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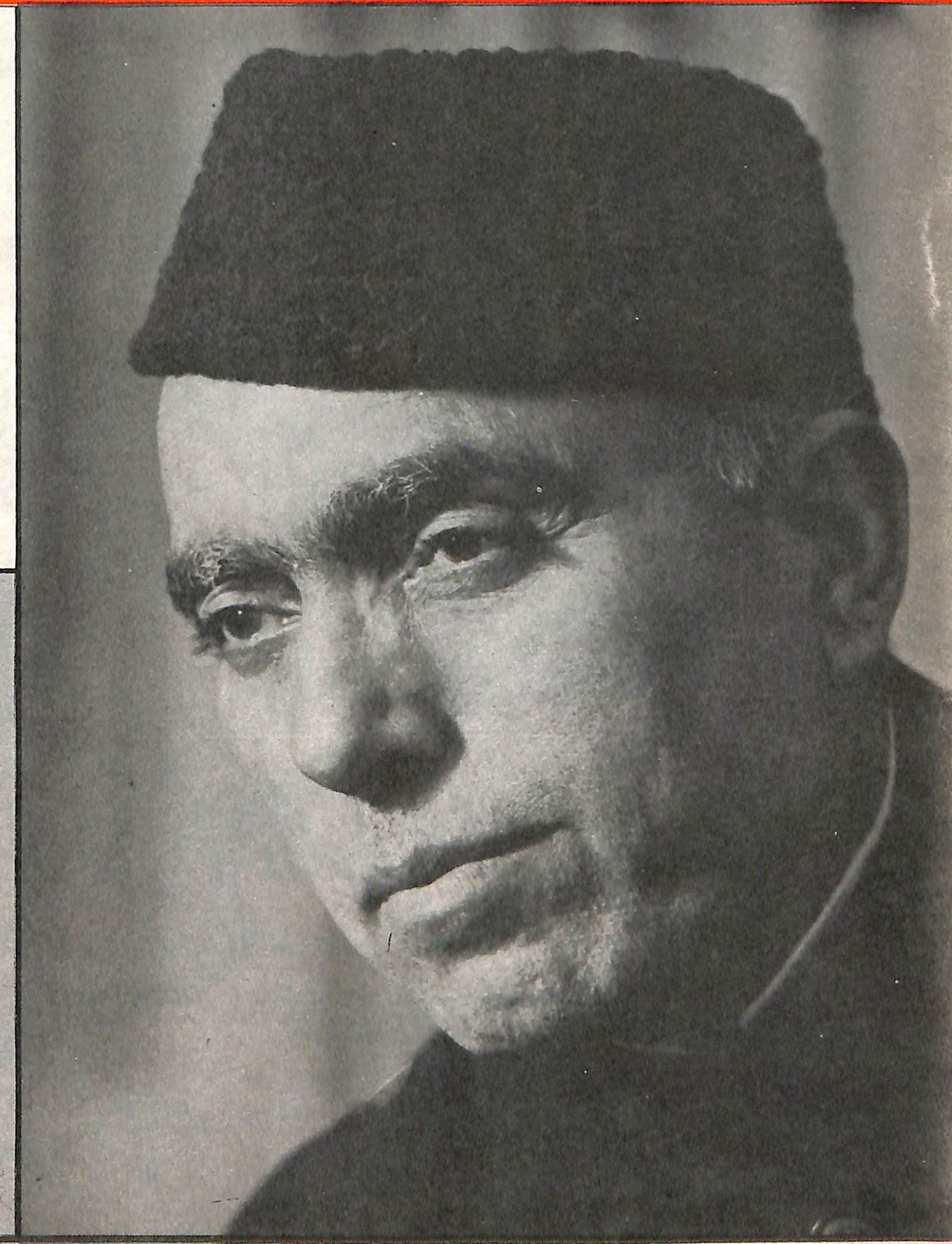
ASIA'S VOICE

FRIDAY JANUARY 12 1968

**SHEIKH
ABDULLAH**

**What
does
he
want?**

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BENGAL PREPARES FOR 3rd ROUND p. 15



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Editorials

Sanity about the Sheikh

THE UNION GOVERNMENT showed imagination in releasing Sheikh Abdullah on Id Day. It was a gesture which indicated that perhaps the Government wanted to make a peace offering to the Kashmir leader and was open to a fresh initiative in Kashmir.

The Sheikh's initial announcement at the Mosque on Id Day was heartening. He spoke with feeling of his anxiety about the relationship between the 600 million people of India and Pakistan as of predominant concern to him and hoped that a settlement of Kashmir would help. But he went one step further. By summoning a press conference he did — before he could even meet the Prime Minister — subject himself to questions that will make his mission difficult. The Prime Minister, whatever her earlier hopes, then said that the Sheikh, in the Government's view, was not a central figure in Kashmir and that her Government's policy is unchanged.

It is understandable that after three year's detention the Sheikh would like to be vocal. He would have been wiser first to work quietly and constructively with the leaders both of India and Pakistan. Freedom of speech involves not only the right to speak but the right not to, if one so chooses.

One expected that the Jan Sangh would oppose the Sheikh whatever he did or said, but what is odd is that some senior Congress politicians have joined in the Sheikh-hunt to snatch the headlines. Some press men have not been too kind either. One major charge

against the Sheikh in the past was his meeting with Premier Chou En-Lai. The Sheikh has now replied convincingly to that charge, saying that he met the Chinese Premier to discuss with him the Sino-Pakistan border pact over Gilgit, a part of Kashmir territory in Pakistan.

A climate of reappraisal of the Kashmir issue was being created, but there is a danger of once again slipping into old moulds. The Union Government may be tempted to harden its position, and if so, Pakistan will do the same. The Sheikh may then find his own mission hard going.

All is not well with Kashmir and no one knows it better than the Union Government. To repeat the *mantra* that all is well even when the patient is seriously sick, is to invite a calamity, not a cure. To say that the Sheikh is not a central figure in Kashmir is to tempt the question, "Then who is?"

As Rajaji says, Kashmir is people, not real estate to be disposed of at the will of India or Pakistan. And some way has to be found to make Kashmiris feel that their future belongs to them by choice. How best this is done in keeping with India's basic policies is to be worked out. Patriotism does not lie in perpetual growling at one's neighbour. Those who shout loudly at any attempts towards a solution before the Sheikh has even tried, are condemning the sub-continent to years of tension, a crushing military burden and possibly another armed conflict.

President Johnson's cuts

FOR YEARS the US has been having a sizable deficit on her balance of payments. Apart from Vietnam's heavy toll, this overspending was partly caused by American firms buying or starting industries in highly developed countries of Europe and elsewhere. They were backed by their financial resources and skilled techniques. This had led to resentment, notably in Europe. President de Gaulle had accused the US of "exporting its inflation".

President Johnson is wise in trying to stop this. He has imposed a moratorium on all American investments

in the West European and southern African continent. Capital movements into Britain, Canada and Australia have been cut by 35 per cent.

The present measures will also decrease the chances of developing nations to earn their way — which is just the opposite of what is needed. The reduced flow of tourists, for example, will hit Air India and the Indian hotel and tourist trade. The US has shared her prosperity with the world and one can only hope that her present difficulties will be a passing phase.

"Nationalise, vernacularise, socialise"

IF ENGLISH is to stay in India, declared Mr R. Madhavan, while inaugurating the recent All-India Teachers' Conference, it must be "nationalised, vernacularised and socialised" — whatever that might mean. To get this idea in perspective, consider what probably happened on the morrow of American Independence.

A squad of banner-bearers, we may suppose, chanting anti-English slogans, bore down on victorious General Washington. "General," says their leader, "We've got rid of the British but freedom is not complete till we get rid of the tyranny of English language." "Right," answers the General, and with an eye on the forthcoming first presidential election forthwith appoints a high-level committee to sit on the subject.

In due course, after umpteen reports, subcommittees and special investigations, the high-level committee achieves consensus. Subtle changes are brought into the language like *color* for colour, and *program* for programme, and cunning devices introduced such as calling a lift an *elevator* and ground floor, *first floor*. By these tactics, Americans successfully warded off the challenge of English imperialism.

Perhaps, if English were Indianised in similar fashion, even its most militant opponents might be reconciled. But if not, our schools will do it anyway. For, according to Professor V. V. John: "Long before the politicians started shouting '*Angrezi hatao*', the teachers of English had killed it openly in a thousand classrooms."

Briefly Speaking...

It does not pay

CHIEF MINISTER C. N. Annadurai's cancellation of the launching of the Tamil stamp on the occasion of the World Tamil Conference was in bad taste. The facts were that the stamp design was shown to him and okayed by him and when the stamp was about to be released he claimed that the inscription was only in Hindi and English and said he would not release it. The gallery in front of him, as expected, cheered. But some day this cheering will have to stop and people will begin to count the cost of such divisive acts.

Mr Annadurai is alienating by such actions the sympathies of the rest of India who understand and sympathise with the linguistic aspirations of the Tamil people.

Birbal understands reliably that

because of the Tamil agitation that resulted in burning the property of the Government of India like trains and railway stations, the Government of Malaysia, who wanted to send a Cabinet Minister to the World Tamil Conference, decided not to. They certainly did not want to get mixed up in any row between the State and the Centre.

"Heart transplantation"

AT A TIME when heart transplantation is topical, playwright Alan Thornhill suggests "a heart operation possibly more difficult and far more important". Speaking at the MRA World Assembly at Caux recently he said, "As those doctors put a living heart of a young, vigorous person into a feeble, dying old man and made it work, God puts a great pulsing, caring heart into us and into humanity." It was possible, he said, for a person to have "a pure heart in place of a poisonous one, a loving heart in place of a bitter one. This is one operation that needs to be performed in men and in the world on a colossal scale."

Big-hearted

NEITHER A CREDITOR NOR a lender be, is the policy of Australia. Unlike most other affluent nations that give loans and reap unpopularity, Australia believes most in giving grants and expert advice. It is difficult to be unpopular that way. Australia, which gives away 0.69 per cent of its national income, ranks as second largest aid contributor on that basis.

A thoughtful and major enterprise is six modern bakery units to be set up with Australian assistance, the first of which was launched in Bombay the other day.

Let down

LIKE CARDINAL WOLSEY, Mr Kamaraj may well be saying, "Had I but served my God as diligently as I have served my Prime Minister (in this case) He would not have deserted me at this hour." As Congress President, Mr Kamaraj was primarily responsible for Mrs Gandhi's election as Prime Minister. Yet when Mr Kamaraj was about to lay down his office

Man is God-like in his power to make choices, but beast-like in his self-centredness.

ARNOLD TOYNBEE, 1889—

last week and Mrs Gandhi was asked about the role of Mr Kamaraj in the coming days she dismissed it with the words that he has always had at heart the interests of the Harijans and the backward classes and now he had the opportunity to look into their problem more closely. However one may laud Harijan work, one cannot fail to sense in Mrs Gandhi's words a sharp dig at Mr Kamaraj. Such digs to old friends are not likely to pay her dividends. It will be difficult for Mr Kamaraj either to forget or forgive the Prime Minister on this point and she may find repercussions of Mr Kamaraj's anger in various ways.

Private schools

THIS week's Viewpoint (page 12) produced some of the best entries since the competition began — an indication, perhaps, of the strength of feeling on the subject. 92 per cent of the entries were against closing down all private schools, and only 8 per cent for it.

The right to private education, as several entries pointed out, is guaranteed under Article 30 of the Constitution, which provides that "all minorities, whether based on religion or language, shall have the right to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice". Section 2 of Article 30 says that the State, in granting aid to educational institutions, shall not discriminate against any on the ground that it is managed by a minority.

Those who clamour for the closing of the private schools appear to be ignorant of or indifferent to these constitutional safeguards.

Republic Day issue

HIMMAT will have a special Republic Day issue with contributions from distinguished personalities. Mr K. Santhanam, former Union Minister and one of the men closely associated with the drafting of India's Constitution, writes on the Indian National Congress from 1885 to 1947. Professor C. N. Vakil, noted economist and author, writes on International Payments.

Birbal



from the Capital

What does the Sheikh want?

by **ANTENNA**

NEW DELHI It was a few minutes from noon but chilly and sunless and the sky was an ominous grey-white as we drove to Kotla Lane for the first meeting with the press Sheikh Abdullah was having since his detention two and a half years ago. This must have been the most keenly-awaited press conference in Delhi in several years. Besides news correspondents, half a dozen film and television teams were in attendance.

The police guard round the house had been removed. There was only a small knot of plainclothesmen near the gate — kept there for the Sheikh's personal security.

Rows of chairs had been laid out on the well-tended lawn of the house, a lawn so spacious that the building seemed to have shrunk by comparison.

The chairs were all filled, and as more were brought out of the house they too were swiftly occupied and latecomers had to stand.

On the lawn Mirza Afzal Beg, a short, dumpy figure, was talking to a few correspondents when the Sheikh stepped out of the bungalow and made towards the press at a little past noon.

Escorting him were Mr J. J. Singh, a tireless advocate of the Sheikh's freedom, and a handful of his followers from Kashmir, one of them bearded and clad in a long, orange robe.

"No rancour in me"

The Sheikh has a commanding presence and is well aware of this. He stood a good head above Mr Singh and a good two heads above Mirza Afzal Beg, who sat on his left throughout the hour-long conference.

The Sheikh was impeccably dressed. He sat through the long, grueling cross-examination he was subjected to well, only occasionally showing signs of emotion.

In a statement issued to the press Sheikh Abdullah began by thanking the large number of Members of Parliament from both Houses and all parties who signed the representation for his release. He then proceeded, "I can assure you that notwithstanding the many years of my incarceration, I have no rancour in my heart. Personal liberty, after nearly 14 years of unjust detention, weighs far less with me than the release of forces that will advance the

cause of friendship between India and Pakistan.

"I am anxious to consecrate the years that lie ahead of me to foster peace and friendship between India and Pakistan. I am convinced that along the path we have trodden for the last 20 years, there is nothing but suffering, hatred and misery for the hundreds of millions living in this sub-continent."

He called for a release of all political prisoners and detenus in Kashmir and the removal of all laws that

make the suppression of human liberty in Kashmir possible. He confirmed that he would dedicate his life to the cause of Indo-Pak friendship for in it "lies the hope of my State's peace and prosperity".

Indian leaders mistrust

The Sheikh looked relaxed and cheerful even when uncomfortable questions were shot at him, for example, "Are you an Indian national?" and, "Is Kashmir a separate country?"

The root cause of the trouble, he felt, was that Indian leaders mistrusted him. He recalled that after the Kashmir Constituent Assembly elections, he was put in jail. Even his

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

On your toes

QUEST FOR YOUTH

CONGRESS LEADERS may privately lament over the AICC's loss of youth. But, thank heavens, it still has resourceful men in its dwindled ranks. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister K. Brahmananda Reddy has managed to rejuvenate the entire aging party by proclaiming that anyone under 60 is "young".

This cheered up Prime Minister Mrs Indira Gandhi. When addressing the Youth Congress at Lal Bahadur Nagar, she said that the newly-elected Congress President, 65-year-old Mr Nijalingappa, was "really too young". Once the battle-scarred veterans had got the knack of it, the rejuvenation process really got under way. Mrs Gandhi, Mr Nijalingappa and Mr Brahmananda Reddy — all past 50 — complimented each other on their "youth".

But Mrs Sita Devi (a Punjab delegate) was not particularly impressed by the youth of the gentleman concerned and suggested at a later meeting that all Congressmen who had held office for 15 years and more should retire to make room for younger elements.

Mr S. K. Patil, heading for 70, felt it was too sweeping a claim that everything would be all right if left in the

hands of the younger generation.

A few cats were let out of various bags. Delegate Sultan Singh pricked a few consciences when, speaking of bogus membership, he said that a village in Haryana had 2000 population but 5000 Congress members.

Freebooter has been relishing the valuable free advice that almost all dailies and periodicals have been giving to Congress to help it become what it should be. Spurred on by others he would not like to withhold his own advice. Here is an eight-point programme to be effected immediately:

1. Could even one Congress leader be honest about his own mistakes?
2. Clean up the party.
3. Close ranks.
4. Stop delighting in the mistakes of other parties.
5. Join hands with other democratic forces.
6. Shelve the language issue.
7. Strive for speedy reconciliation with Pakistan on the basis of mutual respect and what is right.
8. Plan what India can do to serve other nations rather than sermonise.

If they attempt to do this, there is a good chance not only of benefitting the nation, but of keeping the AICC audience wide-awake.

Freebooter

CHALTA HAI..



"He couldn't wait till his statue was ready. He has decided to stand there for two hours every day until it is."

THIS WEEKLY FEATURE comes to you through the courtesy of the EAGLE VACUUM BOTTLE MFG CO (PVT) LTD

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BIG SHOT

VERDICT!

This week HIMMAT...

FORESEES a taste of what might come in India in a report from UN headquarters that the backlog of papers awaiting translation totals 81,513 pages.

WISHES success to the joint-action planned by India and Ceylon for promotion of tea sales abroad.

AWARDS a prize for confused statement of the week to Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister G. N. Singh, who reportedly said he opposed spreading education because it increased the chances of "revolution" but welcomed an early revolution to clear the "mess" in the country.

CONDEMNES the Congress Party's flagrant extravagance and misuse of Government facilities in constructing the AICC conference centre in Hyderabad.

WELCOMES the announcement by General Suharto, Indonesia's head of government, that he has accepted an invitation to visit India.

CONGRATULATES Chittaranjan Locomotive Works on building the first Indian-made hydraulic diesel shunting engine.

APPRECIATES the frankness of Bihar Welfare Minister Mahabir Paswan in admitting his department was only a showpiece, but would **LIKE TO KNOW** what the Minister plans to do about it.

SUGGESTS adding to *Freebooter's* Modern Lexicon (last week's issue) "anti-social element" — demonstrator, your party; and "patriot" — demonstrator, my party.

IS DELIGHTED with scholar Chaman Lal's assertion that Hindus from India migrated to America 2500 years before Columbus, and **WONDERS** who will lead the first *satyagraha* to liberate the promised land?

WISHES happy dreams to Rajasthan Chief Minister Sukhadia who reportedly told the AICC Working Committee there was no serious agitation on language.

SHEIKH ABDULLAH — FROM PAGE 5

plea that he be permitted to seek a vote of confidence from the elected legislature was turned down. That was hardly the way Indian democracy should have functioned. He called the election held in Kashmir "fraudulent".

India must be strong

The people of Kashmir had joined India of their free will but later events belied their expectations. The Kashmiris did not want India to treat them as "third class citizens or colonials. You kicked us and what could we do?"

He went on, "Although some people in this country hate me, I am not going to hate India. India must be strong and play its role in world affairs. But I am pained to see that the India of our dreams is not coming up."

Nehru was very keen

Asked to spell out in concrete terms how he would set about tackling the present problem, he recalled that he had gone to Pakistan in May 1964 with the blessings of Mr Nehru. He was released by the late Prime Minister and had long talks with him in April 1964. "We came to the conclusion that this (Kashmir) question must be resolved somehow so that both countries can progress." Nehru had felt that he had very little time in which to resolve the dispute with Pakistan. He was very keen that relations with that country should improve. A plan was formulated and Sheikh Abdullah had gone to Pakistan for talks with President Ayub.

Formula to evolve

Just then, unfortunately, Mr Nehru died, and Sheikh Abdullah returned for the funeral. The successors of Nehru, alleged Sheikh Abdullah, did not want to take up the thread again. He was quite certain that Mrs Gandhi (whom he had not met till then) knew about her father's wishes and continued to hold her father's views. "If the people of Kashmir are satisfied," he said, "it will be easy to satisfy Pakistan." He stated that a formula could be evolved by mutual discussions. President Ayub was willing to discuss the issue with Mr Nehru. He agreed that a solution should be such as not to create more difficulties or "shake the very basis on which the Indian leaders are

trying to build up India, its secular character".

In answer to a question if he had any formula in mind, he replied that force was no solution and there was nothing difficult in the world provided there is a will. When urged to say what formula he had in mind he replied, "It is difficult to commit oneself to any concrete formula." A broad principle had been enunciated when he met President Ayub in 1964 and President Ayub had "almost agreed to that". After Mr Nehru's death the thread of negotiations had snapped and he wanted to take it up now.

The Sheikh's ordeal concluded when cold rain-drops began to fall. Whatever the politicians might say, where pressmen present were concerned the Sheikh emerged with little damage and with the sympathy of even the sharpest questioners.

PM on the Sheikh

At a press conference next day, when questioned Mrs Gandhi said that the Government had some room to manoeuvre on Kashmir within its known stand on the issue. Pointing out that India's stand on Kashmir was unchanged, she significantly added, "But much can be done within that stand."

On a meeting with President Ayub Khan she said, "I have never been against such a meeting but we have to see that the conditions are created in which such a meeting would be useful." Asked why the Sheikh had been released she replied, "We feel it was an experiment worth trying."

Mrs Gandhi said the Sheikh "did say some things with which I did not agree and which I do not think are correct. But, as I said, he has to find out certain things for himself with which he has not been in touch." She refused to disclose the points on which she did not agree with the Sheikh. (The Sheikh had earlier had an interview with the Prime Minister.)

A correspondent asked what Mrs Gandhi had to say about the Sheikh's statement that Mr. Nehru's successors did not follow his line.

Mrs Gandhi replied, "I do not know the details of the conversation between the Sheikh and my father. In all conversations, one has to view them rather subjectively. It is obvious that he could not have gone to Pakistan if my father had not allowed him."

FROM THE WORLD'S CAPITALS

Please come, Mrs Gandhi!

FROM ROBIN PRICKETT

WELLINGTON The cancellation by Mrs Indira Gandhi of her visit to New Zealand, which was to have begun on January 17, is a severe blow to hopes in this part of the world.

Some thousands of people of Indian blood are settled in New Zealand in every walk of life; businessmen, shop-keepers, doctors, farmers. Saris are not an uncommon sight in New Zealand streets, worn by New Zealand citizens of Indian origin.

A large proportion of the 600 million pounds of wool shorn each year is traded to the world packed in Indian jute. The New Zealand dairy industry, the most efficient and lowest cost in the world, provides factories, milk tankers and dried milk in Delhi, Calcutta and Bombay. Indian dairy experts are trained at New Zealand universities. These are important links of trade and aid which must expand.

The tragic loss of Mr Harold Holt, the Australian Prime Minister, and the consequent need for the election of a new leader is likely to have been the cause of Mrs Gandhi's decision not to visit Australia. The New

Zealand visit was linked in the same arrangements, so New Zealand too is to be denied this chance to meet the leader of a nation with which we share a common responsibility in the Asian Pacific area.

The Prime Minister, Mr Keith Holyoake, attaches very great importance to the relationship between India and New Zealand, both by virtue of India's central position in Asia and our mutual Commonwealth connections. In his annual report as Minister of External Affairs he wrote, "What is needed now is a renewed acknowledgement among Commonwealth members of the things which they hold in common, and of those which their diversity equips them to do together."

Could ancient India and young New Zealand with their diversity advance conditions in the whole area?

It is greatly to be hoped that Mrs Gandhi can rearrange her visit at an early date.

Ladies live longer

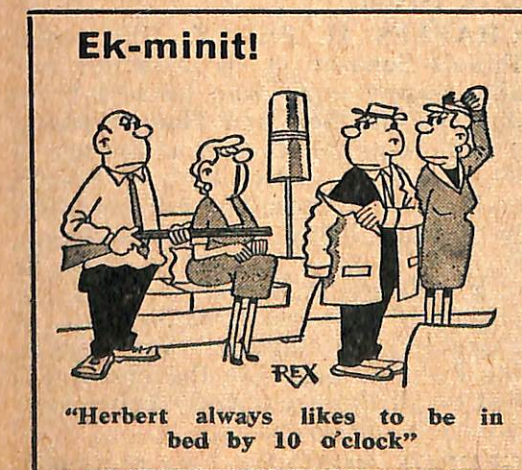
FROM GORDON WISE

LONDON This January, 1968, the population of the world is roughly 3,400,000,000. This estimate is based on figures supplied by the United Nations Demographic Year Book. But more striking is the estimate that if the present growth rate of 1.9 per cent is maintained then the world population will have doubled by the year 2005.

Half of the world's people live in

Asia. Three quarters of them live in the developing regions where 41 per cent of the population is under 15 years of age. The comparable figure for the more developed countries is 28 per cent.

There are interesting figures on the comparative density of population. In Asia, there are now 68 persons for each square kilometre, the area where the greatest absolute increase in density has taken place. But Europe is still the most densely populated region, with an average of 91 persons per square kilometre, Holland heading the list with 371. At the other end of the scale you have



CON TINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The week in ASIA

TOKYO — President Johnson's special envoy, Eugene V. Rostow, told Japanese officials that the United States would like Japan to increase her aid to South-East Asian nations. This could be through more economic aid to Indonesia and a larger share in the Asian Bank.

LUANG PRABANG — Government forces recaptured Nam Tha, a north Laotian town, from the pro-Communist Pathet Lao forces. It had been held by the Pathet Lao since May 1962.

BANGKOK — Thailand is finding the fight against the pro-Communist Meo guerillas more difficult than the fight against the Viet Cong in South Vietnam. Interior Minister General Praphas Harusathien said the Meos had spread to Tak Province, along the Burmese border.

SAIGON — Last week's losses brought the total of US aircraft shot down in Vietnam to over 1000, stated a US spokesman. Another 886 were destroyed in ground attacks or other incidents.

KUALA LUMPUR — Nearly 10,000 people in the Malaysian State of Johore Bahru were evacuated following floods. Several towns and villages are under water.

MANILA — The Asian Development Bank headquarters announced the addition of Switzerland to its membership. The Bank will now have 32 member nations.

COLOMBO — Government lifted the one-year ban on the import of Chinese literature. This is part of a package deal with China signed by Trade Minister M. V. P. Peiris during his recent visit to Peking.

KATHMANDU — Nepal and the United States are planning collaboration in transport, communication, agriculture and family planning, according to the national news agency. Nepal has been asked to prepare detailed project reports for these schemes, estimated to cost about Rs 70 crores.

JAKARTA — The Indonesian Government announced plans to gradually remove former President Sukarno's picture from the country's bank notes. It is to be replaced by a portrait of General Sudirman, who commanded the forces during the fight against the Dutch.

PHNOM PENH — President Johnson nominated US Ambassador to India Chester Bowles as special envoy to Cambodia, following Cambodia's offer to receive an envoy to discuss use of Cambodian bases by Communist forces in Vietnam.

Botswana, 1; Australia, 2; and Canada, 2.

The trends of life expectancy are encouraging. For example, in a number of developing countries the pace of the decline of infant mortality since 1920 has been far more rapid than was the case in the now developed countries when they had similar levels of infant mortality.

In Taiwan life expectancy gained by 20 years and similar improvements were noted in Puerto Rico and Mexico. By comparison, over roughly the same period measured, Swedish males and females gained only four or five years.

There are more people getting married, if you measure it on a percentage of population basis. The United States is 3 per cent up, Canada 6.5 per cent and the United Kingdom 3.7 per cent.

If you want to know the sizes of cities, then here are your answers: Tokyo and New York vie for number one place. It all depends on how you measure the size. In the listing in what are termed as "cities proper", Tokyo is first, but if the measurement is by "urban agglomeration", then New York is in the lead, with an impressive 11,348,000 in 1965, followed by Tokyo's 10,869,000. London is third and the nearest Indian city to these pace-setters is Bombay in eighth place with 4,784,136.

For reasons not stated, in most countries females live longer than males, and have a greater life expectancy at birth. Not included in the Year Book is the answer to the question, "Why do married men live longer than single men?"

The answer: "They don't. It just seems longer."

Ceylon exceeds rice target

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

COLOMBO In spite of strikes and threatened strikes most Ceylonese are elated that the country has exceeded its target for paddy production last year. Notwithstanding floods and drought, 54 million bushels were produced as against the official target of 53.3 million.

With the production of potatoes, onions and chillies also rising, a more optimistic mood is now prevailing. "Today agriculture and industrialisa-

tion are both beginning to look up," says an editorial in one of Ceylon's leading papers. It also cautions against any let-up.

Though the other estates unions went on strike, the major plantation workers' union, the Ceylon Workers' Congress, cancelled their week's token strike on the Prime Minister's assurance that, following devaluation, the estate workers would get an increased allowance of 30 cents a day. Although it is usual for both wife and husband to work, estate workers are about the lowest paid on the island.

Without the agreement of many employers, the Government has forced a devaluation allowance to be paid

US Republican Presidential candidates 1968

FROM T. WILLARD HUNTER

LOS ANGELES Although an incumbent candidate always has by far the better chance of winning an American Presidential election*, interest in Republican possibilities for opposition to the party in power this year has been unusually high. Four factors have contributed:

- 1 The GOP ("Grand Old Party," a nickname the Republicans picked up in the 19th century) has fielded a number of new and attractive potential candidates through their good fortune at the polls in 1966, when some bright new Republican faces turned up in Governor's offices and the halls of Congress;
- 2 The 1966 elections gave evidence of major shifts toward the Republicans not evident since the depression of the 1930's and the four elections of Franklin Roosevelt (the Eisenhower Republican victories of 1952 and 1956 are generally attributed to Ike's appeal as a World War II hero);
- 3 President Johnson's drop in popularity, as shown in the public opinion polls;
- 4 Deep divisions in the Democratic Party, mostly focussed on the Vietnam war policies.

These elements have combined to make the Republican nomination look more valuable than usual.

It is probable that the 1968 Republican standard-bearer will be one of the following:

RICHARD NIXON The former Vice-President (under Eisenhower

*Last week, Mr Hunter reviewed the probable Democratic Party candidates for next November's US Presidential election, remarking that President Johnson, the incumbent, would be hard to beat. This week he discusses likely Democratic nominations for the election.

to most mercantile employees by the unusual measure of using Section 5 of the Public Security Ordinance. If employers fail to pay, they risk being condemned to six months' imprisonment. It was obvious that, with rising prices, there would have been widespread unrest and strikes without some such action.

In the fight against corruption the Ceylon Broadcasting Corporation, which is independent of the Government, is now playing an active role by announcing the names of all those charged with profiteering and hoarding essential foodstuffs. More voluntary initiatives like this would go a long way to clean up business and administration.

1953-61) is definitely the front runner as of today. A highly qualified and articulate spokesman, with more experience in both government and party affairs than



Richard Nixon

any other Republican prospect, Mr Nixon may now pick up many I.O.U's throughout the nation whom he has helped elect through faithful and effective campaigning and fund-raising for the party through the years, and especially in the 1966 elections. It is widely believed today that whoever gets the nomination will have to take it away from Dick Nixon.

CHARLES H. PERCY The junior Illinois Senator is an attractive and able businessman who became president of the Bell and Howell photographic equipment firm at the age of 29. He is attractive to both liberals and conservatives. He suffers slightly from not being well-enough known. A man of strong religious faith, he is a dedicated Christian Scientist. In terms of overall combination of character, intelligence and ability, Mr Percy is probably the best qualified of all those currently being mentioned in either party.

GEORGE ROMNEY Like Mr Percy,

the Governor of Michigan brings to government a successful background in business. He became a champion of non-partisan good government and as a citizen volunteer spearheaded



Ronald Reagan: "favourite son candidate"

the successful drive to modernise Michigan's State Constitution. This led to his election as Governor of Michigan State.

Enormously successful as a Michigan political leader, he swept a Senator, several new Congressmen, and many state legislators — all Republicans — into office with him in the 1966 elections. But Mr Romney has had great difficulty in projecting nationally a leadership image.

The Michigan Governor has a hard-driving energy, a contagious enthusiasm, a deep Mormon faith which he genuinely lives by, a most attractive and politically shrewd wife and a lifelong record of success. But the party professionals have about lost interest in Romney, and only a couple of smashing victories in state presidential primary elections this spring could revive it.

RONALD REAGAN In spite of the talk that the former movie actor who became Governor of California last year (1967) was all personality and a creature of public relations experts, Mr Reagan has performed his administrative duties in Sacramento (California's capital) with considerable skill. Mr Reagan continues to say that he is not a candidate, except as a "favourite son" choice for the purpose of holding the California delegation together at the Republican convention next August.

Of all the Republican possibilities, Mr Reagan is best able to stir an

audience. He has the wavelength of the ordinary person and draws large crowds wherever he goes. He has projected the image of a non-politician who enlists the response of the man who is distrustful of politics and politicians.

His own political problems include inexperience, the suspicions of the eastern half of the United States plus those of the intellectual community from coast-to-coast, and a divorce and remarriage. Never has a man been nominated for or elected to America's highest office with this marital history.

Nevertheless, Mr Reagan may through a combination of circumstances be the most likely to become the Republican candidate. Not the least of these circumstances could be a wave of violent racial rioting next summer which might make voters swing to a man like Reagan, who has made some of the strongest statements about the preservation of law and order.

NELSON ROCKEFELLER The New York Governor is, in spite of his own deteriorating resistance, being increasingly sought by party leaders who think he is the only one who can unite the liberal wing of the party. "Rocky" performed a political miracle in being elected to the New York State House for a third term in 1966 after the unofficial polls had him down-and-out. His record of administration in the nation's second most populous state (California is first) is extraordinarily good. Mr Rockefeller too, however, carries the political burden of divorce, after 30 years, and remarriage.

It is possible that a "dark horse" may emerge in the next nine months. But whatever happens, we may be sure that the apprehensive American voter — to say nothing of his millions of cousins overseas — will be deluged with information and opinion right down to the first Tuesday in November, when the next President of the United States will be chosen.

The week elsewhere

ECONOMIC WAR

LAGOS — Nigeria is changing to a new type of currency note as an economic war measure against secessionist Biafra. An estimated £100 million of Nigerian bank notes are expected to be exchanged. The object is to prevent Biafra from selling Nigerian currency abroad to finance her war effort.

SOVIET TROOPS IN MONGOLIA

MOSCOW — Soviet combat troops are now stationed in Mongolia, the huge but sparsely-populated state between Russia and China. The Soviet troops, including tanks and missiles, were reported to have taken part in

CONTINUED ON NEXT PAGE

The week in INDIA

NEW DELHI — While Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi stressed that there was no change in the Government's stand on Kashmir, Sheikh Abdullah, who was freed of all restrictions, maintained that the people of Kashmir had not yet exercised their right of self-determination in deciding their own future.

MADRAS — The Second World Tamil Conference started on a sore note with Madras Chief Minister Annadurai cancelling the function arranged to release the stamp commemorating the occasion.

CHANDIGARH — Haryana has "more or less" shelved proposals for additional taxes. Governor B. N. Chakravarti said: "I have not actually given up the idea but I do not want fresh troubles."

VARANASI — Demonstrators, policemen and a magistrate were injured in a clash outside the Banaras Hindu University as Prime Minister Mrs Gandhi was inaugurating the Indian Science Congress inside. The paraders shouted anti-English slogans.

LUCKNOW — Public Works Minister Mangaldeo Visharad, two other Ministers and two Deputy Ministers of the Samyukta Socialist Party submitted their resignations from the Samyukta Vidhayak Dal Government to UP Governor Gopala Reddi.

GAYA — A young man in a coat and tie who came to address the SSP national conference was forced to take them off as the crowd shouted: "You Angrezi Sahib has no right to speak for Hindi unless you come in a proper Hindustani dress."

NEW DELHI — Government told foreign missions in India to respect what they described as the well-established international practice of not affording asylum to any person within their premises.

PATNA — Apart from 1400 free kitchens run by the Bihar Relief Committee in various districts of the State during the recent famine, over 1000 new wells and 800 tube-wells were constructed, according to the report of the Committee.

NAGPUR — Damage to crops in six districts of Vidarbha due to heavy and unseasonal rains is estimated at Rs 100 crores.

NEW DELHI — India has regained from Ceylon the position of world's top tea exporter, said Commerce Minister Dinesh Singh. In 1967 India exported a record 205 million kg.

a parade in Ulan Bator, Mongolia's capital, celebrating the 50th anniversary of the Russian Revolution.

DE GAULLE FOR RUMANIA

PARIS—President de Gaulle said he would visit Rumania before this summer. The long-planned visit is expected to take place in May. The

French President indicated he would make another foreign trip in September, but did not say to which countries.

TOURE RE-ELECTED

ABIDJAN, Guinea — Ahmed Sekou Toure was re-elected President of this West African state for a further seven years. Toure, who was the only candidate, has been Guinea's head of state since it became independent in

1958. He received 99.7 per cent of the votes, said Conakry Radio.

CZECH SHUFFLE

PRAGUE — Deputy Premier Oldrich Cernik became Prime Minister of Czechoslovakia and Politburo member Alexander Dubcek became Secretary of the country's Communist Party, according to reliable sources here. They replaced Antonin Novotny, (who remains President of the Republic), and Josef Lenart respectively.

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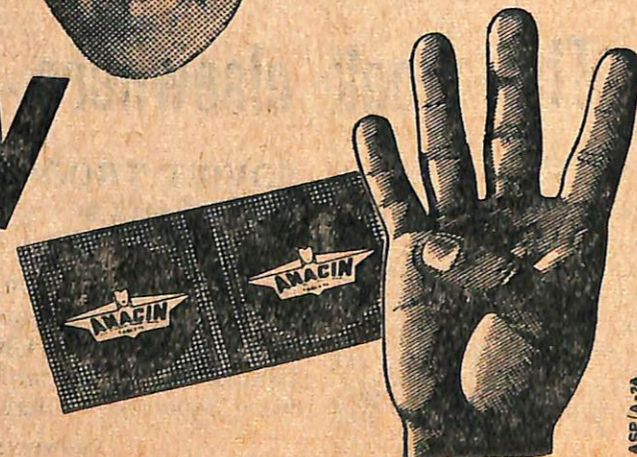
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India to Cyprus—"home to home"

ON AN unexpectedly chilly day in sunny Nicosia, we rang the doorbell of the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Cyprus. The door was opened by Mrs Glafkos Clerides. An Indian married to a Greek, Mrs Clerides remarked, "Coming to live in Cyprus is like coming from home to home. I am very lucky." Last week, Mrs Clerides and her husband were in Bombay on a visit to the country of her birth.

Mrs Clerides, who was born in Bombay, studied at Cathedral School. When she was 11, she was sent to England to continue her education. In 1946 she met and married her husband, who had been a prisoner-of-war in Germany, from where he escaped after three unsuccessful attempts.

Returning to Cyprus after the war, Mr Clerides practised law. "I used to go to the courts often," Mrs Clerides said, "when my husband defended those sentenced to death during the freedom struggle." The struggle, an armed resistance against the British in the hills and villages terminated in the independence of the island in 1960.

"Three years ago, on December 22," she continued, "I was trimming the Christmas Tree, looking forward to a quiet family time, when fighting broke out between Greeks and Turks at the green line in Nicosia." It

mounted and multiplied. "Later on the UN peace-forces moved in."

When asked about the existing situation, where every town in Cyprus is divided into Greek and Turkish quarters by check posts patrolled by UN soldiers, she replied, "It's terribly sad and ridiculous. I believe there is no real hatred or basic dislike between Greeks and Turks," who are 70 per cent and 18 per cent of the population respectively.



"It is artificially created, because Cyprus is very strategic, being the crossroads between East and West," she said emphatically. She felt that certain people wanted to drag the country into one camp or another.

Mrs Clerides urges the necessity of mixed schools for both Greeks and Turks so that they can grow up together. "Prejudices are very easy for leaders to play on", she stated. Inter-marriage between the two communities, according to her, would simplify matters a great deal.

She felt that Cyprus was very much like India, with family ties strong, religion dominant and village mentality similar.

"But women here do not take such an active part in public life as in India," she said with a hint of humour. "However I am thrilled about Mrs Indira Gandhi being the Prime Minister."

"It has been wonderful having people from home," was her comment about the young men and women of the Moral Re-Armament show "India Arise", who were then visiting Cyprus. "To see young people who care and who sincerely want to change the world goes straight to your heart."

I asked her what she would like to see happen most. "I want the Cyprus situation settled, to see this island grow in prosperity so that it has something to show and give to this part of the world."

A warm-hearted hostess, Mrs Clerides is an example of an Indian whose heart and life have been poured out for another nation.

Mrs Clerides talks with members of the "India Arise" cast in Nicosia.



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Should all private schools in India be abolished?

Government should "guide" all education

First prize to Francis de Melo, Poona 14

In 1964 the Government appointed a Commission headed by Dr D. S. Kothari to study the thorny question of education in modern India. The Commission decided, among other things, that all private schools had to be abolished, and a new public school system set up.

Such a decision, however, seems to be based on a misconception of the meaning and function of schools and education. Education is not a mere imparting of information; it comprises the development of the whole person — the body, the intellect, the moral and religious sense. Any school, besides imparting knowledge, is bound to impress on its students a particular moral code, a respect or disregard for religion, etc.

In an ideal monolithic society, where all the citizens share a single code of ethics, and all hold the same values, a public school system would work well. The government could monopolise the field of education because it would be able to meet all demands.

In a pluralistic society, however, where a single system of schools cannot possibly cater to the different value worlds of the different communities, it would be entirely wrong for the government to monopolise education, especially at the lower levels. The public schools would either have to leave out all moral and

religious development of the students, or else force one code on all. The first alternative cuts off a very important function of any school; the second is plain brain-washing. All parents have the right, and even the duty, to see to it that their children are formed according to the principles they themselves hold. A government monopoly on education would destroy this right. The founders of modern India understood this, and our Constitution still upholds the right of running private schools.

The basic accusation brought by the Education Commission against private schools — and here the reference is to Christian schools especially — is that they tend to maintain and even widen the rift between the higher classes and the masses. These schools, one hears it said, though of a high standard and very efficient, use the English medium,

Private schools are "gardens in a jungle"

Second prize to Vinod Chowdhury, Delhi 7

THE Committee of Members of Parliament on Education touched off an impassioned debate a few months ago when it recommended the abolition of all private schools and their replacement by neighbourhood schools. This was heralded as an assault on the privileged and snobbish English-speaking ruling class and an attempt towards socialist egalitarianism. The recent language controversy has only heightened feelings against private schools (the term "public schools" is a misnomer for these exclusive citadels). Let us see the facts and form our conclusions.

Ignorance of Indian life

The major drawback of private school education is that it produces imitation *sahibs* who are more anglicised than Englishmen themselves. In such schools there is complete ignorance of all aspects of Indian life and culture and the most abject neglect of our languages.

But surely it is a case of cutting

and charge fees which put them beyond the reach of the Indian masses. This is an unwarranted generalisation.

True, there are Christian English-medium high schools in all the big cities, especially in the North. But the number of Christian vernacular schools, both in these cities and in the smaller towns and villages, even in the North, is often forgotten. As for admission, no Christian school ever considers creed or caste distinction. Further, do not the millions of English speakers in cities like Bombay have a right to English schools?

End of democracy

It remains true, however, that for the national good, the Government should be able to guide and control, when necessary, all private schools. A fair and regulated system of supervision and inspection is certainly acceptable. But abolish private schools, monopolise all the education, and you have the end of democracy!

one's nose to spite one's face to advocate abolition of all private schools on account of some aberrations that have crept into a significant minority among them. It must also be remembered that the standard of education and discipline compares much more favourably in these private institutions than in Government ones.

Murder of education

It is certainly not socialism to bring down the well-off to the level of the badly-hit; attempts in the other direction alone are truly socialistic.

To abolish all private schools would be to murder Indian education. In the jungle of indiscipline, bad management and bad teaching they stand as well-tended gardens. The endeavour should be to beautify the garden further by absorbing it into native soil, not to ruin it by assimilating it with the desert of government sponsored education.

FRONTIERS OF science

US engineers plan moon car with TV

US scientists plan to put a car with TV cameras on the moon. They will steer it by earth signals on a picture-and-soil-collecting tour over hundreds of miles of lunar landscape.

Reason for the car effort is that stationary satellites, such as Surveyor 7 which the US plans to touch down on the moon's rugged "South Central Highlands" on January 9, cannot move about on their metal tripod legs and can only photograph a small area near their landing spot.

"Seas" fully explored

A further point of the moon car is that NASA (the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in America) announced at the end of December that they know all they want to know now of the flat areas where they hope to land men later. These areas are the dark ones we can observe on the moon. Formerly called "seas", they are now found to be deserts. Now there is need to explore at ground level the more rugged and varied areas, and take samples from a wide range of scenery, NASA says.

The moon car, planned to be ready by 1971, would be able to send possibly eight hours of television a day. Engineers at the Marshall Space Flight Centre in Huntsville, Alabama, are considering fitting it with tools to take samples of the lunar surface at any given point on its travels "on command from the earth". The TV camera will show scientists when a section of interest, say, to geologists has been reached. The tools would pick up a sample, put it in a bag, seal it and store it in a box.

Since the moon is a vacuum, the bags would preserve the samples in a natural vacuum. Scientists could be sure the samples hadn't deteriorated by exposure to air or contamination from lunarnauts' human bacteria.

But if this vehicle is trundling about in the blinding, blazing heat of the lunar day (lasting a fortnight) and the sub-sub-Artic cold and dark of the lunar night (another two weeks), how the devil is any lunarn-

aut going to find it? And how are we going to get its precious packages, which will reveal many secrets of moon and universe, back to earth?

Mr Lynn Bradford, an engineer at the Space Flight Centre, explained in a recent talk with a London *Daily Express* staff man: "We would use its television camera as a kind of eye to see where it (the car) was pointing, before setting its motors going.

"Then, after it had gone halfway to the horizon, we would stop it and take another look with TV before allowing it to proceed further. The vehicle we are designing could roam about 600 miles under command from the earth.

"We are considering operating the vehicle in such a way that it would move from one manned landing spot to the next — to await the arrival of fresh astronauts.

"All the spacemen would have to do then is to collect the bags of samples, put them aboard their spaceship and head back to earth. The donkey work would have been done for them," Mr Bradford said.

There is equally the question: how do you fit a family-size "car", with big spongy tyres for traversing rough lunar rock, into an unmanned moonship and land it ready to operate?

The car will have retractable wheels, like an aeroplane, and will tuck its 840 lbs. (including TV camera) into the side of a moonship. Its wheels will be held in place by bolts to which a minute explosive charge is attached. On touchdown the car will pop out automatically and be lowered to the moon's surface,

along with other equipment including shelters for men who will follow. The explosive bolts release the wheels, which are driven by four electric motors, designed to propel it at one mph, directed by its master 250,000 miles away on another planet.

REGINALD HOLME

BOOKS

THE SOUTH-WEST AFRICA CASE by M. Hidayatullah, Asia Publishing House, pp. 144, Rs 20.

OFTEN when prominent legal minds write for non-legal people, the result is very confusing.

Mr Hidayatullah is an exception. One of the most brilliant judges of the Supreme Court of India, he analyses the South West Africa case clearly and methodically. In the process he makes informative and enjoyable reading for both legal as well as non-legal persons. He sets out the dispute and discusses the effect of the judgements of the International Court of Justice in a manner which the ordinary reader can understand and digest.

A book worth reading for all who are interested in the case and for those who are earnest in finding a solution. Appendices give extensive extracts from the relevant legal documents.

A. N.

VIEWPOINT COMPETITION

* Nasser's closure of the Suez Canal must end, unconditionally.


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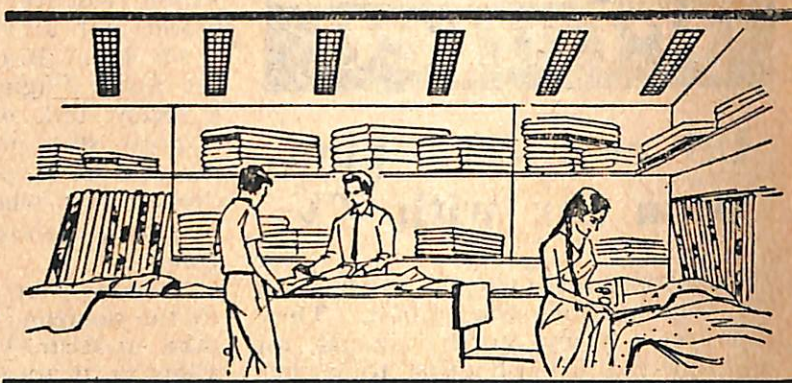
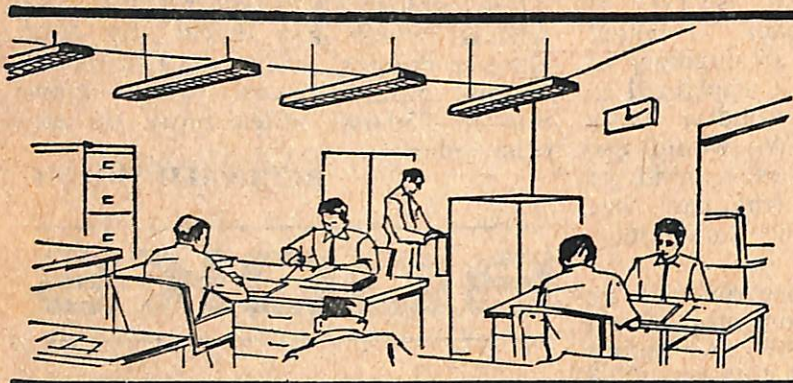


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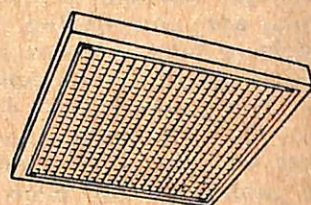
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UTTAR PRADESH

Something new in education

FROM S. K. RAU IN LUCKNOW

OVER 500,000 students appear every year at the U P Board of High School and Intermediate Examinations. It is said to be the biggest examining board in the world and may well be.

Of late the number of examinees has become so unwieldy that the Board finds it difficult to conduct exams properly. Even the newspapers are reluctant to publish their results.

Copying in examinations has become so common that if any invigilator caught a boy copying he was immediately assaulted.

The U P Government has passed legislation giving the invigilators all the protection due to a government servant for the duration of the examination. But this legislation has been proved to be of no use because

many of them were stabbed inside the examination hall where the police were not allowed.

Invigilation has become a bugbear to teachers in U P and many manage to wriggle out of it. An organisation of teachers passed a resolution that police officers should be asked to do invigilation work!

What actually happens is the invigilators just pretend that they are not looking when the boys go on copying.

The Education Minister hit upon a new idea. Instead of asking an outside body to examine the students, let the teachers of the institutions themselves examine their students. There will be more honesty among the examiners and examinees.

Under this scheme institutions themselves will conduct examinations and issue certificates to students seeking admission to colleges.

As an extension of this principle, at a college in Fategarh, where the maximum copying took place and the largest number of students were debarred from examinations, the students themselves were asked to distribute the question papers and conduct invigilation. Surprisingly not a single student was found copying.

The Board was first reluctant to agree to this suggestion of the Minister, but later it agreed.

Now it has decided to select a few centres in Lucknow, Kanpur, Varanasi, Agra, Allahabad, Meerut to start with. The high schools so selected should have a clean record, qualified staff, dispute-free management and fairly good examination results so far.

The English-medium schools satisfy all these conditions, but the main snag will be the rest of the schools. In any case the Board has decided to take the plunge.

WEST BENGAL

Students exploited in Front moves

FROM S. K. MUKHOPADHYAY IN CALCUTTA

THE LEADERS of the United Front met recently and decided to launch their third phase of movement against the present Ghosh Ministry in West Bengal in the third week of January. Meanwhile, the Front deputed some of the former Ministers in the dismissed Ajoy cabinet to tour the *mofosil* areas of West Bengal to spread the message of revolution to the rural populace. Also, it was decided to hold rallies in villages and small towns to prepare grounds to ignite the movement which, the Front leaders declared, would be more violent than the previous two. The leaders are to meet again in the very near future before finalising the shape and type of movement.

Rope in villagers

The Front leaders seem anxious to now rope in the simple, unsophisticated villagers in a fresh movement. If business and industry had received a shattering blow during the nine-month rule of the United Front

Ministry, education, on which the Bengalis pin so much of their hope, received no less a rude jolt during the last few months. All the educational institutions had to be closed till January 3rd as violence rocked the city in early December.

Youthful pawns

More alarming is the attempt made by the politicians, especially the Communists, to use the young students as pawns in their prestige fight against the Ghosh Ministry. One noted in the recent disturbances children of 10 or 12 busy parading streets with banners, shouting slogans (many did not know what they were shouting for) and even throwing stones and brickbats at the police party. One reads in the Ramayana of the troops of Ravana putting the herd of cattle before Ramachandra and his party to prevent any attack on them. The politicians are not only dragging the students into the streets but placing them in the forefront to face police

assaults. Thereby they keep themselves safe as well as work up public fury against the police for assaulting young children.

Presidency College, one of the most outstanding educational institutions, which gave India its first President and a galaxy of intellectuals like Sir P. C. Roy and Sir J. C. Bose, has been the hotbed of Marxist politics where students belonging to the Naxalbari group have held the show since 1966. Its immediate past Principal in the last year had to undergo severe humiliation at the hands of some students while the superintendent of a hostel of the same college received cruel treatment from the boarders and other students. Curiously enough, no-one raised a finger, neither the Congress nor the Communist leaders, as elections loomed large in the minds of all and students had to be kept happy to win their patronage. As schools remain closed now, the guardians who would like to put their wards in schools are in a dilemma since no admission tests can be conducted.

The tragedy is there is none here who can size up this situation. Who is there to cast his image and spell on the young minds to bridle their waywardness? The Frankenstein politicians have created over the years is not ready to obey them any longer; on the contrary they are on the point of being devoured by it.

Inelegant hockey controversy

INDIA hosted an international hockey festival in Ahmedabad six years ago, and among the leading nations invited to it was Pakistan, which was then topping the world as the Olympic and Asian champion, having beaten India in Tokyo (Asian, 1958) and Rome (Olympic, 1960) finals. Pakistan declined the invitation.

Now Pakistan is promoting a similar international across the border at Lahore. India headed the list of invitees, having regained the Olympic championship at Tokyo (1964) and added the Asian title at Bangkok in 1966, beating Pakistan in both the finals. India has decided not to participate.

Behind this decision, however, there lies a story. Indian hockey officials replying to the invitation made a conditional acceptance — that Pakistan should reciprocate by sending a team to India before the Olympic Games in Mexico in October this year. The Pakistan Hockey Federation took its time to accept the terms. In the meanwhile the Indian Hockey Federation set about assembling and preparing a team for the Lahore international, and a coaching-cum-selection camp was inaugurated at Jullundur.

While the camp was on, the presidents of the Pakistani and the Indian federations met to decide the return visit by Pakistan. No definite date for this tour could be given by the Pakistani official. So the Jullundur camp was dissolved. Subsequently came an assurance by Pakistan that its team would visit India in May. The Indian federation chief, however, confirmed India's withdrawal from the Lahore International, claiming that the Pakistani agreement had come too late. He offered to send an Indian team to Pakistan after the Indian National Championship was completed in February — after the Lahore festival — provided Pakistan confirmed the return visit in May. Pakistan has replied to this, stating that owing to its tight hockey schedule this year it would not be able to.

So a golden opportunity has been missed by both India and Pakistan of sharpening up their Olympic preparation by mutual tours. This, we feel, is more important to hockey in both the countries than the prestige issue raised by the two federations.

Cricket weakness

A GREAT PLAYER here and there but never a great team has been the tradition of Indian cricket ever since it stepped into the international arena. The performances of our team so far during the current tour of Australia have done little to alter that dubious distinction. India has produced many famous cricketers starting with the immortal Ranji, his nephew

Duleep and our present skipper's father Pataudi. Yet India has yet to win a Test match abroad in more than 30 years of representative cricket.

And now the whole of Australia is singing the praise of another Pataudi. The captain's innings he played at both his appearances in the recent Test in Melbourne have been compared to the finest



The Nawab of Pataudi

when the Indian team went there.

Not that India lacks talent or is incapable of redeeming itself in the remaining matches of this tour of Australia and New Zealand. But one wishes that the form and skill shown by all the players at home would be reproduced abroad, individually and collectively.

Welcome visitors

THOUGH our international performances as a whole have been moderate in recent years, Indian sport continues to attract good players and teams from abroad for home competitions and friendly matches. The advent of some European tennis players embellished the East India Championships at Calcutta, and showed up the limitations of our national stars. Rumania's Ion Tiriac got the measure of both Premjit Lall and Jaideep Mukherjea to gain the singles crown; and with compatriot Ilie Nastase completed a double, beating our champions Lall and Mukherjea convincingly in the doubles. Though our men lost, Indian tennis is certain to be the gainer through the visit of international players.

Now we have also the Russian ace Metrivelli and his team-mates. Metrivelli lowered the colours of Tiriac in the Assam Championships, and with Ivanova added the mixed doubles title.

In badminton also we have had our national champions beaten by visitors.

Four countries — Japan, Uganda, Kenya and Ceylon, — have sent their teams for the Asian Women's Hockey Tournament now in progress in Delhi. India is fielding two teams, and has fared well in the early fixtures of the league-cum-knock-out competition.

These and other visits from abroad, rather than costly tours abroad, should be encouraged by Indian sport organisers.

● **topscorer**

This India

HELP FROM FRANCE

"WHAT WOULD YOU say to change a Communist when you meet him?" I asked three lively Frenchmen last week in Bombay.

Without the slightest hesitation one of them shot out, "I would say we must and can create men who have victory over selfishness, passions and reactions against others and other classes." These men have been meeting Communists and non-Communists in the trade unions of our country.

They arrived in India a week ago from the port of Nantes. Auguste Pays is a worker in "Carraud", a metal box factory reputed to be the largest in France. Pays is also the treasurer of the Works Council in the factory. "All the money is under me," and a grin envelopes his face. Gerard le Goff works as an electrician repairing cranes in the port. For three generations his family have worked there. Maurice Nosley was recently decorated by the French Government for promoting industrial unity on the Atlantic Coast.

These men have come to India at the invitation of Mr Rajmohan Gandhi to assist in the Moral Re-Armament of India.

Says le Goff with a glint in his eye, "I received the letter from Mr Gandhi inviting me to India. Impossible, I said to myself. The place is so far away. I don't know a single thing about the problems of the country. But then I said to myself if I can do something for India I must, and serve the men who in their hearts and wills have decided to raise their country."

He and his comrades took leave for three months and are here.

Sixty families in Nantes gave money for their fares and expenses in India, and for the upkeep of their families at home. They proudly proclaim that three Senators, the Deputy Mayor and town Councillors of their city, and leading trade unionists are backing them.

Le Goff added excitedly, "My 16-year-old daughter who has just started working as an apprentice gave her first pay packet for my fare to India."

When I asked what they expected from India, Pays bent forward and stressed with seriousness, "India could do more than she is doing for the world. We expect your country to show a way to end the selfishness and divisions of France."

I looked up enquiringly at le Goff. He boomed, "I agree." Frenchmen like these are more than wanted and welcome in India.

Neerja Chowdhury

This was a Life

SIR WALTER SCOTT 1771-1832

"Breathes there the man with soul so dead
Who never to himself hath said
'This is my own, my native land!'"

THIS well-known verse by Sir Walter Scott is typical of a writer whose poetry and historical novels have stirred the Scots, be it on the international football field or in the desert of North Africa during World War II.

Young Walter Scott was like his father a lawyer. Even at lawyers' convivial gatherings, he was an avid collector and teller of tales. Lame from his youth, he was not deterred from becoming an excellent horseman. Later he was Sheriff of his native county, in days when police forces were not well organised.

As a boy he had heard from his nurse and his father tales of raids into England from the border country where he lived, and put them into verse. And he wrote novels based on the romantic history of Scotland and her leaders. He gave to the Scots pride in their heritage. He alternated easily from portraying leaders like Dundee to humble folk like Rob Roy, something new in writing.

At his country home south of Edinburgh he kept open house to all who called, and restored the old custom of the "Kirn," or harvest supper, each November for all his landworkers and their families. He valued most men like Tom Purdie, whom he let off the death penalty for game stealing and appointed a shepherd on his farm. He helped another shepherd, James Hogg, to become a poet. He accepted a knighthood, but declined the poet laureateship because Robert Southey needed the income more.

When England and Scotland were divided by bitter memories of English reprisals after the 1745 uprising, Scott suggested that the new King, George IV, should visit the Scottish capital, Edinburgh. It was the first visit by any British ruling King after a lapse of 80 years and was an outstanding success.

Later, when unwise publishing transactions made him bankrupt, he gave up all comforts to save his home and family, and shortened his life by overwork in order to pay off his debts.

A.S.

MAN OF THE YEAR

WHEN I sent in my choice of "The Man of the Year", I hadn't the faintest idea of suggesting the Indian Farmer, which you have done in the person of Maruthi Yadav. Perusing the article on the subject, I have little doubt about your choice being a wise one, particularly because people like Maruthi are the symbols of our country's prosperity. If only many of us think and act in a similar manner, I do not see why we cannot pull out our country from the morass it is steeped in.

It therefore occurred to me, why should not the HIMMAT readers start the New Year with a small but effective act of selflessness by helping Maruthi to get the water pump he so badly needs. Maybe we can make this as a beginning of a true revolution, a revolution of love and concern for others. As my humble contribution, I enclose a cheque for Rs 10. I know this is just a drop in the bucket but I am positive your readers will only be too eager to make up the other drops, however difficult it may be.

NONENTITY, Bombay 50

Sir: Thank you for your thought. May I advise you and other readers who may wish to assist to send any contribution for the water pump by Indian Money Order to:
Maruthi Yadav,
Village Ambeghar,
P. O. Hateghar,
Taluka Jawali,
Dist. Satara,
Maharashtra. — Ed.

HERO-WORSHIP

THOUGH we in India may hesitate to admit it frankly, the fact is democracy has almost failed in India, not because of its own demerits but due to our habit of hero-worshipping and failure to elect the proper men. Above all still we have not realised the true value of freedom which can be enjoyed only under the smile of democracy.

Democracy will never leave us but if we dare to drive it out it will never return to us no matter how much we repent and regret.

K. RAMASWAMY, Bombay 25.

LANGUAGE CONTROVERSY

ONE fails to understand why the Tamilians are so fanatical about the language issue. All their fear of the Hindi-speaking people having a distinct advantage over the rest of India is unfounded.

For example, during the British days, we all learnt English and were able to compete with Englishmen in that. It did not give them any advantage over us. They had certain advantages over us simply because they were the ruling class. In the present case, the Hindi-speaking people are not the ruling class. If it was possible for us to study English and compete with Englishmen, is it difficult for us to learn Hindi, which is after all a language of our own country, and excel the Hindi-speaking people?

Unlike English, we have many things

Letters

in common with the Hindi-speaking people, and there is the cultural unity. Tamil may be a more developed language than Hindi. However, having Hindi as the link language for all-India communication is not in any way going to hinder the growth of Tamil.

The only advantage the Hindi-speaking people will have is that they will have to learn only two languages, viz. their mother-tongue and English, whereas the rest of India will have to learn three. To bring them on a par with the rest of India, learning one of the South Indian languages must be made compulsory in the North Indian universities. This will achieve real North-South integration.

As for burdening the children with studying too many languages, in a country having various languages, it will be useful to know more than one or two languages. For instance, in Europe, many people know more than one language.

In the UN and other world bodies, English is the common language. Neither the Russians nor the Germans nor the French have objected to the use of English nor have they complained that it gives the Anglo-Saxons any advantage over them. The Russians complain of American domination at the UN but not because of the language. The use of English as an international language has not diminished the richness or the lustre of the French language.

When we take all these factors into account, it will be clear that all this agitation over the language issue is meaningless. The world will laugh at us for breaking heads over such trivial matters.

R. V. RAGHAYAN, Bombay 80

WAKE UP

YOUR editorial "How long will we tolerate it?" is a timely warning. It has come out on the wake of that shocking document of Peter Sager, "Moscow's hand in India". Our Government would fail in its duty to the Indian citizen if it hesitates to wake up from its torpor to end this sort of meddling.

ARTHUR PAIS, Madras 4

WITHOUT PREJUDICE

HIMMAT is not only read but widely quoted. An American Ashramite enjoys the weekly encirclement of the world by HIMMAT, fearless and without either prejudice or bias.

The exhortation to place country above vested personal interests is indeed the duty of every Indian who loves India. We derive comfort from the fact that all newspapers in India do not indulge in sensationalism and in the exaggeration of our ills and misfortunes, and that HIMMAT is one such periodical.

B. V. CANARAN, Sattal Ashram, Via Bhowali

Pip Pip Pip

by Rajmohan Gandhi



THIS IS ALL INDIA RADIO. The news, read by Steven D'Souza. National Integration Week is being observed all over the country. Yesterday and today statements were made deploring the spread of fissiparous forces in the country.

Declaring that India was bigger than any State or region, the Prime Minister appealed to the people not to indulge in acts of violence, whose only effect was to injure the body politic.

Addressing a conference of college principals and vice-chancellors in Nagpur, the Vice-President emphasised the superiority of a constructive rather than an agitational approach. Disputes, he added, should be settled amicably. Forces raising their ugly heads must not be allowed to eat into the vitals of our society.

In Bombay, the Deputy Prime Minister urged businessmen to develop optimism. In a speech before the National Industrialists' Association, the Deputy Prime Minister added that the difficulties of the last months were the inevitable growing pains of a young democracy. He said he wanted to assure the country that the outlook for next year was promising.

Anti-Hindi and anti-English demonstrations disrupted normal life in Krishnapur, Orissa, yesterday. Students, some of whom appeared to be in their forties, hurled abuses and stones at different places in the town and tried to set fire to trains. Officials from Cuttack and New Delhi are making a dash to Krishnapur for an on-the-spot inquiry. It is believed the Home Minister may make an aerial survey of the affected area.

The Chief Minister of Chhota Pradesh, Shri Amar Singh, announced that the size of his Cabinet is to go up from 16 to 25 next month. Dismissing allegations that the move is being launched to prevent defections, Shri Singh said that it is in response to the growing demands of the public. Shri Singh further said that, heeding the same demands, he was taking over the additional portfolios of tourism, industry, co-operation and public economy.

The death took place in Kirtinagar in the early hours of this morning of Mahamahopadhyaya Pandit Ram Shankar Sharma, the noted literary figure. He was 83. Messages, and relatives, have been pouring in from all parts of the country. In a voice choked with emotion, the Chief Minister of Ooncha Pradesh said, "This is indeed a great tragedy. Pandit Ram Shankar Sharma's death is an irreparable loss and leaves a void which will be impossible to fill."

The Government has decided to discourage the growing tendency of newspapers and radio broadcasts to use, without restraint, abbreviations and initials such as SVD, WBPCC, AITUC, UNCTAD, FICCI and APHLC. The move is intended to help reduce the common man's burden, in pursuance of the declared objective of a socially controlled society. This was revealed today by Shri B. G. M. A. Hanumantha Rao, PRO in the Ministry of Culture.

In a resolution on international affairs, the Revolutionary Toilers' Party has criticised what it calls the excessive publicity given to the alleged achievements of Dr Christian Barnard of South Africa. The RTP resolution states that giving undue attention to events in the country of apartheid is contrary to this country's well-known stand of non-alignment and anti-imperialism. The least that can be done to repair the damage, the resolution adds, is to give equal coverage to the shining medical triumphs of progressive countries.

This is All India Radio, giving you the news.

The World Vegetarian Congress was opened in Lakshmanapuram today. In his inaugural address Chief Minister Venkatappa stressed the importance of revering all forms of life. That vegetarianism was so widespread in India demonstrated the country's spiritual strength, he added. Chief Minister Venkatappa, who arrived in Bombay later this evening, has had to cancel his engagements for tonight and tomorrow. Rumours

that a fishbone has got stuck in his throat have been officially denied.

World news. Supplementary trilateral agreements were signed yesterday in Brioni by officials of Yugoslavia, the UAR and India. The agreements provide for an increase in trade among the three countries and especially in the number of goodwill delegations from each to the other two. A joint communique issued at the end of the successful conference of officials stated that no power on earth could sever the age-old ties binding their countries.

Sport. This afternoon, on the final day of the Nehru Memorial International Football Tournament in New Delhi, important speeches were made. In addition to those made by dignitaries present, messages from the Vice-President, the Prime Minister and other leaders were read out. The Prime Minister underlined the value of sports in general and football in particular in spreading qualities of teamwork, gamesmanship and physical fitness to society at large. Last, but not least in importance, she added, was the role of sports in promoting national integration.

A match was played for about an hour after the function.

Cricket. Replying to the Australian total of 683 for 6 declared in the Third Test at Adelaide, the Indian team had scored 93 for the loss of 6 wickets, when news was last received. The Australian audience is showing its unreserved admiration for the captain's knock played by the Nawab of Pataudi, who is 32 not out.

The brave spirit of the entire team in the face of unfamiliar pitch, weather and general conditions is being constantly remarked upon. In a typical comment, the *Adelaide Sun* said this morning, "The scoreboard is statistical and materialistic, if not entirely theoretical or imaginary. There is no doubt that after the return of the tourists to their homeland, Indo-Australian relations will reach a new high."

And that is the end of the news.

FIND THE BALL Competition No 54



2nd Prize:

Swish Shaving foam in AEROSOL CAN

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

*Each week half the prize of Rs. 50 will be awarded to 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.

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", c/o HIMMAT, 294 Bazarigate Street, Bombay 1 before noon on Monday, January 22.

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.

Address _____

I agree to the rules of the competition as outlined above.

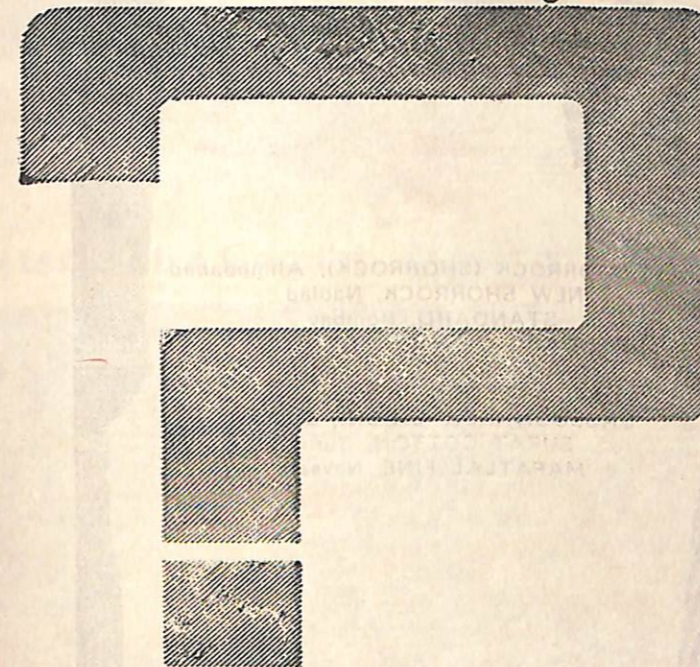
Subscribe to HIMMAT
1 year Rs 12. 3 years Rs 30.



FIND THE BALL

PLEASE CUT HERE

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It's high time you asked yourself this question. When you insured you thought you had enough insurance. Enough to meet the needs of your loved ones... to provide for them and protect them.

But, over the years, your family's needs will have outgrown your present cover.

Think:

- Has there been an addition to your family?
- How far will the educational expenses of your children increase in the next few years?
- How soon will your daughter be of marriageable age?
- How about a house of your own?
- Have you ever felt you deserve a comfortable retirement?

As you answer these questions, work out how much more Life Insurance cover you need. Have a detailed readjustment talk with your LIC agent.

Remember, Life Insurance is too important to be left inadequate.

Life Insurance Corporation of India



WINNER OF COMPETITION 52

is S. Nagaraja, No. 12, Shankara Park, Shankarapuram, Bangalore 4. Rs. 25 for nearest entry (3 mm from ball).

2nd Prize (Swish Shaving foam in Aerosol Can) to Lusitano Pereira, 8, Khotachi Wadi, 3rd Floor, Girgaon, Bombay 4. (6 mm from ball).

Next week's Jackpot: Rs. 225



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SURAT COTTON, Surat
MAFATLAL FINE, Navsari

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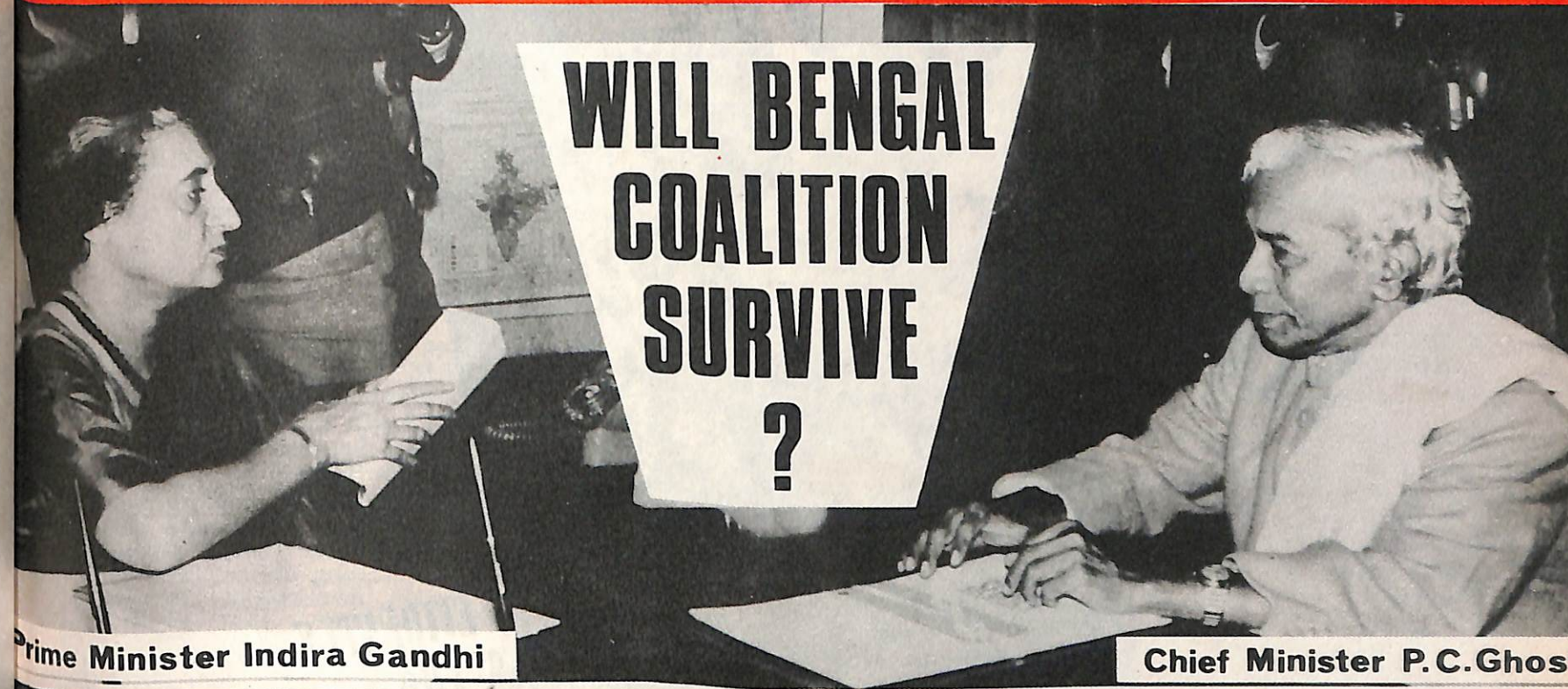
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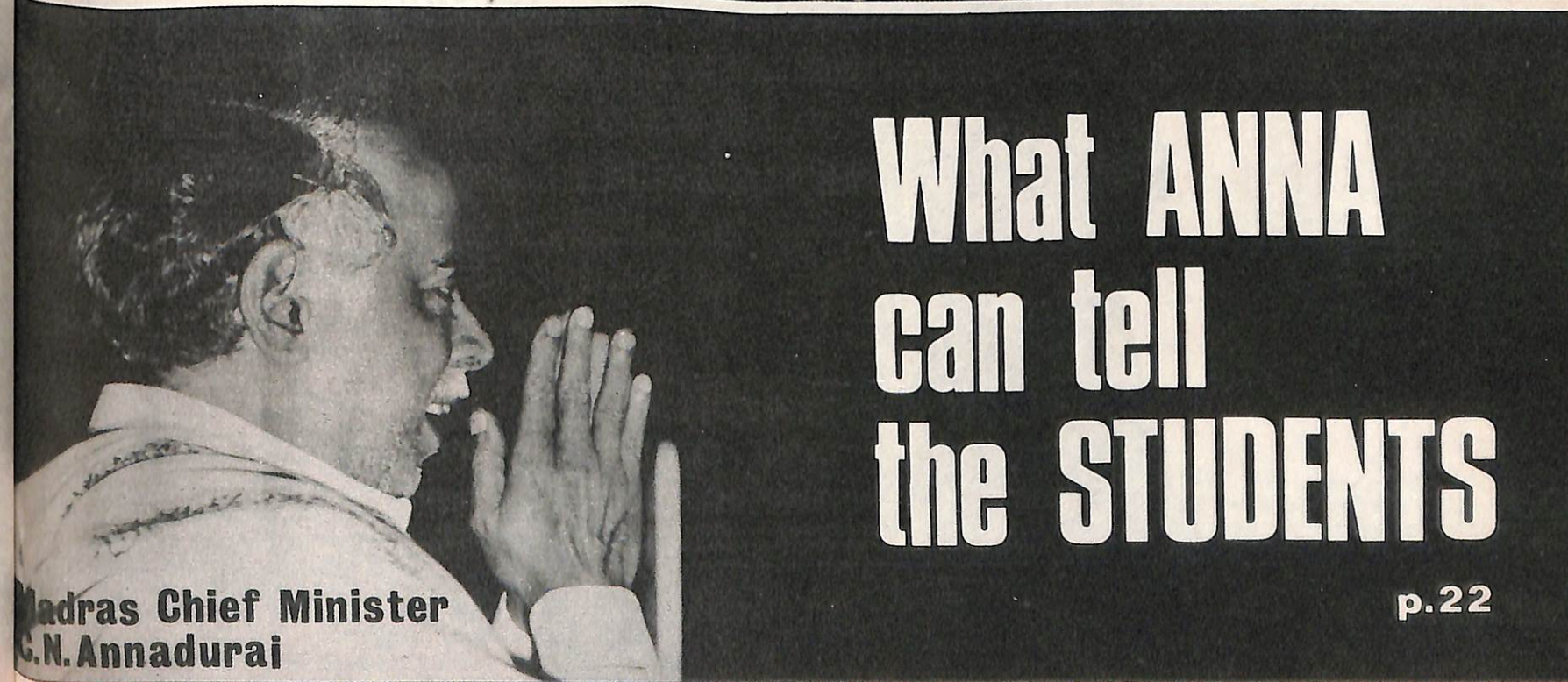
FRIDAY JANUARY 19 1968



WILL BENGAL COALITION SURVIVE ?

Prime Minister Indira Gandhi

Chief Minister P.C. Ghosh



Madras Chief Minister
C.N. Annadurai

What ANNA can tell the STUDENTS

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MRA WORLD ASSEMBLY IN PANGHANI