

# HIMMAT

WEEKLY 35p

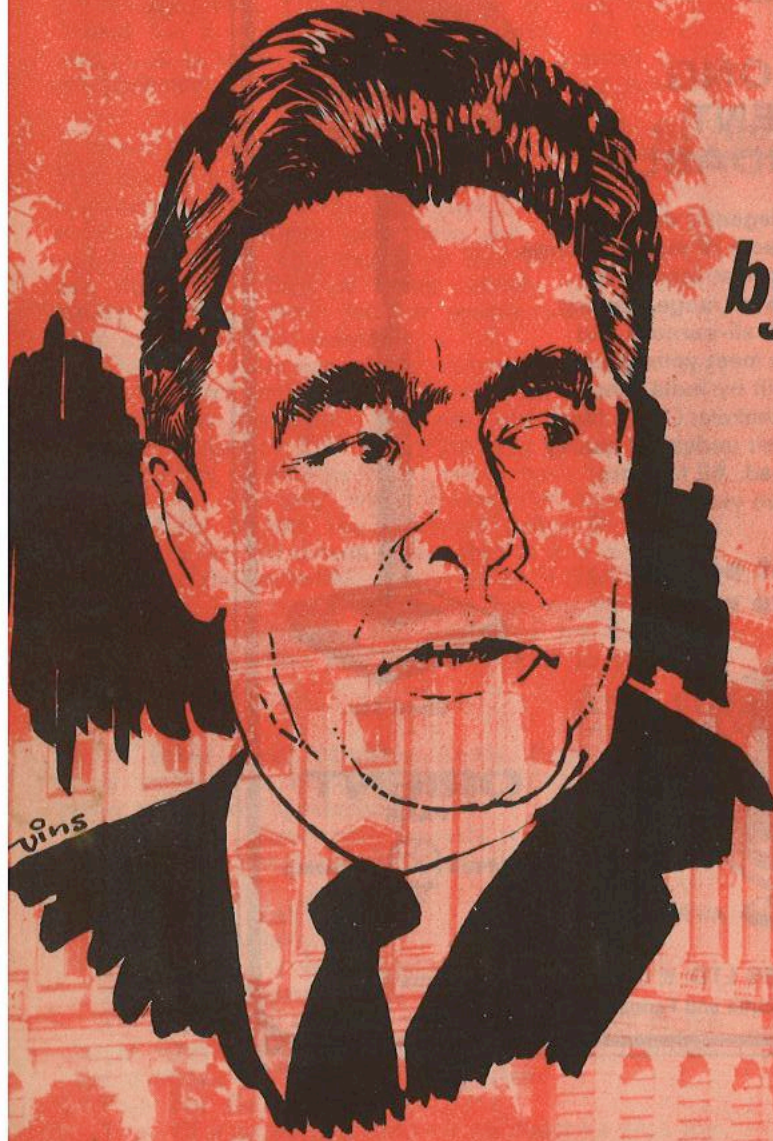
VOL 9 NO 34

ASIA'S VOICE

FRIDAY JUNE 22 1973

## *Comrade B in America*

*by Rajmohan Gandhi*



**Mr Brezhnev: and Lenin's ghost**

How far is Communism or Marxism-Leninism the guiding and driving force of the present Soviet leadership? Although it will not feature on the agenda of the Nixon-Brezhnev talks, the question is nevertheless worthy of attention in any assessment of the summit.

The two world leaders will plan the implementation of the mammoth industrial and technological deals between the USA and the USSR. If Russia and America can co-operate in this way and the Russians can exchange Siberian oil and natural gas for American technological expertise, is not Communism thereby being relegated to the realm of academic theory?

There are two points to be made about this view. Firstly, to Mr Brezhnev and the men who run affairs in Russia, Communism is best served, as in the days of Stalin, by the economic and military power of the Soviet Union. Ultimately they want to see the USSR as the most powerful nation in the world and will conduct their policies to that end. Revolutions do not necessarily advance this cause. The revolutionary regimes in China, Yugoslavia or even in Cuba have not helped the Soviet purpose in the world. As Moscow sees it, it is better to have influence or control in the establishments of other nations rather than releasing

uncontrollable revolutionary forces by the overthrow of established governments.

Secondly, the Soviet Union intends to be self-sufficient and these huge financial and industrial agreements will not affect this but rather aid it. Provided these deals materialise the USSR will profit by gaining access to resources it could not hope, given the state of its technology, to develop for many years (while the Americans and the Japanese become more dependent on Soviet gas and oil). Increased trade with America will not affect Soviet economic sufficiency or power. The wheat deals may go on for several years but the Soviet leaders ultimately aim at self-sufficiency.

At this stage in the development of Soviet power Mr Brezhnev and his comrades have estimated that a detente with the United States, leading to increased technological co-operation and wheat purchases, is in accord with their long range aim. It is interesting to reflect on a remark of Lenin's: "We must be clever enough, by relying on the peculiarities of the capitalist world and exploiting the greed of the capitalists for raw materials, to extract from it such advantages as will strengthen our economic position — however strange this may appear — among the capitalists."

**A dose of honest analysis**

Just as the monsoon was supposed to have solved all problems, apparently on Mrs Gandhi's return all the political issues, which have been put in cold storage will be resolved. One can hope that Mrs Gandhi will use this opportunity of being outside this troubled nation to take a fresh look at problems and come up with more workable solutions.

On the economic front however neither cold storage nor an enlightened Mrs Gandhi can solve all the problems overnight. We are told that since the Approach Paper to the Fifth Plan was presented, just over a couple of months back, prices have risen by 20 per cent. In February, when Finance Minister Chavan presented the budget, the estimated deficit for 1972-73 was a mere Rs 550 crores. Since then it has more than doubled to the incredible figure of Rs 1278.64 crores. In a single year our Government has resorted to as much deficit financing as was envisaged for the Third and the Fourth Plans put together. And to top it all

the growth rate is now nil. Why has Government financing and the economy gone haywire in the last months?

The causes are many. An underlying reason is the lack of a planned determination to push forward. It is clear that if we are not moving forward on the slippery economic slope then we are slipping back. There is no stationary position. If in the desire to get the present industries working we stifle fresh investment and initiative we are retarding the economy with the one hand while with the other we attempt to push it forward.

One could advocate a trip abroad for all our Ministers, specially our planners, if they would only stop and look at India from without and take a dose of honest analysis. The country will be with men who are willing to admit where they have gone off the track. It is not easy but when things have reached such a stage is there really any other way?

**Are you still in?**

SCENE: Bihar Chief Minister Kedar Pandey's study. He is reclining in his chair, sunk in thought, with a "green and yellow melancholy".

Enters Mr Kamalapati Tripathi, ex-Chief Minister of UP, without knocking. Looks as if he has swallowed a fly in his soup.

Tripathi -- Hullo there?

Pandey -- Who's that?

T -- It's me. I have just been given the sack.

P -- Good heavens! Why?

T -- Because a situation had arisen in which in the larger interests of the state and the nation I should not continue in office for the present.

P -- For the present?

T -- Of course! It is difficult to conceive that my people will be able to bear my absence for long.

P -- How right you are! But what does the PM

think?

T -- It is her considered opinion that I am the only competent leader to translate into action the aspirations of my people. But what about you? Are you still in?

P -- In where?

T -- In office?

P -- The last time I spoke to the PM she said I am still the Chief Minister.

T -- Don't you have dissidents?

P -- We have them in plenty.

T -- Then your days are numbered?

P -- Of course they are. But I have a trump card.

T -- Eh?

P -- To resign and become a dissident myself.

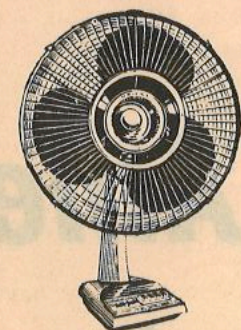
T -- Good God! Why didn't you tell me that before?

**ORIENT**

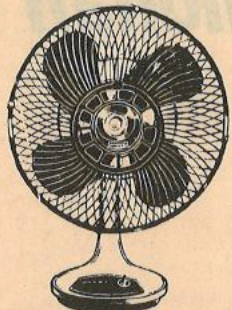
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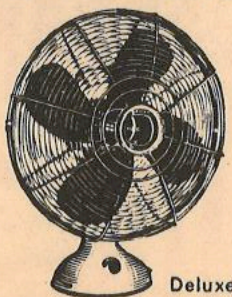
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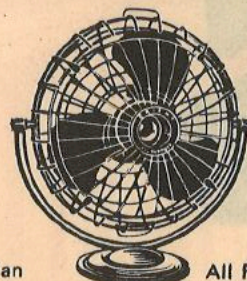
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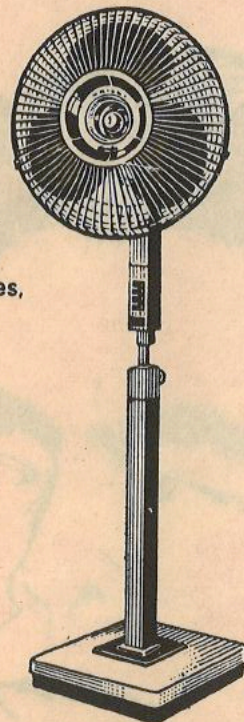
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# Briefly Speaking . . . . .

A man never becomes an orator if he has something to say.

FINLEY PETER DUNN, 1867-1936

## Joy for Bangla!

ALTHOUGH Indian prices continue to rocket those in Bangladesh are on a descent for the first time in several months. Prices of rice, kerosene, mustard oil, coconut oil, fish, soap, baby food and milk powder have shown a noticeable fall.

While we cannot suppress entirely the twinge of envy we are glad for our neighbours.

## Survival of the original

PRODUCERS of Sinhala films in Sri Lanka have been officially banned from copying foreign films, mainly Hindi and Tamil films. If they wish to get quotas of raw films they must make films with original themes. This move is designed to do away with the growing influence of Indian films on those made in Sri Lanka.

If Indian producers are denied raw film unless they make original films

it will cause a drastic deforestation of our celluloid jungle!

## Radical conservatism

THE Anglican Dean of Perth, Dean Hazelwood, has made the most profound and radical comment on pollution that Birbal has ever heard. Dean Hazelwood said that if people wanted to have salmon swimming in the streams and the birds to sing then there were three areas of pollution which could not be ignored:

- "Pollution of the body — where the bodies of men and women have become objects of worship, to be covered and uncovered at will, instead of being the instruments and dwelling places of God's Spirit.

- "Pollution of the mind — where we worship the mind, stuff it with knowledge and think we have done all that is necessary without training the mind in the art of discrimination between what is good and what is bad.

- "Pollution of the soul — where we only consider the present moment and lose all sense of tomorrow along with our sense of eternity."

## Saint catches thief

A thief broke into a church in the village of Muehldorf, West Germany. While he was prying open the collection box a small statue toppled out of its niche and on to his head. His involuntary cry roused the priest, who called the police, who caught the thief.

The statue responsible for the arrest was that of Brother Konrad, patron saint of Bavaria's poor.

## Ship-shape agreement

CO-OPERATION between Britain and India is sailing ahead.

An agreement has been signed between Scott Lithgow Ltd. (of the Lower Clyde, Scotland) and the Cochin Shipyard Ltd whereby Indian workers will go to the Lower Clyde for training in shipyard construction and later a group of Scott Lithgow men will come to Cochin to provide technical assistance.

The reaction of one shipyard worker, John Mackenzie, caught Birbal's attention. Mr Mackenzie, who had been in India in 1968, said that with the great need in India for food, and other necessary commodities, he was glad that his shipyard could play a useful part by building the ships that could carry supplies — "Here is a purpose beyond our

own scrambles of self-interest."

## Stooping to snooping

BRITAIN manufactures an extensive range of snooping devices such as telephone tapping equipment concealed in an innocent looking pens or cigarette lighters and briefcases which can help eavesdroppers by catching the vibrations on walls and doors.

A lot of these devices are exported. What is worrying the authorities is the lack of control over the manufacture, sale and use of these devices, particularly in the light of the Watergate and Lambton-Jellicoe scandals.

The instinct of snooping has lost none of its force during man's climb from the cave to the skyscraper, it has only received a veneer of sophistication. But it is a game two can play. "Snoop not on others lest others snoop on you" may be a good guideline to accept.

## Birbal

### CORRECTION

"Himmat" regrets that it incorrectly stated that the Tamilnadu Governor was present at the premiere performance of "Song of Asia" in Ootacamund ("Himmat" June 8, 1973, page 4). It was his wife, Mrs Shah, who was present.

### UPON MY WORD!

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

UPON MY WORD | B S R

PUZZLE NO. 33

You should find 35 | L S U A

(Answer next week) | I U O

ANSWER TO PUZZLE NO. 32

Apron, inapt, inept, pain, paint, pair, pane, pant, pare, parent, parr, parrot, part, partner, paten, patio, patron, patroon, pean, pear, feat, pent, peon, pert, pertain, pier, pine, pint, pinto, pirate, poet, point, pone, poor, pore, port, porter, potion, prate, print, prior, prone, protein, proton, pterin, pterion, tape, taper, tope, trip, tripe, troop, trope, PERORATION — The conclusion of a speech; a rhetorical performance.

# The face of Britain-I

## From R. M. Lala in London

The Lambton-Jellicoe affair has pushed Britain into the headlines of the world press. To some this affair reveals the spread of permissiveness and connotes the worst aspects of a free society.

HIMMAT'S editor R. M. Lala, however, feels that Britain has the quality to come back to an even keel when things go too far in one direction. During his recent visit to Britain, Mr Lala felt this quality was asserting itself again.

AN Oxford college gardener was asked by an American tourist: "How is it that you have such lovely green lawns here?"

"You cut it, weed it and then you roll it. You cut it, weed it and then you roll it," continued the gardener, "You cut it..."

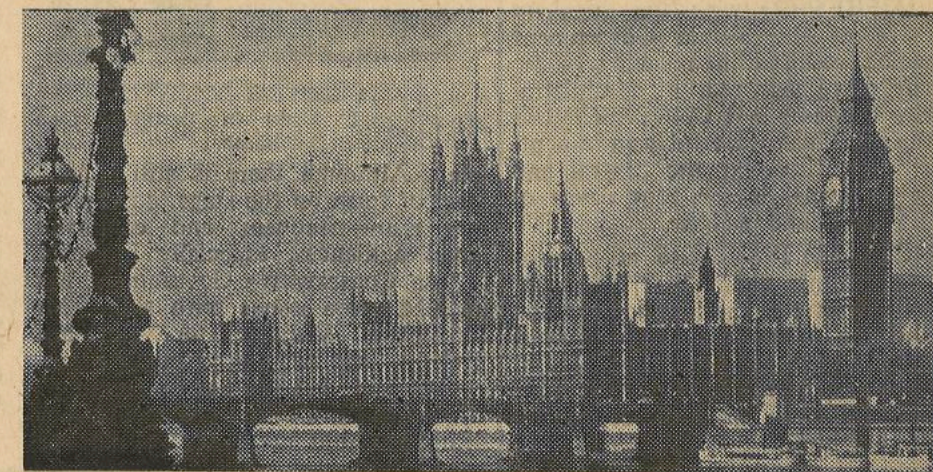
"Yes," the tourist interjected, "but then what?" "Well," said the gardener, "you go on doing it for 400 years. That's all".

The British have been doing more than mowing lawns for 400 years, though on a Saturday afternoon one might think that that was the national industry of Britain. In these 400 years they have fashioned a political democracy that has won the admiration of the world. In recent years that democracy has faced challenges of industrial disruption, the influx of immigrants and the tragic violence in Ireland. Britain has met these challenges with a firmness and sensitivity that is admirable, and democracy in Britain today is the stronger for it.

What is the secret of democracy flourishing in Britain? Is it in its institutions or is it in the spirit that runs them? Is there something distinctive in British character that makes them stand out from their continental neighbours, whom they have just joined in the Common Market? These were some of the questions I tried to find an answer to on a recent visit to Britain after a lapse of over three years.

What strikes you about the London of 1973 is the affluence of its society

which contrasts with the misfortune of the floating pound. People are better clad and shod than ever. The grand buildings of 19th century Whitehall once blackened have been cleaned up and reveal once again the full beauty of their architecture and sculpture. Some things remain the same. The majestic buildings of Parliament House have yet to be cleaned, because the stone is too soft. The Duke of York still stands on the



BRITISH PARLIAMENT BUILDING: a flourishing democracy

thin high column a couple of hundred feet high, where he was installed "to keep him away from his creditors". The Thames river, which a few years ago was so polluted, is clean again. Someone even caught a fish in it the other day. The Environment Ministry has done impressive work in fighting pollution. London for many years now has been a clean and smokeless city.

### People better off

The Health Services are still impressive, the immigrants are cared for, and on TV on Sunday mornings are special programmes for immigrants from India and Pakistan. And probably more policemen (British) in Bradford speak Urdu than in Bombay. Consumer prices have gone up. Garments are up by about 80 per cent

in the last three years, and the food prices in restaurants about the same. Even so, people are much better off than ever before. There is also a certain air of confidence in Britain, which was noticeably absent a few years earlier. Perhaps it is because there is some sense of adventure in a section of the people in the challenge of moving into the Common Market, or perhaps it is that the Conservative Government has given it a firmer and more imaginative leadership than its predecessor.

Though permissiveness has taken its toll and continues to levy its price in tears, there is a growing realisation that drugs and pornography are harmful and so is abortion. One has a sense that there is a certain comeback on these issues. The previous Labour Government prided itself on making abortion legal, as a result of which many from the Continent come over and take advantage of these services. It is estimated that over 400 abortions take place a day. In Manche-

ster a few weeks ago an anti-abortion rally had 50,000 people joining in it, which on a sunny Saturday is a lot of people for Britain. Malcolm Muggeridge, Mary Whitehouse and others addressed the rally. In the field of pornography there has been a crackdown by the police, but it came only after the Government sensed that public opinion was for a crackdown. Publishers of one or two pornographic magazines are also having a hard time. This is the essence of British democracy that public opinion has to precede Government action — unlike India where a majority in Parliament feels called upon to steam roller all dissent.

Some years ago censorship was abolished on the stage, and the Lord



"The only assurance I can give at this stage is that, if the rains fail, we'll set up a high-level inquiry commission?"

ADVERTISEMENT for ODOMOS mosquito coils. The text says: "GET ODOMOS BEFORE THE MOSQUITOES GET YOU". It features an illustration of a mosquito coil and a mosquito. At the bottom, it says "A PRODUCT OF BALSARA".

### SO THEY SAY

We must not let controls become a narcotic and we must not be addicted.

RICHARD NIXON,  
US President

I feel that mankind would indeed be lost but for the courage to make a new beginning.

WILLY BRANDT,  
West German Chancellor

# VERDICT!

## THIS WEEK HIMMAT ...

**SAYS "VANAKAM"** to Chief Minister Karunanidhi who has withdrawn his proposal to step down from the presidency of the DMK in deference to the "unanimous plea" of the party's executive and **INFERS** that he is still popular with his party if not with the people of Tamilnadu!

**WISHES GODSPEED** to the Indo-Australian research project which aims at mass production of "mechanical chappatis" resembling ordinary chappatis in taste and shape and **EXPECTS** them to find easy acceptance among hardworking housewives and hardpressed bachelors!

**IS IMPRESSED** with the austerity drive of the Kerala Government which resulted in a saving of Rs one crore last year in administrative expenses and **UNDERScores** the fact that wasteful governmental expenditure at the central and state levels, is the root cause of our economic malaise.

**PRICKS UP ITS EARS** at Senator McGovern's claim that he might have won the Presidential election had the Watergate buggings been fully known to Americans at that time and **DOES NOT HAVE THE HEART** even to think of contradicting him.

**LEARNS** that the military regime in Greece is minting new coins, substituting the Phoenix for the King's portrait and **PONDERS** whether the emblem of the legendary bird, which is reborn from its ashes, symbolises the death of monarchy or the birth of undying dictatorship.

**PATS** the Pentagon for its sleek diplomacy in concocting the name Persian-Arabian Gulf to avoid offending Iran which calls the body of water to its south the Persian Gulf and the Arabs who refer to it as the Arabian Gulf and **NOTES** that this terminological innovation is admittedly meant to help American oil interests.

**IS FED UP** with the raging battle in the country between the bureaucrats and the technocrats each claiming better pay and position than the other and **URGES** that a truce be declared immediately in the interests of national sanity.

## BRITAIN — from page 5

Chamberlain was relieved of these duties. As a result, obscenity went to its utmost limit on the stage, till there was nothing left to shock peo-



**A BRITISH BOBBY:** more speak Urdu in Bradford than in Bombay

ple. Although there is still a good deal of trash on the stage, good plays are more frequent and command good audiences, especially musicals.

The Conservative Government has tackled some issues with skill. Mr Whitelaw, Minister for Northern Ireland "has negotiated many a precipice, and still his car is running", as one of his Cabinet colleagues Lord Hailsham told me. It will not be

surprising if Mr Whitelaw becomes a Prime Minister in future.

On inflation the Cabinet drafted a three phase programme — phase 1: complete freeze (which is over), phase 2: an increase in wages, on the average of about 7 per cent (compared to about 15 per cent of the previous year) and phase 3, which will start next November. In spite of attempts by the gas and electricity workers and some other sections to defeat this policy, the Government has held firm, and its firmness is beginning to pay. The miners in a ballot recently voted two to one against a national strike.

Prime Minister Heath has shown a certain political courage and rightly sensed the public mood of being firm where he needed to be firm, drawing the line and letting the country choose. Had he failed, no other Prime Minister could have succeeded. The first round in the battle against industrial unrest has been won by the Government in the last weeks because the militants realised they were losing public opinion.

On immigration the Government has shown an enlightened policy. President Amin's order throwing out the Ugandan Asians did not give it much time, but Whitehall decided on the basis of what was right and found the public support needed to see it through in spite of opposition from Mr Powell and some of his friends. Some years ago there was a move to create racial violence in Britain, but the police and the then Labour Government tackled the issue so skilfully that with the help of public opinion

CONTINUED ON PAGE 19

# A 'New Deal' for estate workers in the Nilgiris

By S. F. Barnes, M.B.E. from Australia

I RECENTLY spent two weeks in the lovely Nilgiris Hills district of South India, my first visit to this region of tea, coffee and rubber plantations. Mr V. I. Chacko, the dynamic Secretary of the United Planters Association of South India (UPASI), knowing of my association with the dairy industry, invited me to Coonoor to see some cows and bulls which had just been received by air from New Zealand.

Mr Chacko explained that this herd was being established to provide milk for the children of plantation workers as part of a Comprehensive Labour Welfare Scheme. I learned that a pilot scheme had been introduced in May 1971, on three estates with a total planted area of 753 hectares (1860 acres) of tea and with a resident estate population of 1000 families which included 2153 estate workers.

It was my good fortune to spend a weekend on one of the estates in the pilot scheme as the guest of the manager and to see for myself something of the life of the plantation workers. The settlements on the estates are the permanent homes of the workers many of whom spend all their lives on the same estate.

I was taken to see the workers' housing, the creche where the mothers can leave the "under five's" while they are working and the

clinic where advice and medical attention is given by the nurse or the estate doctor. It was explained to me that all the children can now attend school on the estate up to Standard V and can then go by bus into town for further schooling if they wish.

As I tramped the well-kept paths through row after row of tea bushes with the manager and watched the women skilfully plucking the leaves, he explained the art of plucking the correct two leaves and the bud, the importance of correct cultivation and of the use of fertilisers and sprays and the periodical cutting back of the bushes. But he also gave full credit to the efficiency and care of the workers in plucking which had helped to increase the yield on this estate by over 25 per cent in the previous six years.

It was easy to see that much of the credit for the improvement in yield was due to good management and also to the attention given to the welfare of the estate families which helped to ensure good relations between the management and the workers. I visited the factory and was able to appreciate the care taken in processing the leaf and in the selection of high grade tea.

Later Mr Chacko outlined the comprehensive nature of the welfare programme. He set out the following basic aims of the scheme:



**PLUCKING THE LEAVES:** a skilful art

- Each family to be provided with a house comprising a living room and a kitchen and all houses to have electric light, running water, latrines and a piped water supply.
- Adequate medical services to be provided including a hospital on the estate, a resident doctor and one or more nurses.
- Estates to have schools for the education of workers' children and a creche for children of five years and under.
- Provision for sports and cultural facilities including labour clubs, equipped with radio and indoor games.

Within the framework of this comprehensive scheme the aim is to build up a new relationship between the estate health workers and the families, especially the women workers. Care and patience is shown by the doctors and nurses in winning the confidence of the women and in dealing with the common problems of anaemia and the effects of repeated pregnancies and worm infestation. With this programme aimed at the development of healthy, happy families it is natural to discuss the size of the families and family planning. The women respond to the idea of having two or three happy healthy children who can be brought up under the best conditions with the means available to them.

An additional incentive to restrict the size of the family is given through the "No birth bonus scheme" which is voluntary and is open to all marri-

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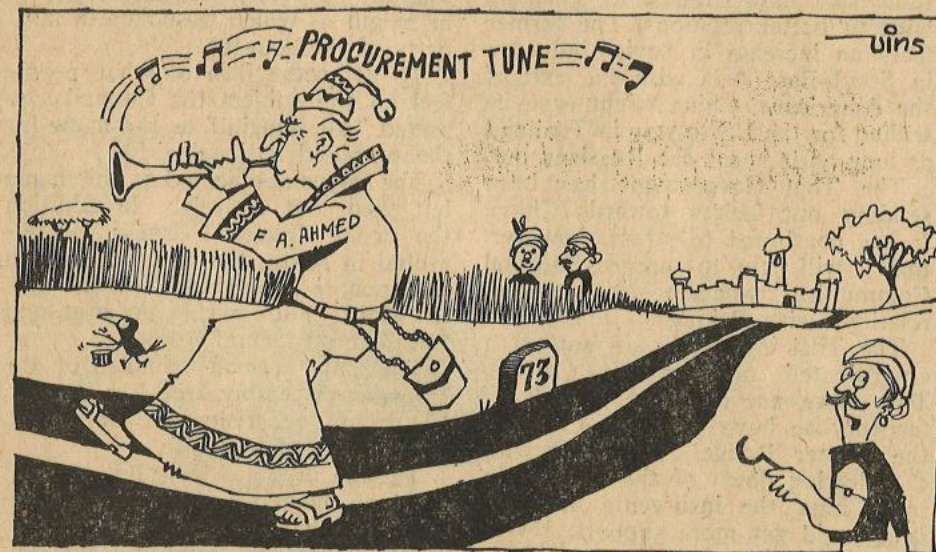


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"I have my doubts whether he will have many followers with that kind of tune."

VIETNAM:

## Will the new Vietnam agreement work?

ON June 13 in Paris, around the same large, round, green baize table which witnessed the signing of the Vietnam peace agreement on January 27 this year, the same four parties signed a



LE DUC THO: negotiator

joint communique. This time the signatories were US presidential adviser, Dr Henry Kissinger, chief North Vietnamese negotiator, Mr Le Duc Tho, and the representatives of President Thieu and of the Provisional Revolutionary Government in South Vietnam. The subject was the implementation of the much-violated previous ceasefire agreement.

The 14-point joint communique is considered by some observers as yet another patchwork effort. It will work as far as the parties involved want it to work. It remains to be seen in the coming days how far the parties involved will adhere to the agreement. Since the ceasefire in January official estimates are that 30,000 Vietnamese on both sides have been killed.

The new agreement required that opposing battlefield commanders should have met within 24 hours of the signing of the truce. This did not take place.

However the US did resume its operations to clear the entrance to Haiphong harbour and six other ports. This was a point that the US had agreed to in Paris in the hope of having stricter observance of the ceasefire by the Communists.

The question of the political future of South Vietnam has been dealt with in a vague fashion in the new agreement. Saigon's demand for an early election has not been met. This will be to the advantage of the Provisional Revolutionary Government as it will give them longer to consolidate their political hold in certain areas of South Vietnam.

In fact the concessions in the agreement seem to be on the part of the US and South Vietnam. Besides the mine clearing operations the US

has agreed to end reconnaissance flights over North Vietnam and resume the talks on economic aid to that country. On return for these concessions it is hoped the Communists will stick to the ceasefire.

It is possible that as the new deal favours the Communists to a greater extent they will, in their own interest, make an effort to make it work.

THAILAND:

### Another arena of conflict

THE "Voice of the People of Thailand" (VPT), a Secret South China-based radio station continues to broadcast anti-US and anti-Government propaganda into Thailand. The Thai Government is concerned by the insurgencies it faces in the north and north-east areas of its land, near the Laotian border.

The state of peace or no peace in Indo-China directly affects Thailand: Forty thousand Vietnamese refugees have settled in the north-east of Thailand. Most of them owe their allegiance to North Vietnam. According to a Thai Government White Paper 587 Thai terrorists have been trained in North Vietnam between 1962 and 1966. A number have also studied in China. It is believed that 2000 Chinese troops of the Meo tribe have been supporting the Thai insurgents since 1971 as have North Vietnamese advisers.

In recent weeks there are indications that both China and Thailand wish to better relations. The former fears an increase in Soviet influence in South-East Asia with the exit of the Americans. China might even be willing for the US to stay in Thailand as long as it keeps the Russians out.

The Thai Government has been sending out feelers towards China. It has continued to stress, however, that it will fight to suppress internal Communism whatever its external relations with Peking.

The Thai insurgents are not yet a co-ordinated and cohesive group. They have not captured pockets of territory as have the Viet Cong or the Khmer Rouge. However with the slowing down of the fighting in Indo-China the insurgents in Thailand could get more support. With the existing American presence there it could become another arena of conflict.

ASEAN:

### Common passport

WHILE Australian Prime Minister Whitlam has been sounding out some Asian statesmen about forming a regional association of Asia and the Pacific areas, the Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) is reported to be considering issuing an ASEAN passport.

The report was first published in the "Straits Times" and has since been confirmed by the Indonesian Foreign Office. If the ASEAN countries, (which consist of Indonesia, Malaysia, the Philippines, Thailand and Singapore) accept the idea they will be going further than even members of the EEC. There have been agreements about waiving visa requirements, but the ASEAN move will mean nationals of the five nations will have a common passport.

The proposal will soon come up at an ASEAN tourism sub-committee meeting. This may mean that the passport may be first tried out for travel within the ASEAN countries. For issuing a common passport valid for all countries of the world, there would need to be much greater understanding and co-operation among the ASEAN nations.

PAPUA NEW GUINEA

### Fight over a name

THE Australian Government has approved legislation to make Papua New Guinea self governing by December 1 "or as soon as possible thereafter".

This will increase the controversy over the new name for the country. In a country with 700 languages choosing a name is no easy matter. The members of the Papua New Guinea Executive Council considered that the new name could possibly be in pidgin — which is spoken in most parts of the country.

To get some idea of what people feel on the subject the Council suggested "Air Niugini" as the name for the proposed national airline.

The Papuans objected as this name left them out entirely. In addition the word "niugini" can be interpreted in Motu, the language spoken in Papua, in an entirely different way. In Motu "niu" means coconut and "gini" means stand.

The only woman member of the House of Assembly, who is a Papuan, has begun organising the opposition against the new name.

Though in some ways not a major incident the name dispute is indicative of what could follow in the months preceding independence if a proper balance is not struck between Papua and New Guinea.

## China bids for West Europe

SEVEN days before Mr Leonid Brezhnev flew into the United States, the Chinese Foreign Minister, Mr Chi Peng-fei, arrived in Paris.



CHI PENG-FEI: Foreign Minister

Soviet bid for a detente with the West, organised and led by Mr Brezhnev.

The Chinese would like to see Europe strong and united and not in any way dependent on the United States and certainly not of course dominated by the Soviet Union. They have given support to the Common Market as they see it as a means of Europe gaining greater economic power and independent influence in the world. The Chinese favour any political or economic development that reduces the overriding power of Russia and America.

The Russians also would like to see Europe divorced from the United States as far as its policies and economic alliances are concerned. But beyond that point their aim is dif-

ferent from the Chinese. They want a divided Europe, not a united Europe, where there is little co-ordination of policy or effort between the different nation-states. A Europe which is unable to withstand pressure from the Soviet Union at a time of crisis, is Moscow's long-range purpose.

Nothing startling or decisive, however, has come out of Mr Chi's visit to Western Europe, the first of a Chinese Foreign Minister since the Communists' seizure of power in China. But the Chinese do not expect to influence West European affairs or attitudes overnight, but they are building for the future. The Chinese, as the oft-repeated story of the Old Man and the Mountain reveals, are nothing if not patient.

In Britain the Chinese stressed what they considered to be the dangers of Chancellor Brandt's Ostpolitik and expressed the view that the British could offer a counter-balance to undue openness with the Soviet Union. The British seemed to be waiting for China to respond to British initiative in trade and cultural exchanges, recognising that the Chinese need time to work out the details on their side. The British industrial technology exhibition earlier this year did not yield immediate orders that would in themselves have justified holding it. But the British

hope that the long-term result will be good.

In Paris Mr Chi was frequently lauded in the press. The French see the Chinese as holding views on international affairs similar to their own. These principles, expressed on the French side first by General de Gaulle, add up to support of the "national independence and sovereignty of the smaller countries against the aggression and expansionism of the super powers." Both the French and the Chinese have not signed the Test Ban Treaty and the Chinese have not commented on the French nuclear explosions in the Pacific.

This meeting of policy aims does not of course have a great deal of practical and immediate impact. In economic matters France stands fourth — after Japan, Canada and West Germany — in the list of China's trading partners. France imported 400 million francs worth of Chinese goods in 1971 and 530 millions in 1972. French exports to China added up to 630 millions in 1971, but only 300 millions a year later. If the present trend continues, Britain is likely to relegate France to the fifth position.

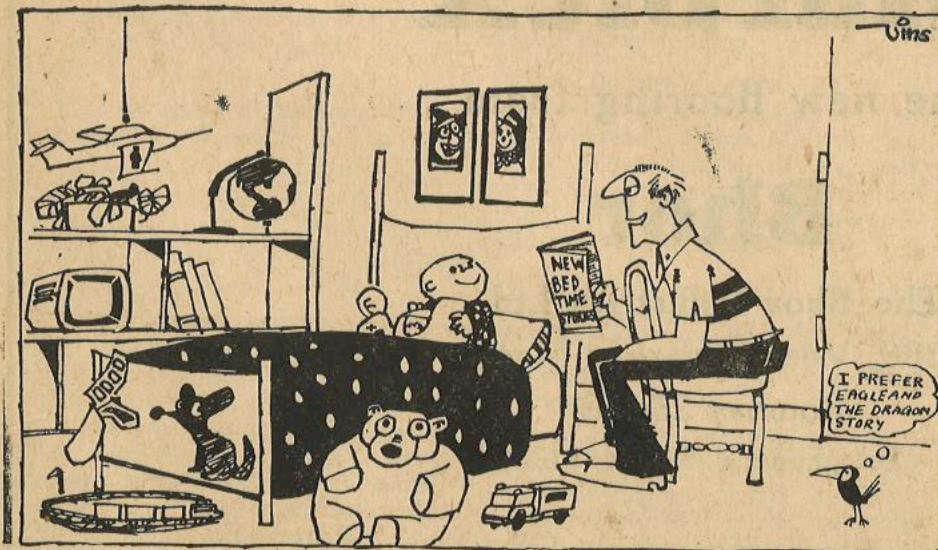
Mr Chi's visit to Western Europe is the first major move by Peking towards this continent since China re-entered the world diplomatic family last year. It is too early to estimate the success of Chinese diplomacy in Western Europe, but as it gathers momentum it could have, as far as the Soviet Union is concerned, unfortunate repercussions.

## Italy—making a new government

THE Italian Prime Minister, Mr Giulio Andreotti, resigned last week after an extended crisis in the ruling Christian Democratic Party (see last week's edition).

It is expected that the next Government will reflect the shift to the left in the Christian Democratic Party, that is to say it will be a Christian Democratic Government with support from the Socialist and other left-wing parties.

Mr Mariano Rumor, a former Premier who has been Mr Andreotti's Interior Minister, emerged as the leading candidate for the premiership in the proposed centre-left Government at a five-day Christian Democratic National Convention that ended last week.



"And then the eagle and the big woolly, woolly bear decided to co-exist and live happily ever after."

**Brandt's visit to Israel**

Nazi Germany's attempt to exterminate the Jewish race was infinitely more horrible than a war between states. Reconciliation between West Germany and Israel therefore has a moral dimension that extends far beyond state relations. What Mr Brandt has been trying to do this week is to refine relations with the living Jews in the state of Israel, which is something different. The message he has been conveying is that, although the relationship is bound to have a special character it can no longer be dominated by the need to atone for Nazi crimes against the Jewish race. A new generation is growing up in both countries, and more than half the population of West Germany was born after the war. They do not acknowledge inherited guilt.

THE TIMES, London

After 25 years of Israeli existence, Germany, as it is presently constituted, is by no stretch of the imagination a menace to Zionism, although the Zionist aim of setting up an independent Jewish state was perversely and belatedly assisted by the Germany of the Hitler era. Unless both sides in the present Middle East dispute change their attitudes, it will take more than another 25 years before the leader of an Arab nation pays an official visit to Israel.

THE SCOTSMAN, Edinburgh



**'Smile! You Are Dancing Because You Are Now a Democracy!'**

Courtesy: International Herald Tribune, Paris

**Watergate and personal freedom**

The changes in the US administration triggered by the Watergate scandal are the equivalent of a government crisis under a parliamentary system. But the crucial point is that, according to existing American law, breaking into Democratic headquarters and the installation of bugging devices are counted as crimes. In other countries not so much attention would be given to such incursions into the sphere of personal freedom. In France under de Gaulle telephone con-

versations were monitored, and even now there is censorship of the mails — allegedly for purposes of financial control and based on a presidential decree by Marshal Petain. Hardly a European government can have a completely clean conscience in this respect. But in the United States it is simply not acceptable that government agencies, especially those exercising no police power, forcibly break into the free, private sphere of an individual or a party. This is why the Watergate affair cannot be written off merely as a political stunt.

NEUE ZUERCHER ZEITUNG, Zurich

**Soviet navy in Taiwan Strait**

by Shinroku Nozaki in Tokyo

PEKING recently suffered an unpleasant jolt when a Soviet naval squadron sailed through the Taiwan Strait — for the first time in 24 years.

This took place just two days before David K. Bruce, head of the newly opened United States liaison office in Peking, arrived to assume his post.

The coincidence immediately raised speculation that the Soviet move was motivated by a desire to throw a monkey wrench in China's efforts to improve its relations with the US. The shock must have been quite irritating to the Peking Government which has been stepping up its efforts in recent months to woo the Chinese residents abroad in a move for peaceful "liberation" of Taiwan.

In August last year, Premier Chou En-lai announced what may be considered Peking's basic policy on Taiwan's "liberation." He did so at a meeting with a group of Chinese residents in the US who were visiting China at that time.

On this occasion, the Chinese Premier made the following points:

- China will not try to "liberate" Taiwan by the force of arms.
- Post-liberation Taiwan will enjoy the same economic levels as at present.
- Foreign assets in Taiwan will be purchased by reasonable means.
- During the transitional period following the "liberation" of Taiwan, Peking will apply a policy more magnanimous than the one enforced in the Autonomous District of Tibet.

Since the turn of the year, China stepped up its manoeuvres toward Taiwan in line with this Chou "Doctrine." From February to March, China mounted a propaganda campaign for wooing the Taiwan people back to the "motherland" through Radio Peking messages and pro-Chinese newspapers published in Hong Kong.

Since the turn of the year, China stepped up its manoeuvres toward Taiwan in line with this Chou "Doctrine." From February to March, China mounted a propaganda campaign for wooing the Taiwan people back to the "motherland" through Radio Peking messages and pro-Chinese newspapers published in Hong Kong.

This was followed up by a vigorous appeal by the Chinese goodwill mission which visited Japan in April-May. The mission, headed by Liao Cheng-chih, President of the Sino-Japanese Friendship Society, made an extensive tour of major Japanese cities.

The party included two "star" members. One was General Tung Chi-wu, formerly of the Nationalist Chinese Army and at present a member of the defence and standing committees of the People's Political Consultative Council. The other was Jung I-jen, an ex-millionaire who is now treated as an acknowledged capitalist in Communist China. In the course of their one-month visit, they attended a number of meetings with Chinese residents in Japan to appeal for reunion with mainland China, posing as witnesses to the "fair treatment" accorded Nationalist individuals and their wealth in the course of China's Communist Revolution.

In another development, Radio Peking recently extended its broadcasting time for Taiwan from several hours a day to a full-day programme.

**Hong Kong visit**

Meanwhile, Chang Shi-chuan, an ex-nationalist who is now a member of the standing committee of the Chinese parliament, visited Hong Kong late last month ostensibly to see his wife who lives there. This has given rise to speculation that his real purpose was in helping engineer a Taipei-Peking reunion.

Chou, meanwhile, has let it be known that he is interested in inviting Philippine Foreign Minister Carlos Romulo to China. If this materialises, the impact will be felt widely among the half million Chinese residing in the Philippines.

The Soviets have been watching the Chinese manoeuvres with a jaundiced eye, branding the Peking campaign as an "attempt to exploit the overseas Chinese."

Under such circumstances, it is easy to imagine the feelings with which the Chinese heard of the deployment of the Soviet warships through the Taiwan Strait.

By arrangement with the Japan Times



CHOU: wary

**CHANDIGARH** — A new fertiliser factory costing Rs 10 million is being constructed near the city on the Pupper-Nalagarh road.

**NEW DELHI** — An official study shows that the nation-wide employment growth rate in the industrial sector has remained at a marginal 0.7 per cent per year over the last three years.

— A Rs 5 bonus cheque, not cashable in any bank but which will enable its owner to purchase agricultural inputs worth Rs 10, is among the major incentives proposed by the Union Government to persuade the farmers to sell their produce to official agencies.

**NAINI TAL** — The first-ever 70-wagon special train carrying 20,000 quintals of high-yielding wheat seeds developed by the Terai Development Corporation affiliated to the Pantnagar University, has left for Maharashtra.

**GAUHATI** — A golden langur — a species related to monkeys and first discovered only in 1953 — has bred in captivity, for the first time anywhere in the world, at the Assam Zoo.

**JALPAIGURI** — A joint drive to "smash the extremists" will be shortly launched in areas along the common border between Assam and North Bengal by the police forces of the two states.

**BOMBAY** — The Municipal Corporation of Greater Bombay has decided to give a yearly grant of Rs 1,50,000 for three years to the National Institute for Training in Industrial Engineering (NITIE) for establishing an urban systems centre.

**POONA** — The National Chemical Laboratory has developed a process for the indigenous manufacture of a hitherto imported whitening agent for synthetic fibres.

**AURANGABAD** — The Western India Automobile Association (WIAA) has started construction of a three-star luxury motel having 196 beds and costing Rs 5 million at this base town for tourists visiting the Ajanta and Vellore frescoes.

**SANGLI** — Some 2000 people, mostly labourers employed on scarcity projects, have looted foodgrains and other articles from a ration shop at Jath, 90 km from here, on suspicion that they were being sold in the black market.

**PARADIP** — A warning radar to track down cyclones in the Bay of Bengal, within a radius of 400 km, is being installed at this port in Orissa.

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# My friend the enemy

## A short story from Australia

by Innes Cameron

THE Podberry brothers, Lop, Bristly and Bud lived in a cool green gully in their little house made from a hollowed out treefern root. All the rooms were side by side (as, of course, they would have to be for a treefern root is long and narrow).

If you met a Podberry you might not recognise him for they camouflage themselves very well. You might, if you saw Bud lying under a tree, think he was a gumnut or a banksia cone. Their bodies look like a banksia cone and they have long thin feet the shape of a wattle seed pod.

They were busy people. Bud came toiling up among the bracken fern with two big buckets full of water and poured them into a hollowed out stone near the last bedroom. Then he threw down the buckets beside the doorstep.

"I've had enough of this job!" he grumbled.

Lop and Bristly, whose work was finished for the time being, sat on the doorstep sucking honey out of heath bells.

"Yes, it's bad luck that your job comes at the end of the day but we must have baths," said Lop. "Here, have a heath bell!"

"There's water everywhere in the gully," grumbled Bud. "Why should I have to drag it up here? Why can't we bathe in the spring?"

"Nonsense!" replied Lop sharply. "What would the neighbours think — including Mrs Kookaburra?"

"Who cares what Mrs Kookaburra thinks?" jeered Bud.

"You'd better care," Bristly said gloomily. "She's got a beak."

"Well, I'm going to think up some labour saving plan." Bud flopped on the ground and bent his head in thought.

Bellbirds were chiming away in the damp coolness, making a frightful din and the other birds were having a final chatter before going to rest. Bud was unaware of the bird-song because another sound, one he had heard every day of his life, began to have a new meaning. The tinkling of a little waterfall which burst out of the slope above the treefern house had given him an idea.

"I've got it!"

"Got what?" asked Lop.

"The spring."

"I said we couldn't bathe in a spring," Lop said coldly. "It's not done."

"What is it Bud?" Bristly encouraged him.

"Why not cut out a channel in the slope and let the water flow into our bath?" asked Bud triumphantly.

"I don't like it," muttered Lop.

"He's got something," said Bristly.

"Mrs Kookaburra will be nasty about it," Lop said obstinately, "and I don't like it."

"You must move with the times, Lop," Bristly argued. "I bet the old lady will be envious."

"Anyhow," Bud said firmly, "I'm going to begin cutting that channel tomorrow. After all, I'm the one who carts the water."

But rose early next morning. He took a spade and climbed the slope behind the house. The morning was fine and warm, the pool below the fall invitingly clear and Bud dived in for a splash before beginning work. He was having a wonderful time when suddenly he saw Mrs Kookaburra sitting motionless on a bough watching him.

"It's come to a pretty pass," she said, "when you have to come up here to wash. Is your bathtub leaking?"

"No, I'm just having a dive," replied Bud. "What's wrong with having a dive if I want to?"

"Oh nothing — nothing at all," said Mrs Kookaburra, "but I suppose the real reason is that you're too lazy to carry water up to the house. What your poor brothers do is beyond me."

"You just wait!" shouted Bud. "I'll soon have something that will make you envious."

Mrs Kookaburra only laughed in a superior manner and flew away among the trees.

Bud leaped out of the pool, shook the water off himself and seized his spade. He examined the ground to find the best place to start digging his water channel. Then he dug and dug for two hours before going home to breakfast.



"Is your bathtub leaking?" Mrs Kookaburra asked Bud in a superior manner.

"How's the hydro scheme going?" asked Bristly putting his porridge down in front of Bud. "Gee, you must be hungry!"

Bud ate quickly not talking at all. He finished first and was away to the job. The other two could hear him digging as they went about their own tasks.

"He certainly likes work," said Lop but Bristly replied, "There might be something in it. Bud does use his head sometimes."

All through the long hot day Bud worked away and, in the evening, not long before bath time, he called Bristly to come and help him fix a hollowed out piece of wood as an inlet pipe into the bath.

"Hurrah, hurrah, hurrah!" shouted Bristly as the water ran in. Lop dashed out of the house to see what the noise was about.

"It saves you a lot of work," Lop said to Bud.

"And with so much water there'll be no more quarrelling about who's to have a bath first," Bud replied.

When they sat at tea later, they heard the swoop of wings and then a splash outside. Bud poked his head out of the door. There, to his

amazement, was Mrs Kookaburra having a grand old flutter in the bathtub.

The same evening old Watkins, the wombat, was snuffling about on the hillside in his usual manner searching for tasty roots. He spent most of his time in the summer eating and nearly all his time in the winter sleeping.

He found a likely spot with some juicy plant food and began to dig with his snout and paws. Soon there were large holes and furrows in the ground. Watkins ate his meal and prepared for a snooze.

Bud was coming home down the hillside with some wild blackberries he had found. As he approached the treefern house he glanced upward at his water channel (he made rather a habit of this). He could hardly believe his eyes when he saw a mound of earth and a burrow right across it. The water had overflowed the channel and was oozing down the hill.

Bud gave a shout of rage and threw the blackberries away as he ran.

"It's Watkins!" he yelled when he reached the damage. "I know it's that ugly old Watkins!" He stamped in his anger. "He'll be sorry for this!"

He paused a moment in thought.

"I know!"

He turned and ran down the gully, creeping quietly past the bush where old Watkins lay asleep. Soon he found Watkins' burrow under a banksia in the gully.

"Ugh!" he grumbled as he went below the surface. "He doesn't sleep with his window open."

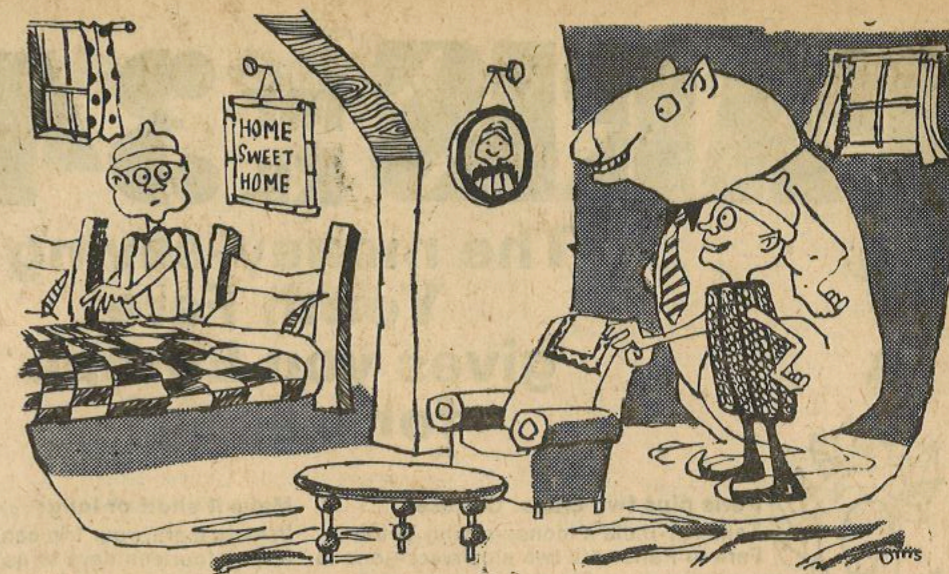
It didn't take Bud long to do quite a lot of damage in Watkins' house. Then he returned triumphantly up the hill again. He said nothing to Lop or Bristly about what had happened but somehow he didn't feel happy either.

As they were finishing their meal they heard a heavy grunting of someone making hard work of climbing the slope to the house. Bud excused himself from the table and moved swiftly into the next room. He knew who it was.

"Are y' there, Bristly?" wheezed Watkins.

"Hullo Watkins!" said Bristly with pleasure. "Come right inside. Pretty late for you to be out, isn't it?"

"Can y' give me a bunk for the night, Bristly?"



"Bud, are you in bed yet? Mr Watkins is going to spend the night with us" said Lop, one of the Podberrys.

"Sure. What happened?"

"Some larrikin has smashed up me house. I think it's a kid out for mischief," grunted Watkins. "If I could locate him I'd give him something to remember me by."

"Well," exclaimed Bristly, "can you beat that? It can't be Mrs Kookaburra's children. They're naughty but they wouldn't do a thing like that. Joey Kangaroo — he'd never think of it. It's certainly a kid's trick though."

"I'll find 'im, don't worry," said Watkins grimly, "if it takes me to next winter. But I'll be glad of a camp with you till I can get me place cleaned up."

"You can sleep in Bud's room," said Bristly. "His is the biggest and there are two beds. Now, would you like a bath before you go to bed?"

Watkins shook his shaggy head.

"No thanks. Don't think much of this new fad of taking baths. Get me death o' cold. Where is Bud? Suppose he won't mind me sharing his room?"

"Of course not. Come right along."

"Bud, are you in bed yet?" Lop called from the living room.

Bud hastily hopped into bed for the last thing he wanted to do was talk to Watkins. He had also heard the talk about "larrikins" and felt sore.

"Yes," he called back in a voice muffled with bedclothes.

"Mr Watkins is going to spend the night with us. He'll sleep in the spare bed in your room."

"Okay, but I'm nearly asleep."

Bud curled up and closed his eyes.

Presently along came old Watkins, grunting and snuffling.

"I suppose he snores too," thought Bud.

"Hullo Bud!" said Watkins, who evidently was not going to let him sleep. "Sorry to bother you but if I catch that larrikin who smashed up my house, I'll know what to do."

Bud began to get angry. He sat up in bed.

"Other people get their things smashed up too!"

Mr Watkins was pulling down the blankets and poking the mattress to make it soft.

"I said other people get their things smashed up too!" Bud repeated loudly.

"M — suppose so but it seems worse somehow when it's yourself," Watkins muttered.

"I'll say it does!"

Watkins blinked and looked at Bud.

"Don't get so excited. I've got some excuse to be angry but you've got none."

Bud bounced up and down on the bed with rage.

"Oh, I haven't, haven't I? Let me tell you this. My new water channel from the waterfall to the bathtub was rooted up by —"

"You know who did it? Then why don't you —"

"By you!" Bud shouted.

Watkins sank on to the end of the bed and folded his paws.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 15

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HIMMAT, June 22, 1973

## Women's hockey—as good as the men

WHILE the standard of our men's hockey has been falling at an alarming rate, women's hockey has made a significant advance. It looks as though the girls will be able to challenge the boys on equal terms before long.

The recently-concluded Tommy Emar Gold Cup Tournament in Bombay provided clear evidence of the progress made by the girls. Punjab State Electricity Board, who deservedly took the title, played a brand of hockey that would have done any men's team proud. They were a fit and speedy lot. Their trapping was sure, their passing accurate. They found each other and moved with understanding. In short they played as a team.

How many of our men's teams can lay claim to all these attributes? Not even as many as can be counted on one's fingers.

Time was when women's hockey was the exclusive preserve of Anglo-Indians, Parsis and Goans. Thus the best teams hailed from Bombay, Calcutta and Bangalore. The Punjab lasses have now taken to the game in right earnest and have shown that they can play just as well as any of the rest.

Punjab has always been the nur-

sery of hockey and the girls have been given every encouragement and help. The State Electricity Board, for instance, has provided jobs to some 20 of them just out of schools and colleges. What better incentive could there be? They have also been given proper coaching and guidance and have obviously worked very hard.

How wonderful it would be if girls as well as boys from other regions were as fortunate! Indian sport as a whole would then advance by leaps and bounds.

A shining example of the Punjab girls' prowess was provided by Harpreet Kaur in the second leg of the final against Bombay's Ambassadors. In a dazzling run from 30 yards out, the left winger beat four defenders one after the other, drew the goalkeeper out and scored with a neat reverse flick. It was a breathtaking effort. It will remain etched in my memory.

Like Harpreet, all the Punjab forwards displayed both dash and craft. Bustling Baljit Kaur was the best centre-forward on view, while Rajinder Mann, Lata Mahajan and Darshan Chauhan all filled their roles most capably.

The Punjab defence was not as impressive as their attack but then there

was seldom any danger to their goal.

Like Harpreet's goal, another highlight of the tournament was the display of goalkeeper Teresa George for Youngsters' Recreation Club, Nagpur.

The inexperienced Nagpur girls did not amount to much and Teresa had to face alone the might of the State Electricity Board attack. It was as if she had been thrown before a pack of hungry wolves. The Punjab forwards virtually camped themselves in the Nagpur "D" and struck again and again. Teresa, however, brought

## SPORT

off save after brilliant save, rushing out or padding away.

Still, it was an unequal struggle; one against too many. Teresa let in six. Any other in her place would probably have conceded at least 20. What struck one most was that she never gave up her job as hopeless. On the other hand, she rose to the challenge magnificently and was obviously enjoying every minute of it. Indeed, the ever-smiling Nagpur schoolteacher provided some object lessons in goalkeeping.

Sabrina Vaz, too, gave a stout display under the Ambassadors bar. For one so heavily built, she was surprisingly agile. Unlike Teresa, she got some cover from the backs and it was thanks to the hard working defence that Ambassadors were able to restrict the Punjab girls to one goal in each leg of the final.

Though Ambassadors finished the runners-up, I would rate Noshir Kayani, from Poona, as the next best side. They had the misfortune of being drawn in the same half as the Punjab side and went down by two goals to four after a thrilling fight.

A Goa eleven also competed, though without much success. The girls, however, must have learnt a lot from the experience.

A prestigious competition in the fifties, the Tommy Emar was revived last year after a lapse of 14 years. The Bombay Women's Hockey Association have done well to have revived it. And the girls have made it all worthwhile by their exhilarating display and sporting spirit.

Playfair

## MY FRIEND THE ENEMY — from page 13

"We-ell — I was having a bit of a root for some tasty morsels up on the hillside today. And I dug up your channel? That was mighty careless of me — mighty careless. Tell you what! I'll help you build a new one tomorrow. Take me no time."

Bud lay down very quietly and listened to Watkins getting ready for bed. He seemed to take hours. At last Bud could stand it no longer. He knew he wouldn't sleep all night if he didn't say it.

"Mr Watkins!"

"M? Thought you were mad at me."

"Mr Watkins, I'll help you get your house in order tomorrow."

"That's decent of you — very decent."

"No, it isn't because it was me who smashed it up to pay you out for digging up my water channel and I'm sorry I did it."

"You Bud? Didn't think you were

a chap like that. Never mind, you've done the handsome thing now. Let's call it quits, shall we? We'll give each other a hand tomorrow to get everything cleared up. M?"

"Suits me," replied Bud, much relieved.

When Bud and Watkins woke next morning and had their breakfast, Watkins said, "Well me lad, and now to work!"

"Is Bud going to help you?" Bristly asked.

"No, I'm helping him. His water channel got dug up."

Watkins winked at Bud who felt a bit foolish.

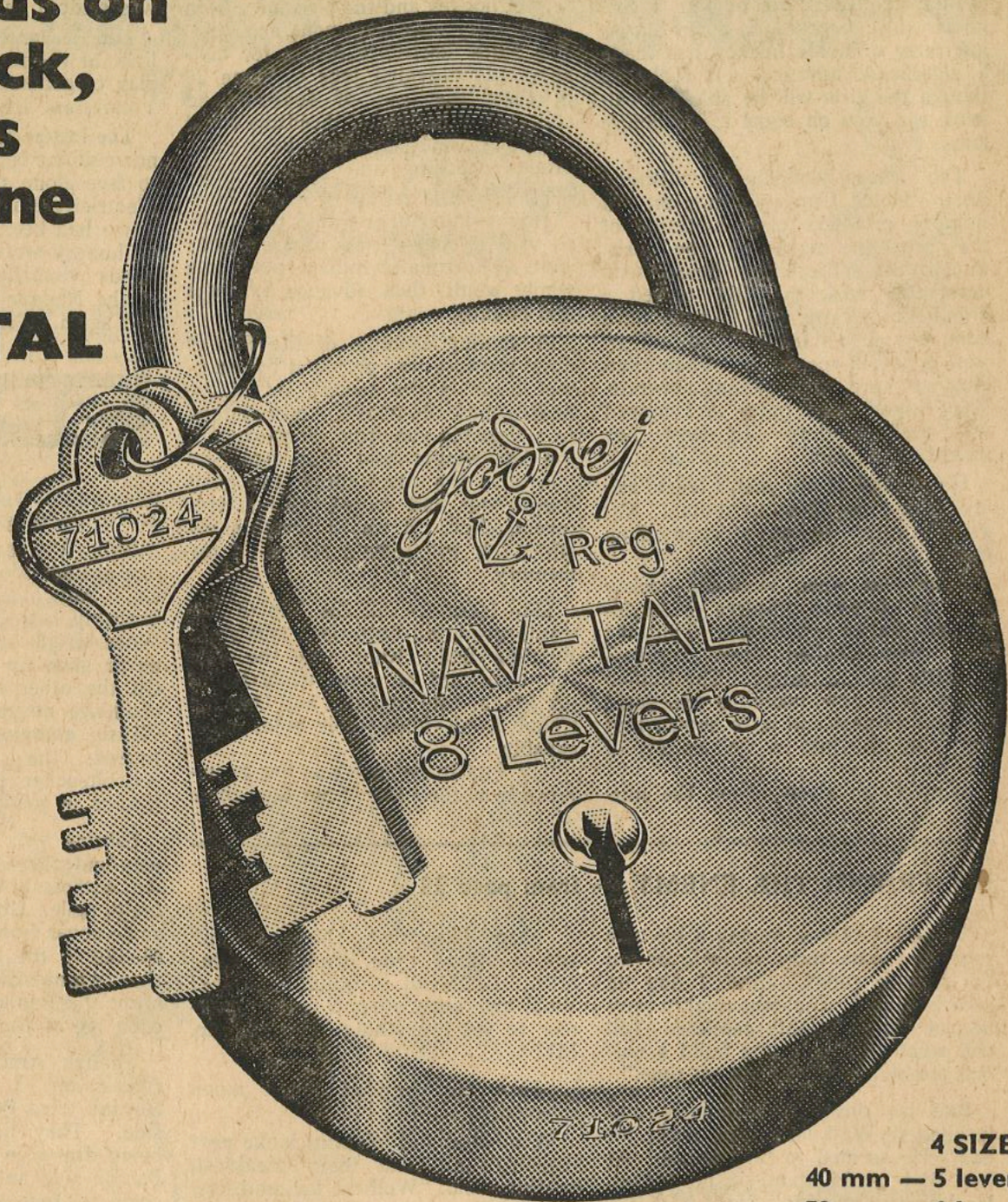
"I wonder what you are up to?" Lop asked suspiciously but Bud and Watkins hastily picked up their spades and started off up the hillside before Bristly or Lop could ask any more awkward questions.

HIMMAT, June 22, 1973

15



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## Israeli scientists tackle oil pollution of the seas

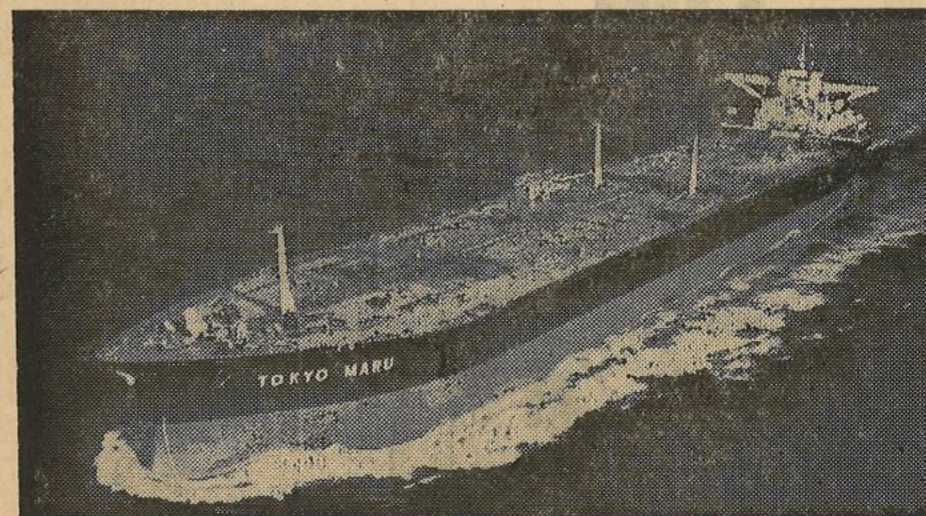
Two Tel Aviv University scientists, Prof Eugene Rosenberg and Dr David Gutnic, have developed a biological method of preventing water and shore pollution caused by oil spills from tankers. Their system can change the oil to a protein substance which enriches the natural food in the sea for the fish.

Their process is based on the development of useful bacteria. Until now experiments to control oil pollution in the open sea, also using bacteria that eat oil, have been carried out but without much success. The two scientists therefore decided to attack the problem in the tanker itself.

A great part of sea pollution is caused by tankers after they have

added a small cupful of the oil-eating bacteria, along with 25 kg of nitrogen and 0.25 kg phosphorus, to a tank containing 120,000 litres of water mixed with the remains of the oil. Everything except the bacteria was added to another tank known as the control tank. Air was blown into the tanks by means of tubes. Both tankers had a four-inch thick layer of oil on their walls from previous trips.

After six days it was found that in the first tank, which had the bacteria, 60 per cent of the oil had been eaten and the remaining 40 per cent was well blended with the water and no longer a source of pollution. The walls and floor of the tank were completely clean. Astonished tanker personnel testified that they had



**OIL-TANKER:**  
cleans its tanks into the sea

emptied their cargo. A tanker, after unloading, fills its tanks with water to reach the weight necessary for the return trip. Before the tanker enters its home port, it spills into the sea the water it has been carrying, which now contains some 500 tonnes of residual oil—for a tanker of 200,000 tonne capacity—that cannot be pumped out during the original unloading. This is the main cause of the large oil deposits on the sea and sea-shores.

During their work the scientists also discovered that the oil-eating bacteria ate more voraciously and multiplied more rapidly when placed in oil enriched with nitrogen, phosphorus and air.

They followed up their laboratory investigations with practical experiments aboard an oil tanker. They

never been able to get it so clean, even with the chemical cleansings performed after each trip. No changes had taken place in the control tank.

This, however, still leaves the problem of accidental oil spills on the high seas, unsolved.

Apart from this, the two Israeli scientists point out that water used to give weight to tankers which until now has been emptied into the sea afterwards can be used for producing a nutritive, protein-rich fish food. They expect a yield of up to 150 tonnes of protein from a tanker of 200,000 tonne capacity.

These discoveries have aroused considerable interest among shipping companies, nature protection groups, and various research institutes.

Dr Sudhir Chandra

“I came across a copy of **HIMMAT** in the jungle and resolved to meet the Chief Editor”

said a leader from Mizoram.

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# Karunanidhi takes measures to improve image

From K. S. Ramanujam in Madras

THE ruling DMK seems to be in disarray. There is undeniably a crisis of confidence amongst its rank and file ever since the Dindigul debacle. They appear to be feeling quite uneasy about the present situation which definitely points towards an increase in popular esteem for matinee idol M. G. Ramachandran's ADMK party.

The ruling DMK's general council met on June 15 to announce a seven-point programme to refurbish its image tarnished by charges of corruption and nepotism.

The most important measure was the directive to partymen holding nominated appointments in public institutions to give up those posts. But Mr Karunanidhi declined to specify the posts falling under this directive. The MPs, MLAs and MLCs holding office as the party's district secretaries were also asked to relinquish those posts.

Mr Karunanidhi and Mr Nedunchezian, the Education Minister, had earlier offered to resign their party

## TAMIL NADU

posts of President and General Secretary respectively, held by them ever since Anna's demise in 1969. But they graciously withdrew their offer "in deference to the wishes of the party".

Mr Karunanidhi and his colleagues seem to be unwilling to face the issues, which are responsible for their declining popularity, in a constructive and courageous manner. Rather surprisingly and happily, the main issue on which all the major parties are attacking the ruling DMK Government is the dry law which was arbitrarily repealed by the Karunanidhi Government about 18 months ago. The Dindigul by-election disclosed that the women of Tamilnadu are quite bitter that a social measure, which had done them immeasurable good for over two decades, was scrapped on flimsy grounds, despite the solemn promise of the late Anna, founder-leader of the ruling DMK.

The arguments of Mr Karunanidhi that he is willing to restore prohibition if it is made an all-India policy and if the Centre compensates Tamilnadu for the loss in revenue, which he has put at Rs 360 million annually, do not cut any ice with the people. They feel his arguments are altogether unconvincing. Furthermore, M. G. Ramachandran has clarified in

an unambiguous manner that even when he was in the DMK he did not approve of the scrapping of prohibition and that in any case he wants it to be restored immediately. Mr Kamraj told HIMMAT: "The ruling

DMK is bound to fall on this issue alone".

The ruling DMK's image, which suffered a serious setback as a result of the two petitions submitted by Mr M. G. Ramachandran to the President of India against the Tamilnadu Chief Minister and others of the ruling DMK Government, has not improved. If Mrs Gandhi's Government had ordered an enquiry and cleared the DMK Government as it did with the charges against the Haryana Chief Minister, the position may have been different.

Chief Minister Karunanidhi finds it increasingly difficult to face the

CONTINUED ON PAGE 21

# The Great Impressionist



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## BRITAIN — from page 6

they turned the corner.

The British have a remarkable social conscience. Young and old feel strongly about human suffering and I have met some people in Britain more concerned about the drought in Maharashtra — and eager to assist — than in Bombay. India holds a special place in British hearts.

One should hand out a palm to Foreign Minister Sir Alec Douglas-Home for his sensitive handling of the India-Pakistan-Bangladesh situation over the last three years. Britain today, as before, has a superb diplomatic service, but the reason why its morale is high is because its advice has been heeded by political quarters.

Some leaders in Britain are concerned by the peace offensive of the Soviet Union in Europe, which they cannot equate with the phenomenal growth in the striking power of the Soviet Navy. There is a tendency in Britain to counteract its fears of the Soviet by closer links with China. In the last weeks there have been reports of Britain supplying China with transport planes and even arranging for the manufacture in China of a substantial part of the VC-10 airliner. China is also interested in buying the Harrier (jump off jets, which land and take off vertically). There is little doubt that China will use this lever of commercial plane purchases to obtain British fighter-planes. I raised with a British Cabinet Minister that such planes could possibly be used against India, based in regions like Tibet, and that in the event of such sales Indo-British relations, at present in the best shape possible, could become soured.

When I raised this matter with a friend in the Foreign Office, he asked: "Do you really think China will use aggression against India?" When I asked him the motive for such sales, he said it was "primarily commercial". Britain may need a larger world strategy than building up China and unless the present policy is carried out with caution, it may result in a wider gulf between the Soviet Union and Britain, and ultimately of greater danger to Britain herself.

It was at a restaurant within a stone's throw from Scotland Yard that an MP whispered to me softly: "You know, we don't speak about it, but we actually are the third strongest power in the world, though in nuclear strength France is catching up with us." There are many evidences of research in fields of defence science, where Britain still leads the world, and its Air Force is in cracking form.

To be continued next week

## THIS INDIA

### ALWAYS WELCOME

A British economist observed after a visit to India: "In a country where so many are homeless everyone feels at home." Sometimes we ourselves take for granted the open-house tradition that exists in our country.

There is a trade unionist in Ooty who lives in a simple three-room flat in a workers' colony. Yet he did not think twice about inviting 50 people from different nations to his home for tea. His neighbours decided to go out for a movie that evening and make their home available for the party. The furniture was rearranged in a neat fashion. The trade unionist and his wife waited at the foot of the steps ready to receive their guests. Coffee was served graciously with biscuits and bananas. The children, neatly attired, welcomed the visitors and passed around the eats.

On the wedding anniversary of this couple, friends went to greet them. The pair insisted that their visitors must not return without having coffee. There was no milk in the house. The young son was sent to get some from the neighbours. Coming up the stairs he spilt half of it. The wife went down again to procure more. She had been

cooking "paisam" (sweet), obviously for the family. This was served to the guests. A refusal is not entertained. The hosts were still not contented. When the visitors were about to leave, the wife brought out a bag containing mangoes and bananas, which they had been sent on the anniversary. The family brought out the best of what they had to serve to their guests.

This kind of hospitality is experienced in home after home across our country. Whether you arrive with prior notice or unannounced a cup of tea awaits you. It can be in the poorest of homes, and particularly in the ordinary homes, the hospitality is richer.

In a farmer's home, even though his wife was sick, she insisted on getting up to make tea for her guests and not letting them leave without having refreshed themselves with a drink in her home.

The ancient tradition of welcoming a guest no matter what time of the day or night he may arrive, offering the best to him, feeding him first, is still alive in a majority of homes. We can be proud of it. It is the heartbeat of Indian life.

*Keerja Chowdhury*

## NILGIRIS — from page 7

ed female workers between the ages of 17 and 40 years. The management credit all participants with a monthly sum of Rs 5 per head in a Savings Account until a woman reaches the age of 45 when she receives the amount standing to her credit with accumulated interest. A woman who after joining the scheme gives birth to more than two children forfeits certain amounts from her Savings Account.

Mr Chacko explained that the overall aim is to have a positive approach to family planning and UPASI have therefore adopted a symbol which conveys the joy of having a baby, an attitude more in accord with the true feelings of most people.

South India has nearly 400,000 hectares (950,000 acres) of plantations with 208,590 resident families. The Comprehensive Labour Welfare Scheme will be gradually extended as the soundness of this approach is proven. The introduction of such a scheme for the estate family unit will certainly revolutionise the life of the workers and help to create a

pattern of labour-management relations. This progressive idea being introduced by UPASI should have every encouragement from the estate owners, the labour organisation and the Government.

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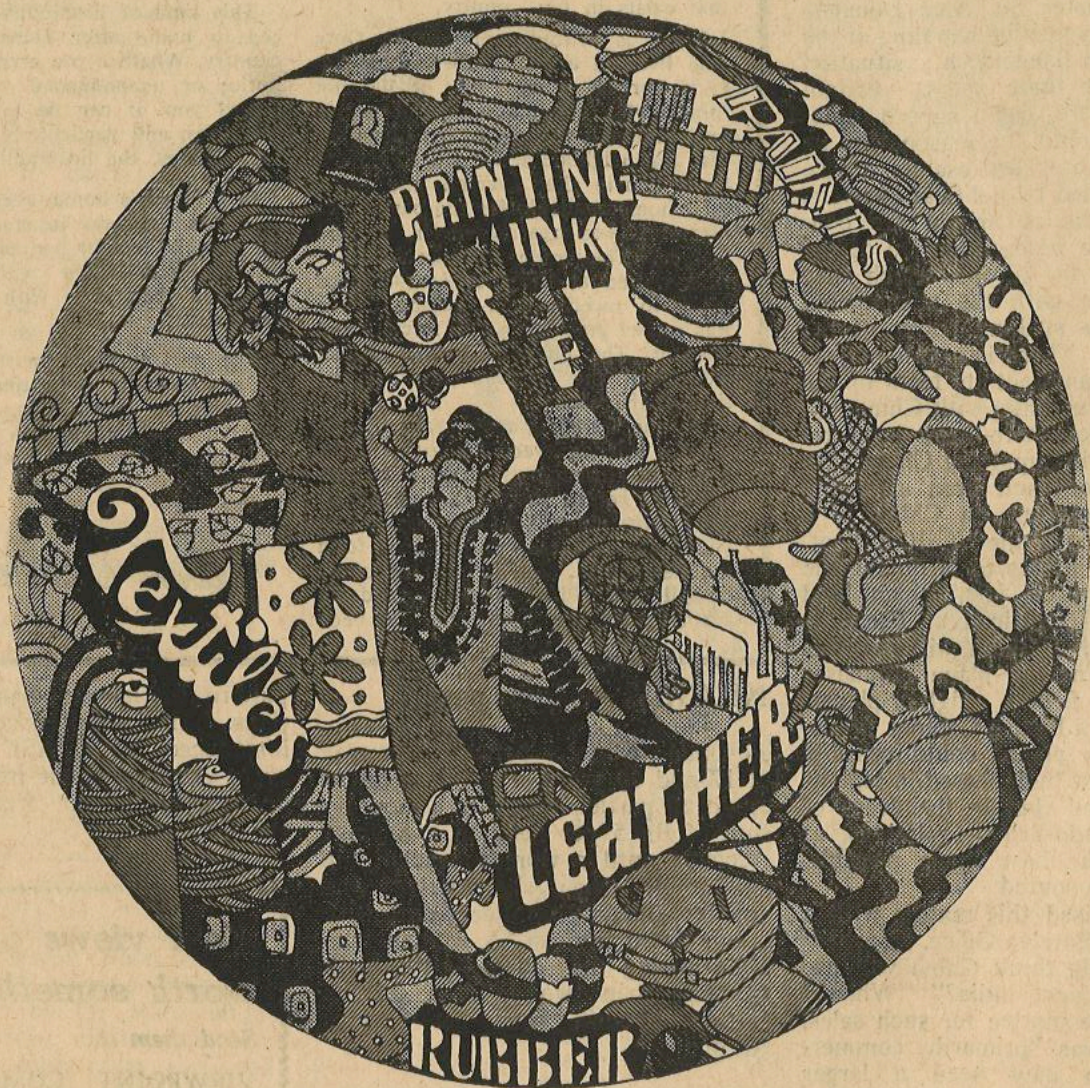
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# Letters

**ROBERT CARMICHAEL**

THANK you for the article about Robert Carmichael in HIMMAT of May 11. The way he answered the question: "Which do you put first, profit or people?" has made me put certain questions to myself as a Socialist and trade union man. "Which do you put first, your career or people? The party or people? The union or people?"

His life showed me that to put people first is not a philosophy but a practical way of life. Career, political views, age, social position — nothing of this must stop me from seeing my fellowman in every man that crosses my path.

Robert Carmichael lived into the situation of his fellowmen. This applied to his counterpart at the negotiation table, to the farmers who produce jute, to the relationship of France with other countries.

He had the guts to break with the conventional rules of thinking.

JOHN SODERLUND, Sweden

## "THE BRITISH EPISODES"

I'M British; even after 50 years in India! Seeing how the scandal-mongers give publicity to the misdeeds of certain state officials, it was a relief to read your article in HIMMAT, June 1. "To err is human but to forgive divine".

The persons in question have done a public act of humility by acknowledging their defects and renouncing their office; hence the curtain should drop down on this incident.

Thank you for the tactful explanation of the "British Episodes". Let us hope there will be no more of the like.

(SISTER) D. HALL, Ranchi, Bihar

## BOMBAY'S TRAFFIC PROBLEM

THE traffic problem of Bombay is becoming more difficult day by day because of the increase in population and inadequate transport facilities. The reason is that most of the government offices and commercial establishments are located in Central or South Bombay and the traffic is from north to south in the morning peak hours and the other way in the evening.

One of the effective remedies to overcome this problem is to shift Central and state Government offices, except Sachivalaya, to the suburbs. I therefore suggest that the Government should construct a 20-storey skyscraper on the site which is now available because of the shifting of the Bandra slaughterhouse to Deonar. If the suggestion is accepted it will definitely solve the traffic problem.

D. B. KULKARNI, Bombay 57

## TAMILNADU — from page 18

people on the issue of the prices spiral of essential commodities. His eager attempts to explain it away by blaming the Centre do not carry conviction. The people have not forgotten that the DMK came to power in 1967 on the basis of assurances of solving these very problems.

People are also tired of Chief Minister Karunanidhi's attempts to divert their attention towards issues like greater state autonomy, or the imposition of Hindi. They want him to take measures which would give them much-needed relief from growing unemployment, never-ending power shortages and spiralling prices. Harassment of ADMK party workers, who have been allegedly subjected to police repression, has not increased Mr Karunanidhi's popularity.

## This was a Life

**JAL COOPER**  
 1905-1972

JAL COOPER was a doyen of philately. He dealt with stamps for over six decades. For 35 years he edited and published "India's Stamp Journal", one of the best journals of its kind in Asia. He wrote more than six books on philately.

His philatelic auctions were popular. He was known to many through his column in "The Illustrated Weekly of India". As a member of the Philatelic Advisory Committee he lent his valuable services to the Indian Posts & Telegraphs Department for several years. He served as commissioner for many international stamp exhibitions.

Jal Cooper rose to such eminence by sheer honesty and hard work.

He was born on May 29, 1905 to a poor Parsi couple at Bombay. Mother Ratan Bai died when Jal was only seven. He collected stamps at a very early age. His relatives in the Royal Navy used to send him stamps. Father Manekji bought for his son the entire collection of one Mr Ardeshir Chinnoy for Rs 800, spending all his life's savings.

Jal completed his matriculation from Sir J. J. School for Boys and joined the Empire of India Assurance Company to supplement his father's income. In that company he rose to the position of chief organising inspector, the highest job an Indian could secure in those days. But he was thrown out of it, when he pleaded for better amenities.

At this time his philatelic dealings during his countrywide trips as an insuranceman came to his rescue. With the generous assistance of a friend Jal Cooper started a full-time business in stamps and sailed for London on his first business trip. Soon he built up a good business and rose to the height of his profession. He studied the stamps so carefully that he soon became an international authority on Indian stamps.

Jal Cooper died on August 2, 1972, when the country needed his assistance most for its forthcoming international Philatelic Exhibition.

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PROMISE OF PLENTY WITH





# Comrade B in America

by Rajmohan Gandhi

As they confer in Ottawa, Premiers Pierre Trudeau and Indira Gandhi will not find it easy to concentrate on the agenda on the table. Across the not distant border President Richard Nixon would be entertaining Soviet chief Leonid Brezhnev, and any deals they strike with each other would affect everybody.

Perhaps this was in Mrs Gandhi's mind when it was declared in Belgrade, after her talks with Tito, that big powers should not obtain an understanding at the expense of small, developing and non-aligned countries.

Times change and men's attitudes unfreeze. Fifteen years ago Richard Nixon shook his finger and outpoured stern words at Soviet leadership during the Moscow Fair. On his return home he rejected and ridiculed detente. Now he is its champion.

Politicians are gifted with an astounding ability to forget. This skill can help or hinder. If it serves towards a true friendship between America and Russia, the world will raise three cheers.

Leonid Brezhnev is no admirer of the American system. He is committed in theory to replacing it the world over, including in America, with the Marxian system. But he is unlikely to remind his host of this resolve.

Brezhnev does not possess, according to the "Sunday Telegraph", Khrushchev's panache, Stalin's wickedness or Lenin's vision. He is described as "sober and unsmiling, his eyes hooded beneath bushy eye-brows, and shrewdly calculating". But he has held the Soviet steering wheel since 1964 and allowed neither a crash nor the emergence of a new driver. Nixon will treat him with respect.

Does Brezhnev show his feelings? In Bonn last month, at a banquet he gave for Herr Brandt, he made it clear that the Soviets were not forgetting recent history. The Germans were reminded of their misdeeds. In his reply Brandt read a letter by a German soldier in the Second World War written

to his family shortly before he was killed. It spoke of the destruction, suffering and hate that the German Army was causing in Russia, and expressed the soldier's longing to meet the Russians as friends one day. According to Herr Egon Bahr, Minister in the German Cabinet and one of the main guests, there were tears in Brezhnev's eyes.

It has been observed that Nixon has embarked on the talks with his powers weakened by Watergate, and that Brezhnev has strengthened himself by silencing the opponents of detente at home and by his new agreement with West Germany. Others have suggested that Nixon would welcome the Brezhnev visit as a diversion from the Watergate controversy. Yet it would be an error to think that the dice is necessarily loaded in Brezhnev's favour.

Brezhnev and his colleagues have made a hard decision that an accommodation with the United States is necessary. They have doubtless assured themselves that it would also be useful, and that the risks of "contaminating" the Soviet public that a policy of detente carries are worth taking.

Yet it is also obvious that Soviet policy, to use again the words of the "Sunday Telegraph", has been "prompted by fear and failure". Fear springs from the Soviet realisation of the danger from the 4000-mile frontier with China. And failure is the term that has to be given to the recent performance of Soviet agriculture and the economy generally. It would seem that emphasis on defence expenditure, a relatively unimaginative bureaucracy and poor harvests resulting from harmful weather conditions have damaged the Soviet Union's agricultural and consumer goods sectors.

Vast quantities of American grain have apparently become crucial for the Soviet Union's continued growth. On his success in securing them and in making life more comfortable for the Soviet people would depend Brezhnev's

future.

This reasoning could also explain the Kremlin's decision to shut its eyes and lips as far as Watergate is concerned. The propaganda value of the Washington turmoil has been sacrificed to the interests of the summit.

Chinese ears are undoubtedly glued to the ground. Mao and Chou will want especially to know if any secret understandings are being attempted. Washington seems to have developed a policy of equal co-operation with Moscow and Peking. With the two Red capitals suspecting each other so thoroughly, this requires considerable agility and flexibility on Washington's part. Whether Nixon and his friends would be able to maintain this posture indefinitely remains to be seen.

Europeans will also be watchful. De Gaulle was not alone in thinking that a Washington-Moscow handshake over the heads of Europeans could cast an uncomfortable shadow. France under him went nuclear because it did not trust the Americans to offer their involvement in a future European conflict that could see the Soviet Union as a principal combatant. Any agreement between Washington and Moscow that meant reduction of US forces in Europe would make quite a few Europeans anxious.

Advance bulletins suggest that Soviet-American trade could rise to as much as 5000 million dollars annually by 1980 compared with 200 million dollars two years ago. Huge contracts involving Siberian natural gas and petroleum and American grain, computers and technology are foreseen.

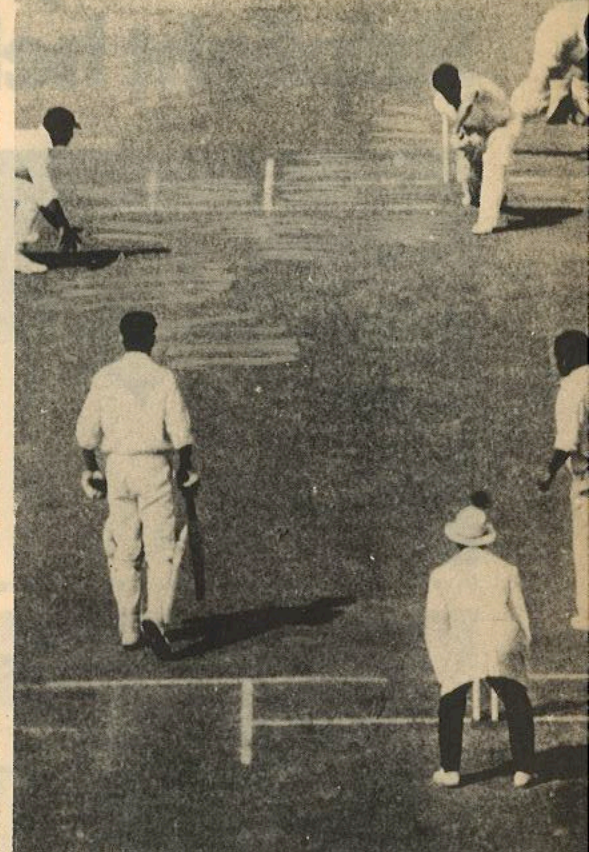
Despite its anxieties and reservations, the world will hope and pray for great things to come out of the summit. How fresh it would be if, shedding pride and fear, America and Russia were to acknowledge their respective inadequacies! And how heartening if, pooling their resources, they were to work jointly towards a happier, freer and better mankind!

WINNERS

Due to an error on our part, the cricket photographs of cricket competition nos. 333, 334 and 335 have been repeated. Thus in all fairness the competitions are unfortunately void. We wish to sincerely apologise to our readers for this.

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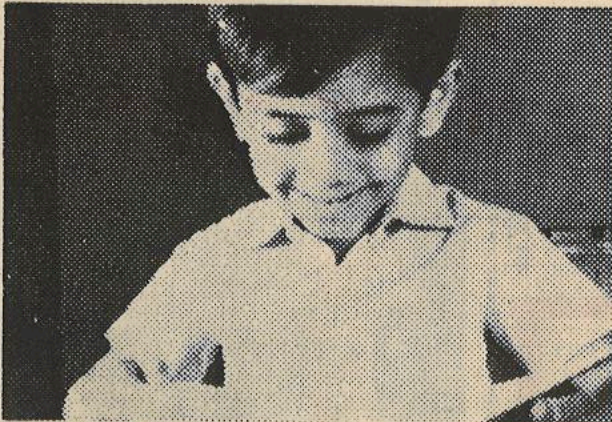
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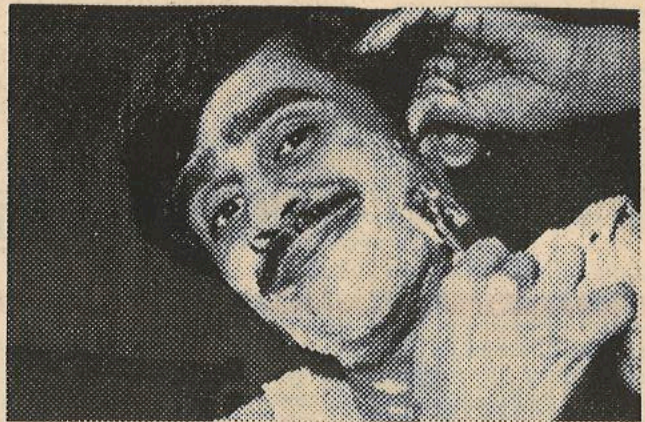
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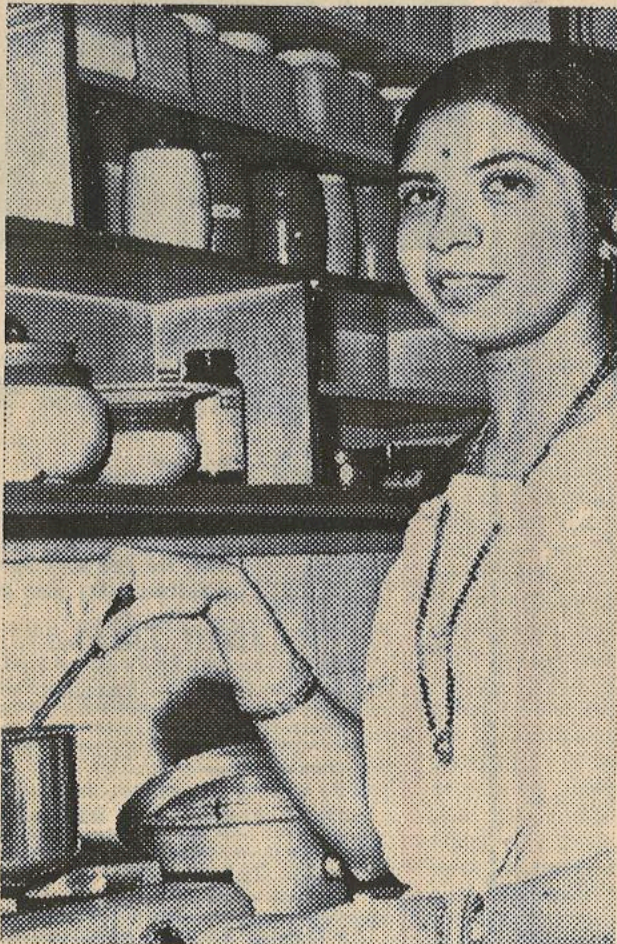
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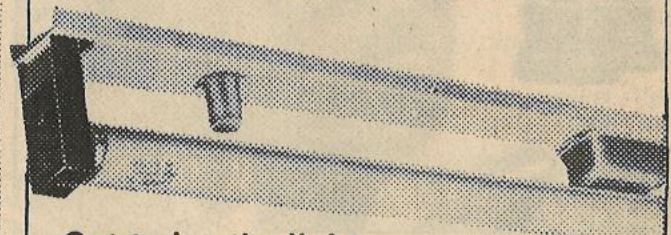


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