

STAIRWAY TO STARS

SOVIETS' MESSAGE OF PEACE

Mankind yearns for a lasting peace on the Earth... Forward to the triumph of the cause of peace and progress—such is the call of the Soviet leadership to the peoples of the world on the occasion of the achievement of the latest and till today the most breath-taking triumph of Man over the forces of nature.

ON this occasion which will remain as a landmark in the annals of human history, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet and the Government of the Soviet Union have jointly addressed a message to the Communist Party and the peoples of the Soviet Union, to the peoples and governments of all countries, and to all progressive mankind.

"A new glorious page has been added to the history of the conquest of outer space", the Message says: "For the first time in the world, Soviet Flier-Cosmonauts have accomplished in their space ships a heroic group space

flight, which was unprecedentedly difficult and long."

"In our times", declares the Message, "science and technology open up boundless opportunities for harnessing the forces of nature and using them extensively for man's welfare. Great discoveries of science can make life better only when they are used for peaceful purposes, for the sake of man's happiness."

The stirring message recalls the great Lenin's prophetic words: "Formerly all the human intellect, all its genius created only to give some people all the blessings of technology and culture, and deprive the others of the prime necessities—education and development. Today all the achievements of culture will become a possession of all the people and from now on human intellect and genius will never be turned into a means of violence, a means of exploitation."

"The Soviet Government steadfastly and persistently works for a durable world



Cosmic Twins—Humanity's Heroes Nikolayev and Popovich

peace. The new flights of Soviet spaceships have been carried out for peaceful purposes too," the Message of the Soviet Union tells the world. It calls "on all the governments and peoples urging them to work even more persistently to rid mankind of the thermonuclear war threat, for a durable peace on the Earth."

"The Soviet people are sure that by their persistent strug-

gle the peoples will safeguard the cause of peace."

The full text of this historic declaration reads, as follows: A new glorious page has been added to the history of the conquest of outer space. For the first time in the world, Soviet Flier-Cosmonauts have accomplished in their space ships a heroic group space flight, which was unprece-

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War Totally Absurd

—Says Nehru

President Radhakrishnan in a message delivered through TASS has said:

"I congratulate the Soviet cosmonauts on the successful completion of their space flights. This will be an inspiring example to others."

Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru has sent a congratulatory message to the Soviet scientists and all Soviet people.

Prime Minister Nehru, in a message to Radio Moscow, has described the latest Soviet achievement in space as a "great advance" and expressed the hope that it would "further the cause of peace".

He said: "I think that this simultaneous flight of two Soviet cosmonauts is a wonderful thing and indicates a

great advance in space research. It reflects great credit not only on the two cosmonauts but also on Soviet science which has made this possible. I trust that this great advance will further the cause of peace because war becomes totally absurd in these circumstances. I congratulate the two cosmonauts."

CPI Congratulates

The National Council of the Communist Party of India meeting in Hyderabad on August 14 adopted a message of congratulations on the new Soviet triumph in space flight.

Addressed to the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the message reads:

THE National Council of the Communist Party of India sends you, and through you to all members of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, to the Soviet Government and people, scientists and cosmonauts, warm and affectionate congratulations on your great new triumph in the conquest of space by man.

Once again has the world received decisive proof of the unparalleled genius of Soviet scientists and of the indomitable courage of Soviet cosmonauts. Once again are the eyes of all humanity focussed on the achievements of the great land of socialism, the Soviet Union, marching confidently towards communism.

Mankind rejoices in your victories, which are above all victories for the cause of peace, pointing the road

to the rapid progress and happiness of all peoples, once war has been banished for all time.

Vostok III and IV call to all peoples: Let us join hands to use the wealth and genius of man for peace and prosperity, let us join hands to ensure general and complete disarmament without delay.

The Communist Party of India salutes the Communist Party of the Soviet Union at this moment of glorious achievement for the Soviet people. Kindly convey our felicitations to all those especially responsible for this magnificent feat of science, to the cosmonauts Major Nikolayev and Lt. Col. Popovich, to the teams of scientists and technicians and to the members of the Soviet Communist Party and Government who made this possible.

Twins In Space

★ From Masood Ali Khan

Moscow, August 15.

A wave of joy, relief and elation swept over Moscow today as the radio at 10-48 in the morning gave the TASS communique on the safe and precise landing of the two Soviet Cosmonauts which had been awaited here with such impatience. For us it became a double holiday, being our Independence Day, as well.

NIKOLAYEV landed at 9-55 a.m. (12-25 p.m. Indian Standard Time) and Popovich six minutes later at one minute past ten (12-31 p.m. IST).

"After the cosmic flight and landings, both cosmonauts feel fine. The programme of the flight of the spaceships VOSTOK III and VOSTOK IV has been completely fulfilled", TASS said.

Already within a few minutes from the village of Shorsheli in Chuvash ASSR and from Uzin near Kiev came news of great rejoicings. The whole Soviet Union is going to celebrate this great victory in a fitting manner.

Nikolayev remained in orbit for four days, circuted the earth for more than sixty four times and travelled a distance in outer space equal to about seven times the distance between the earth and the moon. Popovich orbited the globe more than 48 times and stayed up for nearly three days.

So the Soviet Union has broken its own previous record established by Titov four times over and for the first time in history accomplished a group flight in space. The cosmonauts felt fine all along in space; we saw them fifteen times on our TV screens yesterday.

Nikolayev sent greetings to the people of India and other Asian countries and said "May the sun of peace and happiness always shine over your lands". The two also sent greetings from space to the Assembly of Youth in Warsaw. Nikolayev photographed the moon and Popovich in his "free time" did his English lessons and studied physics. That shows you to what extent the Soviet daring youth felt at home in cosmos.

A big step forward in space travel has been taken. The moment has been brought closer when the moon will be reached by man. The fact that the two landed their spaceships within a few minutes of each other confirms what mastery has been gained over space technique by the Soviet Union.

One newspaper headlined the news of the group flight, "The space train has already two wagons". Words fail to convey the full impact of all that has happened here. It is still too soon after the event.

But one thing is as clear as daylight: the capitalist world has been left far behind and the Soviet triumph is complete and staggering for the

imagination. This time the Soviet spacemen have brought cosmos into millions of homes. What greater feats lie ahead for the Socialist world!

Music plays, people sing and dance with joy and shout Hurrah! The names Andrian and Pavel are uttered with love and admiration over and over again.

A number of twins born these days in the Soviet Union have been given the two names and there must be thousands of other Andrians and Pavels only two or four days old.

The Soviet land prepares to meet its heroes in a way only the Soviet Union can. Humanity has taken a big step forward and it is everybody's great holiday; so let us all rejoice and celebrate the triumph of man and his reason.

Talk With Khrushchov

A TASS dispatch from Moscow says that Premier Nikita Khrushchov, now resting in Yalta, had a telephone conversation with Andrian Nikolayev and Pavel Popovich a few hours after their landing.

The cosmonauts reported to Khrushchov that the assignment of the Government to make a group space flight was successfully fulfilled. They declared that they were feeling fine and were ready for more flights.

Congratulating them on their successful space flight, Khrushchov said that he would be waiting for the

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NEW AGE
COMMUNIST PARTY WEEKLY

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BOOK REVIEW

Selected Articles & Speeches

by Ajoy Ghosh, Publishing House for Oriental Literature, Moscow, 1962. Price Rs. 1.50.

It is with a mixture of sorrow and pride that one goes through this selection of the works of Ajoy Ghosh.

SORROW for the death of a man who was as yet at the height of his intellectual powers, who had yet so much to give to the Communist Party and India, who was needed so much by all.

Pride for the clarity of thought and terseness of expression of a man who was our leader and whose abilities were not merely placed at the service of our people but whose achievements raised our national stature.

The selection very appropriately begins with Ajoy's celebrated pamphlet "Bhagat Singh and his Comrades". It is a stirring piece of writing bringing to life one of the immortal episodes of our freedom saga.

It is a fitting reminder of the patriotic urge that moved so many of the finest radical youth to go beyond the limitations of the Congress-led national movement and find their real home in the Communist Party.

The description of the dreams of these youth heroes and of their incredible personal courage and strength uplifts the heart even today and brings fresh resolve to go on to the very end.

A Genuine Revolutionary

The account also helps us greatly to understand Ajoy the man. Beneath the diffidence and the shyness there was the lava of a genuine revolutionary. Revolution was his passion no less than his profession. Yet it was for him not a mere emotional response to the staggering poverty of our people and the glorious possibilities that awaited them.

It was equally a matter of science. From nationalism to terrorism to Communism was a process of intellectual conviction and growth. The searching and the study reveal yet another prominent aspect of Ajoy—the capacious and analytical mind. He took Marxism as seriously as he took life itself.

It was precisely a combination of both these aspects—the feeling for the nation and the class and the grasp of Marxism—that enabled him to so radically alter the character and the approach of the Communist Party, making it at once ever more rooted in our dear soil and ever more realistic. It is that which gave his period of leadership an uniquely valuable character.

We find this pride and joy in India's destiny and concern for its people and their future on every page, but more particularly in the article "Liberation of Goa" and his famous speech at the inaugural meeting of the National Integration Council.

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Communist Party must inevitably do serious damage to the cause of Communism?

He hailed the Programme of the CPSU, adopted by the 22nd Congress, as ranking in historic significance with the famous Communist Manifesto of Marx and Engels. He called it "the guiding star for mankind as a whole."

Analysis Of Indian Situation

The bulk of the book is made up of the authoritative analysis of the Indian situation. It is, of course, true that his personal contribution to the shaping of Party policy was very great, indeed. But the writings reproduced here do not exhaust their value by being the works of a great Indian and a great Marxist. They have a far more representative significance.

These writings embody the collective wisdom and will of the Communist Party of India, for Ajoy always wrote and spoke in his capacity as the leader and authoritative spokesman of the Party. It is, indeed, the finest tribute that one can pay to him—he led the Party not only in action but also in thought. He pioneered and then persuaded.

His report to the Vijayawada Party Congress and the article "Some Features of the Indian Situation" bring out with comprehensive clarity the main features of the balance of class forces in our country and the consequent

Warning Against Communalism

It was this speech that highlighted the danger that communalism represented, particularly of the Hindus. He called for a national campaign against these forces and for an inspiring national objective to unify our people.

He warned: "Any opportunist association or alliance with these forces (of communal reaction) on the part of any secular party would be a positive disservice to the cause of national integration. When I say communal parties, I have in mind all communal parties whether Hindu, Muslim or Sikh."

"Let it not be forgotten that the association of secular parties with these communal organisations brings them some political respectability and enables them to overcome popular revulsion and step up their disruptive activities."

This concern for the nation's future itself led Ajoy to strenuously stress the importance of proletarian internationalism.

In the report on the Amritsar Party Congress and in the report to the Vijayawada Party Congress (which are included in this selection), he brings out with abundant clarity the importance and significance of Soviet aid for our national regeneration.

In his articles and speeches on the Soviet Union and on Lenin, he emphasises the value of the experience of the CPSU for the mapping out of our own people's path of advance. In particular his greetings to the 22nd CPSU Congress brings out the enormous importance of the decisions of the 20th CPSU Congress for the entire world Communist movement.

He says: "These decisions, which were hailed by all Communist Parties, were indeed epoch-making in every sense... Any failure to realise the import of the 20th Congress for the World Communist movement and for each

tasks of the Communist Party and entire democratic movement.

He pointed to the dangers of the situation—the tardy rate of growth, the oppression of the people through the Congress method for India's development, the emergence and growth of the Right.

He laid urgent emphasis on the need for mass struggles, for many-sided work among the masses, for the building of a mass Communist Party and as a result of all this, to build the national democratic front.

Need For The Party

He outlined the immediate need for the Party to "intensify efforts to unite all patriotic and democratic forces in the country."

"For what? Immediately, for democratic reforms, for defending and strengthening all that is progressive in the Government's policies, for opposing those policies which harm the people and retard the pace of economic development, for the reversal of those policies, and for bringing about a shift to the left."

He went on to state: "I maintain—and this is one of the main things that I want to stress—that in view of the need to broaden the base of our struggles and in view of the critical nature of the period ahead, it has become more necessary than ever,

SELECTED ARTICLES AND SPEECHES

by AJAY GHOSH

is available at
PEOPLES'
PUBLISHING HOUSE,
RANI JHANSI ROAD,
NEW DELHI.

that strenuous efforts are made by us to forge links with the democrats inside the Congress and with the masses under Congress influence. We must stress this because despite what we said at Palghat we have paid too little attention to this task.

"It follows, therefore, that an approach has to be adopted which takes into account the loyalty of Congressmen to their organisation and their sentiments. Time and again direct appeal will have to be made not only to Congress masses, Congressmen but also to Congress Committees—taking into account the issue concerned and the concrete conditions in the locality". This was, in a way, his final call to our Party.

It is essential that not only should every reader of New Age and his friends buy and read the book but that an immediate campaign for its sale should be organised. Not only as a tribute to our departed leader but as a need for our advance.

—HOHIT SEN

"NEECHER MAHAL" AND "MINISTER"

Two Successful Plays By Delhi IPTA

The Delhi unit of the Indian People's Theatre Association presented on August 11, "Neecher Mahal"—a Bengali adaptation of Gorky's famous play "Lower Depths" at the AIFACS hall. Next day they staged "Minister"—a Hindi adaptation of the Bulgarian play "Golemanov" written by S. I. Kostov.

THIS is the third time, the Delhi IPTA presented "Neecher Mahal" in Delhi. This time the performance by far excelled the other two, mainly due to the brilliantly written dialogues by Director Subodh Sengupta.

Last year, the Bengali adaptation of "Golemanov" was staged by this group in Delhi and this time it was done in Hindi. The present adaptation of the drama and its direction was by Om Dhingra.

In the complicated presentation of characters and expressions of the varying moods and intensity of emotion, the cast in "Neecher Mahal" has done remarkably well.

Among individual artists, Paresh Das, as Jatadhar—the landlord of the slum, was the best actor and Prasanta Banerjee as Abdul—the tailor and Manish Sarkar as Naran—the one-time actor, were close seconds.

Usha Verma as Annada—the wife of the slum owner

from the audience enthused the artistes to a great extent and throughout the play there existed a complete harmony between the audience and the actors.

T. P. Jain as Anokhe Ram and Om Dhingra as Shevak Ram deserve special mention for their magnificent performance with their subtle exposition of the characters. Usha Verma as the octogenarian Maya Didi left a deep impression by her masterly acting. In fact, she acted far superior than what she did in "Neecher Mahal". Paresh Das, who is another common actor in both the dramas, acted upto his reputation.

The other play "Minister" is a scathing socio-political satire centering around a certain member of Parliament—Anokhe Ram.

His craving for a ministerial post after the death of a cabinet minister; his schemings, plans and machinations for achieving it at all costs and the final dramatic climax reaching with the resignation of the cabinet—all these portrayed with a dramatic insight into human psychology have made "Minister" a thoroughly enjoyable play.

Ahly adapted and directed by the young and talented director Om Dhingra, the play kept a packed house completely engrossed from its beginning to the end. The loud expressions of appreciation

—DARSHAK

AUGUST 19, 1962

Kashmir: Real And False Problems

★ By A. Kutsenkov

The problem of Kashmir is perhaps the oldest issue with which the UNO had to deal. It appeared first on the agenda of the UN Security Council in November 1947.

HERE is the essence of the Kashmir problem. The Government of Pakistan, referring to the Moslem majority, not only refuse to give back the occupied part of Kashmir, but even claim the whole territory of this state. Expressing the will of the Kashmiri people themselves and taking into consideration the traditional ties between India and Kashmir, the Indian Government, believes that Kashmir is an unalienable part of the Republic of India.

The problem of Kashmir could have been solved long ago had it not been for the position of the Western powers, and first of all the USA, which are interested to see Kashmir go to Pakistan, their ally in military pacts. In that case they could use the important strategic position of the state for their military purposes.

Recently I spent a fortnight in the state of Jammu and Kashmir. I met common peasants and craftsmen, intellectuals and members of the government. The main impression from my visit to Kashmir was that the Kashmir problem, as it is described in the West, does not exist. The people of Kashmir do not show any signs of displeasure with today's status of the state. They are working in the fields, graze their cattle and spend their leisure in the shadowy gardens of Srinagar.

I also failed to see the display of any religious differences between the people of Kashmir and the rest of India. Just the contrary, the first words I heard in the State Legislative Assembly were: "We are first of all Indians and then Moslems," uttered by a Deputy from Jammu. Moslem and Hindu children in the schools which I visited sang: "We are brothers, Hindus and Moslems, we live together and shall die together."

Meeting With Bakshi

With such impressions I arrived at Pahalgam, a beauty-spot in the Himalayas, where Bakshi Gulam Mohammad, Prime Minister of the State, has his summer residence. He received me in a small and cosy drawing-room. Quite naturally, we touched upon the discussion of the Kashmir issue which had started not long before in the Security Council.

"The United States and Pakistan need this discussion," he said. "As for the Kashmiri people, they have long ago taken the decision. The Constitution of our state says that Kashmir is and will always remain a part of the Republic of India."

"Now," the Prime Minister continued, "the Western powers again make much ado

of the Moslem League. I am a Moslem myself, but I do not want to have anything to do with the League, because it is a party of reaction and feudal lords. The main issue which agitates us now is to pull the state from backwardness as soon as possible."

Taking into consideration the economic backwardness of the state, the Indian Government covers the major part of the expenses. There is no need to look into the statistical reference books to get an idea of the changes in the economic and cultural life of the state, effected during the years of independence. Wherever you go, you will see numerous construction sites: roads are laid, houses and industrial enterprises are built.

"What assistance in the industrialization of Kashmir is rendered by the USSR and

Impressions Of A Soviet Journalist

other socialist countries?" I asked once Mr. Dhar, the State Minister of Trade and Industry.

"The assistance is rather considerable," he replied. "The Soviet Union helps us in geological survey. Your geologists prepared a very interesting report for us. Their recommendations have proved so valuable that we have reorganized the whole work of the Department of Geology. We have purchased 20 drilling rigs. From the Soviet Union experts came to Kashmir, they studied the prospects of the developing timber and fur industry."

"We use their recommendations for drawing up a programme for the industrial development of the state. Czechoslovakia supplies us with the equipment for plywood and ceramics making plants, Hungary is constructing an electric power station for us, we are conducting talks with Poland on the questions of assistance in coal mining. We are very glad to deal with socialist countries because we feel that they sincerely want to help us."

I visited Kashmir at the time when the Kashmir issue was last discussed in the Security Council. One had to see the intense feeling with which

the people opened morning newspapers, their unfriendly looks at the cars with the "UN" sign. But I happened to see another picture also: the joy of the Kashmiri people when radio and newspapers brought the news of the firm position of the Soviet representative in the UNO, which put an end to the provocative bustle of the Western powers around the Kashmir problem. People whom I knew, and unknown persons congratulated each other and shook hands with me, expressing gratitude to my country. The newspaper Tribune wrote in this connection: "Our people entertain feelings of deep gratitude towards the Soviet Union for this friendly act."

The last occurrence in the Security Council helped India to draw important political conclusions about the Western powers. On June 3, Mr. Nehru said in Parliament that it was highly regrettable that the two great powers, the USA and Britain, invariably oppose India on such issues as Goa and Kashmir, issues affecting the feelings of Indian people.

The Indian public has declared that by its petty foul play the USA has disgraced the high title of a great power.

Madhya Pradesh

Deshlahra Group On Top

From Our Correspondent

BHOPAL, August 12

Revelations made by the Opposition during the discussion on a "no confidence" motion against the State Cabinet, explode the myth deliberately created by Deshlahra and his henchmen that administration has improved under the stewardship of Mandloi.

HOWEVER, August 9 proved a very "auspicious" day for Mandloi when he successfully manoeuvred victory in the Assembly as well as in the Congress Legislature Party where he defeated Dr. Katju in a straight contest. The meeting of the Congress party was called to decide the issue of the leadership.

No confidence motion has not only exposed the Mandloi ministry but it has exposed certain sections of the Opposition too. For example, by lending only qualified support to the motion, the Jana Sangh has confirmed the charge which is usually levelled against it that it has joined hands with Deshlahra group against Katju in helping to sustain the Mandloi cabinet for full five-year term. Similar is the case of PSP. In the former Vidhan Sabha when the PSP was numerically very weak, it was its practice to sponsor ensure moves during almost every session. But surprisingly in this Assembly their whole attitude seems to have undergone a basic change. The explanation is very clear. The Congress has already bribed the PSP by doing out the post of Deputy Speaker to one of its members N. P. Shrivastava. There are also rumours of some sort of negotiations between the PSP and the Deshlahra group. Deshlahra is trying to win over some PSP members in order to consolidate his position in the party.

In spite of this, the discussion on no confidence move served its purpose. It was very timely, attracted the attention of the common man due to a favourable atmosphere created by the anti-tax agitation initiated by the Communist Party and later on joined by other opposition parties, particularly PSP and the Jana Sangh but of course excluding the Socialist Party, which in spite of its pretensions of carrying on continuous civil disobedience movement did not join the agitation. It was perhaps to compensate this that the Socialist party took initiative in sponsoring this motion. Still there were rumours that the SP has tabled this move at the instance of one section of the Congress.

The charges as listed by Tamot against the Mandloi cabinet were the adoption of anti-people policy and taxing the poor and the middle classes while allowing the rich mill owners, industrialists, big traders and capitalists free scope for profiteering and exploitation. The motion said that the common man was being crushed under the weight of taxes, the consumer was economically whipped by the rich manufacturers, the cultivator was being looted by the opulent trader, the social and moral standard was coming down fast and the society was disintegrating. The Education Department had become the playground of inefficiency, indiscipline, and favouritism which would result in grave consequences for the coming generation and, that administrative lethargy and rampant cor-

ruption had gripped the government machinery at all levels.

The motion also charged that the ministry and officers had shown a contemptuous neglect towards the reports and recommendations of the various committees and deceived the House.

During the debate, which was six-hour long, the opposition members substantiated these charges by giving specific instances.

The Communist Party and its members in the Vidhan Sabha lent their whole-hearted support to the motion. Shakti Ali Khan while participating in the debate said that the Government had failed to industrialise the state and the nationalisation of transport and other big industries had been overlooked.

There was however one specific issue which figured prominently in the debate. The issue related to the approval of a Sanskrit school text book "Suwarnapushpa". The members pointed out that it included a lesson which contained some derogatory remarks against Rama and Sita.

Much heat was generated in the House when the Education Minister refused to shoulder responsibility for the text book.

The House resented this remark of the Education Minister and he was rebuked for adopting this attitude by the Speaker.

lowed the communal elements to play on this issue.

On August 9 itself, immediately after the Vidhan Sabha was prorogued, Mandloi had to face another crisis. This time the opponents were the brethren of his own party. The High Command's decision to ascertain the views of the Congress MLAs was so sudden and dramatic that even the high ups of the State Congress were caught unawares. The High Command deputed its General Secretary, K. K. Shah for this delicate task. He came to Bhopal and decided to ascertain the views of the Congress legislators by secret ballot. In the ballot Mandloi emerged victorious defeating his rival, one of the old guards of the Congress, by a margin of 20 votes. Exact figure of votes for and against Mandloi were not disclosed to the press and even to the members of the Congress legislature party. But the figures given are based on the intelligent conjecture of the political observers and newsmen.

Thus on August 9 Mandloi got clearance certificate from his party men. The whole drama of ugly power politics proved most humiliating for Dr. Katju. It is really tragic that the career of one of the oldest leaders of the Congress should come to a close in such humiliating manner. But this also shows how ruthless and power-hungry the Congressmen of today are. When it comes to grabbing power, they do not hesitate to insult and humiliate even the tallest among them. But Dr. Katju is also guilty of becoming the tool of a section of Congress. To some extent he was also anxious to assume power and can also be accused of being power-hungry. With Dr. Katju's defeat many more developments are expected in this state. Deshlahra group will continue to consolidate its position and naturally in this effort many more pro-Katju Congressmen will be knifed.

NEW AGE

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STAIRWAY TO STARS

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dently difficult and long. On August 11 and 12, 1962, mighty Soviet rockets had placed in orbit around the Earth the spaceships Vostok III and Vostok IV piloted by Fler-Cosmonauts Andrian Grigorievich Nikolayev and Pavel Romanovich Popovich, communists and citizens of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Having displayed tremendous courage and heroism, Comrades Nikolayev and Popovich carried out a many-day group flight around the Earth, fulfilled completely the planned programme and successfully landed in the territory of our country—the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The spaceship Vostok III, piloted by Comrade Nikolayev, circled the Earth more than 64 times in 95 hours, i.e., almost 4 days, covering a distance of more than 2,600,000 kilometres.

The spaceship Vostok IV, piloted by Comrade Popovich, orbited the globe 48 times in 71 hours, i.e., almost 3 days, covering a distance of about 2,000,000 kilometres.

The joint flight of the two spaceships proceeded at a close distance from each other. Stable two-way radio communication was maintained between the two Fler-Cosmonauts. The start and landing of the spaceships were carried out strictly to plan. The apparatuses of the ships functioned faultlessly throughout the period in outer space.

The health of both cosmonauts was excellent during the flight, the mood cheerful, the working capacity unimpaired. During the flight they carried out a vast programme of scientific research. After their return from this difficult space flight, the Fler-Cosmonauts are in good health.

This group flight has been made possible, above all, by the excellent quality of spaceships, exactness of scientific calculations, exceptional accuracy and co-ordination of all the Soviet people who took part in carrying out this responsible mission.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet and the Government of the Soviet Union note with great joy and satisfaction that the Soviet Fler-Cosmonauts, scientists, designers, engineers, technicians and workers, who took part in the building of the spaceships and who serviced their flights in outer space, have fulfilled with flying colours their duty to the country, to progressive mankind.

The many-day group flight around the globe marks a new stage in space research. Radio communication not only between the spaceships and the Earth, but also between spaceships flying at different distances, has been carried out for the first time during the flights.

Science has been enriched with most valuable information on the state of the human organism during the space flight. Two cos-

monauts, carrying out a simultaneous group flight, maintaining communication between each other and steering their ships, coordinated their efforts, exchanged information on the situation, on the work of apparatuses, and compared the results of their observations.

Now it is already absolutely obvious that Soviet Fler-Cosmonauts command distances amounting to millions of kilometres. The time is approaching when they will steer mighty spaceships to the planets of the solar system.

The great exploit of Comrades Nikolayev and Popovich further enhances the glory of our country, vividly demonstrates the achievements of the highly developed Soviet economy, of the progressive Soviet science and technology, the unquestionable advantages of the socialist system.

The Soviet hero cosmonauts come from the grassroots of the people, were reared in the ranks of our glorious Communist Party. They have been brought up on the noble ideals of socialism and communism, are dead loyal to our people, to our homeland.

They signify the inviolable friendship of the socialist nations in the USSR. Following the Russian Comrades Gagarin and Titov, the outer space was stormed by the son of the Chuvashian people Comrade Nikolayev and the son of the Ukrainian people Comrade Popovich.

In their united fraternal community, the peoples of the Soviet Union are building communism, and they are storming outer space in a single front in the interests of peace and progress, of the happiness of all mankind.

The names of the Communists Yuri Gagarin, Gherman Titov, Andrian Nikolayev and Pavel Popovich have become embodiments of heroism, creative genius and industriousness of our peoples. The Soviet cosmonauts are loyal and worthy sons of their homeland, of the great Leninist Communist Party. They are people of unshakable courage, vast knowledge, high culture and moral chastity.

Now all the world sees that Communists are confidently marching in mankind's vanguard both on the Earth and in outer space, that socialism is the reliable launching ground from which the Soviet Union successfully sends its mighty and efficient spaceships into outer space.

The new outstanding successes in space exploration show convincingly that communism is scoring one victory after another in its peaceful competition with capitalism. Inspired by the decisions of the 22nd Congress, by the new Programme of the Party, the Soviet people are confidently building a communist society, paving mankind's road to a bright future.

The great Lenin's prevision about the transformative role of science, technology and culture in social development

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NOTES OF THE WEEK

Future Of Pondicherry

WHAT will happen to the former French possessions of Pondicherry, Mahe, etc., and to the former Portuguese possessions of Goa, Daman and Diu?

Will they be given the same democratic rights as the rest of the country, or will they be treated as centrally administered territories? Will they be merged with the adjoining areas of existing States, or will they remain as separate enclaves?

These questions have assumed greater importance now than before, since the French Parliament itself has adopted the necessary legislation to transfer the former French possessions to India. No more is the argument valid today that these territories are only de facto under the authority of the Government of India.

As for the former Portuguese possessions, the question does not arise. In their case, it is not a question of transfer of authority from the colonial overlords to our nation, but one of our armed forces having liberated those territories from the colonial rulers.

It is, however, disappointing that the Government of India does not propose either to merge these territories with the adjoining States, or to introduce democratic rule in those areas. The Prime Minister made it clear in Lok Sabha on August 6 that Pondicherry "will be a union territory with as much measure of autonomy given to it as possible."

He added that the question whether Pondicherry should have its own legislation "is still under consideration". In spite of repeated questions put to him, the Prime Minister stuck to his position that "it will anyhow be a union territory, whatever be the internal arrangements agreed to. There may be full internal autonomy but it will be a union territory."

This is naturally opposed by democratic public opinion. V. Subbaya, the leader of the opposition, Pondicherry Legislative Assembly, in a letter to the editor, *Hindu*, says: "Those who are opposed to the immediate merger with adjoining States and advocate the status of a separate autonomous State are a minority of vested interests. It will be obvious to one who has closely followed the political movement in Pondicherry some time back that many who advocate a separate autonomous State are those who played a reactionary role at the time of liberation movement". (August 11)

It is not disputed that the former French and Portuguese possessions have inherited several special features in the matter of education, administration, etc. Nobody would demand a sudden disturbance of all that has developed in these territories for historical reasons.

But that should not blind anyone to the fact that the people of these territories are not different from their brethren in the adjoining States.

There is, therefore, no reason why they should not be allowed to merge themselves with their brethren and to make certain transitory provisions for a definite period in relation to those aspects of social life in which they have come to acquire certain special characteristic features.

All the more objectionable is that, in the name of "preserving certain special features which they have come to acquire", the people in these territories are denied the democratic rights of having an elected legislature, etc.

"Integrating" The Tribal People

THAT there are serious shortcomings in the way in which the problems of tribal people are being dealt with was made clear in Parliament not only by the opposition but by members belonging to the ruling party itself.

Even Home Minister Shastri who spoke on behalf of the Government could not but admit that the state of affairs is far from satisfactory.

The Minister tried to explain how welfare schemes are being prepared and implemented and how resources are being earmarked for the purpose. But, as he himself admitted, "it is not enough to execute certain schemes. What is necessary is a radical change in outlook".

The present outlook is governed by two considerations: On the one hand, the tribal people have their own way of life and culture and this should be preserved. On the other hand, they should be enabled to catch up with the more advanced sections of society in economic, educational and cultural matters and thus to integrate themselves with the rest of society.

As a matter of fact, however, the ways of life and culture of the tribal people do not remain as they are. Big roads are being made into them. Non-tribal forms of property, ways of life and culture are arising in their midst. No force can prevent these developments.

The question is how this process takes place. Is it through the penetration of landlords, money-lenders, contractors and officials from the non-tribal sections of society into the territories inhabited by the tribal people and the establishment of their economic domination over them; or is it through the adoption of modern techniques of cultivation, modern industries, school and college education, etc., which transform the tribal people and modernise them?

Is it by way of outsiders acquiring proprietary rights over the lands occupied by the tribal people who are thereby transformed into landless labourers? Or, is it by way of enabling the tribal people themselves to cultivate their own lands better and more efficiently and otherwise improve their economic conditions? So on and so forth.

The former method of 'integrating', the tribal people with the more advanced sections of society would, far from bringing about integration, create perpetual discord between the tribal and the non-tribal people.

The former would look upon the latter as intruders and exploiters; the latter in their turn would look upon the former as primitives and uncultured.

The disastrous consequences of this sort of 'integration' have been seen in Assam (where, after serious and protracted conflicts, the Government had to agree to the formation of the State of Nagaland), in Madhya Pradesh (where the former ruler of Bastar could create trouble for the Government), etc.

The question, therefore, is whether, when Home Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri spoke of a "radical change in outlook", he had in mind the reversing of the process of integration, the prevention of exploiters from outside going into the tribal areas and dominating over their people and allowing the tribal people themselves to acquire modern ways of life and culture. If not, the problem will remain.

Unjustifiable Stand On Nagaland

IT is against this background that one has to note regretfully that both the ruling party as well as the opposition in the Assam Legislature took a totally unrealistic and unjustifiable stand on the question of the formation of Nagaland.

Chief Minister Chaliha moved a resolution in the State Assembly on August 7, which expressed the opinion that the State of Nagaland Bill 1962, referred to the Legislature by the President, was "not conducive to national solidarity and greater political stability of the eastern region".

Opposition speakers went a step further. The Chief Minister did at least note in the end that, since the Government of India is committed to the formation of Nagaland, the State Legislature can do nothing more than express its regret that matters should have come to such a state.

His stand was, therefore, one of regrettably reconciling himself to it. Opposition speakers, however, were not prepared even to take this position.

It is idle for the Government and the opposition of the Assam State Legislature now to talk of "an integrated political and administrative set-up" in the eastern regions. It is a matter of history that such integrated set-up had existed in Assam, but that it could not continue.

The Government of India at least realised after a few years that it could not continue and hence their decision to form the state of Nagaland. Yet, the leaders of Assam refuse to take even such a realistic stand. Their opposition at the present stage can only further embitter the feeling of the tribal people in Assam.

—E.M.S. Namboodiripad

Assam Newsletter From Madhusudan Bhattacharyya

Varsity High-Ups Vote Themselves To Highest Salary

SHILLONG: "We have reasons to think that the Registrar, Treasurer and the Controller of Examination are in the fore front of the dominant group of the University. They vote themselves to the highest salary available in the University, irrespective of what their counterparts get in other Universities."

THIS observation is reported to have been made by the four-man commission, headed by D. C. Favate-Vice-Chancellor, Karnatak University, which was appointed by the Chancellor to enquire into the affairs of the Gauhati University, in its 175 page report submitted some time back to the Chancellor.

The enquiry commission was appointed following unrest among the students of the University in August last year. The University Court that is meeting at Gauhati on August 24, will be called upon to take important decisions in the matter of the university administration on the basis of the report of the commission.

The report of the commission has not yet been formally made public. But bits of information about what is said to be the observation of the commission has been trickling to the press for some time past and these press reports have not been contradicted.

The commission is reported to have found that the way in which the examinations were held was "simply disgraceful". Unlike other Universities of the country, the Gauhati University did not conduct examinations on fixed dates, nor were the results announced before the commencement of the next academic year, according to the commission.

The above mentioned "dominant group", according to the Commission, emerged determined to cling to power anyhow. This group, according to the findings of the Commission, was motivated by aggrandisement and this is bound to bring ruin to the University sooner or later.

DROUGHT & FLOOD

WHILE a large number of people in a vast area of the State has still been smarting under the impact of the devastating flood, one area of about 1,200 sq. miles of Nowgong district has been facing a severe drought. This area was once known as the "granary of Assam".

Though monsoon in the State is now half-way through, this area is reported to have received little rain.

It is said that ever since a reclamation project was undertaken in this area—the scheme itself allegedly proved a flop—the area has been experiencing this drought, "more devastating than flood".

The people of the locality feel that when a flood occurs, attention of all concerned is immediately drawn to the suf-

fering of the people. But little attention is paid to the sufferings of the people in the grip of drought.

They say that jute and Ahu (summer paddy) crops this year have been totally lost and the prospect of the winter paddy is also bleak unless steps are immediately taken for irrigation.

Demand has been made for a few power pumps to be given to this area immediately. The 'bunds' in the mouth of some of the local rivers should also be opened, it is also demanded.

Cultivators in this area should be exempted from paying land revenue for this year as also for the last year. Paddy should be distributed in the affected area in lieu of cash dues. The relief works should also be undertaken and the cultivators should be provided with seed loan so that they may try to raise a harvest of winter paddy crop.

One of the issues which had inspired the hartal, processions

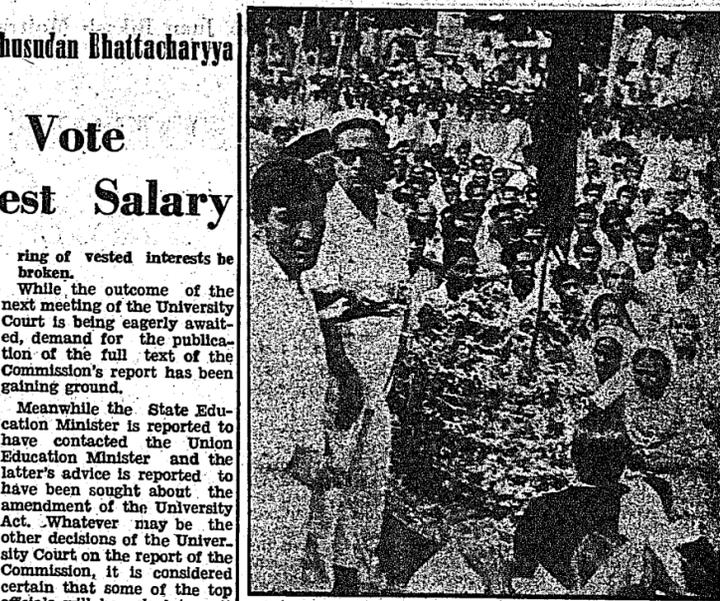
and meetings on July 30 last, was the issue of raising the martyrs' memorial. Once again, the Gujarat Government reiterated its refusal when the Janata Parishad deputation met the Chief Minister on July 30.

There was a strong popular demand that the memorial be raised on this August 8 as it was done in 1958. The success of July 30 demonstration had roused popular enthusiasm, but it was rightly decided by the Shahid Smarak Samiti not to take such a hasty step without sufficient preparations to offer a prolonged fight, which it would certainly involve.

The Shahid Samiti was formed

On that day since early morning, thousands of people started converging at Shahid Chowk at Ahmedabad. A big procession, led by Indulal Yagnik, Dr. C. Patel, Dinkar Mehta and the parents of the martyrs, carrying flower-wreaths went to the martyrs' place and held public meetings on August 8.

Thousands of people sat round the sacred spot, flowers were offered, the songs of martyrdom were sung and two minutes silence was observed. Thereafter slogans were raised by all reiterating the demand for establishing the memorial and pledging to accomplish this task at near future.



A view of "Shahid chowk" at Ahmedabad on August 8.

GUJARAT

From Our Correspondent

Memories Of August 8

On the afternoon of August 8, 1956, hundreds of students had collected near the Congress house, at Ahmedabad, demanding from the Congress leaders reasons as to why the Lok Sabha had adopted the bill to have a bilingual Bombay State rejecting the demand of the linguistic state of Gujarat.

THE answer was a volley of bullets, which killed a number of young boys, both Hindus and Muslims. It was this sacrifice and heroism of students that had marked the beginning of the Maha Gujarat struggle of the Gujarati people. After a prolonged struggle for over three years, it succeeded in reversing the earlier decision of the Congress Government and securing the State of Gujarat on May 1, 1960.

One of the demands of the Maha Gujarat movement was the raising of the martyrs' memorial on the spot where the first martyrs had sacrificed their lives, opposite the Congress house at Ahmedabad. Similar killings had taken place at Kalol on August 10 and at Nadiad on August 11, 1956.

On August 8, 1958 a huge demonstration led by the then Janata Parishad, defying the police bans, had raised memorials at all the three places, but the Congress Government removed those memorials after midnight of August 11. This again had sparked off the big satyagraha in which thousands, courted imprisonment.

The vow to raise the martyrs' memorial is still remaining unfulfilled. At Bombay, the Samyukt Maharashtra Samiti has raised a martyrs' memorial at Flora Fountain. But the Gujarat Government, which is still under the thumb of Morarji Desai, consistently refuses permission to raise the memorial.

The reason is quite clear because such a memorial situated opposite to the Congress house, from where the police had rained bullets on innocent young boys, would serve as a constant reminder of the black deeds of the Congress Government.

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The Shahid Samiti was formed

Steady Theft Of Railway Properties

* From Our Correspondent

JAMSHEDPUR: ACCORDING to official figures available from Railway sources, materials worth of more than Rs. 80,000 have been lost on account of thievery from the Tatanagar yard of the South Eastern Railway.

The break-up accounts for Rs. 42,400 worth of materials belonging to the public and the balance of the Government in 621 and 265 cases respectively. This relates to incidents only for two years—1960 and 1961. Apart from this, there were losses to the

public as well as the Government in running trains detected at Tatanagar worth about Rs. 30,000 in course of 1959-61.

Inadequacy of staff of RPF at Tatanagar, growth of mushroom busters around Tatanagar where the percentage of population is suspected to be composed of 70 per cent criminals and an unfettered link between the criminals operating at Tatanagar and prosperous racketeers in the city, are considered responsible for various types of unsocial elements thriving on district-wide "business" which has yet remained unchecked, according to Tatanagar officials concerned.

Political Prisoners Released At Last

CALCUTTA, August 11:

The biggest news of the week from this State is the Government's decision to release all long-term political prisoners on this year's Independence Day. They will be already in our midst by the time these lines are published.

THESE political prisoners, 25 in number, belong to the Communist Party and the RCFI. They were convicted, and sentenced to long terms of imprisonment in Kakdwip, Dum Dum-Bashirhat and Jessop cases. All of them have been behind the bars for 12 to 13 years and have already served 14 to 16 years of their sentences with remission.

in the Constitution and all the parties had participated in the polls in a constitutional manner. The aim of all the parties in India was to win the elections in the hope of capturing power through the ballot box so that they might shape the destinies of the country in accordance with their socio-political ideologies.

"Our Constitution has granted the right of freedom of speech and of association to all individuals... Let us all function in mutual confidence and trust. In this context, I feel that it is no longer necessary to keep political prisoners be-

Jyoti Basu, Leader of the Opposition, appealed to the State Government to release all the long-term prisoners while speaking on the Budget in the West Bengal Assembly on July 23.

The long-term Political Prisoners Release Committee, consisting of the representatives of the CPI, FB, RCFI, RSP, Marxist FB and three other left parties, met the Chief Minister on July 31 and submitted a memorandum on the release of the political prisoners. The Chief Minister told the members of the Committee that he had changed his own attitude on this question, but he would have to discuss the matter with his Cabinet colleagues.

The Committee in a statement on August 5, appealed to students, workers, middle class employees and all other democratic sections of the people to participate in a mass deputation to the Governor, Fadnaja Naidu, on August 9 to urge upon her to release the long-term political prisoners.

Three days later, it was reliably learnt from official sources that the State Government had taken the decision to release all the long-term political prisoners. The Chief Minister, it was reported, conveyed the decision on telephone to Jyoti Basu.

Making a formal announcement on August 8, after the receipt of the Centre's approval to the State Government's decision, the Chief Minister said: "It is my sincere hope that the climate that we are endeavouring to create for the peaceful reconstruction of our country in a democratic manner will generate an ever-increasing and unstinted public support."

He hoped that this gesture on the part of the Government would be welcomed by all sections of the people, irrespective of their political affiliations.

He further said that parliamentary democracy was taking deep roots in the country. The last general elections under adult franchise showed the people's abundant faith

hind the bars," the Chief Minister concluded.

Jyoti Basu in a statement on August 8, which he made in Hyderabad on behalf of the West Bengal State Council of the CPI, said that the Party had been urging upon the State Government for a long time to release the long-term political prisoners.

The Political Prisoners' Release Committee had been carrying on a mass campaign on the issue. The people of West Bengal and of the country as a whole had repeatedly raised the demand.

Jyoti Basu further stated: "I have just now been given the extremely good news that all long-term political prisoners will be released on August 15. I convey to the West Bengal Government and the Chief Minister our (the party's) heartfelt thanks for

this magnanimous act after they had taken note of the democratic public opinion in West Bengal."

While greeting the people, whose democratic consciousness and movement had made the release possible, he welcomed the political prisoners who were coming back in the midst of their countrymen.

On being informed about the Government's decision, the Political Prisoners' Release Committee issued a statement, welcoming it and

cancelling the mass deputation to the Governor scheduled for August 9.

Swadhinata, Communist Party's Bengali daily, in its editorial on August 8 expressed the party's sincere thanks to the Chief Minister and his Cabinet for the decision to release all long-term prisoners.

It needs hardly to be mentioned that the Government's decision has been warmly welcomed by all sections of public opinion in this State.

Anti-Tax Campaign

WITHIN the last fortnight the prices of some of the most important daily necessities of life in Calcutta have soared beyond all estimations.

For instance, the prices of fish, one of the main items in the daily diet of an average Bengali family, have risen by 55 per cent to 60 per cent. The lowest grade of medium quality rice is not available for anything less than Rs. 27 a maund! The prices of potatoes and other popular varieties of vegetables are beyond the reach of the poorer sections of the people.

The Chief Minister, who is also in-charge of the food

Department, hardly ever admits that there is an upward trend in food prices. But he had to admit on August 7 that "there has been a slight rise in rice prices in West Bengal in recent days."

Explaining the abnormal rise in fish prices, the Minister for Fisheries stated on August 8 that after enquiries in the market, the Government was convinced that the recent rise in fish prices in Calcutta was caused largely by some profiteering aratdars (wholesalers).

In Calcutta, there are about eight aratdar markets from where 18,000 retailers take delivery of fish for distribution to consumers.

The Minister said that the aratdars did not live up to their pledge of last year to standardise fish prices. But if they had chosen to violate the "gentlemen's agreement", the Government was determined to take stern legal measures against them.

The Government also felt that for permanent relief of the problem, the present system of fish distribution through aratdars might have to be changed, the Minister added.

When the meeting was over, the students formed themselves into a big demonstration and marched to the Office of the Pakistani Deputy High Commissioner in Calcutta, shouting slogans. They also carried some festoons, on which slogans were inscribed.

The demonstration was stopped by a police cordon about 200 yards from the Office of the Deputy High Commissioner. A deputation of students then wanted to see the Deputy High Commissioner to hand over a memorandum to him. But he declined to meet the deputations. Later, he condescended to receive the memorandum through a police officer!

The demonstrators dispersed after they had been addressed by their leaders.

The memorandum submitted to the Deputy High Commissioner strongly condemned the ruling class of East Pakistan for resorting to indiscriminate firings and arrests to suppress the democratic movement in that country, and demanded immediate and unconditional release of all those arrested and the restoration of democracy in East Pakistan.

The students of Calcutta and of the neighbouring districts of Howrah, 24 Parganas and Hooghly participated in the solidarity action. Reports available till the time of writing show that students throughout Burdwan district, including those of Burdwan University, observed the strike.

State-wide Students Strike

TRUE to their glorious anti-imperialist and democratic traditions, the students all over West Bengal stayed away from their classes on August 10 in support of the struggle of the students and the people of Pakistan for the restoration of democracy.

The call for the statewide general strike was given by the Students' Federation and two other Central Students' Organisations, and was supported by the students unions of Calcutta and Jadavpur universities and of different colleges in the State.

After abstaining from their classes, students from different parts of Calcutta went in processions and assembled at

a meeting on the Calcutta University lawn.

The resolution unanimously passed at the meeting congratulated the students and the people of Pakistan for "raising the banner of democracy in a country where democracy and freedom were being trampled under foot," and expressed the confidence that their struggle would be able to foil all the machinations of the Ayub Government, an agent of the imperialists, and win a resounding victory.

The resolution further appealed to all sections of people in India to extend their whole-hearted support to the glorious struggle of the student community in Pakistan.



A section of the students stopped by the police near the office of the Pakistani Dy. High Commissioner in Calcutta on August 10. One of their leaders is seen addressing the gathering.

A Stormy Session In Retrospect

From V. Hanumantha Rao

The passage of this bill remarked:

"The passing of the bill into an act has not buried the question. The ultimate say would be of peasant masses at the time of elections."

The debate on various demands for grants revealed a picture, which was, to say the least, alarming.

State Government has incurred a debt of nearly 300 crores; the debt services themselves are costing a heavy lot from year to year. Last year, it was about eight crores while it shot up to Rs. 17 crores this year. There is an overdraft on the Reserve Bank of India and the Telangana securities have already been spent. There is no specific policy in floating loans.

To quote the words of the Finance Minister himself, "there was a fall in production of foodgrains." Statistics were quoted in the Assembly that there was "a continuous and steady fall of various cereals and cash crops." But, when compared to other states, despite the tall claim of Andhra's advance in agriculture, Andhra stands "13th in the list of States".

More than 50 per cent of the budget is spent on irriga-

tion and power and one would imagine that Andhra is flowing with milk and honey so far as these two aspects are concerned. But, thanks to the positively inactive role of Centre and very unreasonable attitude of neighbouring states, progress of all major irrigation and power projects has been either held up or they could not even be started.

Due to the niggardly help Centre is giving to the State, the progress of Nagarjuna-sagar project is delayed and meanwhile, the cost of the first phase of the project shot up from just 87 crores to 137 crores, due to increase in cost of cement, iron and so on.

Even to the extent any major project has been completed, the potential created could not be fully utilised, as in the case of Krishna barrage in Vijayawada. As for power, there is little hope of overcoming the present crisis even by the end of the third plan period. To the extent this power crisis continues, the progress of industrialisation would be thwarted.

If such is the "progress" in the principal sectors of production and development, one can imagine the fate of seemingly less important sectors like education, health, social welfare and so on.

For instance, in the field of education, the Leader of Opposition pointed out that at the rate at which the scheme of compulsory primary education was progressing, it would take a minimum of fifty years to bring all children of the age group of five to eleven to schools.

Again, it would take one hundred and fifty years to give education up to fifth standard for all children of that age. Government is not able to provide seats even for this small number of students and there is a clamour for seats not only for engineering, medical and such other courses, but even for sixth standard!

The allotment for scheduled castes, scheduled tribes and other backward classes has fallen from what it was during the second plan period.

On the other hand, the Chief Minister threatened them, under the excuse of loud-thinking, that hereafter, allotments would be made not caste-wise but poverty-wise, meaning thereby, that all poor of all castes would be given help and not to scheduled castes and so on, which according to him, was perpetuating caste thinking.

Commenting on this, as well as on the attempt to create more and more all-India services, encroaching upon every conceivable state sector as also imposition of Hindi as a compulsory subject and teaching of English from third standard, Sundarayya wondered how these steps could help integration, as was being claimed by the government.

He warned that "if these tendencies are not reversed, instead of greater integration, there would be greater disintegration in the country".

Speaking generally about development in the State, and particularly about power development, he said: "Our position is worst. Only Assam, which is the smallest state is next to us. All other States are far ahead of us."

"For a district like Srikakulam with twenty-two lakhs population, there is not a district headquarters hospital there. The people there are good or otherwise, I don't know what they would have done."

"The allotment for development of roads during the third plan is 6 crores. What can we do with this amount? We cannot even spread dust on our roads; let alone metal-ling or blacktopping them."

Speaking about fighting famine in Rayalaseema, he admitted: "We are spending only a few lakhs, but it is no solution to the problem."

The first budget session of Andhra Pradesh Assembly after general elections concluded last week.

THE proceedings of the session were dominated by the discussions on the Land Revenue Increase Bill which was put on the Statute Book despite opposition by people outside, by opposition parties inside and by Congress party members themselves.

It will go on record that there was never such a piece of legislation in the State which was opposed tooth and nail. Besides the mammoth demonstration outside the Assembly on July 30, besides the demonstrations of two lakhs of peasants all over the State on June 24, inside the assembly itself, the bill was discussed for six days.

There were as many as 304 amendments for just over ten clauses; one single clause was discussed for a whole day and the voting on that single clause itself took one hour; there were as many as 11 divisions on that single clause.

In all, there were as many as twenty divisions on the whole bill. At the end, when the bill was finally put to vote, despite a whip issued by the Congress party, as many as forty-two Congress party members evaded coming to the Assembly on that day.

When the ruling party leadership refused to give time for more study and consideration of the bill which will have far-reaching effects on the rural economy in the state, the opposition parties moved so many amendments, made so many suggestions with the sole aim to see that poorer soils and lands under precarious water sources are exempted from taxation or at least they are only taxed at the lowest rate possible.

P. Sundarayya, Leader of Opposition, commenting on

For instance, opposition tried to see that land holdings of less than five acres (wet) or 25 acres (dry) are exempted from additional taxation, since these holdings do not give a net income of more than Rs. 100 per month, even in the best of cultivating seasons.

If this was accepted, sixty per cent of the land still would have been subjected to this additional burden. Speaking in terms of land-holders, only 15 per cent of the landholders would have been taxed, while 85 per cent would have been exempted.

Alternatively, opposition pleaded that at least those holding one acre of wet and five acres of dry land be exempted, which would have meant exemption for 70 per cent of the families, while 80 per cent of the land would have been subjected to additional assessment.

The members pleaded that at least the resolution of the old Andhra Assembly that all those who pay less than Rs. 10 as land revenue would be exempted from taxation, be implemented now.

The Chief Minister was forced to admit that the criticisms of opposition were "reasonable", but all these alternative suggestions were rejected outright.

The bill, even in its final shape, would entail a burden of Rs. 7-8 crores on the peasantry and the principle underlying the bill became to be known as: the poorer the soil, the poorer the peasant, the poorer the irrigation source, the higher the percentage of increase of burden.

P. Sundarayya, Leader of Opposition, commenting on

AT GOA MINING WORKERS' CONFERENCE

Mirajkar Calls For Unity

Bicholim

The Goa Mining Labour Welfare Union held a conference of workers to discuss the current problems on August 5 at Bicholim.

S. S. Mirajkar, President of the All-India Trade Union Congress, inaugurated the conference.

"It is important", he said, "that there should be unity in the trade union movement".

He appealed to the INTUC not to split the labour movement in Goa and try to form new fronts or rival trade unions. "This will defeat the best interests of the Goa working class", he added.

The conference was attended by fraternal delegates from a number of labour organisations in Goa. The Marmagao Port, Dock and Transport Workers Union sent a seven-member delegation.

George Vaz, President of the Goa Mining Labour Welfare Union, presided over the Inaugural Session and gave a report of the formation of this first mining labour movement in Goa.

S. S. Mirajkar, President of the AITUC addressing the open session of the conference.



"YANKS GO HOME"

★ By Han Jai Sung

(August 15, 1945 saw the liberation of Korea from Japanese fascism. The following article reviews the developments in Korea since liberation.)

SEVENTEEN years have passed since liberation. But the country still remains divided into two parts—north and south. This territorial division of Korea is caused by the U.S. imperialists who, having occupied South Korea, have been obstructing in every way the unification of Korea.

The Korean people have consistently striven for self-dependent unification of the country without outside interference.

Premier Kim Il Sung in his report to the Fourth Congress of the Workers' Party of Korea once again expounded the stand on the country's unification. He said:

"The standpoint of our Party is clear on the question of the unification of Korea. Our Party has consistently maintained that the question of the unification of our country should be solved by ourselves through peaceful means on democratic principles. The Korean people can and must materialize the country's peaceful unification by themselves."

The U.S. imperialists, who have occupied South Korea have thrown obstacles in the way of Korea's unification by pursuing the policy of splitting the Korean nation and of the colonial militarization.

No sooner had they set their foot on South Korea, the U.S. imperialists forcibly dissolved the people's committees of various levels set up by the people. They intentionally wrecked the work of the Joint U.S.S.R.-U.S. Commission for implementing the decision of the Moscow meeting of three Foreign Ministers on Korea which provided for the establishment of Korea as an independent democratic state, brought the Korean question before the U.N. and set up the Syngman Rhee puppet regime in South Korea by usurping the U.N. signboard.

WAR OF AGGRESSION

Then in the hope of attaining their aggressive design the U.S. imperialists launched a war of aggression against the Korean people.

But the aggressive aim of the U.S. imperialists was frustrated. They were forced to kneel down before the Korean people, who had risen up in defence of the



Happy life in North Korea. Grandpa tells a yarn at a rest home to the youth.

centuries-old backwardness and have laid a firm foundation of the independent national economy. The entire people are now dashing at the speed of Chullima towards the eminence of socialism.

The firm foundation of the independent national economy built in the North, constitutes a solid material guarantee for self-dependent unification of the country.

The diametrically different pictures in the North and South add to the urgency of the country's unification.

The only way of saving the South Korean economy from ruin is to rely on the powerful economy in the North.

The South Korean people who have suffered much under the U.S. imperialist occupation are firmly convinced that they cannot free themselves from the sufferings and misfortunes unless they drive the U.S. imperialist aggressors out of South Korea, unless the country is unified by the Koreans themselves.

NATIONAL SALVATION STRUGGLE

For this reason, the South Korean people rose up in the national salvation struggle against U.S. imperialism. They knocked out at a stroke the U.S. imperialists' puppet Syngman Rhee.

This serves to show that the U.S. imperialists can no longer cover up their criminal acts in South Korea, no longer thwart the people's aspirations by the spurious propaganda about a "show-window of democracy."

In face of the revolutionary activities of the South Korean people who, convinced of the justice of their cause, displayed their united force, the U.S. imperialists threw off the mask of "democracy" and set up a military fascist rule.

The military rogues under the instigation of U.S. imperialism are riding roughshod over South Korea. Tyranny and slaughter are the rule. Economy is declining from bad to worse.

The U.S. imperialists called the South Korean people's struggle for freedom and democracy an "abuse of liberty." They extol the military fascists' tyranny as "an inspiring example," as "a symbol of progress."

It is the hackneyed practice of the imperialists to seek an excuse for suppression. They describe the people's struggle for freedom, independence and class emancipation as "menace of communism" or "communist aggression."

Today the U.S. imperialists are busy expanding armaments in preparation for another war.

What is the "menace of communism" in South Korea the U.S. imperialists noisily talk about?

Here is what a special correspondent of the French paper *Le Monde* in Tokyo wrote after his visit to South Korea:

"The military revolution was staged, according to generals, to combat communism. The government began rounding up communist agents in South Korea. Who, then, are the communist agents? I saw two communist agents while touring the villages. I think I can name them. One is poverty and the other famine."

Trumpeting the spurious slogans, the U.S. imperialists continue to ship into South Korea new type weapons in gross violation of the Korean Armistice Agreement and are engaged in military provocative acts to create tension.

Worse yet, today U.S. imperialism strives to hurriedly form the aggressive "North-east Asia Military Alliance" with an eye to bolstering its tottering colonial ruling system by bringing early the revived Japanese militarists and the South Korea since Kennedy came into power.

Such U.S. aggressive machinations and war provocation have become more intensified in South Korea since Kennedy came into power.

Kennedy has driven South Korea into the cauldron of military fascism; he has reinforced the U.S. aggressive troops stationed in South Korea and is desperately stepping up the policy of drawing the South Korean people into another fratricidal war.

But the U.S. imperialists playing with fire will never frighten the Korean people.

In the North there is the democratic base which has become rock-firm politically, economically and militarily, and in South Korea the anti-American national salvation struggle of the people is mounting.

The U.S. imperialists should stop such reckless playing with fire, pack up all their military equipment and quit South Korea at once.

Korea belongs to the Korean people. Unification of Korea is a matter to be solved by the Korean people themselves.

Korea's unification must not be delayed further.

By their united force, the people in the North and South will certainly drive the U.S. aggressive army out of South Korea and achieve the cause of the country's unification.

LAND OF HUNGER AND IRON BAR

SOUTH Korean daily "Taegu Ilbo" reported, "One February afternoon when the temperature fell sharply, six ragged children including a baby came to the Taegu police station to see their mother who had been jailed for the 'crime' of eking out a scanty living."

Holding bundles of small bedding and clothes, the shivering children squatted under the wall of the police station peering with swollen eyes inside the station.

Their mother had gone out to get something to eat for supper, but she had been locked up in jail. So the children did not have anything to eat and the two-year-old baby was sleeping on the back of its sister, exhausted by crying.

Those six children are the sons and daughters of the woman by the name of Kim living in a rented "room" under a bridge.

Their father, a boiler stoker, had been barely supporting his family. But he lost his job after the military coup, and they were exposed to constant hunger and hit the bottom misery.

Then the father was dragged out to the "nation-

al development construction site" in Yungchun, North Kyungsang Province, by military blackguards and he died of sickness caused by hard labour.

Since then the mother of the six children had become the sole bread earner in the family. Their livelihood had become extremely meagre and all the means of living was blocked.

Their board-house was taken away by the creditor and they went out begging.

Thinking that collecting slack is better than begging, the mother went to the compound of the Taegu railway station to gather slack scattered there and sell it for a meal of watery gruel. For this "crime" she went through a "summary trial" and was put in jail. She suffered gnawing anguish haunted by the thought of the children waiting for her. Military hoodlums, of course, did not care about such pain in the heart of the mother.

Learning that their mother was in police custody, the six children took to the police station their one and only piece of ragged bedding for their mother.

Such tragic sight is not uncommon in South Korea under the U.S. imperialists' occupation.

"Benefits" Of U. S. "Aid" South Korea As A Mirror

In South Korea the U.S. imperialists established a colonial fascist rule and are indulging in economic plunder. They commit all kinds of provocations and raise war clamours. They are out to enslave the South Korean people.

All this they do under the name of "aid".

THE so-called U.S. "aid" is one of the most cherished tools of the U.S. imperialists for shackling other peoples. It is known to all that the U.S. "aid" aims at binding recipient countries militarily, economically and politically.

In this South Korea furnishes more vivid proof than any other place.

With the "aid" as a bait, the U.S. imperialists concluded a series of unequal agreements with the South Korean puppet regime to enforce a colonial rule in South Korea.

Under the so-called "ROK-U.S. Economic and Technical Agreement" the U.S. imperialists have assumed unrestricted right to study and reexamine the economic plans of the puppet government while the puppet South Korean regime is obliged to give all information to its master—U.S. imperialists.

To all intents and purposes South Korea is ruled by the U.S. ambassador in Seoul, the "I.C.A." and "U.N. Commander" in South Korea. The puppet regime is not empowered to fix even electric charges without consulting and getting a nod

from them. When it comes to a matter like the budget, the puppets in South Korea are helpless.

Posing as a "benefactor", U.S. imperialism has pumped huge sums for military purposes and colonial excess profits out of the South Korean people. In the meantime every effort has been made to strengthen the military bases for launching a new war in Korea.

According to the U.S. aggressors, the cost for a puppet soldier is no more than one twenty-fifth of that for a U.S. soldier. The U.S. imperialists keep expanding the puppet army, and the people are burdened with a heavier load of taxes and levies. In fact during the past eight years after the war, the burden of the South Korean people has become ten times heavier.

To meet the ever-growing military expenditure, the U.S. imperialists are squeezing an enormous sum of money out of the people with bonds, dollar-hwan exchange rate manipulated in favour of the dollar, and inflation besides heavy tax imposition. Moreover, people's properties are

expropriated without compensation.

Even according to the data reported in the South Korean press, as of 1959, the U.S. imperialists used without paying land, buildings, vehicles, lots, etc. to the value of 4,280 million dollars, 1,200 million dollars greater than the so-called "aid" that Washington provided to South Korea in the same period.

This is not all.

At present the industrial production level of South Korea has dropped to two-thirds compared with the days of Japanese rule. More than 80 per cent of industrial goods consumed in South Korea has to be imported.

The textile industry which occupies nearly 40 per cent of the output value of the South Korean processing industry is dependent on foreign countries for the bulk of raw cotton it uses. Likewise, the food industry and daily necessities industry have to get raw materials from outside.

DUMP FOR SURPLUS GOODS

The U.S. aggressors rake in excess profits in South Korea by selling their surplus commodities at exorbitant prices robbing South Korea of raw materials and semi-finished goods at a next-to-nothing price.

Since August 15, 1945 the U.S. imperialists have dumped in South Korea chiefly their surplus farm produce, fertilizers, and other consumer goods. It is estimated that three-quarters of the goods brought in were those they had been wanting to dispose of for a long time.

BANKRUPT INDUSTRY

This clearly reveals how utterly bankrupt the South Korean industry is and how thoroughly it is subjugated to the U.S. economy.

The influx of surplus U.S. agricultural produce and fertilizer unsuitable to South Korean soil ruined South Korean agriculture. More, heavy military burdens weigh down the shoulders of the peasants. South Korea, which once enjoyed a grain surplus, now suffers from chronic famine.

IMPORT GREATER THAN EXPORT

In recent years, trade has become extremely unfavorable to South Korea. Its import is 20 times greater than export. No wonder even the South Korean paper *Sanup Kyungje Shinmoon* commented that "South Korea is a typical U.S. colony."

So long as U.S. occupation of South Korea continues, there will be no way out for the bankrupt South Korean economy. Nor will the South Korean people be ensured elementary rights and freedom. The only way out is to drive out the Yanks from South Korea. And the anti-U.S. sentiments of the South Korean people are mounting.

"Rainbow over Mangyungdae" A dance-drama performance by North Korean children on June 1 at Pyongyang.



Korean Question

USSR'S EFFORTS FOR A REASONABLE SOLUTION

THE Soviet Government has recently proposed to put on the agenda of the 17th U.N. General Assembly the question of withdrawing foreign troops from South Korea.

The proposal of the Soviet Government, as another manifestation of the consistent efforts of the Soviet Union for the reasonable solution of the Korean question, is a fully justifiable step proceeding from the present situation created in Korea and Asia.

The occupation of South Korea by the U.S. imperialists under the usurped U.N. flag is the source of the immeasurable misfortunes and sufferings of the South Korean people, major obstacle in the way of peaceful unification of Korea and great menace to peace in Asia and the world.

As long as the U.S. imperialist aggressive troops hang on in South Korea, the people there cannot be freed from the miserable lot of colonial slaves or relieved from the misfortunes, calamities and the murderous outrages of the U.S. imperialist aggressors. As the rea-

sonable solution of the Korean question, the Soviet Government has recently proposed to put on the agenda of the 17th U.N. General Assembly the question of withdrawing foreign troops from South Korea.

Therefore, the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggressive troops from South Korea is an indispensable precondition for peaceful unification of Korea and an urgent question for the preservation and consolidation of peace in Asia and the world.

NEVERTHELESS, the U.S. imperialists are nonsensically twaddling about the "threat from the North" in an attempt to justify their forcible occupation of South Korea.

Subserviently chiming in with this, the Japan Times, a government-paid English paper in Japan, hysterically said in its editorial of June 28 that "the United States forces have been retained there (in South Korea) because further aggression cannot be ruled out."

But, as the whole world knows, the Chinese People's Volunteers were withdrawn from North Korea as far back as October of 1953 and now,

for four years already, there are no foreign troops on its territory.

Moreover, in its sincere efforts to ease tension in Korea and settle the Korean question in a peaceful way, the recent session of the DPRK Supreme People's Assembly proposed to conclude an agreement between North and South Korea on not resorting to armed force against each other and to cut the numerical strength of the armed forces of North and South Korea, on condition that the U.S. army is withdrawn from South Korea.

IN view of all these facts, there can be no excuse or ground for the U.S. imperialists to remain any longer in South Korea under the pretext of "threat from the North." As a matter of fact, the "threat" comes not from the North but from the occupation of South Korea by the U.S. aggressive troops.

It is none other than the U.S. imperialists who have turned South Korea into their colony and military base and caused sanguinary tragedies, committing all sorts of vices

and barbarities, and are increasing tension in South Korea. They are committing all their crimes under the signboard of the United Nations.

THEN, why is the Japan Times so afraid of the withdrawal of the U.S. imperialist aggressive army from South Korea, army from the "threat of Communism" and describing brazenly as "the most brazen-faced impudence" the just Soviet proposals?

The obtrusive twaddle of the Japan Times thoroughly laid bare the heinous dream of the Japanese ruling quarters to invade South Korea again in subservience to U.S. imperialism, doggedly opposing Korea's unification.

Here, we may recall outbursts of former Japanese Prime Minister Ikeda that the "self-defence power of Japan should be expanded to South Korea" and the South Korean question should be regarded as an "extension of Japan's internal affairs" and the fact that the Japanese delegate played a role of voting machine when the 16th U.N. General Assembly passed the

fifteen-nation "resolution" on the Korean issue.

With no amount of frenzy or cunning trick can the Japanese militarists achieve their aggressive aim. The Korean people will never tolerate or overlook the machinations of the foreign aggressors.

The struggle of the Korean people for driving out the U.S. imperialist aggressive army from South Korea is a just struggle for uprooting the source of the national calamities in South Korea, achieving peaceful unification of the country and for defending peace in Korea and the world.

As was justifiably stated in the Soviet aide-memoire, the actions of foreign troops in the southern part of the Korean Peninsula seriously damage the authority and the good name of the United Nations.

If the United Nations wants to extricate itself from the shameful position at variance with its intrinsic mission, it should expose and denounce the U.S. imperialist aggressors who have illegally invaded South Korea under the usurped U.N. flag and withdraw them from South Korea and repeal all the illegal resolutions on the Korean question adopted under U.S. imperialists' manipulation. And this accords with the charter and mission of this world organization.

The Korean people will certainly emerge the victor in the struggle for their just cause.

AUGUST 23, 1944 - 1962

RUMANIA: 18 Years After Liberation

On August 23, this year the Rumanian people will celebrate the 18th Anniversary of the victorious armed insurrection of August 1944 which led to the country's liberation from under the fascist yoke.

WITH every passing year as Rumania advances along the bright path of her new life, the importance of this grand event in changing the destiny of the Rumanian people, the whole course of their history, appears ever more forcefully.

The insurrection of August 23, 1944, was carried through by the people's masses, organized and led by the Communist Party. The people's masses in Rumania had waged for centuries a firm, selfless fight for democracy, social progress and independence.

During the dark years of military-fascist dictatorship, when the ruling circles of Rumania reaction enslaved the country to Hitlerite Germany and pushed it into the criminal anti-Soviet war, the Communist Party of Rumania, embodying the highest aspirations of the people for freedom and national independence, was the only political party which, selflessly facing the most savage terror rallied the patriotic forces of the country for the overthrow of Antonescu's dictatorship, for pulling Rumania out of the anti-Soviet war and bringing her into the anti-Hitler coalition aimed at crushing Hitlerite Germany.

As far back as August 1943, proceeding from a thorough analysis of the home and international situation on the political and military plane, the basic cadres of the Party drew up a plan for the organization of the armed insurrection against Antonescu's dictatorship.

Insurrection Carried Out

The insurrection was carried through under the conditions of the impetuous offensive of the Soviet Army which dealing crushing blows at the Hitlerite armies, entered Rumania's territory as liberators. On August 23, 1944, Antonescu and his government were arrested by the Rumanian patriotic fighting units, the fascist regime was overthrown and Rumania withdrew from the anti-Soviet coalition.

The whole Rumanian army turned their arms against the invaders and alongside the Soviet Army, carried on the fight for chasing the Hitlerites from the Rumanian soil and subsequently, further beyond the borders, up to the final victory over Hitlerite Germany.

For their feats of arms in the anti-Hitler war, more than 300,000 soldiers, non-commissioned officers and officers were awarded Rumanian, Soviet, Czechoslovak

and Hungarian war medals and orders.

The victory of the armed insurrection marked the beginning of the people's revolution, in the course of which the decisive role of the masses in the development of Rumania was manifested more than ever.

On August 23, 1944, the Rumanian people won their real independence. They became a free people, master of their destiny, able to freely choose, according to their own aspirations and national interests, the adequate way of historic and social development.

The liberated creative capacities were put in the service of the policy of persistently developing the productive forces, of steadily raising the people's living standards, of the policy of peace and international co-operation.

The socialist industrialization, the priority development of the heavy industry with its pivot, the machine-building industry, a powerful base for the upsurge of the whole national economy, was placed in the centre of the Party and State economic policy.

Seven Times More Than In 1938

Rumania produces now in 55 days alone, the whole industrial output of 1938, the year with the highest pre-war level; in the last two years, the annual average rate of growth of the industrial output was 16 per cent.

Important results have been obtained in agriculture. In 1961, the total cereal output exceeded by 2.6 million tons the total average output of the 1934-1938 period; the livestock is now much bigger than the pre-war one.

The increase of the agricultural output is obtained in Rumania under the conditions of the successful conclusion of collectivization, an historic event in the life of the Rumanian people, opening up new and broad vistas for the development of all branches of agriculture.

The new aspect of the country, with an ever developing industry, with a mechanized agriculture is contouring itself more clearly to everybody. The productive forces have grown consistently, the socialist production relations in all branches of the economy have been consolidated and exploitation of man by man abolished for ever.

With the conclusion of collectivization of agriculture in March this year, socialism has triumphed for good and all in

town and country in the Rumanian People's Republic.

The remarkable results obtained in developing national economy and raising labour productivity, ensure the continuous and systematic rise of the working people's living standards.

In the last twelve years real wages have doubled, the state expenditure for social-cultural purposes has increased five times, the building of flats was extended and the volume of goods retailed by socialist trade units has grown more than five times.

Education and culture also developed greatly. Schools of all grades are attended, free of charge, by more than 3,000,000 pupils and students. Seven-year compulsory education has been generalized throughout the country, and eight-year education is gradually being introduced.

Scores of thousands of people have been trained in numerous higher learning institutes, while thousands of research workers make their contribution to the progress of science in more than 80 scientific institutes which have been set up and equipped with laboratories, libraries, etc.

Owing to the powerful support granted by the State, all branches of art are greatly developing; the works of Rumanian artists are appreciated beyond our frontiers and enrich mankind's artistic treasure-store.

A big part of the millions of volumes printed every year by Rumanian publishing houses, are literary works by writers of the older generation, as well as by young writers who find a great source of inspiration in the big transformations witnessed by the Rumanian people.

The Government of the Rumanian People's Republic considers that concomitantly with the elaboration of the general and complete disarmament treaty, which must be the principal concern of the

The ardent patriotism and devotion of the working people to the cause of socialism, the love and appreciation of the Rumanian people for the Rumanian Workers' Party and their Government are reflected in the enthusiastic activity carried on all over the country.

The Rumanian people are deeply attached to the cause of peace. They need peace for their creative activity, for building their new life.

Fight For Cause Of Peace

Reflecting the aspirations and basic interests of the people, the Rumanian People's Republic in the 18 years since the country's liberation has made an active contribution to the fight for defending peace and the security of the peoples, preventing a new war and promoting the principles of peaceful co-existence between states with differing social systems. This policy has increased Rumania's prestige on the international arena.

Solidarity With Liberation Struggles

The Rumanian people express their sympathy and solidarity with the people's fight for national independence, for social progress and militate for the complete and urgent liquidation of the remnants of the obvious colonial system. The RPR Government is strengthening and developing friendship and co-operation relations with the newly-independent states.

Reviewing the successes scored in a historically short period of 18 years, the Rumanian people experience a feeling of legitimate pride.

They celebrate the 18th anniversary of their liberation with unwavering confidence in the triumph of progress, peace and co-operation among peoples.

18-nation Committee, it would be useful to adopt immediately measures meant to lead to the lessening of international tension.

Of great practical significance would be the decisions of not spreading nuclear weapons and of setting up nuclear-free zones in different regions of the world.

Taking into account these considerations, the Rumanian Government proposed as far back as 1957 an understanding between the Balkan states and continuously championed for the turning of the Balkan area into a nuclear- and rocket-free zone, a zone of friendship, co-operation, peaceful work and welfare.

The Rumanian People's Republic considers that the time has come to find a solution for the liquidation of the remnants of the Second World War in Europe, by the conclusion of the Peace Treaty with Germany, and on this basis to put an end to the occupation regime in West Berlin, turning it into a demilitarized, free city.



Ben Bella and Bou Medienne inspect a unit of the Heroic Algerian National Liberation Army

All sincere friends of Algeria are anxiously following developments in that country, so newly victorious in the long war to shake off colonial bondage.

ONE can understand, and in fact one could even foresee, the difficulties the Algerians have encountered in the work of building their own state and economically rehabilitating the country.

Ruin, destitution, unemployment—what else could the colonialists leave behind them after their long decades of robbery and depredation? They fought tooth and nail to keep Algeria their colony and hung on as long as they possibly could.

And even now that they have had to get out, they do not mean to desist. They are only waiting for an excuse to interfere in Algeria's affairs and again get their clutches upon her.

To this day, in violation of all agreements, French troops patrol some Algerian

towns, and the OAS criminals are getting to work again.

Yes, the colonialists would dearly like to make Algeria another Congo. And, of course, the disagreements between the different classes, social strata and national forces in liberated Algeria are music to their ears.

The differences within the National Liberation Front, which emerged shortly after the referendum, formally relate to the formation of the organs of government.

But behind them, evidently, are more material differences and the ways of solving its social and economic problems.

The colonialists' glee is premature, however. The Algerian leaders are well aware, as their statements show, that

Algeria: Travails Of Time

and their allies, is fully possible. Algeria's democratic forces are calling for popular unity on the basis of a very simple programme: to completely and finally free the country from the danger of neo-colonialism, and consolidate independence.

The Algerian people are, undoubtedly, going through a trying time. But these are already trials of a very different order from those of the terrible war against the colonialists. Assuredly, Algeria will come through these trials too, and her leaders will show the political maturity and statesmanship that are needed to consolidate the hard-won victory (New Times Editorial, August 3).

Algerians in France celebrate their victory



Group Tussle In Bihar Congress

PATNA, August 11: Surprise is evident in Bihar Congress circles over the resignation of Sri A. Q. Ansari from the office of the BPCC President.

THE Congressmen, who entertained the idea that the AICC had allowed Ansari to continue in office till the new party elections were over, were not prepared for the sudden step taken by the BPCC President.

Despite the directive issued by the AICC to all PCC Presidents, who joined the State Ministries, to resign from the PCC Presidency, Ansari, who joined the Jha Ministry continued to hold both the offices.

He took the plea that he was holding the BPCC chair due to the failure of the group leaders to arrive at an agreement to choose his successor.

An impression was created that the AICC, in view of the strained group relations inside the Pradesh Congress, had permitted him to continue as BPCC President for the time being. But according to well-informed circles, Ansari remained in the office due to pressure from the

dissident group, to which he belongs.

During this period membership enrolment was taken up and it is alleged that several lakhs of bogus members had been enrolled in various districts of the State. The dissidents were interested in controlling the BPCC office during the enrolment of the membership and subsequent party elections at various levels.

Ansari, however, managed to oblige his groupmen by far. But the AICC is learnt to have taken strong exception to his conduct and his sudden resignation is said to be the result of a strong letter addressed to him by the AICC.

Resignation of Ansari this week has brought to the fore the controversy over the election of his successor. All efforts made by the Chief Minister B. N. Jha so far to get his nominee elected unanimously has failed. The group leaders still appeared

to be sharply divided over the issue. In view of the deterioration of group relations in recent weeks, possibility of an understanding between the rival groups seems to be very dim.

Ministerialists are expected to set up Kedar Panday, a former Deputy Minister, as their candidate. But there is a proposal in some quarters that Rajendra Misra, Vice-President of the BPCC should be asked to officiate as President for the time being.

Though Misra originally belonged to the dissident group, his loyalty is now doubted. He is now suspected to be sympathetic towards the Chief Minister. But he has not yet broken his relations with the dissidents.

If the dissidents are inclined to accept Misra as the agreed candidate, the Chief Minister also might agree to it, in order to avoid an immediate clash.

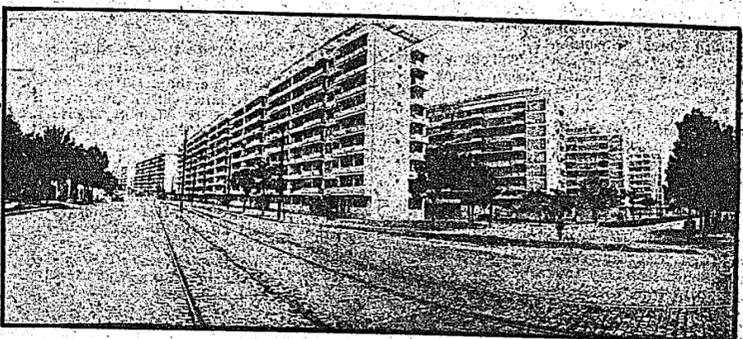
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The new look of a Bucharest Suburb

Beyond Arctic Circle

★ Masood Ali Khan

(FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE)

For me the strange feeling in Murmansk was its normalcy. A big city with wide and clean streets, multi-storied buildings, buses and cars, new houses and many many construction sights, a big port with ships and cranes and railway lines, and cinemas and theatres and clubs and palaces of culture and huge sports stadium. I had seen all these before in many cities of the Soviet Union.

But here in the Tundra, on the shores of the Barents Sea so far north, it was unbelievable. But there it was, Murmansk, the biggest city in the world beyond the Arctic Circle, as my little guide-book said.

And here in Murmansk in a book-shop I bought a strange little calendar. "The Polar Year" it is called. It gives a long chart of the distribution of the polar day and night in the year for Murmansk. The months are placed from left to right and the days from top to bottom on the left as in any calendar.

But, for January, the whole space is dark with only a small streak of dim light in the middle. It becomes wider and wider towards the right. In February nearly a third in the centre is light, it grows more in April and towards the end of May and the whole of June July it is all light. Then slight dark patches start on the top and bottom and grow closer together till they join in December, when the whole is again in darkness.

Interesting Calendar

And the calendar gives the following data:

End of the Polar Night—January 10.
Beginning of the Polar Day—May 21.
End of the Polar Day—July 22.
Beginning of the Polar Night—September 2.

Further we see that the first below-zero temperatures have been registered on the first of September and snow-fall on the eighth of that month. It was minus twenty and below on the eighth of that month. It was minus twenty and below on the eighth of April, and below zero, that is lower than the temperature of ice, on the ninth of June. The last snow-fall was on the 20th of June. The Polar Night, we were told as a consolation, is not all darkness because for about an hour or so, some dim twilight does appear on the horizon and gives place to full darkness for 23 hours.

January 10 is celebrated as the Holiday of the Sun after the long night. People, especially the young, wait for it on roof tops and hills and shout for joy and sing and dance as the sun peeps over the horizon for a little while. But from that day onwards its appearances become longer and longer, till it stays in the sky for the Polar Day, when it only circles round and round keeping above the horizon.

The place was chosen because, paradoxically enough, although situated so far north on the shores of the Barents Sea and the Arctic, this corner of the ocean does not freeze all the year round, thanks to the Gulf Stream which comes here all the way across the Atlantic.

The temperature of the water here remains a few degrees above zero even in winter and so the port is always free and never ice-bound. Only two hundred kilometres or so to the east, the shores are ice-bound and the sea water freezes for a few months.

From Murmansk, navigation to the west is possible all the year round. Timber, the mineral 'apatite', fish and furs etc., are exported and 100 to 150 foreign ships visit Murmansk every year.

The population today is 250,000, two-and-a-half times more than the pre-war figure. "Our birth rate is slightly higher than in other places. May be the long polar night is responsible for it," said the Chief Architect amid laughter.

Ravages Of War

Two-thirds of the town was completely destroyed during the war. It was a supply point and allied ships used to visit it from the West. The Germans bombed it continuously and the front was also not far away on the border with Norway and Finland. The whole of the central part as it stands today has been built after the war.

There is a long term plan for the reconstruction of the whole city, which is being built in terraces and going up on all sides of the surrounding hills.

The whole town looks like a big building site and new houses grow like mushrooms. This year 105,000 sq. metres of new housing is to be built, all of it are separate flats for families.

There are 4,000 students in town and in general every sixth inhabitant of Murmansk is studying. 40,000 work in the medical profession, 9,000 are doctors. Special medical facilities are provided for the polar conditions and during the winter, lack of sun is compensated by artificial sun-lamp treatment.

There are four theatres, 20 cinemas and clubs and a TV station, whose programmes are seen, even far out into the Arctic Ocean. Murmansk's main industry is fishing. And huge fleets of 350 fishing trawlers, refrigerator ships and floating canning factories bring loads of catch all the year round.

They go out far into the Atlantic and the North Sea to the shores of Iceland and Greenland and as far as Canada, and the thousands of tons of fish they bring are processed and canned and frozen in Murmansk and dozens of refrigerator trains leave for inland every day. The government has recently adopted a programme of big expansion of the fishing industry and Murmansk is to play a major part in it.

There is a Pedagogical Institute, the Polar Scientific Research Institute, Sailors' Middle and High Schools, etc.

We asked, when do they have summer in Murmansk, as it was cold and even snowing at times in June. "We have only eleven months of winter; all the rest is, of course, summer," was the answer. "Today is summer because the sun is shining," some one added.

This harsh climate poses its own problems for the building programme. Everything freezes and cement and mortar etc., have to be heated up. And the work has to be done mostly under artificial light because of the long night. The working conditions are difficult in the north. So the Soviet system provides for all workers extra facilities and help. The wages, for example, are much higher. All people working beyond the Arctic Circle get a 100 per cent bonus to start with and it increases by 10 per cent every subsequent year.

So a person after ten years gets three times the pay of his counterpart in some other part of the country. This is not all. People get 32 to 42 days paid holiday every year and after 3 years holidays are increased to 52 days with fare paid for a journey to any part of the Soviet Union and back. Nearly all children go to summer camps or with parents on holidays to the south, where there is a lot of sun to compensate for polar conditions.

Apart from the wages and facilities, there is such a thing as "the romance of the North." I was repeatedly told, and people don't want to leave the place. "There is a thrill here which holds you when you see how every thing grows all around", one worker, Smirnov, told me on the street. We were taking advantage of the fact that "today was summer and the sun was shining."

"You have come from Leningrad in 24 hours in an electric train. You don't know how things have changed here. Earlier, the journey took two weeks. The train stopped every now and then, and every one went out to chop the trees to feed the engine and then the slow train chugged on. Yes this is what it was like when Murmansk was founded during the first war," an old citizen told me. "Look what we have got now", he added pointing all around with his hand.

In the Soviet Union they have been organised into collective farms of the Tundra, where they breed reindeers and live on hunting. They decorate their fur coats and dresses with picturesque patterns of embroidery and have a developed sense of beauty.

In Soviet times many have received education, like Valentina Kochkova, a philologist from the village of Iokanga. She has three brothers, two are radio operators and the other one is an artist. Her people wear clothes of reindeer-skins, she said. She wants to go back to teach in her native village after finishing studies.

Another, 21-year-old girl, Nina Kanayeva of the northern nationality Komi, was learning to be a teacher in physics and mathematics. She was from a Tundra collective farm and her parents were reindeer breeders. She was learning German too.

I visited the great fish processing plant, the big "Combinat" which is the biggest in the world, I was told. Without going into the statistics of production, I can say that here I must have seen millions of big and small fish, mountains of them; being skinned, cleaned, cut, fried, canned, salted, frozen and smoked by machines of all kinds and thousands of workers most of whom are women.

They send out 120 to 180 wagons of fish of all descriptions every day. Later we were taken into a room, where 20 different dishes of fish were awaiting us. I cannot give you a list, it will be too long. I can only say that some of the stuff were extremely tasty. And I only wished some of my Bengali friends were there with me that day in Murmansk.

There he stands one knee poised on a rock and his hand raised to throw a grenade. It is a beautiful monument full of life and movement and an embodiment of courage. Anatoly's father is still alive, but lives in another town. The old man comes here every year. I was told, and stands for long hours gazing at the face of his dear son.

Stadium For Competitions

The biggest stadium of Murmansk is "Trud" with a capacity of 15 thousand, but "upto 30 thousand get in when some exciting match is on". When snow had disappeared in other parts of the land, the last winter competitions of the Soviet Union were held in Murmansk in April. Reindeer races are held and the Saami people have their traditional competitions.

The Saamis are the nomads of the snow-covered lands of the north. Some two thousands live in the Murmansk province. About three thousand are in Finland and more in Norway and Sweden.

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The building of the Palace of Culture is situated at the spot where the town's foundation was laid in 1915. Originally, during Tsarist days, the idea was to build a church on that site. Timber was brought for this purpose, but it was stolen as much needed fuel for heating in the hard winter. Then came the Revolution, and now we have the Palace of Culture on that spot.

Speaking of fuel, I might as well mention here that all the new houses have a supply of gas which is brought from Leningrad in liquid state in cylinders and each apartment house has its own store of gas.

The most impressive street of Murmansk is the Lenin Prospekt, which cuts across the whole town and has the big Five-Corner Square in the middle. I also remember the dynamic monument to a hero of the last war, Anatoly Bredov, a young worker of the shipping yards who fell on the northern front in 1944.

From Last Page

regard to China as well as Pakistan it is necessary that we have peaceful relations between our respective countries.

The climate, therefore, in the world today is one of settlement. That has been vitiated by certain things which happen from time to time. And, what China has done is, as one of the Government reports says, a shock and it is a surprise. We had befriended the Chinese and we expected China to behave in a different manner. At least China should have worded some of the notes differently. But I shall not place too much stress on semantics or linguistic peculiarities. Perhaps, the Prime Minister once suggested that translations from the original Chinese make a thing look very different. I remember having once seen in the Chinese statement their having used the word "beautify" for "consolidated". Beautify their position? What do they mean? They consolidated their position somewhere. It may be that in the Chinese language the word is such that it is translated in that way.

Our command of an alien language like English is so recalcitrant that we can possibly formulate our diplomatic documents in a much more capable fashion than the Chinese can. But that is more a matter of detail. I do not put any great importance on that, except that

the Chinese cannot make much distinction between what is said by the Prime Minister and what is said by friends like Sri Dwiwedi and others in the House. Possibly, they get confused by these statements as far as the Indian mind is concerned. It may be also that the Chinese have a likely feeling that at least as far as India of Sri Jawaharlal Nehru is concerned, as far as that India is concerned, it is all right and the future can be looked forward to with a certain amount of confidence. But the entourage of the Prime Minister being what it is, the possibility of what might take place when the Prime Minister is not at the helm of affairs of this country is a likely fear in the minds of our neighbour country.

Here is a friend of mine. He was quoting something written by Liu Shao-chi. I do not know. He was asking me about some advice which was allegedly given by Liu Shao-chi to the Communists all over the world.

Goal Is Human Happiness

*FROM PAGE FOUR

is coming true. "Formerly," Vladimir Ilyich had said, "all the human intellect, all its genius created only to give some people all the blessings of technology and culture, and deprive the others of the prime necessities—education and development. Today all the wonders of technology, all the achievements of culture, will become a possession of all the people and from now on human intellect and genius will never be turned into a means of violence, a means of exploitation.

"We know this, and is it not worth working for the sake of this great historic goal, is it not worth dedicating all our energies to it? And the working people will carry out this titanic historic effort, because inherent in them are the so-called great forces of the revolution, renaissance and renovation".

Our Party, our people, are following the road indicated by Lenin. Everybody sees now what wonders are worked by the huge creative forces of the free peoples of the Soviet homeland, awakened by the Revolution.

In our time science and technology open up boundless opportunities for harnessing the forces of nature and using them extensively for man's welfare. Great discoveries of science can make life better only when they are used for peaceful purposes, for the sake of man's happiness.

The Soviet Union steadfastly and persistently works for a durable world peace. The new flights of Soviet spacehips have been carried out for peaceful purposes, too. Mankind yearns for a lasting peace on the Earth, and no government can disregard

DEBATE ON CHINA

I feel sorry that certain things that are said by the Chinese ought not to have been said. We, on our side also, are not making any bones about it.

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The advice given by Sri Dwiwedi and that given by Liu Shao-chi may pull in different directions. But I prefer my own advice. I prefer to stand on my own legs.

Here we are functioning in a country where the democratic system of election prevails. Whatever we have to say is checked and supported by those who sent us to this House. I feel that it is necessary for us to give stress to first things first. There is, perhaps the Chinese apprehension that things may develop in India whereby people of Sri Deo's political way might possibly come into the picture on a very large scale than at present. That upsets them and some things take place which, sometimes, cannot be justified.

I am trying to think aloud. I am not saying that these can be authoritative pronouncements of somebody or other. I am only trying to think aloud. I have heard some speeches here of Sri Deo and others. I have an apprehension that it might extremely perturb the minds of others. But that is neither here nor there.

I come back to my original statement, the basic statement that the only consideration which moves us is that we are responsible and that we have to proceed in terms of settlement, keeping our powder dry all the time in case danger to our integrity and security of our country takes place. This is the policy we have to pursue.

This is not something which only a few Communists say, as is sought to be trotted out by some people who could not defeat us at the polls. Here is a paper called *Yugantar*, a Bengali daily of Calcutta. It is a Congress paper; it is owned by a Minister of the West Bengal Government, On August 8, 1962, it wrote a first editorial where it referred to the proposals regarding India-China negotiations. And, I am quoting some extracts from it. I have translated them myself. It is a Bengali paper.

I shall read that out to you: "We know for a fact that easy solution of this complicated border question is not possible. Besides, there are many political obstacles to such solution. Inside our own country there is a group of reactionaries who will stoutly resist a settlement, will create a great deal of noise and turmoil and will strike an attitude suggesting that through a peaceful settlement India would be condemning herself.

"But the task of maintaining the peace and security of our vast republic is vested in the Nehru Government and not in any irresponsible political group that makes a lot of noise and confuses issues. If India is to build her social life anew, if the Five Year Plans are to be fulfilled, if the standard of life of our people is to be stepped up, there must be a stop to our having to spend crores of rupees to maintain the posture of military strength along two thousand miles of our Himalayan boundaries on account of the continuing conflict over the border.

"Therefore, we hope that the Nehru Government will, in the interests of the future welfare of India, proceed with an open mind and a firm confidence.

"...And we ask the Chinese Government to cease from sniping at us, to give up all crude diplomatic manoeuvres and greed for land and to begin discussions with Prime Minister Nehru. Old Asia will achieve new strength when the dispute between India and China is resolved."

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This statement was made in the first interview near the place of their landing with a special TASS correspondent by Pavel Popovich on his return from outer space.

Andrian Nikolayev said: "I am proud of the fact that my comrade and I were given this assignment. We have done everything to see it fulfilled."

The cosmonauts gave this interview in the house where they arrived for rest after their landing. To reach this house, they had to drive from the airport along streets packed with people. Enthusiastic "Hurrah!" "Glory to Space Heroes!" resounded everywhere. All people were jubilant, admiring and eager to see the cosmonauts with their own eyes.

Nikolayev and Popovich looked quite well and cheerful, they were joking and laughing, willingly replying to all questions. "It was hot in the room which they entered and Pavel Popovich remarked: "Upon my word, it was much more comfortable in outer space." Andrian Nikolayev supported him: "Yes, there were fewer people and less noise."

The local residents wanted to treat the cosmonauts to something nice and quite soon the "celestial" brothers were eating a huge water melon with relish.

Meanwhile, a spontaneous meeting was taking place in the square outside the house. An ordinary table was brought out for the cosmonauts instead of a platform and there they stood on it, smiling.

The noise subsided gradually and Andrian Nikolayev said: "Thank you for your cordial welcome. Just look at us—you see that everything went well with the flight. We are feeling well, even fine."

These are not my words but the words printed in the leading editorial of the most important Congress-minded daily in Calcutta.

It shows that it is not merely the Communists but all those who have the interest of the country at heart who want us to go ahead with our social and economic planning and have a negotiated settlement of our disputes. I know there are difficulties.

That is why I always try to point out in this House that it is for the House to behave in a manner which should not be considered to be irresponsible; it is for the House to help the Government in so far as its efforts for a settlement are concerned. The Prime Minister had stated that there would be preliminary negotiations. I am not going to stress the difference between preliminary and some other kind of negotiations. Let not the door be shut; let discussions take place because discussions have got to take place.

In this summer and autumn of 1962 there have been anticipations in the circles which are dominated by the enemies of our country that there would be a flare-up on a big scale between India and China. That has not

taken place. On the contrary, in August, the Chinese Government has referred through Marshal Chen Yi's statement to a sense of hurt to their vanity, a sense of hurt to their amour propre about Chou En-lai coming to India and about our Prime Minister not going to China and that sort of thing. It shows also that they are thinking in that kind of terms.

I do not know whether it will be possible or feasible or desirable for the Prime Minister to go to China at the moment. Possibly, there could be no question of a visit. But since from the Chinese side that suggestion is thrown out I should say that with the generosity that is the tradition of this country we should say that if necessary, certainly the Prime Minister will go or somebody else will go on his behalf. Certainly it is necessary. We owe it to our own country's grandeur and history and that sort of thing and also we owe it to the present and future generations of our country that we leave no stone unturned as far as efforts at this are concerned. As I have said earlier, keep our powder dry but try to reach a peaceful settlement through negotiations. That is the policy that is to be pursued; let the details be spelt out by the Prime Minister. Let not the irrelevant ejaculations of those whose affiliations are quite obvious come into the picture and change the policy.

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EDITOR:
E. M. S. Nambudripad

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NEW AGE

20th Session

INDIAN LABOUR

CONFERENCE

NEW DELHI:

Twenty years ago, the Indian Labour Conference met for the first time in New Delhi on August 7, 1942.

LOOKING back on these twenty years, the twentieth session of the ILC, concluding its three-day deliberations on August 9, could recall how the very character of this body has changed.

Significantly enough, the General Secretary of the AITUC, S. A. Dange, reminded the conference that the aim of the first session of the ILC was to detach the working class from the national movement on the eve of the Quit India struggle.

Today, ILC has become a platform where "all labour could meet all employers on a national scale". The ILC has grown from a tripartite negotiating machinery to settle labour disputes—the limited objective for which it was constituted—into a national forum laying down basic concepts and principles governing all aspects of industrial relations.

This welcome development was amply reflected at this session of the ILC, which at the same time brought out the intrinsic weakness of any such forum, where conflicting interests are represented, in that the progress in achieving agreed decisions and conclusions would be necessarily hazardous and slow.

In fact, when the Drafting Committee met after the session to record the conclusions of the Conference, it is understood, the representatives of workers and employers could not agree on any point as being the conclusion, except okaying the memo prepared by the Labour Ministry on action taken on the conclusions of the nineteenth session of the ILC.

It now remains for the Chairman of the ILC Union Minister for Labour and Employment, Gulzarilal Nanda, to decide officially what were the conclusions of the session.

But all the same, as Nanda said, the deliberations of the ILC "have come to exercise a profound influence on industrial relations and labour situation in the country. In the face of heavy odds and the need to reconcile many conflicting interests, the record of agreements at the national level built by the Conference is a tremendous achievement. It has a deep significance for political and economic life of the nation".

Two points attracted attention in the review of the working of the Code of Discipline. One related to the question of employers according recognition to trade unions and the other to arbitration as a process of settling industrial disputes.

The workers' case was that even when unions qualified for recognition under the provisions of the Code of Discipline, employers refused to extend recognition. The point though contested by the employers—their stand was that there might be valid reasons for 'delay in recognition'—some of the State Labour Ministers upheld the point raised by the workers' representatives. G. L. Nanda also felt that if employers persisted in refusing recognition to qualified unions, legislation might be the only way out.

However, opposition to the suggestion came from the employers' side, and surprisingly, S. R. Vasavada, General Secretary of the INTUC. Vasavada wanted to "go slow" in the matter because cordial relations between employers and workers were most important and legal obligation might introduce rancour into the process of recognition! At Nanda's suggestion, the Conference concluded that refusal to recognise a qualified union would be a serious breach of the Code.

However, there could not be such agreed conclusion as far as arbitration was concerned. While representatives of all central trade union organisations were unanimous in denouncing the employers for not accepting arbitration, the employers put up a stiff resistance to include arbitration as a step in the conciliation proceedings. Ninety per cent of disputes are referred to adjudication at the instance of the employers, it was stated.

Nanda in his address had said that employers as a rule did not accept arbitration on the failure of conciliation and workers were compelled to accept adjudication with the resultant delay and expenditures.

"There are numerous instances in which no justification whatever exists for not accepting arbitration. I ask whether a persistent refusal to go to arbitration even in cases which involve no great stake is not a violation of at least the spirit of the Code?"

Despite this, the Conference could not agree that refusal to go to arbitration by employers would constitute a breach of the Code. All that it could say was the rather vague conclusion that arbitration would be the second and normal step in labour disputes, except "where the employer feels that new rights with large repercussions are to be conferred or huge financial stakes are involved". It was very clear that the workers' representatives were not satisfied with this.

An interesting exchange between the Chief Labour Commissioner and the employers' side took place during this discussion. Nanda suggested that in case conciliation proceedings broke down, the employer should be asked to submit to arbitration.

The CLC intervened to say that in many instances the employers did not turn up for conciliation proceedings—a statement hotly contested by the employers.

Nanda then suggested that the CLC should overnight prepare a chart of disputes showing on how many occasions the employers refused to attend conciliation talks, to which Dr. Maitreyee Bose retorted: "he need not work the whole night, we shall help him."

Ultimately, R. H. Mody (of the Tatas) admitted that he himself had many times refused to attend conciliation proceedings—an admission which closed the exchanges.

Victimisation of workers and discipline in the industry figured prominently during the general discussion at the

*ON FACING PAGE

CHOTANAGPUR NEWSLETTER

Regional Pig Iron Plants

★ From Our Correspondent

JAMSHEDPUR: ESTABLISHMENT of regional pig iron plants is now considered feasible after successful smelting trials at the National Metallurgical Laboratory (NML) here, it was stated officially on August 1.

Based on extensive smelting trials conducted at the Low Shaft Furnace of NML with iron ore and other available raw materials from East Punjab and Maharashtra, it has been recommended that pig iron producing plants can be successfully set up to meet the internal demand of the foundries situated in these states.

In East Punjab alone, there are over a hundred iron foundries centred around Batala, whose requirements of foundry grade pig iron have to be obtained chiefly from the Bihar region, thus entailing a long range of transport and delay in getting supplies.

The work conducted at the NML has shown that iron ore deposits of the Mohindergarh area can be successfully smelted for the production of foundry grade pig iron.

Similar studies conducted by the NML with raw materials from Maharashtra State have shown that whilst it would be feasible to establish small iron producing plants in Maharashtra

State utilising its iron ore and limestone, it would be necessary to utilise surplus metallurgical coke at least in the initial stages till low temperature carbonisation plant becomes feasible effecting full recoveries of all the by-product values.

It may be added that following the Government of India's policy to set up small scale iron producing units on regional basis, comprehensive investigations have been undertaken in the Low Shaft Furnace installed at the NML with the raw materials received from different states in India, and detailed project reports embodying the operational data and results of smelting trials with the different raw materials have been furnished to the State Governments.

Acquisition Of Intermediary Rights

THE Government of Bihar is stated to have decided to act, belatedly though, with regard to the question of acquisition of the intermediary rights over mines in Bihar that had

long been pending. The main object is to do away with several tiers of leases that had grown over the years.

The Government of Bihar has accordingly been contemplating to amend the Bihar Land Reforms Act for acquiring those Intermediary Rights, with exceptions to those who are actually operating the mines as sub-lessees of the Government.

It has been indicated that such mines as are under allegedly illegal occupation of private parties or those who are released due to non-renewal of lease, are proposed to be taken over by the Government after duly compensating them.

It has been stated in official circles that the Government is proposing to set up a syndicate for running the mines acquired by it, Government holding majority shares and allowing the ex-miners to invest in the syndicate's share.

The Government of Bihar, it is officially learnt, has submitted proposals to the Centre for an increase in the royalty rates of almost all important minerals mined in the State due to the fall of their production cost as a result of introduction of mechanised mining bringing more profits to the private entrepreneurs.

The State Government feels that the proposed levy of charges would bring higher royalty income to the State of about an additional Rs. 2 crores by the end of the Third Plan.

The nature of possible impact of the proposed amendment of the Lands Reform Act, including the payable compensation for State acquisition of intermediary rights on mines, is being closely studied, it is understood.

Power To Coal-Mining Industry

THE Study Team appointed by the Planning Commission to assess the power requirements of the coal-mining industry during the Third Plan period is reported to have recommended that the DVC should review all the existing demands for power and allocate maximum power supply to the coal-mining industry in West Bengal-Bihar Coal region.

The additional power requirement of the industry for achieving the Third Plan target of 104.78 million tons of coal is stated to have been estimated by the Study Team at 142.56 MW and the team is reported to have emphasised the need for according the highest priority to supply of power to the collieries.

Among the other recommendations that the Study Teams has made are:

● that the U.P. Government should be persuaded to release about 74,000 KW peaking capacity or, alternatively, 30,000 KW power at 50 per cent load factor from the Rihand Project;

● diversion of surplus power from the Hirakud Project and

● power generation from six 1300 KW package generating sets from two private power projects in the coalfield itself.

The Study Team has pointed out that in 1960-61 the power requirements were met satisfactorily but the difficulties really started early in 1961-62 when the three 75,000 KW units—one at Bokaro and two at Durgapur—of the DVC Thermal Power Station broke down simultaneously resulting in postponement of the DVC's scheduled power expansion programme.

Considering that the States of W. Bengal and Bihar are already under considerable strain, the Study Team is quoted to have suggested that the DVC should purchase power from Rihand which Bihar is likely to get, and inject it into its own pool and supply.

The loss due to costlier power from Rihand, should, according to the Study Team, be distributed among the three participating Governments of Bihar, Bengal and Centre. Alternatively, the Government of India should subsidise Rihand rates since the bulk of power would be consumed by the coal industry and the Railways which are primarily the Centre's responsibility.

Conference. While the workers' representative demanded that there should be a fool-proof system to check retaliatory actions of employers on workers, the employers maintained that to keep discipline, it was essential that the managements should have the right to take disciplinary action against erring workers.

The main argument of the workers' representatives was that at present the employers were acting as both prosecutors and judges and appeals to courts were mostly ineffective, because the courts refused to act unless the employers had violated the Standing Orders or denied natural justice to the concerned worker.

Hence, they wanted legislation to bring all disciplinary action under the purview of courts or alternatively pressed for formation of joint disciplinary committees in factories and establishments.

Ramanujam said that charge-sheet and giving chance to explain is something like "producing a question for which the answer is already there". The answer is dismissing the worker and for that, a charge-sheet is manufactured by the employers.

And for the employers' challenge to cite proven cases of victimisation, he said, "victimisation is something like God; it is very difficult to prove, you only experience it".

Adamant Attitude Of Employers

Employers were adamant in opposing any curbs on their freedom to take punitive measures against employees. This was absolutely necessary for keeping discipline in the industry, Bharat-Ram said.

And D. S. Kothari of the All-India Organisation of Industrial Employers, postponed the issue by saying that the employers' representatives had not come prepared to discuss it.

Another subject which raised heated discussions was the proposal by West Bengal Government to 'incorporate into the Code of Discipline a provision banning hunger strikes as a means of settling labour disputes.

The West Bengal Labour Minister's contention was that resort to hunger strikes makes relations between the parties strained and therefore chances of conciliation difficult. The Uttar Pradesh Government representatives also supported the demand.

Representatives of workers opposed the demand tooth and nail, because, according to them, there are several occasions when there might be no other course open before the workers except resort to hunger strike to achieve their demands.

An example was cited suppose an employee does not get his pay even after six months of his joining service. What is the course of action before him?

Nanda also admitted that

sometimes workers might resort to hunger strike out of frustration. He wanted the governments to take timely action in all cases of industrial disputes so that a situation would not arise, while at the same time advising them not to take any action because of hunger strikes.

Employers' representatives were mostly silent when this issue was being thrashed out, having made clear that they supported the West Bengal Government's demand.

This might be attributed to the fact that some of the State Government representatives were arguing out their case, perhaps better than they themselves could do. The performance of Bahnguna, Uttar Pradesh Deputy Labour Minister, in particular, was seen bringing forth appreciative nods from G. M. Modi of the Modi Industries.

General Strike Or Hunger Strike

However, to a straight question posed by K. G. Sriwastava of the AITUC, whether the employers and State Governments preferred general strikes to hunger strikes, there was no definite answer forthcoming. Though at the Conference most of them said general strikes were preferable, they refused to put it on record when pursued by the workers' representatives, it is understood.

Nanda had in his address exhorted both the employers and the workers to produce more. Without a very large increase in productivity as well as production in both agriculture and industry, "no persuasion or pressure, no resolutions however cogent and no amount of agitation or industrial conflict can bring within the reach of the working class as a whole the levels of living to which they are entitled as human beings and as partners in the economic activity of the nation", he said.

The issue of productivity was raised by Dange. He said there was no justification in asking the workers to increase productivity as long as the benefits from the increased productivity were not received by them.

A telling instance of this was provided by another workers' representative who said that the productivity of the coal industry had gone up from 30 million tons in 1947 to 60 million tons, the strength of the workers in the industry remaining the same. However, the wage bill of the workers in the industry stood at a mere 45 per cent against as high as 80 per cent in a more mechanised—where workers' wage bill should normally be less—coal industry in England.

However, Nanda did not agree to the demand that all benefits of increased production should go to industrial workers. He was of the opinion that the benefits should not go to those who are better off, but to those who are worse off.

Therefore, some way of channelling most of the benefits to agricultural labour has to be devised, and some to those who actually contribute to the increased production, has to be found, he said.

Study Of Wage Trends To Wait

However, the Conference decided to wait till the Mahalanobis Committee report is available, before considering the appointment of a tripartite committee to report on wage trends during the First and Second Five Year Plans—a suggestion mooted by the AITUC.

Many of the items on the agenda of the session have been referred to the Standing Labour Committee. Among them are all the suggested amendments to labour legislations like Factories Act, and Industrial Disputes Act seeking to change provisions regarding leave, wages, retrenchment of workers, payment of compensation and registration of trade unions. The issue of victimisation is also to be taken up by the SLC.

This might perhaps be imperative because of the nature of the ILC, with conflicting interests clashing to gain their own aims. It might also be due to the stiff resistance on the part of the employers to concede to workers any further rights.

For a majority of the items on the agenda had sought to confer further rights on the workers—a correct deviation from the past when the ILC and other tripartite bodies, in the words of Dange, had sought to impose more and more curbs on the workers.

Most illustrative of this resistance on the part of the employers to concede any further rights to workers and their trade unions was the discussion on rights to recognised unions.

First the employers insisted that they would not deal with non-recognised unions at all. About two hours were spent on arguments whether the recognised unions should have the right to stick notices on the boards inside the factory without the managements' prior permission.

Hair-Splitting

The employers' point was that the unions should not have the unquestioned right to put all kinds of handbills, while the workers' representatives emphasised that as recognised unions which were responsible organisations, they would have the moral obligation not to put up any objectionable notices.

But to put provisos would be tantamount to denial of the right. The final outcome was the compromise suggested by Nanda that the unions can put up notices subject to their conformity with the Code of Discipline.

While such hair-splitting

went on for hours on such minor matters like notice boards and meeting places, important issues raised by Nanda, like wage increase—to reach a minimum corresponding to Rs. 110 in 1957-58, the wage bill would have to be increased by 20 to 25 per cent—workers' safety—"I am constrained to say also that enough care has not been taken about safety of the workers"—and workers' participation in management—"there is not enough enthusiasm or seriousness about it"—went unnoticed. This constitutes a sad commentary on the record of this twentieth session of the Indian Labour Conference.

The biggest achievement of the session was the decision to give representation to the managements of public-sector undertakings on the ILC. While employers felt they have got an ally, workers' representatives were happy that hereafter these managements would be bound by the decisions of the ILC and the Code of Discipline, which they had refused to do in the past.

The workers' representatives were also able to secure an assurance from the Labour Minister that the decisions of the ILC would be binding on the employing Ministries of the Government of India and State Governments.—IPA Service.

CZECH AMBASSADOR PRESENTS CREDENTIALS

New Delhi

Dr. Radhakrishnan, President of the Republic of India, received the credentials of the new Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, Dr. Ivan Rohal-Ikiv; at a brief ceremony at Rashtrapati Bhavan on August 14.

AMONG those who were present at the occasion were the Diplomatic Staff of the Embassy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, M. J. Desai, the Foreign Secretary to the Government of India, R. Bhandari, Deputy Secretary of the Ministry of External Affairs and S. K. Banerjee, Chief of Protocol.

Dr. Ivan Rohal-Ikiv, born in 1917 in Lukov, graduated from the Faculty of Law of the University of Bratislava. Until 1948, he held many important offices in economic institutions, the Chairman of the Board of Prices and Wages being one of them.

Until 1952, he was the Director-General of the Union of the Agricultural Co-operatives in Bratislava and until 1956 he was a Professor at the Technical University in Bratislava.

He knows Russian, Ukrainian, English, French and German languages. He is married and has four children.

Deforestation In Bihar

From Our Correspondent

JAMSHEDPUR: Grievous charges are being constantly heard against deforestation in Chotanagpur since the taking over of the forest rights by the Bihar Government.

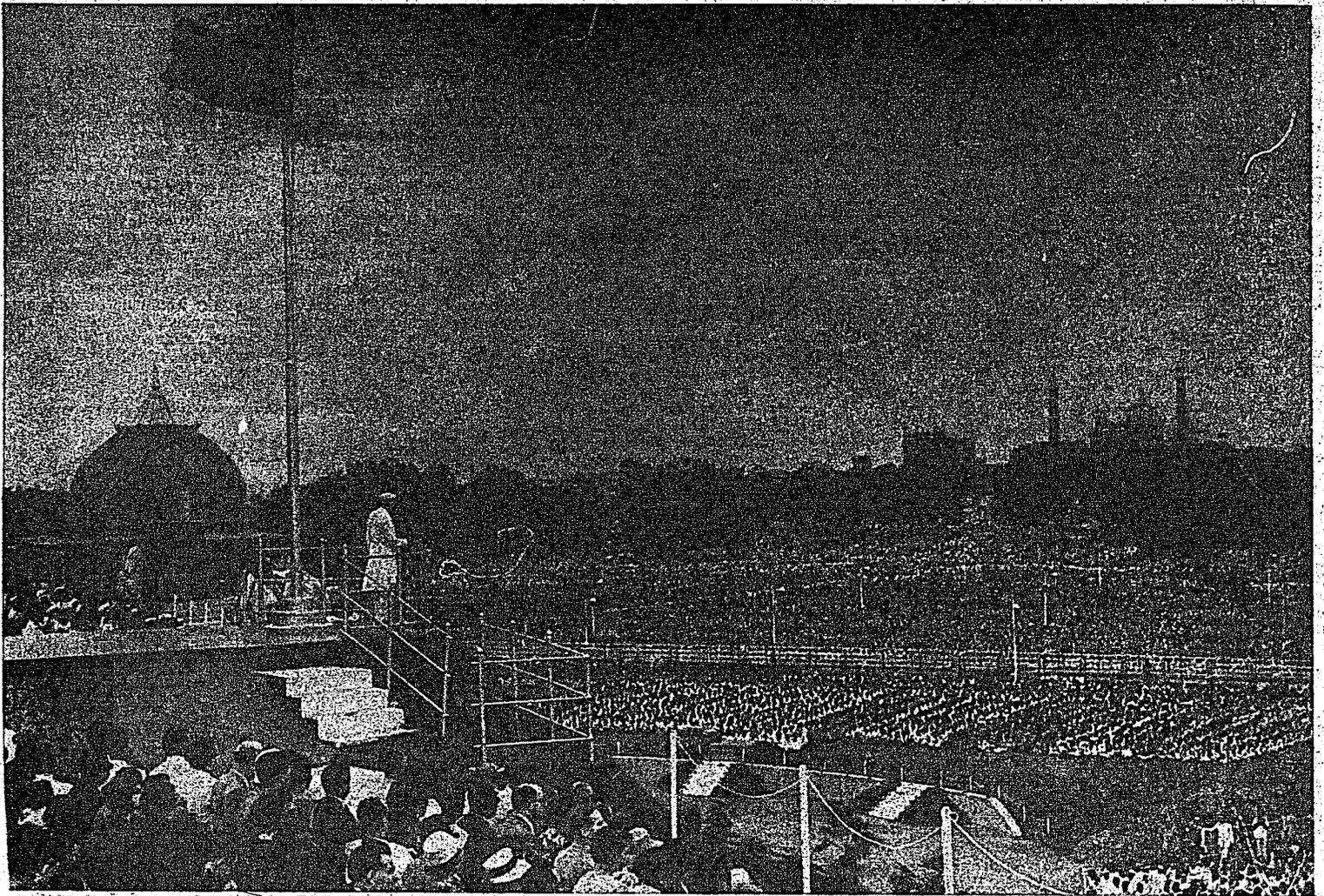
AUTHORITATIVE spokesmen of the Adibasis, erstwhile owners of the Chotanagpur forests, have been harping on again and again that it was the evil design of the Government when it proclaimed that all the forests of the State would be brought under its protective wings. They characterised the Government action as "irresponsible" when its "protected" non-Adibasis commenced "hewing down of trees not only mercilessly but also absolutely wantonly", and called the legislation in the connection as "malicious".

It was generally felt that in the name of protection, a "carte blanche" was given to commercial adventurers to cut down the forests mercilessly while the Adibasis villagers wept to see precious trees, which had come down to them "from their ancestors", removed by the "marauders" in the name of the new law. According to the spokes-

men, if an Adibasi wanted to remove his own timber, he could not do it because the "law of the Bihar Government" stopped him, but when a commercial adventurer wanted to remove an Adibasi's property, he could do it with the help of those very laws.

Referring to the alleged unjustifiability of the law, the spokesmen said that the Bihar Government destroyed the forests within 10 years, giving the Adibasis nothing. Hundreds of thousands of rupees worth of forests were completely destroyed, but the real owners, the Adibasis, got nothing—not even a penny.

The State Government, they added, took upon itself the proprietorship of the forests only to reduce the Adibasis to vagrancy who otherwise had lived in these forests for centuries which the State Government was now bent upon to wipe out.



INDIA REJOICES ON INDEPENDENCE ANNIVERSARY: The vast concourse at historic Red Fort witnesses colourful ceremony as Nehru speaks after unfurling the National Flag.—Photo by Virendra Kumar.

Sabre-Rattling Denounced

Communist Support For Nehru's Policy Of Talks With China

Speaking in the China debate in the Lok Sabha on August 13 Deputy Leader of the Communist Group Hiren Mukherjee made the following speech:

MR. Speaker, Sir, you were good enough to observe in the beginning that the House is discussing a delicate and difficult subject, and perhaps you expected that there would be some reciprocity to that warning of yours. Unfortunately, however, we have heard two of our friends, Sri Dwivedy (PSP) who spouted thunder, and Sri Deo (Swatantra) who spouted venom; and between the two of them, they spoke as if we live in an unreal world, insulated from everything except this India-China border issue; and that we were already at war with China...

They take it for granted as if we are at war, and I know why they are shouting at the top of their lungs. They are doing so because there has recently been a change, certainly if I might put it so, for the better. It is still a dark, difficult and delicate situation as you put it, but there has been a change for the better which made the Prime Minister only the other day to talk about a lurch that he had about China and India perhaps being likely to come to some sort of understanding.

In the press of the Western European countries and of Scandinavia, according to the informed sources who brief our friends of the press, there were reports about large-scale conflicts being imminent on the India-China border, and that was the expectation, but those prophe-

sies did not come to be fulfilled, and that is why they are so angry, that is why they are talking at the present moment in such terms of thunder and venom.

I do not for a moment underestimate the seriousness of the situation, I do not for a moment suggest that we as a country, as a sovereign State, who have to function in a system of States, shall give up our army, shall give up our primary, bounden, elementary obligation of defending our borders, maintaining our integrity, but I say at the same time what the Prime Minister is saying all the time, that our national policy is the policy of settling these problems through negotiations. That is the main thing. Where you start, how you start, is a matter of detail, which, in the temper of this House, we cannot always discuss with any great advantage, but the point is that discussions have got to take place, and the Prime Minister himself has said preliminary negotiations have to take place.

What the Chinese have suggested is negotiations on the basis of the Officials' Reports. Obviously, there are certain difficulties. There are certain peculiar complications. But that does not mean that we shut the door for negotiations. And, that is why I say that the emphasis is and has to be always on negotiations, settlement through negotiations, while we keep our

powder dry, while we keep our borders intact, while we maintain the security and integrity of our country. That is the policy which we have to pursue.

What is the perspective of the world today? What is the kind of world in which we function? Today cosmonauts are orbiting our earth. They are fighting their way in space. Even the United States have offered a guarantee. They have offered congratulations to the Soviet cosmonaut; and they have given a guarantee that nothing would be done in the upper space so that any danger accrues to the cosmonaut. That is the time in which we live.

We are having a leap from the realm of necessity to the realm of freedom. We are mastering Nature's laws; we are moulding Nature's laws to our own advantage. That is why countries are coming closer together.

I do not say for a moment that these tasks of maintaining our borders and our integrity have to be neglected. I do not say that for a moment. I take my hat off to our jawans who are fighting there in conditions of such difficulty.

At the same time, what is the main job that we have at the present moment to do? And, what is happening all over the world? China had a difficult problem with Indonesia. Millions of people were involved and China and Indonesia have solved that. The Chinese border difficulties with Burma and Nepal have been solved. Indonesia and Holland were almost on the point of going to war; but because of certain circumstances, which

are only in conformity with the spirit of our times, they have come to settlement.

Here are India and China, where the Prime Minister of our country and also people very high up in the other country say that they want a settlement. It may be that somebody said something wrong. To put things like that, as Mr. Chen Yi said or is reported to have said, that this will not be because the 650 million people are not going to allow them to do it, that is a wrong way of putting it. But, we do not want to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Chen Yi. As far as that goes we do not do so.

I hope and trust that our Prime Minister is not proposing to follow in the footsteps of Mr. Chen Yi as far as making pronouncements are concerned. As far as I can make it out, he is still asking for preliminary negotiations. I wish the door was a little more widely open. I wish there was a little more imaginative approach to this whole matter because, after all, what is happening is that the latest Chinese note makes a categorical statement that we want a discussion. It only makes a proviso that the discussion is to be on the basis of the officials' report. It may be that they might argue — I do not know — it may be that they might say, here are reports, for good or for worse, we have to consider them. At least we have to sit round a table and they may say that on the basis of these findings, we cannot proceed.

Therefore, there might have to be some kind of change somewhere. I cannot go into the

details. I am not equipped to do so. I have not got the facts. It is for the Prime Minister and the Defence Minister and their colleagues on the other side to find out how there can be a *modus operandi*, as far as the settlement of the matter is concerned.

And, that is why I say that it is all very easy to shout about our having to go to war and that sort of thing. It is all very easy to talk about somebody's hands being tinged with blood and that kind of thing. It is all very easy to rouse that kind of militant feeling in the country. It is an occupation in which many believe. At the same time, that is not an occupation which we are going to take upon ourselves because that is an irresponsible way of doing things.

What is our relationship with Pakistan? How many times has Pakistan violated our air and land integrity? How many people have been tortured by Pakistan? Has not Pakistan taken away our high-placed military officers into their own territory and done something wrong to them? So many things are happening; and even then what do we see? Don't we sit round the table? Are not Chief Secretaries' Conferences held? All the time every effort is being made by the Prime Minister to see that India and Pakistan remain on friendly terms.

It is not a question of our supporting the Chinese because China is a socialist country and our being critical of Pakistan. In