

GROWING BIGGER EVERY DAY

That's us. Always trying to do a little better than yesterday. Always doing it. Textiles, jute, dyes and chemicals. These are the interests we have today. Tomorrow? The possibilities are endless. The future is wide open.





December 31 1965

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Asia's new voice

-Rajmohan Gandhi Page 18





Ten marvellous flights to London 8 via the Continent of Europe 2 via Moscow

> A special date in 1966 -PATA Conference, New Delhi January 21-29





Search for Peace

"WE NOW HAVE an opportunity to search avenues of peace. Let us grasp it and get full benefit out of it," said Mr. Shastri in what is to date his most cheering statement on the Tashkent talks, due January 4. "The consequences of failure," he observed, "will be dangerous and disastrous." Speaking the same day, President Ayub also used the word "dangerous" in the context of "leaving the Kashmir problem unresolved" at Tashkent.

Carried away by popular feelings, and at times fanning them, both the Indian Premier and the Pakistan President have failed in the last weeks to lead public opinion in their respective countries.

At Tashkent there will be no fixed agenda and there will be time for President Ayub Khan and Mr. Shastri to talk informally on various issues. The Soviet Premier will be present whenever found necessary as a neutral chairman. There is no public hint yet that the Soviet Union is presenting a plan for common acceptance by India and Pakistan. At the same time, it is naive to think that the Soviet Union has not thought through what it wants to see emerge. It is the Soviet's first mediation effort.

On arrival from Moscow, India's Foreign Minister said in New Delhi that to be fruitful the talks would have to be conducted in a flexible manner. Mr. Shastri says, "We have to be flexible, but it all depends on the talks."

As Tashkent approaches, it seems that an air of reality is creeping into the thinking of Indian leaders and one can only hope that the same process operates with the leaders of Pakistan, even at this hour. India has won her point, that the totality of problems should be discussed at Tashkent and not Kashmir alone. But both President Ayub and Premier Shastri need to see beyond Kashmir, border breaches, river waters and the refugee question, important as they all are. Before the bar of history, they may not be asked how many square miles of territory they exchanged or how many gallons of water they distributed. They will surely be asked whether they tackled courageously the crop of hate, suspicion and fear sown over 18 years and watered

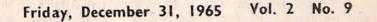
by the blood of their finest youth.

Poisoned Ink

We certainly do get it! Over 500,000 tons a

ME. B. R. BHAGAT, Minister for Planning, has just given an interview to the Hong Kong Far Eastern Economic Review in which he said India regretted the uncertainty about US food supplies. "We get the food but it prevents any planning," said the Minister. month, now to be stepped up to 1,250,000 tons a month. If shipments like this *prevent* Mr. Bhagat's planning he is obviously in the wrong job. "Further," continued Mr. Bhagat, "it causes resentment. The Americans give the food but make

1 10 10 10 10 10 10



Bombay

the gift without grace and do their cause no good." It is not the American cause, Mr. Bhagat, but the cause of India's masses which is involved in gifts like this-millions of hungry families who lack grain largely because of the woeful ineffectiveness of Mr. Bhagat's Ministry.

It is well that Mr. Bhagat's remarks do not represent the attitude of most Indians. They have reason to believe, as they eat their American chapattis, that President Johnson may be doing more for their welfare than Mr. Bhagat.

Following Food Minister Subramaniam's urgent personal plea made in Washington last week, President Johnson was reported to have told his officials, "You have to get that food into the ships and across the seas, through the ports and into the bellies of the Indian people as fast as you can." Who lacks grace?

Following the news of Johnson's decision to send 15 million tons of wheat to avert famine in India (four shiploads a day throughout the year), a rash of news posters called it: 15 MILLION TONS OF US POISON.

The Government recently charge-sheeted two Madras papers for publishing matter alleged to be "likely to prejudice India's relations with foreign countries with whom it has friendly ties". What about this poster and its publisher?

Golden Rule

THE PRIME MINISTER may have his tongue in his cheek when he dips his hand in others' pockets for Defence Fund collections but, nonetheless, the impression given is unfortunate.

According to press reports, Mr. Shastri was "jovial" when he told the Delhi Motor Traders' Association last week, "I would not have come if only a cheque for Rs. 1 lakh was presented to me. Don't you know my price has gone up?"

He further told his audience, men whose trade depends on the sanction of licences, "Gold has attracted me here. I hoped I would be given 5,000 grams of gold. I am sure the deficit of 2,000 grams will be met soon."

the first time he and other Congress leaders have expressed dissatisfaction with what people have given rather than appreciation.

When the Chinese attacked in 1962, the spontaneous giving of gold, jewelry and cash was remarkable. Contributions to the Defence Fund since then amount to Rs. 70.96 crores. Of this only 10.34 crores have come since September 1, 1965.

The Prime Minister's concern to expand collections is understandable. But he should realize that when contributions become a virtual levy due to political pressure, no matter how subtle and "jovial", the nation's giving loses its meaning.

Speaking ... Briefly

the one who ventures out boldly and takes risks is the true general. General K. S. THIMAYYA, 1906-1965

How Democratic?

ACCORDING TO a press note issued in New Delhi, the Government of India is not in favour of teen-aged children going abroad for education. Offers of scholarships, it pointed out, are being made by some organizations for boys and girls of "very impressionable age".

Might we ask, is it the Government of India who takes this view. or merely the Education Minister, Mr. Chagla? It will be a sad day for our country if this trend towards isolation from other nations and cultures is allowed to flourish.

The press note says that the Government has advised invited parties to "consult" the Ministry of Exter-

CHALTA HAL...

"The Minister seems to have decided to get down to serious business. He is leaving for a foreign tour immediately."

This weekly feature comes to you through the courtesy of the Eagle Vacuum Bottle Mfg. Co. (Pvt.) Ltd., manufacturers of the Eagle range of vacuum flasks, jugs and insulated ware.



TINY-PAL

Not the one who sits back, but nal Affairs or the Ministry of Education before accepting such offers. This is double-talk. There is no question of "consultation". The Government knows full well that such parties cannot accept foreign scholarships without Government sanction. This sanction has to be applied for on bended knees and is in most cases not granted even where no foreign exchange is involved.

About Turn

SUPPORTERS of Rangers and Celtic, rival Glasgow football teams, are known for their ferocity. Recently a Rangers' supporter, chased by Celtic fans across the city, leapt to safety onto a moving River Clyde ferry. Once on board he turned on his pursuers and roared that he could beat the lot of them single-handed.

"Just as well," said the skipper's voice in his ear. "This ferry is coming in, not going out."

ANOTHER SCOTTISH RIVALRY is between Edinburgh and Glasgow. Edinburgh folk tell the story of a competition in which first prize was one week's holiday in Glasgow. The second prize was two weeks!

Another Cup?

HOME MINISTER NANDA obviously keeps his eyes open as he makes his rounds in the capital. When opening a new Government building last week in New Delhi, he admitted that conditions of work in Government departments were unsatisfactory.

These offices, he said, presented a sickening sight with tables and chairs knocking into each other and people most of the time dozing, gossiping, reading novels or sipping tea.

We wondered why our correspondence with the Government took so long to get a reply.

Court Believed Him

ACCORDING TO Associated Press witch doctor on trial for theft in Port Elizabeth, South Africa, told the magistrate he would bring a dead man back to life by January 9 and call him as a Defence Witness. The trial was adjourned until January 11 to give him a chance to try.

Cards Galore

AN ESTIMATED three billion Christmas cards have been sent in America alone this Christmas; in Britain 675 million-25 million more than last vear. It all began in 1843 when Sir Henry Cole, a Victorian civil servant, had the first card printed to save writing greetings to all his friends. The custom is now a worldwide industry.

While scores of socialites place announcements in the "Personal" column of The Times saying they are not sending cards this season but want to wish all their friends a Happy Christmas, one wag asked, in his announcement, if all his friends would please send him cards as he would not be able to read the "Personal" column during December.

Guess What?

"OUR RHODESIAN policy is to go straight down the middle of the road in a four-dimensional solution." --PRIME MINISTER WILSON.

Example and Precept

IF THE NATION is being asked to sacrifice for the emergency, it is time that the Government and the Members of Parliament set an example. I understand that the teams of Members of Parliament sent to various countries recently to explain India's case on Kashmir were allocated firstclass air travel. Although first-class travel entitles them to 66 pounds (30 kilos), which is more than the majority of people carry by air for longer visits, the MPs were allocated an extra 10 kilos of weight.

What conceivable need could the MPs have for this extra weightage? Solid as our case may be on Kashmir, surely the documents could not weigh all that much?

Could an MP inquire how much we have spent on these Parliamentary missions? a figure I heard put the total cost at 7 figures.

Scent For Billing

A MELBOURNE department store has begun sending its bills to customers on scented paper. One customer said that it was very embarrassing.

The scent was so strong that all his visitors knew when he had not paid his bills.

Obviously the scheme works.

Kenya's Sane Approach

From R. M. Lala in Nairobi

Tanzania's diplomatic break with African armed invasion of Rho-Britain. He spoke as a friend of Tandesia will "cause havoc", and zania, grieved at the temporary Rhodesia "will smash the African breach between the policies of force and will move beyond into Kenya and its neighbour, hopeful Zambia. It will be a war in that there would be a chance to which white and black will get speak to and convince Tanzania's involved," Kenya's Attorney General, C. Njonjo, told me in an leadership. What are the possibilities of an exclusive interview last week. East African Federation?

Son of a senior Kikuyu chief, and He waved his hand. "Forget it a former civil servant, he is said to just now." be the man closest to President Ken-What do you think will happen at yatta. Diplomats add that in ability the OAU if the heads of state meet, and stature he is presidential timber. as suggested by President Kenyatta, Seated in his red-upholstered, book-Emperor Haile Selassie and Prime lined new office, he was smartly Minister Obote? dressed in pin-striped trousers and "I don't think the meeting will black coat with a crimson rose in his take place. Nations that have broken lapel. Confident, fearless and direct off diplomatic relations with Britain were his answers to vital questions say why should they come again concerning Rhodesia. It reflects the when they have already followed the thinking of the sane and sober OAU resolution." leadership of Africa.

Do you foresee the possibility of force threatened by some African states against Rhodesia?

"Let Sanctions Work"

"Not except as a last resort. It Smith cuts electricity at Kariba or interferes with the railways or airways (which Rhodesia and Zambia own jointly), or in the case of internal disorder, the British are justified in using force. Even Britain does not find it easy to move militarily. I believe we should give the sanctions a chance to work and, given the chance, they will work.

"Rhodesia," he maintained, "is Britain's problem. Our main concern is Zambia. We want to make sure that President Kaunda's sovereignty is not jeopardized in any way. The heads of state of East Africa have made plans to assist Zambia with oil, by using our railways, our lake facilities and so on."

I referred to certain East African leaders not only in Tanzania, but now in Uganda, who speak of "force as the only solution". Mr. Njonjo replied, "That is not Dr. Obote's thinking."

He spoke with some regret that after agreeing on a common line of action with President Kenyatta and Uganda's Dr. Obote, President Nyerere went ahead on his own to back

He spoke of the tendency of certain nations who have broken off diplomatic relations with Britain to make themselves out as the only nationalists of Africa and public heroes, and felt that if they meet in that spirit it will do more harm than good.

Mr. Njonjo confirmed that the original resolution of the OAU of December 3, calling for a break with Britain, was pushed through at great speed. The atmosphere was so charged that foreign ministers felt compelled to vote, but saw no harm in it because it was ultimately subject to ratification by their home governments. French Senegal which has nothing to lose was most keen to push through the resolution.

Same Wavelength

There must be still considerable pressure on the 27 nations that have not broken with Britain to snap ties with her?

"Yes, but President Kenyatta says that he has never in his whole career had to retract something he has said one day on the next day. And he says that he is not going to be put in such a situation over Rhodesia."

Discussing the efforts made by Sir Abubakar Balewa to call the Lagos Conference of Commonwealth



Kenya Attorney General, Charles Njonjo.

leaders on January 10, Mr. Njonjo said that Nigeria and Kenya did "have the same wavelength on many issues". If nations that have already broken off their diplomatic relations with Britain can attend it, Kenva would welcome it as a chance to speak to them.

What do you think can be India's best contribution' to the Lagos conference?

He was guarded in this instance. "India is a wise nation and I am sure will make a good contribution."

India's Policy

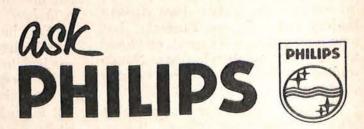
It is clear speaking to him that the sound leadership of Africa, as represented by President Kenyatta and Sir Abubakar Balewa, do not expect India to support in any way the use of violence in the delicate Rhodesian situation. India, which says she wants to solve her own disputes peacefully, will in all honesty have to advocate the same proposal where the African continent is concerned, and she will be misguided indeed to feel that modern Africa always responds to the loudest voice. India, which will be represented at Lagos, has an unprecedented opportunity to reassert her prestige and influence with African states.

Both Ghana and Tanzania, who are vociferous in talking of force in Rhodesia by the African nations, are under leftist pressure within their own states and the origin of that pressure may not be very different from what India is resisting at great cost and sacrifice on her own northern border.



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Roving College for a New India a bold new enterprise

The Roving College for a New India commenced its sessions at Panchgani, Maharashtra, on December 22. A former Chairman of the University Grants Commission says of this experiment in education that he is impressed by the innovation and enterprise evidenced by it. Educationists from all over the country have commended the College as a revolutionary experiment with farreaching consequences.

Inaugurating the College, Professor Roger Hicks, British author and lecturer, said, "The French revolution was started on a tennis court. Hitler chose a beer tavern. What we are launching here today in the Assembly Hall of St. Peter's will be more far-reaching than either of these partial revolutions because the seed idea behind the Roving College for a New India is more fundamental and more universal."

I quote extensively from the inaugural address of Professor Hicks:

"People seek education to see what they can get for themselves. Those who come to Britain to study from overseas are often extremely reluctant to go back. Their whole motive in education has been to see what they can get. They are like children who rattle stones in a tin can and say, 'See how much I have got.' Some parents treat their children as race horses. These basic ideas of education will not, cannot and should not succeed. Yet they have been the fundamental urges behind the systems we have built up.

Killing Conscience

"Some use education to fortify a point of view that they already hold. I learned history from a book called 'How England Saved Europe'. The presentation fortified a point of view with which I was already familiar! Such history and newspapers are written (for history is only current events written backwards) to fortify a point of view already held and not to find truth.

"People also use education to use their minds to kill their conscience to find reasons for inaction and for doing what should not be done. Out of this comes the terrible non-involvement of many educationists.

HIMMAT, December 31, 1965

"There was the professor who was with much difficulty driven into a corner where he had to make a decision. After much turmoil he said, 'On the one hand, no. On the other hand, yes. But don't quote me.'

"Truth has to be grasped from life. It has to be found in action, not in a laboratory bottle nicely labelled and methodically shelved. Because so many educationists have run away from life it is only stale knowledge and not living truth that they pass on. It does not equip people to meet the needs of the hour.

21st Century Education

"What is the kind of education that is needed to enable us to reach and live in the 21st century and to make it the most triumphant of all centuries? What in short is the factor that must be given in modern education in addition to all the technical and cultural factors? It is to provide that missing factor that has made all previous schemes abortive, it is to deal with human nature and to modernize man.

"I will give you an example of what I mean by 'modernizing man' that shows its immediate economic consequences. In Britain we have a large firm called Shell. Part of that company deals with petro-chemicals. There was a young worker there who met Moral Re-Armament. He went back to his works and said, 'We are working ourselves out of a job. In order to compete in a world market we need to do good work and management needs to be alert and lively. Workers want a secure job at a good wage. Management wants steady production delivered on a fixed date. Neither side is getting what they want because of hatred, class war and the protection of a falsely conceived self-interest.'

"He started out to tackle that firm. At the end of a year he had won the labour leaders to look at all questions on the basis of what was right not who was right, and what was needed for the nation rather than their section of it. They agreed to end restrictive practices by unions, which made the work inefficient.



"In return, management guaranteed all the jobs of the workers who were then working in the firm, for life. Wages went up by 28 per cent. Although the Government had fixed a general limit of 5 per cent for pay increases they have agreed to this because the increase of productivity is 150 per cent—with no increase in the labour force. It came through the thinking and living of one young man who used the mind his Creator gave to find what was right.

"The management said, 'Your thinking is ten years ahead of anything we have done.' That is the kind of modernizing of men that you are going to do in this college.

"We are inaugurating today a pattern of the future, both in a roving college and in-those colleges that remain residential but which need the same factor—changed men. This pattern provides those basic requirements the absence of which have vitiated even the self-sacrificing and dedicated efforts of learned men.

Why Be Educated?

"Here are some of these basic requirements:

"First. You in the College have made the fundamental, basic decision as to why you are here, what you are being educated for. Your motive is not the usual one. You have taken responsibility to remake the world, to see that your generation puts right what is wrong, eliminates the social injustices of today and the exploitation of many by man, that the wealth and wisdom of the world is used to build up and not destroy the human race.

"You will not rest till this is achieved. You know this is a long, hard task. There will be sunshine and showers. But you will not be put off by the cynical comments of defeated men who do not throw themselves into the heat of the battle. Ninetynine per cent of the opposition you will experience will come from peo-

Continued on next page

ple who have not become involved in giving all they have to make the world different.

"Set your own pace. Go resolutely ahead. Take as your motto that of the builders of the Panama Canal. 'Things that are difficult can be done at once, things that are impossible take a little longer.'

"Second. You have rightly not waited till you have 'completed your studies'. You have assumed full responsibility now. Those who would prohibit or discourage you from doing this may turn out to have little effective purpose in their own lives and would rob you of direction in yours. I hope you will never 'com-plete your studies' but go on learning until your dying day.

"You are on the give and contributing from the moment of your basic decision. That is seen most clearly in the constructive and fresh ways in which you are creating songs and dances and operating through the theatre. Nowhere are the aims and the achievements of the Roving College better illustrated. What you have done, and what your contemporaries in other parts of the world have done, holds the admiration and envy of those who have devoted their lives to the theatre. When Mr. Henry Cass, who has produced some of the great plays in Britain, saw what our young people produced, he said, 'I don't believe my eyes.' He saw the renaissance he had so long hoped for springing from the creative purity and dedication to a great purpose in those young lives.

"This expression of human longing, this creative talent of youth in particular is a vital part of the Roving College. I cannot put it better than the opening two paragraphs of the outline written by your Theatre Director, Mr. Howard Revnolds:

"'The Roving College will aim to create a new theatre-a relevant theatre-relevant in content, in style and in dynamic. A theatre which is unafraid to turn conventional ideas upside down and tackle epic themes of great personal and national stature. This theatre will aim to reach out over the footlights and become involved in the real drama of men and history being made.

Heart, Head and Hand

"'The theatre course will aim first of all that artists-writers, actors, directors-be men and women-wholly, truly responsible men and women who will break out of the petty, selfish world that protects them from the realities of this century. Men and women who will break with the subjective, self-loving, inward-look-ing, diminishing world of absurdities and vulgarities and stand clearly and effectively for issues that are character-building and nation-shaping.'

"Thirdly, you have not isolated education as a part of life, something that belongs to the mind but not to the heart or hand. Heart, head and hand, three together make up the whole man. Learning how to cook and how to tend the soil are as useful and integral a part of education as reading books. No student who is not able and willing to use and

dirty his hands has had an education fitted for this modern age.

"You are not so presumptuous as to think that you or your generation can tackle this task of remaking the world alone. You know that any ideology or any programme that excludes any part of mankind today is too small and slow for this age.

"Nor are you so presumptuous as to think you can do this in your own strength. Where human wisdom has failed, God has a plan. You have learned daily how to find your part in that plan. That is the lesson I, alas, failed to learn at the two schools, two colleges and four universities which gave me of their best.

"At the Roving College, each student will not only make this his own experience, he will also learn how to pass it on to others. Either man is a beast of the field and the law of the jungle will prevail or man is a child of God and will go forward to fulfil the most revolutionary programme of all time: 'Thy will be done on earth as it is in Heaven.' That is the aim of all your studies.

"Do not be afraid of being great. You are called to greatness. Not for yourself. But for your Maker and your country and to see that India plays her full part in building the new world. You cannot have too big an ambition to fulfil God's will. Tennyson wrote:

'Pray God that we may never fail Through craven fear of being great."



Thimayya Kept His Fingers Crossed FROM HARRY ALMOND

"I'm keeping my fingers crossed," said the late General K. S. Thimayya, Commander of the UN Forces in Cyprus, "but this development in Famagusta could spread to the rest of the Island." As the General sat in his UN HQ near Nicosia, his troops were emptying bags and filling trenches in Famagusta, Cyprus' principal port.

violence had broken out between This came about as a result of the two communities in 1963. A Cusnegotiations following an outbreak of violence between Turks in the old, toms Officer reported that they visited in the port area with their Greek walled city and the Greeks who live friends in a way he had not seen for outside. General Thimayya's troops vears. They were heard saying such stepped in and stopped the fighting things as, "Look, let's agree not to from spreading, but each side had follow our extremist leaders any meanwhile built new sand-bagged more, but let's accept the lead of positions until they faced each other moderates who want to live toat point blank range, as close as 10 gether." yards at some points.

This is important. The President, At one point when negotiations Archbishop Makarios, who leads the more than 80 per cent Greek majority, has self-seeking extremists were apparently concluded a celebration was planned with General Thimayya as guest of honour. Comin his camp who exploit the situation ing over the area in his helicopter for their own private ends. The to land he noticed that despite the Turks have, for far too long, acceptagreement reached to the contrary, ed the loud voices of a few who each side had dug new positions. then lead them into ultra positions Arriving on the scene for the festifar beyond their original intent. vities, he flatly refused to take part If, in fact, the ordinary people of Cyprus, Greek and Turk, will decide to stand for what is right and to refuse to tolerate those who shout for bags and filled trucks with sand to what is wrong, they can live in be carted away. Laughing Greeks peace. Right now they are in fact and Turks turned to the task todoing so in numerous small villages gether. Children came out to watch too remote to attract the attention and play. The result was a marked of city-loving agitators. A fitting tribute to the late General Thimayya reduction of entrenchment, even over what had been the case before would be the spread of this Famathe recent outbreak. Turks came out of their walls be-

until the positions were demolished. Greeks and Turks rather shamefacedly retired to do so. UN troops slashed gusta spirit that can bring peace to the Island he died serving. hind which they had retired since

Johnson Renews Aid to UAR

President Johnson has just decided to renew economic and technical assistance to the United Arab Republic. The decision was his alone. IV" from 1952 to 1956. In that The forces against renewing the four-year period US aid totalled agreement in Washington, beside those opposed to aid in general, \$86 million. Following the outbreak included the supporters of Zionism, of hostilities when the UK, France and Israel jointly attacked the UAR, who naturally want to prevent reinthe US aid mission was withdrawn forcement of Arabs hostile to Israel, and the programme suspended. and those who find the political posture of the UAR unacceptable. In 1958 when the situation im-

The programme under review began in 1952. It was called "Point



Beirut

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Cairo

proved assistance was resumed. Continued on next page

The week in Asia.

DJAKARTA-55,000 Communists and others have been arrested since the attempted coup on October 1.

TOKYO-Japan and Korea formally re-established diplomatic relations after 14 years of negotiation. Under the bi-lateral treaty, Korea will receive \$800 million of aid from Japan in the next 10 years.

GANGTOK-The Chinese have evacuated the Tibetan population from border areas and are installing ground-to-air missiles in south Tibetan towns.

SANA-China has built a textile factory in Sana, capital of the Yemen, and sent a military mission to aid the Republican Government against the Royalists.

COLOMBO-The Ceylon Daily Mirror said police security had foiled an attempt to kill Prime Minister Senanayake at an election meeting.

PLEIKU-Government troops put down an armed uprising by Montagnard tribesmen in the highlands.

JOHORE BAHRU-Tunku Abdul Rahman, Malaysian Prime Minister, said he had received information confirming the death of Indonesian Communist Party leader D. N. Aidit. He said that if Singapore resumed trade with Indonesia it would risk losing its trade with Malaysia.

Atomic KARACHI-Pakistan's Energy Commission announced that scientists had split the atom at the country's first atomic reactor.

KARACHI-President Ayub said India and Pakistan could not afford the disastrous consequences of further conflict. He hoped Indian leaders would "seriously consider" his no-war pact "offer" in return for a settlement on Kashmir.

SINGAPORE-The Singapore Parliament passed emergency legislation making the country an independent republic.

KARACHI-Pakistan is reported to be strengthening her armed forces with Russian-built warships from Indonesia and planes from China.

SAIGON-Vietcong guerrillas launched one hundred attacks on American and Government forces within hours of the end of the 30-hour Christmas Day truce.

SAIGON-US field commanders have been authorized to pursue Vietcong troops, under certain circumstances, into Cambodia.

COLOMBO-Ceylon has changed its weekly holiday from Sundays to Poya days, sacred to Buddhists. There are roughly four Poya days monthly, each representing a phase of the moon.

HONG KONG-The dismissal or resignation of Foreign Minister Subandrio of Indonesia is likely soon, according to reports here.

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FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

Since that date American aid has amounted to more than \$1,000 million mainly in commodities either donated outright or sold for local currency. Of the local funds received for agricultural products thus sold 85 per cent is loaned to the UAR Government for thirty and forty year terms at 0.75 per cent interest, 10 per cent is used to pay local expenses of the US missions in the country and 5 per cent is loaned to UAR companies with some American affiliation.

In the three-year period from 1962 to 1965 commodities amounting to \$430 million have been imported, mostly wheat and wheat flour. The programme met 50 per cent of the overall wheat needs of the UAR.

Three events combined to make the decision to renew aid a difficult one for Mr. Johnson. The first was President Nasser's oft-quoted "let them drink the Red Sea waters" speech which came near the end of the recently terminated agreement. The significance of that unfortunate phrase has been greatly exaggerated. It was not in the President's text, but was shouted from the audience during a pause in the address and picked up by the President in an aside.

Strong Pressures

Then an American private plane was shot down by UAR anti-aircraft fire. A US aid official told your correspondent that the only surprising fact was that the shooting was delayed as long as it was. The plane had made no radio contact on approaching the UAR border, it headed at low level for an area clearly marked on all available charts as prohibited and it ignored repeated warnings to land.

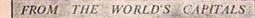
The third event was the burning of the USIS Library by a mob of protesting African students. No Egyptian participated. Those who have seen the beautiful new premises donated by President Nasser in restitution cannot doubt Egypt's desire to make amends.

The atmosphere thus created made renewal of the agreement almost impossible at that time. While the clamour was at its peak the Department of Agriculture made a routine release of the next shipments of wheat valued at \$17 million. Press and Congress reacted violently and all further shipments were withheld until June, just before the expiration date.

The statutory basis of the Food for Peace Programme is US Public Law 480. Its terms leave ultimate decisions in the hands of the President. He had no deadline but no decision would have meant no wheat for 50 per cent of Egypt's nearly 30 million people. The decision to renew the agreement and thus sup-port the UAR is political dynamite in America where the voice of Zionism is usually louder than the voice of the Arabs. The President has made his decision against strong pressures.

The critical importance of such food aid was made clear in UAR by Prime Minister Mohieddin's recent speech to the National Assembly. He said Egypt's population is in-creasing at an annual rate of 800,000, while the ratio of land per person will be less even with successful completion of reclamation projects in connection with the Aswan High Dam.





Grave Decisions Confront Johnson in 1966

In the climactic weeks of 1965 decisions affecting the peace and welfare of the world will be made. Not for a long time has there been such a churning in international affairs.

Wise and powerful men from the east and west have been visiting Washington DC-the Pakistani President, the British Prime Minister and the German Chancellor. In the New Year the Indian Prime Minister is expected.

Europe and Asia want to know how massively the United States will be escalating the war in Vietnam. They want to know if the American faint move towards coexistence is dead or still alive. They want to get, if they can, President Johnson's attention on issues other than Vietnam.

Prime Minister Wilson is concerned with Rhodesia and the defence of Europe, with preserving a line of military bases that stretch out to Asia. Chancellor Erhard has a divided country and an ominous neighbour to the east. President Ayub is at odds with India and in an uneasy alliance with China. India has a difficult Pakistan on both sides, a

Asia's Show Window of Democracy

Europe and the United States".

"Japan's interest," he said, "is to add to the enduring solidarity and strength of the free world; and its duty is to be the show window in Asia of freedom and democracy."

Far-reaching initiatives have been taken already by India and Japan. At the suggestion of India the Asian Parliamentarians' Union was formed. Its inaugural meeting has just taken place here under the chairmanship of Mr. Kishi, brother of Prime Minister Sato. The APU includes representatives from the Parliaments of India, Japan, Laos, Malaysia, Philippines, South Korea, South Vietnam, Taiwan and Thailand.

FROM STEWART LANCASTER

Los Angeles

hungry dragon to the north and a threatening food shortage at home.

The US President faces decisions as grave as any his predecessors had to face before him. He needs help and knows it.

He is searching for ways to (1)maintain the NATO alliance, (2) check the spread of atomic weapons before it is too late, (3) restore the detente with the Soviet Union despite friction over Vietnam.

In a few weeks President Johnson will decide whether to order into production a new ultra-costly antimissile missile system to protect American cities; whether to extend US aid or cut it down; whether to encourage US farmers to increase their grain crop; whether to increase US commitment in Vietnam to 400,000 men, as many as fought in Korea.

The leaders from Asia and Europe come to talk and to trade. It is hoped that a shaft of light will be found to help clarify the urgent problems.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Tokuo

In a recent press statement Mr. Nobusuke Kishi, former Prime Minister of Japan, said that the political situation in Japan would probably develop "in the direction of making Japan a bridge between Asia,

One of APU's aims is to secure the greater perfection of parliamentary procedures. Another was stressed by Hyoung Sigg Shin, chief delegate from the Republic of Korea: "To provide free Asian people, through Moral Re-Armament, with the ability and perseverance to resist any hostility by Communists and to further strengthen spiritual ties among themselves. But human beings cannot live only with freedom. They need material things. Therefore we must guarantee them a minimal level of material living."

Mr. Kishi said a primary aim of the Union must be to banish poverty from the continent of Asia.

The week in India

NEW DELHI-It was announced that US has offered India 15 million tons of wheat to meet her food deficit in the coming year.

NEW DELHI-Prime Minister Shastri returned from a three-day visit to Rangoon as guest of General Ne Win.

JAIPUR-The Congress Working Committee postponed until February 10 the annual Congress session to be held here. Mr. Shastri will by then have completed his visits to Tashkent and Washington. NEW DELHI-Soviet President Podgorny has accepted an invitation to visit India following External Af-

fairs Minister Swaran Singh's visit to Moscow.

CALCUTTA-The exchange of internees between West Bengal and East Pakistan has been completed. 3,767 Pakistani internees have been returned and 2,952 Indians.

BOMBAY-The Government has indicated that no supplementary licences for importing books will be issued. Wholesalers' stocks are reported almost exhausted and sales down 50 per cent.

NEW DELHI-The number of community radios will be increased to 500,000 under the Fourth Plan, according to Information Ministry proposals, so that almost every village will have a set.

MADRAS-Russian surveyors said there were huge oil reserves under the sea bed off the coast of Madras and Kerala.

MADRAS-The cases against the weeklies Swarajya and Kalki under DIR concerning an article by C. Rajagopalachari were further postponed till December 30 by the Chief Presidency Magistrate.

CALCUTTA-The possibility of devaluation of the rupee was discounted by Mr. P. C. Bhattacharya, Reserve Bank Governor.

NEW DELHI-Food output for 1965-6 would be from 79 to 81 million tons as against 88.4 million tons the previous year, said a USAID (Agency for International Development) study. From 12 to 14 million tons of PL 480 wheat would need to be imported.

MYSORE-Pests, faulty processing and storage waste destroy half of India's food production, stated a report by the Central Food Technological Research Institute. Preventing those losses would be the quickest way to solve India's food shortage, the report said.

MADRAS-Mr. J. B. Kripalani criticized the Congress for not forming a "Government of all talents" at the Centre during the emergency. He charged Congress with failing to provide food and clothing for the people.

Poles Stretch Out Hand to the Germans

FROM PIERRE SPOERRI

Geneva

Thousands of clapping and shouting Poles welcomed Cardinal Wyszynski when he returned from the Vatican Council recently. At the same time, the Government press launched a furious attack on the Cardinal and the other Polish bishops for having dared step out of the cautious reserve in which they have lived for years and for having tackled publicly the crucial question of German-Polish relations.

The action of the Polish bishops taken at the Vatican Council may prove to be one of the most important events of the four-year-long meeting. It entailed the publication of an open letter by the Polish episcopate to their German colleagues in the Council. Of equal significance was the immediate answer from the German episcopate.

The relationship between Poland and Germany, especially Western Germany, has been particularly bitter since the war. The attitude of the Germans has been that millions of their countrymen had been chased out of traditional German territory at the end of the hostilities and that the Oder-Neisse border had been imposed on them. They insist that the final decisions on border questions can only be made at a future peace conference.

The attitude of the Poles has been equally firm. They cannot forget that their country has been divided up by Germany and Russia time and time again. Nor that Hitler dealt cruelly with them in 1939 and that millions of Poles lost their lives during the war. Finally, they cannot forget that at the end of the war, a big slice of Polish territory in the East was taken by the Russians who encouraged the Poles to take as much as they wanted from the German territories in the West-leading up to the famous Oder-Neisse border.

The memories of the last war are so strong in Poland that any suggestion of improving Polish-German relations immediately produces waves of indignation, especially from those who profit from the division.

As a first gesture, last November the Council of the Protestant Church of Western Germany timidly raised the question of the eastern borders of Germany and indicated that a change of attitude might have to precede negotiation on the border questions themselves. This letter of the Protestants produced violent ap-



proval and disapproval in Germany and in Poland.

The next step was the letter of the Polish Catholic episcopate. In this document, the Polish bishops recounted first the whole painful history of Polish-German relations. This historic survey ended with the Second World War which was, the document said, "intended to bring total destruction and annihilation to Poland".

Then the Polish bishops pleaded: "In spite of this situation made almost hopeless by the past... we ask you: Let us try to forget! No further polemics, no further cold war, but the beginning of a dialogue..."

The Polish bishops went even further: "In this very Christian and at the same time very human spirit we stretch out our hands to you...we offer you forgiveness and ask forgiveness. And if you, German Council Fathers, can grasp our outstretched hands in a brotherly fashion, then only can we celebrate our millenium in Poland with a clear conscience."

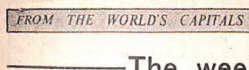
Forget the Past

The letter continued with a warm invitation to the German bishops to attend the celebrations of a thousand years of Christianity in Poland which will take place in the coming spring.

The German episcopate responded by accepting "with brotherly respect" the outstretched hands. They said that they would attend the millenium celebrations and at the same time invited their Polish brethren to come to two big Catholic festivals in Germany next year.

The German bishops did not beat about the bush in their letter. They spoke of the "terrible things committed by Germans and in the name of the German people in Poland". They said that they could not ask the Poles to forget but only forgive. They indicated that a "just and, for both sides, satisfying solution" could be found if the evils of hate, enmity and revenge were eliminated.

The initiative taken by the Polish bishops could start new developments in the whole of Eastern Europe. They also show, especially in the Communist-dominated part, that the ordinary people may be ready to forget the past and speak out on issues which governments are still hesitant to mention.



KENYATTA: "WORK HARD"

NAIROBI-Work hard and work with your hands to build a new Africa, President Kenyatta advised 800 youth attending the Moral Re-Armament "Aim for Africa" conference here last week. The youth had just levelled half a mile of road for a hospital in Kenyatta's constituency. The Kenya President told them, "When you go back to your homes, villages and countries, do it every day, not just once a year. You will set a good example because in many countries, through wrong education, young men and women grow up without wanting to dirty their hands. They don't like getting the dirt behind their fingernails. The soil is the mother of everything. Hard work won't kill you, it will do you good, and if we do this we will build a new Africa."

CHINA'S BACK DOOR

URUMCHI–Over 150 Chinese Communist officials were reported killed in a clash between the authorities and immigrants, mostly young, settled here from other parts of China. The clash was said to have started when the authorities demanded increased production. Peking Radio recently accused Russia of inciting the people of Sinkiang against the Chinese Communist Party.

Sinkiang, one-sixth the area of China, has only 5.5 million population. The native population of Kazhaks and Uighurs are 85 per cent Muslim. They have not liked the settlement of Chinese from the east to aid development. In September 1962 many escaped into Russia. The Chinese claim that part of Kashmir belongs to Sinkiang.

WALK ROUND EARTH

HOUSTON-Following the successful Gemini VI and VII space flights, the US plans four more Gemini missions to prepare the way for a moon landing. Gemini VIII, due next March, will test ways of linking up with an Agena satellite; one of its crew will attempt a 90-minute space

AND IN

-The week elsewhere-

walk right round the earth. Gemini IX and X will also attempt rendezvous with Agenas. The last Gemini, number XI, will practise the docking manoeuvre with another ship which lunar astronauts will have to perform. Before the Gemini flights end next autumn a new series of Apollo missions will begin. The three-man Apollo capsule, twice the length of the Geminis, and equipped with a two-man lunar landing "ferry", is scheduled to take men to the moon by 1969.

BORDER BUILD-UP

GANGTOK-The Chinese have completed a 200-mile military road from Lhasa to the Sikkim border. The road ends at Nathula at the point of the "dagger" of Tibetan territory projecting towards the narrow Indian corridor between Sikkim and East Pakistan. It enables the Chinese to bring artillery up to the border, nullifying an advantage held previously by the Indian Army. According to Tibetan sources the Chinese have taken over Buddhist monasteries within 100 miles of the Indian border for military use.

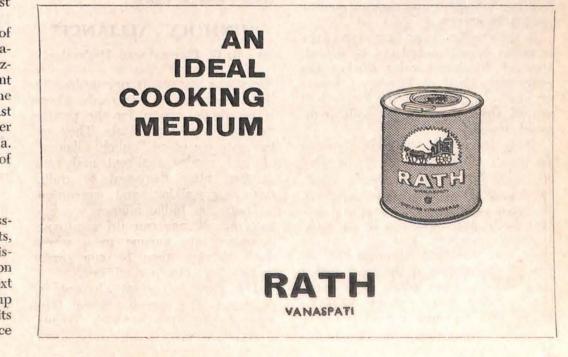
OIL FIND

PERTH-Oil has been found on Barrow Island off north-west Australia. David Fairbairn, Federal Minister of National Development, has called it [®]a far more exciting field with bigger possibilities than Moonie"-Australia's biggest oilfield so far.

West Australian Petroleum, a consortium of Shell, Caltex and Australian Ampol, is cautious about the results as there are technical difficulties in bringing the oil to the surface and the nearest refinery is 1,000 miles away. But the Company has struck oil or gas 14 times in 14 attempts and spent £25 million on exploratory drilling.

CURE FOR 250,000,000

BASLE-Discovery of a cure for bilharzia, a disease suffered by 250 million people in Asia, Africa and Latin America, has been announced by CIBA, a Swiss chemical firm. The disease, caused by a minute parasitic worm, and carried by water snails, has been named by China public health enemy number one. Bilharzia could offset the benefits of the Aswan High Dam in Egypt, according to one authority, because irrigation will spread the disease more widely. The new drug was discovered by Swiss chemists in Basle after three years' research. It has been tested on 4,000 patients and found effective with 90 per cent. Mass production will begin in 1967 at a new factory being built at Grimsby, England. The drug is called Ambilhar after Amaro Rodrigues, of Portuguese Guinea, the first person to be cured by it.





First Prize

WHO IS REALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR THE **INCREASING ROAD ACCIDENTS ?**

by Mrs. G. N. Parakh, Bombay 14

STATISTICS SHOW a steady increase in road accidents each year, and one begins to wonder about the chief causes that bring tragedy, deformity, years of painful suffering and sometimes instantaneous death.

Bash-ups on highways are mainly due to overloaded trucks, running far above the 40 m.p.h. The responsibility for this lies mainly on the truck owners, who overloaded the vans with goods, and set a tight schedule on the drivers' trips back and forth.

In big cities like Bombay, heavy traffic on old narrow roads, together with slow-moving hand-carts, vietorias and reckless cyclists, are a menace to the smooth flowing of automobiles.

On broader thoroughfares, where cars can and do go faster, traffic lights are not quick enough, causing congestion every few minutes.

Speed and more speed rules the day, especially amongst the younger set, and Teddy boys often cause accidents, both trivial and serious.

Many drivers have their own traffic rules. To quote only one, you may overtake any time, any side and any place convenient to you. When a policeman spies and you get a call, you start pulling strings, and the matter is settled usually with punishment to no one.

If the traffic cops gave you the stern treatment meted out to defaulters of black-out rules during the emergency, half of Bombay's drivers would be jailed, and the other half would drive happily on well regulated roads.

It is impossible to walk down a footpath, since parts of it are dug up either for repairs on the gas pipes, electric or telephone cables, sewage or water mains. Debris is piled five feet high and flagstones lie in junkheaps everywhere. You either weave your way carefully through this or get on the centre of the road which once was a tram track, but watch out, it's dug up to remove the rails. Every few furlongs a road is under

repair, causing congestions for vehicles and danger to pedestrians. Wide areas are dug deep and left unattended-veritable open graves awaiting their dead! Mutilated signboards, probably from the days of the British Raj, may or may not be put up.

At night you say a prayer as you take each step. Black-out shades still dim the road lamps, and those in charge provide no warning marks. They may not have so many red lanterns and so much quota of kerosene for all their diggings,

Red tape and official files would have much to say for these road improvements, but one wonders at the apathy of the public who undergo so much hardship, and see so many fellow men meet with small and big accidents due to the lethargy and carelessness of the authorities concerned.

Who then is responsible for road bash-ups? The common man with a poor civic sense, or the traffic police, or the engineers and city fathers that fill our hospitals with accident cases whilst they build and break and build anew? To me the responsibility seems equally shared by all the three. Do you agree?

Second Prize

"UNHOLY ALLIANCE"

By B. G. OMPRAKASH, Hyderabad

NO SINGLE FACTOR is responsible for the sorry mess on our roads. There is no single reason for the prolific growth of road accidents. They are the outcome of an "unholy alliance" of bad roads, negligent and rash driving, utter disregard of traffic rules, jay walking, and congestion.

Traffic in India follows a crazy pattern. If one can drive without bumping into anyone in a whole day's driving, then he can surely qualify for some Grand Prix.

The most important element is, of course, the human element. The man behind the steering counts.

COMPETITION -

* Who would get your award for the most remarkable personality of 1965? And why?

Closing date: January 7 ** Should Britain use military force to remove the Smith regime in Rhodesia? Closing date: January 21

Prizes: Rs. 25, Rs. 15 Send entries of 500 words or less to: Viewpoint, HIMMAT, First Floor, 294, Bazargate Street, Bombay-1.

Many an accident is due to the failure of the driver. But the fault is not entirely his. The main culprit is our own town planner. The narrowness of our roads coupled with their tardy maintenance are a driver's nightmare.

Master plans exist only on paper. The one in my city. Hyderabad, has been in cold storage for fifteen years.

we are yet to realize the importance of town planning. The existing roads were conditioned only for the limited traffic of the good old days. The phenomenal growth in recent years has necessitated the widening of existing roads. But this has not been done.

As if this was not enough one has to put up with unending repairs on the roads. Large man-holes are a common sight. They gape at you at every crossroad.

Then we have to face a modern craze: speeding. Lorry drivers do it out of boredom, but Hollywood seems to inspire our teenagers. Each one of them sees in himself a potential Stirling Moss.

Jay walking is a dangerous thing. It is a real headache to a driver. Pedestrians walk as if the whole road is an extension of their back garden. Horning and jamming of brakes produce negative results.

Rickshaw drivers are a class by themselves. This tribe excels in harassing all forms of traffic and is not quite amenable to reason.

Add to this the average citizen's woeful ignorance of traffic rules. Violations of these rules are a common sight but the police always seem to turn Nelson's eve to them.

Overseas readers are invited to send their contributions. Prizes will be given in the form of Indian objets d'art.



Helicopters and Hippos

HE ALMOST flew his helicopter into the mouth of a hippopotamus.

Captain A. W. Neal, 31, ex-Royal Air Force, was on assignment in Africa before a tour of duty on cropspraying in India.

Wild animals did not take kindly to the rotary-winged aircraft which can hover low-down like a hawk. An angry elephant once reached up with its trunk to pull the "whirlybird" down.

Another time Captain Neal spotted a leopard in the long grass. With his spinning rotors he fanned the grass aside to get a better look. Next thing he knew was an angry leopard springing up cat-like to catch the "bird" above it. In the camera shot his co-pilot snapped, a pair of clashing jaws shows up in a corner of the print! An angry hippo on the banks of an African river looked as if it wanted to swallow the whole thing



when the pilot got too near by mistake.

Helicopter work of a more serious professional nature has taken Captain Neal to Honduras in Central America, to the Philippines, Australia, Zambia, the Congo, Mozambique, Jamaica and to Nepal as well as India.

Helicopters can help Asian development, he told me over coffee in London, before leaving for new work in Queensland, Australia.

In the Nilgiri hills of South India he was on experimental spraying of rubber trees with Tata-Fison chemicals, using a Bell helicopter for the job. The rubber grows below the tea level. Starting six weeks before the monsoon, he sprayed 5,000 acres of trees one year to protect them against leaf disease. It was so successful that the spraying has been continued since by Cambata Aviation which uses helicopters, based on Bombay, for crop-spraying. Captain Neal was working for Osterman-Autair Helicopter Company which uses an all-Bell helicopter fleet.

Mistaken Identity

Fixed-wing aircraft find it hard to do this work in hilly country. They can't find a place to land and refill their chemical tanks. Also they are slower at it. While a fixed-wing flyer is covering 1.800 acres, a helicopter pilot can do 4,000, at 40-50 acres an hour.

Curiosity of farmers and peasants was another hazard the pilot had to face. To guard against damage to the strange machine a Nepali watchman with a sharp kukri travelled with it. Nobody tampered with it when he was around!

Captain Neal's helicopter, with its ability to take off and land vertically, also helped in moving engineers to a project which put an oil pipeline across a bridge over the Brahmaputra River near Gauhati.



'Copter pilot Neal

Neal could land on the 100-foot high embankment where no ordinary aircraft could come down.

He was startled, however, when one peasant woman, who saw the winged thing descend from the skies and a man step out, evidently thought he was a god and kissed his feet.

Helicopters are used for surveying the route for pipelines and taking supervisors, for instance, along to check progress in construction. An expert can spot a lot from the air without having to land. The vertical take-off vehicles can land like a feather, without even a bump. They need no roads to reach distant villages.

They can hover over a point to inspect it, as Captain Neal did when checking the Oil India pipeline which runs from Nahorkatia in the Assam oil fields via Siliguri in the narrow neck of land between Assam and Nepal, towards Patna.

(A Hughes helicopter has even hovered 101 hours non-stop, four feet off the ground. To make sure there was no cheating, four boxes of eggs were taped and sealed on to the underside of the skids on which it normally lands. At the end of the 101 hours, during which time it was refuelled and pilots clambered in and out for their stint at the controls, the eggs were unbroken.)

For developing countries there are few limits to the help helicopters can give.

R.A.E.H.



FORCE FRUSTRATES

SIR: Madras Government has ordered all hotels and eating houses to put down their shutters after 3 pm on Monday.

Evidently, this is in furtherance of Prime Minister Shastri's appeal to miss a meal on Monday. But the Prime Minister's appeal was only to the conscience of the people. There was no compulsion behind it. But the Madras Government has decided to use force and it only comes hard on those who depend on hotels for their food.

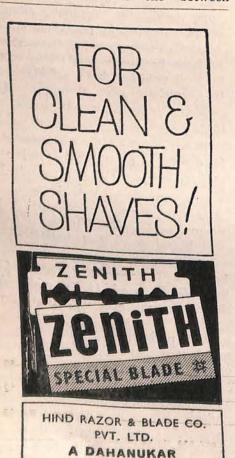
Many people have now chosen to take two meals before 3 pm on Monday, and many hotel owners have declared Monday as their weekly holiday. On the contrary, there are many householders who sincerely adhere to this measure. An appeal to the heart pays while a resort to force frustrates.

N. VASUDEVAN Madras 8.

* This week's Rs. 10 prize winner

FRIENDLESS NON-ALIGNMENT

SIR: The recent foreign affairs debate in the Lok Sabha highlighted the fact that our policy of non-alignment found us friendless at the hour of our need. We shouted ourselves hoarse that the Indo-Pak conflict was one between



ENTERPRISE

LPE-Aiyars R.

democracy and dictatorship and that it was the duty of every democratic country to support us, little remembering that in the past we never supported the cause of democracy against dictatorship. The examples of Cuba, Malaysia. Hungary and Israel are proofs of the mischief of our foreign policy.

It was also a sign of the policy's failure to claim that it was instrumental in bringing the two power blocs closer (which is highly doubtful) when, as we saw, it brought no one closer to India. What, after all, is the aim of a country's foreign policy-to estrange itself from other countries or to strengthen its ties with them?

If democracy is to survive in India, it is only democratic countries that can come to our help and not any dictatorship or totalitarian state which neither respects nor practises the principles of democracy.

S. VENKATA KRISHNA Bangalore 11.

STRING SHORTAGE

SIR: Cheers to HIMMAT for a very bold, bravely written editorial, "Wheat and Rockets".

If America has been giving aid with strings attached, then by now she would have run out of string-note the volume of aid.

By giving many Indians this day (and many other days) their daily bread, America has put her money on the right horse.

While America builds rockets for outer space, let each Indian do all he can to grow more food to fill his inner space!

IVAN SASSOON

ENTHUSIASM FOR WORK

SIR: Self-reliance has been a matter of much controversy these days. The Planning Commission has allotted Rs. 36 crores for a grow-more-food campaign. If monetary programmes can achieve this, then our hungry millions could be well-fed. But what is wanted now is a genuine capacity for hard work, a more enthusiastic outlook for work among farmers and better initiative among them.

J. A. BIRD

Poona 6.

Calcutta 14.

JAPAN'S EXAMPLE

SIR: There is wild talk going on that we are traditionally sluggish, inert and lethargic. Has not our progress since Independence proved that we are possessing plenty of ability, intelligence and hard work? Is our economy in any way inferior to Pakistan and Indonesia?

Instead of blaming ourselves for our slow progress let us be practical. Instead of trying to emulate the USA and UK let us follow the lead given by Japan. If Japan could attain a position of eminence and prominence within 20 years from her shambles created by the world war, India too can attain the HIMMAT awards Rs. 10 for the best letter received every week. Letters should be brief and exclusive .- Ed.

same progress in 30 years, if not in 20 years. Let us have more technical collaboration with Japan and Malaysia and let us put more faith and confidence in our great future by shedding our inferiority complex.

A. GANAPATHY RAMAN Coimbatore Dt.

UNREADABLE

SIR: The advertisements of the Union Public Service Commission inviting applications for the various categories of posts are published in almost all the dailies in India in the English language. It is all right that these are published in English dailies in that language. But what is the purport of these advertisements being published in English in vernacular dailies?

P. V. GANESAN

Madras 4.

GIRLS IN UNIFORM

SIR: I am a foreigner in India for a short time and I have become an admirer of the people and the country. Especially am I glad to see that Indian women have retained their distinctive and charming dress, and have resisted the temptation to become like their stereotyped sisters in the West, and a great deal of the rest of the world.

However, I was appalled to see young girls in the NCC uniform. The NCC, I am sure, plays a great role in producing patriotic citizens, but to make girls look so unattractive and masculine surely does not do anything for the country, or for their morale. Other countries have put women into uniform, but have designed attractive clothes, that are efficient, but feminine.

ROSA HORTIN

Bombay 1.

INDIA'S STAND UNSTATED

SIR: I do not know how the Indian press and leaders come to think that the Foreign Minister's withdrawal from the Security Council debate in face of Mr. Bhutto's attack is a victory. Here in Britain the press or the public do not think so and there is no doubt it was a tactical error. Walking out of an international forum is not good diplomacy.

My British colleagues often ask me why India's stand on Kashmir is not heard and why India is not coming out with its side of the story. All India states is there is no Kashmir problem and that it is part of India. It is far from reality to think that saying the "Kashmir problem is an internal matter" will close the chapter. Unless we face the facts and solve the problem amicably with Pakistan with the help of impartial foreign powers, our prestige in the outside world will suffer. DR. I. S. MENON

Newcastle-upon-Tyne, England

This was a life. DANTE ALIGHIERI 265-1321

DANTE, the great poet of Italy and mediaeval civilization, was what we should call today a refugee.

"Thou shalt make trial of how salt doth taste another's bread and how hard the path to descend and mount another's stair," he wrote. Yet he triumphed over the bitterness of exile to write the Divina Commedia, a masterpiece of world literature.

Dante, whose 700th birth anniversary was celebrated this year, was the son of a moneylender in Florence. a city riven by class and political struggle. As a young man he fell in love with a beautiful girl named Beatrice and studied hard in order to write something worthy of her. Her early death shattered him.

From 1289 onward Dante took an increasing part in political life. He joined in two military campaigns and led missions to other city-states. In 1302 his political enemies got control in Florence.

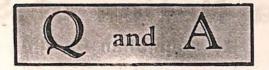
Dante was driven into exile and and condemned to death in absence. He sought reconciliation, putting patriotism before partisanship, and broke with the extremists of his own party. For the rest of his life Dante was a refugee, wandering poor and alone through Italy from one patron to another.

Between 1307 and his death in 1321 Dante wrote the Divina Commedia. This long poem in the vernacular established Italian as a literary language. It is the story of an imaginary visit by the poet to hell, purgatory (where men are purified of their sins), and heaven, where Dante again meets Beatrice.

Dante's hell is peopled with historical characters from ancient times down to his Florentine political foes, about whom he writes without bitterness. In the upper levels are the slaves of lust, endlessly whirled by the wind through the caverns of hell, hitting against each other and the rocky walls. In the lowest frozen depths are the betrayers, Judas who betraved Christ and Brutus who murdered the Roman ruler, Caesar. Dante shows that there is a moral order in the universe and that men reap the consequences of what they do.

Dante reserved special scorn for the fence-sitters, whom he called "sorry souls who lived without infamy and without renown, displeasing to God and to His enemies".

"The hottest places in hell," he wrote, "are reserved for those who in a period of moral crisis maintain their neutrality."



Q-What part does the National Cadet Corps play in the defence of our country?

V. S. SRINIVASAN, Madras 4

A-The NCC inculcates in youth a sense of discipline and patriotism. Especially when out on camps, it teaches them hard work and helps students from different backgrounds to mix with each other and form a united core. It trains them as a defence reserve force which can be called upon in any emergency. Incidentally, it also helps to get the right people recruited as officers into the armed forces. All told, the NCC is an essential part of our national life and needs every support.

Q-Who is the Chairman of the Planning Commission and why has nothing been heard of him in the newspapers for a long time?

DAMJI JIVRAJ SHAH, Bombay 9

A-The Chairman is Mr. Lal Bahadur Shastri, Prime Minister of India. Which newspapers do you read?

Q-What steps should be taken to improve the publicity machinery of our country?

MAHENDRA PRASAD, Madras 36

A-The cardinal requirements of an efficient publicity machinery are: (1) a clear-cut policy; (2) the men and machinery to project it; and (3) the purpose and the passion to reach the millions.

Policy: if a Prime Minister says that he will go to an international conference; says a few days later he sees no point in going; then again says he is going in any case; how can any publicity machinery project the policy or the image of the country? The first requirement is to have a policy.

Projection: you need ideas, initiative and funds adequately to project a policy. Some of our representatives abroad tend to give the excuse of lack of funds and foreign exchange to justi-

fy not thinking of fresh ways and means to do their job. Many sincere men posted abroad, and in this country, find themselves hemmed in by officialdom that squashes their schemes or discourages their initiative.

As an instance of efficient publicity both in India and abroad, one has to see Air India around the world. They are on the button with advertising related to the latest event that people are thinking of. Their salesmen get out and meet people. In contrast to that, I remember one of our public relations officers in the UK who sat in his wellheated room and expected British journalists to call on him. Needless to say, few of them did. Ambassadors, too, need to keep a vigilant eve on publicity. If we have a policy and the passion to reach out, projection is not complicated.

Q-Newspapers report that rich oil deposits have been found in India. Is it possible that in a decade or two India will be self-sufficient in oil and exporting to other countries?

T. M. DATTANI, Bombay 7

A-As the search goes on there are promising signs of more deposits being located in India including some off the coast of Kerala and Madras. But oil exploration in this country is only just beginning. It is yet a fraction of what is needed. In many countries a vast investment is being made in surveys and costly drilling, and there seems to be no shortcut to finding this valuable mineral wealth. The experts have not given hope yet that India could quickly become self-sufficient in oil, but one of the most remarkable developments these days is the way totally unexpected resources of mineral wealth are being located throughout the world. It would seem that those pessimists who years ago predicted that the world would eventually come to the end of its mineral resources are being confounded. So it is possible for India to become self-sufficient, but we will have to work a lot harder and dig a lot deeper before she is.

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Not a Nation of Sheep

INDIAN LIFE needs to be overhauled and revolutionized. It is not a small task. However, I said goodbye to pessimism years ago. What increases my conviction that India can and will be modernized is the fight of a man like Jayaprakash Narayan.

What he will do in the future, I believe, may eclipse his massive achievements in the past.

His most powerful asset is that he does not care for Javaprakash's position. Power is not his target. I don't say that the thought of being Prime Minister has never entered his head. He is a human being. He was a hero in the battle for India's liberty. The adulation of youth flowed to him.

Temptation of Power

But the temptation or possibility of power has never controlled Javaprakash. He has neither chosen friends nor altered convictions to reach the top. He has stood his ground, has frankly and passionately (and rationally) expressed and sweated for his convictions.

What are his convictions? That Indians need to plan for the welfare of all, not just of a few, not even of the majority. That India lives not merely in New Delhi but in her lakhs of villages. That experts can draw up plans but they have to be carried out in every village or town by individuals.

That a brilliant scheme in Yojana Bhavan in New Delhi is only a beginning, not the end. That a pyramid is built from its base, not its apex. That without winning the trust of the common man, and without teaching him respon-sibility, progress will be zero.

That from a nation where some produce, some distribute and everyone consumes, India has to become a place where everyone produces.

That gifts of land and wealth to the poor are important and necessary but that without gifts of labour and life India will remain poor.

His view about border areas like Kashmir and Nagaland is that people living there have to be won over. He believes that stubbornly to maintain that there is no dispute is against India's interest. And to insist that the average Kashmiri or Naga feels the

By Rajmohan Gandhi

same way as the average politician in New Delhi can, in his opinion, only alienate him further.

There is irony in the thought that had men like Jayaprakash with their spacious minds occupied different rungs in the Indian administration few among Kashmiris and Nagas would have contemplated separation.

Javaprakash is certain that to defeat poverty and to help create world peace friendship between India and her neighbours is essential. India's interest requires, in his opinion, that we judge con-ducts of Western and Communist countries by identical standards. So he backed criticism of the Anglo-French move in Egypt in 1956, but felt it was unfair and dishonest of the Government not to condemn the Soviet action in Hungary and the Chinese subjugation of Tibet.

Many politicians who call themselves Netas are, in fact, mere followers of a whipped-up mob. They are led by their nose which smells the possibility of position, votes or applause and drags them to the left, right or the rear but seldom along the straight and forward path.

Shrewder than Most

Javaprakash is the precise opposite. He is a leader. Some attack him as impractical because he refuses to appease political pressure groups. They don't understand the man. He is shrewder than most self-styled realists and his finger constantly feels the political pulse.

He does not worship at the temple of the caste system. Urgently do we need more like him to kill the poison of hate between caste and caste, language and

language, religion and religion. Rare among public men is his quality of care for individuals. He gets through to the man next to him or working with him. To Jayaprakash, it is the other man who is important.

He loves India enough to be frank. Prouder than most of what has been good and noble in our past, he is sufficiently interested in the present and the future to

tempt for manual work. He was

scathing, but he won his audience. Unlike some current politicians Jayaprakash knows what work means. He has laboured with his hands not only on spinning wheels in India but in steel factories in America.

Real Socialism is his aim: a society where each cares for all and all for each, where each gives his best and receives what he needs. Jayaprakash knows that this can only be achieved as a result of a new outlook in men.

Events will force India to heed him more than she has done thus far. It is a criminal shame that at this moment of crisis we are not using his leadership.

Manhood not Sheephood

Take the food problem, or language. It is Himalayan foolishness not to seek his views. He knows the country better than most experts. He knows the people; he has lived, worked and slept in their midst. His proposals will be practical and progressive.

My purpose here is not to suggest that Shastri should step down and invite Jayaprakash to take over. It is to help the thinking of some who may have been confused by hate-mongering reaction masquerading as the guardian of liberty and honour.

We attack China for her obstinate defiance of the views and feelings of the rest of the world. We call her vain and backwardlooking. Indians must realize that many around the world are beginning to feel that a similar spirit is on the rise in India. This notion can be effectively dispelled if the voices of men like Jayaprakash are broadcast more.

That is why the modern, intellectual Indian is furious at the blindness of some newspapers in suppressing his voice and in censoring from his speeches sentences they think will be unpopular with the Government.

Is cowardice the reason? Fear is a liar, comrades of the Press. There are more Indians than is sometimes realized who want to get at the facts and are determined to be objective.

Those who would make India a Not long ago in Delhi I heard , nation of sheep will get their sur-him tackle laziness and the con- prise. Manhood is what India needs and wants-not sheephood.



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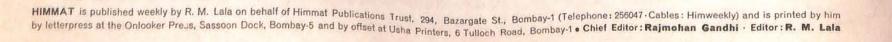
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