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HIMMAT

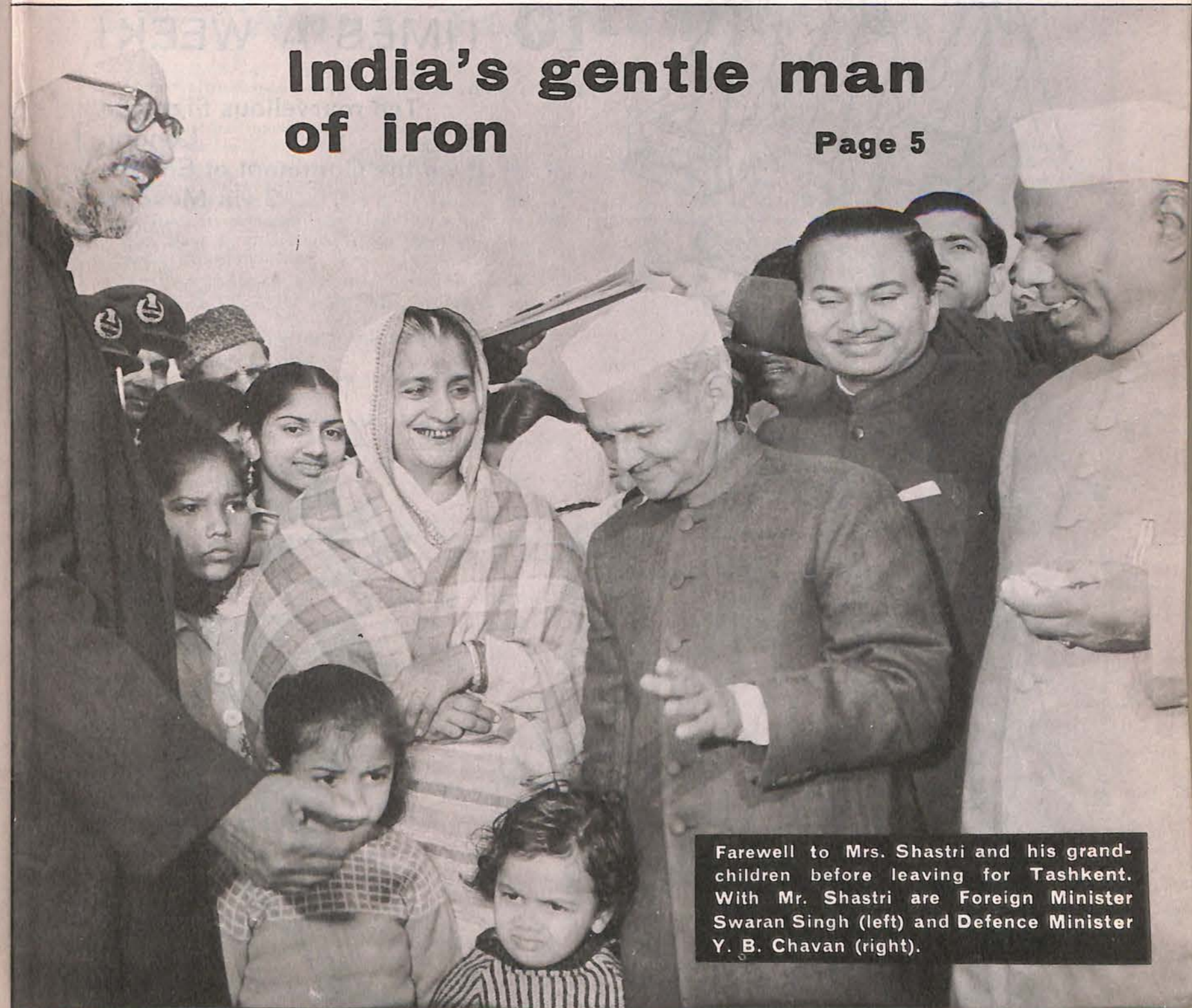
25P

Asia's new voice

WEEKLY

India's gentle man of iron

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Farewell to Mrs. Shastri and his grand-children before leaving for Tashkent. With Mr. Shastri are Foreign Minister Swaran Singh (left) and Defence Minister Y. B. Chavan (right).

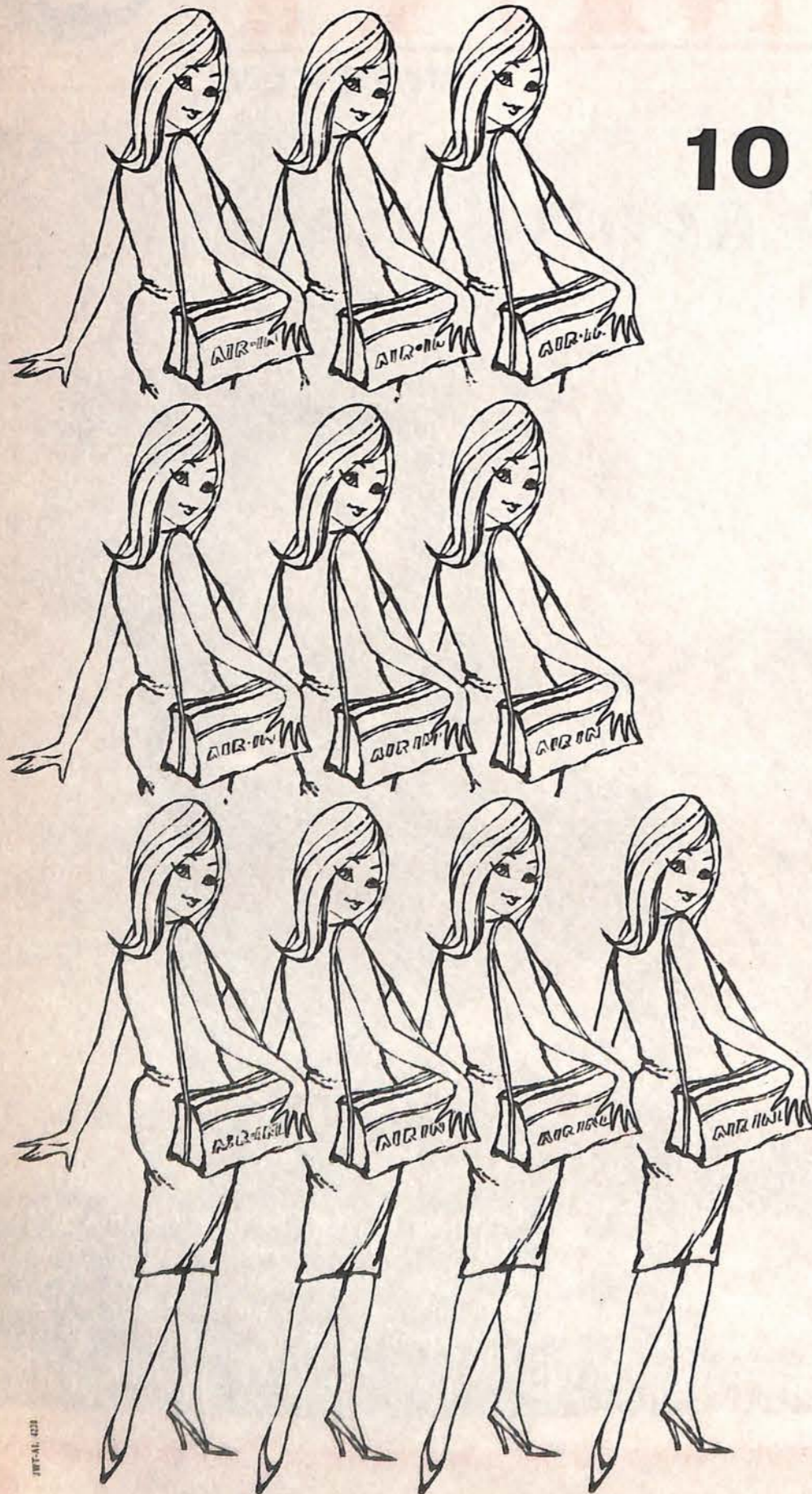
Friday
January 14
1966

Editorial
WHAT TASHKENT MEANS

BOEING TO LONDON 10 TIMES A WEEK!

Ten marvellous flights to
London
8 via the Continent of Europe
2 via Moscow

A special date in 1966
—PATA Conference, New Delhi
January 21—29



AIR-INDIA

IN ASSOCIATION WITH B.O.A.C. AND QANTAS

HIMMAT

Asia's new voice

WEEKLY

Bombay

Friday, January 14, 1966 Vol. 2 No. 11

What Tashkent Means

THE MEMORY OF WAR has faded. The peace Mr. Shastri signed may well shine through the pages of history.

"He died pledging our two countries to work for peace and friendship, forgetting the bitterness of the past years," said President Radhakrishnan. "There can be no military solution to our problems. We should both realize that if we conquer our foes by force we enhance enmity and hatred. If we conquer them by understanding and goodwill, we attain peace and friendship."

The Tashkent declaration is the beginning of a new road. It is the open door for the solution of other problems. The agreement has nine operative clauses, committing the Prime Minister of India and the President of Pakistan:

1. Not to have recourse to force and to settle disputes peacefully.
2. Withdrawal of all armed personnel of the two countries by February 25 to the positions they held prior to August 5 last year.
3. Non-interference in the internal affairs of each other.
4. Discouragement of any propaganda directed against the other country, and encouragement of propaganda to permit development of friendly relations.
5. The resumption of full diplomatic relations.
6. Restoration of economic and trade relations, communications, and cultural exchanges between the two countries and implementation of existing agreements.
7. Repatriation of all prisoners of war.
8. Discussion of problems relating to refugees and eviction/illegal immigration.
9. Meetings both at the highest and other levels on matters of direct concern and the setting up of joint Indo-Pakistani bodies to decide further steps to be taken by their Governments.

Victory for Both

Both leaders made important concessions. The late Mr. Shastri agreed to withdraw Indian forces from their strategic positions in Haji Pir Pass, Kargil and the Uri-Poonch sector. President Ayub Khan did not insist on a Kashmir settlement as the price for the no-war declaration he has now signed. Both the leaders are the bigger for their agreement. It is not a victory of one side or the other, but a victory for both countries.

The aim of the two leaders was to create the right climate for political discussions and in pursuance of that aim the cordiality between our late

Prime Minister and Pakistan's President at Tashkent has helped. The simple human touches like President Ayub's invitation to Mr. Shastri to fly over Pakistan or stop there, will not go unnoticed in India.

It is idle to pretend that there will be no difficulties in the future in implementing the Shastri-Ayub declaration. There will be ups and downs as men will meet on all levels to sort out the tangled problems of the last 18 years. But the basic responsibility for carrying forward the spirit of the Tashkent declaration rests not only with the negotiators who meet on Government level, but also with the public men, the press and the ordinary people in both countries.

Mr. Nanda's assurance to honour the agreement is to be welcomed.

The Tashkent declaration has saved India and Pakistan from crushing war preparations and economic hardships. The Soviet Union has gained immeasurably in influence not only in the sub-continent, but in the rest of Asia. Mr. Kosygin by his tact and persistence has, within 15 months of power, risen from a technocrat-economist to a world statesman. Both Britain and America have gained by the stability given to this part of Asia. The only loser is China.

Democracy on Trial

Though one family is bereaved beyond measure in Delhi today, thanks to the late Prime Minister, mothers, fathers, wives, sisters and brothers, sons and daughters of the men in our armed forces will breathe a sigh of relief at the declaration, for they feel their family members may now be spared the risk of war.

Taxes need not be as high. Our economic plans may well be resumed. Foreign aid may be expected to flow again. Our factory production will rise as imports come. The nation will be on the move again.

But we will be small men if we are satisfied with this. The task before us is much greater than our own interest. The question before the nation is what can India and Pakistan now do together for the rest of Asia?

The true heirs of Shastri are those who will so live that his sacrifice in the cause of peace and amity will not be in vain.

On the death of Prime Minister Nehru, the Congress Party demonstrated its wisdom in the unanimous election of the new Prime Minister. This election strengthened the hands of Mr. Shastri.

Our nation expects of the Congress leadership the same wisdom and unity on this occasion.

Briefly Speaking ...

Ignorance is not not knowing.
It is not wanting to know.

ANON

Speakers "Whipped"

AT THE ALL-INDIA Whips' Conference in Bangalore, delegates turned their whips on Speakers of the State Assemblies. Five delegates declared that presiding officers of assemblies in India should resign from the political party they represented. One delegate alleged that Speakers sometimes sit on Party Election Boards. The latter precedent is most unhealthy for democratic life and the Congress Party should take a lead in terminating it.

But to call for a Speaker to resign from a political party, is asking too much. The greatness of democracy lies in a party man who, becoming the Speaker, rises above the party and becomes the father of the House.

Let us certainly establish the right

CHALTA HAI ...



"What do you mean, do I want it in Hindi or English?"

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



HANDY-DANDY

precedents in our democracy but rules alone will not take us far.

Fifty Die of Cold

AN ACCIDENT like a plane or a bus crash with 20 deaths is news around the world, but when 50 people die in a cold spell in Bihar, it is mentioned in "News in Brief" or in a para or two by our national papers. "FIFTY DIE OF COLD IN BIHAR" should be front-page, two- or three-column headlines, if only to stir our consciences and save a recurrence of this tragedy year after year.

Wanted: Ombudswoman

HEADLINE: GRAFT CASES HUSHED UP IN BIHAR.

A Bharat Sevak Samaj spokesman in Bihar appeals for former High Court Judges as Vigilance Commissioners.

Perhaps what Bihar needs is an ombudswoman!

Speaking in another connection UK Liberal Party leader Jo Grimond says: "What might be valuable is an ombudswoman; one of those intolerable, interfering, persistent females we all know who is totally lacking in respect for pompous males or their carefully graded hierarchies and smothering sense of protocol."

Fertilizer as Fuel

A CORRESPONDENT from Sindri, site of the well-known fertilizer factory, writes to a national daily: "It is known that the country is burning annually cow-dung equivalent to 12 Sindris. I wonder there is no legislation to prevent this waste. It will make us self-sufficient in food and save huge sums in foreign exchange." Why indeed?

Sharp Pen

HIMMAT SALUTES a bold and brilliant journalist who died last week in Washington after a long illness. Marguerite Higgins fought relentlessly for the American public to understand the role of the USA and the issues involved in Vietnam. In her widely-syndicated feature, she encouraged America to take responsibility for the freedom of Asia when

some other commentators were bent on US withdrawal and the ultimate handing over of Asia to Communist China.

Not only the United States press but Asia will miss her greatly. One can only hope that other pens will be sharpened to take her place.

Bonn's Stake in Asia

THE BONN GOVERNMENT is strict on direct arms shipments to China and has denied a claim by a German arms dealer that he has the agreement of the Bonn ministries to export arms to Asian countries, including China. The dealer's spokesman claims orders worth 35 million dollars for the sale of aircraft, road-building equipment and lorries.

As far back as 1962-1963, even though West Germany had strict restrictions against export of strategic materials to China, I heard in Europe reports that China was getting West German strategic goods through a neutral European country. Bonn must this time make sure that there is no loop-hole in her security. One can well imagine what China would use her road-building equipment for. Bonn has a stake in the freedom of Asia and I am confident she will not give it up.

Feeding a Whole Village

TYRANNY OF CUSTOMS still rules our villages. In Maharashtra some villages have the custom that when a villager dies, his family should feed the whole village. A village may have 100 homes each with about five people.

I heard the story of a domestic servant in Bombay whose husband died of cancer in a village called Nimoon via Nasik. Her village elders sent her word that unless she was prepared to give a dinner party to the entire village, she need not come to the village.

Under the pressure of this blackmail the poor lady incurred a debt to the tune of Rs. 900 and left for her village last week. The villagers are reported to have told her she should even sell her land to them, but dinner she must give.

Is this the work of the village panchayats who are supposed to constitute the grass roots of democracy?

R.M.L.

India's Gentle Man of Iron

By R. M. Lala

Eighteen months ago when Lal Bahadur Shastri was elected as the Prime Minister of India, his 83-year-old mother, Ramdulari Devi, said, "Main Lal Bahadur chahati hun ke jan chale tho jai, magar desh bana rahe." ("I expect Lal Bahadur to ensure that the country prospers even if he has to sacrifice his life for it.")

And sacrifice he did.

The Tashkent talks with their high points and setbacks, the intense activity of Mr. Kosygin and the suspense, had all the makings of a drama. But nothing about this drama is more touching than the death of its star personality within nine hours of signing the declaration. It appears that he took upon himself in the last 7 days the intense pressures and tension in Tashkent so that pressures and tension on 460 million of his countrymen could be lifted. Even as he died he gave his nation a new lease of life—of security and of dignity with freedom.

Being Himself

As he signed in the Tashkent Hall of Sessions the historic declaration on Monday evening, he knew that he and President Ayub had brought peace to the sub-continent.

Few statesmen of our times knew better the art of overcoming difficulties. In June 1964 when he came to office, it was natural for millions at home and abroad to compare him with the towering figure of Nehru. Nehru left a gap on the world scene, impossible to fill. Shastri made no pretence of being another Nehru. His greatness lay in being himself. He remained as gentle in office in 1965 as he was before he came into big time politics in 1951. He had the common touch. Shastri had no fanciful thoughts. He touched no heights of oratory. He was of the earth, earthy. His was a gift so rare among the pompous species of politicians—the ability to laugh at himself. His great joy was to play with his grandchildren and he is once reported to have complained, "I am so small that nobody likes to play with me. I therefore turn to children."

About eight years ago when he

was Union Railway Minister, I went to see him with some young men of India who had decided to set their lives right for the nation's sake. One of them spoke of how he had stopped travelling in public transport without tickets. The Railway Minister of India bent forward and said quite simply, "You know, I had no money as a young man and at one time I used to journey daily in the train without a ticket." He recalled that the distance he covered was about 18 miles a day. When the young men stepped out of his chamber, they felt that they had met a man who could understand them.

That gift of understanding he brought to his statesmanship. He was never harsh or dogmatic and in the last months, made it clear to all that he had a mind of his own. "There is more iron in his soul than appears on the surface," commented former US Ambassador Professor Galbraith. "He listens to every point of view, he makes up his mind firmly and once he has made them, his decisions stick... He is the kind of man who is trusted."

Shastri was basically a family man. He lost his father, who was a school teacher, at the age of one and a half. His maternal grandfather brought him up. The fatherless child knew the value of a family. Every morning at Number 10 Janpath, the family would gather round at 7 a.m., his wife, his children and all the grandchildren.

Heard Gandhiji's Call

Lal Bahadur was born on October 2, 1904. It happened to be the 28th birthday of Gandhiji. As a child he was called Nanhe, meaning "little". When he was three months old, he was miraculously saved. During a mela his mother had gone to bathe in the Holy Ganges. Caught in the milling crowd, she was violently pushed and jostled. She fell forward. A minute later she had lost sight of the baby amidst the crowd. It is said that the child fell into the basket of a cowherd who was then just praying for the gift of a son on the Ganges. The police traced the child in a neighbouring village and Lal Bahadur was restored to his family.

He grew up in Mogulsarai not far

from Banares. His family and his friends were too poor to afford a football, so they made one out of Khajur flowers rolled up and wrapped in cloth and exercised their limbs on this contraption. With a smaller ball they played hockey. Tree branches were their hockey sticks.

At the age of 10 he moved to Banares and is said to have been an avid reader. At 16 on the eve of appearing for his SSC exam, he heard Gandhiji's call for non-cooperation with the British rulers. Due to the inspiration of one of his teachers, six out of 30 students in his class responded and left school. Some time later he joined the Kashi Vidya Peeth, a nationalist educational institute.

Rise in Congress

On finishing his four-year course, he joined the Servants of the People Society for the uplift of the masses. His salary—Rs. 60 per month.

At 23 he married Lalitadevi. They had four sons and two daughters. Though in later years she travelled with him to Nepal and the Soviet Union, Mrs. Shastri maintained, "My place is in the home."

In the 1920s and 1930s Lal Bahadur participated in all the activities of the Independence movement and the inevitable round of jails. Times were hard and at one period his income was Rs. 2.50 per month. He

Continued on next page



knew the value of money and even as Prime Minister, when he left the room, he would make sure that the light and the fans were switched off. It was part of his thorough make-up, which, coupled with an eye for detail and the ability to win people, was responsible for his rise in the Congress hierarchy.

"The iron in his soul" was nowhere more evident than when he once came home on a week's parole from jail as his four-year old son was down with typhoid. When the time to return to jail came, the child's temperature had reached 106 degrees. The child whispered, "Babuji, please don't go." Tears rolled down Shastri's cheeks. He suddenly shook his head, folded his hand to greet everyone, and marched back to gaol.

During the "Quit India" period he was underground for some time, cyclostyling leaflets at Anand Bhuvan, Allahabad. He would possibly have escaped detection had he not in a moment of excitement perched himself on a tonga to harangue a crowd against the British Government.

In 1946 he was in charge of the UP elections for the Congress. Pandit Pant picked him as his Parlia-

mentary Secretary. In 1951 he emerged on the national scene, gripped Congress central election machinery and brought the Congress romping home to victory. Again in 1956-57 he was in charge of the elections and in 1962 became, with Nehru and his daughter, one of three members of the Party Selection Board.

He was the trouble-shooter in the later years of Mr. Nehru's life. Shastri's mission healed the rupture between India and Nepal.

His Legacy to Asia

One of his early acts as Prime Minister was to settle India's problem with Ceylon. Early this year he went to Burma and at Tashkent he secured India's relations with Pakistan. He did his best to secure India with her neighbours.

What was the secret of Lal Bahadur Shastri?

He had not many of the sparkling qualities of leadership like dashing personality, an extra-brilliant mind or a silver tongue. It was his integrity and his character that placed him above his colleagues. These

qualities made possible the success of the gigantic tasks he undertook climaxing with the Tashkent conference.

His last encounter with President Ayub is symbolic of what he would have liked relations to be between the two countries. At the end of the banquet as they parted President Ayub said: "Khuda hafiz." ("God be with you.") Mr. Shastri replied: "Khuda hafiz."

Mr. Shastri added: "Achcha hi ho gaya." ("It was all to the good.")

President Ayub replied: "Khuda achcha hi karega." ("God will do only good.")

He has left behind him a grateful nation. We feel doubly deprived as we have had no chance as a people to express our gratitude to him. The finest gift we once gave him was a solidly united nation at the hour of his greatest need, last September. The finest expression of gratitude now is to strengthen that unity, not to face with arms our neighbourly nation, but to face the future with Pakistan. That can be Shastri's richest legacy to Asia.

The Vietnam War—Alternatives in South-east Asia

The New Year has brought a welcome and serious attempt by President Johnson to bring about conditions for negotiations on Vietnam. Even statesmen not normally inclined to say a good word for the United States like Nasser of the UAR and Tito of Yugoslavia are impressed by what they call "the sincerity" of the US desire for peace negotiations.

These efforts follow the gradual escalation of the conflict over the past months which has inflicted a total loss of life estimated at 100,000 during the last year and created a gigantic problem of feeding and providing for a million people uprooted from their homes and villages in South Vietnam alone.

There are over 175,000 US troops in South Vietnam (excluding 60,000 men of the US Seventh Fleet). American spokesmen have talked of increasing this number to 400,000 in South Vietnam, Laos and Thailand. The tactical air strength is being doubled from 550 planes to 1,300. A vast complex of bases has been built along the coast.

Though this massive intervention has substantially halted further Viet Cong gains and even helped penetrations of hitherto assured Viet Cong territory, it has not led to the anticipated retreat of Communist forces. On the other hand, the Viet Cong have been fighting some of the biggest pitched battles of the war. According to the report of the British newspaperman, Cameron, the North Vietnamese are similarly undaunted by the heavy US bombardment. "So far from terrorizing the people," he writes, "the bombings have stimulated and consolidated them."

U S Dilemma

The US dilemma is thus very real. On the one hand, the firmness of American commitment has raised morale in South Vietnam and South-east Asia. While it is true that the Americans have not made deep inroads into Viet Cong territory, the Viet Cong have also not been able to take over South Vietnam despite

instability and power-politics in Saigon. On the other hand, even intervention on a much larger scale cannot bring victory for many, many years. Even if military victory were an attainable objective, the US has no way of ensuring that there shall be the kind of responsible leadership in Saigon which will transform the fruits of victory into stable and good democratic government.

Besides, further escalation would probably mean the expansion of the war into Cambodia, Laos and perhaps Thailand (where already the north-east is increasingly subject to the Communist terrorism of village leaders, etc.) with its attendant risks of Russian and Chinese intervention and eventual nuclear war. President Johnson obviously seeks to explore all possibilities of settlement to avoid this dangerous course.

Soviet Puzzle

But Hanoi is not yet convinced of this and the North Vietnamese Government continues to look upon the American initiative as a "trick". They reiterate their demand for cessation of all attacks against North Vietnam and withdrawal of all US forces from the South. However, the reported conversation of Signor La Pira, former Mayor of Florence, with President Ho Chi Minh and Prime Minister Pham Van Dongg of North Vietnam, in which they are said to have agreed to negotiate if there were a cease-fire and a halt to American troop movements into Vietnam and negotiations based on the 1954 Geneva agreements, cannot all have been a figment of the volatile ex-Mayor's imagination.

The Soviet role and influence in Hanoi is one of the uncertain factors in the situation. Is the Shelepin mission intended to persuade President Ho Chi Minh to go to the conference table or is it an intensification of economic and military aid to prepare for a worsening military situation? The inclusion of rocket and armament experts in the Soviet delegation suggests the latter. But the Americans seem to think that despite all their protestations to the contrary, the Russians want a peaceful settlement of the Vietnam problem.

Under
the
Lens



by R. VAITHESWARAN

We are in a position to say that the signing of the Economic Aid agreement with Vietnam on December 21, 1965, and the Shelepin visit suggest that the USSR has gained in influence in the leadership of the Communist Party of Vietnam. This is confirmed by Premier Chou En-lai's accusation (December 20, 1965) that the Soviet Union had "undermined the Vietnam people's unity against American aggression". The Chinese *People's Daily* writes that the Soviet Union is following a policy of involvement through aid in an attempt to gain control and the right to have a say and representation on the Vietnam question (*Times of India*, December 21, 1965).

Chinese Pressure

Vietnam has thus become a subject of intense rivalry between the Soviet Union and China. China's stand is well known. She wants a continuation of the war. She is against de-escalation. She is reported to have stepped up her economic and technical aid to Hanoi to US \$500 million a year. Chinese technicians are working feverishly to repair communications between Hanoi and the Chinese border. Ho Chi Minh is under constant pressure from China and the pro-Chinese group in his party to reject negotiations. This may perhaps explain the vacillations of North Vietnamese policy.

The future of President Johnson's moves, though hopeful, is therefore uncertain. The outcome may well depend on the relative strengths of the pro-Russian and pro-Chinese groups of the Lao Dong Party (North Vietnamese Communist Party) and the personal weight of President Ho's convictions. The world waits on the frail, austere, old revolutionary with the wispy beard.

ANGLO-INDIA India's Largest Jute Mills Company

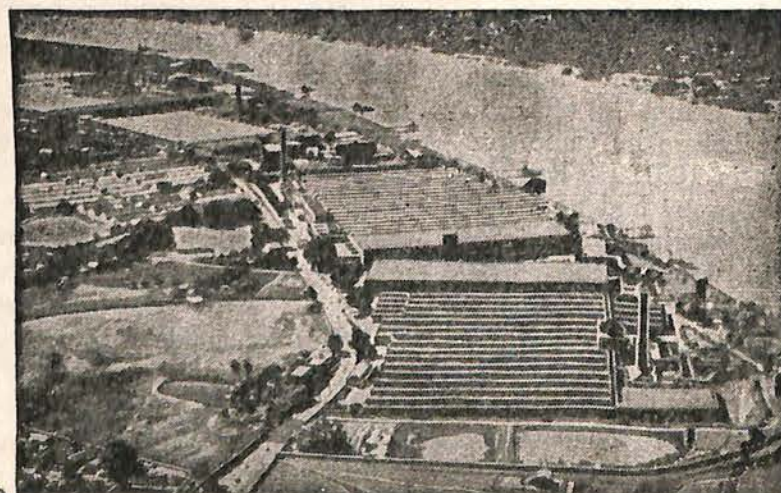
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HIMMAT, January 14, 1966

FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

Fourteen-Year Negotiations End

FROM TOSHIO HARA

Tokyo

Japan and the Republic of Korea have reached the long-awaited goal of unity after 45 years of separation. The two countries have just established full diplomatic ties with the exchange in Seoul of the instruments ratifying the basic relations treaty and four related agreements.

Hatred and division were deep after 35 years of Japanese colonization of Korea. Koreans, not allowed to use their own language, were forced to learn Japanese. At the end of World War II, Japan's defeat restored Korea's independence. A period followed in which the speaking of Japanese was forbidden. Against this background, the Korean Minister of Education took the statesmanlike action last month of removing anti-Japanese texts from school books.

It took much courage and determination by Prime Minister Sato of Japan to end the 14 years of dragging negotiations between the two countries—probably the world record for establishing a treaty. His predecessors dared not get involved in this controversial issue because failure to produce a satisfying result might bring the fall of their govern-

ments. The Opposition, the Socialists and the Communists, opposed the treaty. They claimed that it would mean a deeper involvement by Japan in "American imperialism and military aggression" and might force Japan into the war in Vietnam. This suspicion and charges of an involvement in a military conspiracy have hardly any grounds in the treaty.

The reasons voiced in Seoul against the treaty were completely different. There, the ground of opposition was fear of Japanese domination over the Korean economy.

Pyongyang and Peking have raised angry voices against the normalization treaty, while sighs of relief have been heard from Washington. Unity between the two countries, however, could serve as more than a mere defence against Communism. It could show the continent the way to an era of unity and sanity.

Syria's New Cabinet—Iraq's Rebel Leader

FROM HARRY ALMOND

Beirut

A new Syrian government has been formed. Extremist adherents to the Ba'ath (Renaissance) Party were contesting the leadership of older, more conservative members and co-founders. Salah ed-Din Bitar, 54, who was asked to form the new government by the Presidency Council, is one of the Ba'ath pioneers.

The prolongation of the crisis and the return of several important ambassadors indicated a serious deadlock. The Chairman of the Presidency Council, Lieutenant General Amin al-Hafez, represents the moderate faction, while the extremist, left-wing group looks to Major General Salah Jadid, an ex-Chief of Staff. While this juggling continued at the top, the Syrian people suffered from the paralysis of a once prosperous economy.

Further east, tension mounts between Iraq and Iran over alleged border clashes. Common interests

and a willingness to negotiate on the part of both governments will probably restore calm, but a long-term solution is needed for the Kurdish claims to some degree of autonomy. These claims will eventually involve Turkey and Iran as well as Iraq, because the area occupied by the Kurdish tribesmen centres at the point where the borders of Iraq, Iran and Turkey meet. It includes some exceedingly high and rugged mountains.

In 1945 the Kurdish leader, Mulah Mustafa Barzani, fled to Russia

Continued on next page

HIMMAT, January 14, 1966

The week in Asia

TASHKENT—Prime Minister Shastri and President Ayub Khan began their conference under Russian auspices. "Instead of fighting each other let us fight poverty, ignorance and disease," said Mr. Shastri in his opening address.

ULAN BATOR—Soviet Communist Party Secretary Brezhnev arrived for talks with Mongolian leaders. The Soviet Defence and Foreign Ministers came from Tashkent to join him.

HANOI—Soviet Praesidium member Shelepin arrived to confer with President Ho Chi Minh.

TOKYO—A top-level Japanese economic mission is to visit India this month. Business sources said it might result in an "epoch-making" economic co-operation.

PEKING—China launched a new five year plan aimed especially at boosting food production. The People's Daily said all China's planning must be in preparation for war with the US.

COLOMBO—Police arrested ten people including three Bhikkus on charges of inciting communal violence in protest against the Government's decision to make Tamil an official language in some areas. Police said men dressed as Bhikkus, but not belonging to the Order, had distributed inflammatory pamphlets.

RAWALPINDI—Lt.-General Robert Nimmo, Chief of the UN Military Observer Group for India and Pakistan, died of a heart attack. The Australian General was 72.

RIVADH—King Feisal of Saudi Arabia will shortly visit Karachi and Kabul to further his policy of creating a new Islamic bloc, according to reports from here.

RANGOON—Private trade in agricultural and manufactured goods has been banned. The official Trade Council took over all buying and selling. The measure is intended to eliminate black-marketeering.

TOKYO—Japan was again the world's top shipbuilder with 232 ships completed in 1965. Sweden was second.

RANGOON—Five Indian language dailies and four Chinese papers closed following withdrawal of their certificates by the Government.

DJAKARTA—A campaign to make General Nasution Vice-President is reported to be sweeping Indonesia. Nasution is Defence Minister and leader of the nationalist, anti-Communist forces.

after the collapse of the Soviet-inspired "Independent Azerbaijan Republic" which occupied northern Iran. This came about after UN pressure had been applied and the Iranian Army had marched boldly in.

Barzani returned to Iraq in '58 following the Kassem revolution there. Landing from a Russian ship with 500 well-armed Kurdish tribesmen who had been with him during his 13 years of exile in Baku, he headed straight for his home mountains in the north where he rallied his people and has defied Baghdad ever since.

Although Barzani has serious disagreements in his own ranks, no end to Kurdish resistance is in sight.

Asian War No. 1 US Headache

FROM STEWART LANCASTER

Los Angeles

War is an expensive business, especially the one in Vietnam. It cost the American taxpayer over 48 billion dollars in 1965. The cost is expected to escalate to 58 billion dollars in 1966.

The "War on Poverty" is running a poor second to the Vietnam war

with a monetary involvement of only 3 billions.

Because of the war and other government operations, United States Federal spending for 1966 will total over 110 billion dollars. This means Washington must either make drastic cuts in its welfare and warfare programmes, raise taxes, or face the threat of galloping inflation.

It looks as though the "Great Society" ventures, school aid, poverty war, space programme, medical assistance, modernization of cities, will have to take a back seat for a time.

Another opinion being expressed in Washington with growing frequency is that the war in Vietnam has been badly handled. Hard-headed military leaders appear to have little to say about the way the war is being run. Politicians seem to be doing the deciding. The last thing the military leaders want is a "land war on the mainland of Asia", it is said.

World problems are taking precedent over domestic ones. War problems tend to dominate United States world policy. US allies resent America's preoccupation with Vietnam. The US public are becoming more concerned with the increased cost in lives and money in Vietnam.

President Johnson is in danger of losing the great public popularity he has had up until now, if the economy becomes inflated. If he succeeds in maintaining his domestic welfare and Vietnam programmes while at the same time keeping the economy stable he will become a national hero.

Non-driver Steers UK Transport

FROM GORDON WISE

London

The British motorist has borne the advent of traffic jams, parking meters and mounting insurance charges.

He has not yet made up his mind about the latest development in British transport, having a lady, Mrs. Barbara Castle, as Transport Minister—and a non-driver at that. However, a firm specializing in driving instruction has offered her a free course; this was declined.

Mrs. Barbara Castle was given front-page treatment in the British

press when the Prime Minister announced a limited Cabinet reshuffle. Her ability is undoubted. Her husband drives. He says that she is a sensible passenger with none of the back-seat infliction.

Mr. Castle is a municipal councillor and in the New Year is due to meet his wife officially on a local

India's Nuclear Lead in Asia

FROM A CORRESPONDENT

Bombay

Recent reports of Pakistan's intention to make its first atom blast in early 1968 need not be cause for alarm in India, where nuclear research is many years ahead of other Asian countries with the possible exception of China.

Last month Pakistan announced that its first atomic research reactor had "gone critical", thus becoming the eighth Asian country with elementary nuclear research facilities. India has three such reactors in use—the largest has eight times the capacity of that in Pakistan. Indonesia has two and Thailand, the Philippines, Taiwan and South Vietnam have one each.

In the field of power generation Japan has a short lead over India and now has a small 12 megawatt nuclear power station in operation, with one 150 MW under construction. India has a 380 MW nuclear power station under construction at Tarapore, 60 miles north of Bombay, while planning for a 200 MW plant in Rajasthan is well advanced.

Pakistan is building two nuclear power stations, one at Rooppur in

transport matter; as part of a deputation.

The new lady Minister had a hard time at her last post, the Ministry of Overseas Development, because Britain has so little money to dispense nowadays.

Other Cabinet changes brought 45-year-old Mr. Roy Jenkins to the Cabinet as Home Secretary.

East Pakistan and the other near Karachi.

India is well placed for supply of fissionable material, ranking with Japan and China for small uranium deposits; thorium deposits found in India are among the largest in the world and elsewhere found only in Brazil. This will be especially useful in about five years' time when reactor technology is more developed.

Between 1970 and 1980, 50 per cent of the world's power stations will have nuclear fuel. Estimates show that known deposits can meet world demand for the next 1,000 years.

India is at present among the leading nations in Asia both in research and application for peaceful uses of atomic power. Without dissipation in non-productive fields this lead can surely be maintained.

Sport Makes Aussies Shift

FROM JOHN WILLIAMS

Canberra

While cold waves make countries north of the equator shiver, we down south are in the middle of the Australian summer. It is also the time for sport.

Three major world sporting events have been taking much of the newspaper space and much of the attention of Australians: the 640-mile Sydney-Hobart yacht race, one of the classics of ocean yacht competitions; the Davis Cup which Australia won against Spain; and the Second Test of the series between Australia and England.

The Sydney-Hobart yacht race

begins each year as a colourful spectacle in Sydney Harbour, where thousands of sailing craft gather to farewell the yachts that will make the ocean journey. This year there were 46 entrants.

Australia has now won the Davis Cup twenty times. Usually the challenge round is a contest between Australia and the United States, who

Continued on next page

NEW DELHI — India and the US signed a loan agreement by which the US will provide Rs. 23.8 crores for fertilizers.

NEW DELHI — India and Russia concluded a five-year agreement which will double trade between the two countries (at present Rs. 150 crores both ways) by 1970.

CHANDIGARH — The Punjab Government cut electricity consumption 40 per cent due to the falling-off in power production because of drought.

NEW DELHI — Only one-tenth of India's available irrigation water was being utilized, stated the Chairman of the Central Water and Power Commission H. C. Handa.

CALCUTTA — A mob of 2,000 looted rice from a truck in a village in Midnapore district. Four people were arrested.

MORADABAD — One person was killed and another injured when students demonstrated in this UP town to press their demand for concessions for tickets in cinemas.

LUCKNOW — Student leaders called a strike and Lucknow University was closed and occupied by police following demonstrations in which the students burnt the vice-chancellor in effigy.

ALLAHABAD — Three thousand students demonstrated in support of the Lucknow students and burnt State Home Minister Hargovind Singh in effigy in protest against alleged police atrocities.

NEW DELHI — India has twice as many science graduates as any other country except the US and the USSR, but only 30 per cent of them are in technical jobs, stated a Scientific and Industrial Research Council survey.

KOHIMA — The cease-fire with the Naga underground army was extended until April 15.

SHILLONG — Mr. Laimana, former unit secretary of the Mizo National Front, was killed by unknown attackers. 500 Naga hostiles overran a police post.

ALLAHABAD — One in five US farmers are producing food for India, stated Mr. B. K. Nehru, Indian Ambassador to the US.

BOMBAY — The Maharashtra Government declared that scarcity conditions existed in 12,334 villages in the State.

NEW DELHI — It was announced that charges for telephone calls and telex services will be increased from January 16, in some cases 50 per cent. Telephone rentals will also go up.

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have won the Cup nineteen times. But this year Spain had beaten the Americans and so for the first time they came into the finals.

At the time of writing the Second Cricket Test between Australia and England is still being played (it was drawn). Though Australia won the First Test, it looks very much as

The week elsewhere

KING DORJI'S CONCERN

PUNAKHA—King Dorji Wangchuk of Bhutan, who visits New Delhi this week, is reported concerned about Chinese activity on his northern border. The Chinese are said to be building strategic roads close to north Bhutan, which is almost uninhabited. They have also increas-

though the series could still be won by the visitors.

Sporting events bring out much enthusiastic determination in the Australian character. As the West Indies star, Conrad Hunte, now visiting this country said the other day, "If Australia could show as much determination in modernizing man as in winning matches, she would quickly make a considerable impact upon the world."

ed their garrisons near the border. In 1958 they claimed 300 square miles of Bhutan.

Under the India-Bhutan treaty of 1949, the defence of Bhutan is not India's responsibility. Now the Bhutan Government is believed to be thinking of closer defence co-operation with India.

SOVIET PLANES FOR CHINA

MOSCOW—Sino-Soviet trade fell from 1,498.7 million roubles in 1960 to 404.5 million last year, according to figures published in Russia. An exception to the trend was the increased export of aircraft from Russia to China. Its value rose from 2,166 million roubles in 1963 to 17,644 million last year. While China's trade with Russia last year fell to £160 million sterling, that with Hong Kong rose to £124 million and is still increasing.

REFUGEES ENTER ZAMBIA

LUSAKA—Six thousand refugees from Portuguese Mozambique have entered Zambia, adding to that country's difficulties caused by the economic war with Rhodesia. The refugees were fleeing reprisals following the killing of Portuguese traders by African "freedom fighters". The refugees said over 60 Africans had been killed.

30-YEAR WATER SCHEME

WASHINGTON—A gigantic scheme to channel unused fresh water from Alaska and northern Canada over the Rocky Mountains into the dry areas of Canada, the western US and Mexico, is under consideration by the US Senate. The project, which would cost an estimated million million dollars and take 30 years to construct, would irrigate 40 million acres and solve the worsening water situation in the North American continent.

The heart of the system would be a 500-mile long reservoir filling the Rocky Mountain Trench, a natural gorge in western Canada. The system would also raise the level of the Great Lakes, depleted by excessive demand, and enable deep-sea ships to sail into them from the Pacific.

TIBETAN LEADER "MARRIES"

GANGTOK—The Panchen Lama has been forced by the Chinese to marry a Tibetan girl, according to refugees from Tibet. The 28-year-old Panchen Lama, like other Tibetan religious leaders, is pledged to a life of celibacy. He is said to have succumbed to Chinese pressure when he and many of his followers were arrested and harassed as instruments of counter-revolution.

VIEWPOINT

First Prize

**Most Remarkable Personality of 1965
Unknown Labourer Saved a Life**

By P. V. Ganesan, Madras 4.

IN BROAD daylight in the middle of May 1965 at one of the busiest parts in the City of Madras, two persons were lying seriously injured after a scooter accident. Many an educated passerby witnessed this painful scene but none came forward to help either by way of rendering first aid to the injured or sending them to the hospital nearby. It was a pity that they did not even call an ambulance by telephoning to the hospital authorities.

An illiterate young woman by name Lakshmi, aged 23, who was a casual labourer under a building contractor, happened to pass that side. Horrified at this sight, she begged a taxi driver in all sincerity to take the victims along with her to the hospital.

With an earnest attachment to these injured persons and without expecting any reward or praise from anyone, she told the driver of the taxi that she would pay the carriage charges by disposing of her nose ornament, which was the only wealth she possessed then.

After the injured persons and Lakshmi were dropped at the hospital, the taxi driver left the premises without receiving his taxi fare.

All formalities being over, the patients were admitted at the hospital and one of them died. It might have been possible that if the injured persons were admitted at the hospital shortly after the occurrence of the incident, the life of the other man also might have been saved.

After remaining at the cremation ground till the relatives of the dead person lit the fire on the body, the woman who is altogether a stranger returned to her hut starving, but with a satisfaction of having saved the life of at least one soul. This commendable humanitarian action of this lady, who was unknown to the outside world till the occurrence of the incident, was widely publicized in the dailies not only in India but also in *New York Times*.

In recognition of her services, several philanthropic-minded gentlemen and ladies, the Madras Government and the Red Cross gave her several presents in cash and in kind.

This spirit of selfless service of Lakshmi, a poor daughter of our country, deserves still more recognition. The Government should come forward to publicize this act of hers in school text books.

Lakshmi is undoubtedly the most remarkable personality of 1965.

Second Prize

PETER HOWARD

By P. ASHOK KUMAR, Trivandrum

WHEN I think of the "most remarkable personality", naturally he should be one who is out of the ordinary in every detail of life and whose work is most important. In that respect, I consider the late Mr. Peter Howard, the famous author, journalist, and playwright, as the most remarkable man of the year 1965.

It is true that he did not live out the entire 1965. But to be really honest, it is difficult to find another person to match him in the greatness of his work, his devotion and dedication to duty, and love for his fellow men.

In the present world where people are divided in the name of class, colour, nationality, and religion, and also between Communists and anti-Communists, it is most remarkable when a leader comes forward to give them a vision which is far bigger and when he strives to unite the world. Mr. Howard, more than anybody else, was engaged in that significant and historic task.

When the leaders complained about the problems, Mr. Howard was presenting the answer. It was his conviction that political, social, economic, and other problems were basically moral, and that there cannot be political or economic remedies

for problems that are rooted in moral problems.

Very few leaders or statesmen of the world had analysed and understood the problems of the world and of mankind as Mr. Howard did. His outlook on problems was of an entirely new dimension. He said: "Let God's Will be done on Earth as it is in Heaven. It is far more revolutionary than anything Karl Marx or Hitler had said." To one who would closely scrutinize the idea behind these words, it will be evident that the change necessitated when one accepts the Will of God, is far more revolutionary than any ism known to us.

I had the rare privilege to hear Mr. Howard speak in Trivandrum during his visits to Kerala. He seemed to love the people of Kerala and India as much as he loved his own people in Britain, or the coloured people in Africa.

Mr. Howard campaigned to bring humanity under God, and for the restoration of absolute moral standards as the governing factor in human relations. That, he felt, was the basic remedy to the world's problems, while his other great contemporaries were trying to find the solution through political, economic, and administrative means.

His battle was for securing a world order governed by Almighty God as contrasted with the universal efforts to put up Man as the Almighty and that Man's intelligence alone was marvellous. And here, Mr. Howard stood head and shoulders high above his contemporaries who have been trying to establish relatively smaller ambitions.

Mr. Howard was the most outstanding man in the year 1965, in the realm of letters, drama, intellectual attainments, and political and philosophical thinking, who concentrated all his efforts and energy to bring about a moral and spiritual revolution in men and nations.

COMPETITION

* Should Britain use military force to remove the Smith regime in Rhodesia?

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LETTERS

AFRICAN TITLES

SIR: I have read with interest a small news item headed 'African Titles' in your 'Briefly Speaking' column.

Your friend in Africa who gave you this information has forgotten to include the name of Julius K. Nyerere, President of Tanzania.

The title given to him is 'Mwalimu', a Swahili word which means 'teacher'. This title was given to him just after independence in 1961. This was because Julius Nyerere was once a 'school teacher' who in 1954 gave up his teaching profession to enter politics. He was the man who led his people to freedom and who struggled for the unity, peace and prosperity of Tanzania. He has given his people the right kind of 'teaching' which has lifted them above the shallow limits of nationalism and thus they have begun looking beyond their borders and self-interest.

SUBHASH H. SAMPAT*

Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

* This week's Rs. 10 prize winner

NATION OF SHEEP

SIR: Plaudits to Mr. Rajmohan Gandhi for his article about "J.P."—"the man who loves India enough to be frank". There cannot be two opinions about his views. Surely, if the redemption of India lies anywhere, it is in the hands of men like "J.P.", "C.R." and true followers of Gandhiji. Mr. Rajmohan Gandhi has correctly labelled India of today as a nation of sheep and one should be grateful to him for rousing the conscience of the intellectual in this country against the impending danger to liberty. We have a right to judge the conduct of our countrymen as harshly as we do

that of foreign countries, considering what the nation's balance sheet is on the 18th year of freedom—both from the material and moral point of view! But unfortunately those who ask are rewarded with Defence of India Rules and other stringent measures. A strange kind of situation is prevailing here which is unparalleled in any other free country.

JAG MOHAN

New Delhi

ON BALANCE

SIR: Thank you for the opportunity which HIMMAT provides its readers in expressing their viewpoints.

All my friends are regular readers of HIMMAT. When most newspapers and magazines give opinions which are all out in favour of all Government policies or totally against, it is refreshing to find that HIMMAT maintains the balance.

INDIRA N. RAO

Hutti, Mysore State

MAORIS AND SOUTH AFRICANS

SIR—When I think how the Maoris of New Zealand talked to, played against and above all welcomed the white South African Springboks (Footballers) I see they gave the real example of how we have to learn to live together. An example of which I hope the rest of the world will take notice.

TITIA BRYNZEEL

Zaandam, Holland

NORTH-SOUTH CANALS

SIR: To avoid flood control and drought, Mr. Suresh R. Aranake suggested (24.12.65) that the channels should be dredged and canals should be dug. A better and more profitable method is linking the rivers of the north with those of the south. This method was suggested long ago by the noted scholar, Dr. C. P. Ramasamy Ayyar.

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

It is the tendency of the high command in Congress to reject always the suggestions made by the non-Congress men. It is true that this method is a costly one. But the benefits obtained cannot be valued. By linking various rivers the floods can be controlled and the rivers which are often without water can be filled with water and lands can be cultivated to a large extent.

S. RAJU

Madurai District

DOWN THE DRAIN

SIR: A little anecdote—true—for your readers.

A Poona householder found one day his house drain blocked. He spoke to the Municipal Sanitary Squad representative who explained that the drain was within the house limits, not within the Corporation responsibility. However he offered to clear the drain—his price approximately two days' wages.

The householder decided this was outrageous, so rolled up his sleeves to unblock the drain himself. Twenty minutes later the job was done. The representative of the Sanitary Squad watched him at work. Before the job was finished however three other sanitary inspectors arrived and no doubt full of good intentions to help asked what the trouble was.

The householder said he was unblocking the drain and that it could only be unblocked by doing the work, not by four men standing and watching. They nevertheless continued to watch.

Could this be why city streets don't always get cleaned, files don't move through departments and five year plan targets don't get hit?

D. YOUNG

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HIMMAT, January 14, 1966

Ceylon Clash on Tamil Issue

From Christopher Mayor in Colombo

Thrumming drums and crackling whips; frenzied dancers and the soft footfall of 30 decorated elephants; flaming poles slicing the air like drum major's staffs and a shuffling line of saffron-robed monks.

Held high, atop the tallest tusker elephant, was a replica of the casket containing the sacred tooth of the Buddha which rests in the Temple of the Tooth at Kandy and is venerated by Buddhists all over the world.

The famous *perahera* procession took over the streets of Ceylon's sacred city of Kandy last week on the eve of the New Year's first full moon. The following morning 21 guns greeted the nation's first *poya* (full moon) day. By official decree, Ceylon's calendar has been redrawn. Sunday becomes a working day. Full moon day and each quarter moon replace it as the nation's day of rest. The leaders of the land gathered in Kandy to perform *sil*, to meditate, and perhaps to consider the qualities of tolerance and discipline which the Lord Buddha enjoined.

Tear Gas and Firings

There was talk of a new era dawning. But three days later the nation was faced with a show of the intolerance and indiscipline which has marked the life of the island for the last ten years. Police fired in the streets of Colombo. Helicopters dropped tear gas on rioting demonstrators. A Buddhist monk was reported killed.

The cause of the disturbances was the move in Parliament to introduce new Tamil Language regulations. In fact they are not new. They have been in existence for a long time. They merely place on the statute book the right of a "reasonable use" of Tamil in the northern and eastern regions where Tamil-speaking people are in a clear majority.

Prime Minister Senanayake was accused of "selling out Ceylon to the Tamils". His rejoinder: he is merely enacting a policy advocated by the late S.W.R.D. Bandaranaike, a former Prime Minister. The latter's widow, who Senanayake unseated nearly a year ago, denies this. It is largely the opposition forces led by

Mrs. Bandaranaike's Sri Lanka Freedom Party in collaboration with the Communists and Trotskyites that mobilized last week's angry demonstrations.

The gesture of Senanayake's Government in according this concession to the Tamil minority—explicitly done without prejudice to the Official Language Act which names Sinhalese as the only official language—is regarded by most as a wise, conciliatory move. The more so in view of the overwhelming 85 per cent majority which the Sinhalese speakers enjoy.

Snorting over Defeat

Government supporters are accusing Mrs. Bandaranaike and her friends of reversing their stand on the issue. Some of her Tamil supporters have been disillusioned by what they feel is the Opposition's exploitation of the Tamil question for political ends.

Mrs. Bandaranaike, still snorting over her election defeat, is out to bust Senanayake's coalition if she can. Clearly, the Sinhalese-Tamil antagonisms provide scope for such boat-rocking.

There is another side to Ceylon. The young generation have a spirit of get-up-and-go which the elders would do well to encourage and heed. At Kandy I saw one hundred of them in action. They were planning in a very realistic manner how to enlist their nation—every language and religious group—behind a big aim for Ceylon.

They were delegates to a Moral Re-Armament Camp gathered under the banner "Onward to a New Asia". They were not only thinking for Ceylon, but of the larger concept of how Ceylon could show an answer for the divisions, hates and fears which plague the continent.

They came from every class and creed. Tamils and Sinhalese worked side by side. They began to realize that the diversity in their nation could be its strength. Ceylon—Asia in microcosm—could be a beacon light. A smaller nation, her interest in the region could not be attributed to power politics or other ulterior motives.

Speakers suggested that quarrelling Asian neighbours might find a

way out of deadlock in Ceylon if they saw here a nation which had solved its own internal conflicts.

It could be a new Colombo Plan, not concerned only with feeding and developing hungry nations but primarily with mobilizing Asia in an all-out effort to build free and purposeful societies for 1,500 million people including those now ruled from Peking.

Senator A. Ratnayake, President of the Ceylon Senate and one of the nation's elder statesmen, told these young Ceylonese that he wanted to help them in their task "to revolutionize the world, a world distressed by divisions of caste, language, colour and race". This idea was needed, he believed, to answer those who "were planning the destruction of humanity".

At the Camp these young men and women decided to implement in their lives the sort of changes which they had protested were overdue in their elders and in the nation. Among them were two students from the University at Peradeniya where riots last month led to police firings.

At the end of the Camp a delegation paid a call on the Chief Buddhist monk of Ceylon, the Venerable Sri Amunagama Rajaguru Vipassi Mahanayake Thero, High Priest of the Malwatte Chapter. The Mahanayake Thero kept them for one hour and a half. They told him of their plans for taking their moral revolution to every part of the island.

Surprising Switch

The student from Peradeniya told the High Priest that as a Buddhist he had decided to start the clean-up of the country with himself. First he would return to his college library valuable books which he had "borrowed" and had intended to keep.

The High Priest's face crinkled with delight. Then he told the young student that he had lost Rs. 3,000 worth of books from his library—also "borrowed" by students. "Now I have only empty shelves," he said. "This spirit you bring is what we need in Ceylon, especially in our schools and colleges."

With films, dramas and songs in the local languages these fast young men and women are now moving out into the nation.

The Prime Minister and his colleagues, Mrs. Bandaranaike and her coalition comrades will be watching them. If they choose to back this new initiative there could be a surprising switch in the climate of the island.

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1482-1530**

BABAR, "THE TIGER", was descended from two conquerors, Genghis Khan and Timur. Driven from his homeland in Central Asia, he carved for himself and his sons a great empire on the Indian sub-continent.

His father ruled Ferghana, a mountain kingdom near Tashkent. Babar became king at eleven and at the age of twelve led a victorious expedition to Samarkand, only to be driven out. In 1500 he stormed it again with only 240 men—and was again expelled, this time losing Ferghana as well. For two years Babar was a homeless wanderer, mingling with the country folk, passing "from famine to plenty and from calamity to ease". "In all my life I never enjoyed myself so much," he wrote in his *Memoirs*.

He resolved to take Kabul. Crossing the 12,000-foot passes of the Hindu Kush with his tattered followers, he subdued the Afghans and occupied their capital.

Revolt broke out in Kabul in his absence. Hastening back across the mountain passes in midwinter, his army was trapped in snowdrifts. Babar was offered shelter in a cave. He refused it. "For me to be in comfort while my men were in distress would be inconsistent with what I owed them," he said. The revolt was crushed.

Rivalries in Hindustan abetted Babar's ambitions. Daulat Khan of Lahore invited his aid against Sultan Ibrahim of Delhi. Babar accepted the invitation—and before long ruled both Delhi and Lahore.

He led five expeditions through the Khyber Pass. Daulat Khan was swept aside. Sultan Ibrahim was defeated at Panipat in 1526, although his forces outnumbered Babar's ten to one. Babar was proclaimed Emperor.

Rana Sangram Singh of Mewar and the flower of Rajput chivalry next advanced against Babar. His men were afraid. Babar, a heavy drinker, had all his drinking cups brought before them and broken. He vowed never to drink again. At the battle of Kanua, the Rajputs were defeated.

In 1530 Babar's son Humayan became gravely ill. Babar was distracted. His advisers urged him to sacrifice the dearest thing he possessed. Walking round his son's bed Babar prayed, "On me be the sickness." Humayan recovered: Babar died the same year. Soldier, author and leader of men, he founded the Mogul dynasty which reached its pinnacle under his grandson Akbar.

Q and A

Q—Can India initiate a Vietnam peace move?

T. P. SATHYANARAYANA,
Hyderabad 1

A—The hold of Communist China is very strong in Vietnam, and Hanoi cannot do much without Peking's approval. Do you think that Peking will appreciate any Indian initiative in the Vietnam conflict? India has wisely left it alone for more competent hands who are now trying. As Chairman of the International Control Commission on Vietnam, it will be kept informed, as Mr. Harriman's mission to Delhi shows.

Q—In the world of today, morale and principles without power are ineffective. Any comment?

MAHENDRA PRASAD, New Delhi 16

A—I disagree. Morals and principles, even without political power, can be effective if people who uphold these ideals are militant for them. See it the other way. Those in power, if without morals or scruples, inevitably lead their countries to tyranny and dictatorship of a sort. In a totalitarian state a great man or name ruthlessly manipulates other people. When man takes the place only God should occupy in the life of a nation, slavery has already begun.

Democracy provides the checks and counter-checks that prevent such a contingency. It gives men with moral principles the chance to assert themselves. As Arnold Toynbee has commented, it is the determined minority who have decisively influenced the course of history. The tragedy is that those with morals and principles frequently tend to be mild and on the defensive. Thereby the good often tend

to remain good-for-nothing and ruthless men rule nations.

Mahatma Gandhi showed that without worldly power his moral convictions could be as powerful or more powerful than the might of a powerful empire. There is no reason why men with moral principles should not vigorously think, plan and live to change those in power and also others who, in course of time, may affect the destiny of nations. It needs a passion to change society and make morality regnant not in speeches but in day-to-day decisions.

Q—Is Rhodesia potentially rich enough to remain isolated in case all the countries of the world boycott her?

N. VASUDEVAN, Madras 8

A—I don't think any modern country is wealthy enough to be isolated in case of a world trade boycott. Even the most industrialized countries like the US need to import fantastic amounts of raw materials to keep their economy going. Britain, for example, imports half her food requirements. The oil embargo will hit Rhodesia hardest and is beginning to do so already. Authoritative sources give Rhodesia three months more to hold out against world sanctions.

Q—Mrs. Dasappa resigned her ministership in Mysore as a protest against relaxation of prohibition. Why did she not get support from even Gandhian Congress men?

N. VASUDEVAN Madras 8

A—Could it not be because position is more precious than principle? Furthermore, some sincere Gandhians now realize that compulsory prohibition has been a failure and see no harm in relaxing it.

**ANY QUESTIONS?
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Breaking New Ground

While Communist and non-Communist forces face each other across the Iron Curtain in Europe, the Himalayas in northern India and the paddy-fields of South-east Asia, HIMMAT's news-wires this week carry significant reports which we publish below. The speakers deal with the need for an idea to out-revolutionize Communism.

Rajmohan Gandhi What will change China?

CANBERRA, Australia

"Australia has a unique role to play in offering an alternative idea to China," said Rajmohan Gandhi, addressing the Moral Re-Armament "Canberra '66" Conference.

"I believe our long term and short term aim needs to be to erect a ring of nations around China that will steadily march forward in their practice of the revolution of MRA so that one day it can be given to the Chinese."

He declared that neither hate nor appeasement will ever change China or preserve the freedom of other nations. "There is another way," said Gandhi, "a tough way. It will require sweat and hard work for a long time by a large number of people to out-revolutionize China, and demonstrate in societies near China a revolution that is far more satisfying than Communism. Our chance lies in the fact that the young people of China today are no longer as enthusiastic about Communism as their fathers were."

Speaking of the Chinese people, Gandhi said that they are a great people, and any one who thinks he can plan the creation of a new world without including the Chinese is not living in a real world.

He said, "Vietnam is one of the prime examples in the modern world of a situation where a tough, bloody war has to be fought and fought and fought for a long term because at the right time the right revolution of MRA wasn't fought for adequately by enough people."

"The military defence of South Vietnam is absolutely essential. If a pull-out were organized in Vietnam, it would increase the Communization of Asia. We need now to take the ideology of MRA and make it regnant, real and relevant in Viet-

nam. In the long run the only solution in Vietnam is an idea to include Communist and anti-Communist and powerful enough to change both. Only then can there be peace with freedom."

Speaking about the economy of Asia, Gandhi affirmed passionately his belief that the out-dated economy of that continent could be changed, but not by Communism or Fascism.

"Whip and bullet can produce results at a great price, but economically they are not long sustaining. It is possible by the revolution of a new spirit spreading out which inspires men to work hard and honestly in team-work to achieve an economic progress that can surprise the world," he said.

He concluded, "Asia could be the pattern continent for the world, and to achieve this destiny Australia and New Zealand will have a great role."

South Vietnamese Diplomat Facing the Vietcong

CAUX, Switzerland

The Consul General for Vietnam in Paris, Mr. Nguyen Huu Tan, said here that the democratic forces in his country were strong enough materially to conquer the Communists, but the war was continuing because the Communists had a strong ideology and its opponents a weak one.

The Vietnamese diplomat was speaking at the Moral Re-Armament Conference "Race for Tomorrow", which has been attended by 1200 people, mostly youth, from 37 countries.

"I have come to Caux and helped my compatriots to come," he said, "in order to find an ideology stronger than the one facing us in our country. MRA can be the lever to bring peace and prosperity to my torn country."

Austrian Foreign Minister

Duties of an affluent society

CAUX, Switzerland

Dr. Bruno Kreisky, Austrian Socialist Foreign Minister, said today that Communism in Asia would be answered when Western nations made it their responsibility to see that no child in that continent went hungry.

"It is the duty of the European affluent society to give as much as it can from its riches to the non-Communist countries in Africa and Asia. Only through such an act can we prove our desire to lift the living standards of those countries out of the level of extreme undernourishment to a greater hope. The positive results of such a policy would show in a short time."

The issue in the world, he said, was not between concepts of Communism and anti-Communism. "We must present a positive, genuine alternative to the challenge of Communism," he said. "This must comprise the rich diversity of modern democracy. We must mobilize all the political, economic and cultural capacities of which democracy is capable. I see in Moral Re-Armament a way of mobilizing this alternative."

Many people, even statesmen, today believed that Communism was losing its aggressive character, and that the dispute between Russia and China would lead to the ideological disintegration of Communism, the Minister continued. Many saw in the liberalization of Eastern Europe a beginning of a democratization.

"I cannot warn strongly enough against this cruel illusion," he said. "Communism is not becoming more human. There is just developing within Communism a new power relationship. The principal disagreement is ideological and about how to Communize the world most speedily."

"I have been impressed," he said, "by the determination of the young people here to create a better tomorrow." A great bond was being created on a common denominator with people of all political and religious convictions.



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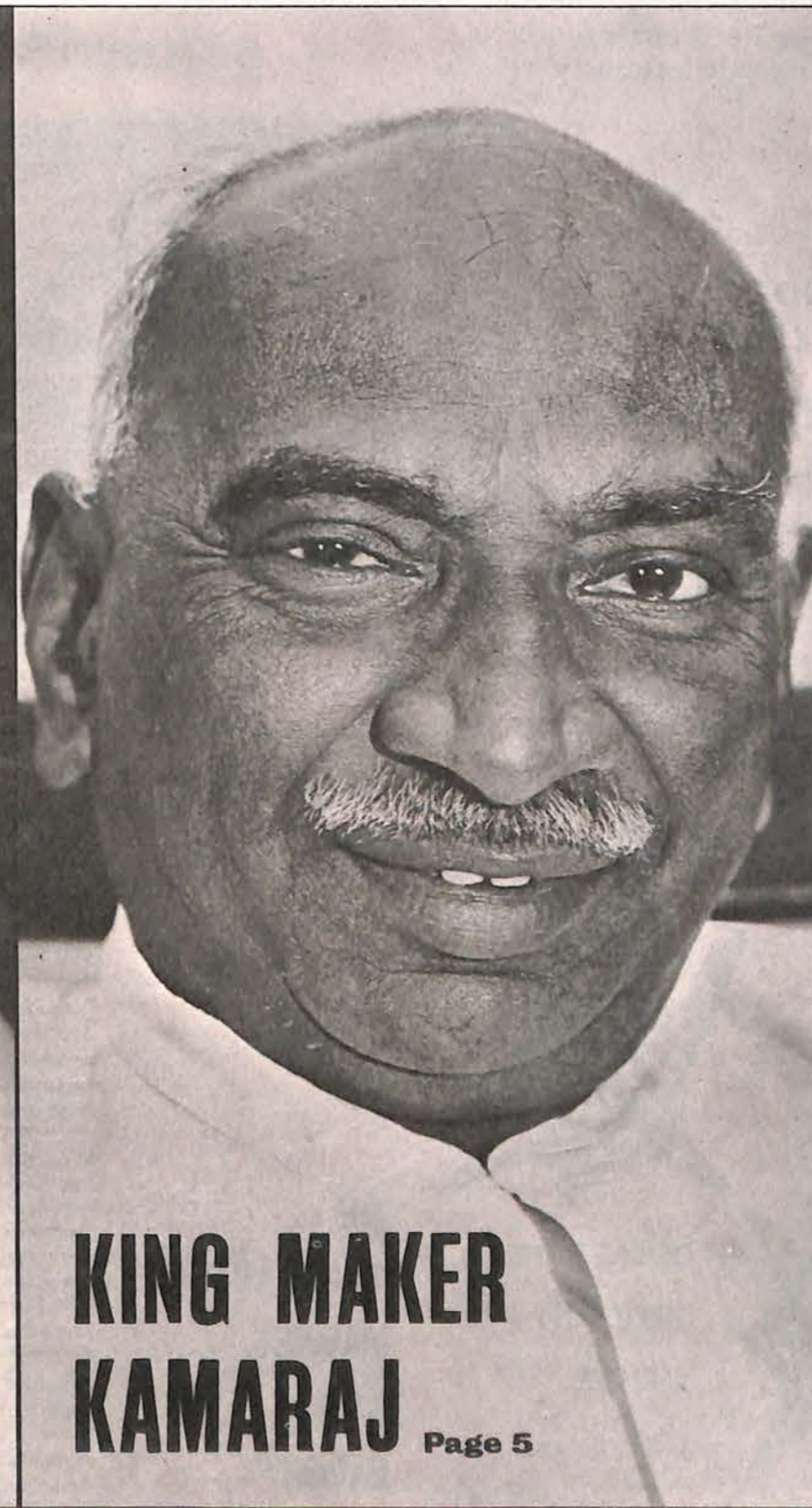
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Asia's new voice

WEEKLY



Indira Gandhi



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KAMARAJ** Page 5



Morarji Desai

Friday
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