making preparations and intensified rearmament." Mr. Khrushchev mentioned as evidence the recent visit of the British Defence Minister Mr. Watkinson to the United States for negotiating delivery of missiles to Britain. He went on to cite reports of vigilant military patrols by British and American nuclear bombers.

Such a situation is helpful to none and we are still at the spot where we started. As a shrewd observer of International Politics pointed out, the vital problem confronting us at the present time is the difficult task of simultaneously pursuing a policy of Rearmament on the one hand and Disarmament on the other.

As a proof of their desire for disarmament, the Russians are disbanding over a million men from the army. But they are always proud to talk about their superiority in rockets and missiles over the

West. Apparently the race to improve their missiles and rockets, is only gathering speed day by day. In this context, it is worth noting, that the Eisenhower administration kept down the military expenditure to a comparatively low level. Many critics in the U.S. have expressed their disapproval of maintaining an in-sufficient military defence. Lately the competition between the two blocs has shifted from the military to the economic field. The Plethora of bulletins coming out from the opposing capitals is a sure testimony of this fact. Any ambitious plan in the sphere of Disarmament seems possible only under the canopy of the United Nations. The setting up of about two hundred control stations located in strategic parts of our globe and a body of international inspectors to successfully man these stations—these are the basic requirements to the setting up of a world where "suspicion" becomes a word of the past. It is satisfying to find that a moratorium on large scale atomic testing still continues. The world is anxiously awaiting the resumption of the aborted Disarmament talks at Geneva. It is necessary for the Nations to agree on certain basic standards in order to wholly support a theoretical blue print which can ultimately lead us to a peaceful era.

We support the comment of the British Prime Minister that the Russian Walkout of the Geneva Disarmament Conference was "a very great set-back." In the meantime both sides have started a campaign of putting the blame on the other. Such a state of affairs obviously intensify the cold war atmosphere. In reply to the Soviet accusation of the West in sabotaging the conference, it is worthwhile to look into the comment of Mr. Harold Macmillan: "They (Russians) started with one. We started with one. They set up another, taking into account of some of the things we put forward. We were just about to table our reply, taking into account some of the things they put forward—I think that it is a very lamentable thing and I shall do my best to see that these negotiations are continued." Thus it is a welcome sign to learn the willingness of the West to go on with the meeting. The world awaits the Russians "to walk in" at Geneva and try to see eye to eye with the West. Patience and understanding should be adopted as criteria by both camps in solving this protracted and tautologous international riddle.

THE DEATH PENALTY AND THE DOCTRINE OF AHIMSA

BY

C. RAJAGOPALACHARI

People mix up the doctrine of Ahimsa with agitation for the abolition of Capital punishment. They fail to see that the ethics of individual conduct may not always govern State action. If violence or himsa has to be put down by the State it cannot afford to give up the right to inflict death in cases of heinous and brutal crime. If any relaxation of the rule of not taking away life be ever permissible it should be relaxed in favour of the guardians of public health and in favour of courts dealing with brutal forms of murder. I know of a case of a medical man systematically seducing young nurses to come under his private employment and his poisoning them one after another and chopping up their bodies with his knowledge of anatomy to dispose of the remains without being discovered. For certain types of murder Capital punishment must be available for judges to award. I believe that people asking for total abolition of Capital punishment are making a great mistake. It should be left to courts trying the cases either in the first instance or on appeal to give the death sentence or any other suitable punishment. It should be open also to the Government to exercise clemency. The law provides for all this. It is not necessary under the law as it stands that a person found guilty of murder must die. There is a very large discretion given to Courts as well as to Government to mitigate the sentence. The law is harder in some other countries but we are not concerned with them. So far as we are concerned there is plenty of scope both in the Penal law itself and in the discretionary powers vested in the Courts and in the Government for suitable cases receiving a lesser punishment or even total clemency.

These who agitate for the total abolition

of Capital punishment ignore the fact that it will encourage more and more of private vengeance. People will be inclined to take the law in their own hands to punish the murderer and his associates. There is nothing to prevent the most debased forms of murder and those who are victimised by such murders will feel it their duty to take vengeance especially



as their own retaliatory measures do not involve the risk of being punished with death.

Again, those who argue that Capital punishment has not achieved its purpose, viz., deterrence of murder place reliance on statistics. Statistics do not give us the whole picture. We do not know how many wives have abstained from murder and how many husbands and sons have abstained from murder on account of the terrible penalty associated with the taking away of life. There are countless cases where men and women have been

tempted to commit the crime and have been held back by fear of the traditional penalty of death. These cases do not come up in any statistics. The total abolition of Capital punishment would be a grave error so long as we are not able otherwise to prevent men from yielding under provocation, political or other passion on the temptation of taking away life. We may give any amount of discretion to the original and appellate courts to exercise clemency where it is due but we may not altogether abolish the penalty of Death.

DEALING WITH THE LAWLESS

BY

POTHAN JOSEPH

Dacoity and thuggee as an organised occupation have been as old as the hills and we cannot yet say that Acharya Vinoba Bhave has wrought the miracle of conversion as the cure for a dread tradition. In the history of sea-faring nations, piracy had its criminal record for ages until extirpated by main force as also the extension of modern trade routes under conditions of fast sailing. Within the memory of six generations when commerce moved with trade winds, pirate chiefs marauded our coasts and Maharashtrian mariners plying on the West Coast of India had actually to fight foreign intruders until their policing ended "all vestiges of the piratical practices for which this part of the Coast of India had been infamous since the days of Roman commerce". Spanish robbers scourged oceans east and west. As for inland depredations, war itself had been recognised as a species of trade and in India the duty of a King after coronation was to look for the scope of conquest, but on pacification they had continuously to be on their guard against the violators of law. Even during the early Sultanates of Delhi, there were vast tribes roaming on robbery bent, and once when thousands of culprits were brought in chains before a Moghul Emperor, he ordered them to be flung over his eastern frontier in the hope they would establish themselves in honest pursuits, but we have it on record that they readjusted themselves to their fresh environments and became river robbers, having regular family settlements across the edge of the Ganges and other water ways of romantic renown. One of the Supreme Commanders thought of creating a split in the vast organisation that flourished both by the freemasonry of the trade and the ritual of worship. A substantial section was driven to the regions of the Narbada whilst in the home bases thousands were left in the North.



Ancient Ravage

The present battles that are continuously waged in the ravines of Chambal are nothing new and many of their atrocities are but variants of historic savagery, wearing the aura of religious devotion. Tahsildar Singh succeeded

Man Singh who defied the forces of Government for years on end, and was being hunted as a fugitive from justice with scores of murders and robberies to his credit, but on finding sanctuary with Acharya Vinoba Bhave he paraded a list of barbarities which he ascribed to the police. It is this confrontation that enhances difficulties as compared with the time when regular campaigns had to be fought against migratory formations like the Rohillas and Pindaris of the North. Though Lord William Bentinck as Governor-General had been famous for his enlightened and benevolent outlook, he found no way of coping with the problem of dacoity and thuggee except by measures of ruthless suppression.

In the Penal Code, Lord Macaulay retained dacoity as a crime committed by five or more robbers in concert; but whether we call it by any particular name, the whole institution still flourishes as a menace on the countryside. The spread of railways has to some extent brought police outposts to the edge of the death-valleys and probably with the multiplication of secure roads, travelling gangs appearing as pilgrims and ascetics could be gradually overcome in the Narbada territories.

Sleeman Record

In the time of Bentinck, Col. Sleeman made his name by his drives against dangerous pockets of dacoity spread in regions of immunity, particularly because peasants and watchmen were in league with the plundering castes who not only shared their bloodstained booty but enjoyed the patroage of feudal chiefs. Akbar once executed five hundred thugs in a bunch as he was on a hunt in the Etawa district (U.P.). There were confederacies allied in the rights of worship involving tribute of blood, the outlaws being both of Hindu and Muslim origin but pledged by links of faith in the gruesome profession. Col. Sleeman (himself a pious officer) did not waste time in differentiating between ends and means; for he went wholesale for undermining discipline with the bait of betrayal known in the Indian

Penal Code as "Turning approver". Since the I.P.C. was formulated much later, the procedure Sleeman prescribed was of course crude in the sense that the double-crosser would be secretly rewarded. The double-crosser caught in the net of temptation by promise of later reward would, however, be courting danger, because once he is caught he is torn from limb to limb and his family survivors were cast into the pit. The system remained unbroken until one Feringhia, approver, saved his life by betraying all the symbols and secrets of the society to Col. Sleeman and his intrepid colleagues. He retired as Sir William Sleeman K.C.B.

All Arms

The weapons used by the raiders were not confined to fire-arms. Some families were experts in killing and belonged to the category of *datura*-poisoners, who administer poison. Vincent Smith in his reflections on the subject held that the infusion of religion into these nefarious occupations might make any prophecy of total extinctions rather unsafe, but whatever the degree of resistance now apparent could be stiffened by pseudo-religious meddling. The slogan "Kill or be killed" is at the bottom of all drastic trials of strength. In certain advanced countries the influence of psychiatrists and sublime moralists has been towards working out the process of crime to glandular aberrations which call for mental correction and subtle treatment. For the ordinary policeman it hardly makes sense. When Chessman was executed in the gas chamber one of the placards exhibited by demonstrators proclaimed:

"Love not Hate

Justice not Revenge

Psychotherapy not Cyanide."

Strike hard

The clear message of such slogans is that man is the victim of chemical processes and the theory of free will or of choice in the option between right and wrong is all bunk. Realistically speaking, the norms are the same, but

certain aspects of agitation prove that society is in danger of some individuals turning devastatingly good as against the performers of duty by adherence to sober standards. How sublime condonation reacts on a dacoit may be seen in the following new story from Vinoba's *padayatra*: (Lukka is the name of a dacoit).

M.P. Dacoit Chief Condemns Police

Behind (M.P.)—Lukka, leader of the surrendered dacoits, has written to Acharya Vinoba Bhave a letter severely criticising police activities in the Chambal region.

Giving this information, Mr. Gokarin Singh "Nirbhaya," Sarvodaya worker of Bah accompanying the Acharya's party, said the letter was written by Lukka himself and personally handed to Acharya Vinoba when

he left Bhind Jail after the prayer meeting in which all the prisoners and surrendered dacoits attended.

Lukka is understood to have suggested the formation of an enquiry commission to take up the entire question of dacoits and gang formation by outlaws in the Chambal Valley.

Giving details of the letter Mr. Nirbhaya said specific instances have been given of the police liquidating innocent persons branding them as dacoits. Lukka has averred that the police have killed more people than all dacoits gangs operating in this area put together.

As long as dacoits thrive, it remains the devoted mission of the Executive to strike: pious pampering is the greater danger.

SAVING THE NUBIAN TREASURES

BY

HARI NARAYAN

"From the tops of these pyramids, fifty centuries are looking down upon you," said Napoleon to his scholars and scientists, standing in the shadow of those colossal monuments at Gizeh. Now in another context, from the sands of the upper reaches of the Nile, forty centuries look up to science and people everywhere to save them from obliteration by the flood that the proposed Aswan High Dam will create. The Dam will rise to 225 feet and at its crest, run to a length of 3 miles and the waters it will store up will form a lake, 300 miles long, 1,150 sq.miles in extent, and beneath them will disappear some of the richest architectural and sculptural treasures that tell us of "the splendour that was Egypt".

The land that the waters will submerge is historically Nubia; it spreads over Egypt and Sudan along the course of the river. And all over Nubia rising from the sands are some of the most magnificent monuments as valuable for the history they reveal as for the beauty they possess. They dot the land profusely—these remains of the creative genius of man; Philae, Kertassi, Beit El Wali, Kalabsha, Dakka, Wadi Es Sebua, Aniba, Derr, Abu Simbel are the sites of some of the better-known among them.

Philae is an island which for the beauty of its sunlit palms and monuments came to be called the "Pearl of Egypt". On it stands a temple to Isis the ancient Egyptian Goddess who was worshipped long after Rome had become Christian. Its monuments were not built in one reign; king after king added his own contribution to them; "these temples", says J. Capart, "though built in the tradition of the Pharaohs, are the work of the Ptolemies, who succeeded to the legacy of Alexander the Great and whose last heiress, Cleopatra,

filled Imperial Rome with tales of her beauty and her intrigues. Though built for foreign masters, they were done in the style of the land."

Here we have the splendid Colonnade with its individualised capitals, leading to the Temple. The gigantic pylons of the Temple, with their exquisite bas-reliefs, rise awesomely. One of the bas-reliefs depicts the sacred boat of the Goddess in which she was said to cross over to a nearby island to preside over the solemn libation ceremonies at the tomb of the God Osiris. There is a romantic 'kiosk' built by Trajan with its fourteen magnificent columns a little way off. The temples of Philae form a grandiose ensemble.

But the monuments at Abu Simbel, the other most celebrated site, have a grandeur and beauty all their own. There are two of them—the Great Temple and the Small Temple. Hewn out of rock, they were caused to be made by Rameses II, one of the greatest of the Pharaohs and an avid builder. For centuries, they were buried under sand until they were noticed in 1813 by a Swiss traveller, Johann Ludwig Burckhardt and soon after freed from sand. But not until 1892 were sand-diversion walls erected to prevent more sand coming from the desert, and interring them again.

Champollion's words about Egyptian art will perhaps most aptly convey an impression of the colossal nature of these structures: "Their conceptions are those of men a hundred feet high." The Great Temple is 108 feet high and 124 feet wide and goes over 200 feet into the mountain. Flanking its portal there are four gigantic figures of the Pharaoh, Rameses II, each 67 feet high, "whose unchanging posture suggests to the imagination the idea

of eternity". Inside the temple too, there are stupendous statues. At sunrise, the rays of the sun strike through the temple and light up gloriously those figures of the inner shrine. The Small Temple, dedicated to the beautiful queen of the Pharaoh, has exquisitely-carved figures of her and Rameses. The walls of both temples are replete with reliefs; some in the great temple tell of the exploits of Rameses II who was at once a king and a god for his subjects. The battle of Kadish in which by personal courage he saved his army from rout by his enemies and snatched victory from the jaws of defeat is depicted; we see Rameses riding forth to battle, his enemies fleeing or dying—all expressively graven on stone. Here also is the famous "Marriage Stela" narrating on stone the story of Rameses' marriage to the daughter of the King of Hittites. There is much that is mighty and beautiful about all these monuments.

So too are the monuments at the other sites—immense, imposing, irresistibly attractive. There is the Temple of Thot, the Egyptian God of Wisdom and Writing at Dakka; at Kalabsha, we have the temple built by Augustus—the largest of the Roman temples in Nubia, after Philae. The temple dedicated to Amon at Wadi es Sebua, partly hewn in the rock, has its avenue of the sacred sphinxes still intact. In some of the recesses of the temple, the figure of Amon is covered with a painting of Peter, showing its Christian phase. At Derr, there is again a temple built by Rameses II, dedicated to the Sun-god Re. Aniba is the site of tombs of Nubian viceroys; excavation is expected to throw up the palaces and more tombs of these dignitaries.

Moreover the lake, built up by the Aswan High Dam, will extend 100 miles into Sudan and all the land that it will submerge is archaeologically said to be "terra incognita". While Egyptian Nubia is fairly well explored and the main problem there is one of preservation of the monuments, that in Sudanese Nubia is one of exploration to uncover the wealth of its archaeological treasures. What little has

been done there suggests that the relics, dating back to 3000 B.C., will relate to a period of Sudanese history of which comparatively little is known now; a proper study of them will, according to L. P. Kirwan, "be of great value not only for the ancient history of Sudan but for the history of early African civilisation as a whole . . . It will be a new contribution to the history of the world."

But in three years, maybe four, the High Dam would have risen, the vast lake would have been formed and Nubia would have gone under the waters for ever. This is indeed a dilemma: the parched land cries out for water and cannot be denied; yet in the satisfaction of its demand, splendid vestiges of a glorious past will be obliterated. The United Arab Republic has faced this squarely. In May 1955, the Antiquities Service of Egypt set up the Documentation Centre on Ancient Egypt at Cairo with the direct co-operation of UNESCO "to safeguard a heritage thousands of years old and to record the lessons its treasures have to teach before they are obliterated within a few years."

It got down to work with tremendous zeal. Its archaeologists and philologists, photographers and moulders began examining minutely the monuments, taking notes from them, recording their appearance, and making models of them. New techniques were used wherever necessary. One of them is photogrammetry; by this, two stereoscopic photographs of an object are taken and with their help, the object itself is reconstructed as an exact model. Quick and sure, this method has further helped in understanding the architectural laws and techniques of the ancient Egyptians. The Documentation Centre, where all this information is coordinated and processed, is most admirably equipped for its work and has become the ideal centre for Egyptological studies.

But with the decision to go fast ahead with the Aswan High Dam, the U.A.R. and Sudan Governments appealed afresh to UNESCO

to help save the glories of Nubia, for the task of preservation is too costly and difficult to be undertaken without aid. In return for aid, these governments have offered to permit half of the finds, with a few exceptions, to be taken away by the countries participating in the programme.

UNESCO, with its mission of safeguarding the heritage of mankind, has taken it up and appealed for international interest and co-operation. Time is short and a programme of preservation has been drawn up. Philae and Abu Simbel, too magnificent to be sacrificed, will be preserved by erecting protecting walls around them to keep off the flood. Some temples like those of Kalabsha and Dakka

will be dismantled and removed elsewhere stone by stone and rebuilt. Bas-reliefs will be cut off from the rocks in which they are hewn. Frescoes will be similarly carefully removed. Some of these relics will be housed in the country itself; some will be taken to foreign museums.

UNESCO has plunged into the work with gusto. Everything will be done that science could do in the shortest possible time and the safest possible manner to keep intact the precious relics of a glorious past. When it is accomplished—as it will be—it will be one more example of science aiding and advancing humanistic studies. The two cultures do meet and interact.

MEN AND MATTERS

BY

C. H. V. PATHY

The lights of the world are going out one after the other and the pace of progress for the ultimate showdown is gathering momentum day by day. Despite the functioning of the United Nations Assembly, a state of undeclared war prevails from China to Peru.

The solitude and the stillness of the Himalayas are rent asunder by the sound of gunfire and under the cover of darkness, submarines are prowling about, ready to fire the first shot in the Third World War.

Recrimination in plenty has followed the collapse of the Summit Conference at Paris.

Russia remains a Dictatorship and Khrushchev trades tension in every speech he makes. From what came out of Paris meet, it might be taken for granted that a settlement of the squabbles between tiny divisions on a map could be made by no more than a curt bow to nuclear physics.

The atomic bomb makes obsolete the premises on which the dickering at Paris was based. We have come to a point where nothing less than world government will suffice to tailor international politics to hitherto undreamed resources of power.

Control of the military use of atomic power, the outlawing of its use as a weapon, exclusion of rivals from the sources of heavier ores, rigid restriction on the activities of physics—these alone can ensure the world an era of peace.

Persons interested in preventing humanity from plunging into the abyss must meet at once, take the initiative in pumping new life into the forthcoming discussions at Geneva on the stopping of atomic bomb tests; proclaim a long-term phase of disarmament ending in a United Nations capable of presid-

ing over a system of peaceful change with an international police; recognise Red China and invite the United Nations to interest itself in West Berlin.

Ike Retreats

President Eisenhower was the central figure in a drama of hate which Japan staged recently. He had announced his intention of visiting Tokyo on what was supposed to be a peace mission, but the extreme element among the population, particularly students staged a series of demonstrations that Ike was unwanted. Political commentators are of the view that there is the hidden hand of China behind this mass upsurge.

The President's Press Secretary who preceded his Chief's date of visit, was himself surrounded at the air port and had to be rescued through the help of a helicopter.

In spite of the mounting discontent, Ike started on his journey but had to abandon it as a miniature revolution shook the Japanese capital.

In glittering sunshine, and right on schedule, tightly organised bands of students and workers turned out. From all parts of Tokyo they came, platoons of workers with red banners, columns of students marching with arms linked and snake danced through the streets.

By midday, thousands swarmed into the square outside the white columned Diet building, shouting "KISHI RESIGN" and "DOWN WITH THE PACT".

This was a pre-planned campaign by Japanese Socialists against the U.S.-Japanese Pact. Prime Minister Kishi rammed through the Diet's lower house.

The same evening, more thousands of students assembled in front of the U.S. Embassy building, singing the Communist International. Loudspeakers blared out "DON'T COME IKE; DON'T COME." The siege of the Diet on inside, Kishi himself sat alone in the Prime Minister's office.

Though at the outset he announced that he would stay on he was ultimately forced to take the decision to resign. By the time these lines appear in print, he would have quit office. When he steps down from the political throne, United States would have lost a valuable ally.

His exit would bring to an end a memorable career. Born 63 years ago, scion of a Samurai family, he took to politics in a dilettante way, as a student of Tokyo's Imperial University. Right from the start, he was Right wing partisan and although an adroit tight rope-walker, he never deviated from his ideological convictions.

He spent three years in prison as a Class A war crimes suspect and was released in 1948 and spent the next four years, ridding himself of the stigma of a war instigator in the eyes of the U.S. occupation authorities till he was finally de-purged in 1952. Then commenced a series of political intrigues which culminated in his elevation to Prime Ministership in 1957, after which his main occupation was to keep his country a loyal and unswerving ally of the United States.

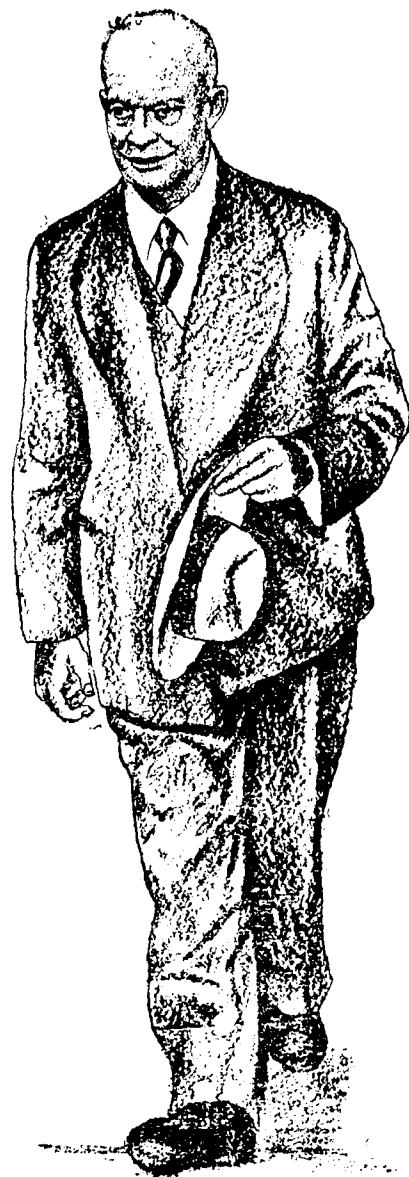
Right at the door step of his resignation he has ratified the U.S.-Japanese Pact but it has turned out to be his political funeral.

Coup in Turkey

Another edifice of American support has crashed to its doom in Turkey. In Ankara, the capital, after four weeks of student agitation, Premier Adnan Menderes has been deposed. The military junta which assumed power has set up a committee to prepare for general elections.

The *coup* was dramatic. The first sign of trouble was the distant thud of gunfire somewhere in the darkness of the capital. Women

in pin-curlers leaned over the balconies. Men in pyjamas and night shirts stumbled down into the streets. Army trucks rumbled along the main road with cadets of Ankara's war college the spearhead of the Army's *coup*. Behind them came Patton tanks, Turkey's 43rd Cavalry and truck loads of infantry men.



It all went off like clock work and by dawn it was all over. The one-party Menderes regime was ended. Thereafter all Ankara whooped with joy.

Meanwhile with military precision, the Army rounded up and arrested members of the Cabinet. The most dramatic arrest was that of the Prime Minister himself, who had been off campaigning in Western Turkey. Alerted to the *coup*, he began to flee toward the Syrian border. Just past midnight, a Piper Patrol plane spotted his car speeding along the highway. The plane radioed ahead to the ground troops, who stopped the car at the next town and whisked the shaken Premier back to Ankara.

At the head of the Army *coup* emerged a stocky, silver-haired officer, Lt.-General Gursel who took charge as President, Premier and Military Commander.

There was a touch of Pakistan about it with a family resemblance of Ayub Khan stepping in. The new Cabinet of Turkey consists of four officers, three professors and eleven non-political technicians. The deposed Premier is kept as a prisoner in the War College while investigations are proceeding to book him.

Intensification of Cold War

All the jitters which we have been witnessing in many parts of the world are symptomatic of the waning influence of the United States. From the Mediterranean to the Pacific the story is the same. The rulers of the U.S.'s staunchest allies are in hot water. In many capitals which sing the praise of Russia's strong man, concentration has shifted from the ill-fated Summit Conference, and many governments are being jolted into an awareness of their own problems.

China has bared her claws and is bent on a policy of expansion. There is a massive concentration of Red troops right across our border on the Himalayas while Tibet hovers on the brink.

That Western Powers and Russia are drifting apart and going in different directions is

again apparent from the fate which overtook Geneva Conference on disarmament. Russia and other Communist members walked out of the talks after a bombshell declaration that they could no longer take part in the negotiations. Thus the stage is set for an intensification of the cold war.

Communism is scoring victories in several troubled spots of the world.

American foreign policy is being severely criticised both at Washington and other places. Eisenhower, whose popularity was legendary is now a frustrated man.

President's Pilgrimage

President Rajendra Prasad, usually allergic to foreign travels has gone on a pilgrimage to Russia. His fifteen-day visit to that great country is charged with immense importance; It has been described as a "discovery". He has already visited some of the key places of interest.

Originally, Eisenhower had programmed to be in Russia about this time but his visit was called off when Khrushchev told the United States that he was unwanted. When the Soviet Prime Minister visited this country, among those present to receive him at the Palam air port was Rajendra Prasad. It is a pity that while our President is in Russia, Khrushchev was not present to welcome him at the Moscow air port.

Dr. S. Radhakrishnan is deputising for the President while he is away. For the first time he has all the powers of the President.

Whither Ceylon?

In recent years, several underdeveloped countries of Asia have one by one passed under the rule of Dictatorships. In these circumstances, the question is posed whether Ceylon too would fall in line? The question arises also because Ceylon has been subjected to severe strains and stresses in recent times. During the two emergencies of 1958 and 1959, the danger of Dictatorship was real, and it needed considerable vigilance on the part of

the community to prevent it. Ceylon's economy today is in a chaotic condition, and society is in a state of malaise owing to economic deterioration and a long period of political instability.

There are about 130 seats available for distribution between the two major political parties in the election race, the UNP and the SLFP. Of these two parties and their respective leaders, Mr. Dudley Senanayake and Mrs. Bandaranaike, the people should elect a party and a Prime Minister who can be trusted to perform the main task which confronts a government today. These tasks are to protect the country from Marxists, to repair the damage done to the economy and to provide a stable government.

The SLFP, by its pact with Marxists has provided the latter with an opportunity to strengthen their position in political life and to make a bid for absolute power. The SLFP's no-contest pact with the Marxists therefore unfortunately handicaps the efforts to safeguard democratic institutions in their present weakened state.

A Rebel in London

A piece of political drama has been injected in the sudden appearance in London of A. Z. Phizo, the Naga leader. England has been the traditional asylum for political refugees and Phizo is bound to avail himself of the facilities open to him to press his mission forward. How he got there is a mystery.

Prime Minister Nehru has stated that the India Government has no intention of asking for his repatriation. It is up to the British authorities that this rebel does not carry on propaganda against India. There are rumours to the effect that Phizo may take his case to the United Nations. If he does so, he cannot get the support of either the United States or of Great Britain. The moot question to be decided is whether the demand for a separate Nagaland and the insurgent activities are in consonance with justice. Mere hostility to New Delhi or even the fanatical fervour which

inspires Phizo do not make his demands valid.

Jew-baiter Caught

The man who invented the diabolical machinery to annihilate six million Jews is now in the custody of Israelis and will soon be brought to trial. News of this has excited the whole world.

Germans particularly have been striven by it. What is known as "Eichmann Episode" has overshadowed even the "cold war" news.

Eichmann was 35 when he was assigned the job of liquidating Jews. Hitler's appeal was more successful with the young.

Germany would put Eichmann on trial in Germany after he has most likely been condemned to death by an Israeli Court.

He would have to be returned to Israel for the execution of the Israeli Court's sentence.

Since, according to the German constitution the death sentence is abolished, the return of Eichmann to Israel for hanging would amount to a breach of the German Constitution.

OBITUARY—

Russian Author

Boris Pasternak, the world famous Russian writer died a few days back at the age of 70. His end marked the departure of a great artist. His novel, *Dr. Zhivago* made him a literary immortal. It is partly autobiographical.

They read him in Russia for his poetry. For four decades his work was regarded as the finest flower of Russian verse. His complete self-identity with humanity was his greatest asset.

As a young man before the first world war he was totally immersed for a time in a fierce partisan battle for the integrity of poetic expression. He used his verbal facility to force issues that would not be forced. He had been all through his life a fighter but a fighter who always chose his own battle field.

To his country, his demise means the break of one of the last links with the past, which in history will soon become a legend.

C. P. Mathen

The death of Mr. C. P. Mathen at the ripe old age of 70 at Paris removes one of the most arresting personalities from the commercial and political landscape of Kerala. Hailing from Tiruvalla in Travancore, he took to business after completing his education and was a pioneer in banking. It was due to his enterprise as well as that of Mammen Mapillai that the Travancore Bank was built up. Mr. Mathen came into clash with the then Dewan of Travancore State and was arrested and imprisoned.

The bank though liquidated fulfilled the obligation to its clients. After release Mr. Mathen made Madras his home. In the post-independence period after the carve-up of the Kerala State, he contested a seat for Parliament from his home town and was returned to the Lok Sabha.

The Prime Minister made him the Indian Ambassador in Sudan but he had to relinquish that job in mid-term owing to bad health.

The present writer had occasion to meet him constantly during his stay in Ootacamund in April and May. A Doctor was in attendance almost every day, giving insulin injections.

Mr. Mathen said that his ambition was to launch an English daily from Ernakulam. A leading publicist with international reputation had promised to be its Editor. The best way to revere the memory of Mathen is for the businessmen of Travancore State to sponsor the publication of the daily of his dreams.

Mr. Mathen has left behind his autobiography entitled: "I Have Borne Much."

Mrs. Subbarayan

The death occurred at Delhi on June 3 of Mrs. Radhabai Subbarayan, wife of Dr. P. Subbarayan, Central Minister for Transport.

She was a Saraswat Brahmin woman hailing from South Kanara. Her father was Kudmal Ranga Rao, who devoted his life to breaking caste barriers, educating the masses and achieving the emancipation of women.

Radhabai was one of the first Brahmin girls to go to school. She took her degree at the Madras University. She proceeded to England for higher studies with Dr. Subbarayan whom she had married.

On their return to India, both took to social work, she joining the committee of the Child Welfare Society, Red Cross Society and the National Health Association. She also took an active part in the Girl Guide movement and started the Women's Club in Ootacamund. The graduates of Madras University elected her to its Senate, of which she was the first woman member.

When her husband was made the Chief Minister of Madras, with the portfolios of education and local self-government, she did not stand for re-election to the Senate, but was nominated to it by the Government.

Mrs. Subbarayan was one the two women delegates to the Round Table Conference. She flew back to India and later became one of the women pioneers of flying in the country.

She was elected to the Council of State from Madras.

Her children were educated in England, the eldest of the boys being a product of Eton. One of her sons Mohan Kumaramangalam is a leading member of the Communist party and her only daughter Srimati Parvathi too married a Communist whose political views she shares.

FILMS

Oscar Wilde Filmed

Oscar Wilde, poet, wit and dramatist, the author of "De Profundis" who was sentenced to two years' imprisonment with hard labour is now only a memory. Many of his master-

pieces languish in obscurity. He threw his genius into his life and his art into his books.

One of his best known works, "Picture of Dorian Gray" is autobiographical. His life was a queer mixture of the queer, the tender and the romantic. His friend Frank Harris has written the story of his life. Now comes news that two groups of American-aided British producers have chosen to make him the hero of two pictures being made at the same time. The first called "Oscar Wilde" is now being screened in a London picture house. Most of the sordid, shabby facts of his life are told with skill and discretion.

Robert Morley plays the role of Wilde, Phyllis Calvert, his wife. Ralph Richardson and Alexander Knox are opposing counsels at the trial.

Film critics are of the view that the film has been made in an excellent manner.

Padmini's denial

A furious Padmini denied the story of a romance between her and President Nasser, when her attention was drawn to a story published in a widely read cine journal wherein it is given out that Nasser fell in love with her after witnessing a film in which she dances.

It was given out that shortly he would wed her, after getting the necessary permission from the India Government.

Padmini added that she has no intention of marrying Nasser or anyone at the moment. She was neck deep with work. She has proceeded with sister Ragini to Singapore for taking outdoor scenes for a film which would be released shortly. The producer is from Bombay. Some of the location shots for this picture were taken in the rubber plantations in Travancore.

SOUTH INDIA AND NATIONAL PLANNING

BY

PROF. S. C. JOSEPH

We have accepted a planned economy for our country. Planning involves a conscious allocation of national resources, natural and human. It means a deliberate choice of the pattern and the direction of investment at the national level. Investment is rightly treated as the strategic factor in the development of the economy. We are here concerned with the inherent limitations of treating the problems purely on an aggregative level. At the same time it is appreciated that central direction and national approach is essential for an efficient functioning of a planned economy.

In a broad sense the change needed is primarily a problem of decentralisation. Concentration of power with a wide discretion of choice and personal judgment, at the Planning Commission level is a heavy responsibility on those who are concerned with it and is almost an impossible human task. Considering the scope of functions involved it is not expected of the Planning Commission to know everything intimately—the weakness of the economic system at the village, district or state levels. Their calculation and estimates are pertaining to the grand total, total savings and investment and the desirable level of savings and investment in the economy as a whole. This macro-economic approach is the only feasible line of action available to them. But they are not free from pitfalls normal to such growth models.

The aggregative approach of dealing with national savings and national investment and the desired level of total savings and total investments is consistent with all growth models. But nobody can be sure about the choice of technique to be adopted in new investment or location or size of industries in such a total approach. Further the regional

differences that are bound to exist in such a vast country are also being overlooked. These three problems of choosing the scale and technique, location of industry and the inherent inequality of the base or region, confront the planner at the Centre and their solution needs attention at the base and at the local or district level. Our emphasis therefore is that the Planning Commission's approach highlights the limitation of the total resources available but weakens our ability to allocate the resources as guided by the principles of social marginal productivity.

The principle of social productivity insists that resources should be so directed as to give the maximum net return to the society as a whole. In this context money cost is being overlooked and one has to see whether every region has satisfied the initial conditions necessary for development, if not priority should be given to fill the big "gap." The National Planning technique assumed that all states are equal at the initial stage to start with. But it is well known that the Southern States comprising Mysore, Madras and Kerala are at a low stage of development, with lower levels of savings and investment and the lowest levels of living. Even while not denying the fruitfulness of such huge investment schemes like Damodar Valley and Bhakra-Nangal Projects in the North, few such schemes are available in the Southern States. It might be argued that Indian economic development must take place in a "big" way and somewhere it has to be started. However this dispersion of big projects over the length and breadth of the country not only ensures a balanced development of all regions but also promotes goodwill between States, which is being undermined ever since the passion for linguistic re-organis-

sation of States received its final triumph on the political scene of the country.

What is said above is nothing new, but worth considering in order to create the pre-requisites necessary for a "take off." Social overheads like roads and railways, schools and hospitals should take priority over other things and they provide the minimum requirements for the human element to respond and co-operate with any schemes of national re-construction. Hence in the allocation of resources the establishment of the industries the essential diversity of regions should be taken into account. The "depressed areas" of India namely the Southern States should receive the first and the earnest attention of the Planning Commission.

We are not presenting here all the facts in order to prove the backwardness of the Southern States compared to the Northern States. But the facts speak for themselves. Per capita land holding being the smallest, the only means of production available namely land, is scarce and the pressure of population the greatest. Data given below relating to cultivator's holdings collected during 1950-51 Agricultural labour inquiry, show the average size of cultivator's holdings and the level of inequality as indicated by the concentration ratio.

	Average size of cultivator's holding (acres)	Concentration ratio
S. India (Madras, Mysore, Kerala) ...	4.5	0.64
E. India ...	4.5	0.56
N. India ...	5.3	0.55
W. India ...	12.3	0.58
Central India ...	12.2	0.56
N. W. India ...	12.6	0.55

Inequality of holdings being greatest in South India and the concentration ratio of holdings is 0.64. The basic facts relating to South India are worth noting.

Agricultural labour families stand at the bottom of the economic ladder anywhere in

India. A comparison of their level of incomes indicates that they occupy the lowest position in South India with Rs. 382 per annum compared to Rs. 551 in North India.

Unemployment is also highest in South India with the smallest number of self-supporting persons and highest number of idle days wasted per year.

	Proportion of total population self-supporting persons		Average number of days unemployed in a year
	Agri-cultural	Non-agri-cultural	
S. India ...	16.6	9.9	115
N. India ...	22.0	8.4	44
E. India ...	22.1	8.7	73
W. India ...	14.6	12.3	113
C. India ...	21.0	8.1	54
N.W. India ...	22.2	10.1	82

(Census of India 1951 Part II-B)

With low levels of income and living the people of the South deserve special attention by providing more work opportunities or increasing public property. It is agreed that work and property alone secure the means of subsistence. More work can be provided with more industries started in the south. More property can be created by the accumulation of public assets as land is severally limited and the problem is daily aggravated by the immensity of evergrowing number of lives.

It might be argued that everything possible is being done and much is expected to be done and much is desirable. No, it is maintained that there is discriminatory allocation of resources and they are bound to occur in an aggregative approach wherein the total outlay and targets of production are only fixed and the details of allocation are worked out by executive discretion and as pressure politics play a key role. However, statesmen with a vision for the future could visualise the potentialities of any discontent among the Southern States if a case can be made out for any special neglect

or indifference on the part of the directors of planning. Very often the state cabinet itself is powerless to change the course of action contemplated by the Planning Commission. But the Planning Commission has to accept the inherent weakness of its basic approach of treating Indian economy as a single whole equally good in its parts.

These are some of the difficulties of democratic planning that a central decision is not acceptable or appreciated by certain political units. But it is a deliberate choice of the planners that Indian Planning should follow the democratic way. It is designed in such a way as to provoke thought and to evoke interest on the part of the people. In order to achieve this objective the participation of the people at all the levels should be solicited. This is possible only when equal treatment is given to all the states concerned. Perhaps it might be argued that the State Cabinets are

consulted. But it is well known that the personality of the Chief Minister of the State or a Minister in the Central Cabinet is important in making the suggestions effective at the planning level. The Southern States fail to make such a favourable impression at the centre or the centre is determined to have their own way, never matter what happens in the South or what the Southern people say or feel.

Any way no one can deny the fact that in a macro-economic development model it is assumed that all regions are homogeneous and they may be treated alike. But this assumption is vicious in principle, pernicious in its operation and mischievous in its effects. Hence the need for national unity and keeping the goal of achieving total progress in a short time, demand special attention to be given to the Southern States which are "depressed" in relation to other regions of our motherland.

TEACHERS' ROLE IN SHAPING PERSONALITY

BY

T. E. KONNIKOVA

[The following article written by an experienced Soviet teacher suggests norms and standards that are to be followed in training young boys and girls in their education. He writes this article with the background of practices and customs of his own country—Ed.]

Teacher, mentor and friend! What lofty meaning do these words contain! How many people pronounce them with a feeling of deep respect and sincere gratitude! The Soviet teacher considers it his best reward when he hears this high appraisal of his efforts from his words. These words also reflect the recognition of the noblest human qualities of an older friend and his moral superiority.

How many restless thoughts, how much ardour in the teacher's heart and how many creative quests and real excitement are occasioned by each new graduation, when another group of youths leaves school! And yet when these young people take their leave there is always a slight feeling of anxiety mingled with the joyous sensation of a great work accomplished: Have they been adequately trained? Are they well equipped for the future?

It is not only a fund of knowledge that the young people carry away with them when they leave the school. They retain everything they have experienced in the years of their childhood, for this cannot be discarded like a dress which has been outgrown. Games and friendship, Young Pioneers' impressions and the "discoveries" of the new in their surroundings—the entire, intricate world of human relations is stored up like a precious experience and serves as the source for many qualities of his personality. It is much more difficult to create this experience than to teach the foundations of the sciences.

The Soviet teacher has always been in the front line of the struggle of his people, ever taking part in the cultural revolution. He

reared the youth and built a new school, sought practical solutions and created a Soviet educational system anew. The services of the Soviet teacher have been recognised by the entire people. But his role has never been of such tremendous significance as it is today.

The teachers fully understand the significance of the tremendous tasks facing the school. They are exerting much energy and creative initiative to reorganise the school. But these tasks call for important changes in the work of the teacher himself, and they make new demands on his personality. The essence of these new demands is that the work of every teacher must become, in ever greater degree, the work of a rearer of children, a mentor in the real and finest meaning of this word.

The school reform is a new and very effective means for training the growing generation. As Marx said, the combination of instruction and productive work "will be the only means of creating people who are developed in all respects." This tenet stresses the special power of work as a source of influence in the upbringing of the child. It is not sufficient merely to teach the youth to work in today's highly developed industry. The aim is much more complex and responsible.

Moral upbringing

The main link in the all-round development of the personality is his moral upbringing. This is an intricate task and embraces many aspects. It can be solved only by the concerted and friendly activity of the teaching staff in all spheres of school work. The teacher must become the real mentor and friend of each

child in order to help him to grow up to be a worthy member of the future society.

But is the teacher sufficiently well equipped to solve this task? It must be admitted that the methods to be used in the school in bringing up the children are being elaborated and introduced far too little. True, it would be wrong to place the responsibility for this situation only on the teacher. Methods of upbringing, as all other methods, must be based upon definite scientific principles which precisely reflect the laws of the process they are called upon to influence. In the given case we refer to the laws governing the formation of the traits of the child's personality. It would be naive to think that everything has been found in this field and that everything is clear. But we have the most necessary scientific principles governing methods of bringing up children and we can use them to facilitate the organisation of this work. However, the schools make little use of them in their work. This work of bringing up children suffers from empiricism, that is why it is frequently inconsistent and is not sufficiently methodical.

What are the reasons for this phenomenon? We talk a great deal about the lagging of the science of pedagogy. There are ample grounds for such criticism. But a still greater defect is that the data already obtained by science and which are undoubtedly of value in work, are being introduced and used intolerably slowly. How many investigations connected with the work of upbringing are lying about like so much "dead capital" without reaching the masses of teachers! It often happens that instead of attentively examining each new investigation and taking from it whatever can help them in their practical work, the teachers cast it aside after their first, frequently superficial impression.

Practical significance

If one is to introduce the new data obtained through teaching experience and scientific investigations in pedagogy and psychology, it is not sufficient merely to receive information

about what is new and valuable for practical work. This "new" must be thoroughly analysed and generalised in order that it acquire practical significance. It cannot be expected that the "transfer" of scientific data or even facts taken from experience to school practice will take place automatically. This process must be especially assisted. If we do not achieve this aim, we will be helping to spread among the masses of teachers an incorrect attitude towards theory, indifference to it, and a lack of desire to study it. On the other hand it gives rise to the demand for ready-made "recipes" only. That explains why what is new and correct in educational work often goes hand in hand with what is wrong. There are many such examples in school practice.

In recent years it has become generally recognised that the upbringing of children requires the organisation of their life and activity. Much has been written on this subject in pedagogical literature, and this principle is frequently heard at teachers' conferences. But the recognition of the thesis that the child must be brought up during the process of organising his activities fundamentally changes the methods in upbringing. The teacher cannot assume the customary attitude in relation to his class: "I teach—you listen." He must become the organiser and leader of the children's independent and social activity, he must take part in all aspects of the children's life. It is in this position that he can be their mentor and friend. He has no need to resort to outside pressure and orders, but influences them through the collective.

However, these principles have not really been incorporated in the life of the school to this very date. This explains why, in school practice, it is the class teachers who are considered the ones to engage in the work of bringing up the pupils. There are many fine teachers who have not been class teachers for many years and practically do not take any part at all in the school's work of bringing up the children. They help in the upbringing of the school children only during their lessons,

while teaching their subject. Yet such a situation has an adverse effect upon the formation of the child's personality in school.

The work of bringing up a child differs from instruction in that real results in it cannot be achieved if conducted only in separate fields. One can expect to obtain a good mastery of literature by the pupils regardless of the way drawing or the English language is taught, but one cannot hope for the successful solution of the task of forming the personal qualities of the children if they are affected by non-coordinated influence in their upbringing. The experience of the best schools, which seriously study questions concerning the upbringing of the pupils, has led us to this conclusion. They were successful only because the entire teaching staff took part in the upbringing of the children and participated directly in organising the life of the pupils.

Model teachers

Among teachers there are different types of people, and each of them has his or her own particular manner of teaching and of working with the children. Some are gentle, calm, always in a merry mood and kind. Others are stern and, during their very first acquaintance with the children, make even the 10th graders feel timid. Some go into any class easily and quickly establish contact with the children; others study them for a long time.

But outstanding mastery of excellent teachers consists, first of all, in their ability to organise the class at the lesson. Every lesson is full of the striking feeling that all are advancing together, and is replete with quests for the solution of ever new cognitive tasks by which the teachers hold the interest of the class. These teachers possess such qualities as: an exceptional interest in the development of each pupil, sensitiveness to the slightest manifestation of the pupil's independent thought and correct surmise, and his attitude towards the subject matter. Their lessons cover not only the material called for in the curriculum. They teach the pupils to think and to seek,

they arouse a feeling of spiritual excitement in them, and give the children an understanding of the treasures of man's thoughts and feelings. These teachers are indeed the "rulers of men's minds," the real mentors of the youth. But they are so successful with the children in their lessons just because their contacts with the pupils do not end here. They play an important part in the life of the entire student-body.

But it is not sufficient to know the children only in school. These teachers attentively study the life of their pupils at home and ascertain what their out-of-class interests are. This enables them correctly to understand what is most important in each pupil's attitude towards life, and helps them to see his weak points and his strong sides. It is, therefore, not surprising that these teachers almost never have any conflicts with their pupils and they are always able to find a common language with them.

Best counsel

During my many years of work in the school I have frequently had occasion to be convinced that the young folk often have need of taking counsel with their teacher. It often happens that, for many different reasons, the relations between the young people and their parents are such that although they love their parents deeply, there are some questions which they hesitate to discuss with them.

Sometimes the reason is that their contacts with their parents are based only on their concern for their home life; at other times it is because the parents are so accustomed to regarding their son or daughter as a child that they do not notice the children have developed into adolescents and the parents have not succeeded in changing their attitude towards them. This becomes the source of many and at times serious conflicts and, of course, does not create the conditions for a heart-to-heart talk. In such cases it is particularly important that the teacher be the person to whom school children are drawn to seek counsel of the person whose opinion they want to know in moments of doubt and difficulty.

Such relations of trust can arise only in joint work, on the basis of the active participation of the teachers in the life of the pupils. Warm, friendly relations are naturally established as a result. It is a mistake to think that the "happy" feeling of belonging to the collective, that one is part of it, the feeling of "being protected," about which A. S. Makarenko wrote and which he considered a very important feature of the developed collective, appears in children only when relations of friendship and comradeship has been established among the children themselves. There is one more condition necessary for this in the school; the pupils' collective must not stand out in opposition to the collective of the teachers, but be closely bound to it by relations of mutual respect.

We by no means wish to imply that in their relations with the children the teachers should manifest only a serene affection or should conceal their feelings without giving any sign of emotion.

In the contacts between the pupils and the teacher what is most important and valuable in these mutual relations is born. When the teacher succeeds in drawing his pupils into the common struggle for the full, wholesome life of the collective, the common cares and joys make the pupils the teacher's companions-in-arms and his reliable support, whereas the teacher becomes a real mentor and older friend for the pupils. It is this which prevents that abnormal phenomenon when the teacher's desk is regarded by the pupils as a "barricade" behind which the class "takes up its defence," while the teacher wages an "offensive" with all the means accessible to him: his record book, the pupils' daily record books, marks for behaviour, etc. Needless to say, in such cases the teacher fails to become the pupils' mentor or friend.

If for the formation of the moral make-up of the pupils it is necessary correctly to organise their activity and relations in the collective, the latter is also one of the conditions making

for the creation of the necessary mutual relations between teachers and pupils.

A most important, distinguishing feature of the Soviet system of upbringing is its humanism: "to reach" each child, to find what is good in each and to base his upbringing on that, while preserving a careful attitude towards his individuality, in order to ensure the development of all of his forces. This remarkable feature of our educational system is especially important today, when we are close to achieving the all-round development of the schoolchild's personality. But one can "reach" each child only by bringing him up in the collective: when the teacher brings up every member of that collective, the collective merely multiplies the effect of the teacher's influence.

We often fail to manage so-called "difficult" children in the school primarily because we do not analyse exactly what, in their relations with the collective, was wrongly formed.

Productive work

The task of organising the life of the pupil is being advanced with special energy at the present stage of development of the Soviet school. The combination of instruction with productive work is fundamentally changing the conditions for the formation of the schoolchild's personality. Only now, when the pupils of the eight-year school have been drawn into socially useful work and those of the upper grades into productive work, has this task become a realistic one. However, the fact that the school children have been drawn into work not only does not lower, but, on the contrary, considerably increases the demands made of our work in bringing up the children.

When work becomes part of the life of the pupils, profound changes take place in the conditions for their development. This fact in itself cannot fail to change the contents of the upbringing activities of the teacher, the mentor and older friend of the pupils. The first contact with the workers of the plant, the unusual surroundings, the first steps in their new independent and, now, responsible

activity (to break a tool is not the same as breaking a pencil!), the first earnings, and, what is most important, the new position of being a full-fledged member of the working collective—all of these captivate the youth absorb his attention, fill his life.

In industry new relations arise between the children and the workers, between their coevals and the adults. They witness various relations among the people in their work and life, and such situations arise in their attitude towards their work and their comrades, which they have not as yet experienced. The usual position of a good pupil in class may change sharply: he may be awkward at the lathe, and the failures of his first days may have a depressing effect upon him. On the other hand, so-called average and even poor pupils may greatly outstrip their comrades, proving much more capable in practical work. This success gives them added strength and they begin to feel much more confident in school as well.

Can the teacher continue to be a real mentor and friend if he ignores this new field of activity in the life of the pupils? We are already encountering a remarkable phenomenon in schools which have vocational training. A number of teachers who are excellent specialists when it comes to teaching school subjects, people who enjoyed tremendous prestige and the respect of their pupils, are beginning to yield this position. The upper-grade pupils are becoming estranged and no longer feel the need to share their new experiences and concerns with them.

Teacher should study

The very first observations of the work of the 9th-11th grades in industry clearly show how important it is for them to become acquainted, in advance, with the industry where they will work, with its tasks and the purpose of its

output, with plan fulfilment, with its people and their achievements, with the evolutionary past and the labour traditions. Only in this case will the schoolchild develop a definite attitude towards his enterprise, a feeling of pride and satisfaction in the fact that he belongs to this collective. But in order to achieve this the teaching staff itself must study the industry very well. Needless to say, one or two excursions will not be sufficient to attain this goal.

It seems to us quite in the order of things that the rural schools of Stavropol, Ryazan Region, and other places, where the teachers are closely connected with the life of the collective farms have been most successful in organising the production work of the pupils.

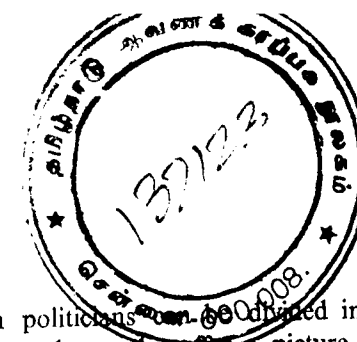
We by no means wish to imply that all teachers take part in production work in industry. But it cannot be expected that the mere fact that the pupils are taking part in production work will produce the desired effect in their upbringing without the special organising activity of the school teachers.

Upbringing always implies the reorganisation of birth of new motives for one's behaviour and relations with the surrounding world. If this does not take place, the upbringing becomes the sum-total of external influences which, under the corresponding conditions, may be regarded by the children as pressure from without, and they will not become part of the children's personality. The real labour of upbringing the school children will be effected not to the extent that they work their prescribed number of days and hours, but to the extent that their work becomes the basis of the life of the collective and is incorporated in the school's general system of upbringing. And this requires special work in upbringing. That is why it is the urgent task of the teacher to master the new situation in shaping the personality of the schoolchild.

Personality Sketch

Dr. RAJENDRA PRASAD

(Contributed)



Wellknown politicians are divided into two categories; those who offer a picture of someone greater than ourselves and those who personify us. In our country, Prime Minister Nehru belongs to the former category and President Rajendra Prasad to the latter class. So fierce is the light that beats on Nehru's political throne that those surrounding him pale into insignificance. Even then, the President of the Indian Republic, Dr. Rajendra Prasad, in spite of his shy and scholastic temperament, has already justified himself for a place in the matrix of Indian history.

Vital statistics about him are too well known to need repetition. Born in Bihar in the Kayastha Community, he swept the board of academic distinction, culminating in his taking of law degree at Calcutta. He started life as a lawyer at Calcutta but subsequently moved to Patna, where he reached the summit of the profession.

He had an innings as a Professor in Muzaffarpur. His modest life, unassuming manners and passion for service attracted the attention of Gokhale who offered to take him in the Servants of India Society, but though Prasad was willing, his elder brother did not give his consent.

A turning point in his life was his contact with Gandhiji in 1917. The Mahatma had just returned from South Africa and went to Bihar to undertake the cause of the labourers in Champaran. It was here that he met Rajendra Prasad who too joined the Mahatma. After a protracted struggle, Gandhiji succeeded in his mission and the friendship that he forged with the Bihar lawyer was to last till his dying day. In fact, Rajen Babu's devotion to his master was almost blind. He is so

emotional by nature that he starts weeping when the Mahatma addresses Congress meetings. In response to Gandhiji's call, he suspended practice in 1920.

Stung by the way of life of the saint and his teachings, Rajen Babu established an Ashram resembling Sabarmati on the banks of the River Ganges at Patna. It is the Sadakat Ashram which even now functions.

A chosen band gathered round him.

Dressed in simple khadi, Prasad used to career through the streets of Patna either on foot or in jolting *ekkas*. He became a familiar figure in the political and social landscape.

He was arrested and imprisoned on more than one occasion. When the devastating Bihar earthquake took place in 1934, Rajen Babu was in prison. Appeals for funds for rehabilitating the victims of the catastrophe brought little response. The authorities realised that the one man whose voice would count was Rajen Babu and so they released him. Soon he was able to gather lakhs of rupees.

It was a sight to see this tall man, sporting a snow-white Gandhi cap, trudging the torrid streets of Patna, Gaya and other places, appealing almost in tears to thousands, asking them to unloosen their purses for helping the orphans of the most devastating catastrophe that shook India. Everyone responded to his call, from money-mad Marwaris to school going children, labourers in the fields and workmen in factories. Soon, *Statesmen* which too opened its columns for subscriptions for Bihar Earthquake Relief had to acknowledge that Rajen Babu's call brought forth a larger sum of money than their daily appeals.

After a day's hard work, you could spot him, going through the editorial columns of "Searchlight"—an English daily in Patna of which he was the sponsor. Then, he could race to the house of his good friend, the late Dr. Sachchidananda Sinha and take stock of the political situation.

His brain soon became the card index system of Indian politics.

He was lucky in his wife, who too shared his triumphs and tragedies.

South India became the storm centre of anti-untouchability work. With Gandhiji conducting the campaign from jail, interest in civil disobedience languished. Yet the movement continued its fitful course. January 4, 1933 signalled its first anniversary, and an attempt was made under the instructions of the acting Congress President, Rajendra Prasad to hold meetings all over the country. Prasad himself was arrested.

After India became free, he was elected as President of the Constituent Assembly. Later he became interim President of the Republic and was duly installed as permanent President in 1952. He had also a brief innings as Food Minister at the Centre.

Rajen Babu has written his autobiography in prison.

Dr. Prasad is a man of wide interests; many of those privileged to call on him have been gratified to find that he is deeply interested in their own pet topics. Much of his knowledge springs from his personal library which consists of over eight thousand volumes. It is one of the biggest individual collections of Delhi, if not of India.

He started his library way back in 1912 and is reported to have steadily added to it at the rate of about two hundred books per year. Frugal by habit and possessing only moderate means, he could still never overlook the temptation to buy good books.

His tastes are also varied. In his library, there are books on constitutional subjects, history, political science, law and religion. He is an avid reader, often sidelining passages which interest him. He parted with some of his law books to a friend of his in 1919 when, at the call of Gandhiji, he renounced his legal practice. The bulk of his present collection was acquired in Bihar. Many bear the inscription: "Sadakat Ashram, Patna."

Some of the books have been presented to him since he became President. They are in

many languages, including Gujarati, Bengali, Oriya, Mahrathi and Canarese. The President is a linguist and can speak many of these languages. He daily spends some time in his library and keeps pace with the latest additions to it, although he prefers dipping into old favourites like every other bibliophile.

By the way, this is the first time that Rashtrapati Bhavan is having a private library.

President Prasad who is accessible to all is a man of simple dress and modest manners. He is an amiable, slightly stooping figure, utterly informal and unpretentious. His peasant background has given him an independence of judgment and a sense of vocation that is in the best traditions of the country.

In foreign affairs, he is a practised devotee of the Gandhian cult who believes of checking war through the path of non-violence.

He is deeply conservative in his dislike of change and innovation. He cannot compete with Rajaji or Radhakrishnan in sheer intellectual eminence nor does he arouse the passions and loyalties that centre round Nehru. Yet he holds a position in the affections of the people that none of these could challenge.

At times this mild-mannered man can show a quiet determination that may astonish friend and foe. For instance, there was an occasion when Prime Minister Nehru told him that his participation in declaring open the Somanath temple may be interpreted in a bad light by Pakistan. But Prasad stuck to his decision and even went to the extent of saying that if the Prime Minister is reluctant to agree to his journey, he may go there not as President but as a free man. On another occasion, it was due to his firm stand that Sheik Abdulla was arrested.

People in India understand and respect him for his character. They know that he presents the highest example of public integrity.

His gaunt stature has been emaciated by chronic attacks of asthma to which he is a periodic victim. In his eager face, the most prominent feature is a pair of eyes which juts out with the directness of truth.

The political surrender and utter self-effacement of this towering figure is one of the biggest catches of Gandhiji.

Continent-swallowing John Gunther, one of my best friends across the seas, called him "the heart of the Congress triumvirate," the other two being Sardar Patel and Maulana Azad. He adds that "this unkempt peasant" has great personal qualities.

The story is narrated that once a British official delegation, passing by him in jail, remarked with monumental obtuseness, "obviously, a criminal type."

Austerely simple, before his elevation to the political throne, he used to travel third class. Once he went unnoticed to Ramana Maharshi's Ashram and sat at his feet, without mentioning a word about his identity.

He is reported to be having a phenomenal memory and speaks seven languages. His mind is a reservoir of knowledge.

Pandit Nehru once capsuled him thus: "A little limited in outlook, somewhat unsophisticated from the point of view of the modern world."

In a brilliant thesis, "Schemes for Dividing India" Dr. Prasad exposed the fallacy of the partition of India.

If India were a monarchy, Rajen Babu would be our perpetual King.

---Copyright

SMILE-A-WHILE

1. *Both forgetful.*—A young man wrote the following letter to a prominent business firm, ordering a razor :

Dear Sirs : Please find enclosed 50 cents, for one of your razors as advertised and oblige, John Jones.

"P.S.—I forgot to enclose the 50 cents, but no doubt a firm of your high standing will send the razor anyway."

The firm addressed received the letter and replied as follows :

"Dear Sir : Your most valued order received and will say in reply that we are sending the razor as per request and hope that it will prove satisfactory.

"P.S.—We forgot to enclose the razor, but have no doubt a man with your cheek will have no need for it."

2. *Playing safe.*—Standing at the grave of her late departed, a Negro widow of the old school said, "Boy, if you is where I thinks you ain't, you pray for me ; but if you is whar I thinks you is, don't mention ma name."

3. *A religious conscience.*—"You admit you are guilty then?" thundered the judge.

"Ah do, judge. Ah's guilty. Ah stole dem pants. But your honah, dere aom't no sin when de motive am good. Ah stole dem pants to get baptized in."

4. *All she knew.*—A school teacher asked the pupils to write a short essay and to choose their own subjects.

A little girl sent in the following paper :

"My subject is Ants. Ants is of two kinds, insects and lady uncles. Sometimes they live in holes and sometimes they crawl

into the sugar bowl, and sometimes they live with their married sisters.

"That is all I know about ants."

5. *He was lucky.*—He : "My ancestors came over in the Mayflower."

She : "It's lucky they did ; the immigration laws are a little stricter now."

6. *Anticipating the worst.*—The minister who made the following announcement seems to have been prepared for untoward results from his preaching :

"There are some flowers here," said he, "for those who are sick at the close of the service."

7. *Willing substitute.*—Bus conductor (calling from upper deck) : "Is there a mackintosh down there big enough to keep two young ladies warm?"

Voice from Below : "No, but there's a MacPherson that's willing to try."

8. *What a mess !* Grampa : "Yep, I put nigh on three hundred men out of action once when I was in the army."

Sonny : "I didn't know you were such a hero. You never showed me your medals !"

Grampa : "No medals. It just happened I was camp cook for a week."

9. *Up and down.*—An airman had to take to his parachute because of engine trouble. On his way through space he met an old woman floating up.

"Hey !" he shouted. "Have you noticed a Spitfire going down?"

"No," she replied. "Have you seen a gas stove going up?"

10. *Desperate measures.*—In his announcement on a Sunday morning the preacher regretted that money was not coming in fast enough—but he was no pessimist.

"We have tried," he said, "to raise the necessary money in the usual manner. We have tried honestly. Now we are going to see what a bazaar can do."

11. *Criteria* : A stranger mistook an insane asylum for a College. Realizing his mistake he said to a guard : "I suppose after all there isn't much difference between them."

"Oh, yes, there is," replied the guard.

"In this place you've got to show improvement before you can get out."

12. *Father's view point.*—"Papa," said the small son, "what do they mean by college-bred? Is it different from any other kind of bread?"

"My son," said the father, "It's a four-year loaf."

13. *Through all eternity.* An Irishman while walking down the street, was stopped by a man who asked him for a match. "Thank you, he responded. "You know I am a man of importance at home. I am Sir John Bally-Burley, Knight of the Garter, Knight of the

Iron Cross, Knight of the Golden Fleece, and Knight of the Eagle. And what's your name, my man?"

"Me name's Michael Murphy, night before last, last night, tonight, and tomorrow night, and every other night."

14. *Quite so*—Jones : It says in this magazine that scientists have discovered that singing warms the blood.

Smith : Well, I know I've heard singing that made my blood boil.

15. *End of the line.* A man was going down into the subway. The stairs were wet and slippery. He lost his footing, slipped, and slid to the bottom. On his way down he tripped a woman, who fell into his lap and went down with him. When they reached the bottom she was a little dazed and did not immediately get up. The man politely remarked, "Madam, this is as far as I go."

16. *Slight mix-up.*—The twins had been brought to be christened. "What names?" asked the clergyman.

"Steak and Kidney," the father answered.

"Bill," cried the mother, "it's Kate and Sidney."

SPORTS IN BRIEF

By Our Sports Commentator



R. Krishnan with the Queens Club Trophy of 1959.
Well done this year at Wimbledon and better
luck next time !

It is reported that a quarter million tennis fans are witnessing this year's Wimbledon. Many of them go for the fashion parade, for the silly season ideas and to witness the kaleidoscope provided by hundreds of players from all over the world.

There has been record rush for the purchase of tickets to the centre court where big matches are staged. It all looks like an amateur tennis boom at the box office, but actually the game is facing a world financial crisis. The only solution for the future is to rope in Jack Kramer's big-name professionals.

This year is notable for our country because the Asian champion Ramanathan Krishnan has been seeded number 7. He has done well coming up to the Semi-Finals. As we go to Press, we learn that Krishnan who scaled up to the Semi-Final was beaten in a remorseless encounter by left handed Fraser. Thus we had an all-Australian final with Fraser retaining his title.

Krishnan earlier had the distinction of conquering the Chilean champion Ayala.

Milka Singh's New Record

Milka Singh, one of India's leading hopes for an Olympic medal, achieved a new Asian 400 metres record of 46.0 seconds when he finished second in an event in an International Athletic meeting held at Munich recently.

A. Hary, the West German sprinter set a world record of 10.0 seconds at the same meeting.

Pan Singh of India finished second in the 3,000 metres won by H. Laufer of West Germany in 8 minutes 21.4 seconds. Pan Singh clocked 8 minutes 23.2 seconds and Matt of East Germany was third in 8 minutes 26.6 seconds.

Ceylon Team for Olympics

Rs. 25,000 will be spent on sending a team from Ceylon to the Olympic Games to be held in August-September this year. The Council of the Ceylon Olympic and Commonwealth Association decided recently to send a five man team to the Games without a manager.

Ceylon's marathoner, Linus C. Diaz of the Ceylon Army and the Ace Athletic Club will skipper the side. The other members are Sumith Liange (boxing featherweight), W. A. Dharmasiri (boxing light welterweight), Maurice Commarawel (cycling road race) and Tony William (200 metres breast stroke swimming).

At the outset, the President Rear Admiral Royce de Mel pointed out that funds were limited and that the Council would have to exercise the greatest care in picking the team. He mentioned that the Council would have to make certain that the money spent on sending a team was not to be wasted. The Council would request the Ceylonese Attache in Rome

to manage the team, once they arrived there. The team from Ceylon would fly a week before the commencement of the Games and return a day after the closing ceremony.

To Rome on Cycle

Among the spectators at the Rome Olympic will be an Indian who intends making the trip on a bicycle. He is Dig Vijay, 50 miles road time trial champion of India in 1956. The Northern India Cycling Association stated recently that Dig Vijay expected to be in Rome at the beginning of the Olympics.

Cross Channel Swim

Mrs. Lila Banerjee, the 36-year old Bengali mother who intends to compete in the Butlin Cross channel International Swimming Race in August recently completed her first 8-hour endurance swim at the Life Saving Society's pool at Calcutta. Mrs. Banerjee swam all the time along the Club's 100-metre course at uniform speed. She covered approximately 9.6 miles.

Book Reviews.

The Chapman Report

A veritable storm has been created by the recent publication of a book by an American author which revels in sex. Its name is "The Chapman Report".

It deals with the men and women involved in a sex survey in a Los Angeles suburb. Wallace has done with fiction what Dr. Kinsey did with fact. He wanted to write a novel about the married women of America for a long time, about the problems particularly of these upper middle class women with too much leisure at their hands. Then it occurred to him that the best way to do it was through one of those sex surveys that United States was often conducting.

One of the most notable characters in the book is a girl whom the author describes as "3-I, the bouffant hair-do, dark slow eyes, flaring little nose and small, full mouth which gave promise of strange delights and eroticisms."

"Her frame—she was only five feet one—seemed sculptured from ivory by a master craftsman. Every feature and limb was perfect, except the bosom which was over sized . . . reducing men to inarticulate slaves."

The book has proved to be one of the best sellers in the United States.

Wallace had nine offers for film rights but Daryl Zanuck ultimately clinched the deal for 175,000 dollars.

Book on Bevin

Dr. Alan Bullock, the distinguished historian, has written the official biography of Bevin—"The Life and Times of Ernest Bevin" Volume One. It deals with Bevin's career up to the time that he joined Winston Churchill's Cabinet in 1940, as Hitler's tanks were racing across Europe.

Bevin was an illegitimate child. Who his father was remains a mystery. His mother was a West Country village woman who scraped a living as a servant and died at the age of 48.

Bevin left school at 11 to start work as a farm boy at six pence a week. At 13 he was a Bristol barrow boy earning six pence a week, at 19 a van driver. He was 30 when he became a full-time dockers' union official at £2 a week.

By the time that he died at the age of 70, he had built up England's largest union—The Transport and General Workers. He fought countless battles for higher wages and better conditions. He stamped his massive personality on the Labour party and mobilised the workers of Britain as Wartime Minister of Labour. He dominated the 1945—50 Labour Government as a controversial Foreign Secretary.

Bevin once wrote : "The workers will never be led out of the land of bondage ; they will get out . . . To understand the workers one must live with them and work with them."

Bevin understood them. He never lost that understanding.

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CONTENTS

	PAGE
EDITORIAL	1
INDEPENDENCE DAY : Pothan Joseph	3
MEN AND MATTERS : C. H. V. Pathy	6
A CENTRE FOR THE N.C.C. AND THE AUXILIARY CADET CORPS IN MADRAS : Our Special Correspondent	12
THE STORY OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA : Mathew Cherian	13
SPORTS IN BRIEF : Our Sports Commentator	16
STORIES ABOUT KINGS : V. Titus Varghese	17
THE LACE : (A Short Story) Yuri Dobryakov	20
KERALA'S COIR INDUSTRY : K. Parthasarathy	25
SMILE-A-WHILE :	28
PERSONALITY SKETCH—A. V. THOMAS : (Contributed)	30
BOOK REVIEWS :	32
Foreign 1s.	50 nP.

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Editorial

NEUTRALITY IN AFRO-ASIAN STATES

Neutrality literally means an unbiased attitude in any situation or in other words pursuing a policy where you do not take sides. In the political set-up of the Afro-Asian States, a policy of active neutrality is gaining ground. This is based on a strict adherence to the ideas of peace, good neighbourliness and peaceful co-existence, which are being given extra-importance on Twentieth Century political platforms. Despite differing social systems, several leading states of this region have expressed emphatically their renunciation of war and they prefer to keep aloof from military pacts and blocs. In this connection it is worth remembering that the Pancha-Shila principles with accent on non-interference in another country's internal government or administration, are apparently popular in these states.

The recent U-2 and RB-47 Plane incidents which have been the subjects of heated discussion and controversy in several parts of the world, brought to light the possible consequences that might result from active participation in military alliances. Most of the Afro-Asian political leaders desire neutralism in their foreign policies. The emergence in recent time, of a number of African countries as independent nations has given greater stimulus and support to the policy of active neutrality.

It has been found that the growth of industrial production in 1959 was registered mainly in countries following a policy of neutrality. From the 1959 economic survey for Asia and Far-Eastern countries, the report of which was submitted to the sixteenth annual session of the United Nations Economic Commission in Bangkok last March, we see that India, Cambodia, Ceylon and a few other neutralist countries have shown impressive construction projects, while members of 'defence' blocs spent more time in constructing airports and rocket bases during the same period. It is true that neutral states are successfully developing trade and commerce with countries both socialist and capitalist. They find it easier to maintain trade relations with countries of both the blocs.

No doubt this policy of active or positive neutrality followed by most Afro-Asian States is of vital importance in the context of international relations. This state of affairs is mainly due to the political sagacity of the men at the helm of affairs. The neutral states of Asia

and Africa have now become a recognised force in solving major international issues. The wise and shrewd leadership on the part of some of these leaders have helped in great measure to bring peaceful settlements in Korea, Indo-China and the Suez. They support unconditional banning of nuclear weapons and are supporting the idea of general and complete disarmament. In several important quarters, there are already suggestions to invite leading powers of Asia to future summit talks.

It is agreed that the policy of neutralism and the wording of Pancha-Shila principles are in the best interests of posterity. In the absence of an alliance or a pact how will we stem oppression from a greater power than ourselves?

Can we fully depend on world opinion and moral support in times of National danger? Can the principle of neutralism survive attacks from more powerful States? These are questions which rarely get answers even in our one and only International institution—the United Nations. Any State can sign agreements depicting good neighbourliness and peaceful co-existence. But if there is a defaulter and a more powerful one at that, how will you defend yourself? History has shown again and again that war emerged more often from violation of agreements already entered into by contracting parties.

INDEPENDENCE DAY

BY

POTHAN JOSEPH

The advent of August 15 as Independence Day means a recurring political festival, but there is an overlapping celebration in January known as Republic Day. To the extent that all parties in a democratic system which subscribes to the Westminster pattern of alternating Governments, could join in the revels with equal enthusiasm, the criterion of national rejoicings could be taken as fulfilled. England has no national holiday because it has no Constitution enacted by the people in her evolution of a free government, but parallel to it are the American and the British Commonwealth institutions with formally constituted origins. How then do we evaluate two celebrations in the year? Is there not an element of repetition which has made some of our newspapers prefer a single anniversary even at the cost of advertisements through bumper-numbers and Supplements on every lucrative occasion? I am afraid that in any derivative study, we shall realise that whilst August 15 is the genuine thing, Republic Day is a redundancy linked with self-glorification. August 15 the essence of freedom had been irrevocably registered, but Congress leaders led by Prime Minister Nehru could not refrain from putting it on record that it was the accomplishment of the Congress which had first raised the Flag on the banks of the Ravi (in undivided Punjab) and then again it was the Congress that proclaimed the aim of the Republic through the memorable resolution moved at the Karachi Session by Jawaharlal Nehru himself.

This accounts for the fact that both Pakistan and India are at one in their reverence for August 15. That Pakistan has no Constitution finalised yet for another bout in jubilation as in our case, is not the full explanation. Jawaharlal's devotion to the Karachi resolution

had been so intense that at the time of Constitution-making he always had in mind the frame-work in miniature of the Karachi resolution. It has been with him a milestone in history and he had piloted the decision and it therefore claimed permanent recognition as a day of revels.

Consider on the other hand the two main celebrations of the United States during which all classes of people and parties join hands without any suggestion of party-pomp or the waving of party-flags even in camouflage. In July all America is in excitement over Independence Day when they swear renewed allegiance to the Flag; and in November, Americans celebrate their Thanks-Giving Day when there is universal rejoicing on a more solemn note, remembering the Creator premised in the Preamble. The absence of religion would, of course, be correct etiquette in a Secular State in which the educational system is governed by Article 28 (1) of the Constitution which reads: "No religious instruction shall be provided in any educational system wholly maintained out of State Funds". Education in other countries is less restrictive in its democratic scope, but the point I wish to make is that the two national holidays prescribed in India have been celebrated in the last twelve years as a party-advertisement for the Congress and not as an India jamboorie in which credit for the pursuit of freedom and the process of its final conferment should be put down to a struggle in which all the people of India participated and suffered in various degrees.

The pride of achievement lingering in the ruling party is transparent when even now a special class known as "political sufferers" are allotted various forms of preference including land-gifts. During the two celebrations

on the calendar, Congressmen in power put on a superb stature whereas non-Congress citizens have to take a back-seat, as flowers, sweets, buntings, festive-marches are flourished ; not to mention speeches of triumph broadcasted, monopolising the *kudos* of victory as Bapu's faithful disciples with exceptional knowledge of his technique which they claim to imitate unlike members of unsanctified parties.

This psychological differential involves the exploitation of functions organised at government expenses for Congress flag-waving. Unless the discriminatory feature is erased by time, it would be difficult to keep the gaieties going as an All-Party, All-India National observance, shared by the 400 millions of India.

Operation of the alternating system of Government would alone wear down superior obsessions during any carnivalisation of the past fight for Independence which had really begun decades before the non-co-operation assault on foreign citadels of power. I could even dream of getting on with a single holiday preferably on August 15 when there could be joint functions as between New Delhi and Rawalpindi, without an invidious extra for either country trading on an adventitious circumstance.

That amongst the countries liberated after World War II we have not reached the state of guided democracy or to any of its equivalents at the point of the sword, makes India's record conspicuous as we, in the month of August, look back upon the record of twelve years. It has been a testing period, when in certain other countries agents of authority kept changing and when odd heroes fell like nine-pins, so much so that misgivings about the democratic system has spread. We fortunately enjoy the momentum of Gandhian leadership extended by faith in one man for whom the unity of India and her supreme destiny have enabled the nation to steer clear of disruption. That mistakes which he does not disown have occurred is, in moments of introspection, admitted by Pandit Jawaharlal

himself, but on two issues he has been adamant. For him anything in the nature of a security-pact for regional defence is tantamount to a military alliance involving commitments implicit with bloodshed. Although whispers have been heard favouring a mild modification to enhance national safety after the disillusionment of Panch Shila so flagrant in Chinese aggression, Jawaharlal would hear of nothing but non-alignment. His *alter ego*, the Defence Minister, considers the Kashmir encroachment of Pakistan as more odious than the incursions of China's communistic hegemony in the solidification of Asian destiny inclusive of the leadership of Asia. It is an issue that has laid itself to criticism, and the dogmatism behind it might go into flux when the question, "After Nehru, Who?" comes to be answered. Politics is not an exact science, said Bismarck during the consolidation of Germany. The Prime Minister's stern particularisms are having impacts on the pace of domestic progress as well which foreign friends and Opposition critics in India have not been slow to discern after twelve years of unchallenged domination. No foreigner would after our show of resentment describe our Planning projects as being "ambitious". Jawaharlal's retort was that India would set no limit to her ambitions. As a result, the machinery of our economic existence is being strained to the utmost. The Prime Minister wants emotional integration and economic integration to proceed abreast, with a terrific faith in reconstruction through Heavy Industries, regardless of popular distress, until the self-sustaining stage is achieved, if ever, in the space of a generation of self-effacing toil by the masses.

Here it would be wise to realise that the facile notion that from Gandhi to Jawaharlal it has been a continuity is totally wrong. From Gandhism to the Prime Minister's vision of the future, there has been a right-about-turn (quite a hair-pin turn) towards modernism which appeals to Jawaharlal Nehru. Indeed, Planning is for him the Big Leap. His impatience is such that in the matter of

fuel-power to keep machines going, he would hurriedly prepare for the harnessing of atomic energy, when such power wrought out of coal and oil is still regarded by Western Industrialists as being too expensive for adoption. Under Jawaharlal's dynamism, any one who appears as a pedlar in solar energy in order to outstrip all countries, is sure of a welcome, thanks to his genuine enthusiasm. His fluctuating interest in agriculture is also characteristic, though he is sensitive to the rise in population and the inadequacy of food output. Traffickers in nostrums produced for balancing short-falls have themselves aggravated the imbalance that threatens national economy.

These errors of gigantism must be redressed if the physical needs of the population should not make them groan, longing for the less onerous years of the past. Preoccupation with affairs of other countries in the throes of emancipation and the sense of a personal mission to prevent war every day in the nuclear age are factors that drain the moral energy and distract mental attention containable in the human system even of an inspired genius leading his people. Nature overtaken sharply recoils.

There isn't sufficient to go round for us as

human beings in the 13th year of freedom to justify any burning of the candle at both ends. On a glance at the Constitution of India we see Article 45 stipulates free and compulsory education for all children until they complete the age of 14 years, *by the year 1959*. Where is it fulfilled? Cheap linguistic taggery of the kind that infatuates some Hindi imperialists has no place for any future programme until elementary pledges are actually redeemed. President Rajendra Prasad has no doubt honoured us this year by his promise to join Independence Day celebrations in Madras. He is, of course, thrice welcome and it is up to him to relax the false sense of priorities (including the enforcement of Hindi according to a misconceived schedule) in the matter of all education, by time-table exploits designed a decade ago. He could impress on his hearers that economic planning should in reality be halted if it means the kind of regimentation upon which the statisticians of Communists countries advertise their triumphs. Let us leave the phase of high faulting claims behind us, edging our moves nearer Lincoln's dictum : "Government must do for the people what they can't do for themselves and avoid interference where people can do things for themselves."

MEN AND MATTERS

BY

C. H. V. PATHY

Much cry ; no wool.

In these words can be epitomised the story of the so-called biggest strike sought to be staged in the country by the Central Government employees.

The provocation for this move was the discontent against the minimum wage of Rs. 75 recommended by the Pay Commission, which the employees said fell short of what the trade unions had come to regard as the minimum based on the tripartite formula accepted at the 15th Indian Labour Conference. This formula prescribed that the minimum wage should be need-based ; a family should be taken as consisting of three consumption units ; the minimum food requirements per person should be 2,700 calories ; clothing for a family of four should be taken at 72 yards ; house rents should be calculated at Government's standards, and expenses on fuel, lighting etc., calculated at about 20 per cent of the family budget.

On the basis of the average monthly expenditure for a family of four persons (equal to three consumption units) at the current price of commodities would be, according to the employees as well as the commission, in the neighbourhood of Rs. 125 per month.

A week of intense negotiations preceded the strike. It was thought that compromise talks would lead to an interim agreement and an indefinite postponement of the strike. There was a show of firmness on both the sides. The Government's anxiety not to incur additional expenditure on staff payment was very genuine. In view of the size of the administrative machinery, even a small addition to emoluments would mean a considerable increase

in expenditure. There are nearly 20 lakhs of Central Government employees in the country.

When compromise talks between employees' representative and the Government broke down, the President issued an Ordinance, making the strike illegal and threatening drastic action against those who resorted to it.

Government spokesmen argued that the strike was not a mere economic dispute. Under cover of the economic grievances of the employees, political parties were making a trial of strength. They wanted to bring the Government to its knees.

Only a microscopic minority of the Central Government employees went on strike. Though life was partially paralysed for four days and there were ugly incidents in Bombay and Calcutta, the even tenor of life went on and thousands came forward as volunteers to undertake whatever work was allotted to them.

One of the first steps taken by the Government was to arrest the ring leaders. They have subsequently been let off. To most of those who went on strike, the penalty would be nominal. It is manifestly impossible to dispense with those who were suspended or dismissed from service without impairing the efficiency of the services.

The overall effect of the strike is currently engaging the attention of the Government and the four Central Trade Union Organisations. Most of the political parties to which these organisations owe ideological allegiance have already called meetings of their Central Executive to discuss the political aspects of the question.

The Government is said to be considering something on the lines of the Whitley Councils

as well as the steps designed to restore benefits under the Pay Commission's report and to deal with the matter of living costs.

One of the backwashes of the strike was the attempt by unsocial elements in the country to boost up the prices of essential commodities. The ordinary man who was put to great trouble naturally heaved a sigh of relief when the strike was called off unconditionally.

Counterfeit notes forgery

There are all the elements of a Hollywood thriller behind the smart police detection of counterfeit one-hundred rupee notes forgery at the prosperous textile town of Coimbatore.

For over a month, Intelligence men and top-ranking police officials had been at the job of vigorously trekking down the elusive criminals of the counterfeit ring whose operations extended all over the sub-continent. Madras and Kerala States were the main base of operations. The racket is reported to have printed and circulated currency notes to the value of five crores !

Coimbatore had been the centre of counterfeiters' paradise for several years. This town is notorious for counterfeiters since 1936, when a bus owner was said to have indulged in the game of securing counterfeit currency notes to the tune of several lakhs. Since then, periodic instances of false currency preparations had been noticed in the town. But the biggest of the kind is what the police have now uncovered after a year's work.

The Reserve Bank of India reports have been periodically stressing that there had been more currency notes in circulation in the country than the bank had actually issued. Naturally, the intelligent men of the police had been alert.

In June 1959, the case of a Coimbatore Bank receiving a few faked hundred rupee notes from a person was talked of widely in the town. The police, whether they took note of it or not, the information was laid

low. Then, towards the end of the year, Madras Police and Delhi C.I.Ds. started a vigorous probe.

The result of that investigation has led to the arrest of thirteen men, though nearly one hundred people were interrogated by the police. More men are yet to be cuffed, it is understood.

Among the arrested men is G. Krishnan (47), Managing Director of four textile mills in Coimbatore and Salem districts, also one in Kerala State. Krishnan owns the Stanes Mill, Puliakara Mills, Vijayakumar Mills, the Ashoka Textiles and the Janardhanan Mills. He is the President of the Lions' Club, a brother of G. N. Sam, a prominent leader of the Swatantra party at Coimbatore.

Krishnan had his education in textile technology at Manchester, in his early twenties.

His arrest surprised everybody in the whole of South India, but the police say that they have very strong evidence of his complicity with the counterfeiting ring.

Another important person arrested is G. Padmanabhan, a Coimbatore Sub-Inspector of Police. The authorities say that they recovered nearly seven lakhs worth of spurious one-hundred rupee currency notes from his residence in North Coimbatore.

True or otherwise, Padmanabhan is alleged to have taken sick leave for three months last year, and secretly taken a trip to Germany to buy a suitable printing press for the manufacture of illegal currency notes. There are also allegations against him that he took several air trips in India itself to distribute illegal currency in a box which had the seal of the then Superintendent of Police ! In all these operations of Padmanabhan, he is said to have received the patronage of a superior police official of his, whom the intelligence squad, investigating the case, are said to have an eye.

Two men from Kottayam, owning a studio have also been bagged, as also a photographer from Coimbatore town.

The entire mopping up operations against the alleged counterfeiters were carried out by brilliant Madras Deputy Inspector-General of Police (C.I.D.) Mr. Frederick Arul and his able assistants. They had to adopt Sherlock Holmes devices. Two of the policemen disguised themselves as workers and secured service in Krishnan's household where they did smart spying.

Again, some policemen posed as film directors hunting finance. They got in touch with the counterfeit notes traffickers, but before they could bag them, they eluded.

One burly up-country Marwari is also in the picture. He is stated to have offered one genuine hundred rupee notes to fifteen forged ones!

Accused Krishnan is calm and composed. Court room is crowded whenever the suspects are brought in.

Madras C.I.D. department is stated to have received a confidential letter about the traffic in faked notes, and it was then, they spurred themselves to action.

Another sordid feature of this case is that many spurious notes were palmed off on prostitutes in Coimbatore and other places. The police are fishing out in this quarter too, and a few notes are stated to have been recovered from women of easy virtue.

Third Five-Year Plan

An up-country daily hailed the colossal Third Five-Year Plan of the Government as a "promise of a square meal for all by 1966." Conceived on a grandiose scale, the plan envisages an expenditure of Rs. 10,200 crores. It calls for a development of economic expenditure in a five-year period of about as much as the nation has been able to spend for the same purpose for a period of ten years under the first and second plans. This considerable stepping up of development effort, moreover, will have to be undertaken under circumstances which, in some vital respects are far from favouring the immense concentration of energies and resources which the plan would call for.

Already in the final year of the second plan, the country has to reckon with aggression on its territory and take steps to meet the threat to national security. There are other difficulties, also serious, of a domestic pattern.

To step up outlay from the public sector from Rs. 4,600 crores under the second plan to Rs. 7,250 in the third will call for strenuous efforts. The major items in the plan about which there is considerable uncertainty are additional taxation to the tune of Rs. 1,650 crores and profits from State undertakings to the extent of 440 crores of which 140 crores are expected from State Government enterprises. The target for additional taxation of Rs. 1,650 crores is based on the calculation that an increase in the taxation from 8.5 per cent of national income to about 11 per cent should involve no unbearable burden during a period of development. The draft outline of the Plan recognises that a high standard of administrative efficiency is essential for sustaining any large scheme of economic and social development.

The main aims of the Plan are to secure during the third five year period a rise in national income to over five per cent per annum, the pattern of investments being designed to sustain the rate of growth during the subsequent plan periods; to achieve self-sufficiency in food grains and increase agricultural production to meet the requirements of industry and exports; to expand basic industries like steel, fuel and power and establish machine building capacity, so that the requirements of further industrialisation can be met within a period of ten years or so, mainly from the country's own resources; to utilise to the fullest extent possible the man power resources of the country and to ensure substantial expansion in employment opportunities and to bring about a reduction of inequalities in income and wealth and a more even distribution of economic power.

Violence wave in Assam

A wave of hatred spread over Assam in the month under review. Cause of trouble was

over the question of the official language to be used. Before Independence, when Sylhet was a part of Assam, the proportion of the Bengali speaking population was so large that the language was never raised. After partition, the proportion of Assamese speaking persons rose to over 60 per cent. But the Congress Chief Minister was reluctant to face the problem in the context of the altered circumstances. However, his hand was forced by some members of his own party as well as the opposition party in the Assembly. The non-Assamese people in the State scented that a Bill was likely to be introduced to make Assamese the official language. They began an agitation against it. The minorities were assured of full safeguards. But in spite of this assurance feeling against the Bengalis rose high. Their houses were burnt and scores of them assaulted. Panic-stricken Bengalis began to flee the State. The position rapidly deteriorated so much so that Indian Army and Assam Rifles had to be called to quell the unrest. Our Defence Minister V. K. K. Menon who flew to the storm centre held a conference with the Governor. The Prime Minister also paid a flying visit to Assam and appealed to the people not to give vent to linguistic fanaticism.

The Congress President also went over to Assam and used his influence to preach sanity. The situation is reported to have calmed but beneath the surface there is simmering discontent.

Ceylon's new Prime Minister

Ceylon whose politics were in a confused state after the assassination of Bandaranaike, former Prime Minister, has created history. It has at its helm a woman Prime Minister who is none other than Mrs. Bandaranaike.

We had in India a few years ago, a woman Minister in U.P., Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit but nowhere in the world has it fallen to a woman to wear the mantle of Prime Ministership.

That country has got over the excitement of the elections and the new Cabinet has been

announced. The Democratic Socialist Sri Lanka Freedom Party of the late Prime Minister Bandaranaike secured an absolute majority in the elections. It bagged 75 seats.

Mrs. Bandaranaike was sworn in as Chief Minister by the Governor-General Sir Oliver Goonetilleke. She is also the Minister for Defence and External Affairs.

It is said that with the new Leftist Government in power, American interests in Radio Ceylon, as represented by commercial radio will receive a setback.

The question of Indians in Ceylon is regarded as important and will receive sympathetic handling at the hands of the new ministry.

Our Prime Minister has promptly conveyed good wishes and close and friendly relations with Ceylon.

Aneurin Bevan dead

On July 6, Jennie Lee phoned up from a hospital to the Labour Party headquarters in London, "Nye is dead; he passed away peacefully in his sleep." He was 62.

These tearful ten words told the world that the 62-year old stormy petrel of the Labour Party, Aneurin Bevan had lost his last battle against death. Great Britain paid homage to one of her greatest orators of the present century. Queen Elizabeth sent a message of sympathy to Mr. Bevan's wife. To bemoan the passing away of a first rate parliamentarian, members of the House of Commons, all of them wearing black ties, assembled in the House. The galleries were crowded with Ambassadors, Peers and solemn visitors. Tributes were paid to the outstanding qualities of Nye Bevan who spent thirty eventful years in public life.

Beginning life in the pits, Bevan through sheer tenacity and perseverance fought his way to the forefront of the party. Nye was the last of the working class intellectuals. When he first entered the House of Commons in the year 1929, there were many of its kind, Lansbury, Fred Jowett, Maxton etc.; when he passed away, he was unique.

He was born in 1897, the son of a coal miner. After attending elementary school he left at the age of 13 to go down to the pit as a collier's helper. The affliction of a severe stammer probably caused him to devote more time to reading and study than the average boy. It is on record that he devoted a great deal of time in reading books on philosophy. He got rid of his stammer and nervousness by deliberately involving himself in street corner meetings and other situations where he knew that he would be compelled to speak extempore.

At 19, he became the Chairman of the largest miners' federation in Wales. A year later, he was leading a strike of 50,000 men. During the First World War, when conscription was sought to be enforced, Nye ignored the notice because his sister was ill. He was arrested but released within a few days. After the war, he entered the Central Labour College.

He returned to Wales in 1924 to look for work but he found that colliery owners were hostile to him and for 18 months he was workless. Thereafter, he became a lecturer in philosophy, industrial history and economics.

After playing a leading part in the mining dispute of 1926, he was elected to the Monmouth County Council and three years later, became Labour M.P. for Ebbw Vale. His arrival caused a sensation in Parliament. Soon he made a mark as a fiery orator and a skilful tactician.

During the years of depression which followed the end of the war, Nye was one of the small group which produced a constructive plan to deal with the rapidly growing unemployment. When it was rejected, he went into open rebellion, defying the discipline of the party.

Bevan's political mission was replete with the "bullying of tradition." His parliamentary career was floodlit with forceful attacks on outstanding political figures. Once, when Churchill thundered in exasperation, "There was a parliamentary democracy in this country before the Labour Party was born," Bevan roared back: "There wasn't. There was a

Parliament but not a democracy. Your people were here and mine were not." When war came, he was the first one to call Winston Churchill to lead a National Government, but in the midst of Britain's glorious hour he denounced, the great man as "suffering from petrified adolescence." "Merchant of discourtesy!" stormed Churchill. "Better than being a wholesaler of disaster," replied Bevan. Churchill's most famous phrase for Nye was "squalid nuisance." But they always had respect for each other. Nye Bevan was once reported to have called the Tories, "lower than vermin." He even had a "title" for Mr. Hugh Gaitskell, that "desiccated calculating machine."

In 1929, he surprised the House by a brilliant attack on Lloyd George. He was recognised even by those who did not worship in the Labour Party shrine as one of the greatest orators of the time. He used to mix short, incisive phrases with the employment of that spellbound technique that had always marked out his speeches.

He was also an eminent journalist. His weekly journal, "Tribune" whose editorship he inherited from Cripps criticised the conduct of the war and British foreign policy with a freedom that sometimes bordered on irresponsibility.

In 1945 he was made Minister of Health in Attlee's Cabinet and created Privy Councillor. He was the author of the National Health Service Bill which was passed in 1946.

In 1951, Nye was made Minister of Labour in the surprise reshuffle which Mr. Attlee made in his Cabinet. In April the same year, he resigned office in protest over the budget which he thought was wrong.

In private conversation he had a reputation of that devastating quality of thinking three jumps ahead. People flocked into his Regency house in London or his estate in Buckinghamshire and were fascinated by his private charm. His vigorous writings bear the imprint of his lively mind.

He married Jennie Lee, herself a Labour Party member of Parliament.

Bevan had travelled widely and among other countries that he had visited was India. He addressed a public meeting in the city of Madras where he was staying as the guest of the then Governor, Mr. Sri Prakasa.

His father choked to death in his arms from pneumoconiosis. Nye was unmangeable, incalculable, adored and hated. The sharp and painful sting of his tongue stampeded the complacent. He was a master of paradox and satire.

His zest for public life diminished about a year ago when he was aware of the symptoms of a malady which was to write "finis" to his star-studded career. One afternoon early July Nye Bevan lost his long fight against cancer. His family and four intimate friends arrived at a South Wales crematory. There was no minister nor any prayer. After the playing of the andante from Beethoven's Pastoral Symphony on a gramophone, Nye's great body was burned to ashes. He will live in history.

Labour Party Prospects

As the British Labour Party lurches forward in its tormented Golgotha towards the agonising reappraisal at the Party Conference at Scarborough in October next, two skilful students of the science of elections, Mr. D. E. Butler and Mr. Richard Rose have been holding a post mortem on the death of Labour's hopes at the polls in October, 1959.

They have issued their findings in a book called "The British General Elections of 1959," published by the Prime Minister's family from Macmillan and Company.

One of the notable facts about the investigation is the amount of money spent by private firms to further the Tory cause on the anti-

nationalisation theme. Between September 1956 and September 1959, no less than £1,435,000 was paid to anti-labour advertisements.

These Tory campaigns paid rich dividends. The expenses incurred were 14 times what the Labour Party spent.

Film

One cannot help pitying the British Film Censor. In these days when Mrs. Munshi is fighting for purism in Indian talkies and Rajaji wages a war against cinema going habits, it is startling to know that across the seas, there is no attempt to ban what is called "blue movies."

Just for the price of a Club membership, any cinema goer will be able to see sex, nudism, perversion and violence to his heart's content.

A concern known as Gala Film Theatre Clubs is stampeding the country with sex-laden movies. Already in London, there are many cinemas which, on certain days of the week, cater only for Club customers.

On these days, they exhibit, "X plus films" with titles like "Swamps of Lust" and "I Sit on Your Grave."

Another favourite is Marlon Brando's "The Wild Ones," which the censor considered may lead to juvenile delinquency.

Banned films are being freely shown at Brighton, Leeds, Sheffield and other towns.

The man who exhibits these films defends his action, saying that his films are "works of art." He adds: "Famous stars, directors and script writers are employed, and if some of the scenes shown are near the knuckle, that is only because life itself is not all peaches and cream. If certain members go along searching for salacious sex, we cannot help it."

A Centre for the N.C.C. and the Auxiliary Cadet Corps in the State of Madras

OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

The National Cadet Corps and the Auxiliary Cadet Corps are Organisations, which are essentially Youth Movements intended to inculcate a high sense of self-discipline, character building, leadership and military awareness. The former organisation also imparts military training in the three wings of the armed services of the country and from which, should the necessity arise, the organisation can take its place rightfully as a means of expansion as well as a supply centre to the regular forces of the country.

From its inception in 1946 these two organisations have been gaining importance steadily and to-day they enjoy wide popularity in schools and colleges. Throughout the length and breadth of the State of Madras, in every district, and practically in every College and High School, members of these organisations can be found and it is no exaggeration to say that their smartness, behaviour and military bearing have been a source of pride to the institutions to which they belong.

Madras has been a pioneer and leader in several spheres of public activity. In the field of this Youth Movement the State of Madras probably is the largest contributor to this All India Organisation. The general public evinces great interest and the interest shown by responsible public servants in the activities of the N.C.C. is of no mean magnitude. This keen response has attracted the attention of the centre and recently a high ranking Naval Officer, it is understood, has been appointed to command the organisation in the State of Madras.

Further as an adjunct to this organisation the N.C.C. Rifles has been introduced recently. This is open to both the boys and girls of the colleges, wherein the boys will be absorbed into larger formations and can concentrate

their energies with slightly more emphasis on the military role. The girl members of the Rifles, on the other hand, will concentrate their energies entirely on such assistance like nursing, signals etc.

In any military or para-military organisation, if it is to survive the passing of time, it is vitally necessary that a pride of service must be traditionally built up. It is understood that in our armed services, this tradition is built up in many ways such as, in the Army it is the pride of its Regimental Centre, in the Navy it is the pride of Ship and in the Air Force it is the pride of its Squadron.

The fact that, the two organisations, as far as it is understood, must cater for the administration, organisation, training and equipment of some fabulous number of the youths in the State, call for public attention to the fact that all youths in the State must be proud of its own establishment and it would be a fitting gesture on the part of all concerned, if the Cadet Corps can have its own imposing headquarters situated, wherein the public at large are aware of its importance in our public life.

Considering these aspects, is it not fitting therefore, that this centre of the organisation should be situated in the State capital? From this suitable 'base' the regular officers of the organisation, the Cadet Corps Officers and the Cadets and their parents can meet socially within its own atmosphere.

This laudable scheme, if accepted and implemented by the authorities, will be the first of its kind in the country and should form an example to the rest of the States in India. We await the decision and look forward to seeing the State of Madras lead our other Indian States in this matter of significance.

THE STORY OF THE UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA

BY

MATHEW CHERIAN

The relentless policy of apartheid pursued by South Africa has been the target of attack from a large number of International Politicians, Statesmen and a host of people representing innumerable interests all over the world. Several countries apart from being openly critical of the South African policy of racial segregation and colour bar are now launching an economic blockade to put pressure on South Africa. Still the believers in apartheid seem to ignore the tremendous ill-feeling that are being generated in several parts of the world.

Let us glance back at the beginning of this union of South Africa. About three centuries ago a band of Dutch sailors found themselves on the shores of the "Dark Continent" somewhere in the vicinity of the Cape of Good Hope as a result of a ship wreck. These men continued to occupy the same lands for a few months before they were spotted by another group of Dutch mariners. The result of these two Dutch expeditions was the beginning of a settlement.

Although we read about Diaz' and Vasco da Gama's visits to the Cape of Good Hope in the 15th century, the Netherlands were the first to colonise South Africa. As years passed small batches of people from other nations followed the Dutch. Germans and Frenchmen also liked their new abode. All these European settlers found themselves at loggerheads with the South African Tribesmen. There were several skirmishes between the new comers and the original settlers, spread over a number of years. After a period of rivalry with the "white intruders" the aborigines withdrew and confined themselves to particular areas far away from the new white settlements. The colonizers despised the natives

and among the new comers the Dutch and the Germans joined hands in trying to oust the Frenchmen.

As time passed farms and estates privately owned and company owned began to spring up on the new soil. The expansion of estate farming necessitated the introduction of slave labour from East and West Africa. At this stage of economic development South Africa faced the same difficulty of shortage of hands to work up its farms and gardens like those of the Southern States of America on the eve of the planting of tobacco gardens. To enhance the labour supply the new immigrants depended on the import of Malay slaves from the Dutch possessions in the East.

To continue the story of the Cape, during the Napoleonic Wars Britain took Cape by force to prevent Napoleon from using it as a base to conquer India. By this time he had already occupied Netherlands. After several transfers, in the year 1814 the British bought the colony from the Dutch for £ 60,00,000.

The British-Boer struggle dates back to this era. The Britisher found that their white subjects though belonging to different countries had become fused; and came to be called the Afrikaners or the Boers and spoke one language, the Afrikaans. They had common customs and traditions. They resented the advent of the Britishers as their new masters.

After the British took over, new immigrants flowed in and were mainly of British origin and spoke English. Now the Government decided to embark upon a definite policy of anglicization which they followed wherever they went. English law, language and currency had the government backing while an array of English Clergyman, doctors and education-

nists poured in. The older settlers resented these intrusions the same way the aborigines obstructed their entry when they first landed on African soil. Later on the introduction of certain legislations infuriated the Boers. The reforms that have been passed to mitigate the hardship of the slave and later the abolition of slavery in 1834 was too much for the Afrikaners to take. The average Boer could not even think of a situation where the black slave and the white master were considered equals. This missionary zeal advocated by the new masters was not acceptable to the Boers and many decided to cross over to areas beyond the control of the British. They first moved to Natal where later on the British reasserted their authority. They moved still further to farming areas like Transvaal and Orange Free State. The Boers continued to put into practice their ideas of superiority over the black slave.

The Cape colony though in theory was proclaiming racial equality, in practice continued racial discrimination. The non-Europeans here were a mixed race born of white fathers and non-white mothers. They were Christians and were proud to imbibe western customs and manners. But on the expansion of the British areas of jurisdiction, racial pattern became less definite because of the inclusion of Bantu settlements and also due to the presence of indented Indian labourers. For a considerably long period the relationship between the Boer Republics and the British was far from satisfactory due to border clashes. The migration of thousands of British immigrants to Transvaal after the discovery of gold there, brought further tension. A situation like this could not go on indefinitely. In 1899 there broke out a war between the British and the Boers which history records as the Boer War. This ended only in 1902. This period in South African history witnessed a series of discussions and parleys registering a desire to unite themselves in one single union. This idea bore fruit only in 1910 when officially the Union of South Africa was formed. Thus a union of four provinces which differed in political, cultural, economic and ethnic backgrounds

were united. But this apparent blending of differences were only superficial. Two striking dogmas dominated the politics of the union. They were the theory and practice of colour bar and inequality and secondly the idea of republicanism. On paper the official policy towards the African tribes was trusteeship but in practice, looked upon them as a cheap reservoir of labour.

The racial problem continued to exist. The constituent provinces were allowed to follow their own policies in their respective areas. The first two decades of the functioning of the Union saw the continuance of the traditional Boer policies while the British idea of tolerance lingered in the background.

The Indian Community in South Africa did not possess any political rights. The desire for representation in the government was accelerated on Gandhiji's arrival on South African soil. The campaign led by the new Indian leader hardly produced any effect on the Government. Hitherto lesser known methods like moral pressure and passive resistance initiated by Gandhiji received scant notice from the "masters". The Indian leader did not entertain the idea of joining with the Africans and fight their claims jointly. He warned the Indian settlers that they must limit their efforts to the amelioration of their own plight. This attitude was adopted since the Indians thought that the Government would concede some privilege on them, since the Indian Community was small in number. Thus it is not due to the neglect of the Africans that the Indians decided to fight separately. Unfortunately this attitude of the Indians aroused suspicion in the African mind that they were unsympathetic towards the African cause.

As years passed South Africa got unbanished. Consequently there was an exodus to the growing industrial towns. By this time several industries began to spring up and farming received only secondary importance. The "get-together" in the new South African towns brought the English, the Afrikaners and the

"blacks" in one place. There emerged a sudden consciousness of a multi-racial society. In the mean time the Afrikaner's importance grew considerably and Afrikaans shared the status of official language with English. The insistence of bilingualism reduced the British to a comparatively small number in South Africa's civil services.

In 1936 the Boer supremacy was growing in importance. The representation laws were drafted primarily with a view to reduce the black population to a status of mere farm hands and labourers. The years after the Second World War saw Malan as the head of the Nationalists in complete hegemony. The Boer managed to keep the Britisher lesser in importance than him while the non-whites were reduced to a sub-human level. Some time about this period the new South African Indian Congress came into being. Now the African and the Indian decided to put up a common front against the Boer totalitarianism. Even in the early fifties Dr. Malan had complete mastery of the Government. He followed an out-right policy of subjugation and degradation of the non-white. Social mingling between Europeans and non-Europeans was forbidden. We have on record in history, laws of anti-social nature like the notorious Group Areas Act. Dr. Malan did everything he could, to ensure white supremacy. He tampered with electoral laws to have his party's strength increased in Parliament. He succeeded in filling South African Courts with his "own" men.

Naturally such a state of affairs could not continue without disturbances and uprisings. There were several mass arrests and the Government ruled with an iron hand. Though Malan died in 1954 his policies were continued. Legislation was freely resorted to ensure white ascendancy. The general election of 1958 saw the Nationalists in greater power and wielding more influence. The successor of Dr. Malan, Mr. Strijdom died in August 1958. To continue the policy of segregation a dedicated apostle of apartheid, Dr. Henrik Verwoerd took over as Prime Minister. The South African Government utilises every opportunity to reduce the

non-whites to mere human machines. Anti-Government riots are being suppressed ruthlessly. The recent African campaign of burning passes of identification resulted in several police firings. These incidents evinced world wide sympathy. As time passes the black population of South Africa is being put into more and more difficulties by the Government. The Africans are about 98 lakhs and the Asians are comprised of about 6 lakhs. The 'Masters' are only 30 lakhs. Of the total area of 5 lakh square miles the Europeans who form only 20 per cent of the population have reserved nearly 90 per cent of the total land area for themselves. Every obstacle is being put to keep the non-whites in a human reservoir of economic stagnation. Several categories of jobs are reserved exclusively for Europeans.

While such inhuman legislation is carried on several small groups are preaching the 'gospel' of tolerance and understanding. The churchmen are fanatically opposed to apartheid. It is satisfying to learn that lately there are some sympathisers of the black population in the European Camp too.

As I have mentioned earlier several countries have expressed their dislike of the apartheid policy of South Africa. Recently in Malaya, in the United Kingdom and lately in Ghana there are several movements to boycott South African goods as a protest against the inhuman legislations. The United Nations have strongly condemned the attitude of the South African Government towards the black race. There has been an awakening in the "Dark continent" of Africa. Several States are attaining independence. While Africa is marching towards freedom and equality it is a sad story to see South Africa living in a bygone phase of privilege, superiority, and inequality. It is already an accepted idiom in world history that no race or section in a country could be indefinitely subjugated and bossed upon. If the South African rulers do not understand this simple maxim, let them learn it the hard way. From this part of the world we are waiting for the day of liberation of the underprivileged in the Union of South Africa.

SPORTS IN BRIEF

BY OUR SPORTS COMMENTATOR

The Madras Football Association

The Madras Football Association celebrated their 26th annual day with great enthusiasm on July 16, at the Corporation Stadium. They availed of the occasion to give an official send off to the State team to tour Singapore and Malaya.

Mr. A. M. Kanniappa Mudaliar, one of the Vice-Presidents of the Association, welcomed the gathering. He said that he was glad to find in their midst some very important old members who were responsible in organizing the Association in 1933.

Mr. S. A. Naidu, Chairman of the Association presided and distributed the prizes.

Tennis

Italy defeated Great Britain by four matches to one in the European Zone Davis Cup semi-finals encounter. Nicola Pietrangeli, The Italian champion overcame Davis of Great Britain in three straight sets.

New Record in Javelin Throw

Mohammad Nawaz of Pakistan set up a new British Empire and Commonwealth record when he won the javelin throw with 250 feet 7½ inches in the British National Athletic Championships held at London on July 16.

The previous record was 250 feet put up in 1959 by the Australian, Nick Birks.

Nawaz's record is however six inches below the figure set up to qualify for the Olympics.

World High Jump Record

John Thomas, the young American athlete who has broken the world high jump record five times predicts that 8-foot high jump will be within the reach of tomorrow's athletes. "It is in the future but I think the perfectly-conditioned athlete can clear that height," he observed the other day.

Thomas is a second year student in the Boston University. He holds the present world high jump record of 7 feet 3½ inches. He achieved this feat about a year after his left foot was badly crushed in an elevator accident. He had to undergo a delicate operation, including skin grafts. He missed the outdoor track season of 1959 but has come back stronger than ever. Possibly, he will create the world record.

Olympic Games at Rome

The organisers of the Olympic Games which are to open in a few weeks' time in Rome believe that for the reason that games are to be televised under a recent agreement for a total of 60 hours in twenty European countries, including some behind the Iron Curtain, there will be sharp drop in attendances. So far, the organisers have spent 24 million pounds. A giant stadium, a new motor road and an international air port have been constructed and 850,000 tickets worth £1,725,000 have been sold, two-third of them abroad.

To deal with the traffic problem during the games, 100 traffic policemen have been enrolled. Helicopters will be used to help those caught in traffic jams.

Goonasena to continue Cricket in Australia

Former University and Nottingham all-round cricketer Gamini Goonasena will play for Waverly Club in Sydney next season. He is on the staff of the High Commissioner for Ceylon in Canberra. When the cricket season starts late in September, he will have to make a 190-mile car trip to Sydney to play.

After starring for Cambridge, Goonasena, with Bruce Doonland of Australia, became the backbone of Notts' County Eleven, in England. On two occasions he scored thousand runs and took a hundred wickets in a season and

(Continued on page 24)

STORIES ABOUT KINGS

BY

V. TITUS VARGHESE

Fiction is a product of the human mind and it is as old as mankind. The earliest fiction whether oral or written, is centred round gods and goddesses and the stories are mostly supernatural. Next we come to stories connected with kings. In all countries there are plenty of stories connected with royalty and they have captured human imagination. "Once upon a time there was a king" is the formal beginning of most of these stories. Or the story may start like this, "Long long ago there was a good and brave king." The people who listen to this, whether old or young are naturally eager to hear the rest of the tale. Perhaps stories were first composed to entertain the young folk. No wonder then that even now we find numerous literary productions under attractive captions like "Tales for the Young", "Books for the Bairns" etc. and those which are illustrated with pictures are all the more attractive. Even the picture stories which are a common feature of many newspapers and magazines in these days attract thousands of readers young and old. The shortness of the story recorded as well as the picture both captivate the reader. Some try to make the feature more attractive by such methods as painting the pictures and giving the story in simple verses.

Coming to the stories about kings, many of them are not based on facts while there are others which are either entirely true or partially true. Whatever be the degree of their veracity all these stories have won a lasting place in literature. The king who is invariably the hero of the story will be generally a good ruler, brave and warlike and interested in the welfare of his subjects. But sometimes he will be painted as a tyrant, selfish and cruel, oppressing his subjects. As a rule, along with the king there will be his queen or queens. Bigamy

or even polygamy was not unusual with kings in olden days. The queen of the story will be, in the fitness of things, a beautiful and virtuous lady in most cases; but at times she will be represented as a bad woman, greedy, jealous and scheming. Even the wicked queen must be pretty; she cannot afford to be ugly. Along with the king and queen there will be also in many stories a minister who will be normally a wise and prudent man. Sometimes there will be also princes and princesses, the sons and daughters of the royal couple, who too play a part in the story. The princes are generally represented as being brave and adventurous while the princesses are charming and romantic. Exceptions to the above rule are not however unknown because even story-tellers look for variety.

Another inevitable feature in the stories connected with kings is the part played by their knights and commanders. The heroic feats of these warriors make the stories lively and thrilling. In some stories the knights play a part as important as or even more important than that of the kings. For instance, refer to the various tales connected with King Arthur of Britain or the Emperor Charlemagne of Germany. The stories about King Arthur, immortalised by poets like Mallory and Tennyson, are nothing but the adventures and feats of his knights led by Sir Launcelot. So also the numerous tales connected with Charlemagne or Karl the great will lose half their charm if his brave knights like Roland and Oliver do not appear on the scene. Chivalry and Knighthood are glorified in these tales and the warriors by their heroic feats and selfless devotion to duty outshine the monarchs whom they serve. In this connection it may be mentioned that the legends about Karolman (Charlemagne) found their way to Kerala long

ago and they form an important theme of the 'Margam Kali' (miracle plays) of the Syrian Christian Community. In fact there are several kings and warriors of Europe in the middle ages around whom interesting legends have gathered. Stirring events like the invasion of the Barbarians and the Crusades have amply supplied the materials for these legends.

What is said about western fiction literature above is all the more true about oriental literature. In all eastern countries like Persia and India, kings play an important role in fiction as well as history. As far as India is concerned many are the kings who have won a permanent place in the hearts of the people from earliest times. They appear not only in our grand epics, the Ramayana and Mahabharata, and in the Puranas, but also in the simple folk-tales of the common people. Not only in regular stories but even in drama and novel kings play their part. In short even many of our cinema stories have got kings and princes, queens and princesses appearing in them. Some writers both in the past and in modern times have however attempted to produce plots without kings and they have succeeded to a certain extent, but the popular mind has got a fancy for monarchs with all their paraphernalia.

In the literature of every country drama forms an important branch. Plays based on historical themes have won a lasting place in dramatic literature. Much more than half of the plays of Shakespeare are historical and in every one of them kings and queens do appear prominently. Two of the four great plays of Marlowe are historical, Tamburlane and Edward II.

What is true about the drama is all the more true about novels. Historical themes have provided the material for many of the interesting novels in all literature. Most of these historical themes centre round some king or other. Sir Walter Scott leads in this respect as far as English fiction is concerned. Many are the monarchs of Britain who have been immortalised by Scott through his novels. Though there are first rate biographies of many of these

kings what is said about them in novels and plays is remembered better by the readers. For instance King Richard the lion-heart of twelfth century England has become a hero because of what is recorded about him in Scott's *Ivanhoe* and *Talisman* than for anything else. In Malayalam fiction literature there are three interesting historical novels of C. V. Raman Pillay, namely *Marthanda Varma*, *Dharmaraja* and *Rama Raja Bahadur*. These three works have tended to enhance the greatness of two of the able early rulers of Travancore in a way which no regular history books can achieve. In his "Tales of a Grandfather" Sir Walter Scott has described in a graphic and charming manner the achievements of the Kings and Heroes of Scotland in the past, such as Robert Bruce. Though much of what is said in it is not based on historical facts the readers, especially of Scotland have taken them as facts and this grand collection of stories has served to deepen their feelings of love and reverence for the motherland.

One note of caution is required here. Kings and other characters who appear in historical plays and novels are often depicted as different from what they were in reality. They may appear as nobler than they really were or as more tyrannical and treacherous. For example, King Richard of Scott's novels and Marthanda Varma of Raman Pillay's novels are really represented as much better men than they were in actual life. The same can be said of kings like Henry V in Shakespeare's plays. Sometimes the kings and other heroes suffer at the hands of playwrights and novelists because of misrepresentation which however is done for dramatic effect and not with the deliberate intention of soiling their reputation. Many of our Indian Kings like Vikramaditya, Bhoja and Harsha appear as paragons of virtue and all other good qualities in the popular stories connected with them.

Having said so much about the part played by kings in fiction one must give an explanation for it. It must be admitted that monarchy is not as old as human society. Kings appeared

only at a certain stage in the development of a people. Man was a 'Social animal' before he became a 'Political animal.' In other words political consciousness emerged only after some time and then only the State appeared. For organizing and protecting the state a war leader was required and he established himself as king in course of time. Early kings who thus emerged from the war chieftains to the leadership of the people were essentially capable and strong men. It was taken for granted that the king was superior to all others in the state and in society. That is why Saul, the first king of the Israelites is described in the Bible as being "higher than any of the people from his shoulders and upward" 1 Sam. 10 : 23. Such a king was victorious in the battle field and sagacious in the council chamber. Naturally he evoked the respect and admiration of his people. This in turn made him a hero, worthy to be admired and honoured by every one and legends gathered round his name. Some of the stories about the king were based on facts while others were purely the products of imagination.

A second factor which has to be pointed out in this connection is the belief in the sanctity of kingship. When monarchy appeared in history, the king was regarded as a sacred or semi-divine personage. Even a divine origin was attributed to the royal dynasty. Among the Jews and some of the early Christian nations the king was "the Lord's anointed," the viceregent of God on earth. The theory of the Divine right of kings is based on this belief. In Greece, Rome and ancient India the belief in the divine origin of kingship was strongly rooted in the minds of the people. The Homeric

king as well as the Roman Caesars claimed this distinction. Julius Caesar the founder of the imperial royal line of Rome traced his ancestry through the Julian clan to the goddess Venus. The royal family of England can trace its origin to Cedric, the founder of Wessex who in turn claimed descent from god Odin. Most of the Puranic Kings of India belonged either to the Solar or the Lunar race, each claiming divine descent. The prominent royal clans of the Rajaputs in the medieval period insisted on being regarded as the rightful successors of the puranic royal lines. Even as late as the 17th century A.D. the Mahratta ruler Sivaji, when he crowned himself as monarch (chathrapathi) enlisted the services of learned Pandits from Kasi to declare after due research and enquiry that he had a Rajaput ancestry and that his particular clan was descended from Sri Rama himself. So also in ancient times kings had to perform religious ceremonies along with their military and administrative duties. He was the chief priest of the nation and as such performed sacrifices in the battlefield and certain other sacred functions. In the great Roman empire people had to burn incense and perform other such sacred rites before the image of the emperor. When the Christian subjects of the empire refused to do this they were relentlessly persecuted. In Islamic state the Khalif was the Head of the State as well as the Church. The same was the case with the emperor of China when monarchy existed there and it is so even now in Japan where the Mikado is looked upon as a semi-divine ruler. However now Monarchy has disappeared from most countries of the world, but where it exists due honour is still given to it.

A Short Story

THE LACE

BY

YURI DOBRYAKOV

The girls usually gathered at the Kvashnins' because their house was large and roomy. It smelt of milk and herbs, and against the walls, with embroideries and family photographs hung on them, stood pine benches that Grandad Fedot had planed until they were smooth and shining like glass. Not the least of the house's attractions were the Kvashnin sisters, Nadya and Olga, quiet and gentle girls liked by everyone. Their hair was always neatly combed and their faces glowed from being washed in cold spring water.

As soon as they arrived, the girls would range themselves on the benches near the windows. The two sisters always sat together; they looked alike and dressed alike and had the same strong, nimble fingers.

The first hour, as had been the custom from days of old, would pass almost without a word. The only sound to be heard was the clicking of the bobbins; it sounded as if a little stream were 'babbling' on the pebbles. And then the black-eyed, black-haired Panka Malashkina would begin to sing softly in a deep voice. Little oval-faced Nyura Mäscheryakova would join in, and slowly all the girls would pick up the tune. They sang many songs, all of them sad and long drawn-out. Otherwise perhaps the designs of the lace would not come out right. And not once were heads raised from the pattern; it was as if no one paid any attention to the song, as if it began and ended of itself, and they had nothing to do with it.

Later on they would be joined by the young boys of the village. They would enter quietly and clear their throats cautiously before, sitting down opposite the girls on the benches

kept for them. And they would politely go outside to smoke. In time Sanka Barinov would slip the strap of his accordion off his shoulder and let his fingers run lightly over the keys as if just trying them out, and then play the very tunes the girls sang, tunes as long drawn-out as a northern evening.

Sometimes the usual routine of the evening would be disturbed. This happened most often on Saturdays, when Granny Praskovia came back from visiting a neighbour of fifty years' standing in a state that Grandad Fedot, lover of pompous phrases, described as "a slight fermentation of the spirit." On such occasions Grandad would climb up over the stove without waiting for tea and lie gazing down at Granny with the beady eyes of a rodent. And the girls would crowd round her in expectation of the usual tale.

But most of all the girls loved to hear Granny tell how the old masters had invented the lace designs known to them from childhood. And then all these designs would become associated in the minds of the girls with old, familiar scenes from village life. It was as though gifted lace designers took their bast baskets with them wherever they went and put into them all their impressions, selecting the most vivid to be transferred to the pillow or the scarf by fingers that miraculously manipulated sixty and more bobbins at a time.

Once a year, in summer time, the Lace-Makers' Union sent an instructor in the person of Terenti Pavlovich Kapralov, a fat, blustering man who always wore a Russian blouse and hip boots. He would visit the homes of two or three lace-makers and then disappear for a week or so—duck-hunting in the flood-

lands along the Sukona river. On his return he would make an extensive report on lace-making.

Terenti Pavlovich said things that hurt and angered the girls. Taking a lace scarf to the window to see it better, he would grumble:

"What are all these wheels and bows? Geometrical designs, that's all. You want to put feeling into your lace, to put your heart and soul into it. Am I right, lady-birds?"

"Put feeling into it!" said Granny Praskovia with asperity when he had gone. "Take a look at this girls, and tell me whether there is feeling in the design or not!"

And she unfolded a lace that only the most skilled and imaginative craftsman could have made, so unusual and exquisite was the design. It was Granny Praskovia's favourite.

The girls sighed and grew pensive as they studied the pattern. Nadya Kvashnina peered into the darkness beyond the window, and it seemed to her that the one for whom she had been waiting all these months was standing outside looking at her, and that presently he would knock at the pane and ask her to join him for ever

But he did not knock at the pane or ask her to join him. He just came to the house with the other young men one evening and sat down beside Sanka Barinov and listened to him play, smiling to himself for some reason. The appearance of the young agronomist made quite a stir. The girls whispered and exchanged glances, and even Grandad Fedot, who had crawled up over the stove by this time, coughed and asked for a drink of kvass.

And indeed it was an event. Pavel Krivenkov, the agronomist, had come to Zarcdovo over a year ago, but no one could boast of being his friend, or even his close acquaintance. Sometimes he would come to the club to see a film, but he would always sit with the more staid members of the kolkhos and talk about nothing but kolkhos affairs. He never went visiting and never invited anyone to visit him.

When he came first, the village lasses had their eyes on him; he was a promising young man, clever and attractive, and a bachelor too. No one knew much about him, however! he seemed to be almost inaccessible.

In spite of this Nadya Kvashnina knew more about him than the others. And it was not from the few words she and Olga exchanged with him when he came out to inspect their work in the hot-beds but from a chance encounter that had taken place in the spring and had planted seeds of hope in her heart.

Nadya vividly remembered each little detail of that encounter, and tonight, as she stole glances at Krivenkov, it all came back to her. It had taken place on a Sunday, as she was coming back from the market. She had left the highway and was walking down a country road, her shoes in her basket, walking bare foot over the cool unknown grass that was still wet with dew. There was no one in sight, and it was so quiet that she caught the sounds of a horse coming behind her when it was still far away. She turned round and saw a light tarantass appearing and disappearing on the hills and swiftly overtaking her. When it had almost reached her she stepped aside to let it pass, and only then did she see that it was driven by the young agronomist. He stopped the horse on catching sight of her.

"Get in, Nadezhda Fedotovna," he called out. "I'll be glad of the company."

"Thanks" she replied, flustered by the fact that he saw her barefoot and called her by her first name and patronymic, and was alone with her on this deserted road.

They sat close to each other in the narrow, creaking tarantass. Pavel Semenovitch said he had been to the station to call for a package his mother had sent him. He spoke of his mother with respect and affection and even showed Nadya her photograph, which he carried in his inside breast pocket. Nadya was astonished to discover that this grave and reserved agronomist had dimples just like his mother's when he laughed.

A delicate fragrance was wafted to them as they were passing a thin and swampy wood, not far from their village. Pavel Semyonovich stopped the horse again.

"Shall I pick you some violets?" he asked, and without waiting for a reply he jumped down and disappeared in some hawthorn bushes. Nadya could hear his boots slushing through the water of the swamp, and she hoped he would not come back soon so that she could sit there and think about him without his knowing it.

But he came back soon. He handed her the little bouquet and flourished the reins as he sat down beside her.

"Could anything be lovelier than northern violets?" he mused. "They look weak and defenceless on their thin stems, but they have a lot of resistance. And how modest their beauty is! And they grow in the swamp, where the other flowers have no smell at all. I wonder where they get their fragrance from?"

As if embarrassed by his own effusions, he hastened to change the subject.

"They say you and your sister are the best lace-makers in the village."

"All our girls make lace," said Nadya.

"Tell me how it's done."

Nadya told him all she knew or had heard from Granny Praskovia.

"Come and watch us work," added Nadya.

The agronomist did not answer. He only took a petal from one of the flowers she was holding and said, as he examined it:

"What if you were to transfer these little white stars to lace and strew them over a white background, like stars in the sky? That would be wonderful, it seems to me. But I imagine would be very hard."

Before she had time to answer, the tarantass drew up at the edge of the village.

"Do come and see us," she said in parting. "We work every evening."

"Thanks, I shall," said Pavel Semyonovich, and waved his hand at her as she walked away.

Nadya waited for him every evening after that. She said nothing to anyone about what had happened, not even to Olga. Not a word that he said was forgotten. But he did not come.

Here he was at last, sitting in their house, listening to the accordion, smiling, whispering something into his neighbour's ear. Nadya's bobbins got out of control. Before she knew it, it was time to go home, the boys and girls were getting up noisily, and Pavel Semyonovich was standing beside her.

"Thank you," he said, glancing from Nadya to Olga. "And thank you, too, Praskovia Savvishna," he said in a different tone. "May I come and speak to you tomorrow on a very important matter?"

Those who heard these last words pricked up their ears. What business could the agronomist have with Granny Praskovia? For a moment Granny herself was taken aback but then she said: "Certainly, I shall be glad to see you." Olga jumped up and went out with her friends. Pavel Semyonovich went out too. But Nadya, her cheeks burning, remained sitting on the bench.

When Granny had gone to bed, Nadya went into the room she shared with her sister, opened the drawer of her bureau, took out a lace-scarf and stood gazing at it. Tiny white stars were thickly sprinkled over a white ground as delicate as gossamer. "How modest their beauty is!" she recalled Pavel Semyonovich's words. And she also recalled the sleepless hours she had spent when everyone else in the house was asleep and Olga was still out with her friends. If Olga ever knew! If she ever knew the hopes her sister had been cherishing all these months!

And now—perhaps—tomorrow?

Nadya was hardly her own self the next day. Like a frail boat tossed by unruly waves, she was at the mercy of the caprices of her heart,

which at one moment threatened to stop beating, and at the next beat so wildly that she was almost scared.

And yet she was the first to see Granny Praskovia coming down the path towards the hotbeds. She was covering the ground in long strides, swinging her arms and muttering something to herself. With a catch of her breath, Nadya rose to meet her. But Granny did not even notice her. She went straight up to Olga and made a low bow.

"Many thanks to you, daughter," she said in a tearful voice. "Many thanks for the way you treat your old mother."

"What is it, mother? What has happened?" asked Olga getting up, her hands clenched at her breast.

"Good people," said Granny, turning to the girls, "good people, have you ever heard of a daughter who hid the secrets of her thankless heart from her own mother, who lived a double life and kept it so dark that no one could guess it? Did you know, Nadya?" she asked her elder daughter. "Speak up, did you know?"

"I don't know what you're talking about, mother," said Nadya, feeling her knees give way beneath her.

"See, not even her elder sister knew," whimpered the old woman, then turned back to Olga and said in a changed voice, "well, that agronomist of yours came to see us. He did indeed. Your father and I were digging potatoes, and he might as well have struck us over the head with a wagon-shaft. 'I've come to ask you, Fedot Ivanovich, and you, Praskovia Savvishna, for permission to marry your daughter Olga,' says he."

The girls were dumbfounded. All heads turned to Olga, who was still standing there motionless, flushing crimson, her hands pressed tightly over her breast.

"That old nincompoop of mine lost his wits completely" went on Granny. "Muttered something to the effect that he had no objections but it was up to me, her mother. 'As for me,' says he, 'I'd be very glad.' I gave him

a little push and said: 'Thank you for the honour, Pavel Semyonovich, but that's not the way we do things here. It's customary to marry off the eldest daughter first here.'"

"Oh, mother, how shameful!" groaned Nadya.

"Not a word! It's none of your business," shouted Granny. "But he just stands there smiling and says, 'I have the greatest respect for Nadya, but it's Olga I love.' 'How can you love her if you don't know her?' says I. 'But I do know her,' says he. 'I've been courting Olga for almost a year and everything's settled between us, begging your pardon, but we didn't want anybody to know until we had your consent.' 'Is Olga really willing?' says I. 'Yes indeed,' he laughs. 'She and I have been in love for a long time.' And here that nincompoop of mine butts in again. 'Why all this rigmarole, old woman?' he wheezes. 'As for me, I'd be very glad.'"

"And you, mother? What did you say?" whispered Olga, scarcely moving her lips.

Granny was about to shout at her—she even stamped her foot, but on catching the look in Olga's eye she choked, gave a little cough and pursed her lips. Olga buried her face in her mother's shoulder and both of them began to cry. At this the girls rushed up and drew Olga away, crowding round her and pelting her with questions.

Nadya, too, came up to congratulate her. Without a word she put her cold, dry lips on her sister's lips, and at this moment anyone could see how alike their faces, their dress, their manners were.

The wedding was held in the autumn, when the harvest was in. Terenti Pavlovich forgot his duck-hunting long enough to honour the couple with his presence. The occasion was celebrated in the new house in which the newlyweds were to live. The Board of Management presented Pavel Semyonovich with a motorcycle, and Olga with a beautiful sewing box.

Festivities were in full swing when Nadya arrived. She came in holding out her hands, which were covered by a dainty lace scarf.

She went straight up to the young couple and bowed to them.

"My wedding present," she said, adding, as she turned to Pavel Semyonovich: "Remember our talk about violets, Pavel Semyonovich?"

Olga took the present. Her husband glanced at the lace, then at Nadya, and suddenly his face changed its expression. But at that moment Terenti Pavlovich rushed up and snatched the scarf out of Olga's hands. He held it up to the light and shook it as if he could not believe his eyes.

"Has anyone a ring?" he said.

"I have," said one girl.

"Give it to me."

He took Panka's turquoise ring off her finger, slipped a corner of the scarf through it and pulled. The scarf easily passed through the ring.

"It's a marvel!" exclaimed Terenti Pavlovich. "Simply a marvel. Look at those violets—you can almost smell them. How dainty! What exquisite workmanship! You can be sure you will be given a place at the exhibition this year, Nadya."

He went on raving until Nadya stopped him with a meaning look.

"Come over here for a minute, Terenti Pavlovich," she said.

They went to a far corner.

"They say there's a lace-making school in Vologda, Terenti Pavlovich. Is that true?"

The instructor said it was.

"And will they take in new students this autumn?"

He said they would.

"Then let me be one of them. I won't disgrace you, really I won't."

Next morning Terenti Pavlovich went away, and Nadya went with him. The whole family saw them off. Granny Praskovia cried and Grandad Fedot kept shifting from one foot to the other and sighing. Pavel Semyonovich pressed Nadya's hand without saying a word. Olga kissed her sister shyly and said quite unexpectedly, even for herself: "Forgive me, sister."

The horses set off at a good pace and before they knew it the village was behind them.

Soon they came to the thin and swampy wood where she had her memorable encounter in the spring. There were no violets now; they had faded long ago.

"You're a very clever man, Terenti Pavlovich," thought Nadya as she glanced at the instructor dosing beside her. "But there are lots of things you don't understand. It wasn't me who made that lace. It was my love."

(Continued from page 16)

was close to selection for England. Playing for Waverly, Geenasena will join another Cambridge Blue, Bill Hayward.

The Youngest Swim Team

The Australian swim team for the Rome Olympics is the youngest sports side to participate in a world contest. The average age of the team members is 18, while the youngest member is 14-year old Jan Hegan of New South Wales.

Milkha Singh's triumph

Milkha Singh, India's brightest prospect

for a medal in the athletic events of the Rome Olympic Games, showed splendid form at the White City Stadium in London recently when he strode majestically to a five yards victory, when winning the 440 yards event in the British National Athletics Championship in 46.5 seconds. This was one-tenth of a second better than his own United Kingdom all-comers best, set when he won the Empire and Commonwealth Games title at Cardiff.

The title holder and European champion faded to a fourth place.

KERALA'S COIR INDUSTRY

BY

K. PARTHASARATHY

"If Mother India, wears Kashmir, as a pearl, no less is Kerala, her emerald", remarked a distinguished visitor from the West. In the South Western corner of the great Indian peninsula, lies the fascinating state of Kerala, —smallest of the Republic of India's 14 States, decked with the most charming natural scenery of wide contrast, within its borders. The back waters of Kerala set against the sun-rise and sun-set, are memories, lingering memories sublimating man almost to divine perception. In Botanical Parlance, Kerala presents fifteen thousand square miles of tropical garden, abounding mostly in coconut groves. In other words coconut palm-wilderness envelops Kerala, as it were and quite poignantly, it has been remarked as the "Palm-decked Paradise" unique in itself with rare comparison elsewhere. This privileged geographical back-ground, has given birth to a progressive Industry,—The Coir Industry of Kerala, a progressive contributor to the foreign exchange earnings of India. For generations the Coir Industry has been the "life-line" of the Malabar Coast, and commands to this day the monopoly in coir products in world markets. Ceylon is the only other coir producing country in the world, tracing the foot-prints of India. Other countries are yet in the teething stage. Kerala's Coir Industry in a wider sense is reckoned as "The Coir Industry of India."

The word Coir is derived from the Malayalam word Kayar, which means twisted fibre. Coir is an exceedingly strong fibrous material drawn out of the outer covering of the husk of the coconut.

The Coir Industry is basically a Cottage Industry and a unique feature of the industry is the extraction of fibre and spinning of yarn are almost done by the womenfolk. The Coir Industry as it functions at present, engages

nearly six lakhs of people and is expected to absorb a lakh more, depending on the growing demands of the foreign consumers.

"A thing of beauty is a joy for ever" said John Keats, the well-known English poet. Kerala's deft hands, have created bewitching designs in Coir flooring mats, matings and carpets, which decorate many a home and office in the world's most pioneering country, the U.K. It is surprisingly an eye-opener to note that U.K. alone consumes about 72% of Kerala's total production of Coir. The scope for vaster uses of this magical material abroad imperatively opens new horizons for consistent progressive employment.

The coconut palm has long been the core of the Southern most State's Industrial structure and in this context, the fact that 50 to 80 per cent of the cost of production is shared by labour alone is an important fact of the Industry in the determination of wages, particularly when human labour is indispensable.

Another peculiar problem, the Coir Industry of Kerala is facing is the "human problem" in the language of "Census economics", i.e., the growing population has no adequate opportunities of alternative employment, with the result the Coir Industry is over-crowded. The Coir Board instituted by the Government of India is consuming 80% of the Coir and only 20% is left to private native enterprisers, traditionally engaged in the Craft. These private native enterprisers complain that they are not provided with adequate supplies of coir, the major part being consumed by the Coir Board. Due to the growth of population the private enterprisers also have increased vastly in numbers and they are helplessly resigned to the inadequate resources of coir which tells upon their enterprise. This

again creates "the human problem" as the Coir Board, itself has observed. The Coir Industry of Kerala is facing this double sided peculiar human problem which the Coir Board is solving to the best of its vision and skill, without any serious detriment to the Coir Board or the native enterprisers. Besides the Co-operatives also play a vital role in solving the many problems of the Coir Industry.

Among the many products of the Coir Industry, Coir mats and mattings of Kerala are very popular both at home and abroad. Particularly during the last century, the Industry has made great strides. Captivating colour schemes are brought out on mats and mattings. There are 700 factories employing 15,000 workers in the production of Coir mats and mattings alone. The Coir Industry of Kerala is totally a Cottage Industry where the maxim "labour hath its own dignity" applies very aptly and it is unique to note that no attempt has been made to modernise equipment or production methods, with a view to attain higher productivity for fear of displacement of labour. In the consolidation of the Coir Industry, foreign capital has played a great part, as is indisputably evident by the existence of many long and well established British firms like,

Messrs. Peirce Leslie & Co., Ltd.,
 ,, William Good Acre & Sons Ltd.,
 ,, Aspinwall & Co., Ltd.,
 ,, Volkart Brothers,
 ,, Madura Co. (P.), Ltd., and
 ,, Liveiro & Sons.

These foreign concerns have their own representatives abroad to capture foreign markets for Indian Coir products. Exports were well organised to meet in time the consumers demand abroad. Eight to ten crores of foreign exchange earnings are recorded every year for Indian Coir and the lion's share of this is contributed by foreign concerns in Kerala. However, of late, there has been a decline in the trade and the closure of some

factories managed by foreign capital has taken place. The Coir Board of India, the Co-operative Societies and the other individual enterprisers are all in league to tide over the crises facing the Coir Industry and assuring results are expected.

In the statistical study of the Coir Industry it is significant to note that it not only forms a solid core of the West-Coast economy but also constitutes a progressive contributor to the foreign exchange earnings. Exports of of all varieties of products between pre-war and post-war periods have registered a striking increase both in volume and value. Annually 8 to 10 crores of rupees come into the Coffers of the National Exchequer by way of foreign exchange earnings. Coir mats, mattings and carpets are exported to the U.K. and countries such as Canada, U.S.A., Australia and New Zealand. The fortunes of the Coir Industry to a great extent depends on the U.K. market which alone consumes nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ or about 72% of the total output. From the point of view of international trade this appears prospective but studied from a national angle, the Industry presents a picture of instability as it largely depends for its survival on foreign markets which may dwindle at any time due to commercial depressions actuated by political and economic reasons. Hence the Industry should build "a continuously expanding market both at home and abroad" by quality in production at low price, and foresight in planning. Of late, the European countries are seeking substitutes for Indian Coir, but the low price of Indian Coir is a defence against all campaigns and competitions. Recently the Indian High Commissioner in Ottawa stated that there is an immediate potential demand "for fine colour blends" in Coir mats, mattings and carpets in U.S.A. "The deft workmanship is the Key to the growing demand" said the Indian High Commissioner. In the middle east countries, the appeal of Indian Coir products is great and particularly during the last two years an increase of about 65 per cent is registered by Coir imports from India.

Hitherto U.S.S.R. has not been a buyer of Indian Coir products. But the Trade Representatives of U.S.S.R. who visited the Coir Board's Show Room at Delhi, were convinced of the genius of the craftsmanship of the Indian Coir Industry and have sent selected samples of Coir products along with quotations to Moscow, for establishing trade connections of the Indian Coir products with U.S.S.R. and countries within its orbit. China has also evinced keen interest for India's Coir products after the organization of the Indian Exhibition in China by the Indian Embassy. Germany, an advanced industrialized country has its own unique administration towards the developments of its cottage industries and has also fostered admiration and devotion for cottage industries spread all over the world. It is importing annually more than Rs. 6 crores worth of Carpets and Floor coverings of all varieties from all parts of the world. According to the recent visit of an Indian delegation to West Germany, it is learnt that Indian Coir products due to their luxurious pile, craftsmanship and low prices are gaining ground fast, despite, the fact that German coir carpets and floor coverings are of a high order.

To sum up the position of the Indian Coir Industry, it is surprising to note that while more than 2,000 tons of coir products are consumed by foreign markets, only 250 tons of

coir products are utilised by the Indian markets, in other words only 12% of its total production.

Of the total world production of hard fibres, coir is only 3% and although India is still holding the monopoly for coir products, yet it has to maintain its monopolistic status in the face of many trying factors. To depend mostly on foreign markets may undermine the industry when persistent deficiency in foreign demand becomes imperative.

Thus it is obvious that for the survival and progress of the Coir Industry of Kerala, a continuously expanding market both at home and abroad must be built by a prudent policy of well balanced campaigns both at home and abroad. "The cottage industries of India, reflect the soul of India," said Gandhiji "and needs to be preserved and promoted inspired by a sense of patriotism and by an admiration of the genius behind the craftsmanship of the products." The Coir Board of India has already taken to vigorous propaganda drive both in India and outside. Exhibitions and fairs are organised in the country as well as in foreign countries. Devotion to more enduring publicity such as journal, brochure, folders, calendar and catalogue—is lavishly bestowed by the Indian Coir Board to preserve and promote the monopolistic status of the Indian Coir Industry which in truth is Kerala's Coir Industry in a magnified sense.

SMILE-A-WHILE

1. Not a chance—"Judge," cried the prisoner in the dock, "have I got to be tried by a woman jury?"

"Be quiet", whispered his counsel.

"I won't be quiet, Judge, I can't fool even my own wife, let alone twelve strange women. I am guilty."

2. Precocious—"Who was that Sylvia you were talking about all night in your sleep?" the fond wife asked at breakfast.

"Sylvia?" Sylvia?" repeated the husband. "Oh, that was just a horse I laid a little bet on yesterday, my dear."

Upon his return from the office at the dinner hour the wife announced: "That horse you bet on yesterday tried twice to get you on the phone, my dear!"

3. Constructive criticism—"What is meant by constructive criticism?"—

"As a rule", said the thoughtful citizen, "it takes the form of set of resolution drawn up with enthusiasm, adopted unanimously and forgotten the next day".

4. On both sides—Court: "Private Smith, you are hereby sentenced to twenty days on bread and water. How do you like that?"

Smith: "Toasted, sir?"

5. No Complaints—A bishop who was contented and cheerful through a long period of trial, when asked the secret of his contentment, said: "I will tell you. I make a right use of my eyes."

"Please explain".

"Most willingly", was the answer.

"First I look up to heaven and remember that my principal business is to get there. Then I look down upon the earth and think how small a place I shall occupy when

I am buried. Then I look around and see the many who are in all respects much worse off than I am. Then I learn where true happiness lies, where all our care ends, and how little reason I have to complain."

6. He wasn't badly off—At school for the first time the small boy started to sob bitterly. "What is the matter, Willie?" asked the teacher.

"Aw—I don't like school. And mother says I've got to stay here till I am fifteen".

"Don't let that worry you", said the teacher. "I've got to stay till I am sixty-five".

7. Must be a mistake—A member of Congress was very much impressed with the dignity of his position, and it was always on his mind. One night his wife awakened him and whispered: "John, there are burglars in the house."

"You must be mistaken, my dear," he answered. "There may be a few in the Senate, but in the House—oh, no, the idea is preposterous."

8. Slipping—"You sold me a car about two weeks ago."

"Right. Do you like it?"

"I want you to tell me everything you said about that car again. I am getting discouraged."

9. Literary diagnosis—While the diagnosis of the patient who had eaten rather generously was proceeding, the sick man said, "Doctor, do you think the trouble is in the appendix?"

"Oh, no," said the doctor, "not at all. The trouble is with your table of contents."

10. Evidence produced—An attorney was defending a man charged by his wife with

desertion. For a time it looked as though it were a cinch for the prosecution, but at the psychological moment the attorney called the defendant to the stand.

"Take off that bandage," he cried.

The man did so, exposing a black eye.

"Your honour", said the attorney, "our defence is that this man is not a deserter. He's a refugee".

11. Hard way—"Well, Doc., you sure kept your promise when you said you'd have me walking again in a month!"

"Good! I am glad to hear that".

"Yeah, I had to sell my car when I got your bill".

12. Warning—while walking along the street an epileptic dropped in a fit and was quickly rushed to the hospital. Upon removing his coat one of the nurses found a piece of paper pinned to the lining, on which was written:

"This is to inform the house surgeon that this is just a case of plain fit—not appendicitis. My appendix has already been removed twice."

13. How to tie a bow tie on a tuxedo collar—Hold the tie in your left hand and the collar in your right. Slip your neck in the collar and run the left hand end of the tie over the right with the left hand. Then drop both ends, catching the left end with the right hand and the right end with the left hand. Reverse hands and pick up the loose end with the nearest hand. Pull this end through the loop with the unengaged hand and squeeze. This ties the bow. As a finishing touch, disentangle the hands.

14. No acquaintance—Two travellers in Ireland, coming home late one night, lost their way.

Said one: "We must be in a cemetery. Here's a gravestone."

"Whose is it?" asked the other.

The more sober of the two, having struck a match, said, "I don't know but he seems to have lived to a ripe old age—175."

"See if you can read the name?" insisted his companion.

Another match having been lit: "I don't know him. Some fellow called 'Miles from Dublin'".

15. Tasty food—Years ago a Los Angeles couple were staying in China. One day they were served with an excellent dinner, the composition of which they knew nothing about. When the Chinese cook came to clear the table the wife asked him in fun, "I hope you didn't kill a stray dog from the road to make our dinner, Chang?"

"No killee dawg," answered Chang, "him al'eady dead when I picked him up".

16. More economical—A Scotchman heard of an Antitipping Society and made application for membership. When told that the dues were twenty-five cents per year he changed his mind about joining, saying, "It's cheaper to go on tipping."

17. Why editors are wealthy—A child is born in the neighborhood; the attending physician gets Rs. 10. The editor gives the loud-mouthed baby and the happy parents a send-off and gets Rs. 0. When it is christened, the minister gets Rs. 10, the editor gets Rs. 00. It grows up and marries. The editor publishes another long-wiped article, and tells a dozen lies about the beautiful and accomplished bride. The minister gets Rs. 10 and a piece of cake and the editor gets Rs. 000. In the course of time it dies. The doctor gets from Rs. 25 to Rs. 200, the undertaker from Rs. 50 to Rs. 500, the editor publishes a notice of the death and obituary two columns long, lodge and society resolutions, a lot of poetry and a free card of thanks and gets Rs. 0000. No wonder so many editors are rich.

Personality Sketch

A. V. THOMAS

(Contributed)



The career of Mr. A. V. Thomas whose firm completes twenty-five years of useful service this year, is the romance of a youth who born in the obscure Idayangudi village in Tirunelveli district who after rudimentary education hastened to join his father Alfred Vedam, who was then employed in Mount Estate in Peermade. He stemmed from a family of moderate circumstances. He was born on August 9, 1891. If he was later to lay the foundations of an industrial empire, it was due to his tremendous push, pluck and perseverance. Mr. Thomas's first job was that of a clerk in a Plantation Company. His father was a pious and devoted Christian who indoctrinated his young son on the high ideals preached by Christ. Later on, he moved to Cochin and thereafter to Alleppey in Kerala. Both these harbours were almost undeveloped then but they had immense possibilities.

Mr. A. V. Thomas resigned his job and started what is known as the Highland Produce Company Ltd at Alleppey. That was 33 years ago ; putting a gruelling spell of work, he learnt everything about plantations—its labour problems, its import-export intricacies, the ingredients needed for the maximum output and efficient administration of the unit. In short, he was a go-getter who made himself indispensable for the running of the concern.

With an instructive flair and a forward casting vision of possibilities, Mr. Thomas plunged headlong into several spheres of business activity. His integrity became a byword among those having dealings with him and his reputation travelled not only the length and breadth of the country but even reached foreign ears. This enabled him to secure the agencies of several foreign firms. Among the branches of work he handled were tea, coffee, rubber,

modern machines, shipping and a host of others. Messrs A. V. Thomas & Co. have established their branch offices in leading cities of India.

It was not the ambition of Mr. Thomas to be a mere industrial tycoon, piling his bank balance. He was of a generous and philanthropic disposition, and he has been instrumental in financing several good causes in Alleppey and elsewhere. He runs the Caldwell Centenary Memorial High School at Idayangudi and his funds helped the building of a hostel at Sarah Tucker College, Palayamcottah. He is closely associated with the Y.M.C.A., Indian Christian Association and a score of other institutions.

In politics, he is a nationalist and was elected member of the Lok Sabha for a spell. Early in life, he was a Municipal Councillor and later Chairman of Alleppey Municipality. He is a member of the Madras Assembly since 1957.

Modesty is an important trait in his character. He shuns publicity. He has keen insight into men and things. All his life, he has been helped by his wife, who has been his friend,

philosopher and guide. She too is a God fearing pious lady whose charity is unbounded.

Mr. Thomas of late has become a keen race goer and owns a fine stud of horses, some of which have bagged top prizes in Madras and Bangalore.

The success of the business enterprises he has built up is proof that even without extraneous financial aid, free enterprise has a scope of building itself up in this country. His main assets are the loyalty and devotion of a band of associates he has gathered around him. The name A.V.T. represents a class of self-made men who came to the forefront by sheer hard work and sincerity of purpose.

Mr. A. V. Thomas has three daughters and one son. His eldest daughter is married to Mr. F. V. Arul, Deputy Inspector-General of Police, Madras. His only son, Mr. Jeysingh Thomas is following in the footsteps of his illustrious father. He is now the keyman behind the enterprises built up by his father who is trying to rest on his laurels. Mr. J. Thomas has all the makings of a big career ahead—grit, readiness to grasp things and a shrewd insight into the psychology of men.

Book Reviews.

The Great Garvin

The Oxford University Press has brought out a monumental book on that great British Editor J. L. Garvin.

He edited the British weekly "Observer" for a record period of 34 years. He left it in 1942 and died four years later. He was 78 then.

He was one of the most remarkable figures in the landscape of Fleet Street. Rapidly changing in his views, he moved from a youth of Radical journalism and Irish nationalism in Newcastle to become the clarion voice of the stern, unbending Tories in London and later the champion of a far more liberal Conservatism. While he himself changed, he gave serious journalism a new look.

He introduced brisk notes of the week and had a signed massive articles on the leader page. When he took over the Editorship of "Observer", the circulation of that weekly was about 20,000. He eventually carried it to the 2,000,000 mark.

The author of his life and career is an American, Mr. Gollin, who has specialised in the chronicles of British journalism. The author in this book covers only six and half years of Garvin's work.

"The Observer" was a losing proposition when Northcliffe took it over and brought in that Irish genius. He was brought in mainly to gain political influence. Though they got on well initially, there was a clash between the two, with the result that Garvin had to bring in a new boss who happened to be none other than Viscount Astor.

From the pages of this book there emerges the image of a fiery crusader whose lordship over words was remarkable. Before he came to London, in 1899, Garvin had mastered several foreign languages and had made himself an expert in foreign affairs. His reading of English literature was vast. In Carlyle

particularly he found a dynamic spirit that matched his own, but the deepest influence in his life was that of Wordsworth.

Garvin had a prodigious memory and could quote long passages of his favourite verses with infectious delight. For a while, he was his own Literary Editor, reviewing books himself and choosing reviewers. After the first world war, he brought in J. C. Squire to write the leading book article and St. John Ervine to be the chief dramatic critic.

His main ambition was to create a paper with a distinct personality. He succeeded in his mission. Mr. Gollin's book reminds us of the terrific energy that propelled Garvin throughout life. In the thirties and forties particularly he was formidable.

He could rival Churchill, once his Radical enemy, in the smoking of cigars, and also as a master of the telling phrases.

The book which has 445 pages is priced at 45 shillings.

Commonsense about India

Sardar K. M. Panikkar is not only a front rank journalist and diplomat but also the author of several interesting books, both in English, and his own language Malayalam. One of his latest outputs is a Victor Gollancz publication, entitled "Commonsense About India".

In it Panikkar surveys in his own inimitable way the successes and failures of his country in all spheres of activity—social, political, economic and international. He presents a plain and unvarnished objective picture, not tainted with propaganda. He has been able to define the efforts of India's leaders to build a contemporary life for a peasant nation on an industrial pattern.

The book is a valuable contribution to the study of current day problems. It is one of a series on many countries planned by the publishers.

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