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GOLD: why the crisis? C.N.VAKIL 7
editorial 3



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Editorials

Magic of change

WE LIVE in an era of failing systems. The once monolithic Communist empire cracked six years ago when Russia and China fell out. Now the compact community of East Europe is rocked by a revolt of the intellectuals (see page 15). This revolt may not signify a change in their commitment to Communism but it does signify a questioning of the established methods of the Communist rulers.

The ferment in China continues unabated between the followers of Liu Shao-chi and Mao Tse-tung. The Western nations, in spite of unprecedented prosperity, were stunned by the gold crisis which struck them last week. It was compared to the crisis on the eve of the great depression of 1929.

On the political scene, while de Gaulle removes the keystone of the NATO arch—Paris—Rumania, which walked out of the Communist Congress, questions the right of the Soviet Union to appoint repeatedly its marshals as top commanders of the Warsaw Pact.

The Indian type of democracy with its floor-crossing is becoming a farce and even men like Mr J. R. D. Tata recommend a presidential type of government.

Gunnar Myrdal, renowned Swedish sociologist and author of "The American Dilemma" (a study of the

American Negro), has just completed after two decades a study of the "Asian drama". The bulk of South Asia's trouble, he says, lies not so much in history, lack of capital, of education, although these certainly exist. But far more damaging to progress are what he calls "basic Asian attitudes" to life and work. He lists: low levels of work discipline, punctuality and orderliness; superstitions; lack of adaptability; contempt for manual work; submissiveness to exploitation and a low aptitude for co-operation.

He says, ironically, that India learnt from Gandhi the policy of non-co-operation with the British. The British have now left but the spirit of non-co-operation lingers. He concludes that there is "little hope for South Asia of rapid development without greater social discipline".

The common test both for the Communists and the non-Communists is how to put this social discipline into people. Discipline need not mean regimentation. It comes from a change in motives that gives every man the freedom he wants and the inner discipline he needs. This "magic of change" as the Australian Foreign Minister Paul Hasluck colourfully called it, can make systems work.

Gold or paper, the crisis is moral

THE unprecedented scramble for gold which has been rocking the world's financial foundations for the past week is, above all, a moral crisis.

People prefer gold to dollars and pounds because they have lost faith in American and British words and deeds. President de Gaulle adds momentum to the present-trend as he aims to abolish Anglo-Saxon supremacy. He seems to be motivated by very valid criticism of the *status quo*, and also by wartime slights. Naturally, financial speculators, like preying vultures, and most probably the agents of Communist countries, whose stated aim is to disrupt Western power and prosperity, are in the market as well.

The recent rush has caused grave damage. Disruption of international payments harms both aid and trade. The spook of the 1929 New York Stock Exchange crash, resulting in world-wide misery, still haunts people's minds. Fortunately, unlike in 1929, seven of the world's economically most stable countries are now co-operating to prevent any such calamity. Most probably

they will be able to stem the gold craze. If the present assault on gold fails, money will flow back from gold into dollars, because dollars yield interest, unlike gold.

But moral problems need moral answers. If greed and laziness, combined with the inability of leaders to inspire worldwide confidence, have landed us in the present mess, they need to be cured. Also it is natural that the currency of nations who break solemn promises is mistrusted. And even the technocrats who will administer the new IMF system will have to possess moral integrity as well as economic know-how if they are to succeed.

Whatever happens, the days of the present system of settling payments between countries are numbered. As India has urged UNCTAD, the system agreed upon last year in Rio de Janeiro may be implemented soon. This consists of creating a form of international currency by awarding Special Drawing Rights on the International Monetary Fund. Then dollars and pounds could eventually cease to be international reserve currencies.

Lost in the woods

THE ANGUISH suffered by a Minister who feels obliged to flatter rival organisations would seem to cancel out the lure of any perks that may attach to his lofty office.

There was the memorable *tour de force* of the Mysore Chief Minister who managed to tell the World Vegetarian Congress at Madras one day that to eat "flesh of any kind is not human at all" and a week later to persuade a meeting of Mangalore fishermen that on their efforts depended "the solution of the food problem".

Last week our revered Deputy Prime Minister advised

people to use cow's milk instead of buffalo's milk. He was inaugurating a dairy in Surat. But Mr Morarji Desai may have made a different speech at Bombay's giant Aarey Milk Scheme which is almost entirely dependent on buffaloes.

One can anticipate with glee the verbal gymnastics of any Minister called upon to address the Timber Merchants' Federation on one day and the Friends of the Trees on the next. The poor man would be in great danger of getting himself lost in the woods.

Briefly Speaking...

Seventh in publishing

ACCORDING TO UNESCO, India ranks seventh among the publishing nations of the world, producing 20,000 new books a year — half of them in English. According to the same source, 5,000 million books are produced annually in the world — but only 130 million of them in Asia.

Whitehall's nightmare

IMMIGRATION is not the only source of over-crowding headaches in London. Writes Philip Howard in the *London Times*: "The Public Records Office is in imminent danger of disappearing beneath a Sorcerer's Apprentice nightmare of documents, and a Gadarene stampede of post-graduate students."

The cause of the crush is the release to public inspection of 15 years' worth of Government records. Per-

haps the PRO should send an inspection team to India. Any Government office could give them a working demonstration of survival-technique among a nightmare of files and other documents!

Champion gesture

AFTER WINNING a tournament in Victoria, Australia, golf champion Peter Thomson handed back \$500 of his \$2500 prize money saying, "The first prize is marvellous, but it's too big." The \$500 was distributed among the other players. Nice to be able to win a prize — even better to be able to hand back 20 per cent of it just like that!

Danger: drive slowly

AS DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER Morarji Desai drove away from the National Credit Council meeting at the Reserve Bank in Bombay last Saturday his police escort switched on its siren. *Birbal* put his foot on the brakes sharply to allow the convoy (Morarji's plus four police cars!) to swish past. But Morarji had not gone a hundred yards before *Birbal* saw him half out of his car window vigorously gesticulating at the police car in front. The convoy stopped, a police officer jumped out of the lead car to ascertain Morarji's wishes, jumped back in and switched off the siren before proceeding at reduced speed.

Morarji is a shrewd politician who knows that large Government cars, flying the Union flag, escorted by police cars with sirens and pushing other traffic out of the way, do not win votes, not with the public in its present mood.

One suggestion to Morarji: could he not get the police to be as attentive to traffic all the time as they are when Ministers appear?

New hearts for old

FOLLOWING a lecture at San Francisco's College of Cardiology earlier this month, Dr Christian Barnard received both ovations and criticism. A former president of the College, Dr Eliot Corday, said that what the Capetown surgeon had said only convinced him more than ever that heart transplants should be suspended while earlier results were studied.

To generalise is to be an idiot.

WILLIAM BLAKE, 1757-1827

He said that X-rays of Mr Washkansky's lungs did not look to him like pictures of "infectious pneumonia" as diagnosed by Barnard. "It looked like an immunological response."

Dr Barnard also did not allay the apprehensions of some when he said, on the problem of ascertaining the death of the donor, "It is not just how long a patient is going to live, but how he is going to live."

It would seem that the determination of the sincerest surgeon to prolong life in a borderline case could be affected where the patient appears to be an ideal donor for a transplant.

Both American heart transplant surgeons, Dr Norman Shumway and Dr Adrian Kantrowitz, have declined invitations to join Dr Barnard in his next transplant. Some observers detect a caution amongst American medical opinion. Both doctors have been noticeably reticent in publishing details of their unsuccessful operations.

Meanwhile, Dr Philip Blaiberg, the only living heart transplant patient left hospital 75 days after surgery.

Like father, like son

ACCORDING to a report from Delhi, students in the capital are falling under the control of a leftist front dominated by the Communists. The Students' Federation (Communist) and the Students' Youth Federation (Left-Communist) are fast gaining popularity at the expense of the Youth Congress which dominated the university scene until the last general elections. One reason for the Youth Congress' decline is that, as in the parent Party, its leaders are divided and work against each other.

"Retro-rocket hai?"

WHILE India flounders over the merits of Hindi, English and regional languages, Oregon State University is devising a new language for the space age! Under contract from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration, the University is preparing a dictionary of 600 commonly used space terms for use in schools. Has anyone invented *pukka swadeshi* equivalents of "count-down" "capsule" or "retro-rocket" yet?

Birbal

FROM THE CAPITAL

The Admiral fires a salvo

BY ANTENNA

NEW DELHI One associates military men usually with deeds, not words, and when they open their mouths to air their political views, if any, more often than not they unfortunately end up by wishing they had not spoken.

This was the case when Admiral A. K. Chatterji, Chief of Naval Staff, said last week in Bombay that when the British withdrew their military presence from east of Suez by 1971 India would step in to assume command of the Indian Ocean.

Now, the Admiral had no business to make such a statement, with unmistakably political overtones, without clearance from the Ministry of Defence or the Ministry of External Affairs, or both. It's quite certain that if he had sought it, it would have been firmly refused. If anybody had the authority to make such a statement, it was the Prime Minister or the Defence Minister, and neither of them would have made it unless they had taken leave of their senses.

India is certainly concerned at the departure of British power from the Indian Ocean region and is making the necessary arrangements to ensure the safety of its own dominions, but this does not at all mean that New Delhi dreams of establishing its hegemony over the ocean at the cost of the sovereignty of the other countries bordering it.

Eyebrows raised

Therefore, many diplomatic eyebrows were raised here at the Admiral's statement, which seemed to suggest that India was about to inherit Britain's tattered imperial mantle. After all, some of them pointed out, the fact that this area of water was named the Indian Ocean did not mean that it belonged to India.

Another recalled in conversation with me that some time ago a proposal had emanated from Jakarta that it be called the Indonesian Ocean, and he saw no reason why this name was not as good as the present one.

Anyway, the Admiral's attempt to substitute "Rule Bharat" for "Rule Britannia" has done India no good. What seems surprising is that this piece of stupidity was not repudiated officially here without delay. It was left to Mr Krishna Menon to emerge from an unwontedly long period of

silence to issue a statement that India harboured no imperial ambitions.

I gather that the Admiral has received instructions from the Defence Ministry to keep silent henceforth on matters of high policy which are outside his ken.

One can only hope that Admiral Chatterji's views on what India's geopolitical role in South East Asia should be is not shared by others holding similar positions in the Defence Services.

It would be just too bad if, on account of such ill-timed expressions of personal opinions, India makes enemies when it needs all the friendship it can get from its neighbours.

What price prohibition?

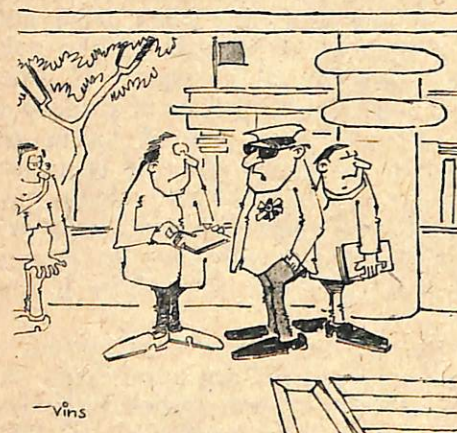
NEW DELHI On Wednesday, March 13, a daily in the capital informed its readers in a front-page story that "workers of the All-India Prohibition Council clashed with the police on Tuesday near the Collectorate of Excise in Vikas Bhavan as members of liquor syndicates, some of them carrying guns, bid for 13 licences for country liquor, bhang and poppy-head shops in the capital."

As the auction of the shops opened at 10.30 am, about 50 men and

women, carrying banners and placards, were seen in the street.

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

CHALTA HAI ..



"Yes, yes. Of course I was a very active member of the party ... till I joined it."

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BIG SHOT

on your toes

THE CLEMENT GENERAL

GENERAL NE WIN has been a welcome visitor to India this past week and as he flies back to Rangoon it will be hoped that his six-day round of talks has widened the boundaries of Indo-Burmese co-operation.

The Chairman of Burma's Revolutionary Council won't thank Peking for its snide inference that he came to New Delhi to "get instructions" from the Indian Government for the suppression of the Nagas and the "Revolutionary working people in Burma"; though a major aim of his visit was to seek a joint policy on coping with hostile elements along the 1300-kilometre frontier between the two countries. China's anxiety over the visit only points up her involvement in the rebellions which have wracked the hilly terrain of these border regions.

Within the Burmese Communist Party defections have been reported from the faction led by Than Tun, brother-in-law of the late General Aung San, independent Burma's first Prime Minister. Than Tun's faction has led the armed struggle and so has Peking's blessings. If, as Government sources claim, Ne Win is making inroads into

the Communist hold on the countryside (though Peking claims he rules "only two-thirds of Burma by day and one-third by night") he may feel his regime is now more secure.

Perhaps this lies behind the mellowing view he takes of the many hundreds of political prisoners whom he has been steadily releasing.

A recent batch contained four ex-Ministers including Sao Hkun Hkio (Foreign Affairs) and U Raschid (Labour).

The incarceration for nearly six years of so many freedom-fighters, men of unassailable patriotism, has been a burden of shame on Ne Win's Government. If these men (and others released earlier, like U Nu) are now able to forego bitterness and employ themselves in developing the human and natural resources of Burma, the General may come to count them as Burma's most stalwart troops.

Without doubt, the General's visit to India was the more auspicious for the recent signs of his growing clemency, his more realistic appraisal of his international "Socialist" contacts, and his increasing readiness to move out of the hermitage he felt constrained to make of his once smiling land.

Freebooter

VERDICT!

This week HIMMAT...

CHUCKLES at the Nigerian delegate's suggestion that UNCTAD stands for "Under No Circumstances Take A Decision".

CALLS for a total shake-up of the nationalised steel industry, whose total losses have now accumulated to Rs 733.33 million.

COMMENDS the Nepal administration's offer of Rs 300 to the person who kills most flies as likely to achieve more for public health than arranging seminars, committees and special "days," "weeks" and "months".

RESPONDS to the Dalai Lama's recent statement that: "It is only the voice of India which we believe can lead the way in championing our cause."

IS CONCERNED at the reported closure on April 1 of 15 more textile mills in Kerala, in view of fact that the State already has 100,000 educated unemployed alone, according to Chief Minister Nambudiripad.

NOTES with interest a report that Hong Kong's population are among the world's best-informed on international affairs, and **OBSERVES** that Hong Kong's newspapers must be considerably different from ours.

CONGRATULATES Bombay doctor Miss Mehroo Mogul on winning a 10,000 franc award in Paris for her work on cancer research.

IS UNEASY over the reported arrival, later this month, of Russian warships in the Indian Ocean, and **ASKS** why Russia needs to send a fleet here, oceans away from any Russian coastline?

DEPLORES the fact that China appears to give a higher priority to Mauritius than the Indian Government, as shown by the presence of a Communist Chinese delegation at the independence celebrations, and absence of any adequate Indian representation.

ANTENNA—FROM PAGE 5

cards and shouting "Mahatma Gandhi ki jai" and "Sharab nash ki jar hai", arrived on the scene.

They squatted peacefully for two hours at a respectable distance of 100 yards from the shamiana where the Collector of Excise was conducting the auction. Then they tried to move up to the shamiana. The police, who were deployed in strength round it, blocked their passage. Some of the demonstrators tried to push past. The police, wielding lathis, swung into action, gave the prohibitionists, including women, a few hard bangs, and arrested some of them.

This happened in Delhi after 17 years or more of arduous campaigning by various organisations of citizens banded together with the avowed aim of destroying the demon of drink.

Despite their efforts, more and more dwellers in the Capital seem to be imbibing alcohol, if the prices paid for liquor licences is any indication.

Best World Press

Vietnam war

THE NEW YORK TIMES, New York

A proposition now being heard from some quarters abroad is that if the United States negotiates a withdrawal from Vietnam it will face the same kind of domestic turmoil that was precipitated in France when returning officers and NCOs tried to overthrow a Government they held culpable for the French Army's defeat in Vietnam and Algeria.

This is thoroughly fallacious doctrine... The way to avoid such a domestic backlash is not blindly to continue the war, but to negotiate an end to it; to abandon the notion that Vietnam's complex social, economic and political problems can be solved by military force and to concentrate American manpower and resources on the peaceful solution of such problems at home and abroad.

China's cultural revolution

FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW, Hong Kong

One might well ask whether China now has a foreign policy at all. Events that demand a display of solidarity are damned with faint praise (North Korea's capture of the Pueblo) or simply ignored (Che Guevara's exploits in Bolivia). Erstwhile neutral allies in Asia like Burma

But the prohibitionists have not withdrawn from the battle. Two of their leaders, Dr Yudhvir Singh and Mr Ram Nath Kalia, the second a member of the Hindu Mahasabha, plan to demonstrate in front of the new liquor shops and outside the houses of the Prime Minister and the Lieutenant-Governor.

The reports of the police attack on the prohibitionists did not stir even a ripple of protest in Delhi.

Delhi has its official dry days—Tuesday, Fridays, public holidays and the first of every month. But why should ordinary citizens respect these rules when the Government itself flouts them by permitting the bars specially opened at Vigyan Bhavan for UNCTAD and in hotels to sell liquor all days of the week? The argument put forward in support is that we must be "nice" to our foreign guests, and in any case if we cut their drinking we shall lose badly needed foreign exchange.

To which the reply is: What's good for the foreign goose is equally good for the Indian gander.

and Cambodia are wantonly alienated (let alone former "friends" in the West). Even North Vietnam and the NLF must stomach a mixture of patronising praise and veiled criticism from Peking. China appears to have executed a massive "strategic retreat" in her foreign policy towards an inward-looking, Sino-centric posture which has much more in common with her imperial past than with proletarian internationalism.

Mr Brown's resignation

THE OBSERVER, London

Mr George Brown's resignation is the climax of a tragedy of self-destruction. It would be hypocritical to pretend that his leaving the Government is a great blow to the country: his resignation had, unfortunately, become as desirable as it was inevitable...

The Prime Minister's choice of Mr Michael Stewart to take over the Foreign Office seems calculated to underline Mr Brown's own doubts about the "way this Government is run". If Mr Stewart made a success of his earlier spell at the Foreign Office, why was he moved? If he didn't why has he been brought back?

SUNDAY TELEGRAPH, London

The resignation comes as a much greater loss to the cartoonists and newspaper columnists than to either the Cabinet or the country.

THE DAILY TELEGRAPH, London

We may sleep the sounder of nights but our days will be greyer.

International money and gold

BY PROFESSOR C. N. VAKIL

THOUGH GOLD is no longer used as currency for internal purposes, it is still used to settle transactions between countries. The trade and other economic relations between countries are usually of a balancing nature; for example, imports are paid for by exports, but there are always marginal adjustments necessary and these are made in gold.

Gold is kept in reserve by all countries in varying proportions. As a rule, it is formally treated as a reserve against internal currency. When paper currency was first issued, it had a backing of gold in reserve. In course of time it was realised that the gold in reserve did not give any value to the currency, but the form was continued; gold is now used only to meet external payments.

Certain leading currencies like the dollar and sterling are convertible

developments have given the USA a leading position in the economic affairs of the world and in order to maintain this, she has to maintain the value of the dollar in terms of gold, as the dollar is used for many international purposes.

The maintenance of the price of gold at \$35 an ounce by the USA is not liked by some, who are anxious to see a rise in this price. Gold is mined mainly in South Africa and in Russia. Both these countries would benefit by a rise in the price of gold. France has accumulated large gold reserves in recent years and has a similar attitude.

The weakness in the economic position of the UK led to the devaluation of the pound sterling some time ago. The strength of sterling and the dollar in world affairs was weakened by this event. The burden on the USA increased in consequence. The USA has been maintaining large deficits in her accounts for some years because of her world commitments. She is maintaining military establishments in several parts of the world; she gives military and economic aid to some countries; and her expenditure for the war in Vietnam is on the increase. Recent events in Vietnam and the growing discontent within the USA over the Vietnam policy have aggravated the situation described above.

Speculators who operate in world markets have taken the view that it would be profitable for them to buy gold now from the USA by tendering dollars, in the hope that if the dollar is devalued, they will be at an advantage. A rise in the price of gold will be the same thing as devaluation of the dollar. The feeling is that the USA may not be able to maintain the value of the dollar for long. Under this assumption, speculators have organised a large and continuous demand for gold and the USA is forced to give out gold at the fixed rate.

As the normal stock available for such purpose may not suffice, legislation has been passed to make the frozen reserve of more than \$10,000 million worth of gold available to meet the demand. As a similar demand is also made on the UK, the USA has flown a large stock of gold to the UK to help maintain the convertibility of the pound sterling.

The USA seems to be determined to meet the challenge and has taken several steps for this. If it succeeds, things may settle down after some time and the gold rush may subside. But if the USA finds it impossible to carry on, it may have to agree to a higher price for gold or to the devaluation of the dollar. In that event there may be effects on other world currencies. For example, we in India shall have to decide whether we stick to the present gold value of the rupee as registered with the International Monetary Fund, or reduce it. If we do not devalue the rupee in line with the devaluation of the dollar (if it occurs) the rupee will rise. This will mean that we shall have to pay less than Rs 7.50 for the dollar. Such changes have important effects on world trade.

If the USA adopts the other alternative of abandoning the gold link of the dollar and decides not to sell gold for dollars as now, the situation will be different. Because of the leading position of the dollar, the IMF may have to consider whether it should ask member countries to fix the parities of their currencies in terms of the dollar and give up the gold link. If this can be done, gold would lose its position in the monetary system of the world and international transactions may be settled in terms of paper currencies. In fact, the IMF has been considering for some time the creation of an international unit of value in terms of which international liquidity can be created and regulated to develop international trade.

As agreement on such a fundamental change may not be easy or may take more time, it has been decided in Washington to maintain

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

SO THEY SAY

You just can't meditate on Sunset Strip.

MIA FARROW
Hollywood Actress

I must confess I have never bought a book by an Indian author.

T. T. KRISHNAMACHARI
Former Finance Minister

Corruption in Vietnam is bad, but is it any worse in Saigon than in Boston, New York, Washington or Johnson City?

PRESIDENT JOHNSON

Industrial climate scares investors

FROM S. K. MUKHOPADHYAY IN CALCUTTA

THE industrial climate in West Bengal is still very bleak. New plans and development schemes for industrial expansion in the State have taken a back seat. The recession and uncertainty in the industrial set-up, a hangover from 1967, are still very much there.

More than eighty industrial concerns had planned to start new plants in the region of Durgapur and other areas in West Bengal. The Durgapur Development Corporation had granted them permission and even allocated substantial plots of land for the purpose. But most of these companies, on second thoughts, have backed out and have given up their ideas of starting anything new in West Bengal now. The right industrial climate, they argue, is not present here, and they are obviously not prepared to risk the hazards of starting new undertakings.

While major industries are somehow carrying on, the small and middle scale industrial groups are feeling the pinch most.

"I have not yet unpacked machinery worth about two lakhs of rupees and although my factory is open now after a closure of about nine months, I do not know what is in store for me in the coming days." That is what a Bengali businessman who runs a small-scale concern making synthe-

tic rubber goods and plastics in Dum Dum remarked to this correspondent recently. He was bitter. He regretted that many of his workers, who were displaced persons like himself from East Pakistan, were the ones mainly responsible for strikes and demonstrations.

"I gave them special preference, disregarding the claims of others, including skilled personnel, as I felt some moral obligation to provide jobs to these suffering ones. But they were the first to organise strikes and go-slow tactics in the factory, forcing me to close down." He described how from scratch he built up a factory which provided work to 400 people. Most of these workers, he said, were unemployed now. This may be an isolated case but it gives an idea of the grimness of the situation.

A number of foundries and engineering units have been practically idle since last year. There has been a slump affecting railway orders, also electrical and cable factories. Jute, one of our chief foreign-exchange earners, is also facing a problem. Export figures are on the wane because of Pakistan's stiff competition and the new demand for cheaper varieties and synthetic substitutes.

Some industrial concerns are planning to start new factories in Maha-

rashtra, Mysore and other southern States. Although there has not been any serious move to shift their entire assets and capital from West Bengal, various development plans are being withdrawn gradually. The mere maintenance of existing units, it is argued, is becoming a tough job; so why go for extra risks?

Among those abandoning new ventures and further investments are a number of well-known all-India companies. Fresh recruitment in a number of large concerns has been withheld, adding to the alarming figure of unemployment. The only silver lining is the proposed refinery at Haldia where the demand for absorbing local personnel may attain an all-time high. But then Haldia cannot be the sole shock-absorber. The problem of unemployed engineering graduates, many with first class degrees, is also causing further headaches.

It is true that the *gherao* nightmares are over but the danger is still there. About 400 concerns stopped functioning during the United Front regime and nearly 200,000 people became unemployed. More than 70 industries started when the Ghosh Ministry came into office, providing re-employment to about 30,000 people. But the situation is still grave.

The great pity is that each is ready to hold others responsible but none — neither the employer, the Government, nor labour — is seriously out to create the proper atmosphere to sustain the State and its fast-decaying economy.

C. N. VAKIL — FROM PAGE 7

the present dollar price of gold for transactions between governments or Central Banks of different countries, leaving the price of gold to be determined in the free market for private operators. This will lead to two prices for gold.

Such an arrangement may be compared to the two prices for sugar that we have in India (a) the controlled price at which rationed sugar is available in limited quantity and (b) the open market price at which sugar may be bought in the market, which is higher and is determined by market forces.

This situation can be only temporary and will have to be replaced by a more lasting solution. It appears that we are likely to witness important developments in the monetary system of the world in the near future.

FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

China threatens intervention

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

KATHMANDU According to reference material recently circulated here by the Chinese official Hshinua newsagency, China would militarily interfere should the "Indian reactionaries, American imperialists and Russian revisionists" attempt to change the political status quo of Nepal by exerting pressure on King Mahendra.

"One crore people of Nepal and seventy crores heroic people of China would fight hand in hand to defend the 'nonalignment' of Nepal," says the agency report quoting a recent Radio Peking broadcast.

It is worth remembering that the Chinese and the local Communists have been the best beneficiaries of the present political set-up of Nepal. Of late, there have been reported growing Indian and Western pressures upon the Mahendra regime for political liberalisation inside the country. It is assumed that a strong democratic force would act as an antidote to the Red Star and save the King in the event of a Chinese onslaught.

Despite the Chinese habit of making threats — last July the Chinese addressed a "serious protest" to the Nepalese threatening to "break their skulls" — this is considered in diplomatic circles here as a rather serious statement because of its timing: it came just in the wake of the un-

conditional release of some Nepali Congress leaders including Mr Girija Prasad Koirala, younger brother and co-prisoner of the deposed Prime Minister B. P. Koirala. It also



Mr S. Upadhyaya

followed the public pronouncement of Mr Soorya-prasad Upadhyaya (Home Minister in the elected Koirala Cabinet and one time "strong-man" of the outlawed Nepali Congress Party), through a booklet "As

I See", that at the present juncture he and his "friends" wished to meet the menace of Communist infiltration into the country and the Administration by organising the democratic forces in the interests of the country and the King.

UK's foot-and-mouth dilemma

FROM GORDON WISE

TARPORLEY, Cheshire The scene at Westminster, viewed from one of Britain's lush farming areas hardest hit by the foot-and-mouth scourge, is that of the Minister for Agriculture Mr Fred Peart on the horns of a dilemma. And if British farmers had their way he would be on the horns of one of their prize bulls which they feel are still under threat from the dreaded animal disease.

Mr Peart has lifted the present ban on imported Argentine beef because a Ministry of Agriculture report traces the foot-and-mouth outbreak, circumstantially, to a shipment of Argentine lamb. But the British farmers and certain MPs suspect that the infected lamb is slaughtered in the same premises as beef cattle back in the Argentine; that a renewal of shipments could be a further source of the epidemic only recently waning.

The farmers' anguish is illustrated by the fact that they have lost 445,240 head of stock, valued at £150 million, since last October. Farmers are to be compensated to the tune of £26 million by the Government, but there is no compensation planned to cover losses due to unearned income which naturally followed the slaughter of the animals — from unsold milk for example.

The other prong of the horns

CONTINUED ON PAGE 11

The week in ASIA

BANGKOK — The Thai Government closed the Thai-Laos border in the north-eastern province of Nakhon Phanom, following clashes between Lao Government troops and Communist forces, and an influx of refugees into the province.

JAKARTA — Sixty people died after eating poisonous food in three villages in the west district of Sumedang.

MOSCOW — Soviet warships will pay their first ever official visit to the ports of Bombay and Madras at the end of this month or early next month. The visit will last 10 days.

SINGAPORE — An eight-member Indian delegation is due in Singapore on March 20 for a ten-day visit to promote Indian exports to the Republic, according to an Indian Embassy spokesman.

RAWALPINDI — France and Italy will each contribute \$10 million more for the construction of Pakistan's giant \$868 million Tarbela Dam. Earlier contributions by France and Italy were \$30 million and \$40 million respectively.

RANGOON — Over 200 Communist rebels occupied the town of An, about 240 miles south-west of Rangoon, for 24 hours. An's 30-man guard which fled returned with armed forces and reoccupied the town. By then the rebels had released detainees and given out the country's standard VIII exam question papers.

KUALA LUMPUR — Malaysia threatened to Malaysianise jobs held by 60,000 Singaporeans, retaliating against Singapore's decision to withdraw work permits from Malaysians and other non-citizens.

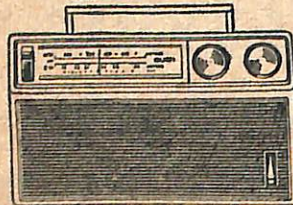
CAIRO — The Yemeni Premier, General Amry, "postponed" his scheduled visit to China and returned to Saana after a seven-day stay here. The decision follows his talks with President Nasser whose relations with China are not good at present.

TOKYO — Seven hundred people were killed in armed clashes between different groups of Chinese soldiers in Tibet over the past several weeks. The soldiers came from Peking to suppress anti-Mao elements, according to Moscow Radio.

SAIGON — The key marine base of Dong Ha, pivot of the US front line in Vietnam, was shelled by North Vietnamese artillery. South Vietnamese soldiers killed 194 North Vietnamese in a 48-hour battle south of the demilitarised zone, according to a US spokesman.

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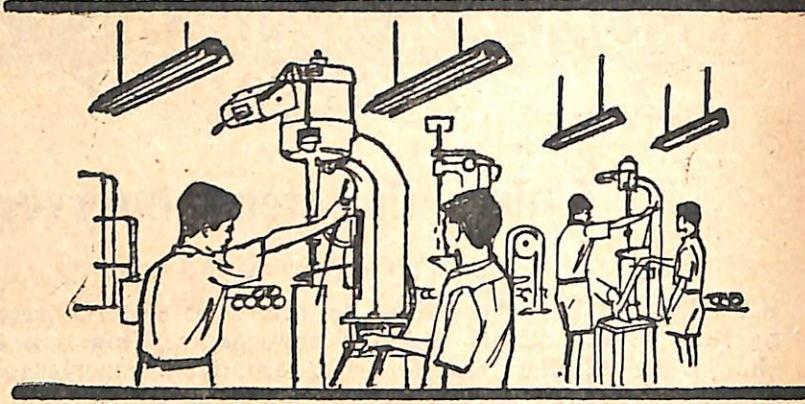
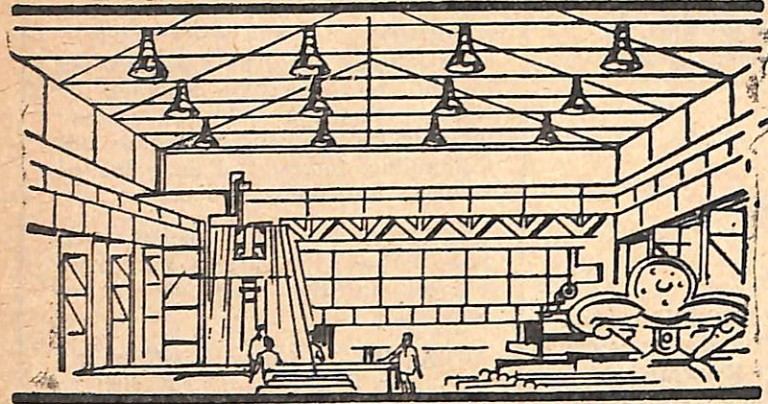
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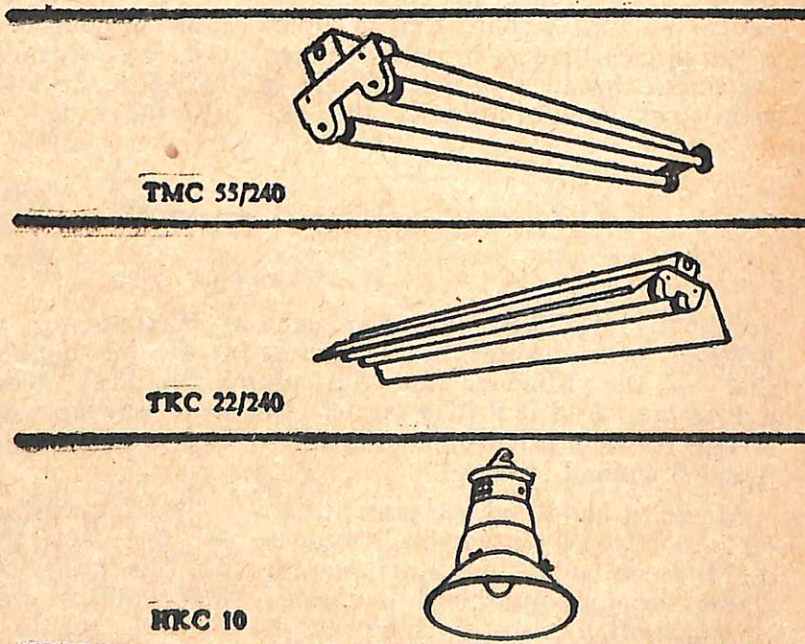
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FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

which menace the Minister comes from British exporters and butchers. The exporters say that they risk losing £300 million-worth of exports if the Argentine boycotts British goods in reprisal for the Ministry's ban on their meat. British butchers and housewives would like the ban lifted so that meat prices might come down. Their friends say that some British animal farmers would like the ban continued so that they would be insulated against foreign competition.

In support of a ban is the evidence that countries such as the USA, Canada, Eire, Australia and New

Zealand, which ban meat from areas where the plague is endemic, have not had a single outbreak for twenty-five years.

The foot-and-mouth viruses are one of the toughest groups known. They can live for up to five months in a cold store.

In Britain, the policy is wholesale slaughter. No effective economical vaccine has yet been developed to fight this scourge. There are so many foot-and-mouth viruses that it would be necessary to have a multiplicity of separate vaccines—a programme more expensive in the long run than slaughter.

So the Minister is the man in the middle. He will be criticised whichever decision he takes. He will just have to decide, after weighing all the expert advice, what he feels to be the right thing for the country.

Gandhi Centenary celebrations in Ceylon

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

COLOMBO Arrangements for next year's celebration of Mahatma Gandhi's Centenary in Ceylon were planned at a public meeting held here recently under the chairmanship of Senator A. Ratnayake, President of the Senate.

Senator Ratnayake, President of the India-Ceylon Society and a prominent Buddhist leader, welcomed the large and representative gathering which included prominent members of the venerable Maha Sangha (Buddhist Priesthood). The resolution to celebrate the event, moved by the Mayor of Colombo, Mr Jabir Cader, was passed unanimously.

Senator Ratnayake said that the Governor-General of Ceylon, Mr William Gopallawa, had agreed to be Patron of the movement and that the Prime Minister, Mr Dudley Senanayake, and the Leader of the Opposition, Mrs Srimavo Bandaranaike, had agreed to act as Vice-Patrons. The Senator spoke of the greatness of the Mahatma and of the gratitude

which Ceylon and many Asian countries owed him. He appealed for the celebrations to be organised in the most comprehensive manner possible.

The Mahabodhu Society, the India-Ceylon Society, the Lanka Sarvodaya Sangamaya and the All-Ceylon Gandhi Seva Sangam are organising the movement.

Senator Ratnayake and family are expected to visit India on a pilgrimage to some of the holy Buddhist Shrines, including Budha Gaya and Sarnath. He proposes also to meet prominent Indian personalities and invite them to Ceylon in connection with the Centenary Celebrations and to promote further the goodwill between the two countries for which the Mahatma had done so much.

Mao gets something to think about

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

LIVERPOOL When the Chinese freighter Yongning left Liverpool Docks recently, her crew took with them an extra saying for Chairman Mao's collection. It was the well-known English phrase: "One out, all out."

The Yongning (7000 tons) reached the River Mersey on February 27 from Wampoa with a cargo of talcum powder. Four squads of dockers boarded the ship to start unloading. During the lunch-break, members of the Chinese crew, dressed in green uniforms, found a torn photograph of Chairman Mao in one of the holds.

Trouble developed when the dockers returned.

The dockers later alleged that they were threatened and jostled; Chinese crew men approached the smallest of them and ordered him off the ship.

They all replied, "One off, all off." Then the whole contingent of 40

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The week in INDIA

CALCUTTA — The Chief Election Commissioner, Mr S. P. Sen Varma, announced that mid-term elections in West Bengal would be held on November 3 or 10 this year.

BOMBAY — Over 700 candidates will contest 140 seats in civic elections on March 26.

JORHAT — Two Pakistani agents, four Naga hostiles and eight Left-Communists, believed to be responsible for acts of sabotage, including explosions on the railway tracks near Titabar and Mariani in March last, were arrested.

NEW DELHI — 451 Mizos and 71 Nagas were killed in encounters with the security forces in the last three years. 3652 Mizos and 823 Nagas were arrested during this period, according to the Minister of State for Home Affairs, Mr V. C. Shukla.

CHANDIGARH — The Governor, Dr D. G. Pavate, prorogued the Punjab Assembly, as a step to resolve the Constitutional crisis created following the Speaker's adjournment of the House for two months.

TRIVANDRUM — A 21-member Working Committee led by Mr M. K. Kumaran, editor of the *Kerala Kaumudi*, a local Malayalam daily, was formed for chalking out plans to check "Hindi imperialism".

PATNA — The Minister for Community Development and Home Guards, Mr Ram Nagina Singh, announced that Panchayatraj will be introduced all over Bihar State from August 15. Elections will be held in 9716 of the 10,825 Panchayats.

TRIVANDRUM — Six people were killed when the police opened fire on a mob of two rioting communities at Vizhinjam. The mob gutted about 100 houses and shops.

PATNA — The 101-member Council of the Communist Party of India decided to launch a mass movement to bring down the "anti-people Congress-Soshit Dal Coalition Government" in Bihar.

NEW DELHI — The rat population in the country, estimated at 2400 million, destroys 2.4 million tonnes of food worth Rs 100 crores, according to the Indian Pest Control Association. Pests destroy a further 6.6 million tonnes, they say.

SHILLONG — Three people were killed in an exchange of fire between Naga hostiles and a patrol party of Indian security forces.

dockers marched off the ship which was declared "black", while the men decided whether to carry on with the unloadings or stay out.

A Liverpool quayside worker stated, "The Chinese try to stuff the thoughts of Mao down everyone's throat, handing out pamphlets and little badges."

But an officer of the Yongning said, "The dockers asked for our pamphlets and then tore them up. Most serious of all, they ripped up Mao's photograph and laughed at what they had done. We do not want trouble and have decided to put it down to a mistake."

Australia doubles aid to Indonesia

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

CANBERRA Australia has decided to double its economic aid to Indonesia in the year 1968-69 to \$A12.7 million (Rs 105,000,000).

External Affairs Minister Paul Hasluck said that the decision shows the importance the Government puts on "assisting its close neighbour to achieve once again a position of economic strength". (Indonesia's closest islands are only one-third the distance from Australia to New Zealand, Australia's next nearest neighbour.)



Paul Hasluck

That the announcement was made six months ahead of the budget may indicate its importance in Government eyes. It was also probably timed to precede the meeting in Rotterdam next month of donor nations to Indonesia, with the hope that others will also increase their commitment and cover the remaining gap of \$75 million still needed.

Indonesia needs this year \$325 million, partly for project development (\$75 million) and partly to meet the gap between exports and essential imports.

Besides Australia's contribution, other countries have so far agreed to provide \$220 million.

Because of the lack of administrative machinery, the Indonesian Gov-

ernment arranges for donor countries to make amounts of their currencies available to approved Indonesian importers.

The importers then bring in materials necessary for development without spending Indonesian foreign exchange reserves and with a mini-

mum of administrative involvement.

Mr Hasluck said that during the past two years Australia had watched with keen interest the "courageous" attempts of General Suharto and his Ministers to grapple with "the immense economic problems that confronted them".

The week elsewhere

NEW GOLD POLICY

WASHINGTON—After a week of panic trading in gold, the two-day conference of Western Central Bankers in Washington announced as a stop-gap solution to the international currency crisis a two-tier gold system. Official transactions in gold between governments will continue with the price at \$35 an ounce, but in the free market the price will be permitted to seek its own level without government intervention. No gold held by the seven-nation gold pool banks will be available for sale to speculators. A big question will be whether France, who withdrew from the gold pool last year, and other Governments will abide by this proposal.

CZECH UPHEAVALS

PRAGUE—For the first time since his mysterious death soon after the Communists seized power in February 1948, Czech Liberal leader and Foreign Minister Jan Masaryk has been praised in public. The resignation of President Antonin Novotny appears imminent with army and Party leaders demanding his removal. Czech writers, who last summer launched the snow-balling attacks against old guard Communists, have

now openly called upon Novotny to retire from political life. Alexander Dubcek, who recently replaced Novotny as Party leader, is expected to become Czechoslovakia's new ruler. Last Sunday he was greeted with roaring applause at a Party meeting. Dubcek assured the nation that he would seek closer ties with the West while maintaining an attitude of dependent alliance with the Communist countries.

In other political upsets, Premier Michal Chudik, the Minister of the Interior and the Attorney-General were dismissed. The Deputy Defence Minister committed suicide.

KENNEDY TO CONTEST

WASHINGTON—Senator Robert Kennedy announced that he would be a candidate for the Democratic nomination in the forthcoming presidential election. At 42 he is the same age as his late brother John when he announced his candidature eight years ago. Senator Kennedy's decision follows the substantial backing won by fellow Democrat Senator Eugene McCarthy, a vociferous opponent of the Vietnam War, in the New Hampshire primary last week.

Senator Kennedy, pledging to offer the nation "new policies", said he would be prepared to negotiate with representatives of the National Liberation Front (Viet Cong).

UK RESIGNATION

LONDON—Following the resignation of Mr George Brown as Foreign Secretary, Prime Minister Harold Wilson announced the amalgamation of the Foreign Office and Commonwealth Affairs Office under the new Foreign Secretary, Mr Michael Stewart. This is seen as an attempt by Mr Wilson to exercise closer control on foreign affairs. The volatile Mr Brown in his letter of resignation said that "troubling me for years" has been "the way this Government is run and the manner in which we reach our decisions".

Ek-minit!



School founder and principal at 18

WHILE THEIR PARENTS have been hard at work on the new Moral Re-Armament Training Centre in Panchgani, Maharashtra, some 20 children have embarked for the first time on the adventure of learning. They are poorly clothed, underfed, and dirty, but there is a light in their eyes and an eagerness in their faces as they sit on the ground in front of a blackboard and learn their alphabet — in Marathi.

Jayashree Sonalkar is the 18-year-old daughter of a Poona factory owner and she has always had a passion to do something for her country. Today, among other things, she is operating a school for a group of children who have never before had any formal education.

What lies behind the decision to launch this school?

"I have decided to take on the villages of India as my responsibility and to get to know their residents as people and not just as masses."

The workers at the new centre come from villages, and when it was noticed that their children had nothing to do all day long and that "they had no joy in their life," Jayashree responded to the idea to create a school for them. She had no materials and no school, but she enlisted others and together they "cleaned up and fixed up a school in one of the wheat fields near the huts where the workers live".

Who are your students?

Jayashree says that her children range in age from five months to 13 years, and when I visited the school, I was struck by the young pupils who attentively listened to their schoolmistress, while a still younger brother or sister slept soundly in their laps. I was even more amazed when one little girl started throwing and catching a ball with a baby perched on one hip.

What is taught?

"Classes are held in three languages — Hindi, Marathi, and Kannada," and Jayashree has been teaching the

alphabet, counting, songs and games. For these children, who have never been to school, a whole new world has opened up before them.

What else happens in the school?

The children receive medical attention from the nurse at the centre, and Jayashree has been able to obtain some clothes from people who are interested in what she is doing and who want to help. Cleanliness has been a real battle, but progress is being made, and, says Jayashree, "The parents are very interested in what we are doing."

On the day after an appeal for cleanliness was made, the children



came to school not only much cleaner — but covered in white powder! Jayashree felt that the latter was going a bit too far, but she appreciated the effort to co-operate. Jayashree says that she has found that the parents of her children really want them to come to school. Further, they have come to watch and see for themselves what is going on. There were two on hand taking in everything when I visited the school.

Inner voice

The most significant thing these children are receiving, however, is care, and with that a sense of dignity and worth. They are learning that God can be a real and practical friend, and Jayashree says that one of her main aims is to teach them to listen to the voice that speaks in their hearts for guidance about what is right and what is wrong. The children have thought together quietly about such matters as, "Whether having a bath is necessary?" and, "Whether hitting another person is good or bad?"

Jayashree had to do a little extra explaining on the subject of baths, but she reports that they responded positively to the thought. The children were also honest with each other about whom they had hit, and they apologised.

These children may be in great need materially. They may suffer

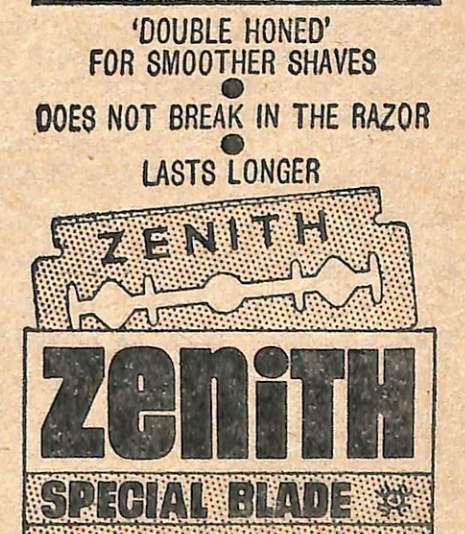


Children at Jayashree's school enjoy a game

from poor nutrition, and they may be burdened with responsibilities which are very great for their years. But they are finding the most precious thing a person can find, and that is the care of someone who will care enough for them to fight for them to grow and become the men and women they are meant to be.

Jayashree's reward is the response of these children to the fun and challenge she has brought into their lives. She speaks of one boy in particular, who is maimed physically and mentally by malnutrition. He understands little that is going on academically, but he does understand care, and through personal attention he has learned to throw and catch a ball. The significance of this accomplishment he radiates with a smile, which says more than words ever could.

E.R.T.



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Are human heart transplants ethical?

Success will chase away doubts

First prize to Ivan Sassoon, Calcutta 13

BY ALL that has happened in the miraculous medical world of heart transplants, man has begun to believe that he can now play God. Many US physicians believe that by experimenting with heart changes, medical science is running before it can walk. A Canadian surgeon said heart transplantation was premature. A German Nobel Prize winner in medicine, Professor Werner Frossman, considers it a crime to perform an operation in a field in which we have not yet done with experimentation.

The fact that of six heart transplant operations five were unsuccessful gives ground to such fears about experiments on human beings. The biggest problem so far is when is a possible donor dead, so one may take his heart out, and transplant it in place of another! We have awful thoughts of heart transplant surgeons and their publicity agents prowling around an accident victim with surgical kit at the ready.

Wicked agents would think nothing of speeding up a person's death if the dead person's heart is to give life to another. This would be atrocious and unethical. But just because this might happen is no reason why heart transplanting should be stopped. Men will make money from anything.

Heart transplant surgery is perfectly ethical. French surgeons revived a heart a full hour after removing it from a corpse. Further, they were able to keep it alive for five hours.

VIEWPOINT COMPETITION

* Should South Africa be excluded from the Olympic Games?

Closing date: March 29

** Should company contributions to political parties be banned?

Closing date: April 12

Prizes: Rs 25, Rs 15

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

So there is no need to remove a possible donor's heart immediately after he or she dies.

Certain theologians believe that the heart has no more moral significance than an efficient pump. All that is required are an assurance from the next-of-kin and a certainty that the donor is medically dead. These are the only two moral considerations.

By prolonging the life of a diseased man by heart transplants, some people believe that man is arrogating to

Blood transfusions raised protests too

Second prize to S. Duvuru, Calcutta 26

DR CHRIS BARNARD'S epoch-making surgical achievement at the Groot Schuur Hospital, Capetown, recently and the heart transplant operations that followed have met with mixed receptions in the world. It couldn't have been otherwise. In the medico-surgical sense they are an unqualified success. Yet from the so-called ethical standpoint they have produced equally strong protests from religious and political leaders.

In Britain, Mr Malcolm Muggeridge despaired that it is "the final degradation of the Christian way of life". The controversy about the ethics of human heart transplants may never be settled but it can be easily seen that most of the objections and reservations arise out of the traditional concept of the "emotional mysticism" of the heart.

Biologically, however, the heart is known to be made up of tough fibre. The sensational mode of presentation of the news of these cases further heightens the emotional aspect. An objective appraisal of the whole issue is necessary to put it in proper perspective.

Despite the countless volumes written and sermons delivered during the ages, ethics still remains a very vague notion. More often than not it is confused with sentimentalism and religious obscurantism. Any rational approach should lead us to the view that anything that results

himself God's powers. This is senseless, because prolonging life is the moral and spiritual prerogative of every doctor. Everytime anyone is healed of any disease are we to make out that the doctor who has done the healing is behaving like God? Giving a lost case life is nearest and dearest to God Himself.

Heart transplant surgery has come to stay. It is revolutionary, but so was every pioneering movement in life. Men have raised the obstacle of ethical and moral impropriety. But these clouds of doubt will be blown away by the winds of success. Imagine the literal possibility of a change of heart of a white man with a black heart or vice versa.

in human good is ethical. No one in his normal senses could say that heart transplants go against this objective.

Academics with their sterile scholarship might question the need for saving, in this manner, a man, who after all is destined to die some day. But it should be remembered that the heart is obtained from a "donor" who had no chance of survival. The aim of medicine and surgery is only to relieve pain and prolong life.

Protests were raised when blood transfusion, too, was still in its experimental stages in the 'twenties.

The initial waves of protest and objections would surely die down; the sooner the better. The history of blood transfusion could serve as a case in point. The emotional and sentimental complications have been eliminated by the simple method of anonymity of blood donors and recipients. A similar method could profitably be evolved in heart transplant cases also.

Contributors to this week's competition were overwhelmingly convinced that heart transplants are ethical. The results were as follows:

Ethical	75%
Sometimes	15%
Not ethical	10%

A new thaw in Eastern Europe?

BY OUR EAST EUROPEAN CORRESPONDENT

A FEW WEEKS AGO, things seemed to be going so well for the ruling twins of the Soviet Union, Kosygin and Brezhnev. In Vietnam, the Americans were driven on to the defensive with the help of Soviet weapons but without the presence of a single Soviet soldier. The agreement with the United States on "non-proliferation of nuclear weapons" helped Russia secure its Western flank. And in India, Kosygin's visit strengthened Soviet influence especially through closer economic links.

One more Kosygin-Brezhnev victory seemed to be the Budapest conclave of world Communist parties.

But already during the preparation for the Budapest meeting, the first warning shot was fired. In spite of Brezhnev's personal intervention, the Czech President and Party First Secretary, Antonin Novotny, one of the last survivors of the Stalinist era, was unceremoniously pushed out of his party job and replaced by an unknown, the Slovak Party Secretary Dubcek.

Then, the masters of the Kremlin had hoped that the prefabricated result of the Budapest conference — a world summit of Communism in Moscow in November — would restore for the outside world a picture of Communist unity. Rumania's walk-out, and the absence of most Asian Communists, exploded this myth and made it clear that something was brewing.

The next point of attention was Sofia where, for the first time since July 1966, the Consultative Committee of the Warsaw Pact met. In contrast to the Budapest conclave, the Sofia meeting was attended by all the party and government leaders. But there, too, the shouts of "vechna druzhba" (eternal friendship), with which all delegates were received, could not cover the bitter discussions behind closed doors. And after only one day the meeting ended abruptly.

But whenever things start to move in Eastern Europe, it is in the fields

of literature, theatre and film that the new ideas are prepared.

The downfall of Novotny started when students protesting against miserable living conditions were shot at by the police, and when the literary review *Literarni Noviny* was banned by the Czech Government. Not even the dispatch of a tank division to Prague succeeded in saving Novotny. The next man to fall was the "cultural boss" who had dominated Czech cultural life for years. Suddenly, there was no holding back.

The Party organ *Rude Pravo* wrote, "Not so long ago, many people considered intellectual immobility as the normal state of affairs. Unreserved approval of what was presented from above was regarded as normal: but a normal situation must be marked by a lively exchange of views, by debates and polemics..." The reaction of one student was, "We thought no one was ever going to have the courage to tell the truth." And in the first edition of the new literary magazine *Literarni Listy*, the editor wrote about "a happy marriage" of "Socialism and liberty".

In Poland, things have taken a more violent turn. It started with a new production of a play by Adam Mickiewicz dating from 1832. The only reason why these performances, which were often attended by whole schools, annoyed the authorities was

that Mickiewicz had salted his script with lines like, "The only things that Moscow sends us are jackasses, idiots and spies." And, according to the Government spokesman who came to defend the ban at an extraordinary meeting of the Polish Writers' Union, certain scenes "seemed to indicate that the fight for liberation was still needed today". The Writers' Union, by a majority of 100, demanded that performances should be resumed.

Then the students got into the act and during the last fortnight there have been growing demonstrations in all big Polish cities. Three high Government officials, amongst them a Vice-Minister, have been dismissed because their sons had taken an active part.

In the Soviet Union, things have not reached this stage. But there are signs that the same desire for "coming out with the truth" exists. The two films which draw the biggest crowds are a new version of "Anna Karenina" and a film of Raizman called "Contemporary Tune" in which an engineer, Goubanov, dares to attack, in the name of efficiency and modern thinking, all that the old Party hierarchy stands for. In a similar way, "At the Test Site", a novel about the Soviet Army by a respected mathematician of the Ministry of Defence, uncovers the weakness and injustice inherent in the Red Army.

Neither in Poland nor in Czechoslovakia, and certainly not in the Soviet Union, does the present unrest indicate a change in the direction of the Government or the nation.

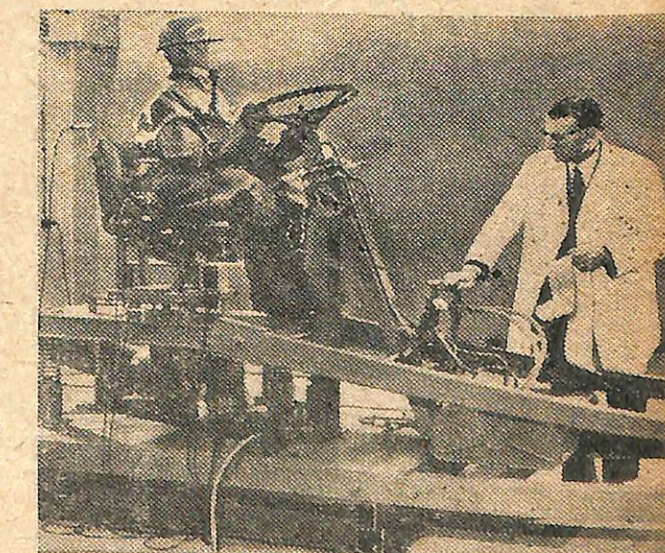
CONTINUED ON PAGE 17

FRONTIERS OF science

Testing tractors

OSKAR trembles 24 hours a day for the safety and health of others. The human-size test-doll is equipped with careful imitations of human organs which are attached to electric measuring instruments. In the photo, the vibration of Oskar's stomach is being noted while he sits at the steering wheel on a vibration chair. This simulated the bumpy ride of a tractor over the fields. The test helps Oskar's inventor, electronics engineer Lothar Sengewitz to improve a "comfort seat" which he designed for tractors. Sengewitz belongs to the re-

search team of a machine-building firm in West Germany. It spends \$16.5 million dollars each year on improving its products. (Da D)



Cricket tour was satisfactory

THE DOUBLE TOUR of Australia and New Zealand just completed has proved a satisfactory undertaking as a whole. Our cricketers were not expected to achieve great victories over the Australians; but neither were they rated so weak as to lose every one of the four Test matches as they did. Still they kept the matches and the series lively, with some fine individual performances both in batting and in bowling. The fielding had its lapses in Australia, and but for this the rubber might have produced a closer result.

In New Zealand our cricketers excelled individually and as a team. They not only won the four-Test rubber 3-1 but also added a new chapter to Indian cricket by winning its first-ever Test and rubber victories abroad. True, New Zealand does not rank high in Test cricket; still it can be a force to reckon with on its home ground — as was proved by its second-Test victory over India. Incidentally it was New Zealand's first opportunity to host India in an official Test series; and from all accounts it rose to the occasion splendidly.

Tactless

It is very unfortunate that the manager of the Indian team, Mr Ghulam Ahmed, should have expressed bitterness over the bowling action of one of the New Zealand players, Gary Bartlett. The manager was entitled to his opinion. But referring to the player as a "chucker", and blaming both the selectors and the umpires for allowing Bartlett to play in Tests, was not in good taste. Much of the goodwill earned by the players could be lost through the manager's tactless talk.

India's participation in doubt

SERIOUS DOUBTS about India's participation in the Olympic Games in Mexico next October are affecting adversely our sport these days. There are many candidates for the Indian contingent — particularly our champion hockey team, athletes, wrestlers and shooters. The enthusiasm with which they were building themselves up to peak fitness and form to get through the eligibility trials has waned after announcements by the Government, the Indian Olympic Association and now the All-India Council of Sports.

All three seem to agree that the country should boycott the Mexico Games if South Africa is allowed to send its team. But there is controversy over which of the three is qualified to decide the issue. One should think that the final say would

rest with the Government, which has not only to grant permission to travel abroad but also to find most of the tour expenses.

Sportsmen, however, are not concerned about the deciding authority. They would welcome a directive to go full steam ahead with their preparations, without being influenced by doubts and conditional statements. Nothing will be lost through intensive preparation, even if some expenses have to be incurred by the sponsors of training programmes.

Xaverians excel

THOUGH BEATEN by powerful Central Railway 2-0 in the final of the Bombay Hockey Championship, junior-divisioners St. Xavier's gained the spectators' applause for their sterling performances throughout the competition. Comprising college students, strengthened by a few post students, the Xaverians were not expected to last long in the competition. But they brought off a great surprise by downing holders Western Railway in the quarter-final.

No fluke

To prove that it was no fluke, they held the redoubtable Tata Sports Club goal-less in the semi-finals before beating them 1-0 in the replay. Facing Central Railway in the final, St. Xavier's stood up to the senior team to draw 2-2. In the replay, however, they had to accept defeat though putting up a grand fight.

It is rarely that one sees our collegiate teams shining in open competition. The Xaverian performance, therefore, came as a refreshing change.

Wrestling styles

THOUGH INDIA has done well in international amateur wrestling contests in recent times — with gold medals in Asian and Commonwealth Games, and a silver medal in the World Championships (through Bishember Singh) in Delhi last November — there is still confusion about the various styles adopted by our men. It is not rare to find a wrestler willing to engage in all four common styles — International, Greco-Roman, Indian and Oriental — though each has its own set of rules and technique.

Even the administrators of wrestling seem to think that the same organisation can promote and control every type of wrestling. So there has been strong resentment at the Education Ministry's suggestion that each style of wrestling should thrive on its own, under individual national units. Though there is some similarity in every type of wrestling, there is strong argument in favour of each specialising exclusively under its own rules and methods of scoring.

● **topscorer**

This India

A VICE-CHANCELLOR'S EXPERIENCE

HEADLINES about student revolt have come from all parts of the world in the last weeks. It is a revolt either against government, God or society. It indicates a generation searching for a satisfying way of life, a generation against the *status quo*, inside and outside the iron curtain.

In the West there is the Beatle breed bitten by the bug of transcendental meditation, huddles of hippies hounding happiness, and now a group of youngsters between the ages of nine and 15 in America who call themselves micro-boppers. This tribe consider themselves mature at the age of nine and display their contempt of authority by experiencing everything possible — smoking, drinking, drugs, abortion.

In Egypt, 15,000 students, onetime worshippers of Nasser, battled in the streets against police, shouting slogans like, "Clean up your own house, President." The East Europeans are declaring their independence from certain aspects of Communism. They are no longer satisfied by stale clichés spilled on them by their leaders. It is well-known how the students of Indonesia toppled the once monolithic empire of Sukarno.

In India the story is not very different. Two million students study in our universities. What kind of citizens are these universities going to produce?

Recently, some students in Bangalore were agitating against Hindi when they sighted the Vice-Chancellor's name board in Hindi. One of them took charge of it. What do we do with this name board? Take out a procession or make a bonfire with it? A heated discussion was taking place when one student suggested a third alternative: if they listened to God, He might reveal a radical resolution of the problem. The result was the students went to the Vice-Chancellor, returned his board, asked forgiveness and had a friendly talk with the man.

In India we have acquired the art of telling everyone else what to do. Professors tell students what to do. The students tell the professors. Parents tell children.

I am 22 years old. What my generation needs is not understanding or disapproval, but a revolutionary purpose. We need absolute moral standards; a part in reshaping the world. I have been offered this by Moral Re-Armament. No salary, availability 24 hours, not too many luxuries. I have accepted.

Neerja Chowdhury

This was a Life

SHAMS-UD-DIN MUHAMMAD HAFIZ 1326-1390

WHO most shapes history? The barbarous swashbuckler who overruns nations, loots cities and massacres millions? Or the creative writer, spiritual leader and lover of humanity who propounds deep truth in telling terms? Fourteenth century Iran and the life of Hafiz of Shiraz form a good test-case.

He was born in 1326. His mother, widowed early, sent him to Shiraz's greatest teachers — among the best of the then known world. He became a professor of the Koran and could recite it by heart, whence his title and pen-name Hafiz or "Memoriser".

Iran, under Genghis's descendants, was falling apart. In 1313, the Muzaffar family set themselves up in Shiraz and ruled the south. Others took the west. And others the north-east. In 1369 Tamerlane led in a new Mongol horde which aped Genghis's frightfulness. Outside Isfahan he set up pyramids, each of 70,000 human heads.

He spared Shiraz and came there only in 1389 to finance his assault on Baghdad. Hafiz was assessed high; but pleaded bankruptcy.

He sought refuge from the horrors of the age, and from the sterility of orthodox preaching, in Sufi mysticism.

Dr Shafaq of Tehran University, in his "History of Persian Literature", writes: "Hafiz witnessed the slaying of kings, the devastation of houses, the wars of pretenders, and fratricidal quarrels in the ruling dynasty. Yet he looked down on these tragedies from a spiritual eminence of his own. True, his spirit sometimes rebelled, as in:

*This mad world madly tears
itself to shreds,
And madly courts th'anarchic
Hate it dreads.*

But the wings of his heavenly thoughts always bore him back to tranquillity of heart across a tumultuous earth."

His language was simple and colloquial, using homely images and popular proverbs. It breathes sympathy for the ordinary man's problems, contempt for hypocrisy and a perfectionist's disdain for mediocrity.

After six centuries Iran is still recovering from the material devastations of Genghis and Tamerlane. But her spirit is nourished by Hafiz. F.J.G.

FAR FROM TRUTH

I AM unable to appreciate the tone of your editorials on the language issue, especially the one criticising Annadurai's Government's decision to eliminate the study of Hindi from Madras Schools (HIMMAT, February 2).

It is taken for granted that Hindi means patriotism and the southerners who are opposed to it are doing so merely because of some "misapprehensions", "genuine fears" and "doubts" about their employment prospects! Nothing is farther from the truth.

English and Hindi with "associate" status for the former won't do.

English is *not* the mother tongue of South Indians, so don't say "English and Hindi" is a just compromise. Your duty now is to educate our Hindi brethren on the injustice their language will perpetuate for us if it is raised to the Union official medium status.

K. VEDAMURTHY, Bangalore 2

FOR WOMEN

I HAVE been reading your weekly regularly for one and a half years. I dare to suggest that there must be some space for a "Women's Corner".

I hope it will be starting shortly. SHAHBANA MUJTAHDI, Hyderabad 29

"ISRAEL LOSES HOPE"

I HAVE read with anguish the news article "Israel Loses Hope" (HIMMAT, February 16, 1968) and, together with hundreds of your other Indian readers, I am pained at the attitude of our Government to the Israeli delegation at UNCTAD.

Let me add that the voice of our Government is not necessarily and not always the voices of the Indian people.

We, Indians, welcome the hand of friendship extended by Israel.

M. M. TALWAR, Bombay 3

KASHMIR VERDICT

WHEN Soviet tanks rolled into Budapest, instead of condemning it we Indians complimented Soviet Russia for they had used the veto in favour of India in the Security Council on the Kashmir issue. During the Suez crisis India gave her wholehearted support to the Arabs because India needed Arab support for Kashmir. Again during the last June War in West Asia India went out of the way to brand Israel as an aggressor (the term even the United Nations restrained from using) for the very same reason.

For the sake of Kashmir India's international reputation has suffered a lot. The economic progress of both India and Pakistan has also been considerably slowed down.

By carrying the Kashmir problem to United Nations we Indians have already internationalised the issue. Now, whether we admit it or not (which matters very little), there does exist an "International Problem of Kashmir". The best thing India and Pakistan can do under the present difficult circumstances is to

Letters

follow faithfully the old verdict of the United Nations, i.e. to withdraw their military forces from the Kashmir Territory and decide the future by undertaking a vote on self-determination in the Kashmir Valley under the direct supervision of the UN.

K. RAMASWAMY, Bombay 1

POSTPONE LANGUAGE FORMULA

AGITATION all over the country on the Three Language Formula of the Government has become the order of the day. English is foreign but it served us as an official language before and since independence. If the three language policy (Hindi, English and any one of the fourteen regional languages) is adopted it will lead ultimately to the balkanisation of our country.

The Government should postpone the Three Language Formula for some years. Of course we want our own national language, but the policy should be introduced gradually, allaying the fears of non-Hindi people.

ZIA MUJTAHADI, Hyderabad 29

TEST VICTORY

HATS off to Pataudi and his team mates for their good performance and grand recovery.

PRAKASH P. MALYA, Dharwar

BRAIN DRAIN

APART from the fact that there are fewer job opportunities and lower pay scales, the main reason for the brain drain is the high degree of nepotism, interference and victimisation that exists in India, even in large public limited companies. Besides, the so-called "industrialists" want to make qualified young engineers tools for black-marketing and tax-dodging.

We, my friends and I, repent having returned after advanced studies and training abroad to serve "La Patria". How do we expect our younger friends to return, when they know our sad experience?

HASMUKH B. SHAH, Bombay 6

EAST EUROPE— FROM PAGE 15

There has been a "thaw" before. And some who came out too quickly with what they felt, paid for it dearly afterwards. But there is no doubt that the Governments of Eastern Europe will have to take into account that the new generation demands new rights and freedoms. And the more one tries to push them down, the more they will react.

Persian Gulf: clash or answer?

BY HARRY ALMOND

BEIRUT British withdrawal from the Arabian or Persian Gulf and the new grouping of the states along its shores highlight the danger of a further clash between Arab ideologies. An agreement establishing the "Federation of Arabian Emirates" was signed in Dubai on February 27 by the Rulers of Abu Dhabi, Bahrain, Dubai, Qatar, Umm al-Quaiwayn, Sharjah, Ras al-Khaimah, Fujairah and Ajman. The agreement becomes effective from March 30 this year.

The Federation will have a Supreme Council of the Rulers and another Federal Council of administrative experts. It provides for joint defence arrangements, foreign policies and diplomatic representation. A joint communique from the Conference of Rulers meeting in Dubai said that the meeting discussed how best to create unity and close co-operation among the states, "which form an integral part of the Arab nation". It also stated that the Rulers agreed to co-operate in raising standards in all fields and to strengthen the security of their Emirates by a collective defence agreement "in accordance with the Arab League and United Nations Charters."

The text of the Federation Agreement also puts emphasis on collective military security and the states' "collective duty in repelling armed aggression." One cannot avoid wondering who the possible aggressors might be.

Kuwait has affirmed its full support for the new Federation. A Foreign Ministry spokesman said that his government considered the new development to be a "basic foundation for the security and stability of the region."

Secretary-General Abdel Khalek Hassouna of the Arab League welcomed the formation of the Federation. He said that it would protect the Gulf's Arabism against imperialist ambitions and he expressed the hope that the Federation would soon join the Arab League. Speaking for the UAR, Mr Mohammed Hassan al-Zayyat said, "If the Federation is what they want, we would certainly respect their will." President Nasser in a later speech gave full support to the efforts made to preserve the Arab character of the Gulf.

In London a Foreign Office official stated that Britain greeted the deve-

lopment as an important step towards ensuring peace and stability in the Gulf.

All nine participating States have had a special treaty relationship with Great Britain for some time. Seven of the states signed a "Treaty of Maritime Peace in Perpetuity" with Britain in 1853 — Bahrain's treaties with Britain date from 1880 and 1892. Qatar signed an agreement in 1916. Under these pacts Britain has maintained a force in the Gulf since 1820. Now, for what Prime Minister Wilson described as economic reasons, Britain has announced the withdrawal of her forces from the Gulf by 1971. This involves about 3500 men in Bahrain and 2500 in Sharjah. Mr Wilson told the House of Commons, "There is no military strength either



Qahtan al-Shaabi

for Britain or our alliances except on the basis of economic strength." However, Britain's Defence Secretary, Denis Healey, in a television interview rejected the offer of Gulf Emirs to pay the costs of keeping British forces in the Gulf after the proposed withdrawal date. This considerably weakened the insistence that withdrawal is prompted by economic necessity.

One country which has so far withheld support for the Federation is the new People's Republic of Southern Yemen. Militantly socialist, anti-traditionalist and very hard-pressed economically, the Southern Yemen government is inevitably casting "share-the-wealth" glances in the direction of the Gulf.

In the thirty-odd years following discovery of oil in the Gulf Emirates foreign companies have entered into agreement with their rulers, and there has been an unprecedented and sudden flood of wealth. Abu Dhabi with a population of about 15,000 now boasts the world's highest per capita income. The total population of the new Federation does not exceed 400,000 people, yet their lands cover a great portion of the world's largest pool of proved oil reserves.

Southern Yemen, on the other hand, is being shored up by British aid. President Qahtan al-Shaabi has asked London for £100,000,000 more over the next five years. Aden's fine port installations left by the British lie largely idle since the Suez Canal was closed by the Israeli-Arab war. The British troops whose spending supplied one third of the income for the old regime have gone. President al-Shaabi tells his people, "We must tighten our belts and economise."

Economic hardship in Southern Yemen is not the only factor to cause concern in the Gulf. One after the other traditional rulers, sultans, princes, and sheikhs are hauled up before peoples' courts and sentenced, to death in some cases, and their properties appropriated. The nine Rulers of the new Gulf Federation surely do not miss the object lesson as to how penetration of their Federation by Aden's philosophy would affect them!

Islands claimed

Geographically, the Sultanate of Musqat and Oman stands between the Gulf Federation and the People's Republic of Southern Yemen. Differences have already arisen between Oman and Southern Yemen over the Kuria Maria Islands, a former Crown Colony ruled from Aden by Britain and now returned to Oman. The Islands were originally ceded to Britain over a hundred years ago when Oman feared they might fall into French hands. Britain has returned them. The new Southern Yemen Republic now claims them.

Any realistic look ahead must see an extension of the confrontation already staged in Yemen between the traditionalist and revolutionary Arab regimes. In spite of the publicity given to occasional sensational statements about Iran's claim to Bahrain, any threat to stability in the Gulf will come much more from the clash of interest between Arab left and right, between Arab haves and have-nots, than from an improbable Arab-Irani conflict.

Kuwait has already gone far in bridging the gap between traditional autocracy and truly representative government. If such education and progress toward democracy can be matched with a strengthening of the foundations of faith and moral standards which represent Arab tradition at its best, the Gulf could give to the whole world a demonstration of how to bridge the gap between rich and poor.

Mr Rajmohan Gandhi's feature will be resumed next week —Ed.

FIND THE BALL Competition No 64



2nd Prize: NEW 2 HIRA LUXURY TOOTHBRUSHES WITH DELUXE CONTAINERS

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, April 1. The winner will be announced in the following issue. You may make not more than Six Entries, in any competition. N.B only one cross may be marked on each picture. The Editor's decision is final.

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.

Name _____ BLOCK LETTERS

Address _____

I agree to the rules of the competition as outlined above.

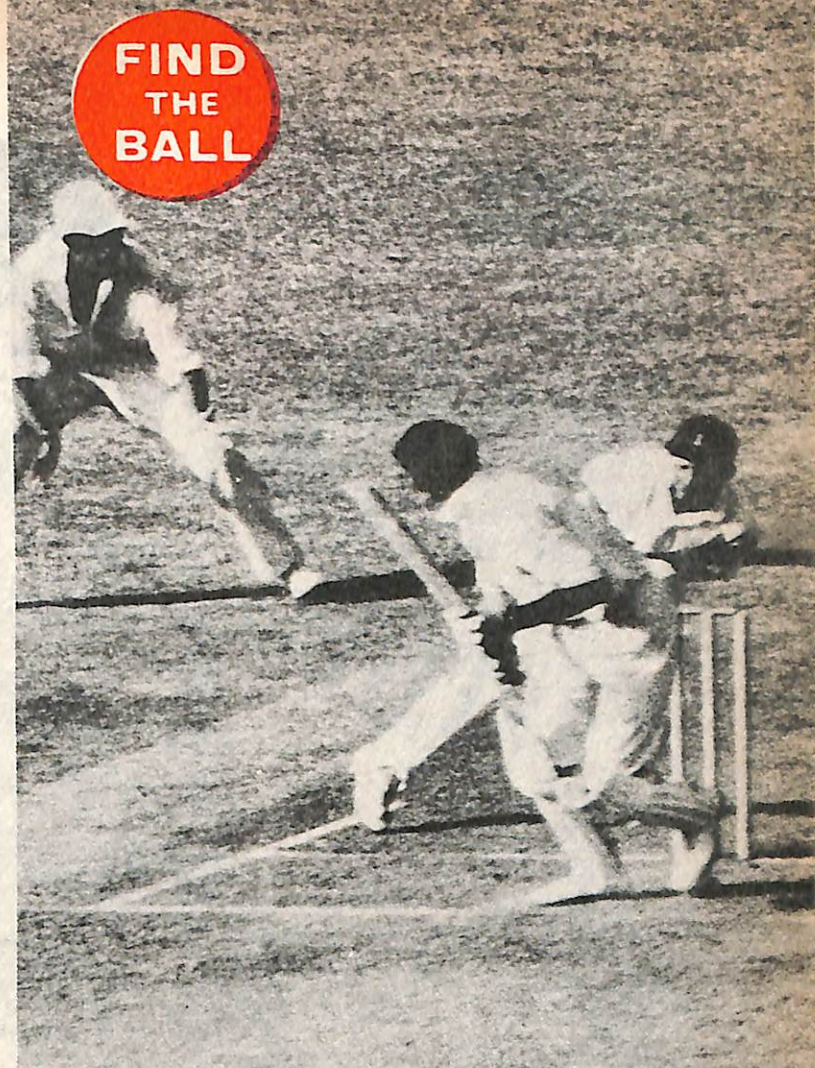


WINNER OF COMPETITION 62

is Albert Salins, 10/21, B.M.C. Chawl, Agripada, Bombay 11. Rs 25 for nearest entry (1.5 mm from ball).

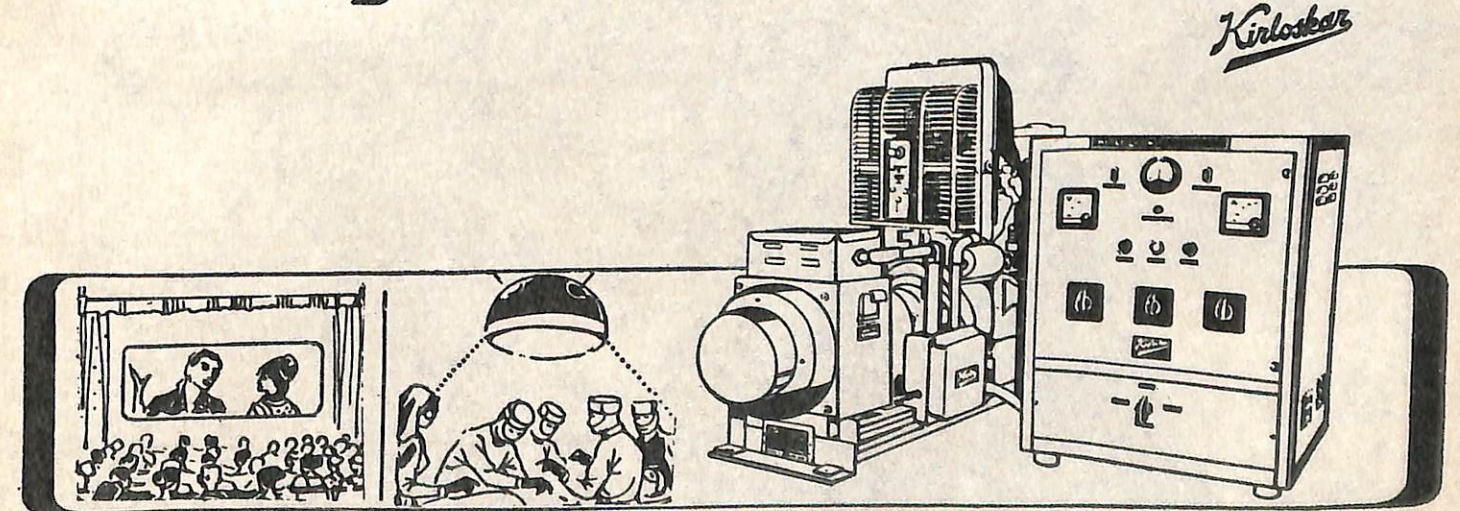
2nd Prize (2 Hira Luxury Toothbrushes in Deluxe Containers), goes to Lusitano Pereira, 8 Khotachi Wadi, 3rd Floor, Girgaon, Bombay 4. (2 mm from ball).

Next Week's Jackpot: Rs. 75



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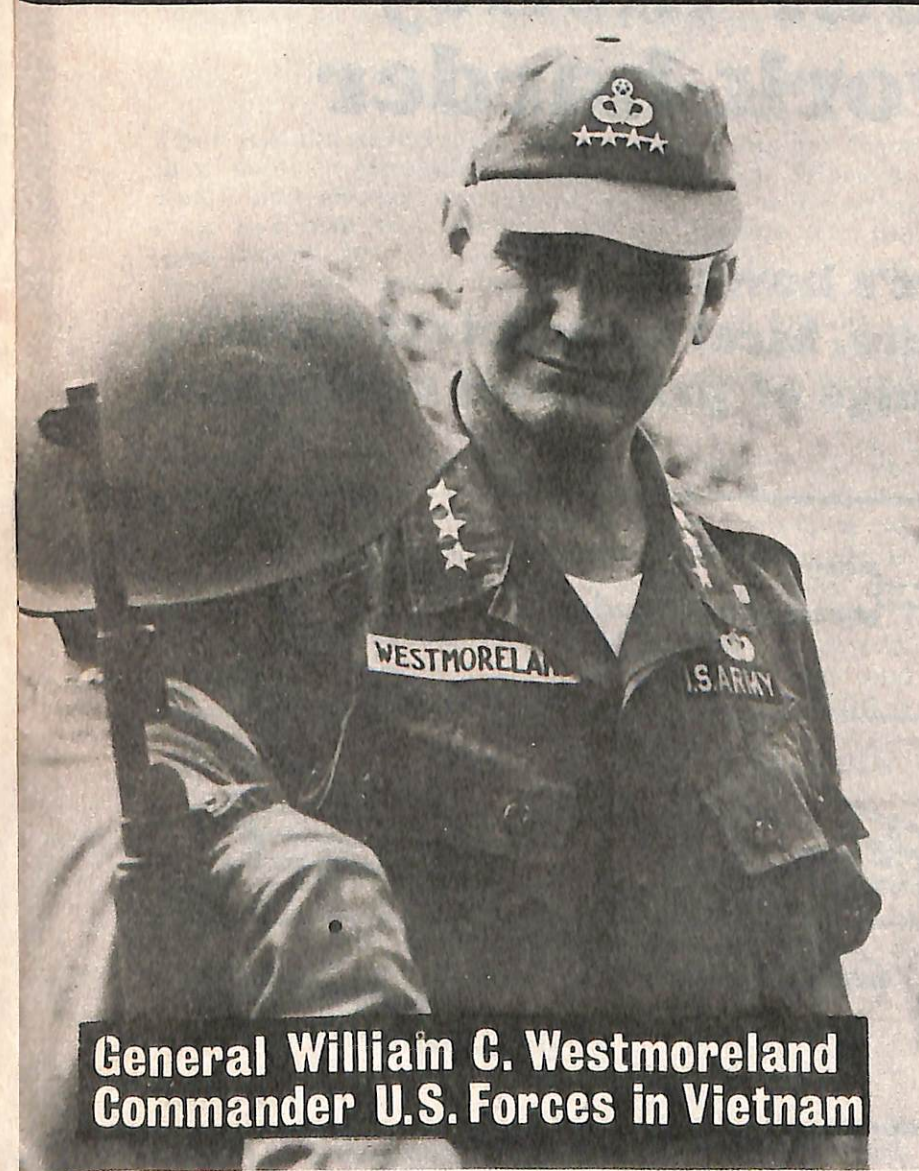
WEEKLY 30p

VOL 4 NO 22

ASIA'S VOICE

FRIDAY MARCH 29 1968

Why was WESTMORELAND moved upstairs



General William C. Westmoreland
Commander U.S. Forces in Vietnam



Antonin Novotny
ex-President of Czechoslovakia

..... and NOVOTNY ? downstairs ?

p. 3

BY ANTENNA

WILL CHAVAN BAN LEFT COMMUNISTS ?