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# HIMMAT

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Asia's New Voice

FRIDAY MARCH 25 1966



Calcutta Report page 7  
**BENGAL ON A POWDER KEG**



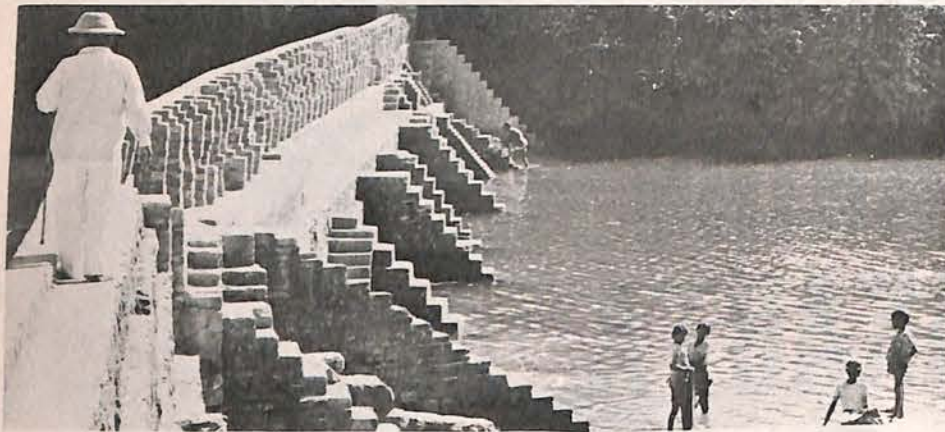


Farmer Merwan Khodadad Irani with his son Shapur (left) and his family. Sixty-seven years ago his father came from Iran and settled in Dahanu.

## DAHANU FARMER REVOLUTIONISES AGRICULTURE

Our fields thirst for water. We have heavy rains, yet more than 98 per cent of the water drains into the sea. One farmer in Dahanu, on his own initiative and expense, built a bund to store the river water. Today seven bunds make Dahanu's fields flourish. Hundreds of Maharashtra villages have copied his design. "It's so simple," says Merwanji. Such initiative on a national scale could go a long way to solving India's food problem.

See page 17



Merwanji inspects bund built by local farmers. The four-foot brick wall at the top is erected every October after the rains and holds back water that continues to flow from the hills. Built at a cost of about Rs. 400 this extra wall is knocked down each year before the monsoon.



Lakhs of culverts allow roads to pass over small streams. If the tunnels are sealed after the rains and small holes left open at the top for surplus water to flow through, millions of gallons can be stored. Crops and wells come to life.



Building dikes to reclaim five acres of land from the salt flats. In two seasons the land is ready for farming. Merwanji is urging the Government to reclaim the 8,000 acres up to the ship masts in the distance. He visualizes one of India's finest coconut groves growing here.

# HIMMAT

Asia's new voice

WEEKLY

Bombay Friday March 25 1966

## Who is Running Djakarta ?

REPORTS FROM DJAKARTA would appear, at first, to be contradictory. But it is becoming clearer that the Generals have proceeded rather shrewdly. To have dispatched President Sukarno would have made him a martyr and deepened the split which already exists in the Army. Far better to preserve him as "the Great Leader", to issue ordinances "in the name of the Great Leader", but to proceed as though he really did not exist. This is what General Suharto is doing.

It is likely that Sukarno will be allowed to remain as President until age or illness take him. But in the months to come the nation will need strong leadership and a powerful ideology to get the economy moving again and inject some sense of purpose into a rebellious and weary population.

For the moment General Nasution appears to be in eclipse. But it is not the first time the former Defence Minister has withdrawn, in order—as it later transpired—to return with fresh strength and new ideas to the centre of the ring. Is he even now master-minding each move behind General Suharto?

During the last 12 years Nasution has thrown away many chances to topple Sukarno and install himself. That he has not done so would indicate that he does not want the job. He is a genuine patriot and nationalist who, while disagreeing with Sukarno on many counts, has no wish to wrest the throne which, unwisely or not, the people have given to Sukarno. Who then does Nasution propose should rule the country and succeed Sukarno?

The Sultan of Djogjakarta is one man some observers think would fill the bill and it is significant that his name has reappeared in a recent Cabinet list. There is also talk again of former Vice-President Hatta.

Whatever solution the Army ultimately proposes they will have to move swiftly. Already, since the arrest of the pro-Communist Ministers, students are sticking up posters saying: "The young are fed up with the old generation." While Nasution and Suharto are a generation younger than Sukarno, the students may soon include them in "the older generation" unless they produce results fast.

Nasution is aware of the need. He expressed it clearly in his "Fundamentals of Guerrilla Warfare" when he wrote: "The people adhere to certain ideas, nurture certain desires and needs and look forward to obtaining certain ideals. They will be able to discriminate which side can better provide these needs and it is the side which can furnish them that will finally be supported."

Whoever finally receives the people's mandate must acknowledge this. Some of Indonesia's leaders know that Moral Re-Armament is the ideal which best suits that nation. Will they now encourage it?

## Come Down to Earth

It is a sad commentary on the level to which conscience and patriotism have sunk when a group of 45 public servants who rank among the highest paid (Rs. 2575 per month for 50 flying hours) strike work, with virtually no warning, resulting in the grounding of all Air India planes. The loss to Air India is Rs. 500,000 per day.

At a time when India's image abroad needs to generate confidence, this action can only do infinite harm, and when the country needs not only to conserve foreign exchange but earn it, she is having to spend foreign exchange through other airlines to accommodate passengers.

We do not deny employees the right to use strike action when all other means of redressing grievances fail, but in this instance the National Industrial Tribunal had made an award. If the Flight Navigators' Guild was not satisfied with it the next proper step was to appeal to the Supreme Court.

No one can be persuaded that the flight navigators are underpaid. The spurious issue of their status in relation to flight engineers and the charge that Air India management had adopted a hostile attitude does not become men of such responsibility.

At a time when many short-sighted and sectional demands undermine the unity of the country these men of India's flag carrier, which has earned considerable prestige, must give a responsible lead.

## Of Mice and Men

MIGHTY MOUSE, an American cartoon character, parodies Superman, the bullet-proof, gravitation-defying he-man all men want at heart to be. With barrel-chest, Mighty Mouse hurtles through the air scattering evil-doers like pedestrians before a Calcutta taxi.

Now Indian mice, rocketed 20 miles into space by Osmania University scientists, have out-done their cartoon cousin's performance. Their exposure to cosmic rays beyond the earth's atmosphere will test effects of radiation.

The day the mouse-capsule was recovered, Soviet space dogs Blacky and Breezy came back to earth. Their return after 22 days in orbit detracted a little from the headlines given the US space-docking project (with humans) which despite its premature ending marked a further step towards putting a man on the moon. The astronauts too, had quadruped company. They took with them tadpoles to determine whether, beyond gravity's pull, mutations would produce rare two-headed frogs.

In the University of California experiments with rats and worms suggest that memory, through a substance called RNA (ribonucleic acid), can be improved, erased or even transferred by means of injections from one brain to another.

"The best laid plans of mice and men go oft astray," wrote the poet Burns. These experiments may enable men to pass exams by taking injections or perpetuate the wisdom of age in the body of a youth. In ruthless hands they could empower an aristocracy of eggheads to hold mindless multitudes in slavery.

Under the direction of scientists with a belief in a higher wisdom they could end hunger, cure cancer and give new meaning to the lives of millions.



## Briefly Speaking ...

It is a general popular error to suppose the loudest complainers for the public to be the most anxious for its welfare.

EDMUND BURKE 1729-1797

### Unoriginal

FOOD MARCHES are getting out-dated. If all our food agitators spent half the time growing food that they do in marching, they might make a more worthwhile contribution to the food crisis. I am surprised that after the recent upheaval in Bengal and the Punjab, such an intelligent Party as the PSP could think of nothing more original than to announce that they would organize "hunger marches" all over India.

Could they not think of demonstration farms or popularizing how-to-do-it kitchen gardens by Party units in all States or some imaginative scheme? If they did, they would score tremendously.

### CHALTA HAI...



"He is busy with his own car problem—which one to use today."

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.



NABOB

### For Whom the Bell Tolls

THE NINTH Communist-sponsored world youth festival is ill-starred. It had picked Algiers as its venue. When Ben Bella fell, it changed its plans.

Then they picked Accra, and now Nkrumah has fallen.

The head of state of the next country they choose should be somewhat wary.

### Remarkable Lady

MISS ELIZABETH ROWE, former headmistress of St. Theresa's High School, had the sort of dedication that creates educational institutions. She died this month at 84, but until a few years ago, she did all the accounts of her school, the correspondence, compiled the question papers, typed, duplicated and wrapped them up securely for the whole school of 1,300 students.

It was fitting that His Eminence Cardinal Gracias officiated at her funeral in Bombay.

### Money for Jam

RAILWAY MINISTER S. K. Patil told the Lok Sabha that the Indian Railways are a profitable concern. Proudly he said that they contributed Rs. 130 crores to the general revenue, while the British Railways last year lost about Rs. 130 crores.

There is one other difference. The British Railways give seating accommodation to their passengers!

### Turning Sour

WHEN OTHER COUNTRIES are rushing dried milk to India, Rs. 40,000 (more than \$8,000) worth of milk was lost in Calcutta. Milk vans from the Government dairy at Haringhata were not allowed by demonstrators to move out to collect the milk from the chilling stations.

Not exactly the way to save the starving millions.

### Dosa Idli Raj

THE MYSORE GOVERNMENT is reported to have declared that notices will be served under the Defence of India Rules on restaurants that serve dosa and idli made of rice.

That is why, with considerable awe, Mysoreans call the DIR, the Dosa Idli Rules.

### Will Bechtel Respond?

THE OTHER DAY Mrs. Surendra Kaur, widow of the Tarapore firings, came to HIMMAT office. She brought with her, her elder son Sarup, daughter Lakhoi and younger son Annopsingh.

On a map of the world it was pointed out to her how people from Puerto Rico to Canberra and from various cities of India had contri-



buted for her family. "I am grateful," she said, "that they have all thought of us."

Hurt though she is, her spirit is undaunted. She was told of the offer by a lady in Delhi to obtain a sewing machine for her so that she could earn her livelihood. "Do you know how to sew?" she was asked. Promptly came the reply, "I know a little and what I don't I will learn."

She was presented with Rs. 629.50 contributed by HIMMAT readers. Since the presentation the following gifts have come in:

Mr. J. V. Shah, East Africa, Rs. 25.75;  
Mr. V. Bhusan, Bombay 5, Rs. 5.09;  
Canadian Football League,  
Montreal, Rs. 42.20.

Mrs. Kaur is just one of the widows of those who died in the firing. It is hoped that the Bechtel Corporation, which is estimated to be the largest construction concern in the world, will provide adequate relief for Mrs. Kaur and for families of the others who died in the unfortunate firing. It will not cost much to Bechtel. It could mean a great deal to the Indian public—and to Bechtel's name in India and elsewhere. Will they rise to the occasion?

R.M.L.

## Stung by defeat in Africa and Indonesia, will China turn on India?

The haste with which India recognised the new regime in Ghana once the Soviet Union had done the same is a pointer to the decisive interlinking of India's policies with those of our giant neighbour to the north. We were hesitant about committing ourselves until then.

The Conference of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union that commences on March 29th is therefore likely to prove as crucial for Indian policy as for the direction of the Communist movement of the world which has suffered some of its biggest setbacks in recent months.

The most recent of these is the coup which overthrew Nkrumah who has been Moscow's staunchest ally in Africa. Coming as it does in the wake of coups in Algeria, the Congo (Leopoldville), the Central African Republic, Dahomey and Nigeria, as a result of which Russian as well as Chinese influence diminished considerably, it is bound to lead to a re-assessment of Communist policy, both in Moscow and in Peking.

The Chinese have to contend with failure not only in their militant policy of promoting struggle and guerilla war in many countries, they have to reckon with increasing isolation in the ideological dispute with the Soviet Union. Even Albania, her staunchest ideological ally, is said to be cooling off and Fidel Castro has turned increasingly vituperative in his attack on Mao Tse-Tung and Chinese Communist leaders. Stories of demoralization in the Viet Cong and frustration in North Vietnamese

Communist ranks may be exaggerated but they do indicate a cooling off of North Vietnamese relations towards the Communist Chinese.

Unable to challenge the might and power of a vigilant Soviet Union to the north, taught by experience to avoid a direct conflict with the U.S.A. in Taiwan and the China Seas, defeated and almost driven out of a major area of influence like Indonesia, which way will China turn? Will she accept failure and return to the softer line of the Bandung period? Will she acknowledge defeat and go on bended knees to the C.P.S.U. Conference in Moscow and ask to be taken back into the fold?

It is my conviction that China will turn her attention with redoubled vigour to other areas of South and South East Asia, the most important of these being India. In an article entitled, "The Geo-Political Aspect of the Sino-Soviet Conflict", Mr. A. Kashin argues that "deterioration of the situation along the border between China and her southern neighbour India (rather than any expansion northwards at the expense of the Soviet Union) is a much more distinct possibility. Before China can step out on the world political arena and satisfy her great power ambitions she must, first and foremost, achieve domination over India, either by conquering her militarily or by turning her into a Chinese satellite." (*Bulletin, Institute for the Study of the USSR, January 1966 page 45/46*).

### Encircle India

Mr. Kashin declares emphatically, "China is aiming at bringing India within its sphere of influence and at destroying India's social and political order so as to achieve domination over the whole of Asia."

Mr. Kashin continues: "During the last few years the Chinese Communists have not only been making attempts to swallow up Southern Asia but also, so it would seem, preparing to make a decisive breakthrough into the North East of Africa. On none of his trips has Chou En-lai failed to make the sinister comment that the continent was ripe for revolution. On the face of it, the Chinese intrigues in Africa. The

Under  
the  
Lens



by R. VAITHESWARAN

Congo, in particular—are pointless... these intrigues, however, make a good deal of sense if viewed as a part of a vast scheme to encircle India and turn her into a Communist protectorate or at the very least a reliable ally of Peking."

Recent happenings in various parts including Bengal and in the Punjab reveal the hand of China. It is quite possible that orders have been issued to Chinese agents in many parts of India to organise sabotage, increase violence and in general create conditions for civil war and a breakdown of administration.

The Soviet Union would obviously not be interested in the growing strength of the pro-Chinese Communists and would like to avert a breakdown of administration in India. The primary goal of Soviet policy in South East Asia at present is to prevent a take-over by the Chinese. This was evident during the conflict between India and Pakistan over Kashmir.

### Seek stable Delhi

Party strategists in Moscow are therefore likely to be concerned with two problems as far as developing countries are concerned. One is the diminution of influence in Asia and Africa which the Soviet Union shares along with Communist China. Is this likely to lead to a reinterpretation of the Khrushchevian policy of co-existence and a support for a tougher line by indigenous Communist Parties? Will the Soviet Union adopt a more militant policy towards national liberation movements?

The second problem would be the growing strength of the left-wing Communist forces to the detriment of the pro-Soviet party and at the cost of the stability of the pro-Soviet New Delhi Government.

One thing is clear, the Soviet Union is interested in a stable government and is against the growth of violence which might upset her growing influence in this country.

## SAY THAT AGAIN...

"If these elders who sit in legislatures behave in the manner in which they do, there must be something going very wrong."

PRESIDENT RADHAKRISHNAN

"While I myself seek guidance and help from those who have had long experience in public work, I should like to invite the co-operation of young men and women in shaping the future which they will inherit."

MRS. INDIRA GANDHI

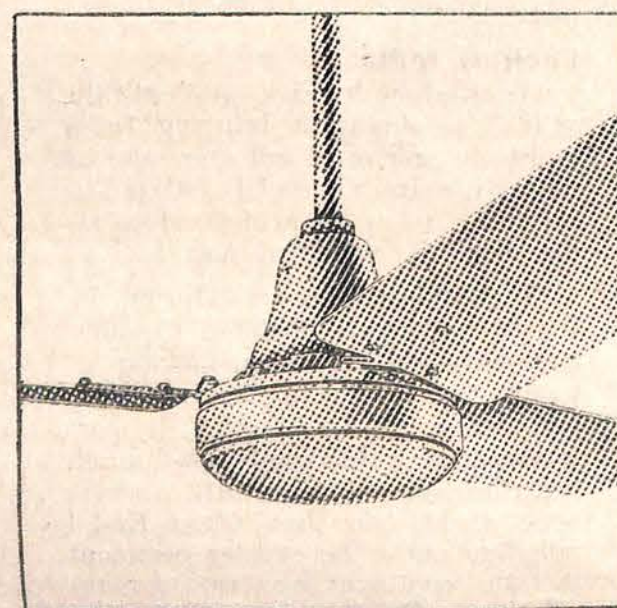
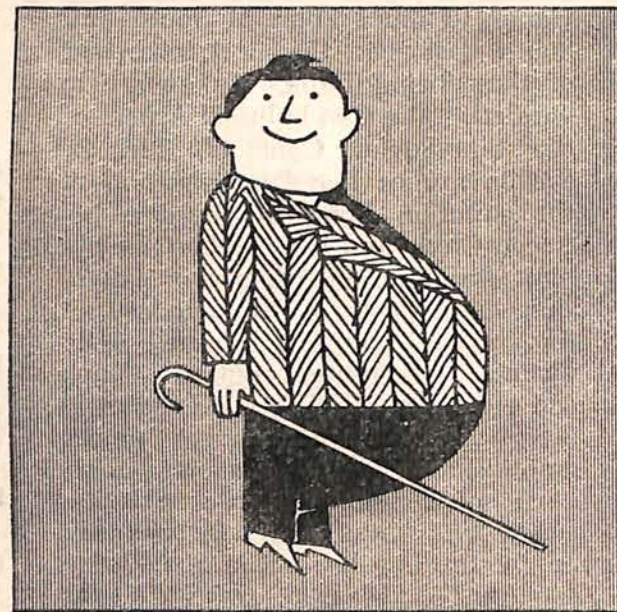
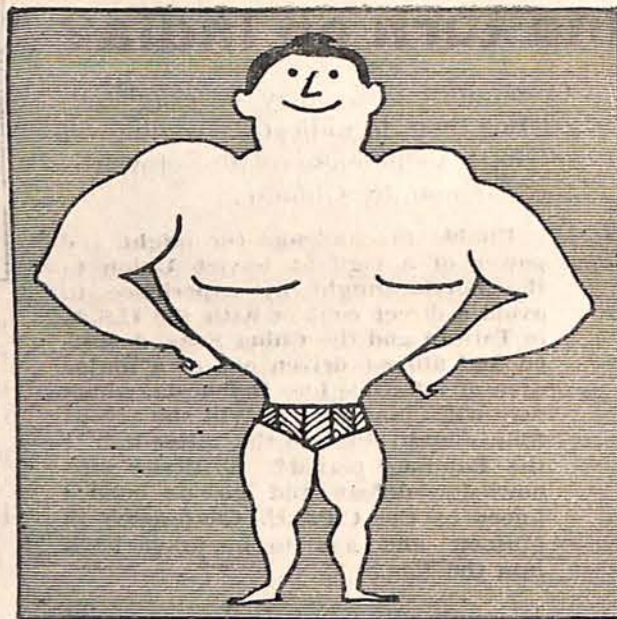


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NOW**

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WILL  
HAVE  
CHANGED**

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## Bengal on a Powder Keg

From Ajit Das in Calcutta

A burnt out, bombed, belaboured and bullet-holed state is begging for some relief.

In riot-torn Calcutta the mist of the tear-gas shells has lifted, but tears persist. In Calcutta's adjoining districts of Howrah, Burdwan, 24 Parganas and Nadia—the seats of arson and mass destruction of Government property—violence has stopped, but only after it drained away almost the last ounce of the vitality of the people.

After the storm, came also the calm, noticeable in unmistakable measure in the mammoth, moving, silent, mourning procession of the Martyrs' Day on March 13 that stretched mile after mile of Calcutta streets without misbehaving at all. There were no policemen or army men anywhere on the route. There was also no need for any. It was their procession; and the trouble-shooters of the previous day, entrusted with the task of maintaining peace in the procession, did a remarkable job that left many bewildered.

### Million March

On the same day, Union Home Minister Gulzarilal Nanda and Food Minister Subramaniam were in Calcutta, engaged in the search for a formula for peace. The political riff-raff decided to deny Mr. Nanda the credit for restoring quiet in Calcutta and to claim all the credit for themselves. At the end of the peaceful march of the mourning million, whose very size took the breath away from many, some of the leaders were heard to say: "We have shown them that, if they are serious about studying our problems and seeking a way out, we won't bother them."

Some of these were the same young "leaders" who supervised the burning of a whole train in Rishra railway station, ten miles from Calcutta, on March 10, and when the trains were ablaze, started frantically stoning the empty, burning bogies to pour out the wrath that was corroding their very life.

To demonstrate to him just how much they could do, this writer on a tour of strike-bound Howrah was

guided by some young men through serpentine lanes avoiding the road-blocks on the Howrah-Delhi Trunk Road to the station yard in front of the blazing trains.

I caught hold of the hand of a teenager with a stone in his hand, as the police party was approaching. "Son, run away. The police may fire any time," I warned.

The youngster tore open his shirt, showed me his bare chest and said: "I may not have enough food in my stomach, or strength in my muscles; but you do not know how much courage I carry in this heart. I am not afraid of dying."

Who shall take care of these fearless, foodless, fuming young men who respond to the feeblest call for fury from fumbling leadership?

Not, certainly, the thirty-one leftist leaders who cashed in on mob fury to secure their own freedom from prison, however unjustified, at the bargain counter opened by the Union Home Minister and West Bengal Chief Minister in Raj Bhavan on March 13.

The rioting has stopped. But the hang-over will persist even when peace appears restored. Will the committee appointed to probe into the riots be able to reach the roots of discontent of the Rishra rioters; tell the fearless "fanatic" how to live fruitfully, and help him to do so?

## Cariappa's Call for MRA

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT  
Bangalore

General Cariappa, former Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army, said that in the face of violence and disintegration of the country "the spirit of Moral Re-Armament must permeate every town and village and city for the nation's good".

Twelve thousand people crowded the terraces before the Mysore High Court building for the "India Unite" rally called by students of the Roving College for a New India.

Addressing the rally, General Cariappa said, "Disintegration is threatening India not only in language but in the spirit of the country. We have become bankrupt in leadership not only on a political level but in every walk of life. The youth must imbibe MRA. India is theirs."

Thousands lined the streets and accompanied the demonstration march by the students to the rally site. Rajmohan Gandhi called for one hundred thousand young men and women to give their lives to revolutionize India and capture Peking with a greater idea, and for one million families to finance them. He congratulated Bangalore for raising a voice for national unity when so many places called loudly for division.

Students from many states said the differences in language and creed were insignificant in the face of the common task to create a dynamic country, in fact they were an asset.



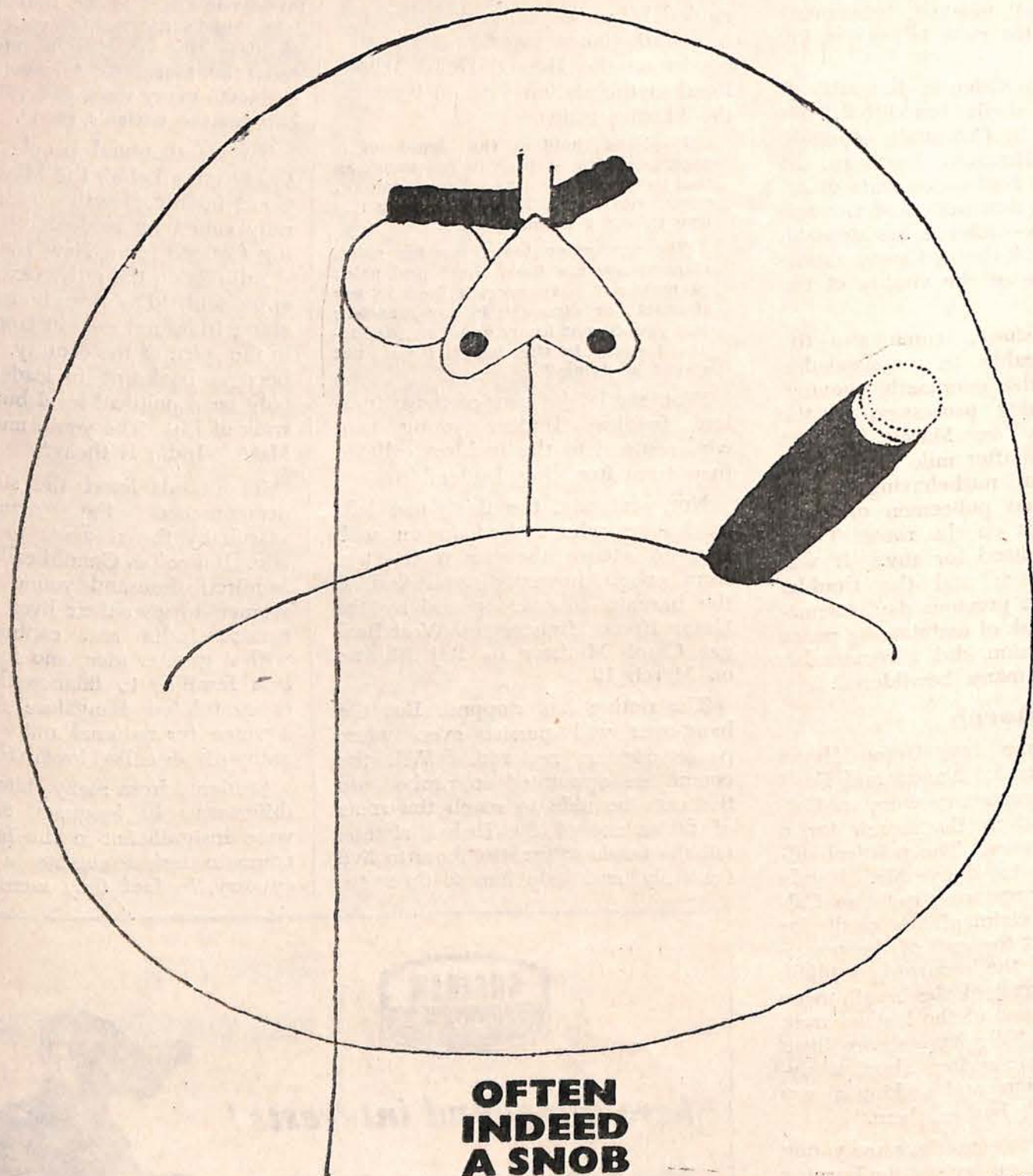
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Or when we must recommend to industry new methods of using our products and processes rather than preserve the old ways, which obstruct standardisation.

Or when we must question the ultimate quality of what we make, as we continually do. Yes, we are snobs, of a sort.....

INDIAN OXYGEN LIMITED 

**FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS**

**Education Produces "Jackals" Claim**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Colombo

Politics is invading every sphere of life in Ceylon. This is particularly dangerous in education. Already numbers of teachers have been transferred by the present Government since it came to power, following the example of their predecessors.

Textbooks are now to be turned out by the Government. But to ensure that these will be free of political ideology, an independent body known to be non-political and impartial would be more reliable.

Now the Minister of Education is introducing legislation to revise the statutes of the Universities whereby he will appoint the President. Formerly the Vice-Chancellor was elected by a Court representing Parliament, University staff and educationists. The University of Ceylon, which has been split into two halves at Colombo and Peradeniya, will become two Universities. Besides the great Buddhist Universities of Vidyodara and Vidyalkara there will also be Junior Universities in other parts of the country. It is not clear how the status of these will differ from the older institutions.

Ceylon is the only country in the world where secondary and university education is free. That this is a considerable drain on the exchequer is evident from the Minister's newly announced decision to prune the number of University staff and use the money saved on bursaries for students.

The wisdom of free higher education is questionable. Even in Russia, where education is closely linked with political indoctrination and therefore is very dear to the Government's policy, it is not free. When the Minister says the education system is producing "jackals", it is difficult to see how the mere multiplication of education will reduce or eliminate this.

Certainly one can sympathize with his predicament. It is true that cells of Marxist professors, as well as of students, are busy turning out Marxists and Communists. But prominent educationists are profoundly disturbed at his desire to make the heads of Universities political appointments. If the next Minister should be a convinced Communist or Marxist, the new system could lead to a Communist-brainwashed student generation. It may not be far-fetched to draw a parallel, as one member of the University staff did recently in the press, with the educational system of Hitler and Stalin.

The present system may be imperfect, writes the University proctor, but it may provide more safeguards than the new system with the abuses to which it can so easily lead. Implicit in this would be more concentration on producing the type of educator and administrator who puts character before politics and backs this with the discipline of his own life.

The proctor may also well be right when he says that what is needed is rather "an adequate supervisory and planning body to overlook the operation of the Universities and to lay down broad policies for future development".

Though the early days of the coup in Nigeria were perplexing to those inside the country and abroad, it is now possible to view the events and their results objectively.

**Nigeria's Coup Within a Coup**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Lagos

The picture of Nigeria before the military take-over was one of blatant corruption and a ruthless struggle for power amongst the politicians which brought all governments and parties into contempt by the people.

The elections in the West, rigged by the manoeuvres of Chief Akintola, Premier of the Western Region, and the Sardauna of Sokoto, Premier of the Northern Region, brought a

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Continued on next page

**The week in Asia**

**ABADAN**—The Shah of Iran opened the world's largest crude-oil port at Kharg Island, 150 miles south-east of Abadan, the world's largest refinery.

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**SINGAPORE**—Dynamite damaged a Singapore barter ship in international waters between the island and Sumatra. Police said Indonesian saboteurs were responsible.

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**DACCA**—Members of the Aid-Pakistan consortium, excluding the US, pledged £57,500,000 for the first year of Pakistan's Third Five-Year Plan.

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**KABUL**—It was reported that King Mohammed had invited President Liu Shao-chi of China to visit Afghanistan.

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**DJAKARTA**—Students renewed their demonstrations against Communists in the Indonesian Cabinet, after Army Chief General Suharto said President Sukarno was still running the country. The Army took Foreign Minister Subandrio and 14 other Cabinet members into "protective detention" after changes in the Cabinet.

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**ULAN BATOR**—Reports traced to the Chinese Embassy in Moscow said Russia had sent 10,000 troops as garrison to Mongolia, the Asian State between Russia and China.

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**COLOMBO**—Russia discontinued a series of cargo flights via Ceylon following a customs check on one of its planes for arms. No arms were found, only medical supplies to an "unknown destination".

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**DACCA**—Foreign Minister Z. A. Bhutto told the National Assembly Pakistan could not enter a no-war pact with India while the Kashmir dispute existed.

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**TOKYO**—Japan agreed to buy 52 million tons of iron ore from India over the next 10 years.

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**COLOMBO**—It was reported that the Ceylon Army commander, Major-General R. Udugama, now in London, and Police Inspector-General Dissanayake, now on compulsory leave, will not resume their duties. Several Ceylon Army personnel have been arrested recently following the discovery of a plot against the Government.

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**COLOMBO**—It was reported that Indian repatriates will be allowed by the Ceylon Government to take all their assets with them to India.



**FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS**

widely detested Government back into power.

The death roll of innocent people mounted daily as rival parties employed armed thugs to terrorize the countryside, leading the country to the verge of civil war. The Federal Government refused to admit that a state of emergency existed. The coup was precipitated by the decision of the Sardauna, Akintola and Federal Prime Minister Balewa to use the Army to stamp out resistance to Akintola's regime in the West.

The world knows how a group of majors took matters into their own hands to overthrow the Government. What the world does not seem to realize fully is that a different group of military men are ruling the country today. They are not the men who did the killing or led the coup.

In the confusion that followed the deaths of some of the leading figures in Nigeria, what remained of the Federal Government handed over power to the Commander in Chief, Major-General Aguiyi Ironsi, who miraculously escaped being shot by the majors in the revolt. Ironsi then appointed Military Governors in the Provinces (formerly Regions) who are now well in control and have won strong public support.

Since then all political parties have been dissolved and a thorough clean-up of the corruption, misuse of power and nepotism of the old regime is being carried through. It appears that the Military Government has

appointed the most able and honest men available in civilian life to run the key national concerns.

The next three to six months is a testing time. Many of the workers and ordinary people simply say, "We are watching." If the Military are able to carry through their mammoth task without wavering, which at present they are doing well, freedom and sound government can prevail. No one thinks Army rule is ideal, and it is the avowed intention of the Military to hand over power to a civilian government as soon as the nation's affairs are put in order.

It is, however, true to say that if democratic government means government in accordance with the will of the people, the present order is far nearer the will of the people than the previous government by unscrupulous politicians.

But success does not depend on the Army alone any more than the failure of the past was entirely the fault of the politicians. The programme of national reconstruction will succeed as individual citizens undertake a programme of reconstruction in their own ways and attitudes.

**Nkrumah's Guerrillas**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Lagos

The dramatic events in nearby Ghana have shaken the world. Throughout West Africa and in international circles it was recognized that the country was heading straight for bankruptcy.

Nkrumah proved that a left-wing dictatorship is capable of the same

evils of corruption and of exploitation, as is so often laid at the door of parliamentary democracies.

Now the lid has been blown off. The whole world has seen exposed the exploitation and financial ruin of the country, the hordes of suffering political prisoners, the extent of Russian and Chinese control, the secret training camps for guerrilla warfare. The fact that the Army could succeed at all in such a situation shows how eagerly the people longed for something else.

But the trouble is not over. If Ghana is to survive economically and avert starvation, prompt and substantial financial help will be needed. The problems of the Military Government are not, however, only financial. One look at the map will show how near Nkrumah is since he installed himself in Guinea. His belief in the effectiveness of "Freedom Fighters" trained in guerrilla warfare is known. The Northern provinces of West African countries are thinly populated and infiltration would not be difficult. The Military Government may have to face some difficult days ahead.

**US Airborne Armies**

FROM STEWART LANCASTER

Los Angeles

For the present, America would appear closer to the 17th parallel between Hanoi and Saigon than is Peking, according to Secretary of Defence McNamara.

The US can move quicker and more efficiently to the battle front

**FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS**

by huge air troop carriers than can the Chinese. Tired and wounded troops are quickly flown back to Hawaii or the Philippines and fresh troops brought in.

During the Korean war in one hectic 24-hour period the US Air Force managed to haul two thousand tons of cargo to the war zone. Now twice that amount is carried in every day with the regularity and ease of a local newspaper truck delivery.

In 1965 the Air Force 315th Division transported 830,627 troops about. The 3rd Marine Division was transported by air from Okinawa to Vietnam with all its million and a

**A Wedding in Amsterdam**

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Amsterdam

Amsterdam seemed to be the centre of the world. Reporters, photographers and TV-commentators had come from afar to Holland's capital to communicate to hundreds of millions the Royal wedding of Crown Princess Beatrix with German nobleman Claus von Amsberg.

What viewers and readers abroad got was a rather one-sided picture: a few smoke-bombs and a strange band of untidy, long-haired beatniks (locally termed *provos*) stole an unjustified share of the limelight.

The truth was that almost all of the 100,000 spectators who braved

Why then the worried look on the face of Queen Juliana who smiled only when the day was over? She feared the tiny minority who wanted to impose their will by violence.

Claus von Amsberg was born in Africa, but lived as a boy in Nazi Germany. As all young Germans had to do, he joined first Hitler's youth movement and later, for three months only, the German army. When Princess Beatrix presented her future consort to the nation six months ago, some Dutch, who suffered under ruthless Nazi dictatorship, hesitated to applaud. In the months following, many of them were won by Claus's gifted personality.

When officiating at the civil wedding, Amsterdam's Mayor, Mr. Gysbert Van Hall, who fought in the resistance movement and lost a brother during the occupation, expressed to Claus von Amsberg what many feel: "Your humanity, dignity and understanding for our people's feelings impressed many of us. I have come to appreciate you greatly. Your qualities give us every reason to welcome you with confidence."

The smoke-bombs that provided journalists, frustrated by rather rigid security measures, with something to

Continued on page 14



Princess Beatrix and Prince Claus

rain and cold to line the streets cheered enthusiastically as the impressive procession led by the famous Golden Coach passed by. The many millions of Dutch citizens who were following events at home on TV were as thrilled as though it was their own daughter being married.

**The week in India**

**NEW DELHI** — Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi leaves on March 25 for talks with President Johnson. On her journey to and from America she is expected to meet President de Gaulle, UN General Secretary U Thant, Prime Minister Kosygin and Prime Minister Wilson.

\*\*\*

**NEW DELHI** — Air India cancelled its flights indefinitely following a strike by navigators for more pay.

\*\*\*

**SHILLONG** — The Action Council of the Assam All-Party Hill Leaders' Conference blamed the Assam and Centre Governments for the Mizo revolt. They said that "while not subscribing to the idea of secession", they strongly censured the Union Government's "failure to realize the intensity of the hill peoples' political aspirations".

\*\*\*

**NEW DELHI** — The Indo-Pakistan conflict last September cost India Rs. 50 crores, stated the annual Defence Ministry report. This did for include civilian losses.

\*\*\*

**AMRITSAR** — Fourteen were killed and 1,430 arrested in demonstrations throughout the Punjab against the formation of a Punjabi-speaking state.

\*\*\*

**NEW DELHI** — Commerce Minister M. Shah said trade between India and Yugoslavia would rise from Rs. 4.5 crores in 1959 to Rs. 38 crores in 1966. Yugoslavia offered India a Rs. 38 crores loan.

\*\*\*

**BHOPAL** — Students demonstrated throughout Madhya Pradesh against the cancellation of secondary examinations following the leakage of question papers.

\*\*\*

**NEW DELHI** — The parliamentary committee on Punjabi Suba recommended splitting the State into a Punjabi-speaking state, a Hindi-speaking state (Haryana) and merging the hill areas with Himachal Pradesh.

\*\*\*

**MADRAS** — Nine vessels, including a grain ship, were held up during a strike by INTUC dock workers against a pay agreement made by the AITUC dockers' union.

\*\*\*

**TRIVANDRUM** — About 5,000 small industries with over 60,000 employees were reported idle because of power cuts due to drought.

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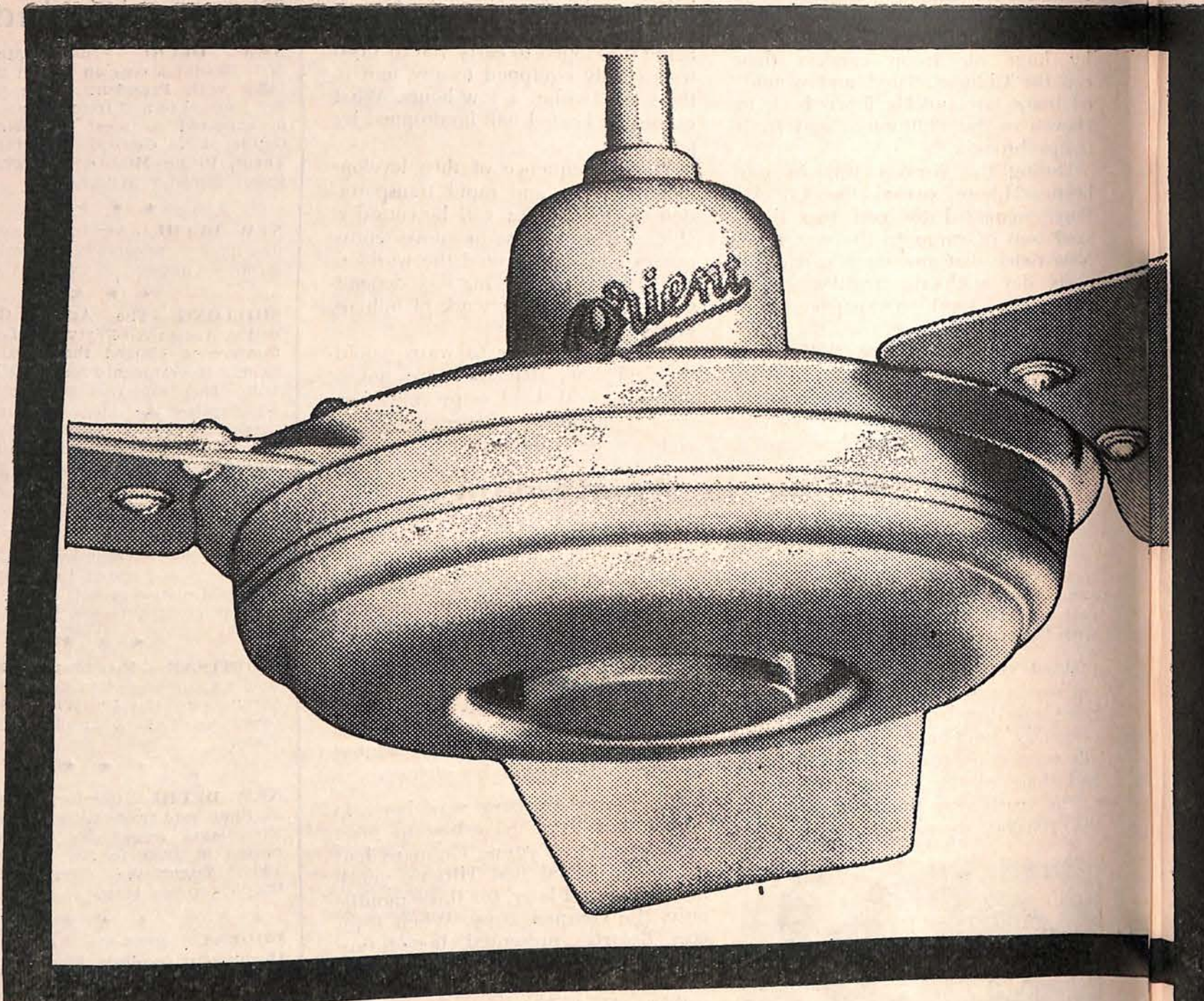
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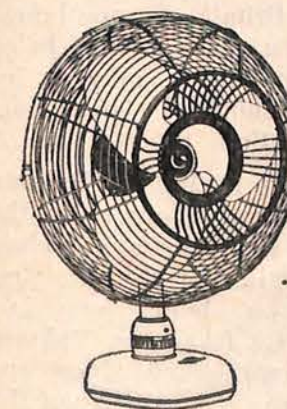
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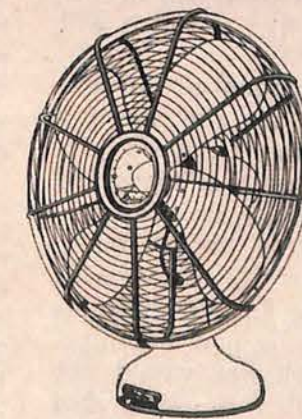
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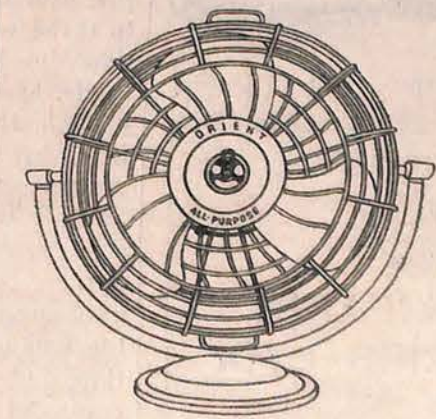
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**FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS**

write about, had little to do with genuine wounds of the past. The mental make-up of the bearded, sloppy demonstrators has—as some commentators pointed out—much more in common with the window-breaking, Jew-baiting Nazis they decry.

Bearded beatnik terrorism is a dangerous trend in present-day Europe—the more so because it seems to have a special sounding board in modern mass media. Majority opinion

**UK Shifts to Bahrain**

FROM HARRY ALMOND

Beirut

Political activity in Aden and South Arabia has intensified following the amnesty granted to exiled nationalist leaders. The Egyptian-sponsored National Front for Liberation of South Yemen (forbidden in Aden as "terrorist") and the Organization for the Liberation of the Occupied South Yemen merged to form the FLOSY (Front for the Liberation of Occupied South Yemen).

Mr. Abdel-Qawee Mackawee, who was dismissed as Chief Minister when Britain suspended Aden's constitution last September, has been elected Secretary-General of FLOSY by its new 20-man revolutionary council. Their headquarters is in Taiz, in South Yemen.

In inviting other organizations to join the Front Mr. Mackawee laid down the following conditions: dissolution of their organization and transfer of property to the Front; participation in armed struggle; rejection of all British proposals; and refusal to participate in any form of government in Aden pending implementation of United Nations resolutions.

The South Arabian League led by Mr. Mohammed Ali Jifry will decide in three weeks whether or not it will join the Front.

Mr. Mackawee announced the new organization following the meeting in Cairo of the Arab League's permanent committee on the "Occupied South", which is made up of representatives of the UAR, Saudi Arabia, Yemen, Algeria and Kuwait. It was announced that the League committee had approved the new organization, but Mr. Mackawee would not comment on whether Saudi Arabia had expressed reservations about the decision.

Britain, on her part, is planning to strengthen her position in the Persian Gulf as she faces the loss of her base

is easily drowned by so-called hard-hitting TV programmes with the stated object of destroying "taboos". And the stabilizing authority of monarchies seems to be regarded by them as such a "taboo".

Contrasted with this, Princess Beatrix and now Prince Claus showed a more forward looking frame of mind. In their speech on TV after the wedding the couple said: "The happiness that we were able to experience today will strengthen us for the rest of our lives in our joint commitment to the future of our nation."

in Aden when independence is promised in 1968.

According to reliable sources in the island Emirate of Bahrain, talks will open shortly between the Bahrain and British Governments over a probable increase in the rental for Britain's bases there. Britain now pays a nominal £200 annually for the facilities where the 1500 men of the Number Two Parachute Battalion Group are stationed. The Royal Navy pays £100 per berth for its several frigates and mine-sweepers based there.

It is announced that Bahrain suggests £6,000,000, while Britain talks in terms of half that sum annually. As an island Bahrain may be less vulnerable to terrorist infiltration, but sources close to the Ruler feel sure that Britain's strengthened position on the Island will bring vehement propaganda attacks for which Bahrain should be paid adequate compensation.

One year ago rioting in Bahrain resulted in student deaths. As the anniversary of the riots approaches, demonstrators clamour for the release of detenus held since last March. Security forces on Bahrain have been strengthened since last year. This may or may not keep the lid on, but force will never solve the fundamental issue of who is to control the oil wealth under the Arabian Peninsula and Persian Gulf.

**FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS**

**The Congo and Lumumba's Sons**

FROM VERE JAMES

Nairobi

Until he died in 1964 Professor Ivan Potekhin was the Director of the Africa Institute in Moscow. His book "Africa Looks to the Future", (regarded as the "Mein Kampf" of Soviet designs on this continent), established the theory that "independence does not complete the process of decolonizations". A "Socialist" revolution must follow.

It is clearly stated that Soviet intentions are to "conquer" Africa for Marxism-Leninism. Their most hopeful base, until the recent coup, was Ghana with all its paraphernalia of "ideological institutes", "research establishments" (staffed by non-African Marxists) and the state philosophy of "Nkrumahism".

The main training ground for these activities will now be the Patrice Lumumba Friendship University in Moscow. Over 20,000 Africans are reported to be enrolled in this and other Communist Universities. Not all of them return enthusiastic about the education they are given, the treatment they receive or the conditions of the system that is the example of their indoctrination.

In the next three or four years these 20,000 students will return to Africa. Their home-coming, at present a trickle, will become a steady stream. One of those who will finish his studies in political science this year at the Lumumba Friendship University is Joseph Lumumba—the eldest son of the man who posthumously gave it his name.

According to the Reporter, East Africa's fortnightly news magazine, who interviewed his teenage brother, Izayasi, Joseph has a few political ambitions of his own. It will be interesting to see what Congo President Mobutu will do about this.

However, Izayasi's mission to Nairobi was strictly non-political. It was "to ask Gaston Soumialot and other

Congo rebel leaders, whom he believed to be in Dar es Salaam, to refund some of the loot which they had cleaned out of the Stanleyville bank vaults before Tshombe drove them out of the city, 15 months ago". This little cache of his father, a former postal clerk, was estimated to be 20 million francs, "money saved from his salary and gifts".

Izayasi also had some revealing things to say about his mother, who with her two daughters has lived in Cairo since her husband's death. "She gets money from the Chinese, and she also uses the fortune in gold and diamonds that my father banked in Egypt. She loves the Communist Chinese too much, and I don't want to be a friend of the Chinese."

He seems to have few friends himself. Izayasi is hoping to raise the cash to continue his schooling. Although the Kenya Government seemed willing to help him, his family and the rebel leaders were not interested.

So Izayasi has gone home to the Congo—"to become a scientist".

national income on defence. She maintains an army of over 100,000 to guard her African territories against liberation movements.

**AUSTRALIAN BOOM**

SYDNEY—February was Australia's best trading month since 1964—despite drought hitting traditional wool and wheat production. The improvement is due to development of minerals in the country's outback. Mineral production rose 18 per cent in 1963-4 to £120 million. Japan, now the world's third largest iron producer, is Australia's biggest customer.

**CHINESE ON THE MOVE**

PEKING—The Chinese are moving industries on a big scale to the western interior, say diplomats here. One report says half the industrial units in the southern capital of Canton have been moved to Chungking and elsewhere. Peking's industrial satellite towns are largely being dispersed. This mass transfer of plant and workers has handicapped the start of the Third Five Year Plan. The reports say the Chinese genuinely fear US attacks on their atomic installations.

**The week elsewhere**

**NKRUMAH'S ASSETS**

ACCRA—Ghana's Liberation Council plans to try some of Nkrumah's Ministers on corruption charges. Nkrumah's assets, estimated at £2.5 million, were frozen. The £8 million OAU Conference centre built by the former President will be turned into a hotel. All Chinese and many Russian advisers and technicians have been sent home. Two secret training camps for saboteurs have been discovered. One had Russian military vehicles and flags inscribed, "Go ye and free the whole of Africa." Twenty Russian diplomats were expelled last week as Russia announced formal recognition of the new regime.

Lieut. General Ankrah, the Liberation Council Chairman, last week disassociated himself from Nkrumah's foreign policies in Africa. He said Ghana's policy would be one of "balanced neutrality", following the OAU and UN line but not attempting to initiate drastic action as Nkrumah did.

**MINISTERS INSIDE**

LAGOS—General Ironsi's military Government has now detained 32 Nigerian ex-Ministers, chairmen of public corporations and former highly-placed politicians. Twelve are accused of conspiracy and theft of Rs. 8 lakhs. One former Minister is charged with murder; another with corruptly accepting Rs. 1 lakh and a car.

**AUSTRIA'S COALITION**

VIENNA—Dr. Josef Klaus, whose Conservative People's Party won 85 seats (an absolute majority) to the Socialist Party's 74 in the recent elections, invited the Socialists to continue the coalition Government which has ruled for 20 years.

**LISBON FACES AFRICA**

LISBON—Portuguese authorities reported 1,500 clashes with guerrillas in their African territory of Mozambique during December and January. Portugal maintains 40,000 troops in Mozambique; 20,000 in Portuguese Guinea, and spends one third of her





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### ON THE Spot

HIMMAT meets the people

## Dahanu Farmer Revolutionizes Agriculture

"Do you know Merwan Khodadad Irani of Dahanu?" Shri Shembekar, President of the Progressive Farmers' Association, asked me. "You should meet him. He has erected at a low cost bunds across the river that help to preserve water. Encourage such local initiative and India's food production is bound to rise."

When I arrived in Dahanu at the entrance of Merwanji's farm with its old homestead, scores of children in smart uniforms greeted me, "Morning, uncle." "Am I in a school?" I asked. "You are. This is one of Merwanji's many projects."

I found Merwan Khodadad Irani five feet in height, but his stocky body bristled with the energy of a giant. Successful farmer, innovator, philanthropist and social worker, he is consumed with the passion to pitchfork India from a poor country into a flourishing self-reliant nation. He dreams of what India can be, but is practical enough to experiment in his own sphere.

As a farmer he grows chikoos, roses, coconuts, other fruits and hybrid wheat. His son Shapur and son-in-law Aspy help him also in raising poultry, pigs, rabbits and fish.

### Plenty of Water

Dahanu is situated on the coast 80 miles from Bombay. During the monsoon it had good rains, but most of its river streams ran dry by December, January or, latest, March. When water was most needed in summer it was seldom found. Moreover at high tide the sea claimed a good part of the land and many of Dahanu's wells produced salt water.

"There must be an answer to this problem," thought Merwanji.

In 1950 he built, at his own expense, a bund across the local river to preserve water that drained into the sea. In the next months, not only did the farm have sufficient water, but nearby wells gave a continuous supply of fresh water. For water, Merwanji found, percolates under-

ground. He next got the railways to build two major bunds to feed water to the engines that halt at Dahanu. Incidentally, it helped local farmers too. At least five more private bunds have been constructed by the local farmers under his supervision. Today Dahanu has plenty of water and is one of the richest agricultural areas in the State.

The news of Merwanji's initiative reached Chief Minister Naik. Visiting Dahanu, he named the bund "the Dahanu-type of Bhandara", and has done everything to encourage its spread.

The Commissioner of the Division, standing on the bund with Merwanji, complimented him, but added,

See photo feature on page 2

"Please do one thing. Next time, you erect a bund on Government property, you must ask the Government's permission."

Merwanji stretched to his full height, looked up at the Commissioner and retorted, "No, I won't."

"Change the rule," Merwanji replied. "If I apply to the Collector's office, I won't get a reply for three years and at the end of it will be told why it can't be done. If you want these bunds to be popularized, delegate the power to the village panchayats so a farmer can apply in the morning and get permission by evening."

To the credit of the Commissioner and the Government of Maharashtra, such instructions have been issued and today hundreds of bunds all over Maharashtra have been constructed. If you are planning such a bund, it is advisable to see a demonstration in Dahanu itself, for any mistake can prove costly and flooding can result.

Thousands of road culverts dot India. At a cost of Rs. 150 to Rs. 200 a year (see illustration on page 2), most of them can be converted into bunds by erecting brick walls in their tunnels after the rains and pull-

ing it down before the rains. Merwanji has tried out these experiments too. But the project nearest to his heart now is to reclaim marshy land.

"A Minister once told me we have three crore acres of salt-lands on the Gujarat and Maharashtra coast alone. When I was in Holland and saw the dykes built by the Dutch I thought of implementing their ideas on the Dahanu coast."

### Salt Soil Reclaimed

On his return Merwanji, with his son, Shapur, obtained 11 acres of marshy land, and erected six-foot high earth and rubble walls on all four sides of the marshy land. He put a pipe at the bottom of one of the walls and sealed it. When rains came the area turned into a tank. Then, it was drained once, and twice. Most of the salt was washed away. Eighteen thousand fresh water carp were air-freighted from Calcutta. These fish cost a nominal Rs. 22 per thousand, inclusive of air-freight. They have now grown in this tank and are flourishing.

Next, Merwanji proposed to the Thana Jilla Parishad, to use this technique and reclaim 160 acres of marshy land at a cost of Rs. 1,40,000, inclusive of a road. They have allocated the money.

Merwanji visualizes a vast lake in this area and plans to breed fish by the thousand and provide the local people with extra income and nutritious protein from the fish. "I would like to see two or three islands on this lake and boats in different colours. We could even give a boat to each of the different schools so they could learn rowing and compete with each other."

I was there at the commissioning of the scheme and as we left in a car, a local bigwig said, "But Merwanji, suppose something goes wrong and our scheme fails, what happens?"

Merwanji replied: "Do what you can and leave everything to God. Otherwise it is not God's will that we are doing, but our own. We are only His instruments. Let Him do the work. You relax." The big-wig was relieved, collected his garlands and left.

When we recalled this conversation later, Merwanji looked me straight in the eye and said, "If you take even one step, God runs 99." This faith has made Merwanji move mountains.

Merwanji's biggest scheme now is  
*Continued on next page*



# LETTERS

## ATOMIC LUXURY

DEAR EDITOR: Is it not sheer madness to talk of having the nuclear bomb at a fabulous cost when 70 per cent of the nation do not know the three "Rs", 50 per cent have only one full meal a day and 20 per cent only half a meal a day? Yes, mountainous problems like food, education, unemployment, rehabilitation and poverty stare deep in the nation's face. First let us be a nation economically sound, then we can have the luxury of thinking of having the nuclear bomb.

MANI MOHAN DAS\*

Howrah

\* This week's Rs. 10 prize winner

## NEGLECTED FARMERS

DEAR EDITOR: While thanking foreign countries for their unparalleled generosity in rushing gifts and food aid to our country, it is time to pause and ponder over some of the difficulties of our agriculturists. Even since independence, and especially since the first Plan, the Indian farmer has not received his due profits. He is subject to various types of pressures:

(i) Imports from abroad have adversely affected the prices of our indigenous foodgrains, thus robbing the producer of his reasonable profits. Those in industry have benefited by the cheap food policy of the Government, at the cost of our agriculturist who has had to pay more for the wages of his labourers (due to depletion of human potential on land which migrated to industries) as well as for the industrial products like water pumping sets, fertilizers, diesel and crude oil, etc. In order to feed industries our Government has not cared to sacrifice the interests of our agriculturists who constitute a major portion of the population.



"I promised I wouldn't ask him for another thing for a whole year. He was so surprised he went out and bought me a new sari."

(ii) Some of our agricultural products suffer heavily on account of other reasons. Take, for instance, sugar cane. The sugar cane which is converted into "gur" is less profitable than the sugar cane processed for sugar production. If about 415 quintals of sugar cane yield 35 quintals of "gur" costing about Rs. 2,000, the same amount of sugar cane, when sold to a sugar factory, fetches about Rs. 2,500.

(iii) Our agriculturists are denied most of the amenities which urban people enjoy. The Government discriminates between rural and urban areas in the allocation of articles like sugar. Such discrimination is absolutely undesirable in a Socialistic democracy like ours. It clearly shows that the industrial population living in towns and cities gets preferential treatment from the Government. It is something quite inconsistent with our Government's long cherished ideal of a welfare state.

If our Government continues to be indifferent towards our agriculturists, Marshal Lin Piao's recent political theory of "encirclement of urban population by rural population" will very soon begin to operate in our country and Communism will not be far away from us.

SURESH R. ARANAKE

Satara

## MRS. SHASTRI

DEAR EDITOR: It is gratifying that the Government has decided to grant Rs. 1000\* per month to Mrs. Lal Bahadur. It would be apposite to have a statutory provision to give such relief to all Ministers' families in case any Minister happens to die while in office.

C. L. NARASIMHAN

Madras 4

\* Since raised to Rs. 1250 per month.—Ed.

## ELECTION EXPENSES

DEAR EDITOR: Franchise is a sacred thing and if this has not been properly used at the time of election then there is no use in blaming the party in power.

It is the duty of leaders as well as the voters to see that no room is given for political corruption.

Parties should come to an understanding not to spend more than an agreed sum during election, and after the election is over the parties should publish their election accounts.

C. L. NARASIMHAN

Madras 4

Few will argue with the theory of what you say. How can we be practical and figure ways of achieving these goals?—Ed.

## SAVARKAR'S WISDOM

DEAR EDITOR: With the passing away of Veer Savarkar, we have lost another great revolutionary. While his principles, like all principles, were subject to criticism, his patriotism, rationalism and progressive attitude could not be disputed.

HIMMAT awards Rs. 10 for the best letter received every week. Letters should be brief and exclusive.—Ed.

One of the most tortured politicians of the country (he spent long years in the Andamans doing hard labour), he will be remembered for his courage he showed while fighting the British rulers.

History has demonstrated the wisdom of his views. He was concerned about the military strength of the country and he had opposed the division of India. Today these principles are being recognized, though in somewhat different form.

As a patriot, he insisted that the events of 1857 should be described as a war of independence and not as a mutiny. His narration of that beginning of the freedom struggle demonstrates clearly that he was as good a literary artist as he was a freedom fighter. The powerful flow of language in his writings cannot fail to move the reader.

N. B. KULKARNI.

Bombay

## ENCOURAGE ENTERPRISE

DEAR EDITOR: The Government should encourage private enterprise in the agricultural sector to enable business magnates to run their own farms on a large scale. Thus, modern agricultural techniques may be employed by people who have the capital. Not only will business men gain but the country will too.

MICHAEL KEITH LA PORTE

Madras 1

## DAHANU FARMER—from page 17

to get the State Government to reclaim 8,000 acres of land where the sea sweeps in at high tide. It is a big scheme of Rupees one and a half crores (\$3 million). "Desalt this land and you can have the finest coconut grove in India here in a few years. We have suggested to the Government that half of this reclaimed land can go to the Adivasi tribe and the other half should go to the blind agriculturists who are receiving training at a nearby school."

Merwanji feels very strongly that India's finest fertilizer source, night-soil, is completely wasted and he has interesting schemes how it can be utilized. He claims that the use of it in Japan has paid rich dividends. Merwanji is a great admirer of Japanese agricultural methods and their team spirit.

"We are not Indians first," he painfully says. "The Japanese are one people."

Merwanji is a born fighter. Maybe his biggest fight now is to make India one.

Varuna

# VIEWPOINT

First Prize

## WHERE I CAN BEGIN TO CHANGE INDIA

By Smt. V. R. Munshi, Ahmedabad

TO CHANGE India! What a great task! No work for a single person. It requires the efforts of all of us. India requires changes in various fields. Where can I start? I can begin with myself and with the field of my work. Charity begins at home. First I can be a good citizen of India—hard-working, honest, sincere and enlightened.

Children are the citizens of tomorrow. They can be moulded and trained as we want them to be as grown-ups. I shall begin with my own children. I will try to form certain habits in them. Virtues can be developed best by forming habits and not by preaching their importance. I can try my best in training them to be good citizens of India and I shall see that they get oppor-

tunities to develop themselves.

I am a teacher and I have a good opportunity to contribute to the task of changing India. I can make the fullest use of this opportunity. To be a good teacher, I have to be well-informed and sincere. I can try out new methods in teaching instead of adhering to the set ones. I can make my teaching lively and interesting.

Besides formal teaching I can give my students general knowledge and train them to learn and not merely memorize ready-made material. Education's real aim is to develop the personality of an individual. I can insist on good habits, manners and discipline in my students, not by preaching but by action.

These are the fields where I can work to change India.

## Second Prize

### 'I DEDICATE MY PEN'

By S. K. MUKERJI, Poona 4

IF ONE wishes to serve India, one must first of all set down clearly his objectives and map out his programme, else his efforts will be wasted, his energies squandered. In drawings up such a plan of action, one must consider two things: India's needs and his own capabilities.

India's needs are manifold: there is widespread illiteracy and unemployment, poverty and disease; there is housing shortage, scarcity of food, dearth of foreign exchange; language, religion and caste tend to disrupt national unity. Scarcely have external wars died out, when we are up in arms fighting our own men in Bengal, Punjab and elsewhere!

What can be done to solve these problems, which are as vast as the sub-continent itself? Much indeed! Doctors, instead of converging on the cities where they can make more money, should go out into the villages and serve the poor at nominal rates. Educationists should forget to

fill their pockets in their anxiety to fill minds with knowledge. Businessmen should help their unfortunate brethren. Union leaders should work with constructive rather than destructive aims. Politicians should set duty before prestige; administrators should go out and work among the poor rather than sit in air conditioned offices and form unrealistic five-year plans! Each one according to his own ability and avocation can make some positive contribution towards the development of India.

But what about me? I am not a doctor or teacher; I cannot ascend political platforms, or organize co-operatives, or lead labour unions. I am a very ordinary man, with but one talent—a facile pen. Yet I draw consolation from the proverb: the pen is mightier than the sword.

A writer can influence more people than a doctor, educationist, administrator or politician. For, whereas these workers influence only the

## COMPETITION

\* Should India's Taxes Be Cut by Half?

Closing date: April 1

\*\* Should Film Censorship be Abolished?

Closing date: April 15

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hundreds or thousands who come into contact with them or hear them speak, the writer can reach millions through the printed word and influence successive generations. Great indeed is a writer's power; in fact, his power exceeds our wildest imagination.

Did not Dickens help clear the slums of London through his stirring novels? Did not Ibsen fight for the emancipation of women in his thought-provoking dramas? Did not Yeats boost up nationalist feelings through his Irish Literary Movement? Consider the achievements of Galsworthy, Shaw, O'Casey. Examples could be multiplied endlessly of the great writers of every nation and their gigantic contributions to progress.

I may not achieve such colossal results; but the minutest fraction of that would be much indeed. Hence, I feel, this is the best way in which I can begin to serve India: to dedicate my pen to my motherland.



From India's Leather

Made in New Zealand

by Z.K. Fias

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**This was a life  
KAUTILYA  
(c. 4th Cent. B. C.)**

IF KAUTILYA had been steering the Indian ship of state in the 1950's, the Chinese debacle of September 1962 would probably not have occurred. He would have ensured that India's northern frontier was well guarded. If China's physical strength was preponderable, as it was, Kautilya would have balanced it through diplomacy and alliances. If that did not succeed, he might have engineered a coup d'etat in Peking!

Kautilya—also known as Chanakya—was a shrewd brahmin who lived at the court of Magadha at the time Alexander invaded India in 326 BC. According to tradition embodied in the ancient play, "Mudra-Rakshasa", Kautilya successfully devised a revolution at the court which ended that tyrannical rule of the Nandas, and placed Chandragupta Maurya on the throne.

Together, the "kingmaker" brahmin and the adventurous kshatriya embarked on a career of conquest which laid the foundations of the first and possibly the grandest empire that ever covered the sub-continent. Chandragupta had obviously profited from his earlier meeting with Alexander. The victory against Seleucus Nikator, king of Western Asia, in which Kautilya won for his king Afghanistan and Seleucus' daughter, was merely an episode.

The Maurya empire was grand, not only because it was the largest the sub-continent was ever to know, but because it was the groundwork for the unity of modern India.

Besides being a kingmaker and an empire-builder, Kautilya is renowned as the greatest Indian exponent of the art of government, particularly foreign policy. In foreign policy, Kautilya was a realist: i.e. national self-interest was his sole motive for action. A realist never supposes that if you don't attack anyone, nobody will attack you. The Chinese proved Kautilya right. But self-interest is different from self-seeking and here we, today, part company with the able Prime Minister of the Maurayas who would recommend that the stronger nation attack its weaker neighbour at the earliest possible opportunity. A balance ought to be struck between excessive realism and excessive idealism.

Yet, instead of condemning Kautilya for being wicked, as many have done, we should commend him for being pragmatic and being able to translate thought into action—a rare achievement on the Indian scene, which has been overburdened with thought. **G.C.D.**

**Q and A**

**Q—Who is responsible for all the recent incidents of violence in West Bengal? Government or Opposition parties or people?**

N. C. VEERACHARI, Hyderabad 4

**A—Life in West Bengal and especially Calcutta is not easy. In the second largest city of the Commonwealth, you have to fight your way every day into a bus or train. If you succeed you will be lucky if you are hanging on the foot-board. Often you have to battle to get to a water-tap. For kerosene you have to line in a queue. If millions have to live like that day after day, you have tremendous feelings itching to break out.**

Combine this with an incompetent Municipal Corporation and a complacent Government, you have the perfect setting for trouble. The Government policies are to blame. The Opposition has cashed in. And pent-up feelings have exploded and soon goondas took over. Intense pre-occupation in the power game has left the basic problems of Calcutta and other Bengal cities untouched. Unless a sincere attempt is made to get to the roots of the problem, the same factors can operate again.

**Q—Is the creation of linguistic states good for India?**

N. C. VEERACHARI, Hyderabad 4

**A—No. It has not proved to be so.**

Before independence the Congress had resolved that India should be divided on a linguistic basis and not on the arbitrary administrative basis of the British.

Ten years ago an Andhra patriot went on a fast to have a separate Andhra State. He died. In an emotionally char-

ged atmosphere in Parliament, the Prime Minister agreed that Andhra would be a separate State. The State Re-Organization Commission was appointed for the whole of India.

Linguism, even after ten years, remains the national pastime.

**Q—Is the Punjabi language spoken by Sikhs alone? If not, which are the other communities in the Punjab which speak Punjabi?**

A. B. KHOT, Satara

**A—Most Hindus of Punjab both understand and speak Punjabi. However, when the census was taken most Hindus declared Hindi as their mother tongue.**

Hindus prefer to write Punjabi in Devnagri scripts and the Sikhs in Gurmukhi. It can also be written in Urdu (Persian) script, and there is some division of opinion as to which script should be used, even in a Punjabi-speaking state.

**Q—Why has India waited to recognize the new regime in Ghana and ultimately given her recognition one day after Moscow has?**

A. DELAUNE, Bombay 26

**A—Could it be because that is where our "non-alignment" lies?**

**ANY QUESTIONS?  
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# Inadequate Leadership

By Rajmohan Gandhi

PEOPLE ARE ANGRY. They find their plans frustrated. There is hate, far more of it than some people admit. But there is more behind the recent chain of violence and rebellion than can be explained in terms of anger, frustration, hate, poverty and unemployment.

There is a clever brain architecting the strategy of disruption and long arms carrying it out.

Peking has suffered grievous setbacks in Ghana, in other parts of Africa, in Cuba, according to some in Albania, and, closer to us, in Indonesia. Its leaders require a major offsetting victory. A chaotic India, with law and order collapsed, falling into Communist hands would be a titanic face-saving prize for Peking.

Our leaders must devise an adequate strategy to avert this collapse. If they don't, or can't, the people of India will have to devise their own plans.

The hour requires firmness. It also requires, in our leadership, the ability to win the confidence of passionate men who think in terms that are provincial, religious or linguistic, but not national.

The founder of Pakistan, Mohammed Ali Jinnah, dislike or venerate him, altered the shape of the Indian sub-continent. Some called him cold as ice. Others accused him of pride and ambition. Millions of Muslims felt he was their unequalled leader.

## "Honest Apology"

There was a time in the freedom struggle when Jinnah was one of the Congress Party's outstanding young leaders. Then the moment came when he resigned, developed the Muslim League and finally obtained Pakistan.

Somewhere we failed in winning and keeping his confidence.

In 1946 Jinnah was in London for discussions, along with Nehru and others. Dr. Frank Buchman, founder of Moral Re-Armament, invited him to dinner and to see a play, "The Forgotten Factor". He came, and was interested in the news and stories of how, as a result of the work of Moral Re-Armament, men were changing in different parts of the world.

In "The Forgotten Factor" there is a tough businessman negotiat-

ing with trade union men who says, "I will not budge." When Jinnah heard that phrase on the stage, he laughed and laughed. Two Scotland Yard men, deputed to protect him in London, later said that that evening was the only time in London they found him relaxed.

After the show, Jinnah said to Dr. Buchman, "Honest apology, that is the golden key. You have the answer for the hates of the world."

Can our leaders today discover the genius of winning the confidence of the Naga and Mizo leaders, Master Tara Singh, Shri Yagya Dutt Sharma, the Opposition leaders of Kerala and Bengal, and the DMK chiefs?

Firmness is essential. But firmness requires strength to enforce it, and that strength can only come to our Government if it wins the confidence of the broad masses of our country. Without that, firmness will only be a word.

## Cult of Separatism

Political jugglery will not now unite India. Going halfway with everybody and making promises to all who threaten or demand will achieve neither peace nor stability.

It is fashionable today to blame Jawaharlal Nehru for the spreading cult of separatism. We are told that Nehru should have been firm with Potti Sriramulu, and not yielded when Sriramulu died by fasting for the creation of Andhra. We are further told that the method of dividing India on a linguistic basis, after the example of Andhra, is responsible for the present mess.

I disagree. I do not say that linguistic provinces are necessarily ideal. I do say that "firmly" turning down people's demands is no answer. Nor, of course is appeasement.

Men like Sriramulu, Master Tara Singh and Sant Fateh Singh have to be won over.

India needs a new kind of leadership that can enlist in a great, common undertaking the participation of the most determined parochial leaders in our country.

The world is unable to understand us when, at this point of

extreme financial and economic hardship, we engage ourselves in impassioned hate campaigns and what really amount to civil wars over the issue of language among different sections of our population.

But it will take more than condemnation and imprisonment—or appeasement—to win the strong-willed leaders of parochial interests.

The parochial leaders should think and plan for India, and Asia, with the same intensity of feeling they have for their own language or religious group. Yet are they necessarily wrong in working for their own group? I believe not. Far better, it seems to me, to work for a million people than for yourself. Even better, obviously, to live for 500 million people.

India needs leaders who care for all sections of the country and for all people; leaders who offer every man they meet, and every area or community whose representatives they meet, a place where they are needed in a supreme task; leaders who can be strong and decisive and who carry out their pledges; and leaders who do not pretend to be better, nobler or more knowledgeable than they are.

A fearless, united and honest leadership, resolved to mobilize India in the task of refashioning the whole structure of the Asian continent, will secure the loyalty of our people in a manner that can astound the world.

## Will They Admit It?

Today India does not find in her leadership a great deal of care or a vision for other people's greatness, or honesty and realism about themselves.

Harsh this statement may be, but I do not think it is unfair.

Our leaders have potentialities for greatness. The actual performance is inadequate and often irrelevant.

The first step in change is to admit the need for it. The first step in knowledge is to face that we have something new to learn.

Will our leaders admit that they have something to learn in how to win the confidence of the country?

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## THE PRIME MINISTER ABROAD

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In New Delhi  
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