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On November 18, the Finance Minister, Sri Morarji Desai, made a statement in the Lok Sabha on his recent visit to the United Kingdom, the USA and Canada. His account contained little that was not already known. After all, had not his tour been conducted in blazes of high-powered publicity to build him up and boost his American patrons?

HOWEVER, what has come from the horse's mouth confirms once again our warning that Sri Morarji Desai and his Government are now engaged in giving India's economic policies a rather dangerous orientation. If their present deals with the West are not to be measured only in terms of dollars and sterling, which even is not much, it will be easily seen that the business on the Indian side has begun to be transacted almost wholesale on terms that are not India's. This sell-out, of course, has begun in the name of saving the Second Plan!

It was ostensibly to find foreign exchange for the Plan that India's Finance Minister went out on his tour. "The main focus of interest," says Sri Morarji Desai, "was our foreign exchange needs."

But he understood the needs not in the way they should be understood. It was not for saving our vital industrial projects in the public sector which are now under the axe that the Indian Finance Minister sought assistance from the West. He went to offer the West the opportunities they have been angling for. No wonder, Sri Morarji enlarged the scope of his mission beyond what the true needs of the Second Plan would warrant or justify.

He wooed the foreign private investors and, by all accounts, offered them heavy concessions in regard to which he has yet to take even Parliament into confidence. It is not for nothing that the Americans are so pleased with India's present Finance Minister who according to at least some of them, is heir apparent to the Prime Minister.

Morarji Clears Some Doubts

Is it a problem of our Plan and economy that we do not have more American and British capitalists to come to this country, invest their money and earn fabulous profits? None will say it is so. Yet the Indian Finance Minister was at pains to oblige these foreign exploiters.

He himself admitted in the Lok Sabha: "In the course of some discussions issues regarding the scope for private investment, especially foreign investment in India, were raised and I was able, I believe, to clear some of the doubts and apprehensions that were prevalent in certain quarters on these subjects."

In this connection it will be recalled that when the non-official Birla Mission visited the United States last year, one heard of similar entreaties to the American billionaires. Besides, the U.S. Department of Commerce submitted a note to the Birla Mission which opened with the words: "A number of factors may be listed as deterrent to the entry of private American capital into India."

prehensions," one can easily understand at what cost he must have achieved this. It looks as though the difficulties of the Second Plan have brought new opportunities—thanks to the bankrupt policies of the Government—to foreign capital, particularly American, to further infiltrate into our economy. Sri Morarji Desai's deals with the West are, in a large measure, designed to facilitate precisely this process.

Growing Foreign Investments

Yet, the ending of India's exploitation by foreign capital was one of the declared objectives of our freedom movement. Far from realising this objective, the present Congress

deals with the West. In the name of aid and loans the Government is recklessly tying up our entire economy and even its future with financial institutions and certain operations which, whatever may be some immediate odd advantages, are fundamentally contrary to our national interests. Behind the jingling of dollars one should not miss the fact that this Government is, step by step, mortgaging our economy. The Finance Minister's statement in the Lok Sabha is essentially another mortgage deed.

He paraded the "railway loan of 85 million dollars" from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development in addition to a 25 million dollar loan for the DVC. He mentioned Canada's promise of 17 million dollars "by way of Colombo Plan al-

For example, the International Bank of Reconstruction and Development, as the Birla Mission's report notes, "is very allergic to loaning to the public sector for any industrial projects." It is the monopolists in the private sector that the World Bank favours and tries to build up. The U.S. Development Loan Fund is not interested in helping industrialisation. Other American financial institutions such as the Export-Import Bank which the Indian Government is nowadays coaxing are dead opposed to industrialisation of the underdeveloped countries.

The International Finance Corporation of which the Government of India and the Chiang Kai-shek regime are both members is interested only in investing in private sector undertakings and that

A Confession Of Bankruptcy And Sell-Out

The list that followed as-sailed almost the entire range of economic and fiscal measures as well as labour laws which are not to the liking of Big Business. The bald suggestion was that all these must be changed to attract American private capital.

Similarly, the City of London and the British Government pressed the cause of their monopolist investors. During his visit to London last year, when Prime Minister Nehru sounded the British sources for some loans, the response came in the form of a reminder that India must offer attractive terms to private investors.

This was more or less repeated recently by Sri Morarji Desai's opposite number in Her Majesty's Government. Speaking at a Press Conference here in Delhi on October 8 last, the British Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr. Derick Heathcoat Amory, reiterated the British attitude and plainly said that it was the United Kingdom's view that a substantial part of the inflow of capital into these areas (India and other underdeveloped countries) should be private capital.

At What Cost?

If Sri Morarji Desai has cleared "the doubts and ap-

Government has permitted this exploitation to continue and expand. Between 1948 and 1955, the foreign private investments rose from Rs. 287 crores to Rs. 480 crores (Reserve Bank Survey). Since January 1956, these investments have gone up by another Rs. 170 crores, reinvested profits, however, accounting for roughly 70 to 80 per cent of the latter figure.

Apart from distorting and retarding India's economic development, this causes a per-

locations" as well as a fresh loan of 100 million dollars from the U.S. Development Loan Fund.

He further informed us that the United Kingdom "has agreed to give a credit of 108 million dollars" in two parts. One part, the Finance Minister himself says, is mere advance payment of 28 million dollars which is "due to us in lieu of the settlement of pension claims of U.K. nationals who had served in India." The remaining 80 million or so

too, at exorbitant interest, seven per cent or more.

As for the Colombo Plan source, it is enough to quote one of the latest communiques issued this month. Expressing satisfaction at the "widening of the opportunities for private enterprise," the communique declares: "Important also in this growth is the role of foreign private investment...."

Bargain - For Whom?

Thus, the Morarji Mission has proved a handsome bargain for these institutions and those who pull all sorts of strings from behind their sign-boards. The scope of penetration of foreign capital is further widened and there will, of course, be a ready market in India for the West to sell its goods since the loans are generally to be spent in the creditor countries.

Finally, the ground will be created not only for economic but also political pressure. That the American financial institutions operate to serve the ends of the U.S. State Department is no longer any secret. Many even in India's ruling circles have now begun to recognise this truth in the case of Pakistan, but, un-

* SEE PAGE 17

by **BHUPESH GUPTA**

ennial drain on our resources through remittances of profits, interests, etc., abroad. The official estimate of such remittance is Rs. 30 crores annually but this does not include a number of heads and devices under which the nation's wealth is pumped out. The Government has not so far refuted, by convincing facts and figures, our contention that the total drain is of the order of Rs. 100 crores per year.

But the generous invitation for new and intensified foreign economic exploitation is only one of the alarming features of the Government's

"will be available for meeting the payments due to U.K. suppliers."

The Finance Minister also spoke of two other promises: 40 million dollars from the West German Government and 50 million dollars from the Japanese Export-Import Bank.

The terms of most of the above-mentioned loans are still under negotiation but it is already known that, by and large, these are not meant for our vital industrial projects in the public sector. In fact, they will mostly go to non-industrial projects. This is not accidental.

editorial

TEXTILE FRONT

THE textile industry, once glorified as the main national industry of the country, has got itself into a bad mess.

Stocks remain uncleared because the prices are beyond the capacity of the common people and the price of food is rising so sharply. The Government target for the Plan period is no more than an increase of one yard per head from 16.5 yards to 17.5 yards. The utter bankruptcy of Government policies here stands revealed as in a flash.

Exports go on declining because Indian owners seek a very high rate of profit and their trade practices are unfair. Profiteers and swindlers—this is how the Indian millowners are getting known among our customers abroad bringing a bad name to our country.

Mill after mill is getting closed because the millowners insist upon hiding mismanagement, indulgence in racketeering and gross profiteering.

All these are typical capitalist policies and methods encouraged and not effectively checked by the Government in power.

The mass movement of the workers of Bombay and other textile centres compelled the Government to appoint the Textile Committee. Its report is out and so is the Government resolution on the same. They meet the insatiable demands of the textile magnates and sacrifice the just demands of the long-suffering textile workers and play with fire by risking industrial peace on the textile front.

Through its interim recommendations, the Committee gave really big relief in excise duties to the millowners to step up exports. They have gained from tax relief but argue that it will take still more time before results can be produced!

The Government has surrendered to the demands of the owners and accepted "urgent need for replacement of outdated machinery, rationalisation, modernisation, and promotion of efficiency in management and productivity" and a rationalisation sub-committee is to be set up to advise the Textile Commissioner. The Government has already sanctioned liberal imports of automatic looms. The merciless millowners have been given the green signal for launching a rationalisation offensive which will render thousands upon thousands of workers unemployed and mean wage-cuts and speed-up for the rest.

The Committee had also recommended the creation of a Corporation which will take over the mills closed down by the owners. The Government has unceremoniously refused to accept this only positive recommendation of the Committee.

The Congress Government, instead of imposing a national popular policy upon the textile magnates, has surrendered to their selfish sectional demands for the simple reason that they are its influential financial patrons.

The blind and bankrupt alone will expect the lakhs of textile workers, with their glorious militant traditions, to take all this lying down. Let there be no doubt that the textile workers of India will defend their jobs and living standards, the interests of the industry, and the good name of the country abroad, in a grand and manly manner.

The textile workers have enough experience of forging trade union unity for their struggles. They have taken a significant step in forming a united textile union in Bombay. In the coming struggle their unity and militancy will be the guarantee of their success.

YUGOSLAV NATIONAL DAY

We greet the people of Yugoslavia on November 29, their National Day. Only a decade ago the people of Yugoslavia succeeded in overthrowing the yoke of fascist enslavers. Helped by the victorious Red Army of the Soviet Union, the people of Yugoslavia succeeded in liberating their country. Patriotic India watched with great admiration the heroic struggle of Yugoslav partisans against German and Italian invaders.

While wishing prosperity and happiness to the people of Yugoslavia, we cannot but regret the fact that the Yugoslav League of Communists and its leaders who led the people in the struggle are today cutting themselves off from the world Communist movement. The revisionist programme of the Yugoslav League of Communists, criticised and condemned by all Communist Parties, will do no good to the people of Yugoslavia. The positions taken by the League isolate it from the fraternity of world Communist Parties. It is clear that neither Yugoslavia's independence nor its prosperity can be maintained in isolation from the Socialist camp. The sooner the leaders of the League come to realise this, the better they will be able to serve the cause of the people of Yugoslavia for whom we cherish profound admiration and sympathy.

SCRAP - BOOK

THE ROURKELA MESS

EVERYTHING is ready, there is a lot of excitement—the stage is set in Rourkela for commissioning a big crane on the construction site of the Steel Plant.

But as zero hour approaches, there is quite some consternation in responsible quarters. And then the news spreads: the work is held up because during the night cable had been stolen—cable worth Rs. 27,000.

This was on November 2—but by no means the first such incident in Rourkela. Pilfering of costly materials has been a common occurrence here, entailing not only heavy losses but quite often holding up the construction work.

All this can be laid at the feet of the system that operates in the construction and the consequent mismanagement.

Including mainly the Germans, there are 35 different contractors in Rourkela today—each contractor acting on his own whims and fancies. These contractors engage sub-contractors and they in turn engage still smaller contractors. With such a multi-tiered set-up there obviously cannot be any force which can control or guide them and keep to the schedule of construction programme.

The German contractors are blaming the Indians and the Indians blame the Germans. Nor is it the Indian contractors alone who have trouble with the Germans. Even Government of India officials connected with the project have plenty of complaints.

Recently the ICS officer in charge of the Plant had to make a hurried trip to Germany with the sole purpose of pulling up the two firms—Friedrich Krupp and Demag Aktiengesellschaft—for the chaotic conditions in Rourkela.

Government of India officials have openly admitted that the trouble with Rourkela is that it is not a package deal like Bhilai. Here the German contractors and their Indian counterparts have no responsibility to stick to any timetable. Thus it has become the headache of the officials to pull all of them together and try to catch up with the schedule.

All their efforts, however, have not produced results and week after week, month after month, these officials continue to look on as helpless observers of the delay that is being caused.

So, to conclude the story, the net result of all this is that the first blast furnace scheduled to go into commission by December 1 this year, may not be ready till

the end of July next. A delay of one day in the production of steel means a loss of about ten lakhs of rupees to the nation. But why should the West German bankers and financiers bother about such a minor question—which is vital to us, not to them?

IN CONTRAST, BHILAI

IN contrast, the official who was giving me the facts about this sordid mess in Rourkela under the West Germans, told me about Bhilai: "Excellent. Nothing to complain. The entire Soviet Government is behind the construction of the plant there. They are much ahead of schedule."

And this is not the opinion of the officials alone. A leading member of the ruling Congress Party, Sri T. N. Singh, as Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee, had said in one of his speeches in Parliament:

"...the problem which is being faced in Rourkela is that our people, our engineers and our contractors do not follow those (German) designs and details.... On the other hand, at Bhilai, the Russian Government seems to have understood our problems and they have given more details. Then again their men are there to explain wherever our engineers cannot understand."

These are two attitudes to the problems of our development. One would have thought it was rather plain for everyone to see. But what one cannot understand is that even after all this experience our Government insists on making more and more such deals with the Americans and West Germans.

PROFITEERING BY GOVT.

Not only that. When the Soviet Government goes all out to help us it would have been expected that our Government would at least help to create the right conditions for the Soviet Union to help us best. Leave alone gratitude and appreciation, even this minimum requirement at times is missing.

A correspondent who recently visited Bhilai writes to me of something that is happening there.

Before construction of the steel plant had commenced, the Madhya Pradesh Government was collecting a royalty of eight annas per unit (100 cubic feet) of mud or stone or sand taken from public or private lands for building purposes or for making bricks and other building materials.

But since the commence-

ment of the steel project, the State Government has increased this royalty to five rupees per unit—ten times the previous rate.

The Congress Government of Madhya Pradesh is exploiting the Plan and the people! Just because Bhilai is located in its State.

I hope this is not true. But there is no reason to doubt my correspondent's report. Will the Central Government find out the exact situation and take any measures that are necessary?

U. S. MODEL MODERNISATION

I will end for this week with a story of American technical help.

The Tatas had entered into a deal with the Kaiser Engineers Overseas Corporation of the USA to expand production in the Tata Iron and Steel Co.

Work had been going on on the project and we had anxiously been watching out for the results. They are available now.

• The new blast furnace—lauded to the skies as the biggest in Asia—has proved to be defective. After every tapping, the blast furnace, it seems, is rendered idle for a few hours. This time is required to remove the molten metal which sticks to the base due to an incorrect gradient.

• The roof of the Steel Melting Shop No. 3 has collapsed. In yet another shop, the molten metal can't be easily taken out. This has to be done through the difficult process of first dumping out and then cutting in.

• The number of breakdowns has shot up and in most of the mills the workers are grumbling over this American model modernisation and the increase in workload which goes along with it—without, of course, much fruitful results.

The workers have yet another complaint. All the skilled and most experienced workmen have been drafted for work in many of the modernised mills and in the newly-constructed blast furnace. But due to the drawbacks in the mills, they have now fallen behind their colleagues in earnings.

That is the story of increasing steel production with American technical help. How many more such instances will be necessary before some sense is drummed into the heads of the protagonists of U.S. aid?

—DIARIST

★★★ THIS IS OUR PRIVATE SECTOR ★★★

CALCUTTA, November 24

The Burn & Co. Ltd. provides a classic example of how the Congress Government knuckles under pressure from the monopolists.

THIS engineering concern, owned by the industrial magnate, Sir Biren Mukherjee, is one of the foremost of its kind in the country, situated in Howrah, a suburb of Calcutta.

The Railway Board placed orders with the company for the manufacture of a huge number of wagons, which are so urgently needed for transporting machineries, coal and other raw materials for the steel plants under construction at Rourkela, Bhilai and Durgapur. And, till about four months ago, the concern used to turn out 15 to 20 wagons a day.

The Burn workers justly enjoy the reputation of being highly skilled hands. In 1950, they achieved the unique distinction of having manufactured, for the first time in our country, the BOBOX wagon, which is regarded as the best and the most modern type of wagon.

Not A Single Wagon

Yet, despite all their skill and efficiency, not a single wagon has come out of the plant since July last—because there is a "dispute" between Sir Biren Mukherjee and the Railway Board over the type of wagons to be manufactured!

What is the nature of this "dispute"?

The Railway Board wanted the company to turn out wagons, the floors and sides of which are put together with rivets. This is the technique now followed in all advanced countries, because it reduces the cost of repairs and prolongs the life of a wagon. But Sir Biren would not agree on the ground that his concern did not have the necessary equipments to switch over from the manufacture of wagons whose floor and side plates are joined by welding. He further trotted out the specious plea that the change-over would result in retrenchment of workers.

Not a shadow of doubt was, however, left about his real motives when the Railway Board convened a conference in Delhi some time ago to resolve the "dispute". The Board succumbed to pressure tactics and ultimately requested Sir Biren to produce both welded and rivetted wagons. He did not raise his earlier objection to this new proposal; but then he started wrangling over the rates.

The Railway Board has been paying Rs. 30,000 per wagon to other private concerns. It, however, offered Rs.

28,000 to the Burn Co., because its initial as well as overhead costs were justly considered to be much less.

Sir Biren, it is learnt, was furious at this "discriminatory treatment", and was reported to have said that he would "teach a lesson" to the Government! He came back to Calcutta and true to his word, closed down the entire wagon-manufacturing department of Burn & Co., laying off 2,500 workers, and went away on a holiday to Kashmir!

Real Reason

It is thus abundantly clear that the real reason for the sudden closure of the department is the prospect of a slight reduction in the high margin of profits—and not any lack of equipments or threat of retrenchment. Uninterrupted production for realising the Second Plan targets and the livelihood of thousands of workers are, indeed, very minor matters to men like Sir Biren.

But, to cover up its grossly anti-national activities, the management of Burn & Co. has put out the innocent plea that the Government is not supplying it with "matching" steel needed for the manufacture of wagons.

Enquiries made by the Burn Stramik Union, however, have revealed that the management is not willing to take the floor plates offered by the Government because they are, it is claimed, bigger than the required size. As such, each plate has to be fabricated, that is, cut to size, and this entails additional cost.

The management says that the Railway Board does not pay for this extra expenditure. The Board on the other hand, contends that it does bear the cost of fabrication. The management hits back by pointing out that last year's bill to the tune of Rs. 73,000 has not yet been paid by the Railway Board.

Govt.'s Role

So the interminable wrangling goes on, while essential production gets sabotaged and workers are forced to starve. The Government's own role in this sordid business is sickening in the extreme.

Floor plates and most other materials required for manufacturing wagons can

STEEL MAGNATE SABOTAGES ESSENTIAL PRODUCTION

● FROM JUAN BIKASH MOITRA

be easily produced at our steel plants at Jamshedpur and Burnpur. But attempts has not been made as yet to harness these resources, because some time ago Sir Biren entered into an agreement with the U.S.-dominated World Bank, with the approval of the Government of India, for the supply by the Bank of Rs. five crores worth of floor plates. The agreement, however,

stipulates that these plates must be used for the manufacture of wagons only, and for no other purpose!

During the last session of the Lok Sabha, Communist M. P. Renu Chakravarty raised the issue of steel shortage and lay-off of workers. Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri, Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, categorically assured her that a Tripartite Conference

would be convened in the near future.

But months have rolled by since then and the promised conference is not yet in sight.

Is it because the Government is afraid of displeasing Sir Biren? Or, is it because the Government fights shy of public criticism of the anti-national deal with the World Bank?

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MANAGER.

HANDS OFF KASHMIR

LAST week, we drew pointed attention to the fact that the Canadian Premier, Mr. Diefenbaker's was no routine, friendly visit, that he was not the little innocent when he sang the virtues of the Commonwealth, that there was real mischief behind his clean chit to Pakistan's militarists.

He must be considering India's public too naive to swallow what he tried to put across, that dictator Ayub was out to pave the way for democracy in Pakistan, that he was dedicated to work for the good of his own people and really wanted to make friends with India. He wanted the Indian Government to accept him as the mediator and then he will prove it all. He disowned the old McNaghton proposals, but refused to specify the present Canadian stand. He obviously made some impression over Indian ruling circles from the words Pandit Nehru and even Dr. Radhakrishnan used to welcome him.

The Western cat, however, came out of the bag right inside the Lok Sabha and every section of the House was really shaken up when Smt. Lakshmi Menon disclosed which way the wind was blowing over Kashmir inside the U. N. Secretariat.

In the main lobby of the U. N. Secretariat a large map of the world is displayed showing Jammu and Kashmir as part of Pakistan. After the Indian protest, regret has been expressed and the error attributed to "hasty and inefficient draftsmanship by the artist who painted the map for an exhibition designed and executed by the International Monetary Fund." This does not save the U. N. Secretariat but it hangs the IMF also and shows up its overlord, the USA, as the arch conspirator-plotter.

This is not all. The U. N. Secretariat also published a map, on a folder for the U. N. Day, in which Jammu and Kashmir are shown in blue and white stripes with the legend, "The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been determined."

After repeated Indian protests, the U. N. Secretariat has stated that, in future, the use of stripes to indicate Jammu and Kashmir will be avoided, but the broken line along the Indo-Pak frontiers will be maintained and that "we would not find it possible to change the legend in such a form as to represent a change in substance."

INDIA'S CASE

India has rightly maintained that the U. N. maps are in conformity "neither with the law nor with the facts."

India's case is as simple as it is just; Jammu and Kashmir acceded to India by the same legal and internationally accepted process as did over 500 other princely States; U. N. representative Sir Owen Dixon stated in his report that Pakistan had violated international law in going into Kashmir, but he never questioned India's presence in Kashmir, clearly implying thereby that

Kashmir was juridically an integral part of India; but what the Security Council was concerned with was the future status of Kashmir and that its present status as part of India had never been questioned in the Council's resolutions.

"Vacate aggression" is India's united national demand about Kashmir. After the Government of India's own exposure of the antics of the U. N. Secretariat, which functions at the behest of the U. S. rulers, should it not be obvious to the meaneast intelligence that to trust the leaders of the Anglo-American imperialist camp is sheer folly. This latest exposure should rouse Indian public opinion to demand that our Government warn the U. S. Government that it will regard the U. S. military aid to Pakistan as an unfriendly act.

UNEMPLOYMENT

CONGRESS MP, Professor D. C. Sharma's resolution on unemployment helped to pinpoint the gravity of the issue and the debate broke through the usual Party barrier and the Government had to face a very critical House.

Deputy Labour Minister, Sri Abid Ali, was thrown completely on the defensive. He had to admit that unemployment was growing at a faster rate than the employment opportunities were being created by the Government under the Plan.

Every year two million people were added to the unemployed. Only two million more jobs had been created during the three years of the Plan. He estimated that about a million more persons could find employment during the current year. The employment target for the end of the Plan was 6.5 million, but he gave no assurance that even this will be realised.

Congress as well as the Opposition members strongly criticised the slow progress made in providing employment.

A key point repeatedly made during the debate was that in addition to the sizeable addition to the labour force every year, people were being thrown out of employment due to eviction from lands and closure of industries. The pro-landlord and pro-capitalist policies of the Government were adding to the havoc.

The speeches urged that the problem should be tackled on an emergency basis and should be given the same importance as the food problem.

Indignant MPs accused the Government of "apathy".

The functioning of Employment Exchanges was severely criticised. One could not get a job without bribing its officials. The exchanges could not provide jobs to more than one-third of those registered.

Non-Communist MPs quoted the example of China as a contrast.

The non-official resolution would have been carried, had not the Government itself come out with the proposal to appoint a Committee that would review employment data, assess trends and recommend measures to expand employment opportunities, and also advise on the develop-

notes of the week

ment of a national employment service.

STEEL PLANTS

QUITE a few skeletons in the Congress cupboard came out when Sri Nath Pal demanded in the Lok Sabha a thorough enquiry by a Parliamentary Committee, assisted by experts, into "the sad story of bungling in the setting up of India's three steel plants". During the debate, the real exposure was of the West German ways at Rourkella and Bhilai helped to supply the contrast.

Sri Pal disclosed that the cost of the three plants had already risen by Rs. 157 crores to Rs. 439 crores and that the cost was "likely to go up further unless the country cried halt to wastage and delay". Sri Bharucha asserted that about the townships were built and other ancillary services provided, the cost would go up to Rs. 600 crores.

The Government had earlier assured that the plants would go into production by 1959. But today it was said that in at least Rourkella, there would be a delay of 13 months.

It was good to hear a PSP member ask the Congress Steel Minister, "If Bhilai can be completed in four years, why should the other two take such a long time?" He went on to underline "every day we delay costs the nation anything between Rs. 12.5 lakhs and Rs. 15 lakhs."

Sri Morarka revealed that a major civil engineering contract had been given to Hochtief-Gammon, a West German firm, on which a penalty of Rs. 25 lakhs had earlier been imposed in respect of work at Kandla. Moreover, this firm has been paid Rs. 75 lakhs for the hire and maintenance of equipment costing Rs. 60 lakhs.

WASTAGE

Giving a typical example of "wastage", Sri Pal said that the Government had imported 32 carpenters from Germany at a cost of Rs. 21 lakhs, which meant Rs. 5,000 per carpenter per month. The work could easily be done with the help of Indian carpenters, he pointed out.

Sri Pal also pressed home the attack that Indians were not being trained for various types of works. In West Germany, the Indians were not being trained in the designing work. This would mean that at least for one or two years after the plant started working, there would be no Indian engineer to take over.

India had mortgaged its future on the steel plants, but what was happening was a sad spectacle. "If China and Egypt can make such progress (as they have done) why should India be limping in this aspect of the economy," he asked.

Big business representative, Sri Soman, urged that the Government should offer the public preference or equity shares in Hindustan Steel, Ltd. His argument was that apart from helping the treasury to raise financial resources, such a step would ensure better management of the steel plants through the wat-

chfulness of public shareholders.

The sins of the bureaucrats and the Congress rulers in the public sector are being used by the private enterprise not only to discredit the very idea of building the public sector on an independent basis, but also to muscle their own way in and grab and control them.

The debate did help to expose some of the rampant evils, but the Government has refused to budge. The demand for a Parliamentary probe needs to be pressed home over and over again till it is won.

INSIDE CONGRESS

THE unpopular policies of the Congress Governments cannot but produce growing fissures and unending troubles inside the Congress organisation itself. Some significant developments have taken place this week.

The Orissa PCC President has resigned because of his acute differences with the Congress Chief Minister. Sri Dhebar has called for a report. The non-Congress parties estimate this development as making the Congress Ministry much more unstable and have begun thinking in terms of a new general elections.

In the Punjab, Kairon nominee, S. Darbara Singh has been elected PCC chief with a big majority. The dissidents have been vanquished, but they are not lying low nor become more loyal. The new Congress chief is working on a plan that will help the Congress successfully fight the communalists and the Communists. Governor Gadgil, however, does not appear very much impressed and he is working to call an all-parties conference to help solve Punjab's acute problems.

In U. P., the common political game is to guess what are the next moves of the powerful Gupta group. The influential Charan Singh has handed over the Finance portfolio because of the stubborn opposition to his proposals for economy in administration along lines recommended by the State Economy Committee visualising a saving variously estimated at Rs. six crores and ten crores annually.

Chief Minister Sampurnanand has publicly bemoaned that "the misfortune of the Congress organisation now was that some Congressmen had no confidence in the organisation and were led away by the propaganda of some opposition leaders". (Hindustan Times, November 24)

How big must be the popular break-away from the Congress in U. P. that its Chief Minister should publicly complain that his own followers do not listen to him but are influenced by Opposition propaganda.

DHEBAR ON KERALA

SRI Dhebar has been answered over and over again about Kerala. He even toured Kerala and though claiming to be a disciple of the Mahatma, he was not accepted as a

votary of truth by the people of Kerala after what he tried to do in Kerala and the way he spoke about it.

On November 25, he released his correspondence with Kerala's Chief Minister and the Hindustan Times has splashed it in a big way.

Sri Dhebar has written to E. M. S. Namboodiripad: "You have to take steps to reassure the popular mind in Kerala that the Communist Party will reconcile itself, whatever its tenets and predilections, to the spirit of the Constitution. I want, in other words, a categorical assurance from you to that effect."

Someone needs to teach the Congress President how to write to the Chief Minister of a State who belongs to another political party, and that too, the Communist Party. Comrade E. M. S. Namboodiripad has been patient and polite because ours is a Party that seeks to be understood by all honest men, especially those who differ from us.

The Congress President has resigned because of his acute differences with the Congress Chief Minister. Sri Dhebar has called for a report. The non-Congress parties estimate this development as making the Congress Ministry much more unstable and have begun thinking in terms of a new general elections.

ON THE USSR

It will really help Sri Dhebar if he met the Union Law Minister, Sri A. K. Sen, who led a nine-man lawyers' delegation to the USSR and has just come back. In an interview with the IPA, Sri Sen stated that the Soviet Prime Minister held views which are "favourable to the Indian stand on the happenings in Pakistan. The Law Minister, however, refused to disclose the details of his discussion."

His impressions of the Soviet Union were contained in the words, "it is wonderful".

Sri Sen commented that "all the laws of natural justice are being followed in the Soviet Union" in the working of the People's Courts. He also noted that the theory of "presumption of innocence till one is adjudged guilty" was now respected more than any time before the 20th Congress of the Soviet Communist Party.

The Indian lawyers' delegation went to witness the proceedings in a criminal case in one of Moscow's 24 People's Courts without prior intimation to the Court authorities. The case was being tried by three judges—all of them women. On the whole, the processes of trial appeared to be democratic to Sri A. K. Sen, the leader of the delegation and India's Law Minister.

It will be good for Indian democracy if Congressmen learnt to drop the Dhebar brand of political blinkers.

—P. C. JOSHI

(November 26, 1958)

NEW AGE

NOVEMBER 30, 1958

PAGE FOUR

THE PARTY THAT GIVES LAND

The Kerala State Special Conference of the Communist Party which began its sessions in Alwaye on November 10 concluded on November 14 with an impressive demonstration and public meeting addressed among others by General Secretary of the Party Ajoy Ghosh, Kerala Committee Secretary M. N. Govindan Nair and Finance Minister C. Achuta Menon.



Land Revenue Minister K.R. Gouri presenting deeds of transfer of land on November 1 in Trivandrum. On this day began distribution of excess Government lands to the landless.

THIS Conference, the third of its kind since the Communist Party assumed office in this State in April 1957, drew the largest number of delegates, far more than in any previous conference. Four hundred and nine of the 499 elected and invited delegates attended and participated in the discussions.

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

False Prophets

While the Communist Party's units were in the midst of serious discussions in preparation for the Conference, and even as the delegates began arriving in Alwaye and the Conference was in session, the opposition Press in the State was busy spreading stories about differences and dissensions inside Kerala's ruling party.

For instance, it was widely being reported that Comrade M. N. Govindan Nair had already tendered his resignation as Secretary of the Kerala Committee because of differences.

When Sri V. R. Krishna Iyer, after attending the Conference for a day had to leave to attend to some urgent work, it was interpreted as a walk-out in protest.

Labour Minister T. V. Thomas had been advised by doctors to take complete rest due to his illness and so he could not attend the Conference. His absence, in the columns of the opposition Press, was due to "political indisposition."

One can't blame the "well-informed" correspondents of the opposition Press for such kite-flying. They had not known any ruling party without differences, factional squabbles and the fight for power. Even if some of them did believe that the Communist Party was different, they could not tell this truth to the people. So the stories were manufactured and some of these fiction-writers had to be better fiction-writers than news reporters.

They also proved to be false prophets because none of the things they forecast actually took place. The question of organisational changes did not even figure on the agenda of the Conference and no delegate raised it either.

Sharp Criticism

True, there were free discussions and frank expression of opinions by the delegates. They sharply pointed out the weaknesses of the Party leadership and of the Ministers. The Conference had been convened precisely for this purpose. But the discussions and criticism had all as their aim the finding out of proper solutions to the complex problems facing the State and the Party.

Delegates rightly asked questions like why the police firings and repression against the plantation workers in Munnar took place, why the Government was finding itself unable to implement in full its declared police and trade union policies. But these questions were raised not to condemn the Ministry but to

evolve effective steps to overcome the difficulties in implementing these policies. And concrete suggestions were made by the delegates themselves and it was on the basis of these suggestions that the Conference reached its conclusions.

The delegates, for instance, discussed fully the police and trade union policies. The problem before them was that certain rights which the Constitution guaranteed to the proletariat classes came in the way of the working class for collective bargaining.

These contradictions, the delegates pointed out, have to be removed or minimised to whatever extent possible by proper

KERALA COMMUNISTS IN CONFERENCE

legislation. For instance, the Industrial Disputes Act could be amended in such a way as to give more powers to the officials of the Labour Department so that in the interests of settling disputes and maintaining industrial peace, they can put reasonable restrictions on employers who try to work industrial establishments with the help of non-striking workers or black-legs, or who try to remove goods or other material with the aim of breaking a strike or on striking workers with regard to forms of picketing, etc. The police should intervene only when asked by the Labour Department to enforce such restrictions.

The same approach was evident when the Conference took up for consideration the question of rousing people's enthusiasm for increasing the national wealth, particularly food production.

Important Task

General Secretary Ajoy Ghosh who was present throughout the Conference, explained the political importance of this task. The Party and the Government in Kerala, he said, should succeed in this task not only to satisfy the needs of the people of the State, but also to win the ideological battle for the general political line of the Party that basic agrarian reforms and people's cooperation are necessary for successful and speedy national reconstruction.

In Kerala, the Party had not yet been able to develop coordinated activity by the Government, the Party and the mass organisations to enthuse the people to actively participate in nation-building activities.

November 1 this year saw a beginning in that direction. The Party mobilised that day in various places Party members and the people to contribute voluntary labour for newly-inaugurated irrigation works. Nearly ten thousand people—Party members, students, teachers, lawyers and others—in Alappay District came forward to work in the land reclamation work in Kayamkulam. The people in just one village in Trivandrum District have promised to contribute Rs. 4,000 worth of free labour to complete a lift irrigation project costing Rs. 35,000.

Delegates pointed out that if agricultural cooperatives were formed and if the small peasants pooled their resources, rice production in the State could be doubled. It could also be

considerably increased by adopting the Japanese method of cultivation. Similarly by co-operative efforts, many small-scale industries can be started in the rural areas.

It was on the basis of such discussions that the Conference directed that a comprehensive, integrated and practical programme for increasing agricultural production and forming industrial cooperatives should be worked out within the coming one or two months. Such a programme should become the basis for the Party to prepare more detailed schemes in each village and to mobilise people's cooperation and enthusiasm.

Land Reforms

The most important item on the agenda was the Agrarian Relations Bill and the Conference took full two days for this discussion.

The complexity of the land problem in Kerala can be understood from the very fact that it took nearly nine months of discussions at various levels for the Party, the kisan sabha and the State Government to evolve the main principles, and draft a Bill and introduce it in the Assembly. Since then the Bill has been widely discussed by all sections of people in the State.

While accepting the general principles, various strata of peasants and others naturally looked upon each provision in the Bill from the point of how it would affect them.

At the Conference, there was full agreement that this Bill was not the last word in land reforms. It had only certain limited objectives, namely (i) give more rights to all classes of tenants and reduce the rent burden on them as much as possible; (ii) fix a ceiling on holdings so that some surplus land is available for distribution among agricultural workers and

landless peasants; and (iii) increase agricultural production.

Even such a Bill can be adopted by the legislature only if opposition to it is reduced to the minimum and the broadest popular support is mobilised for it. This raises the question of small landholders who belong to the middle-strata of the rural population and number many lakhs in the State. It was necessary to see that the big landlords and others were not able to use this section against the Bill. They have to be won over or at least neutralised by giving protection to their legitimate rights.

How is this to be done? Already under the existing tenancy Acts, a vast majority of tenants in the Malabar and Cochin areas have fixity of tenure, fair rent has already been fixed at lower rates in the Malabar area. When any protection such as the right of restricted resumption is given to small holders, the rights which are already being enjoyed in certain areas under these Acts cannot be infringed.

Common Understanding

This was a problem which received serious attention from the Conference. Meetings of delegates from various districts were held separately to formulate concrete amendments so that specific features of the land system and the level of consciousness of the peasants in the different areas could be taken into consideration while keeping the common objectives in view.

Only when these amendments were discussed did all the delegates get an idea of the vastness of the land problem in the State. And out of that came common understanding and agreed solutions.

NEW AGE

NOVEMBER 30, 1958

PAGE FIVE

Tamilnad Committee Congratulates Kerala Govt.

The following resolution has been passed at a meeting of the Tamilnad Committee of the Communist Party of India held on November 13 last:

THE Tamilnad State Committee of the Communist Party of India has hailed the agreement between the Kerala and Madras Governments over the question of sharing of the waters of the rivers in the Parambikulam area as one that is in the best interests of the people of the two States and which would strengthen the bonds of friendship and unity between them.

The Committee's statement adds:

By this agreement, the Communist-led Government and the Party in Kerala have won for themselves an abiding place in the hearts of the people of Tamilnad. The State Committee sends its warmest and affectionate greetings to the Kerala Government headed by Comrade E. M. S. Nambudiripad, whose untiring efforts and bold initia-

tive have culminated in this agreement.

It is a matter of profound significance that an issue which had been utilised in the past to fan the chauvinistic feelings of hatred between the Tamil and Malayalee peoples, when the Congress and P.S.P. parties were in office in Kerala, has been settled to the mutual benefit of the people of the two States within twenty months of the formation of a Government led by the Communist Party.

The agreement demonstrates that given good will and understanding, it is possible to solve problems of the utilisation of the natural resources of our country in the best interests of the people concerned and to the greatest advantage of the country as a whole.

In particular the State Committee desires to draw the at-

tention of the people to the fact that Kerala abounds in tremendous hydro-electric resources, capable of producing over two million kilowatts at the cheapest capital cost of Rs. 900 to 1,200 per kw. In the present

context, when most of the projects can only be implemented with Central assistance, it will be to the mutual advantage of both the States, if the Centre could be approached jointly by the two States on the basis of agreements in regard to the execution and utilisation of such projects.

The Committee hopes that this agreement over Parambikulam Waters would lead to such joint endeavour, leading to the rapid development and prosperity of the two States.

HYDERABAD CITY CONFERENCE

THE Third Conference of the Hyderabad City Committee of the Communist Party was held recently in preparation for the forthcoming State Conference of the Party.

Hyderabad City which had a membership of 250 three years ago has about 700 Party members today.

Area Conferences were held covering two or three wards each including industrial branches and they created a lot of enthusiasm among non-Party people also. They gave donations and participated in public

rallies and expressed their hope that the Communist Party would get more and more strengthened.

In one working class area, two huge gates were constructed during the area conference—the Kerala Gate and the Panch Shila Gate, and in another a giant hammer and sickle with red flowers.

In all the area conferences, a report on the area and the organisational problems facing the Party in the City was placed before Party members and sympathisers. Discussion also took place on the points of the report for the City Conference.

These points covered a frank admission of the shortcomings of the City Committee and the weaknesses of area leaderships. Though there has been intense activity, political activity has been ignored, attention has been paid more to the trade unions and youth movements. And even in trade-union work concentration has been on the industrial working class which is a very small percentage of the whole. And among the youth, activity had slowed down during the past two years.

The City Conference was held at the end of these area conferences and was attended by 95 delegates, a majority of whom were from the working class.

The Conference endorsed the views contained in the report and urged that attention be paid to conducting Party schools and trade-union schools.

Comrade B. T. Ranadive addressing the Conference spoke on the wrong notions on organisation that are prevalent and emphasised the need to combat revisionism in organisation.

The Conference also discussed the problems of rising prices, unemployment in the City, the industrial and wage policy of the State Government, etc. It was decided to launch a powerful movement if the Government failed to take effective steps to bring down prices.

The Conference also noted that it was the failure of the Government to solve these problems that had led to the growth of communal forces.

The Government's failure to solve the problems of integration of Andhra and Telengana is being utilised by the Reddy group to fan regional feelings.

The Conference discussed all these problems and the discussion was permeated with the determination to strengthen the Party to lead the democratic movement.

PUNJAB CONFERENCE IN DECEMBER

THE Punjab Provincial Conference of the Communist Party will meet from December 27 to 31 and discuss the national situation with particular reference to Punjab, chalk out a programme for unity of the people for building a prosperous State and elect the State Council.

The Punjab State Committee which took this decision at its three-day session on November 13 to 15, also adopted resolutions on land reform, abolition of betterment levy, attacks on democratic institutions and rights and the repercussions of the Pakistan military coup on our country.

The resolution on land reforms severely censured the State Government for complete reversal of the proposal of the Tenancy Ordinance of August to nullify all mala fide transfers of lands by landlords and the recent trend in Congress land policy.

The State Government was urged to concede the demand of the peasant movement against the unbearable burden of betterment levy and tap alternative methods to meet the capital cost of canal projects.

The Committee protested against the growing trends in the ruling circles to stifle democracy.

JAIPUR, November 20

Foodgrain prices in Rajasthan began climbing down during the week from the dizzy heights they had gone up to during the recent period. The decline has been considerable, due mainly to the seizure of stocks initiated by the Government.

DURING the week, about 50,000 maunds of foodgrain stocks have been seized and much more sealed. The authorities followed a novel pattern. Instead of taking steps to prohibit exports, which anyway they could not have done because of the zonal system, they concentrated on the main mandies like Chandpol and Ramgunj in Jaipur, Karanpur and Padampur in Ganganagar, etc. Trucks which businessmen had loaded in both these places with wheat and gram were seized. In other places, stocks of more than 500 maunds with the businessmen were sealed.

Along with this came permission from the Government of India to restrict export and movement of bajra from the three adjoining districts of Jhunjhunu, Sikar and Chura.

All this has had its effect in checking the export of this grain which has been harvested. Besides it has acted, as a restraint on traders who were doing hectic buying.

Very Few Cheap Grain Shops

The number of cheap grain shops were also far too inadequate. By the end of September they were hardly 350 of them. Later on their number was increased, but even today there are not more than 600 of them. The population of Rajasthan is 1.75 crores, more than Kerala's, but the number of cheap grain shops here is only about one-tenth that of Kerala's.

Usually at this time of the year, the kharif crop comes in to the market and there is a fall in the prices. But this year prices went on rising touching record figures in many places and only the seizure of stocks reported to by the Government has arrested this trend.

Traders' Resistance

There was quite some resistance to these measures from the traders. In the Ramgunj mandi they refused to declare their stocks. When the first seizures took place, they closed down the market for two days.

But now they have started negotiating with the Government on the proposal that they would themselves sell wheat and other grains at fixed prices and that there should not be any interference with these transactions.

The question of prices is yet to be decided, according to reports. The district authorities are insisting that the price of wheat should not be more than Rs. 20 a maund and the traders are likely to agree to this.

No Room For Complacency

Though these measures have had their first beneficial results and there has been a slight easing in the situation, there is no room for complacency because at the least opportunity the race would again begin for the cornering of stocks. And the Government's own policies and attitudes have not been such so far as to give undue confidence even to those who would like to be complacent.

Right from July last, prices had begun to rise at a fast rate—by 30 to 35 per cent. By the end of September the situation had already become very serious, calling for the most urgent and stern measures. But the State Government went on tinkering with the problem.

Only when the situation became critical on a national plane and after the powerful agitations had taken place in U.P. and West Bengal did the Rajasthan Government make any move—and that, too, was very half-hearted. And even they were forced by repeated meetings and demonstrations by trade unions, kisan sabhas and the Left parties.

The Government issued an order asking traders holding more than 500 maunds to register themselves and get licences. This order was issued on September 4. On the 9th came a clarification extending the time for getting licences to September 23. This was again extended to the 30th. And, of course, no steps were being taken to seize stocks.

Recently when the food situation was discussed in the Rajasthan Assembly, the Food Minister and the Chief Minister complimented themselves on the fact that Rajasthan which was a deficit State in food four years ago had become a surplus one. The Chief Minister patted himself on the back saying that the money spent on minor irrigation in this State was among the highest in India.

It is true that there has been an expansion in irrigation facilities and that food production has increased to an extent. But the picture is still far from the rosy one that the Ministers are painting.

Dependent On Monsoons

It is difficult for anybody who knows the situation to agree with the Government that whatever increase there has been in food production is due to the additional irrigation facilities. This is clear from an analysis of the figures of income from irrigation charges. During the last three years the actual income under this head has not shown

Is The Govt. Really Serious About This Warehousing Scheme ?

THE first annual general meeting of the Central Warehousing Corporation was held in New Delhi on November 17. The Corporation was brought into existence by the Agricultural Produce (Development and Warehousing) Corporations Act of Parliament of 1956.

The step had been recommended as early as 1954 by the Rural Credit Survey Committee for preventing waste of valuable foodgrains through lack of proper storage facilities. Three million tons—an amount which can feed the entire population of India for almost half-a-month—is estimated to be lost every year due to lack of these facilities.

Reviewing the work of the Corporation its Chairman, Sri K.R. Damle, I.C.S., told the annual general meeting that while the Second Five-Year Plan provided for the setting up of 350 warehouses—100 by the Central Warehousing Corporation and 250 by State Corporations in the whole country, he could not say how far this target would be achieved because the work of the Corporations had only been started

as late as December 1957. In the year under review (1957-58) only seven warehouses could be started in seven centres in various States, he revealed.

According to the annual report, the total amount of grain stored in these warehouses on March 31, 1958, was only 3,034 bags (of 2½ maunds each). Sri Damle also revealed that so far these warehouses were housed in hired buildings. For building the Corporation's own warehouses, work had as yet progressed only to the stage of selection of sites in eleven centres.

While the report stated that the "target of 100 warehouses will, undoubtedly, need a revision," blaming for this situation "other unforeseen factors" besides the late start of work, Sri Damle in his address held out the hope of creation of storage capacity of about two lakh tons by the end of the current Plan.

A significant fact revealed in the annual report was that of the one lakh shares (of Rs. 1,000 each) issued in the first instance, only 2,500 were offered for subscription by Coopera-

RAJASTHAN SEIZURE OF STOCKS BRINGS PRICES DOWN

* FROM H. K. VYAS

Rajasthan is part of the Western Zone including Bombay and areas of Kutch and Saurashtra. Grams and wheat freely flow to these places. But that is not all. Pulses are smuggled to Pakistan also.

Though wheat is not permitted to be moved out of the zone, yet it is being smuggled to U.P. It is first moved to Bharatpur District and then moved across the border into U.P. That is why so much of wheat is booked from places like Jodhpur to Bharatpur.

The immediate reason for the steep rise in prices had been these exports and smuggling and the consequent cornering of stocks by traders.

The seizure of stocks have begun. But it has to be continued, and the Government has to build up an adequate stock now. On that will depend what happens in the coming months till the rabi crops come into the market.

Immediate Measures

Among other immediate measures suggested are—

● The Government of India should be approached to stop all exports of foodgrains from Rajasthan for the next four months considering the fact that more than double the usual export has already been made.

● Strict surveillance over movement of goodgrains either by rail or truck to anywhere near the Indo-Pak border and to Bharatpur. All such stocks should be seized and if necessary distributed locally through cheap grain shops.

● Increase the number of cheap grain shops by setting up one shop for every 2,500 persons at least in the urban areas and one shop for every panchayat circle.

● Authorising all the Sub-Divisional Officers to seize stocks. The standing crops have already been purchased by the traders. They will soon come into the market and this makes the next one month the crucial period. If the stocks from various mandies are most energetically taken possession of, and on that basis distribution through cheap grain shops is put on a firm footing, it will be one of the biggest factors in keeping the situation under control.

● While the report stated that the "target of 100 warehouses will, undoubtedly, need a revision," blaming for this situation "other unforeseen factors" besides the late start of work, Sri Damle in his address held out the hope of creation of storage capacity of about two lakh tons by the end of the current Plan.

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All-Party Conference

Such serious efforts can be made only if the Government takes the cooperation of all the other forces. The State Government once called a so-called all-parties conference from which the Communist Party was kept out. It turned out to be an informal chat between the Chief Minister and a couple of M.L.A.s belonging to other parties. This situation has to be remedied, the Government must immediately convene an all-parties meeting.

Khrushchov On Yugoslavia

THE following is an extract from the speech made by N.S. Khrushchov in a meeting at the Sports Palace of the Central Lenin Stadium in Moscow on November 10 in honour of the visiting Polish delegation:

The most important result of the year since the November meetings of the Communist and Workers' Parties in Moscow last year) was the still greater unity of the international Communist movement. Evidence of the cohesion of the world Communist movement is provided by the unanimous stand of all Communist and Workers' Parties against present-day revisionism which found its fullest expression in the programme of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia.

Throughout the world there was not a single Marxist Party or any considerable group within such a Party as would share the anti-Marxist views set forth in the programme of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia or would defend the positions of the Yugoslav leadership. All revolutionary Parties of the working class assessed the Yugoslav programme as a revisionist one and sternly condemned the subversive splitting activities of the leaders of the Yugoslav League of Communists.

I should like to stress the great significance of a number of statements by Comrade Gomulka who pointed out that the leadership of the League of

Communists of Yugoslavia which, owing to its fallacious revisionist theories isolates, separates Yugoslavia from the comity of Socialist countries, thereby harms the international working-class movement, that the attitude of the leaders of the League of Communists of Yugoslavia towards the camp of Socialist States objectively is in harmony with the wishes and aspirations of international reaction, whose support of Yugoslavia is not accidental.

We fully and entirely subscribe to the appraisal of Yugoslav revisionism given by Comrade Gomulka.

The unanimous condemnation of revisionism by the revolutionary Parties of the working class is a remarkable fact, comrades. It indicates how mature our Parties have become ideologically, what high degree their unity has reached on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism, what an indomitable and ever-growing force the international Communist movement represents.

PAST SERVICES

We have spoken repeatedly how highly we appreciate the past services of the Communist Party and the peoples of Yugoslavia who have made so many sacrifices in the struggle against German and Italian fascism. In that struggle our peoples fought shoulder to shoulder against the common enemy.

Unfortunately, the leaders of Yugoslavia, the men who head the party, are

sliding from the positions of the working class to the positions of its enemies. Therefore now we can hardly count on mutual understanding in our relations with the League of Communists of Yugoslavia along party lines, although we should not like to give up hope in this respect.

Along State lines we shall strive to promote friendly relations with Yugoslavia, extend trade and cultural ties. In future, too, we are ready to maintain trade with Yugoslavia on a mutually advantageous basis.

What does that mean? This means that we shall sell to Yugoslavia what she needs if we have such commodities for sale, and purchase from her what we need and what Yugoslavia finds it possible to sell. This is what is called trade on a mutually advantageous basis.

We stand for broad interchanges of various delegations with Yugoslavia—delegations of workers in culture, delegations of collective farmers, workers and others. It would be an extremely fine thing, for instance, for our collective farmers to go to Yugoslavia and for Yugoslav peasants to come to our country, for workers of the Soviet Union to be able to visit Yugoslavia and for Yugoslav workers to visit our country more often. Let the working people of our countries familiarise themselves with each other's life. Let them see that no one has any enmity for Yugoslavia, that our peoples want only one thing—stronger friendship.

DIFFERENCES

As to our differences over ideological matters, we shall continue to wage an irreconcilable struggle against all distortions of Marxism-Leninism. All fraternal Communist and Workers' Parties are at one in this. They regard revisionism as the main danger at the present stage. The struggle against revisionism is the struggle for the purity of our ideas, for the monolithic unity and cohesion of the ranks of the international Communist movement.

Comrades, majestic prospects, the prospects of building a Communist society, are opening before us. We rejoice in the fact that the vanguard detachments of the working class, the ranks of those who are rallying behind the banners of Marxism-Leninism, are multiplying.

LIC Employees' Battle For Bonus

THE Life Insurance Corporation of India Employees' "Battle for Bonus" is gathering momentum. Meetings and demonstrations are being organised all over the country, with the Insurance Employees' Association mobilising mounting support for the just demand.

In Madurai, their rally was addressed by leaders of all political parties, including the Congress, Democratic National Congress, Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, FSP and the Communists.

In West Bengal, Congress M.P.s like Ila Pal Choudhury P.S.P. M.P.s like B. C. Bhosh and Communist M.P.s Bhupesh Gupta and Renu Chakravarty and in Bihar Anirudh Sinha lent them their powerful support.

In Bombay, the leader of the Samyukta Maharashtra Samiti, S. M. Joshi, and the Mayor of Bombay, S. S. Mirajkar, supported their cause.

Comrades A. K. Gopalan and Hiren Mukherji, Deputy Leaders of the Communist Group in the Lok Sabha, P.S.P. M.P.s N. G. Goray and Hem Barua have supported this demand.

K. T. K. Thangamani, M.P., Secretary of the AITUC, and Jatin Chakravarty, M.L.A., General Secretary of the UTUC, have called on the Government to concede this demand.

Many insurance companies used to pay bonus to their employees before nationalisation. There are companies like the Hyderabad Cooperative Life Insurance Co. that paid bonus before nationalisation despite losses.

And Sri C. D. Deshmukh, the then Finance Minister, had made a solemn promise in the Lok Sabha that the existing facilities enjoyed by the employees would not be curtailed after nationalisation.

But the Corporation now trots out the argument of "no bonus in public undertakings." The State Bank of India gave bonus. The Antibiotic Factory at Pimpri distributed bonus to its employees. What then is peculiar to the LIC?

In fact, by logic of practice, bonus has become a part of the annual earnings of life insurance employees.

And they must get it.

STRUGGLE IN BATA

ALMOST all the 510 workers of the Bata shoe factory at Faridabad—22 miles South of Delhi—cycled the distance to see the Prime Minister on November 22 and represent to him their grievances and seek redress from the highest quarters in the country.

For the Khatians it appears there is no code of discipline or the grievances procedure other than the dictates of their own autocratic will.

It was in September 1957 that the union had submitted its memorandum of demands including the demands for wage increase, merger of dearness allowance in the wage, 25 per cent bonus and so on. But the employers would not move.

Much more. They resorted to provocation. Instead of asking substitute workers to do the work of absentee workers, they asked the remaining workers to do the job and accept the heavy

LABOUR NOTES

● BY RAJ BAHADUR GOUR, M.P.
Secretary, All-India Trade Union Congress

JAMSHEDPUR AGAIN

AS if to provide a matching background to the INTUC General Council meeting and to the visit of Sri Nanda himself in this connection, the Bihar Government has launched a fresh offensive against the Jamshedpur workers.

The Jamshedpur Mazdoor Union has been running a raging campaign for the release of Comrade Barin Dey and other JMU leaders and workers, increase in wages and dearness allowance and so on and holding gate meetings.

Perturbed by this increasing mobilisation of the workers, the Government has launched fresh offensive.

Gate meetings are being prohibited. Comrades Taher Hussain, M.L.A., and K. N. Missir, leaders of the Burnpur steel workers, have been arrested under Sections 107 and 117. Comrade Indrajit Gupta, Secretary of the AITUC, has been implicated as an accused and arrested. Of course, he had to be released on bail.

Dr. U. Misra, Vice-President of the Union, has vehemently protested against this offensive of the Bihar Government.

DCM Management On War Path

THE management of the Delhi Cloth Mills and its allied textile concerns has virtually declared a war against the workers and the Kapra Ekta Union.

The Kapra Mazdoor Ekta Union is an industrial union with 15,000 paid membership among the total 22,000 textile workers in the four mills in Delhi.

But the employers refuse to recognise such a representative union in blatant violation of the Nainital Labour Conference recommendation concerning recognition of unions.

The industrial relations are worsening and the attack of the employers is mounting. The management here is violating awards and agreements and trying to involve the workers in unending litigation quite against the tripartite agreements reached in Nainital.

● The Mahatma Gandhi Award of 1947 concerning involuntary unemployment that is still binding on both the parties is not being implemented.

COMRADE BABIAH

COMRADE Gadami Babiah, Vice-President of the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union and member of the Working Committee of the Andhra Pradesh Trade Union Congress and the Indian Mine Workers' Federation, passed away on November 18 after a brief illness of two weeks.

Comrade Babiah was the founder-leader of the Singareni Collieries Workers' Union. Since its foundation in the difficult days of Nizam's rule 1944 he has been in the forefront of all the coal-miners' struggles. He led the strikes in 1947, 1950 and 1953. He suffered jail for ten months in 1947 for his work and was exonerated for two months in 1950.

We mourn the loss of this worker-leader.

● In 1956, a settlement was arrived at between the management and the union which was subsequently endorsed by the Tribunal. It is yet to be fully implemented.

● The management signed a collective agreement about wages in 1948 that was subsequently reaffirmed in 1956 and 1957. This is not yet implemented.

● Unanimous decisions of the Works Committee are not implemented. And now this Works Committee is not even convened.

Instances could be multiplied. Recently, in the Works Committee elections, despite all the efforts of the management, the nominees of the AITUC-affiliated union came out triumphant. Since then the management has become still more provocative.

On October 8, the management suddenly suspended three leading union functionaries, including Asha Ram, the Joint Secretary of the union.

On the 9th there was a spontaneous protest strike by the workers of the DCM. The workers resumed work on the intervention of the Conciliation Officer.

Since then the union has been patiently demanding an enquiry into the role of the management in worsening the industrial relations here.

On November 20, 2,000 workers marched to the Chief Commissioner's office to submit a memorandum on the situation obtaining in these textile mills—but with no result.

The Implementation and Evaluation Committee of Delhi State has appointed a Committee on the demand of the union to enquire into the position. Again with no avail.

The workers have, therefore, given a notice of protest strike on December 6. Will the Government move?

Growing Unity Of Oil Workers

THE national conference of petroleum workers of our country met in Delhi on October 27-30. This Conference of the All-India Petroleum Workers' Federation was of historic significance and was a distinct landmark in the history of both the oil industry and the oil workers' movement.

The country has found its oil and founded its own national oil industry to the utter dismay of international oil kings and in spite of their efforts against it.

The country needs close cooperation between the Government and oil unions not only to build this national oil industry but also to effectively counter the sabotage activities of the foreign monopolies.

Such was the keynote of the speech of the Union Minister for Mines and Oil, Sri K. D. Malaviya, at the conference.

The conference was meeting in the background of their demand for a national tribunal to go into their long-standing demands of standardisation of wage structure on a national level, uniform bonus, abolition of contract labour and end to

rationalisation and retrenchment.

The Federation had called off their one-day strike on September 5, 1958, only because the Central Government was considering the question in consultation with the State Governments. But there has been no progress since then. Those foreign monopolies who enjoy a monopoly of oil distribution trade in our country are doing everything to deny the workers their vital demands and involve them in endless litigation by rushing to the Supreme Court against even the awards of State tribunals.

But the workers are in no mood to allow a free run to the employers.

A National Tribunal within one month or a strike to get it—was the slogan of the conference.

Since the last conference, the unity of oil workers has grown. The merger of oil unions in Madras and Calcutta has been an achievement of great organisational significance.

The international position of the Federation has also strengthened considerably. The Federation's participation in the "Ban Hydrogen Bomb" Conference in Tokyo in 1957, their decision to participate in the International Conference of Oil Unions in Leipzig in May 1959 and growing fraternity with oil unions in Pakistan have all strengthened the union immeasurably to face the international oil tycoons.

BRIEF

A United Action Council of Siddhartha Cotton Mill Kamgar Sangh (AITUC) and the Rashtriya Girmi Major Sangh (INTUC) has been formed in Badnera in Vidarbha in Bombay State to get the Siddhartha Cotton Mill, Badnera, reopened.

The mill was closed down on October 13, 1958 without complying with the procedure of three months' notice laid down in the recommendations by the Nainital Labour Conference.

(November 24)

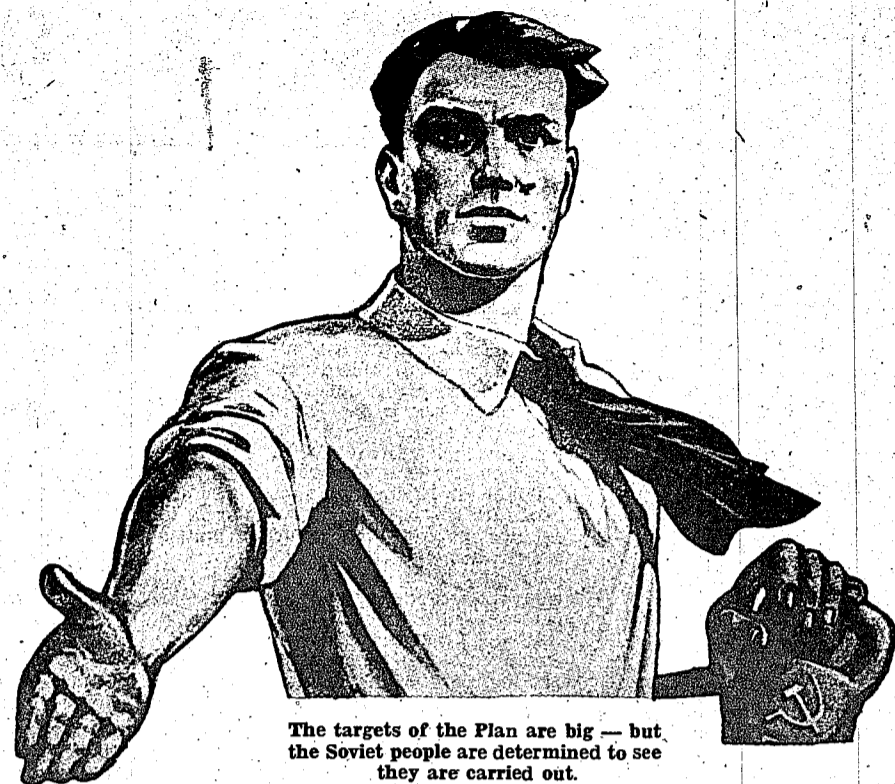


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The targets of the Plan are big—but the Soviet people are determined to see they are carried out.

SOVIET 7-YEAR PLAN

The Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union has approved the outline of the Seven-Year Plan to be presented to the 21st Congress of the Party in January next. When this stupendous Plan is completed in 1965, the Soviet Union will have taken by far its biggest step along the road to full Communism. Here and in the following pages we give extracts from the Thesis of N.S. Khrushchov's Report to the 21st Congress. And what a bright future it opens up for humanity!

BIG STEP ON ROAD TO FULL COMMUNISM

How The Plan Was Made

THE Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) and the Council of Ministers of the USSR are placing before the (Twenty-first) Congress for consideration the draft of the target figures for the USSR's economic development over 1959-65, which has been drawn up by the State Planning Committee of the USSR with the direct participation of the Councils of Ministers of the Union Republics, the Ministries and departments, the Academy of Sciences and other scientific establishments.

In their turn, the proposals drawn up in the Union Republics were based on the projects of the Economic Councils which had generalised the materials presented by the enterprises and the construction sites, where these materials had been worked out with the active participation of Party, trade union, and Young Communist League (YCL) organisations, and had incorporated the numerous suggestions of factory workers, collective farmers and engineers and technicians.

THE BASIC TASKS

The chief task of the Seven-Year Plan for the development of the national economy of the USSR in 1959-65 is a further mighty upsurge of all branches of the economy on the basis of priority expansion of the heavy industry, and a substantial enhancement of the country's economic potential so as to ensure a continuous rise in the living standards of the people.

As a result of the fulfilment of this Plan, a decisive step will be taken towards the creation of the material-technical base of Communism and the accomplishment of the main economic task of the USSR: to overtake and surpass in the shortest possible historic span of time the most highly developed capitalist countries in output per head of the population.

The Communist Party con-

siders it an all-important task to ensure in this seven-year period a further substantial growth of the real incomes of the population in town and country, a considerable rise in the wages of lower and average-paid groups of factory and office workers. The target figures for 1959-1965 envisage a large expansion in the production and consumption of food-stuffs and manufactured goods. Housing construction will be unfolded on a large scale.

The forthcoming seven-year period in the development of the Soviet Union will be characterised by a further advance of Socialist culture, growth of the spiritual wealth of Soviet society, rise in the level of consciousness of the working people, the active builders of Communism. Therefore, questions of the Communist education of the

working people, and of the growing generation in particular, assume exceptionally great importance in modern conditions, become central questions in the activity of the Party, Government, trade union, YCL and other public organisations.

As a result of the accomplishment of the tasks of economic and cultural development, big successes will be scored in overcoming the essential differences between physical and mental labour, in overcoming the essential differences between town and country.

The 1959-1965 period will see notable qualitative changes in the structure of production in the national economy of the USSR. The target figures envisage:

—A high rate and the neces-



N. S. KRUSHCHOV

sary proportions in the development of the national economy;

—A substantial increase in the output of ferrous and non-ferrous metals to more fully satisfy the growing needs of the national economy;

—Accelerated development of the chemical industry and, especially of the production of artificial and synthetic fibre, plastics, and other synthetic materials. The chemical industry will become a major source of raw materials for the production of consumer goods;

—Change in the structure of the fuel balance by priority development of the extraction and production of the most economical fuels, namely, oil and gas;

—Rapid development of

electrification of all branches of the national economy by building, chiefly, large-scale thermal electric power plants;

—Technical reconstruction of the railways on the basis of electrification and wide use of diesel locomotives;

—Further advance of all branches of agriculture, ensuring the satisfaction of the country's constantly rising needs for foodstuffs and agricultural raw materials;

—Rapid development of housing construction so as to accomplish successfully the task set by the Party and the Government to liquidate the shortage of housing for the working people;

An important task of the forthcoming seven-year period is that of intensively exploiting the rich natural resources of the country, improving the distribution of the productive forces on its territory, further bringing industry closer to the sources of raw materials, fuel and consumption areas.

Special attention is devoted to the further development of the natural resources of the eastern parts of the USSR.

The forthcoming seven-year period will be marked by technological progress in all branches of the national economy. This is to be achieved primarily by the development of the Soviet machine-building industry, particularly the machine-tools manufacturing, instrument-making, radio electronic, electrical engineering industries; the production of new and more efficient types of equipment for metallurgical, chemical, oil and gas industries; the development of the production of polymer materials; still wider use of atomic energy for peaceful purposes, etc.

An imperative requisite for the successful implementation

—Rapid development of

* SEE OVERLEAF

INDUSTRIAL OUTPUT WILL GO UP FOUR-FIFTHS



A newly-constructed workers' apartments house. The Plan envisages: 15,000,000 new flats and houses in the towns and 7,000,000 in the countryside.

TARGETS OF THE PLAN

18.1 million tons, as against 6.6 million tons in 1951-55, and 14.2 million tons in 1956-1958.

In the gas industry it is envisaged to increase the extraction and production of gas in 1965 to 150,000 million cubic metres, as against 30,000 million cubic metres in 1958, or approximately five times.

While satisfying all the needs for gas both as chemical raw material and as fuel for domestic needs of the population, more than 80 per cent of the entire gas output is to be used in industry.

In the coal industry it is envisaged to step up coal output in 1965 to 596-609 million tons, a 20-23 per cent increase over 1958, and the output of the most economical coal in the eastern parts of the country (exclusive of the Urals) will increase by 42-45 per cent. The output of coking coals is to go up by 60-66 per cent and will amount to 150-156 million tons in 1965.

system in the USSR which will ensure a more rapid rate of development for the country's power industry with smaller capital outlays and on a higher technical basis.

MACHINE-BUILDING

The high rate of development of the machine-building industry, envisaged in the target figures, will ensure the supply of new equipment to industrial establishments and radical improvement of the technology of production, which will be a decisive factor for the growth of labour productivity, will ease working conditions and make it possible further to reduce the work day.

Particular attention is given to the development of the electrical equipment industry as the major technical basis for the country's electrification. On the basis of the achievements of science and practice it is planned to raise sharply technical level and quality of electrical machines, devices, apparatuses, cables and electrical insulating materials and to satisfy the requirements in them of all branches of the economy and the needs of the people.

Transition to integrated mechanisation and automatic control of production, with the use of electronic devices, represents the most salient feature of contemporary technical progress and must become the main trend in the designing of new machines.

Production of major types of machines and instruments is planned as follows:

| | 1965 | Increase compared with 1958 |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------|-----------------------------|
| Metal cutting machine-tools thousands | 190-200 | 1.4-1.5 times |
| including special, specialised and aggregate machine-tools, thousands | 38. | 2 times |
| Forging and pressing machines, thousands | 36.2 | 1.5 times |
| Automatic and semi-automatic machine lines, complete sets | 250-271 | 1.9-2.1 times |
| Precision instruments, million roubles | 18,500-19,200 | 2.5-2.6 times |
| including computers and mathematical machines, million roubles | 2,000-2,100 | 4.5-4.7 times |
| Turbines, million kw | 18.7-20.4 | 2.8-3 times |
| Generators for turbines million kw | 17.5-18.4 | 3-3.2 times |
| Electric motors of alternating current, million kw | 32-34 | 2.2-2.4 times |
| Rolling mill equipment, thousand tons | 200-220 | 2-2.2 times |
| Chemical equipment, million roubles | 3,500-3,700 | 3.3-3.5 times |
| Technological equipment for the textile industry, million roubles | 2,500 | 2.2 times |
| Technological equipment for the food and flour milling industries, million roubles | 3,800-4,100 | 2.1-2.3 times |
| Motor vehicles, thousands | 750-856 | 1.5-1.7 times |
| Trunk-line, electric and Diesel locomotives, Units million hp | 2,550-2,700 | 2.3-2.5 times |
| Technological equipment for the cement industry, thousand tons | 8.4-9.0 | 2.8-3 times |
| Technological equipment for foundry production, million roubles | 360-410 | 2.3 times |



High-speed smelting methods are being used in the iron and steel plants. Here, too, preparations are in full swing to step up the pace of work.

of the Seven-Year Plan is the utmost rise of the productivity of social labour. High-rate growth of labour productivity, backed by the advantage of the Socialist organisation of the economy, wide application

of new techniques, integrated mechanisation and automation, and growing qualification of the personnel, will constitute the chief factor for increasing output in the forthcoming seven-year period.

seven-year period about 1,300 million roubles in capital investments. The production of nitric fertilisers will in the main be based on the use of natural gases which will make it possible to save about 4,000 million roubles in capital investments.

Large-scale production of new types of synthetic materials will make it possible to sharply expand the output of high-quality and cheap consumer goods, as well as to raise the technical level and economics of all branches of the national economy. Great possibilities are opening up for the application of these materials in the building industry, especially in the construction of houses and in the manufacture of furniture.

ELECTRIFICATION

In 1965, electric power output in the country will increase to 500,000-520,000 million kw hrs. i.e., two-2.2 times, and the fixed capacity of electric power plants will increase more than two-fold.

As the chief trend in the development of the electric power industry of the USSR in 1959-1965, it is envisaged to give priority to the construction of thermal electric stations on the basis of cheap coal, natural gas and masout, to develop at an accelerated pace electric grids, and to consistently perform work on establishing a single power

Transition to integrated mechanisation and automatic control of production, with the use of electronic devices, represents the most salient feature of contemporary technical progress and must become the main trend in the designing of new machines.

Production of major types of machines and instruments is planned as follows:

INDUSTRIAL LEAP

Gross industrial output in 1965 will increase, as compared with 1958, by approximately 80 per cent, including group A—production of the means of production—by 85 to 88 per cent, and group B—production of consumer goods—by 62 to 65 per cent. The average annual increase of gross output in 1959-1965 for industry as a whole will approximate 8.6 per cent, including group A (9.3 per cent) and group B (about 7.3 per cent).

In 1952, one per cent increase of gross output (not counting small-scale subsidiary industry) amounted to 5,000 million roubles, in 1959 it will amount to about 11,000 million roubles, and in 1965 will go up to about 19,000 million roubles. The average annual increase of industrial output in the forthcoming seven-year period will amount to about 135,000 million roubles, as against 90,000 million roubles in the preceding seven-year period.

HEAVY INDUSTRY

In 1965 it is planned to produce 65-70 million tons of pig iron, or 65-77 per cent more than in 1958; steel, 86-91 million tons, or 56-65 per cent more; rolled metal, 65-70 million tons, or 52-64 per cent more; dressed iron ore, 150-160 million tons (230-245 million tons of crude ore). The average annual increase in 1959-65 will amount to: for pig iron, 3.6-4.4 million tons, as against 2.5 million tons in 1952-1958; for steel, respectively, 4.4-5.1 million tons, as

against 3.4 million tons; for rolled metal, 3.2-3.9 million tons, as against 2.7 million tons; and for iron ore (dressed), 9-10.3 million tons, as against 6.2 million tons.

NON-FERROUS METALS INDUSTRY

Compared with 1958, the target figures call for an approximately 2.8-times increase in the output of aluminum, 1.9 times increase in the output of refined copper, and a substantial increase in the output of nickel, magnesium, titanium, germanium, silicon. The output of other non-ferrous and, especially, rare metals will likewise increase.

CHEMICAL INDUSTRY

The target figures envisage the accelerated development of the chemical industry. Overall output of chemicals will increase nearly three-fold. The production of synthetic materials is to be widely developed: the output of chemical fibres will increase 3.8 to four times, including the most valuable, synthetic fibres, 12-14 times, and plastics and synthetic resins, 6.7 times.

The production of polymer materials is to develop on a new raw materials basis. It is envisaged to build up a powerful and comprehensively developed industry of synthetic materials with the use of oil gases of oil extraction and natural gases. The use of oil gases instead of alcohol, which was formerly applied in the production of synthetic rubber, makes it possible to save in the forthcoming

FUEL INDUSTRY

For a further improvement in the structure of the country's fuel balance, the draft of the target figures decidedly pursues the line for the leading development of the oil and gas industries. To that end, it is planned that the oil and gas industries should produce fuel not only for motors and domestic needs, but also for industrial enterprises, electric stations, the railway and water transport services.

The share of oil and gas in the total fuel production will increase from 31 per cent at the present time to 51 per cent in 1965, and the share of coal will drop from 59 per cent to 43 per cent.

Expansion of the use of oil and gas as technological and power fuel and as raw materials for the chemical industry will make it possible considerably to improve the utilisation of the country's fuel and raw material resources and obtain a large saving of social labour.

In the oil industry it is planned to extend oil extraction in 1965 to 230-240 million tons, a more than two-fold increase over 1958. The average annual increase in oil extraction will amount to 16.7-



The Plan will mean more goods in the shops—and plenty of them. Woollen fabrics for instance will go up from 300 million metres in 1959 to 500 million metres by the end of the Plan.

The contemplated rates of growth in the output of fabrics, clothing and footwear will make it possible by the end of the seven-year period to bring the USSR near to the level of the United States both in total output and in per capita production.

FOOD INDUSTRY

The target figures envisage the following output of the major products of the food industry.

| | 1958 expected fulfilment | 1965 | 1965 in per cent of 1958 |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------|--------------------------|
| Meat including first category subsidiary products, from state raw material resources thousand tons | 2,830 | 6,130 | 217 |
| Butter from state raw material resources, thousand tons | 627 | 1,066 | 160 |
| Dairy products, in terms of milk, thousand tons | 6,017 | 13,546 | 225 |
| Granulated sugar (from sugar beet) thousand tons | 5,150 | 9,250-10,000 | 180-194 |
| Vegetable oil, from state raw material resources, thousand tons | 1,221 | 1,975 | 162 |
| Fish catch, thousand tons | 2,850 | 4,626 | 162 |
| Ethyl alcohol, million decalitres, including alcohol made from edible raw material, million decalitres | 158.8 | 202.8 | 128 |
| | 111.7 | 100 | 90 |

For per capita output of a number of major foodstuffs the USSR will overtake and surpass the most developed capitalist countries.

PRODUCTION OF HOUSEHOLD GOODS

The output of household

| | 1958 expected fulfilment | 1965 | 1965 in per cent of 1958 |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|--------------------------|
| Cotton fabrics, million metres | 5,800 | 7,700-8,000 | 133-138 |
| Woollen fabrics, million metres | 300 | 500 | 167 |
| Linen fabrics, million metres | 480 | 635 | 132 |
| Silk fabrics, million metres | 814 | 1,485 | 182 |
| Hosiery, million pairs | 882 | 1,250 | 142 |
| Knitted underwear, million pieces | 392 | 780 | 199 |
| Knitted garments, million pieces | 95 | 160 | 168 |
| Leather footwear, million pairs | 355 | 515 | 145 |

goods and also of machines and appliances which lighten the house-work of women will be doubled and brought up to 88,000 million roubles in 1965. There will be a substantial increase in the output of furniture, sewing machines, refrigerators, washing-machines, dish-washers, wireless sets, radiolas and television sets, clocks and watches, bicycles, motorcycles and motor-scooters, cameras, and electric household appliances.

prove the assortment and quality of the goods they put out.

AGRICULTURAL ADVANCE

The task in the coming seven years is to make agricultural production grow to an extent where it will allow of satisfying the popular demand for staple foods and of steeply increasing resources of agricultural crude materials in order to provide the population with a broad range of high-quality foodstuffs in abundance and to meet all the other requirements of the State for agricultural products.

The slated programme for the further development of agriculture will go hand in hand with the perfection of Socialist relations of production and with the bringing closer together of the two forms, collective farm and State, of Socialist property. This will be expressed in the further development of the collective farm system, in the growth of production stocks, in the increase and proper use of the indivisible funds of the collective farms, and in the extension of production ties between the collective farms as regards the joint organisation of industrial, building and other economic establishments, and the joint construction of power stations, roads, irrigation and drainage networks, of enterprises for the processing and storing of agricultural products, of schools, especially boarding schools, of infirmaries for the aged and of hospitals and clubs.

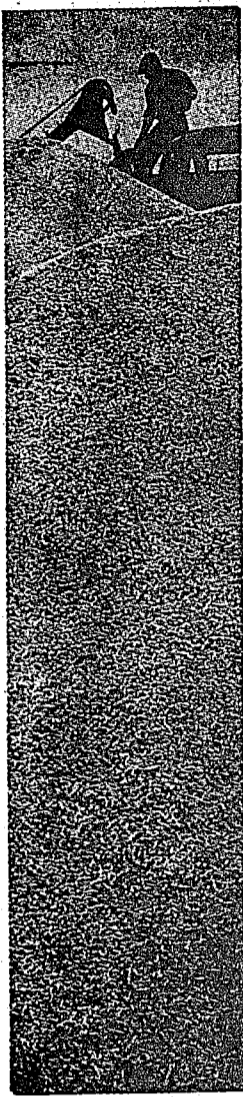
The draft of the target figures for the development of the national economy of the USSR in 1959-1965 calls for:—A further expansion of

* SEE OVERLEAF

- More Consumer Goods
- 22,000,000 New Flats and Houses
- More Kindergartens, Schools and Colleges

Real Wages Up By Two-Fifths

GREAT ADVANCE IN AGRICULTURE



MOUNTAINS OF GRAIN

grain production, so as to ensure by the end of the seven-year period a grain harvest of 10,000-11,000 million poods a year.

—An increase in the production of the main industrial crops in 1965 as follows: raw cotton, to 5.7-6.1 million tons, or 34-45 per cent more than in 1957; sugar beet, to 70-78 million tons, or 1.8-2 times more; oil-bearing seeds, to approximately 5.5 million tons, or 70 per cent more; flax fibre, to 580,000 tons, or 32 per cent more than in 1957;

—An increase in 1965 of the gross potato crop to approximately 147 million tons, as against 88 million tons in 1957;

—The development of the production of vegetables in quantities fully satisfying the needs of the population;

—An increase in the production of fruit and berries, during the seven years, by no less than two times; grapes no less than four times;

—An increase in the output of the chief animal products in 1965, as compared with 1958: meat (slaughter weight), to at least 16,000,000 tons, or two times; milk to 100-105 million tons, or 1.7-1.8 times; wool, to approximately, 548,000 tons, or 1.7 times; and eggs to 37,000 million, or 1.6 times.

Gross farm output as a whole will increase 1.7 times in 1965, as compared with 1958.

It is planned to sharply im-

prove in the forthcoming seven years the use of the land as the basic means of production in agriculture. The output of major farm products per 100 hectares of farm land will substantially increase in 1965 and will surpass the present output of these products per 100 hectares of farm in the USA, as shown by the following figures:

| | USSR 1965 | USA 1957 |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Grain | 329-360 | 280 |
| Potatoes | 294 | 19 |
| Sugar | 18.5-20 | 4.1 |
| Meat (slaughter weight) | 32 | 29 |
| Milk | 200-210 | 101 |
| Wool | 1.1 | 0.2 |

MECHANISATION AND ELECTRIFICATION OF AGRICULTURE

The utmost expansion of mechanisation and electrification of production, the further provision of the latest equipment to the collective farms and State farms is a decisive condition for fulfilling the assignments as regards the development of agriculture in 1959-65.

It is planned to produce for agriculture in seven years over one million tractors, about 400,000 grain harvester combines and large quantities of other machines and equipment.

The greater technical facilities will make it possible to reduce the time required for agricultural work and to extend the introduction of integrated mechanisation of agriculture as applicable to different zones of the country.

Electrification of agriculture will assume wide scope in 1959-1965. It is envisaged to complete in the main the electrification of all collective farms in the country by the end of the seven-year period, while the electrification of State farms and repair and technical service stations will be completed much sooner. The volume of work in electrifying collective farms, scheduled for the coming seven years, will be 2.5 times as large as that in 1952-1958. Consumption of electric power in agriculture will increase approximately four-fold in seven years.

To accomplish the tasks of electrifying agriculture, it is necessary to enlist widely the funds of the collective farms for building inter-collective farm and inter-district electric stations. Provision is also made for supplying electricity to State farms and collective farms from the electric networks of State power systems and electric stations. Collective farms and State farms will use electric power in production more widely.

DEVELOPMENT OF TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

The coming seven-year period will see the radical reconditioning of the

main types of transport, especially rail and air transport. 1. Freight carriage on the railways will increase in the seven-year period to 1,800-1,850 thousand million ton-kilometres or by 40 to 45 per cent. In 1965 between 85 and 87 per cent of the entire freight carriage on the railways will be hauled by electric and diesel locomotives, against the

per 100 hectares of farm land (metric centners)

| | USSR 1965 | USA 1957 |
|-------------------------|-----------|----------|
| Grain | 329-360 | 280 |
| Potatoes | 294 | 19 |
| Sugar | 18.5-20 | 4.1 |
| Meat (slaughter weight) | 32 | 29 |
| Milk | 200-210 | 101 |
| Wool | 1.1 | 0.2 |

26 per cent in 1958. The length of track to be switched to electric and diesel traction will reach approximately 100,000 km....

2. The cargo carriage of the sea transport will roughly double in the seven-year period, with the proportion of export and import cargoes carried on Soviet merchant-

| | 1952-58 | 1959-65 | Increase in per cent |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| Total for economy: | 1,072 | 1,940-1,970 | 181-184 |
| including: | | | |
| construction of objects of industrial designation | 821 | 1,488-1,513 | 181-184 |
| Housing and public facilities construction | 208 | 375-380 | 180-183 |
| Construction of educational, cultural and health facilities | 43 | 77 | 179 |

CAPITAL INVESTMENTS

1. The coming seven-year period will see construction get under way on an unprecedentedly sweeping scale all over the country, especially in the eastern parts. In 1959-65 the volume of Stateborne capital investments will be 1.8 times more than in the previous seven-year period and almost equal to the total volume of capital investments in economy for all the time Soviet power has been in existence.

The following table characterises the volume of capital investments (in thousands of millions of roubles and in comparable prices):

| | 1952-58 | 1959-65 | Increase in per cent |
|-------------------------------------------------------------|---------|-------------|----------------------|
| Total for economy: | 1,072 | 1,940-1,970 | 181-184 |
| including: | | | |
| construction of objects of industrial designation | 821 | 1,488-1,513 | 181-184 |
| Housing and public facilities construction | 208 | 375-380 | 180-183 |
| Construction of educational, cultural and health facilities | 43 | 77 | 179 |

REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

... In working out plans for the national economic development of the USSR, the Communist Party is guided by the Leninist national policy and proceeds from the need properly to distribute the productive forces on the country's territory with the object of achieving the greatest economic effect and ensuring the economic advance of all the Union Republics....

The target figures for the national economic development of the USSR in 1959-1965 take into account the interests of the further advance of the economy and culture in all the Union Republics.

Provision is made to draw into economic operation the natural resources which are richest in content and most advantageous as regards conditions of exploitation, particularly in the eastern areas of the country, to utilise fully the labour resources in conformity with the accumulated production experience and the available production facilities in various areas and in all the Republics, further to bring industry closer to the sources of raw materials and fuel, to develop specialisation and cooperation in industry to the utmost, to improve economic ties between areas and to make rational use of all modes of transport.

6. Due to the introduction of fast and large turbo-jet and turbo-prop airliners, the air transport will become one of the main categories of passenger transport....

* SEE FACING PAGE

by the target figures ensure the further specialisation and integrated development of the economy of both Republics and large economic-geographical areas, for example, the Urals, Siberia, Central Asia, the Transcaucasus etc. In so doing it is necessary to combat resolutely the narrow local understanding of an integrated economy as a closed economy. The singling out of large economic-geographical areas in planning facilitates the proper geographical distribution and most efficient territorial organisation of the Soviet Union's national economy.

The main changes in the distribution of the productive forces in the forthcoming seven-year period are contemplated first of all in the direction of the accelerated development of the eastern areas. Over 40 per cent of all the capital investments in 1959-1965 will go for the development of the eastern areas, including the Urals, Siberia, the Far East, Kazakhstan and Central Asia. The share of these areas in the country's entire output of major items will rise and reach in 1965 in the production of pig iron approximately 43 per cent, steel 47 per cent, rolled metal 48 per cent, coal approximately 50 per cent, oil 30 per cent, electric power 46 per cent and sawn timber over 45 per cent. Provision is made for the commissioning of capacities of the country's third iron and steel centre, including capacities for the production of approximately 7.5 million tons of pig iron.

The coal industry in Siberia and Kazakhstan will be developed at a faster rate than in other areas in view of the concentration here of coal deposits with the most favourable geological conditions for mining. These areas will contribute in seven years about 60 per cent of the total increase of coal production in the entire country. A large power industry will also be built in Siberia and Kazakhstan. Production of electric power here will rise 3.3-3.5 times in seven years and these areas will account for nearly 35 per cent of total expansion in electric power production.

The big growth of power capacities and cheap electricity in the eastern areas will create favourable conditions for the development of industries consuming much power, the non-ferrous metals industry in the first place.

Changes are planned in the distribution of the oil and gas industry which will enjoy priority development in the European part of the USSR and Central Asia on the basis of the rich oil and gas deposits discovered in these areas.

RISE IN LIVING STANDARDS

The national income, a truly people's income in the USSR, is used not to enrich the exploiter classes as is the case in the capitalist countries, but for a steady rise in the living standards of the people and for expanding Socialist production. The national income will increase by 62-65 per cent in 1965 as compared to 1958 and with its increase a further rise in public consumption will be effected. The funds of consumption will go up by 60-63 per cent in the seven-year period. In connection with the vast scale of growth of Socialist

production and with a considerable expansion in the network of enterprises and institutions of science, culture, education and public health, public catering, trade, housing and municipal service for the population in the seven-year period the number of factory and office workers in all branches of the national economy, as is envisaged, will increase by 11.5 million people, or by 21 per cent. The aggregate number of factory and office workers in the national economy will top 66 million people by the end of the seven-year period.

The real incomes of the factory and office workers in the seven-year period per worker will jump on an average by 40 per cent as a result of the increase in wages, pensions and grants as well as the further price reduction in public catering.

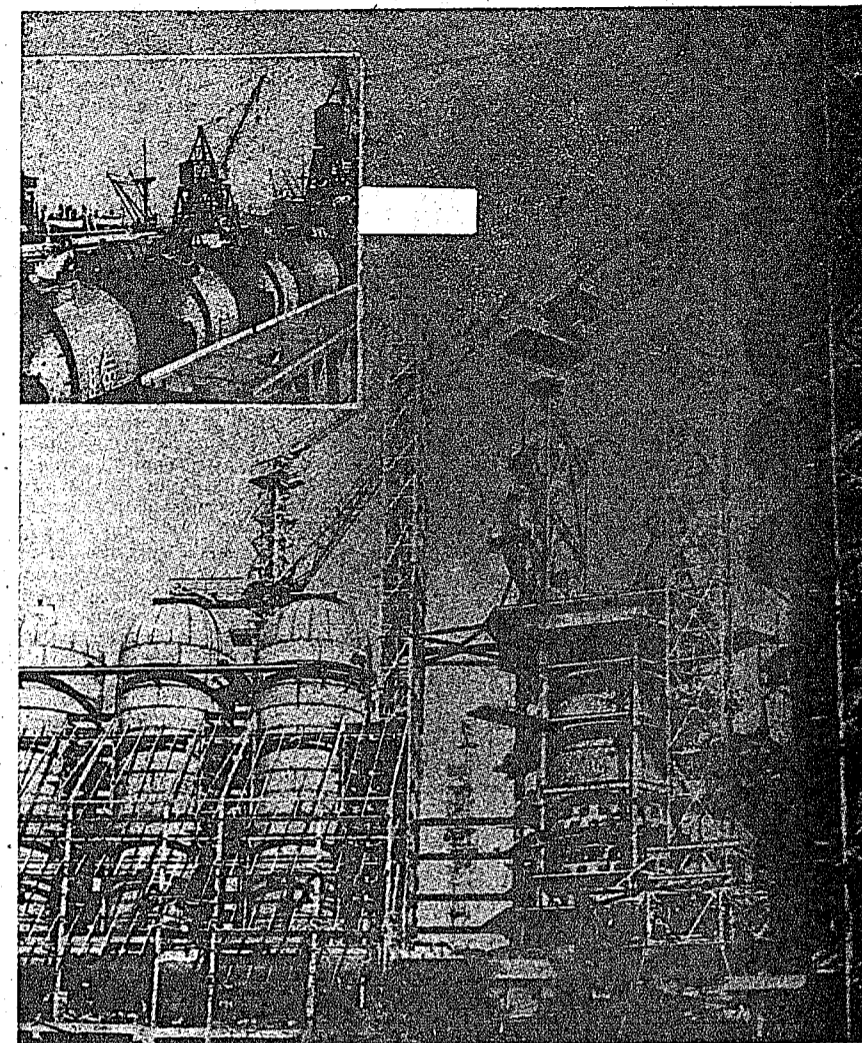
On the basis of an increase in agricultural production and higher labour productivity the real incomes of the collective farmers will soar in the seven-year period also by not less than 40 per cent, mostly due to the growth of common husbandry of the collective farms. Large-scale development of housing, expansion of the network of boarding schools and children's institutions, the further development of free medical service, education and other forms of cultural welfare facilities for the population will be of great importance in the further rise of the living standards of the working people.

The regulating of wages of factory and office workers in all branches of the national economy, started in recent years, should be completed in the coming seven-year period together with a general increase in wages for factory and office workers. The gradual regulating of wages will mean an increase in wages for the low and average-paid factory and office workers and narrowing in this way the gap in remuneration for labour of workers in comparison with highly paid groups.

The wages of low-paid factory and office workers in the course of the seven-year period will be raised from 270-350 roubles to 500-600 roubles a month....

In connection with the increase in minimum wage by 1963 to 400-500 roubles a month the necessity rises of increasing the amounts of minimum pensions. It is intended to increase by 1963 the amounts of old-age minimum pensions from the present 300 roubles to 400 roubles a month in towns and from 255 to 340 roubles for pensioners permanently residing in rural areas and engaged in agriculture, and also to increase the amounts of minimum pensions for the disabled and in case of loss of breadwinners.

At the end of the second stage of raising minimum wages to 500-600 roubles a month it is planned to effect in 1966 a new rise in the amounts of minimum pensions to about 450-500 roubles a month for old-age pensioners in towns and correspondingly boost the mini-



A view of the Bhilai Steel Plant. Inset: the Port of Odessa despatching equipment to India. A plan for Soviet prosperity means more aid to under-developed countries like ours to build more such plants as Bhilai.

mum in rural localities, and also to increase the minimum amounts of pensions for the disabled and in case of loss of breadwinners.

In keeping with the decisions of the 20th CPSU Congress it is intended to complete by 1960 the transfer of factory and office workers to a seven-hour working day, and workers of the leading professions in the coal and mining industries occupied in underground work, to a six-hour working day. And also fully to effect in 1962 the transfer of factory and office workers with a seven-hour working day to a 40-hour working week. Starting from 1964 there will be a gradual transfer to a 35-30-hour working week, i.e. for workers engaged in underground work, and in production with harmful labour conditions to a 30-hour working week (five work-days of six hours each with two full days off) and a 35-hour working week (five work-days of seven hours each with two full days off) for the rest of the workers. All these measures are to be completed by 1966-1968. The transfer to a 30- to 35-hour working week with retaining one full day off means introducing correspondingly a five- or six-hour work day.

Since for the majority of factory and office workers it is more convenient to have a six or seven-hour work day with two full days off each

week instead of a five or six-hour work day in a six-day working week, it is intended to introduce a five-day working week, i.e. establish two full days off each week.

It is intended to make this change-over to a shorter work-day and lesser amount of work-days in a week without lowering wages. As a result of this, the USSR will have the shortest work-day and the shortest working week in the world....

RETAIL TRADE

The sales of livestock products to the population in the seven-year period will increase by 2.2 times, vegetable oils — 1.9 times, fruit including citrus — 2.5-3 times. Sugar production will rise sharply; by the end of the seven-year period per capita output of sugar in the Soviet Union will reach 41-44 kilograms a year as against 26 kilograms in 1958. In connection with the further upsurge in agriculture and the tremendous growth in production of synthetic materials and artificial fibre there will be a substantial increase in sales to the population of most important industrial commodities — such as fabrics, clothing, footwear....

In comparison with the previous seven-year period sales of refrigerators to the population will rise by 5.6 times,

washing machines and accessories — 8.3 times, sewing machines — 2.1 times, television sets — 4.6 times, radio receivers — 1.7 times, motorcycles and scooters — 2.7 times....

The Communist Party and the Soviet Government consider that the further development of HOUSING at the present time which is of nationwide significance is one of the most important tasks confronting all Party, Government, trade union and economic organisations, of the entire Soviet people.

The tasks set forth in the decisions of the Central Committee of the CPSU and the Council of Ministers on the development of housing in the USSR are being successfully carried out and their fulfilment will be secured in good time with the object of eliminating the housing shortage in the country. For this purpose it is envisaged to build in 1959-65 a total of 650-660 million square metres of housing, or nearly 15 million flats which is 2.3 times greater than the amount completed in the previous seven-year period. Close to seven million dwellings will be put up in rural localities by the collective farmers and village intelligentsia themselves. Housing fund in towns and workers' settlements by the end of the seven-year period will increase by 1.6

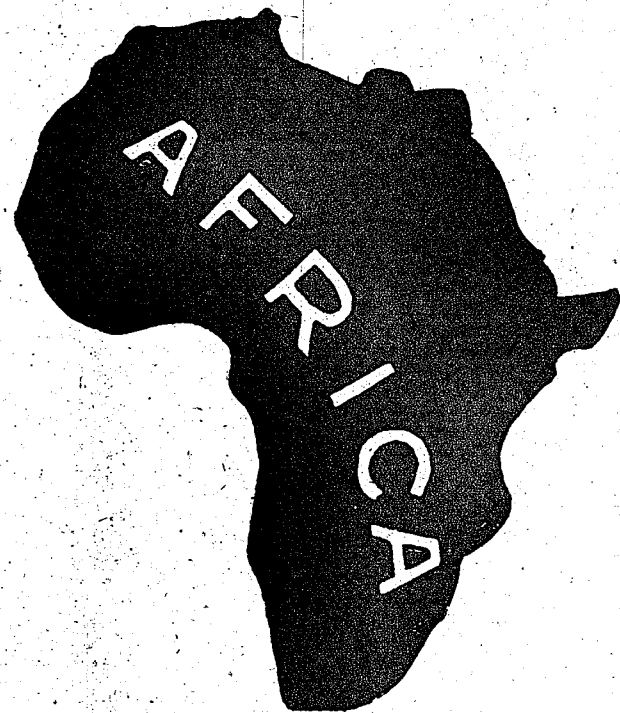
(Continued on P. 16)

As Much On Capital Expansion As In Last Forty-One Years



Vocational school graduate Alevtina Golubeva has just begun to work in a textile mill. The factory and the school will come much closer together in the years of the Seven-Year Plan.

Transition Begins To World's Shortest Working Week



Africa is colonialism's last bastion. A large part of this continent with its millions of people are still subjected to the imperialist rule—of France, Britain, Portugal, Belgium, Spain, etc.

TODAY only one idea dominates the minds of the African people, who for centuries have groaned under the yoke of imperialism—"Imperialists, Quit Africa—Africa is for Africans." The colonial Powers' desperate efforts to suppress African nationalism are doomed to failure. No amount of bombing and shooting can crush the resurgent Africans.

Africa is a vast continent covering nearly 11½ million sq. miles. It is a land of 200 million people, speaking more than 700 languages and living under different and varied forms of cultural patterns.

The resources of Africa are astounding—too good to be believed. Almost the entire diamond (98 per cent) output of the world, comes from Africa. More than half (60 per cent) of the world's gold production is from there. Africa has one-fifth of the world's copper. It produces 80 per cent of cobalt, 75 per cent of sisal, 70 per cent of palm-oil, 70 per cent of cocoa, 30 per cent of chrome and 15 per cent of coffee. All these are the results of merely scraping the

IMPERIALISM'S LAST BASTION IS CRACKING

African earth. What this continent will yield to deep-digging is anybody's guess. Unfortunately, a large part of this rich continent is today being plundered by the colonialists. The African has been reduced to a mere serf in his own native land. Nowhere as in Africa has the European inflicted such psychological torture on the governed.

The African people, no matter in which part of Africa they live, are waging a glorious struggle to break the shackles of colonialism.

British Possessions

There is not a single territory in British Africa which has not seen mass actions against the

colonialists. Kenya, situated in the East of Africa, occupies a key position on the east-west and north-south routes across the continent.

After the Second World War, new changes took place in Kenya. The Kenya African Union was founded and by 1952, it had 100,000 members. In 1950 it began fighting against the alienation of high land by the Europeans. The Kikuyus who were most effected by this alienation started armed struggle against the whites.

The "Mau Mau" movement started—essentially a peasants' revolt against white supremacy. It was suppressed by the banning of all political parties and gagging of the African Press. Emergency was declared in October 1952.

After the imposition of emergency, both the police and the army in Kenya have committed the most gruesome crimes against the Africans in Kenya.

The Times of India had reported on September 7, 1955: "Case after case has brought to light, in the last two years, the savage penalties imposed on suspects for refusal to give information. There is evidence on record to prove that they have been

to delay the date of their freedom.

The British protectorate of Uganda—a neighbour of Kenya—has an area of 94,000 square metres and a population of about five million Africans. Its independence has been delayed by the distressing disunity that prevails among the political parties and the tribes.

Kabaka, at one time a popular ruler, is worried about his return from exile and he has

by
VIJAY GUPTA

started indulging in reactionary politics. He wants to be the ruler of the whole of Uganda, something to which the other chiefs do not agree. He even went to the extent of asking self-government for Buganda alone. He refused to let Buganda take part in the elections for the legislative council—held on October 20 this year. Political parties strongly disapproved of this action of Kabaka.

The political leaders of Uganda, on the other hand are suspicious and jealous of each other and are fighting for leadership—with the result that

tion are so intense that even a small spark can precipitate a general conflagration. In the last two-three years, there have been a number of strikes caused by political and industrial grievances which have been piling up in the colony for a long time.

Nigeria, the largest British colony in West Africa, is to become independent on October 1, 1960.

Nigeria has valuable deposits of manganese ore, silver and monazite which contains the radio-active element thorium. It exports considerable quantities of groundnuts, palm-oil, cocoa and tin.

Next year will be a very busy one for Nigeria. The Northern Region will become self-governing. Federal elections will take place at the end of the year leading to the formation of a new Federal Government which would enter into discussions with the British Government on the drafting of the Nigerian Independence Act.

French Empire

Half of the continent belongs to France, from the Mediterranean coast to the coast of the

South Atlantic Ocean. It is an empire of highly fertile plains, valleys and stony blazing deserts, of tropical forests and vast stretches of land where almost nothing grows. The vastness of the French-African empire is indicated by the fact that Algeria alone is four times the size of France.

In 1956-58 France gave independence to Morocco, Tunisia and Guinea. In Algeria, to which the French are denying this, the Algerian Liberation Front has formed a Free Algerian Government with its provisional headquarters in Cairo. In spite of heavy repression the Algerian freedom fighters are carrying on their struggle for national liberation and already they

Uganda so near to freedom is yet so far, away from it. The Central African Federation of Nyasaland, Southern Rhodesia and Northern Rhodesia was imposed on the Africans of these territories in 1953 against their wishes. The Africans working in the copper belt areas of the Federation are strongly organised in different mine-workers unions and the African National Congress.

Colour bar and discrimina-

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See Page 15

The Independent States

THE United Arab Republic is a union of Egypt and Syria with its capital in Cairo. It has a population of 27,000,000. Egypt, in the northern part of Africa, is a bridge between the three continents of Europe, Africa and Asia and is the intellectual headquarters of the Arab world and has a very strong influence over the African people.

TUNISIA, which was a French Protectorate since 1881, became independent on March 20, 1956. On July 26, 1957, the Constituent Assembly abolished monarchy and declared Tunisia a Republic with Habib Bourguiba as its President and Prime Minister. Tunisia occupies an area of about 48,195 sq. miles and has a population of 3,416,000.

LIBYA, has a land area of 679,343 sq. miles (population: 1,091,830) and is situated along the north coast of Africa. This once most disputed land was made independent on the decision of the U.N. Since December 24, 1951, it is a federal kingdom, ruled by King Mohammed Idris et Serussi. There is a very important U.S. air base in Libya.

MOROCCO, which was divided into French and Spanish protectorates, was proclaimed a sovereign independent country, with King Sidi Mohammed ben Youssef as the head of the State, in 1956. It has an area of 450,000 sq. km with a population of about nine million Berbers, Arabs and French. Morocco also has an important U.S. air base.

The ancient empire of **ETHIOPIA** (area: 409,266 sq. miles, population: 12 million) is a sovereign independent State. According to the new constitution, Ethiopia held its first election this year, and elected a parliament. The country is governed by a Council of Ministers, responsible to Emperor Haile Selassie I (the real leader of the country) and a parliament consisting of a Senate and Chamber of Deputies. Ethiopia has a very important U.S. wireless station in Eretria.

LIBERIA (area: 43,000 sq. miles, population: 1,500,000) is the oldest Negro Republic, having become an independent republic on July 26, 1847. It is a backward and poor country. Its constitution is modelled on

that of the U.S. Rubber, which is controlled by Firestone, is the main product of Liberia.

Gold Coast incorporated with Togoland, a trust territory, was proclaimed an independent country on March 6, 1957. It is known as **GHANA** after the ancient African empire of Thatnamu. Ghana has an area of 91,843 sq. miles and has a population of about 46.20 lakhs of whom some 13 thousand are non-African. Ghana is endowed with fertile lands and rich mineral deposits. Its chief product is cocoa.

SUDAN (area: 967,500 sq. miles, population: 8,309,663) was proclaimed a sovereign independent republic on January 1, 1956. It had a

parliamentary form of Government till recently. At present Sudan's Commander-in-Chief, Gen. Ibrahim Abboud rules. He seized power from the former Premier Mr. Abdullah Khalil in a military coup d'etat. He has banned all the political parties and abrogated the constitution, and has suspended all newspapers and declared a state of emergency.

GUINEA, a hitherto little known part of French West Africa, is the only State in the entire French empire to vote out of slavery in the September Referendum. Guinea occupies 106,200 sq. miles and holds about three million people. Guinea has a large area and few people. It has great mineral resources, much of it yet untapped.

★ FROM PAGE 14

control more than two-thirds of Algerian territory. In other territories, i.e., Equatorial Africa, West Africa, and Madagascar, etc., the national movement is growing fast.

In the Trust Territory of the Cameroons in West Africa, the French are finding themselves in hot waters. The Cameroonian, who never accepted the arbitrary and artificial division of their country among the British and French, are fighting for its immediate unification and freedom.

The French colonialists are reaching new heights in the method of repression—on the Cameroonian. The UPC, strongest political party of the Cameroons, is banned and its leaders have been exiled. But under its leadership, the Cameroonian are fighting with arms in their hand against the French imperialists.

Portuguese Colonies

Portuguese have Portuguese Guinea on the upper and Angola on the lower West coast and Mozambique on the lower East coast of Africa, with a total population of about 11 million Africans and 200,000 non-Africans. In these colonies, the situation is worse than the slavery in mediaeval times. Under the Portuguese pattern of slavery a labourer is not bought but hired from the State. In case of sickness, disability or death the employer can ask for replacement from the colonial Government.

The Portuguese do not by law discriminate against the blacks. They, like the Belgians, believe in assimilation. Any form of organised expression is denied even to the assimilated class. Freedom of assembly and movement without permission are forbidden. The Africans are not allowed to leave their villages without first obtaining permission.

Belgian Congo

The Belgian Congo, a colony of Belgium, covers 900,000 sq. miles, more than 17 times the size of Belgium, with a population of 17 million of which 60,000 are Europeans. Congo produces 70 per cent of the world's diamonds and has a big deposit of uranium and thorium.

Belgians say "political rights have no value without bread—let us give them bread first." Belgians concede perfect economic equality to the "natives" but no political freedom.

A "native" in the Belgian Congo has no vote, no civil liberty but he gets equal salaries with his Belgian masters. The right to rule belongs to the master race. But this "economic equality" is a sham, the number of natives who qualify for this can be counted on the fingers. Schools and colleges are rarities; and opportunities to attain educational equality are non-existent.

But conquering time marches on and the Congo is waking up from its slumber, it is stirring. All over the Congo there is a new awakening.

Recently in Leopoldville, the capital, a political manifesto was published by a group of Congolese associated with a journal *African Opinion*. The Manifesto rejects the formula, "a Belgo-Congolese community," saying that "this can be twisted to justify the continu-

BOOK REVIEW

AUTOBIOGRAPHY OF A BENGALI CHEMIST : Prafulla Chandra Ray. Orient Book Company, Calcutta 12. Rs. 15-00.

IN an outburst of patriotism, P.C. Ray said, 'Science can afford to wait but Swaraj cannot.' He firmly believed that 'in a free country the talents of a young man will find ample scope in almost every walk of life.' It is well that he did not live to see our independence and the 'socialistic pattern' of our scientific mediocrities.

It is a striking fact of our history that while we produced giants in almost every field of human knowledge and endeavour in the nineteenth century, the twentieth should be so barren—a popular year-book mentions only Bhabha (b. 1909).

P.C. Ray lived in the period four years after the 1857 Revolt and four years before the first independent Ministries. This whole period had been characterised by a long struggle for independence and it had its impact on the life of Ray himself. His burning patriotism and primarily his great anxiety that Indians should blaze a new path in science and industry, is seen in almost every page

of his autobiography. His fundamental research in chemistry, pioneering in chemical and pharmaceutical industry, work on chemistry in ancient India, founding of an Indian school of chemistry—any one of these would have been enough to make any man great, but he did all this simultaneously. More, he found time to take part in relief and educational activities.

If he avoided politics, it was not due to any lack of patriotism. But he knew that it was a whole-time job, and there were many eminent men in the field, and he could afford to be a recluse in the laboratory. It is a curious fact that he sponsored the first ever meeting addressed by the then not so well known Gandhiji in Calcutta.

The first part of the book deals mainly with his life and career up to the time he joined the Calcutta University College of Science and Technology. What he tells about himself, however, is the bare minimum—how he struggled

Can Science Wait Any Longer?

in the face of a broken family fortune and broken health when he was quite young, not to say the discrimination of an alien Government. But optimism and courage ring out of every page.

The second part deals with the social and economic conditions of Bengal from the time of the advent of the British in our country. He has given innumerable quotations from authors who are all but unknown today, whose works have been lost in the course of time or deliberately suppressed by a Government which was afraid of truth.

However it is a curious fact that a man who had an international outlook as a chemist should be a narrow nationalist as a social being. One constantly sees his impatience at the unemployed graduates of Bengal avoiding commerce and industry and the backward Marwaris having a golden harvest in Bengal.

A reader would have liked to know when the author died—I found almost every one was very vague about it. Thirdly, what is the meaning of giving 16 pages of illustrations right at the beginning?

Lastly how does it enhance the value of the book to date its publication August 15, 1958 and get Nehru to scribble a foreword. Perhaps the publishers wanted to make up for Nehru's name not appearing in the index, by putting it in the foreword.

—M. B. BAO

STUDY OF KALIDAS IN SOVIET UNION

RUSSIAN readers first made their acquaintance with the works of the great Kalidas in 1929, when the eminent Russian writer and historian, N. Karazin, published his translation of selected scenes from the classical drama, Sakuntala.

In his foreword to the translation he wrote: "Almost on every page of the drama I have found poetry of exquisite beauty; finely expressed feelings; gentle wonderful tenderness as serene as an evening in May; a pure, inimitable nature and consummate skill. It can very well be called a lovely picture of ancient India, just as

Homer's poems were pictures of ancient Greece—pictures in which one discerns the characters, customs and ways of the people. For me Kalidas is as great as Homer."

Though the works of the great poet and playwright of India are removed from us by many centuries of historical development, they have lost none of their educative and aesthetic significance. Kalidas's name is known throughout the world, including the USSR, where his works have gained wide popularity.

This is due, in no small measure, to the translations made by Soviet Indologists

of almost all of the great poet's works. Russia's outstanding Sanskrit scholars have always manifested a deep interest in Kalidas.

The history of literature offers no exact information on the life and work of Kalidas. Some believe that he lived and worked in the second or first centuries B.C. while others consider that his books date from the fifth century A.D., during the rule of Chandragupta II Vikramaditya.

Soviet Indologists favour the second viewpoint, supported by the fact that the very possibility of the appearance of such a genius as Kalidas testifies to the high level of Sanskrit literature in ancient India.

At the present time Soviet Indologists, thanks to the disinterested aid of their Indian colleagues, devote much more material to researches on the life and work of the great poet.

One of the latest outstanding books devoted to Kalidas, an Essay on His Work, by V.I. Kalyanov, the Soviet Sanskritologist, and his colleague V.G. Erman. This book, published by the State Publishers of Fiction in Moscow this year, gives a popular outline of the poet and dramatist. The book contains materials relating to the history of India and Indian literature.

independent African States will be able to assert a distinctive African personality.

The Conference declared in a resolution on the future of dependent African Nations that "the existence of colonialism in any shape or form is a threat to the security and independence of African States and to world peace."

Raising its voice against the economic exploitation of the dependent countries by the imperialist Powers, the Conference expressed that the "incorporation of dependent African territories in the economic system of colonial Powers is not in the interests of these peoples."

The African nationalist movement is entering a new phase of militant struggle against colonialism and racialism.

A Pan-African Freedom Movement for East and Central Africa has been established and it represents the first attempt of the Africans to organise on inter-territorial basis. Its aims are to coordinate na-

tionalist programmes, tactics, projects and efforts for the speedy liberation of the seven territories in British East and Central Africa.

This movement is only the forerunner of the All-African People's Conference which is to be held in Accra from December 5 to 12. More than 500 delegates representing nationalist movements throughout the African continent are expected to attend the Accra Conference. The Conference is designed "to demonstrate the solidarity and fraternity which bind the awakening peoples of Africa, cutting across race, tribe and artificial frontiers, with which the imperialists have contrived to divide us and maintain their evil system of colonialism, racial domination and tribal separations."

Thus Africa marches on not deterred by the colonial repression or the false hopes of the "free world". A people cannot be kept under subjugation forever, they must assert and assert they will.

Victory Over Capitalism Is Inevitable

* FROM PAGE 12

times. Economic and well-appointed flats to be tenanted by one family each will be built in urban and rural localities. A target is being set to effect a change in housing distribution, that of providing a separate flat for each family. The State will give utmost encouragement and help to the working people in putting up their own homes and flats by means of their personal savings.

The target figures foresee a programme for the further improvement in the protection of the health of the population. Capital investments earmarked for the construction of public health institutions, social maintenance, physical culture and sport and also for the medical industry, will amount to 25,400 million roubles, which is 80 per cent more than in the period of 1952-1958. This will enable through new construction in 1959-1965 the number of accommodations in hospitals to be doubled, and the number of accommodations in nurseries to be increased by more than 2.5 times in comparison with the increase in the previous seven-year period. With the object of further improving medical service for the population and creating more favourable conditions of work for doctors it is planned to provide rent-free flats with heating and lighting at hospitals set up in workers' settlements, district centres and rural localities.

The medical industry will be considerably developed and particularly the production of anti-biotics and other modern effective curative means. Together with a general growth of output of medical articles by three times in 1965 as compared with 1958, the manufacture of anti-biotics will increase by 3.7 times, vitamins — six times, medical instruments and apparatuses, including apparatuses for the use of atomic energy for medicinal purposes — 2-2.5 times.

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

The realisation of the grandiose plan of Communist construction calls for a decisive improvement in all the work of educating Soviet people, raising their Communist consciousness and activity, forming a new man in the spirit of collectivism and diligence and an understanding of his social duty, in the spirit of the observance of the lofty moral principles of the new society. Special attention must be paid to bringing up the rising generation in the spirit of Communism, to bringing the school close to life, to combining instruction with production work, to mastering the scientific knowledge accumulated by mankind, to overcoming the survivals of capitalism in the consciousness of people, and to developing an irreconcilable struggle against hostile bourgeois ideology.

It is planned, in the years 1959-1965 considerably to develop general secondary-school education in town and country, to extend evening and correspondence higher and specialised secondary education, and to increase the network of evening schools for working youth in town and country. The number of pupils in the primary, seven-year and secondary schools in 1965 will be increased to 38-40 million as against 30 million

people in 1958. The number of pupils in the schools for working youth in town and country, in professional-technical schools and also in schools for adults should be considerably increased.

The system of boarding schools will be greatly developed, as they are one of the most important forms for bringing up the younger generation. In 1965 the number of pupils in these schools will be no less than 2,500,000, as against 180,000 in 1958, that is, it will increase 14 times.

The number of children in kindergartens will increase from 2,280,000 in 1953 to 4,200,000.

It is planned to carry out the following measures in the period of 1959-1965:

a) To effect a transition from seven-year to eight-year universal, compulsory education. To ensure the organisation and necessary equipment of study shops at the eight-year schools, combining polytechnic labour instruction with the extensive drawing of school-children in interesting forms of socially useful work they are capable of performing at their particular age.

b) To reorganise the network of ten-year schools (their upper forms) into various types of urban and rural secondary labour schools, the pupils of which, by combining study with work at enterprises, on collective farms and in special workshops, will receive both a complete secondary general and polytechnical education and a special training for a mass trade, depending on the local needs in personnel.

c) Considerably to extend the network of city and village schools which provide their pupils with a secondary-school education while they continue to work.

In connection with the tasks for the development of the national economy and culture, it is planned further to extend and improve the training of specialists with a higher and secondary specialised education. During the years 1959-1965 the higher educational institutions will graduate 2,300,000 specialists, as against 1,700,000 in the period of 1952-1958, that is 40 per cent more. The number of engineers trained for industry, construction, transport and communications will increase by 90 per cent, and that of agricultural specialists by 50 per cent as compared with the preceding seven-year period. The greatest increase in the number of engineers graduated will take place in the specialties of chemical technology, automation, computing engineering, radio-electronics and other branches of new technique. At the same time it is planned to improve the existing system of higher education, to bring it closer to production, and to admit to the higher educational establishments more youth who already have had experience in life and who have a record of practical work. The role and significance of evening and correspondence schools in the system of training specialists with a higher education will increase immeasurably.

Secondary specialised education, which will be brought as close to production as possible, will be developed further. Four million people will be admitted to the secondary specialised schools in the period of 1959-1965, including those who study while working....

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DEVELOPMENT OF SCIENCE

The physical sciences occupy the leading place in natural science, for the advance of associated sciences and the national economy depends on their successful development. The further prospects for technical progress are determined at the present time first of all by the achievements in the basic trends of physics. The efforts of Soviet physicists will be concentrated on the solution of problems of cosmic rays, nuclear reactions, and semi-conductors.

Work in mathematics is of great theoretical and practical importance to the development of many branches of science and practice. Work in the field of computational mathematics is of great theoretical and practical importance for the development of many branches of science and practice. In particular, the successes of computational mathematics are directly connected with the development of automation.

In the field of the chemical sciences, a most important task is the all-possible extension of theoretical studies which contribute to the development of new, modern technological processes and the creation of synthetic materials possessing properties that satisfy the demands of modern technique.

The development of biology is a necessary theoretical prerequisite for the advance of medicine as well as for the agricultural sciences. The importance of the group of biological sciences will rise especially as the achievements of physics and chemistry are used in biology.

The workers in the field of the social sciences are faced with important tasks. They must put out basic works which generalise the laws of social development and the practice of Socialist construction, must solve problems connected with the gradual transition to Communism. Criticism of modern revisionism and bourgeois ideology constitutes a most important task of these workers in the social sciences.

The significance of the science of economy, which must be closely bound with the planning of the national economy and the entire practice of Communist construction, increases under the present conditions of the development of the national economy of the USSR, the successful reorganisation of the management of industry and construction, the development and strengthening of the collective farm system, and the rise in the labour activity of the people....

It is planned to bring the total number of cinema projectors up to 110,000-115,000 by the end of 1965. This will make it possible to provide every State farm and collective farm with a cinema projector.

It is planned considerably to increase the number of public libraries and clubs in 1959-1965. The further development of physical culture, sports and tourism will be ensured. One hundred new TV centres and TV stations will be built. TV facilities will be constructed in the capitals of all the Union Republics, in large industrial centres and the rural districts around them. The number of radios will increase by almost 30 million in 1965, which will include 12.5 million TV sets. In 1965 the number of books published will increase to 1,600

million copies, the number of magazines printed will be increased more than two-fold, and the annual circulation of newspapers will be more than 1.5 times as great.

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Superiority Of Socialism

As a result of the fulfilment of the Seven-Year Plan, the Soviet Union's per capita industrial output will be higher than the present output in the most developed capitalist countries of Europe—Britain and West Germany—and will advance to first place in Europe.

In 1965, for the gross output of some most important items, the Soviet Union will outstrip, and for other items approach the present level of industrial output in the United States. By this time, the gross and per capita output of the most important agricultural products will have exceeded the present level in the United States.

The superiority of the USSR in the rate of growth of production will create a real basis for overtaking and outstripping the United States within approximately five years following 1965, for the level of per capita output. Thus, by this time, or perhaps even earlier, the Soviet Union will have moved to first place in the world both in gross and per capita output, which will ensure the world's highest living standards of the population. It will be a history-making victory of Socialism in the peaceful competition with capitalism....

The fulfilment of the Seven-Year Plan will bring about a considerable increase in the share of the Soviet Union and the entire system of Socialism in world industrial output. Whereas in 1917 the share of the Soviet country in world industrial output was less than three per cent, and in 1937, about ten per cent, in 1953 the Soviet Union's share in world output will reach almost 20 per cent. As to the entire system of Socialism, it accounts for about a third of the

Peace And The Plan

In the present international situation, poisoned as it is by imperialist provocations, the arms drive and the threats of the most terrible annihilating war, the Seven-Year Plan for the Development of the National Economy of the Soviet Union is a powerful means of preserving and strengthening peace.

Peace is indispensable for the fulfilment and overfulfilment of the colossal tasks set at the new stage of Communist construction. The Seven-Year Plan is another testimony that in the Soviet Union and in the entire world Socialist system there are no, nor can there be any, social forces interested in outer expansion, in predatory aggressive wars....

The Seven-Year Plan is a concrete offer of the Soviet Union to the capitalist world to compete in peaceful-economic pursuits, for the Soviet Union is against competition in the arms race, in which the imperialist quarters of Western Powers engage.

THE FUTURE IS OURS

Marxism-Leninism teaches that practice is the criterion of the truth. The successes of Communist construction in the USSR are the best proof of the correctness of the Leninist ge-

entire industrial output of the world. Estimates show that in 1965 the countries of Socialism will turn out more than half of the entire industrial produce of the world. Thus, during this short period absolute superiority of the world system of Socialism over the capitalist system in the production of material values, the decisive sphere of human activity, will be ensured....

FOREIGN TRADE

The Soviet Union is constantly extending its international economic contacts. Whereas in 1946 the Soviet Union traded with 40 countries, at the present time trade is conducted with more than 70 countries. The target figures provide for a further extension of foreign trade.

In 1965, the Soviet Union's trade turnover with Socialist countries will register a more than 50 per cent increase over 1958. The Soviet Union's economic ties with economically under-developed countries are growing; in 1957 the Soviet Union's trade with them was more than five-fold the 1953 level. The Soviet Union expects that its economic contacts with these countries will steadily continue to grow.

Trade between the Soviet Union and the capitalist countries shows that the development of foreign trade contacts irrespective of the economic and political systems of States is not only possible but also indispensable for normal relations between countries: The economic programme of peaceful construction in the USSR for 1959-1965 opens up broad prospects for the development of the foreign trade of the Soviet Union.

neral line of the Communist Party. The Seven-Year Plan is graphic evidence of the great vital force of the Marxist-Leninist theory, which affirms that in the development of Socialist revolution and Socialist construction in different countries there exist basic common laws inherent to all countries embarking upon this road.

At the same time, the decline and decay in the countries of capitalism are in irrefutable proof of the reactionary nature and doom of the capitalist order, of the futility of the reformist and revisionist attempts to "improve" and embellish capitalism, to slur over its gaping ulcers and antagonistic contradictions. The attempts of the revisionists to emasculate and distort Marxism, to sow discord in the fraternal family of the Socialist countries are doomed to failure.

The Seven-Year Plan is a staggering blow to bourgeois ideology, to international reformism and revisionism.

The economic and political results of the competition of the two systems and the prospects of their further development convincingly testify that the onward march of Socialism is irresistible, and its victory in peaceful competition with capitalism is inevitable.

SALUTE AFRICA!

* FROM BACK PAGE

on November 18 at a special ceremony at Rabat. Tunisia has openly attacked U.S.-British imperialist pressures exerted on it through their control of armaments.

The UAR with the scars from the imperialist invasion of 1956 scarcely healed, is under constant threat of attack by the USA's puppets slandering it for one or other act of "indirect aggression" and preparing military adventures.

The Sudan military coup is not unconnected with international pressures and developments.

Ghana's need for economic assistance is sought to be used to blackmail it into subservience to U.S.-British policies.

Africa Needs No "Vacuum-Filler"

The U.S. "vacuum-filler" is ready to take the place of the old and dying imperialisms. But the Africans are not the gullible children of "Uncle Tom's Cabin". And they stand in no need of the "vacuum-filler." For, they are ready to take power themselves—in their millions—to play their full part in the annals of the world.

And, like Asia, Africa—Independent Africa and colonial Africa both—has friends, on whom it can always count at moments when it needs help most. The Soviet Union and the Socialist countries are ever ready to defend the independence of the free African countries (Who has forgotten the Soviet stand which played a decisive part in halting the aggression on Egypt), to act against racialism (The Socialist countries have ever been India's best allies in the U.N. in our fight against South African apartheid) and colonialism (The Soviet Union, People's China and all the Socialist countries have always stood for the freedom of all colonies), and to assist in the development of the independent economies of the African countries (the Aswan Dam).

In the unity of the Socialist countries and the Afro-Asian independent countries, together with the working people of the whole world, lies the guarantee for the destruction of imperialism.

India And Africa

Linking themselves with the great movement of Afro-Asian solidarity, the freedom organisations of Africa look towards the independent countries of Asia particularly for support. In the Indian people they see allies who have again and again acted before and after winning our independence, against colonialism and racialism in Africa. Together with the Socialist countries led by the Soviet Union, and the other countries of Afro-Asian group, India has taken several steps in the United Nations to help forward the march of Africa to independence.

But much more remains to be done and Africa's eyes are on us, telling us again

and yet again—"Do not forget in the security of your own freedom that as long as imperialism exists, so long remains the danger to your own independence, so long remains the peril of war."

Quit Africa Day

On the occasion of the opening of the African People's Conference at Accra (this time, not the independent Governments, but the peoples—the peoples, independent and dependent), the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Council has called for the observance of "Quit Africa" Day.

Let India's message of solidarity ring out from all corners of our great land during this month of December—the "Quit Africa Month".

Imperialism must quit its "last continent"—and soon.

To the fighting sons and daughters of Africa, to the imprisoned and the exiled patriots of Africa, we send our salute: India will not rest till your peoples are free, your independence is the guarantee of our independence and our security.

The world is moving forward, leaping forward. The entire imperialist system is collapsing. Nothing can prevent the dawn of African freedom....

The longer the night, the blacker the night, the more beautiful is the dawn.

MORARJI REPORT

* FROM FRONT PAGE

fortunately, not when it comes to India.

The Finance Minister's statement contained another significant admission which seems to have escaped the necessary public attention. With all his negotiations and deals, the Finance Minister is not sure how much, even on his own optimistic reckoning, the Plan is going to be helped by the West.

He said: "In many other respects, the procedures generally followed by Governments and institutions abroad are often such as to make it difficult for us to utilise the assistance given by these institutions promptly and in a manner which might make the most direct and fruitful contribution to our Plan." The propaganda that without going with a beggar's bowl to the West, the Plan cannot be implemented is belied by this admission.

Huge Foreign Loans

All the same, the country has been brought to such a state by the Government that India's foreign loans (excluding those repayable in rupees and the IMF credits) already total 1,300 million dollars or

Bombay : Consultations For United Textile Workers' Union

CONSULTATIONS regarding the formation of a new united union of textile workers were held in Bombay on November 22 last and S. A. Dange, E. M. Joshi, R. D. Bhandare, Uddhavrao Patil and Datta Deshmukh have issued the following statement:

"For a long time discussions have been going on among Bombay textile workers, their unions and leaders about the necessity to establish a united union that would give shape to their urges, aspirations and sentiments.

"Lakhs of textile workers in the last two or three years have gone into uni-

ted action in defence of their trade union rights and right to work and living. The union of INTUC which has been made representative under the law has failed to represent the workers in all these actions.

"In the present crisis of closures, unemployment, rationalisation and the attacks of the employers, it is necessary to have a united union of the workers to defend their interests.

"We have therefore decided to give a call to start a union that will give form to the large measure of unity of thought, feeling and action that prevails among the Bombay textile

workers. "The union will be an independent organisation and will carry forward the great fighting tradition of Bombay's working class in the interest of the class and the country.

"The programme for the foundation rally, membership, etc., will be soon announced."

The formation of a united union for which the consultations have been held will bring together textile workers and their unions under the influence of the Communist Party, PSP, the Republican Party (formerly Scheduled Caste Federation) and the Peasants and Workers' Party.

NO FURTHER EVICTIONS

Alwar Satyagrah Suspended After Assurance From District Authorities

* From Our Staff Correspondent

THE satyagrah in Kishangarh sub-division of Alwar District in Rajasthan (earlier report in NEW AGE) which has been going on since October 10 against the irregular and forcible eviction of a Kisan family from the land it had been cultivating for the last seven years was suspended on November 23.

The decision was taken on the advice of Comrade A. K. Gopalan, President, All-India Kisan Sabha, who visited Kishangarh and Alwar last Sunday. Gopalan who saw the District Magistrate was assured by him that there will be no further evictions from Government lands and those in jail in connection with the satyagrah will receive proper facilities and treatment. About 170 kisans and Kisan Sabha workers and leaders including Comrade Ramanand are in jail.

Repression Inside Jail

When the issue was taken up by the Kisan Sabha authorities turned a deaf ear to its appeals: after it had been forced to launch the satyagrah they resorted to brutal repression outside as well as inside jail. Satyagrahis and others who were rounded up were treated as worse than ordinary criminals—beaten up, segregated and put in chains. Among those rounded up were women with babes in arms.

Comrade Gopalan addressing meetings in Kishangarh and Alwar exposed the illegal and high-handed ways of the local authorities and characterised them as anti-national and opposed to Government's declared policies which have been repeatedly proclaimed in favour of increasing food production and opposed to evictions. He assured the people that the Kisan Sabha would pursue the matter through all possible channels and would see to it that those responsible for illegal and high-handed actions were brought to book.

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November 25, 1958

NEW AGE

PAGE SEVENTEEN

THE NUCLEAR MENACE...

The worldwide demand for safeguarding peace and averting the nuclear menace has reached such proportions that these days three international conferences are simultaneously engaged in its discussions.

At Geneva the three nuclear Powers are discussing problems of the discontinuance of nuclear weapon tests. Also at Geneva a ten-Power East-West Conference is engaged in finding measures to prevent surprise attacks. While at the U.N., the 81-member Political Committee, is debating the new danger of outer space being used by man to destroy man.

The discussions at these three international conferences reveal once again that the Western Powers, above all the U.S., although forced to sit at the Conference tables under the pressure of world public opinion, continue to put forward the same old arguments and proposals that serve only to create deadlock and prevent any agreement being reached. Whereas, the Soviet Union is coming out with newer proposals, revising its agenda, in an effort to break the deadlock, in its genuine desire to have an agreement that would save mankind from an atomic catastrophe.

Tests Ban Talks

The three nuclear Powers' Conference on nuclear weapon tests, which started on October 31 at Geneva, ran into a deadlock, as soon as it began its work. No agreement could be reached on its agenda, despite the fact that the conference calls itself "Conference on the discontinuance of nuclear weapon tests."

The fact is that the West has not been interested, right from the start to discuss the discontinuance of the tests. The West has accepted even the title for the conference with great reluctance. The New York Times, for instance, was quick enough to clarify the point. Editorially declaring that this conference is "under a misleading label", it opined: "...it is not a conference on the 'discontinuance' of such tests...but a conference on installing the detection and control system."

The paper, however, did not enlighten its readers as to what this "detection and control system" is supposed to detect and control, if there is to be no discontinuance of the tests.

The U.S. draft agreement, presented at the conference, had nothing to do with a real tests ban. Emphasising mainly the establishment of an international control system, it made the suspension of the tests conditional to such factors as the non-violation of the clauses of the agreement, the effective functioning of the control system or satisfactory progress in other fields of disarmament. In other words, it only provided ample pretexts for the resumption of the tests. The British delegate just told the U.S. line.

The Soviet delegation, on the other hand, has shown its genuineness of purpose by

making yet another effort to break the deadlock. It has revised its agenda and has proposed discussion of agreement on discontinuance of tests first, then an agreement on a control system, and after that both agreements would be signed together and become effective simultaneously.

The Soviet proposal blows sky-high the Western propaganda that in case an agreement on nuclear tests was achieved, the Soviet Union would set aside the question of a control system.

The five articles of the Soviet draft agreement on cessation of atomic and hydrogen

weapon tests would demand of the three nuclear Powers:

- To undertake not to carry out any tests of any kind of atomic and hydrogen weapons from the moment of signing the present agreement.
- To undertake to facilitate that all the other States of the world should likewise assume similar obligations.
- To institute a control apparatus which will have a network of control posts set up with due consideration of the recommendations of experts.
- To agree to the stationing on their territories an agreed number of control posts.
- The present agreement is to be of unlimited duration and is to enter into force immediately after it has been signed.

Sidetracking The Issue

The West's refusal to accept so concrete a proposal which so clearly accepts the institution and the working of the control apparatus, only means that it is only interested in sidetracking the issue of discontinuance of nuclear tests.

Nevertheless, the Soviet proposal is gaining worldwide support. In Britain itself, the Daily Herald of the British Labour Party has editorially called it "a hopeful compromise", while the Labour M.P., Richard Crossman, writing in Daily Mirror, characterises it as "sensible and workable"; and expresses his "shock" that the U.S. has "turned it down flat." As for the British Government's attitude he has to say: "I am even more shocked to see the British Government meekly accepting the American view."

The ten-nation East-West conference on prevention of surprise attacks—participating: the USA, Britain, France, Canada, Italy, the USSR, Czechoslovakia, Poland, Rumania and Albania—which

PEACE AND FREEDOM

by RAZA ALI

started on November 10 at Geneva, began its work by discussing as to what it should call itself. On the second day of its proceedings, the announcement of its title as "Conference of experts for the study of possible measures which might be helpful in preventing surprise attack and for the preparation of a report thereon to Governments", was an event in itself.

At this conference, the Western countries have submitted a lengthy document, making much ado about the "relevant technical aspects of possible instruments of surprise attack as a pre-requisite for examining means of detection systems of inspection and control." Among the "instruments" mentioned are missiles submarines, aircraft and other conventional and nuclear armaments. But, in vain,

U.S. has 1,400 military bases on the territories of other countries and has virtually encircled the Soviet Union with such bases having so-called "atomic support task groups" armed with latest types of rockets with atomic and hydrogen warheads.

But, the U.S. which has been so keen to link up discontinuance of nuclear weapon tests with other aspects of general disarmament problems, suddenly decided to take a right-about-turn and to keep this outer space problem quite separate from any discussion of military bases on foreign territories.

The reasons are anybody's guess. Now that the myth about the "superiority" of the U.S. in the sphere of rocketry, about the "invincibility" and "inaccessibility" of the U.S. has exploded

ever limited it may be, has made yet another proposal.

The Soviet delegate at the Political Committee meetings, V. Zorin, while maintaining that the Soviet proposal for the solution of the main problem of banning the use of outer space for warlike purposes and liquidation of foreign military bases on the territories of other countries, still remain valid, has suggested for discussion a narrower question of international co-operation in the use of outer space for peaceful purposes.

Here again, the U.S. does not want to go beyond a purely procedural proposal to set up a special committee which is to report to the General Assembly in a year's time. This means no more than a mere eye-wash, as under the International Geophysical Year Programme, in-

...AND THE TWO STANDS

one would look in this bulky document for any mention, either of disarmament or of practical measures to prevent sudden attacks.

Soviet Proposal

On the other hand, on November 17, the Soviet delegation submitted draft recommendations on commitments to be assumed by the States not to permit flights of their aircraft carrying atomic and hydrogen weapons over territories of other States and over the high seas, since this constitutes a threat to peace, and a threat of a surprise attack.

The "job" of the Western countries, at this conference, according to Mr. Foster, is "to supply Governments with an analysis of the relevant technical factors in order that they may have a solid base for future political consideration of this subject." (Emphasis added.)

As to what this "political consideration" would be, we are not told, but the insistence on discussing only the technical aspects such as the nature of the weapons and ways of identifying them, shows that the Generals and Admirals of Western armies attending the conference are interested, not in measures to prevent surprise attacks, but in information about means and weapons of surprise attack held by the other side.

In the discussion of the problem of outer space, all nations that are in the U.N. are engaged. The problem is being debated by the U.N. Political Committee.

One might have hoped, therefore, that its decisions would have a bearing on banning the use of cosmic space for attacks by nuclear weapons.

The Soviet Union was willing to discuss this issue provided it is linked with the question of liquidating foreign military bases. The Soviet apprehension was legitimate, considering the fact that the

international cooperation in this sphere was already a reality and was being effectively carried out.

What the Soviet proposal aims at is to ensure the establishment of a firm foundation for a permanent international agency to investigate peaceful uses of outer space. This Soviet revised draft resolution calls for the creation of an eleven-nation preparatory group to draft a programme and rules of procedure for such an agency within the framework of the U.N.

The Western obstruction, even to this proposal would only expose their aggressive circles still further before the peace-loving peoples of the world.

On the other hand, the Soviet Union, in its endeavour to take a positive step, how-

AROUND ASIA
ON THE ASIA

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INSIDE OUR NEWS & ECONOMY NOTES

A lot of hullabaloo has been raised in the country recently about the growing competition which Indian exports, particularly textiles, have been facing from China. Even the Minister for Commerce and Industry, Sri Lal Bahadur Shastri, usually soft-spoken and sober in his utterances, has allowed himself to be influenced by interested propaganda and presented a queer explanation of the Chinese capacity to supply goods on better terms.

Basically both the businessmen's criticism and the Minister's explanation suggest resort to unfair practices by the Chinese Government to butress the prospects of Chinese goods in external markets. In the main these have consisted, they say, in selling goods below the cost of production—a phenomenon made possible by the "totalitarian" system of economy, obtaining in the country.

Not The Right Diagnosis

Undoubtedly, such a naive—and manifestly a politically-biased explanation of an otherwise vexed economic problem—can save our business magnates and executives in Udyog Bhawan a lot of bother which objective assessment of the factor behind the Chinese success would have involved, but it can by no means provide what the National Herald has called a "right diagnosis" of the causes, on which the "curative or preventive measures which the Government may adopt" may be based.

Contrary to this unbusiness-like attitude of Indian business and Government circles, the Japanese industrialists, who have been feeling the impact of the Chinese competition equally, if not more, have subjected themselves to the rigours of study and objective analysis to lay their finger on the factors behind it.

The results of this study, set out in a recent issue of the Oriental Economist, and quoted by the National Herald in an editorial on the subject, show that the notion that Chinese export trade—since it is State-managed—is in a position to promote sales, regardless of profit, is entirely mistaken. The goods are cheaper because "the cotton used is home-grown" and because the "labour is cheap by Japanese or other standards". Both these the Japanese investigators do not consider violative of normal trade dealings—nor for that matter can the Indian industrialists, whose labour is certainly not better off than its Chinese counterpart.

Moreover, the fact that "because trade is State-operated, it is possible for the authorities there (in China) to come to a reasoned and deliberate decision whether it is better to earn a profit even at a sacrifice of direct profit in the larger interest of paying for the import of essential supplies or equipment" only goes to prove its "strong points" compared with the weaknesses of private trading where immediate returns and not the overall interests of the

economy are the deciding factor.

The second reason for the progressive improvement in China's export trade, according to the Japanese study, is the generous scale on which bank facilities are offered by China "to finance settlement of accounts".

Thirdly, "terms advantageous to the foreign purchaser are written into the contract. In cotton cloth, for instance, the purchaser is assured that he would get the benefit of any price reduction which may occur because of normal market fluctuations at the time of delivery, while he would be under no obligation to pay more in case of a rise in prices". Other benefits offered are prompt settlement of claims and most important, change of designs in accordance with customers' specifications.

Fourthly, "Japanese trade representatives acknowledge that the quality of goods from China is steadily improving."

Fifthly, "the Chinese authorities make a thorough market research and initiate a well-directed and versatile sales promotion campaign." (National Herald)

In face of these findings of the Japanese investigators, which the National Herald has brought to us, is it too much to expect of the Government and the textile magnates in the country that they would concentrate more hereafter on streamlining their own trade practices—by making them subservient to the overall interests of the nation rather than those of certain sections, than on bandying insinuations about the trade norms of a great neighbouring nation—which has shown only a better political and business acumen?

The Government would do well additionally to ponder as to how far it has been justified in putting its faith in private trading in an industry which, despite the many concessions and incentives given to it, has miserably failed to stand its own against trading under State auspices in another country?

Indications Of Rough Weather

The keenness of the Government and the industry in respect of meeting the "challenge" from China is more than counter-balanced by their complacency apropos the state of uncertainty which their trade indices are facing elsewhere. Counting their eggs rather too soon they seem to be reading too much in the slight surplus which the trade returns have shown in September this year. While not grudging them their moments of pleasure—which are rather few and far between—and which inasmuch as they show some reversal of a hitherto very dismal trend, are a matter for national rejoicing also—we feel it would be unrealistic of them to ignore the indications of rough weather which their trade in traditional markets seems to have in store for it.

In Britain, for example, with industrial output showing a steady decline since the

BEHIND THE CRY ABOUT CHINA'S UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES

second quarter of the year at least (with gross output falling by 2.5 to three per cent between May and July, four per cent in August and 4.5 per cent in September) there is little likelihood of any sizeable absorption of any export commodities. With markets in other capitalist countries—the USA, West Germany and Italy—presenting a similar picture, more or less, it has become more than ever necessary for the Government to effectively refashion its trade policies on the basis of the findings of the Satish Chandra Mission which visited the Socialist countries recently.

Choosing Our Allies

More than the immediate factor of trade balances, it is in respect of choosing dependable economic allies to help develop the country's economy, however, that the Government needs act with more discrimination and circumspection. For, in spite of the publicised unanimity of views between the various purveyors of credits to it, the clash of their interests in other spheres has already imparted an element of unreality to their grandiose schemes. This does not by any means imply that these schemes—even if fully implemented—could be in any way likened to a disinterested effort at our economic reconstruction—but even these for whatever they were worth—have now been put in doldrums as a result of the new storms brewing in the European capitalist world.

Starting with some differences in respect of the proposal of six West European countries to set up what has come to be known as the European Common Market (incorporat-

ing their colonial overseas dependencies as well) the tussle between them and the others, with the United Kingdom in the lead, now threatens to wreck the entire fabric of the much boosted West European unity. It has even put the political framework of the NATO alliance into jeopardy. And all because the selfish interests of the Common Market countries in respect of guarding their own and their dependencies' economies against the intrusion of Great Britain, unless a price is offered for it, do not square with the equally selfish interests of the latter to enter the former's domains, while doggedly holding to its own.

As a counterblast to the Common Market the U.K., therefore, proposed a broader free trade area in Europe to tie the market with other members of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) under conditions more favourable to itself. To become part of the area, however, the Common Market countries demanded relaxation in the imperial preferences which enabled Britain to cheapen the cost of its goods because of the low tariffs on the import of raw materials from the Commonwealth countries. To this it did not agree—with the result that the scheme of the Common Market—comprising France and West Germany, among others—is fast approaching materialisation while the U.K. and other OEEC countries are threatening to set up a Nordic Union to combat it.

Behind the Common Market scheme looms large the shadow of the American colossus, which because of its own interests of weakening the power of British imperialism as a means to buttress its own,

wants to make the scheme a success "as a rival to Britain". Among the nations of the Market also, it wants to build up West Germany particularly as its principal prop on the European continent. As the Sunday Times has reported the policy of the United States has all along been "to give the strongest support to the Common Market and lip service to free trade area."

Issues Involved

In the main, therefore, the issues involved in the unseemly tussle between the U.K. and the countries of the Common Market, whose most outspoken exponent has been the new Gaullist regime in France are essentially "the ones of rival imperialistic Powers seeking monopolistic sway over the destinies of the underdeveloped countries. Through their exploitation they hope to solve the problems of their own near-crisis economies. While doing so, they have created a situation in which there lurks both a danger as well as an opportunity for countries like ours.

If we are able to discern the factors behind the imperialist countries' difficulties correctly, we would be able to strike better terms in our trade with them. If on the contrary, we stick to the worn-out belief that the jerks which they have been facing currently are merely a set of temporary aberrations—and hence incapable of adversely affecting us in the long run—we would be leading the country into a blind alley, where only stagnation and no development would be possible.

—ESSEN

November 25, 1958

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SALUTE RESURGENT AFRICA!

★ by ROMESH CHANDRA

The earth's heart, Africa, beats with mine,
The river dances, the woods keep time;
I am Africa, I put on your mask,
I am you, my step is your lion-tread,
Africa—come,
Come with your lion-tread,
Africa, come!

— FAIZ AHMAD FAIZ

THEY have called it "The Dark Continent..." But if there is darkness today, it is the darkness before dawn. The drum beats are already proclaiming the coming of the sun of liberty.

Look back at the night... no night has been blacker.

From the sixteenth to the early nineteenth century, the bestiality of the slave-trade, when men and women and children were sold like pigs and poultry (and slavery has not ended yet), and millions of the best sons and daughters of Africa were transported to enrich other continents by their slave labour.

And then, in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, the rape of Africa—the scramble for African wealth by the then great European Powers—

France and Britain and Germany and Italy and Portugal. The slave trade lifted the African people out of their homes to imprison them in other continents. Colonialism imprisoned them in their own homeland.

And with colonialism came racialism—the imperialist theory and the more infamous practice of the superiority of the white man over the black. Colonialism whipped the body, racialism lacerated the mind and the heart as well.

They Fought Back

Long was the night... no night has been longer. But the body and the mind and the heart of Africa remained alive: nothing could des-

troy it. With blood pouring from every pore, Africa lived and fought back the plunderers and adventurers, the murderers and torturers who paraded as heroes and "builders" of the European empires.

For Africa, rival imperialisms fought. And Africans changed masters. The world was carved: for the diamonds and the gold, for all the glittering riches of the Black lands did the imperialists kill and destroy millions of the common people of all continents.

With the birth of the Soviet Union, a new Government came into being which openly proclaimed its support of the struggle for liberation of the African peoples, its opposition to colonialism and racialism. And black men could go to a land where the colour of their skin was not looked down on as a sign of their "inferiority", their "uncivilisedness"—where all men were equal and the children were taught to love as their brothers men of all colours.

And after the Second World War, the Socialist World grew.

The People's Republic of China and the People's Democracies of Europe were born. The world Communist movement grew in strength. The struggle for national liberation rose to new heights in neighbouring Asia. In Europe itself, working people voiced more and more their opposition to colonialism and racialism.

The African peoples had more and more allies—strong and powerful allies—in their valiant battle for liberty.

Leap To Freedom

The darkness began to be pierced. Torches lit up the faces of millions smashing their chains, leaping out to freedom. For the first time there were African States and there could be in April 1958 at Accra a Conference of the Governments of these States: the United Arab Republic, Tunisia, Morocco, Ethiopia, Lebanon, Ghana, Libya, Sudan.

A glimpse of the joy and the pride, the determination and the confidence of the newly liberated African peoples can be had in the words of Prime Minister Kwame Nkrumah at the Accra Conference:

"Today we are one. If in the past, the Sahara divided us, now it unites us. And an injury to one is an injury to all of us. From this Conference must go out a new message: 'Hands off Africa! Africa must be free!'"

Since the Accra Conference in April, a new State has declared its freedom—that of Guinea—and its proposed merger with Ghana has been announced.

But the great majority of the 200 million Africans are still enslaved. As the Prime Minister of Ghana pointed out at the Accra Conference, it is not only through the old forms that imperialism seeks to retain its stranglehold over Africa.

It is darkest, they say, just before dawn. The battle for freedom is bloodiest on the eve of victory.

Unsurpassed Bravery

A million stories of bravery unsurpassed in human history could be told—a million tales of the butchery of the rulers unprecedented even in all the records of the barbarism of imperialism. Courage is at its height when liberation is within one's grasp. And the savagery of the desperation born of oncoming defeat knows no bounds.

One-fifth of the total human population of Algeria has been killed by the French army during the war of liberation: six lakh men, women and children have given their lives during the last four years for Algerian freedom. And the toll goes on being paid... The latest news:

"On September 24, the French army told the inhabitants of Morris, Blandon and La-Kau villages that any Algerians who refused to vote in the referendum would be shot.

All the villagers had to go to the polling station in Cape Bon on the day of the referendum, but 120 refused. They were separated from the other villagers and sent to Morris village under a guard of French soldiers who lined them up in two rows in the village square. The villagers were driven out of their houses to the square to 'see and learn'. The 120 Algerians were shot dead."

Come, Africa, come! Come is the system which fired the murderous bullets at the hundred and twenty. Glory to the cause of freedom which gave birth to the heroism of the hundred and twenty. Its victory is assured, for, its roots are watered with the blood of innocents.

● Shall we tell the story here of the thousands of African women, lathi-charged and jailed by the fascist police of South Africa for daring to refuse to carry the humiliating "passes" which seek to brand every black as a criminal is branded?

● Shall we tell the story of the lakhs in concentration camps in Kenya, in the Cameroons, of the tortures, massacres and imprisonments in Madagascar, in every part of French Equatorial and West Africa, in Nigeria, in Uganda, in the Belgian Congo, in Portuguese Guinea, Angola and Mozambique, in colonies and so-called "trust" territories alike?

Inhuman Torture

Listen to this extract from a memorandum to the United Nations Visiting Mission by the Union of the Peoples of the Cameroons:

"When a person is arrested, an electric current is attached to his genitals and his ears, to force him to inform against the resistance members. Other detainees are placed on screens above lighted fireplaces. Yet others have their limbs attached to a rope, the other end of which is attached to a ram. At very brief intervals, the soldiers hit the ram to make it run, thus questioning their victims..."

And there is more and much worse.

But why this torture? Why these mass imprisonments and killings—all over Africa?

For thus alone can the imperialists continue to stay in Africa. The drums are beating all over for liberty and the national liberation movement has reached a level, which can no longer be suppressed by ordinary means.

Across Africa looms now the shadow also of the new colonialism of the USA and the terrors of the war drive.

France is to test her hydrogen bombs in the Sahara, despite the protests of all Africa, bringing the danger of radioactive poisoning to the entire continent.

U.S. bases in Morocco have become such a menace to the sovereignty of that country that King Mohammed V openly called for their evacuation

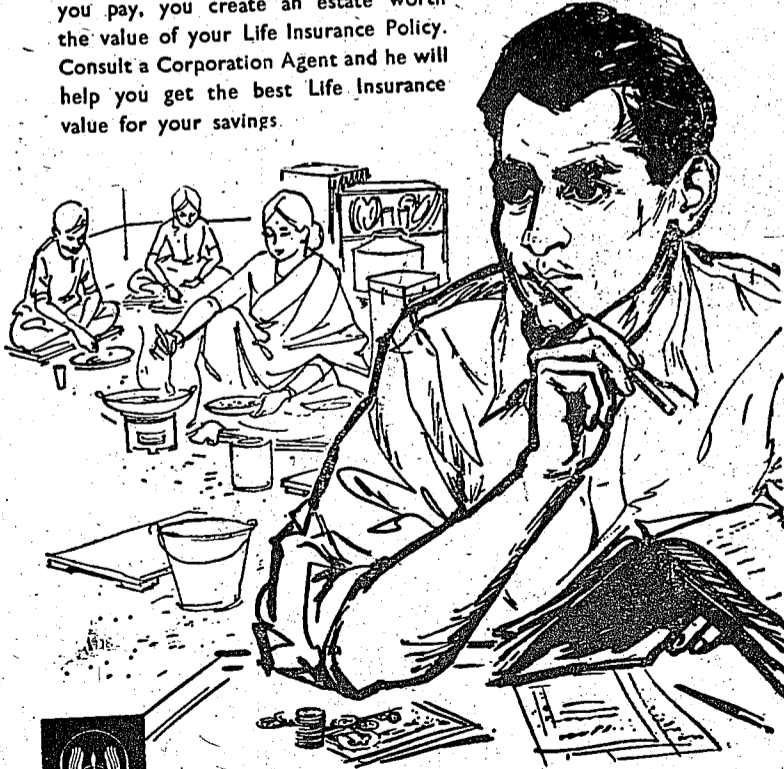
★ SEE PAGE 17

if you can't manage, how will they?

If, with a regular income, you still find things difficult, how much more so will it be for your family if that income stops.

You must save for them, so that if their income-earner dies, another income will begin. The wisest, safest, surest way to do this is to invest in Life Insurance.

Remember: with the first premium you pay, you create an estate worth the value of your Life Insurance Policy. Consult a Corporation Agent and he will help you get the best Life Insurance value for your savings.



Life Insurance Corporation of India