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CENTRAL ORGAN OF THE COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

Vol. XIII No. 25 NEW DELHI, June 20, 1965 25 Paise

BY OUR SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

NEW DELHI: At long last, the Birlas' dream has come true: They are entering the field of steel industry.

The Government of India has accepted Birlas' proposal to set up a pig iron plant in Bihar with American collaboration.

The letter of intent, signifying the government approval of the project, is expected to be issued within a few weeks.

The proposed plant will cost Rs. 15 crores and will go into production in 1967. It is planned to develop it later into a special steels plant.

The plan to set up the pig iron plant and the prospects of getting American collaboration were announced by G. D. Birla himself in Washington on May 23.

It seems that the government has moved considerably quick in the matter of providing him the facilities to start his cherished project.

But the pig iron plant is not the only project of the Birlas which has been sanctioned by the government in recent weeks.

Just a few weeks back the government gave the green signal to the Birlas to double the capacity of their aluminium plant at Rihand (Hindustan Aluminium Corporation).

It is proposed to increase the installed capacity of the plant from 60 thousand tonnes to 120 thousand tonnes. US monopoly firm Kaisers is collaborating in this venture.

The expansion plan means that Birlas will be controlling as much as 50 per cent of the total installed capacity in aluminium by the end of the Fourth Plan.

Another prize which the Birlas have bagged in the recent weeks is an alloy steel

plant to be set up in Bihar with French collaboration.

This plant will have an installed capacity of 40 thousand tonnes as planned now, but it would be set up with the aim of expansion later on.

The Birlas have also secured government's sanction for the expansion of their fertiliser plant in Goa from 80 thousand to 160 thousand tonnes—another doubling feat.

The spate of industrial licences which the Birlas have been able to secure in recent weeks have certainly posed some interesting questions.

One is whether the Industries Ministry knows that the Monopolies Commission is about to submit its report, and whether it is the policy of the government to go on fattening the monopolists.

Another is whether these licences are in return for the favours received from the Birlas by the Shastri government. After all, Birla has put in a word of support for Shastri in Washington!

It is also wellknown, that Birla has put in his weight against the Morarji group and the Atulya-Patil syndicate in the recent Congress Parliamentary elections.

The results of these elections have certainly been to the advantage of Shastri. In other ways also Birla has pulled his weight in the Congress organisation in Shastri's favour.

The notorious Birla-Nanda tete-a-tete in Calcutta in April last cannot also be ignored. It was reported that the two had come to some sort of an agreement on the basis of mutual cooperation.

Was the securing of more and more industrial licences for his business house behind the "heads would roll" threat of Birla?

Has the government given in before the threat of this business magnate?



Give us water, say the Bombay people

PEOPLE WANT WATER, POLICE ARREST THEM

From SARALA KARKHANIS

BOMBAY: More than five thousand satyagrahis were arrested by the Bombay police on June 7 when they defied the ban on processions demanding water and protesting against demolition of hutments.

The satyagrahis were part of the huge 25 thousand-strong demonstration which marched to the Sachivalaya from the Azad Maidan. The procession was stopped in front of the Ambedkar statue by the police.

Thereafter the five thousand satyagrahis courted arrest by defying the ban. Late in the evening all the arrested satyagrahis were released.

Thousands of women carrying pitchers took part in the demonstration and hundreds courted arrest.

The main slogans of the demonstrators were: "Stop demolition of hutments" and "Open Vihar Lake for supplementing the water supply to the city."

There are about ten lakh people living in hutments in Bombay city and suburbs. About ten thousand of them are given notices of demolition every year.

Technically, the hutments are unauthorised but it has to be viewed in the background of the magnitude of the housing problem in Bombay and the yearly influx of people into the city.

This year the Municipal Commissioner has launched a ruthless campaign for the demolition of the hutments. But then, the hutment dwellers are better organised now and in a mood to resist the attempts to make them shelterless.

The inhumanity of the demolition campaign is all the more

patent since it has been launched exactly at the time when the torrential rains of the monsoon have started.

The other issue which is agitating the people of Bombay is the chronic water scarcity.

This year, the scarcity is unbearably acute because the government has reserved the water of the Vihar Lake for emergency purposes. Vihar Lake was one of the sources of water supply for the city.

The closing of this source of water inflicted untold hardships on the people and therefore the Tenants' Conference held last month took the decision to organise demonstrations to get immediate relief.

The June 7 demonstration was jointly organised by the Greater Bombay Tenants' Conference, Greater Bombay Republican Zopadi Sangh, and the Zopadi Sangh, Bombay.

Hutment dwellers from Chembur, Ghatkopar, Kurla, Santa Cruz, Khar, Wadala, Mahim, Bandra, Sion, Parèl, Naigaum, Worli and other areas of Bombay and suburbs took part in it.

The demonstrators were addressed by leaders of the CPI, the SSP and the RPI.

T. K. Sarmalkar, general secretary of the Joint Action Committee formed to work for the betterment of the living conditions of the hutment dwellers, assured the meeting that the struggle would be continued till the demands were met.

In a memorandum submitted to the Chief Minister, the Joint Action Committee has demanded enactment of suitable laws to repair old chawls, acquisition of all vacant plots in the city by the government or the municipality, building of 50 thousand tenements each year and nationalisation of cement and other construction material production.

Satyagrahis being pushed into the police van



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Language : Policy And Implementation

Editorial

IT IS NOT ENOUGH for the democratic movement to welcome the Congress Working Committee's latest resolution on the country's language policy.

It is true that the resolution, in its essentials, follows the lines laid down by the Communist Party's Central Executive Committee and National Council at their meetings held in February and April respectively. This is a matter of satisfaction, and there is every reason for all democrats to support the Working Committee's stand.

But past experience clearly indicates that Congress statements of policy often remain on paper. The crux, therefore, is the question of the implementation of the language policy resolution, and this is a far more complicated problem than the adoption of the resolution itself.

It should not be forgotten that the language issue became such a fertile ground for disruptive forces, precisely because of the failure of the Congress governments to take effective steps for the replacement of English by the regional languages, despite many pronouncements of good intentions in this regard; the failure of the Congress governments to ensure the implementation of the three-language formula; their failure to carry out any effective programme for the development of Hindi; their failure to emphasise and insist upon the equality of all regional languages.

It should be clear that unless there is active popular intervention, the Congress governments in the states and at the centre cannot be trusted to implement the language policy faithfully and in a democratic manner, even when it is embodied in the law of the land. It was the virtual absence of such popular intervention, which in the past allowed the Congress rulers to make the dangerous mess of the language problem, with the consequent explosions following Republic Day this year.

The attack on the Working Committee resolution has already been launched. Birla's HINDUSTAN TIMES has editorially described the resolution as an "invitation to chaos", and has begun a campaign against its implementation. The Swatantra leaders Rajaji and K. M. Munshi have attacked the Congress' decision ruthlessly. The Jan Sangh extremists are also on the war-path. PSP leader Hem Barua has strongly criticised the resolution as one leading to "confusion".

The pressures from the right on the Congress leadership will continue to mount. Only a broad united democratic offensive in support of the essentials of the language policy resolution and of its implementation, can defeat these right reactionary pressures as well as the vacillations and wavering of the Congress leadership itself.

That there will be difficulties in implementing the Working Committee resolution is obvious. But then difficulties can be overcome, provided the government and the ruling party seek popular assistance and the advice of those with specialised knowledge in various fields.

There is urgent need for popular initiative, through the calling of conferences and seminars on as broad a scale as possible, in all states and at all levels, for concrete proposals to help forward the implementation of the latest language policy decisions. Writers and educationists, in particular, should be consulted and their views given special consideration with a view to meeting the difficulties and problems which are bound to arise.

Language policy is not the concern only of ministers and bureaucrats. It is the concern of the mass of the people. Only when the people are brought into action can the language policy resolution for all its excellent decisions, really be implemented in the interests of India's unity and progress.

RELEASE BIHAR TU LEADERS

KEDAR Das, Ali Amjad, Barin De, Satyanarain Singh—the well-known trade union leaders of Bihar—are still languishing in the Hazaribagh jail.

They are all office-bearers of the Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union which led the strike of the 36,000 workers of the Tata Iron and Steel Company in 1958.

The one-day token strike to press for the demands of the workers was turned into a six-day lockout by the management of the TISCO during which police resorted to wanton firing and lathi-charges. Six people died as a result of the firing and several were injured.

This was followed up by a series of criminal cases instituted by the police against the office-bearers of the Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union, the biggest among them being what is known as the Jamshedpur Conspiracy Case in which the trade union leaders were accused of arson, loot, attempt to murder and so on.

After a protracted trial lasting over a year and a half, the leaders were sentenced to undergo imprisonment for four years. Appeals were preferred before the High Court and the Supreme Court but the sentences were upheld.

After the appeals were rejected, these leaders began to undergo the prison sentence which would expire sometime at the end of 1966.

There is a strong popular feeling in Bihar that these leaders should be released immediately commencing the sentences. A release campaign has already been initiated. An appeal for the commutation of their sentences has been signed by 19 members of Parliament, 107 members of the Bihar State Assembly and 10 members of the Council.

Among the members of Parliament are members belonging to the CPI, Congress, SSP, RSP and independents; the Assembly members are from the CPI, Congress, SSP, PSP, Swatantra Party, GP, and independents and the council members from the CPI, Congress, teachers, SSP and independents.

A few days ago, Bhupesh Gupta MP, member of the Central Secretariat of the Communist Party of India met the Governor of Bihar urging him to take steps to commute

the sentences using his special powers.

In the meanwhile, the government authorities have been approached to grant remissions, as allowed under the rules. This would allow the imprisoned leaders to be free in the beginning of 1966. This is fully within the law and no special powers will have to be invoked for this purpose.

It is understood that the matter is being considered by the government but no definite answer is yet available.

Meanwhile, the Jamshedpur workers are anxiously waiting for their leaders to come back.

WEST BENGAL TEXTILE, ENGG. WORKERS TO STRIKE JUNE 28

A convention of trade unions of cotton textile and engineering workers in West Bengal held in Calcutta on June 11 has decided to call a token strike on June 28 to protest against the cut in DA over alleged fall in the consumer price index.

The convention demanded the immediate setting up of an expert body to probe into the compilation of the index.

For the first quarter of 1965, the official figures of the working-class consumer price index compiled by government for Calcutta has shown a fall by 27 points.

Pro rata reduction in DA as a sequel to the alleged fall in the index would be Rs. 5.40 per month for cotton textile workers and Rs. 5.20 per month for the engineering workers in West Bengal.

The cut in DA was made effective from May 1, 1965.

NEW AGE

This was patently a false position since the price collection agencies belong to the state government and only the computation is done by the Labour Bureau in Simla.

Inquiries into the faults in the Labour Bureau series of the index are reportedly depending upon the findings of the Expert Committee on Delhi index. This committee was appointed several months back but the report has not yet been published by the government.

In West Bengal textiles and engineering, the rate of neutralisation itself is far too low and is less than sixty per cent. Even this meagre DA is now cut by employers over alleged fall in the index while the prices in the market have not shown any such sharp downward trend.

JUNE 20, 1965

CALCUTTA: Suhashini Ganguly, popularly known as 'Putudi' to a large number of political and social workers in West Bengal, was a stormy petrel of our national freedom movement.

It was at her house in Chandannagar that the heroes of the Chittagong Armoury Raid Case fought a pitched battle with the British forces. She was arrested by the British and put in prison to serve a long sentence. After her release, she joined the Communist Party of India of which she remained a member till her last day.

Suhashini Ganguly breathed her last on March 23. It is known that but for the utter callousness of the hospital authorities this precious life of a revolutionary could have been saved. Hence, it was not only sorrow and grief, but also a feeling of anger that was generated in her death.

She died of what was described as "cardiac arrest due to tetanic spasm" at the Seth Suklal Karmali Hospital in Calcutta. The popular indignation found its way to the Legislative Council where Communist member Gopal Haider demanded a probe into the circumstances of her death. The Health Minister assured a thorough inquiry by a high-powered commission. A commission was appointed headed by Dr. J. C. Banerjee, professor-director of Medicine of the Calcutta Medical College.

Dr. Banerjee has already submitted his report but the results of his investigation have not yet been made public. There is apprehension among the public that the results of the enquiry may not be released at all.

NEW AGE therefore sought to gather the facts leading to

A PRECIOUS LIFE LOST ENQUIRY REVEALS NEGLIGENCE CAUSED SUHASHINI'S DEATH

the death of Suhashini Ganguly in order that public might know what really happened in the event the report of the Banerjee Commission is suppressed.

Here is a resume of the facts and circumstances:

On March 12 Suhashini Ganguly along with some others went to Garia, a suburb of Calcutta. There she slipped and fell down on the road. She felt pain in her left arm just below the elbow and thought that something had penetrated the skin. She asked her companion to take it out but they could not.

First Aid Given

They rushed to the railway station to get home quickly as she was feeling intense pain. At the railway station they asked for the first aid, which was promptly given. Suhashini was told that a bone was fractured and come out through the skin and immediate medical attention was necessary. A gentleman of the railways accompanied her to the SSKM Hospital.

It was about 8 P.M. when she reached the hospital emergency ward. No senior surgeon was available there.

The staff on duty tried to contact their superior on phone but in vain. So they just bandaged the wound and advised her to come the next day. Suhashini asked whether an anti-tetanus injection would be helpful but was told that whatever was necessary would be done the next day.

By the next morning Suhashini had fever. X-ray plates were taken of her injury. The attending doctors told her that it was a minor wound and she need not worry about anti-tetanus injections. The following day was Sunday. Hence she was advised to come to the hospital on Monday. No medicine was given.

On Monday she was advised to take admission in the hospital as puss had already formed at the spot of injury. She was admitted to the ward on March 15 at 6 P.M. A long list of medicines was prescribed by the attending doctor, which the relations of Suhashini supplied. That list contained medicines like Terramycin, Largactil etc., but no anti-tetanus injection.

From March 15 onward almost everyday the doctors ordered medicines to be purchased. These were bought

and supplied to the hospital. Bursting into tears, the younger sister of Suhashini showed NEW AGE the medicine slips and bitterly complained that even the medicines supplied by them were not administered. For example, she said, they supplied Terramycin every alternate day but most of it was not used.

The night Suhashini Ganguly was admitted to the ward and during the whole of the next day, she was not provided with any food as the nurses said that the diet card had not been prepared by the doctors. The nurses were told that Suhashini was a patient of duodenal ulcer but even that did not induce the staff to provide some milk or other food, even if it meant a technical violation of the hospital rules.

On the third day, she felt a bit better. No other medicine except a shot of Terramycin was given. Meanwhile a well-known physician of Calcutta who happened to be known both to the surgeon-in-charge of the hospital as well as to Suhashini phoned up to enquire about her condition.

He was told that she was making progress and that it was not considered necessary to give her any other treatment. The family members of Suhashini were also told that the case was a minor one and did not warrant any anxiety.

But next day local spasm of the fractured hand began. Only that night the hospital doctors admitted that tetanus had set in but declared that it had been arrested. Late in the night she was removed from the general ward to a separate ward and only there she was given an anti-tetanus injection.

It was noted that some tenants were being evicted, some have become landowners and some of the big landlords have become capitalist peasant proprietors. The new peasant proprietors are slowly assuming domination over the whole peasant economy.

The conference discussed ways and means of organising the peasantry in the new situation, of increasing production and of getting land for the landless poor.

Nana Patil was elected president and Madhavrao Gaikwad (now in detention) secretary of the Maharashtra Kisan Sabha.

A new general council of 75 and an executive committee consisting of 21 members were also elected by the conference.

by the hospital authorities in this case. The hospital authorities tried to say that it was only after seven days of the accident that she had come to the hospital. This was of course palpably false since there were the prescriptions and the large number of witnesses to testify that she came to the hospital as soon as possible after the accident.

After a good deal of harassment and only after her family members signed a statement dictated by the police that she fell down in her own house and was admitted in the hospital—without mentioning the dates—the deadbody was handed over.

Rs. 500 Demanded

The hospital authorities capped their performance by presenting a bill of over Rs. 500 to the members of her family when they came to take delivery of the body. The hospital authorities refused to release the body unless the payment was made. It was only after the intervention of some doctors and prominent citizens, who stood as guarantors, that the body was handed over.

The Commission's report has not yet been made public and there is a feeling that though the Commission might have held the guilt in general terms, it might not have pinpointed it to any person. There is a suspicion that an attempt has been made to hide the guilt since the admission ticket is missing and the hospital authorities have stated that she took admission only seven days after the accident.

Callous Replies

Though the doctors said that the local tetanus had been arrested the spasm of the fractured hand increased in intensity. The pain became excruciating. Cardiac trouble set in from March 20. Her whole body began to turn black. There was a rush of specialists and eminent physicians. On March 23 she was taken to the isolation ward and even family members were not allowed to see her. On March 23 she breathed her last.

But the story of this agony and inhuman treatment does not end here. The police refused to hand over her body to the family members. They said that any case of compound fracture had to be reported to the police but no such report was submitted

MAHARASHTRA KISANS HOLD CONFERENCE

From SARALA KARKHANIS

BOMBAY: The seventh conference of the Maharashtra state Kisan Sabha was held at Vani in Yeotmal district on May 25 and 26.

It was attended by 250 delegates from all over the state.

The state conference was held after the district conferences held all over Maharashtra during the last two months. Hence, the mobilisation for the conference was big and discussions more productive.

S. G. Sardesai, who inaugurated the conference, called on the kisans to unite and fight against monopoly interests and bureaucratic highhandedness.

The main business of the conference was conducted in commissions. There were commissions on food, irrigation facilities, food prices, agricultural workers and their problems, district parishads.

The conference was greeted on the second day by Z. A. Ahmad, who said that though the struggles of the peasants for the betterment of their living and working conditions were fought separately, the peasant question was essentially a national issue and should be seen as such.

Resolutions condemning the misuse of the Defence of India Rules and demanding release of kisan

JUNE 20, 1965

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A PRECIOUS LIFE LOST

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From AJAY DASGUPTA

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Biggest, Most Broadbased Youth Festival In W. Bengal

By SUSHIL CHAKRABORTY

The city of Calcutta witnessed one of the biggest events of recent times at the Ranji Stadium from May 22 to 30. For nine days literally thousands of artists, sportsmen, literateurs and young intellectuals participated in the diverse programmes of the Sixth West Bengal Youth Festival held in honour of the IX World Youth and Students Festival. Nearly two lakh people witnessed this gala event.

INDEED, this was the biggest and one of the broadest festivals ever held in West Bengal; nay in India as well. In the preparatory committee of the festival, prominent personalities and leading organisations took active part to make the festival a grand success.

A look into the list of names will bear this statement out. Among the patrons of the festival were the Mayor of Calcutta, vice-chancellors of the Calcutta University and Rabindra Bharati, the rector of Jadavpur University, principals of all the major colleges in Calcutta which included, for the first time, principals of some government colleges, presidents of all the teachers' organisations, secretaries of the major sports federations, prominent figures of the cultural world such as Satyajit Ray, Ustad Ali Akbar Khan, writer Copal Halder, trade-unionists like Dr Ranen Sen (AITUC), Jatun Chakraborty (UTUC), Prabhat Kar (Bank Employees Federation), and Jyoti Basu, leader of the opposition in the Legislative Assembly.

The president of the preparatory committee was a veteran journalist, Vivekananda Mukherjee, editor of BASUMATI, a popular daily.

Prominent Personalities

The members of the committee included among others Shambhu Mullick, secretary of the West Bengal Sports Federation; Ajoy Basu, a sports journalist; prominent sportsmen like Salen Manna, Bhaba Roy, Sukumar Samajpati, Amal Chakraborty; popular actors of stage and screen like Soumitra Chatterjee, Sabitabrata Dutta and Rabi Ghosh; music directors and singers like V. Balsara, Suchitra Mitra, Duvien Mukherjee, Nirmalendu Choudhury, Hemanga Biswas; councillors of the Calcutta Corporation; representatives of youth and student unions including that of the Calcutta University, young professors and journalists.

The festival received messages of encouragement of good wishes from the Vice-President of India, vice-chancellors of Burdwan and North Bengal universities, Committee of Youth Organisation of the Soviet Union; Chargé d'Affaires of Algerian Embassy in New Delhi.

The competitions held on the occasion of the festival can also claim to be of high importance, both in terms of number as well as from the point of view of participation.

Competitions were organised on songs, dances, arts and crafts, photography, drama, debate, creative literature, recitations and a number of sports events including special competitions for working youth, rural youth, students and

A section of boys who had come in a separate procession, however, tried to raise slogans demanding the release of political detainees and scrapping of the DIR. They had captured the dais of the festival which delayed the inaugural function by half an hour.

The festival was formerly inaugurated by Dr. Rama Choudhury and the festival flag hoisted by the general secretary of the festival preparatory committee. Speech explaining the slogans of the festival—peace and friendship—was made by the president of the committee, Vivekananda Mukherjee. It was followed by mass PT by several hundred boys and girls and national and patriotic songs by different squads.

The second day of the festival, was observed as BUILD NEW BENGAL DAY. Symposium on problems of economic development of West Bengal and the problem of mass participation in developmental work marked the day.

The third day of the festival was AFRICA DAY. This was marked by symposium on Africa Today, a round table meeting of the African and Calcutta students and a drama on the life of Patrice Lumumba. Present on this occasion was also a three-man delegation from the World Peace Council.

In the symposium on Africa Today, Dr. Pratap Chandra Chunder, a prominent Congress MLA and the president of the Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee in Calcutta also participated.

May 25, being birthday—the centenary day—of Ashutosh Mukherjee, one of the pioneering educationists of Bengal, was observed as EDUCATION DAY. A symposium on whether the present education system is consistent with the national needs and specially held on this day.

The fifth day of the festival was dedicated to the cause of the rural youth. A symposium on the problems of the life of young people in rural areas, the issues in connection with agricultural products and their marketing was held. Folk dances and songs presented by different squads coming from various districts.

Young Workers Day

The next day was observed as YOUNG WORKERS DAY. Cultural squads of young workers participated in the day's programme and a drama was staged by the Calcutta Tramway Workers.

On the seventh day, the YOUNG GIRLS DAY, competitions were held on drawing 'alpana' on the spot, flower arrangement etc., and all the items including sports items but excluding a drama were presented by young girls.

The eighth day of the festival was observed as the NATIONAL DAY. On this occasion, symposia on the problems of national integration, linguistic, economic and historical aspects of the problems were held.

The last day of the festival was observed as WORLD PEACE AND ANTI-COLONIALISM DAY. Notable in the programme on this day were the holding of a mock UN Security Council session and a

symposium on world peace and nonalignment. Among the participants of these two programmes were Vivekananda Mukherjee, Renu Chakravorty (Communist MP), Sadhan Gupta (Bar-at-Law and former MP), and Professor Kalyan Dutta.

Other highlights of the festival were the participation of leading singers like Dhananjay Bhattacharyya, V. Balsara, Utpala Sen, Satinath Mukherjee, Pratima Basu, Nirmala Misra etc.

Twentyone dramatic troupes presented dramas which included Akademy Award winner RUPAKAR. Other notable groups were Little Theatre Group, Nandikar, Chalachal, IPTA etc.

Fifteen dance dramas and ballets were presented during the nine days of the festival. There was a puppet show by the Children's Little Theatre Group, South Indian dances by a troupe from

Andhra led by Sampat Kumar, performances by Manipur Nrityakala Mandir, Kathakali dance by Kerala Kala Kendram led by Kalu Nair etc.

There were popular scientific Urdu poem recitations, Bengali poem recitations, etc., in which prominent poets like Farvez Shahidi, Subhas Mukherjee etc. participated.

More than 30 feature and documentary films including some of the internationally famous foreign and Indian films were screened.

On an average about 20,000 people thronged in the stadium to witness the festival shows and a volunteer corps of 600 including 200 from among the industrial workers participated in the management of the festival.

The Sixth West Bengal Youth Festival has created a landmark in the line of traditions created in the field of sports and cultural activity among the youth of West Bengal.

This has emphasised once more the urge of the youth in the state for peace and friendship among the peoples of the world—a world where youth can shape the destiny of their nations independent of foreign interventions, in an atmosphere of peace and friendly co-operation.

First issue will be out on July 1, 1965:

PARTY LIFE

Inner-Party Journal

To be published every month in English by the Organisational Department of the National Council of the Communist Party of India.

PARTY LIFE will regularly carry: (i) inner-Party reviews containing critical appraisals of mass and political struggles; (ii) experiences of building the Party and mass organisations; (iii) lessons of building the united front; (iv) contributions of Party cadres and members containing their opinions and experiences on political, ideological and organisational problems facing the Party, including the resolutions of the Party. This does not mean that a general discussion can be opened on issues on which the National Council has taken a decision and has not thrown it open for general discussion; (v) clarifications of Party line when and if necessary. (From the resolution of the National Council, April 2, 1965).

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PATNA. The spectre of famine is looming over Bihar but the state government instead of taking measures to meet the situation is engaged in an acrimonious controversy with the Union government on the responsibility for the food crisis and the consequent price rise.

THE state government, which had totally failed to arrest the galloping prices and cope with the food scarcity, has launched a campaign with a view to create the impression that the food situation in the state had deteriorated not due to any negligence on its part but because of the unhelpful attitude of the centre.

Another reason put forward by the state government for the scarcity is the alleged largescale smuggling of Bihar rice to China through Nepal.

Both the reasons given by the state government have been rejected outright by the centre. It holds the half-hearted and defective implementation of the food policy by the Bihar government as solely responsible for the present crisis.

The controversy was touched off by a statement of Chief Minister K. B. Sahay in which he accused the central government of backing out from its commitments. He held the union government responsible for the food crisis in the state.

This statement was promptly

K. B. SAHAY IN SEARCH OF SCAPEGOATS TO BLAME

ly rebutted by Union Food and Agriculture Minister C. Subramaniam. Addressing a press conference in New Delhi on May 15, he said:

"The unsatisfactory food situation in some of the states including Bihar was mainly due to the vague and faulty policy of the state governments."

No Justification For Price-Rise

He maintained that there was no justification for the rise in price of rice in Bihar at this time. "Increased production of rice this year did not justify scarcity condition in Bihar so early", he said.

The same opinion is held by the opposition parties also.

The state council of the CPI was the first to expose the failure of the state government on the food front.

The CPI charged that reluctance on the part of the state government to implement the policies adopted by the Centre as well as the state government was responsible for the failure to procure enough rice to meet the emergency.

This charge was supported by the fact that the state government could procure only 30 thousand tons of rice though the target fixed was three lakh tons.

In view of the sharp deterioration in the situation, the CPI issued a warning that the pro-hoarder policy of the

state government was leading Bihar towards famine conditions.

Not only the opposition parties, but some prominent Congressmen in the state have also assailed the state for its failure in tackling the food crisis.

For example, Binodanand Jha, former Chief Minister of Bihar, has said that hoarding was responsible for the present food crisis and the state government has totally failed to take action against the hoarders and unearth the hoarded foodgrains.

Faced with this allround attack, Chief Minister Sahay advanced a new theory to escape from criticism. On May 30 the Chief Minister made the dramatic announcement that a large quantity of Bihar rice was being smuggled into China through Nepal.

And the inevitable conclusion was drawn: "Smuggling is greatly responsible for the steep rise in the price of rice. But it is not possible for the state government alone to check it."

Here again, the Chief Minister was caught in his own web. His statement ran contrary to what a government spokesman had said earlier.

The Food Minister of Bihar, while replying to a call attention notice in the Assembly last March, had categorically denied the report of smuggling of Bihar rice to China through Nepal.

It was certainly surprising to see the Chief Minister, after two months since the Food Minister made the statement, suddenly discovering that rice was being smuggled out of the state and the country.

The Chief Minister was effectively silenced by the Union Food Minister himself. Addressing pressmen in New Delhi on June 2, Subramaniam described the report of rice smuggling as a "mere scare created by somebody".

Completely Baseless

The Union Food Minister added: "I have recently deputed a team of officers to examine the matter and it, after conducting investigations on the Bihar Nepal border, has reported that the rumour was completely baseless."

This view has been corroborated by eminent journalists who have just completed a fact-finding tour of Bihar-Nepal border. They have not been able to detect any sign of smuggling of Bihar rice into Nepal.

On the other hand, in some places they found Nepal rice being smuggled into Bihar! Meanwhile the prices are rising steeply. The coarsest rice is not available at less than Rs. 38 to Rs. 40 a

From K. GOPALAN

maund. In some places it is as high as Rs. 45 to Rs. 47 a maund.

Price of medium variety of rice varies from Rs. 42 to Rs. 45 a maund. Fine rice is selling at Rs. 50 to Rs. 60 a maund.

In fact, at the high prices any amount of rice is available though there is too much talk of scarcity.

Deterioration in the food situation and the pressure from the opposition parties have made the state government to move, however lethargically it might be.

The Chief Minister called a high-level conference at Ranchi on June 8 to review the food situation and devise ways and means to tide over the crisis.

Conference Held

Apart from the Chief Minister, the Food Minister and top officials of the Food and Supply Ministry, leaders of CPI, SSP, Swatantra groups in the legislature attended the meeting.

The conference was called to counter the demand for a special session of the legislature raised by the CPI leader Sunil Mukherjee MLA and Indradeep Sinha MLC, who had written to the Chief Minister demanding such a session.

The Chief Minister said at the conference that instead of convening a special session of the Assembly, he thought it useful to call a small conference of opposition leaders to have a free exchange of views and analysis of the situation.

Initiating the discussion Sunil Mukherjee characterised the food policy of the state government as confused, muddle-headed and pro-hoarder. He charged: "You don't have any clarity whatsoever; you have no foresight; you only rely on the Centre to help you in tiding over the situation. And the Centre in its turn accuses you of inefficiency, inability to procure and stock."

He challenged the theory of shortage and maintained that hoarding was responsible for the artificial shortage. He said that it was strange that despite marked increase in production, arrivals in the market had been less than last year and less than normal. This was due to hoarding of stocks by big growers and big traders who have got a full grip on the market and therefore are able to dictate the terms, he said.

The CPI leader pointed out a new phenomenon in the emergence of rural hoarder. The big producers have become wholesale traders also. Apart from their own produce, they purchased from the small farmers

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Comment And Criticism On My 'September' Article

Writing on the food crisis and the way it may escalate by September next and reminding the people of the events of last year, I had suggested that all democratic popular forces should, from now, think of measures to meet that crisis.

MY article drew the attention of several journals and thinking people. There were comments and criticisms. One particular statement of mine came in for serious discussion and objection also. That was where I said: "The people must prepare to deal with the criminal activities of the big racketeers and millionaires with their own people's courts and people's justice."

The sangram samitis of trade unions, kisan sabhas and other mass organisations were to be the organs to mobilise for this task in defence of the people. One set of critics, among whom the "Statesman" is one, said that the Communist Party was too disarrayed to undertake such a programme.

Another set of critics said that this programme, in fact, calls for the setting up of a parallel government or the launching of civil war, where alone "people's courts", dealing with anti-social criminals are set up. To talk of such action today, is sheer adventurism.

With regard to the first criticism I will say that there is some truth in the statement that the Communist Party or for that matter, all the democratic forces taken together, are not organised enough to take up a programme of "positive intervention" of this type if the situation of last September breaks out and the government fails again.

And just because of that, an appeal or a suggestion is made to unite and organise from now on, not on a narrow basis of any one party but on the basis of democratic unity of all mass organisations. It is not and cannot be a decision of the Communist Party alone unless the mass organisations are sounded.

With regard to the second criticism, I think too much meaning is being read into the words "people's courts and people's justice". I had no parallel governments or civil war in mind. At the same time, it is true that these words in political theory suggest such a meaning. I was, however, drawing on our own limited experience in India. The democratic movement has come as far as "gheraos", which are carried out to pressurise the offending anti-social persons in authority to behave better. Last year in Calcutta, the masses, on their own initiative, evolved what they called the "Dum Dum dawai", a form of positive mass intervention, to bring down prices. In Maharashtra, in some areas, the people took hold of the boards of some very rich persons, sold them at the prescribed prices and credited the money with the collector, to be paid to the owners. There was perfect discipline, order and enthusiasm, until the police were called and a clash was organised. When last year, we marched in order to surround and enter the Food Ministry in

Delhi or the Grain Dealers' Association in Bombay, we were not launching a civil war nor were we merely letting off empty slogans. The thousands who ran to surround and deboard the hoarders' godowns were not taking position in either of these two extremes.

Moreover, in the matter of food, the law itself has declared hoarding, high-pricing as serious anti-social offences, to be dealt with under the DIR.

But the government, being timid before the big rich hoarders, does not enforce the law against them. It gives "stern warning". But the sternness is against the people in action and empty warnings to the anti-social monopolists.

So, if the democratic masses act in that direction, it is in effect, an enforcement of a principle and a law, which the state admits but fails to enforce. Hence such actions neither become one of parallel government nor of civil war. They are just democratic positive enforcement of social necessity to uphold social life and existence of millions.

It was in this vein and with some such feelings that I wrote the lines that have evoked criticism. I am too much of a realist to propose a full-scale revolution by September next. No realist can. But I admit, there was some room for misunderstanding.

In any case, while we may be debating, the prices are already rising, as the government itself admits in Bihar and elsewhere. So what do we do? Let us discuss.

—S. A. DANGE

TIMELY WARNING AGAINST DANGER OF RIGHT REACTION

THE DANGER OF RIGHT REACTION by H. D. Malaviya, A Socialist Congressman Publication, C-41 Nizamuddin East, New Delhi 13, pp 402, price Rs. ten.

THE danger of right reaction subverting democracy in our country has reached a stage where every genuine patriot, concerned about the future of the country. The forces at play are today stronger than ever and constitute a very substantial hurdle on the way of growth of democracy.

Allowed to have its own way, as it is today, the right reaction, which has made tremendous advance in the third general elections and the following period, might even seek to overthrow the present system of government in the country and replace it by more authoritarian government directly linked to imperialist powers.

To combat the forces of right reaction is therefore a national task and the Indian National Congress being the ruling party has the biggest share of responsibility in this matter. H. D. Malaviya, a Congressman of socialist thinking, has done a tremendous service to the nation by helping to bring forward to public view the danger which the country is faced with the right reaction.

The book is timely and important for all who have an interest in the future of democracy in this country. Coming as it does from a Congressman, it acquires added importance in view of the forward given to it by Congress President Kamaraj. Kamaraj in his forward has assured the readers that the Congress "is fully aware of the various reactionary forces coming in the way of everything that is in the larger interests of the community."

But what is missing in this bold declaration of "awareness" is the realisation that the Congress, besides the reactionary political parties, harbours in itself forces of right reaction and they are far more dangerous enemies to the Congress "goal", which according to Kamaraj, "is establishment of a socialist society through democratic and peaceful means."

While the author has referred to the forces of right reaction inside the Congress Party, he has not taken a forthright stand in suggesting the weeding out of these elements from inside the Congress. The net result therefore is merely a pointless exercise, though S. K. Patil has been pointed out as the source of a real danger to the Congress organisation.

But that is as far as it goes. The Congress President has thought it fit to say in his forward that "one may or may not agree with everything which an author says" implying thereby that the observations made by Malaviya do not have the okay of the Congress leadership.

But the author has really done a thorough and painstaking job in tracing the development of right reaction in the country. The RSS, Jan Sangh, the Swatantra Party,

the DMK, Akali Dal and similar parties have been dissected with a sharp scalpel; their policies and preachings, their aims and objectives have been methodically analysed and exposed.

What is more important is the fact that Malaviya being an economist himself has taken the trouble in locating the economic roots of right reaction in our country. The two chapters of the book on this theme are illuminating. Two other chapters: concentrated economic power on the rampage, and social pyramid of right reaction are most important in understanding the effectiveness of right reaction's influence on various social strata of life.

After analysing all this and bringing out in sharp relief the dangers that threaten our country, the author lapses into self-righteousness by declaring that to take the country out of the danger and to end spread of the right reaction, the Congress is the only hope and socialism is the only way.

This is precisely where he is mistaken. No body of course can grudge his taking this view but all the same it is wide off the mark. As against the right reaction and the dangers it poses, the Congress is not the only hope. Only a united front of all the pro-

of one concession after the other being given to the right reaction.

And what socialism does Congress aim to achieve? The factors which brought about a Congress committal to the path of socialism, call it by any name was the theme, have lost their impact. Durgapur was a going away from the path charted at Bhubaneswar and not an advance.

The experiment with mixed economy has failed to bear the expected fruits. Planning has not brought the Indian masses any nearer to socialism though it has helped the rich to become richer. It is they who foster the right reaction. Has there been a socialistic distribution of the social wealth generated during last decade and a half?

Then what is this socialism the Congress talks of? For all practical purposes it is not only a misnomer but also a dangerous state of mind where the people are lured into false security.

The author has rightly emphasised that the Chinese aggression provided the opportunity to the right reaction to unleash its most powerful attack against the basic policies of the nation (which by the way are not the Congress monopoly), and though defeated in its bid, the right reaction has not ceased fire. It is continuously regrouping and changing its tactics.

How to Become An Ambassador

INSIDER has given interesting information in his column (NEW AGE, June 6) titled "Ugly Indian."

It appears that the best way to become an Indian ambassador (or a High Commissioner) is to oppose all aspects of our foreign policy, and if possible have a kick or two at the architect of that policy, Pandit Nehru himself.

Apart from these qualifications, it would appear that a recommendation from the US embassy or British High Commission in New Delhi is an additional point in favour of the candidate.

It is difficult to understand what "qualifications" other than the ones mentioned above have led to the latest diplomatic appointment from among "public men". Surely, there are adherents of our foreign policy with a record of public service before which the latest appointee's record (if indeed it can be called a record) pales into insignificance.

It is already known that the Maharaja of Jaipur has been appointed an ambassador somewhere in Europe. Maharani Gayatri Devi whose political views are well-known will accompany her distinguished husband and play the hostess.

How much they will represent our foreign policy is obvious to those who know their public (and even worse, private) activities in opposition to our policy of non-alignment.

The gods responsible for making these fantastic appointments wink slyly when asked the reasons which lie behind their choice and suggest that they are "buying off"

their political opponents in this remarkable manner.

All one can say is: there is no fool greater than the fool who doesn't know that he is one.

Or may be, there is "a method in this madness". I doubt it. Bombay S. T. V. MENON

Future of Congress

WITH all the factionalism and groupism rampant inside every state organisation of the Congress Party, it seems clear that it will be impossible to preserve Congress "unity"—even the formal unity which now prevails—as the general elections draw nearer.

Congressmen ask themselves whether split-away factions will form separate groups; as in Kerala, or join other parties. Desperate measures are being taken by the Congress High Command to keep the organisation together by one or the other trick. But nothing succeeds.

In this state (Punjab), the expansion of the cabinet is not going to unite the Congress, but only accentuate groupism, the very malady which is sought to be cured.

The main trouble is that the factions and groups are usually not based on any principles; often they are a result of casteism. Essentially they are part of a scramble for power.

If sometimes one group appears less "reactionary" than the other, it is usually because the group in opposition always poses as a progressive critic of the group in power. Once it takes over power itself, it becomes as reactionary as its opponent.

This is not to deny that there are progressive or left Congressmen in all states. But generally speaking, they are unable to assert themselves. They fall into group politics, finding themselves unable to fight with the Congress on the basis of principles.

The process of disintegration in the Congress should be turned to the advantage of the democratic forces by bringing into existence a solid left consolidation within the Congress.

Unfortunately, at present the splits within the Congress tend only to strengthen the forces of reaction. Phagwara GURDIAL SINGH

Prepare for September

THE call given by S. A. Dange (NEW AGE, June 6) to all progressive organisations to prepare for action in September against the hoarders and profiteers is timely.

Unless we are prepared from now onwards, the government's wishful forecasts will null us into complacency and we shall be unprepared for the hell that is bound to be let loose by the moneybags and their brokers in the ruling circles. Allahabad H. K. ASTHANA

—S. M.

When the Labour Party won the general elections in Britain last year, there were hopes, based on election promises and pre-election policy declarations, that there would be a change in British foreign policy which could help in the promotion of peace. All these hopes have thus far been belied.

ON the contrary, the Labour government's support to US imperialist aggression in Vietnam has been a vital factor not only in encouraging and strengthening Johnson's brinkmanship, but also in aggravating tension and increasing the war-danger for all mankind.

Thus any illusions that may have been created by the advent to power of the Labour government in Britain, that the Commonwealth would now change its basic character, have been shattered. Virtually the political complexion of the Commonwealth conference, remains the same as that of the conference last year.

It is necessary to recall here India's own experiences of British "friendship" and Commonwealth "ties", during the period since the assumption of office by the Labour government. Prime Minister Shastri, in an unprecedented gesture of goodwill, made a dash to London to meet Prime Minister Wilson within a few weeks of the Labour election victory.

Bitter Experience

India had had bitter experiences of the Tory government's continued hostility and the old friendly relations between the Indian national movement and the Labour left gave rise to expectations of an end to the anti-Indian postures of the British government.

At last year's Commonwealth conference, held soon after Pandit Nehru's death, the hostility to India was apparent, despite the shameful kowtowing to imperialism indulged in by T. T. Krishnamachari, who represented Prime Minister Shastri at the conference. The advent of a Labour government should transform Indo-British relations, it was argued by the wishful ones in high places.

Unfortunately, wishes are not horses; one cannot ride on them. And Shastri's London dash brought no results, except perhaps an increase in British imperialism's contempt for the Indian government. The Indian Prime Minister's pleadings for a nuclear shield with Wilson were accompanied by disgraceful begging before British monopolists to 'invest' (and loot) more extensively in India, in return for ever more concessions.

Inevitably, these abject crawlings before the imperial might of British imperialism did not win respect; they only convinced the British government that they could treat the Indian government as they willed—for this worm would never turn.

We have seen this British contempt for India in practice all these months. Without India's consent—indeed, in the face of India's opposition—the British government has sought to build bases in

COMMONWEALTH MEET AND INDIA'S DUTY

the most crucial issues facing India and the world? It should be remembered that Shastri will go straight from the Commonwealth conference to Algiers for the second Bandung. His performance in London will be watched with deep interest by our Afro-Asian brothers—and may well influence their attitude towards India at Algiers.

Democratic Desire

What is the brief prepared by the Ministry of External Affairs for Shastri's role at the London conference?

It has been announced that on no account will we allow the Indo-Pakistan question, and the Kutch aggression, to be raised at the London conference. This is a correct decli-

★ On the vital world question of Vietnam. Prime Minister Shastri must fight for the enforcement of his call for a halt to US bombings, as a primary condition for any peaceful solution. He must express India's abhorrence at the British governments' support to the US aggressors, and at the despatch of troops by Australia and New Zealand to help the aggressors against the people of Vietnam.

This is the minimum that is expected of the Indian Prime Minister. The British government has shifted its stand slightly on Vietnam and has put forward new proposals. This shift follows a realisation by the imperialist powers that the South Vietnam Liberation Front continues to grow in strength and cannot be destroyed by armed might.

But the new proposals can-

in support of the African nationalist movement.

★ India must voice its condemnation of all British imperialist repression against the liberation movements in British colonies—particularly in Aden and Southern Arabia, in British Guiana, etc.

★ India must voice the demand for the withdrawal of British troops from foreign soil, wherever they may be placed. In this connection India must resist any moves for Commonwealth support to British neo-colonial interests in Malaysia, and any consequent anti-Indonesian postures.

★ India must assert its total opposition to US intervention and aggression in Dominican Republic, Cuba and the rest of Latin America and urge complete British dissociation with such intervention and aggression.

★ India must demand that the British government cuts off all relations with the Portuguese imperialists and the South African racist government—for the relations help in the suppression and genocide indulged in by the Salazar and Verwoerd dictatorships.

Other Issues

Apart from foreign policy issues, the Indian Prime Minister must take up issues of special importance to India—such as the prevalence and growth of racial discrimination in Britain, the brunt of which is being borne by large numbers of Indian, Pakistani and West Indian immigrants.

Shastri will not have to look far in London to see this discrimination and with it, in a flash, the true meaning of the Commonwealth, as the British imperialists would like to have it.

Just as in England, the menial inferior jobs are "reserved" for the coloured today and any attempt to go beyond these jobs results in beating up of the coloureds by whites—so also the imperialists would like to continue the commonwealth with white "A" class members, and coloured "B" class members.

If the Government of India and the other Afro-Asian governments do not quit the Commonwealth today, they will do so tomorrow, as experience teaches them that there is nothing in common between them and the imperialists who run the Commonwealth in their own interests.

In the meanwhile, the anti-imperialist governments must see that the Commonwealth conferences are made at least a forum for the expression of their views and not allowed to become mere handwagons for British imperialism and its colonial and neo-colonial interests.

Assert Nonaligned Anti-Imperialist Stand of the Nation

By ROMESH CHANDRA

reiterate the demand that India should quit the Commonwealth. The Shastri government however, appears to possess the proverbial rhinoceros hide—it is not sensitive enough to feel the blows showered on it by the British imperialists.

Far from quitting the Commonwealth—or even threatening to quit, as a reprisal for the anti-Indian actions of the British government, Shastri and his colleagues continue to place their trust in the glories of the Commonwealth.

Dear Old London!

One might have expected that the Government of India could at least show its displeasure by refusing to attend the coming Commonwealth conference, or by laying down conditions for its participation. But no! The Prime Minister is off and will be in dear old London in good time to be received by the Queen.

Now that the Prime Minister is attending the Commonwealth conference, what stand should we take on

sion, and after the great experiences at last year's Commonwealth conference, it is important to make it known that we shall not tolerate any interference from the Commonwealth in bilateral questions.

The Indian democratic movement earnestly desires a peaceful settlement with Pakistan. But it knows perfectly well that the imperialists do not want a settlement, and it is their interference which prevents a settlement. Therefore any offer of talks, under the direct or indirect auspices of the British government, must be rejected outright.

But obviously, the Government of India is participating in the London conference not merely in order to keep Kutch, Kashmir and Indo-Pak relations off the agenda. Indian democrats would expect that the Prime Minister would use the occasion (since he rejects the demand to quit the Commonwealth or at least stay away from this conference) to put forward forcibly India's viewpoints on the most crucial issues of foreign policy, with which the Commonwealth is specially concerned.

★ On Southern Rhodesia, India must demand British intervention to thwart the evil plans of the white racist minority rulers to declare their so-called independence, and create another South Africa. It is not enough to make declarations opposing the racists and supporting the nationalist movement, it is necessary to demand action by the British government of a decisive nature.

Racialism Rampant

The white racists in Southern Rhodesia have the temerity to act as they are acting, only because they have the tacit support of the British government. Attending Commonwealth conference has little meaning, if India cannot mobilise the African and Asian nations in the Commonwealth behind the demand for British action

SOCIAL PYRAMID OF RIGHT REACTION					
Name of the corporate topper	Ranking	Business House to which the topper belongs	net profit after tax in Rs. lakhs	percentage increase	
			1917-18	1963-64	
Ahmedabad Elerticity Co.	16	Killicks group	0.2	90.0	44,900
Burn & Co	25	Martin Burn	9.9	32.6	229
Bengal Coal	71	Andrew Yule	28.5	36.0	36
Bombay Dyeing and Manufacturing Co. Ltd. Century	43	Nowrosjee Wadia	20.7	24.3	17
Spinning & Manufacturing New Central	46	Birla group	16.7	127.1	661
Jute Mills	34	Sahu-Jain	13.3	132.6	697
Tata Hydro-electric	54	Tata group	14.2	68.9	385
Tata Iron and Steel Co. Ltd	1	Tata group	75.8	1172.0	1,446
Titaghar Paper	41	Bird-Hellgers group	4.7	13.7	192
TOTAL			182.0	1697.2	(Av) 832

Note: The ranking of the companies has been taken from the list of the Hundred Toppers given in the CORPORATE SECTOR IN INDIA by Rai K. Nigam and N. C. Chaudhary, published by the Department of Company Law Administration, Ministry of Finance.

Net profit figures have been taken from published company accounts.

gressive left forces in India today can effectively combat the forces of right reaction.

In fact, the Congress as the ruling party has abjectly failed in this responsibility and placed as it is today, with its organisation at sixes and sevens, it cannot deliver the goods. The effectiveness of the Congress Party and the homogeneity it had when Jawaharlal Nehru was alive, have been lost as against the right reaction. For Congress, now it is an unending story

What the book fails to take note of is the struggle waged by the people against the right reaction. This was a factor which more than anything else helped in pushing back the onslaught of the right reaction.

It is not enough today merely to pinpoint the danger; the remedy must also be suggested boldly, without any hesitation. For this it is first of all necessary to rid the Congress itself of the

right reactionary elements and second, to forge a united front of all the progressive and patriotic people to unleash a relentless struggle to root out the evil.

Barring these shortcomings, the book of H. D. Malaviya is a valuable contribution to India's struggle for democracy and socialism, albeit, the Cong-ress variety.

Party Press Month

The Party Press Month (one month during the period May 15 to June 30) is being currently observed throughout the country. Of the highpoints of the campaign, the most important one is the mass-scale drive for popularisation of the Party papers published by the centre, namely the central organ NEW AGE weekly (English), JANYUG weekly (Hindi) and HAYAT weekly (Urdu).

In order to intensify the WIN MORE READERS campaign, the central secretariat has decided to offer incentives to enterprising Party members and sympathisers who would take initiative in securing subscribers for these papers.

The incentives offered by the central secretariat are as follows and are valid till August 15, 1965. It is, of course, understood that crediting of subscriptions to one's name will be considered only after the amount has been received at the managerial offices of these papers.

PRIZES

★ For those who would secure FIVE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS or TEN HALF-YEARLY SUBSCRIPTIONS or TWENTY QUARTERLY SUBSCRIPTIONS of any one of the three papers or the three papers together:

One-year free supply of one copy of either of the three papers.

★ For TEN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS or equivalent thereto:

Coupons worth Rs. 30 negotiable with the People's Publishing House, New Delhi for buying books according to choice.

★ For TWENTYFIVE ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS or equivalent thereto:

Rs. 100 in cash or utility goods of that amount according to choice.

★ For ONE HUNDRED ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTIONS or equivalent thereto:

Rs. 300 in cash or utility goods of that amount according to choice.

★ Those who would secure 100 or more annual subscriptions or equivalent thereto, would also have:

- His photograph and a short life-sketch published in the Party papers.
- The fact of this achievement recorded in the Party card, if he is a Party member.
- Be declared as a honorary member of the NEW AGE family.

★ Those who would secure highest number of subscriptions (beyond 100 annual subscriptions or equivalent thereto) shall have the distinction of receiving:

- Cash prizes or utility goods worth a big sum, the exact amount of which is to be decided by the Party's central secretariat;
- Special honour by the Party and the Party press; and
- Special awards and benefits.

Agents Note

★ For six weeks, any time upto August 15, 1965, agents can receive extra copies in addition to their existing orders on SALE OF RETURN basis. The number of extra copies ordered must be reasonable.

★ On the extra copies sold, a commission of 40 per cent will be allowed for six weeks effective from the date of the order.

★ After six weeks, when sale of extra copies would be stabilised, new terms can be worked out for the entire bulk of copies to be sold every week.

BONUS ORDINANCE: MORE BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYERS

AFTER much procrastination and long delay, the Government of India has promulgated the Payment of Bonus Ordinance.

Why it chose to introduce it as an ordinance rather than bring legislation in Parliament, it is easy to see.

The thorough mishandling of the whole issue by the government in its eagerness to give major concessions to big business had led to a situation in which the government's proposals would have met with stiff opposition in Parliament.

It was likely that some of those sitting on treasury benches would also have joined in this criticism.

At the same time, the government did not dare to take away a couple of clauses which continue to rouse the ire of the employers and hence fire would have been concentrated on it also by big business representatives in Parliament.

Hence the desire to bring the legislation as an ordinance rather than as a bill.

No doubt, the ordinance will have to be laid before Parliament for its approval. But by then it will be a fait accompli and resistance to any change will be far less.

The ordinance itself contains further concessions

earlier opposition to government's modifications.

Such a provision, however, is always built in in all reports, etc., because existing rights and privileges cannot be curtailed.

All that it amounted to was that the workers will continue to get earlier quantum of bonus. Now, instead of this customary safeguard, we have a clause in the ordinance which does not achieve even this meagre objective.

The ordinance provides that if the bonus payable under the ordinance bears a lesser proportion to the gross profits of the year than the bonus paid did to the gross profits of a base year (the immediately preceding 12 months or the year immediately preceding the relevant year in case a dispute is pending), then, subject to a ceiling of 20 per cent and provided the establishment is required to pay more than the minimum bonus, a sum will be allocated as bonus which bears the same proportion to the gross profits of the year, as was the proportion in the base year.

In both cases, gross profits would be arrived at after deducting all direct taxes payable.

The only thing guaranteed is the ratio and that also,



Bonus March in Bombay on June 7.

reached or decisions have been given."

The Labour Minister in his statement of September 18 had not said anything regarding this and the presumption could therefore firmly be drawn that the government accepted this recommendation.

However, the ordinance says:

"Where immediately before the 2nd September 1964, any industrial dispute regarding payment of bonus relating to any accounting year ending on any day in the year 1962, and any subsequent accounting year was pending before the appropriate government or before any tribunal or other authority constituted under the Industrial Disputes Act 1947, or under any corresponding law relating to investigation and settlement of industrial disputes in a State, such dispute shall be decided in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

"Explanation:— A Dispute shall be deemed to be pending before the appropriate government where no decisions of that government on any application made to it under the said Act or such corresponding law for reference of that dispute to adjudication has been made or where, having received the report of the Conciliation Officer (by whatever designation known) under the said Act or law, the appropriate Government has not passed any other refusing to make such reference."

Thus the earlier position has been modified in favour of the employers.

Now the coverage is limited only to those matters

By
SATISH LOOMBA

of substantial nature to employers than even those granted earlier through the government's modifications of the Bonus Commission's report.

The employers have been vociferously attacking the government's declaration of safeguarding existing bonus benefits.

Labour Minister Sanjivayya had bravely declared in his September 18, 1964 speech:

"At the same time, it was not government's intention that benefits which labour may have been enjoying in the matter of bonus in any establishment or industry should in any way be curtailed by the adoption of a new formula for the payment of bonus.

"In the circumstances, government desire to clarify that in the legislation to be promulgated of the Bonus Commission as accepted by government, suitable provisions would be included so as to safeguard that labour would get in respect of bonus, the benefits on the existing basis or on the basis of the new formula, whichever be higher."

The INTUC had set great store by this safeguard. In fact, it had found this as a convenient peg on which it hung its withdrawal of the

irrespective of the number of workers in the establishment.

In rapidly expanding units, the number of workers may have gone up considerably since the base year and though the ratio of bonus to gross profits may be maintained, the quantum per worker will decrease.

Hence in many cases, this safeguard clause will, in fact, provide no safeguard.

Then again, the operation of even this clause is limited to establishments where there are subsisting awards, agreements, settlements or contracts of service.

Two major categories—where bonus and its quantum are customary and second, where there is an ad hoc arrangement—are both excluded.

Trus, "puja" bonus, where paid according to custom—as distinct from award or settlement—would not be covered by this clause. Nor would the ad hoc arrangements as in Bombay textiles.

The Bonus Commission had recommended that the provisions of the new formula would be applicable to "all bonus matters relating to accounting year ending on any day in calendar year 1962 other than those cases in which settlements have been

STEEL WAGE BOARD AWARD DISAPPOINTS

NEW DELHI: Reports appearing in a section of the press about the recommendations of the Central Wage Board for Iron and Steel Industry have caused considerable misgivings among trade union circles.

THE Wage Board report has not yet been officially released, but if what has been published in the press is correct, the Board has totally denied justice to the workers.

In a statement on the reported recommendations of the Wage Board, Satish Loomba, secretary of the AITUC, said:

The Wage Board is reported to have recommended a minimum wage of Rs. 117 in HSL plants and Rs. 116 in TISCO and IISCO.

This recommendation, it is evident, does not go beyond the wage revision done in the TISCO in 1959 after the 1958 strike. The lowest wage in the 1959 wage revision was Rs. 1.81 per day and Rs. 45 was the DA.

In 1964 prices, this would work out to Rs. 116 and that means that the Wage Board has done nothing more than freezing the 1959 wages in real terms and has not gone into the crucial question of need-based wage fixation. It will be recalled that the

From available reports, it is also seen that the Steel Wage Board had not even bothered to fix uniform wages and other conditions of work for the country's iron and steel workers and wages are fixed differently for public and private sector plants and for Bhadravati plant.

What is worse, while perpetuating the anarchy in rates, the Wage Board is reported to have recommended only the minimum rates and has left the detailed working out of the wage structure of the other categories through negotiations with so-called "recognised" unions.

It is well-known that in none of the steel plants, really representative unions have been recognised by the managements and therefore this recommendation would mean that the so-called recognised unions which are mere tools in the hands of the managements would be the arbiter of wage standards of the mass of steel workers.

The AITUC emphatically protests against such an arrangement which is a total abdication of responsibility by the Wage Board and a plain surrender to the dictates of the employers.

Utter Failure

The Wage Board has evidently failed to touch even the fringe of the problem of fixing need-based wages.

It is a matter of grave concern that the central wage boards take several years, make elaborate investigations taxing the patience of the workers who are called upon to make all kinds of submissions and eventually the boards refuse to do anything more than make ad hoc marginal adjustments and make little headway in improving

RAJASTHAN TEXTILE WORKERS GAIN RS. 7.50 RISE IN WAGES

From H. K. VYAS

JAIPUR: The working class in Rajasthan has started securing some significant concessions as a result of the effective mobilisation they have been carrying out since March this year round the major demand of a rise in dearness allowance and linking it with the correct consumer price index.

SINCE the Mathur Committee report has been published the movement for higher DA has gained momentum.

At the meeting of the Rajasthan Labour Advisory Board, a decision was taken that efforts should be made to settle this problem by tripartite negotiations.

This meeting of the advisory board was boycotted by the INTUC in a vain bid to keep out the United Action Committee consisting of the AITUC, HMS and HMP and independent unions.

But that did not affect the working of the board nor its recommendation that efforts be made to settle the DA issue through tripartite talks.

Talks followed this meeting and the first major victory has been secured by the textile workers of the state.

In a tripartite meeting held in the presence of the Chief Minister on June 8 an agreement has been signed between the Textile Mill Owners Association, Rajasthan, and their workmen represented by AITUC, HMS and INTUC state branches.

The agreement states that the mills agree to give an ad hoc rise of Rs. 7.50 per month with effect from April 1 to all workers in the textile industry in the state.

this abnormally low rate of DA. The Mathur Committee also took the view that since the Wage Board award applies to the textile industry, the system evolved by the Wage Board should continue. All that it did was to revise the Beaur index numbers by three points upwards.

The textile workers, however, did not take this as an accepted fact. They continued to agitate for a rise and demanded that the abnormally low rate of linkage should be revised.

The millowners tried to resist this claim by saying that the Second Wage Board has already been constituted and that it is meeting shortly to consider the issue.

The agreement of June 8 means that though the millowners have not formally agreed to revise the rate of neutralisation point—they want to try and press the Wage Board to give less—in actual fact they have agreed to raise the neutralisation rates.

On the March index numbers the neutralisation figure will go up from 84 Paise per point to about 65 Paise per point.

As the index goes up, this would probably come to a little less, but for the time being this virtually means conceding the demand for a hundred per cent neutralisation of the statutory minimum as recommended by the Mathur Committee.

The textile workers are now preparing to consolidate these gains.

The state government employ-

ees specially in the Public Works Department, State Electricity Board, Roadways, etc., who have been deprived of the ad hoc increase or increases of Rs. 5 each time given by the state government on the plea that they are casual or work-charged have won a big concession.

More Problems

They would now get a Rs. 15 per month rise, if they have not already got a part of it with effect from March 1. In addition, those who have been denied the earlier increase will get Rs. 60 as arrears.

In principle it has been agreed that all such workers who are working against jobs which are of a permanent nature—and that includes repairs maintenance, and even a notional part of new construction—could be made permanent and would get all the benefits.

Detailed procedure is being laid down and in some months this process of fixing up them as permanent will be complete.

The Rajasthan working class is thus securing some significant gains.

But this is one part of the picture. Many problems still remain very acute and some sections of the working class are the biggest sufferers. The most glaring instance is of the engineering industries workers of the state.

The engineering industries pay a pitiable low wage of Rs. 52 per month (basic). Some have given some rise in DA while

others have introduced the system of production bonus or attendance bonus.

The demand for a proper rise in basic wage bringing it at least to the statutory minimum of Rs. 60 and then the linking of this with the consumer price index and paying DA is the most urgent necessity for these workers.

Some meetings have been held by the owners of the engineering units, which include such big monopolists like the Birlas and the Kamnits, are refusing to accede to this reasonable demand.

Similarly in the road transport industry there is no DA at present and the demand for an interim rise for them also is gaining support.

The minimum wages for the mica industry have yet to be notified.

The major question of the statutory linking of DA with the consumer price index still remains.

The working class of Rajasthan is demonstrating for these demands and problems on June 20 to force the hands of the recalcitrant owners and the government and to secure further gains.

The unity and strength they have shown in the United Action Committee and the massive demonstrations on May Day are indications that they will be able to force the hands of the owners and the government.

The success scored by the textile workers has given confidence to all workers and raised their morale to fight for more and more concessions.

Future of the Czech Footwear Industry

Czechoslovakia is the first in the world in the field of per capita footwear production. But if we compare the present level of Czechoslovak production and export of boots and shoes with that of other countries with an advanced footwear industry, it is evident that Czechoslovakia is lagging behind many of these countries in terms of growth in the volume of production.

FROM 1930 to 1961, world production of footwear increased by 143 per cent, but in Czechoslovakia by a mere 72 per cent. In the Czechoslovak footwear industry growth was confined in the main to production of rubber footwear, which increased by 103 per cent compared with only 59 per cent in leather boots and shoes.

At present, this country manufactures just short of 5 per cent of the world's boots and shoes; by 1980 this will have fallen to 2.9 per cent. Czechoslovakia intends to export 30 per cent of her production of footwear, or 42 million pairs—24 million pairs made of leather.

Even though this will be only one per cent of the envisaged total world production in 1980, it is a far from negligible item in Czechoslovak foreign trade.

Raw Material

The problem which is crucial for the future progress of the Czechoslovak footwear industry is to ensure adequate supplies of high-quality raw materials. This is of fundamental importance for the long-term plans of this industry.

Expansion of the raw material basis of the Czechoslovak footwear industry depends on the domestic supply of hides being increased and on bigger imports. The increase in supplies of hides from domestic sources has been more rapid than that in imports.

The fact that the index of footwear production has shown a greater increase than the index of domestic supplies of hides and also greater than the index of imports of hides, proves that Czechoslovakia has reduced her consumption of hides and reduced the amount of leather used in the production of footwear. This has been made



possible by manufacturing shoes with non-leather soles. On the other hand, Czechoslovakia has had to increase her dependence on imports of rubber.

In these circumstances, the need to find substitute materials is coming to the fore. Most factories now replace leather for soles by natural and synthetic rubber, PVC materials, polyester etc. but even in this respect Czechoslovakia is still lagging behind other countries.

The only real progress in seeking substitutes for leather in making uppers has so far been achieved by the Du Pont firm in the United States, which has developed a material called "Coriam". In all respects (except price) it compares well with leather.

The future of this material has not yet been decided

although it is already arousing concern among footwear producers and producers of hides—especially among farmers, who fear that the demand for hides will decline considerably as soon as this new material is introduced.

Conclusions

Summing up the situation as regards the resources of raw material available to the Czechoslovak footwear industry, one has to conclude that:

1 Domestic supplies of hides are adequate for the production of 20-30 million

pairs of boots and shoes. These supplies are not expected to be appreciably greater in the future.

2 Domestic supplies of hides will approximately cover the raw materials needed for the production of footwear for export.

Materials for the production of footwear sold on the home market will have to be imported, whether hides or new synthetic materials, which otherwise will have to be produced here or in co-operation with the other member-countries of the Council of Mutual Economic Assistance.

3 It will be increasingly expensive to import hides as demand is exceeding supply in world markets. World prices of synthetic upper materials will probably be rather unfavourable due to the cost of research, development and production, and to the fact that the world market is dominated by a number of chemical monopolies.

4 The future of the Czechoslovak footwear industry depends, therefore, on to what extent Czechoslovak research workers in the field of macromolecular chemistry can develop suitable cheap materials as substitutes for upper leather.

5 Until they actually succeed in developing such materials it will be necessary to economise in the use of leather. It is also necessary to consider whether the present policy of producing footwear with a relatively short life is correct from the social point of view.

6 At the same time, it is necessary to exert every effort to achieve the best possible sale for footwear exported to foreign markets. This entails, among other things, suiting footwear designs to the foreign markets.

—V. Pokorny

News From Brother Parties

WEST EUROPEAN COMMUNIST MEET

A CONFERENCE of Communist Parties of the capitalist countries of Europe was held in Belgium's capital Brussels from June 1 to 3.

At the top of the agenda of the conference was the question of "Joint struggle of Peoples in Opposition to US Aggression in Vietnam."

In a call to the people, adopted by them, the Parties declared that the US intervention in Vietnam had assumed the form of open premeditated aggression. They stressed that the world movement against this aggression had spread to broad quarters which are alarmed by the serious threat to the cause of peace created by the actions of the American government.

Welcoming the massive demonstration of worldwide solidarity with fighting Vietnam, the Brussels conference declared its resolve to further strengthen this solidarity and make it more concrete and effective.

The conference by another resolution welcomed the heroic efforts of the people of the Dominican Republic to safeguard the basic democratic freedoms and ensure respect for national independence.

The conference also addressed a message to President Makarios conveying its full solidarity with the aspirations of the Cypriot people.

CUBAN-ITALIAN CPS AGREE

UNITY of action of all Communists and other revolutionary and progressive forces is a necessary condition of the development of struggle against colonialism, imperialism and reaction, in defence of world peace. This is stated in a communique signed in Havana on June 9 by the delegations of the Italian Communist Party and the United Party of Socialist Revolution of Cuba following the talks between them.

The overall results gave 74 seats to the Umma Party, 53 seats to the National Unionist Party, 11 to the Communist Party, five to the Islamic Front and 15 to Independents.

The communique stresses that this unity should be fought for on the basis of the "mobilisation of the masses and a resolute militant anti-imperialist position of all the popular and progressive states, governments and organizations of the world."

"The task of the Communist and Workers' Parties is to make the biggest possible contribution to unity of action, implementing the principles of Marxism-Leninism and proletarian internationalism."

The communique says that both Parties deem it necessary to support the national-liberation movements in Asia, Africa and Latin America. Thus, it

points to the "great importance of rendering assistance and displaying active solidarity with the peoples of Vietnam and the Dominican Republic—victims of disgraceful aggression of the imperialists."

The two delegations confirmed the need of fighting "in defence of the right of every country to determine its destiny independently." Both Parties believe that strict observance of the principles of non-interference and of the right of every people to carry out social and revolutionary changes are indispensable conditions for the peaceful co-existence of states with different social systems.

The communique stresses also the big importance of the "expansion of the actions of the working class and progressive forces of the capitalist states of Europe, which must play an important role in the struggle against imperialism and for socialism."

The communique was signed after the talks held between the delegations of the two Parties on June 2-4. Talking part in the talks were members of the national leadership of the United Party of the Socialist Revolution of Cuba, including Fidel Castro. The Italian delegation was headed by member of the Secretariat of the Italian Communist Party, Mario Alicata.

VICTORY FOR CP SUDAN

IN a statement to the press General-Secretary of the Sudanese Communist Party Mahjoub states that the recent elections to the Constituent Assembly of Sudan have shown that the people are inclined toward socialism, notwithstanding reactionary pressures.

The Sudanese Communist Party has won eleven seats and secured twenty per cent of votes polled, taking thus the third place in the elections.

The overall results gave 74 seats to the Umma Party, 53 seats to the National Unionist Party, 11 to the Communist Party, five to the Islamic Front and 15 to Independents.

Elections were not held in Southern Sudan (16 constituencies) as a result of disturbed conditions there.

Mahjoub said that the fact that the CP had polled 20 per cent votes and also secured majority at the elections on the register for graduates of higher and secondary educational establishments testified to the emergence of a new force in the political arena of Sudan representing the working people of the town and the countryside.

The future of the country lies in this force that strives for socialism.

In the state of North Carolina, U.S.A., in a valley hemmed in by wooded hills, is an ill-reputed little town. At first glance, there is nothing out of the ordinary in this town like many others you find in the United States.

But if you take a good look at it from a height, catching your eye will be a picture of deserted streets and a small drill ground surrounded by barracks.

You get the impression of a town hurriedly evacuated by its inhabitants. Motors going in the direction of the little town are stopped on the highway, by the military police at a place where there is a white shield. On the shield you read: *Attention! Restricted Area!*

The name of the little town is Fort Bragg. Most of its inhabitants wear a military uniform, that is quite different from the other US Army personnel: a green beret with a glittering cockade, and sewn onto the left sleeve of the khaki shirt is a pointed blue shield on which a gilded dagger is fastened. These are soldiers of the so-called "Special" or "Counter-insurgent" troops, called COIN, for short.

The name Fort Bragg first appeared on the pages of the American press somewhere about mid-summer of 1952, and since then the small town, hidden among the North Carolina hills, has become the location of a garrison of special task troops, a centre for preparing "psychological warfare."

At first a special school was opened in the little town in which officers and sergeants were taught how to conduct subversive propaganda and to demoralise enemy troops.

Then other secret services of the American armed forces started to grow like mushrooms after a rain. But forging ahead and play-

COIN

ing the leading role of late is the training of the COIN units, whose function is to carry on "guerrilla" and "anti-guerrilla" operations.

The operations "guerrilla" are in point of fact spying and sabotage, and they are officially provided for in the US Army service manual.

Under the American strategists' plan "guerrilla warfare" may be the main, and even an independent means of overthrowing governments, in Asia, Africa and Latin America, that are undesirable to Washington because they refuse to dance to Washington's tune and are pursuing an independent policy.

The guerrilla units count mainly on a plot for insurrection in the capital or in the more important of the country's economic and political centres. They are recommended to establish firm control over the armed forces of the country so as to use them against the legitimate authorities.

If the sabotage groups taught in the United States do not succeed by means of the organisation of a mutiny of the ultra-reactionary forces to win a decisive victory, they are called upon to stir up civil war.

That is exactly how events

FORT BRAGG, NORTH CAROLINA BRAGS OF DAGGER BRIGADE

TRAINING SABOTEURS TO BE USED AROUND WORLD

By A. BATURIN

developed in Laos when "guerrilla" instructors from the counter-insurgent units were thrown into that country, took an active part in raising and training armed detachments of the Right grouping, headed by General Phoumi Nosavan.

The "anti-guerrilla" actions are but a new version of colonial punitive expeditions. Their aim is the same as that of the other, namely, to suppress the liberation movement of the peoples and to support the puppet regimes loyally serving Washington, in Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The "anti-guerrilla" units are picked gendarmery detachments, equipped with the latest arms and are taught methods of the most refined cruelty for suppressing mass actions. They are in their way a counterpart of the SS troops, except that these are operating on a global scale.

American citizens make up a minority of the COIN troops, in the main holding high posts or acting as instructors. The bulk of the rank-and-file of the "special forces" are foreigners—traitors to their country who fled to escape just punishment, felons, adventurers, and emigrants tempted with a life of plenty.

Why US chiefs prefer these types is to be explained by purely practical considerations; they obviously believe that it is more convenient to use the services of foreigners, as that serves to disguise US interference in the affairs of other countries. For in the event of a "fiasco" it can dissociate itself from the foreigners and avoid undesirable complications of diplomatic relations with the particular country.

COIN troopers are much better provided for than regular servicemen in the army or navy, and they enjoy various extra privileges. Because of their distinctive uniform they have been dubbed "Green Hats", and often they are also called "Matadors".

The study load at Fort Bragg is an exceptionally heavy one; the training the "counter-insurrection" soldiers get, embraces the entire sphere of activity of a person who has picked violence as his vocation.

And this training is noted for such scrupulousness, pedanticity and criminal inventiveness that it could have been envied by the SS chieftains like Himmler and

Goering, who in their time trained two-legged beasts.

Included in the programme are elements designed to develop devilish tenacity and cold-bloodedness, and to master the elements is to imperil one's life. For instance, one of the things that has to be done several times a day is to cross a 100-metre long high-hanging rope bridge that is very narrow with barely enough room to put your foot on it. And on top of all, it sways. It takes careful balancing not to plunge down.

There are even more difficult "tricks," for example, a descent on a so-called "dead sledge." The trainee slides down a slanting steel rope stretched across a river at a height of a score or more metres, and at the instructor's signal he must instantly unclasp his hands and jump into the water. The slightest miscalculation may mean mangling, if not death.

The very latest achievements of "science" are used to teach the Fort Bragg trainees; how to commit sabotage by setting off an explosion or setting fire, how to lay a delayed action mine; how a demolition explosive can be made to look like a lump of coal and how the mechanism of an ordinary wrist, or pocket watch can be made to fit the detonating fuse of a mine.

Hundreds of ways of killing people are taught in the school for the "special forces". The instructors demand of the trainees to know exactly what spot in the human body to strike so as to make it fatal. For that purpose class-rooms have among other equipments, a mechanical dummy inside which there is a device showing the force and accuracy of the strike. Several hours a week the "Matadors" practice plunging their dagger into the dummy in order to become a skilled hand at it.

Trainees are severely punished for remissness and other faults. That, too, is regarded as a very important element of psychological "toughening" of notorious "supermen". One whose mission is to mete-out punishment has to get accustomed to cruelty.

The least complaint from an instructor, and the trainee is punished by being made to stand at attention with rifle at his side and heavy soldier's kit strapped to his back, or he is put in a punishment cell—"Monkey Box"—in which one can only stand or sit, but not lie down. And more serious faults may bring a whipping.

It is men trained at Fort Bragg and other Green Hats, who together perpetrate black deeds in South Vietnam, Laos, Cambodia, Guatemala, and many other countries. Their purpose is to suppress the struggle waged by the popular masses for national independence, democracy and progress.

But the "Matadors" drawn swords are powerless to halt the growing might of the revolutionary forces. They cannot prevent the peoples from breaking the chains of imperialism.

THAILAND TRYING TO PLEASE AGGRESSORS

THAI officials have begun lately to admit openly Thailand's actual participation in the United States' aggressive actions in Southeast Asia.

The United States has turned that country into its military stronghold. It is sending its troops, weapons and ammunition through it to its warfronts in this region. American transport ships are bringing military cargoes to Thailand's ports in a continuous stream.

In their striving to make it easier for the United States to fulfil its aggressive plans the Thai authorities are expanding their airfields on money provided by the United States.

Approving the United States' aggression in Indochina and providing its territory for air raids on the DRV and liberated areas of Laos, the Thai government is becoming an accomplice in the aggression and is assuming grave responsibility for the dangerous consequences of that aggression.

Urging the Thai authorities to call off their collusions in aggression, the DRV government drew their attention to the fact that American planes based on Thailand had recently raided North Vietnamese provinces of Nghe-An and Thanh-Hoa, bombing schools and hospitals, with the result

AFRO-ASIA In The Headlines

under the sway of the colonial powers and their allies in military blocs. That is why it became necessary that the refusal of the United States to comply with its commitments toward the trust territory assumed under the UN Charter should attract the attention of the Security Council.

TANZANIA: ONE-PARTY DEMOCRACY

THE National Assembly of Tanzania is currently holding a very important session. It has on its agenda proposals of the Presidential Commission on the establishment of a democratic one-party state.

In opening the session on June 8 President Nyerere said consolidation of independence and creation of conditions which would enable the people themselves to decide questions of national development constituted the basis of the policy of TANU, the Tanganyika African National Union. And it was on the basis of these

principles that Parliament would be seeking to legislate the establishment of a one-party state. As formulated by the Presidential Commission, TANU is a mass party through which every citizen of Tanzania may take part in the government of the country.

ASWAN DAM IS AHEAD OF SCHEDULE

ALL construction work at the Aswan High Dam will be completed in 1958—two years ahead of schedule. This was announced the other day in Cairo by the Chief Soviet engineer A. P. Alexandrov.

The first power units of the hydro-electric scheme will be assembled in 1957, and the others not later than 1969-70, as the factories are set up which will use the power.

This year the volume of water in the reservoir would increase by another 350,000 million cubic feet.

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Gandhi, Nehru Forgotten: Nalgonda Congress Circus

From MOHIT SEN

HYDERABAD: The Congress organisation and government here appear to be making ready to push through some reactionary and anti-people modifications of previous policies as well as initiate some new measures along the same lines. At the same time internal differences seem to be sharpening, though they are not nearly so acute as yet as in some other states.

First in order of importance is the reported intention to drop previous commitment to extend the provision of the Telengana Tenancy Act to the Andhra region. Coming against the background of the mighty Telengana struggle this Act, despite its many limitations, did have some clauses giving some relief and rights to the tenants.

About eight years ago a select committee was set up to go into the whole question of giving similar rights to the tenants in other parts of the state and on that basis producing an integrated and uniform Tenancy Act for the whole of Andhra. But the landlords in the Congress Party and in the ministry adopted the familiar tactic of sabotage through delay.

It now looks as if the ministry feels the time has come to drop the pretence and openly declare its intention to drop the entire scheme. It has not dared to go so far as to rescind the Telengana Tenancy Act itself in the name of uniformity but short of that its pro-landlord bias has clearly revealed itself.

Peasants Astir

The peasantry is obviously not going to take this lying down. VISALAANDHRA was the first in the field to expose this nefarious move. The CPI and the Kisan Sabha have already given notice of their intention to fight it tooth and nail both in the Assembly and in the field. A big battle is in the offing.

Mention must next be made of the political conference organised by the Congress in Nalgonda last week. Congressmen most prominent in the proceedings were the APCC Chief Thamma Reddy and Revenue Minister Ramchandra Reddy.

BIHAR FOOD

FROM PAGE 5

who cannot withhold their stocks at lower prices.

The wholesale traders have come to agreement with the big producers and kept their stocks with the latter. For this also, Mukherjee held the state government responsible.

Putting forward the CPI's suggestions to remedy the situation, he said that if the government really wanted to intervene and bring down the prices, an atmosphere should be created which would put the fear of god into the hearts of the anti-social elements.

The suggestions put forward by him were state trading in foodgrains, seizure of stocks and hoarding measures, permission to people to de-hoard and organise distribution with the cooperation of officials, fixation of maximum selling prices and its implementation, maintaining regular supplies to the fair price shops, getting the proper share of foodgrains from the centre, and setting up of non-official bodies to implement the above steps.

The Chief Minister has promised to call another conference to discuss the suggestions further.

The so-called custodians of the nation made the usual hypocritical calls for national unity to face the challenge of the critical situation in which India was placed. But everybody knew that the conference itself was organised as a move in the faction fight now going on among the supporters of Sanjeeva Reddy.

Faction Fight

Earlier in Nellore the APCC president and the Food Minister Balaram Reddy made another open exhibition of their bitter differences, of which the Chief Minister was a silent witness. This time the aim was to consolidate the anti-Chenna Reddy group in the Telengana region, keeping in view not only 1967 general elections but any eventuality that might arise out of the election case against Brahmananda Reddy, the concluding stages of which have now been reached.

Even in the Nalgonda

conference the Revenue Minister did not forget to go into the problem of the accumulation of rice stocks in the district. Speaking almost as if he had nothing to do with the ministry he said that it was the duty of the government to tackle this problem.

He, of course, did not forget to trot out the asinine argument that the food problem was aggravated because every consumer had become a hoarder. It will be interesting to know the reaction of the common man to this piece of wisdom now that the lean months loom ahead.

As a manifestation of popular discontent against the continuing rise in the cost of living, the NGOs and teachers have stepped up their agitation for immediate increase in DA and for the proper constitution as well as functioning of the Pay Commission. Their joint council has again stated that "Interim Relief Day" would be observed throughout the state on June 26 and 27.

The three lakh states employees will parade the

streets, raising slogans to give expression to their strong feeling of resentment over the dilatory tactics being adopted by the government. This will be followed up by an effective programme of direct action if the government fails to see reason even then.

The various representatives of the unions of the departmental undertakings of the government are also going ahead with plans to coordinate their own activities with those of the Joint Council of Action of the NGOs, teachers and others.

In an attempt to browbeat its restive employees the government has issued a "show cause notice" to A. Sriramulu, president of the NGO Association and threatened him with disciplinary action for alleged violation of service conduct rules in criticising the actions of the state and Central governments.

The alleged "offence" is said to have been committed by the popular leader of the NGOs in the course of his speech at a meeting of the NGOs of Mysore, organised by the Mysore state unit in its own premises in July 1964, i.e. eleven months ago. A similar chargesheet had been earlier presented to Mahaboo, vice-president of the NGO Association. The NGOs have only been further antagonised by this crude and stupid attempt at intimidation.

More Benefits For Employers Granted

*FROM CENTRE PAGES

which are a dispute in the narrow sense defined by the ordinance which ipso facto means that in all cases where a dispute in this defined sense is not pending, no bonus will be paid for 1962-63 and if the accounting year ends before September 2, 1964, for 1963-64 as well.

The earlier retrospective effect is wiped out and only in a handful of establishments will any claim survive.

Earlier, only those establishments where there were settlements/awards would be specifically excluded; now only those where disputes are pending will be included.

This again is a nice, compact gift worth lakhs made by an obliging government to Big Business.

The concessions already given by government to employers have been analysed previously on many occasions. But it will be useful to briefly recapitulate these in order to get a total idea of the extent of damage done by the government to the workers' interests.

The Bonus Commission had provided for a seven per cent return on equity capital (compared to the earlier six per cent allowed by LAT and Supreme Court) and four per cent return on reserves (compared to two to four per cent allowed by LAT and Supreme Court).

The ordinance, basing itself on the modifications raises these to 8.5 per cent on capi-

tal and six per cent on reserves.

In capital-intensive industries, this huge concession may well wipe out a substantial portion of the surplus available for bonus.

The Bonus Commission had provided for deduction of only income-tax and super-tax from gross profits in order to arrive at the available surplus.

The ordinance allows deduction of all direct taxes defined to include income-tax, super-profits tax, companies (profits) sur-tax, agricultural income-tax and any other tax which may be declared by the Central Government "to be a direct tax for the purposes of this ordinance."

Development Rebate

Thus apart from increasing deductions to cover all direct taxes, an overriding power is given to the Central Government to notify any tax, which may or may not really be a direct tax, to be such for the purposes of calculating bonus!

The Bonus Commission had this to say about development rebate:

"Under the Income-tax Act, development rebate is not part of the depreciation allowance and is granted over and above the depreciation allowance. It is a special allowance to encourage companies to instal new machinery. In a year in which installations of machinery are very large, the inclusion of the whole of the development

rebate together with the statutory depreciation, as prior charge, might wipe off or substantially reduce the available surplus, even though the working of the concern may have resulted in very good profit."

It is on this ground that the Commission refused to allow development rebate as a prior charge as had also been done by the Supreme Court under the LAT formula.

However, now the ordinance says that prior charges will include "any amount by way of development rebate and development allowance which the employer is entitled to deduct from his income under the Income-tax Act."

At present, this rebate starts at 20 per cent of the actual cost of new machinery and 40 per cent in the case of ships.

Thus it is easy to see how in a year when there has been large installations of machinery in any concern, the entire surplus may be wiped out. And that too automatically, whereas earlier, in the case of rehabilitation allowance, the case had to be proved by the employer.

In fact, the only good feature is the minimum bonus of four per cent or Rs. 40 whichever is more, irrespective of loss.

The Bombay textile workers have already shown their resentment at the blatantly pro-employer feature of the ordinance.

Other sections of organised workers are sure to move into action as the working out of the ordinance percolates through.

CHICAGO: The protest movement among the American people opposing the aggressive war of US imperialism against the people of Vietnam grows from day to day.

It expresses itself in a great diversity of forms: "teach-ins" of college students and faculty members, protest marches through city streets and sit-downs in front of federal office buildings and busy intersections, mass rallies, petitions to the President and to Congressmen, advertisements in the daily press, letters to the editors of newspapers and in many more ways.

It encompasses all walks of life: students, professors, artists and scientists, clergymen, labour leaders, Senators, US Congressmen and state legislators, as well as hundreds of thousands of "ordinary" citizens, the workers, farmers, housewives; both from Negro and White communities. Many influential newspapers and columnists have also spoken out against the dirty war in Vietnam.

So extensive is the protest movement, and so little of it is reflected in most capitalist newspapers, that it will be some time before a complete account can be chronicled.

Here is only a partial listing, very far from complete, of actions taken by peace-loving Americans demanding a stop to the bombings of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, withdrawal of American troops from southeast Asia and a negotiated, peaceful settlement, in the last eight weeks alone:

★ About 25,000 people, mostly college and high school students came from all parts of the United States to Washington, D.C. under the sponsorship of the Students for a Democratic Society on April 17 in a massive protest against the war in Vietnam. At the same time, marches and mass meetings took place in many cities throughout the country in which tens of thousands of people took part. This day became the start for a renewed drive throughout the country.

Clergymen Speak Out

Hundreds of clergymen from coast to coast have spoken out in sermons and in written articles condemning the US aggression. Typical of these is the article by Monsignor Charles Owen Rice in the April 22 issue of the PITTSBURGH CATHOLIC, official publication of the Diocese of Pittsburgh. Monsignor Rice says:

"Vietnam is a dirty and dangerous business and we have to get out... Are we repelling an invader? No, we are not. The Viet Cong are not invaders. They are native to Vietnam. We are the invaders and we are the only invaders who are there in force. The Chinese Communists are not present in force nor are the Russians... We are growing more and more hated every day as we kill more and more of them.

"I do not fear that we will lose. I fear what we will do in order to win. It looks as if we are ready to destroy the industry of North Vietnam. That industry was built up with sacrifice and heroism, however misguided. What right have we to destroy it even if we intend to build it up again?"

"So this was done under Communist control, so what? It was done and the people like it.... Let the Vietnamese decide that for themselves and we will decide it for ourselves.

"Finally, we will lose face if we leave. Which is worse? Lose face or lose your soul?"

A similar statement was issued

by 16 prominent Protestant clergymen, the editorial board of the magazine, CHRISTIANITY AND CRISIS.

★ On June 9 over 17,000 New Yorkers packed Madison Square Garden to demand an immediate end to the war in Vietnam. After the meeting, at midnight, they marched through the streets of the great metropolis to the United Nations building. The meeting was sponsored by the Committee for a Sane Nuclear Policy and supported by 30 organisations, including the Student Non-Violent Coordinating Committee, the Methodist Church, the Rabbinical Assembly, Women Strike for Peace, the Department Store and Drug and Hospital Workers Unions, the National Assembly for Puerto-Rican Civil Rights and many others.

Speakers included US Senator

American People Protest Against Johnson Doctrine

From Our Special Correspondent JAMES WEST

Wayne Morse of Oregon; Mrs. Martin Luther King, wife of the civil rights leader; Canon L. John Collins of the British peace movement; Norman Thomas, socialist leader; and Stanley Greenspan, assistant director of the international department of the 1,250,000 member United Auto Workers Union.

Such mass meetings have been, and are, taking place in Chicago, San Francisco, Los Angeles, Cleveland, Detroit, Philadelphia, Boston and other cities in the United States.

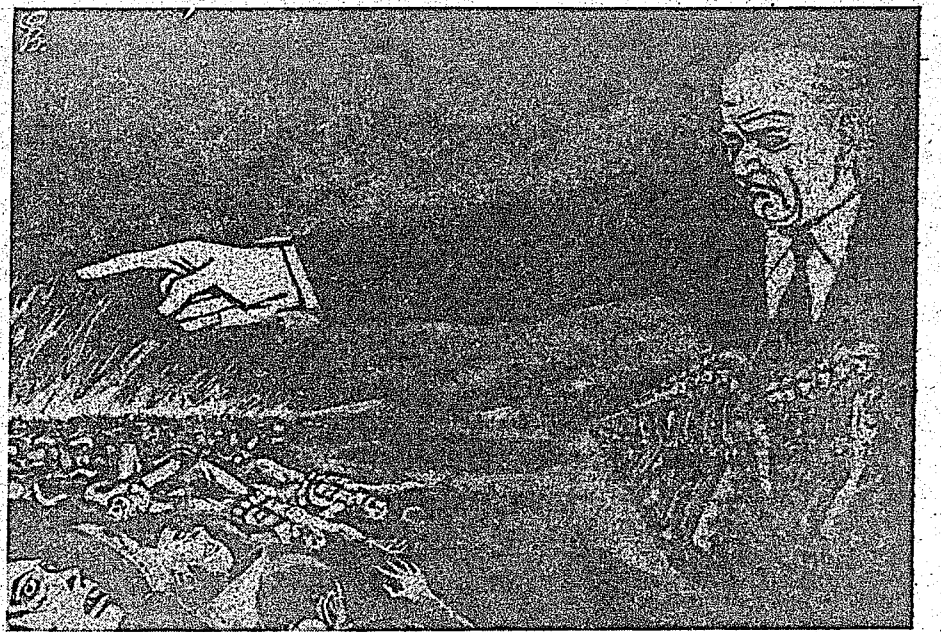
★ Almost every week the newspapers carry advertisements signed by prominent citizens, usually in the form of Open Letters to President Johnson, in which they call for an end to the bombings, withdrawal of troops and a negotiated settlement. Such ads are frequent in the New York press and in other large cities, but are also found in the small town papers, such as in Skokie, (Illinois) and elsewhere.

Typical of such ads was the one signed by seven hundred and seventy professors of 15 New England colleges, which appeared in the NEW YORK TIMES on May 9. This statement was a point by point refutation of Secretary of State Dean Rusk's attack on the academic community for its widespread opposition to the dirty war. It reaffirmed the determination of the scholars to continue the struggle to bring the war to an end.

★ The "teach-in" arose as a form of student and faculty protest against the Vietnamese war at the University of Michigan and soon spread across the whole country. It consists of marathon sessions, often lasting all through the night, at which faculty members, student leaders and invited leaders speak out against the aggressive foreign policy of the government. These, do other peace actions, also condemn US intervention into the internal affairs of the Dominican Republic.

So influential have the "teach-ins" become that the government was compelled to recognise them and try to offset them.

A nationwide "teach-in" was



(Courtesy: The Worker)

organised on May 15 in which the government sought to justify its position. Presidential advisor McGeorge Bundy was scheduled to handle the apologetics for the White House, but he failed to show up "due to other pressing matters."

Most of the 5,000 students and professors at the central sit-in in Washington, as well as the hundreds of thousands who took part by means of radio and television "listen-ins" at 100 campuses in 35 states, as well as the general public, concluded that Bundy had, to use a current phrase of American youth, "chickened out". The position of the government was vigorously attacked by many professors to the applause of the nationwide audience.

The administration not only failed to offset the "teach-ins", but it lost substantial ground among the people. For this teach-in resulted in countless new thousands becoming convinced of the incorrectness of the southeast Asia policy.

The "teach-in" has proved to be a highly successful new form of struggle. As a result a permanent Inter-University Committee for Debate on Foreign Policy was recently established at a meeting representing 40 colleges at the University of Michigan.

★ Reflecting the mounting discontent and protest at the grass-roots level, growing numbers of prominent figures in the cultural field have raised their voices, too. On June 14 there took place the White House Festival of the Arts. Invitations had been sent to luminaries in the world of letters to be the guests of the President.

Lowell's Refusal

One of those invited was Robert Lowell, Pulitzer prize winning poet. In a letter to President Johnson, Lowell wrote: "...I have decided that I am conscience-bound to refuse your courteous invitation... I can

only follow our present foreign policy with the greatest dismay and distrust... We are in danger of imperceptibly becoming an explosive and suddenly chauvinistic nation, and we may even be drifting on our way to the last nuclear ruin.

"I know it is hard for the responsible man to act; it is also painful for the private and irresolute man to dare criticize. At this anguished, delicate and perilous determining moment, I feel I am serving you and our country best by not taking part in the White House Festival of Arts."

Twenty of the nation's most prominent writers and artists immediately sent telegrams to the White House supporting Robert Lowell in the stand he took.

★ An especially deep impact was made by the speech of Lewis Mumford, author, who is president of the American Academy of Arts and Letters. In an address at the annual spring ceremonial of that group, he said:

"...An ominous black cloud hangs over our own land and people even as it hangs over the people of Vietnam and the rest of Asia, threatening the lives and prospects of our own younger generation, staining the good name of our country, and violating the peace of the world."

"...We have a special duty to speak out openly in protest on every occasion when human beings are threatened by arbitrary power: not only as with the oppressed Negroes in Alabama and Mississippi, but the peoples of both North and South Vietnam who must confront our government's cold-blooded blackmail and calculated violence..."

"...The great upheaval for civil rights in the United States to gain equality for 20,000,000 Negro citizens, is accompanied by a growing awareness that there is a close kinship between this struggle and the liberation struggles of oppressed peoples everywhere in the world. Martin

Luther King and other leaders of the Negro freedom movement have added their powerful voices to the protest over US aggressions abroad.

★ At the Fifth Annual convention of the Negro American Labour Council, recently held at Yonkers, N.Y., A. Philip Randolph, president of the NALC, head of the Pullman Car Workers Union and a vice-president of the American Federation of Labor-Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) introduced a resolution which said:

"Military action is no remedy for the settlement of the problem in southeast Asia or Santo Domingo... a nuclear war will destroy mankind; small war can escalate into global conflicts... the war in Vietnam must be stopped and a negotiated peace initiated... war can no longer be accepted or tolerated as an instrument of national policy..."

The resolution was unanimously adopted by the delegates representing more than a million Negro trade unionists.

Workers' Actions

★ Increasingly do trade-unionists speak out against the dirty war. Among unions which have taken action are the United Auto Workers, the West Coast Longshoremen's Union, the Teamsters in the state of Missouri, the Retail and Warehouse Workers of New York and many others.

Emil Mazey, secretary-treasurer of the United Auto Workers union, addressing a mass meeting of 1,000 in Detroit, said:

"Johnson has said we are in Vietnam to preserve liberty and freedom, but there is no liberty, no freedom in South Vietnam. The people of South Vietnam have not chosen their leaders."

"There is no free trade union movement. The war is being fought to maintain an oppressive leadership and government which

*ON PAGE 15

Soviet Participation In Algiers Meet Is A Must

From MASOOD ALI KHAN

MOSCOW: The Soviet press has continued to show keen interest in the coming Afro-Asian conference at Algiers.

ARTICLES dealing with Afro-Asian unity and the urgent tasks facing the Algiers conference have elaborated the Soviet approach to the problems. The Soviet Union definitely wants that the coming conference must not be made the arena for airing of mutual interstate disputes, problems and differences. The entire emphasis should be on the common tasks and overall practical unity for the achievement of common aims.

This is also in harmony with what Prime Minister Shastri declared at Cairo on June 9 answering a Pakistani correspondent. Shastri had stated that no bilateral issues like the Sino-Indian or Indo-Pak disputes were raised at Algiers. These matters could be dealt with elsewhere.

Such a warning to possible disruptors is liable to gain increasing support among the other countries of Afro-Asia and it is entirely in line with the Soviet thinking.

In an article on June 12, PRAVDA emphasised that the Algiers conference was being held in anxious times when imperialism was counter-attacking, frightened by the development of the revolutionary forces in the world.

Anti-Imperialist Unity

A situation had taken shape when for many years to come the success of revolutionary, democratic, anti-imperialist and progressive forces depended on the rebuff given to imperialism by the people. Solidarity and united anti-imperialist actions were of vital importance in these conditions.

Whereas China is obsessed with the aim of isolating the Soviet Union, the Soviet Union is fighting for the isolation of imperialism and the containment of imperialist aggression.

There is a marked change noticeable here from the earlier view that to avoid disunity in

the Afro-Asian ranks, the Soviet Union need not insist on its participation in the Afro-Asian conference. Now what is being more emphasised is the fact that if the Soviet Union displayed indifference to the conference, it would be detrimental to the interests of the Afro-Asian movement.

Increasing Support

Increasing Afro-Asian support for Soviet participation has lent strength to the belief that for the purpose of defeating disruption and consolidating anti-imperialist unity, active Soviet contribution would be highly desirable.

It has been pointed out here that whereas at the time of the first Bandung meeting, there was no anxiety over Afro-Asian unity, forces have now emerged inside the Afro-Asian movement which seek to divert, split and isolate it from the Soviet Union, other socialist countries and the working-class movement.

Leaders and the press of many Afro-Asian countries have emphasised that the Soviet presence would give the conference more weight and would promote the common struggle against imperialism and colonialism.

This follows not only from the Soviet Union's geographical position but also from its universally acknowledged role in the revolutionary process of liberation.

The Soviet government has emphasised repeatedly that it supports the convocation of the conference because the majority of Afro-Asian countries set before them anti-colonialist tasks, PRAVDA says. This support follows from the essence of the policy the Soviet Union has been following all through its existence.

The Soviet Union has rendered, and will render great assistance to the cause of economic development of Asia, Africa and Latin America. Realis-

ing the tremendous contribution of industrialisation to the safeguarding of full independence of developing countries, the Soviet Union allocates fifty per cent of its credits to these countries for building heavy industry, PRAVDA says.

Liquidation of the remnants of colonialism and of the racist regimes in Africa is the major task of anti-imperialist forces today. "The revolutionary forces of all continents—the socialist states, the newly-independent states and the international working-class—regard it as their sacred duty to help the peoples who are storming the last bastions of colonialism; the patriots of Angola, Mozambique, Portuguese Guinea, Southern Arabia, North Kalimantan have risen in arms to fight for their independence. Their cause is just and they shall be victorious," PRAVDA says.

It has become known here that the Chinese experts have been withdrawn from the joint nuclear research centre at Dubna, near Moscow. Twelve socialist countries including China were collaborating in the largescale nuclear research for peaceful purposes at Dubna which has grown into a big international science town.

Another Peking Move

The Chinese atomic explosions were not applauded here and the Soviet Union continues to come out against the proliferation of nuclear weapons. The Chinese might well have decided that peaceful nuclear research was not the type of work their experts should be engaged in.

This might be yet another attempt in the wellknown Chinese style to disrupt another avenue of international socialist collaboration. The Chinese do not participate in the COMECON and have also tried to disrupt its work of economic collaboration between the socialist countries.

Observers here were wondering whether the latest Chinese move might be a step in their attempt to set up an international nuclear centre of their own. Representatives of socialist countries here were resentful of the Chinese step.

Bridges Of Amity

LIGHTS OF INDIA IN POLISH CAPITAL

Wierzbowa Street, where the Club of the Polish-Indian Friendship Society is located, is impressively nice and calm though situated practically in the heart of Warsaw.

PEOPLE take to this street when they go on long walks: here they have a wonderful view of the old historic district of the city, the domes of the old monasteries and churches, palaces, monuments and towers, as also the lofty structures of modern architecture spreading along a nearby thoroughfare, one of the principal routes cutting across Warsaw today.

This picturesque fragment of the city-scapes was chosen for the site of the Warsaw Club of the Polish-Indian Friendship Society.

The Club's showcases, usually adorned with reproductions of Indian works of art, attract the attention of the passers-by. The impressive visual composition of these showcases is the first light of India that is cast on a Warsaw street.

Not a small share in this is contributed by Indian students who stay in Warsaw and consider the club's premises as part of their motherland.

The atmosphere of the interior is gratifying to those who come in. It is nice here, interesting, and different than anywhere else in town. One of the rooms almost invariably contains some exhibition on the history, culture, or contemporary problems of India.

Here, there are held lectures and meetings with those Poles who have returned from India and are willing to share their impressions of that country which has for a long time aroused considerable interest in distant Poland.

Lectures by scientists and journalists, travellers and specialists in various domains are accompanied by slides and exhibits providing illustration to the lectures.

There are five specialising sections at the club (history of India, art, philosophy and medicine, music and philately), and their work is supervised by the club's programme council which includes nine persons

headed by Tadeusz Fangrat, secretary-general of the Polish-Indian Friendship Society and a well-known writer.

The club's council arranges many additional attractions, too, and above all meetings with Indian citizens visiting Warsaw. Such meetings are frequently accompanied by performances of songs never hitherto heard in this country and by the ceremony of burning filaments of sandalwood in the flickering flame of a beautiful "diabata".

Special Meeting

The club premises have also been witnesses to extraordinary ceremonies. One such ceremony has been organised in the presence of the Indian Ambassador to Poland and the Secretary-General of the Calcutta Art Society, when Professor Tadeusz Kuliszewicz, the Polish artist of world renown, was awarded a high distinction of the Society.

Such meetings provide light that illuminates the darkness of ignorance between our two distant lands which are separated by nothing but this vast distance and today are having more and more in common.

Others bend down over writings of Mahatma Gandhi, Rabindranath Tagore, Jawaharlal Nehru, or works in the history of art speaking of the marvels of Khajuraho, murals of the caves of Ajanta, beauty of Jaipur and Taj Mahal.

These, too, are lights of India that kindle interest and sympathy for that land in the minds and hearts of Poles, a sympathy all the wiser through the process of cognition which, after all, is one of the paramount delights man can experience.

—S. HENEL



Bonn's new "ten commandments" in the form of a ten-point emergency law which its revanchist leaders sought to put through have failed.

BY public pressure the proposals have been shelved. West Germany during the last few weeks saw massive demonstrations of its people, led by the trade unions in the main, opposing these draconian measures.

The emergency law envisaged that the West German President would be invested with absolute power to declare a state of emergency any time if he was satisfied that "delay may cause danger". And what could satisfy the President of such a danger? Even a report that a danger of attack against West Germany exists!

This virtually meant that even a demonstration for the reunification of Germany could be a ground enough to invoke the special powers.

Besides, under the emergency law, the West German government could be entitled to issue decrees in all fields of national life; confiscate all property and restrict the freedom of movement of all people, which meant legalisation of concentration camps also.

The financial burden of the emergency legislation was estimated at about 800 million pounds which the people of West Germany would have had to shell out.

The West German government had contemplated to introduce this emergency legislation not later than this month. But thanks to the people of West Germany, this Hitlerite legislation has been put in cold storage.

During the state of emergency, the Constitution could be annulled; fundamental rights of citizens abrogated; conscription effected of all men between 18 and 65 years of age and women between 18 to 55 years; and "in the interests of defence" workers could be mobilised and put completely under the charge of the employers to effectively carry out war orders.

The joint communique issued by Yugoslav President Tito and GDR Head of State Ulbricht following the former's visit to the GDR is an important declaration in support of world peace.

The communique clearly enumerates that both the GDR and Yugoslavia are in favour of initiatives to facilitate the easing of international tensions.

BONN ISSUES NEW 'TEN COMMANDMENTS'

At present the liberation forces are controlling about 80 per cent of the South Vietnam territory and the US government in its bid to arrest further gains by the liberation forces has decided to commit US forces to ground war openly. So long they were being used unofficially.

Not only military difficulties; the Quat government had been facing a crisis in replenishing the loss among the government troops, both due to war casualty as well as mass-scale desertion.

Obviously it needed a tougher line to meet these needs which the Quat government had failed to achieve. Hence the change of the puppet.

Disarmament Conference

THE decision of the United Nations Disarmament Commission in favour of convening a world disarmament conference is yet another defeat for the United States and its military allies.

The resolution for the disarmament conference was sponsored by 36 countries and was adopted by the Commission by overwhelming majority of votes. Eighty-nine votes were cast in favour of the resolution while 16 countries including the US abstained.

The Commission welcomed the proposal of this conference, originally mooted by the second (Cairo) conference of nonaligned countries and recommended that the UN General Assembly regard this resolution as its coming 20th session.

This conference, in which all countries should participate, would be a powerful support to the efforts now being made for the achievement of general and complete disarmament and the relaxation of international tension.

—S. MUKHERJEE
(June 15)

Reshuffle At Saigon

DURING a period less than two years, eighth change in the South Vietnam's puppet government has taken place. Military junta has taken over the rule of the country.

The US State Department is at pains to convince the people that the latest coup was due to the pressure of public opinion. While it is true that the people of South Vietnam are wary of civil war, they had not made a choice in favour of a military dictatorship.

The main reason why Quat was replaced are the reverses the US forces are suffering at the hands of the South Vietnam Liberation Forces.

The workers of the railway electrification project in the Eastern Railway struck work on June 8 in protest against the unjust retrenchment of a large number of workers.

while some work is being transferred to contractors. All appeals of the workers have gone in vain. Hence this one-day token protest strike. But the authorities are as yet imperious to the pleadings of the workers. Some of the leading workers have been arrested. If this situation continues, there is the possibility of an indefinite strike bringing the entire system to a halt.

AMERICA PROTESTS JOHNSON DOCTRINE

FROM PAGE 13

does not have the confidence of the people.

Those who oppose the war are equated with "treason" and "being soft on communism". The policy is really the Coldwater policy. I wake up at night and think that Coldwater is in the White House.

I believe our government cannot act unilaterally as a world police force. Our government seems to favour military dictatorships, and we ought to raise our voices in protest against this policy.

More and more voices are raised within the legislative halls of the country against the present suicidal policies of the government. About one-third of the US Senate, led by such men as Senators Morse, Gruening, McGovern and others have indicated disagreement with the course of foreign policy.

Twenty-eight Congressmen addressed a letter to the Foreign Affairs Committee of the House of Representatives calling for the public hearings on the administration's policy in Viet Nam.

Ten members of the Massachusetts state legislature sent a statement to President Johnson calling for "a negotiated settlement to the war in Vietnam," as recently called for by Pope Paul VI, U Thant, the National Council of Churches and several members of the US Senate.

Among the great masses of people, there is not only no popular support for the war, but there is a growing opposition which, as all the foregoing shows, becomes increasingly vocal. Mail to the White House and to Congressmen runs overwhelmingly against the Vietnamese war.

This is also reflected in a Gallup Poll of public opinion in mid-May, which showed that among Republican and

Democratic voters, two opposed the war for every one who favoured it. Only 13 per cent said outright that they favoured continuation of the present policy in Southeast Asia.

Meanwhile, in between the peak "mass" meetings and marches, the "small" and unnoticed, but vitally important day-to-day actions for peace in Vietnam go on. It even takes the form of 75 students sitting down at the corners of State and Madison streets, busiest intersection of Chicago, and shouting slogans for withdrawal of US troops.

On another day, when President Johnson visits Chicago to speak at a fund-raising dinner for the Democratic Party, he is met by pickets of the Women for Peace and the Voters for Peace who hold up "End the War in Vietnam" placards for him to read.

Wherever the President goes, he is met by peace pickets, including his ranch in Texas.

When "Armed Forces Day" and "Memorial Day" military parades take place in the cities throughout the country, there you find the workers of the various peace movements distributing handbills and post-cards. Millions of peace leaflets have issued forth from the patriotic peace organisations.

And all this that is described above is but an indication of the storm of protest which is brewing in this citadel of imperialism. In this, there is developing a greater understanding of the role of US imperialism among the people.

In their actions, they carry forward the traditions of Abraham Lincoln, who as a young Congressman from Illinois rose in the House of Representatives to speak out against the military aggression of the US against Mexico in 1846; and of Mark Twain, who

laboured against US imperialist policies in Cuba, the Philippines and elsewhere at the turn of the century.

In the course of the rising peoples movement against US imperialist foreign policies, the Communists of the United States find an increasing response to their appeals among the people and especially the youth. Thousands of students turn out to hear and applaud Communist speakers at universities and colleges.

Alarmed by the rising peace movement and the growing acceptance of Communists, the ultra-right and its instrument of tyranny, the House Un-American Activities Committee, have renewed their reactionary attacks. Recently HUAC came to Chicago in an ill-disguised attempt to intimidate the peace, civil rights, left and Communist movements. It conducted for three days an investigation in which paid government informers named nearly 100 Chicagoans as Communists.

But HUAC failed in its aims and left Chicago in defeat. A powerful and broad movement of protest against HUAC had arisen embracing forces from the left to the right-of-centre, which picketed the hearings and carried through a multiplicity of anti-HUAC actions. Not only was HUAC defeated in Chicago, but a new, powerful movement has developed demanding its abolition.

This experience is cited as a sign that the American people will not be deterred in their growing determination to win peace, civil rights and social progress. Should the Johnson administration persist in its suicidal foreign policy course, it will face not only the hostility and combined opposition of most of the world's peoples, it will also find itself without any meaningful support at home.

Growing Indo-Yugoslav Economic Cooperation

The trade exchanges between India and Yugoslavia are increasing rapidly. From a total turnover of Rs. 50 lakhs in 1955, it has reached the figure of Rs. 20 crores in 1964. By 1967 when the present agreement would expire, the total value of trade both ways would be around Rs. 50 crores. This is good progress indeed.

A delegation of the Chamber of Economy of Yugoslavia, headed by its chairman Ivan Bukovic recently visited our country and had extensive exchange of views with the government and industrial representatives.

An entirely new process in international division of labour is being evolved by India and Yugoslavia by setting up joint ventures in both the countries.

An interesting feature of the trade between the two

countries is that in some projects it would be possible and advantageous for both sides to have repayment of the credit totally or partly through the products of the concerned projects.

An Indian industrial exhibition will be opened in Belgrade on July 3 and in this connection Manubhai Shah would be visiting Belgrade. This occasion would be utilised for further negotiations.

In some products, compo-

FOR PARTY MEMBERS ONLY

RESOLUTIONS OF THE NATIONAL COUNCIL OF COMMUNIST PARTY OF INDIA

New Delhi 5-11 April 1965

ORDER THROUGH PARTY COMMITTEES

ONE STEP FORWARD IN OIL

At long last the Government of India has moved to put some curbs on the foreign oil cartels. Under pressure of the foreign exchange crisis the government has decided not to allow any imports of petroleum products from free foreign exchange areas from April 1 this year.

NATURALLY, the foreign oil monopolies are up in arms, for this is a matter which directly hits at their profits. And so, they have refused to distribute petroleum products got from rupee payment areas, in the name of "principle".

They did not stop merely at refusal to distribute Soviet oil products; they even created an artificial crisis in the country by withholding stocks and not moving oil products according to the usual schedule.

The result was dramatic; there were reports from many parts of the country of shortage in high speed diesel oil; almost all the states complained of shortage of kerosene.

The foreign companies' aim was clear. It was to blackmail the government into surrender and withdrawal of the order prohibiting import of oil products from areas other than rupee payment areas.

Along with the creation of the artificial shortage, the oil cartels also launched a campaign against the government. Their line was that not enough stocks are available in the country and that it was government's bungling which had caused the shortage.

Pressmen were wined and dined and taken to hill stations on luxury holidays, all expenses borne by the oil cartels. But the companies could not gain much out of this line of activity.

The government moved again. On May 29, the government drew up a movement plan which had the concurrence of the oil companies too. But the companies did not move the oil products according to this plan.

Finally, on June 10 the government issued two ordinances under the Defence of India Act which enabled the government to demand weekly returns of stocks and sales from the oil companies

and to compel the companies to effect sales of their stocks.

Just as Petroleum and Chemicals Minister Humayun Kabir said, these are "enabling" measures; the government is still hoping to persuade the foreign oil companies to conform to the plans of movement drawn up by the government.

That the foreign oil cartels have no such intention is all too clear. Even before, a voluntary system of supplying the government with information on stocks etc. was existent, but most of the firms were flouting it.

The Minister himself admitted that some of the companies at least were not providing information or providing wrong information wilfully. Yet he seems to be hesitant to take punitive measures against these foreign cartels.

What is the actual situation regarding production and supply of oil today? Is there any justification for the stand taken by the oil companies?

The present capacity of refineries in India is 7.5 million tonnes in the private sector and 1.75 million tonnes in the public sector. By the end of the year, another three million tonnes will be added to the public sector.

This production meets most of the oil requirements of India. The country is already self-sufficient in motor spirit, light diesel and such other products.

But in fuel oil, high speed diesel and kerosene, imports have to be made to meet the total demand.

As much as 65 per cent of the kerosene demand in the country is met from internal production; 75 per cent of HSD and fuel oil is also met from internal sources.

The rest have to be imported, though by 1971 the government expects to be self-sufficient in all petroleum products except in kerosene. Even in kerosene, the short-

Cartels Plan Sabotage, Soviet Union Gives Help

By PAULY V. PARAKAL

age will be only marginal.

The government, while banning import from free foreign exchange areas, had provided alternate sources for the supply of these products. Soviet Union came forward with generous offers and the government accepted them.

On March 18, the IOC signed a supplemental agreement with the Soviet oil export organisation for the supply of about 800 thousand tonnes of petroleum products over 1965 and 1966.

This was in addition to an agreement signed in July 1964 for the import of 1.5 million tonnes of petroleum products over a period of three years.

Again, another supplemental agreement was signed in April last (to make up for the shortage of imports from other sources) to import 235 thousand tonnes of kerosene and high speed diesel oil.

In all, the imports from the Soviet Union will help India to save foreign exchange to the tune of Rs. 10 crores a year, at the present rate of imports.

A dent has been made in the united front put up by the foreign oil cartels on the distribution front. The Burma Oil Company has undertaken to distribute the Soviet oil.

Still, the Burma-Shell which is partly owned by the BOC (as also the Caltex and Esso) is still refusing to handle the Soviet oil because of its "principle".

The "principle" has been exposed for what it is worth; it seems it is effective only in India. In Europe these selfsame companies have shown no compunctions about dealing in Soviet oil.

It is a mystery why Kabir is still unwilling to use the DIR to force the foreign oil companies to distribute the oil imported by

IOC rather than go on depending on the "intelligence" and "moving with the times" spirit of the foreign companies.

Again, Kabir has surprised the people by stating that the government has no intention to nationalise these foreign oil companies even after they have exhibited such noncooperative attitude to the government.

The profits which the oil companies are taking away from India are in themselves sufficient reason to nationalise them. From Rs. 5.54 crores in 1963, the three oil cartels (Burma-Shell, Caltex and Esso) increased their profits after tax to Rs. 6.24 crores in 1964.

And these are not the only profits the foreign oil cartels take away from the country. These are only the so-called operating profits in India.

The main portion of the profits of the oil companies accrue to their head office from the sale of crude oil to these Indian subsidiaries. And that is not shown in the balance sheets we are given here.

Annually, the three oil refineries in the private sector (the public sector refineries work on indigenous crude) import crude oil worth Rs. 50 crores.

Not a single drop of crude is now imported from the Soviet Union though Soviet crude is much

more cheaper than the crude being imported from western sources.

And the oil cartels have "strong opposition" to using Soviet crude in their refineries; and so the government has not compelled them to use it.

The fact is that Esso is handling Soviet crude in a refinery set up in Italy in collaboration with the ENI. When that is the case, there is no earthly reason why the western companies should not handle Soviet crude in India.

So, the next step which is the logical and natural to the one already taken by the government is to ban imports of crude from the free foreign exchange area and insist on using crude from rupee payment areas in the refineries in India.

That would save the country considerable foreign exchange and also make the oil products cheaper, since the crude would be much more cheaper if bought from rupee payment areas.

Has Kabir got the guts to do it? Or, even after his conclusion that the smallest of governments is today far stronger than the oil cartels, will he go on trying to appease the foreign oil companies?

India's future lies in an independent oil industry. And the only way to achieve it is to nationalise the foreign oil companies.

CPI Secretariat On Commonwealth Conf.

THE Central Secretariat of the CPI has issued the following statement:

"When Commonwealth Conference opens in London the Prime Minister leading the Indian delegation will be faced with series of vital problems.

The war in Vietnam, tension between Malaysia and Indonesia caused by the British military base in the former, white minority government in South Rhodesia suppressing the right of the majority African population to independence and democracy and the question of taking further action against racist South Africa.

Apart from this, India will be faced with Britain's continued self-imposed mediation on the question of Pak aggression on the Kutch border and also the question of setting up a secretariat for this so-called Commonwealth.

All these issues which will once again emphasise the contradiction in this anachronistic assemblage of incompatibles, will present a challenge to India's foreign policy of non-alignment and independence.

Indian people expect the Prime Minister to take a firm stand consistent with high principles of its foreign policy and render forthright support to the cause of the newly

independent nations in their struggle against the imperialist colonialist and racist policies of Britain and the White dominions.

They expect him to demand not only the cessation of US bombings of North Vietnam and US armed operation in South Vietnam, but the withdrawal of US forces from that country and a return to the Geneva agreement so that the Vietnamese people can shape their destiny and solve the question of unification without foreign interference.

They expect the withdrawal of British military bases in Malaysia which threatens Indonesia's security and peace in that region.

India must stand firm by the position she has taken on Southern Rhodesia, against racist South Africa and reject Britain's mediation in Indo-Pak affairs.

Indian people as well as the people of Asia and Africa expect that India instead of temporising with Britain and the white dominions on any of these issues, takes the initiative, together with the newly independent nations of Asia and Africa at the Conference, to foil all attempts to promote colonialist conspiracies against them or to perpetuate Britain's economic domination over them by setting up the so-called Secretariat of the Commonwealth.

"Leftist" Bid To Disrupt Lawyers Movement Foiled

From OUR CORRESPONDENT

CALCUTTA: A sinister attempt by some so-called leftists to disrupt and split the democratic lawyers movement in India has been foiled by the determined stand taken by some prominent lawyers in the country.

The "leftist" attempt was made at the meeting of the working committee of the All India Association of Democratic Lawyers at Calcutta on June 6.

The meeting was held under the chairmanship of Sardar Teja Singh, former Chief Justice of the Pepsu High Court.

S. K. Acharya, general secretary of the Association, and a few lawyers of Calcutta had planned to expel V. R. Krishna Iyer from the Association at this meeting. The "charge" against Iyer

was that he had accepted the secretaryship of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers at its last congress held in Budapest in 1964!

At the Budapest congress itself, the Chinese delegation had proposed the name of S. K. Acharya for secretaryship, but Krishna Iyer was elected in his place with an overwhelming majority.

Acharya and company had also planned to disaffiliate the Indian Association from the International Association for having elected Krishna Iyer as secretary.

At the working committee meeting, disruptive moves were defeated when member after member rose to oppose the proposal.

In the face of the stout opposition from members, the

resolutions expelling Krishna Iyer and disaffiliating the Indian Association from the international body were withdrawn.

Not only that, Acharya and company were compelled to retract from "deleting" Krishna Iyer's name from the list of working committee members and restore the Association's vice-presidency to him.

The working committee of the Indian Association of Democratic Lawyer also adopted resolutions condemning US intervention in Dominican Republic and Vietnam.

It also demanded immediate lifting of the emergency and release of all those detained under the Defence of India Rules without trial.

The next meeting of the working committee will be held in Delhi in October next.