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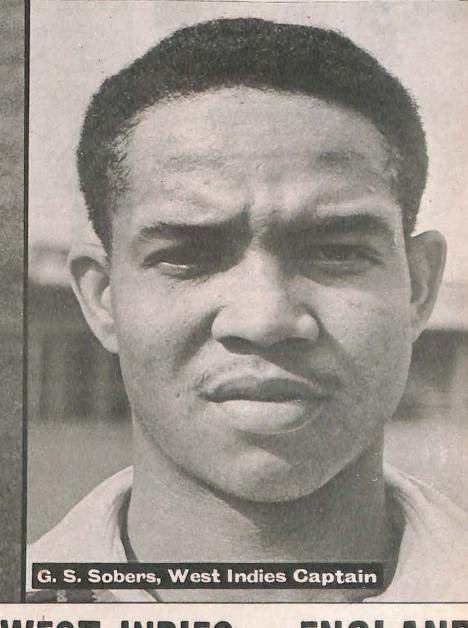
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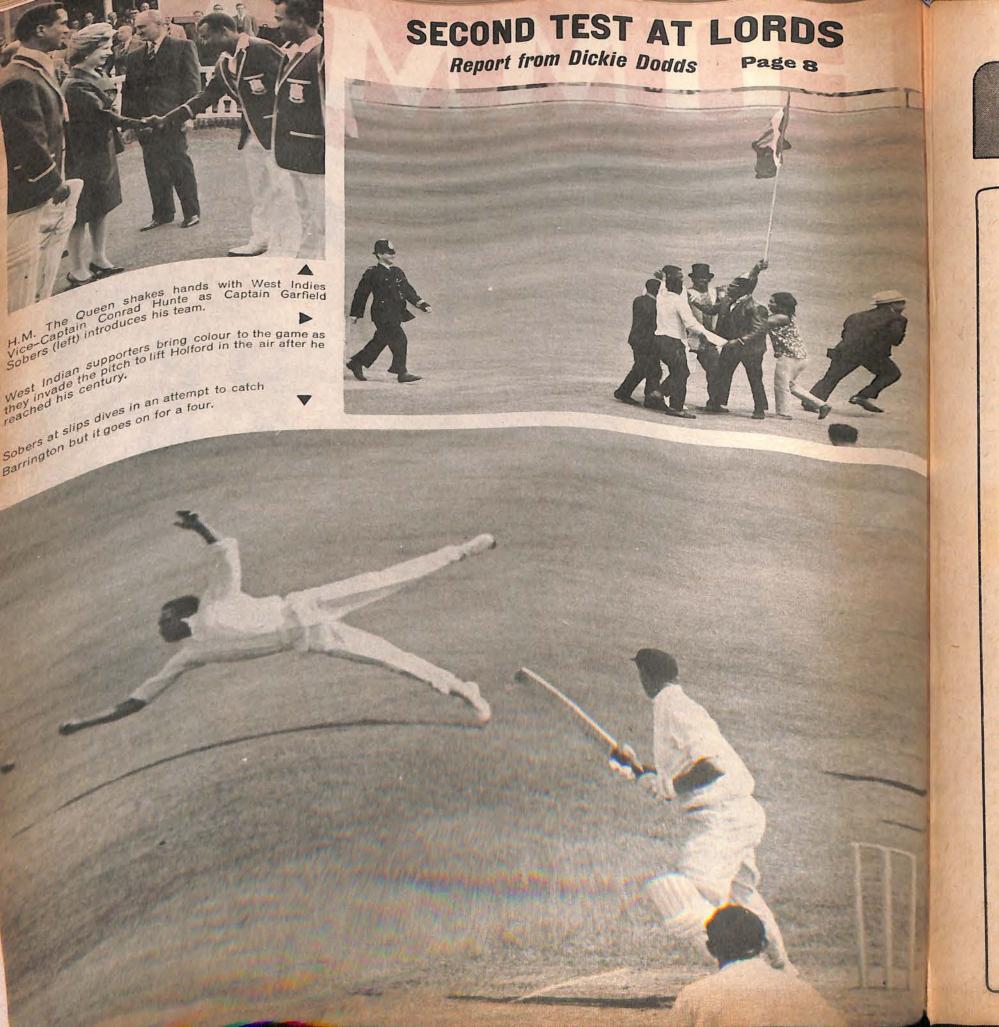


WEST INDIES vs. ENGLAND

Pictures & Special Report by Dickie Dodds Page 2 & 8

MUKERJEE'S EXPULSION ROUSES BENGAL

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HIMMAT Asia's new voice WEEKLY

Bombay Friday July 1, 1966

Diplomacy of Arrogance

CHOU EN-LAI has said that the welcome accorded to him in Rumania has left an "unforgettable impression".

"Unforgettable" is the word. If Mr. Chou and his friends learn from it, the world may benefit.

Two years ago Chou En-lai declared on his African Odyssey that the continent was ripe for revolution. Since then country after country in Africa has expelled the Chinese.

Now, China has over-played her cards in Europe. Observing that Rumania was following a line independent of Moscow Chou En-lai thought he could link Rumania with China and Albania in the ideological conflict with Russia. He was in for a surprise.

At the Friendship Rally in Bucharest, Chou En-lai and his Rumanian hosts turned up more than two hours late. Chou En-lai insisted on attacking Russian "revisionist" policies. Rumanian leaders said a firm "No". Both were adamant at first. Finally, Chou had to yield.

"The expression on Mr. Chou's face was stern and angry," reports the London *Times*' correspondent at the Bucharest Rally, and adds, "instead of delivering the prepared texts which the translators expected to get, Mr. Chou and Mr. Ceausescu made brief, improvised addresses and even the embraces which the Chinese have so generously been bestowing upon their hosts throughout the visit were left out."

If Prime Minister Chou En-lai, on a state visit, so seriously miscalculated the mood of the host nation, it may be because the Chinese Ambassador in Bucharest had given a wrong and rosy interpretation of Rumania's thinking. The lesson of Mr. Chou's Rumanian visit for the world is that the danger from China is accentuated because Chinese rulers appear to act on diplomatic reports which are designed to please them. In that event, further miscalculation in Peking's policies may well take place.

Peking's diplomacy of arrogance relying on a bevy of sycophants as ambassadors, bodes ill for China and the world. Perhaps hoping to secure himself in the present power struggle, Mr. Chou En-lai was eager to pluck the Rumanian feather to add to his Mandarin hat. Far from being weakened by the internal conflict, it shows China's leadership may be ready for some daring ventures.

What Is de Gaulle's Rabbit?

CHARLES DE GAULLE likes to keep his enemies—and his friends—guessing. He has mastered the showman's art of convincing his audience that he has a rabbit in the hat and at any moment now it will be produced. He relishes nothing more than the unexpected—when he is its author.

He annoys the British, disturbs the Americans and puzzles the Germans. But however one may

read his initiatives they are forthright, clear and a spur in the flank of those in love with the status quo. Vietnam, China, NATO, nuclear armaments: you name it and de Gaulle has a policy for it. That, in today's world of shifting views and loyalties, is something to respect.

Apart from any results that the Franco-Soviet talks may produce (and they are not likely to be as spectacular as some wish—and others fear), the mere fact of the General's journey to Moscow means kudos for both sides. De Gaulle must enjoy the discomfort his 12-day state visit gives Washington and Bonn, while remaining confident that no meaningful ground (recognition of East Germany, for instance) need be yielded.

Communist Party Chief Brezhnev, who ignored protocol and did most of the talking from the Soviet side, counts heavily on the growing rapport with France as a counterpoise to what Moscow apprehends as a German-American axis. And in this power line-up one must consider that France already possesses nuclear teeth while Germany does not and probably will not.

President de Gaulle chooses his words precisely. So when he speaks in Moscow of the "new alliance between Russia and France", and it is announced that a system of regular high level consultations will be set up between the two powers, it seems certain that de Gaulle means to sponsor Russia's greater involvement in European affairs.

One thing is clear: de Gaulle can be regarded as nothing but sincere when he says that the "evil spell" dividing Europe can be broken and replaced by a "constructive entente of nations from the Urals to the Atlantic". Such a broad comity of nations has not existed before in Europe. Why should not this fighting general, who in a very few years restored a sense of national destiny to a dejected France, prove the catalyst needed to spark a sense of continental destiny throughout Europe?

The iron curtain, now rusting here and there, has cast an "evil spell" over Europe for 20 years. De Gaulle wants it lowered. And who is to say there is greater virtue in confrontation than in co-existence?

Set Right the Imbalance

Trying to catch up with 100 years of industrial progress in barely twenty years is a breakneck race and some say that India is breaking her neck.

The race, nevertheless, is essential. Steeped in our immediate difficulties we fail to recognize how much India—in her faltering, stumbling, unmethodical way—has achieved in the industrial field. With only a percentage of imported components, she now manufactures cars, locomotives and aeroplanes.

But often our development is lop-sided.
While India is the world's second largest film producer, and her films earn substantial foreign exchange, when it comes to entering films in international festivals, she does not even have a machine for sub-titling them. Films have to be sent to Beirut for sub-titling in French and English. This difficulty has come up recently with the President's Gold Medal film, "Chemmeen", in Malayalam being entered for the Venice Film Festival. In spite of a request to the Government two years ago by Satyajit Ray to produce such a machine, the Government has not done so.

Briefly Speaking ...

There are men who have no vision and yet they speak many words.

BHAGVAD GITA

Homes and Borders

BOMBAY, one of the ten largest cities of the world, has 2.7 million people without adequate homes. They live in slums, huts and on the streets. When rains come what is their condition?

A New Delhi report dated June 23, says, "Some people will spend the night in silent prayers that it does not rain. Last night was agonizing; they had suddenly become shelterless under a menacing sky after a demolition squad of the Delhi Development Authority razed the shanty town opposite Luxmibai Nagar."

With a protective hand on his painted tin trunk, a man said, "Sar kar (Government) could have let us know a little ahead."

The residents will spread to other slums and swell the population there.

CHALTA HAI...



"I'm so distressed by these conditions I promise my Ministry will provide better slums within the next few years."

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



HANDY-DANDY

When so much national energy is wasted on border disputes, on river waters disputes, and for separate states, surely the issue is to give work, food, clothing and shelter to our patient millions. They may not be too patient for long.

First Things Last

Journalist Chanchal Sarkar, visiting the National Library in Calcutta, found that Hicky's Bengal Gazette, the first newspaper to be published in India in 1780, was so brittle that he could not even keep a fan on when referring to it. He found that our National Library had no facilities for storing books and manuscripts.

He warns, writing in the *Hindustan Times*, that if we do not speedily introduce micro-filming, we shall lose some of our precious manuscripts.

The Union Education Ministry has a bumper budget, if it wants to look after the library. Mr. Sarkar concludes, "Mr. Chagla's Ministry does not seem to think either of tradition or the future. If it did, it would not grudge the National Library even such petty sums of Rs. 25,000 for a micro-filming unit and Rs. 10,000 a year for films."

He adds pointedly, "Why, even a couple of trips of Mr. Chagla abroad to sign cultural treaties cost more than that."

Racket

A school in North Bombay with a rather religious and somewhat romantic name (though it has nothing to do with religious organizations), is asking for contributions of Rs. 100 each towards its building fund, to enter children even in the kindergarten classes. What is even worse, no receipts are issued.

Could the Education Department take this racket seriously?

Not Astrology

HIMMAT predicted two months ago that General Nasution, who then appeared to have been eclipsed, was a man to watch and that he would return.

Last week when the Indonesian Congress met he was elected Chairman of the highest decision-making body, the Provincial People's Consultative Congress.

"Keep Off Planes"

Indian Airlines continue to rebuff foreign tourists by their monopolyengendered casualness and red tape.

A foreign friend tried to book seats for three of his countrymen to travel on the Thursday morning (June 23) flight, Bombay to Cochin. Confirmed seats were offered only on the afternoon flight. These he accepted requesting that, nonetheless, the three visitors be waitlisted on the morning flight. Even though it was only Monday night-60 hours in advance-he was told quite adamantly by the counter clerk that he would have to buy sets of tickets for both flights and apply for a refund on whichever tickets weren't used. He was also told that "according to our rules" the cash would have to be paid by noon the next day, Tuesday, if the seats were to be held.

What did he do? He rang his travel agent a day later and in 75 minutes the tickets for the morning plane were on his doorstep.

IAC lost the commission and added to their reputation of "fly with us if you must, but we really couldn't care less".

Clearing the Docks

It is a tracedy that Punjab State, whose people are the most vigorous and go-ahead, was saddled these last months with the weakest Ministry possible. The Ministry was weak as far as Government of the State went, but strong in getting the personal will of the Ministers executed.

An Opposition member has alleged that ex-Chief Minister Ram Kishan and some of his cabinet colleagues, knowing their Ministry had to resign, speedily purchased Fiat cars on their government allocation. One such car has been purchased in the name of the Chief Minister's wife, alleged the opposition member.

Crystal Ball

READING these columns last week about the Melbourne dockers calling one of their foreman the "Crystal Ball" as he is always "looking into" the matter, I understand that in a textile mill in Bombay one of its officials is called "MR. WLITMA" "We'll look into the matter."

R.M.L.

Ajay's Expulsion Rouses Bengal

From Ajit Das in Calcutta

They are crucifying a crusader! In Chowringhee, Calcutta, barely 100 yards away from St. Paul's Cathedral, in Congress Bhavan, the West Bengal Pradesh Congress Committee has punished its former President for the unpardonable sin of preaching, publicly and persistently, despite all warnings of powerful party bosses, for purity and truth at all levels of party operation.

On June 18, the WBPCC by a resolution expelled for a period of six years from the Party by far the most respected Congressman in Bengal for years—Calcutta's popular Ajayda (Big Brother Ajay)—for his acts of "indiscipline".

Ajay Mukherji's primary and active membership of the Party was also cancelled forthwith.

On the same day, the Congress Legislature Party meeting separately also resolved to serve a notice upon ex-minister Ajay Mukherji-a member of the West Bengal cabinet for thirteen years - why he should not be removed from the Party "for contravening the party rules and acting in a calculated manner to discredit the Party". Speakers at the meeting charged Mr. Mukherji with "publicly criticizing" the State Government's food policy, giving direct or indirect support to different opposition-sponsored moves to protest against the food policy and, finally, forming a factional group, the Bangla Congress, with the declared objective of opposing Congress Party nominees in the next elections.

Sacked After 46 Years

Over two months ago, Mr. Ajay Mukherji was removed from the Presidentship of the Party as the first big step to correct his indiscretions in raising his voice against a few patently dishonest moves of the present leadership to cushion themselves comfortably in power.

On the same inauspicious June 18, when the Atulya Ghosh-Prafulla Sen combine was giving finishing touches to their long-drawn plan to liquidate politically their old comrade, Ajay Mukherji told a mammoth public meeting in Habra: "There are talks of driving me out of the

HIMMAT, July 1, 1966

Congress. I have served the Congress for forty-six years with utmost devotion. The people are my Supreme Court. I want to usher into the country the Swaraj that Mahatma Gandhi sought and fought for."

Mr. Atulya Ghosh has tried to talk out the Bangla Congress as just another addition to the handful of opposition parties in the state. But call it a party, or a faction, or just a group, West Bengal knows that Bangla Congress is not just another pack of opportunists, nor of merely dissident, disgruntled or disappointed politicians.

The WBPCC has penalized Mr. Mukherji for his acts of party indiscipline, of gross indiscretions, but it has failed to list one single act of indolence on the part of this old stalwart with about half a century of steady, solid service to the Party. In one general election, racing neck and neck, he defeated his strong Communist rival who was no other than his own brother, Mr. Biswanath Mukherji, with whom, in a joint family, he shared the same house.

Gift Milk Racket

It is understandable that this man, having decided not to return to the ministry formed after the Kamaraj Plan resignations, should turn mad, if he suspected and finally believed that fake members were being inducted into his district Congress Party registers. He protested; he was insulted—physically driven out of the Congress office he had built almost brick by brick in Midnapur.

Ajay Mukherji's present comradein-arms in Bangla Congress, Mr. Sushil Kumar Dhara, also a Congress MLA, offered satyagraha in front of the Midnapur Congress office in protest against this and could be persuaded by the High Command to call off the fast on promise of a probe that has now produced charges of indiscipline.

And now another resolution to consign Mr. Dhara also to the political cross is pending before the executive committee of the WBPCC. The sponsors of this resolution include at least one man who not very long ago faced accusations of having complicity with a gang of people selling gift milk-powder meant for

free distribution by them among the old, the infirm and the needy children in the leader's constituency.

Mr. Atulya Ghosh has taken Ajay Mukherji to task for making "motivist" allegations against a Party he has served so long—silently. "Why did he not speak of the corruptions he is now complaining of?" Ghosh asks.

One big reason could be that the Congress Mr. Mukherji served in the old years was different from the Congress of today.

The call of the crusader has touched the heart of thousands. A new boldness in standing up and saying, "We are with you", is to be seen wherever Bangla Congress is calling a meeting.

In CM's Constituency

One of the boldest such meetings attended by thousands who trekked long and difficult miles amidst rain and storm to hear the crusaders for pure, simple, straight politics took place in Arambagh, Hoogly, the safe and apparently permanent consti-tuency of Chief Minister Prafulla Chandra Sen. The men and women at the meeting, which included many active Congressman still enjoying the confidence of the ruling group, knew that they were being marked out for indiscipline. But they came because they felt and openly said that their conscience was not sold out to anybody.

And now comes the report that the old veteran Congressman Dr. Prafulla Chandra Ghosh, West Bengal's first Chief Minister, whom the present ruling group removed from Chief Ministership and forced to resign, is returning to politics to join his old colleague, Mr. Ajay Mukherji.

Not even the worst political scoundrel will have the guts to suggest that these two men are corrupt in their political lives, opportunist in their approaches.

And in the next general elections, though the Bangla Congress with its limited financial resources may not snatch away the political leadership of the State from WBPCC, it is not a few men who must find their place in the next legislature,



How long will India be free?— The erosion of our independence

It is unusual for a Prime Minister to tell the country not only that the national situation is "very delicate and dark" but also that it is entirely up to the people to face up to the situation determinedly and unitedly. This is precisely what Mrs. Indira Gandhi told a public meeting at Hyderabad last week. It was the people alone who could help themselves out of the present crisis, she said. "Neither the Prime Minister, the State Ministers, the Administration nor the official machinery could help the country tide over the crisis."

Her honesty in admitting the help-lessness of the Government and Congress Party is remarkable in any political personage. Her call to the nation is bold. In her capacity for both qualities she stands head and shoulders above her colleagues. Admittedly she has shown a readiness for decision which—apart from the rights and wrongs of the particular case—has set a new standard for party and Government policy.

One may sympathize with the Prime Minister in her appeal to the people of the country over the heads of the party men. Increasingly, she may even get the support of the nation independent of party. But the truth is that unless she can also gain the strength and authority to impose

SAY THAT AGAIN...

We have nothing to crush.

GENERAL A. H. NASUTION
Chairman, Indonesian People's
Congress

Pakistan is not going to divert other people's funds for its arms build-up.

Mr. Mohammad Shoaib Finance Minister of Pakistan

A nation or a party without ideals, above all without ideals of service and loyalty, of honesty, craftsmanship, patriotism, thrift, purity, will pay in the hard currency of tears and blood until the time comes when its old learn once more to dream dreams, and its young to see visions.

Rt. Hon. Quintin Hocc. British Member of Parliament discipline on her own party the odds are against her.

The nation today shows all the signs of disintegration—inflation, high prices, dismemberment of the Union by inter-state disputes, the beginnings of the breakdown of administration which finds itself unable to cope with the physical load of inefficiency, accident and sabotage and the seething mood of violence that threatens to break out on the smallest pretext.

The tragedy is that the group struggles and parochialism of the Congress Party is emerging as the single most important factor hastening this disintegration.

Congress Oblivious

One would have thought that with the general elections only eight months away, people dying of malnutrition and starvation in some parts of the country, the rocketing prices and intolerable scarcities of essential goods like water, kerosene and food grains, the Congress Party would have got together in a self-critical mood. This is the time to examine and admit their past failings and unitedly prepare to give the country effective leadership to meet the present challenge. Congress people, however, are in no mood for any such thing. Strangely oblivious of the critical national situation they continue to press their claims and counter-claims whether over the issue of Chandigarh, as the capital of Punjab and Hariyana, or Goa, or the so-called "disputed" border areas between Mysore and Maharashtra, or the nominations to the Legislative Council of Andhra Pradesh.

The Congress bosses are showing as much foresight as the fratricidal emperors of the declining Moghul Empire or the feuding satraps of the latter day Maratha Empire. They seem to be as ignorant of the writing on the wall.

A danger signal is the total ineffectiveness of administration when confronted by situations such as that in Gulbarga when a gangster-led mob of 25,000 could loot and plunder a train with impunity and nothing effective was done to prevent it. The culprits went largely unpunished and the "peaceful satyagrahis" who had created the situation were fined by

Under the Lens



by R. VAITHESWARAN

a considerate magistrate only Rs. 10

This paralysis of administration to deal with law breakers is of course obvious where Congressmen are concerned. I am told it was evident even in riot-torn Calcutta when left wing Communists held the city and the State Government of West Bengal to ransom for some days. Can Indian freedom survive this freebooting irresponsibility for long if the Central and State Governments are so weak-kneed about law breaking agitation and if the Congress Party High Command can be twisted and turned by every determined attempt at demonstration and violence?

Our independence has already been considerably eroded in relation to foreign powers like the United States of America and the USSR, Whatever the merits or otherwise of devaluation, the actual decision was the result of the threat to withhold economic aid if the Indian rupee was not devalued. We may sympathize with the Prime Minister in her predicament for in the situation in which the Government of India found itself there was no choice. The step was inevitable.

Economic Independence Lost

A perusal of the Bell Commission report as quoted by Mr. K. Rangaswamy in a series of articles in The Hindu of Madras is proof, if evidence were needed, that devaluation and all the steps subsequently announced by the Government of India follow closely the Bell Commission's recommendations. Our economic policy, for the time being at any rate, is being dictated by Western Powers, operating through the World Bank. This may be inevitable for the moment, but should it be so five years from now? Will we have a leadership that makes India economically viable and self-reliant enough to be

Continued on page 21

2nd Test-New Stars at Lords

From T. C./("Dickie") Dodds in London

THE SECOND TEST at Lords between England and the West Indies was full of character and incidents.

The first character was Garfield Sobers. Critics are unanimous in calling him the greatest cricketer of all time. A great batsman. In this game he scored 208 runs for once out. He bowled magnificiently in two types of bowling, fast and orthodox left arm—he didn't even try his wrist spinners. He was the outstanding fielder on either side. His captaincy was superb. With his cousin, David Holford, who made his first Test hundred, he took part in one of the great recoveries in Test cricket.

Another outstanding West Indian character was Wesley Hall. He seems to like Lords. In the 1963 Test he bowled unforgettably. In this game he took six wickets, which is as many as he had taken in all the other games on this tour.

Every ball Hall bowls is worth watching, for anything may happen. The odds are about six to one it will be a bullet-like bouncer. Whatever it is it will be fast and be followed by a look down the wicket at the batsman which seems to say that it is only by a completely unjust miracle that he has survived to receive another ball—though this of course will be his last!

Seam Bowlers Favoured

The West Indies made only one change in their team, bringing in opening bat Carew instead of Mc-Morris. So with the ground packed, and the Caribbean supporters in full voice and colourful dress, Garfield Sobers won the toss for the West Indies and decided to bat. Conrad Hunte, that bulwark of West Indian batting, began where he left off at Manchester where his hundred paved the way for victory. He hooked the fourth ball he received like a bullet to the boundary and the West Indian section of the crowd erupted with delight. The game was away. But soon there was rain and after the rain the wicket, which at Lords always favours those bowlers who use the seam, presented the West Indies batsmen with problems they know least how to combat.

On the England side there was the return of an old favourite-Tom Graveney. He made this come-back for England on his 39th birthday. He was cheered all the way to the wicket when he went in to bat and how well he responded. The years seem to have added to the grace of his batsmanship. His temperament—always said to be his weak spot—now matched his unquestioned technique. He scored 126 runs for once out in this game and should be assured of his place in the team for the rest of the series.

But perhaps the most interesting new boy in the England side was Basil D'Oliveira. D'Oliveira, born in South Africa and unable to play for that country because of apartheid, is now a naturalized Englishman and

T. C. Dodds was opening but for the Essex Country Cricket team for many seasons. Watch out for his exclusive reports on the Third Test.

a prominent member of the County champions side — Worcestershire. D'Oliveira made a good start to his Test career. He was batting beautifully when run out in so unlucky a way in the first innings.

Cowdrey's captaincy needs an imaginative plus. He has the experience, the qualifications, the ability—my, what ability he has—to be England's best Test Captain and premiere batsman. What is his lack? Perhaps only God knows. He is certainly a mystery to himself and his friends.

Two great features of a Test at Lords are the visit of Her Majesty the Queen and the crowd. Her Majesty often refers to herself as England's best change bowler. Her visits in the past have been suspected by visiting captains to be so timed as to upset the concentration of their batsman at a crucial point in the game with the resultant loss of his wicket. Never did England have more need of the Queen than when she arrived at this Test. Sobers and Holford were in the middle of their historic stand. They were turning defeat into a chance for victory. But for once Her Majesty did not succeed. Perhaps her recent happy visit to the Caribbean had given her

divided loyalties. Captain Sobers was presented to Her Majesty and in turn presented his team and then returned to continue to demolish the English attack.

The crowd for this Test at Lords was a delight. You might call them the two ends of Lords. At the pavilion end you have the types who could only be British. The conversation has to be heard to be believed. "Hullo Bungo—did you have a good Ascot?" "Not bad." "Coming North this year?" (This is for the shooting) "Hope so." "What are the partridges like?" "Well, I was talking to the farm manager who runs the shoot and he said they were a bit thin. All that wet weather and thunder storms during Ascot week. Same last year. Plenty of pheasants though. Of course they rear masses."

At the opposite side of the ground you have almost the opposite side of the world. Heading up this section was a wonderful West Indian who had made spectatorship a fine art. He participated in depth, you might say. He came in a different dress each day. Black top hat and bright Caribbean shirt. White sweater and white, though rather motheaten, flannel trousers. To help with his applause he had a bell, a rattle and an old motor hooter with three notes. He had a flag pole with a home-made Caribbean flag atop. I learned later he had a Union Jack under his seat which he would run up when he thought the home country needed encouragement.

"You Ain't Seen Nothin"

He would applaud according to the merit of the deed. "Very good" meant standing on his seat and having a go with rattle, bell and hooter and a wave of the flag. When Sobers reached his century the flag was taken down and paraded round the ground in front of the West Indian spectators like a trooping of the colour. When a recently arrived spectator looked with surprise at the applause with the hooter, his cockney neighbour said, "You ain't seen nothin' yet mate. 'E's got a bell and a rattle as well."

But both sides of Lords and all those in between were united in their passion for cricket and regarded each other with great good humour and growing understanding. Shades of

> Continued on page 14 PHOTO STORY: PAGE 2

Behind British Seamen's Strike

FROM GORDON WISE

London

Karl Marx did not invent class war. He documented it and proposed a ruthless remedy, in the name of the oppressed.

In the Seamen's strike, which is fast crippling Britain's merchant fleet, the Communists and extremists did not invent the grievances—these had existed for some time. The Left has exploited what many believe to be a just cause.

In Liverpool and some other British ports five years ago there was sizzling discontent among seamen concerning their own Union leadership which they felt to be lethargic. A "Seamen's Reform Movement" was launched. The present General Secretary, Glaswegian Bill Hogarth, has attempted to meet the "Reformists'" claims. Some of the angry militants who were running a rival movement have now been taken on to the Executive. The chief Communist spokesman, Gordon Norris, who is on the negotiating committee of the NUS, is said to have joined the Union as recently as 1961 when he came back to this country after fifteen years in Australia. I am told that Norris has the support of at least five friends on the Union Executive.

Norris seems to have close liaison with unofficial London dockers' leader, Jack Dash, also an avowed Communist. NUS General Secretary Bill Hogarth and most of the full-time officials at Maritime House are said to have little time for Norris and Co. But full-time officers must abide by the vote of the 48-man Executive.

Men on both sides have told me that this dispute was wholly avoidable. One sizeable ship owner said privately that most of the Union's demands were just. He quarrelled only with the timing of these demands. Bill Hogarth himself said before the strike began, "Of course, if we were thinking of the national interest, there would be no strike. But charity begins at home."

Some feel that a complicating factor has been the Government's intrusion, to preserve their Prices and Incomes Policy. The Prime Minister gave the impression of trying to handle it all himself at the outset and when his initial attempt failed, he was very quiet about it all for several weeks, until recently.

A country with Britain's political and industrial maturity, in debt internationally, in a struggle for economic stability, confounds her friends and gives comfort to her enemies by indulging in the luxury of this costly way of handling affairs.

Will UK Pull Back in Asia?

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Canberra

How to face the future in South and South-East Asia is the keynote of the SEATO ministerial council meeting in Canberra, the Australian capital, on June 27, 28, 29.

Discussions at the meeting of foreign ministers are expected to be as far-ranging as any so far held by the eight member nations—Australia. Britain, France, New Zealand, Pakistan, the Philippines, Thailand and the United States.

Much has happened since the SEATO meeting was arranged and, apart from the Vietnam conflict, there is the prospect of Indonesia ending its confrontation of Malaysia together with the question of Britain's future role east of Suez.

Though the British Prime Minister, Mr. Wilson, has won a four-to-one vote of confidence from the Parliamentary Labour Party for his Government's East of Suez policy, the pressure for a sharp cutback in UK commitments in this part of the world is likely to remain as a threat to his leadership.

Continued on next page

The week in Asia

SAIGON — South Vietnam devalued the piastre from 60 to 118 to the US dollar and increased pay for civil servants, teachers and the army by 25-30 per cent.

* * *

SAIGON—A terrorist shot and seriously hurt Phan Van Vien, publisher of the Chinese-language newspaper Tan Van. Vien was the third publisher to be shot in Saigon this year.

* * *

DJAKARTA—General Nasution, former Defence Minister, was elected chairman of the Indonesian People's Provisional Consultative Congress. The Congress confirmed Lieutenant General Suharto as executive head of the government.

* * *

pacca — Nine newspapers closed for one day in protest against the East Pakistan Government's seizure of the opposition daily Ittefaq's printing presses and arrest of its editor.

* * *

HUE — South Vietnam Government troops arrested extremist Buddhist leader Thich Tri Quang, who is on a hunger strike, and flew him to Saigon.

* * *

temporarily closed the border crossing into this British colony. The move was believed to be to prevent the escape of intellectuals and youth from the current purges.

* * *

BAGHDAD— ran Premier Bazzaz ordered the freeing of 15 Kurdish rebel chiefs on bail as a goodwill gesture as a Kurdish delegation arrived for talks. The Kurds are in rebellion against the Iraq Government.

* * *

KARACHI — Pakistan Commerce Minister Faruque said he was "pretty convinced" sterling would be devalued. He has just attended a Commonwealth Trade Ministers' Conference in London.

* * *

RANGOON — All Burma's banks will be managed from July 1 by a single "People's Bank" reported the Working People's Daily.

* * *

RAWALPINDI — Pakistan and Afghanistan signed an agreement to build the first rail link between the two countries. The 17-mile stretch of line will be built with US aid.

FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

The possibility that Singapore may not always be available to Britain as a base also has to be considered and is already the subject of contingency planning.

While for economic reasons Britain would like to pull back to the other side of Aden, on the other hand, she is known to be increasingly concerned about Communist China.

While the British Foreign Secretary, Mr. Stewart, is unlikely to present any hard and fast policy on China to the meeting, he is expected to pose whether China can be contained by some form of neutral alliance.

The British are looking for a counter-poise which will prevent Communist China from winning through in South-East Asia by aggression and subversion.

In considering this problem, SEATO planners surely will have in mind the importance of ensuring that strongly democratic governments and institutions flourish in China's neighbouring states, particularly in the Indian sub-continent.

They must also realize that the will to preserve freedom and territorial integrity is far more important that neutralism, which can so easily leave the door open to subversion and take-over.

Tokyo Citizens Repay Indian Gift

FROM FUЛКО Напа Ток

About 3½ million yen (Rs. 72,000) is to go to India as a "friendship donation" from the citizens of Taito, one of Tokyo's 23 wards, towards famine relief. The cheque will be delivered by Dr. Shiroshi Nasu, former Ambassador to India and presently President of the Japanese Council of the Curent International Campaign for

Freedom from Hunger, to Prime

Minister Indira Gandhi.

The money was raised in two months by the citizens of Taito Ward when the news of India's food conditions and famine reached them. The local Assembly unanimously passed a resolution to conduct a donation drive and asked neighbour-

hood associations to co-operate. This contribution will express their gratitude for the kindness of Indian people almost 20 years ago.

The episode goes back to 1949. After the defeat of war, the future seemed dark for Japan's children. Under the auspices of the Ward Assembly a children's mock senate was organized and the child senators decided there should be something to cheer the children and that it should be an elephant at the Ueno Zoo. In those days there were hard-

ly any animals in the zoo except the domesticated donkeys, and goats.

This wish was conveyed to the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru whose kindness made the dream come true for the children. A female elephant arrived at the zoo and she was named Indira after Nehru's daughter.

The elephant, Indira, now 32, is as lively as ever. Weighing four tons, she is more than twice the size when she arrived and is loved by all the children.

Who Is Behind Chinese Purges?

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Hong Kong

The other day I stood looking across the Hong Kong border into Communist China. I had done it many times before but this time as I looked through the binoculars at the large village several miles distant I noticed something different. The side of one of the tall narrow buildings had five huge Chinese characters painted in red from top to bottom. They said, in this order, "MAO CHAIRMAN TEN THOUSAND YEARS OF LIFE" which means "LONG LIVE CHAIRMAN MAO!"

A few blocks away the side of a similar building also had a string of red characters but they were closer together and the building at more of an angle so my glasses could not pick them out. But if they were like other such couplets reported in the Hong Kong press this week from the Chinese Mainland it would be "LONG LIVE MARSHAL LIN PIAO!" And that, of course, indicates that the power struggle taking place in Peking over a thousand miles away has reached into the farthest corner of the country.

The Chinese press here has been speculating on the present purges and their inner meaning. The dismissal of the Mayor of Peking and of leading men in the Peking and Nanking Universities is, they suggest, only an outward sign of a struggle still higher up in the Party. These newspapers could not agree on which leading member in the Communist Party is aimed at but most believe that it is Mr. Liu Shaochi, the chief theoretician of the Chinese Communist Party and leader of the intellectuals. He has always been considered the heirapparent to Mao and he is also the Chairman of the People's Republic of China. If these speculations are true, then the dismissal of Peng Chen, the Mayor of Peking, who is one of Liu's men, is more than a straw in

the wind. It is a branch of the tree broken off in a storm.

Lin Piao, being Defence Minister, naturally has the power of the People's Liberation Army behind him and no "opposition party" could get anywhere in such a State if the Army is on the other side. It seems that this struggle between the intellectuals and the "establishment" may also be the climax of a long clash between the "architects" of the disastrous Great Leap Forward and those who for some years now have been saying, "We told you so!"

The latest news is that this great purge was ordered by Mao Tse-tung who wants to eradicate the so-called bourgeois thinking among the scholars and intellectual class who think they are better than the workers and the peasants. He wants to replace this "bourgeois ideology" with a "proletarian ideology". It is possibly true that many of the intellectuals have been inclined towards Russian thinking and so have been labelled "revisionists" which is the worst that can be said of anybody in China today.

It is noticeable within the past weeks that the Party's newspaper, People's Daily, which usually takes the lead in denouncing alleged enemies of the Party has not done so. Significantly this role has been taken over by the Liberation Army Daily which in mid-April jumped into the fray with the comment that ever since the Chinese People's Republic

FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

was established in 1949, "an antiparty line has existed in literary and art circles, a black anti-Socialist thread that runs counter to Mao Tsetung's thinking". It appears now that some of those enemies were the editors of various leading newspapers and magazines because they have just been purged.

One cannot help thinking that this purge is a continuation of the one begun after the "Hundred Flowers" campaign of 1957 and that Chairman Mao is ensuring that Mainland China

does not go the way of Soviet Russia. To have the Defence Minister as his heir-apparent rather than an intellectual would, in his thinking, ensure the purity and permanence of the orthodox Communism for which he has given his life. Reports from the Mainland also state that Lin Piao's picture is more and more being displayed alongside Mao's. It is being said of Lin that he is the only person in China who has "creatively applied the thought of Mao Tse-tung". He is certainly regarded as the driving force among Party leaders in pushing the present na-tion-wide emphasis on the study of the thinking of Mao.

Jumbo Jets May Eclipse Liners

FROM OLIVER CORDEROY

Londo

Whatever our gyrations in space with Moon landings and communication satellites it is life on the ocean wave that is being thought about very closely by European shipbuilders. The problem is real and serious.

World transportation is developing a new look. The coveted Blue Riband for the Atlantic run is not on the masthead of an ocean liner but in the cockpit of a jet. The introduction of economy-class air fares and long range jets has given a great heave forward to air traffic.

The most extreme view held by shipbuilders (and the current view of the Cunard Company) is that "ships are no longer a means of transport" and that for shipping the North Atlantic route may collapse altogether, in the face of the coming competition from the Jumbo Jets.

The future is not as dark as that. A clearer answer can be given when the medical research into the damage that fast jetting across the longitudes does to businessmen's constitutions is completed. A new fashion may be started in which both ships and planes are needed. The "done thing" on the North Atlantic route may be to jet out and ship back. But the point worrying Europeans is that the jets may all be American and the passenger and cargo carrying ships all Japanese. America and Japan at present dominate the world market in aeroplane and ship construction.

Up till about twelve months ago European shipbuilding get-togethers were informal, and often rather secretive, affairs. American and Japanese competition is changing this. The Association of West European Shipbuilders met in Venice recently. And at the beginning of July they are due to confer, as a more formal association, with a Japanese shipbuilding delegation in Copenhagen.

All the major shipyards of Western Europe for several years now have been exploring what joint action can do to recover their business. The dangers of mere price competition have been clearly shown up during the last couple of years. And during the last three years the Japanese industry has gone on securing an ever greater share of the world market. At bottom the Japanese success is founded on productivity. Government support and marginally lower wage rates have been the contributing factors.

During the last few years a delegation from Britain, Denmark and France went to Japan. They were set for tough talk about quotas and minimum price agreements. It does not seem to have worked. Japan continued expanding her shipbuilding industry on an even larger scale. The hard truth is that work and work alone, productivity and productivity alone, efficiency and efficiency alone, is what will work whether in Asia or in Europe.

The week in India

NEW DELHI — Prices have risen by up to 50 per cent in food and other consumer goods since devaluation, according to a UNI survey.

* * *

SHILLONG — Widespread floods in
Assam and North Bengal breached
highways and held up air traffic. Air
Force planes flew supplies to isolated
districts. 800,000 people were reported affected in Cachar district in
the worst floods ever.

HYDERABAD—Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi said the next six months would be "very delicate and dark" for India and that Government alone could not solve the economic crisis. People must realize that "they alone can help India tide over the coming critical months".

* * *

POONA — Police arrested 40 shop-keepers for disobeying orders not to raise prices of essential goods.

CHANDIGARH — Punjab Chief Minister Ram Kishan resigned, following a phone call from Union Home Minister Nanda, to pave the way for President's rule pending the division of the Punjab next October.

TRIVANDRUM — Over four million Kerala children were affected by a strike of 125,000 primary and secondary school teachers demanding better pay.

* * *

MADRAS — Eleven cargo ships, including wheat ships, were held up by a three-day strike of 4000 dockers.

TIRUPATI — Chief Ministers of Mysore, Andhra, Madras and Maharashtra urged the formation of a national plan to rehabilitate the 100,000-square mile famine-affected area extending into their four states.

CALCUTTA — The Indian National Union of Seamen decided on a one-day boycott of British ships (except those carrying food and war material) to support the British seamen's strike. The all-India Port Workers' Federation also voted a boycott.

NEW DELHI — Prime Minister Mrs. Gandhi will leave on July 8 to visit the UAR and Yugoslavia before going to Moscow on July 12.

GULBARGA — A mob of 25,000 people stopped and looted the Raichur-Poona passenger train. This was one of many demonstrations in Mysore State against the proposed one-man commission to solve the boundary dispute with Maharashtra.

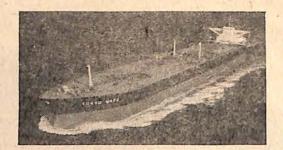


CHOU'S HARD LINE

BUCHAREST—Chinese Prime Minister Chou En-lai, on an eight-day official visit to Rumania, described the current Chinese purge as a "cultural revolution". Its aim, he said, was to prevent the return of capitalism and to "liquidate entirely... all the old ideas, the entire old culture, all the old habits and customs created by the exploiting classes in the course of thousands of years to poison the people." The Rumanians welcomed Chou rousingly, but reportedly had little time for his hard revolutionary line.

TITO "DEMOCRATIZES"

BELGRADE-President Tito summoned Yugoslav Communist leaders to discuss proposals to separate the Party from the Government and give real power to national and provincial elected assemblies. Under the proposed measures, no full-time Communist official could hold a government or administrative appointment. Describing this proposal as "the surrender of the levers of power by an entrenched ruling class of privileged functionaries", Communist affairs expert Edward Crankshaw, wrote in the London Observer, "Its implications for the Communist world in general are quite beyond the imagination at this stage."



This picture shows the world's largest oil tanker, Tokyo Maru, of 150,000 tons, which was launched three months ago. She requires a crew of 29, while 40,000-ton tankers formerly required a crew of 40. Japan is now building six 300,000-ton tankers for the Gulf Oil Co.

FRENCH FINGER IN V'NAM

salGON—The US Government suspects French agents of subsidizing at least one Buddhist, pro-neutral faction opposing the Ky military regime, say reports from Washington. France maintains considerable commercial interests in her former colony, and French support for a neutralist solution in Vietnam is well-known.

FREE STATE IN S. AFRICA

LONDON—Basutoland, the British protectorate inside South Africa, will become independent on October 4, a constitutional conference here decided. The new country

(population 641,000 in 1956) will be called Lesotho. Basuto Opposition parties walked out of the conference saying its conclusions had all been agreed in advance by the UK and the Basuto governing party of Chief Leabua Jonathan. They threatened to internationalize their case.

SPANISH ACCOLADE

MADRID—A packed Spanish audience registered their approval for "Sing-Out '66" by wildly waving their handkerchiefs—an honour reserved normally for outstanding bullfighters. The Moral Re-Armament musical, on its way back to the US after its European tour, was performed twice in the Spanish capital as part of the 1966 "Festival of Spain". One performance was broadcast by the National Radio.

SECOND TEST -from page 8

race disturbances at Notting Hill have long passed.

One incident brought the house down. When Sobers got his hundred, four West Indians invaded the pitch and hoisted Sobers off the ground. About three hours later Milburn completed his fine century for England. At once four Englishmen appeared from the Tavern complete with glasses of beer and tried to emulate the feat only to be thwarted by Milburn's immense weight.

Milburn is the most improbable looking cricketer. He is a short man and weighs over 17 stone. He comes from the North East of England where men are noted for their character and earthiness. He is a phenomenon in English cricket because he seems to enjoy batting. He actually grins and smiles whilst he is at it. This enjoyment is inevitably communicated to the spectators. So his 126 not out which included a huge six in the eighties and another-a hook off a Hall bouncer in the nineties-heightened and lightened the final two hours of this great test match for which a draw was the fairest result.

It can never have been like this in Grace's day-or even Hobbs'. In fact it is unlikely Lords or England will ever be quite the same again.

IDEAL COOKING MEDIUM







First Prize

India & Pakistan Need Each Other for Economic Progress

By A. N. Dutta, Calcutta 19

THE PEOPLE FROM all corners of India and Pakistan had welcomed the historic Tashkent Declaration with the hope that peace would be restored henceforth. People are concerned with the peace more for trade than politics. Keeping aside the question of political peace, in which my knowledge is very limited, I would like to emphasize on the restoration of peace for better trading conditions between these two countries which is the best and easiest way of solving, to some extent, the alarming state of affairs in the internal economy of these countries.

The jute mills in West Bengal had to close for one week and this could have been avoided if no time was lost in restoring the normal trade. The news that the jute workers had to lose their pay is perhaps known to a very few amongst us. Even now it is quite uncertain whether the trade will resume, for India's unilateral decision will remain an empty gesture if the other side does not equally respond. Can Pakistan deny that the suspension of trade and economic relations has not hurt them too? This is apparent from the cry of Eastern Pakistan people for implementation of Tashkent Declaration, especially for the restoration of trade between West Bengal and Eastern Pakistan.

United in Suffering

In absence of the main source of power i.e. coal, the industries in Pakistan have been suffering to a great extent. Fish is quite surplus in Eastern Pakistan and Calcutta city alone was consuming the bulk during the days of free trade.

The above picture undoubtedly establishes the fact that resumption of trade and better economic relations will be a good beginning of the reversal of a tragic end. Restoration of communications is another aspect in which action has to be taken. Apart from the general inconvenience caused by the ban on

movement between two countries, thousands of people on both sides of the border are faced with unemployment because of the suspension of steamer services through Eastern Pakistan.

In the murky atmosphere political leaders of both the countries appear to forget that for all their differences, their people remain united in suffering, if not in joy. The drought and the flood that hit India did not spare Pakistan. The recent food agitation in West Bengal has an echo in Eastern Pakistan today.

Let there be a fresh agreement of Trade which will undoubtedly help to a great extent the betterment of economic conditions of the general people of India and Pakistan.

Second Prize TRADE BRINGS FRIENDSHIP

By R. Sampath, Madras 4
In a thought-provoking analysis of

the impact of partition, Prof. C. N. Vakil says in his book, "Economic Consequences of Divided India", that the economies of India and Pakistan have been more complementary than those of India and the erstwhile princely states. He has said the political decision to divide the country has overlooked the economic repercussions, from which both the two are suffering now. There is perceptible overlapping of production and consequent competition, which they can judiciously avoid in the interests of their own collective prosperity. The political tussles over Kashmir have all along been given an overriding importance in place of economic collaboration, which is more important. The effect of this animosity is the economic instability of this region.

Recently, the Pakistan Government promulgated an ordinance prohibiting the import of 'tendu' leaves from

COMPETITION

* What should be India's new role in Asia?

Closing date: July 8

** Will devaluation benefit India's economy?

Closing date: July 22

Prizes: Rs. 25, Rs. 15

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

India. The leaves are the basic raw material for the bidi industry in East Pakistan. On account of this ban Pakistan had to import the leaves from other producing countries like Indonesia; this was costlier than importing them from India. This is a clear case of politics playing havoc on economics. Likewise, the cost of transport of tea from Assam to West Bengal has become prohibitive on account of the difficulties in transporting it through the inland water canals in East Pakistan.

Because much of the jute growing land went to East Pakistan after partition, India had to take up the luxury of growing jute in paddy lands, at the cost of essential foodgrains. Had there been an economic co-ordination machinery for India and Pakistan, these distressing situations would not have arisen. Such instances prove that there is a great scope for Indo-Pakistani joint ventures.

Division of Labour

When we speak of joint projects with countries like Yugoslavia, should it be difficult to have similar enterprises with our neighbour, Pakistan?

The principle of international division of labour can be very profitably applied in this case. As Rajaji says, "What has to be achieved is the growth of friendship; and for this a firm economic root is a sine qua non. The removal of all trade barriers and the adjustment of commodity production in the two countries, so as to make each a source of supply as well as, at the same time, a market for the other's requirements is what will bind the two countries and the two peoples together. Friendship grows out of mutual dependence replacing competing economic interests."



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ON THE Spot

"Hitting centuries is such fun," says Ashok Mankad

Five years ago he had won the J. C. Mukherjee Prize for the outstanding school cricketer. Today, at 20, he is on the threshold of greater laurels.

Critics had begun to see him as a real test-prospect when in the Bombay school tournament he scored 340 not out (in 4½ hours) in the first match, 325, 258 and 131 in successive matches. When hardly 15 years of age he hit a century in only 61 minutes—a school record in India not yet broken.

Among the present young cricket players of India, Ashok Mankad, the eldest son of cricketer Vinoo Mankad, is by far the most adventurous and aggressive. He scores runs brightly and speedily. He may not yet spin as prodigiously and cleverly as his father did, but he shows promise also as a bowler. He is reliable as a fielder and he has the knack of welding his colleagues into a team.

Being the son of a world-class cricket player, your childhood dream must have been to follow in his footsteps?

"I am afraid not. Though my father was my hero-player yet, as a child, I never thought seriously of following his profession of cricket. He, too, never encouraged me to take to cricket seriously. But when I did, in my school days, it was he who gave me my first cricket lessons and helped me in all the important stages of my development."

Very Strict Father

Is he satisfied with your progress? "It's strange, but he never expresses his satisfaction or showers his praises, as far as I am concerned. He has a fine, dry sense of humour, but becomes very strict with me when I either fail to follow his instructions or appear shabbily on the ground. The knowledge that success at cricket is the result of continuous learning and perfection has been instilled in me. In the begin-

ning I used to be rather afraid of pace bowling. He taught me to face pace bowling by tying strings to my legs and pulling them whenever I tried to flinch."

Still he regards cricket as fun and a never-ending challenge. "Up to the age of 13, I used to play cricket only for fun with a tennis ball. The narrow lanes were my field, and crude wooden sticks my bat. I faced a cricket ball only when I was accidentally asked to play in a school match against St. Sebastian's, since a regular player was absent. I scored 20 and took 3 wickets in that first match of my life. I was pretty thrilled."

Next year Ashok took another step along the trail. After being coached by his father at the Hindu Gymkhana nets, he began to take part in Harris Shield and Giles Shield matches. He started to score centuries.

Through the Window

What did you feel at the end of the day when you scored 340 not out?

"It was an exhilarating feeling. It was just one of those wonderful days when everything comes naturally and easily to a batsman being in form. I didn't have a care in the world. The only time I felt a little worried was when I hit a four straight at a passing bus, breaking windowpanes and generally frightening the passengers. The evening papers called it a 'sputnik hit'."

After sampling school cricket, Ashok turned to University cricket when he joined St. Xavier's College, Bombay. Bombay University straight away named him skipper of the University Team in 1964-65.

In inter-college cricket he hit three successive double centuries. In zonal cricket he hit 91 against Central Zone, 100 against East Zone and 151 against Southern Zone in the finals.

At the age of only 17 Ashok play-



ed for the national championship in the Ranji Trophy matches. "My best knock was for Bombay against Maharashtra at Satara in 1961, when I made 71 on a tricky matting wicket. In my first year in Ranji matches I had my little moment of glory when Wadeker and I broke the seventh wicket partnership record held by my father and Ramchand."

You think you will be able to excel him, or even emulate him one day?

His smiling face became serious suddenly. "My father is inimitable. I don't think I will ever be able to reach his heights, despite my efforts—mental and physical. My youngest brother, Rahul, who is only 9, may be able to emulate him because his style of bowling and batting is similar to my father's."

Some critics think that in the coming years you may shine more as a bowler than as a batsman, like your father. What do you think?

"I don't know. In the beginning I fancied myself as a medium pace bowler but later spin fascinated me. One thing, however, is true. Taking wickets gives me more thrill than scoring runs."

Rather Superstitious

What sort of career would you like to carve for yourself?

"I intend to go either to the UK or the USA to take an MBA degree in Business Administration and join some reputed firm after that."

As I was about to leave Ashok said, "Though I like to play a modern game like cricket, still at heart I am rather old-fashioned and very superstitious. When going to bat I always put on my left pad first and always put on the old clothes when I have to bat the following day."

H. M. Sharma





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LETTERS

THE MARRIAGE SEASON

I read with interest the article on "The Marriage Season" by Shri Rajmohan Gandhi (HIMMAT, June 3). Really, marriages-particularly those of daughters-are a nightmare to the poor and middle-class parents. In this poor India of ours we still see the grisly monster of dowry haunting us. The evil of dowry is luxuriantly flourishing at the behest of the so-called educated people. The higher a man climbs the educational ladder, the larger the amount he demands, as dowry. Ironically enough, these people put the blame on their parents. I, as an unmarried post-graduate student, would like to make it clear that if the parents are recalcitrant and cannot be persuaded not to take dowry, the youth must defy them. To stamp out any social evil, rebellion against society is needed. This is a challenge to the youth to arise and awake and be bold. They must note that cowardice is sin.

Of prodigal spending on marriages, I would say that we must go for registered marriages. Such an austere step in the place of costly conventional ceremony is essential to the poor and the middle-class, in particular. The common man, standing precariously on the quagmire of superstition, celebrates the marriage of his son or daughter in this conventional way and in the process incurs debt.

C. DAYAKAR*

Ramachandrapuram, Andhra

THE DOWRY SYSTEM

Mr. Rajmohan Gandhi in his article "The Marriage Season" has rightly condemned the colossal waste and the artificiality of the marriage ceremonies at present practised in India.

I wish to raise an issue which Mr. Gandhi did not emphasize and which is perhaps the most unfortunate of all legacies of the past-"The Dowry System". Under this system, extensively practised, now driven underground by legislation, marriage has been converted into a business transaction wherein the dignity of the individual has become subservient to money. It is a subject most talked about, but least has been done about it. The onus of perpetuation of this system lies entirely with the menfolk who have not stood against this commercial transaction which is as disgraceful as purchasing a girl in the slave-market. But under the pretext of customs and traditions, it has assumed respectability.

Now, what can the younger generation do about it? The most elementary and most effective step is that the educated man refuses to be a party to an alliance which incorporates the "dowry" as part of the marriage ceremony. This is not to preclude the acceptance of gifts out of affection and voluntarily.

It would put a stop to that undue exploitation of the bridegroom's party fleecing the bride's party.

NATESAN SUBRAMANIAN*
Calcutta 29

* Two readers share this week's Rs. 10 prize.

ABSURD VIEW ON RUSSIA

Seldom have I seen a more inaccurate and absurd premise than the one advanced by Padmaja Kulkarni in her second prize essay on the topic "Is one party rule necessary for developing countries?" (HIMMAT, March 11). She begins her article with the rhetorical question "Who in his right senses can deny that Russia has achieved in less than 50 years what it took the UK and the USA over 500 years to achieve!" The question reveals an incredible ignorance of what Russia was before the revolution, and an equal ignorance as to how she has progressed since.

It was my fortune to be in Moscow just a week after the Communists had captured the city in 1917, and I can assure Miss Kulkarni that what they took over was a very civilized and advanced country. We came to Moscow via the trans-Siberian railway which had the most comfortable and luxurious coaches I have ever travelled in, even up to the present. The cities of Russia were on a par with those anywhere in Europe, broad avenues, paved streets, pure running water, electric lights, department stores, huge textile and other factories, telephones, telegraph and so on. The picture of Russia as a primitive undeveloped wilderness is totally mistaken. The industrial revolution was well under way, and progressing rapidly.

Again there is a vast difference between buying an automobile factory as the Communists did from the Ford company, and the gradual painful invention of the automobile and the development of the assembly line system.

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

There are other facts that should moderate her enthusiasm for Russian progress such as (1) the Russian gross national product today is a smaller proportion of that of the USA than it was in 1914; (2) democratically run Japan and Puerto Rico have both progressed much more rapidly than has totalitarian Russia since World War II; (3) before the Communization of the farms Russia always exported millions of bushels of corn. Now it has to import even more

And finally she describes the totalitarian system as being one that is "untroubled by conflicts between rival factions, by ideological differences". Where has she been living that she has not heard of the millions sent to concentration camps and hundreds of thousands "liquidated" in Russia, or of the tens of millions massacred in China by the Communists? The simple fact is that people produce more and advance more rapidly when they have dignity and freedom than they do under a reign of terror.

(DR.) JOHN ELDER Waverly, Ohio, USA

BEGGAR NUISANCE

Beggary in our country is becoming rampant. Laws, if any, to abolish beggary or reform beggars seem to have achieved little. A survey conducted recently at Madras has revealed that some of the beggars are well placed and are pursuing beggary as a profession. Their earnings sometimes are startling. Beggars need better care and they can be reformed. It is unfortunate that they tend to appear a public nuisance.

V. R. SUBBACHAR

Bangalore 1



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"Science has produced no man of more rich and varied attainments, more versatile in genius, more indefatigable in application to all kinds of learning, more energetic in action or more ardent in enquiry."

So runs one obituary of this "paunchy little German" whose heart was as big as his brain.

He was early attracted to travel by hearing at first hand about Captain Cook's voyages. After several attempts to form expeditions, he and a French friend, Bonpland, got permission from the Spanish king to travel in South America, Mexico and Cuba. They left Corunna in 1799 and covered 6000 miles in five years. Nothing escaped his notice. His fields of enquiry included the geography of plants and animals, meteorology, geology, the earth's magnetism, sociology and Aztec and Inca civilizations. They explored the Orinoco basin and the volcanoes of the Andes. He got nearly to the top of Mt. Chimborazo (21,470 feet).

On his return he settled in Paris where cultural life was livelier than in his native Berlin. The next twenty-three years were spent in preparing the text, maps and illustrations for the thirty volumes of his American travels undertaken at his own expense.

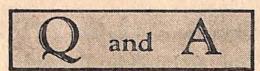
SERVICE TO SCIENCE

He lived in a sparsely-furnished flat, using his table for calculations. When it was full he got a carpenter to plane off the surface and started again!

In 1827 he was recalled to Berlin. His wide experience of mining in Prussia and Mexico made him curlous to visit the mines of the Urals and Siberia. He was allowed to enter Russia on condition he avoided politics. He was feted everywhere. The government accepted his suggestions for improving the mines.

The ideas of the French Revolution had always appealed to him. He ardently advocated democratic institutions. As Chamberlain to two Prussian kings, he was involved in more politics than he wished. His 'Political Essay on the Spanish Kingdoms' had incurred displeasure of the authorities by its outspoken condemnation of the treatment of Indian slaves in Mexico.

When the King of Hanover dismissed seven Gottingen professors for political reasons, Humboldt found them places elsewhere. In 1848, he headed a procession of Berlin citizens during the 1848 risings. It was said of him that he was ever a friend of mankind.



Q - What is a spoonerism?

HARINAKSHI, Hyderabad 28 A—Named after the Rev. W. A. Spooner, a spoonerism is the accidental transposition of the initial letters of two or more words.

For example, "He has received a blushing crow" instead of a "crushing blow".

You can spend quite some time in this exercise inventing your own spoonerisms, or when you get excited, unwittingly utter them.

Q—India is a big country. People belonging to different states, in the name of linguism, are quarrelling like shareholders of an estate. Why?

SYED ZIA MUJTHADI,

A—In many cases people are genuinely worked up emotionally on the subject. Leaders, instead of leading and educating the public, fan these

to. They cash in on this genuine feeling of people to make a name and find a place for themselves.

emotions, whatever party they belong

While in many cases there is genuine love of one's language and culture, there is also, in many cases, the hard selfishness that seeks more posts, positions and power. It is pin-head jingoism manipulated by unscrupulous politicians that is threatening the nation.

UNDER THE LENS—from page 7 independent of such drastic pressures?

While economic considerations have thus made us subject to Western dictation, geo-political considerations have made us subject to Soviet pressures. No step may be taken by the Government of India which directly or indirectly hurts the Soviet Union.

This dictatorship has become so ridiculous that it extends even into the cultural field. For example, anything in the least suggestive of offence to the USSR in any of our films has to be cut out. Everyone knows that the James Bond film shown in Bombay for the first time with the title, "From Russia with Love" had to be changed during its second run to "From 007 with Love". The decision as to whether "Dr. Zhivago" can be screened in India has been referred by the Censor Board to the Prime Minister. Only she can decide such an important matter.

A Moral Re-Armament film that speaks of "Hitler's insanities and Stalin's brutalities" is required to cut Q — Do you really think that the posts of governors are essential?

N. C. VEERACHARI, Hyderabad 4. A—No. They are not. Old politicians like old soldiers only fade away. Governorship is an ingenious, though expensive, device to encourage this process. Occasionally a vigorous holder takes office and may use it as a stepping stone.

After independence the Governor's office lost its importance. The centre of political gravity has shifted from the Governor to the Chief Minister and his cabinet. The ornamental functions of opening the legislatures, entertaining foreign and Indian guests, presiding at social functions remains.

To permit Governors to do this, there are in most Raj Bhavans an inordinately large retinue of servants and lackeys. Mrs. Vijayalakshmi Pandit, who was Governor of Maharashtra, said that her place had such a large staff that some servants hardly reported once or twice in a week (and obviously nobody missed them). Their main interest, she said, was not service, but the appointment of their relatives to jobs of ease.

A useful purpose the Governor can serve, if he is able, is to advise the Chief Minister and his cabinet, but the advice of our governors is not often sought and seldom welcomed. All said and done, it will save a crore or two of public funds if the office of governor were abolished.

ANY QUESTIONS? SEND THEM TO Q & A, HIMMAT.

out "Stalin's brutalities". Obviously the news of de-Stalinization has not yet reached the Indian Film Censor Board. Indian people do not have even the freedom that was permitted by Khrushchev to his own people!

Thus externally our freedom to decide has been eroded considerably by our economic and foreign policies. Internally, every pressure group with its demands, legitimate or otherwise, feels it can bring the Government to heel. This happened with the Bengal Bundh and is happening with the Mysore-Maharashtra agitation. The Congress Party has so far proved incapable of withstanding these pressures.

Can Mrs. Gandhi attain a stature in the nation and in the party that will enable her to be strong and independent both with regard to the party and the nation? If she does she will need a lot of help from independent and right thinking people from every political party. If she does not, and no one else does, India may lose her independence either to a foreign power or to a national tyrant.

She Needs a Larger Team

APPARENTLY some politicians are in lament that Indira Gandhi cannot be controlled.

May this lament grow louder and more frequent. India wants an Indira as independent and forthright as possible.

Politics, they say, is a special art. And I am informed that the art lies in making the right deals at the right time with the right people.

Some men thought they had made a perfect deal when, with their support, Indira got the country's most powerful job. They didn't know the woman they were dealing with.

Not a Showpiece

There are a number of reasons why Indira will not be a prisoner or a showpiece.

One, she does not respond to being told what to do. Her temperament and training go against that.

Two, she is more popular than those who would want to regulate her. They need her more than she needs them. The masses go for her. Anyone's doubts about this should have been removed by the spectacular welcome Indira received in Hyderabad, Warangal, Vijayawada and Visakhapatnam in a span of three days.

Three, though she is happy to have power, retaining that power is not her chief motive in life. If she lost the Premiership there are more than half a dozen satisfying jobs she could take on in its place.

Puts Country First

Four, she is clear that she would choose country if faced with a choice between party and country. She knows that advancing the nation requires more than the perpetuation of Congress power.

Five, she has the full backing of her ablest Cabinet Ministers in her desire to be rid of the shackles of falsely-interpreted tradition, whether handed down by a distant past or a recent one. Her

By Rajmohan Gandhi

speeches—which have sincerity's ring—leave the impression that she is interested in national production, not in proving or disproving dogmas about private and public sectors.

Indira would like responsible men to make a realistic assessment of where we are, even if it is painful to the national pride. She does not try to lull the people into a false confidence about the present. And fortunately she avoids the temptation of promising a rosy future round the corner.

Sees Buoyant India

Yet her realism is not pessimism. She has a vision of a bright and buoyant India, and a comprehension of what would be required of millions of Indians to bring that vision to birth.

What she lacks is a larger team sharing her outlook and commitment. Such a team is needed in Parliament, in the civil service, in education, in fact in everybody of power or influence in all our towns and villages.

Without a reliable network of this kind that goes into action with her, Indira's forthrightness and decisiveness will not be enough.

Crooks' Field Day

Take the Maharashtra-Mysore war for instance. The PM, we are told, is determined not to evade the issue. She wants a decision made, and then she wants to stick to it.

Meanwhile there is fasting, killing, burning and looting over the issue. Crooks, whipping up and exploiting the real feelings of simple folk, have a field day. The public is inconvenienced in work and travel. The world mocks our "solidarity" and "oneness"—and our "peace-loving", "non-violent"

Where are the Maharashtrian and Mysorean statesmen? They have got to speak up now and put a stop to this madness. And direct the thoughts and energies of men and women along more urgent and important channels.

No decision in New Delhi will now please both sides in the Maharashtra-Mysore dispute. On the other hand, a decision by both sides to postpone the boundary redrawing will please the whole nation instantly.

Is it too much to ask Naik and Nijalingappa to work out a joint solution even at this stage? If it is, we might as well seek out the spirit of Winston Churchill and say to it: "You were right. India is not one nation. As you predicted we are on our way to becoming dozens of little countries."

Army of Dedication

If we are generous with one another within the country we will find ourselves tougher when it comes to resisting an outside invader. The reverse is equally true. Harshness towards one another will prepare our soil beautifully for division, treachery and sell-out during a foreign invasion.

An army across India of men with dedication, common sense and love of the whole country is a target that has eluded our land for centuries. But I honestly feel that this has been so because not enough people have worked hard enough long enough to achieve it.

Well Tried or Well Done?

Such an army should be the people's gift to Indira. Looking at it from another angle, it could also be Indira's gift to the people. For she—like anyone else—can learn the secret of creating around her a growing band of a new breed of Indian.

If she does, she will have the human means of achieving the aims she so earnestly sets out before the country—of unity, affluence and equality. If she does not raise or receive such a national team, history will say well tried rather than well done.

There is a difference between the two.

THE DICTATORS SLIPPERS by PETER HOWARD

HIS DISEASE WAS DEADLY. IT WAS CONTAGIOUS. I BECAME HIS ONLY LINK WITH THE WORLD. I DID MY BEST TO KEEP HIM ALIVE, I KNEW MY OWN LIFE DEPENDED ON IT. I THOUGHT THE SUCCESS OF THE REVOLUTION DEPENDED ON IT. ADAMANT WAS A TRUE REVOLUTIONARY HE WAS READY TO LEARN NEW THINGS. IN HIS WILL HE DID SOMETHING NEVER DONE BEFORE

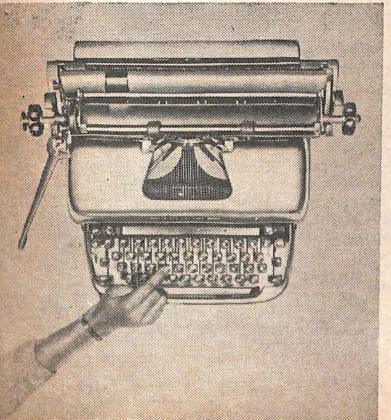








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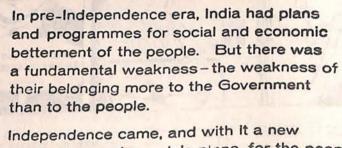
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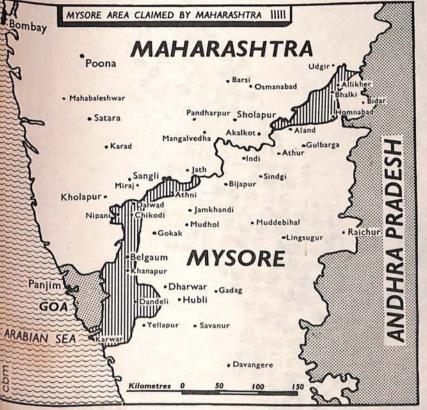
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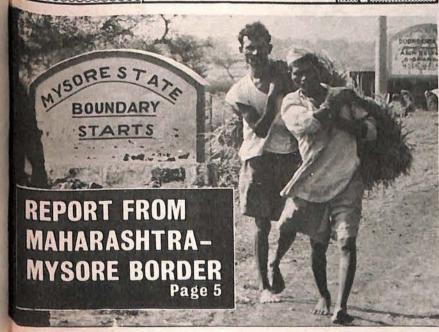
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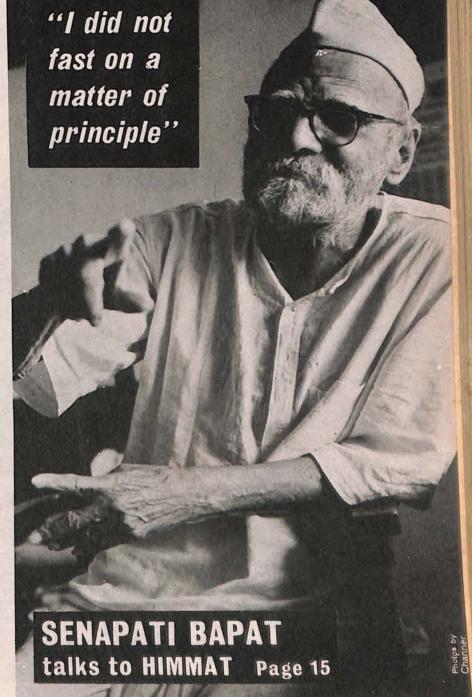
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Under the Lens:

THE COMMON MAN'S BURDENS

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