

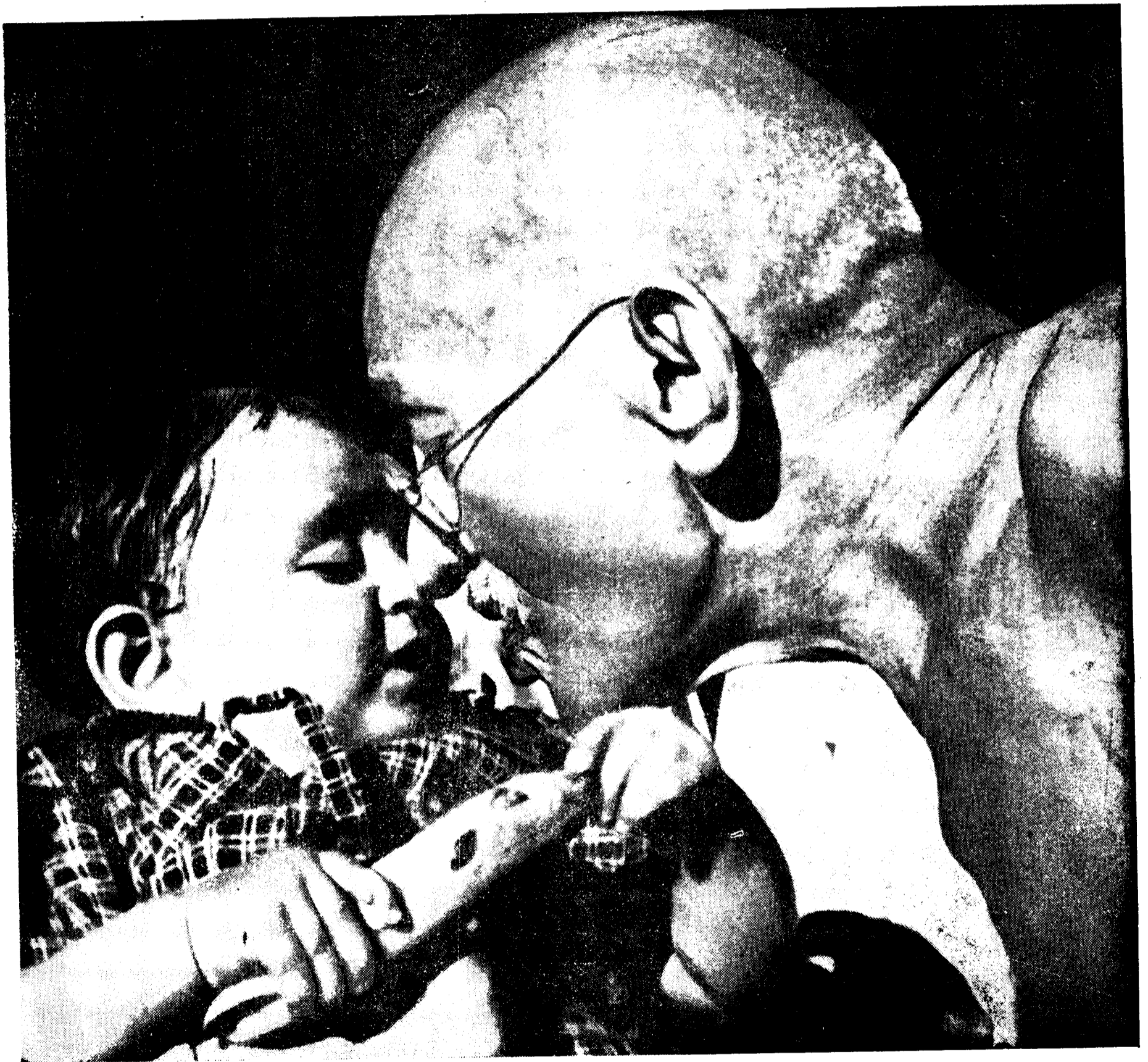
YOJANA

Editor: KHUSHWANT SINGH

VOL. II. NO. 19

DELHI: ASVINA 13, 1880 OCTOBER 5, 1958

10 NAYE PAISE



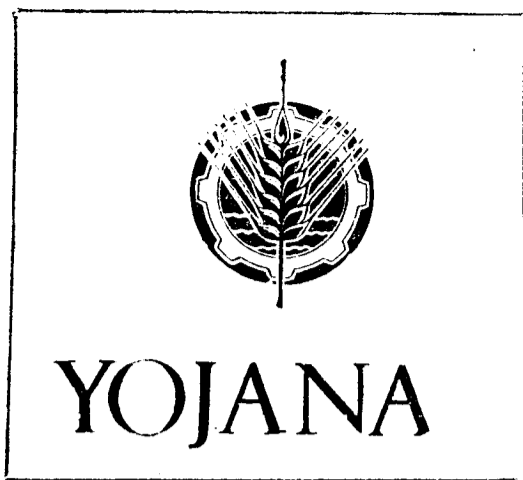
HOMAGE TO GANDHI

The sight of his sinless feet
Turns the timid brave,
The cruel compassionate,
The miser generous,
The ill-spoken well-spoken,
The impure pure,
The slothful active.

Vallathol Narayan Menon.

On October 2, every year, we celebrate Gandhi Jayanti in remembrance of October 2, 1869, when Bapu was born. Bapu's political goal was freeing the country from foreign rule, his social goal was a classless society, his economic goal was self-sufficiency based on simplification of wants and his moral goal was Ahimsa.

We can pay no better tribute to Bapu than to strive for what he held dear i.e. Harijan uplift, use of Khadi and communal, national and international unity. Also by trying to promote the Movements launched by Acharya Vinoba Bhave, the greatest Gandhian of today, i.e. Bhoodan, Shramdan and Sampattidan.



MEANING OF THE PLAN DEBATE

Bridge The Gap Between Words And Deeds

PARLIAMENT has just completed a long debate on the Plan. The debate came at the right moment, for the Plan has run nearly half its course, permitting a stock-taking of the achievements and shortcomings. Also, the Planning Commission, with a clearer indication of what we were likely to get from abroad, was in a better position than in May to explain the shape of its reappraisal. The National Development Council which will meet in November has thus been enabled to have the views of the nation's elected representatives.

It was a forthright debate marked by many well-argued and hard-hitting speeches. No words were wasted on needless courtesies. By concentration on "If reappraisal, why?", the debate (and the accompanying press discussion) helped to fix in the public mind the correct state of the country's health.

True, many regions in India have just passed through a period of anxiety about food; true equally, that we are importing more and more foodgrains and the hope of self-sufficiency has proved elusive. Statistics also show that there has been a slight drop recently in industrial output. But as against all these, there is the tangible increase in industrial activity steadily over the last decade; there has been better response to our loans; there has been a widespread acceptance of the idea of planning and a clear improvement in the foreign assistance position. Pandit Pant bade us see this total picture when he declared there was no cause for despondency. He aptly countered the charge that the Plan was 'ambitious' by pointing out that otherwise it would be no Plan.

The complaints were mainly four: over-estimation of resources, under-estimation of requirements, failure to enforce compliance with the time-and-money limits and inefficiency in making use of facilities that became available, particularly in irrigation. The Planning Minister, Shri Nanda, in two speeches in Lok Sabha and two more in Rajya Sabha, took note of the criticism as well as the substantial achievements. He explained the 'realities of the dilemma of deve-

lopment' and made no attempt to explain anything away. He conceded there was some 'functional disorder' but asserted this would be overcome. He made three central points:

... One, the cost of the core of the Plan stayed at Rs. 4,500 crores and there was no upward revision. In fact a further paring down was not ruled out.

Two, though some projects had been put off, others were taken up and completed.

Three, agriculture would receive top priority, particularly in the remaining period of the Plan.

It was inevitable that the debate on the Plan should be a debate on the Planning Commission. The Prime Minister being away in Bhutan, the two Houses could not have the benefit of his views on the relative share of responsibility between the executive arm and the Planning Commission, both of which he heads. Shri Nanda declared that the true function of the Planning Commission was advisory and not executive. The Planners were not all-knowing, omnipotent godlings laying down the law. Indeed, the flexibility of the Plan consists in the planners being responsive and responsible to public opinion.

The reappraisal and the reaction to it showed that the difference between most of the critics in Parliament and the exponents of official policy was more in tone than in essentials. As Pandit Pant observed, if there were errors, everybody had his share. The Plan is not any one party's or group's preserve but everybody's business. It is the concern of the Centre and the States; it is the concern of the Executive and the Legislature; it is the concern of the Parliament and the people; it is the concern of the Planning Commission and the whole country.

The most frequently heard word in our economic discussions is the word 'gap'. There is a gap between aims and actual results. Most of all there is a gap between our words and actions. The sure way to make the Plan succeed is to narrow this last gap, the gap between our words and actions; then we can boldly tackle the other gaps. This effort, in fact, is much less than the 'revolutionary touch' Shri Nanda wants. It is only a question of mobilising our internal will-power resources.

Readers' Forum

SUCCESS OF NATIONALISATION—THE LIC

AS one who has spent a quarter of a century and more in this work of insurance, I wish to inform you that I welcome first and foremost the nationalisation of this great money producing and safety giving business.

The proposers, our real masters, are now willing and want to give their business from the group of agents to one in whom they have confidence and from whom they can expect continuous service. It is true that more genuine business is now done. But eternal vigilance should be there if this genuine business is to continue.

Insurance must develop in the countryside but people in taluks and villages, the tillers of the soil, and the small shop keepers, are conservative and do not easily believe the insurance man. To create confidence there should not be any delay in attending to their queries and requests regarding their policies. Quick settling of policies when risk occurs will create a great confidence in them.

Reduction in the premium rates and more courteous service and above all good bonuses every policy holder expects from the Corporation.

In the case of male proposers if for some reason the proposals are rejected, they are not asked to make good the medical fees and other expenses incurred by the Corporation. But this is not so in the case of ladies. They are asked to remit in advance a minimum of Rs. 10/- before medical examination and this is not returned to them in case, for some reason or other not known to them or to the agents, their policies are rejected.

Janata policies' rates and conditions should be made more easy and cheap.

S. R. SUBRAMANIAN
COONOOR

HOW TO GET AT THE HOARDED GOLD

COMMENTING on the second Five Year Plan, recently, Prime Minister, Shri Nehru, has emphasised "India will go on even if all the world is against us." However, the country, and the Plan in particular, is faced with problems of grave concern to one and all. These are: firstly, the problem of overgrowing population. In the second place, lack of domestic savings and last but not the least important, apathy and lack of initiative among the people.

During the last decade of the 19th century, the net imports of gold into India amounted to about 67 million ounces valued at about Rs. 1,800 crores at the current price. The total gold hoards of the country may fairly be estimated at Rs. 10,000 to 15,000 crores or more. Moreover, additions are made to these hoards through smuggling at the rate of Rs. 40 crores annually. This is to indicate that the domestic savings find investment in gold and gold ornaments. The increased smuggling goes to show the increased demand for gold in India. Therefore, either the state should take the responsibility to meet the requirements of the people by importing gold or divert the savings towards development purposes. Again, it is practicable to instruct the religious institutions and trusts which have fabulous store of wealth, to take initiative and invest their funds in the reconstruction of India. They can very well construct and maintain educational institutions, medical centres, orphanage centres and others.

Last but not the least important, to have a rapid development, banks in India should be nationalised.

V. R. M. DESAI
BOMBAY

YOJANA INDEX

I would like to draw your attention to the fact that your paper does not contain any index. It becomes difficult for a reader to find out the contents and to make use of it in future. He has to prepare the index himself, if he wants to make full use of your paper. It will help the readers a lot if you introduce index system.

HAR CHARANLAL GARG,
KASGANJ.

(An index of selected articles will be provided in December-January.—Editor.)

NEEMA'S PET

I am glad that "Yojana" is making itself popular and also serving the purpose for which it was started viz. to give information and keep the public in touch with our Second Plan. The method adopted by it is to be commended because it teaches while entertaining. It imparts lessons while one enjoys it too.

The newly started feature 'Neema and Her Pet' by Mr. M. Patel is quite good. It aims at teaching the public civic sense and their duties. Besides Neema, her pet must also be congratulated for helping her a lot in teaching lessons to haughty, indisciplined persons.

S. B. KALRA,
NEW DELHI.

CORRECTION

In the letter of the Managing Director, State Bank of India, published in these columns on August 24, 1958, in line 20 of para 3, please read "The State Bank of India Today" instead of "The Bank of India Today". The misprint is regretted.

SOCIAL SERVICES OR INDUSTRY?

By ASOKA MEHTA

IT IS possible to argue that the most beneficial pattern of investment would be in promoting welfare of the people. To foster health, education, housing of the people, is to make them better citizens and therefore ex hypothesi better, productive, workers. The Prime Minister recently characterised such efforts as "investment in men."

The far-reaching implications of such investment, even from the limited point of view of increasing production (which is usually the immediate purpose of development), can be brought out if we consider the question of a marginal increase in the intake of food.

More Food Means More Work.

In underdeveloped areas calorie intake per day is around 2,100; in a group of middle per capita income countries, the calorie intake is between 2,200 and 2,800; in the advanced countries it is above 3,000 calories per day. On the relation between calorie intake and productivity it needs to be remembered that the amount of calories required depends on the size of the man and on the nature and strenuousness of his activities. A five-foot six-inch man weighing 130 pounds requires about 1,400 calories for his resting metabolism alone, while a six-foot man of normal weight will usually require over 1,700 calories for the purpose. For every activity additional calories are needed. Thus, for simply sitting, an additional intake of 15 to 20 calories per hour will be needed, but for moderate work the additional calories required will probably be between 80 to 240 per hour.

The significance of these figures can be seen if we consider a few calculations. Let us assume 1,500 calories for resting metabolism, and a day that is made up of eight sleeping and sixteen waking hours. Counting 1,500 calories for resting metabolism, adding approximately 100 calories per hour for moderate work for a period of four hours, and adding to this about 20 calories per hour for the remaining twelve hours of relaxation, we get a total of 2,140 calories needed to support a 4-hour work day. Now we observe that an addition of 320 calories, or a total of 2,460 calories, will support an 8-hour work day of the same degree of strenuousness as before. What this implies is that if at the outset there is an income sufficient only to enable the earner to obtain a diet of 2,140 calories, his output can be doubled by increasing his income, or diet, to reach 2,460 calories. To that extent lethargy and absenteeism will decline.

"The direct connection between calorie intake and productivity is shown very clearly in a number of studies by Kraut and Muller made in Germany between 1942 and 1945. Twenty men building earth embankment shifted 1.5 tons of earth per hour per man when they consumed 2,400 calories, but when the calorie intake was raised to 2,900 the output rose to 2.2 tons per man (and at the same time, body weight increased by about 9 pounds per man). Al-

lowing 1,600 to 1,800 calories for metabolism and relaxation, we see that (approximately) a 60 per cent increase in 'working' calories leads to an almost 50 per cent increase in output."

"But of greater interest for our purpose is that a 21 per cent increase in total calorie intake results in an almost 50% rise in output."

(Harry Leibenstein: *Economic Backwardness and Economic Growth*, p. 65)

Higher Education Means Better Production.

In education a similar case can be made out. India is less literate compared to the level of industrialisation achieved, as Thailand is more literate compared to its level of industrialisation. Since 1900, however, India has exhibited faster educational than economic progress. That has slowly narrowed the gap created by the more rapid economic development (compared to educational development) of the nineteenth century, although in 1951 the difference had not yet disappeared. Percentage of illiterates in the population aged 10 and over in 1951 was 80, as against expected percentage of 61—the gap being 19%.

The implications are brought out in the following observation: "The differential rates of economic advance for the educationally retarded and the educationally advanced countries point to the importance of the dissemination of literacy and education in the transformation of peasant-agricultural nations into urban-industrial nations. In the 'boot strap' operation in which all underdeveloped countries are engaged, training the population for urban-industrial occupations is crucial to the achievement of higher levels of industrialisation. Clearly the countries that today are ahead educationally will find it easier to achieve this goal than those that are behind. The latter countries will find their lack of literate and trained manpower a major obstacle to rapid industrialisation. Paradoxically, they will need to spend a great share of their wealth, even though they have almost none, for the long-neglected goal of mass education before they can aspire to become modern industrial states."

(Llyle W. Shannon: *Underdeveloped Area*, p. 113.)

Better Health and Housing Pays

Similar reasoning can be supplied in support of a case favouring larger investment in measures of health as also in housing. None can gainsay that such investments would be beneficial and ultimately productive.

Investment in Man

The difficulty however is that there is no direct and causal relationship between such investments and increased output. Provision of irrigation or of fertilizers can result in increase of output that is measurable. The Planning Commission has devised "yard sticks" for the achievements that such potentials are calculated to yield. No such yard-sticks can be devised for Investment in Man. Such invest-



ments are good in themselves and are bound, in course of time, to yield results.

When there are limited resources, as is the case in underdeveloped countries, cruel dilemmas confront us. If, in a fair-sized textile mill, workers are to be provided with quarters, an additional investment of Rs. 2 crores may be needed. Would anyone come forward to put so much more money for setting up a textile mill? And, if the additional investments are somehow provided, will that not slow down the expansion of factories?

Recently a committee reported that:

"The number of houses required to be constructed during 1951-61 to meet the quantitative shortage in housing is estimated at 8.9 million. . . . During the same period only about 3 million dwelling units would be constructed in urban areas both by the public authorities and private agencies."

The shortage in housing by 1961 would be about 6 million or twice the figure in 1951. Another committee has recently computed that to build 500,000 houses it would cost Rs. 270 crores. To build six million houses would,

on that basis, cost Rs. 3,240 crores or two thirds of our entire Plan outlay.

THE HARD CHOICE

We have therefore to choose between housing and other things: not only between housing, education and health but between such social services and expanding transport, developing irrigation and power facilities, and expansion of industries and mines. Such varied choices will mean that the housing situation will become more acute in 1961 than what it was in 1951.

Economic planning only means wise choice of investments. It does not and cannot mean the end of difficult, harsh choices, nor can it lead, here and now, to the satisfaction of all the wants felt.

Under democratic planning we are called upon to make difficult choices in a meaningful manner, where the consent of the people is elicited and their co-operation in facing the hardships enlisted. It cannot mean, as some people seem to think, the end of excruciating alternatives and a macadamised road to plenty. Awkward and unpleasant choices can in no way be wished out of existence.

COMPANION OF THE ROAD

BY ANNADA SANKAR RAY

COMPANION of the road, on the road we met;
At the turning of the road we part.
Say farewell. I go on now alone,
Alone I travel the sea's shoreless ways.
Companion of the road, forgive me, forgive
That tears gather not in my eyes,
That my inert arms like an impatient demon
Leap not passionately to retain you.
Companion of the road, am I heartless,
Easily to leave you at the turning of the road?

COMPANION of the road, say farewell then.
Forgive me if I am able to forget you.
When the memory of you has become a dream
In some dream perhaps I shall weep.
Companion of the road, because I shall forget you
My heart seems strangely stirred.
Alas! Why does one who must and shall depart
Make his heart's burden heavy?
Companion of the road, yet there burns in me
The flame of you—your flame too—Oh Woman!

(Translated from Bengali by Lila Ray)



Cambay or Kambayat

WITH a gush Cambay jumps back into Indian history.

The oil find will make Cambay regain some of the importance it once had in India's life. For three centuries it was one of the two leading ports of Western India, and a vast volume of trade flowed between Cambay and the ports of Persia, Arabia and East Africa. When Marco Polo visited the place, it was one of the richest towns of the East. The Italian was all admiration for the shoes and other leather articles made at Cambay which he declared to be the best in the world. Famous all over the then known world was *kambayati*, the cloth from Cambay. Indigo was another important article of export, and the import list was headed by gold (as ever), and horses.

Cambay was built up by the Gurjara-Pratihara kings as a rival to the great emporium Bhrikachcha (Broach) which was under the Rashtrakuta emperors. It saw the height of its glory in the early sixteenth century. But tides and the interaction of the Sabarmati and Mahi which pour into the Gulf of Cambay silted up the port and it lost its custom to the growing town of Surat.

Cambay figured prominently in the quarrel between Emperor Humayun and Bahadur, Sultan of Gujarat. Bahadur was a grandson of the redoubtable Mahmud who was great as a fighter and great as an eater. (Mahmud was supposed to eat a whole sheep at one meal.) It was the same Bahadur who ceded Diu to the Portuguese and who was lured by the Portuguese abroad a ship and killed. Akbar saw the sea for the first time at Cambay.

After its eclipse by Surat, Cambay remained but a memory. When independence came, it was a tiny State and its Nawab had only an eleven-gun salute.

'Yojana' and Her Sisters

FORTNIGHTLY journals in India are going ahead with kangaroo leaps. The Press Registrar's report, released recently, says that the circulation of fortnightly recorded a 85 per cent increase in one year. The increase in the circulation of daily newspapers was only 8 per cent. "Yojana," as a fortnightly, is thus in happy company.

The report throws interesting sidelights on the reading habits of people in the various States and shatters some accepted notions. For instance, Bengal has always been believed to be in the forefront in the matter of reading. But Bengali, with 251 lakh speakers in India, has a daily newspaper circulation which is only two-thirds that of Gujarati, although the number of Gujarati speakers is only 163 lakhs. Tamil, with 65 lakhs fewer speakers than Telugu, has nearly double the newspaper readership of Telugu.

It would be more correct to speak of the buying habit than the reading habit. Newspaper sales depend more on the buyers' purses than on their literacy. Ke-

rala has the highest literacy rate in India. But it does not have the highest newspaper-buying rate. Another important factor is transport. Regions which have a good network of roads and railways show higher newspaper readership. A compact area supports a more vigorous press than a sprawling area. People in the Hindi areas should make a note of this if they are not to be twitted by people of Bengal and Maharashtra!

HAMARA HINDUSTAN

THEY LOVE US, THEY LOVE US NOT

AN eminent Hindi writer recently expressed surprise that though Japan was in the midst of a great period of literary creativeness, the Japanese writer, like the Indian counterpart, craves for kudos from Western reviewers. The only explanation he could find for this Asian weakness was that there were some 'shame cultures' (as distinct from the 'guilt cultures') which were in constant need of outside praise and approval. Actually it is the common universal feeling summed up in the Indian saying: 'It is no medicinal herb that grows in your own backyard', and the American definition of an expert as the 'man from the other town'.

Whatever the sociological explanation, there is no doubt that we like to be liked, and to be told so. But do we also totally dislike being disliked? One cannot be sure. Every time an anti-Indian book is published, there is such an outburst of righteous indignation and our lungs do so much overtime that there is reason to suspect that we really love to be maligned. We know that there is something worse than being hated—and that is to be ignored. If there were none of these attacks, how could we have proved to ourselves that we are so good, and to have it right with our conscience and go back to our routine after the inner cleansing?

During the days of our political subjection, anti-Indian books did in fact serve as rallying occasions. If that woman from America had not written 'Mother India' one and thirty years ago, could we have had "Father India" and 'Unhappy India' and the whole host of well-documented, anger and sorrow infused volumes? We might be a modest nation with much to be modest about, but we are also a proud nation with much to be proud about. If the man who refuses to grow beyond twenty-five had never written his verdict on us, how could one of our authors have pronounced his sentence on the judge in a book which opened devastatingly with: "In 1943 India was visited by famine, pestilence and Beverley Nichols!"

The habits of years die hard. We have carried over our subject sensitiveness even though we are our own political masters. It is partly a case of an unfinished cul-

tural revolution, and partly the prevalence of belief in exorcism: angry incantation being a substitute for action. A romancer writes about a girl in a railway junction, and we take it to be a slur on a whole race. A cynical journalist calls Delhi the world's worst assignment, and we feel like a rose thrown out of a fifth-floor window.

The "why" of anti-Indian books merits closer analysis. There is a wordly-wise answer; as we go on counting for more in the affairs of the world, we should expect more and more hostile opinions about us. But that is only part of the story. The frequency of anti-Indian books has something to do with the very nature of 'popular' writing in countries which have universal literacy. As literacy spreads, the written word gets devalued. Journalism becomes tabloid sensationalism. The emphasis is on the 'readable' and the 'bizarre' that can tickle jaded nerves. The porcupines among writers easily find publishers. A reporter is a good reporter only if he keeps his barbs sharp. Sympathy is out of fashion.

For a man whose pen can do cartwheels, what better place in the world than India? There is perhaps no country in the world today about which one can write

more entertainingly, more easily and less correctly than India. The author can tell the truth and nothing but the truth and still be hopelessly false about India; because India is too vast for anybody to be able to apprehend the whole truth about it. The Mahatma in estimating Miss Mayo's book told us to bear this in mind. There can be facts which are not significant facts. There can be statistics which are not the representative samples. And a pile of facts and statistics can result merely in a drain inspector's report rather than a faithful summing up.

Jonathan Swift, it has been said, had an excremental vision. Some people of the tribe of foreign correspondents share it with the sombre Dean. They have selectively sharp noses, and that is how books like 'The Heart of India' (recently published) come to be written.

A proverb attributed to the Chinese says that there are two ways of growing rich, either by spending less than we earn or by earning more than we spend. There are two ways in which we can cease to be angry with anti-Indian books, either by ignoring them or by cultivating an all-inclusive sense of the ridiculous.

H. Y. S.

YOJANA Photographic Contest

TO add to the wide variety of features that 'Yojana' is offering to the readers, we will be holding a photographic contest. This is an experiment. But if you like it and participate in it, we will make it a permanent feature.

SUBJECTS: Village life, Social Welfare activities, Harijan Uplift, Cottage Industries and other subjects which have a bearing on Planning and progress in general.

CONDITIONS:

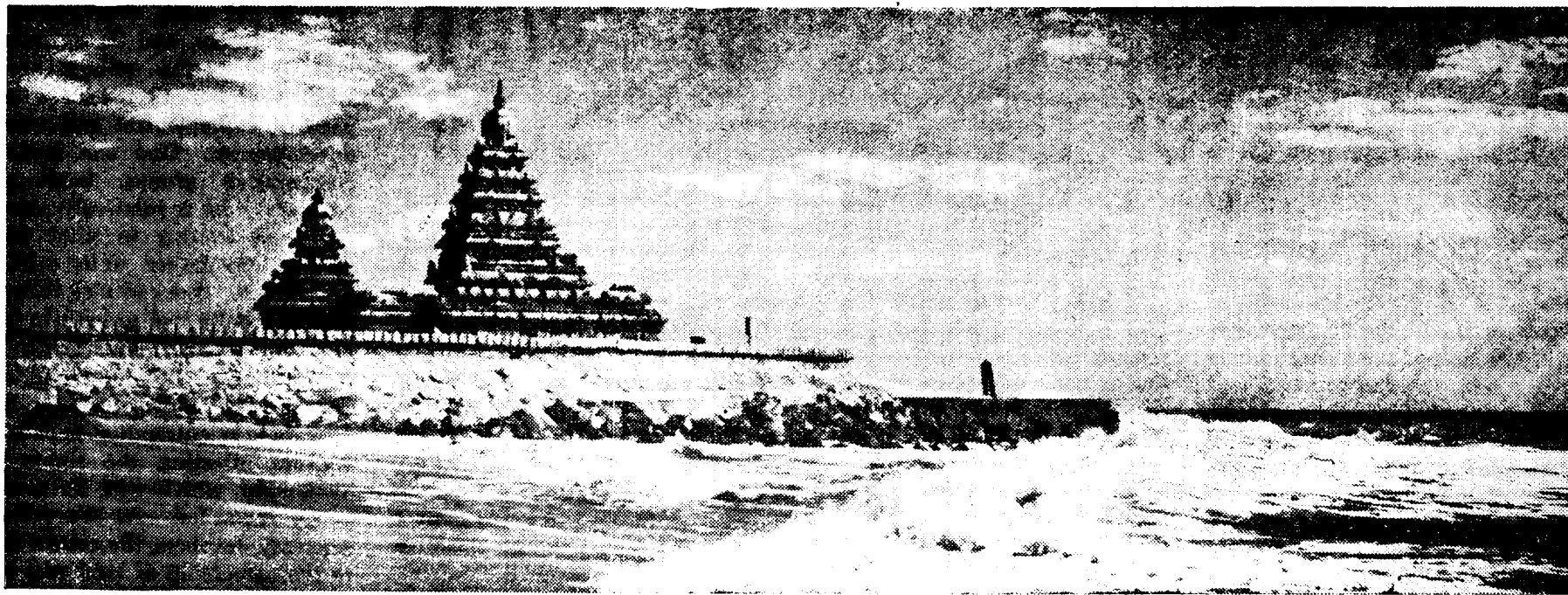
- (1) Competition is open to all readers of 'Yojana'. There will be no entry fee.
- (2) Photographs must be captioned. They should be full plate size, printed on glossy paper.
- (3) Prints should be well packed and addressed to Editor, Yojana, Old Secretariat, Delhi-8 with "Photo Contest" written on left hand corner.
- (4) The entries will be judged by the Editor, Yojana, and his decision will be final.
- (5) Prizes of the value of Rs. 25/-, Rs. 15/- and Rs. 10/- will be awarded to the three best entries. Others accepted will be published and paid for at the rate Rs. 7.50 nP. each.
- (6) Unsuccessful entries will be returned after judging if sufficient postage is sent along with the entry.
- (9) The coupon appearing here should accompany each set of prints.

LAST DATE FOR RECEIVING ENTRIES:
NOVEMBER 1, 1958.



YOJANA PHOTO CONTEST

NAME
(In block letters)
Address
.....
.....
No. of Entries
Date:—
.....
Signature



GLIMPSES OF INDIA

HARIJANS OF MAHABALIPURAM

Descendents Of Pallava Artists In Hovel

WE were late by seventeen hours only. But it was a fascinating experience to cross the country at one single stretch from Delhi to Madras via Waltair. The G. T. Express had to take the Waltair route because, as is usual in this season, a bridge had been washed away somewhere near Bezwada. However, the railways were considerate enough not to charge anything for the extra mileage.

It took three nights and two and a half days to complete the journey. Every morning we woke to a fresh scenery; new features and faces; a different style of dress; a new language. Even the structure of the villages varies.

From Delhi to Madras

Thus outside Delhi the country is flat and so are the roofs and at this time of the year there is nothing but stretches of stagnant water. The next morning we are in Central India—sloping red tiled roofs, red soil, beautiful thickly forested mountains, deep gorges; turbulent, muddy, madly rushing streams and rivers. These ranges lack the mighty grandeur of the Himalayas—but they are much closer, more intimate and friendly.

On the third day the lush forests open out gradually. The hills are more staggered and cultivation appears in the valleys. Ploughed furrows are filled with water and glisten in a weak sun. The village huts are incredibly small—mud walls with thatched conical roofs, clustered together tightly as if in fear. The peasants, both men and women wear large palm leaf hats such as the Chinese farmers use, and much less of clothing.

The final morning dawns once again on an absolutely flat landscape. It is the coastal belt—wide blue horizons and white sandy soil dominated by the palm,

alone, tall, slim and upright.

The railway compartment was roomy and must have been at least a century old. It had sickly green walls, the paint peeling off, and the roof leaked just above my berth!

As it was a 'Ladies' compartment, we were all women—but a very interesting trio. One was a doctor and an M.P. from Andhra. The second was an Inspectress on the Railways in the tele-communication branch. The third of course was myself, the humble

each other and divided by a single long table. The Speaker sits at the head of it on a slightly raised platform. Facing him on the opposite wall is a large portrait of Rajaji.

Mahabalipuram

Mahabalipuram is 53 miles south of Madras. What must have been once a powerful naval base and a flourishing port town in the time of the mighty Pallavas (a Tamil dynasty founded in the 3rd century A.D.) is today a small village of less than 2,000

Rs. 15 for a man and Rs. 10 for a woman per month, plus the noon day meal and a little clothing once a year. Even this is usually available for only 9 months the year. But it just suffices to keep them alive.

DESCENDENTS OF THE PALLAVA ARTISTS

There is a new and magnificently furnished rest house on the sea shore to cater for tourists and a light house standing in solitary eminence. A number of tourists and pilgrims do come but the village population receives absolutely no benefit from them. They have nothing to offer except some fresh coconuts. In fact when I went there, in the Harijan street of Mahabalipuram, the doors of the huts and even the bullocks and ploughs of several families had been removed recently by the revenue department, because those people had failed to pay back on time the annual instalments of a loan they had taken. Those women wear no cholis; they

BY KUSUM NAIR

journalist. We were all married and with varying numbers of children and interestingly enough all three of us had left them and our domestic worries and responsibilities in charge of our respective husbands, and not for just a day or two either! Who can say that women in India are oppressed and backward?

The City of Madras

Madras is unlike any other State metropolis I have seen. It is a big city and a port. Yet it retains its old time pace and atmosphere. There are no Chandigarh styles here yet; no Bombay type of sky-scrapers; no pillared giants a la New Delhi. Most of the architecture is Indo-Saracenic and the residential houses, 19th century models, are surrounded with gardens. The traffic policemen look relaxed and are barely noticeable. There is scarcely any traffic problem.

The State Secretariat is a business-like affair with definitely fewer chaprassis in the corridors than in Delhi. The Assembly Hall, compared to the House of Parliament, is a humble structure. Actually it looks more like a class room—a small rectangular hall with green upholstered benches in straight rows facing

people. It is only what is termed a minor panchayat—a couple of rows of mud walls, thatched roofs and very dark interiors.

Only 200 of the 2,000 population are 'patta' holders, owning sandy, unfertile and unirrigated stretches of soil—each 2 to 3 acres or less. There are a few fishermen. The rest are landless and the price of their labour is



A Harijan locality in Madras.

INDIA'S RURAL ECONOMY (III)

Importance Of The Community Sector

By TARLOK SINGH

THE main inquiry in this paper was stated earlier to be whether the present institutional framework and the changes now being sponsored are likely to create, say, by the end of the Third or the Fourth Plan, the essential conditions of an expanding economy and an integrated rural society. In the nature of things it is too early to attempt a definite answer. In recent years, the Agricultural Labour Enquiry, the Rural Credit Survey and the Bench-mark Surveys and Evaluation reports of the Programme Evaluation Organisation and other studies have added greatly to the precision of our knowledge regarding the pattern of land holding, occupational structure, rural incomes and capital formation. During these years, large programmes of development and new social policies have also been initiated. At this stage one can at best attempt a tentative statement of the precise points at which changes in the institutional framework are called for and the extent to which these are likely to be achieved through the impact of various programmes of development.

Changes through development Programmes

The institutional framework of the rural economy can be analysed broadly in relation to land, manpower resources, marketing and distribution and the accompanying price relationships. Programmes of development at which are among the instruments of change can be considered in three groups, namely, technical, economic and social programmes, services provided by the State and its organs and the measures taken to build up peoples' organisations. There is a natural gulf between the problems to be solved and the changes which are called for, and the impact achieved in the actual process of implementing various programmes. The issue to be considered is whether on an objective assessment the gulf is being diminished rapidly enough and the directions in which the measures now being attempted need further strengthening.

Land Reforms

Until a few years ago the pattern of land distribution throughout the country was extremely rigid and the general trend was in the direction of concentration of ownership in the higher deciles and greater sub-division in the lower deciles. The former trend seems now to have been halted. Measures taken to eliminate intermediaries and protect tenant-cultivators, as well as the fear of ceilings on agricultural holdings, have gradually diminished the value of land as investment. Whatever the delays that might yet occur in giving effect to land reform policies, in the course of the next few years the principal problem in relation to land will be not the concentration of ownership but its wide-spread distribution into small and highly uneconomic holdings and the need to improve their management

and raise productivity. The consolidation of holdings is a necessary step in many areas, but the indications are that its progress will be slow and that its total impact on agricultural production is not likely to be enough to justify excessive reliance upon it.

Co-operative Farming

With land distributed into large numbers of small holdings, of which only a proportion can be regarded as adequate family holdings, the pooling of land into sizeable farm units is a far more urgent requirement than has been commonly accepted during the past decade. In the light of experience available within India as well as from other countries, it is quite possible to work out a programme involving the progressive development of co-operative farming which will preserve the essential freedoms of the individual, and be broadly acceptable to public opinion and, at the same time, be capable of increasing agricultural production and ensuring the more intensive use of manpower resources. Much of the discussion on co-operative farming has been lacking both in the sense of urgency and in the appreciation of consequences, should India's agricultural economy continue for long to be wholly unequal to the requirements of economic development. The proposal in

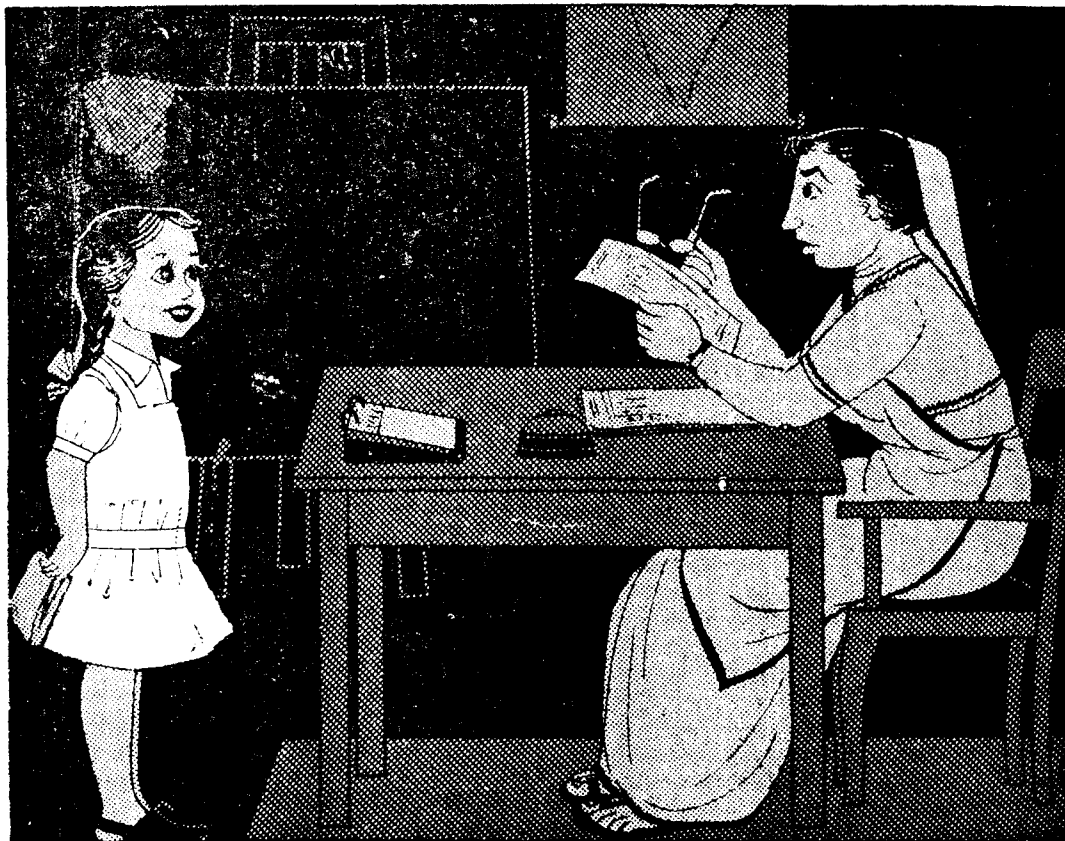
the second Five Year Plan that special steps should be taken during this period as would provide sound foundations for the development of agrarian co-operatives, so that within a period of ten years or so from 1956 a substantial proportion of agricultural lands are cultivated on co-operative lines, has not yet begun to be implemented. It is not too much to suggest that in this respect as in several others, time runs short. Both co-operative and individual farming are envisaged within the framework of village plans. Services and assistance available to co-operatives should be available equally to individuals, but conditions have to be created in which, through positive measures of assistance and guidance, it becomes worthwhile for peasants to join co-operative farming groups of their choice. Within each village one can visualise a growing sector composed of co-operative farming groups, a community sector in which land belongs to and is worked in the name of the community as a whole, and an individual sector composed of individual farms.

COMMUNITY SECTOR

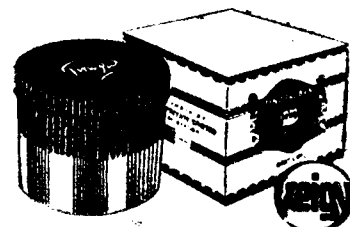
The significance of the community sector is likely to be greater than the actual area comprised within it, for this sector will

include not only, land but also rural industry, and its existence will enable the village community organisation to set the pace in technological and social developments. One can foresee co-operative groups, beginning separately in a relatively small way and coming together gradually into larger units within the village. One can also foresee a steady if limited growth in the community sector and a steady diminution in the individual sector. In the Indian context co-operation in cultivation is sought without affecting the rights of ownership which will be moderately rewarded. As the village economy develops, the return due to the ownership of land will become a less and less important element in the total income of each farm family, an increasing proportion of the income being derived from work. Problems of farm management, improved agricultural practices, production of improved varieties of seed and the full utilisation of local manurial resources, which now seem so formidable, will be much simpler to tackle if the co-operative development of agricultural production is taken up with sincerity and earnestness and co-operative farming organised as a movement essential to the success of the rural economy and above all in the interests of peasants themselves.

(To be continued)



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Two Men Of Dulley

School Master And Opium Vendor Remake A Village

LAST week I met two men as far apart from each other in their outlook and way of living as any two men living in the same village can be. One was a school master. He had taken a degree and apart from a passionate love for Persian and Urdu poetry, his only other interest was social work. He spent all his spare time holding evening classes and getting the villagers to build a school and a community centre. He had a large family of ten children. He wanted each one of them to follow him in doing only social work. The



Harnam Singh.

school master had no land or private property of his own. What is more, he couldn't be more indifferent to money. He was Gandhian in his way of living, and extremely self denying. This was Mahinder Singh, aged 44, known to Dulley and all the villages around as Masterji.

The other man was 65 years old Harnam Singh. He was completely illiterate and didn't think that knowledge of the alphabet was worth a brass-button. He believed in making money. He tried to make it by running a taxi in Calcutta, and then another one on the Kalka-Simla road. That did not give him enough; so he opened a country liquor and opium stall near the famous Mughal Gardens at Pinjore, four miles from Kalka on the Kalka-Delhi Road. He did better selling cheap alcohol and opium to innocent villagers. Then he took over the contract of Pinjore Garden fruit. The garden was owned by the Maharaja of Patiala and was looked after by a famous gardener called Mian Barkat. Mian Barkat was given to the bottle and soon became Harnam Singh's best customer. In the state of drunkenness

he spilt the secret art of mango growing to Harnam Singh. Harnam Singh began to give him liquor free of charge and memorised all he could of Mian Barkat's instructions. After three years he closed the liquor and opium shop and returned to his village Dulley in the district of Ludhiana.

Harnam Singh gave up his good agricultural land in the consolidation and accepted a sandy pampas infested tract outside the village. He went to Uttar Pradesh and bought a vast variety of mango cuttings. Within a few years the teaching of Mian Barkat bore fruit and Harnam Singh was growing 38 varieties of the succulent fruit amongst his 330 trees. He made each tree give birth to another 200 saplings which he sold at Rs. 2 each. He also planted oranges, lemons, guavas and pomegranate. When there was no more room for trees, he brought eggs from a breeder and started rearing Leg-horns, Rhode-islands and Hampshires. Both the orchard and the poultry were reared with most modern methods—fertilizers, insecticides, injections etc. Harnam Singh has gained his ambition—he has made the money he wanted.

The only thing common bet-



Harnam Singh feeds his poultry.

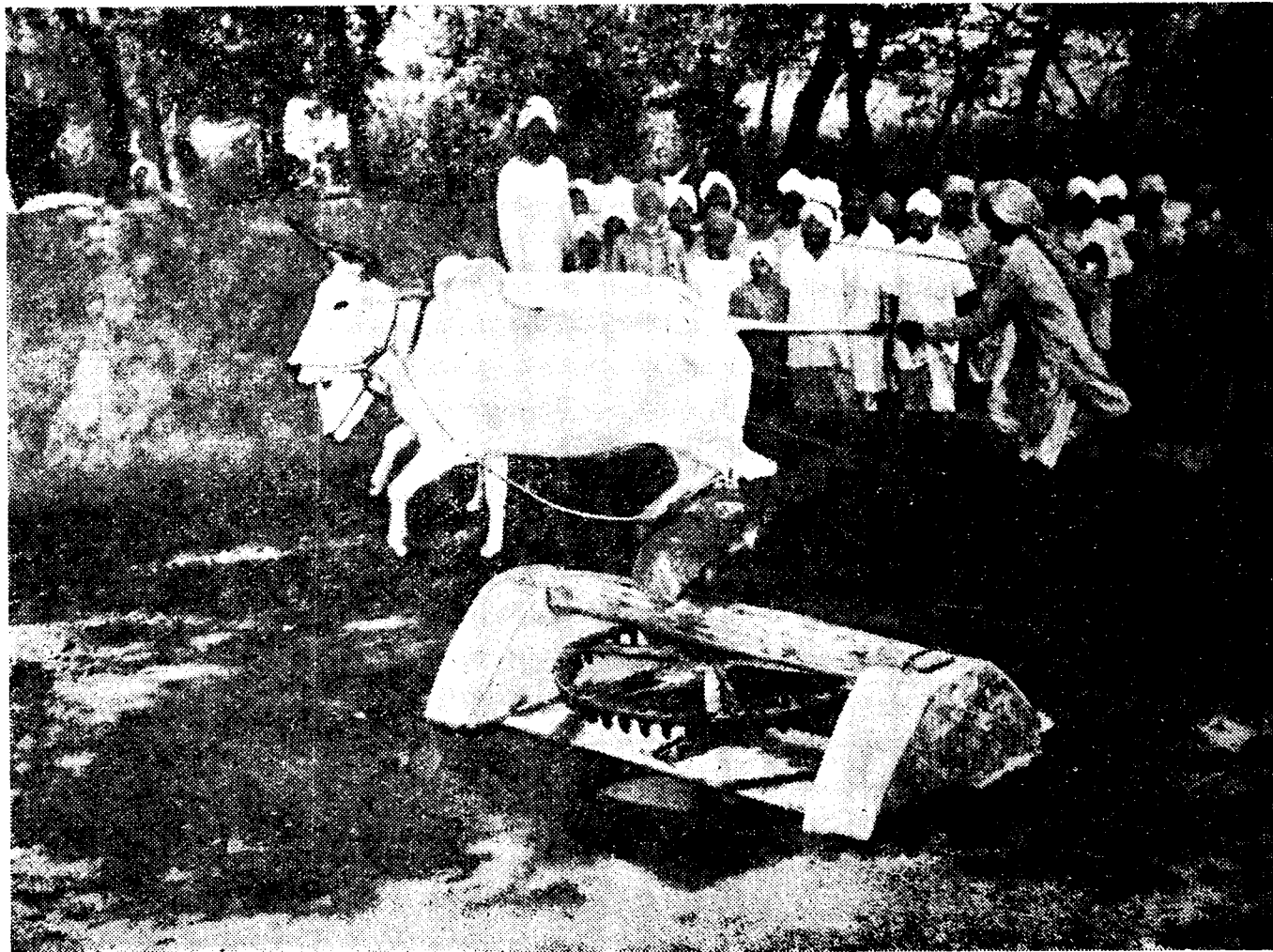
ween the idealist school master and the earthy Harnam Singh was that they belonged to the same village and both wanted to do something for it. Although the school-master owned no land (a matter of considerable importance in a land-owning society) and was not even a Jat, he was the obvious choice as a leader. He was elected Sarpanch. Under his guidance, Dulley paved its streets, raised street lamps at all corners, built a community centre with a reading-room, set up a weaving centre, a primary school, a children's park and finally a large school for girls of Dulley and 13 neighbouring villages. The example set by Harnam Singh encouraged other villagers to follow in his footsteps. Agricultural production of the village shot up.

In 1954, Dulley was declared the best village in the block. In 1955, the best in the district. In 1956, the best in the State.

The attitude of the two men to this achievement is as different as it could be. I asked the school-master what it felt to have dedicated one's life for the betterment of others, he sighed and came out with a couplet of Urdu poetry: "If I am spared the pangs of passion this time, I swear never to fall in love again," he quoted. "I should have made some money," he continued, "and given my family more comfort and better education."

The wealthy Harnam Singh was equally regretful about his past. "If I had not wasted my time plying taxis and selling dope to stupid people, I would have seen my orchard in full bloom. (It takes a mango 20 years to come to its best). But I wanted to make money for my son. I made it. Now I want to give it all away to the people."

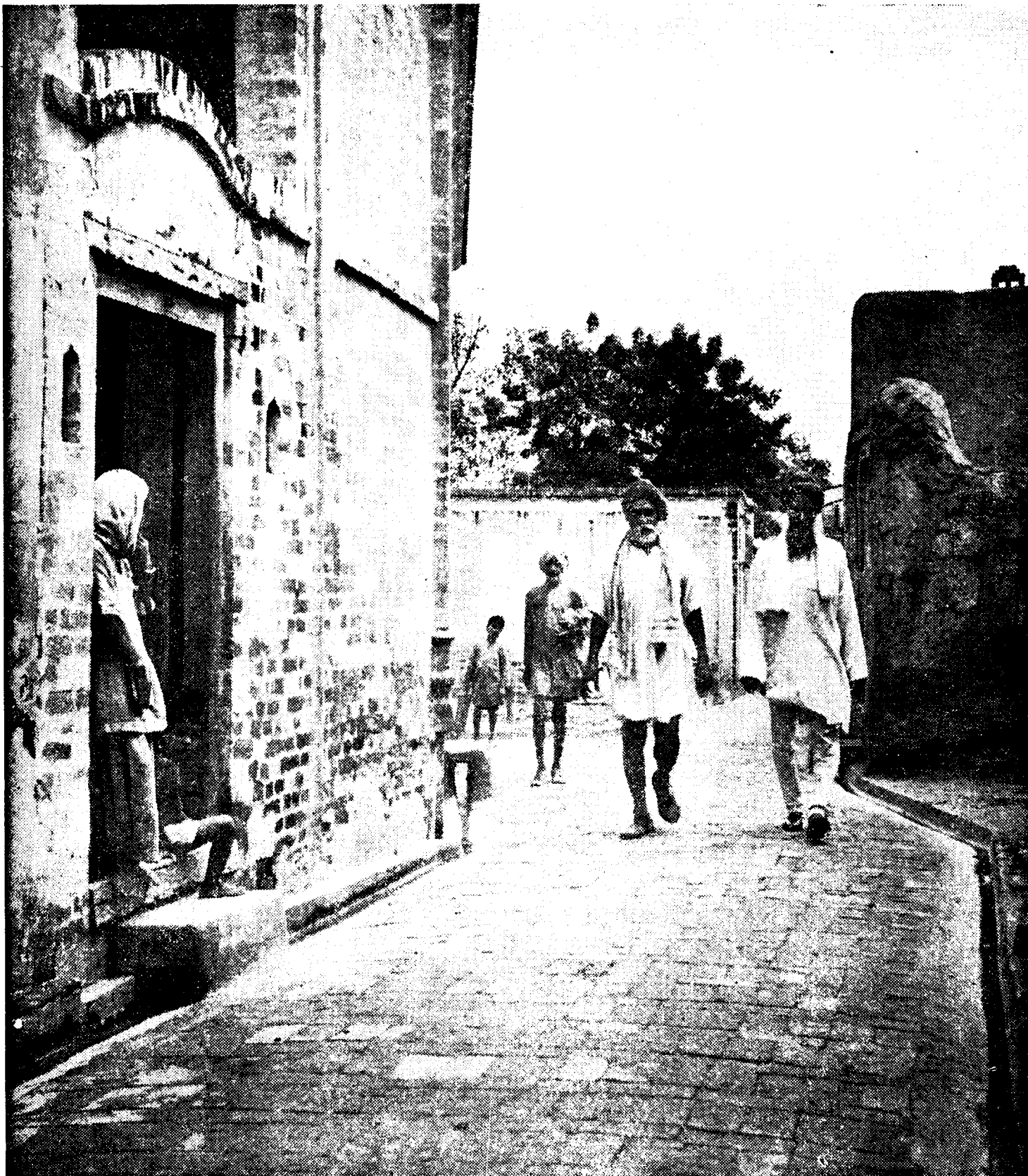
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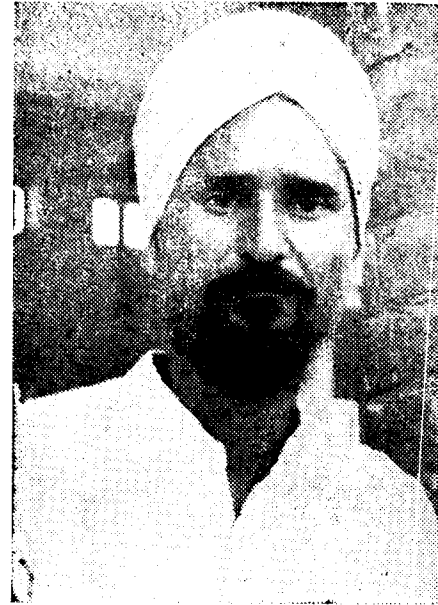
Bullock race in the village Dulley.

Punjab's Best Village— Dulley

Not far from Ludhiana is a small village called Dulley with a population of about a thousand people. It first came into prominence in 1954 when it was adjudged the best in the Ludhiana Block. The next year it was adjudged the best in the district, and a year later in 1956, the best in the Punjab.



A STREET IN DULLEY—Every single street and bylane of Dulley is paved with bricks and is lined with drains on either side. The paving cost Dulley Rs. 15,000.

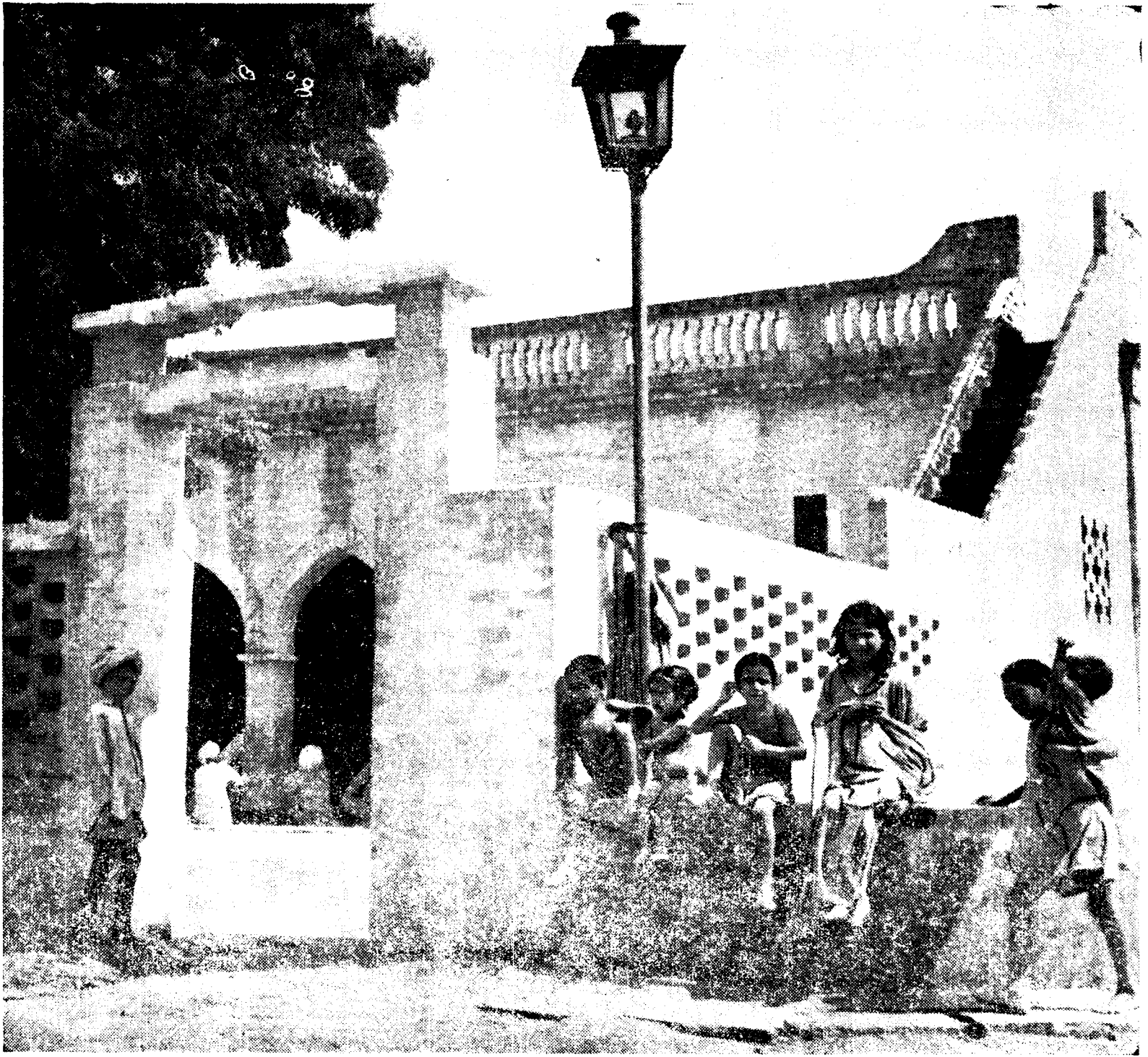


**MASTER MAHINDER SINGH
SARPANCH**

Dulley is a village of land-owning Sikh Jats. Mahinder Singh is neither a Jat agriculturist nor owns a square inch of land. Yet he has been Sarpanch of the village for the last five years because his is a life of devotion to Dulley. Whatever he saves from his salary as schoolmaster went to give his village its school (including a big girls school where girls from 13 neighbouring villages come for education—the school cost Rs. 46,000) childrens' parks, community centre, library etc. Under his inspiring leadership Dulley won the distinction of being the best village in the State.

Mahinder Singh is only forty-four years old. He has a family of ten—five girls and five boys—to bring up, educate and maintain. Nevertheless his one advance is that his eldest son did not follow his path of service to his fellowmen and has gone out of the village to make money. One of his daughters is already working among the women. The others are at school and colleges. When asked how he managed to maintain his large family on his meagre salary, Masterji smiled sadly and came out with a line of Urdu poetry: (he is very keen on Urdu and Persian poetry and has a large collection of all the leading Indian and Pakistani poets in his community centre).

"The weight of the fruit breaks the bough that bears them...."



COMMUNITY CENTRE, DULLEY

An old, dilapidated building was taken over by the Panchayat and renovated at a cost of Rs. 5,000. It has a large courtyard, a verandah and two large rooms both fully furnished. Its reading room has books, newspapers and magazines. The walls have pictures of Urdu poets ranging from Ghalib to Ali Sardar Jafari with couplets printed below. And it has a community radio set.



INTERIOR OF A DULLEY HOME

Clean, spacious and airy. Each one has a smokeless choolha. Dulley has no mosquitoes or flies. (Right) Drinking water is taken entirely from covered wells. All other wells have been rebuilt with brick and cement. Although Dulley has its Harijan locality, there is no segregation between the castes and all people have access to all the wells and eat in each other's homes.



Parliament and the Plan

HARD words break no bones, it is said. During the recent debate on the reappraisal of the Plan in the Parliament, the ability of the **Planning Minister** and the **Planning Commission** to face strong criticism was tested. In the debate that ensued the Government came out with more than even honours. The four speeches of **Shri Nanda** and the speech of **Shri Pant** gave not only a vivid factual picture of the Plan but also clarified three vital points.—(i) The Plan was based on certain assumptions which were accepted by the Parliament. (ii) The **Planning Commission** is no way responsible if the progress is unsatisfactory because the Plan was approved by the Parliament and is implemented by the Government and the people. (iii) The Plan can still succeed if internal resources can be mobilised and we are prepared to work more efficiently.

Opening the Debate, the **Union Minister of Planning** gave a realistic view of the situation. The prospects are none too bright. Only a 'revolutionary touch' as **Shri Nanda** put it, in the mobilisation of internal resources can save the Plan. The stage of self-sufficiency, said **Shri Nanda**, was still far off. In fact dependence on foreign assistance and deficit financing had increased. Under the present circumstances, we need Rs. 150 crores more to put through some pressing schemes at the Centre. Moreover, while the Plan had estimated a deficit of 1,100 crores in 5 years, we have had a deficit of Rs. 798 crores in the first two years of the Plan. As a result of the decline in foreign exchange reserve, high prices, international developments and floods and droughts, it was imperative to lower the targets of the Plan except in industry and minerals.

Referring to the World Bank suggestion that India should devote itself to consolidation rather than expansion, **Shri Nanda** said the difficulty was not one of expansion but of being able to carry out all that had been started. If these targets are not fulfilled, there will be serious consequences. The remedy was to increase savings and production (25% of available manpower was being wasted) improve collection of taxes and to economize—there was room for 20 to 25% of economy in the Rs. 1,000 crores allotted for construction expenses. Moreover, we should evolve community control over trade, through co-operatives etc., to check prices.

At the end, **Shri Nanda** appealed for a 'revolutionary touch' to make the fullest possible use of resources available to increase industrial production, national income and standard of living. Referring to the failure of monsoons etc., **Shri Nanda** said the success of the Plan was not governed by nature but by the country's effort and determination.

During the debate which followed, **Shri Hiren Mukerjee** (Comm.—West Bengal) said, "Something like a collapse today threatens the success of the Plan." A 'critical point' had been reached, he said, and only 75% of the Plan could be implemented. "It was amazing that income-tax arrears, and not merely evaded money were mounting and at present stood at Rs. 287.32 crores."

"We are specialising in economic brinkmanship," said **Shri M. R. Masani** (Independent). **Shri Nausahir Bharucha** (Ind.—Bombay) went so far as to suggest that the Planners and those responsible for the execution of the Plan should resign, if after spending crores of rupees on irrigation its potential was unutilised. He seemed inclined to think that "giant problems were being tackled by pigmies in an unscientific manner." **Shri Jaipal Singh** also suggested that the question of re-modelling of the **Planning Commission** should be considered. It should consist of youngmen with ideas who could work fearlessly. He said he would like to see the **Planning Commission** boldly suggest that the Constitution should be amended, as a unitary form of administration might perhaps be able to achieve better results. **Shri R. R. Ramakrishna** said that there should be engineers in the **Planning Commission**. **Shri Thakurdas Bhargava** was critical of indiscriminate borrowing for the Plan. This, he said, drowned the nation in debts.

Shri Asoka Mehta (PSP.—Bombay) criticised **Shri Hiren Mukherjee's** "aggressive Communist" speech and declared that nothing should be done to permit large scale and heavy industries to go down. Production should not be sacrificed in the name of ideology. **Shri A. C. Guha** (Cong.—West Bengal) was of the opinion that at least two or three fertilizer factories should be opened before thinking of expanding steel production. **Shri R. R. Morarka** (Cong.—Rajasthan) said "Our crisis is not a crisis of resources but it is one of spending."

Praise for the **Planning Commission** came from an Independent member of U.P., **Shri Shibban Lal Saksena** who condemned the demand for the resignation of **Planning Minister** and **Planning Commission** as unjustified. "Of all the organs of the Government, I think the **Planning Commission** is the one which has done something for which we should be thankful."

Intervening in the debate, the **Union Home Minister, Shri G. B. Pant**, gave a calm and reasoned analysis of planning in India. He said planning has not failed, it has become a part of our national thinking and acting. The first Plan was more than a success. As for the second Plan, we are not more than half way through, yet things are taking shape and projects producing something. For example a beginning has been made at Rourkela and the other two steel plants are likely to give us iron by the end of this year and during the next year and steel thereafter. **Shri Pant** wondered at the unkind, if not unfair, remarks about the **Planning Commission**. We have had full opportunity of studying, examining, rejecting and accepting the Plan. If there are errors, then all parties in this House which accepted the Plan should share the credit as well as the discredit. **Shri Hiren Mukerjee** thought that only the totalitarian method could succeed in planning. The Government under no circumstances could tolerate this method. It had accepted the democratic path because "if human liberty is lost then everything is lost." "We want to go forward

through co-operation and not through imposition."

Referring to **Shri Masani's** criticism that we should consolidate our position by producing more consumer goods and less capital goods and machines, **Shri Pant** said: "I am afraid **Shri Masani** is cutting at the root of all progress." However, industrialisation did not mean that agriculture was to be ignored. Agriculture was the real basis of economy in India. Products like tea, coffee, jute, cotton, oilseeds etc. were sources of earning foreign exchange. Describing agriculture and industry as complementary, he said that ultimately the progress of the country will lie in diversion of people from agriculture to industry. **Shri Pant** pointed out that even for agriculture, aid of industry was required e.g. fertilizers etc.

Some members had criticised the Plan as being ambitious or too ambitious. **Shri Pant** emphatically declared: "The Plan is ambitious. We will be untrue to ourselves if the Plan were not ambitious. What is the condition of the country? Millions of people have not even one full meal. We are confronted with colossal poverty, illiteracy, malnutrition, lack of efficiency and so on. How are you going to get over these ills? The Plan is made for these purposes."

In his reply **Shri Nanda** made the following points:

Utilisation of Irrigation Facilities: (**Shri Bharucha's** point).

Government had sent experts to nine States in order to hasten full-utilisation of waters. 90 per cent of irrigation potential at **Mayurakshi** and 80 per cent at **Damodar** was used in 1957-58. Betterment fees were not oppressive. Nothing was charged for the first two years. Thereafter, fees were to be collected in easy instalments during 10 to 15 years.

Income-Tax Arrears: (**Shri Hiren Mukerjee's** point). Income-tax arrears in March 1958 were Rs. 287 crores on paper only—out of this 53 crores had not fallen due. Recoverable amount was only 114 crores out of which recovery certificates issued to collectors for recovering these dues as arrears of land revenues were for Rs. 93 crore. Measures have been taken to recover the rest as well.

Responsibility: The **Planning Commission** was only an advisory body. It was not responsible for the execution of the Plan projects.

Non-Plan Expenditure: Non-plan expenditure had increased mostly due to defence needs, increased salary to Government staff, payment of loans and appointment of more staff for tax collection.

Loans: Except for the loan from the Export Import Bank, all loans from the U.S.A. were repayable in rupees.

Fertilizers: It would have been wiser to include fertilizers in the core of the Plan.

Plan Outlay: The Plan outlay still stands at Rs. 4,500 crores. There are additional pressing schemes which will cost Rs. 150 crores but these will be taken in hand only if funds are available.

(Next issue—Plan debate in **Rajya Sabha**).

Resume Of The Plan

RECENTLY the **Planning Commission** presented to the Parliament a paper entitled "Re-appraisal of the second five year Plan—A Resume". In this paper the reappraisal of May, 1958, has been further reviewed and revised. The following table gives the changes proposed in Central allocations:

deration, the Central Plan may well cost Rs. 150 crores more. **INTERNAL RESOURCES.**

It was discovered that the gap between the resources available and those required will be 300 to 350 crores and not Rs. 240 crores as estimated before. **LOANS AND SAVINGS.**

As against the suggested bor-

	Allotment for 1956-61		Allotment for 1959-61	
	According to Planning Commission's Memorandum	According to recent discussions	According to Planning Commission's Memorandum	According to recent discussions
1. Agriculture & Community Development.	54	56	23	25
2. Irrigation & Power	63	75	27	39
3. Village & Small Industries.	55	67	7	19
4. Industries & Minerals.	775	867	363	455
5. Transport & Communications	1,177	1,185	474	482
6. Social Services.	298	298	152	152
7. Miscellaneous.	30	33	12	15
Total	2,452	2,581	1,058	1,187

Heads of Expenditure

Compared to the original Plan outlays, the most recent outlays show an economy under each head except Industries and Minerals. In view of the recent oil strike at Cambay and the pace at which our steel plants are progressing, no one should grudge that.

CENTRAL SCHEMES.

According to recent discussions with the Central Ministries, it was shown that the Central Plan would cost Rs. 129 crores more. Taking into account a few proposals which are still under consi-

deration of Rs. 137 crores, the Centre and the States have succeeded in borrowing Rs. 225 crores.

In 1957-58, collections from small savings amounted to Rs. 69.6 crores (earlier estimate, 55 crores) but the position has not been encouraging in the first four months of this year.

EXTERNAL RESOURCES.

It is now felt that further requirements of foreign exchange during the last 3 years of the Plan will be worth Rs. 560 crores and not Rs. 500 crores as thought before.

The Four Firs

By REGINALD MASSEY

THE village of Mahille is a beautiful place. It is one of those picturesque little hamlets nestling in the heart of Himachal Pradesh.

There is the usual village bazaar in Mahille consisting of two or three shops which sell the necessities of rural life. The main lane is cobbled with shining stones rounded by the incessant use of years. Just behind the shops are the houses of the village well-todos: The local *bania* cum money-lender; the brahmin; the land-owners. A little farther up are the cottages of the lower castes, or *kolis*, as they are called in the hills. At varying distances are small homesteads with the accompanying patch of cultivated land. The village is spick and span, in marked contrast to its counterparts in the plains.

If you want to retire and spend the rest of your life devoted to solitary philosophizing, Mahille is the place for you.

But on week-days there is something that happens at three in the afternoon which disturbs the Sleepy Hollow atmosphere. It is the loud ringing of a bell. Looking in the direction of the din, one sees a biggish house, quite new, at the top of a small hill. From this house you'll see small children with bags and books scurrying down, chattering and screaming. The signboard reads: "The Ram Singh Middle School."

Four years ago the village of Mahille was just about the same as it is now; but there was one important difference. There was no school. But there was one man among them who wanted a school. His name was Ram Singh, and he was a man with a mission.

Ram Singh, the Rajput, was twenty-eight years old. He was tall, broad-shouldered and strong—a typical son of the soil, handsome in his rustic fashion and proud of his lineage. Ram Singh was his father's only son and had inherited ten bighas of land, six cows, and a hundred apple trees. But one thing had always troubled Ram Singh. He was illiterate, and so were his ancestors. He had always smarted under the insult of being an ignorant and illiterate man.

Ram Singh requested the Panchayat to build a school. But he was ignored, for the other members were too busy with their petty squabbles. Anyhow he persuaded them to send a petition to the District Board. After two months the Board replied that it was too busy with bigger work and was, therefore, unable to be of any help.

At a stormy session of the panchayat, Ram Singh exhorted to them that something had to be done. Eyebrows were raised and one member even questioned the efficacy of education. At the end Sher Singh, the lambardar, told him, "Son, it's no use wasting our time. If you're so keen to have a school go ahead and make one."

Ram Singh walked out. He didn't want to insult the aged Sher Singh. And, moreover, it had been decided that he was very soon to be married to Sundari, the only daughter of Sher Singh. Sundari was as beautiful as her name, and had a complexion as white as milk. Her face was like the oval moon and her hands were small and pretty. She was looked upon as beautiful in a

land of beautiful women. Sometimes, on the pretence of cutting grass, she would stray into Ram Singh's fields and he would meet her there. They would sit under the apple blossoms and talk about the future.

The day after the panchayat meeting, Sundari met Ram Singh under their favourite tree. The first question she put him was, "Why did you get so angry and walk out from the panchayat? You should try to be popular. After my father's death you will be the next lambardar. What is this mad idea of a school that has come over you?"

Ram Singh turned red—"Sundari, the village is up against me. Will you also let me down? I want you to be the mother of my sons. But do you think that I want my sons to be illiterate and ignorant and stupid as myself?"

"You are not stupid," said Sun-

dari, the tears coming from her big eyes. "I only want you to take care of yourself and not to quarrel with my father."

During the next year Ram Singh went about collecting funds for his proposed scheme. He visited the nearby villages and towns. He met people and talked to them about his ideas. At the end, he had accumulated three thousand rupees and felt that it was enough to embark upon his scheme.

One morning, he called a general meeting of the villagers and told them that he was now ready to see the school plan through. The elders were conspicuous by their absence but some young men were by now fired by his enthusiasm. There were some jeers. Hecklers shouted out, "Ram Singh, where will you build? You know only too well that land is difficult to procure. Who will spare even half a bigha?"

Ram Singh was stumped. He had thought of everything but had left out the most obvious. Looking up to heaven he thought, "Oh God, help me now. I seem to have lost everything." His eyes shifted for a while and then rested on the opposite hill, and

finally he began staring at The Four Firs.

An idea struck Ram Singh; and he made up his mind. It was now or never. Steeling himself, he shouted back to his hecklers—"Brothers, do you see that hill there?" "I'm going to build the school there!" Ram Singh pointed to the Four Firs.

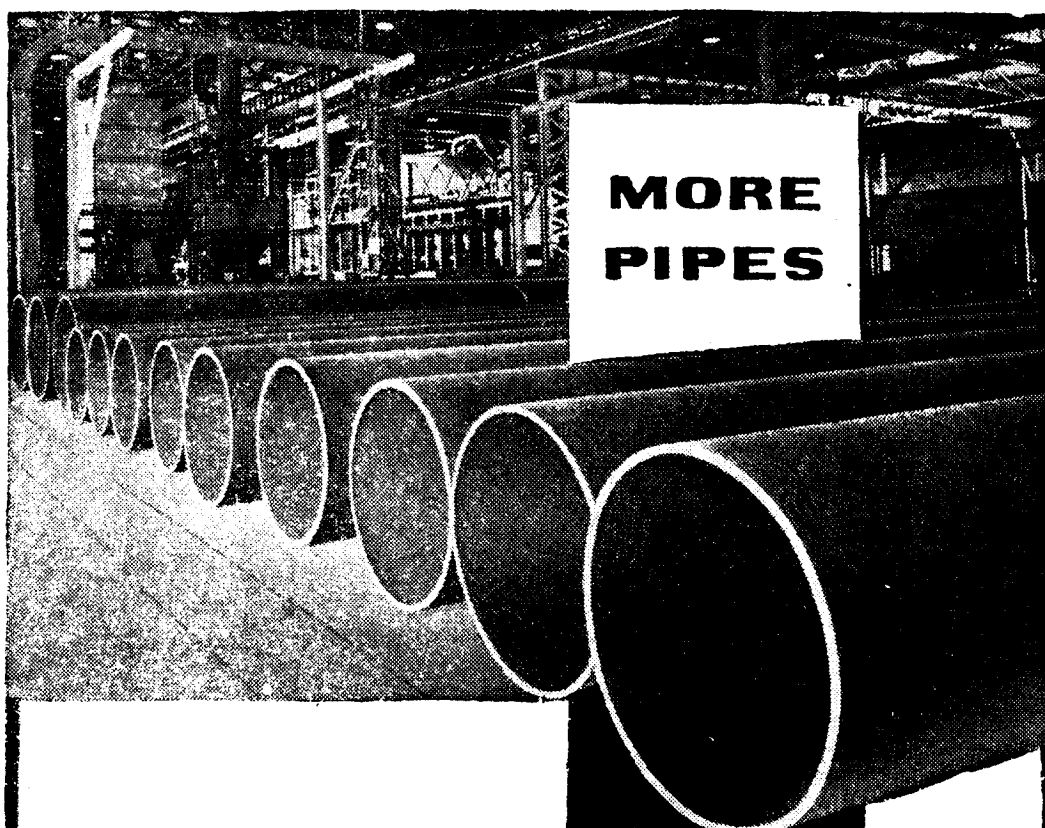
"But how?" they shouted back in chorus. "The Four Firs stand there!"

"I will cut down The Four Firs."

There was a dead silence. A hush. The villagers were stunned by the immensity of the thought. Some looked worried. Cut down the Four Firs? Had Ram Singh gone mad? Didn't he know that the Four Firs were not merely 'kael' trees but the abode of four *devtas*? They had always been told that The Four Firs were the guardian angels of Mahille.

Then Ram Singh made a speech that will be yet remembered for many a year to come. He said: "Brothers! You all have an unnecessary fear of the Four Firs. What are they but mere 'kael' trees? If they harbour evil spirits, let us cut them down and conquer

(Continued on page 15)



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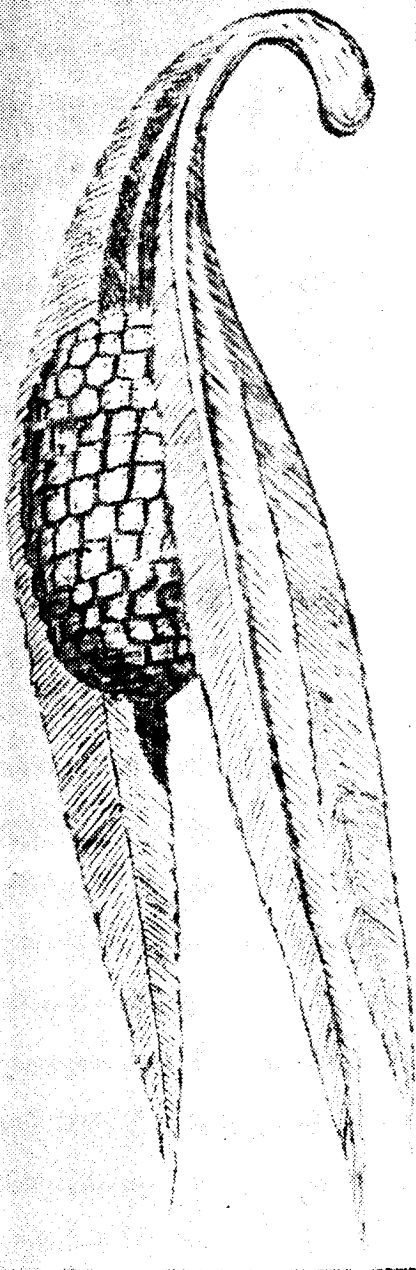
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The fruit of the Pandanus



the hard substance gets somewhat soft and friable. It is then exposed to air and cooled. The central portion of the fruit containing the seeds, is forced out by thrusting a shell inside. The residue is pressed into a spherical mass and all fibrous matter removed. At this stage it assumes a pale yellow colour and tastes like the Italian polenta or the dressed meal of the Indian "Zea Mays" or dates. If kept well covered the food lasts for days and usually one fruit is ample for a family of three adults for a day.

Apart from this, the tender leaves of the plant can be used as a delicious curry with condiments. The leaves have a medicinal value and are extensively used in the cure of diseases like leprosy, small-pox and heart and brain attacks.

As far back as the closing years of the 18th century, four of these plants were planted in the East India Company's Botanical Gardens in Calcutta. They exist even

to this day and bear fruit though it is not known whether the original plants are still alive. If female and male plants are planted in close juxtaposition instead of at a distance, the Pandanus can be made to grow as profusely as in the Nicobar.

Reports have been received that another type of this Pandanus grows wild in the dense and moist jungles of the Darjeeling district in West Bengal and these fruit-bearing trees are to be found there at an elevation of from 500 to 5000 feet. A fruit weighing about 30lb and containing a high percentage of farina and other nutritive elements is undoubtedly precious to this country which is yet to set up a high standard of nutrition among the masses. India, having a long stretch of coast-line and a suitable jungle-clad terrain, can ill afford to ignore the experimentation of and research into the growth of the Nicobar Pandanus on Indian soil.

BREAD FROM FRUIT

SUBBUSWAMI KRISHNA MURTHI.

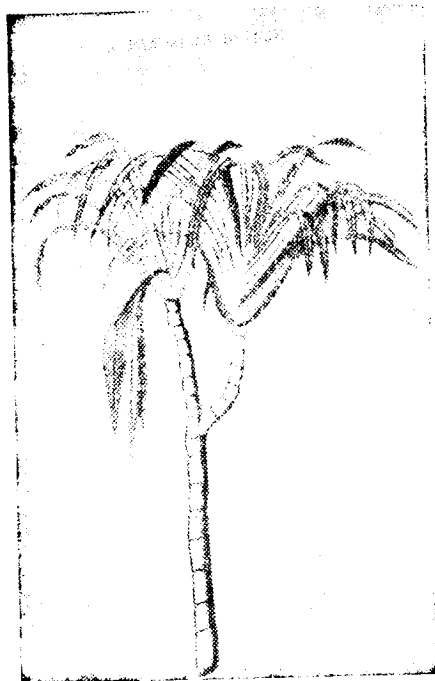
On the shores of the islands of Nicobar and Car Nicobar, there grows, in plenty, a unique bread-fruit tree bearing the Portuguese name of MELLORI and belonging to the species of the *Pandanus Tectorius*. Much akin to the Indian Ketaki or the keora and the palm, this tree grows to a height of about thirty five feet, measuring nearly a foot at the trunk, and thrives as abundantly among other trees in dense forests as in damp sandy soil.

The trunk resembles in shape the Indian areca nut tree with equidistant circular intersections. The leaves about four inches wide grow to a length of three feet in the form of a calyx. The major part of the root structure, about eight feet high, projects above the surface of the earth. The plant stands on stilt-like roots called prop roots which provide a source of safe drinking water in times of emergency. The fruit emerges out of the bottom of the leaves; in fact, its own weight, about 30 to 40lb when fully ripe, forces it out of the leaves.

To the natives of Nicobar, this nutritive fruit serves as a staple food. Though similar bread-fruit trees exist in the interior parts of Africa, the Coromandel coast of India and the Isle of France, the Pandanus of Nicobar is unique in itself and stands out as a rare specimen. In South India the ketaki grows in abundance but has no food value and so is the case with the keora of the Bengal coast. Both these Indian varieties, which grow wild, have only

sweet smelling leaves used for ornamentation and floral offerings to temples. These trees do bear fruits but have no comparison to the Pandanus.

The huge Nicobar Pandanus very much resembles the Indian pineapple and is pinkish yellow in colour when ripe. The fruit is hard inside and the core usually



contains two seeds, resembling almonds in size and taste. The Nicobar people prepare their meal out of this fruit in the following way: the exterior of the fruit is first peeled off and then put into earthen pots, covered with leaves. As the fruit is boiled under slow and steady fire

Yojana Essay Competition.

OVER RS. 200 IN PRIZES

Open to members of the University Planning Forums and readers of Yojana only.

SUBJECTS

1. Reappraisal of the second Five Year Plan.
2. How to mobilise India's internal resources?
3. Ways and means to improve India's agricultural production.
4. How to achieve second Plan employment targets?

LENGTH & LANGUAGE

Essays may be in English or Hindi, typed in double space. Length must not exceed 1000—1200 words. Style should be simple and illustrative.

PRIZES

- A. For members of the University Planning Forums:
- | | | |
|--------------|----|-----------|
| First Prize | .. | Rs. 100/- |
| Second Prize | .. | Rs. 75/- |
| Third Prize | .. | Rs. 50/- |

Certificate of membership of Forum should accompany entry.

B. For others:

Each essay accepted for publication will be paid for at the rate of Rs. 40/- per 1000 words.

LAST DATE

Entries must reach Chief Editor, Yojana, Publications Division, Old Secretariat, Delhi-8, by December 31, 1958. Envelops should be marked "Yojana Essay Competition". For acknowledgment send a self-addressed post card.

RESULTS

Results will be announced in Yojana dated January 11, 1959. Prize winning essays will be published in Yojana Republic Day Number and subsequent issues.

Note: Readers of Yojana should quote their Subscription Number.

KURUKSHETRA

Sixth Anniversary Number

(Issued on October 2, 1958)

The Sixth Anniversary Number of Kurukshetra sums up six years of Community Development work in this country. Among the contributors are: C. Rajagopalachari, V. T. Krishnamachari, Carl C. Taylor, N. R. Malkani, A. C. Guha, W. R. S. Sathianadhan, J. M. Lobo Prabhu, Mrs. Clubwala Jadhav and a host of field-workers. Apart from these special articles, this bumper issue of 200 pages carries the regular features, factual Reports from the States and articles in the lighter vein. Price Rs. 1/- per copy.

Glimpses Of India

(Continued from page 5)

men have no shirts on, many are clad in a very small 'langoti', their skins shining ebony; while their children, the vast majority of them, are stark naked. I have never felt so overdressed.

And yet these very people must be the direct descendants of the Pallava subjects who in the 7th century A.D. must have carved the fabulous temples and sculptures for which Mahabalipuram is justly famous. Besides, their forefathers must have been the intrepid sailors who crossed the ocean not only to trade with countries of South-East Asia but also took to them Hindu culture, art and architecture. And now they could not possibly be poorer; their houses more shoddy; their cattle smaller. In the Harijan homes there is not a single brass vessel in sight—only earthenware chatties — some black, some brown. Even with so many magnificent gods and goddesses all around them, they seem a forgotten people.

N.E.S. Block Looks After Them

However, they are not entirely forgotten as the village is included in the N.E.S. Block of Thirukalukundram. The local panchayat, it seems, has no factions and casteism is slowly on the way out. Some co-operative societies are taking shape. Fertilisers and improved seeds are reaching the fields. Some very useful roads have been made. Free mid-day meals are provided to the very poor children in the Harijan colony. There is the usual Information and Recreation centre and the building for a dispensary has already been constructed. The old cattle pound is being fitted out to be the doctor's residence.

But as Srinivas Iyengar, the Chairman of the Village Development Committee, expressed it, the people are unable to make the necessary financial contributions conditional to earning the N.E.S. assistance for several projects which they urgently need. They have got some buildings and roads for which contributions were found somehow; but there has been no economic development to provide them with fresh avenues of employment, security or higher incomes.

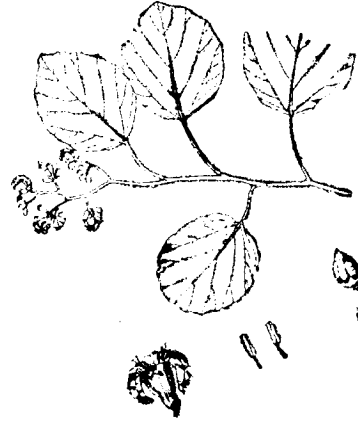
FOLLOWING THE OLD TRADITION

Two training schools have been started recently. One is for teaching casting in plaster of Paris. It has 5 pupils. The other one is for teaching the art of sculpture. It has 14 trainees who receive a monthly stipend of Rs. 40 and it is, I believe, the only school of its kind in Tamilnad at least. The teacher of this school is one of the solitary survivors in this locality of the traditional class of sculptors known as 'Stapathis' and he is well versed in the old Sanskrit classics and shastras on the subject. He even possesses an ancient manuscript on palm leaf. His method of teaching is strictly traditional and with the same old tools. The students sit on the sandy floor in a thatched shed and work on blocks of granite or blue rock with just a hammer and chisel. What is more they are taught to carve only copies of exactly the same classic models of gods and goddesses. As someone present there remarked, "Nataraja is the highest perfection of the sculptor's art in India. How can we strive to improve upon perfection?"

BIRDS & TREES

LASSURA

This is a small sized tree with no beauty to commend it. Its leaves are about 4 inches long and fairly rounded. Their texture is leathery and harsh to the touch, with three or four strong, raised ribs. The



flowers are small and white. Its fruit is yellow or pink when unripe and black when ripe. It is edible, though sticky. The seed is a very hard stone. The bark of the Lassura is used for medicinal purposes. The wood is light, but strong, and is used for building country rafts and boats, and for making farming implements. Lassura is found throughout India. In the villages it is grown near hedges.

The Latin name for Lassura is Cordia Obliqua.

THE SPOONBILL

It is a big bird belonging to the heron family. It is about three feet long, pure white throughout, except for a light brown in the lower foreneck.

During breeding season the spoonbill grows a crest of pointed and drooping plumes. Its outstanding feature is its beak, which is broad, long and flattened out at the end like a spoon, hence its name.

The spoonbill is found in flocks by shores of lakes and ponds. In the evening spoonbills fly in single file in long white glimmering lines.

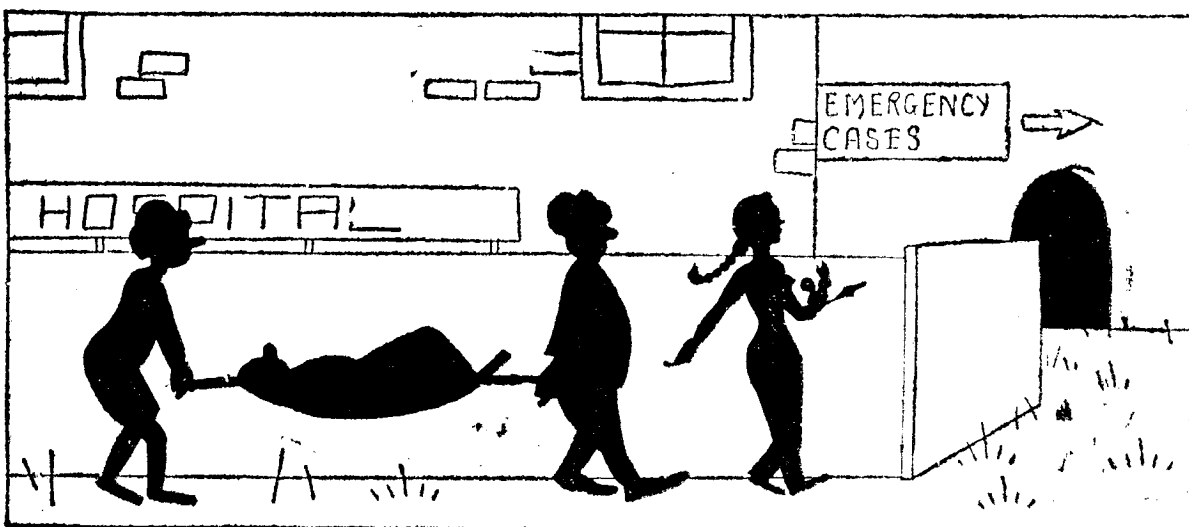
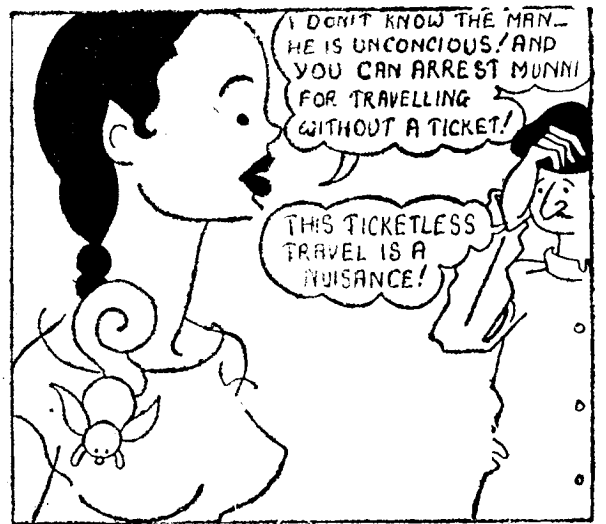
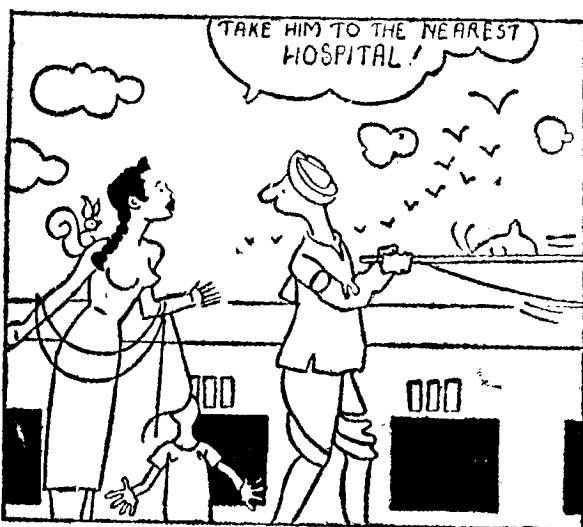
The feeding habits of the spoonbill are interesting. It wades through the water with its beak half immersed turning from side to side. It gets most of the water insects, frogs and small fish this way.

The nest of the spoonbill is a massive platform of sticks used and repaired every year. The eggs are white, without gloss and are coarse. Sometimes there are irregular markings on the eggs.



NEEMA AND HER PET

—By Mickey Patel



TO BE CONTINUED

News from the STATES

BOMBAY

LIQUID GOLD AT CAMBAY

Shortly after the news of the first oil strike at Cambay (see *Yojana*, page 10, last issue) comes the news that the drill has struck another oil pocket at the depth of 6,500 feet and oil is gushing out at a high pressure. The engineers of the site were most delighted with this "gusher" whose pressure is 400 "atmospheres" as compared to that of 190 "atmospheres" of the first pocket. However, the Union Minister for Oil and Mines has again emphasised the need for cautious optimism. The oil is being analysed and put to "electro logging" tests and it will take six months to make a definite estimate of the area and the size of the oil pocket.



Eight miles north of Cambay lies the village Lunej where drilling for oil is going on under the supervision of Soviet experts trained in the Baku oil fields of Azerbaijan. Hopes of reaching an oil pocket rose high when on September 8, it was announced that oil was coming out of the drill along with mud. Although oil has been struck, it is not known whether it is in sufficient quantity. The 176 feet high drill at Lunej has reached only the depth of 5368 feet. To be certain, the drill must go down to the depth of 10,000 feet which the oil men expect to reach by the first week of November.

Housing on a war footing

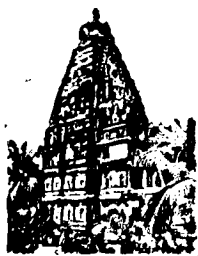
During the remaining period of the second Plan the government had decided to implement the housing programme which consisted of 41,326 tenements for industrial workers costing Rs. 18.21 crores, and 3,400 tenements for the low-income group which will cost the government Rs. 3.60 crores.

Also 470 acres of land will be developed at a cost of 1.24 crores. Out of this 40 acres will be in Greater Bombay.

MADRAS

Targets to be fulfilled

Expenditure on the Projects under the Second Five Year Plan will be of the order of Rs. 31 crores each for the years 1959-60 and 1960-61, the closing year of the Second Plan.



Madras is one of the few States which have kept abreast of targetted expenditure and execution of plan projects each year. Shri C. Subramaniam, Finance Minister, told pressmen that no cut in the total allotment of Rs. 152 crores for the State was contemplated.

ORISSA

Large deposits of minerals discovered

The prospecting division of the State's Directorate of Mines has found considerable deposits of limestone, manganese, soapstone and mica in the Koraput and Kalahandi areas. About 40 million tons of "high-grade" limestone up to a uniform depth of 30 feet which could support a large scale cement factory, and other industries like calcium carbide and bleaching powder, have been located in a 10 square mile area between Umpavalli and Tunmiguda.

For the utilisation of the ferromanganese industries in Orissa, the manganese deposits of Kalahandi and Koraput were found

"encouraging". In the Mandhra Devhola area about one million tons of manganese ore were found present up to a uniform depth of 50 feet, of which five lakh tons would be of high grade ore. The richest manganese patches were seen near Nishikal and Koa.

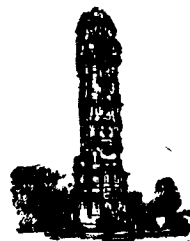
A major deposit of soapstone has been located in the Kenduputta-Kathpada area. This would be able to support small scale industries on refractories paper, ceramic industries, decorative stones and pottery.

RAJASTHAN

Mineral Wealth

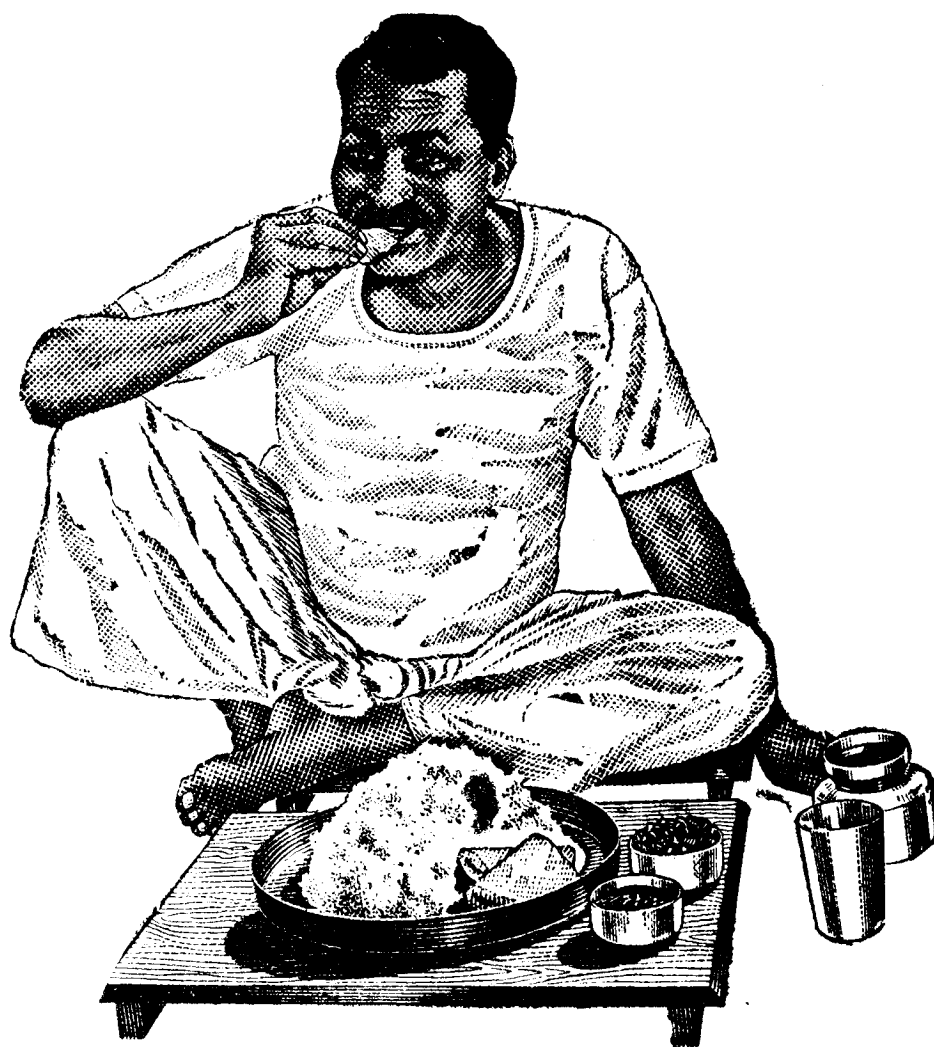
Rajasthan is the second largest producer of mica in the country. It has 3,600 million tons of good grade lime-stone available in Kotputli, Chitorgarh, Sojat and

Gotan and drilling programme is under way near Ramganj Mandi and Modak in Kota Division. A zinc smelter will be established near Udaipur to process the mineral produced at Zawar mines and power supplied from the Gandhisagar Dam will be available for this purpose.



In the case of copper, investigations are in progress at Khodariba and Khetri whereas for gypsum, drilling operations are going on near Nagpur. The State Department of Mines and Geology is investigating the lignite deposits near Bikaner where nearly 9.5 million tons of additional coal-bearing areas have been proved.

With the supply of power from Gandhisagar Dam and the Bhakra-Nangal Hydro-electric Scheme, industrial development in Rajasthan is bound to improve.



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Kusum.....	Kusum Products Ltd.	Vanasda.....	Berar Oil Industries
Lion.....	Indian Vegetable Products Ltd.	Vitagi.....	Vegetable Vitamin Foods Co. Private Ltd.
Lotus.....	Hindusthan Lever Ltd.		
Nataraj.....	Palaapur Vegetable Products Ltd.		

METRIC MEASURES

EXACTLY 18 months after introducing decimal coinage, India adopted on October 1 another member of the decimal family—the metric system of weights and measures. In this system kilogram and meter are the basic units of weight and measure. Just over 17 chhataks make one kilogram and one meter roughly equals 1.1 yards.

The main virtue of this system lies in its simplicity. Who does not recall early school days when in memorising multiplication tables, the table of 10 was the easiest to reproduce? The metric system is essentially a decimal system, units of weight or measure going up in the ratio of ten. Thus 10 grams make one deka gram, 10 deka grams make one hecto gram, and 10 hecto grams make one kilogram. Similarly one centimeter consists of 10 millimeters, one decimeter of 10 centimeters and one meter of 10 decimeters.

At present there are 150 different varieties of weights and measures in vogue in different parts of India. Although the seer and the maund are in common use, the weight of the seer varies from 24 to as many as 112 tolas. In several cases the seer or a common weight or measure denotes different things even within the same district.

The need for a uniform system to end this chaotic state of affairs was acutely felt when the Planning Commission undertook a study of the problem in 1955. A year later, Parliament passed legislation to adopt the metric system. Called the Standards of Weights and Measures Act, 1956, it lays down standards of length, area, volume and mass to replace the standards now in vogue.

A reform of this magnitude cannot but be a slow process, phased over a number of years. To begin with, the introduction of metric weights and measures has been confined to trade in selected areas in different States and to major industries like cotton textiles, iron and steel, engineering, heavy chemicals, cement, salt, paper and coffee.

Even in these selected areas and industries, in order to provide for a smooth change-over, the use of existing units has been permitted until the end of September, 1960.

As the new system is gradually extended to larger areas and to other branches of economic activity, both in the public and private sectors, there will again be a transitional period of two or three years. By the end of 1966, the country will have completely changed over to the metric system.

In the selected industries where the new system has been introduced from October 1, metric units are being used in the purchase of raw materials and sale of products. Prices and quantities are also expressed in metric units in all sale and purchase transactions. The change is, however, limited to transactions between the factories and their suppliers and customers. Retail sale in the products of these industries has not been affected. (The change-over was advanced by three months in the case of the jute industry to synchronise with the beginning of the jute year from July 1).

A phased programme is also under way in Government departments and undertakings.

The metric system in its present form was fashioned soon after the French Revolution. But it was not till 1840 (51 years after the Revolution) that the metric system could be fully enforced in France. Since then the metric system has been adopted legally by 77 countries; it is optional in 16 countries and authorised in four countries.

By adopting this system India has fallen in line with nearly three-fourths of the world's population. Among the countries where it is in force many are in Asia, some of them India's close neighbours: Afghanistan, Cambodia, China, Indonesia, Iran, Israel, Japan, Jordan, the Philippines, South Korea, South Vietnam, Syria and Thailand.

The decimal system, on which the metric system of weights and measures is based, was India's gift to the world. Some 2,000 years ago, an Indian mathematician discovered the value of '0' and introduced what has now become the universal system of counting. In adopting the metric system, India therefore goes back to her own heritage.

R. R. A.



Our Poetic Heritage

KAZI NAZRUL ISLAM

WITH eyes alert, and yet doleful,
I ramble up and down Thy creation.
The least I behold fills my heart with pleasurable wonder.
So great art Thou! O Lord, so benign! perennial source of
benediction!

WITH body dust covered, Thy sons—
The mooringless waifs of this dusty Earth—
Solicit Thy judgment, I beseech you, answer, Father of man.

THE SUN, the Moon, and the Milky way in the yonder sky,
Carry Thy divine message thro' the break of the dawn
and the dusk:

THAT the fragrance of flower, the melodious notes of birds,
The succulent fruit, the fertile land,
The stream of water—the elixir of life,
The brilliance of day and the shade of night
Canopied by the calm welkin and embalmed by the zephyr;
From sceptre to scythe, all have equal right over them;
And they are never, never the monopoly of a few.
I beg you, answer, Father of man, is this not Thy Eternal
Law?

THE azure calm, covering this terrestrial plain, showers
Your gracious gifts of soothing rain and radiant glow.
Who they are that threaten Thy work all around
Brandishing destructive feats?
Will these not be avenged, O Lord, speak to our supplication,
Will not Good conquer Evil and Truth prevail?

Translated by S. C. Basu

AMONG the poets who have flourished in Bengal in the post-Rabindranath era, Kazi Nazrul Islam is outstanding. He passed his boyhood days in Turkey through the turbulent years of the First World War. He was deeply influenced by the battle for freedom put up by the Turks against the foreign powers.

He is unique in Bengali literature for the poignancy of expression, the sweep of theme, grace of metre, and mastery over the Islamic and Hindu mythology and history. Throughout his poetic career he sang the song of India's freedom and was imprisoned for a number of times during the British rule for his nationalist activities.

THE FOUR FIRS

(Continued from page 11)

them. And if they harbour good spirits they will gladly help us to acquire learning.

"Brothers, if we act wisely today the gods will be on our side. How many of you will help me to cut down the Four Firs?"

Seven young men came forward with axes and followed Ram Singh up the hill. They laboured with zeal and vigour, and one by one the Four Firs crashed to the ground. The villagers held their breath. After the trees had been felled they were surprised to note that no calamity had overtaken them; everything was just the same. And then they knew that

Ram Singh had spoken the truth, that his was a righteous cause.

Next morning the villagers willingly flocked to help Ram Singh. Each one of them devoted his free labour and very soon the new school house was standing. The Government, seeing the great enthusiasm and initiative of the people, helped by sending trained teachers.

Eventually, the great day came when the Deputy Commissioner arrived to inaugurate the school. To everyone's surprise he announced that it was decided to name it 'The Ram Singh Middle School' in honour of its founder.

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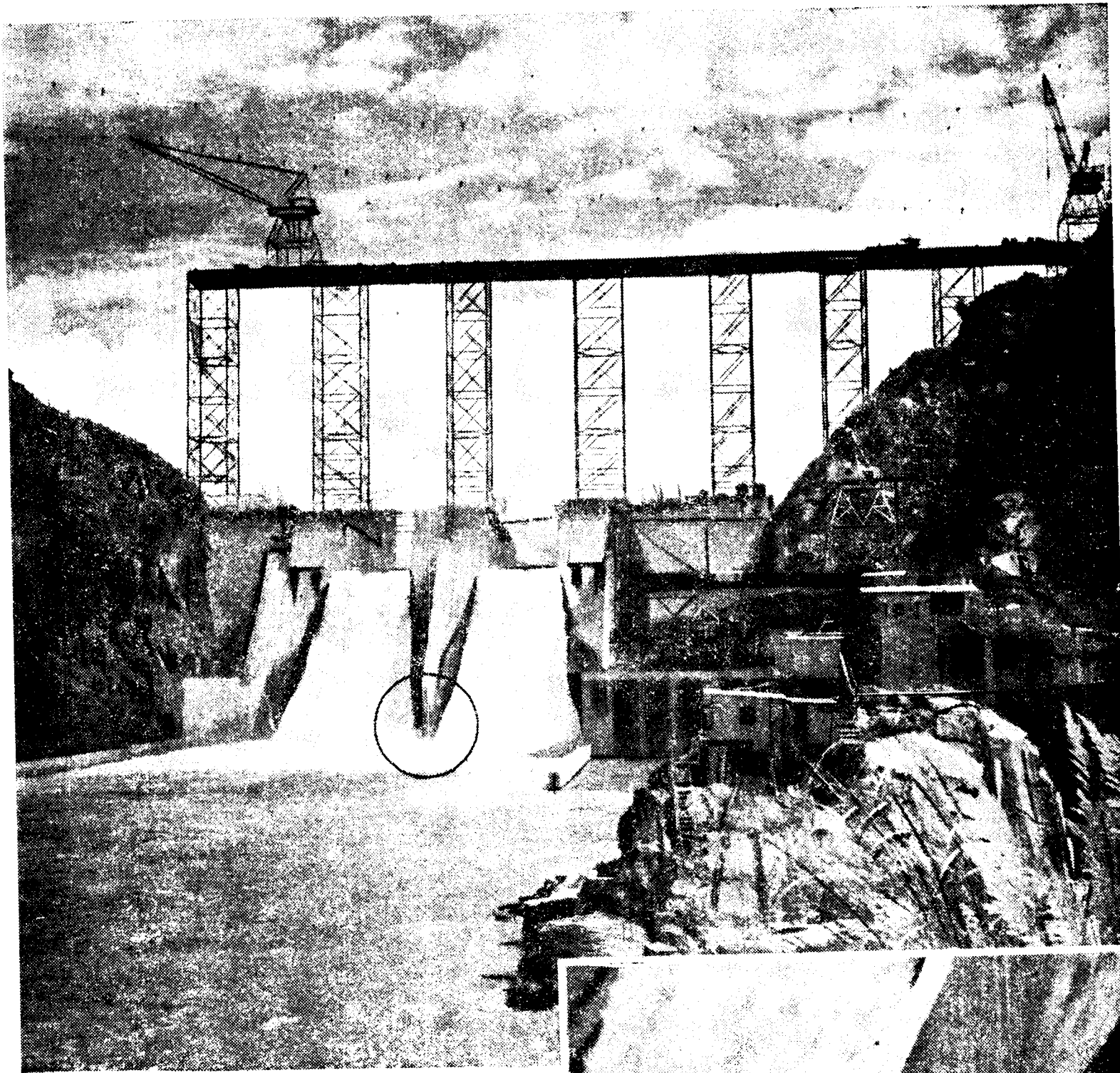
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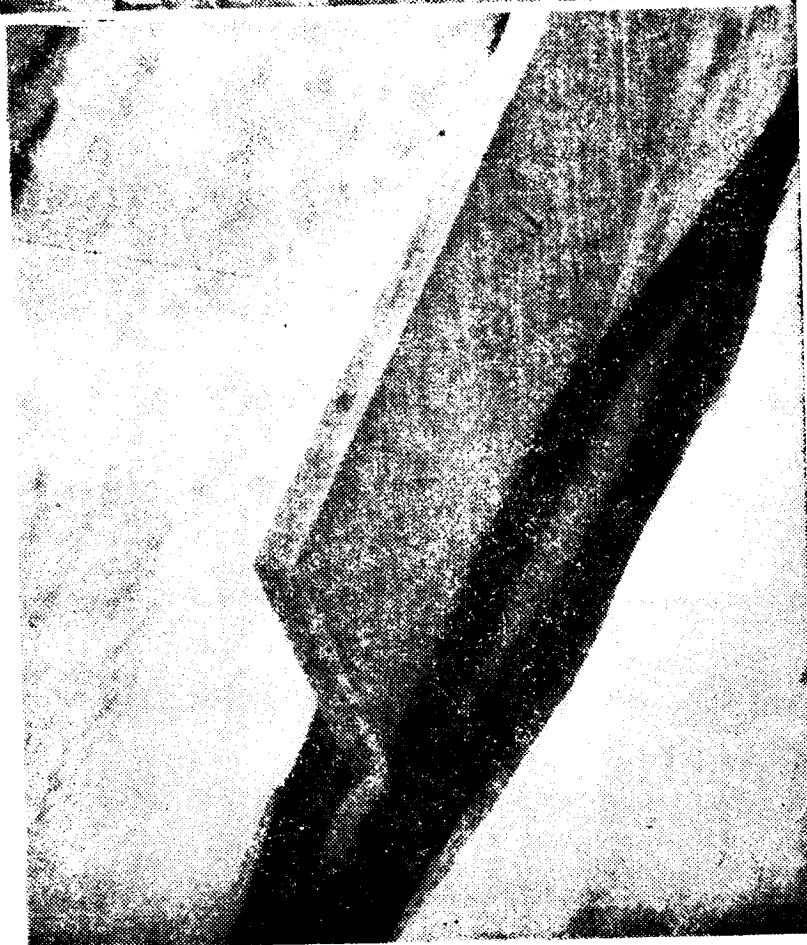
Minor Damage To Bhakra

LAST August heavy rains caused the river Sutlej to suddenly come in spate. The Govind Sagar lake above Bhakra Dam was filled up rapidly. The water rushed down the two spillways and damaged a portion of the dividing wall on the spillway.

It was found that the damage extended to one panel, 63 ft. long and a part of the second panel 41 ft. long. The wall was found to have been sheared about 18" above the spillway floor level. Only 700 cubic yards of concrete will be required to repair the damaged portion.

The damage cannot be noticed unless one's attention is drawn to it. Besides, it is of very little consequence to the main structure of the dam. Our engineers estimate that the total cost of repair (diverting the river, dredging and reconstructing the dividing wall) will be in the vicinity of about 2 lakh rupees.

We have been remarkably lucky with our dams. Serious damages costing many crores of rupees have taken place in the construction of dams in the United States, Russia and elsewhere



and are considered normal hazards in the execution of such mammoth projects.

Work on the Bhakra project is going according to schedule. By next year the dam will have risen another 160 feet and the waters of the Govind Sagar lake will have taken the village Bhakra which has given it the name and the town of Bilaspur in its fold. We will publish a full story of this project and what it means to the people, in a subsequent issue.

YOJANA

Editor: KHUSHIWANT SINGH

VOL. II. NO. 20

DELHI: ASVINA 27, 1880 OCTOBER 19, 1958

10 NAYE PAISE



IN THIS ISSUE

SHANGRILA!

According to Dr. Raghu Vira there is obviously something fundamentally wrong with our Plan and Planners, thought and thinkers, because evidently the golden era is a long way off. He offers a plan for India—one which will 're-order the life of each of its members on a higher plane of existence, the plane of civilized existence'. For details see page 3.

INDIA'S RURAL ECONOMY

In the last of the series of articles on the subject, Shri Tarlok Singh has proved that the assumption that establishment of rural co-operatives will lead to wider unemployment is a fallacy. Ultimately the whole purpose and aim of increased agricultural production, irrigation and rural industry, is to expand work opportunities. With the scheme of extension services, the community development areas are building up representative institutions whose full scope is yet to be seen.

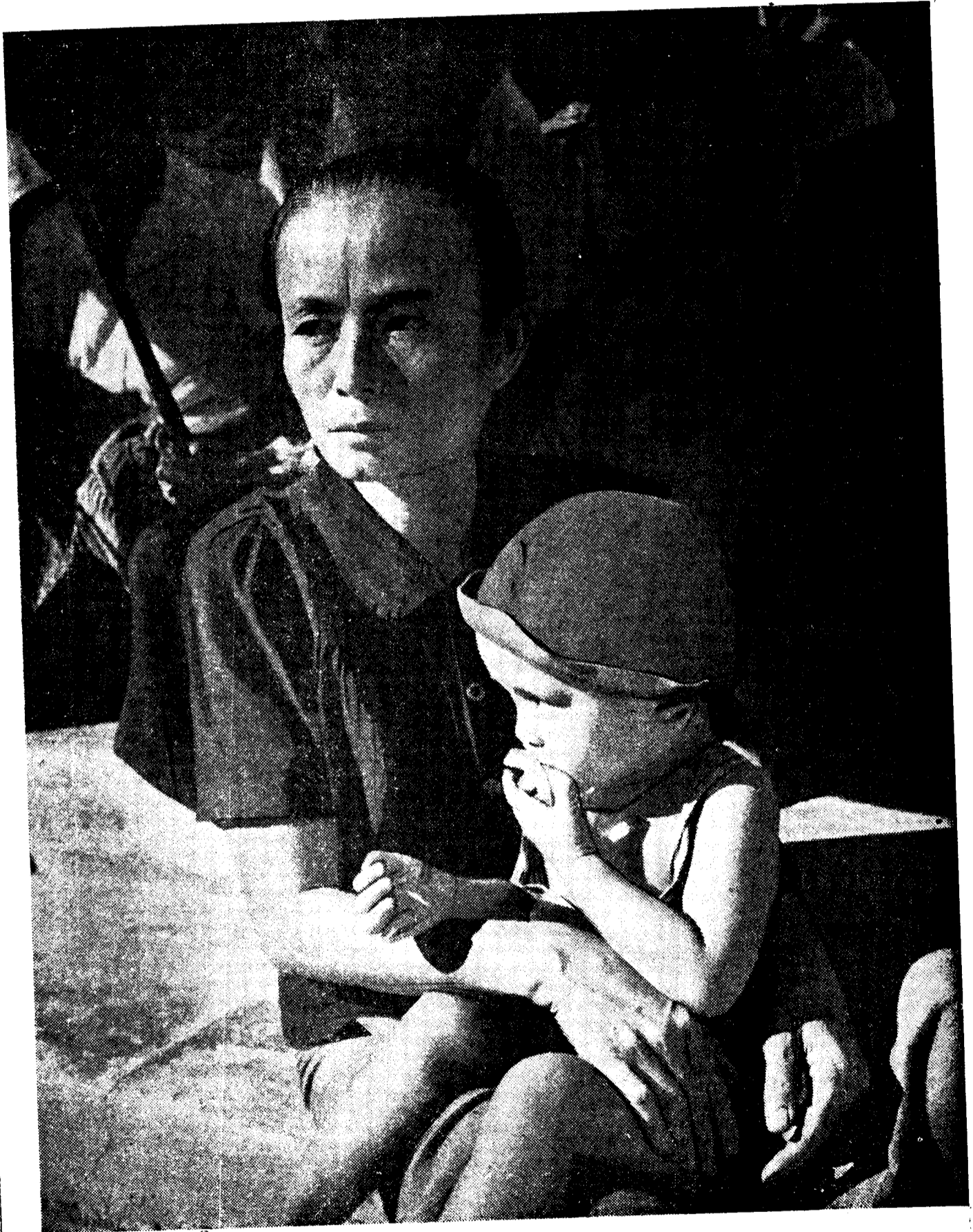
Not enough emphasis is, even at this stage, placed on the suitable type of land reform and co-operation. Unless the existing units and existing business are converted from individual to co-operative basis, the necessary efficiency and speed will not be achieved in our development Plans. (See page 6).

ON OTHER PAGES

Villages Built on Coal
By Kusum Nair

Urdu Short Story
By Ali Abbas Husaini

Know your People—The
Warlis.
By Rama Mehta



ANXIOUS EYES

This woman may belong to any place, this child may be of any country. The anxious eyes seem to ask a simple question: How long will man-made wars and God-sent calamities be inflicted on those who have done nothing to deserve them?

The nations of the world united on October 24, 1945 to provide an answer to this question. On October 24, this year, we celebrate the United Nations Day.

The various specialized agencies of the United Nations—the EPTA, FAO, ECOSOC, ILO, ITU, UNICEF, WHO, spent last year over 19 lakhs on their numerous projects in India. India, also has sent out more than a hundred experts to lesser developed countries. (See page 7).



PLANNING FOR AGRICULTURE Capitalists Against Community Development

SINCE the beginning of this year there has been a degree of anxiety concerning the agricultural prospects of the country and their bearing on basic economic development. This anxiety has been shared at the highest level. Every attempt at thinking through the problem of raising agricultural production is, therefore, to be welcomed. The latest proposals, which have received considerable publicity, are from four leading businessmen and industrialists—Shri B. P. Singh Roy, Shri C. H. Bhabha, Shri B. M. Birla and Shri Tulsidas Kilachand.

The proposals which these industrialists have made, deserve attention, especially because of the underlying assumptions that the Community Development and the National Extension programme should be given up. Instead, what is proposed is that the country should be divided into regional units above the State level. In each State every district should be divided into 35 zones and each zone into 50 villages. Two villages should constitute a unit to be administered by one person to be appointed by the State. The responsibility which now rests with State Governments—agriculture being a State subject—should virtually shift to a Central Minister of Food and Agriculture who will be aided by an Advisory Council of six and will have vast powers to override the State.

The second major set of assumptions concerns the organisation of agriculture. It is proposed that while there should be no cooperative farming at all, individual peasants should join together in units of 100 acres for tractor cultivation and in 10 years' time the country should produce a million tractors. Land policy should be reconsidered, that is, the land reform programmes should be given up. Instead, large-scale mechanised and scientific farming should be developed by providing incentives to individual farmers which, in the nature of things, will be incentives for the larger farmers.

If these proposals had been put forward 10 or 15 years ago, there might have been some excuse for them. They come at a time when the country, having accomplished one Five Year Plan, is working to fulfil a second and is beginning to look ahead to a third. As far back as 1956 the agricultural targets for the second Plan were revised. As against an increase in agricultural production of 17 per cent and in food production of 16 per cent, the revised targets set were 27.8 per cent and 24.6 per cent respectively. These targets form part of a larger perspective of doubl-

ing agricultural production in the course of the next 10 or 15 years. Our aim throughout is to implement these programmes in a co-ordinated manner in all parts of the country.

On the administrative side, the main emphasis is on devising means for reaching every village and every family and mobilising local resources and enthusiasm for increasing agricultural production and raising living standards. New community projects are started as far as possible in areas which have conditions favourable for agricultural development. The greatest stress is placed on building up village institutions, the panchayat and the multi-purpose cooperative. Without enlisting local participation and community effort on the largest scale possible in such programmes as minor irrigation and contour bunding, the agricultural effort of the country cannot fully be developed. Unless there is integrated village planning, the benefits of the various measures taken do not accrue to all sections of the community.

The development of agriculture and of rural areas generally is a vital part of the scheme of democratic national development to which the country stands committed.

Measures of land reform and cooperative development are intended to create the right social, economic and institutional framework for agricultural development. The increase of agricultural production and the raising of the agricultural efficiency have and will have for a long time to come, the first priority in national planning. It is only in a climate of social justice and integrated community development that we can get our people to put in their best.

The major national policies are now well established. The administration and local organisations representing the people have to be strengthened. The people everywhere have to work hard. It is not by substituting capitalistic forms of development without roots in the soil and unrelated to the human and social problems of the people, that success is likely to be achieved. It is by working intensively along the lines which have been already accepted by Parliament and by all the Legislatures of the States that we can hope for substantial gains in agriculture and living standards. At this phase of India's development there can be no place for proposals which mean going back to the capitalist approach, in a sector where the well-being of the masses can be the only guiding principle.

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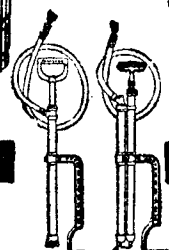


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THE IDEAL VILLAGE

A Blue Print For The India Of Tomorrow

By Dr. RAGHU VIRA M.P.

In general terms one speaks of social justice, equal opportunity for all, non-exploitation of one class by another, and of more equitable distribution of wealth. Automatically, one subscribes to them and still when one approaches a peasant, worker, or a matriculate, one is unable to answer his question: "What is the plan for me, where is my work and my bread?"

A national plan ought to be a framework into which each individual can find his place, into which his life can grow. A national plan which demands sacrifices from a starving humanity, sacrifices for an intangible abstract concept, the nation, or for a remote future, for a new generation of babes yet unborn, cannot develop the people individually and severally. A national plan should be capable of reordering the life of each of its members on a higher plane of existence, the plane of a civilised existence.

Work for All

Psychologically as well as economically the plan should provide for everybody to build and to produce directly to satisfy his own and his family's needs. Everybody's future should be in his own hands, and his hands must have the possibility for supreme endeavour. There should be the maximum of employment. When there is work in all directions, the plan's major objective becomes the employment of every hand, so that whatever can be achieved, is achieved. No human arm should remain limp with idleness.

There is ample backlog of work for all hands, for weeks, months, years and decades.

Decentralisation

Man is an elemental being. He is capable of releasing elemental forces as strong as those of cosmic elements. Under central direction and leadership, maximum decentralization would provide everyman work for himself and his family so that he may start climbing the ladder of his own ascension, so that he may consume more and possess more. In building himself he would be building the nation. There would be complete transfiguration of man and society.

Village Housing

Planning for the individual peasant is where the nation must begin. The peasant's home, his street, his field and his village is to be re-ordered. A properly constructed home, allowing to every person 200 to 300 sq. ft. of covered space in a planned street, would be a proper start for the new life of the peasant. The home shall be the external expression of his new being. It shall not only be his and his family's residence, but also the future repository of his gains and belongings, the seat of his earthly happiness, of his security and well-being. It would replace the dirty, dingy hovels which disfigure the landscape of India. A home with four decent rooms situated in a civilised neighbourhood is the nucleus round which the new developmental age will dawn.

Holdings Must be Increased

Today the peasant owns small fields, many of which are still

fragmented and spread out. The fragmented fields must be integrated without much delay, without much officiousness, and without harrassment. The peasant's possessions of land are small. The number of peasants is large. The economy of the land has to be diversified, so that the number of peasants is reduced and the holdings of those who remain peasants are increased. The average holding of an American farmer is of the order of 250 acres i.e. over 50 times of that of an Indian peasant. The proportion of an American farmer's income is well reflected by the proportion of his holding. The Indian peasant cannot become a compeer of the American farmer with his miserable current holdings.

Fixing a ceiling of 30 acres is fixing a ceiling to the farmer's income and development.

When the fields are integrated, streets will have to be straightened and widened. They would have to be paved and metalled to admit of two-lane traffic. Every house will have to be allotted sufficient space so that the dweller could lead a life of personal freedom and privacy.

Villages Small and Scattered

Villages are small and scattered even on the plains. They are too

small and too far from each other for allowing amenities of civilised life to reach them, one and all. Villages need schools, hospitals, commercial centres, transport, means of recreation. It is our duty to so plan the villages as to make the facilities of town-life available to the peasants, otherwise the inflow from the villages to towns will go on creating slums.

WHAT A VILLAGE SHOULD BE

If we take an area of about 150 sq. miles it would be possible to so plan the villages that ten small units comprising 500 persons are grouped together and formed into one big village of about 5,000. They would not be far removed from their fields. There would be planned streets and schools. Again within this area of 150 sq. miles, 10 or 12 of these big villages could be so juxtaposed that they could have common shopping centres, cinemas and theatres, educational institutions, seed stores and dairy farms, veterinary hospitals and artificial insemination centres, a tractor station, book shops, hardware shops, in fact all that these villages may need. Polytechnic schools and colleges would supply them intellectual and industrial skills. This bigger unit, a fair town of 50 to 60 thousands, would be capable

of providing and sustaining an elevated level of civilised existence. The life of the peasant would no longer be haunted by fear of robbery or by the tyranny of petty police and revenue officials. The land of 5 lakh dilapidated villages will be turned over into a land of five to six thousand orderly towns. The towns would have industries, small, medium and big and thus help in diversifying the pattern of profession. It would be possible to take away people from agriculture more and more into secondary and tertiary sections of economy.

The Ideal

Democracy and Communism, Individualism and Socialism will be harmonized in the service of the common man: The middle way, the traditional way of Indian philosophy, will take the Indian mass to higher heights than would be possible through any other system. There would be consistent co-operation between the farm and the factory, brothers will share in increasing the produce of the farm and working the factories, capital would be spread out, every working hand will be a partner in the creation of wealth as well as possessing it. Those who own the means of production will work not only for their personal gains but for the gains of the people as a whole. Labour will raise its skill and productivity. Class animosities will be lessened because the aim of every class will be the same, the attainment of a common standard for all and sundry. The individual's place will be the core of the nation.

(Continued on page 11)

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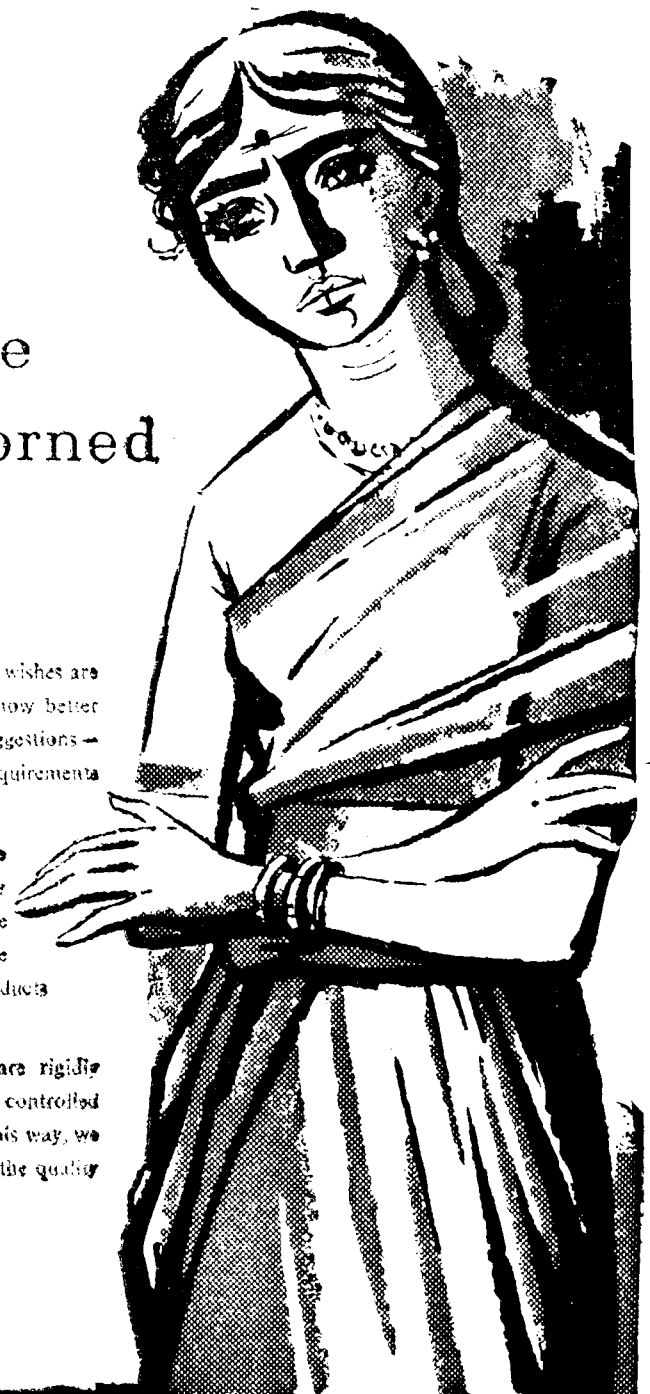
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Gossip

TALKING OF AGE

HERE have been many birthdays at home and abroad recently, reminding us that three score and ten has ceased to be a particularly advanced age.

President Rajendra Prasad, 74, Mr. Radhakrishnan 70, and Pandit Pant 71, all had their birthdays last month, and they all have many more years of activity in them. Prime Minister Nehru who will be seventy next year, recently told us that he doesn't at all feel 69 but he has to believe because of evidence that cannot be disproved.

Of others who turned the seventy mark recently, are T. S. Eliot, the Elder Statesman of letters, and Fenner Brockway who used to be called M.P. for India and is now M.P. for Africa, going ten more than seventy was Epton Sinclair, documentary novelist who has stirred the emotions of countless people outside his own homeland, U.S.A.

Youth today is not as much given to blaming the world's ills on age as in the inter-war years. All statesmen are still old, most bomb-making scientists come from the younger men! That is the reason. For the other, the average age is going up in all countries which have good medical services. And the centre of leadership gravity is shifting upward in terms of age. Today's leaders in America and Russia, for instance, are much older than the men who made the revolution in either land.

The truth about youth and age is that one need not feel old if one has work to do. Sir Winston Churchill abroad and Dr. Karve and Dr. Visvesvaraya at home have demonstrated this to us. On his 98th birthday last month, Dr. Visvesvaraya wanted the country to adopt a twelve-point code of conduct, the substance of which was more work, more honest work and more cheerful work.

These men, the makers of the roads of the mind, have miles to go before they sleep, for they still have promises to keep.

HAMARA HINDUSTAN

NOMINAL CHANGE

BOMBAY'S Mayor recently disposed what a municipal councillor had proposed: that Sparibaugh Road, in the heart of the city's labour area, be named after Nagy, the executed ex-premier of Hungary.

Politics and personalities apart, the incident throws light on our craze for renaming roads.

Let's take the four major cities and see how it has worked out:

Calcutta: Clive Street renamed Netaji Bose Street—not caught on. Central Avenue (northern half) renamed Jatindra Mohan Avenue—the taxi drivers scratch their head. Bow Bazar renamed Bepin Behari Ganguly Road—not

caught on.

Bombay: Hornby Road renamed Dadabhai Naoroji Road—seldom used. Churchgate Street renamed Veer Nariman Road—only in the business advertisements. Marine Drive renamed Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Road—one finds it out. Sandhurst Road renamed Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel Road—used sparingly.

Madras: China Bazar renamed Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Road—not in speech but on signs.

Delhi: Queensway renamed Jan Path—used and liked.

If most of these new names have failed to click, whose fault is it? Does it mean our people do not care for the leaders who moulded them? On the contrary, it merely means that these aids are not required for the respect they have for those illustrious names.

People's lukewarmness for the new names is a clear disapproval of one of our dear national pastimes—that of using the long word where the short would do. Marine Drive is apter and more descriptive of the place than Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Road. The new names stay where they are easier—as with Jan Path.

A little while after the Mahatma's martyrdom, Prime Minister Nehru cautioned us against taking Gandhiji's name too often and using it for roads, squares and public meetings. He called it a very cheap form of memorial requiring no expense or execution. "Most of us will then live in Gandhi Roads, in Gandhinagar and Gandhigrans," he had said.

While renaming places, one decision at least has to be welcomed. The housing colonies that Government has built for its employees

reflected the type of mind that New Delhi produces. Chaprasis had to live in Sevanagar, clerks and the small fry in Vinay Nagar, while the higher and mightier resided in Man Nagar and Shan Nagar.

It was almost like the old days in the railways when 'Females' travelled third, 'Women' travelled Inter and 'Ladies' travelled First and Second.

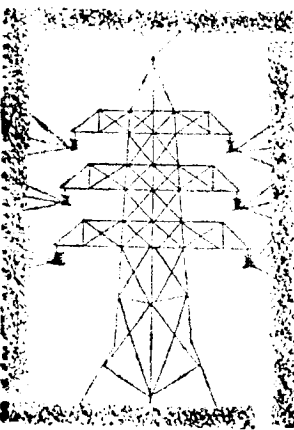
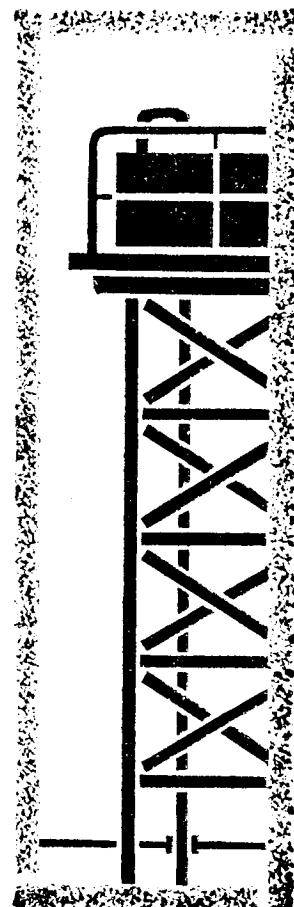
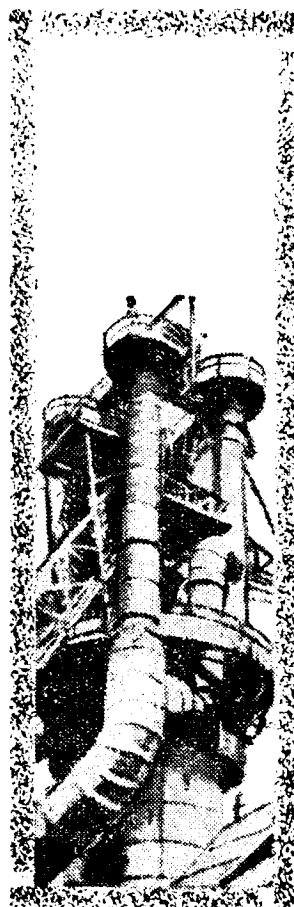
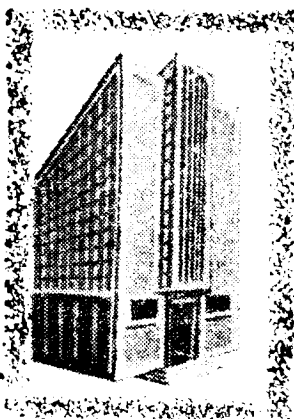
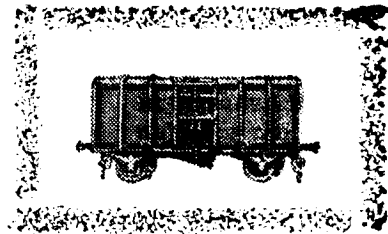
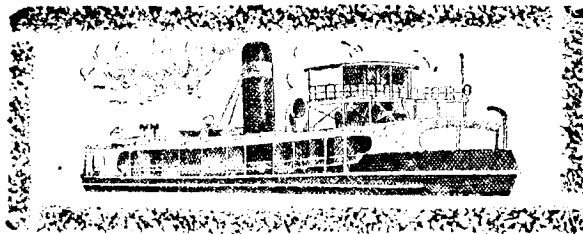
But this official caste system has been happily revised, at least in name. These areas are now to commemorate Kidwai, Ansari, Sarojini Naidu and other leaders of yesterday.

But Delhi has humour in addition to hierarchy. There are roads which are one thing to the man who reads English and another to the man who reads only Hindi. What is Tantia Toppe Marg in Hindi is Magazine Road in English. The Circular Road of English is Gokhale Marg in Hindi. The Chattra Marg in Nagri script is Probyn Road in English. And the two sets of names are in every case inscribed on the same slab.

And for those who do not know, there is a Wall Street in Delhi. Only, it is called Wall Marg.

H. Y. S.

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Glimpses of India

25 VILLAGES BUILT ON COAL Water Under The Lignite Seam To Feed Neyveli Thermal Plant

"JUST a minute. Let me go and put on my shirt." This from Krishnasamy Padayachi, the leader of the village, New Kooraipettai. I had just been introduced to him, a thin griselled old man, with grey hair and an unshaven chin, with just a towel wrapped round his waist. He returned—with a broad smile—in a crumpled new shirt which he must have taken out of his box and a more sizeable dhoti and chappals. And then he showed me round the village, a brand new village, created because its original site, 12 miles away, stands directly above a seam of lignite which will be excavated shortly. The original Kooraipettai where Krishnasamy and the rest of its 3,500 residents had lived for generations untold, will become then simply an anonymous heap of earth and rubble. Kooraipettai is simply the first of some 25 villages which will have to be shifted in this manner in the near future.

The scheme to exploit the lignite estimated to lie in a 100 sq. mile belt in this region of South Arcot district, is known by the now famous name of Neyveli Lignite Project. It is the biggest undertaking in Madras State and one of the biggest in India, due to be completed by 1961-62, at a cost of about 75 crores of rupees.

WHAT IS LIGNITE?

What is lignite? It is an inferior type of coal, brown in colour, light and friable. This southern state is lacking unfortunately in deposits of coal, and almost all its supplies have to be transported from Bengal and Bihar collieries, over 1,000 miles away and naturally at considerable cost. The State's present requirements are about 3 million tons per annum. It is able to get only two-thirds of it.

Moreover, Madras State is developing at a very rapid pace. It is both power and water hungry. The demand is far outstripping the available and potential supplies. Hydel sources are limited and practically exhausted. There are no rivers left to tap. Even now, a power cut ranging from 25 to 50 per cent for nearly four months in the year, has become almost a regular feature in this State, due to inadequate rains and shortage in stored supplies in the reservoirs.

Even in a normal year the deficit in power supply is 66,000 K.Ws. In another ten years the State's requirements are expected to more than double the present demand of 213,000 K. Ws. Where will it come from?

THE BEGINNING OF NEYVELI

Therefore, it has been decided to utilise the Lignite deposits at Neyveli. Investigations have been going on since 1943, the deposits having been 'noticed' somewhat earlier while drilling wells in this region for water supply.

Work on the pilot quarry, however, was started only four years ago. The quality of this lignite, I understand, is one of the best in the world, better than that found in Germany or Australia and the reserves are estimated at a safe 2,000 million tons. They should survive at least four centuries of continuous exploitation.

WHAT NEYVELI AIMS TO DO?

It was in 1955 that the Central Government took over the financial and administrative responsibility of this project. In the following year the 'Neyveli Lignite Corporation (Private) Ltd.' was

By KUSUM NAIR

constituted as an autonomous but an entirely government concern and an integrated scheme for development was finalised. It contemplates mining 3½ million tons of lignite per annum. This will be processed and utilised to generate electricity, the installed capacity of the Thermal Power Station being 250,000K.W. A Fertiliser plant to manufacture precious urea with a nitrogen content of 70,000 tons per annum, will also be set up—it will be one of the largest in the world. Besides, the briquetting and carbonising of some of the lignite would yield 380,000 tons of carbonised briquet-

tes, 43,000 tons of char dust, 6,400 tons of motor spirit, 51,300 tons of tar and 1,032 tons of phenol—all very valuable for various industrial purposes. The carbonised briquettes will furnish a useful smokeless fuel, ideal for domestic 'chulas' as well as for industrial plants. There is also excellent China clay close to and above the surface of the lignite. It will in any case have to be removed during the mining operations. It will be used for the manufacture of insulators, refractories, pipes and crockery etc.

SCENE AT THE MINING SITE

Already what was till recently a vast stretch of slightly undulating land, harsh and dry with only a scanty scrub growth, extremely backward, poor and sparsely populated, is now splattered over with huge and latest machinery,

new buildings and tremendous activity in an atmosphere of high pressure urgency. Where there were only small clusters of small earthen thatch-roofed huts, there are now giant erection sheds, huge cranes, loaders, shovels, dumper trucks, bulldozers and of course the inevitable jeep, constantly on the move working a double shift. The third shift is at night and is devoted entirely to maintenance, when all the machinery is carefully washed and serviced.

Progress

Till the 1st of last April, 3.6 mil-

lion cubic yards of the upper soil had been removed with the assistance of these machines—no manual labour. Whatever the figure may mean, the spoil heap as it is called looks like a sizeable hill already and nearly ten times the quantity has yet to be excavated and piled up on the same heap before the first seam of lignite is reached, nearly 180 feet below the surface.

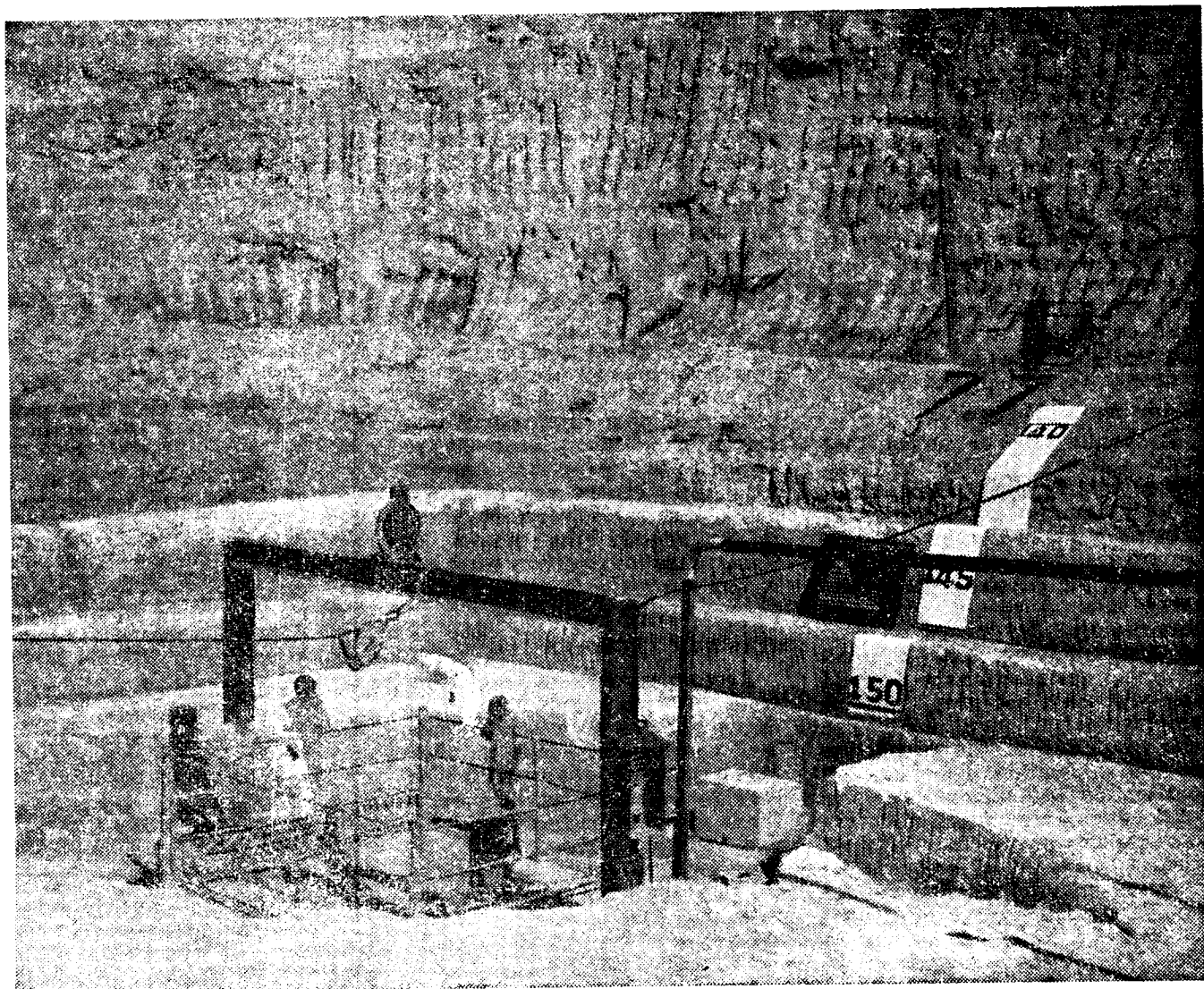
Method

The mining is to be done by the open cast method which means the entire top crust above the lignite will have to be removed. Work on the first mine cut has already commenced. It looks like a huge amphitheatre 6,100 feet by 950 feet in three steps. The exposed surface is not black as in the coal mining areas, but a beautiful delicate pink and yellow with streaks of purple. The actual mining operation will also be totally mechanised and conducted with Bucket Wheel Excavators, Slewable Spreaders and Belt Conveyors. They will dig and convey the lignite to the factory—all in a single continuous operation.

Water Under The Coal

Fortunately or unfortunately, directly under the lignite is also an artesian basin of water. If a hole of about 235 feet is bored a huge stream of water will rush out to the surface automatically. Surrounding fields are being presently irrigated by such artesian

(Continued on page 13)



The Pilot Project: This pit was dug first to find out the nature of lignite available at Neyveli.

INDIA'S RURAL ECONOMY (IV)

Cooperation In Every Sphere

By TARLOK SINGH

THE doubt is often expressed whether the pooling of small holdings into large co-operative units may further accentuate the problem of rural employment. To put forward the plea that the larger units will merely involve the throwing out of surplus labour leading to a condition worse than that of disguised unemployment is to assume an altogether static picture. In theory, it was always clear that if manpower resources could be pooled, they could be put to a variety of tasks not previously undertaken, provided food supply and credit to meet the wages bill were available. The experience of China since the organisation of agrarian co-operatives has provided conclusive practical proof of this fact.

Manpower Resources

It will be readily agreed that on the whole in Indian agriculture manpower resources are not employed intensively. In part, this is due to the dependence on rainfall, the small size of holdings, excessive numbers on land and the character of the seasons. In part also this is due to the fact that where agriculture is undertaken through small peasant holdings, it is extraordinarily difficult to organise the use of manpower resources in the common interest of the community as a whole. This has been one of the main reasons for the small success achieved in the minor irrigation programmes of the past decade. It is true that even with individual farming, given village planning and an expanding community effort, there is scope for better use of the local manpower resources and all possible steps in this direction are to be supported. It should be stressed, however, that in a predominantly agricultural economy in which there is heavy pressure on land, the maximum use of manpower resources cannot be achieved within the existing system of agriculture. In relation to the development of the national economy, this is another way of saying that by far the most important resource available to the country will remain under-utilised so long as the greater part of agriculture is not organised along co-operative lines. Thus, the rate at which village planning and co-operative farming develop will determine in a substantial degree the rate at which the economy as a whole develops.

Using Rural Manpower

It should also be added that with village planning and co-operative farming, the community assumes an obligation to provide work to everyone willing to work. This creates both a pressure for bringing into existence new forms of work and services and the means, as part of area planning and national planning, for meeting the demand for new work opportunities. Full employment of rural manpower and reduction in the proportion of the population dependent on cultivation are difficult aims to achieve even under the most favourable circumstances. Without the organisation of co-operative farming and the development of co-operative village management as part of a wider scheme of area planning, these goals are not merely distant but are beyond the capacity of the rural economy to achieve.

Co-operative Marketing

The third important aspect of the institutional framework of the rural economy concerns the organisation of rural trade, marketing and processing. Over the years a system comprising markets for foodgrains and other crops, traders and commission agents and entrepreneurs owning processing plants has come into existence in all parts of the country. As with the prevailing system of agriculture, these institutions are also frequently accepted as lasting and inevitable. There is little doubt that in their time these institutions have served to expand the economy of rural areas. In large part, however, they have now out-lived their period of services and need to pass through a process of radical change along with the agricultural economy itself. In a co-operative rural economy there would not only be an increasing degree of co-operative cultivation but also an increasing degree of marketing of agricultural produce, distribution in rural areas and processing of agricultural commodities would be undertaken through co-operative organisations.

Co-ops Can Control Prices

In point of sequence and significance it is even more urgent to complete the transfer of the bulk of trade and processing activity from individual into co-operative hands in the course of the next decade than it is to complete the transformation of agriculture from the individual to the co-operative basis. This priority arises from several factors of which the three most important are the management of the food problem in the interest of steady economic development, the problem of rural credit and the maintenance of stable agricultural prices. In recent years, one of the principal areas in which there has been a wide gap between what was intended in the Plans and what occurred in practice is that of agricultural price policy. It is now clear that the development of co-operative marketing, distribution and processing are essential no less in the interest of the rural community than in the interest of the national economy as a whole. Another aspect deserving of mention is that a co-operative rural economy in which the profits of trade and industry belong to the rural population (as in Yugoslavia) is likely to provide to them the means for the expansion of education and social services which it is beyond the power of Government budgets to establish to any adequate degree for many years to come.

GAPS IN INCOMES

Recent studies of migration from rural to urban areas have shown that as at present organised rural society fails to offer adequate work opportunities either to unskilled workers or to those who have education, skills and ambition. The latter therefore tend to move into towns. To an extent this must affect the rate of economic progress in rural areas. Although the statistical data available are meagre, it is fairly apparent that as industrial development proceeds the gap between urban and rural incomes

is likely to widen further and more rapidly. In the existing rural economy there are no factors at work which will counteract this trend. An expanding rural economy should provide not only for larger employment opportunities but also for a fair proportion of jobs at income levels which are at least comparable, after allowing for rural living conditions, with those in urban areas. A planned rural economy organised on co-operative lines alone can meet this test.

Co-operatives—The Only

Answer

The main programmes of development which are now under way bear directly or indirectly on the major problems which have been briefly discussed above. Thus, it is the aim of agricultural production, irrigation and rural industry and other technical programmes to raise productivity, promote intensive agriculture and expand work opportunities. To achieve these goals, on the one hand, the network of extension services is being strengthened and, on the other, an attempt is being made, specially in community project areas, to build up representative institutions. The various technical programmes will be further improved as it is widely recognised that their full

potential by way of increased production and employment is not yet being realised.

The main weaknesses at present lie in the fields of land reform and co-operation. In the case of land reform, these are related to the partial fulfilment of tasks set out in the second Plan. In the case of co-operation, however, the objectives set out in the Plan need to be greatly enlarged and made more concrete and what will amount to a new and more dynamic plan formulated. In particular, the transformation of the rural economy through agrarian co-operatives and the organisation of co-operative marketing, distribution and processing, should now be placed right at the centre of the national plan. Such transformation involves the setting up of new units as well as the progressive conversion of existing units and existing business from individual to co-operative basis. Programmes of co-operative development on these lines, supported by effective land reform and technical programmes, are calculated to make a direct attack on the fundamental problems of the rural economy. In this respect the efforts now under way fall short of the minimum requirements in speed and intensity of action.

(Concluded)

PERMANENT REGULAR COMMISSION GRADUATES COURSE JULY 1959. MILITARY COLLEGE, DEHRA DUN

Applications are invited for Permanent Regular Commissions in the Corps of Engineers, Signals and Electrical and Mechanical Engineers and the Army Educational Corps for the course commencing in July 1959.

AGE LIMITS:— (a) For Engrs/Sigs/EME—Candidate must have been born not earlier than 2nd July 1932 and not later than 1st July 1939. (b) For AEC—Candidate must have been born not earlier than 2nd July 1932 and not later than 1st July 1936.

MINIMUM EDUCATIONAL QUALIFICATIONS:— (a) Engrs, Signals, EME—(i) A degree/diploma in Civil, Electrical, Mechanical or Telecommunication Engineering recognized by the Institution of Engineers (India) in exemption of passing their Associate Membership Examination, OR (ii) Any other degree or diploma in Electrical, Mechanical, Civil and Telecommunication Engineering recognized by the Ministry of Education for recruitment to superior posts under Central Government. OR (iii) M.Sc. (Tech) in Radio Engineering and Electronics of College of Science and Technology, CALCUTTA. OR (iv) Diploma in Electronics (DMIT) of MADRAS Institute of Technology, MADRAS. (b) Army Educational Corps—(i) An M.A./M.Sc. degree of a recognized University in first and second division in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and English plus a degree/diploma in teaching; OR (ii) An M.A./M.Sc. degree of a recognized University in first and second division in Physics, Chemistry, Mathematics and English with at least 3 years' experience of teaching in a Higher Secondary School/College/University.

NOTE:— Candidates who have appeared or intend to appear at an examination the passing of which would render them eligible may also apply.

SELECTION, TRAINING AND COMMISSIONING:— Eligible candidates will be interviewed by a Services Selection Board. Selected candidates will undergo a one-year course at the MILITARY COLLEGE, DEHRA DUN, on successful completion of which they will be granted a regular commission in the rank of Second Lieutenant. Those who are graduates in Engineering may be granted provisional Short Service Regular Commission for the period of their training, on completion of which they will be granted a Permanent Regular Commission, and an ante-date of approximately two years in accordance with the prescribed rules.

APPROXIMATE NUMBER OF VACANCIES

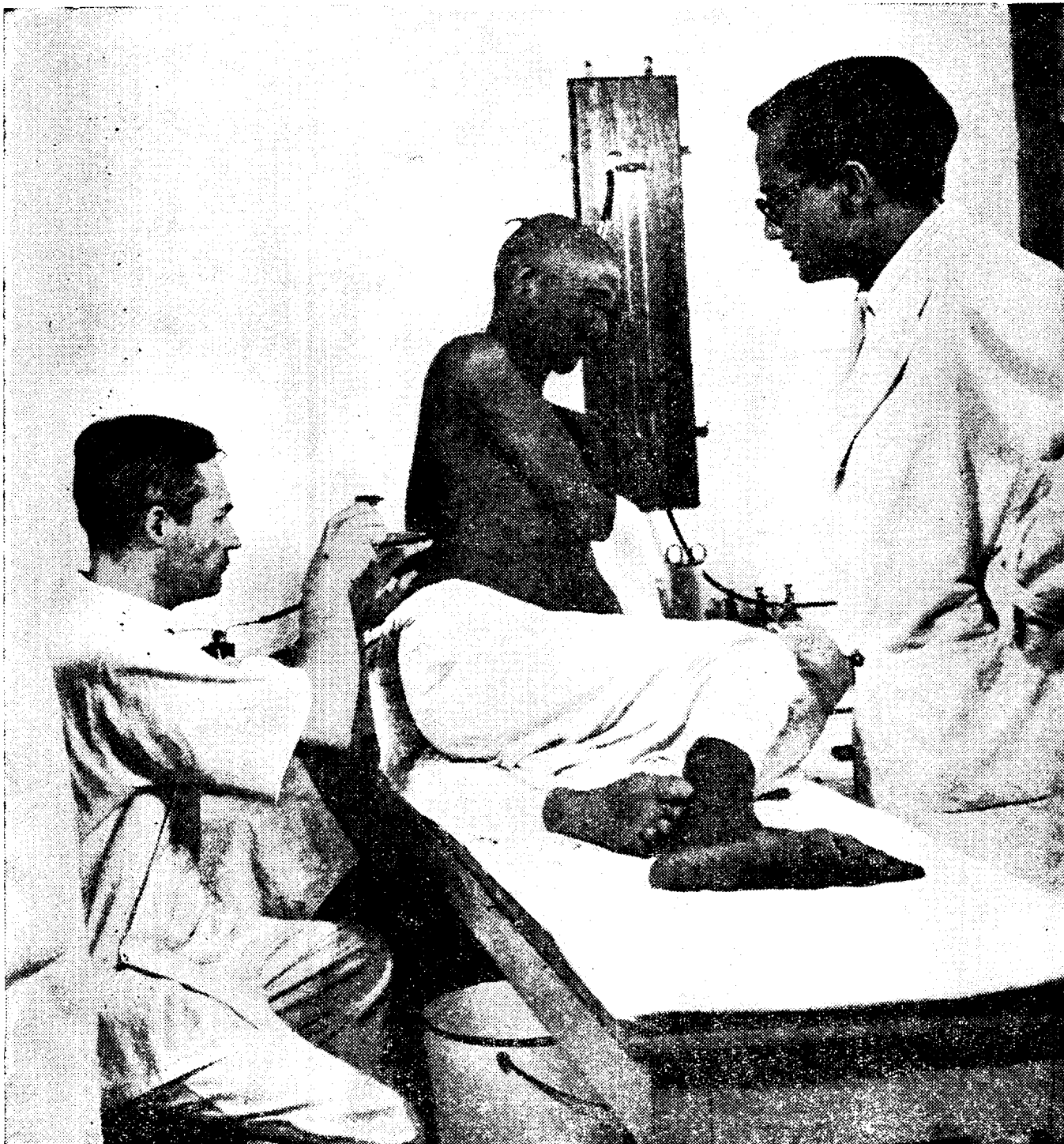
(a) Corps of Engineers	48
(b) Corps of Signals	7
(c) Corps of Electrical and Mechanical Engineering	32
(d) Army Educational Corps	7

Application form and full particulars can be had free on application from ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Adjutant General's Branch, ORG 6(SP) (b) DHQ PO NEW DELHI-11.

LAST DATE FOR RECEIPT OF APPLICATIONS

For candidates residing in India	28th November, 1958
For candidates in the employ of Government	29th December, 1958
For candidates residing abroad	23rd January, 1959

DA-58/228



WHO equipment helps to treat Indian T.B. patient.

United Nations Role In India's Development Plan

INDIA is engaged in a gigantic effort for raising the standard of living of her people. With her years of backlog, it is obvious that this effort cannot yield results speedily enough to be effective, if India were to be left to her own resources. Co-operation from countries with more developed economy is essential for the success of India's economic plan.

Fortunately for us, the post-World War II period seems to have developed into one of international economic co-operation, despite the many political tensions that exist today. In line with this development, India has the benefit of a variety of aids in implementing her economic plans.

There is a feeling today, shared also by India, that all international economic assistance should be channelled through the United Nations, so that it may escape the limitations of real or suspected political overtones which a bilateral aid can hardly escape. In this context, the United Nations' Technical Assistance Programme, acquires special significance.

U.N. AIDS TO INDIA

United Nations' assistance is received by India through several means.

First, the aid given by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) which is for the specific purpose of child and mother

welfare and to a certain extent public health.

Secondly, regular programmes of technical assistance of the United Nations and its specialized agencies like the World Health Organization (WHO), Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and others. EPTA's *raison d'être* is to try to bridge the gulf between the well-to-do countries and nations which remain underdeveloped.

EPTA

The United Nations General Assembly approved an ECOSOC resolution in December 1949 which initiated an *Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance* and established a Technical Assistance Board to run it. Here were defined not only the objectives of the programme but also its principles. It is important to emphasize here that EPTA came in addition to the work being done by the U.N. and the specialized agencies under their own budgets. The regular programmes thus continue to function.

With the launching of EPTA all the governments which were members either of the U.N. or any of its seven specialized agencies were invited to make voluntary contributions to a special account. These Specialized Agencies are:

- Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
- International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO)
- International Labour Organization (ILO)
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
- World Health Organization (WHO)
- World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

The following table gives details of the assistance provided to India under EPTA in 1957:

	Total Project Costs	No. of Experts	No. of Fellows	Equipment and Supplies
UNTA	698,660	22	76	311,878
ITU	1,850	1	—	—
ILO	100,212	10	15	16,361
FAO	413,444	43	8	49,870
UNESCO	308,953	25	6	82,721
ICAO	12,231	2	1	—
WHO	371,263	35	21	80,595
Country Total	1,906,613	138	127	499,425

The Economic and Social Council of the United Nations took care to insure that EPTA aid would be completely above suspicion. It was laid down, for instance, that assistance would be rendered only at the request of the governments concerned.

The United Nations and several of the specialized agencies mentioned above share in the funds available each year to operate jointly the Expanded Programme of Technical Assistance. The United Nations has created its own Technical Assistance Administration (UNTA) within the Secretariat, and each of the participating agencies has made arrangements to plan and carry out the projects that fall within its field of competence.

Now we come to the details of actual fields in which India received United Nations technical assistance and the extent to which this aid was given.

U.N. Aid in 1957

Taking the year 1957, for which detailed figures are available, we see that India received the largest share of EPTA aid. The total spent on India under the Expanded Programme amounted to \$1,906,613 (approximately Rs. 90,79,290) representing the cost of 138 experts working in India, 127 fellows sent abroad and about \$50,000 (Rs. 2,38,100) worth of equipment provided. The implementation of the programme was the responsibility of seven participating agencies. The U.N. Technical Assistance Administration had for its share 35 per cent; FAO 22 per cent; WHO 19 per cent; UNESCO 16 per cent; ILO 6 per cent; and ICAO and ITU the remaining 2 per cent.

But India herself has been an outstanding partner in the worldwide operations of the Expanded Programme. This country has been the foremost example of the two-way flow of skills and experience. India's 1957 contribution to the Special Account was \$500,000. She also spent \$239,993 last year towards the local living expenses of the experts. In 1957, one hundred Indian experts were working in some 25 countries. Besides India has also played host to more than 500 fellows since the inception of the programme.

SUNFED

What of the future? A resolution passed by the last General Assembly recognized EPTA "proven effectiveness" in promoting economic development. But it also realized its limitations.

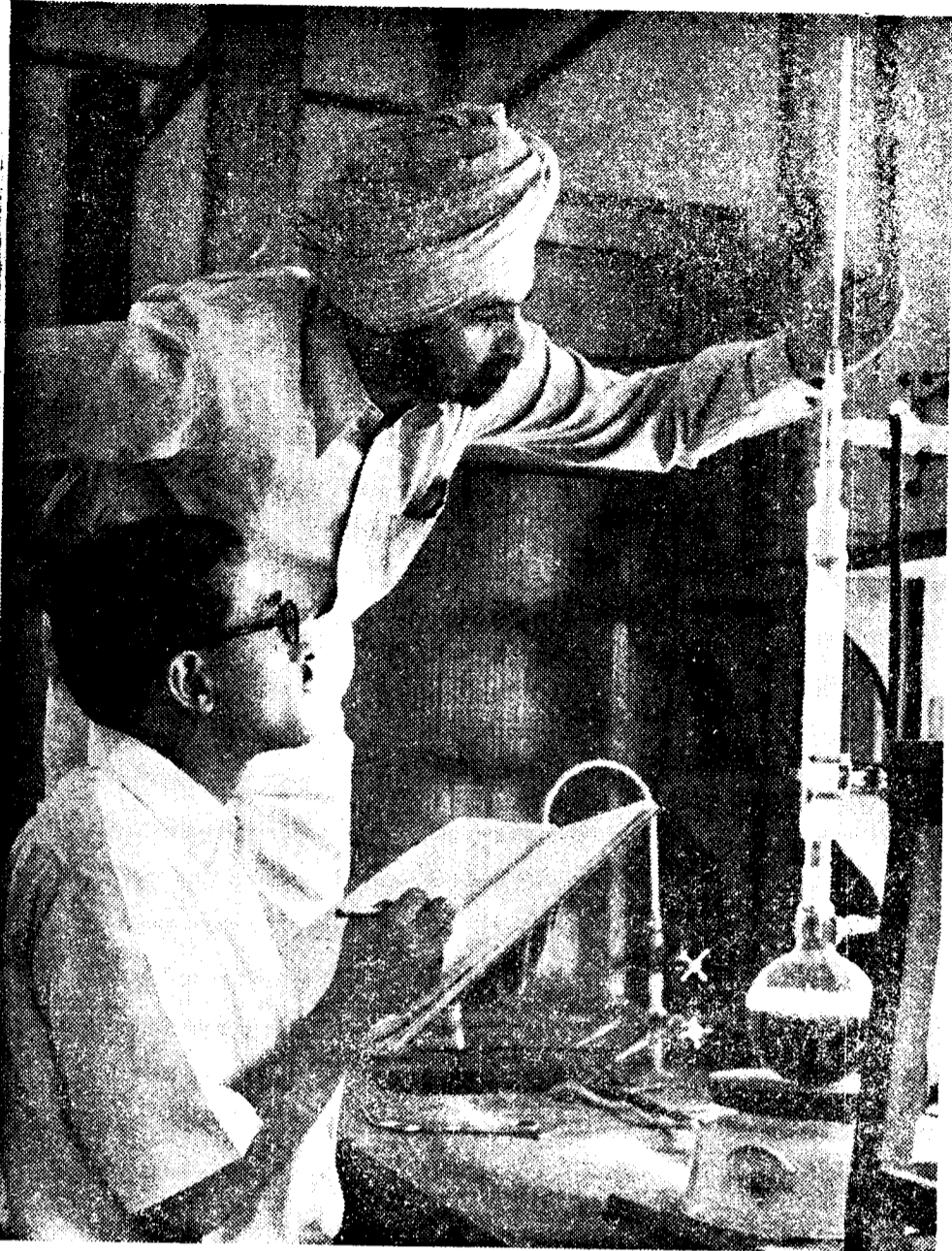
It therefore decided, subject to certain basic conditions, to establish a Special United Nations Fund for Economic Development to "provide systematic and sustained assistance in fields essential to the integrated technical, economic and social development

The Special Fund is a logical development of the ideas that prompted the U.N. Charter, the Regular Programmes of the U.N. and the specialized agencies and EPTA. The Special Fund must succeed, as EPTA has succeeded. With the realization that more

(Expressed in US Dollars)

everywhere have the right to a reasonable share of life's joys and comforts comes the urgency of work for the ideal. The world cannot be split into a prosperous half and a poor half.

(Contributed)



D.D.T. Plant in India (UNTAA)



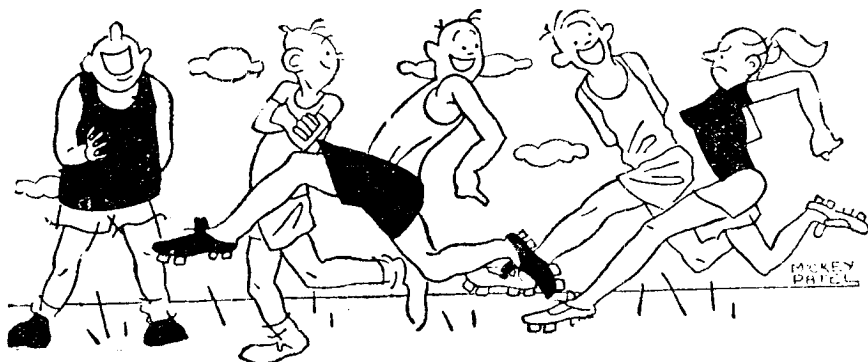
Raising better rice in Burma (FAO)

United Nations Helps Humanity



Minimising the risk of war, United Nations Emergency Force—Indian, Danish and Swedish Contingents serve as the World Peace Force.

(Continued from page 3)



Miss New Delhi In Delhi University

By PROMILLA LALL

A COLLEGE girl has many problems, ranging from transport difficulties to 'Going Steady' trouble.

Actually, transport is as big a problem for men students as for us. Since chivalry died a natural death, boys simply force their way into the buses, sometimes knocking girls over. But this is the least of our troubles.

The majority of students in the Delhi University are dependent on the D.T.U. for transport. The D.T.U. is at the best of times a bad business; we wait for hours for buses to come. When at last they do turn up they are so overcrowded that, either they don't stop, or just one or two people are allowed to get in. And of course the girls don't stand the ghost of a chance. The boys push us out and get in.

I mentioned this to some boys, and one of them said, "You girls keep harping on equality between the sexes, and you also expect to be treated like delicate pieces of china; we get up for old people and women carrying small children, not for healthy young girls." I mentioned it to a girl friend. She remarked that she didn't know why we kept demanding equality, "women are superior," she said, "mentally. Physically we are the weaker sex and expect respect, courtesy and good-manners."

The most serious objection to travelling by public buses is the enormous waste of time for those who live in New Delhi. Sometimes three or four hours are wasted in travel. This is outrageous. And when we do finally get home, we are so exhausted, that it is impossible to do any work.

In a co-educational institution, where there is an overwhelming majority of boys, a girl has a hard time adjusting herself and learning how to face remarks both admiring and rude, the stares, the jeers and the teasing.

A friend of mine from one of

the other co-ed. colleges was telling me that there was absolutely no sense of delicacy or respect shown to the girls. 'It is so awful to walk into a class where there are about fifteen boys to one girl, and to know that every male eye is on you, and every male tongue is getting ready to say something,' she said. Of course there are advantages too. In these co-ed. institutions girls learn how to conduct themselves naturally in male company, and there is none of the awkwardness and embarrassment that girls from purely women's colleges suffer.

Colleges for women only do have some scope for sport, but there is little chance of improving a game one is interested in. Most of us who are really keen on games, develop our talent outside college.

Another serious problem is that our Universities have not yet learnt to treat us like young growing women. We have left the school-girl stage behind. We are young women going to college, not merely to get a B.A. degree as an added qualification in the marriage market, (though alas this still too often counts).

A great many of us want to learn how to think for ourselves, to learn how to stand on our feet, to build our characters into a solid something and not a submissive waiting to be ruled over by a husband as we are by our parents.

If only College authorities would see this, and realize that we are no longer children, but growing men and women, and want to be treated as such, there would be no strikes and unpleasantness.

Rebellion among students, and especially girls, is wrong. It goes against the grain to be antagonistic to people so much superior in learning and knowledge, people who teach us, and do their best for us. But teachers must move with the times, or else trouble is inevitable.



effort. All major and expensive projects will play an ancillary role, and will become more important as they supply the means for achieving the objectives of the individual's plans.

The planners of the first and second Five Year Plans have promised a doubling of the individual's income after 27 years. That is something which will inspire no people. There is so much unutilised energy in the country that the tempo of development must be quicker. It would be possible only when the individuals are turned into so many centres of development leading to advancement in a geometric progression. India is lagging behind by 150 years. This time-lag has to be made up. The inertia and the dissatisfaction, lowly fatalism and wallowing in mud must be replaced by action and joy of achievement. The masses will consume more food, more clothing and their demands for numerous goods will create a new climate for developing industries.

Unemployment will go. There will be no special measures necessary to fight it.

Irrigation

Before starting on this vast venture on the gigantic scale that is offered by 360 millions of humanity and 12 lakhs of sq. miles, the country has to fulfill its agricultural requirements, so that its surpluses will feed the growing population and advancing industries. The greatest need of India's agriculture is proper irrigation, getting over the tyrannies of droughts and floods. Happily the solution of water problem is labour intensive. India does not have to depend too much on foreign exchange. India has already in hand several projects of major irrigation works. Their waters are not yet fully utilised. High taxes and betterment levies are standing in the way of the parched fields to quench their thirst of centuries. Let the taxes and levies be waived aside for the time being.

Besides the major irrigation projects it is the minor irrigation works that will serve the vast majority of the peasants. The investment is small and the results are attainable within a few months. Desilting of old tanks, digging of wells, harnessing of rain waters that flow through rivulets, will keep the villages busy. Each peasant will be doing something which he understands to be for his good and whose benefits he can reap within the same year. Minor irrigation works are the first great need of India's agriculture.

Together with irrigation, good seeds, better implements, improved cattle, better utilization of green manure and the use of chemical fertilizers will all go to doubling and trebling of our farm products. Seed farms, manufacturing implements and fertilizers and improving the breeds of cattle will be in urgent demand.

Planned villages will need the immediate construction of pucca homes and roads. Their employment potential, again, is enormous.

Building of homes and roads needs a rapid development of house-building industries, iron, coal, cement and road vehicles.

Most of the above requirements will be met by domestic finance and by the utilisation of unutilised energy. India will have to

learn to build her machines herself. Our dependence on imports will be limited to the value of our exports.

The present machinery of administration is not constructed for achievement. Vast changes will have to be introduced in administration which will have to be simplified and activated in the new direction. The qualifications for retrenchment will not be mainly academical but such as may be termed to be the qualifications of leadership, integrity, organisation and achievement.

The laws of the land will also have to be reviewed and remodelled. The system of taxation, relations of labour and capital as well as the system of education will have a different aim than they have now. It will be the aim of all of them to help the development of India's millions to a richer, happier and healthier life, ever progressing so that one day, and that within a generation, India takes her place of pride and equality among the first rank of nations.

OVER 4 LAKH GRAM SAHAYAKS TRAINED

MORE than 4,38,000 Gram Sahayaks were trained at 9,475 camps held in blocks all over the country during nine months ending June 1958 under the programme of training of Gram Sahayaks (i.e. functional village leaders) which was launched on October 2, 1957. The tempo of the training programme increased perceptibly, during July, August and September, and it is hoped that when the final figures of the Gram Sahayaks trained during these three months are also received, the target of training of about one million Gram Sahayaks in the agricultural group of subjects would be nearer achievement.

Ever since the programme was launched on October 2, 1957, large numbers of villagers have been coming forward to attend these 3-day special camps of about 50 villagers in each Gram Sevaks' circle.

The largest number of Gram Sahayaks trained during the nine months of the programme came from Bihar, which accounted for 93,107 Gram Sahayaks, followed by Uttar Pradesh, which trained 76,886 Gram Sahayaks, Bombay 55,412, Andhra Pradesh 46,281, Madhya Pradesh 36,904, Punjab 31,270, Madras 21,925, Orissa 20,533, Assam 13,675, Kerala 11,894, Rajasthan 10,516, Mysore 9,507, West Bengal 8,240, Delhi 802, Tripura 774, Himachal Pradesh 422, N.E.F.A. 111, and Pondicherry 296.

In terms of percentage of performance in regard to achieving the targets of holding the camps, Bihar led with 88%, followed by Assam 81%, Uttar Pradesh 76% Bombay and Punjab 74%, Andhra Pradesh 70%, Madhya Pradesh 59% and Kerala 50%.

ANNOUNCEMENT

The last date for sending entries to YOJANA Photographic Competition has been extended up to November 1, 1958.

Please address your entries to the Editor, YOJANA, Old Secretariat, Delhi-8.

For more details about the contest, please refer to the previous issue of Yojana.

Twelve Annas And One Naya Paisa

By ALI ABBAS HUSAINI

SUDHIR took up his pen to write. What he wanted to write he had not yet thought out. He started writing—just to start thinking.

He was keen to write something. He had to do so, that was the only way out. But what should he write? Should it be a romantic story? Where was romance to be found in these hard days? This was the age of the unbalanced, unhealthy, dry-as-bone youths and maids with muddy water rather than honest human blood in their veins. The young men these days have neither guts nor 'go,' neither ambition, nor enthusiasm, neither genuine urges, nor honest desires, neither spontaneous smiles nor whole-hearted laughter. Where is one to find romance then?

What then is a story writer to do? Take up realism? Well, that would mean depicting one's own life. But how long is one to shed tears and wash his dirty linen before the public? Human dignity can stand no more. Then what is new there? Who is it whose happiness is not based on sorrow? Who is it that does not bear the scars of life? Who is it whose sparkling laughter does not hide underneath its gold-dust, smouldering embers of abiding grief? Indeed, sorrow is the orbit upon which the whole cosmos revolves. It is the web and woof out of which the sable cloth of life is woven.

What was then Sudhir to write, and what was there for him to write about? His wife had been ill since last night. The illness was hard to diagnose. She had neither cough, nor fever, neither a wound, nor a boil. She had woken him up in the middle of the night and asked him to cover her up with the rug. He had done so automatically. He was too befuddled with sleep to pay any attention to her moans later. He had been running about the whole day from one part of the city to another in search of a job—unemployment is the most taxing work in the world. It had tired him out too thoroughly for him to care about anything. He slept like a log all through the night. But in the morning when he got up he found Manorma lying in the bed with her eyes wide open. She could neither get up, nor could she tell him what ailed her. When she tried to say something, there was a gurgling sound and no more; when she tried to climb out of bed, her limbs shook, her clothes rustled and that was all.

He had immediately rushed out of the house to seek assistance. But he did not go far. He could not call a doctor; he had no money to pay costly fees. A non-charging Hakeem was available in the neighbourhood. Sudhir managed to fetch him.

The physician said Manorma had had a heart attack in the night, and the profuse perspiration due to the heavy rug, had made her extremely weak. He had insisted that the patient should not be moved at all, should lie stretched straight on her back, should be given fruit juice and milk at once and the medicine every two hours. The prescription he had written was a costly one and included powders of gold, musk and pearls. Sudhir had no money to get such a prescription made.

He had told Manorma that he

would hurry back with the medicine. But he stood rooted in the parlour. Where was he to get the money for the medicine? He turned all pockets of his patched pants inside out and all the change he could assemble amounted to twelve annas and one Naya Paisa. He gripped the coins hard in his fist and began to walk like a caged beast.

His eyes suddenly caught sight of the painting hanging on the wall. An artist friend had presented it to him. Undoubtedly

of the world passed through his mind pushing and jostling each other like a crowd in a food-queue. But none of them satisfied him. No one answered the question: Why should man be allowed to remain in need of the necessities of life? Why should not the State plan and provide for each citizen? Why should any person, male, female or child go begging for mere necessities from birth till death?

And he suddenly realised that he himself was entering into the



"The saintly Mother of Jesus with the Heavenly Child."

Ramesh was a great artist; he had the genius and the ability to beautify the world with great paintings. But where was he now? He had been shut up in a jail. He had begun taking part in politics and had been caught preaching violence. "But why should an artist indulge in politics?" muttered Sudhir and unknowingly went on gazing at the painting.

The saintly Mother of Jesus was sitting on a cot with the Heavenly Child in her lap. The Mother's drawn face showed unfathomable weariness—as though the Mother had been carrying a back-breaking burden all her life and had kept on trudging and trudging till she had reached the goal and then had fallen down exhausted. Sapped of all strength she could not move even her little finger.... Then he thought of Manorma!

Suddenly a tortuous question flashed through his mind. "Who and what sustained Mary?" This bewildering query went reverberating across the wide stretches of his mind and he fell into a chair with his head in his hands. All the answers supplied by the great thinkers and philosophers

forbidden realm of politics. He shook his head and muttered: "The artist and the writer must not meddle with politics."

He drew a sheet of paper towards him, took up the pen and he started writing just to start thinking. He felt he must write something. But what was he to write and how? His Manorma had been ailing since last night. She was in the verge of a collapse. Her heart was sinking and her pulse was very faint. And all the money that he had, amounted to twelve annas and one Naya Paisa.

He opened his left fist. The palm was wet with perspiration and the little coins too had acquired a coating of moisture. He felt nauseated and sick. These dust-coated coins were handled by all kinds of people—filthy beggars, the lame, the blind, the maimed, the lepers! Even the scavengers touch them, rub them and sometimes even lick them! This thought utterly horrified the Brahmin in Sudhir. He shook all over and threw the coins on the table. He felt as if a dip in the Ganges had become necessary

and he stood up hurriedly. But after the very first step, he reversed his decision. One could not do without money.

He remembered that these very coins jingle in silken pockets and scented purses; glittering jewels and romantic presents are bought with them and luxurious palaces and beautiful Taj Mahals are erected due to them. One can purchase with them virtue or vice, even gods and consciences. They are the real capitalists and dictators. They are the Armada, the Iron curtain and the East and West Asia Policy! And.... and these very coins enable one to purchase medicine, the powerful antidote that defies death, the nectar that could save Manorma who had been lying a-bed since last night, motionless, speechless, just gazing at him with her narcissus-like eyes. Ah! those dumb pitiful eyes reproaching him, still pleading: "Save me! Oh, save me. Snatch me away from the iron hands of Yama. You are my man, healthy, stout and strong. Surely, you can save my life!"

A tearing pain went through him like a knife. He looked at the coins with burning eyes—twelve annas and one Naya Paisa. He put his cheek on them and his shoulders shook with dry sobs. After a while he raised his head slowly, pulled the sheet of paper towards him and began to write without thinking. He had to write something worth while and take it to some journal immediately and beg for cash payment. That was the only way out, his hope, his beacon, his light in this Stygian darkness.

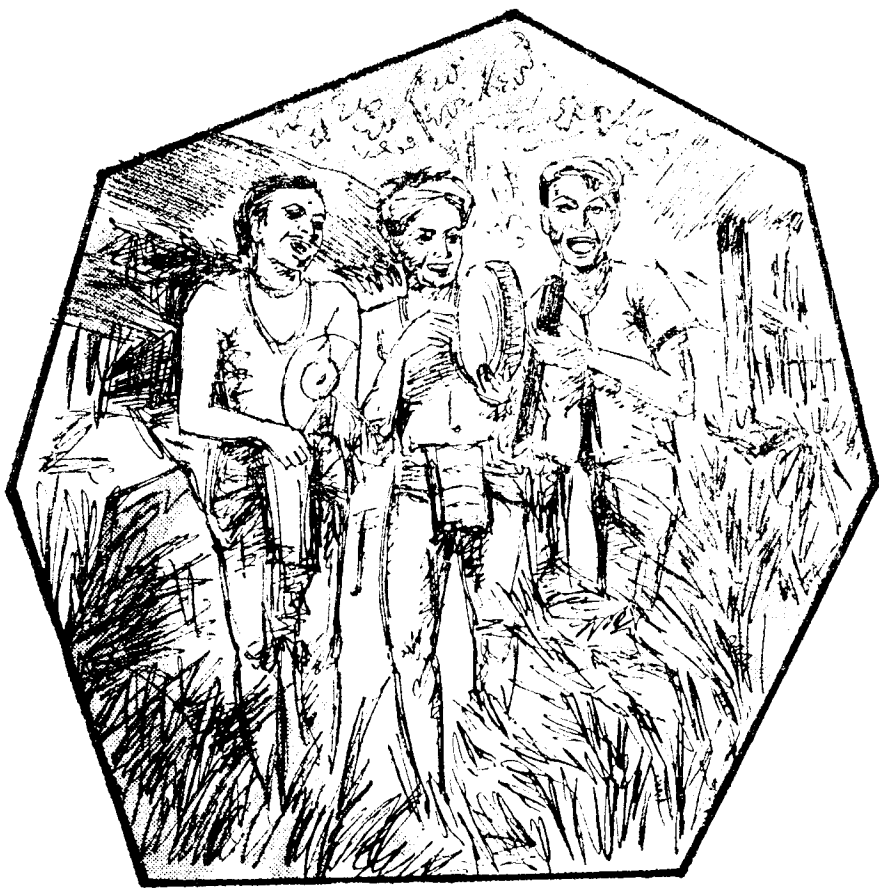
And he started writing just to start thinking.... just to start thinking....

His pen wrote: "Mohan is unemployed," and then it stopped with a squeak. He began to think "Is unemployment really a curse?" Most of the rich and the idle consider it the greatest bliss. They eat and sleep, chatter and frolic, gamble and drink, go sightseeing or take a trip round the world, flirt with and seduce each other's wives, sisters, and daughters. They make a fetish of indulgences, worship carnal desires as a diety and fear only satiety and old age. And these people are proud that they are unemployed and that they seek no jobs that may chafe their hands.

No, no, that certainly was not the word for Mohan. He crossed the word 'unemployed' and put down the word 'Poor' in its place. And immediately he looked at the sentence "Mohan is poor" with a horrified eye and shuddered. He crossed out the whole sentence but he could not take away his eyes from it. Unreasonably, he felt afraid of this crossed out sentence, as if he had unknowingly uncovered the snake-charmer's basket and a number of the wriggling, hissing snakes had come out with stretched hoods and forked tongues and were trying to strike at him. He instinctively recoiled and pushed back his chair. With protruding eyes he again read the sentence: "Mohan is poor."

This single word 'Poor' looked like an ant-hill or a Khyber Pass. A great caravan of the hungry and the naked was coming out of its mouth, each leaning like a crumbling mud wall, ready to fall down, to be smashed and crushed, to become a dung hill of carrion which was to be picked clean by vultures, or was left to rot and to bleach and to become part of the dust from which it had sprung.

(Continued on page 15)



The Warlis

By RAMA MEHTA

THE Warlis live in the north eastern part of Thana district. They are also found in the Portuguese territory of Daman, and in Dharampur. The name Warli is derived from their profession, which is to collect Waral—brushwood—in the hilly districts. They are a very dark people with scanty growth of hair (all Warlis wear a tuft of hair on their heads). Men usually wear loin cloths, small waistcoats and turbans. The women are laden with glass bangles and are fond of adorning themselves.

Although the Warlis are an agricultural people, they have not lost the love of the forests and their villages are usually scattered around the outskirts of jungles. They are a daring people and do not hesitate to live in huts near their fields far away from the village.

A Warli hut is always square and faces eastwards. It has only one door and no windows for air or light. It is made of bamboos, dried leaves and plastered with cowdung.

The Warlis are divided into numerous clans descended from the same ancestor. This creates a blood relationship between the members of the same clan, and all marriages within the same clan are taboo. Members of the clan are not known by their particular name, but by the name of the clan.

A Warli family unit is made up by a man, his wife and the children. Every time there is a marriage, a new household is established; there is no such thing as a Warli joint family living under the same roof. Though they live separately, very often they eat together.

Most minor disputes are settled by the village Panchayats. The Warlis also have another institution called the *Jatela*, which is the tribal court. The *Jatela* judges matters affecting the individual vis-a-vis the tribe. The *Jatela* not only administers justice, but also carries out purification

rites that may be considered necessary for an individual before he is readmitted into the tribal fold. The post of the *Jatela* is hereditary passing from father to son.

Naramdev, the god of rain, is the pre-eminent god of the Warli tribe and a special ceremony is held to worship him in the month of February. The Warlis believe that he is seen at night in human form riding on a white bullock. Himay is a female deity and is worshipped only by women. The Warli gods are generally of stone or carved on wood planks.

The Warlis have great belief in witchcraft. The witches of a village form an association and select their leader. For their new recruits, they pick out young unmarried girls and instruct them in the craft. To counteract the effect of witches, a village is fortified by the *Bhagat*. The *Bhagat* knows all the evil charms of the witches, and can undo their effect through counter charms. Only a *Bhagat* can detect a witch and when she is found out she is given a merciless beating. The *Bhagat* has a place of great importance in the Warli community as he is in addition a doctor. A *Bhagat* in his turn trains four to five boys under the age of twelve every year.

A 'Warli' marriage ceremony is performed by a woman and never by a man. A marriage is a contract and not a sacrament. A marriage is accompanied with much feasting, merry-making and drinking of toddy. By the custom of Jharor, a man can marry a girl without paying a bride price by offering his services to her father for a period for which he marries the girl. Divorce is permitted and it follows the same pattern as elsewhere where the bride price is paid. A divorce is pronounced by a simple ceremony when a small stick is broken into two.

The Warlis are still very backward. Drink and indolence have made them a very wretched one. Steps are being taken to wean them away from liquor. With better agriculture, economic conditions will improve.

Parliament And The Plan

THE Plan debate in Rajya Sabha served further to elucidate the points made by the Planning Minister in the Lok Sabha. Shri Nanda gave a list of the achievements which is fairly impressive by itself. In some particulars it suggests that the achievements of the first three years of the second Plan are almost equal to the five years' improvement in the first Plan. But the Minister agreed that keeping the targets of the second Plan in view, much more effort is required.

In his opening speech, Shri Nanda made, among others, the following points:

Basic Condition

The second Plan had mentioned certain basic pre-conditions for its success such as increase in agricultural production, continued external aid to fill the gap, stable price level and efficiency of administration. These pre-conditions have not been fulfilled. Our success depends on the measure in which we can and will fulfil these conditions.

The achievements of the first three years were not much as compared to the targets but "solid and considerable" by themselves.

Industrial Sector

Some schemes have been deferred. Other schemes have been taken up; for example, heavy machinery project, bigger foundry and forge project, the mining machinery project, the optical glass project and certain essential drugs projects. Moreover Plan targets for mineral oils, plastic moulding powders, rubber manufactures and rayon and staple fibres will be exceeded. Shortfalls in aluminium and nitrogenous fertilizers are a cause of concern but the overall progress is "something to be proud of, despite shortfalls."

Agriculture

There was a setback in agriculture due to unfavourable weather conditions. Target for the first three years of the Plan was to add production potential of 7 million tons i.e. equal to the total addition of the first Plan. From major and minor irrigation schemes the targets for the first three years amounted to 6 million tons against which anticipated benefits amounted to 4 million. Lack of utilisation is regrettable. Allocation for agriculture was being increased from Rs. 170 crores to Rs. 200 crores and for minor irrigation works from Rs. 66 crores to Rs. 72 crores. When the targets for the States were raised, they were assured that additional funds would be given. Programmes will not be allowed to suffer for want of resources, provided administration does its job in community development areas and for building up panchayats and co-operatives in full measure.

Rise in Cost Estimates

Shri Nanda gave three reasons for rise in cost estimates: (1) some estimates were not finalised when the Plan was drafted; (2) rise in prices in countries from where India got equipment (Price index in U.K. rose from 99 in 1954 to 110 in 1957; in U.S.A. index for exports increased from 99 to 107. Price of steel has gone up by 12 per cent); (3) freight rates have also increased.

External Aid

Foreign aid covered only 10 per cent of public sector requirements

in the first two years of the Plan. We need more now.

Efficiency

"At all levels there is need for greater supervision, more attention to the training of personnel, continuous review and evaluation and to co-ordination and team work," said Shri Nanda.

Members' Views

Shri Nanda's speech was followed by that of Shri Bhupesh Gupta (Comm.—West Bengal) who declared unless there was a reversal of the policies "it will be the end of the Plan." Targets will not be realised, national income will not go up, unemployment situation will grow worse and prices will get out of control."

Dr. H. N. Kunzru (Ind.—U.P.) referred to the foreign exchange required for the Plan and said that in addition to the total available foreign exchange resources amounting to Rs. 1,455 crores, a gap of Rs. 560 crores was indicated. The total would therefore come up to Rs. 2,015 crores but only Rs. 1,700 crores had been mentioned in the reappraisal. Regarding employment, Dr. Kunzru said, "Shall we be wrong in supposing that with a shortfall of a little more than Rs. 100 crores in the private sector (according to the Commission's Memorandum) the employment would be further reduced by another half a million?"

Shri Nanda's Reply

In his reply, Shri Nanda repeated that the responsibility for the merits and the defects of the Plan does not lie on the Planning Commission or the Government alone, it also lies on the Parliament which had discussed it fully. Among other things, Shri Nanda also spoke about:

Decentralisation

While there should be larger decentralisation in regard to implementation, planning itself had to be done at one centre.

Cottage Industry

Cottage industry might give greater employment but it would not be such as to give the person concerned two square meals a day.

Heavy Industry

As compared to cottage industry, heavy industry might today absorb more resources and give less employment but it will enable us to develop the whole industrial structure which will give us more employment later.

Employment

Industry by itself had been given only a small place in the increased employment potential. The entire industrial sector was to provide 7.5 lakh jobs out of which 2.5 lakhs were accounted for by minerals. How could there be a shortfall of 4 to 5 lakh jobs in employment potential because of shortfall in the private sector alone? (Shri Kunzru's point).

Foreign Exchange

The foreign exchange gap in the Plan was probably nearer the figure given by Dr. Kunzru than Rs. 17,00 crores quoted in the official document.

IMPORTS AND FOREIGN GRIP

"As long as what we import and what we use is essential and of high priority, and is used on giving us good returns and dividends in terms of progress and development of the country.... what we incur today in the form of debts, reduces our dependence on foreign sources later, provided we make the best use of it."

NEYVELI

(Continued from page 5)

wells. There is danger therefore that while mining the lignite, this water will break through and flood the mines. There is no impermeable barrier of sufficient thickness below the lignite belt to withstand the pressure that would be exerted on the base of the lignite after the removal of the overburden.

It was this factor which made the conventional underground method of mining impractical. And so several powerful pumps have been installed on the site and they have to pump out water day and night to lower it to a safer level. This occurrence of artesian water with lignite is unique in the world. Here however, the water would be most useful. It will be stored in an artificial lake and it will feed the requirements of the Thermal Plant and the Fertiliser and other factories. But for it, the thermal station could not have been situated here. There is no other local source of perennial water supply.

The Incharge

In charge of all these complex operations is Shri A. Srinivasan, the Deputy General Manager, Technical. Fifty-three years old, he is an experienced engineer and obviously an excellent and sincere administrator with drive and initiative.

THE NEW TOWNSHIP

Apart from the project itself, a brand new township is rising as well, to house about 10,000 people. As is the practice now, it is well laid out, according to plan, on the neighbourhood principle. Only

the casual unskilled labour, used largely for the making of roads and buildings etc., is, as is usual everywhere in India, uncared for. They have themselves built small —by small I mean minute—huts of leaves, thatch, or just anything they could get hold of, on some pieces of waste land. While the parents work, their children with matted hair and round hungry eyes stand around under the trees with only the pariah dogs for company. Earthen pots lie scattered around. This is so because these are not permanent employees. Residential accommodation is provided by the Corporation only for the latter. But is the presumption underlying the attitude and policy which expects these people to exist and work in these conditions justifiable on any grounds—especially in the context of an expenditure of 75 crores of rupees? Would it be extended to any other class of people — however temporarily they may come to lend a hand to the project? I do not believe so.

THE MEETING OF THE CENTURIES.

What will be the impact of this project? Quite apart from the obvious economic benefits—the electricity and the new industries and so on, it should transform, the entire face of the surrounding area and of its people. At present the most primitive and the most modern of the midtwentieth century are so just juxtaposed here and the contrast is overwhelming. The two will gradually coalesce in a few years time, I hope, and when I revisit New Kooraiyettai I am sure Krishnasamy Padayachi will not be found without his shirt at any time.

BIRDS & TREES

THE DARTER

This is a large black water-bird with a long snaky neck and spearlike beak. The throat and neck are white. The beak is brownish black; the lower half of it being yellow. The darter is found all over the plains of India. It frequents fresh water, whether lakes or rivers or ponds. You will not find this bird near the



sea. It is a fairly social bird with fondness for the company of darters and cormorants.

These birds look ungainly when they start flying, but high up in the air they appear graceful. Their 'song' is a harsh disyllabic croak.

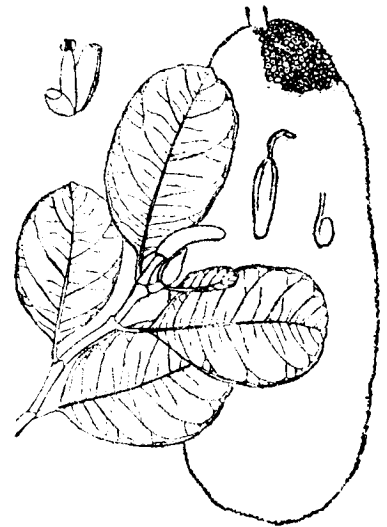
The breeding season is between January and February or June to August. The birds build colonies of nests and the same nests are used, year after year. The eggs, usually four in a clutch, are pale greenish blue, and in shape an elongated oval.

JACK FRUIT—KATHAL

The Kathal is a large evergreen tree. Its bark is dark brown and covered with

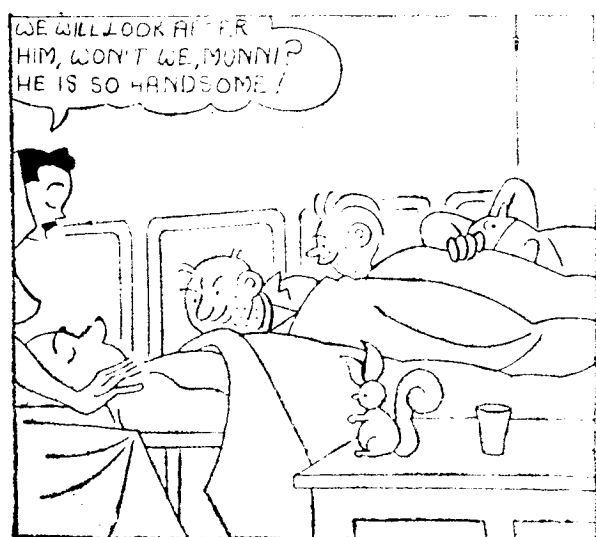
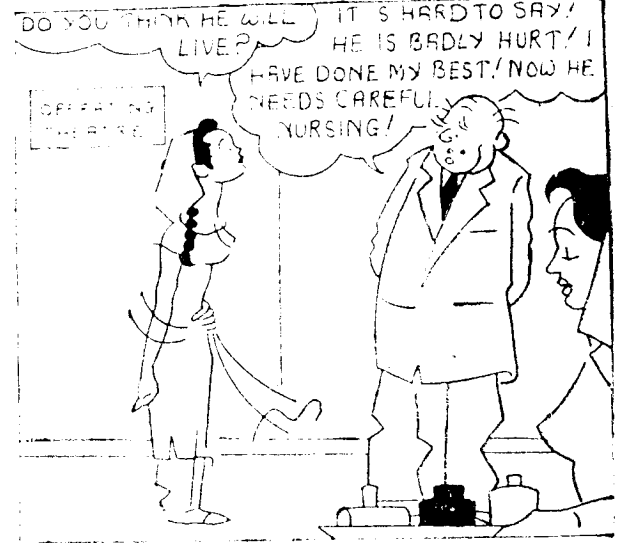
rough warts. The leaves are smooth and a shining dark green on top and pale and leathery below. The flowers are minute and are closely packed into a cylindrical structure about two inches long. The fruit is very large and is covered with rough conical points. Very often the fruit weighs as much as 30 seers. The fruit, when unripe, is cooked as a vegetable. When ripe, it is very sweet and, though a favourite, is rather difficult to digest. The seeds are roasted and eaten and also used for cooking. The timber is good. It yellows with age. The wood pulp is used for extracting a yellow dye.

The tree is sensitive to frost and thrives best in a warm humid climate. Consequently we find them planted in large numbers in south India and Bengal. The name Jack fruit is an early Dutch corrupted form of the Malayalam 'chakka'. Its Latin name is *Artocarpus Integrifolia*.



NEEMA AND HER PET

—By Mickey Patel



TO BE CONTINUED

News from the STATES

BIHAR

A Blast Furnace at TISCO.

On October 10, 1958, Tata Iron and Steel Company's new blast furnace, said to be one of the largest in the world, went into commission at Jamshedpur. The 'blowing in' ceremony was assisted by Mr. Ramhara Aheer, the oldest employee among the operating crew of the furnace. This furnace built at a cost of Rs. 7 crores as an important part of TISCO's scheme to double its output from one to two million tons.



Work on this project started in December 1955. Tata Steel will now have six blast furnaces ranging in capacity from 1,000 to 1,500 tons per day.

On October 11, 1958, a new blast furnace with a capacity of 1,200 tons of pig iron per day was 'blown in' at the Indian Iron and Steel Company's works in Burnpur (Asansol). This will bring up the company's total annual production to 1.3 million tons. The furnace was constructed at an estimated cost of Rs. 3 crores.

Sindri Earns 3½ crores

The Sindri Fertilizers and Chemicals has made a gross profit of Rs. 3,52,11,246 in 1957-58, according to the company's annual report.

The report says the total production of ammonium sulphate during the year was 332,031 tons against the target of 330,000 tons. A record production of 32,891 tons was achieved during December 1957.

The fertilizer despatches to the various States during the year totalled 3,29,829 tons. Sindri's Rs. 13-crore expansion scheme for the production of 70 tons per day of urea and 400 tons per day of double salt is nearing completion.

The technical training scheme has made further progress. 70 engineering graduate apprentices and 63 trade apprentices were under training during the year.

BOMBAY

Acharya Bhave's Ideal Village

Acharya Vinoba Bhave told the kisan leaders of Surat district recently that an ideal gramdan village was one which had a population of about 2,000 and made its own laws. This village should be a self-sufficient unit in all matters and should have attained gram swarajya. Such perfect units would lead to perfection of the country, he said.

Acharya Bhave said the idea of the ownership of land was something alien to India. Land had always belonged to all. Replying to the criticism that gramdan tended to abolish individual ownership of land which alone could increase food production, he said what was essential for higher production was a sense of responsibility and not merely ownership which often bred quarrels.



KASHMIR

Irrigation and Roads

In spite of natural calamities, the State has achieved over 60 per cent of targets set for the first two years of the Plan so far as irrigation schemes are concerned. It is learnt that two major irrigation projects which will cost Rs. 9 crores and Rs. 1.11 crores respectively have been drawn up to provide water to the Kandi areas (dry belt) of Jammu. The schemes have been sent to the Central Water and Power Commission for approval.



It is hoped that the Kishtwar and the Sudh Mahadev Chinai road in Jammu province will be opened to jeep traffic before the end of the current financial year. Half of the first road has already been completed and opened to large areas of Jammu province which are famous for sapphire mines, saffron, and forests. The road will link Kishtwar town with the Jammu-Srinagar highway at Batote, 78 miles from Jammu.

Drug Industry.

The Soviet Experts Delegation which is touring India to advise the Union Government on the manufacture of drugs has recommended that Kashmir is quite

suitable for establishing a drug industry, particularly of herbal drugs, and antibiotics. The Soviet Delegation visited numerous drug farms in the State, and the State-owned Drug Research Laboratory at Jammu. This laboratory makes a net annual profit of Rs. 8 lakhs from the sale of drugs.

Kashmir offers excellent facilities for the promotion of drug industry. The State has over 2,000 acres of scientifically run drug farms.

UTTAR PRADESH.

Development Of Eastern U.P.

Five schemes of agricultural development for Eastern U.P. will be started during the current financial year at a cost of Rs. 40 lakhs. These schemes which are to be completed by 1961 are a part of the overall scheme of the development for Eastern U.P. which will cost Rs. 7,53,51,000.

These schemes seek to solve the

main problems of these districts which are: floods, droughts and unemployment.



will be introduced particularly of the pre-monsoon and post-monsoon variety.

4,000 Old Men.

It may be remembered that the U.P. Government introduced an age old pension for all the persons above 70 years of age in the State. It is learnt that at present 4,000 persons in the State are getting this pension. About 50 per cent of the pensioners are women. About 75 per cent of the pensioners have only to look after themselves. The State Government has distributed 10,000 booklets to explain this scheme because many old people do not know about it.

IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF YOJANA

1. Exclusive article on Food and Agriculture by V. T. Krishnamachari, Deputy Chairman, Planning Commission.
2. Socialist Pattern of Society by Sunil Guha.
3. Short Story by G. D. Khosla.
4. Glimpses of India by Kusum Nair.

Who wants

more food ?

My wish is to assist in raising this country's food production from its present level so low that we have to buy abroad.

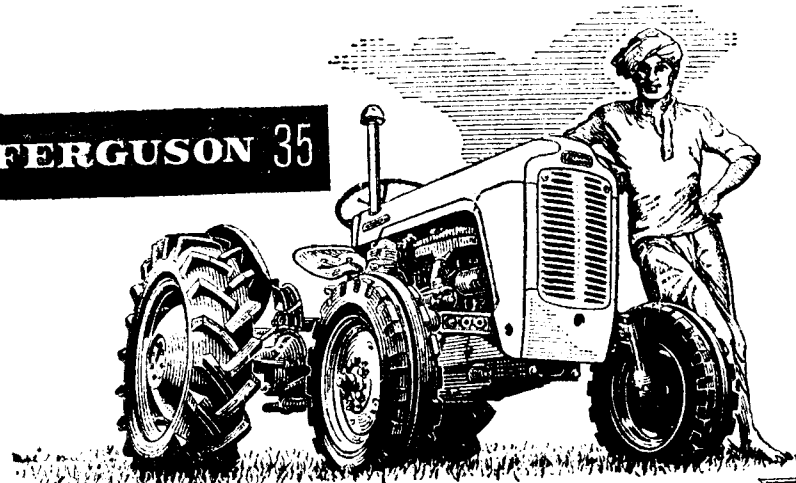
The extent to which I can help is very often not realised—it certainly is not realised enough.

Whether it is wheat or rice—gram or grass—sugar or groundnuts—whatever it is, only I can reliably and economically:

- Have the soil ready for the rains or water,
- Prepare the best tilth to suit the crop,
- Sow quickly and well on the right day,
- Give the crop attention whilst it grows,
- Harvest at the right time,
- Do, in time, all those never-ending duties such as agricultural haulage, soil conservation, water distribution and so on which mean the difference between shortage and enough.

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INDIA—BANK—I.F.C.

THE International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (often called the World Bank), the International Monetary Fund and the International Finance Corporation held their annual meeting in New Delhi early this month.

Each of these, in its own way, seeks to assist the economic development of member countries and so raise the living standards of the peoples of the world. The World Bank provides long-term assistance to its members to help them build the foundations of economic growth. The International Monetary Fund helps member nations to find practical solutions to their short-term foreign exchange problems. The International Finance Corporation, which deals only with private business, is designed to further economic development by encouraging the growth of private enterprise in the developing areas of the world.

The World Bank was founded at the Economic Conference held at Bretton Woods in July 1944—when the Second World War was still on—with the immediate purpose of helping post-war reconstruction in Europe. Later in 1948, when Europe was clearly on the way to full economic recovery, the Bank turned to lending for development, an increasing proportion of its funds being directed to the less developed areas of the World.

The Bank is an international cooperative organisation associated with the United Nations as a specialised agency. Membership consists of the Governments of 67 countries, each subscribing to the Bank's capital stock in accordance with its economic strength. The Bank may lend to member Governments, Governmental agencies or private enterprises; if the borrower is not a Government, the guarantee of the member Government concerned is required for the loan.

World Bank loans (average term: 15 years) are made and must be repaid in currencies other than that of the borrowing country. Before making a loan, therefore, the Bank investigates not only the borrower's position in terms of its own local currency but also the country's foreign exchange situation. Approximately one-third of the Bank's development lending has been for electric power, another third for transport improvement, and the rest for agriculture and industry.

Besides making loans, the Bank renders to its members a wide variety of technical assistance, ranging from full-scale economic surveys of development potential to regional investigations or advice on particular subjects. The Bank has also been called upon to contribute its good offices toward the settlement of international economic problems. Examples: the sharing of the Indus Basin waters between India and Pakistan, and settlement of the compensation to be paid by Egypt for the nationalisation of the Suez canal.

While long-term development loans are available from the World Bank, short-term foreign exchange difficulties of member countries can be met by the International Monetary Fund. The Fund, also a product of the Bretton Woods Conference, is an association of nations that have undertaken to promote international monetary cooperation and the expansion of world trade.

The Fund maintains a pool of currency made up of contributions from member nations. From this pool a member—paying with its own currency—can purchase foreign exchange to meet any temporary payments difficulty. Three to five years later, the member must repurchase its own currency (minus any portion of it which in the meantime has been bought by another member) with gold or with currencies which are readily convertible. The Fund thus maintains a desirable level of currencies of all members so that these resources are constantly available to the members for their short-term needs of foreign exchange.

Through consultation with its members, the Fund applies an international code of conduct in the field of foreign exchange. The Fund, upon request, also provides expert technicians to advise and assist members in working out their financial and monetary problems.

Unlike the World Bank and the Monetary Fund, the International Finance Corporation (formed a little over two years ago) deals directly with private business without Government intervention and finances only private enterprises. The Corporation's purpose is to further economic development in its less developed member countries by investing—without Government guarantee—in productive private enterprises in association with private capital and management.

It does not invest in undertakings which are Government owned and operated or in the management of which the Government participates to any significant extent. But an enterprise in which some public funds have been invested is not necessarily ruled out if it is essentially private in character. The Corporation invests only in the less developed areas—Africa, Asia, the Middle East, Australia, Latin America and a few special areas of Europe.

R. R. A.



Our Poetic Heritage

PERIALWAR

Yashoda's Appeal To The Moon

HE rolls round in the dust, so that the jewel
On his brow keeps swinging, and his waist-bells tinkle!
Oh, look at my son Govinda's play, big Moon
If thou hast eyes in thy face—and then, be gone!

MY little one, precious to me as nectar, my blessing
Is calling thee, pointing, with his little hands! O big Moon
If thou wishest to play with this little black one,
Hide not thyself in the clouds, but come rejoicing!

DESPISE him not because he is a child;
He is the little one who of old slept on the banyan leaf!
If he be wroth, he will rise up and leap on thee and seize thee;
Disregard not my lord, big Moon, but run hither joyously!

SCORN not my lion whelp as a little one;
Go ask King Bali of his youthful prowess
If thou recognisest thy despising him as a fault full Moon,
Even thou wilt be fit to be his slave!

SEE how he calls thee, my Lord, who filled his hands
Full from the pot, and gorged himself with ghee!
There is no doubt that he will slay thee with his discus,
So if thou wouldst live, run hither joyously!

Perialwar is one of the earliest alwars (philosophic poets) of the Vaishnav movement in Tamil Nad. He lived in the early tenth century and was a contemporary of the great Shaivite saint, Sambandar. The Tirumoli and Tirupallandu are two of his major poetic works, which form, to this day, part of the ritual and prayers at the Temple of Srirangam. Another well known work of his is the description of the forty Vaishnava Temples in India. His daughter Andal (according to legendary belief she was none other than the Goddess Lakshmi) composed the hymn sequences Nachiyar Tirumoli and Tirupavai.

Twelve Annas And One Naya Paisa

(Continued from page 10)

He was horrified at the phantoms that one single word evoked. He shut his eyes and crossed the sentence again and again blindly. But he could not shake off the sight of Manorma's pitiful eyes that looked out of the bars thus formed.

He looked at his hands with horror, as if he expected them to be dripping with blood. He then grit his teeth and gripped the pen hard like a spear. He drew several lines across the word 'Poor'—from side to side and up and down—that forced the word to lie under a net of squares—squares made of innumerable tiny crosses. But 'Poor' being thus crucified became still more terrifying. He looked this way and that as if he was seeking a way of deliverance, a way of escape from the pursuit of this terrible word. Finding all exits closed, he trembled all over again. He then bent down and began to scratch this spectre with his dirty

long nail. He did this so vehemently and forcefully that he scratched right through the paper. And the two 'oes' of the word 'Poor' became two eyes, lustreless, dim with tears, the doe-like eyes of Manorma, still beseeching, still waiting, waiting..

He was galvanised into action. He had to get her medicine somehow, anyhow. He stood up and snatched the coins lying on the table in a pile. He counted them again. There was no change—they amounted to twelve annas and one Naya Paisa. Perhaps he had unreasonably hoped that they would be miraculously increased to hundreds and thousands, at least sufficient enough to pay for Manorma's treatment. But even that much of a tiny miracle was denied to him! A surge of wild rage went through him. He closed his fist tight over the coins and putting it inside his pant's pocket, started for the door. He had hardly taken a step

when he heard a noise, the quaking, tumbling sound made by the fall of a human body and he rushed into the bed-room.

Manorma had, with her last desperate effort, thrown herself from the cot to the floor and lay quite dead there. Blood had come out of her pursed-up lips and cut a vermilion channel across her dimpled chin and lotus-like neck to the soft chest that had cushioned his weary head many a night.

Sudhir's tear-dimmed eyes could not but see the fresh red line underneath the scratched, the mutilated and crucified word 'Poor'. And suddenly he bent down and with great care he began to place the twelve annas and one Naya Paisa on the trickle of blood which ran from her chin to chest. He covered as much of it as he could and then he stood up and laughed; but to the neighbours rushing in, it sounded more like a whimper.

(Translated from Urdu by A. A. Husaini).

