

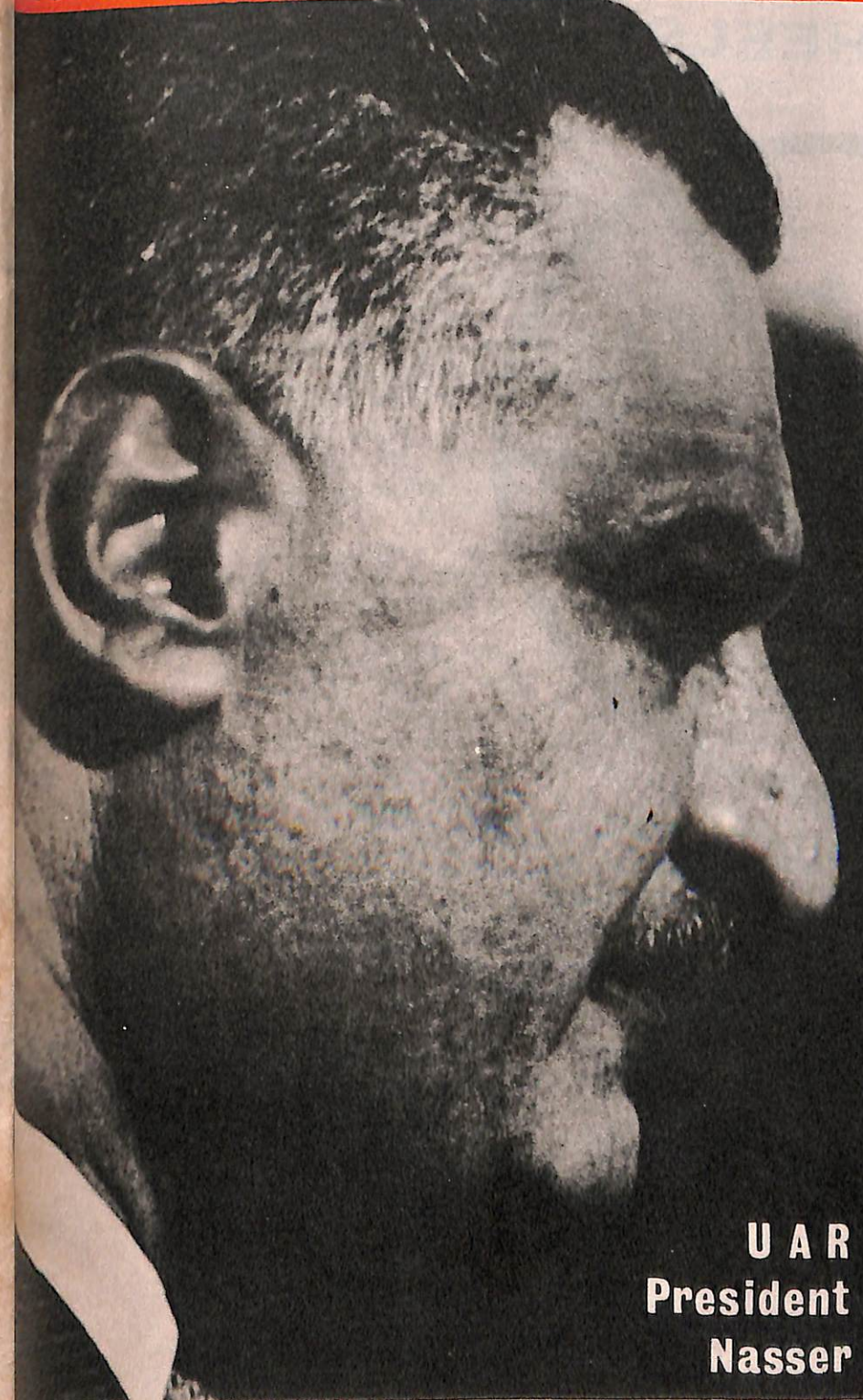


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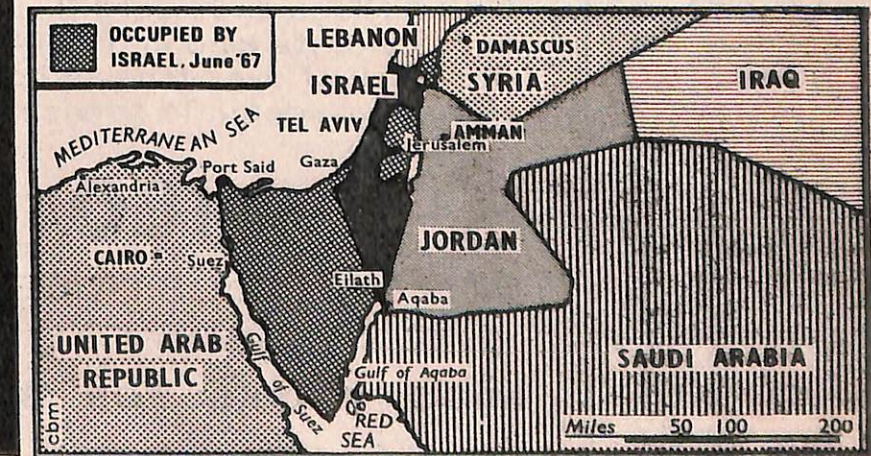


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CAIRO'S TRAGIC UNREALITY

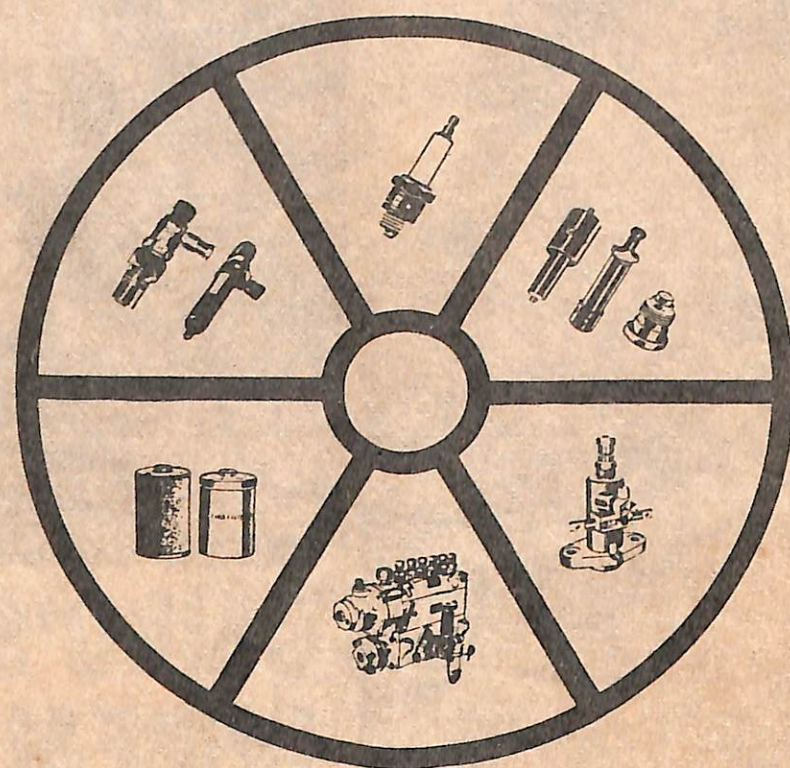
R.M.Lala reports from Egypt's capital

p. 5



Rajmohan Gandhi **DELHI 2000**

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WEEKLY

BOMBAY FRIDAY OCTOBER 20, 1967

Curious journey

THE MAIN CURIOSITY ABOUT Mrs Gandhi's East European tour is her reason for making it. However, this has not as yet been fully elucidated.

In Warsaw, following her Moscow luncheon with Mr Kosygin, the Prime Minister issued the expected, dutiful call to the Americans to end bombing of North Vietnam. The practical business of her talks with Polish, Bulgarian and Rumanian leaders seems to have concerned trade. These countries are reportedly pressing for the immediate establishment of joint commissions for economic and technical co-operation such as already exist between India and Yugoslavia and Czechoslovakia.

India's economic co-operation with Yugoslavia and with Egypt, the last stop in Mrs Gandhi's itinerary, already embraces plans for tariff preferences and co-ordination of industrial production.

While not disputing the value of such co-operation, India should beware lest collaboration based on supposed ideological affinities prejudices development based on regional co-operation and economic common sense. In this context India should give careful consideration to the proposal of Ceylon Minister of State J. R. Jayewardene for regional economic co-operation among the Asian countries of the Indian Ocean.

Whatever the Prime Minister planned to achieve in East Europe, it is clear her hosts had plans for her—among them to involve India more deeply in the Soviet-dominated economic web. As leader of the most industrially-advanced country of Southern Asia, Mrs Gandhi should be initiating schemes to develop that region.

Emergency

IN THE MAELSTROM of political eruption and linguistic explosions which daily rock the nation, a seasoned observer has defined India's situation in terms which are worth study:

- 1 The need for firm leadership,
- 2 The need to unite a few at the top,
- 3 The need to give the nation a goal.

Never before was there such a need for clear and decisive leadership which selects priorities on a basis of not who is right but what is right. Such a leadership must replace the punch-drunk players who reel before every blow with actions born of expediency.

Secondly, in many countries when the situation has faced catastrophe, men of ability, regardless of party,

have come together to deal with the crisis. A notable instance was the wartime Government of Britain. India faces just as acute an emergency today.

Finally, India will respond to a goal. Could it be to show the way out of hate, class war and racial antagonisms? And not just the mouthing of slogans! At home, with sweat and selflessness, she must feed, clothe and house her millions. Every citizen could help to build an India to be proud of—clean, strong and united.

Might this resolve many regional and communal conflicts and dissolve corruptions at all levels?

Flirting with disaster

LEFTIST RIVALRIES plus Government weakness are rapidly bringing catastrophe to the people of West Bengal.

During the last seven months, 68 factories in the State have closed, according to official figures. In the same period 779 *gheraos* were reported while nearly 52,000 workers lost their jobs because of factory closures and lay-offs.

Disaster threatens within two or three months unless action is taken to end labour lawlessness, states a report prepared for the Prime Minister by an official of the Union Government. Employers, virtually deprived of police protection, in many cases dare not go to their factories and want to leave the State. Rule of law has ceased to exist.

Is there strength of character in our Government, at the Centre if the State will not do it, to carry out its primary duty of maintaining law and order? Or are rulers in Delhi, as in Calcutta, more concerned with political positioning than the people's welfare?

Neither up nor down

WAGES, production, the standard of living, all progress upwards in the Soviet Union, say the propagandists. But not the lifts.

According to Mr Vishnevetsky, chief engineer of the firm that maintains Moscow's lifts, elevators in the Soviet Union move neither up nor down with any certainty.

Writing in *Literaturnaya Gazeta*, Mr Vishnevetsky says 14,200 of the capital's 15,000 lifts are over 12 years old. Only 600 are the latest model—fortunately, he says, because "despite a more attractive exterior, it is even worse than the old". It "crawls slowly, creaks noisily and breaks down more often. Besides, it costs twice as much to produce, one-and-a-half times as much to install and two-and-a-half times as much to maintain."

Mr Kosygin and his planners had better iron out the deviations in Moscow's unreliable lifts. Nothing could cause a quicker freeze in diplomatic relations than a visiting potentate getting stuck in an unheated, unco-operative elevator.

Perhaps that's why he lunched with Mrs Gandhi on the ground floor in a *dacha* outside Moscow.

Briefly speaking...

Less talk—more crops

THE NEW YORK TIMES New Delhi correspondent recently cabled his paper a rather embarrassing report about Mrs Gandhi's farming exploits. According to the correspondent, the Government's intensive agricultural programme has not yet reached the five-acre farm inherited by the Prime Minister from her late husband seven years ago.

Though the farm is only 15 miles from her New Delhi office, Mrs Gandhi is reported to have visited it only once in the last 3½ years and not at all since she became Prime Minister. Tenant farmer Badri Prasad, who looks after it for her, has many suggestions and plans for developing the farm which he would

like to tell Mrs Gandhi. As she is so busy he passes them on to her personal secretary who, he says, usually replies, "We shall see. We shall see."

Apparently the farm does not bring in more than Rs 750 per year in production—not enough to pay farmer Prasad his Rs 80 per month wage. According to the Agriculture Ministry, whose Minister is very keen on small holdings, a well-managed five-acre farm in this area should show an annual profit of Rs 10,000 on its wheat crop alone.

Mrs Gandhi's farm would appear to be like a lot of Government enterprises—lot of theory and little production.

Royal greeting

HIMMAT was very pleased to receive last week a card of Dassera greetings from the Royal Palace in Nepal. His Majesty King Mahendra is one of our most distinguished and earliest subscribers and HIMMAT reciprocates warmly his good wishes.

Frank words

MR MORARJI DESAI must have raised a few angry mutters amongst Congress comrades last week when he told the Delhi Insurance Institute that nationalised life insurance had failed to fulfil the hopes the Government had cherished ten years ago. All those Congress back-benchers who are pushing for the extension of nationalisation to the field of general insurance must have glowered when the Finance Minister (and he ought to know) gave the game away.

EXPECT SOME HEADS to roll in External Affairs, if not now at least if the Finance Minister becomes Prime Minister. Mr Desai is reported to be annoyed by the further "clarification" issued by the Ministry on India's policy towards Taiwan and the concept of two Chinas. This followed the controversy sparked by Mr Desai's references while abroad. The *Hindustan Times* political correspondent writes that Mr Desai

We often say that we are nothing. But we would be very sorry if anyone should take us at our word.

ST. FRANCIS DE SALES, 1567-1622

made known his displeasure with the Ministry at a meeting of Congress MPs last week. He had already given the responsible Secretary of External Affairs "a piece of his mind", it was reported.

The practice of senior Government officials "clarifying" statements by Ministers has become quite common, though to "clarify" a statement by the Deputy Prime Minister himself would seem risky for any official.

Rebels on full pay

IT WOULD SEEM that in spite of the "heinous crimes" committed by Liu Shao-chi, Teng Hsiao-ping and others of his opponents, Mao hasn't the heart to let them starve. According to *Letter from China*, an English language information bulletin edited in Peking by the American Communist Mrs Anna Louise Strong, "The tiny handful of functionaries who wants to take the Capitalist path in China has, it is sure, been exposed and ousted. But until a final decision has been taken about them they continue to draw their salaries."

I never thought we would live to see Mao with "capitalists" on his payroll!

Quote of the week

"MR MAO TSE-TUNG and his supporters are an anti-revolutionary group of extreme Leftist temporisers." Who do you think said this? Mr Liu Shao-chi? *The Wall Street Journal*? Neither. It is a statement by the Japan Communist Party based on the line adopted by their Central Committee session held in Tokyo on October 4.

Speed hog

MR HENRY MULLINER, pioneer of motoring and coachbuilding has died in Britain at the age of 97. A friend of both Mr Rolls and Mr Royce he was proud of the claim that he had been fined for speeding in 1895. He was caught driving at 4 mph!

Birbal

HIMMAT, October 20, 1967

CAIRO'S TRAGIC UNREALITY

By R. M. LALA, just returned from Cairo

IF THE SPHINX had any tears to shed, it would shed them now. When a young Egyptian officer was told, "Cairo is the heart of the Arab world", the officer replied, "Yes, but it is a broken heart." A cloud hangs over Egypt. "I would leave soon if I were you," said an Egyptian executive. "The war could break out any time again."

Refugees are coming into Cairo from the Suez Canal zone, their worldly belongings loaded on trucks. Cairo appears to be a wounded city though it still has some of its impressive facets.

Egypt's common people are shaken by the June defeat. They feel let down and lost. Sheppard's Hotel, whose luxurious banqueting rooms normally serve a thousand meals a day, now average thirty-five meals. Egypt's tourist traffic contributed more to the economy of Egypt than the revenue from the Suez Canal. For four months now there has been hardly any traffic. Fortunately, from last week it is beginning to pick up. Meanwhile, construction of two huge new hotels is at a standstill.

Recent events have brought the Arab nations closer together. One of the architects of Arab unity is Abdel Khalik Hassouna, Secretary General of the Arab League. For fifteen years he has wrestled to bring the thirteen Arab nations together. He received me in the impressive building of the Arab League which somewhat dwarfs the Foreign Ministry opposite it. With 221 people working for it in Cairo, the Arab League has offices and its own ministries in many nations in and beyond the Arab world.

Arabs moving together

Mr Hassouna was just back from the conference of Arab Information Ministers in Tunis. There is a distinct move towards increasing co-operation between Arab states and this month has also seen the birth of an Arab Development Fund.

Hassouna's hand is on the pulse of the Arab nations. He says that the one statesman who has emerged with added prestige within the Arab

world is President de Gaulle because "he condemned Israel for being the aggressor."

The Egyptian in the street feels let down by the Soviet Union. Some even say there is a swing against Communism as a result of recent events. In the aftermath of war Egyptian leaders have taken a fresh look round the world. Where once they told America "to jump into the Red Sea" today they would like America to fish Egypt out of her predicament.

President Nasser desperately wants Israel to withdraw from the Suez zone and Sinai, but he is not willing to negotiate with Israel.

The only nation that can pressurise Israel is the United States, and Egyptian diplomacy in the last two months is geared to bring this about. That explains why Nasser's voice, editor Heikal, called for "a dialogue" to be

opened between Egypt and Britain. Egypt realises that Britain with her maritime interests and her close alliance with Washington is the one nation with the leverage needed to bring US pressure to bear on Israel. Britain is not averse to mending its own fences in the Arab world. Her representative, Sir Harold Beeley, has arrived this week in Cairo and Foreign Minister George Brown may soon follow.

Glimmer of hope in UN

Egyptian leaders I spoke to attach great hopes to the current negotiations in the UN. They are clear that if the UN with US backing does not succeed in getting Israel to withdraw unconditionally, another conflict is inevitable in the near future.

One observer said, "The situation is very difficult. If the Israelis don't

continued on next page

CHALTA HAI...



"Yes, the Cabinet is meeting abroad this week. It will cost less than bringing all the Ministers back."

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On your toes

SEN'S MISSING LINK

WHILE Union Education Minister Dr Triguna Sen charges around the country, chalk in hand, educating us on the evils of English, his colleague the Health Minister adopts a more learned approach.

Dr Chandrasekhar, in a convocation address to the Marathwada University in Aurangabad, stressed that there should be "no dogmatic enforcement" of the change-over to the regional languages as media of instruction at the university stage and that there should be no time limit set.

He went further and appealed, perhaps a little selfishly, for medical education to be spared the convulsions of the language switch. The Health Minister would seem admirably equipped to oversee Education. Would that he talked as much sense about health.

With regard to Hindi as the link language, Dr Chandrasekhar pointed out that at least a quarter of the population did not want it. "Here is the crux of the problem," he argued. "We cannot force Hindi on the unwilling South and Bengal in a demo-

cracy. We should let them have English until they are ready for Hindi or whatever link language they choose." And, of course, the learned Dr knows that this 25 per cent have already chosen their link language: English.

One argument astutely ignored by the Hindi missionaries is why—if Hindi offers such a golden age of progress to our country after years of English-language-enslavement—the Hindi-speaking States of Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Bihar, are not greater examples of the literacy, prosperity and modern development which for so long we have been "robbed" of. Whatever the many benefits of Hindi they do not seem to be these.

The Education Minister recently made the wishful suggestion that Hindi-speaking people should learn a South Indian language while the South learnt Hindi. But Governor B. Gopala Reddy said in Lucknow last week that more Russians and Americans were learning Tamil and Telugu than were Hindi-speaking students.

It seems that the sacred cow of Hindi has more moo than milk.

Freebooter

HIMMAT, October 20, 1967

VERDICT!

This week HIMMAT...

AGREES with President Johnson's statement to an education conference in the US: "When it comes to education, every nation—including this one—is still a developing country."

CONGRATULATES the builders on the opening of the 2750-kilometre gas pipeline linking the deserts of Central Asia with the industries of Western Russia.

SUPPORTS Raosaheb Patwardhan, veteran Maharashtra freedom fighter, saying it was "tragic" that veteran patriot Senapati Bapat should play into the hands of "professional trouble-makers" in the Mysore-Maharashtra border dispute.

FEELS its scalp creep at a report that human hair is being bought by the State Trading Corporation at a higher price than silver.

WELCOMES West Bengal Tourism Minister J. Kabir's statement that entry permits for foreign tourists to visit Darjeeling are likely to be abolished.

IS INTERESTED in the report that former Indian Army Chief General Cariappa lunched with President Ayub in Rawalpindi.

QUESTIONS the wisdom of India's FAO delegation in pushing for B. R. Sen to head the organisation for a third term.

URGES serious study of Ceylon's proposal for regional economic co-operation among countries stretching from Pakistan to Indonesia.

SUGGESTS to the Soviet Writers' Union that Russian authors would be more effectively dissuaded from giving their unpublished works to Western publishers by allowing them to publish at home, rather than by accusing these authors of "treachery".

CAIRO—from page 5

withdraw a palace coup d'etat cannot be ruled out."

Another said, "Leaders may pass, but nations survive."

Oddly enough, I found greater enthusiasm for President Nasser among the Sudanese and the Lebanese than I met with among the Egyptians. One Lebanese said, "Tears streamed down my eyes as I heard his resignation broadcast. He may have made mistakes, but he is a sincere man."

Some men close to Nasser maintain that time was still on their side and that Israel could not survive amidst the hostile sea of Arab humanity. "We in Egypt grow by one million a year with a population of thirty million. Israel has only two and a half million total."

Egyptian terms

I searched for what could be the minimum terms acceptable to Egypt for a lasting settlement in that part of the world. One of the leading Egyptians in the intimate circle of the President put down the following conditions:

1 Israel should unconditionally withdraw from all occupied territory.

2 Israel should obey all UN resolutions since 1947. She should withdraw her boundaries to the original demarcation made by the United Nations which is one-third less than the area Israel established herself in since 1948.

3 All Zionists who came into Israel from outside, especially from Europe, should return to their native lands or go elsewhere.

The meaning was clarified to me by another statesman. He wanted Israel's Foreign Minister Eban to return to South Africa, Premier Eshkol to Russia and Ben Gurion to Poland.

"Even so," I added "a Zionist Israel would still remain. Will you then be satisfied?" He added with a smile, "We shall then see." One cannot help feeling that the present leadership of Egypt has learnt little from recent experiences. Her common people are far more realistic. It may also be that Egypt's leadership is losing its touch with the people and that may be its greatest danger.

The Arabs make a distinction between Jews and Zionists. They claim they are not against Jews. In Cairo, members of the Jewish community are permitted to work without any disturbance. Recently, on the Jewish New Year, President Nasser sent them a message of greetings.

Jews have settled in West Asia for centuries without any persecution from the Arabs. The persecution of the Jews has over the centuries been in Europe.

What Arabs are afraid of is Zionism which they look upon as a militant, racial movement out to grab back their territory and their freedom. More than one statesman quoted to me from the proceedings of the first Zionist Congress of 1896 in Basle, where Jews were urged to reclaim their lost kingdom, "from the Nile to the Euphrates".

Arabs are not against the Levantine Jews who have stayed on in Palestine for centuries but they are insistent that the Jews who have come to Israel since 1948 vacate and that the Palestine refugees return to their own lands and nowhere else.

The most moderate among the Arabs are the Tunisians. One Tunisian told me, "It was wrong of the UN to create Israel in 1947. They tried to solve one refugee problem of the Jews by creating another refugee problem of the Arabs. But once the mistake was made, it was best for the Arabs to accept it. Instead they went to war in 1948 and the land-slide started. Many of them now realise it was a mistake."

Prisoners of propaganda

If they did realise it, they dare not say it. The tragedy of the Arab world is that they have become prisoners of their own propaganda. The only Arab statesmen who have spoken out boldly are those of Tunisia, but its President, Bourgiba, has as a consequence invited the wrath of his fellow Arab statesmen.

Tunisia cannot bring peace in West Asia on its own. It needs Egypt and her other neighbours. Some Egyptian statesmen will have to be bold enough to break out of the mould and if need be pay the price for the future peace of his part of the world.

continued on page 20

HIMMAT, October 20, 1967

NIGERIA: who will win the peace?

FROM OUR WEST AFRICAN CORRESPONDENT

ENUGU, capital of the breakaway State of Biafra, has been captured by Federal forces after heavy fighting. It is an attractive town of some 70,000 people, scene of many historic developments in Nigeria, with a ridge of hills on the north and west in which the coal was mined which used to fuel the power stations and trains of the Federation. The advancing Federal troops are now in an all-out drive to finish the war.

The Military Governor of Biafra, Colonel Ojukwu, broadcast an appeal to his people to stand and fight to the death. Civilians have been aiding the soldiers. Ibo families have sent their children to their home villages, whilst civil servant fathers shouldered guns and the wives cooked food for the troops. Feelings are passionate—especially since bomber raids have killed women in markets and children in schools. Now Ojukwu has withdrawn to a headquarters further south, to continue the war from there. He has urged non-com-

batants to leave the town and no doubt they are pouring out, in the rains which are still heavy. The question is, will Biafra surrender?

General Gowon, the Federal leader, has repeatedly said his Government is not at war with the Ibo people, but is only determined to keep Nigeria one. On the Republic's National Day, October 1, he again broadcast an appeal to the people of Biafra to overthrow their rebel leader and to accept peace and return to the Federation.



Colonel Ojukwu—fight to the death

He has superiority in number of troops, weight of arms and air control. The issue before him is whether to continue war to the bitter end—total military victory and a dictated peace—or to start talks in the hope of a negotiated peace which the Ibo people could accept.

The Eastern Region of Nigeria seceded on May 30. The leaders of the independent Republic of Biafra (roughly 7 million Ibos and 5 million minority tribes) said in effect: "After the massacre of thousands of our people in the North last year and a situation in which there is no freedom of movement or security for Ibos outside Biafra, the Federation has ceased to exist. You have offered us no adequate redress and it is clear that you intend to dominate us from Lagos. We therefore declare ourselves independent."

The Federal Government said, "We have offered concession after concession but you have only demanded more, with insults and abuse. We cannot allow the Federation to break up. You are a gang of rebels who have imposed your will on the people by propaganda and a military dictatorship."

Gowon's troops invaded Biafra on three fronts—from the north, where

they captured Nsukka, the University town 40 miles north of Enugu, from the east where they captured Ogoja and have set up a new State and from the south where they captured Bonny, the oil tankers' port on the island guarding the entrance to the creek leading to the industrial city of Port Harcourt. Since then the fortunes of war have swung violently.



General Gowon—united Nigeria

The Biafrans unexpectedly held them at these points and then counter-attacked in the Mid-West. Benin was captured by a plot in which Ibo Mid-Western officers in the Federal army defected and let in the Biafran troops. These forces broke through to Ore in the Western State. It looked as though they would get through to Ibadan and Lagos. They were only just held.

Now Federal troops, aided by a population hostile to the "treachery" of the Ibos have regained control. Benin and all the non-Ibo Mid-West has been recaptured. They may find it harder to regain the areas in forest country where half a million Ibos live in the East of the State to Asaba on the Niger. There have been tragic killings—of villagers by retreating Biafran forces and of Ibo civilians by the people of other tribes in reprisals.

It now seems likely, with the rains soon ending and easier conditions for

continued on page 18

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DR RAMMANOHAR LOHIA
(last words)

Patriotism has become the first casualty of independence.

Education Minister DR TRIGUNA SEN

It's better to die like a man than live like a frightened rabbit.

East German author ARNOLD ZWEIG

What the world requires is not a new race towards armament. What the world requires is a new race towards reasonableness.

US Defence Secretary
ROBERT MCNAMARA

HIMMAT, October 20, 1967

FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

Hong Kong back to normal?

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

HONG KONG Since the Communist National Day on October 1, there has been a marked decrease in the number of disturbances and in the number of bombs in the Colony. And, best of all, water started to flow again that day from China's East River in the neighbouring Province of Kwangtung, giving a 24-hour supply instead of the recent 4 hours daily.

When Hong Kong had received all its agreed annual supply from the Mainland by last June the Hong Kong Government applied for an additional supply. However, the Cultural Revolution and the Red Guards had caused such confusion there and their followers in Hong Kong such confusion here that China gave no reply and no more water.

In the past month conditions in Canton have become somewhat more stable and the damaged pipelines and pumping stations repaired, so it appears that Peking wants to maintain economic relationships with Hong Kong. Normal quantities of food have been coming in.

In Peking the National Day line-up showed that the Foreign Minister, Chen Yi, was present together with the Big Three—Mao, Chou and Lin. Missing for the first time was "the top person in power taking the capitalist road"—i.e. Liu Shao-chi. He is still President in name. No

Red Guards were there but plenty of soldiers and workers—last year the Red Guards dominated the scene.

It seems that the moderates, presumably led by Chou En-lai, are gaining control and salvaging the economy of the country which was so drastically affected by the Red Guard and worker conflicts which were basically Mao and anti-Mao with a line dividing each group.

Peking doesn't back locals

This, of course, is good news for Hong Kong and proves that Peking is not backing the local Communists who have been trying, with remarkably little success, to disrupt Hong Kong's economy. However, the local Reds are divided too on the Mao-Liu split and while the former are ready for calling off the anti-British struggle the others want to continue.

Communist merchants and those depending upon the Communist trade have lost millions of dollars over the past five months and are also keen to return to normal business. Ideology is one thing but money and a living plus profits are closer to their hearts and minds. Meanwhile the police are still raiding Communist organisations looking for inflammatory posters and offensive weapons with some success. Home-made bombs are still appearing in the streets because, say the Communist newspapers, the police interfered with the National Day celebrations.

Mao, however, is reported to have said that the Hong Kong Communists must change over from violent to non-violent opposition to the British in Hong Kong.



continued on next page

The week in ASIA

JAKARTA — Indonesia is considering a two-China policy and establishing diplomatic ties with Nationalist China, according to the armed forces' official newspaper. Meanwhile, the Government decided to suspend its ties with Peking.

KARACHI — Pakistan's export earnings last year were 111 per cent up on 10 years ago. They hit a record of Rs 3000 million while the figure for 1957-58 was Rs 1420 million.

HONG KONG — Chinese workers across the Hong Kong border are defying the ban on inflammatory posters in the island by painting slogans on the sides of buffaloes being driven in for slaughter. The slogans read: "Down with British imperialism and Soviet revisionism."

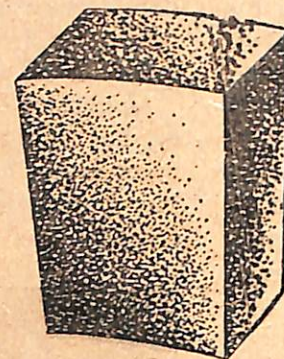
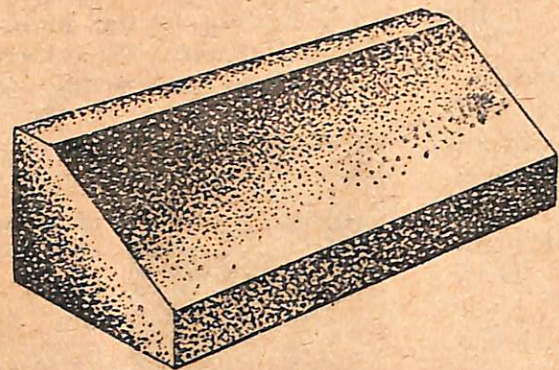
BANGKOK — Thailand and India are likely to extend the flight routes of their national airlines. The talks, deadlocked last month, have now been taken up.

WELLINGTON — Everest conqueror Sir Edmund Hillary will soon try to climb the 11,475-foot Mount Herschel which rises abruptly from the sea. "We are attempting something that technically hasn't been tried before in Antarctica," he said.

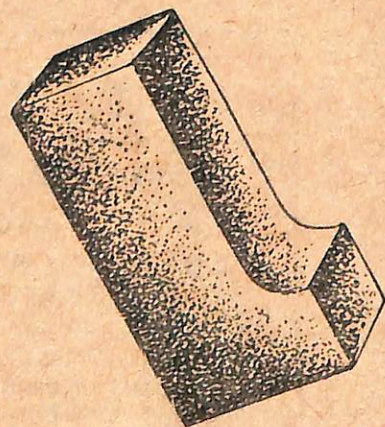
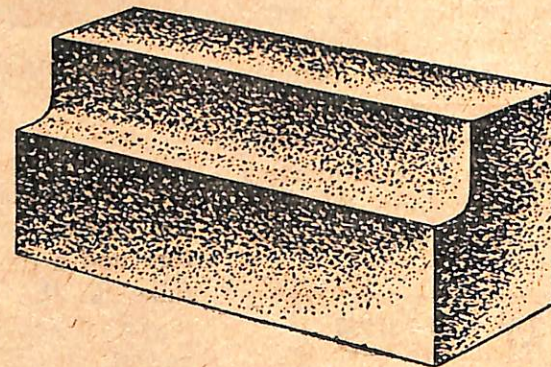
SAIGON — South Vietnam planned to invite President Ho Chi Minh of North Vietnam for peace talks soon. A letter from President-elect Nguyen Van Thieu will offer a one-week bombing pause of the North "if Hanoi shows some willingness to talk peace".

ADELAIDE — Australian scientists have found evidence of an ancient civilisation which they believe is of Mediterranean or near-east origin. 16 human faces and 187 rock engravings were found near Alice Springs.

BANGKOK — Giant Russian made helicopters have made secret landings in North-East Thailand with reinforcements and supplies for Communist guerrillas, stated Prime Minister Field Marshal Kittikachorn. He was commenting on press reports that Russia is sending military helicopters capable of transporting 120 troops each to North Vietnam.



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Greek Colonels face opposition

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

ATHENS Five months after her 'coup', Greece is beginning to change her opinion on the operation of the Colonels. The recent news of the house-arrests inflicted upon the well-known editor, Mrs Vlachos, and former Prime Minister Kanellopoulos, are but the first signs of a growing opposition beginning to appear.

It is generally felt that Greece, cradle of democracy, cannot undergo a curtailing of her liberties for any length of time—however much those liberties in the past years had become channels of degradation in national life, in the parliamentary system and general public behaviour.

Observers believe that the Colonels may begin to realise that to take power by force does not in the long run answer the threat of a take-over by the Left; that the ills that encourage a materialist ideology to take roots at the heart of a country, and the lack of ideals which could satisfy the young generation, cannot be cured by law.

Amsterdam: Dope and daisy capital

FROM PETER HINTZEN

THE HAGUE Prosperity presents as many problems as poverty. Holland was once known for her stoic strictness which Calvinist morality had imprinted on her national character. Now Amsterdam has become an internationally known den of licence. Due to tolerant laws an increasing number of homosexual fun centres attract charter-flights of foreign perverts. This summer Amsterdam has suddenly become Europe's easiest market for dope.

The international press has had little to report lately about the *provos*, the long-haired rebels who acquired fame by throwing smoke-bombs at the Royal wedding coach. This silence has, however, not meant inaction. The *provos* have almost overnight turned into "flower children", imitating the American hippies. But whereas the American hippies

do many more and less harmful things than taking dope, their Dutch counterparts practically restrict themselves to this. Rather suddenly Amsterdam has become the scene of many dope orgies. Parents who went on their holidays abroad returned to find that their teenage children had become dope addicts.

The police are alarmed. They estimate about 10,000 youthful addicts. But so far they have been unable to do a great deal, since Hol-

land's lenient law prohibits the trade, not the taking, of dope—and the traders are difficult to find.

Two factors have created this situation. First, a dangerously permissive attitude towards evil on the part of many who should give a moral lead. Secondly, a lack of any worthwhile purpose to live for which results in boredom and a craving for thrills. Only an all-absorbing purpose can cure Europe of the soul-destructive effect of prosperity.

Australia welcomes Japanese Premier

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CANBERRA Japan's involvement in South-East Asia dominated talks which the Japanese Prime Minister, Mr Sato, had with senior members of the Australian Cabinet during his three-day visit to Australia. Mr Sato, accompanied by his wife and an official party of 25, was paying his first official visit.

Welcoming Mr Sato, Prime Minister Harold Holt said that the visit "will further the very good relations that already exist between the two countries, not only in their growing trade and commerce, but also through their increasing co-operation at the political level".

Mr Holt welcomed the exchange of views, particularly on the "situation in South-East Asia, whose stability and peaceful development are of fundamental importance to both countries".

Mr Holt's reference points up Japan's increasing involvement in the region in the past 18 months.

As Mr Sato has a visit to Vietnam on his itinerary, it is understood that he exchanged views with the Australian Cabinet on prospects of a settlement. A central issue in the discussions was the possible effect of Britain's East of Suez withdrawal.

Though Japan provides aid for its neighbours, the Japanese Govern-

ment regards the post-war peace constitution as preventing the dispatch overseas of troops for the sort of security role filled by the British in Singapore and Malaysia.

Whether this attitude is likely to change remains to be seen. A good

deal probably will depend on Mr Sato's projected visit to the United States in November when he will confer with President Johnson on the problems of South Vietnam, Okinawa and Far Eastern security as well as issues between the US and Japan.

After visiting Melbourne and Sydney, Mr Sato and his party left for New Zealand.



Prime Minister Sato

Now a Common Market for Latin America

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

SAO PAULO The presidents of Latin America agreed at their recent meeting at Punta del Este, that the Latin American Common Market is meant to start functioning by 1970 and to be in full operation by 1985. But the slow progress so far indicates the great obstacles which have to be overcome. These obstacles on closer observation turn out to be nothing but exaggerated nationalism.

Since 1961 the "Latin American Free Trade Association" has been in operation. A kind of forerunner to the common market idea, it aims at the gradual reduction of customs duties on certain products between

certain member nations. This has proved to be a very slow process. Even so, trade within the continent has risen from \$658 million in 1961 to \$1500 million in 1966. With the Free Trade Association each nation

hoped to export her excess of production to the other members. But they all thought the same. The result was the creation of certain industries whose full capacity was not used.

The Latin American nations are also at quite different levels of economic development. Brazil, Mexico and Argentina are at the top; Paraguay, Ecuador and Bolivia are at the bottom. And while in the Free Trade Association meetings the less developed nations pointed out that their development needed the establishment of certain industries whose products they hoped to export to the other nations, the bigger, more developed nations pointed out that they already produced the product.

This kind of argument has its parallel in the demands of the developing nations towards Europe and the USA. In fact, some Latin American nations are trying to behave exactly as they accuse the USA or Europe of behaving towards them.

The week elsewhere

RIOTS IN RUSSIA

LONDON—Big-scale rioting took place in Chimkent, Russian industrial city with 200,000 population, last June, reported the *Sunday Telegraph*. The riots followed the death of a taxi driver, Grigori Afanasiev, after a police beating. Angry workers burnt the police HQ, then marched on the local prison. Tanks and armoured cars, summoned from Tashkent, quelled the riot with firing and many deaths.

The newspaper said such incidents were "by no means unique" in Russia. Serious riots were known to have broken out in 1953-4, '56, '62 and '63.

ECONOMIC BANDUNG

CLUB DES PINS, Algeria—South Vietnam was excluded from an "economic Bandung conference" of 86 developing countries. The South Korean delegation, as a compromise move, was allowed to attend. Algerian President Boumedienne opened the meeting by attacking "foreign

There are many in and outside Latin America who are in favour of the Common Market. They say that just as Europe is becoming one economic whole, Latin America could and should do the same. Yet the differences of development inside Latin America are today much greater than they ever were between members of the European Common Market.

In Latin America a Common Market would need, in order to bring progress to the whole continent, a supernational authority which would indicate which industry should be established where.

A recent Foreign Ministers' Conference for the Free Trade Association nations in Paraguay indicated how far they still have to go. The pleas of a special deal for Paraguay, Bolivia and Ecuador went unheard by the more developed nations. These three therefore turned against the other nations and vetoed most of the propositions.

exploitation" and "imperialism".

100,000 US CASUALTIES

WASHINGTON—United States casualties in Vietnam reached over 100,000 by the end of the last month. Since 1961, 13,643 Americans have been killed in the Vietnam fighting and 86,635 wounded — totalling 100,278.

RUSSIAN ARMS INCREASE

MOSCOW—Soviet leaders announced increased military expenditure and stepped up military training for Russian citizens. Finance Minister Vasily Garbuzov told the Supreme Soviet (Russian Parliament) next year's defence bill would total Rs 14,028 crores—15 per cent more than this year.

UK TRADE GAP

LONDON—The Trade Ministry blamed unofficial strikers, who have closed some docks for nearly a month, for Britain's biggest-ever trade deficit — £52 million — last month.

The week in INDIA

NEW DELHI — Veteran Samyukta Socialist Party leader Rammanohar Lohia, who died here after an 11-day struggle against cancer, had a simple funeral attended by leaders of all major political parties, many of whom had been bitter enemies in the arena of politics.

COIMBATORE — According to Union Minister of State for Railways Parimal Ghosh, a super-express will be introduced from Howrah to Delhi next year. It will cover the distance of 1620 kilometres in 19 hours instead of 24.

BOMBAY — Former Union Education Minister M. C. Chagla appealed to the youth to stand up and fight against the "mad haste" to introduce regional languages as media of higher study. They must be in the vanguard of the fight against this measure which would disintegrate the nation, he warned.

CALCUTTA — Described as the "catastrophe of the century", a cyclone flattened 60,000 houses, rendering 7 lakhs of people without shelter in Balasore and Cuttack districts. 300 people died and an unaccounted number of cattle perished.

SHILLONG — Assam Finance Minister K. P. Tripathy warned of foreign hands behind seemingly harmless movements such as Shiv Sena and Nag Sena. He said that the Chinese had "master-minded focal points of linguistic and racial disunity and their agents were promoting fissiparous trends".

VELLORE — Government was planning an "adopting" agency and will frame rules for couples to adopt children, said Union Health Minister Chandrasekhar. For millions of couples who had either daughters only or sons only, the agency would be helpful, it is said.

JAIPUR — Three SSP workers joined a hunger-strike to demand an increase in rations and a cleaner Jaipur. A chain-fast was launched on October 2 — Gandhi's birthday.

BHOPAL — The first-ever indigenous 30,000 kw, 11,000 volts, 3000 rpm hydrogen cooled turbo-generator has been built at the Heavy Electricals Factory here. The plant can now completely design, manufacture and install heavy electrical equipment of all types.

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PHILIPS
FOR THE NEWEST IN
LAMPS



Freelance detective saves angry harassed public from criminals

IN A LUXURIOUS hotel in Bombay, the plainclothed police officer knocked on the door of an elegant room in the dead of night. An athletic, handsome young man opened the door. "May I know your name?" the officer queried politely. "I am Major Victor of the Indian Army." "Sorry, sir, but our information is that you are Vijay Ranade from Poona." The young man threw up his hands and was handcuffed in a minute.

Posing as an Army officer, Vijay

some of his disguises are classics. He moves incognito at night and gets most of his information by befriending innocent observers, employees and relatives.

Which was your most thrilling assignment?

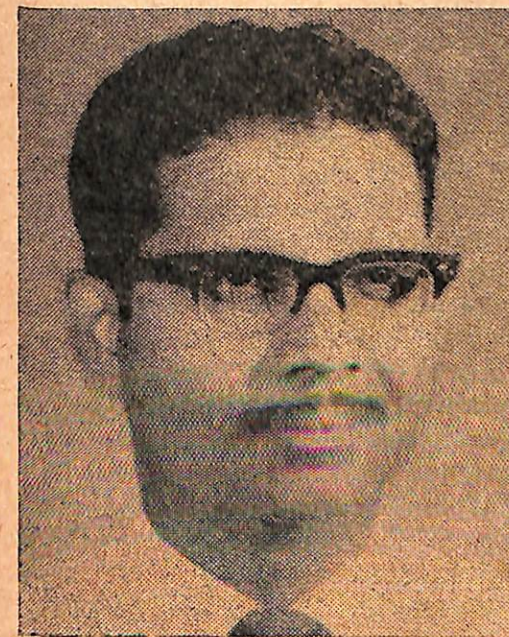
"Liquidation of the notorious Gang No 14 of the Bombay docks. While the police turned a Nelson's eye, Gang No 14 carried from the docks property worth crores of rupees! I stayed in the docks for about three months. That was an invitation to death. Simultaneously, the *Navashakti* started publishing the exposes of their dacoities. Ultimately, the public uproar proved too much and the police had to take action. I always give names, the exact location and also the *modus operandi* of gangs and criminals. Merely writing that 'anti-social elements should be curbed' is not my definition of journalism!"

Vithoo Miya is an 82-year-old freedom fighter who sacrificed everything in the struggle for freedom. When Navalkar highlighted his poverty, the Government granted him a pension. So also, a renowned writer of detective fiction in Marathi, Mr Baburao Arnalkar, was rewarded with Rs 10,000 by the Government at the behest of Navalkar. Atop a hill in Kurla, there was an unauthorised slaughter house. A single article stopped it. His writings have resulted in the construction of an overbridge at Charni Road, police protection for the ladies' compartments in suburban trains and the liquidation of several gangs.

Hailed by literary figure

Little wonder that the foremost literary figure in Maharashtra, Mr P. L. Deshpande, calls him the "best columnist in Marathi today". Pramod's narrative is fast. His most outstanding achievement is that he inspires in his readers the same courage, honesty and compassion. He is a natural rebel against all types of tyranny and injustice.

Why do hundreds come to you with their grievances?



Pramod Navalkar

Ranade would promise cars and scooters, collect thousands of rupees as "advance payment" and then disappear. The victims approached Pramod Navalkar, ace columnist of the Marathi daily *Navashakti*. Pramod, as he is affectionately called by his friends, soon discovered the true identity of the suspect, then went to Poona (120 miles away from Bombay) and interviewed Ranade's acquaintances. Though a boxing champion, Vijay Ranade had spells of acute asthma and during the attacks would require immediate hospitalisation. Pramod tipped the police to keep a watch on all posh hotels near a hospital. The amateur detective proved right. Ranade got six months' rigorous imprisonment.

Navalkar spearheads the campaign of the *Navashakti* against crime in Bombay. Like Sherlock Holmes,

ON THE Spot

HIMMAT meets people

"The editor of a city newspaper is primarily concerned with filling the columns, editing copy, managing the staff, pleasing the proprietor and, above all, getting advertisements and increasing sales. Not to mention the editorial writings. This leaves him little time for the public.

"Grievances cannot be redressed through the Government because Ministers are busy performing inauguration ceremonies. Urgent letters are not acknowledged. Senior officers are more worried about their promotion and transfer than what is happening in their departments. Government servants are lethargic, indifferent and corrupt. Any single good officer is harassed by the corrupt many.

"The cumulative result of all this is that the people are frustrated and angry. Their grievances must be ventilated in a newspaper."

Works without pay

I was astonished to learn that Pramod works absolutely free—the *Navashakti* does not pay him a single paisa, not even his expenses.

Pramod has no regrets. "The reward I get is the love and regard of thousands of readers. In our campaign against dacoits on the Railway and in our present campaign against the Matka gambling in Bombay, dozens of young boys risked their lives in giving me information, accompanying me to the crime dens. Would they be prepared to do this if I were to write just for money?"

What are the reasons for increasing crime in Bombay?

"Criminal tribes have migrated to Bombay in the past 10 years. Thanks to prohibition, they, as well as criminals from all over India, have found Bombay an easy pasture for profitable crimes—bootlegging, smuggling, prostitution, Rachman-like building rackets, robbery, dacoity and what not.

"The police force must be doubled,

continued on next page

Linguistic states even in Switzerland

FROM PIERRE SPOERRI IN GENEVA

EVEN peaceful Switzerland is having trouble inside its own borders. The unity of its most powerful canton, Berne, is threatened. The French-speaking minority, which lives in the Jura mountains, is revolting against the German-speaking majority and demands a status of autonomy inside the canton or even independence outside the Swiss Confederation.

The whole trouble started in 1815. At the famous Vienna Congress when the big powers of Europe tried to rearrange the political map after the defeat of Napoleon, on the agenda was also what to do about Switzerland. The Swiss cantons which constitutionally speaking, had been an alliance of independent states up to the Napoleonic war, were transformed by the French Emperor into a unitary Republic. And now, after Napoleon's downfall, everybody realised that it was impossible to revert to the old feudal order.

152-year-old origin

On one point everybody agreed. Several regions which had been until then under feudal domination by the old cantons like Berne, were determined to remain autonomous and free. The origin of the Jura problem of today was the decision in 1815 to compensate the Canton of Berne for the loss of the Vaud region by assigning to it the Jura Valleys which had belonged to someone else. The French-speaking, predominantly Catholic inhabitants of the Jura region came suddenly under the control of the German-speaking, Protestant Bernese.

Up to two years ago, nobody took the Jura problem very seriously. Then, suddenly, things started hotting up. On many walls you could read "FLJ" which stood for "Front for the Liberation of the Jura". Farms were burnt and bombs thrown. The Federal Minister of Defence was booed down and man-handled at a "patriotic rally".

This incident made the front page of every newspaper in Switzerland. It also gave a lot of publicity to the extremists in the "Rassemblement du peuple Jurassien" (Rally of the Jura people) and their youth wing who were the only group in Switzerland able to mobilise several thousand people on a Sunday.

When tempers got hot in the Jura, the rest of the Swiss population also started to take sides. Most of the French-speaking cantons, who feel even under normal circumstances that the Bernese authorities are heavy-handed and sometimes even a bit reactionary, started to support the Jura people. The German-speaking Swiss either kept quiet or defended the so-called constitutional rights of the Bernese.

Some voices also appeared in the French press taking the side of the Jura minority. This encouraged the radical elements. They appealed to the governments who had participat-

ed in the Vienna Congress 150 years ago and asked for foreign mediation.

But after a period of much publicity, the Jura dispute has retreated again from the front to the back-pages of the newspapers. The problem has not been solved. On the contrary, the feelings go very deep, and both those asking for autonomy and those in favour of the status quo are better organised and deeper entrenched than ever. They are armed, too, and any small incident can produce a major conflagration.

At the same time, men of common sense on both sides are hard at work. Some of the toughest elements have voluntarily or less voluntarily retired into the background. As a gesture, this year a man from the Jura has been elected Speaker of the Bernese Parliament.

Mr Blaser, Socialist head of the Berne Government, says that no constitutional or economic measures can heal the conflict unless they are accompanied by a real change of heart. He thinks that if the men from Berne and those from the Jura could find a way to settle their differences, they would have something important to contribute in other parts of the world.

ON THE SPOT—from page 13

so also their salaries. The Government pleads that it has no money. *But why cannot the Government of Maharashtra recover its sales tax arrears which are over 20 crores of rupees for the past three years alone?* This is just one tax. The service conditions of the police are indeed 'sub-human'. In the police quarters at Worli, I doubt if there ever has been an electric light!

"After making allowance for poverty, I would single out, as the most important single reason for crime, disregard for others and a greed for quick money.

"This is a job for the educationist, the parents, the press and society in general. The good in everybody is usually dormant. We must awaken it. The result might be miraculous.

Society gives continuous stimulus to the evil in the individual, but rarely to the good. The greed and indifference that I have seen would have driven anybody else stark mad. I continue to work for others—and work at my own cost—because I believe in what my guru Sane Guruji said: 'Always appeal to the good in everybody.'

Another reason he continues to work is the support and encouragement from his parents and family. In such time as is his own, Pramod is seen with his 3-year-old daughter, Rashmi. Of course, his wife has no reason to complain: she was his reader and fan before they met!

An Honours graduate in Marathi from the Bombay University, Pramod bagged all the elocution trophies. Today, he is a rousing speaker from public platforms.

S.V.B.

BOOKS

Himalayan Kingdom

DEMOCRATIC INNOVATIONS IN NEPAL: A Case Study of Political Acculturation, by Buwan Lal Joshi and Leo E. Rose, University of California Press, Berkeley and Los Angeles, USA.

THIS BOOK is a major achievement in view of the paucity of materials and dearth of authentic accounts of the modern political history of Nepal, a country of 10 million "tucked away in the fastness of the Himalayas conjuring up an image of mystery". Dr Bhuwan Lal Joshi is a Nepalese Professor living in the United States and Dr Leo E. Rose is an American expert on Himalayan affairs.

Symbol of national unity

The ruling Saha dynasty (to which the present King Mahendra belongs) obtained the allegiance of the key elite families and the unquestionable loyalty of the army when Prithvinarayan Saha founded modern Nepal in 1768 by conquering and unifying the various principalities. To date the Crown, represented by the Saha King, has been the symbol of national unity and sovereignty.

With the dawn of democracy in February 1951, preceded by a people's uprising with the blessings of the late King Tribhuvan (whom the Nepalese later called the Father of the Nation) and the support of the Indian Government, Nepal found itself with a revolutionary democratic "elite" in search of viable institutions of Government, although seldom before did they have any place in the traditional power structure.

The second part of the book deals with this search after constitutional politics during 1951-55 in which the effects of "decompression" after years of tyranny (evident from the mushroom growth and fall of numerous Governments), placed great pressures on the political men, both

traditional and modern, who attempted to adapt the Western parliamentary form of government to a predominantly feudal social milieu.

It also shows the intimate and crucial role New Delhi played during this period, dispelling thereby the absurd notion held by Indian kite-fliers that the Nehru Government did not care to look after India's strategic interests in the Himalayas.

The authors have been cautious in giving a balanced assessment of King Mahendra and the deposed Prime Minister Koirala, popularly known as BP, who undoubtedly are the two main figures of the *dramatis personae* of the present day Nepalese political stage. They make no secret of the fact that the parliamentary experiment of 1959 could have produced positive results and brought political stability had there been mutual trust and co-ordination between these two leaders representing divergent forces.

A major portion of the book is, however, devoted to the dramatic events from 1955 until 1964. The reader is frequently breathless in witnessing the changes unrelated either to public policy processes or the elusive "elites" in Kathmandu—the hub of Nepalese politics. The authors conclude that the failures of the political experimentations during this decade can be ascribed to the mutual bickerings between the vari-

ous political parties, dissension within the ranks of the ruling Nepali Congress Party led by B. P. Koirala and above all the King's insistence on asserting his position.

While expressing their concern over the absence, under the present party-less Panchayat system, of a popular organisation at the national level to undertake nation-building tasks, the authors concede that the Panchayat Constitution of 1962 may prove more viable than the 1959 Constitution. They appear to believe that the future of parliamentary democracy is doomed for years, if not for good.

Nepali nationalism

Lastly, commenting on the Nepali nationalism, inspired by the Indian nationalist movement but occasionally synonymous with anti-Indian feelings, the authors leave a word of caution: "The crucial question that remains to be answered is whether this still incipient sense of Nepali nationalism can be mobilised for nation-building tasks and at what political price."

The book stands as a valuable authentic work covering a wide range of contemporary history, politics, economics and allied fields of Nepal. All those who are interested in this Himalayan Kingdom, leaping today into the limelight of international life, should welcome it.

R.P.

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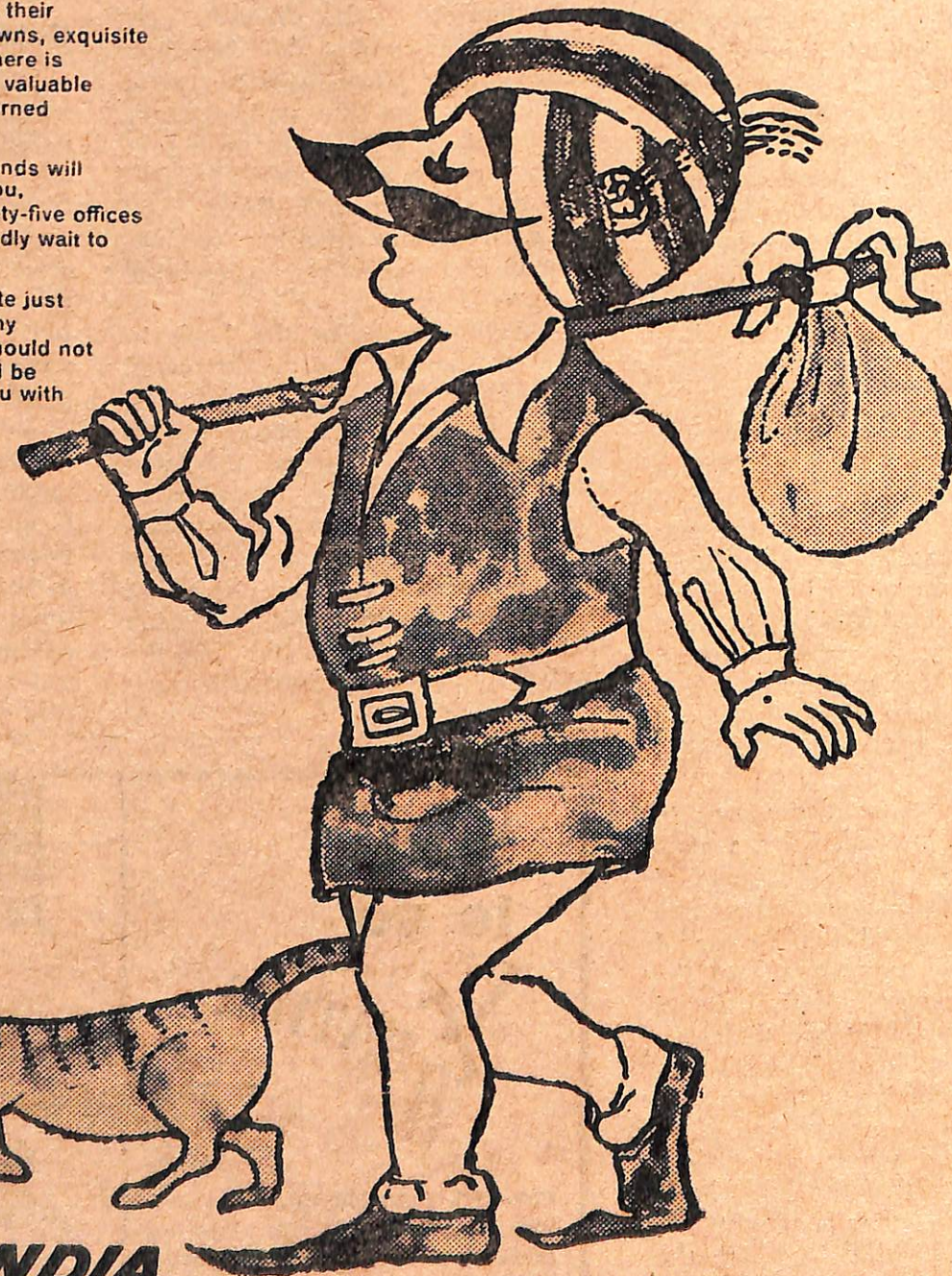
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viewpoint

Is automation a blessing or a curse for India?

Unemployment has other roots

First prize to Vinod Chowdhury, Delhi 7

IF THIS QUESTION were put to an employer and to an employee, their reactions would differ widely. One would emphatically declare automation to be a blessing, the other denounce it as a curse. An unbiased and intelligent observer is also momentarily undecided, but deep reflection should finally convince him that automation is largely a blessing for India.

The case against automation hinges on two main points: that it will cause retrenchment of those already employed and that it will reduce the future employment potential as well. It is pointed out that in a country where there is already a substantial backlog of unemployment this will necessarily mean a deterioration in the employment situation.

Shorn of their emotional facade, the arguments against automation make little economic sense. There is no reason why automation should lead to retrenchment. It should be possible for enlightened managements to assure workers that they would not be retrenched nor their promotional prospects affected. Indeed, the managements will be compelled to make this assurance in the prevailing industrial situation, where labour is much more conscious of its rights, and means to secure them, than ever before.

As for the general level of em-

ployment in an economy, it depends on the effective demand for producers' and consumers' goods and if this demand falls short of the economy's capacity to produce, there is bound to be unemployment. The depression which swept the United States and Western Europe in the 'thirties was not caused by automation.

Today, in spite of widespread use of mechanised techniques, the employment potential has certainly not been reduced in the West. Unemployment in our own country can

only be reduced if the Government follows sound economic and fiscal policies and if the population explosion is checked. It is not by fiery speeches against automation that the unemployment will disappear.

The hackney carriage has been sent into oblivion by the motor car but several times more workers are employed in India's automobile industry today than had ever depended on their livelihood from the horse-and-buggy contraption.

Automation is not the demon it is made out to be. If the detractors of mechanisation, ever-present through history, were to be heeded we would still be living like the cave men.

Nostalgia for the Stone Age?

Second prize to J. Joseph Panikulam, Calicut

A NATION can never hope to progress if her people are pessimistic, orthodox and selfish. Those who oppose automation have been made purblind by many a self-indulgent prejudice. For example, they predict an ultimate rule of the machines over human beings. At this rate we might as well abolish the pumps and revert to buckets, close the tailoring shops and take up hand-sewing, in fact destroy all our factories and revert to the rule-of-thumb methods of the home workshop.

One thing that the anti-automation group overlooks is that even though a few hundred workers might lose their jobs, enormous savings can be made with the help of automation. This is especially true of the controversial life-insurance and other financial establishments. Besides saving money by more efficient methods, automation should minimise the vicious bureaucracy.

The comparative prosperity of the western nations is largely due to their wise adoption of modern technology including automation in their economics. We have been wise too in modernising our industry, although a bit late, and there is no reason why we must discard the

most modern of the scientific innovations.

In our democracy it has not been and it will not be possible to mobilise the populace in the cruel Chinese-style communes and labour camps. China may not need automation since the Communists have shown that they can make their people toil much like machines and beasts. But no sane politician will prefer Communism and slavery to a few temporary difficulties caused by democratic rule and the unemployment caused by automation.

It is no use arguing whether automation is a blessing or not. As civilisation advances, it brings in its wake new methods. We must adjust our economic and social systems to accommodate them unless we want to go back into the past, retracing the painfully slow steps of progress our ancestors took starting right from the stone-age or even earlier!

Though 55 per cent of entries opposed automation and 11 per cent viewed the question as irrelevant, by far the more convincing arguments were put forward by its supporters. —Ed.

VIEWPOINT COMPETITION

* Only competition in general insurance will ensure low premiums and quick payments.

Closing date: October 27

** Beatles—bane or blessing?

Closing date: November 10

Prizes: Rs 25, Rs 15

Send entries of not more than 500 words to Viewpoint, HIMMAT, First Floor, 294, Bazargate St., Bombay-1.

Federal forces, that they will make big advances in the open country in the north of Biafra, in the Rivers area of minority tribes near Port Harcourt, and they may land from the sea and capture Calabar in the south-east. But unless there is a collapse of morale they will not get far in the forests of the Ibo heartland, in villages where men, women and children will join in fighting them.

There seems to have been some dissension in the Biafran camp. Ojukwu had recently to shoot four of his officers for betraying war plans to the enemy. Gowon and his advisers are convinced that once they close in, the Ibos will overthrow Ojukwu and sue for peace. Most people who know the Ibos are not so sure. It is more likely that they will close their ranks and with the enemy on their own soil will continue fighting, even against superior forces, indefinitely.

Nothing is more cruel than a civil war. Thoughtful Nigerians on the Federal side are now saying, "We could win the war, but lose the peace. How can we convince the Ibos that we do not hate them? They are not our enemies—only Ojukwu and his rebel clique. To win the peace we must win the battle of the minds."

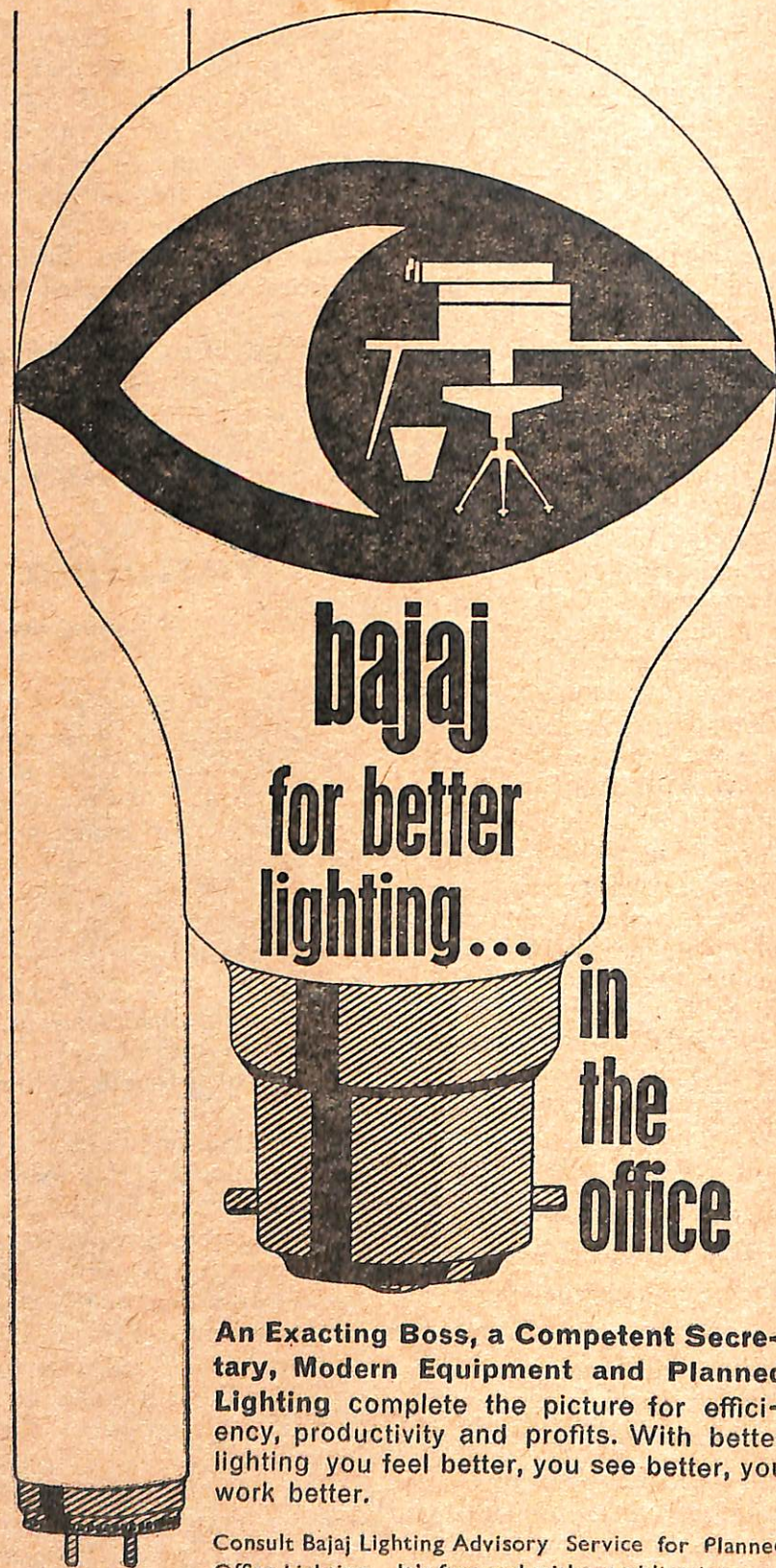
This is where the OAU Heads of State mission to Nigeria can achieve a master-stroke for Africa and the world. It is good news that the Organisation for African Unity should have decided to send this mission, and that the Federal Government has decided to accept them. Indeed, they could hardly do otherwise with so senior and distinguished a delegation, led by His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of Ethiopia and including President Tubman of Liberia, General Ankrah of Ghana, Ahidjo of Cameroun, Hamani Diori of Niger and President Mobutu of the Congo.

But there are already signs that "the hawks" around Gowon will urge him to postpone the meeting in Lagos until the military victory has been won. An attack has been made on General Ankrah, the one member of the mission who knows both sides intimately. The six Heads of States are busy men, each has plenty of problems of his own and they are not anxious to force themselves on

a reluctant Federal Government.

This is where Britain and the Commonwealth could powerfully reinforce the OAU's initiative. None of these countries has any interest in prolonging the war in Nigeria. All

pray for a speedy, peaceful settlement. Could they act together in a joint plea and message of strong support for the OAU? This is the moment when Nigeria should "win the peace".



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Shipping: the next 100 years

FROM GORDON WISE IN GLASGOW

IT HAS BEEN predicted that either China or India will be the world's leading shipping nation in a hundred years' time. Within the next fifty years, Britain, today's number one shipowner, will give way to Japan, as the Japanese oil and ore trades are the fastest growing world trades today. Then, in the early years of the twenty-first century, Japan will lose the leadership, partly because the oil and ore trades should by that time be in decline.

These predictions are made in a study prepared for one of the Clyde-side shipping companies in a publication "Shipping—the next Hundred Years".

Grain to Asia

The reason given for India's expected maritime predominance is that her rising population will mean that, unless scientists succeed in the soil-less production of large quantities of food, or make almost inconceivable increases in productivity per acre of existing land, the main world trade of the twenty-first century will be grain to Asia. The grain would come in huge bulk carriers from the areas of the world with the greatest potential for such increases in food production—the Americas, Australia and South Africa.

These huge ships will probably be nuclear-powered, fully automated, indeed crewless, and will be loaded and unloaded automatically. The voyage of such a ship, from say Fremantle to Calcutta, will be programmed by a shipyard computer which will instruct the ship to vary speed and direction according to weather conditions, winds and tide. It would be possible to computer all ships through an international agency so that there would be no danger of collision. The maintenance of the ship, usually carried out by a crew, would be eliminated by the use of new plastics which would require no scraping and painting.

Except for this kind of traffic, it is expected that bulk cargo shipments will have disappeared a century hence. International pipe lines will take a large amount of the world's

bulk trades, both dry and liquid. Already, vast quantities of oil and gas are being transported across the Middle East and Europe through such pipe lines, over immense distances.

For general cargo it is predicted that huge aircraft will take the place of ships. This would mean, for example, that meat, which at present has to be chilled or frozen when coming by sea, could be packed fresh as the delivery time would be so short. Such aircraft would need to combine the speed of supersonic planes with the small landing area required by a helicopter; probably the hovercraft principal could be incorporated.

The authors of these daring forecasts believe that international travellers will mostly go by air, for both speed and economy, and that the increasing wealth of most of the world will multiply such travel. There might be new waves of migration from Asia to less populated parts of the earth. "Sea travel, if it exists at all, will be for pleasure," they say. They expect by that time existing sea-side resorts will be so crowded that many ships will be required as floating accommodation and pleasure places, anchored or moored off shore.

Changes in last century

If these ideas seem visionary, it is worth remembering that a hundred years ago anybody forecasting the building of tankers in Britain's yards of 240,000 tons (as they are today) would almost certainly have been put away somewhere quietly. And whereas a hundred years ago two men were required for every one hundred and fifteen tons of British shipping, the figure for today is one crew member and the new container ships already in service mean vast increases in the speed of turn around in ports and a dramatic reduction in the numbers of dockers and seamen required to handle these ships.

But one expert ends his forecasting with the conviction that it does not seem possible that the good old general cargo carrying tramp ship could ever disappear unless "there was no more sea".

This India

YES and NO are the most pivotal words in the English vocabulary. They have built empires, ended civilisations, made marriages and lost fortunes. They certainly elucidate Indian make-up and mentality.

The other day a Cabinet Minister in Madhya Pradesh threatened to resign when the colour of the car that was given to him was not of his choice. The Cabinet was shaken. The Chief Minister immediately ordered a car of his chosen colour.

A man was invited to countless functions in the home of my friend for four years. He accepted every invitation and with enhanced emphasis each time. He didn't come once.

In the last four weeks, out of fifty people I have met, about seven have kept their word. People give an appointment. You travel long distances in the sun and heat. The man at the other end is not there and has left no message and made no attempt to cancel the date.

Some enthusiastically promise they will give or do a certain thing and urge you to leave it completely to them. No word about it is heard for months.

It is a revealing streak in our national character. Why do we find it difficult to say no to a person's face if that is what we mean in our hearts, and say behind their backs? If saying yes to a person's face is to avoid displeasure, this becomes even greater when we don't keep our word. It creates much of the frustration and distrust rampant in the country. No wonder we are beginning to be known as a nation of promise-breakers. We don't keep to our word when it doesn't suit us.

Interestingly enough, yes opens the doors to the right and wrong things. And no shuts it to both. It wouldn't hurt to say no to ourselves more often, instead of the frequent yes to the desires and fancies that create permissiveness and bitterness in society.

Half of our problems would be simplified if Yes was Yes, and No was No, and they were speedily said, meant, and executed.

Neerja Chowdhury

Most of the world sympathises with the Arabs and recognises the grave injustice done to them in 1947-48, when the Soviet Union was among the enthusiastic supporters of Israel. But flourishing the sword of hate has served no purpose. Instead, their hate has been exploited by other powers for their own selfish purposes. To call for the liquidation of another State established for twenty years—by military might or by voluntary exit—will not ensure peace in West Asia.

Both Arabs and Jews have lived in this part of the world peacefully for centuries. They have one heritage in common—a belief in a God who can speak to his prophets and people—when they listen. It is a simple secret both Arabs and Israelis may need to try again.

Human efforts may bring about a withdrawal or a temporary truce. But the common people of West Asia hunger for the peace and security which can give them the time to grow economically and socially to their full stature.

There is scope for a new statesmanship that ends the present confusion.



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agt 31/67

“Moral re-armament” in Russia

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

SOVIET LEADERS are trying to bring about a “moral re-armament” of the Russian people, writes Rev. Dimitry Konstantinow in a recent bulletin of the Institute for the Study of the USSR published in West Germany.

Citing a Moscow publication, *The Moral Code of The Builder of Communism*, Konstantinow says Communist leaders are trying to propagate a code upholding truthfulness, moral purity and sound family life.

“The first principle of the moral code”, states the Moscow publication, is “to help the victory of Communism... All actions of a Soviet man are judged precisely by this criterion, all the demands of the code are subordinated to this noble goal.”

It thus follows, writes Konstantinow, that “a moral man is one who professes the Communist creed... all others must be pronounced amoral”. Relative standards replace absolute—that is to say: “If I kill a Communist it is bad, if I kill an imperialist it is good.”

Konstantinow says the number of books on ethics published in Russia in recent years indicates “the urgency with which the government is trying to bring about a ‘moral re-armament’ of the people... At the same time, the new ethic preaches an immoral hatred towards all dissenters; its adherents are under no obligation to apply the norms of their ethical code to those who do not agree with them.”

FRONTIERS OF science

BY REGINALD HOLME

“Corncrete”

“CORN ON THE COB” (heads of maize) delights American palates. Millions of corncobs are dumped yearly.

Now Professor Turgot Demirel of Iowa University has turned waste corncobs into “corncrete”. He claims it is cheaper, structurally superior to plywood, decorative, extremely fire and weather-resistant, and can be produced at a cost competitive with plywood.

In timber-short countries it will save wood.

Beer blur

BRITISH CAR DRIVERS are alarmed at coming “breathalyser” tests to see if they’ve drunk too much alcohol.

Birmingham’s Ophthalmic Information Council tested many drivers, including heavy drinkers, after three pints of beer or the equivalent amount of spirits.

All suffered loss of vision—some men as high as 23 per cent. One wo-

man had a 75 per cent loss of vision after six small whiskies.

Colour story reading

CHILDREN are learning to read English better by colours. They associate sounds with symbols in three colours—red, blue, green.

“Colour story reading” was devised by J. K. Jones of London University Institute of Education. He reports after two years of experiments in 19 primary schools that colour-taught children are up to one year ahead of children taught by present methods.

Atoms preserve food

IRRADIATING FOOD with atoms slows food spoiling and makes it last longer without refrigeration. It can thus be sent to more distant markets.

Irradiated fish, for example, keeps fresh for 17 days, whereas non-irradiated fish goes bad in eleven days.

There is no danger to people who eat irradiated food. Proper radiation doses kill germs that cause spoilage, but do not make the food radio-active or damage its taste and texture.

Ten years of experiments by the US, the Soviet Union and Canada are important to developing countries where spoilage destroys a third of vegetables, fruits and fish before they reach the family table.

This was a Life

EDITH CAVELL

1865-1915

SHE WAS the daughter of an Anglican rector brought up in the leafy seclusion of a country parish in East Anglia. Tongues wagged when she chose nursing as her profession. But Edith Cavell went to work in the hospitals of London’s populous districts. In 1906 she was invited to take over a surgical home in Brussels.

There was much prejudice to overcome, but within six years she had expanded her hospital to 37 nurses. The Queen of the Belgians turned to her institution when she had a broken arm. Nurse Cavell’s fame spread.

She was on holiday in England in August 1914, when war broke out. To her protesting mother she said, “It is my duty to return to my hospitals.” She did, and within a matter of days the German Army occupied Brussels.

Many Allied troops, after the Battle of Mons, were lying wounded in the countryside, hidden by the Belgian country folk. Nearby lay the great Chateau of Croy and this became the starting point of an underground movement to smuggle Allied troops into Holland. The nerve centre was Nurse Cavell’s hospital.

Eventually she was betrayed by a man she had helped escape. On October 11, 1915 she was sentenced to death. She heard the pronouncement with calmness. Back in her cell she received Holy Communion and wrote letters. In one she wrote, “Nothing matters when one comes to the last hour, but a clear conscience before God, and life looks so wasted and full of things left undone.”

Before the execution, she said, “I have nothing to regret... I have been so thankful for these last weeks of rest. I was so tired and so pressed with a multitude of petty things that life brings, that I have not had time for many years for quiet and uninterrupted meditation... I know now that patriotism is not enough. I must have no bitterness or hatred towards anyone.”

At six in the morning of October 15 she was seen sitting in the back of a large car, erect, in her uniform looking straight before her on her way to the firing squad.

M. M.

DON'T MINCE WORDS

CONGRATULATIONS on the bold stand you take on so many of the problems which are searing the soul of India. You do not mince your words.

Very often I wonder what is happening to the so much vaunted culture and civilisation of India. What is happening to the much talked of “spirituality of the East”? Instead of facing our problems courageously and wisely and solving them, our country is evading or by-passing them, or bringing short-sighted solutions to them.

The trouble is that so many of the so-called “good” people are negatively good. What we need are people of vision, whose goodness is “positively and actively” so. Goody-goodness will not do.

At Panchgani the Moral Re-Armament Movement is going to train leaders in goodness. That is what we need so badly; not piety or religiosity only, but good people who have the stuff in them.

MOST REV. DOMINIC ATHAIDE,
Archbishop of Agra

INDIA AND PAKISTAN

I read your article “India and Pakistan” (HIMMAT, October 6), wherein you have emphasised the need to settle our differences with our neighbour. However, you have discreetly left out the main point of dispute between the two countries viz, Kashmir. Unless this thorny question is settled, there can never be any friendly relationship between us.

Why does not the Indian Government give up its false prestige and seek a settlement of this basic question with Pakistan? Let the Government of India agree to hold a plebiscite. The plebiscite can be held under UN auspices. Let both Pakistani and Indian troops withdraw and let the UN forces supervise the plebiscite.

If, as the Indian leaders claim, the people of Kashmir are for remaining with India, why are they afraid of facing the people? On the contrary, if the Kashmiris wish to join Pakistan, why stand in their way? Our holding on to Kashmir with the help of our military might is meaningless.

All our fears that if Kashmir goes to Pakistan that may pose a threat to India or that Pakistan may embark upon a fresh campaign of aggression are unfounded. Pakistan has also got to respect international law. After all, they have no territorial disputes with Iran, Afghanistan, China or Burma. If they can live in peace with all these neighbours, certainly they will live in peace with their neighbour India also. We will seek an assurance from Pakistan that once the Kashmir question is settled, she has no further territorial claims on India. I am sure this assurance will be forthcoming.

Therefore, in order to forge closer links with our neighbour, let us move

Letters

in the direction of solving this thorny question. Settling this outstanding dispute will be a major monument that India will be erecting to the memory of Gandhiji at the time of his birth centenary celebrations.

R. V. RAGHAVAN, Bombay 50

GANDHI'S BIRTHDAY

ON PAGE 22 (HIMMAT, October 6) there is one mistake in the article of Shri Rajmohan Gandhi. The very first paragraph starts with, “TODAY is Gandhi’s birthday; next year will be his centenary.” This sentence is not correct. The centenary of Gandhiji will be in the year 1969 and not in 1968. Therefore still two years are left and not one.

SURSINH J. CHAD, Bombay 22

Agreed, the reference was ambiguous. While Gandhiji’s centenary anniversary will be in two years his centenary year will in fact begin on October 2, 1968, that is, next year.—Ed.

UNGRATEFUL

“UNRELIABLE, unfaithful, dishonest.” Mr Rajmohan Gandhi has done well to project this distorted portrait of our Mother Land, which he discovered abroad. He has rightly summed up the painful experience of hundreds of thousands of Indians, on their visits abroad, when he said: “Already the world trusts more the word over the telephone of a private citizen of many lands than written statements backed by the seal of India’s authorities.”

Unfortunately the great men at the helm of our Government seem to be the only people who are blissfully ignorant of this ignominious state of affairs. Nay, more! They add fuel to this destructive fire. What else should one think of the “Quit India” order served to a number of missionaries in Assam, which is reliably learned to be the prelude to the expulsion of all the five thousand and more missionaries at work in different parts of the country. Many of them have spent half a century in India and are definitely more Indian than many Indians are.

We seem suddenly to have forgotten the previous contribution these dedicated men of God and religion have given to the education of our children, the care of our sick, the upkeep of morality, and the upliftment of our society.

We have for long learned to bite the hand that has fed us. No wonder then that we should be so ungrateful to these benefactors of our nation!

SEBASTIAN, Madras



Delhi 2000

by Rajmohan Gandhi

ACHARYA KRIPALANI is one of our leading statesmen. There are not many left with his record of battle and service.

He has opposed Congress for many years now, often bitterly. But the humbling of Congress is not his aim; he would like to see conditions improve for our people. The adoration of posts of power exhibited by many of the non-Congress regimes has drawn his concern and anger, and it will not be long before he gives expression to it in his own caustic hard-hitting manner.

Misleading cynicism

Yet they are wrong who would call the Acharya a man in despair or a man who has given up. He may often speak the language of cynicism, but the vocabulary is misleading. It conceals the real man whose reserves of faith are not empty.

And his store of fighting energy is as large today as it has ever been. For this quantity has nothing to do with age and everything to do with will. The next months and years will require his inspired leadership, and he may now be called upon to do work of a kind that may prove to be his life's most important contribution.

Stronger than his persistence in discovering Governmental misdeeds is his passion that our people have unity, peace and plenty.

"In every country people need a man or a faith to believe in. In India we believe in nothing and in nobody," he said last week. Those are strong words, and well describe our country's purposeless directionless crawl.

The simplest human relationships have broken down. "There is no trust or reliability any more in dealings between husband and wife, father and son, official and clerk, boss and worker, household and domestic servant," a mill manager said to me.

But is it not true that a group of national figures, if they are

united, can provide the nation with a rallying point, a force as well as a goal to believe in? They can in fact be instrumental in generating a great revival.

It would be a last-minute revival. Many months more of the present pettiness, and we shall be on an irreversible march to a break-up of our country, and to a tyranny over the daily life of our people.

The past speaks clearly. Every night in Delhi's Red Fort hundreds witness *Son et Lumiere* and see before them the history of this old capital. The absorption of rulers and the ruled with themselves and their immediate pleasures, and the destruction and slavery this invited, is put across as plainly and effectively as possible. Will we of this generation provide future chroniclers and playwrights with the same material?

Signs of change

Personally, I expect and have faith in a deep and decisive change in our country, and through our country in the rest of Asia beyond. And I can discern some powerful hope-giving signs. Suppose this radical revolution based on an answer to pride, jealousy and hate in individual lives does not go far enough and fast enough. What will India's future be?

Nature, it seems, detests a vacuum, and rushes to fill it. If the Centre loses effective control of India, as it seems well on its way to doing, will power and sovereignty be distributed among a number of entities that once were parts of India? Or will they be assumed in time by representatives, civilian or military, of a foreign land once again?

These are real possibilities and we may be face to face with them sooner than many realise.

At a time when old and young in Europe, the Americas, Africa and the rest of Asia want to learn more and more how they can assist their countries and other countries, we seem progressively more determined to reduce our concern from

country to state to district to town or village to self.

If everyone is only going to look after himself, will nobody be in charge of India? The answer is "no". Somebody will be, but he will not necessarily be an Indian. Nations may or may not have designs on us; many may think that the cost of looking after this country will be much greater than any wealth that can be extracted from it. But even if there are no motivations of greed, it is conceivable that soon India will be run by foreigners.

The world will not simply look on if armies of semi or fully independent states or zones are fighting it out. It will not be a passive spectator when a collapse of administration leads to violence and also to epidemics, the effects of which may not be confined to India.

Which race or country would it be, one wonders, that vacuum-aborring forces of history might pick for the role of regulating India?—China? Russia? A number of nations working under a UN or similar banner?

Others may decide our fate

The answer of course depends on how world powers are arrayed at the time. If America and Russia intensify and consolidate their unity they will probably keep China out of India. Depending on their separate and joint commitments in other parts of the world, they would decide whether one of them or a UN body should take India or pay the Indian bill, whichever way it is looked at.

If the Russian-American alliance does not set, or cracks after it has set, then China may yet govern India one day. America and Russia may not wish to risk a final clash with a nuclear China and world alignments may oblige each to accept Chinese overlordship of South Asia.

It is not easy to guess the language or slant of the *Son et Lumiere* commentator of Delhi 2000.

FIND THE BALL Competition No 42



2nd Prize.
HIRA GIFT BOX
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and blades)

Nearest entry wins Rs. 25
On the ball wins the Jackpot*

*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.

HOW TO PLAY

The ball in this cricket action picture has been painted out. All you have to do is to mark a cross (not circle, arrow, etc) where you think the ball is. Then cut out the picture and coupon and send it to "Find the Ball", c/o HIMMAT, 294 Bazargate Street, Bombay 1 before noon on Monday, October 30

The winner will be announced in the following issue. There is no limit to the number of entries you can make, but only one cross may be marked on each picture. The Editor's decision is final.

Name _____
Address _____
I agree to the rules of the competition as outlined above.



WINNER OF COMPETITION 40

is Farouk Sheriar, Khudabux Building 43 Mazagaon Road, Mazagaon bus terminus, Bombay 10. Rs. 25 for nearest entry (1mm from ball)

2nd Prize (Hira Gift Box) to Robert Colaco, Manickpurpitha P. O., Bassein Road, Dist. Thana. (3mm from ball)

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FRIDAY OCTOBER 27 1967



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