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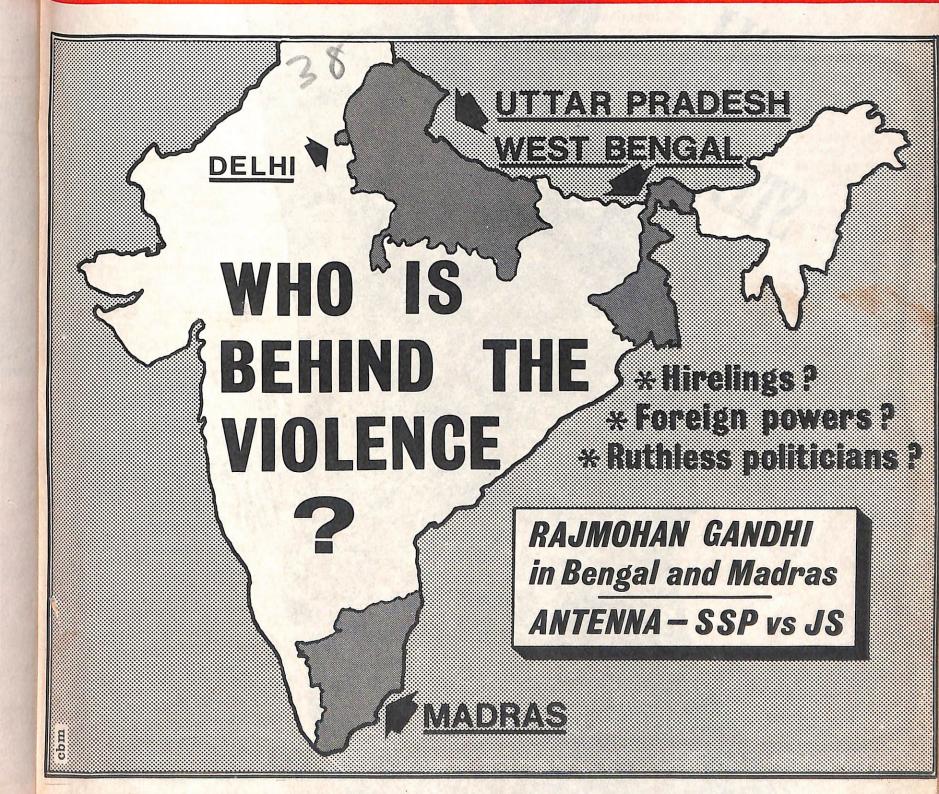
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# WEEKLY 30p

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ASIA'S VOICE

FRIDAY DECEMBER 29 1967



MAN OF THE YEAR 1967



## Editorials

sadly fail the nation.

### Lay language bogey to rest

Who is behind this recent spate of violence? Rajmohan Gandhi writes from Calcutta of rioters who appear to be paid for "performing a service". Who is paying them? Antenna writes from Delhi that the so-called language agitation in North India has nothing at all to do with language but that the SSP tried to steal a march over the Jan Sangh.

The vandalism of two trains being burned in Madras and attempts being made to prevent Delhi-bound trains leaving Madras have behind them undertones of an attempt to break the links of South and North. Respected leaders when they talk at such a time of "shedding the last drop of their blood" on the language issue

The most sane voice last week was that of Home Minister Y. B. Chavan who said, "Let us now forget this language controversy and concentrate our energies on constructive work."

The official Languages Bill is a concession to the South and it is best now that the language bogey is laid to rest. Whilst Rajaji's suggestions of a national convention on language would have been valuable earlier, to hold such a conference now would be to unleash

even more fury both in South and North. The link language meant to promote our unity has had the contrary effect. Unscrupulous men are fishing in its troubled waters.

In the final reading of the Languages Bill in the Rajya Sabha, reports *The Times of India*, the "conciliatory and tolerant tone of most speeches was totally vitiated towards the end when the SSP members Raj Narain and Gaure Murahari indulged in an obstreperous demonstration bawling in Hindi and gesticulating with their fists and finally walking out amidst boos from some members".

One might dismiss the behaviour of men like Raj Narain as a persistent desire to qualify as the Parliamentary clown were it not for the fact that his antics undercut the faith of people in Parliamentary life and democracy.

It is claimed that membership of the SSP has doubled since the elections but the good sense of some of its leaders seems to have been halved. Any party that seeks to advance on violence sows the seeds of its own disintegration. It is time that the saner elements in the SSP exerted some restraint on its actors.

### Diplomatic dazzler

PRESIDENT JOHNSON'S dazzling diplomatic tour last week culminated in confrontation with Pope Paul — leader of the world's greatest economic and military power met the head of one of its most effective spiritual organisations. En route to Rome he had met President Ayub, with his close links with Peking. Combined with rumours from Washington of secret talks with the Viet Cong it seemed the President was staging a fresh spectacular peace offensive to end the Vietnam war.

Yet a few days earlier Johnson had assured his own countrymen there would be no weakening of the US stand in Vietnam. On his flying visit to the US Vietnam base at Cam Ranh Bay he told his generals, "We have set our course. We are not going to yield. We are going to wind up with peace with honour."

Chances are the President wants to keep his options open — increased military pressure (the US build-up in

Vietnam still continues), or peace if it can be secured with at least the appearance of honour. What is certain is he wants to show results, one way or the other, before next November's Presidential election. Communist strategy, and that of their "peacenik" allies within America, is equally geared to that date.

Kites flown in Washington by Vice-President Humphrey and others about admitting the Viet Cong, under certain conditions, into the Saigon Government, have a familiar ring. In the 1940's the US pressured China's Kuomintang Government into including Mao Tse-tung's men. Then, it was said, Mao's men were "agricultural reformers" not Communists. Now, it is being said, the Viet Cong are nationalists only, not Communists nor agents of Mao or Moscow. No doubt there are some who would like to see the US "do a China" in South Vietnam.

#### A time for resolutions

NEW YEAR is a time for resolutions, prophecies and wishes. For 1968 here are some suggestions:

Politicians, instead of boring countless lakhs with digressions on their own rightness and opponents' wrongness, RESOLVE to call a moratorium on talk unless they have something new to say.

Čabinet Ministers, instead of setting up committees to dodge making decisions, RESOLVE to take responsibility and act.

Hoodlums, who disgrace various good causes by burning public property in their name, RESOLVE to leave their kerosene and crackers at home.

Government, RESOLVE to stop crimping the nation's burgeoning 20th century economy with 19th century economic philosophy, and stop distorting its foreign policy with hangover attitudes from the colonial past.

Defectors, who sell their principles for place, RESOLVE that democratic government shall not be an auction where perks of office go to the highest bidder.

Finally, some predictions for the coming year: *India's sportsmen*, if they play all out to win, will have a good year.

Terrible twin septuagenarians, de Gaulle and Mao, will continue to capture headlines so long as their critics lack their passion and sense of historic mission.

Birth control pundits will look more and more absurd as their efforts continue to backfire.

For our own part, we REDEDICATE ourselves to attack humbug and tyranny, uphold the rights of the common man, and fight for national goals which alone can give India unity and progress.

## Briefly Speaking...

#### No festive season

ON CHRISTMAS DAY, the climax of the season of "peace and goodwill", HIMMAT received a dispatch from a Calcutta correspondent. He wrote:

"Calcutta will remember the tailend or 1967 as one of the bleakest Christmas seasons it has ever had. It was a red Christmas, because of the blood that was spilled on the streets. The common man is tiring of violence. He is so scared of it that he runs away and leaves the trouble-makers to rule the roost. The shopkeepers are grumbling. This has been their worst season. At Christmas there is usually a nearly every evening they have had to down their shutters. Office-goers are stranded coming home from work. Many of these are women."

Fortunately, there is more to Bengal than the bombs and bullets of last week. The rest of India is waiting to see once more the flame of patriot-

CHALTA HAI .. -

"He visits this place every year on

children's day."

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#### Asian Highway

THE UNITED NATIONS is expected to what can be done. approve of the 12-nation plan for setting up a permanent bureau in Bangkok for the Asian Highway. The 12 nations have also submitted a five-year construction plan for the highway which, when completed, will link Saigon with Europe. Standing out from the scheme at present, however, are Burma and Cambodia - two vital sections of the internaboom in business. But this season on tional thoroughfare accounting for 1240 miles of roadway.

The aloofness of Burma and Cambodia from Asian development is sad. This self-imposed seclusion has not benefited these two nations or their neighbours. UN officials in Bangkok report that China has regarded the highway as an "imperialist plot to encircle China" and that neither Burma nor Cambodia wishes to offend Peking.

#### Honour due

WHILE MANY NATIONS sent their Presidents and Prime Ministers to pay homage to the memory of Australia's late Prime Minister, Mr Harold Holt, India, one of the greatest beneficiaries of that country's aid and friendship, sent a Minister of State. On two counts it seemed a poor choice. It certainly implied that the Indian Government did not regard the event as of great importance. But also it meant that India's representative at the funeral could not, for protocol reasons, be on a par with most of the other Asian, British and American representatives. Perhaps the fact that SEATO nations and Vietnam war allies were heavily sprinkled among the mourners influenced New Delhi. But at a time like that we would like to think such considerations were ignored.

#### **Bumper harvests**

How MANY grains of rice can be harvested from the planting of one seed? The answer is, enough for an average man for two days - or, in other words, 50,000 grains. Incredible? Well, Japanese farmer Kazuo Hoshino proved it in the last annual contest conducted by the Japanese Ministry of Agriculture. It is true that ordinary farmers don't normally produce

It's better to debate a question without settling it than to settle a question without debating it.

JOSEPH JOUBERT, 1754-1824

in Japan, but farmer Hoshino's hothouse experiment, though perhaps not a commercial proposition, showed

LATEST REPORTS are that India's harvest will indeed be an all-time record despite recent disclaimers. The latest estimate is 96 million tons, or 20 million more than last year and seven million more than the previous record. Congratulations to HIMMAT's "Man of the Year" the Indian farmer (see page 15).

#### Music without strings

ACCORDING to the Soviet magazine Nedelya, US Central Intelligence agents have been planted in various orchestras sent to the Soviet Union on tour as part of the US-Soviet cultural exchange programme. These "two-faced" musicians, according to the magazine, were the reason for wrong notes sometimes heard during concerts. Which only goes to show that the Russians can't expect to have American music without strings!

Birbal

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## from the Capital

## Hindi warriors gird up for another round

by ANTENNA

NEW DELHI — The zealots of the "down with English shout even louder than their rivals. up with Hindi" movement have tasted blood, and they are now thirsting for more. Elated by their success in getting the Government to whittle down the language amendment

bill until it had lost practically all the purpose for which it had been intended, they are reported to be preparing for another assault which will gain them their final objective in the quickest possible time.

was not won so much in the halls of whole agitation was purely artificial, Parliament as in the streets of Delhi, Lucknow, Allahabad, Kanpur, Varanasi and other cities in the Hindispeaking belt in the north, which its inhabitants like to imagine is the heartland of Bharat. For days, law and order were at a discount in these cities, while the Sainiks-the "Red Guards" of the Hindi cultural revolution-held unimpeded sway.

During these days of revolutionary glory, it appeared as though the police force, notably in the Capital, had gone on a mass holiday. There was little or no attempt to check the Sainiks as they went about merrily defacing signboards, hoardings, street names and compelling motorists to remove their number-plates in Roman letters and Arabic numerals and substitute ones in Devanagari script.

There was a good reason for the police indifference in Delhi. The simple explanation is the fact that we have a Jan Sangh administration in the Union Territory, and a nod from the high-ups was as good a hint as any to the policemen.

The traffic law in Delhi compels motorists to have number-plates in Roman and Arabic. But the administration has now "advised" the police not to prosecute owners of motor vehicles with plates in Devanagari.

A great deal of the furore occasioned by the original Bill in the Hindi region was not due to large-scale dissatisfaction with it. Far from this being so, the number of people among the 200 million Hindi speakers in Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh and Bihar who really got worked up over it was infinitesimal. The mischief which was widely reported in the press was the work of a minority of students, backed by unemployed semi-literates, in whom the cities of the north abound.

Who were the men behind the mischiefmakers? The leaders of the Jan Sangh and the Samyukta Socialist

the result of the keen tussle for political supremacy between these two parties in the Hindi region, their main stronghold.

The Jan Sangh leaders were prepared to accept the original resolution as proposed by the Home Ministry, and are said to have indicated their acceptance to Mr Chavan. But when the Samyukta Socialists denogo back on their word and try to

Curiously, the course adopted by the Samyukta Socialists arose out of inner-party rivalries stemming from the bitter struggle for the mantle of Dr Ram Manohar Lohia. The main contenders are Mr Raj Narain, a The first-round triumph of Hindi Party, more so the latter. In fact, the member of the Rajya Sabha from Uttar Pradesh, who equates Socialism with the installation of Hindi as the national language, and Mr Madhu Limaye, a member of the Lok Sabha from Bihar, who, despite his understanding of and sincere belief in Socialism, must perforce outdo Mr Rai Narain to win the support of the Hindi fanatics in the Socialist camp.

> A similar situation developed during the course of the legislation in the unced it and prepared to fight it tooth anti-Hindi camp. The Dravida Munand nail, they had no option but to netra Kazhagam leaders were prepar-

> > CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

## On your toes

#### **EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HUMBUG**

THE RASH of "defection" spreads from Indian politics to the international arena.

Mr Aziz Oulong-Zade, 28-year-old Hindi lecturer and son of a member of the Supreme Soviet, walked into the US Embassy last week. He was invited to make himself at home.

During the subsequent drama, the British High Commissioner, after humming and hawing, finally announced that his Government had acceded to Mr Oulong-Zade's request for asylum, the Soviet Government cancelled his passport, and External Affairs frantically tried to "have the body" of the gentleman. Why?

When Mrs Gandhi was asked in the House whether the Russian would have the fullest freedom to decide his future, Mrs Gandhi weakly replied that the matter was being looked into in the context of Indian laws.

Mr Chester Bowles, the US Ambassador, is an experienced diplomat. Reluctantly he persuaded Mr Oulong-Zade to leave the Embassy's sanctuary and place himself in the hands of External Affairs. He did so only after he felt able to tell the young lecturer that the Indian Government had orally assured him that the Indian authorities would provide him "safe and secure accommodation" for

sufficient time for him to communicate his own wishes regarding his future.

Somewhat apprehensive, Mr Oulong-Zade replied, "I do not understand why it should take any substantial length of time to communicate to the Indian officials my wish to go as soon as possible to live in the United King-

On Monday the Ministry of External Affairs reportedly denied that it had given Mr Bowles any assurance, verbally or in writing. Mr Oulong-Zade would be dealt with according to laws governing a foreigner without any valid passport.

The whole episode smacks of humbug and double-dealing. Did Ambassador Bowles lie? Or was his confidence in the integrity of our External Affairs Ministry misplaced?

Mrs Gandhi strongly rejects the insinuation that India is a camp follower of Russia. "I shall not tolerate any head of Government pressurising me on any issue," she said.

Pressure from a head of Government is one thing. Subtle persuasion is another. Perhaps we shall never know the truth of Soviet pressure in the case of Mr Aziz Oulong-Zade, or even of Svetlana.

Meanwhile, it is reliably learnt that External Affairs will not interfere with the continuing party defections

Recloser

#### This week HIMMAT...

WISHES its readers a Happy New on foot.

LAUDS Tamilnad Public Works Minister M. Karunanidhi for tackling, in person, riotous students at Madras Central Station and getting them to withdraw.

THANKS the Canadian Government for writing off payments worth 10 million, due from India for wheat loans.

SYMPATHISES with DMK MP V Krishnamoorthi, who walked out of a Parliamentary Committee on agriculture because he could not understand the proceedings conducted in Hindi, and WONDERS how many MPs face the logical consequences of language zealotry.

ASKS why the air of mystery about the two submarines said to be joining the Indian Navy shortly?

IS DELIGHTED with the "selfcorrective" system adopted by the Mysore Cabinet whereby a Minister arriving late for a meeting has to pay Rs 5 fine, and PROPOSES that this system be extended to all Ministers and politicians addressing public meetings.

IS PERPLEXED by the UN's condemnation of Britain holding a referendum to let the inhabitants of Gibraltar decide their own future.

CALLS on the Post Office to take firm action against stealing by its employees, following renewed press reports of pilfering of foreign stamps and parcels.

NOTES with interest the agreement between India, UAR and Yugoslavia to cut tariffs on over 500 articles of export between them, but WISHES India could get rid of obnoxious octrois and other internal duties which handicap commerce and harass citizens inside the country.

AGREES with the Pope's Christmas message: "Peace must be in men's hearts before it can be made real in civil institutions or the events of history"

ed to go along with the Government in amending the bill to placate the gress Parliamentary Party.

But at this point the irrepressible Mr Kamaraj shoved his oar in. He criticised the Government for mak-Year, and fanatics, who go round ing alterations in the amending legiburning trains and buses, a brace slation. The DMK smelt in this an of blisters and corns from going attempt on the part of Mr Kamaraj to win some popularity for the moribund Tamilnad Congress in Madras and immediately stiffened their attitude. Observers here wonder what made Mr Kamaraj do his turn at this critical juncture, for he could not have been so politically naive as to be unaware that it would seriously embarrass the Government. The only answer seems to be that this action was deliberate, designed to hit Mrs Gandhi for putting paid to Mr Kamaraj's high hopes of getting re-elected as Congress President.

Of course, Mr Kamaraj's stated reason for letting off steam was that he had not been consulted before the changes in the amending bill had been made. To which Mrs Gandhi's hostile Hindi elements in the Con- reply was that Mr Kamaraj had postponed the Congress session at Sangli without consulting her, thus throwing her heavy schedule of public engagements out of gear. This shows the extent to which the rift between the party's two topmost leaders has developed, observers point out.

Many Congressmen claim to see the hand of providence behind the Koyna earthquake. The problem facing the party leaders was how to call off the session at nearby Sangli without making it appear that this had been done under threats from the Sampoorna Maharashtra Samiti of mass agitation at Sangli against the Mahajan Commission recommendation on the Mysore-Maharashtra border dispute. So what could have been more providential in the circumstances than the quake?

## A major loss to India

ernment, the untimely death of Mr Harold Holt is an occasion for more than the formal condolences associated with such happenings. For Mr Holt had in his short tenure as Prime Minister of Australia revolutionised that country's attitude towards Asia and had appeared to New Delhi as a man who was prepared for fruitful political and economic collaboration between the two nations for their mutual interest as well as in that of the other Asian nations who feared the domination of China.

Mrs Gandhi's forthcoming visit to Australia was not therefore a mere courtesy call from the head of one Commonwealth Government to that of another but was to be the forerunner of a steady inter-change of ideas between New Delhi and Canberra until they could formulate a joint policy to meet the challenges, political as well as economic.

Mr Holt's departure therefore leaves a big void, and although his successor has given an assurance that he will pursue with equal vigour Mr Holt's Asia policy there are doubts as they would have been if Mr Holt had been alive to bring this policy to fruition.

In any event, Mr McEwen is only a caretaker Prime Minister and whether the man who takes his place will follow the same policy assiduous-

NEW DELHI - For the Indian Gov- ly remains to be seen. For this reason, Mrs Gandhi inquired from Canberra shortly after Mr Holt's disappearance whether her visit should be put off until political conditions were more settled in Australia and the new Government was firm in the saddle, but she was assured this was not necessary.

A clear understanding and alliance with Australia is considered a matter of urgency among some foreign policymakers in New Delhi. With the increasing signs of Soviet unfriendliness in the last few weeks, which mark a shift from the neutrality towards India and Pakistan which became apparent in 1965 to a more positive attitude bordering on hostility. India needs a new fulcrum of sup-

This must be achieved without dependence on any one power, or group of great powers, and the most acceptable alternative therefore is a close association with India's South East Asian and Far Eastern neighbours and the somewhat more distant people of the Antipodes.

Mr Morarji Desai's visit to Japan here whether things will be the same some time ago was a sounding in this direction. Mrs Gandhi's visit to Australia and New Zealand was to have been another. That they may bring some satisfactory results even without the powerful stimulus Mr Holt would have provided is a strongly felt hope here.

## Red shirts and green

#### FROM G. S. KARTHA IN TRIVANDRUM

WHEN the people or organisations start forming their own volunteer forces in the name of self-defence, one might ask the question "Then, what are the police meant for?" Unfortunately in Kerala, ruled by the Marxist-dominated United Front, private armies are coming up.

While everyone is familiar with the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS), the militant Hindu volunteer corps, one fine morning Keralites heard of a "Gopala Sena" — the Marxist volunteer corps whose initiator is Marxist leader A. K. Gopalan

The Gopala Sena is said to be a militant organisation, but according to Mr Gopalan, over 30,000 Marxist volunteers being trained in Kerala are only meant for self-defence.

Whatever the objectives of the Gopala Sena, its formation has produced a scare in the State. The Right Communists have their own suspicions about the Marxist Party's move. They are reported to be thinking of having their own volunteer corps. At least some of them think that the Marxists could use their volunteers to give a violent shake to the Right Communist hold on the trade unions.

Recently in Kottayam, the centre of rubber-kings, plantation magnates and big business interests, the newly-formed Citizens' Front consisting of the Congress, rebel Congress, and some Swatantra Party men, took out an extraordinary demonstration with flags bearing the insignia "SS", which stands for "Samrakshaka Sena" (Protection Force). This Sena also is meant for self-defence against possible attacks by the Marxists.

What one fails to understand is the reason for constituent parties of the ruling United Front trying to organise self-defence corps of their own, when the entire State machinery is Bazar exploded in the lift used exin their hands.

It is an open secret that the partners of the United Front Government are really worried about the build-up of the Marxist volunteer force in the name of self-defence, especially when experts are now examining the splinthe entire police force is under the ters of the bomb. There are reasons control of the Marxist Chief Minister to believe that it might not have

E. M. S. Namboodiripad. They also fidant of Nijalingappa), Mr B. D. know that a large number of Marxists and their sympathisers find their way into the police force now that verification of character is not there.

The majority of the people are at a loss to know who would defend their interests, as the police have already been neutralised as part of the Government's policy.

## MYSORE

## Nijalingappa's successor

FROM SUBASH THADANI IN BANGALORE

CHIEF MINISTER Siddahavanahalli Nijalingappa is on his way out of State politics to become Congress Party President. Political manoeuvre has reached its peak in top Congress circles on the issue of his successor.

Local pundits predict the new Chief Minister, in order of probability, will be Mr Veerandra Patil

Jatti (Food Minister), Mr Ramakrishna Hegde (Finance Minister, and young live-wire in the Mysore Congress) or Mr Devaraj Urs (Information and Broadcasting Minister, a remote possibility).

The final choice will certainly be prejudiced by petty caste differences. However, the major test of Nijalingappa's strength and popularity will be his ability to ensure a smooth transfer of power.

Opposition circles claim that Nijalingappa has no place in public life because in the recent past he has never successfully faced the people. He was defeated in the 1962 General Elections from Hosadurga. In the by-election arranged in Bagalkot, Nijalingappa was unopposed. In the 1967 General Elections Nijalingappa was elected unopposed.

In spite of this, Nijalingappa leaves Mysore State with the good wishes of the people. Mysoreans feel honoured that their Chief Minister is to become Congress President, the second Kannadiga (after N. G. Chandarvarkar of North Kanara) to head the national organisation. They feel sure he will be able to cushion disparate elements like S. K. Patil, Atulya Ghosh, Morarji Desai, Kama-(Public Works Minister, and a con-raj Nadar and even Indira Gandhi.

### WEST BENGAL

## Ajoy's bogus promise

FROM S. K. MUKHOPADHYAY IN CALCUTTA

MR AJOY MUKHERJEE, the dismissed Chief Minister, emphasised that the civil disobedience movement to be launched against what he and his associates term the "unlawful Ghosh Ministry" would be carried on peacefully. But the same old, sickening game of setting fire to trams, buses and other vehicles has been repeated with the usual mob fury.

alarming incidents of powerful bombs face. at vital places. The bomb at Lal clusively by high-ranking police offi-cials. Commissioner P. K. Sen, held up in a traffic jam, heard the explosion but did not realise it was inside his own office. Police and military

been made in this country.

While attempts are still being made to get over the constitutional impasse due to the Speaker's ruling, the sudden declaration of Deputy Speaker Haridas Mitra to dissociate himself from any party added extra sensitivity to the whole issue. Mr Mitra was elected on a Bangla Congress ticket last February. He has declared that presiding officers should on no account belong to any political

It is also alleged that Speaker Bijoy K. Banerjee's ruling was not entirely his own. Communist lawvers, like Mr Kumar Mangalam, the Right Communist and a former Advocate General of Madras, are reported to have helped the Speaker create the brainwave. Accordingly, this decision of the Deputy Speaker Climaxing these, there have been has come as a slap in the Speaker's

Efforts are still being made to summon the Assembly at an early date, when it is understood that no confidence motions are to be tabled against the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker. Though hesitancy by Congress continues, it is rumoured that the Congress will join the Ghosh Ministry by the third week of January.

## 1967 - the world in turmoil

the six-day Arab-Israeli war, devaluation of the pound, explosion of a hydrogen bomb by China, the Greek coup, relentless bombing of North Vietnam by US planes and the domination of General de Gaulle over European affairs.

WEST ASIA: The third round of the Arab-Israeli conflict — following 1948 and 1956 — was motivated by the announced threat of the Arabs to obliterate Israel from the world map, but, ironically, it ended in the rout of Arab forces.

BRITAIN'S WOES: Prime Minister Harold Wilson's three years in office failed to save the pound from devaluation by 14.3 per cent. The British lion was also mauled in its second effort to gain entry into the European Common Market. General de Gaulle, bent on making France a European third force, again vetoed Britain's application, demanding on top of devaluation — economic resurgence, termination of special relations with the US and looser bonds with the Commonwealth.

Britain also had its troubles in South Arabia. It was compelled to advance the date of independence for the colony to November 30. Hong Kong came under considerable economic pressure since Communist China instigated clashes within the colony and across the border.

provoked nation-wide protest rallies election prospects.

Since the beginning of 1961 800,000 civilians have been killed in South Vietnam and the number of combatants killed — including Viet Cong, South Vietnamese and US troops - rose to 208,380. After a 48-hour pause to coincide with Soviet

Elections in South Vietnam, in which Lt. General Nguyen Van Thieu was elected President and Marshal Nguyen Cao Ky Vice-President, were Soglo of Dahomey was ousted by hailed as a marked step towards the army commanders, restoration of parliamentary rule.

Glassboro Summit between Johnson ed in a civil war. The Eastern Reand Kosygin on June 23, strong ap- gion under Lt. Col. Ojukwu broke peals for peace by Pope Paul and his away and formed an independent creation.

in Rome all stressed the urgency of ending the conflict.

CHINA: The Great Cultural Revolution, begun in November 1965, petered out after bloody clashes between pro-Mao and pro-Liu factions, with Liu Shao-chi reported overthrown many times while still retaining his position.

China's growing might as a nuclear power caused global concern. On June 17 China announced the explosion of its first hydrogen bomb. In July it reported plans to test a medium-range ballistic missile with a nuclear warhead across Indian territory into the Indian Ocean. Later the United States, alarmed by this development, announced that it was building a massive nuclear missile

The formation of the Association South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN) in August was a step towards the unity of Asia in the face of China's growing threat.

China clashed with India and provoked diplomatic quarrels with the Soviet Union, UK, East Germany, Burma, Indonesia, Cambodia and Kenya.

The Sino-Soviet feud neared breaking point when, on February 7, China informed the Soviet Union that the "security of Soviet Embassy staff could no longer be guaranteed off the Embassy grounds".

VIETNAM: The war in Vietnam UPHEAVALS: It was really a "Greek" tragedy for King Constantine and his people. In April, the and impaired President Johnson's Army had staged a coup to forestall an election victory by the left-leaning George Papandreou's Centre Union Party. Since then it had ruled the country with an iron hand and a censored press. The King, under whose guidance a counter-coup was attempted on December 13,

On November 5, President Sallal fled to Rome. the bombing of North Vietnam of Yemen was overthrown; on turned into a gradual escalation.

Elections in South Vietnam December 15, Colonel Boumedienne of Algeria announced that his Government had smashed a plot; and on December 17 President Christopher

Nigeria, once regarded as a model U Thant's untiring efforts, the of democracy in Africa, was engulf-

SPECTACULAR EVENTS of 1967 were unique talks with President Johnson state called Biafra, but the Federal forces under General Gowon were gaining control by the year's end.

> GERMANY: A significant break from the policies of former Chancellors Adenauer and Erhard was Bonn's decision to establish diplomatic ties with Rumania. The Hallstein Doctrine under which Bonn broke off ties with any state granting recognition to East Germany (except Russia) was given the go-by.

PROGRESS: But the year was not without its bright spots. The draft Non-Proliferation Treaty between the US and Russia was a step towards world peace. Kenya and Tanzania decided to form an African Common Market. Sir Francis Chichester made a solo voyage in his yacht round the world. On September 27, the Big Four Foreign Ministers met after two years and decided to discuss some of the pressing world problems. Canada marked its 100th anniversary by the greatest international exposition ever with the theme "Only the Mind Can Create Man". In Capetown Dr Christian Barnard and a team of surgeons transplanted a human heart. Though the patient, Mr Louis Washkansky, died 18 days later it was reported not because of any heart defect.

Except for two major tragedies it was a year of further progress in man's soaring space ventures. On January 28 three US astronauts lost their lives at Cape Kennedy while rehearsing a spectacular space trip; while on April 24 Soviet cosmonaut Vladimir Komarov plummeted to death as his spacecraft parachute

A Soviet spacecraft soft-landed on Venus on October 18 and for the first time man had a closer look at the surface of this carbon-dioxide

A day later America's Mariner V also flew past Venus. On October 28 two unmanned Soviet spaceships automatically linked up and separated in space. These Russian achievements climaxed celebrations marking 50 years of the Soviet Revolution.

SALUTES: Among the notable deaths of the year were Sir Frank Worrell and Earl Attlee. On December 17, Australia lost her Prime Minister, Harold Holt, drowned while swimming, his favourite re-



### Anarchy threatens Ceylon education

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

COLOMBO The Minister of Education, Mr I.M.R.A. Iryagolle, must be wishing he had not taken over full control of Ceylon's universities under last year's Higher Education Act. He has now had to close the Universities of Colombo and Vidyalankara, following a bitter student strike of over six

"status" felt by the students when of the world — is also a problem. It their university, previously a branch is small wonder that the Director of the University of Ceylon, was re- General of Education recently said named the University of Colombo. his department was "overburdened". It had led to a mass invasion by 2000 Add to this an acute shortage of students of the University premises, dedicated, unselfish educationists, and to a petition signed by 5000 be- and add also the Ceylonese facility ing presented to the Government at for throwing every issue into the the House of Representatives. The maelstrom of politics, and you have Minister of Education, in the absence a situation which is close to anarchy. of the Prime Minister, refused to meet the students who then went to courage to rescind the Higher Eduthe delighted Opposition leaders.

system, which has some 3,000,000 higher principle to run the system, pupils and students, all receiving free /the situation might still be saved.

The strike was due to the loss of instruction — as in no other country

If the Minister has the political cation Act, as he is said to be consi-The vastness of Ceylon's education dering, and if he can find men of

### Stability ahead for Indonesia

FROM PETER HINTZEN

THE HAGUE Political commentator G. B. J. Hiltermann, just back from Indonesia, analyses its future prospects in Holland's newsmagazine "Elseviers Weekblad". He sees a period of political stability ahead.

Indonesia, he says, is ruled by a Dutch) because they all went to the group of intellectuals and semi- same Dutch schools and universities. intellectuals who know each other and often are related to each other, to this group. It explains why there Among themselves they speak "Jampur" (a mixture of Indonesian and

Even the opposition leaders belong

is such a large measure of tolerance between the men who wield power and those who have wielded or want to wield it. In the wake of the October 1965 coup attempt, there was terrible bloodshed, but not, barring some exceptions, within this group.

#### No revolutionary forces

Mr Hiltermann foresees stability because Indonesia's ruling intelligentsia is not seriously challenged either by domestic or by foreign foes. He does not, however, exclude the possibility of a Palace Revolution within the group - though this would not change much.

As a party, Communism is finished, opines Mr Hiltermann. It used to be the best organised force in the country. But as it is now literally decapitated, it does not stand a chance.

#### CANBERRA - President Johnson, Prime Minister Wilson, and Prince Charles and several other heads of

The week in ASIA

state attended a memorial service for the late Prime Minister, Mr Harold Holt. SAIGON - The United States

stepped up its troop commitment to Vietnam. A new brigade of 4000 combat-ready forces arrived as part of the 50,000 "bonus package" offered to General Westmoreland by President Johnson.

WASHINGTON - China conducted its seventh nuclear test, reported the US Atomic Energy Commission. The test was said to be in the low-yield range and was conducted in the Lop Nor area, China's regular testing ground.

COLOMBO - South African coal. with its superior burning power, may replace Indian coal on the Ceylon Railways, in spite of Indian coal being cheaper. Reports say that trade circles have urged the Government to accept a South African tender and help build an "immense stock of goodwill" between the two countries.

DACCA - China offered Pakistan a new interest-free 200 million rupee credit, announced Mr M. Ahmad, Deputy Chairman of the Economic Planning Commission. This credit will be repayable over 20 years by exports to China.

MANILA - Malaysian and Philippines Foreign Ministers agreed to leave open any official talks on the Philippines' claim to the Malaysian State of Sabah.

BANGKOK - Government plans to teach Chinese in all municipal schools. This is to prevent the clandestine teaching of Chinese by parents which allows indoctrination of Communist ideology.

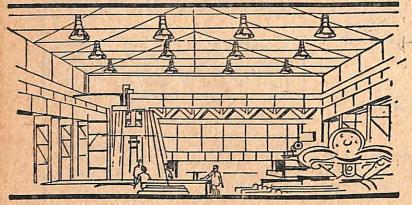
TOKYO - Foreign orders for Japanese-made ships will be 33 per cent lower this year. The backlog of orders, however, will reach a record 14,346,000 gross tons.

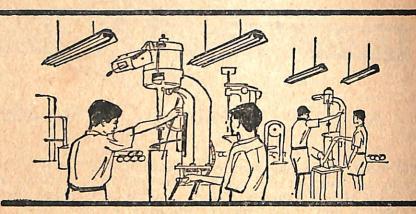
MANILA — The International Rice Research Institute has announced the discovery of a new and improved variety of a "miracle rice".

HONG KONG - Chinese Premier Chou En-lai told a mass rally in Peking that the Viet Cong were winning "significant victories". The Cultural Revolution had strengthened China's hand to help the Vietnamese, he said. ODAWARA - A tree jutting from

a cliffside stopped the suicide plunge of an 80-year-old Japanese bank president. But Yuko Kudo, who left a suicide note, apparently got stuck in the tree and froze to death.







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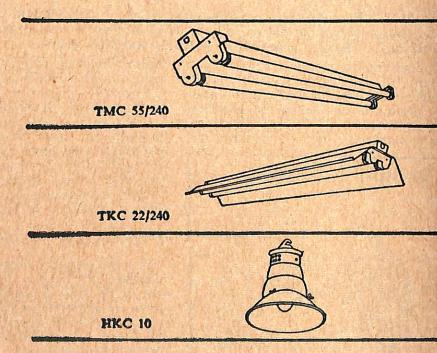
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## FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

The only other organised force are the Muslims, but their leaders, the Ulemas, are too conservative to become a revolutionary force. The other parties are largely high-spirited debating societies of intellectuals with little following among the

This does not mean there are no problems. The extent of inflation that Indonesia has gone through has not been seen anywhere in the world. Only Germany's devastating experience of the 1920's can be compared to it. The peak, reached in 1966 when prices rose by 50 per cent, now seems to be over.

But at almost all levels they have to Indonesian people can abolish hunger fetch for themselves. Only 260,000 and hate.

of Indonesia's 100 million inhabitants pay taxes, so a mere 1.5 per cent of the national income flows into the State's coffers. As a result, Generals as well as soldiers have to see where to find the money. It is common practice for soldiers to stop cars and ask for a contribution to some vague cause. Privileged bungalow owners are asked to give "a few rupiahs" for their "protection".

#### Take advantage of stability

The army owns, the nationalised Shell oil installations, the navy has taken on the shipyards and the air force seeks much-needed revenue from the airlines and airplane assembly plants.

Inspired leadership, however, could use the present stability to mobilise The armed forces are in charge. Indonesia's vast potential so that the

#### De Gaulle and the Arab world

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

RABAT General de Gaulle's press conference was heard over the radio by multitudes of Moroccans. The General has the ear of the Arab world. And it looks as if he is about to have more than their ear.

have beaten a path to the General's door. King Hussein of Jordan has visited him three times. The Foreign to the General's favourable winds blowing between France and the Middle East, it looks Minister of the UAR was received as if France will be given the job. warmly at the Elysee Palace. The This will represent a vast source of Syrian Prime Minister, General Zorayan, also went to Paris. President de Gaulle has been invited to Iraq. At the Summit Conference of the Arab League States in Rabat next month, de Gaulle's Middle East policy will be carefully studied.

This diplomatic activity is being consolidated by economic agreements between France and the Middle Eastern countries. A contract has just been signed between the French company, ELF, and the Iraq Government, giving the French research rights in the rich petroleum field of Ronqualliah. And, most important development of all, France is now bidding for the exploitation rights of Iraq's vast sulphur mines in competition with the USA.

#### Iraq answer to sulphur deficit

Iraq has rich sulphur deposits in Mossul. Since 1964, world production of sulphur has been insufficient to meet world consumer needs. Sulphur is basic to the manufacture of fertilisers in the raising of food production. Last year the deficit of sulphur

Since last June, Arab statesmen this amount, if it is exploited proextra revenue for Iraq, almost as important as her petrol. It will also represent a solid gain for France in her relationship with the Arab world.

#### French policy

The Egyptian weekly, "Akhbar el Yom", announces that the UAR Government is about to sign a series of important agreements with France giving the French petrol company, ZRAP, boring rights in the Sinai Peninsula as well as in the districts of Suez and the Nile Delta.

The General's claim that France's policy in this region, as in other regions of the world, is founded on the respect for human values is usually believed in these parts, though some take it with a pinch of salt.

A wise French statesman, Robert Schuman, once said, "Democracy and her freedoms can be saved only by the quality of the men who speak in her name." This new relationship in the political and economic field between France and the Middle East, if it is woven by Frenchmen of heart and faith, as well as of brain and in the world amounted to one million technique, could be of immense imtons. Iraq is capable of producing portance to the future of mankind.

## The week in INDIA

MADRAS - Anti-Hindi mobs forced passengers to get down while they set fire to two trains. They sacked the Hindi Prachar Sabha and roamed about streets, defacing Hindi name-boards and burning

NEW DELHI - Deputy Prime Minister Morarji Desai announced steps for social control over general insurance. A controller will be appointed with wide powers to regulate premium rates and investment policies.

CALCUTTA — The civil resistance movement against the Ghosh Ministry continued unabated. A time bomb, said to be of Chinese origin, shattered a lift in the Calcutta Police headquarters. Former Chief Minister Ajoy Mukherjee and three of his dismissed United Front Ministry were arrested on the first day and then released.

SHILLONG - In a pitched battle between the Railway Protection Force and 1500 men of the railway staff 33 RPF men were arrested. The trouble arose when a special ticket-checking squad clashed with the railmen on the latter's refusal to show their passes.

CHANDIGARH — The Punjab Vidhan Parishad has unanimously passed the Punjab Official Language Bill declaring Punjabi in Gurmukhi script as the sole official language of the State.

MADRAS - Dr C. V. Raman, Nobel Laureate, propounded the thesis that, though the atmosphere is held down to the earth, it does not rotate with the earth.

NEW DELHI - Mr Aziz Ouloung-Zade, a Russian delegate of the Soviet Communist youth organisation, Komosol, sought asylum in the US Embassy. The Soviet Ambassador talked in vain with him at the Embassy to persuade him to change his mind.

BANGALORE - All hurdles in the way of the Mangalore port have been cleared. The first phase of the project, costing Rs 32 crores, approved by the Centre, involves a deeper draft of 40 feet.

COCHIN - To ventilate their anger over high sugar prices, the people of Kerala are offering tea or coffee to touring State Ministers without sugar.

JAIPUR - An Indo-German archaeologists' team found traces of prehistoric civilisations in the desert wastes of Rajasthan. They found material at Balotra and Tilwara dating back to the Stone Age.



#### Year of recession in Indian sport

THE YEAR 1967 has been one of recession in Indian sport. Grandiose schemes to popularise games and make the whole nation sport conscious have not gone beyond wishful thinking. Attendances at important competitions are falling, and even routine annual national championships have to be propped up with state subsidies. More significant than these is the slow but obvious degeneration of sportsmanship among participants and

This deterioration of sport in the nation as a whole should engage the serious. Club attention of the Government and the public. Young Indians should be brought up in better environments than the prevailing bitter controversies, frenzy and indiscipline where hooligans are presented as heroes, fanatics as crusaders and vandals as models for emulation. Otherwise it is difficult to visualise our sport keeping pace with other nations in the quality and the quantity of participants.

#### Title given up

COMING TO CONCRETE INSTANCES of sport retardation, we lost a world title when Wilson Jones, still at the top of his form, decided to retire prematurely from championship billiards and did not defend his crown at the recent World Championship in Colombo. Instead he participated in the Invitation Snooker International held in conjunction with the Billiards Championship, and was eliminated by Ceylon's

LONDON—Britain plans to speed its

withdrawal from East Asia, accord-

bill by over £100 million in 1968.

The decision will hasten Britain's

planned pull-out from Malaysia,

Singapore and elsewhere east of

MORE UK CUTS

FRENCH "NON"

The week elsewhere

#### Hockey set-backs

WHILE we ended 1966 as undisputed world champions in field hockey after winning the Asian title in Bangkok last December, our tour-ambitious team suffered a good few setbacks in the two trips to Europe last May-June and October. Besides Holland, West Germany and Pakistan, even Hornets, an English club side, inflicted a defeat on us. The year has thus lowered our hockey prestige also, though we still hold the Olympic and the Asian Championships.

#### Football doldrums

OUR FOOTBALL TEAMS for the Asian Youth Championship at Bangkok in April and for the Merdeka Invitation at Kuala Lumpur in August fared so poorly that we wisely desisted from entering the Asian Champions' Tournament. For record purposes it may be stated that India was placed eighth among the eleven competing teams in the Merdeka; and Indonesia beat us 6-2 in the Asian Youth quarter-finals. A visiting Tornado Club from Texas helped restore some prestige by being overwhelmed by scratch regional Indian teams, but a Lithuanian team, Zalgiris, pushed us back into the doldrums with their resounding victories and undoubted supremacy in technique and

#### Cricket chances

INDIAN CRICKET also has had a poor year in international matches. After losing the series against West Indies at home our team went on a short tour of England which proved disastrous not only in results but also in injuries and indisposition of team members. The showing in England earned us the odium of being a "second class" cricket nation. Our

#### meeting's chairman, West German Economics Minister Schiller, said, "The door for entry is not closed. Europe is incomplete." UK Premier ing to defence sources. The Govern- Harold Wilson said his Government ment is committed to cut its defence had "no intention of withdrawing our application to join," and immediately launched plans for direct economic

talks with France's five partners.

#### LBJ IN VIETNAM

CAM RANH, South Vietnam-President Johnson paid a surprise BRUSSELS-France again vetoed visit to this US military base on his Britain's entry to the European Com- way home from the memorial service mon Market when Foreign Ministers for Harold Holt, late Premier of of the six members met here. The Australia. Johnson exchanged Christother five voted for opening talks mas greetings with cheering US with Britain on her entry now. The troops and decorated 18.



End of an era? Krishnan (right) and Jaideep Mukerjea talk between sets.

cricketers are now engaged in a third international series, in Australia; and a fourth is to follow in New Zealand. The start of the Australian tour was miserable, with innings defeats at the hands of State teams but after the first Test began there were many signs of improvement despite skipper Pataudi's long absence through

A ray of sunshine was provided by our schoolboys, both in their home series against visiting Australian schools and against British school teams abroad. Unbeaten in Britain during a seven-week visit, they earned the affection of cricket fans there by their refreshing approach to the game as well as by their conduct on and off the field. What a contrast between these sporting students and the juvenile rabble that is shouting slogans and detroying national property at home!

#### Tops in Asian tennis

IN SPITE OF our tennis team's rout in the Davis Cup series against South Africa in Spain we can draw consolation from the fact that we are undisputedly the best in Asia. Even then our tennis achievements this year fall far short of the splendid showings of 1966 when our team went through the challenging nations to extend champion Australia in the final at Melbourne last December. With our champion Krishnan having announced his retirement from top-level tennis, India will have to fight hard again to equal, let alone surpass, the performances of recent years which may be rightly recorded in Indian tennis annals as the Krishnan era.

In other games, too, we have made no marked progress. Our athletics, aquatics, table tennis, shooting, badminton and weightlifting for instance, have been little to enthuse over, unless it be the record England-to-France Channel swim of Nitindra Roy in September or the performance of bantamweight Bishamber Singh in the recent World Wrestling Championships conducted by India Though Bishamber had to be content with second placing to Soviet champion Ali Aliev he has the distinction of being unbeaten in the series.

## • topscorer

## Who is your Man of the Year 1967 and why?

### Pope Paul commands the world's respect

First prize to T. Irumpanath, Hariari, Bihar

Baptist Montini, now Pope Paul VI, made no criticism, probably as a is that he directs the least troops, mark of high regard. admiration in the world of today. nations have generously responded Added to the grandeur of the Roman to his call for helping the poor and and the West alike. Men revere him simple crown replaced his golden that were so dear to his Lord. as the spiritual leader of 600 million triara (the triple crown worn by the ing poverty.

considerable statesmanship in dealing with world problems. On his historic trip to the United Nations his yearning for peace was manifested. "If you want to be brothers," he reminded the members of the world body, "let the arms fall from your hands."

#### Offer of mediation

When arms clashed in Kashmir and in Sinai, his voice was heard pleading for restraint. In the course of the current year he went a long way towards bringing the nasty war in Vietnam to an end, offering his good offices to mediate even at the expense of a visit to Peking if that could serve any purpose. The Communists, who brand any such move as "intend-

#### VIEWPOINT COMPETITION

\* Should all private schools in India be abolished?

Closing date: January 5

\*\* Nasser's closure of the Suez Canal must end, unconditionally. Closing date: January 19

Prizes: Rs 25, Rs 15

Send entries of not more than 500 words to Viewpoint, HIMMAT, First Floor, 294, Bazargate St., Bombay-1.

What is unique about Cardinal John ed to serve imperialistic designs,"

He is not a politician, yet shows week. Among the many who appre- for HIMMAT's man of the year 1967.

ciated this wonderful gesture, Dr B. R. Sen described it as "far beyond cash value". Thus to the poor he provides a pattern of austerity, and to the rich, generosity.

India of all the nations has won

the love and esteem of this man. Its people, and their aspirations and qualities, have fascinated him beyond rules the smallest region, and yet His "campaign against hunger" measure. In those thousands of commands the greatest respect and has paid great dividends. The richer faces who cheered him on his trip to Bombay, he "read something more than curiosity, an unexpected feeling Pontiff is the charm of his personality the underdeveloped. Deeds, how- of brotherhood" (HIMMAT, Dec. 1). that has made him dear to the East ever, speak louder than words. A He saw in them the "poor in spirit"

That his name has been proposed people and admire him for his sin- Popes down the centuries), which for the "Nehru Award" reflects the cere and personal efforts to solve the went to the poor. The gift of a dia- amount of goodwill this Westerner two most pressing needs of our day— mond ring and a cross presented to has gained among our countrymen. bringing peace on earth and alleviat- U Thant for the relief of human suf- Paul, who is something more than a fering earned £20,000 the other mere Pope, may be the best choice

### Spectacular success is not enough

Second prize to M. Francis, Vijayapuri, Andhra

WHEN searching for an answer to a but, on perusing this defence of the or another.

quite clear about what is meant by Man of 1967". What is the criterion by which we judge a person worthy of such a title? In my opinion, the man who deserves this honour is the one who has striven most to be a "real" man in every sense of the word. It is the man bring his personality to full flower- fellow men.

known Man" to whom we are all insociety.

The reader of these lines may be inscription to the "Unknown God"; a better place to live in.

question of this nature, one is tempt- unknown man, he may be convinced ed to concentrate one's attention on that it is not he who captures the those personalities who have had attention of the public by his outmost publicity this year, shining, standing success who deserves this perhaps, as great statesmen, politi- honour, but he who has spent this cians or scientists, or on those who year entirely dedicated to his duty have risen to fame because of some - perhaps a farmer hidden away in great accomplishment in one sphere the obscurity of an Indian village, or a teacher giving himself with selfless It is essential first of all to be devotion to the pupils whom it is his duty to form in their most impressionable years, or perhaps someone serving suffering humanity as a specialist in some branch of medi-

Spectacular success or the accomplishment of great deeds in themselves are not sufficient reason for who has made the greatest efforts to singling out one man from among his

A person may win admiration be-Who is he? Only God knows, for cause of some outstanding feat aconly God knows all His creatures complished, while at the same time perfectly. To me, he is the "Un- his private life may be marred by injustice, dishonesty, selfishness, bridebted, for, perfecting himself, he bery and corruption, all of which are has helped most in the betterment of ruinous both to individuals and society.

Therefore, my choice is "The Unas astonished as was the great Paul known Man," the just, upright, hardof Tarsus, who when in Corinth, working, charitable and honest man came across a monument with an who helps most to make this world

Suez.

## MEN OF THE **YEAR 1967**

In the search for an outstanding personality who could clearly be awarded the accolade of "Man of the Year" HIMMAT's editorial board considered a wide cross-section of nominees before deciding upon "The Indian Farmer" (see opposite page). Those considered included, in alphabetical order:

GENERAL ANKRAH of Ghana — FOR making Ghana once again respected by all nations through his persistent efforts to bring peace once more to Nigeria by reconciliation of the Federal Government and Biafra.

DR CHRISTIAN BARNARD of South Africa - FOR his skill and perseverance in transplanting a human heart which lived for 18 days, and for his grace in awarding the credit to his whole team.

PRESIDENT BOURGUIBA of Tunisia - FOR his sanity and objectivity on the Arab-Israel dispute and his courage in making his unpopular views known in Arab circles.

SIR FRANCIS CHICHESTER of Britain - FOR the dare, courage and skill displayed in his solo yacht voyage around the world, including navigation of treacherous Cape Horn.

GENERAL MOSHE DAYAN of Isreal — FOR a leadership, as Minister of Defence, that inspired his people in one of the most skillfully fought and shortest wars in history.

PRESIDENT DE GAULLE of France - FOR his tenacious and shrewd, though controversial, bid for the leadership of Europe.

MR MORARJI DESAI of India - FOR his spectacular come-back from what appeared a political wilderness to Deputy Prime Ministership and for acquitting himself - so far - with distinction.

MR CONRAD HUNTE of the West Indies - FOR his leadership, on and off the field, as Vice-Captain of the West Indies' Cricket Team, for his undaunted courage during the Calcutta cricket riot last January and for his constant battle to unite all races.

PRESIDENT JOHNSON of the United States - FOR resolutely holding to his course — on Vietnam while offering to talk peace "anywhere anytime", on the creation of his "Great Society", including greater civil rights, and on granting unparalleled foreign aid - in spite of public demonstrations and criticism of his policies in high places.

PRESIDENT LIU SHAO-CHI of China - FOR withstanding the full might of Mao's onslaught and continuing to sit firmly in his presidential chair (despite frequent announcements to the contrary) thereby reducing some of the frenzy of the rampaging Red Guards.

MR JAYAPRAKASH NARAYAN of India - FOR his sterling role in relief operations during the Bihar famine when, as President, he lent prestige to the Relief Committee by his dedication and labour that helped save the lives of thousands.

POPE PAUL VI - FOR his compassionate concern and action for peace in Vietnam and other tortured regions of the world and for his constant emphasis, as in the Encyclical Populorum Progressio, on the responsibility of wealthy nations for the poor and oppressed.

THE SHAH OF IRAN - FOR putting first the social and economic advancement of his people, thereby deliberately delaying his own coronation by 20 years and, incidentally, providing an example of conduct for monarchs and republicans alike.

GENERAL SUHARTO of Indonesia - FOR his finesse, foresight and firmness, as acting President, in redirecting the course of Indonesia's economy and politics after years of Sukarno's high living.

GOVERNOR DHARMA VIRA of West Bengal - FOR firm and fearless action when dismissing the Mukherjee Ministry in Bengal and for upholding the law, when there was near anarchy, by reinstating the authority of the police and the public's confidence in them,

## HIMMAT's Man of the Year-The Indian farmer-Maruthi Yadav

INDIA'S food problem is a world problem — like the Vietnam war or the Arab-Israel issue. In 1967 the Bihar famine captured world headlines. When India had a bumper crop this October, the world heaved a sigh of relief. The key figure in the race between food and population is the Indian farmer.

HIMMAT considered a number of world personalities but decided that the most important man of 1967 was the Indian farmer who wants to break out of the mould of centuries, try new methods and feed India's millions. HIMMAT found such a farmer in Maruthi B. Yadav in the village of Ambeghar in Satara district, Maharashtra. He is the symbol of his people. -Ed.

THE VALLEY in Satara District was greener than ever. Unexpected Dec- long English words like "improveember showers had made the fields ment". The Agricultural Officer with lush. Yet the roads were as dusty as ever. At a turning, the jeep slowed a matriculate.' down.

A typical farmer stood at the edge of his field. He wore a kurta, dhoti, chappals and a cloth wrapped round his head. His beard was 10 days old. He was about 65 years old. His sunken eyes spoke of the suffering of the 100 million farmers like him. Still, there was a twinkle in his eye, a dignified smile on his face.

His opening words in Hindi were arresting.

"We farmers work tremendously hard," he said. "If we continue to work hard for five years and nature blesses us, we need no longer import food from America. Give us the equipment and the capital and we will finish the job."

On his 10-acre farm inherited from his father, Maruthi grows rice, jowar, wheat and groundnuts. In the past five years he has increased his rice yield by three times.

How did you manage it? With special seeds?

"No. I adopted the Japanese method of cultivation."

Who taught you?

"The District Agricultural Officer. I used to sow seeds haphazardlycrowded in the field. I learnt to grow rice saplings and then plant them at a distance of 10 to 11 inches. As they are well spaced, they grow tall, and yield more."

Do you use fertilisers too?

"Yes, ammonia and superphosphates. But the best is animal manure. It doesn't spoil the land."

Maruthi's other secret of crop increase is terracing and levelling his land. He pointed to a flat field with jowar stalks.

"That was all hilly. It took me two years to level this plot of land."

How did you do it? "With the help of two bullocks, an instrument and a pick-axe."

He interspersed his narration with us, to my surprise, said, "Maruthi is

"Not matric," he shot back, "Cambridge!" He added with pride, "I passed Junior Cambridge but since then I have done no reading."

How did you get to such a school?

"My brother was in the Excise Department and he educated me. When he died I had to leave school."

How can we make India great?

"We'll uplift India through the soil. Then we can have factories and other things added. But the key is the earth. We can't compete with America in factories. But we can," he said proudly, "in our soil."



Then what is stopping us?

"I'll tell you what. Take my case. See that well. If only I had installed a pump, I could raise vegetables like tomatoes and make Rs 4000 every six months. But I have no capital and I can't buy the pump."

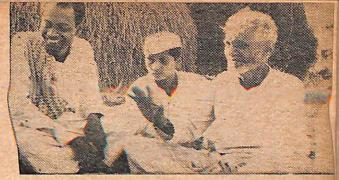
How much does a pump cost? "Rs 3000."

Why not get a loan from the Government?

can get the pump.'

Slowly he continued, "The Conto do es aram (rest and relaxation). hardship and I suppose we will put up with it."

Where do you invest your money?



Farmer Maruthi with his family

"I earn but don't save. In fact I am in debt, since I got my two daughters married off. I have paid some of it back but I still owe Rs 2000. Millions of our villagers are like me. They want to advance but (he pressed his thighs) they have no strength, no capital. I could do much better if I had two big bullocks to plough and pull water from my well. They would cost Rs 1000 each. I don't have that money. If we have the equipment we can uplift India.'

Maruthi lives with his wife and sons. The eldest, Babhan, is a primary school teacher and in his spare time helps father with the farming. His 12-year-old son Praladh, will soon go to high school. He says he would like to learn English there. Maruthi would like him to become a doctor. The eldest son is expected to take on the farming. His wife gave us tea in their temporary tin shed. She walked half a mile specially to get us sugar which is scarce. His cottage received some cracks during the recent earthquake and hence Maruthi lives in this makeshift arrangement.

He wakes at 4 a.m. and goes to bed at about 10 p.m.

Do you rest in the afternoons?

"I have no rest in the day," he said, meaning he doesn't need one.

Maruthi is typical of the farmers in India, who work hard, still remain in debt but who want to grow more and have the unconquerable will to advance. Maruthi wants to show the world that India need not starve and is doing something about it.

VARUNA

#### READERS' VOTES

"Don't talk of the Government. If I Some 45 personalities plus a general apply to them they will push me from collection including "the common one party to the other, ask me 50 man" and the linesman who reconquestions and wear me out before I nected earthquake-shattered Koynanagar to the outside world were nominated by HIMMAT readers. gress has smashed the Princely States Pope Paul received the greatest and in place of Princes installed the number of nominations (15%) while Ministers. Formerly the Princes used Madras Chief Minister Annadurai and Israel Defence Minister Moshe Today it is the Ministers who do the Dayan came equal second (11%). same. India is accustomed to any Some readers tended to select personalities from their own region or community. However, 17 of the 45 were from foreign countries.-Ed.

## CROWN BRAND

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CALCUTTA . MADRAS . RAJAHMUNDRY . HYDERABAD . DELHI . ADEN

HIMMAT, December 29, 1967





#### "Tobruk"

METRO, BOMBAY

UNIVERSAL'S "Tobruk" is good of its kind. From the opening sequence when frogmen rescue from internment the not-so-heroic Canadian Major Craig

(Rock Hudson), to the pyrotechnic finale when Craig in a captured German tank blows up the

Afrika Corps' fuel supplies and prevents them overrunning North Africa, the film crackles with action. It is superbly filmed in Technicolor and directed with unflagging pace by Arthur Hiller.

"Tobruk" is not about the famous siege. It concerns a raiding party, led by Colonel Harker, (played convincingly by Nigel Green), who cross the desert in a death-or-glory bid to destroy German coast guns and fuel dumps near the North African port. Half Harker's men are German Jews in German uniform.

Tension mounts between the oldschool Colonel and Bergman, the Jewish Rock Hudson (left) as Major Craig and Nigel Green as Colonel Harker in "Tobruk".

Captain (George Peppard), when a traitor is found in their ranks. But in battle prejudices are forgotten. The moral seems to be that against a common enemy, German (or maybe Arab?), Jew, American and British can work together.

"Tobruk" is one of a series of spectaculars which have all made propaganda for Israel. Films are usually made to make money or propaganda. This will probably do both.

### "The Bible"

REGAL, BOMBAY

THE TITLE is a misnomer: this mammoth 20th Century Fox film covers only 22 chapters of the first book of the Bible the stories of the Creation, Adam and Eve, Cain and Abel,

Noah and the Ark, the Tower of Babel, Sodom and Gomorrah and Abraham themes which have

inspired poets, painters and playwrights. Alas, Dino de Laurentis' production is an epic only of boredom. Its pace crawls, while the characters, condemned by Christopher Fry's script to speak in archaic, almost unintelligible language, are cardboard cut-outs rather than flesh and blood. An exception is Noah, played by John Huston, the film's director. Abraham (George C. Scott) wrestles mightily with

the "thees" and "thous". "The Bible" is often breathtakingly spectacular. No trouble has been spared, from filming a new volcano off Iceland for the Creation, to collecting 200 kinds of animals for Noah's Ark. But spectacle palls after a while and tends to swamp the people, whose relations with God is what the Bible is all about.

Honour to Producer de Laurentis for trying. But this film disappoints.

SCREENER



SHRIRAM VINYL & CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES, NEW DELHI-4

## This India

#### SCISSOR OUT THE CYNICISM

A young army cadet reiterated recently, "If only we could get rid of the spreading cynicism in the country, we would build the factories, dams and all else that is needed". What is behind this cynicism which is like a catching disease?

A friend from another nation asked me why so many people she had encountered advocated dictatorship in the country. She sounded baffled. Most people in India desire a change of some sort. There are very few who vote for the status quo.

We want change in the country without having to lift a finger ourselves. We hope a strong man will arrive and set everything right. Our indulgent, complacent life then can continue unchecked. Cynicism flourishes consequently.

Sensational headlines shout out daily about the national situation worsening. Agitations mount and the aggressive minority waging them becomes more vocal, militant and organised. At the same time, many things have struck me in the last few days about the simplicity, common sense and faith of the ordinary people of India.

A Harijan friend of mine has been visiting the Harijan Colony in Delhi. One morning she saw many young boys gambling in the colony square. She went up to them and said, "I used to gamble too, but I have decided to stop it. If everyone in India gambled like you, would the country be good or bad?"

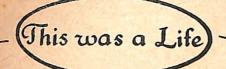
The boys shook their heads vigorously and decided unanimously that it would be bad. Piped one fellow, "Why don't you take it and burn it?" So the girl made a heap of all the stuff and set fire to it. Soon it was reduced to ashes. The boys thanked her. She came away.

A huge and hefty dock worker from UP who has been working in the port of Bombay for the last 35 years commented to me rather sadly, "The irony in India is that on one hand we riot, burn down railway stations, loot shops, destroy what is ours and belongs to our own land. Simultaneously we shout for progress."

A labour officer of a workers' colony in Delhi has recently learnt to listen to his inner voice. The idea of God speaking wasn't so novel. What was a new experience for him was listening to it in his heart and obeying it.

Could the New Year see a scissoring of cynicism, a surgical treatment for the sepsis of sin, and a strengthening of the faith which is our biggest asset and could be our greatest gift to the world?

Neerjo Chowdhuy



#### MIGETTUVATTE SRI GUNANANDA 1823-1890

IN THE SECOND half of the 19th century, Buddhism was in a state of decadence in Ceylon. The Buddhists were prohibited from holding religious festivals in many places and were compelled to register their births, marriages and deaths in church. Buddhist schools were non-existent and it was common for priests to be insulted in the streets.

Then from among the victimised arose a man with fire in his tongue who began to champion the revival of the Buddhist faith against all opposition. The period of 1860 to 1870 saw religious controversies raging across the land. Mass meetings and open-air debates were not uncommon. In four major public debates, he vanquished his opponents by the content and manner of his oratory.

In 1873 the famous Panadura debate was held, when the Christians summoned their very ablest men. Before them stood the calm, undaunted, fearless Migettuvatte Sri Gunananda. He annihilated their arguments. Never again did they venture to cross swords with

He was born at Balapitiya, in the southern province, and entered the Buddhist Sangha early in his life. His early sermons were delivered at Kotahena, a suburb of Colombo.

Millions flocked to him as he travelled through towns and villages. preaching over 4000 sermons and exhorting the people to preserve and practise their religion. He knew the greatest danger to a religion was from those who did not practise it.

He edited and published many Buddhist papers to speak out frankly and also to challenge the people. He helped to rescue Buddhists from apostasy and they in turn hailed him as their great champion.

It is said that he knew the Christian Bible by heart and also the Buddhist Bible, "Tripitaka".

His revered name will be forever remembered by grateful Buddhists. It was due to him that Buddhism is the majority religion of Ceylon, enjoying almost official status.

#### BEACON OF HOPE

RAIMOHAN GANDHI'S article "Can't they get together?" (HIMMAT, December 15) is most timely. If our leaders would meet in the spirit and in the manner suggested by Mr Gandhi, I am sure it would spark a new life and hope in our people.

How wonderful it would be if the opening of the new MRA Training Centre in Panchgani could provide this opportunity.

V. C. VISWANATHAN, Madras 32

#### LANGUAGE DEBATE

THE Language Bill has considerable interest for Canadian readers in view of our continuing language debate. I have followed your reports on the matter and agree with Freebooter's comments (HIMMAT, Dec 8). Perhaps your future editions will have some comment on the strange behaviour of the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam and the Left Socialist Party in opposing this Bill.

Surely some credit is due to the framers of this Bill. I imagine that the Bill will not silence the critics of English, but it is at least a step in the right direction. DAVID C. GRUBBE, Toronto 7, Canada

#### AFRO-ASIAN SUMMIT

THE trend of the Vietnam war is indeed alarming and the danger of the West Asian war still persists. Both Indian and Chinese forces are at each other's throat. The border between India and Pakistan still smoulders. In spite of having rich minerals and precious raw materials most of the Afro-Asian countries are bankrupt. Besides the above, in the name of Communism and Democracy the Afro-Asian countries are equally divided into two rival camps.

In order to promote peace and tranquility, to improve the economy and to foster close co-operation between the Afro-Asian states, a Summit Conference of heads of various Afro-Asian countries is very much the need of the hour. If



an opportunity is created for general discussion many outstanding problems can K. RAMASWAMY, Bombay 1 be solved.

## NEHRU'S ASSURANCE

THE outcry of the Hindi enthusiasts is not only that Hindi be imposed on the South but still more important, that English be totally banished! The egoism of these fanatics is clearly set forth by their thinking that the assurance given by Nehru with regard to the continuance of English, does not bind the future generation. They overlook the fact that Nehru's assurance was born out of an aspiration to see India united and not to please any state or any section of people.

S. CHANDRASHEKARA, Bangalore 12





## Bengal and Madras

by Rajmohan Gandhi

Calcutta, December 22

A TWENTY-MINUTE taxi ride this evening enabled me to glimpse at least part of the anatomy of a Calcutta riot.

"You won't get a taxi," a rick-

rule, like Pakistan," said the driver's escort. (Every taxi driver in this city has one.) Thirty seconds later we saw firemen trying to save a burning tram-car on Chowringhee Road, Calcutta's prestige street. A hundred yards later, on the same street, we found a bus in flames and left to itself, with no police or firemen around.

After about five seconds I heard a bang. A stone had hit the door to my left. When I looked back the thrower was preparing his swing for the next car.

Ahead was a traffic jam at the crossing of Chowringhee and Theatre Road. About thirty fellows, some in trousers and some in dhotis, were attacking a bus.

#### People resist rioters

My taxi driver was angry at the rioters. So are many others in Calcutta. A union leader told me, "The bus I caught was stoned. I had to struggle to get the passengers to stand and shield their heads at least. Afterwards they thanked me. But no one bothered to thank or compliment the young driver who showed courage. He was pleased and grateful when I congratulated him." Another labour organiser said to me today, "The people are beginning to resist the rioters."

The rioters I saw seemed hatefilled. They also appeared bought with money. Zest for immediate vandalism was discernible. Conviction for a cause was not.

Who hires these rowdies? It shouldn't be impossible to find

Nor should it be so difficult to trace the man or men who placed the time-bomb that exploded yesterday in the lift in Lalbazar police headquarters. "Definitely not of Indian make," an expert seems to have concluded about

the bomb from its splintered parts.

One gathers that the Bengal police, from senior officials to constables, were wholly antagonised by the leftist regime. The latter over-reached when it instructed shaw puller announced to me out- the police force not to intervene, side the Indian Airlines terminal. without ministerial permission, if However, after a half-hour wait I workers used illegal force against successfully hailed a cab.

"What Calcutta needs is Army high-level permission when libermanagement. Weakly waiting for ties, limbs and lives of citizens were threatened was not a condition policemen enjoyed.

They will require a growingly difficult combination of skills and virtues, and giving them the right kind of training and support is now an urgent task.

#### Schoolboys participate

Madras, where I spent 24 hours before arriving in Calcutta, was also a scene of demonstration and intimidation. But the intensity was much lower and damage to public property much smaller. (The writer left for Calcutta before the train-burning acts of the 22nd afternoon.) There the issue was Hindi. The demonstrations were intended, one was told, to convey that Madras would not yield to discrimination in favour of Hindispeaking people.

What actually took place did not enhance Madras' reputation for reason. Groups of schoolboys, a number of them as young as 10 or 11, were stopping all bicycles, cars, taxis and buses, and attempting to force passengers to repeat anti-Hindi slogans. The previous day somewhat older boys had blacked out or removed nearly all the Hindi signs in the city.

Freed from classes and exams, the boys looked gay and thrilled. But it was pathetic to see them become tools of ambitious narrow-minded people, mouthing vent the South from being domiphrases they didn't understand or nated by the North? couldn't even pronounce properly in the Tamil they were professing to fight for. Some particularly to fight for. Some particularly ness and insecurity? Can they loyal Tamil boys stopped a bus ness and insecurity? Can they afford to concentrate primarily on Telugu, thinking the script was how the rest of India treats Hindi, and extracted an anti-Hindi Madras, and miss the significance shout from its inmates.

The screening of Hindi films was forcibly prevented in a number of



and Gujarati speaking people were harassed.

A friend travelling by train through Madhya Pradesh and Bihar said that all English signs had been tarred out or defaced.

We have certainly created a farsighted citizenry and a brilliant new generation. We have fed them the cheap food of hate, and deceived them with the notion that some bogey class, party or language is the sole cause of difficulty.

Dislike is a temporary unifier. All India unitedly disliked British rule. The British left. So did unity. Hindi may leave Madras, but the State may find itself riven by class and caste hatreds. English signs and names may be banished in the North. A thousand divisions will

It is difficult to see how a bus in flames equals more wages, houses — or buses. Or how the removal of English letters broadens the North Indian mind. Or how a curse on Hindi will bring forth nobler Tamil literature.

We all shout for unity, but who is working for it? If the North blames English and the South blames Hindi, both really are seeking popular scapegoats.

India will be helped towards unity by those who accept the country as their responsibility, as the cow they have to feed, not merely the cow they can milk. Our different States today seem busy in a race for backwardness, a contest for mediocrity.

#### Bigger task

Men like Shri Annadurai and Shri Karunanidhi are at a crucial point in their political lives. They are in power at a historic moment in India's life. Can they content themselves with a battle to pre-

Are they not called to prevent the whole country from being dominated by petty tyranny, crookedof the kind of lead Madras gives

India, you have your politicians. cinemas, and many Hindi, Punjabi Do you have your statesmen?

#### FIND THE BALL Competition No 52

#### HOW TO PLAY

The ball in this cricket action picture has been painted out. All you have to do is to mark a cross (not circle, arrow, etc) where you think the ball is. Then cut out the picture and coupon and send it to "Find the Ball", co HIMMAT, 294 Bazargate Street, Bombay 1 before noon on Monday, January 8.

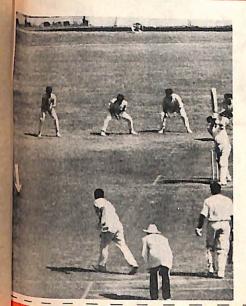
The winner will be announced in the following issue. There is no limit to the number of entries you can make, but only one cross may be marked on each picture. The Editor's decision is final.

#### Nearest entry wins Rs. 25 On the ball wins the Jackpot\*

\*Each week half the prize of Rs. 50 will be awarded to Shaving foam in AEROSOL CAN the nearest entry. The other half will be carried forward to a "Jackpot" to be won by the first competitor who marks EXACTLY the centre of the ball. This Jackpot Prize will accumulate by Rs. 25 per week until it is won.

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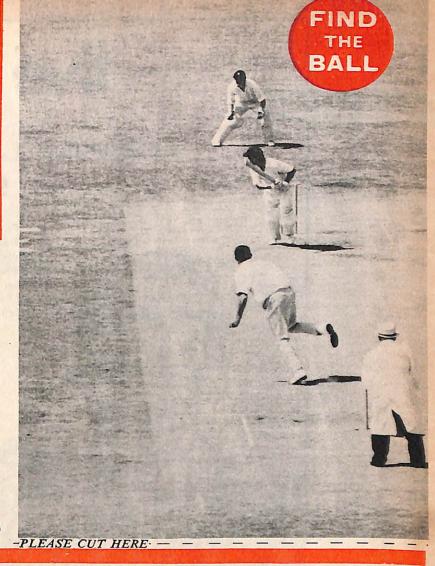


### WINNER OF **COMPETITION 50**

is G. Krishnamoorthy, Indian Overseas Bank, Veer Nariman Road, Bombay 1. Rs. 25 for nearest entry (1 mm from ball).

2nd Prize (Swish Shaving foam in Aerosol Can) to Jayprakash G. Trivedi, Ambai Falia, Old Nagar Wada, Junagadh (2.5 mm from ball).

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