

HIMMAT

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EXCLUSIVE REPORT



18 DAYS INSIDE SOUTH VIETNAM

How popular is Thieu? How free is the Opposition?



RAJMOHAN GANDHI ON THE
LAMBTON-JELICOE
AFFAIR p22

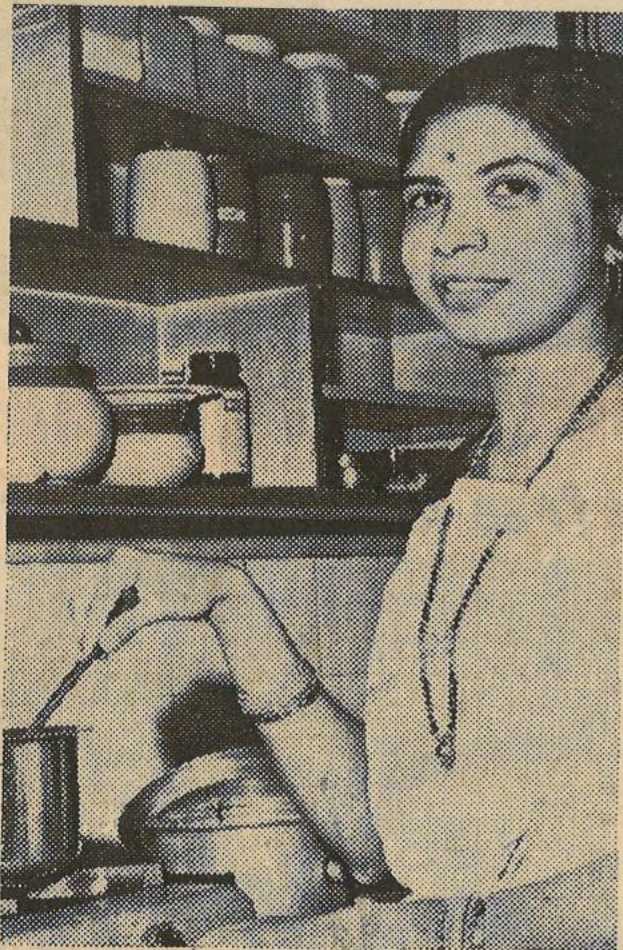
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EDITORIALS

UP—a pattern of inefficiency

YET another state is likely to have President's rule—and that is Uttar Pradesh, India's largest state.

The main casualty of the recent troubles in UP, with the violence in Lucknow University and the rebellion of the Provincial Armed Constabulary, is the Congress Government of Mr Kamalapati Tripathi. Having come to power in April 1971, this Government has established a reputation for inefficiency, corruption and nepotism. Mrs Gandhi will give her judgment on the Tripathi Ministry when she returns from her foreign tour on June 14. In all likelihood Mr Tripathi will be removed and President's rule imposed till the state general elections at the end of the year.

The PAC rebellion happened suddenly and was said to have taken the state and Central Governments by surprise. Yet incidents of disobedience and rudeness to officers had been on the increase. When the trouble broke out in Lucknow University the Army was asked to take over armouries throughout the state. So obviously the state Government must have been aware that the disaffection among PAC men was of a fairly serious nature. And yet the Government was caught off guard when the mutiny actually occurred. This illustrates the indifference amongst the officials

who had reports of the grievances of the PAC men and the inefficiency of the state Government.

The Provincial Armed Constabulary is a paramilitary organisation raised by the British to fight dacoit gangs. Since Independence it has been used for quelling civil disturbances in urban areas. Discipline has never been its strong point and the men in the PAC have tended to be trigger happy. Subsequent Governments in UP have failed to take any decision on the role of the PAC. The present outbreak is as a result of an accumulation of unsettled issues over many years.

Further there is hardly any doubt that political elements have exploited the demands of the PAC men as well as the students in Lucknow University. The timing of the two incidents and the fact that the PAC men rebelled in 10 different cities on the same day, proves that the caper was well planned.

This has been the worst incident of police turbulence since Independence. If the pattern repeats itself in other states it bodes ill for Indian democracy. Those who start forest fires may end up burning down their own houses.

British Ministers resign

JUST at the time when the British economy is beginning to expand and the Government is optimistic about the future (see page 9), the island nation has been severely shaken by the affairs of two Ministers with call girls. One defence of the Ministers' conduct that has been made is that in a modern society such tragedies should be regarded as inevitable and therefore excusable. "The Financial Times" writes that if the British people demand "too high a standard" from politicians then "the supply of men capable of conducting public affairs imaginatively and efficiently will tend to dry up, leaving us with politicians who will often be either mediocre or fanatical." The paper urges that men in high office should be allowed to keep "their private and public lives to some extent apart."

Leaving aside the universal moral issues of human behaviour that these recent episodes raise (see page 22), is this recommendation correct on strictly practical grounds?

Modern society is getting more and more complex and is finely balanced. It can be very quickly and

radically affected by the decisions of its leaders. For instance, the economy of Britain will be permanently influenced by entry into the Common Market. In this respect modern society is different from the societies of previous centuries which continued pretty much the same from generation to generation despite all the wars and politicking or even from the industrial societies of only a generation ago. Today the decisions which political leaders make affect the lives and well-being of tens of millions of people, not just the affairs of a political superstructure.

In this light is it practical to state that the private life of a statesman is irrelevant to his public efficiency and effectiveness, when that private life might involve entanglements with call girls or other relationships which cause instability of judgment?

Modern society, far from demanding less of her leaders, is going to have to require more if it is to get the level of dispassionate thought and intelligent action that the situation in today's world requires.

What's in a (sur)name?

WE simple Indians were doing very well with our own names and our fathers' names. But then came the British. "What's in a name?" they said, and demanded that every Indian have a surname. So we had to fall back on our castes, professions and birthplaces.

In North India all the warrior castes had to become Mr Singh—which literally means "lion". The South Indians, started the commendable practice of having the name of their birthplace first. Those unfortunate enough to be knighted by their kind masters had con-

sequently to suffer the indignity of being addressed as Sir Madras and Sir Cochin!

The poor Parsis were the worst off. They became the butt of eternal ridicule because of their Mr Batliwala (bottle-vendor), Mr Chhatriwala (umbrella-vendor) and Mr Soda-water-bottle-opener-wala!

We have a suggestion for Mr George Fernandes. In his untiring campaign against imperialism why doesn't he take on to do away with surnames—the last vestige of the British Raj!

Briefly Speaking.....

A variety of nothing is better than a monotony of something.

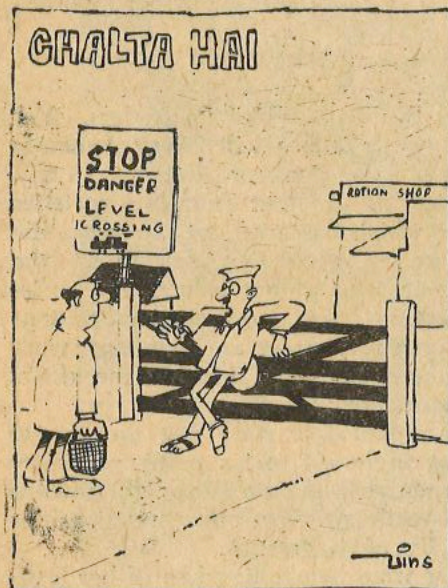
JEAN PAUL RICHTER, 1847-1937

Check college-mania

THE move to control the setting up of new private colleges is a sensible one. This will be done by imposing strict conditions for affiliation to a university. In this way the numbers flooding into the field of higher education can be checked.

There is no doubt that the college-mania, which set in in the years after independence, has had an adverse effect on our economy. Thousands of graduates have been churned out by the education machine only to add to the growing numbers of educated unemployed.

Birbal seriously hopes this is not one more haphazard proposal but is one of a series of steps to re-orient our entire education system.



"Sorry sir, my orders are not to let anyone through till all the food specials have gone past."



Going too far

THE Managing Editor of the "New York Times" was asked to visit the Chinese mission in New York and told that the Chinese Government considered the printing of advertisements from anti-Peking groups and Taiwan as an "unfriendly act". Unless this act was stopped the "New York Times" would not be allowed to open a bureau in Peking.

Like many other newspapers in the US the "New York Times" has a longstanding application for permission to work in China. But as was expected of any free paper, the "New York Times" replied to the Chinese that it regarded the freedom of political advertising as an essential part of the freedom of the press.

Bullying between nations is one thing but for one country to interfere with the press of another is really going too far.

"Trunk Troubles"

BOMBAY Telephones remains an enigma. Its workings (or rather non-workings) are a complete mystery.

To book a trunk call dial 180. If you want to know where your call stands you have to ring 181 or 266151 which is called "Trunk Assistance". If only they would "assist".

Birbal's friend rang one of the "assistance" numbers, was told to hold on, was kept waiting on the line for over five minutes and in the meantime was entertained by a vicious argument between two lady operators which could be clearly heard. This happened not once but a number of times and to more people than Birbal's friend. Perhaps 181 should be re-named "Trunk Troubles".

Bombay is India's commercial capital and a lot of business is done on the phone. What is stopping Bombay Telephones from achieving even a minimum standard of efficiency?

Computerised clergy

WITH everyone nowadays discussing the pros and cons of the cybernetic revolution and the effects of scientific discoveries on religious teaching, the Rev William Maine of Worcestershire has come up with an interesting suggestion. Why not, he proposes to the scientists, develop a computer that will

supply suitable texts from the Bible to people who telephone clergymen when they need help.

The computer would pick up words like "lonely" and "bereaved" and answer the callers with a relevant text from the Bible.

However, if this happens there will be many unemployed clergymen. After all if a machine can do their job, what is there for them to do!

Honesty boxes

CITY buses in Auckland, New Zealand are collecting 10 per cent more in fares with "honesty boxes" than they achieved with bus conductors.

A Transport Committee spokesman commenting on this daring venture said: "When we had conductors there was an incentive to beat the system!"

Will the Bombay BEST dare to do the same?

Birbal

UPON MY WORD!

Find as many words as you can from the TEN letters given below. The words must have four letters or more and must use the letter in larger type. At least one word must use ALL TEN letters. No proper nouns, plurals or non-English words allowed, nor variations of same verb (eg. tame, tames).

UPON MY WORD E R D
PUZZLE NO. 31

You should find 49 I A E S
words this week.

(Answer next week) D E T

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 30

Epopt, pepo, pert, pier, piert, pipe, poet, poop, poor, pope, pore, port, porter, pote, prior, prop, proper, report, ripe, rope, tipper, tope, trip, tripe, troop, trope, PROPRIETOR — An owner

Norwegian P.M. offers mediation on Iceland

From R. M. Lala in Oslo

The claim of Iceland for a 50-mile sea limit has been strongly repudiated by Britain whose fishermen have traditionally fished off the Icelandic coast. The dispute has reached such an intensity that an Icelandic naval vessel fired on and damaged a British trawler at the end of last week. British Foreign Secretary Sir Alec Douglas-Home branded the act as a "shameful" use of force on the high seas. Earlier the Norwegian Prime Minister, Mr Lars Korvald, offered to mediate between the two nations. "The Spectator", British Conservative weekly, has advised restraint by the British Government (see page 10).

"NORWAY will be happy to mediate in the dispute between Iceland and Britain because we have got friendly relationships with both countries," Norway's Prime Minister Lars Korvald told me this morning in an interview in Oslo.

Norway's diplomatic feelers were put out a few hours earlier offering her assistance. Norway is a traditional friend of Britain and is regarded as a second home by the people of Iceland who migrated from here to Iceland almost a thousand years ago.

Education Minister Dr Skulberg told this writer that in the Icelandic language the words still used for going to Norway are "I am homeward bound to Norway." "The old Norwegian language," the Education Minister continued, "is only preserved in Iceland while in Norway we were influenced by Danish."

Important facts about Norwegian history were preserved in the Norwegian sagas by the Icelandic author Snorre. Feeling here in Norway is

SO THEY SAY

I am not opposed to violence though I do not subscribe to violence.

GEORGE FERNANDES
Indian trade union leader

Does age lend vintage to legal wisdom, as it does in the case of wine?

D. P. DHAR
Union Minister for Planning

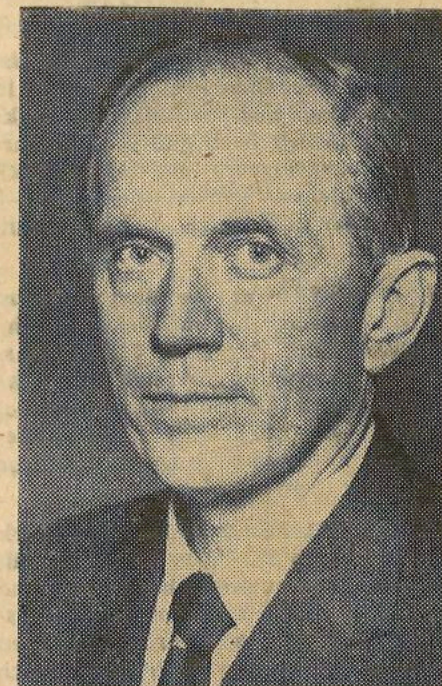
Being strong also means we can afford to be wise. Being wise means we can afford to let people step on our feet, but they must know there is a point beyond which they cannot monkey with us.

SHAH OF IRAN

quite strongly for Iceland and young people wear badges saying "50" in support of Iceland extending its territorial waters to 50 miles into the sea (to protect its fishing).

Lars Korvald, Norway's 58 year-old Prime Minister, is the son of a farmer. He was principal of an agricultural school and Norway's delegate to the UN General Assembly. A gentle unassuming personality, he came to power last October after the referendum on Norway entering the Common Market. In the referendum the Norwegian people voted against entry by 53 per cent to 47 per cent. As a result the anti-Common Market forces in Parliament were permitted to form a minority government in order to negotiate a Free Trade Agreement with the Common Market.

When asked why Norway did not



PRIME MINISTER KORVALD: eye on Soviet naval strength

and full membership, except that we are not in the steering organs of the Common Market. We will need to find alternative outlets for some of our

"I think it is important to take specific problems to God, to pray about them and also to listen to Him for advice. Naturally, we always make mistakes, but the world would be a different place if we obeyed God."

join the Common Market, Mr Korvald replied it was mainly because people were afraid they would lose their sovereignty. Since 1931 Norway has been subsidising grain and milk production and maintains high prices for agricultural products. Farmers also feared that joining the Common Market would cause a drop in income.

"Do you see the possibility of Norway changing its mind in the near future?" I inquired. "No new motion for doing so is expected in the near future and the next Parliament (due in September) is expected to run its four year term without challenging the result of the referendum. Of course, some people are working to change public opinion."

On the Free Trade Agreement with the Common Market his Government has negotiated, Mr Korvald says, "In my opinion there is not much difference between this Trade Agreement

industrial products over the next years."

The Prime Minister was asked whether in view of the detente in Europe he envisaged the withdrawal of the US forces in Europe. He replied, "Norway is very interested in NATO and that the US should maintain some troops in Europe. Norway is in a strategic position and we see NATO as a defence organisation. But we also see NATO as a peacekeeping organisation. In the mutual security conference it is important that both the NATO and the Warsaw Pact powers meet on the same level of strength to get the balance of forces." (It may be noted here that Norway, although it is the Northern headquarters of NATO, does not keep on its soil either atomic weapons or rockets of foreign troops. This is to reassure its

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

VERDICT!

THIS WEEK HIMMAT

COMMENDS Union Finance Minister Y. B. Chavan's "honesty" in admitting that nationalised banks have indeed been guilty of favouring big farmers and **WHISPERS** into his ears an easy solution—a "committed" cadre of bank managers!

IS STUNNED at the demonstration in Varanasi by members of the Communist Party of India (Marxist) supporting the rebellion in the Provincial Armed Constabulary of U.P. and **REGARDS** it an incitement to treasonable action not to be lightly overlooked.

SYMPATHISES with the New York Judge who has been forced to sell hotdogs to augment his income and **POINTS OUT** to Union Law Minister Gokhale, who earlier resigned from the Bombay High Court bench on the ground that his salary was inadequate, that he could at least have started a bhelpuri shop!

SWOONS at the possibility of Japan shifting some of its pollution-causing industries to India and **PONDERS** whether to organise a rally of people with their mouths and noses covered with gauze bandages!

CHUCKLES over the statement of Mr H. V. R. Iengar that the syllabus for the B. Com degree in the Madras University is so vast that he as a former Reserve Bank Governor felt he would have "miserably failed at the examination" and **INFORMS** him that the students heartily share his feelings!

RECOMMENDS a good spanking to that college student from Chandigarh who played a hoax on the police and his parents by reporting that he was "abducted" by Naxalites and **IS INCENSED** to hear that he got his inspiration from a Hindi movie!

GETS HOT UNDER THE COLLAR on reading that the erring Chinese ambassador in Athens, Chou Po-ping, who gatecrashed into the Israeli Embassy party by mistake has been recalled to Peking and **PLEADS** with Chou En-lai to treat the incident with the humour it deserves.

ICELAND — from page 5

neighbour, Russia, of its peaceful intentions.)

When asked if the growing naval strength of the Soviet Union in the North Sea is any cause of concern, the Prime Minister cautiously replied, "Norway is keeping an eye on Soviet naval strength." Mr Korvald felt that detente was gaining strength also in the Soviet Union and he welcomes the situation. He felt that the relationship between the north and the south (the developed and the developing countries) will assume greater importance than the east-west (NATO and the Warsaw Pact powers) relationship in the future.

Mr Korvald sees 1973 as a good year for Norway's economy where the exports are expected to be higher than ever. Norway's formidable merchant fleet (the 4th largest in the world) is all occupied abroad and there are no ships lying unused in Norwegian ports.

Mr Korvald who belongs to the Christian Peoples' Party is an active member of the Lutheran Church.

"You, Sir, are a man of deep Christian faith. How does it effect your political life and decisions?" The Prime Minister replied, "It is difficult to express. I think it is important to take specific problems to God, to pray about them and also to listen to Him for advice. Naturally, we always make mistakes, but the world would be a different place if we obeyed God.

"God has created every single person and we must learn to do our best for each individual.

"God has also created the resources of the world and they are not meant to be used selfishly by any nation. That is why my party has taken a strong stand in favour of increasing our development aid to 1 per cent of our gross national product by 1978. But I think it is more correct to call this co-operation between nations rather than aid."

When asked what was his vision for Norway's role in the world, "We are a well to-do country and we need to

Boom, boom

Of the two ships circling each other off Iceland, the British frigate is called Jupiter, head of the Roman godly hierarchy, and the Icelandic gunboat is the Odinn, after the top Norse god.

I just thought the epic dimension of the conflict might have escaped you.

"THE FINANCIAL TIMES", London

share with the rest of the world. It is no good preaching something unless you live it out in practice. When we share what we have with others then we can have a message for them.

"We can also play a part in helping to solve conflicts between nations. An example is an offer today to help mediate between Britain and Iceland."

NEXT WEEK

Interview with Denmark's Prime Minister, Mr Anker Jorgensen

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50000

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All this deployment of man-power is making its impact on the nation's economy. Another contribution of Shriram Chemicals.

PROMISE OF PLENTY WITH



SHIRAM CHEMICALS

Turning point in Tamil politics

From K. S. Ramanujam in Madras

THE victory of the ADMK candidate, Mr Maya Thevar, in the by-election to the Lok Sabha from the Dindigul Parliamentary constituency in Tamilnadu is easily the most noteworthy political development in this state since the ruling DMK split in October, 1972. Whether the Dindigul verdict is the beginning of the end of DMK rule in Tamilnadu as well as the starting point of the decline of the DMK party's political hold and influence amongst the Tamil masses is anybody's guess.

One thing is obvious. There is a very substantial disenchantment amongst the Tamil masses of the DMK rule. Out of a total electorate of about 6.5 lakhs (650,000), nearly 5 lakhs exercised their franchise. The ruling DMK candidate who was supported by the Forward Block, the official party of the predominant Thevar community who are more than 50 per cent of the electorate, secured only 94 thousand votes—less than 20 per cent!

In strictly private conversations, both the Chief Minister, Mr Karunanidhi, and the Congress (O) leader, Mr Kamaraj, are understood to have reacted that the public opinion trend witnessed at Dindigul was one of extreme resentment towards many of the ruling party's policies as well as the conduct of its partymen towards the public at large. From different and divergently opposite positions, both have come to feel that the opportunity was utilised by the electorate to give open expression to their own indignation.

While Mr Karunanidhi seems to feel confident that the falling image of the ruling DMK can most surely be saved before the next general elections in the state, due early in 1976, Mr Kamaraj thinks that the DMK cannot continue as the ruling party for more than six or eight months.

His reasoning for this is that corruption and administrative interference have already reached alarming proportions in the state. The verdict of Dindigul will have its repercussions leading to a very serious deterioration in the law and order situation. This may necessitate the dissolution of the state assembly and imposition of President's rule.

What is perhaps quite significant is the total support M. G. Ramachandran received from the two warring Communist parties, right and left. Both have correctly assessed the strength of popular goodwill enjoyed by M. G. Ramachandran

and this helped them to identify themselves with the anti-ruling DMK wave which is currently sweeping over Tamilnadu. It is common knowledge that the Communists have been playing a waiting game ever since 1952 when, in so far as their popularity in Tamilnadu is concerned, they suffered a fatal blow at the hands of the late Rajaji. However, how far and how long the co-operation between the ADMK and the two Communist parties will last and to what purpose, remains to be seen.

By choosing to field a candidate of their own, the Congress (O) have not helped themselves in the least. If only Mr Kamaraj had displayed vision and let the DMK and the ADMK have a straight fight. He needed to recognise the fact that the by-election was caused by the untimely demise of a DMK member. Therefore, he could have utilised the opportunity to hurt and embarrass the ruling DMK, and save himself and his party considerable difficulties. If there is a pointed lesson for the Congress (O) and Mr Kamaraj from Dindigul, it is that M. G. Rama-

chandran enjoys the deep-seated goodwill of the poor masses throughout the length and breadth of Tamilnadu.

This has very special significance in terms of what both Mr Karunanidhi and Mr Kamaraj concede, namely, that of all the four parties who contested in this by-election, the ADMK had the least amount of financial or other resources and that money or material influences had no effect on the Dindigul electorate. This is no small tribute to the newly emerging political party.

Union Ministers C. Subramaniam and Mohan Kumaramangalam stand condemned as political leaders of all-India standing by the absurd showing of the Congress (R) candidate in this by-election. By polling a little over two per cent of the counted votes, he lost his deposit. If only the Congress (R) had continued to extend its support to the ADMK as per their earlier decision, it would not have invited such open shame and ridicule on this occasion.

Lastly, the big question now is whether there will immediately be a spurt in defections from the rank and file of the ruling DMK to the ADMK. The continued stability for the ruling DMK will depend on its own members in the state legislature where its majority is not only absolute but overwhelming. Furthermore, it is difficult to guess the internal pressures Chief Minister Karunanidhi may be subjected to, by powerful leaders and groups within the ruling DMK party. There may be an early demand for a change in the leadership of the party.



"Well, show business is show business."

MALDIVE ISLANDS:

Chinese go a-fishing

EVER since China established diplomatic relations with the Maldives on October 14, 1972 they have taken a special interest in these strategically placed islands. An indication of the close ties between the two nations is that Radio Maldives relays Peking Radio's English programme every morning.

The Maldives Islands, about 600 miles off the Kerala coast, is the smallest member state of the United Nations. The population of 115,000 people, most of whom are Muslims, are scattered over nearly 2,000 islands. A peaceful transition to independence came to the Maldives on July 26, 1965. A Republic was proclaimed on November 11, 1968.

In the eyes of the Chinese, "British colonialists forced the Maldives to lease Gan island in the southern Maldives for 100 years to serve as a military base and relay station." Though the New China News Agency correspondent says the "Maldivian people did not yield to the threat of force by British colonialists," the British Royal Air Force continues to use Gan island under an agreement with the Republic.

The Maldives produce a special variety of fish, called "Maldivian fish", which is mostly exported to Sri Lanka. The Chinese are keen to assist the Maldivians in the field of fishing.

But the interest in fishing is also because the Russians are hovering around the Maldives exploiting the rich fish resources.

PHILIPPINES:

Heading for a Jihad?

THE situation in Mindanao continues to be serious, though statements are issued at regular intervals about the success of Government forces. With the arming of the Local Self-Defence Force (LSDF) by the Government, the Muslim insurrection in the southern Philippines may soon snowball into a religious war—a Jihad. The volunteers of the LSDF are Christians.

Reports of harassment of Muslims and burning of mosques have begun to trickle in. If such activity continues, it may not be long before the insurrectionists, who have confined themselves to attacking Government

forces, may make civilians the targets of their attacks.

What is most tragic is that at a time when the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) seems to be drawing closer, the battle in Mindanao is sowing suspicion and mistrust. The Filipinos think that Tun Mustapha, the Chief Minister of Sabah, may be helping the rebels. If the insurrection continues, it is difficult to see how it will not drag in surrounding Muslim nations.

So far the major demands of the rebels are for preferential economic treatment for the Muslims to make up for years of government neglect, the

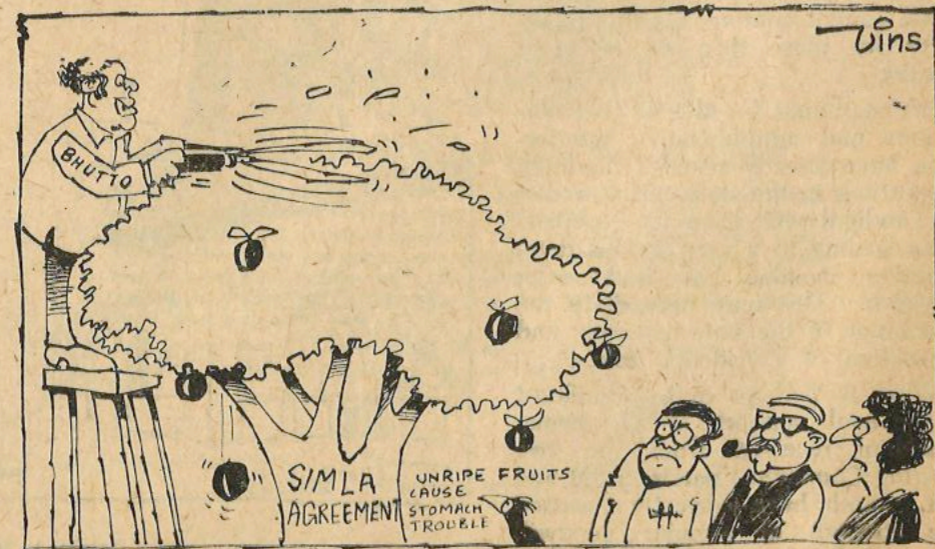


MARCOS: will he learn?

right to practise Islamic laws in full and more participation in local government.

President Marcos states he wants "economic, social and political reforms" and to "give to the Muslims what they are entitled to—a share not only in government but a share in the rewards of our progress."

Unless Marcos translates his speeches into practical action, the call for secession in Mindanao may grow stronger and soon reach the point of no return. If there is one thing President Marcos should learn from the experience of the Americans in Vietnam it is that force alone, however



"The more you prune it, the better it will grow."

strong, cannot destroy the power of an idea.

CHINA:

Oil for friendly relations?

MANY were the stories and theories expounded as to why China decided to open her doors to America and build close relations. One story was that China had discovered vast oil reserves but did not have the advance technology needed to fully exploit them. The Chinese had two alternatives—either to invite the Soviet Union to help them or to enlist the Americans. Lin Piao, it is said, opted for Russia while Chou opted for America. An angry Lin tried to lead a coup but was unsuccessful and is believed to have been shot down when fleeing to Russia.

Whether the story is true or not, one thing is sure—China does have oil reserves and it looks like the US will be helping to exploit them. Many American oil companies, including Esso, Caltex and Mobil were invited to participate in the Canton Fair. Negotiations for purchase of oil drilling equipment is believed to be in an advanced stage.

But how much oil does China have? A representative of American oil equipment firms at the Canton Fair, Harned Pettus Hoose, says the Chinese confided in him that they have the third largest oil reserves in the world. Hoose was born in China, lived there for 23 years and speaks Mandarin fluently. He says the existing Taching oilfield is only a trickle of China's reserves. More lies in the Gulf of Chihli and in areas "South of the Gobi Desert".

As far as American firms are concerned, the oil deal is expected to be worth about \$300 million in the first year alone.

Boom time in Britain

Triumph or disaster ahead

From Gordon Wise in London

GOOD news from British industry includes record breaking export figures, lower imports, and a £500 million investment programme by British Leyland, Britain's largest home-owned motor company.

Productivity is rising at 9 per cent, exports by about 30 per cent. Peter Walker, Trade and Industry Secretary, and something of a "whizz kid" in British industry and politics, warned that it was wrong to take too much notice of one month's good trading figures. But it is true that in the last month exports rose by £77 million and imports decreased by £83 million. "The trend over the past four months shows that we have an export-led expansion," argued Walker.



PETER WALKER: "very exciting"

He pointed out that earnings in March were about 15 per cent higher than they were a year ago—and what is significant, this figure is twice the increase in prices. He claimed further: "The British economy has never been stronger since the war. This is very exciting and we must not let gloomy economists deter us from taking full advantage of the situation."

"The next months promise to be among the most intriguing in British post-war history," wrote the "Guardian" newspaper. "The dash for growth on which Mr Heath is now embarked could lead either to dazzling triumph or to disaster, for the country and his Government. It is possible to take either view. Industry's faith in a sustained expansion, generated partly by our entry into Europe, partly by the measure of success the Government's incomes policy has so far achieved, has some symptoms of fever in it: the mood could change quickly in the direction of gloom and belt-tightening. We have been there

before. Balance of payments difficulties, the skeleton in our national cupboard, are omnipresent. What should we do?"

Walker, a confident man (some would sav annoyingly so), has experience in doing rather well in industry and investment before going into politics. He is also a vigorous protagonist of the optimistic outlook. The BBC has a daily programme after the mid-day news called "The World at one". Often it seems, to the ordinary listener, that the BBC commentator is determined to extract the maximum amount of pessimism out of the day's events. On one such programme, Walker said that it should have been renamed "The World is Glum". His point was taken up by others. As a result there is perhaps a better balance of the good as well as the bad coming over the ether waves.

The British Leyland Motor Corporation expansion programme is very significant. Cars are at the spearhead of Britain's export drive. This expansion was announced by Lord Stokes, ebullient Chairman of British Leyland (BLMC), speaking at the fifth "birthday celebration" of the Corporation's formation. British Leyland is an amalgamation of a number of previously highly individualistic units.

There are some cautionary noises from those who are realistic about the sensitive British Stock Market. But for the next five years it is expected that BLMC will spend £100 million a year in the following ways: new cars will be produced to meet the challenge from Japan, the United States and EEC countries; the production target figure is 1,500,000 units a year, (that is 330,000 more than now); there will be new engines designed and produced, beating the pollution problem; new plants will house a new Rover car and expand the operations of Jaguar, Triumph and Leyland trucks and buses. Included in the expansion plans will be the building of an entirely new car plant.

British Leyland now has approximately 170,000 employees. The new

plans will increase the number. BLMC is Britain's only large-scale motor manufacturer. The other firms manufacturing in Britain—Fords, Chrysler and Vauxhall—are American-owned.

Workers have been included in public relations. They will be able to see detailed diagrams and display boards, which will be erected at plants, showing every worker where the nuts and bolts he provided go on the new car, the Allergo, until now code-named AD067.

Quality and "British made"

Lord Stokes told the nation, "We should be more proud of British industry because it is by British industry that we are going to live, whether we like it or not. It is time we woke up to the fact that Britain lives, and most of the people in this country live, because of some work of the motor industry."

With reference to the niggling by some sections of the press about the advantages of foreign cars, he pointed out that 70-80 per cent of the cars sold in Britain are British, and therefore "in the normal run of things, 70-80 per cent of all complaints are likely to be about British cars. People buy foreign cars...and then have to justify themselves even if their purchase isn't quite as exciting as they first thought."

But he was then quick to point out that he was not decrying foreign manufacturers. Cars today are made under similar conditions, on the same sort of machinery and assembly lines, in England, Europe, Japan or America.

The motoring correspondents of the papers give the new BLMC "family car" a welcome. But they point out that the crunch will be reliability. More and more motorists are getting more and more discontented with the amount of repair work done under the guarantee period, and after. For although guarantees normally cover faults during the first 12,000 miles or 12 months, nonetheless it is a considerable inconvenience to have to trundle the car back constantly for this kind of attention.

Quality used to be synonymous with "British Made". The British motor industry has had its reputation tarnished in this field of quality. If Lord Stokes and his team, that is everyone who works in the firm, can remove the tarnish, then they will justify the admirable optimism of Lord Stokes and Industry Secretary Peter Walker.

A MORAL QUESTION

There is no doubt that the fall-out of the French tests will cause some degree of fatal damage to people living in the Pacific Islands, Australia, New Zealand and parts of South America. Arguments between French and Australian scientists about the number distract attention from the fundamental question, which is: do the benefits of these atmospheric tests outweigh the fact that they will abbreviate the life of even one innocent person?

THE SUNDAY TIMES, London

BRITISH INTERESTS

It is right that a British government should vigorously defend a British interest; and simply because Iceland is small and weak is not necessarily sufficient reason to sacrifice a small but important British interest to Iceland's national interest. However, consideration of Britain's overall strategic interests might well lead the British Government to conclude that such interests coincide

rather than conflict with Iceland's Atlantic Ocean interests; and in this event the course of wise diplomacy would be for us to change our policy without further ado.

There are two grounds, each sufficient on its own on which to base this change of policy. First, we cannot afford to antagonise Iceland excessively and unbearably. Iceland's strategic position in the Atlantic is obvious to anyone with a map: the United States is rightly anxious to preserve its airbase at Keflavik, which is part of NATO's defence; the Soviet Union would be very pleased indeed with an Iceland amicably disposed towards it as a consequence of British hostility. Second, the claims that Iceland is making about the water surrounding the Icelandic coast are precisely the claims that we ought to be making about our own surrounding waters.

THE SPECTATOR, London

BREZHNEV IN BONN

Mr Brezhnev was also no doubt gratified to hear from Mr Brandt that the Federal Republic does not consider the EEC as a rival bloc that might set itself up against the CMEA,



"With United States' bread and European butter... Forward to victory over capitalism!"

Courtesy, Het Parool, Amsterdam

its Soviet-led counterpart. With the Helsinki and Vienna conferences seized of Europe's security problems and proposals for a mutual and balanced reduction of forces, peaceful co-existence still leaves room for economic competition. It is this competition that the Soviet leaders would wish to convert into co-operation. Mr Brezhnev has been able to achieve something in this direction in Bonn, a useful preliminary to his forthcoming visit to Washington.

THE HINDUSTAN TIMES, New Delhi

People aren't pollution

From our correspondent in Canberra

THE Federal Parliament, by the massive majority of 98 votes to 23, has thrown out a Government Member's private bill to liberalise Australia's abortion laws. The debate which cut across party lines was the climax to weeks of public demonstrations and debate over an issue which has stirred people's consciences deeply.

Letters pouring into MPs were said to be 40 to one against the Bill which advocated abortion on request up to 12 weeks and on the opinion of two medical practitioners from 12 to 23 weeks. Though the Prime Minister's sympathy for the bill was well known, 12 of his Ministers voted against it, including Deputy Prime Minister Barnard.

An amendment seeking a Royal Commission into abortion was also defeated by 80 votes to 42.

Though the Bill concerned only Federal powers which would have been limited to the Australian Capital Territory, the Minister for Education, Mr Kim Beazley, pointed out:

"It is being presented to use Canberra as an ideological sounding board to affirm certain principles, no doubt believed to be progressive but which in fact are utterly retrogressive."

The big concern

In other parts of the country laws relating to abortion are the concern of the state Parliaments. In only one state, South Australia, has the law been liberalised and there is growing evidence of medical and public opinion hardening towards the permissive fallout of the law in that state.

The attack on the bill was led by the Deputy Opposition Leader, Mr Phillip Lynch, as "a matter of deep personal conviction".

"Abortion is a short term view of the surface symptoms of a woman's problems," he said. "It leaves the aborted woman to pay the price with physical and psychological ill-health and fails to resolve her basic problems. "It is a solution which is promoted under the guise of a new liberation for women. In fact, it treats women as second-class citizens, not worth the proper care of society and Government.

"In the name of liberation it imposes new burdens on women. What we are being asked to agree to is the legalised destruction of human life."

Throughout the three-and-a-half hour debate, the crowded House and the packed public galleries listened

with quiet respect to speakers for and against. A vast listening audience followed the debate live over the national radio network.

Though the fate of the bill was expected, the size of its defeat dramatised the nation's opposition to the pro-abortionist lobby. The "Right to Life Movement", largely but not wholly Catholic inspired, was responsible for a good deal of the organised opposition to the Bill.



LANCE BARNARD: against abortion

secure from any direct and wilful attack. Abortion is a grave attack on the inviolability of human life.

"The widespread assertion of the need for such methods of contraception—by killing—is the measure of the degree to which social values have become callous and ruthless.

"To the malice of an assault on innocent life the Bill adds the malice of assault on marriages and families. The slogan has been uttered that people are pollution."

Mr Beazley noted the current public concern about the possible effects of atomic radiation on unborn children, following the forthcoming French nuclear tests in the Pacific. This, he said, was one of the reasons for the International Confederation of Free Trade Unions calling for a boycott of France.

He then quoted a letter from the Secretary of the Canberra branch of the Royal Australian Nursing Federation voicing her Union's concern about the prospect of nurses having to participate against their conscience in what Mr Beazley called "the slaying of recognisable human beings."

The Nurses' Union, Beazley said, had pointed out the known consequences in nervous breakdown to nurses who are called on to repudiate the fundamental motive which led them into the profession, the motive to save life. In view of approaches by

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

SRINAGAR — Four people were killed and 50 policemen injured when a violent mob, demonstrating over the publication of Prophet Mohammed's picture in a children's encyclopaedia published in England, clashed with the police.

NEW DELHI — Delegations of the International Committee of the Red Cross have expressed their satisfaction with the treatment given to the Pakistani prisoners of war and declared that the facilities provided for them amounted to more than those stipulated by the Geneva conventions.

— The State Bank of India has been rocked by a scandal, bigger than the Nagarwala case, involving a loan of Rs 9 million to a private firm whose total assets do not exceed Rs 4.2 million.

NAINITAL — Pant Nagar Agricultural University has started a correspondence course for the benefit of farmers and others interested in agriculture, at a nominal fee of Rs 10.

LUCKNOW — Eleven policemen and four soldiers were killed when the Army moved in, in a pre-dawn swoop all over the state, to end indiscipline in the ranks of the Provincial Armed Constabulary.

CALCUTTA — The West Bengal Government has exceeded the targets set by the Union Government's crash programme for digging tube-wells and providing other irrigation facilities.

GANDHINAGAR — The Gujarat Government has decided to distribute 200 gms of groundnut oil per person to economically backward classes at the rate of Rs 6 per kg, requiring an initial Government subsidy of Rs 5.6 million.

BOMBAY — The Maharashtra Government has lifted all restrictions on the inter-district movement of fodder in the state with immediate effect.

BANGALORE — About 30 top appointments, alleged to have been arbitrarily made to various faculties of the Union Government's newly-started National Institute of Management, have been set aside.

TRIVANDRUM — The Kerala Government has made travel free for blind people travelling in its State Transport buses.

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Exclusive report by Australian journalist:

Eighteen days inside South Vietnam

"Himmat" correspondent CHRISTOPHER MAYOR, who recently spent 18 days in Saigon, Danang and Hue, hits out at the old "identi-kit" style of reporting on Vietnam and gives a radical and encouraging assessment of the South Vietnam political situation and economy. He gives important answers to the following questions:

- How popular is President Thieu?
- How free is the Opposition?
- How does the ordinary man view the future?

WHAT IS really happening in South Vietnam?

The Hanoi press accuses the Saigon Government of 80,000 violations since the cease-fire agreement was signed in Paris in January. A prominent foreign ambassador in Saigon told me that most of the violations are such minor incidents that they would not have been reported during the war: "Each side chalks up as many violations as possible to prove the enemy's insincerity".

Washington accuses North Vietnam of sending 30,000 troops and massive supplies down the Ho Chi Minh trail. Hanoi says the US is keeping 10,000 men in South Vietnam in civilian dress assisting the Saigon Government in military tasks.

The Viet Cong accuse President Thieu of holding 200,000 political prisoners. A leading An Quang Buddhist opposed to the Thieu

Government told me that there are only 10,000 political prisoners and they are being released in batches from time to time.

What is really happening? I went to see for myself.

With due respect to my colleagues in the press, it has to be admitted that they covered the Vietnam War with great heroism but an equal amount of cynicism and prejudice. One wonders how many of the stories of Asia's great tragedy were identi-kit accounts put together over stiff whiskys in the Hotel Continental on Saigon's tree-lined Rue Tu Do.

Like most people my understanding of the situation relied on a solid diet of these foreign press reports. On an 18-day visit which took me to Saigon, Danang, Hue and Vung Tau, I had to revise many opinions.

One has to be impressed by the pre-

sence of the national flag on every building, house and hut. At first one suspects that the Government ordered this display of patriotism. But the flags are of different cloth and sizes and shades of yellow. They clearly were not manufactured in a Government flag factory.

Thieu no dictator

Abroad one gained the impression that President Thieu occupies his palace by the grace of the Pentagon. Yet in South Vietnam his political opponents, some of whom have recently been released from prison, told me even they will vote for him. One critic, a supporter of Marshal Nguyen Cao Ky, told me: "Thieu may not be a very good democrat but neither is he a dictator. He loves his country. People may not like his policies always but they acknowledge he is a patriot."

A foreign diplomat said: "President Thieu is everyone's second choice. He is more at home out among the people than in the palace. His sister still earns her living selling garlic in a provincial marketplace and lives in the small cottage their parents built." The people, who have seen previous leaders install their relatives in Saigon comfort, note this and give Thieu credit for it.

Perhaps his weakness is that he is very conscious of who his enemies are but slow to recognise his friends. Some of his critics told me that he has many more friends than he realises and that if he were less suspicious of people he would rally even more political support. He needs to learn that not all his opponents are subversive, pro-Viet Cong terrorists.

Even so, one is impressed by the atmosphere of freedom in the country. True there are tangles of barbed wire everywhere; troops with flack jackets and steel helmets still guard the main government buildings behind sand-bagged pillboxes, automatic rifles pointing skywards resting on their hips, fingers ready at the trigger; helicopters pass overhead on patrol and a curfew silences the dark from midnight till 5 a.m. By freedom, I mean the readiness of people to speak their minds, criticise the Government and particular leaders—not behind curtains

but in cafes and hotel lobbies—with-out looking over the shoulder.

There is an outspoken opposition in the elected House of Representatives and in the Senate. Though Thieu was the commander of the troops who took the palace in the coup organised against Ngo Dinh Diem in 1963 by General "Big" Minh, today there is an amazing resurgence of support for Diem and his policies.

One political group is dedicated to "the restoration of the spirit of Diem" and every November the commemoration of his assassination is attended by more and more people. Last year, I was told, 30,000 people turned out. Thieu himself is said to be preparing an amnesty for those associated with Diem's Government.

A leader of this group in the Parliament was elected with the largest majority of any candidate in his province though he had spent three years in prison and was stripped of all his assets for serving in Diem's cabinet. One of his supporters told me, "The people wanted to show they realised that we had been unjustly treated."

The tolerance of political opposition ends when it is in any way associated with Viet Cong terrorism. And this is understandable when one studies the behaviour of the Viet Cong in the field against the ordinary people.

Another impression one is given abroad is that the Viet Cong are patriotic reformers only interested in "Yankee, Go Home". They were in the field decapitating unco-operative village chiefs long before John Kennedy sent the first US troops to Vietnam. And after ten years of bloody combat, it must be accepted that the Viet Cong, with all the support they have had from North Vietnamese regulars and Russian and Chinese armaments, have not captured and held any of the 46 provincial capitals of South Vietnam. And while, in terms of square miles, the Viet Cong held a large part of South Vietnam when the cease-fire fell, most of it is mountainous forest terrain. They certainly do not control much territory in which the life and economy of the nation's 17 million people goes busily ahead.

No doubt one of the points to be bargained in Paris between the Provisional Revolutionary Government and

the Saigon delegates will be where can the PRG establish their capital.

One gains the impression in South Vietnam that it is the Saigon Government which wants elections as soon as possible and that the Viet Cong's PRG are not so keen.

It was put to me that television was one of the reasons for the current poor rating of the Viet Cong in opinion polls. There are over one million TV sets in South Vietnam and even in villages where the aerial costs more than the set people follow it closely. As one person told me: "After the Communist attack on Quang Tri in last year's spring offensive, the TV showed it all—the dead bodies of both sides. The people saw what Communism really means."

The habit of VC forces carrying off food and supplies from peasants they had raided, and their occupation of villages which brought down upon those villages the firepower of South Vietnamese troops, all served to increase their unpopularity.

It is perhaps in land reform that the Saigon Government is having most success. One person, again a political opponent of Thieu, told me: "Tell your foreign friends that the Americans don't only drop bombs, they have also given us millions of dollars with which the Government has been able to buy land from the owners and give it to the tilling peasants—three hectares a family. The peasant farmers have also been able to get cheap government loans and then band together, ten families at a time, to buy machinery."

Fear of Communists

The son of a farmer in the delta region told me that it is the Communists who frustrate these measures where they can. In regions which border on VC-held territory the farmers decline to accept the title deeds from the Government lest they become marked as Saigon agents. They prefer the status quo where they till the soil as tenants and wait for the VC to go away.

A Paris-qualified engineer, a specialist in irrigation and hydro-electric power generation, told me that in the Mekong Delta alone, that small triangle of rich rice country south of Saigon, it was feasible to grow food for 100 million people.

It is true that the presence of over half a million free-spending foreign troops helped create a totally artificial



PRESIDENT THIEU:
face to face meetings with the people

economy in South Vietnam. Many people are conscious that the withdrawal of America and its dollars will seriously deflate the economy. The very existence of this massive military machine has spawned a generation of contractors, entrepreneurs and shady dealers, not to mention jet aircraft mechanics and other skilled technicians who will find it hard to find enough work to match their skills or wits.

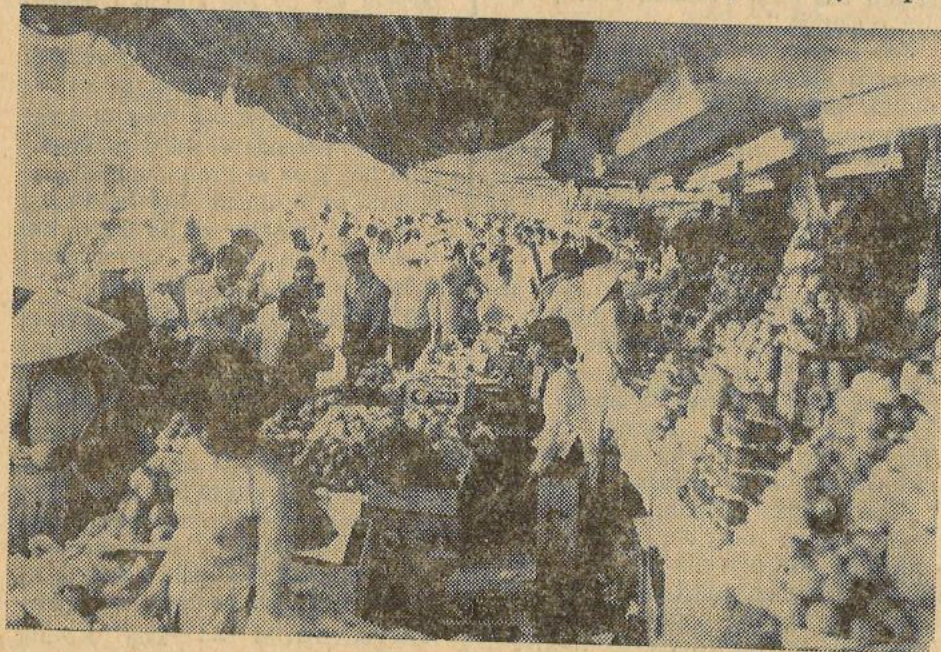
And yet, given peace, it is not difficult to foresee a tremendous development in the nation's economy. Not only the expansion of indigenous production like rice, timber, rubber, sugar and tea, but a certain industrial and manufacturing strength.

If the military and political confrontation does quieten down, vast sums of foreign aid will be made available for reconstruction and development—in the North as well as the South. Already Japan's Prime Minister Tanaka has approved a loan for a proposed \$35 million agricultural project at Phan Rang which would involve vast sugar and rice plantations and a refinery for 100,000 tons of sugar a year.

The Japanese are also keen to convert the giant deserted Camranh Bay complex, a main US port and supply depot during the war, into a vast industrial estate with a duty free port and export processing zone.

But many Vietnamese are afraid of what such an invasion of Japanese money and technology might involve. One businessman told me, "The Ja-

CONTINUED ON PAGE 17



SAIGON MARKET:
plenty of food, no armed camp

Society undervalues skilled industrial managers

Orphaned children of society

Rs 25 to Mrs H. Gomathy, Bombay 89

THE most loathsome and exploited by-product of our industrialisation is the trained managerial cadre. They are endowed with heavy responsibilities. They function in an atmosphere where the varied overt and covert interests of the various sectors of the society interact. When these external forces, influencing their decision-making process, work at cross purposes, the managers are not able to influence these forces as they are not endowed with authority corresponding to their responsibilities.

The only aim of our entrepreneurs

is to make maximum profit at any cost within the minimum period. Since the top management cadres are mostly hereditary in nature they lack orientation in modern management techniques. In order to retain their job, managers have to adapt themselves to the philosophy of the management. They are always in conflict as the philosophy of maximum profit at any cost within the minimum period goes against the very basic principles of scientific management. They are made to sacrifice the long term interests of the organisation for the immediate gain of the management.

The present day employees are well

aware of their rights. When these are denied they develop a sense of hatred towards the managers as they represent the management to them.

Managers often get caught between the cross fire of employer-employee interests. Employees, with their organised strength, have developed political muscle power making the Government enact laws which protect their interests. The employers are able to purchase justice with their moneyed power. The managers, having none of these powers, are left in the lurch.

The present day trained industrial managers are the orphaned children of society, exploited and hated by everybody but not cared for.

Skilled manager knows his business

Rs 15 to Victor Rajkotwala, Rajkot, Gujarat

THE last few years have been disastrous for labour-management relations. Cities have been crippled by strikes. Postal, railway, and auto workers, teachers, dirt collectors, firemen and even policemen are now resorting to the strike. They want "their share" of the national wealth.

The basic grievances between Management and Labour remain unsolved. Few are aware of the causes and the real solution. The real cause of such disputes involves the basic attitude of management towards workers. In

that light the value of skilled industrial and business managers should be realised. Most people think such managers are just there to see that no one goes easy on his job and to order people about. Nothing could be more to the contrary. In fact, the economic prosperity of the nation lies, to a great extent, in their hands.

An experienced manager who really knows his business, realises that he must be just and fair to his employees. A worker should be allowed to make suggestions and discuss his problems directly with him. Some companies have set up work-

involvement programmes to give employees more opportunities for responsibility, achievement, creativity and job enrichment. A skilled manager realises that these are the areas which give workers the most satisfaction with their jobs. Such a programme is the key to better industrial relations, greater efficiency and higher productivity.

Competent managers realise that there is no such thing as something for nothing. Incomes cannot increase faster than productivity. When workers realise this they find no need for strikes and discontent. They are loyal and support the company by building it up instead of tearing it down.

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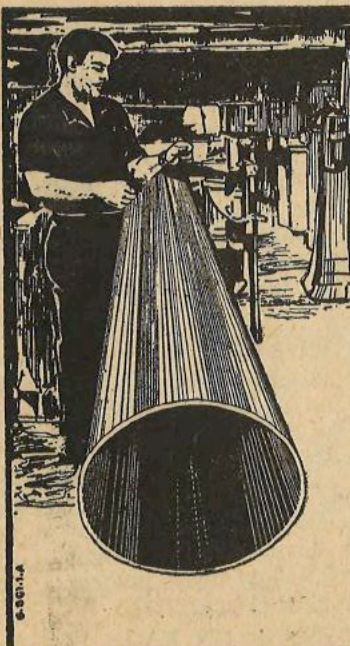
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Sixteen crores rupee varsity for Indians in South Africa

From a special correspondent

"HOW would you like to visit South Africa?" an Indian student in the UK was asked. With anger he replied, "I would not sink so low!"

Last week in Durban I sat in an audience bright with Indian saris, and watched an Indian garlanding South Africa's Prime Minister. Mr A. M. Moola, the Indian, said, "I am doing this in the hope of a future to which we can look with pride—a pride shared by us and our friends outside South Africa." The occasion was the official opening of the Indian University of Durban Westville.

Mr B. J. Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, performed the ceremony, with two of his Cabinet colleagues on the platform. Two thousand and three hundred Indian South African students are already studying in the university. Professor S. P. Olivier, Rector of the 500-acre new campus in the hills north of Durban, told me: "This is the finest university campus in the country, and one of the finest in the world. We chose the site out of 40 or 50 we looked at. It has cost 15 million rands (over Rs. 16 crores) to build. We have fought to give our Indians the best, not the second-best—both in the buildings and in the aca-

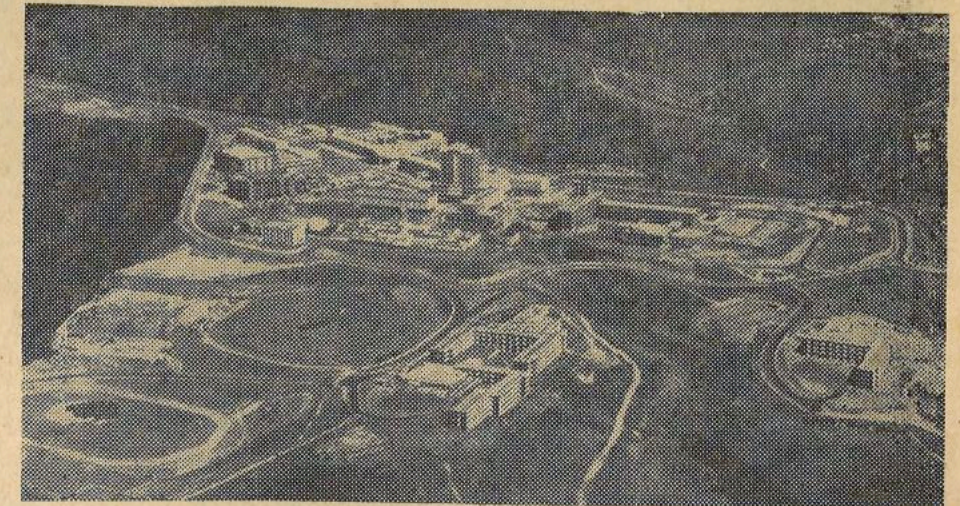
ABORTION—from page 11

prospective nurses already made to the Federation, there were grounds for believing that the Bill would be detrimental to future nursing recruitment.

Mr Beazley said the Bill did not dare to utter in law what it would force in practice—that the obligation to endeavour to resuscitate the life of an infant no longer rested on nurses and doctors.

"They were both being turned from healers to killers," he said.

The Prime Minister promised "open Government" after his party's electoral victory last December. His decision, against many pressures, to make this Bill a matter for a conscience vote won considerable respect. The ensuing debate showed parliamentary democracy at its best.



INDIAN UNIVERSITY IN SOUTH AFRICA: "one of the finest campuses in the world"

demie staff. Our goal is to have this university run by Indians for Indians."

It sprang from the 1960 Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference, when South Africa finally withdrew from "the club". For a hundred years before that, under successive governments (most of them strongly pro-British), the presence of the Indians on South Africa's east coast had been an embarrassment. They were brought first to work as coolies in the sugar plantations; and it was there, at the turn of the century, that a young Indian lawyer called Mohandas Gandhi first proved the effectiveness of "passive resistance" in defiance of an oppressive regime.

Up to 1960, South Africa's Indians had no citizenship rights at all. The official policy was one of "repatriation". Whites pretended to ignore their presence.

But with the withdrawal from the Commonwealth, the Nationalist Government under Verwoerd made a policy decision. "We accepted the Indians as a permanent part of our population," said Mr Vorster in his speech at Durban last week. "In the face of much opposition, we took full responsibility." Then came the creation of a Ministry of Indian Affairs, and the decision to found an Indian University.

So far the South African Government has directed and financed the project. Now representatives of the Indian community in Durban will serve on the university council, and

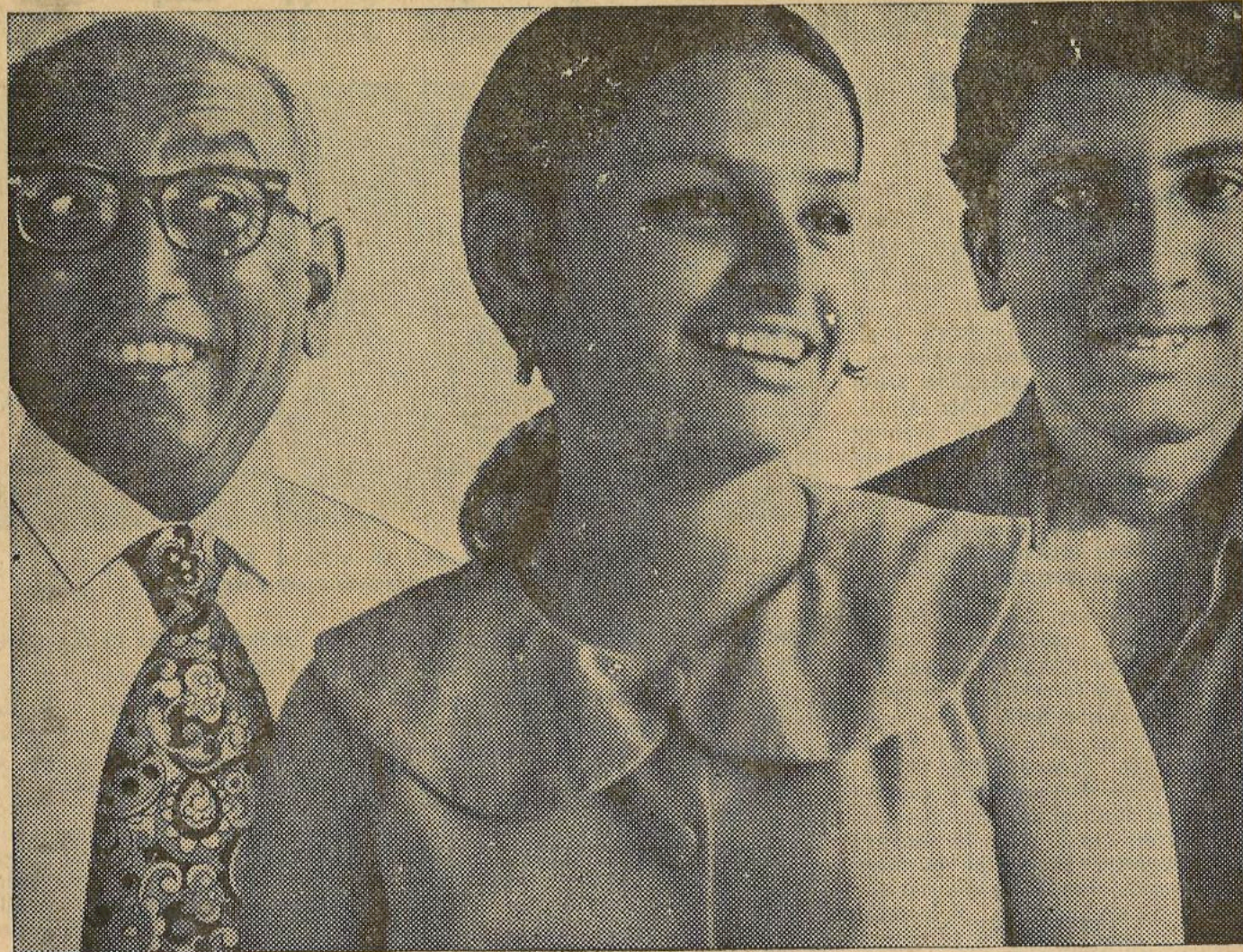
Indians are contributing to the Development Fund.

Hopes are in the air; yet, while the plaque was being unveiled, there was a demonstration going on in Durban against this "tribal university". Across the hills in Phoenix where members of the Gandhi family still live, the Indians are under close police surveillance. And newspapers carry reports of increasing guerrilla activity along the Zambezi and Mozambique borders.

Prime Minister Vorster spoke of the threat of "negative ideological forces", and of a "determined, diabolical, organised but covered-up" scheme to subvert students at universities. Dr Olivier, too, several times mentioned "our enemies", referring to the English-speaking (as opposed to the Africans) press.

Mr Vorster said: "Forced into isolation, with our security threatened, we are the focal point of the world. Ours is the only country which the whole of the outside world would like to see change. But," he went on, "we are one of the few countries which has not bowed, and will not bow, to outside interference."

The University of Durban Westville is doubtless a large achievement. There are others which also indicate a concern for other races in this land. But one notes, too, the self-righteousness which makes South Africans adopt the old "laager mentality"—keeping enemies at bay. Such a defensive posture hardly seems wise.



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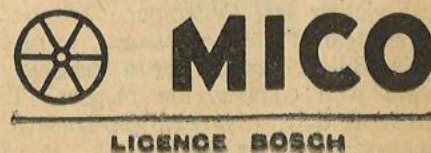
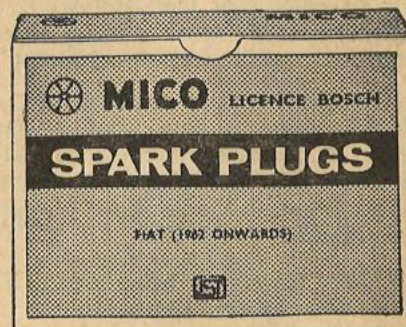
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HIMMAT, June 1, 1973

MRA—practical application of Buddhism

Bhikku (Buddhist monk) Sumedho, from Wat Nong Pah Pong Monastery in Thailand, has been on a pilgrimage to India. According to the strict Buddhist Vinaya (rules) for monks, he lives on faith, does not handle money and has only one meal a day. He is grateful for the hundreds of Indians, mostly villagers, who gave him food and looked after him.

He heard about Moral Re-Armament and visited the MRA centre at Asia Plateau, Panchgani in Maharashtra. He makes the following observations on his stay there:

I have had the privilege of spending the past six weeks at the Moral Re-Armament Centre at Panchgani where I have observed and participated in the life of this very inspiring place. Praise comes to my lips readily and my heart is filled with joy to see so many people from different classes, castes, races, nations and reli-

gions living in harmony due to their mutual acceptance of the four absolute moral standards.

Anyone who has had the good fortune to live in a community where morality is the standard of conduct will, at once, feel at home in Panchgani. Having spent the past eight years under the strict discipline of the

Buddhist Vinaya where the spirit of co-operation and humility was all-pervading, the life at Panchgani seems to be a most needed and practical application of that spirit for laymen and laywomen.

I see clearly that Moral Re-Armament is doing its utmost to provide a meeting ground where all the divisions of our world with its multitudinous societies, nations and religions can come together in honesty, purity, unselfishness, and love. The MRA Centre insists on remaining outside the doctrines and philosophies of religion and only feels the necessity to help build the foundation of morality where the spirit of the great religious teachers will grow and thrive.

Therefore, I, as a Buddhist, wish to express my gratitude to this fine organisation for its care and concern in helping to build a better world.

VIETNAM — from page 13

panese will be the greatest profiteers out of the Vietnam war. But something must be done to change their attitude." A Cabinet Minister said that when Marshal Ky's government authorised the purchase of 700,000 Honda motor cycles seven years ago, the Japanese bought nothing in return. "The Vietnamese are bitter about this. Our public transport system needed improvement but the Japanese offered no help. Even the South Koreans offered us 40 buses."

Perhaps the most surprising experience of all was to find that South Vietnamese, for all their suffering, look ahead with extraordinary confidence. Not many speak with bitterness and anger about the past. And in the calculation of any country's GNP, the factor of hope is a very important one.

But again one returns to the question: What is really happening? What is going to happen?

Let me try to answer this by quoting people on the spot.

"Will peace last?" I put to one man.

"Yes. Because all sides feel they have won the war: the North has forced the mighty United States to withdraw; the Americans have succeeded in their policy of 'Vietnamisation' and 'peace with honour'; the Viet Cong have had their Provisional Revolutionary Government recognised

by Saigon; and President Thieu is still there."

"Face," I ruminated, was still a powerful force.

"Will the ceasefire hold?" I asked three Cabinet Ministers on different occasions.

"We are expecting a new military offensive in May or June," said one. "It will be a desperate all-or-nothing gamble by Hanoi. But their military resources are exhausted. We have been capturing 15 and 16 year-old North Vietnamese boys in uniform. We will meet the attack—our men are ready and well trained."

"There cannot be another major offensive for at least twelve months," said another Minister. "The Communists are exhausted and would need that amount of time to replenish their equipment and arms."

And the third believed that the North and the Viet Cong will concentrate on political warfare now and wait until the eve of the next US Presidential election to launch a military attack—if they haven't captured Thieu's palace before then.

So there it is. How bold should a forecaster be in such a situation?

Perhaps the prospect of peace would be very thin indeed were it not for the fact that Peking, Moscow and Washington have called it quits—even if Hanoi and Saigon find it hard to "turn off the tap" all that suddenly.

My visit to South Vietnam was

private and unsponsored. I was not aware of anyone trying to make propaganda on me or to sell me a line. I was free to go where I wished and to ask any question I wished. The nearest an official got to trying to influence me was when he said, "See for yourself. All we want is for foreigners to come and see for themselves. That is the best way to convince the world."

There is a rather persuasive sincerity in this approach. Perhaps more people from abroad need to go and "see for themselves". It is easy to get around. Scheduled Boeing 727 flights from Saigon to Danang in the north only cost \$US 18 for the 500-mile journey. Air Vietnam were running 50 civil flights a day in and out of Saigon airport all through the war with a remarkable safety record. This underscored for me how little the average life of people seems to have been interrupted by the war. And the same applies to the intervillage bus services.

One thing puzzles and saddens many South Vietnamese—the way their struggle has been misrepresented in the outside world. France has dumped them for Hanoi, they say, because of de Gaulle's antagonism to Washington ("America's enemies are our friends") and because of a guilty colonial conscience over the fighting which ended at Dien Bien Phu in 1954. They find India's attitude hard to understand. Why does India have diplomatic representation in Hanoi

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

HIMMAT, June 1, 1973

but not in Saigon? Have it in both: Yes. But why only the north?

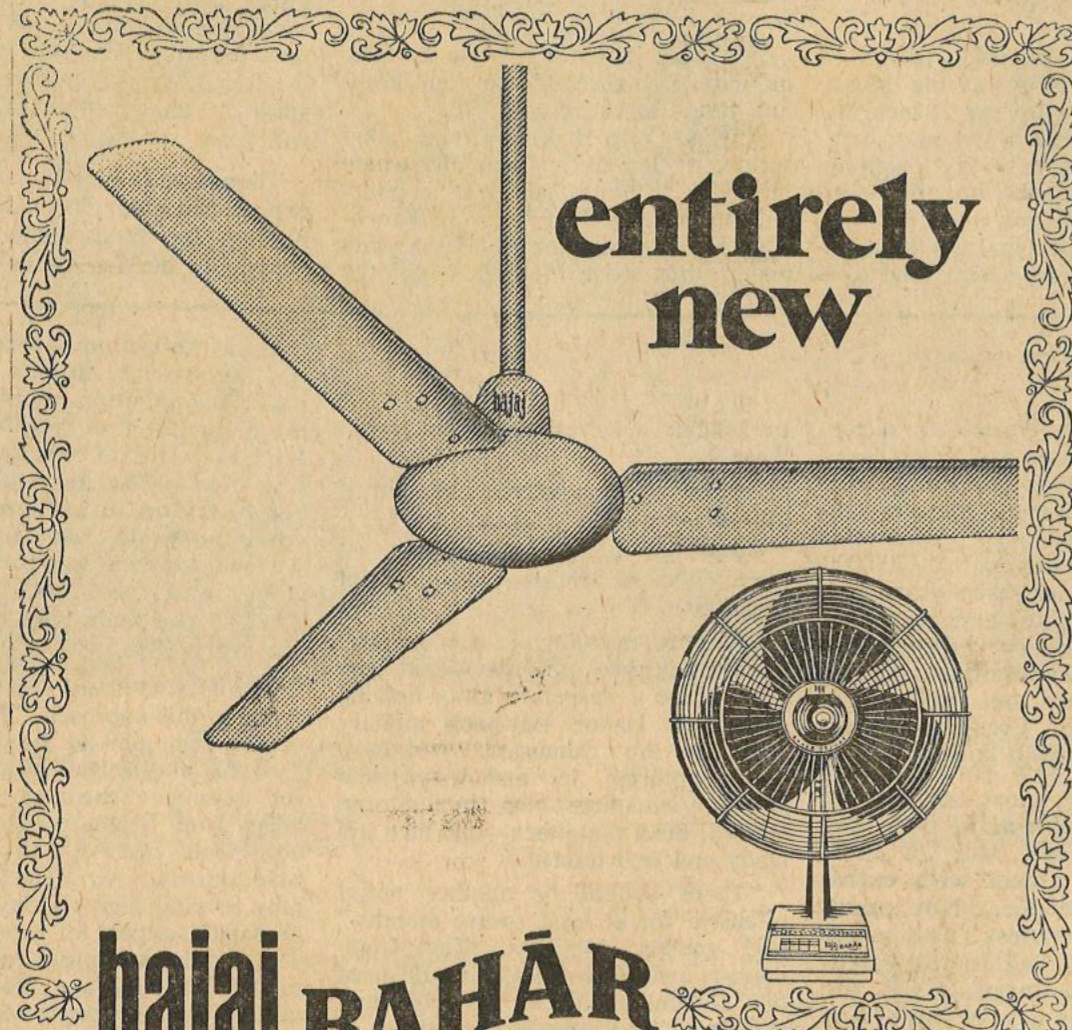
As one who knows Delhi and Saigon at firsthand, and appreciates somewhat the standpoint of each, let me say that Saigon's distress over India's attitude is strangely akin to India's distress over some foreign attitudes to her own conflicts with

China and Pakistan or her action in Bangladesh. How often have I known my Indian friends to resent foreign support for Peking or Islamabad; and to dismiss such criticism as prejudice or misrepresentation.

Perhaps if a hostile neighbour was training and arming hundreds of thousands of Naxalites and mobilis-

ing tribal peoples in frontier hill areas (Montagnards, as they are known in Vietnam), New Delhi would appreciate better the anguish which Saigon has known these last ten years.

If a person who has suffered much can turn that suffering—minus bitterness and hate—to good account, perhaps the people of Indo-China, graduates of such hate and horror, can teach great lessons of reconciliation to Nixon, Mao and Brezhnev.



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'David Copperfield'

FREDERICK BROGER'S new film production of "David Copperfield" does not begin at the hero's childhood, as in Charles Dickens' novel, but takes us through his life in a series of flashbacks.

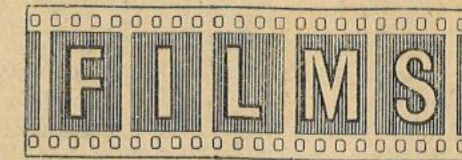
We find David Copperfield (Robin Phillips), at the age of 28, on a lonely beach. He is haunted by the memories of his past and asking, "Will I be the hero of my own life?" The effect is that David Copperfield's struggle to overcome his sense of failure runs as a theme throughout the film.

Having never read the book I found the technique effective as a character study of Dickens' hero. However, those who know the book may have preferred a straightforward rendering of the original.

The villainous characters that have made David's early life so unhappy are portrayed extremely well. David's heartless stepfather, Mr Murdstone (James Donald) is suitably formidable, especially when seen through the eyes of the young David. Laurence Olivier makes a brief but brilliant appearance as the cruel headmaster, Mr Creakle, while Ron Moody (Fagan

in "Oliver") is the sycophantic and evil Uriah Heep.

The more lovable characters are equally well cast. Ralph Richardson delivers Mr Micawber's famous lines on the economics of life delightfully.



Edith Evans plays Aunt Betsie who keeps every situation under control.

The tormented David himself is played with great skill by Robin Phillips while the childhood David, very naturally acted by Alastair Mackenzie, looks strikingly similar.

There is a very satisfying climax to the film after David has relived all his memories. He has realised that life's difficulties are meant to be fought and overcome. "I must be strong," he says, and with that he can turn to the dependable Agnes Wickfield (Susan Hampshire) who has loved him from the beginning.

D.P.M.S.

THIS INDIA

Heaven's what you make it RESTAURANT names in India inspire speculation. The reasoning behind their baptism is not easy to fathom. Our ingenuity to improvise for things we do not have may provide an explanation.

We are attached to godly things. Shri Ram and Shri Krishna Restaurants are found in every town, almost as frequently as Mahatma Gandhi Roads and Mazda Restaurants. Jai Hanuman Hotel and Shri Narayan Bhuvan jostle with a Brahmins' Coffee Club. The idea is to encourage the deities to bless the owners' fortunes.

Paradise Hotel, Delight Restaurant, Santosh Bhuvan (house of satisfaction), Kripamayee Stores (stores of mercy), Hotel Dreamland, Sadasukh (always happy) Lodge are meant to elevate you to the hallowed states described in the names. If they don't your imagination is at fault. The surroundings may not transport you to paradise. The food may neither delight nor satisfy. The waiter may not put down the plate in a merciful manner. It may not be a res-

taurant of your dreams. But goodwill is bound to prevail and pervade the atmosphere.

We are nostalgic about what has been. Bombay boasts of its Edward VIII Restaurant. King George Restaurant is famous for its pulav and the Queen Victoria, Empress of India, Restaurant sells an assortment of eatables from bread and butter to cold drinks.

Of course hotels Welcome, Goodluck, etc, manned by Iranis, abound in Bombay. The Parisian Restaurant looks inviting, but looking for anything Parisian in it is a looking-for-a-needle-in-the-haystack affair.

Swarga (heaven) Restaurant in Miraj is a little paan and bidi cum tea drinking cubicle. The only heavenly thing about it is the variety of things available in it—soap-powder, hair oil and pictures. It's like a mini-department store.

One thing is sure, In spite of being landed with mundane surroundings we manage to retain our shining vision of scaling inaccessible peaks.

Keerja Choudhury

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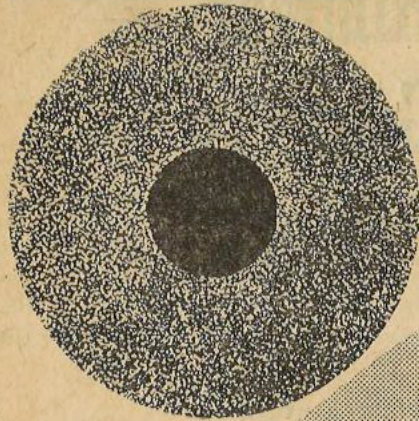
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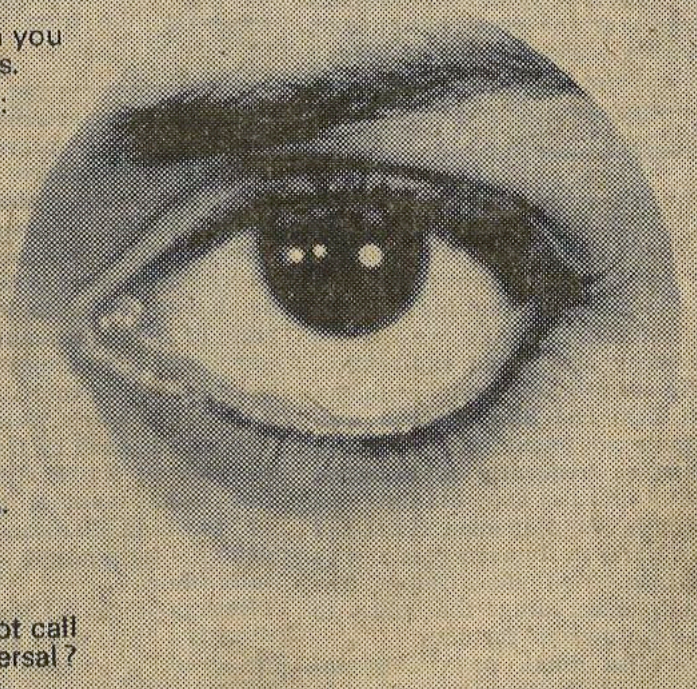
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HIMMAT, June 1, 1973

Letters

'O JERUSALEM'

I read the book review on "O Jerusalem" by Peter Everington in your issue of April 6. In the Arab-Israel conflict it seems to be difficult not to be partial. Many of us in Switzerland feel for Israel. The fight of a small nation surrounded by enemies who have sworn to crush it, reminds us of much of our own history. And the terrorists' acts against Swiss aeroplanes, with the loss of many innocent lives, came from Arabs not Jews. So I always have been struck by the contrary view my English friends have. It certainly gives a corrective.

But there are two items in the article mentioned, that cause me to contradict.

It says the Jews were "impatient", when they founded their state. It was after a decade, when under Hitler the Jews of nearly all Europe had been treated in the most beastly

way. Six million had been killed, and that may have been the most merciful treatment of all. Isn't it somewhat hypocritical to demand "patience" from the survivors at the moment they emerged from hell?

The other sentence is "and so the Jewish dispersion was ended..." Everybody knows, that the Jewish dispersion is by no means ended, and that persecutions of Jews have taken place in several parts of the world since.

The solution of those colossal problems certainly must come through a wisdom higher than man's.

VRENI SAXER, St Gallen, Switzerland

FIND THE (FOOT) BALL

YOUR idea of having the competition "Find the Ball" is a good one. But so far it has remained confined to cricket only. This offers little chance for fans of hockey, football or any other ball game to win a prize. I suggest that photographs of other ball games should also be published.

P. W. MAJOR, Achalpur, Maharashtra

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HIMMAT, June 1, 1973

This was a Life

WILLIAM RANDOLPH HEARST

1863-1951

IF there were not enough sensations he manufactured them. He turned current events into daily crises. He created a constantly increasing appetite for excitement. He put his enormous wealth and ambition into becoming not only a director of a huge network of newspapers but a dictator of the printed word.

William Randolph Hearst was born in San Francisco, son of a millionaire publisher-senator, George Hearst, and a doting mother. At Harvard he spent most of his time in pranks and parties, and dropped most of his scholastic subjects to "graduate in jokes and sociability."

This pale, gangling young fellow with sandy hair parted in the middle and—in spite of his love of fun—cold blue eyes, wrote to his father, at the age of 21, suggesting that he could run the "San Francisco Examiner" far better than its present owner—his father!

He prophetically and precisely accomplished his goal of "revolutionising the sleepy American journalism and making the 'Examiner' the biggest journal on the Pacific slope within five years."

He called for bigger if not better headlines, doubled the space for comics and cartoons, changed the cold collations of titbits to electrifying hot gossip. He lured the best journalistic brains by doubling their previous salaries. He not only anticipated public opinion but by adroit and often gaudy tricks, changed it. His constant slogan was: There Is No Substitute For Circulation—and he proved it.

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The newspaper world has never been the same since.

S. C.

21



The British episodes

by Rajmohan Gandhi

THE call girl episodes causing two Ministers of the British Government to resign raise universal issues.

Our age is not shocked by the revelations. This, of course, is in itself a commentary on us all, and not a very flattering one. Countries other than Britain and people besides politicians are involved in the slippage of standards.

What is the dissatisfaction in the heart of a secure, comfortable, well-placed, married man that seeks an answer in a call girl? Is there a surer, superior satisfaction?

The position of men who condemn those found out but have concealed peccadilloes of their own is of course precarious. But equally unsound is the stand of those who attempt to explain away the conduct of the Ministers on grounds of modernity or overwork. Is there not in God a spring that extinguishes the fires of the human heart?

It is for the British to discover whether the affairs have damaged their security. Evidently Mr Heath has announced the launching of a full inquiry by the Security Commission.

But it will not hurt any of us to reflect on the question of love and lust, purity and sex. There are writers and publicists, including some gifted with considerable human skills, who equate love with sex. It is to be hoped that this blackmail attempt in Britain would give them a jolt. The girl who offered sex to the Minister brought not love but a knife.

Exposure is often, and at times rightly, demanded. But there are different kinds of exposure.

The husband of the call girl who allegedly tried to sell compromising pictures of the Minister to newspapers and magazines was, in a sense, exposing the guilt of a public figure. But he did not want to make the Minister a better man or Britain a better country. His desire was for money. He was a blackmailer.

I chanced to read the other day of another kind of exposure. A

woman was confronted with the truth about her past. I refer to the story of Christ and the Samaritan woman at the well. Christ had asked her for a drink of water. She was surprised and moved because Jews—Christ was a Jew—were not supposed to have any dealings with Samaritans. Christ then said to her, "Go, call thy husband." The woman answered, "I have no husband." Jesus said, "Thou hast well said I have no husband. For thou hast had five husbands; and he whom thou hast is not thy husband: in that saidst thou truly." The woman then left her waterpot, went her way rejoicingly into the city, satisfied and changed, and said to all she met, "Come see a man, which told me all the things that ever I did."

There was confrontation and directness in this exposure. But the motive was care and compassion, and the exposure led to a cure.

We hear many stories these days of scandals, of hoarding and profiteering, of adulteration of food. How are these acts to be exposed? Is to bring a cure our aim? Do we go directly to the person concerned or accused? Do we speak frankly, and with compassion? Do we really try to change those who are greedy at the expense of others? Callousness need not be condoned or remain unpunished. But let us be sure about the motives of those who raise a clamour about the evil doings of others.

The stories from Britain carry another lesson. Unrestrained sex has at times been defended on the ground that it is merely a response to a person's strong urge. If you accept this, can you object to a blackmailer who says that he cannot check his strong desire to blackmail? Society would lose its strength and refinement if men were to follow freely their instincts. Many of us have desired objects in shop windows; are we to stop and pick them up without inhibition or payment?

Restraining our desires is what keeps society going. It is what keeps men and women at peace with their relatives and their neigh-

hours. It is the cement of society, as it is also the essence of culture. Saying "no" to yourself and to the blandishments of others not only makes for society's cohesion; it enhances man's manliness and woman's womanliness. It is healthy for our personalities. The life of man upon earth is a warfare; to watch and resist our baser inclinations is part of our task; we grow and profit by fighting our temptations.

There is something soldierly about a man who withdraws himself from what his nature inclines or urges him to do. And to a woman who does likewise is added a fresh measure of graciousness. It may be more labour to resist passions than it is to toil and sweat in bodily labours, but a clear conscience and peaceful sleep are not the only rewards. The stature of such men and women grows. And they find themselves the men and women to whom people wish to turn for friendship, and for solutions for their difficulties.

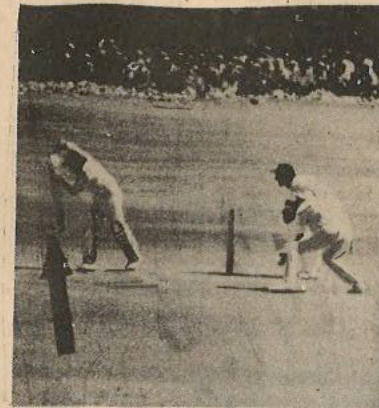
Certain aspects of this British affair are positive. The Ministers admitted the truth. This is not always the case. They resigned, another rarity. The resignations were accepted, and Mr Heath did not try to obtain their withdrawal.

The daughter of one of the Ministers involved said, "Mother is going to stick by dad." Surely this too is honourable. No matter how permissive or unrestrained the atmosphere, it is a terrible blow when your partner or parent or child gets involved the way the British Ministers were involved. Your heart speaks, and so does your conscience. You are conscious of a trust betrayed and of the other person's wrong. Yet it is amazing how often another voice also speaks, urging forgiveness and reminding you how liable you are to commit the same wrong.

We certainly carry with us trying and selfish natures. Yet we also have a remarkable quality planted in us that can bear and forgive a good deal.

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The winner will be announced in the following issue. You may not send more than Six Entries in any competition. N.B. only one cross may be marked on each picture. The Editor's decision is final.

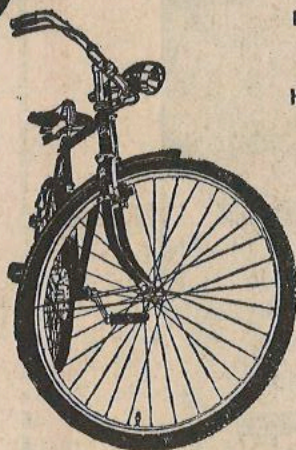
*Each week half the prize of Rs. 50 will be awarded to the nearest entry. The other half will be carried forward to a "Jackpot" to be won by the first competitor who marks EXACTLY the centre of the ball. This Jackpot Prize will accumulate by Rs. 25 per week until it is won.

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