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Asia's new voice

WEEKLY

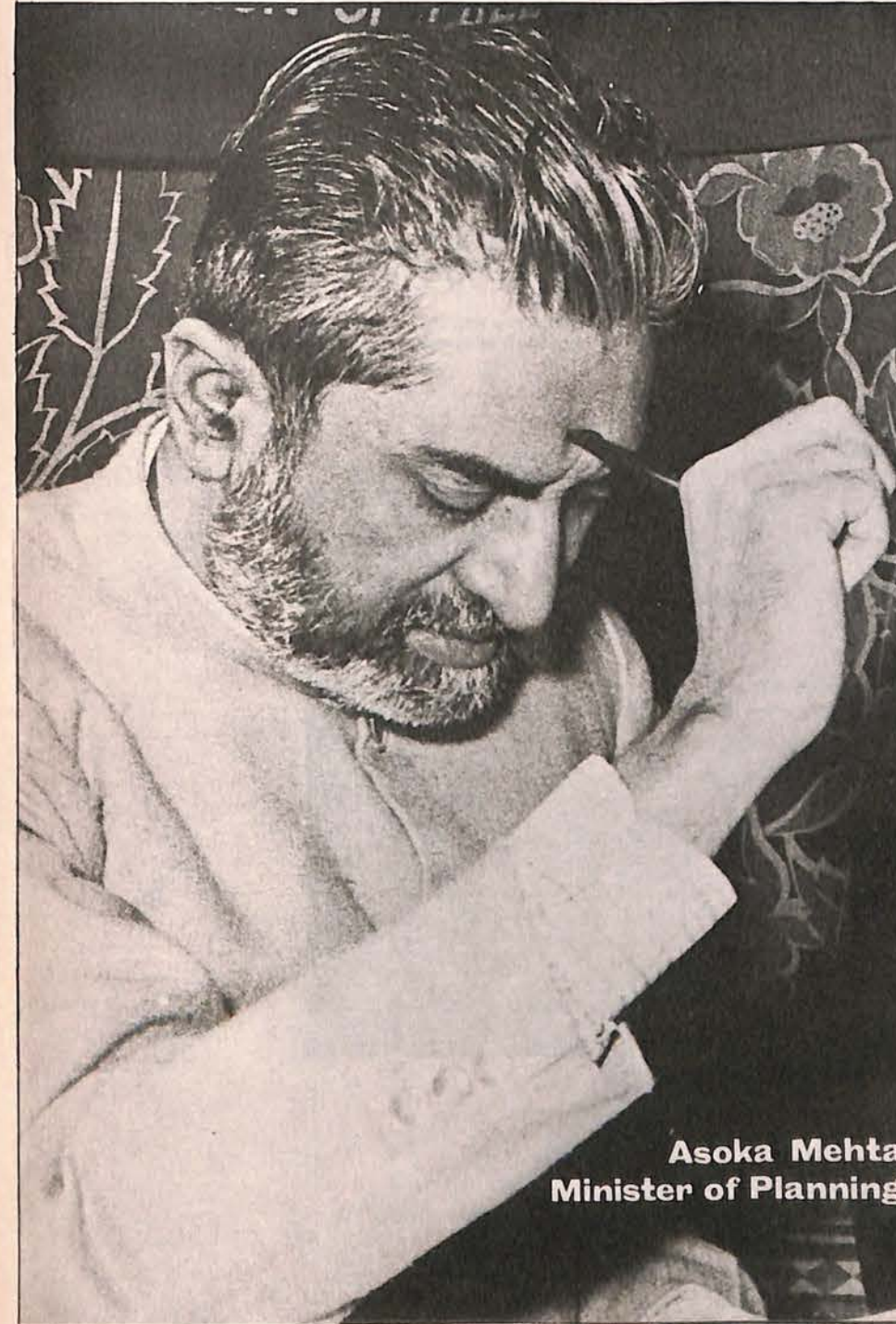
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Asoka Mehta
Minister of Planning

DILEMMA OF DEMOCRATIC SOCIALISM

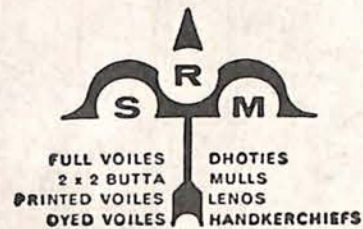
Page 5

Friday
February 11
1966

Special Report

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HIMMAT

Asia's new voice

WEEKLY

Bombay

Friday, February 11, 1966 Vol. 2 No. 15

Asian Partners

EARLY NEXT MONTH Japan will, for the first time, hold a consultative meeting with an Asian or African country. That country is India. The two nations will discuss Vietnam, nuclear non-proliferation and Afro-Asian problems. Fifteen months ago when HIMMAT called for such close ties the prospect seemed distant.

It was Mr. Dinesh Singh, Minister of State for External Affairs, who, on his Asian tour last year, paved the way for this consultative procedure along with Japanese Foreign Minister, Mr. Shiina. Hectic preparations for last year's Algiers Conference found India and Japan in agreement on many vital points and India has welcomed Japan moving beyond her earlier policy of "non-involvement".

Japan has summoned a seven-nation South-East Asian Conference in Tokyo on April 6 and 7. She will discuss Japan's role in the economic development of the region and is expected to raise the Vietnam question too. Japan, in spite of the initial setback to Mr. Shiina's mission to Moscow, seems determined to act as a bridge between North Vietnam and the United States for a Vietnam settlement.

While the US valiantly bears the main burden for Asia's military defence, "The battle for the hearts and minds of Asians must be borne mainly by Asians," as former Prime Minister Mr. Kishi stated in HIMMAT last week.

Thanks to the vision and effort of statesmen like Mr. Kishi and Prime Minister Sato, Japan has realized that where freedom is involved there are no local problems. They are all global. The day should not be far off when Australia will join India and Japan in common consultations for Asia's peace and prosperity.

Lunar Marathon

ANOTHER FIRST in the space marathon, and all honour to the Soviet scientists for their remarkable achievement of a soft-landing on the moon. Though it was the Russians' fifth attempt, the Americans are not expected to try their first shot until May.

Soft-landings are not a new technique for the Russians. They have always preferred this method for bringing their manned satellites back to earth whereas the Americans parachute them into the sea. But with a moon-landing there is a difference. For want of atmosphere around the moon the use of normal parachutes is out of the question. It is believed that the delicate manipulation of retro-rockets slowed the craft's velocity from 6,000 mph to only six mph in the final moment.

A French space expert last weekend likened Luna-9's touchdown to firing a bullet at a person's head, then breaking its velocity at the very last instant, enabling it to lodge gently in the ear.

Luna-9's landing means that a man could be put on the moon by next Monday. But it would be a one-way excursion. The big question facing Russia and the US is how to get a manned moon craft back to earth.

America leads in its rendezvous and docking techniques as well as its miniaturized electronic systems. Russia leads in its soft-landing knowhow and the power and thrust of its rockets. Many call for a pooling of knowledge and resources so that the immense expenditure of Russia and America can be consolidated, thereby releasing vast funds for solving earth's problems of hunger and disease.

Without doubt the fierce competition between the two has been the greatest spur to progress during the short period of nine years since the first satellite was launched. In no field of human endeavour can there be maximum progress without competition. So it is with space. And in the race for the moon it is moonshine to expect the two giants to share secrets which will determine who gets the laurels in this exciting marathon.

Celebrated Imperialist

THEN, AS NOW, England was ruled by a Harold. "Then" was 1066 when the Normans, led by the redoubtable William the Conqueror, defeated King Harold and subjected the Anglo-Saxons to their only experience of foreign conquest.

"Now" is the 900th anniversary. Celebrations are being organized nationally this year, financed by the Government of "King" Harold Wilson and dignified by the chairmanship of the Duke of Norfolk, the premier peer of the British realm.

The British, with their customary cunning, have turned calamitous conquest into cause for celebration! For 1066 was the classic case of an imperialist power triumphantly, unrepentantly and permanently taking over an underdeveloped nation.

King Harold's Plassey was the Battle of Hastings. The islanders, though fighting for fatherland and freedom, were outclassed by the invaders' sophisticated weaponry. Harold's axemen, unbeatable when it came to whacking it out man to man with their choppers, were encircled by the Normans' armour (knights on horseback) and mown down by his superior firepower (bows and arrows). A guided missile (fired by an archer) smote Harold himself fatally in the eye.

And for the next few centuries the English had rulers who spoke a foreign tongue and who modernized their land with tough-minded efficiency. The Norman imperialists built fortresses, made laws, collected taxes, endowed universities and churches—and were generally detested.

Nine hundred years on, the British have decided that 1066 was perhaps a good thing after all. Will time so modify our view of present-day imperialists?

Briefly Speaking ...

We have two ears and one mouth that we may listen the more and talk the less.

ZENO C. 355

Princely

THE CATHOLIC CHURCH has lost two of her gifted sons in the last weeks. Both happened to be Jesuits, both were men princely in spirit, who took vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. The Rev. Father J. H. Gense came from Holland and made India his home for over 40 years. The other, the Rev. Father Lovett d'Souza, was born here.

A generation has been brought up on Gense's histories of India and of England. With his soft black cap, his specs perched precariously at his nose-tip, a breviary in his hand, his swaying white figure was a familiar sight in St. Xavier's College, Bombay.

Twenty years ago I was summoned to his room for planning mischief in his class. I went trembling, to find

a jovial friend awaiting me with a ruler in his hand. Ceremonially he tapped me gently twice on the knuckles. Then he opened a jar and offered me sweets. He didn't look the sweet-eating type and I plucked up courage to ask:

"Father, do you keep sweets for your friends?"

"No," came the prompt reply. "I keep them for my enemies."

He Lives

WHAT MAKES a great teacher? When words and wisdom are forgotten what the pupil carries through life is the sincerity, enthusiasm and personal relationship with his teacher. On all these counts Father Lovett, who died in Poona last week, was a great teacher. His enthusiasm was contagious; his love for people abounding.

Father Lovett was born into a family of privilege but sacrificed a life of ease for one of discipline and service.

Many knew him as an enthusiastic Scout Master. Though frail in health he continued to participate in Scout camps from Purandhar to Mahabaleshwar. He set the pace by doing what he expected his boys to do. He wanted to train them, not only in physical discipline, but yearned to give them a backbone to face life with.

Quick to recognize the value of the training camps conducted by MRA, he picked the best of his students and sent them for further training. A true Scout, he prepared others to take on the task of building a better India. In them he lives.

Some Mischief

EVERY MORNING, the first chore of US Secretary of State Rusk is to read a summary of troubles that have cropped up around the world while he slept.

To the House Foreign Affairs Committee, he explained the daily briefing is needed because:

"The world is round. Only one-third of the human beings are asleep at one time. The other two-thirds are awake and up to some mischief somewhere." *US News and World Report.*

Moving Eggheads

THE OUTPUT of Russian scientists is half as much as that of their American counterparts, writes Dr. Peter Kapitsa, director of the Russian Institute for Experimental Physics, in *Komsomol Pravda*. The number of scientists in each country is the same, but while the US produced about one-third of the world's scientific advance, the Soviet Union only produced one-sixth. (Wonder how they measure it.) Dr. Kapitsa proposed moving the less productive eggheads to industry where they might be more use devoting themselves to applied science.

First and Last

BRITAIN'S FIRST colony in America and one of her last ones in Africa rebelled. British historians generally expressed the view that the defeat of Britain was partly due to George III who, they said, was mad in his later years. The *British Medical Journal* now says that this was not true and the monarch was suffering from a liver complaint.

No such excuse is being forwarded in the case of Rhodesia. If anything it was Mr. Wilson who told Mr. Smith in one of his last telephone talks, "You chaps need to get your heads examined."

Half-Work Half-Study

PHILOSOPHERS in China have been asked to follow the principle of half study, half work to turn out good "Marxist philosophers".

"China is in a period of great emancipation of philosophy," the *People's Daily* says in its editorial introducing the new trend.

It called on those "who are specializing in philosophy to go out and live and work for some time among the workers, peasants and soldiers to ensure that philosophy serves them well".

Chinese leaders lately have started an overhaul of China's educational system to prevent raising what they called Soviet-style "new bourgeois intellectuals".

Forty Per Cent

THE NEW EDITION of UNESCO's statistical year book states that 40 per cent of the world's adults are illiterate.

R. M. L.

Dilemma of Democratic Socialism

We have had two major assessments in the past week from different angles of our economic development. The Japanese mission which was visiting India to evaluate prospects of greater Indo-Japanese economic collaboration have been refreshingly frank about their concern over the state of the Indian economy.

"The climate of investment was not favourable for foreign investors," said Mr. T. Adachi, leader of the group.

He asked the question if, in view of India's foreign exchange difficulties, she would be able to honour all her commitments (interest payments, repatriation of profits and capital, etc.) in future. Thus India's creditworthiness has been called into question publicly for the first time.

The Finance Minister has presumably told the Japanese mission that his budget in March will answer their query. But it is not so simple, for there is no immediate cure-all for the chronic shortage of food and foreign exchange and no prospect of any appreciable increase in our competitive capacity for our export earnings. Already industries are closing down, laying off workers or running at minimum capacity for lack of vital imports. The budget will not touch the essential problems without a national effort amounting to total mobilization to increase food production and at least keep the present level of industrial production without essential imports.

Curbs on Inflation

The Finance Minister can, of course, announce (though this is improbable) drastic measures to curb inflation. He certainly can and probably must demonstrate a direction of economic policy conducive to greater investment and confidence in the money and share markets, even if it militates for the time being against the Socialist objectives of Government and strengthens the monopolist tendencies in the industrial sector and largescale farming in the rural sector.

The convocation address at the Saugor University by Shri Asoka Mehta, Minister for Planning in the new Government, is another point of view on the facts of our economic situation. In actual fact it is an

apologia of a Socialist for the failure of the planning machinery, over which he presides, to prevent growth of inequality and monopoly. It represents the conflict of conscience of democratic Socialism caught between the need to increase the efficiency and product of the economy and the danger of jeopardizing these goals in the pursuit of the egalitarian ideal.

Mr. Mehta seems to put aside urgencies of the moment and the demands of dire necessity in terms of food, foreign exchange and industrial production in his exercise on the pursuit of Socialist equality. His facts are, of course, telling. Two-thirds of the total advances of the banking system are made to 650 accounts in the country. He is quite right about the indulgence in "conspicuous consumption" of the "affluent pockets of the economy".

It is equally true that the agricultural policies of Government have tended to benefit the better class of agriculturalists. But it is typical of the dilemma of the democratic Socialist that Mr. Asoka Mehta's remedy for the ills of inequality contradict his own criteria for progress.

Control of Banks

In his definition of the emerging social order in India, Mr. Mehta lays down economic growth as a precondition for economic equality. He is also realistic enough to put his finger on the essential weaknesses both in private and public sectors. "In the private sector," he declares, "the economic operations are efficient, although the fruits of efficiency are often wasted and dissipated in conspicuous consumption. In public sector enterprise, the level of efficiency is not as high as desired."

The answer would therefore seem to be the curbing of wasteful expenditures on the part of the affluent and the increasing of the efficiency of public sector enterprises. But Mr. Mehta's solution is to enlarge Government control of banks and destroy the confidence and buoyancy and even the limited freedom of those sectors of the economy, the efficiency of which he concedes. Surely we cannot afford such measures for some time to come.

Mr. Asoka Mehta's advocacy of a levy on larger land holdings and a discriminatory policy against the better-placed farmer, while laudable in

Under
the
Lens



by R. VAITHESWARAN

terms of theoretical Socialist goals, cannot be seriously meant at a time when the priority is increase of food production and only huge wheat imports prevent mass starvation.

The Planning Minister will, of course, have the support of the nation in any measures he takes to strengthen the poor farmer. But there is obviously no need to rob Peter in order to pay Paul. It will rob the productive farmers of the means to improve agriculture and put a larger surplus on the market without substantial improvement in the plight of the small peasant.

As Mr. Mehta himself points out, even in the Soviet Union "the economy as a whole was nationalized, but later agriculture was brought under varying degrees of private ownership and enterprise". Indian Socialists can avoid the mistakes of their counterparts in other lands who have had to learn their lessons with much blood and great cost. Socialism in a developing country presupposes willingness to work hard, efficiency, and absence of corruption. Socialists will become an invincible force if they fight for these aims.

Certainly wastefulness, extravagance and inefficiency must be penalized whether in the private or the public sector. But the path to progress lies more in the increase of economic opportunity made available by the State through its own initiative and the private sector, the extension of State activity into fresh fields without disturbance of those who are doing the job well, diversification of industrial investment and the development of an economy at least self-sufficient in food and agricultural raw materials.

Without prejudice to the ultimate steps the State might take to curb excessive monopolistic power and achieve greater equality of real opportunity, the immediate emphasis should be on greater production of everything, even at the cost for the time being of the egalitarian ideal.

CHALTA HAI ...



"Get ready. They are putting down the red carpet. Must be a sick Deputy Minister at least."

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FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

Soviet 'Niet' on Japanese Islands

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Tokyo

It seems that the outcome of Foreign Minister Shiina's recent visit to Moscow was little more than the formal signing of the Japan-Soviet Aviation Agreement and the five-year Japan-Soviet Trade Agreement.

Foreign Minister Shiina took with him a personal letter from Prime Minister Sato addressed to Premier Kosygin calling for "an early settlement of the Kunashiri and Etorofu problems in order to promote further neighbourly friendship between Japan and the USSR". This was the first conference of Japanese and Soviet Foreign Ministers on the northern territory problem since the rapprochement between the two nations ten years ago. There were all-night discussions at the Sovietskaya Hotel.

Public Information and Cultural Affairs Bureau Director Niizeki who opened the Japanese Embassy in Moscow ten years ago is a Russian Affairs expert. Commenting on diplomacy in the Soviet Union he said: "Russians are very hospitable and treat their guests until they cannot stand on their feet. Around this time, Embassy members must be working on the drafting of the communique between intervals of toasting with vodka, with twisted pieces of cloth around their heads."

The Joint Communique as issued roughly incorporates the results of the Conference but does not mention the problem of the two northern islands. Before flying to Bonn, Foreign Minister Shiina said in Paris:

"With regard to the territorial issue, I repeatedly called Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko's and Premier Kosygin's attention to it. Since there is no change in the Soviet side's attitude toward the northern territory, Prime Minister Sato's visit to the Soviet Union within this year will be difficult, and I think there will be no need for it. If Soviet Foreign Minister Gromyko can come to Japan this year, that will be enough."

Since then the Soviet Government has announced the visit of Fisheries Minister Ishkov to Japan "during the period from the middle part of April to June". Japan-Soviet relations appear to be entering a new stage. But Foreign Minister Gromyko told Foreign Minister Shiina that "the improvement of Japan-Soviet relations must not be carried out in such a way as to worsen relations with third nations".

It is not clear whether the "relations with third nations" in this case mean Japan-China relations, US-Japan relations, or Sino-Soviet relations. The London Times recently used the phrase "the Moscow-Tokyo axis" in reporting Japan-Soviet relations. One opinion being voiced in diplomatic circles here is that "axis" relations may extend even to Washington with Tokyo as a medium.

Africa Plans—'Pragmatic' the Word

FROM VERE JAMES

Nairobi

It's useful to have a dictionary in Africa today—as well as an atlas. There's a word which is becoming quite fashionable—pragmatic. The definition is lengthy in some books but, in short, it means practical. Quietly and resolutely, in spite of all the slogans, the setbacks and the sufferings it appears that the pragmatists are gaining ground.

A source of much of the no-nonsense, down-to-earth thought and application on this continent at the moment is the UN Economic Commission for Africa with its headquarters in Addis Ababa. It is led by the

able Ghanaian, Mr. Robert Gardiner. The Chairman of the ECA is Mr. Tom Mboya, Kenya's Minister for Economic Planning and Development. Having been Minister for

Continued on next page

The week in Asia

SAIGON—The US resumed bombing of North Vietnam communications after a 37-day pause.

DACCA—Eighty died when a crowded passenger launch collided with a steamer at Chandpur port in East Pakistan.

TEHRAN—Iran and Czechoslovakia signed a 10-year economic pact under which Iran will receive a \$15 million machine tools plant.

GANGTOK—The Chinese are reported planting population in a 150-mile-deep belt along the Indo-Tibetan border. Two million Chinese are estimated to be in the area from Ladakh to NEFA.

KUALA LUMPUR—The Malaysian Government approved regulations to tighten control of the press in the interests of national security.

TOKYO—The 35-day Japanese seamen's strike ended with the seamen receiving Rs. 90 a month pay increase. Terms were similar to those earlier rejected by both sides.

TOKYO—A Japanese Boeing 727 airliner crashed killing all 133 on board—the biggest air disaster ever involving one plane.

COLOMBO—Ceylon Tamils took part in Independence Day celebrations for the first time in 10 years because Tamil has been recognized as an official language in northern provinces. The Opposition boycotted the celebrations.

KARACHI—Agriculture Minister Shams-ud-Doha said Pakistan had appealed to the US for one million tons of grain to prevent famine.

HANOI—The North Vietnam Government said any resolution in the UN Security Council on Vietnam would be "null and void".

SINGAPORE—Tear gas was used to break up fighting between Chinese and Malay military recruits.

TAIPEI—China has built missile bases in the north-west of China facing the Soviet Union, reported a Formosa news agency.

DJAKARTA—Students demonstrated at the Chinese Embassy against Peking radio attacks on Indonesia, and at the US Embassy against the resumption of bombing in North Vietnam.

HONOLULU—President Johnson flew to this Pacific island for talks with South Vietnam Prime Minister Ky and US military commanders.

Constitutional Affairs after Independence and provided Kenya with its remarkable Republic Constitution, he is now applying his talent to a development plan and to the economic progress promised lightly by lesser politicians.

At the opening of the industrial symposium in Cairo last week he urged the rapid industrialization of Africa balanced with continued development in agriculture. He stated that "given sound policies and a steady will" the gross domestic product of the East African sub-region could be doubled in the next decade

and that the gross industrial product with realistic planning should increase by more than £1,000 million by 1975.

He pointed out that Africa could only reach the present levels of economic development of Western Europe by the end of this century if agricultural output could be doubled per head and industrial output boosted 25-fold per head.

This implied that the share of agriculture in the economy would fall from 35 per cent in 1960 to 20 per cent by the year 2000. Industry must rise from 20 per cent to 40 per cent. Industrial output would therefore have to be increased by an annual

8 per cent between 1960 and 1980. From then onwards by an annual 9 per cent.

Political stability and the will to work will be as vital as capital investment and development. One without the other is impractical.

Also contained in Mr. Mboya's speech is the emergence of new groupings on the African continent. In the past language, politics, sometimes religion and even ideology have brought together uneasy and short-lived associations.

There are four sub-regions of ECA—East African, West African, the Maghreb and Central African—each with its own permanent institutions studying and developing the use of Africa's resources.

Could it be that the elusive concept of African unity will be achieved through the pragmatic approach of economic necessity?

India and Ceylon in Joint Sales Drive

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

Colombo

Ceylon and India are worried because the British are drinking less tea—fifteen million pounds less last year. In Ceylon's case tea accounts for over 60 per cent of her foreign exchange earnings, so it is more than a storm in a tea cup.

The two countries have decided on a joint tea propaganda campaign, spending Rs. 1,500,000 to boost its sales in the world.

Feeling has been aroused here, however, at India's behaviour. The Chairman of the Indian Tea Propaganda Board, Mr. Bhagwan Singh, recently told the press in Bangalore that Indian tea was better than Ceylon tea and that the sale of more Indian tea than Ceylonese at the London auctions supported his view. His speech, which is quoted in *The Tea and Rubber Mail*, has drawn protests from tea representatives here that he is sabotaging a joint enterprise.

But Ceylon realizes there is more to it than titivating the tastes of the British consumer. The Minister of Trade told foreign delegates to an International Tea Convention here that he would improve shipping facilities and packing.

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Nigerians Welcome Military Rule

FROM OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Lagos

A new voice has been heard on Nigerian radio and television. A clear determined military voice that expects to be obeyed. A voice very different from that of the politicians, with their promises and party praises.

The country, as a whole, favours the military take-over. "The politicians brought it upon themselves," says the ordinary man. Everyone agrees the clean-up is long overdue. Of course, some have spent uneasy days and sleepless nights since the change took place. Others have switched quickly from singing the praises of the politicians to extolling the new military rulers.

The voice that has spoken to the country has made certain things plain. First, that the politicians did not have the monopoly of corruption; that blaming someone else will not be enough; that every loyal Nigerian is expected to clean up his own backyard. Second, that gone are the easy-going days of late arrival at work, of lounging about and doing a little private business on the side. Nigerians are now expected to work and to give disciplined service to their nation. The interests of the country as a whole must be put first and sectionalism must go.

No one can deny that all Nigerians have received a shock. A shock, because of the dramatic speed of the turn of events. A shock, because the

leaders of yesterday—whether they were respected, feared or hated—are no more. Some have paid with their lives but all have gone—houses vacated, large cars returned, salaries stopped. A shock, because the whole tempo of life has changed. Work is required to be done, money accounted for, national interest put before personal gain.

No one can doubt the sincerity and courage of the young officers who have brought about this dramatic change. Much still remains unknown. The price paid was high, in lives and in confidence abroad, but something had to be done and change was long overdue.

While the shock lasts and the end of old abuses is still a welcomed and new experience, the new regime should have little trouble in creating the new discipline it is demanding. What then? Beneath and behind it all is the tiresome ingredient, human nature. The new rulers must create a new type of man—honest, unselfish, disciplined, incorruptible by money or power—if they are to make reforms permanent.

Unwilling Workers Mar Hungarian Rhapsody

FROM PIERRE SPOERRI

Vienna

Press reports from Eastern Europe indicate that most of the people's democracies are going through economic crises of various dimensions. Every government seeks new ways to overcome the economic slump. Some, like the Russians and the Yugoslavs, try to introduce the profit motive in different sections of production to encourage managers and workers to work more. Others use threats or reduce wages to impress on all the need to speed up the economy.

Hungary is one of the most interesting countries to watch in this respect, as a relatively free press and a dry sense of humour reveal the true state of affairs more clearly than in some of the other people's democracies. One obvious difficulty which the Hungarian Government faces, is the fact that as a Communist Government it is supposed to be a workers' Government.

One of the jokes passed around in the Hungarian capital reads: "Why do the Hungarian workers work so little?" The answer is: "They believe that the governing class in Hungary never had to work!"

The Hungarian Government has tried several methods to raise production. One system has already been mentioned above—the bonus.

Continued on page 12

The week in India

NEW DELHI—The Prime Minister, Mrs. Gandhi, agreed to resumption of flights over India by Pakistani aircraft.

LONGJU—Chinese troops penetrated two-and-a-half miles into the Longju area of NEFA.

NEW DELHI—Right Communist leaders are reported to have contacted Left Communists with a view to re-uniting before the 1967 general election.

JAMMU—Students burnt history books published by the State Government. State Students' Congress President Bhim Singh said they glorified Chinese Communist leaders and advocated an independent Kashmir.

TRIVANDRUM—Students wrecked buses and railways in demonstrations against rice shortages in Trivandrum and other Kerala cities. Left Communist leader E.M.S. Namboodiripad and 500 other Left Communists were arrested under DIR.

LUCKNOW—Validity of a UP Governor's ordinance superseding the Municipal Corporations of Kanpur, Allahabad, Banaras, Agra and Lucknow was challenged in the courts. Hearings were adjourned.

BANARAS—Students clashed with police when a student died in an accident involving a police truck. 60 Opposition MLAs were expelled from the UP State Legislature when they demanded instant discussion of the incident.

ROURKELA—Rice was rushed to this steel town where acute rice shortages had caused unrest.

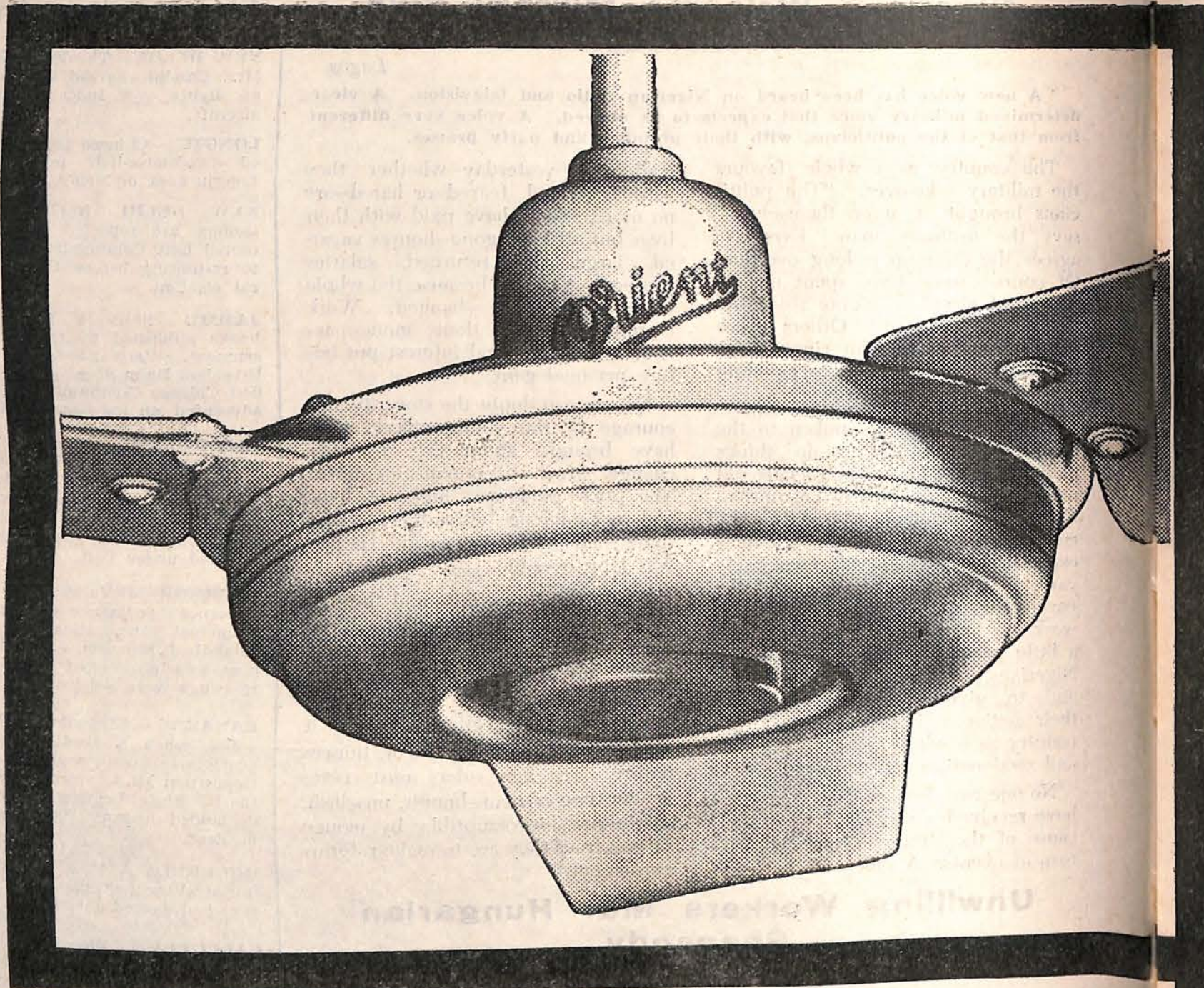
CALCUTTA—Five of West Bengal's 35 textile mills have closed and eight are working part-time owing to accumulation of stocks.

CUTTACK—3,000 Orissa engineering students continued their three-weeks-old strike for an increase in their monthly allowance from Rs. 50 to Rs. 120.

MADRAS—4,000 oil company employees in southern states struck indefinitely to support their bonus demands.

DEHRI-ON-SONE—The Prime Minister opened the two-mile Sone bridge—the longest in Asia—shortening the Delhi-Calcutta highway by 120 miles.

NEW DELHI—Ninety-eight per cent of Indians who have studied in Western countries would return there if they could, according to a UNESCO survey.



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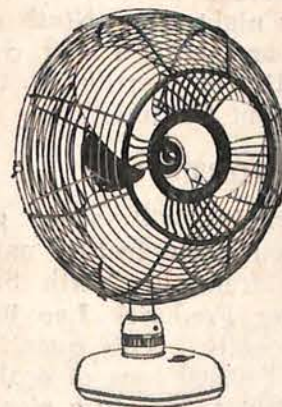
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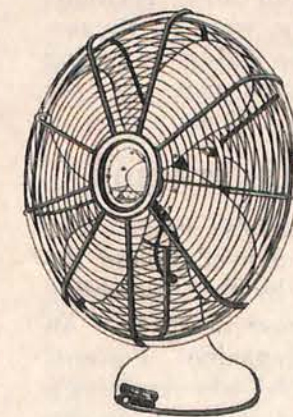
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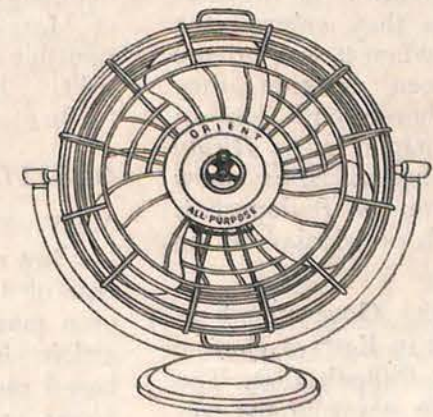
G U A R A N T E E D F O R T W O Y E A R S



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All-Purpose

From January 1, 1966, the size of the bonus will depend on how much profit the whole factory makes.

The second way to force production is also an old one. In new "Guide Lines for Ideological Activity", published in the official organ of the Communist Party, the workers are reminded of their "leading role" in the creation of a Socialist society. But as this recognition of a "leading role" is coupled with a demand for more work, this appeal seems to have fallen on deaf ears.

More Work, Same Pay

The third way has been to fix new targets. The Deputy Minister of Labour, Istvan Buda, explained in an interview with the Hungarian daily *Nepazabadsag* that the fixing of higher targets meant simply that for the same pay a higher production per man would be expected. The targets are from 2 to 3 per cent higher than last year in most factories, up to 14 per cent in others.

The new targets, it is reported, were not received with great enthusiasm. It meant, of course, also a much tighter control on the working and personal habits of the workers by management and by the Party. Articles in the official Government press attack those "who don't do more than they absolutely have to... and always grumble if they are reminded of their duties..."

Gate Tests

The Budapest Radio attacked the habit of some of the Hungarian workers of drinking alcohol even before work. In some factories the workers were tested when they entered the factory gate, and when it was proved that they had been drinking, they were sent back home with loss of pay. The newspaper *Esti Hirlap* complains that the statistics show that the population of Budapest is spending as much on alcohol as on clothes.

The Hungarian Government—as other governments in Eastern Europe—seems to face a difficult task. The more it loosens the screw in the cultural and economic field, the more the Hungarian people seem to want more freedom and consumer goods for less work.

Towards Islamic Summit

FROM HARRY ALMOND

Beirut

King Feisal returned on February 2 from a 7-day state visit in Jordan. Last month the Saudi Arabian monarch made similar visits to Iran and Kuwait.

The image of the Saudi King looms larger and larger on the Mid East horizon. Having put his own house in order by replacing his ailing and extravagant brother on the throne at the insistence of the council of the ruling family, King Feisal then came to terms with UAR President Nasser over the three-year-old conflict in Yemen. More recently his stock soared even higher as he concluded a \$400 million defence contract for planes, missiles and radar from Britain and the USA.

During the Tehran visit talks with Shah Mohammed Reza Pahlevi are understood to have included the possibility of joint Saudi-Irani oil ex-

ploration in the Arabian Gulf, security in the Gulf area and Islamic unity. An agreement defining limits of Saudi and Irani territorial waters in the Gulf was initialled. While in Tehran the King invited the Shah's participation in an Islamic summit conference to be held at Mecca in March.

Both Jordanian and Saudi sources emphasize that King Feisal's initiative is not an attempt to create alliances or an axis, but that it is inspired by Arab summit conference resolutions which refer to the need to gain support for Arab causes and to ensure "a close association" between Arab and Islamic states.

The Irani-Saudi rapprochement bodes well for stability in the oil rich region of the Arabian Gulf where the "Pax Britannica" imposed protectorate relationships with the Arab emirs will inevitably be replaced by arrangements more suitable to the rapid economic and political development of the Gulf states.

The week elsewhere

RUSSIAN PARTY CONGRESS

MOSCOW—According to Communist sources a reassessment of Stalin and Khrushchev will be a main subject at the 23rd Congress of the Russian Communist Party next month. A more balanced picture of Stalin will be proposed than Khrushchev gave the 20th Congress in 1956. The new assessment will be closer to the Chinese line that though Stalin made mistakes he advanced the Communist cause. Khrushchev's condemnation of Stalin and "revision" of Marxist doctrine were partly responsible for the Moscow-Peking split. The Congress may also see further attacks on China.

ORBITING SPACE STATION

NEW YORK—Russia's lunar soft-landing may be followed before the end of this year by the assembling of a permanent base in space. An article in the magazine *Fortune*, based on US official sources, says a 2-man moon rocket might leave this orbiting base, which would be built up from five 13-ton Proton spacecraft, launched separately and linked in space. The article estimates

that 1.5 million Russians work directly on space projects and that, like the US, the Soviets spend one per cent of their national income on it.

INFILTRATION CONTINUES

SAIGON—The US resumed raids on North Vietnam following intelligence reports that the North Vietnamese had used the 37-day lull to move up 10,000 more troops for infiltration into the South. Air photos showed stepped-up supplies to the Viet Cong with supply trucks moving by day as well as by night. The North repaired roads and bridges and continued infiltration of guerrillas to the South throughout the lull.

GAS FROM NORTH SEA

LONDON—Britain will soon get over 50 million cubic feet of natural gas daily from the North Sea. Power Minister Frederick Lee told Parliament recently. This quantity, equivalent to 500,000 tons of coal a year, is sufficient to supply a city of half a million people. British Petroleum's first well in the North Sea is already yielding 10 million cubic feet of gas a day.

ON THE Spot

HIMMAT meets the people

A Jawan Loses Rs. 700 and the Major Acts

"THE SOLDIER AND GOD are called upon only in time of trouble.' You know, General Cariappa said that." The Major was speaking to me on a railway station platform. He was every inch a soldier with immaculately starched uniform, medal ribbons and rock-like bearing.

We boarded the train and fell into conversation. I learned that the Major had been with the 14th Army, Imphal to Rangoon in World War II. Then he had worked with the administration in Burma, like his father before him. His uncle was once Police Commissioner in Rangoon.

He told me of an experience in camp, a story as remarkable as any on the battlefield.

'Not the Way'

"I was with the Madras Regiment in Assam. The Subedar Major came to me. One of the men going on leave had withdrawn his entire savings, Rs. 700, the previous afternoon and put them in his case in the barrack room. The Rs. 700 had vanished. 'Sir,' said the Subedar, 'he disobeyed orders and did not have his money put in the safe overnight. However, I know several men who might have stolen it. With your permission I will make some arrests and get a confession by evening.' 'Now Subedar,' I replied, 'that's not the way. I don't want to hear about suspects. In fact there shouldn't be any talk about this.'

"That evening all the men were paraded. There were about 200, not a single man absent. 'Something has happened, what is it?' I asked. There was silence. I repeated the question.

"'Theft, Sir,' a soldier cried. 'Yes. I thought this was a good unit. That I could trust you. But one of you has brought disgrace upon us all. I don't want to hear any names. I don't want you pointing a finger at anyone. I won't call this man a thief.

I believe he made a mistake which, as we stand here, he regrets deeply. Anyone can make a mistake. I've made many. A general may turn down a lakh of rupees but take a ten paise stamp in a weak moment.

"We are all capable of mistakes. I believe this man had a moment of weakness and would correct it if he could. He shall have the chance to do so. If he comes to me, I promise never to divulge his name or punish him. But to make it easier, the doors and windows of the office will be left open. Any time during the night he can throw the money inside. He may have hidden it somewhere, so for 36 hours there will be no restrictions on any man's movement in or out of camp. He will have tonight and tomorrow night. I believe he will correct his mistake. But if that money is not back within the time limit, then I say to you all that this is a bad unit. I will not serve with you any more. I shall ask for immediate transfer.'

'Crazy Ideas'

"Many thought it was hopeless and some officers joked about 'the Major's crazy ideas'. Next morning a sweeper came running, 'Sir, Sir, here it is,' and handed over Rs. 700 less Rs. 30, wrapped in a newspaper. That evening I addressed the men.

"The mistake has been put right. True, Rs. 30 has been spent, but we will forgive him. The soldier who disobeyed orders must pay that as a penalty. In the face of the great temptation to keep the money, he has returned it. He is a great man and I salute him.'

"Later the Battalion Colonel asked me, 'What made him return the money?' I replied, 'It was the moral pressure of 200 men willing him, shaming him. His own conscience and 200 others bearing upon him.'

As the train rolled on in the night I thought of the Major's men in their ranks at that unusual parade.

Major, what do you think is the secret of the confidence between you and your soldiers?

"Sincerity. Having a genuine desire to look after their welfare all the time."

What factors do you feel have helped you the most?

"Religion first of all. I believe not just in theory, but living it out in practice. Then I was lucky. As a young officer I served under men with the highest standards of integrity, honesty and fair play. I learned a lot from them."

Did you ever have men locked up in the guard house?

"Oh yes. The real rogues. I had to be ruthless with them. But one must understand the man and treat each differently. I remember one of the first men brought before me. I looked at him sternly and spoke sharply. 'Did you do it?' He nodded. My voice rang out, 'Are you ashamed?' Tears rolled down his face. I dismissed him. The Subedar Major wasn't so happy. 'Sir, it won't help the others. A man must be punished, Sir.' 'Subedar,' I said, 'that man has been punished. His conscience is punishing him now.'

The train rattled across the points at a junction. There was a twinkle in the Major's eye and his smile was framed by the tall turban and dark beard. He has served his country well. After 23 years' service he is now a battalion commander in the NCC. Of one thing I am certain. The discipline and character of India's sons and daughters are safe and sure in the hands of this Major. We salute him.

R.C.

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LETTERS

PIPES FOR PROGRESS

SIR: Reading your article "River that Men Reversed" (7-1-66), here are some thoughts about irrigation of dry areas including India.

During the last few years I have had the opportunity to work with shipments of pipes of large diameters. I am convinced that within not many years pipes will become of vital importance for irrigation purposes in areas with little or no water. It must be cheaper and better to lead the water in pipes than reversing rivers and/or making channels.

Pipes are produced at probably the lowest cost in Japan but the ore to make the pipes is to a great extent imported from India. Would it be possible that Japan give aid to India in pipes?

This would inspire the Indian farmer to work and grow more food—and at the same time to become interested in other people and the world.

SOPHUS SCHANCHE, Jr.*
Bergen, Norway

* This week Rs. 10 prize winner

KAMARAJ 'PARKALAM'

SIR: Your article "Kamaraj the King-maker" is a most helpful assessment of a man whose actions have and will still vitally affect the course of events in India in the future. But I must say that when you wrote that "he may yet unite Congress forces in Kerala", you were really being optimistic!

If political acumen and organizational skill are Kamaraj's greatest assets, his "proletarian snobbery" is the fatal flaw in him. It keeps him a smaller man than he could and should be. His concern for the hungry and jobless millions is from his heart, and no one doubts

it. But it is really cheap today to turn vengeful towards those one considers better off than one's own class and earn a name calling them names as he has often done. That's the easiest thing to do. But anti-ism is a luxury that society can ill afford to allow any of its members to indulge in in today's world of rockets and missiles—whether by rich or poor, black, white, yellow or brown.

Kamaraj may yet become a statesman. "Parkalam"!

I. NIKETU

Bombay

TASHKENT AGREEMENT

SIR: It is a measure of the impartiality of the Tashkent agreement that the hot-heads on both sides have denounced it dubbing it as "surrender to pressures".

It should not be forgotten that the Tashkent agreement does not contain any panacea for Indo-Pak problems, including Kashmir. Rather, it provides a very good starting point to both the nations to begin to solve their mutual problems by binding them not to use force but only peaceful methods.

The behaviour of Pakistan, in spite of the occasional outbursts of her spokesmen, is in keeping with the Tashkent agreement and that is all the more reason why we should scrupulously implement it and not give the slightest provocation to Pakistan "to go back on it".

B. D. SHAH

Bombay 1

MORE THAN WORDS

SIR: More than anything written in praise of our late lamented Prime Minister, the news that he had a deficit account in the bank has impressed the public in all walks of life.

G. V. KETKAR

Poona

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

YOUTH PROUD

SIR: In Mrs. Gandhi youth see the most popular representative of a new political generation. Congress can be made once again an effective vehicle of social and economic progress only if those who voted for Mrs. Indira Gandhi realize their responsibilities and pledge themselves to the earliest possible fulfilment of all promises given by the Congress to the people.

The assumption of office by Mrs. Gandhi should clearly mark a new chapter in Congress history if the Party is to live.

T. P. SATHYANARAYANA
Hyderabad 1

BACHELOR'S COMPLAINT

SIR: The latest statistics reveal that more than 1,100 babies are born every hour in India, that the birth rate a year in our country adds up to about one crore, which is the population of Australia, and that to meet the present birth rate, 100 new houses, 600 kg. of extra food and 10 new primary schools are required every hour!

At this rate of population growth, all the efforts made by the Government to raise the economic lot of the common man would amount to nullity and not even 15 Five Year Plans would help to achieve the desired results.

Why does our Government continue to tax the bachelors so ruthlessly when they are actually doing their best to help the Government?

Poor bachelors (like me!) are not even allowed to request a tenement of the Housing Board, simply because they do not add to the Government's problems.

TALWAR M. M.

Bombay 3

SURENDRA KAUR AND FAMILY

SIR: I want to commend you for reporting so objectively the plight of the above-named mother in your January 21 issue. And I did not miss your note about practical help for her. I enclose a cheque and hope to send other contributions later on.

A. G. MACLACHLAN

Kingston, Canada

SIR: Enclosed is a contribution towards the fund to help widow Surendra Kaur and her family. I know that this is a mere drop in the ocean. But if every one of your readers gives a contribution we will be able to gather quite a tidy sum. Best wishes to you in this humanitarian venture of yours.

IVAN SASSOON

Calcutta 14

Contributions to help Surendra Kaur and her three children, whose father, a worker at Tarapore Atomic Power project, was killed during the recent violence there, may be sent to HIMMAT and will be forwarded to her.—Ed.

Behind the Kerala Crisis

From G. S. Kartha in Trivandrum

Kerala is in the grip of an acute food problem. The people who are rice-eaters are bitter against the Government of India and the State Government for giving them a per capita rice ration of only 140 grams a day, while in Madras it is 200 grams and in Andhra as much as 240 grams. The wheat ration is not very much relished by the common people, who only ask for more rice.

Popular feeling against the "starvation diet" prescribed by the Government is so high that Kerala is in the midst of a state-wide food agitation. What agitates the mind of the people is not only the insufficient quantity of rice they get, but the discrimination being shown to Kerala in spite of the tall talk by national leaders of the oneness of Indian people. Kerala has a fifty per cent deficit in foodgrains.

It is widely felt that the leaders and the people in other parts of India, especially in the surplus states, do not think of their less fortunate fellowmen in the deficit states. However, Prime Minister Indira Gandhi showed a gesture of care and goodwill by surrendering her rice ration to meet the rice shortage in Kerala. This, and the formation of a Central Save Rice Campaign for Kerala, in New Delhi, are hailed as inspiring examples of predominantly wheat-eating states thinking of those in rice-eating areas.

Everyone Should Share

Many wonder how the need for rice in Kerala can be satisfactorily met, unless the surplus states like Madras and Andhra choose to think beyond their borders. If the situation is tight in regard to rice availability, everyone should share the difficulties equally until the deficiency is met by increased production or more imports. At present, Andhra and Madras calculate their rice surplus on the basis of a daily per capita rice ration of 240 and 200 grams respectively, totally disregarding what is happening in Kerala. What is immediately needed is a change in outlook. The surplus at the disposal of the surplus states may be found to be far greater than the present declared surplus, if all people were inspired to tighten their belts.

Another alarming aspect of the situation in Kerala is the gradual take-over of agitations by political parties in the name of food. While the people are generally satisfied that New Delhi is keen about solving Kerala's difficulties and that rice supplies are being rushed at a speed and size unprecedented, the political parties in the opposition want to use this occasion for a fight against the "Congress Government in New Delhi". It is here that the complexion of the agitation becomes political.



Police arrest women volunteers of the "Rebel Kerala Congress" who picketed the Secretariat in Trivandrum.

The political parties in Kerala badly need rehabilitation in public life before the coming election, just as much as the people need more rice for their food. Since food is an issue that touches everyone, an agitation for it has wide support. Leftist parties want to organize a mass struggle. They are not satisfied with constitutional methods. They want sensational developments.

All the Leftist parties in the State, including the Communist Party of India and the Left Communists, turn to students for support. Non-Communist student organizations have asked students to keep aloof from obliging political parties and anti-social elements who want to create trouble. The Communist-controlled Student Federation is actively trying to fan the bitterness in the name of police repression. Very few students realize that they are being used by ambitious political parties.

The experience of "Kerala Bandh" on January 28, was that students have

been used as a cover for anti-social elements. In none of the trouble-spots in Kerala did any political leader appear in public to dissuade students from wrong-doing. Some leaders issued appeals; but usually appeals do not work.

The most significant aspect is that while all the parties agitate for justice in food distribution, some unitedly and others in their own way, no two parties have shown the readiness to unite and co-operate with the authorities to deliver the goods. Each party contributes its quota of anti-Government feelings to public opinion. If this continues, there is danger ahead. Political parties appear more concerned about their

future in elections than about making more rice available to the people. In fact, they are exploiting the brains and the bellies of people who do not care to think. This process could easily push Kerala to the verge of disaster unless responsible leaders came forward.

The consensus of parties, newspapers and the people is that Kerala is getting an unfair deal from the Centre, in spite of the fact that Kerala contributes over Rs. 100 crores of foreign exchange through cash crops.

The cry in Kerala today is that unless all the rice produced in the country and imported is treated as belonging to all rice-eating people, there can be no solution. The Union Government seems to be averting immediate flare-up by rushing grains to the state. But they are not going to the root of the problem.

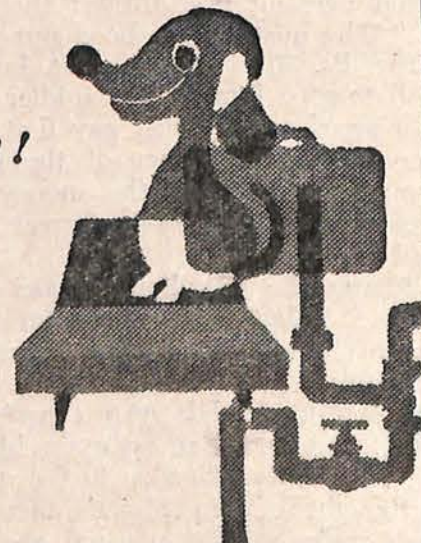
Unless New Delhi reverses its food policy, Kerala will continue to be a headache in food as well as politics.



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IS EDUCATION UNRELATED TO INDIA'S NEEDS?

By T. S. Prasad, Bangalore

THERE ARE MANY and various factors to show how our education is unrelated to India's need. One of the chief factors is that our education was started by Lord Macaulay with the primary object of producing a body of English-knowing Indians who should help the British in running the administration of the country. The Indians began to look upon education only as a means of getting a Government job.

Education has three chief stages: primary, secondary and university. In our country all the three kinds of education are defective. Primary education, except in some places, is neither compulsory, free nor sufficient. There are too many children and too few schools. The primary teacher is too poorly paid to throw his heart into the work or command respect or inspire confidence.

'Spoon-feeding'

The same is true of secondary schools. There is a steady increase in the number of students every year, but very few new schools are opened to cope with the increasing rush of students. Individual attention has become impossible. At best a sort of mass education is given. It is nothing but "spoon-feeding". The student does not develop his ability to learn for himself: he needs guidance at every step. Another serious defect in schools is lack of proper facilities for sports and games. Most of our schoolboys remain, therefore, shy and timid.

With some exceptions, like Allahabad and Banaras, our universities are not true centres of higher learning, research and advance of human knowledge. Besides, of late the universities have become centres of intrigue and politics. The staff are

Contributors to this week's Viewpoint were unanimous that present education fails to meet India's needs.—Ed.

generally busy with university politics and election to university bodies and have no time to look to the work of teaching and character-building of students. Consequently, university standards have fallen below the mark.

To inter-relate our education to India's need requires great planning. Proper education is the foundation of a nation's prosperity and greatness. Neither money nor hard work should be spared to achieve this essential goal.

Second Prize

BUS CONDUCTOR B.A.s.

By M. J. ANTHONY, Chowghat, Kerala

IN THE FAR SOUTH, many graduates serve as bus conductors; in central India six post-graduates are said to be cabdrivers; in our cities hundreds of them drudge through office files.

What this anomalous situation projects is the aimlessness of our educational system. University degrees meant for specialized work are squandered in totally different fields. Our educational set-up mass produces graduates, diploma and certificate holders without a social or economic purpose. This lack of aim shows itself in many ways. A committee of UGC on the standard of university education recently reported on the ill-effects of the present system such as emphasis on mass lectures, reliance on ready-made notes and guidebooks and memory testing examinations "which are the outcome of a mechanical view of the teaching and learning processes". This *mechanical view* has stunted educational progress at all levels.

In the pre-Independence days, the British were lukewarm towards the growth of physical science education. Little interest was shown in scientific research and advanced learn-

COMPETITION

* Who would you choose as members of a National Government for India and why?

Closing date: February 18

** Is one party rule necessary for developing countries?

Closing date: March 4

Prizes: Rs. 25, Rs. 15

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

ing and few institutions existed for specialization. But the pity is that we have failed to improve this condition to a satisfactory extent, even at this stage. We drag on with outmoded syllabi and ill-equipped training centres. While wastage due to failure in Britain is 14 per cent, in Indian universities, say Bombay, only 25 per cent of students are able to complete the course.

But wastage at the secondary school level is even more appalling. Our aimless system treats secondary education only as a stepping-stone to the university. While vocational training in arts and crafts is neglected, the young men are asked to wade through literature and science; sometimes in a new or foreign language. Instead of being a self-contained programme preparing students for life, secondary education leans heavily on the requirements of universities. Under the present system it is impossible for the former to work on an independent scheme.

Unfit for Profession

Human resources in the rural areas are hamstrung by the secondary education of this nature. The boy sent to school severs connection with his family calling and learns textbooks and class notes. After ten years, parents find their boy unfit for their profession. He is thus sent to hunt for a job along with the mighty degree holders. Apart from the misery this creates for individuals, it also unsettles village life.

The hiatus between our educational system and country's needs is great. Unless we orient the former to the needs of a new era, our progress cannot be of the desired pace.

This was a life WILLIAM THE CONQUEROR 1027 — 1087

VIKING CONQUERORS swept from Scandinavia scouring and colonizing coastal Europe from the Baltic to the Bay of Biscay. Some settled in Normandy, north-pointing finger of France, prodding towards England's underbelly. These Normans assimilated Western skills, but shed none of their Viking vigour.

Here in 1027 was born William, bastard son of Duke Robert "the Devil", Duke of Normandy, and a tanner's daughter.

Three of his guardians were slain by scheming barons who seized the chance to enhance their power. But William accepted counsel and learnt.

With French backing he subdued his barons; then thrice repelled the French King's bid to invade his dukedom. In 1051 he received, or claimed, from his cousin Edward, King of England, a promise to succeed him.

But on Edward's death the English lords chose Harold, one of their number, as his successor. Told while hunting, William called off the chase and vowed to invade.

In September 1066 he landed in southern England with 25,000 men. King Harold, hastening south after driving back a Viking invasion in the north, positioned his army on a hill-top near Hastings.

Time and again Norman attacks were beaten back by Harold's footmen from their palisades. A rumour swept Norman ranks that William was killed. Baring his head the Duke rallied his men. Three horses were killed under him during the battle.

Tactics told. The Normans feigned retreat, lured the English from their defences, then turned and routed them. William's bowmen fired high lobbing their shafts over Harold's shield wall. The king himself fell, an arrow piercing his eye. Faithful to the last his bodyguard died round him.

The Conqueror seized London and was crowned in Westminster. The conquered land was parcelled out among his followers. But William ensured none grew strong enough to threaten his central power. In 1086 he ordered England's first census—the Domesday Book—a stock-taking of his realm.

His justice was rough but it brought peace. Norman rule speeded progress in trade, law, administration, education and religion. The Conquest brought England into the mainstream of Western civilization.

In a lustful age William lived faithfully with his wife. He died while on a campaign in France.

Q and A

Q—How do you justify the decision taken by Mr. Morarji Desai in the recent election for the Prime Minister's post?

N. C. VEERACHARI, Hyderabad 4

A—Mr. Morarji Desai doesn't need justification for his stand. Any member of the Congress Parliamentary Party is free to stand for election as the leader of the party if he finds one man to propose and another to second him. No deposits are asked for and no deposits forfeited.

Mr. Desai says he wanted to establish a democratic precedent in the elections for the leader of the Party, and from that standpoint, he was quite correct.

Q—Why are the United States and the USSR poles apart?

T. P. SATHYANARAYANA
Hyderabad 1

A—Are they? In the last three years, mainly since the nuclear Test Ban Treaty, the US and the Soviet Union are finding more common ground. This was demonstrated during the Indo-Pakistan conflict when they stood together as well as their joint backing to the Tashkent agreement.

The two main international issues which divide the Soviet Union and the US today are the war in Vietnam and the question of giving nuclear weapons to West Germany. In fact Mr. Kosygin gave these two reasons to Lord Thompson, Canadian press baron, some months back. The division on Vietnam remains. On West Germany it is significant that President Johnson told Chancellor Erhard just before last Christmas that the Germans could not have a place in the joint nuclear force of NATO while

the United States is finding out whether the Russians are willing to do business. What is that business? Reports say it could be a non-proliferation treaty.

The London *Economist* states that if such a non-proliferation treaty takes place, it would "call for a joint Russian-American guarantee to protect India which would virtually amount to a joint foreign policy for Asia".

Q—When people are not in a position to solve their tiny problems, what is the outcome of global revolutions?

HARINAKSHI, Hyderabad 28

A—If we wait to take on a global revolution till all our problems are solved, we will be at the starting post till the race is over. A person with a global aim finds that tiny problems are either more easily solved or come into perspective. Couples dedicated to a purpose bigger than their own happiness find it easier to solve their problems than those whose vision is limited. Step out in faith and take on the biggest challenge you know.

ANY QUESTIONS?

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RATH
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By Rajmohan Gandhi

My ego was greatly satisfied as I looked at the clock through the door glass and heard it strike three, the time for my appointment with Mr. Keith Holyoake, the New Zealand Prime Minister. My friend pressed the bell outside his Wellington home. In a few seconds the Prime Minister opened the door and let us in. After a few minutes, he was serving us tea.

I had known about New Zealand's democracy. Mr. Holyoake's manner had impressed me. There were no flunkies hanging around, no sentries to keep him distant. He answers the telephone and his wife washes the dishes.

The Prime Minister has power, true, but his life would not be much different if he were not Prime Minister. He would work just as hard and feel just as responsible for the country.

India can do with some of New Zealand's egalitarianism and democracy. Perhaps a danger in New Zealand is the false restraint men may place on their own leadership for fear of being called ostentatious and ambitious.

A large number asked me what they could do to assist in solving India's food problem. I suggested that the farmers of New Zealand consider training on their farms an Indian or Asian young man in efficient, practical, down-to-earth farming. And, further, teaching him to become an instructor to train others in India. This would really mean equipping the man with a new aim—larger than building and preserving his career—as well as with techniques.

There are 3,000 Indians, nearly all Gujaratis, in New Zealand. Most of them have become New Zealand citizens. Mr. Holyoake told me of their constructive role in New Zealand's life. I found them also still interested in India.

They mostly grow fruit or vegetables or sell them. It was fascinating to hear Gujarati women from Surat and Navsari speak English, New Zealand style.

New Zealand, of course, is the home of the Maori race. These gifted, courageous and noble people number more than 300,000 out of the country's 2½ million. Centuries ago their ancestors sailed in eight canoes from somewhere (some think, or rather hope, from

India) and made a home for their race in what is now New Zealand. The story of their relationship with the white man, who first "discovered" the islands less than two hundred years ago, is one of friendship as well as bitterness.

I was privileged to spend a night in a Maori home and honoured by a moving welcome from hundreds of them in their pa—their traditional community centre.

Some Maoris feel they are the world's forgotten race. Most of them in their hearts long for a great job to do for the world. They could become the conscience of mankind.

I placed before the Maoris Asia's needs, especially India's. I sought their help in teaching us how to care for one another and live as a loving, laughing family. "Are we really needed?" they searchingly, longingly asked.

Their singing and dancing is peerless. A score of them, never having known one another before, will get together and in a few minutes produce a flawless chorus.

The Maoris are the heart-openers of the world.

Australia's huge size, superior technology and her bottleneck-breaking spirit, as well as her nearness to Asia, make her a powerful and potent factor.

I was warned before I arrived there that I would meet people who regard themselves as London suburbanites. I met no such thing. I found a strong desire to be partners in Asia's progress.

Bishop Muldoon, Roman Catholic bishop of Sydney, told me of his ambition to have Australia use three per cent of her annual income for India's development.

Now that is a revolutionary concept and plan! It could one day be a reality.

Bishops and students, liberals, Socialists and farmers, all seemed to possess this desire to be of help. Mr. Paul Hasluck, Australia's External Affairs Minister, said in a recent speech: "We cannot live selfishly in isolation in our own continent. Whether there is war or peace is more important than the colour of skin. If a human being starves, a dark-coloured person starves just as miserably as a light-coloured person."

Mr. Hasluck, as I learned from

the talk I was fortunate to have with him, feels strongly on this subject as do a great number of Australians. Asian leaders will do well to befriend Mr. Hasluck and his colleagues.

Socialism is not a spent force in Australia. Last year the Labor Party regained power in the State of South Australia after a period of nearly 30 years. Men like Mr. Loveday, South Australia's Education Minister, made a dent on me with their care for their people.

In Melbourne I was fascinated by the straightforward, eager and knowledgeable concern over Indian affairs in the city's labour leaders. For more than an hour in the city's Trades Hall we talked frankly about what is needed.

I was lucky enough to speak to many hundreds of Australian and New Zealand youth and to talk closely and individually with scores of them committed to Moral Re-Armament. Here is what some of them say.

David Bunton of Melbourne, whose father was a missionary in China: "I spent the first four years of my life in Canton, China. That is my second home. I long to see that great nation find its destiny.

"I have decided to live in such a way that China's leaders see there is a more compelling and more effective ideology than the one they offer now."

Kim Beazley Jr. of Perth, whose father is a prominent Labour MP: "Australians are beginning to wake up to our position in Asia. I have decided to postpone my studies for a year and spend it with Moral Re-Armament."

Miss B. Papesch, a Maori girl from New Zealand: "I want to give my best to establish Moral Re-Armament among my friends and give them a stronger will to do good. I want to see my country use its wealth to help others."

This spirit and determination is what able leader Mao Tse-tung may have overlooked. If we can show him that democracies produce men and women on a large enough scale who of their own free will choose to serve other men and other nations, his extreme and, I fear, divisive method will no longer be needed.

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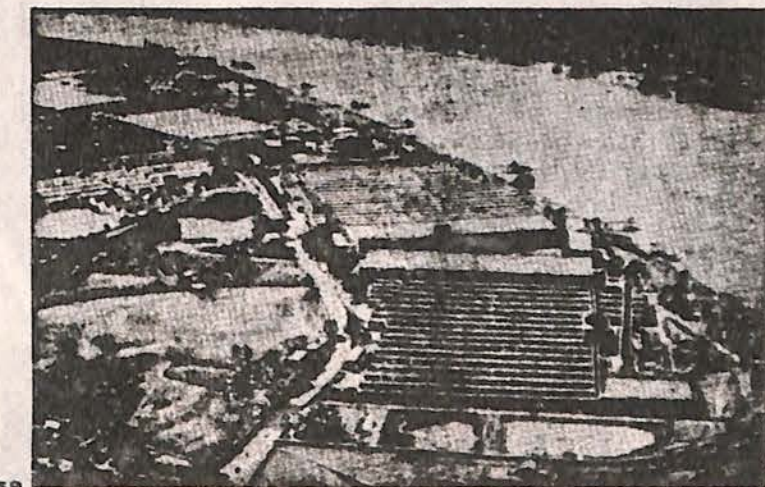
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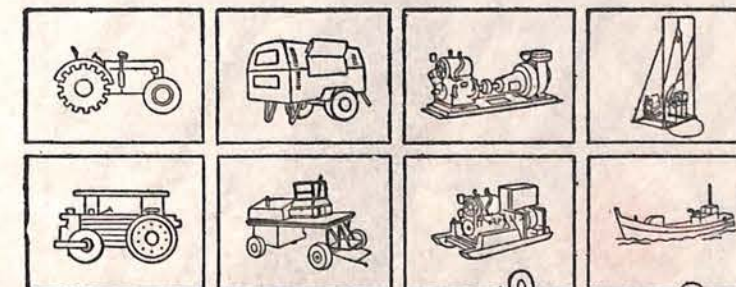
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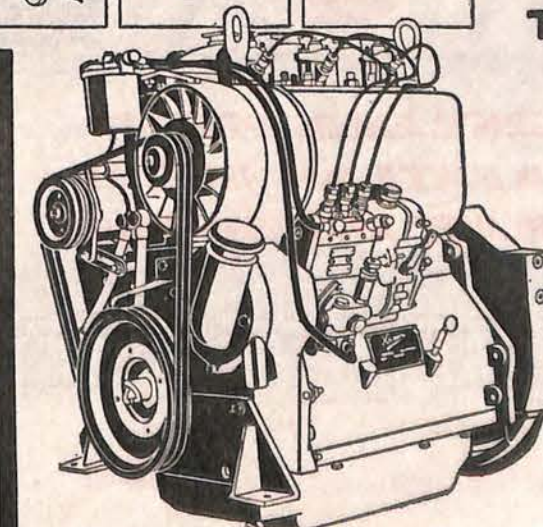


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