

TRIBUNE

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THE POLITICS OF ASSASSINATION— US REAPS WHAT IT SOWED

The United States of America was built on blood and murder. It had earned and sustained its wealth on war and violence. Countless number of Red Indians were killed in cold blood by the superior fire-power of the white colonisers of America for the United States to emerge as a nation. The bison of North America were virtually liquidated as a species in the same heartless manner. The millionaires and billionaires have blood on their hands for the manner in which most of them acquired their wealth and this is enough to shock even the most hardened criminal. The same process was repeated during the two world wars. It is being repeated today with much greater vehemence in Vietnam all in the name of democracy in order not only to entrench herself in power in that wretched country but also throughout the whole of Asia.

What indeed makes the assassination of Senator Robert

Kennedy all the more horrible is that it has followed close on the heels of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, leader of the Negroes, who are fighting for a place in their country which prides in calling herself the greatest living democracy on earth.

Assassination of Senator Robert Kennedy today attracts public attention to the political jungle of the present day America where assassination of political leaders is fast becoming an increasingly frequent thing. What is most particularly striking is the fact that the Federal Bureau of Investigation is not directed so much at combating crime and political gangsterism as at persecuting all those who are opposed to the present establishment in the United States.

By her intervention in Vietnam, by her failure to solve the pressing problems facing

the Negroes, the United States only helped to cultivate a psychology of brigandage. Judging from reports, it appears that the American Police authorities are trying to link up the motive for the assassination with the Arab-Israeli war of June 6, last year, and with anti-American pro-Communist leanings. That this should be so is not altogether unexpected. One cannot fool the world for too long. There are already many obscurities in the circumstances of the assassination of the former US President John F. Kennedy, which is shown by voluminous material on this subject.

That the United States is a sick society today there is not the slightest doubt. She will continue to be in this state so long as she does not jettison her dirty war in Vietnam, stop meddling in the internal affairs of other sovereign and independent states and restore a rightful place to the Negroes in their own homeland.

In the Richest Country

THE POOR MARCH TO THE CAPITAL

Washington

In 1928, the then U.S. President Hoover announced that though the United States had not attained its aim at the time, with God's assistance it was going soon to see the day when poverty would be banished from the land. Forty years have gone by since then. And the result is a large-scale march of the poor to the US capital. Characterising the situation in Washington the *New York Times* points out that the city may turn into an arena of a class as stormy as the one that took place during the "hungry march" in the time of the Hoover administration almost 40 years ago.

"The city of hope" is the name given by the participants in the many thousand strong march of the poor to Washington to a tent city they are building up on the Potomac Bank. Their long cherished dreams of the elimination of poverty have all crushed invariably against the wall of cool indifference to and disdain of the needs of the disinherited. The new hopes have to be backed anew by wrathful demands, by an organized march of the poor to the US capital by mass actions in many other cities of the country. The fact of the march itself symbolises a turn taken by the poor Americans from a passive waiting for a better life to an active struggle without which hopes remain unfulfilled.

BUT the significance of the march is even broader than that. It is not accidental that the Washington officialdom feels nervous and works out urgent measures aimed at stopping the growth of the march of the poor to the capital, and frightening its participants with cruel reprisals.

This anxiety has its causes. The mass march of the poor to the capital of the richest capitalist

country cannot be passed out for a trifling accident. It is clearly a major-socio-political event which sheds light on the order of things in the United States, on the real, not publicised, aspects of the American way of life. The march is an accusation and condemnation of the capitalist system with its inborn sins of the ruthless exploitation of one man by another, the orgy of racism, the poverty of the millions and militarism.

The world has got another confirmation of the profound social inequality existing in the United States. Looming clearly than ever before behind the sky-scrapers are the pitiable huts and the hungry children. The most modest estimates show that about 30,000,000 Americans live on the income which is below the poverty line announced by the government. The march to Washington has confirmed that the social rock bottom of Washington remains unchanged. The wealth and luxury of the exploiter classes stand opposed to the poverty and privations of tens of millions of people placed on the lower rung of the American social ladder. Such is the grim truth of the facts refuting the allegations of bourgeois propaganda about the conversion of the United States into a "society. The march of the poor on Washington shows most convincingly the utter insolvency of the concept "people's capitalism" aimed at fooling the working people.

There are many Negroes among the marchers. This is natural. Poverty is particularly widespread among the Negro population in America. The unbridled racial discrimination and segregation increase many fold for a Negro, compared with a white man. The recently published report of the US Secretary of Labour admits that the unemployment percentage had been growing steadily among

the Negro young people in the last seven years with the result that every fourth young Negro was unemployed in 1967.

The report also points out that the low-paid percentage among the Negroes is almost three times as high as among the white people. No wonder, therefore, that about half of the US poor are Negroes although they account only for eleven percent of the country's population. Assuming presidency Johnson declared a national war on poverty which infact has become a farce. Federal assistance for the poor has not gone beyond symbolical gestures in a situation when the overwhelming part of the means is spent on the armaments race and financing the Vietnam war.

E. V.



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Headlines Of The Week

FRIDAY, May 31 — Prince Lowenstein, Special Adviser to the German Federal Government, now engaged in preparing a report for the FAO on the world food programme, pin-pointed the protein gap in Ceylon's development programme. Over two lakhs of students have failed to pass in English at the G. C. E. (Ordinary Level) Examination held last December. Paddy production results received from the major colonisation schemes have indicated a great leap forward in the average yield per acre. President de Gaulle told the nation that he would not quit and announced that he was dissolving the National Assembly and ordering fresh elections. The Indian Prime Minister has called on independent Asian states against subversive forces.

SATURDAY, June 1 — The Minister of Home Affairs, Dr. W. Dahanayake, will appoint a high powered Committee to inquire into the social disabilities affecting people of certain communities in the north and east. The *Sun* reported that the country's top-rung administrators, including Government Agents, are perturbed over the fact that they have not been consulted in the preparation of either the District Councils Bill or the White Paper. Over 150 patients with complicated illness have been completely cured on board the hospital ship Hope. The Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Industries are now engaged in a joint operation aimed at attracting European capital for investment in Ceylon. Senator Robert Kennedy brought his presidential drive to northern California with his attack on President Johnson's policies in Vietnam. North Vietnam firmly rejected President Johnson's call for a gesture of restraint from Hanoi to defuse the Vietnam War.

SUNDAY, June 2 — The interim report of the Committee of Inquiry into CTB accidents on the Dowa bus crash on February 9 has stated that the accident was due to the fact that the driver was under the influence of liquor and had been driving the bus dangerously and recklessly at an uncontrollable speed. The newly appointed Chairman of the Ceylon Transport Board, Mr. A. R. P. Wijesekera, said that his immediate task would be to get himself briefed thoroughly by responsible CTB officials before he could make any decisions. Violent battles between Police and left-wing demonstrators in Rome raised fears of further French-style disturbances. More than 100 people have been killed in floods caused by torrential rains in Teheran.

MONDAY, June 3 — The Government yesterday released the White Paper embodying proposals for the establishment of District Councils. The Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake assured a deputation of film producers and directors that he would intervene if necessary to save the local film industry. Helen Keller died today.

TUESDAY, June 4 — The new terminal building of the Katunayake International Airport was handed over to the Government at a simple ceremony at Katunayake yesterday. The LSSP leadership in the GCSU retained power comfortably at the 48th annual conference held at the New Town Hall. WHO has decided to aid Ceylon in the fight against malaria by providing drugs, equipment and transport. Police yesterday evicted left-wing students occupying Rome University after violent fighting between the students and rightwing youths who tried to drive them out. The French Prime Minister has warned Frenchmen that they choose between Gaullism and Communism in the June 23rd election.

WEDNESDAY, June 5 — The Ceylon Oils and Fats Corporation has earned Rs. 7 million in foreign exchange through the sale of fatty acids to European markets. Rs. 15 million out of Rs. 55 million given out as loans for Maha this year have been recovered up to date by the Ministry of Food and Agriculture from farmers and co-operative societies. The United States donated Rs. 5 million for the installation of equipment necessary for the training of the disabled. Strong detachments of armed Police took up position outside the House of Representatives to prevent any untoward incidents when the White Paper in the District Councils was tabled by the Prime Minister. Reform-seeking students held the Philosophy Faculty building of Belgrade University, following two days of battle with the Yugoslav Police in which more than one hundred people were injured. President Johnson rejected a Hanoi demand that all American bombing be stopped in North Vietnam. Student troubles hit Oxford University as 300 angry undergraduates besieged University administration offices demanding political freedom.

THURSDAY, June 6 — The *Daily Mirror* reported that several members of the Government Parliamentary Group appealed to the Prime Minister not to rush through the discussions on the District Councils Bill. The same paper also reported that the Federal Party was not expected to participate in the discussions on the Bill which will take place on June 8 in the House of Representatives. The Ceylon Government Railway has launched a Rs. 30 million scheme to provide faster trains as part of a modernised service to passengers. The Minister of Finance, Mr. U. B. Wanninayake, is now examining the revenue and other implications of the Taxation Commission report with a view to incorporating the recommendations in Government policy decisions. Senator Robert Kennedy was shot at Los Angeles yesterday and his condition is said to be causing anxiety. The shooting sent a wave of shock throughout the world. Los Angeles authorities named the suspect accused as Sirhan Bishara Sirhan, a Jordanian born in Jerusalem. France drew 745 million dollars from the International Monetary Fund, firmly underlying the Government's intention to protect the Franc after the strike chaos of recent years. Senator Storm Thurnmond (Republican South Carolina) charged that General William Westmoreland was not allowed to win the war.

In Retrospect

★ White Paper

★ Sun

★ Thanabalasingam

THE LONG-AWAITED White Paper on the District Councils Bill was tabled in the House of Representatives by the Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake on the 5th instant amidst tight security measures.

At the time of writing of these notes it has been reported that Mr. R. G. Senanayake, (SLFP Member for Dambadeniya), will be present in the House of Representatives to voice his dissent. The rest of the Opposition will boycott the proceedings when the White Paper is taken up for discussion. It will proceed to Hyde Park to hold a protest rally.

The *Daily Mirror* reported that several members of the Government Parliamentary Group had appealed to the Prime Minister not to rush through the discussions on the District Councils White Paper, on the ground that the people had not yet had an opportunity to understand the implications of the proposal and that they had pointed out that the Government propaganda on the subject had been woefully inadequate.

The same paper also reported that the Federal Party was not expected to participate in the discussions and that its members were expected to be silent observers. Since the entirety of the Opposition, together with the Federal Party, is not taking part in the discussions the debate will no doubt be colourless and a one sided show.

THE DEBATE on the White Paper takes place on the 8th instant amidst tight security measures in order to prevent any communal violence. The *Daily News* reported that this had become necessary in view of the intelligence reports that subversive elements were planning to create chaos in the country and to

use it as a launching pad to topple the Government.

While the English language newspapers of *Lake House* and the *Times of Ceylon* groups have taken great pains to tell their readers that there is nothing dangerous in the Bill and the District Councils as envisaged in the Bill would be agencies of the Central Government and subject to its supervision and control, the *Sun* the most vehement opponent, last week published many reports to suggest that the Bill was highly detrimental to the country.

The paper said that the country's administrators, including Government Agents, were perturbed over the fact that they had not been consulted in the preparation of either the District Councils Bill or the White Paper, and it quoted the views of a large number of unnamed officials who expressed fears that the privileges enjoyed by them under the present conditions of service might be drastically reduced.

In a strongly worded editorial the *Sun* had this to say: **The Prime Minister has taken overall charge of District Councils from the Minister of Local Government and the Councils are to correspond with the Central Government and keep its records in the Official Language. There are no "district services" and the District Councils will be served by the Public Service. These are the only changes of note. All the other vicious clauses remain intact — clauses which will end the unity which now exists in the country and pave the way for separatism and ultimate federalism. The Bill still gives the power to District Councils, as the extension of Central Government authority, to formulate land and other development policies. Financially, District Councils are still empowered to borrow monies from any source, levy taxes and set up District funds. Separatism on the basis of education will begin when District Councils lay down the law in respect of the education of children from grades 1 to 8. Separatism will be the keynote of what our children learn in the most formative years of their lives.**

What is going to happen to the Sinhala and Muslim people now living in the Northern and Eastern Provinces? In 8 of the 22 districts the Tamil people will predominate. Any contravention of a bi-law made by these District Councils by the minority people living therein is made punishable by severe penal clauses. Already there is discrimination against Sinhala people living in these areas. With the setting up of District Councils discrimination will assume such proportions as to cause an exodus of the Sinhala people from these areas. The present Bill is not the outcome of a genuine desire on the part of the Government to decentralise its functions. It is obvious that the National Government has been bullied into this position by the Federal demand made at pistol point. We urge the people to study the White Paper and the Bill very carefully and bring pressure on their representatives in Parliament to prevent this insidious Bill becoming law.

Later the same paper reported that political observers contended that the District Councils as envisaged in the White Paper and the Draft Bill would ultimately result in the creation of a Government within a Government leading to the disintegration of the centre into Federal autonomous states.

An appeal was made in Jaffna by Mr. C. Thanabalasingam, a retired District Judge, to the Prime Minister to put off the setting up of District Councils and save the nation from blood bath. He said that the Prime Minister should not bring up this Bill in the face of mass opposition in the country today. It would not help the Tamils at all. It would destroy the unity the Prime Minister had helped to build and that he feared that the country might witness a repetition of the 1958 riots in the country. Mr. Thanabalasingam went on to say that the Federal Party was the cause of all the trouble in the country since its inception. The policy of the Federalists was to keep all the disputes between the Sinhalese and the Tamil-unsettled for ever.

Comment

On

Current Affairs

● **G. C. E. (O. L.) EXAMINATION : a big farce**

The general opinion in this country is that the General Certificate Examination (Ordinary Level) conducted by the Department of Examinations is a big farce. This is borne out by the fact that year in and year out students obtain a pass in subjects which they had not offered. It was reported in the *Times of Ceylon* last week that students who did not enter for economics, physics and chemistry had obtained passes in these subjects in a big girls' school in Colombo, while in a boys' school had obtained passes in needlework. If this news story is correct — it has so far not been contradicted — it is indeed not only a big slur on the Department of Examinations but also on the Ministry of Education. It is conceded that the resources of the Department of Examinations are heavily taxed because of the increasing number of students who enter for the G. C. E. (O.L.) This year alone the number was some two hundred and eighty thousand. This number is bound to increase next year and in the coming years. If the resources are inadequate it is the duty of the Government to provide them. It is highly dangerous to trifle with a student's academic career. Unless meaningful steps are taken to rectify these mistakes, a time will soon come when no one will have any respect for a certificate issued by the Department of Examinations.

● **NO CATTLE SHORTAGE : meat board the answer**

A recent report in one of the newspapers said that Government Agents of the main cattle-producing areas had informed the Colombo Municipal Council that there is no shortage of cattle. This gives the life to the contention of butchers that the beef shortage in the City of Colombo is due to the shortage of cattle in the cattle producing areas and the high price demanded. That there is no shortage of cattle has certainly not taken anyone by surprise. Under the pretext there was a shortage of cattle and the high prices demanded, butchers had been able to bring pressure to bear on the Government to raise the controlled price of beef. Consumers know it only too well that the controlled price is an utter farce because butchers fleece consumers by selling beef over and above it. What makes it a bigger farce still is the fact that for some inexplicable reason or reasons they are able to fleece consumers with absolute impunity and under the very noses of the law enforcement officers. All the threats of the

Mayor of Colombo to the butchers that their licences will be cancelled if they failed to make adequate beef supplies available to consumers and that they should not put up the shutters have had no effect, and the butchers know it only too well that the threats will never be put into effect. We have often in these columns in the past brought it to the notice of both the Government and the Colombo Municipal authorities that there is absolutely no truth in the butchers' complaint that there is a shortage of cattle for slaughter and that they had to pay high prices if they were to be able to make available adequate supplies to the consumers. If breeders and farmers refuse to sell cattle to butchers it is because of the totally unrealistic prices offered to them. At present, there is no State-sponsored institution to which they can dispose of their cattle at a fair price. It is indeed gratifying to note that the National Government has at last realised the need to set up a Meat Board to undertake all aspects of meat supply in the country and that draft legislation has been completed by the Ministry of Agriculture and Food.

● **CEYLONESE NEED MORE PROTEINS : says FAO report**

Prince Loewenstein, Special Adviser to the German Federal Government, who is at present engaged in preparing a report for the Food and Agricultural Organisation has pin-pointed the protein gap in Ceylon's development programme. He has emphasised the fact that Ceylon, like any other developing country, needs protein-yielding products as it would "put more pep" into the people actively engaged in development work. Nobody in his proper senses disputes the fact that the National Government has taken meaningful steps to step up food production; but the accent is lopsided because sufficient attention has not been paid to step up the development of animal husbandry the products of which are the major source of protein-giving foods. Proteins are vitally essential to sustain the human system and to keep it in a healthy state. But majority of the people of our country fill their stomach with only carbohydrates and do not eat an adequate quantity of protein-giving foods like fish, meat and eggs. If they do not eat protein-giving foods it is not wholly due to ignorance but because they are expensive, which the ordinary people can ill-afford. It is due to the poor intake of protein-giving foods which accounts for the fact that the average Ceylonese manual worker is unable to do heavy work. The Government would indeed do well to encourage more and more people to take to animal husbandry in a big way. The Bank of Ceylon and the People's Bank have an important role to play in this respect. They must jettison some of the outmoded requirements and grant loans on a more realistic basis and the repayment spread over a longer period of time. If this is done there will be more milk, meat and eggs available to consumers at a fair and equitable price than what obtains at present in the country.

A Speech By The President Of The

All Ceylon Printers' Co-operative Society Limited

by Felix R. D. Zoysa

Hon'ble Minister of State, Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen: As President of the All Ceylon Printers' Co-operative Society Ltd., it is my pleasant task to introduce ourselves to those of you here, who are not members of this Society. I shall do so, as briefly as possible.

In 1962, when restrictions were first imposed on the import of paper, most of the paper then available in the market, went underground and following the normal trend of events in these circumstances, the prices began to sky-rocket. An acute scarcity of paper set in and Printers were beset by untold hardships. An island wide conference of Printers was convened by the A.II Ceylon Printers' Association and it was resolved that a Printers' Co-operative Society would certainly be the weapon which could successfully combat the Paper Blackmarketeers.

The Dept. of the Commissioner of Co-operative Development was sympathetic and looked on our application with a kindly eye, and approved the institution of a Printers' Co-operative Society for the Import and Distribution of Paper, Printing Inks and other Printers' requisites among its members. The new Society was registered in August 1962.

A FORMIDABLE TASK now faced the new born society - that of building up its membership. Printers had no faith in Co-operatives and the daily papers regularly exposed irregularities, losses and numerous rackets in the existing societies while they rarely, if ever, highlighted some of the very good work done by these Societies. Printers were therefore apprehensive

of enrolling as members in our Society, while the majority of them said that they would wait and see how we fared. Others warned us of the various irregularities which occurred in Co-operatives from time to time and some even said that we would be crippled within a few months by the big time Paper Magnates who had the financial sinews to undercut us, buy over our staff and compel us to pull down our shutters. Fortunately for us, there were however a few printers who were prepared to stake their money for the cause and give the new Society a fighting chance of survival.

But these numbers were deplorably few and many of our potential membership would not chance their arm until the Society was in business. We were in a quandary, since business required capital which could only be derived from a membership and sizeable contributions of share money. Ours was an uphill task for over an year. The Import Control Department would not consider us eligible for import allocations since they would not recognize a Society with but a handful of members. An year passed without any constructive progress and even the few members who had paid in their share money, were now debating the wisdom of their actions and dubious of the success of our venture.

Our labours were however, not to be unrewarded. After an year of sterile existence, we were awarded an import allocation of a 100 tons of newsprint for distribution among our members. The word got around and Printers were soon aware that we had been allowed an Import allocation for newsprint. Those very individuals who had whole-

heartedly advised us against the formation of a Co-operative Society, now swamped us with applications for membership and contributions of share capital - even before the first shipment reached harbour. We now had almost a hundred members to share our hard won first allocation of paper. This consignment of newsprint - we are proud to say - was sold to our members at 50% less than the prevailing market price and despite this factor, the Society too made a reasonable margin of profit.

Thereafter we were able to vindicate our position with the Import Control and we received a further allocation of over 3 lakhs in 1964 for the import of all types of paper and paper board, printing links and other printers' requisites, which we duly imported and retailed to our members who were starved of these commodities at the time.

The manner in which we handled the import and distribution of these import quotas prompted us to believe that we would soon be favoured with a considerably large import allocation in the next year. This however, was not to be. To our disappointment, the government decided otherwise and the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation was made the sole import of paper and paper board.

For a while, business was virtually at a standstill since the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation was now the sole importer and retailer of paper and paper board. However, in October 1965 the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation which was now the sole importer and also manufacturer of paper, formulated a scheme of retailing its import and local manufactures through approved dealers.

WITH the introduction of this scheme, the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation bestowed on us a dealership for their paper and paper board, with a Trade Discount of 15%. This Society decided that the benefit of 50% of the discount which was allowed by the Eastern

Paper Mills Corporation, be passed on to the members and consequently all the approved paper dealers followed suit and allowed the same concession to their customers. Thanks to the example set up by the All Ceylon Printer's Co-operative Society, all items of paper and paper board issued by the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation to their dealers are now retailed to customers with a 50% discount on the profit margin permitted by the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation.

Although our allocations for the import of paper and paper board had been completely withdrawn, we were permitted to import printing inks, in small quantities which we have continued to retail to our members at a reasonable prices. Our present position is that while we continue to be an approved dealer of the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation, we import and distribute Printing Inks, Printers' materials and Sundries on special allocations of 2 lakhs granted to us annually. This import allocation however, is hardly sufficient for our present membership.

During the past four years of business we have made the following profits:

1st year 1964	—	Rs.	41,438/-
2nd year 1965	—	..	105,555/-
3rd year 1966	—	..	63,738/-
4th year 1966	—	..	94,762/-

Much of our profits and capital as at date are tied up in our stocks drawn from the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation and in our import allocations of Inks and Printers' requisites.

With the increase in business, our membership too rose and we have now been able to gradually build up a membership of over 200 press owners throughout the island.

Now what the Society is housed in a much more centrally located situation, we are in a position to serve a larger clientele of printers.

Ever since we started in business, we were faced with the serious problem of obtaining a suitable sales room with adequate storage facilities. At the outset we were forced to operate from a few rooms in a temporarily vacant building at Temple Road, Maradana, which were made available to us only for a couple of months. We had to relinquish these temporary quarters very soon and in October, 1964, a "takaran" store of sorts was made available to us at Sir James Peiris Mawatha and our Sales Room has been situated there to this day. Store accommodation was however cramped and the free movement of sales constricted by the inadequacy of floor space and the unsuitability of location.

The membership soon felt that the Sales Room was unsatisfactory and unanimously approved the purchase of a suitable building as early as August 1966, though the lack of suitable premises delayed its implementation until this year.

This building which has now been declared open by you, Sir, has 4 storeys with a floor area of approximately 4000 sq. ft. Furthermore, there is an upstairs building in the near of the premises, with a floor space of approximately 3000 sq. feet, which will be utilized for storing our stocks of Eastern Paper Mills Corporation paper and imported inks and sundries.

Incidentally, two Cold Rooms with deep freezing apparatus and a capacity of 5000 cubic feet, have been thrown in with the building and through these are of no practical use to Printers except for confining on occasional Printers' Devil in Cold Storage, the Society could always have a steady income by renting the Cold Rooms to prospective clients.

Our brother printers are now indeed happy that the Society has shifted to a more satisfactory premises of its own in the commercial area of Maradana. The building and premises have cost the Society Rs. 400,000/- and we unanimously feel that it is money well spent,

since we now have a land and building to call our very own.

At this juncture, I will be grossly failing in my duty if I do not mention our deep feelings of gratitude to the former Commissioner of Co-operative Development, Mr. P. A. Silva, who very kindly approved the purchase of this building and also to the Assistant Commissioner in Charge of our Society - Mr. D. K. Samaranayake, for his invaluable advice and co-operation without which this transaction would never have materialized. We are greatly obliged to the Chairman and the Board of Management of the People's Bank, Mr. Donald Kanngara, the General Manager, Mr. Ranjit Livera, his Deputy and the Law Office Mr. Jayasundera, for the willing and spontaneous assistance rendered by them in expeditiously granting us the money required for the purchase of this building. I must mention here, that if not for the ready financial assistance of the People's Bank by way of L/C facilities T/R :oans, Overdrafts etc. which were made available to us at every turn, no constructive progress in the sphere of expansion and imports would have been possible for this Society, in view of its limited share capital.

I MUST once again emphasise the fact that the People's Bank has in no small measure, contributed to the success of this Society and while we look on their co-operation in the past with sincere feeling of gratitude, we shall confidently look forward to their assistance and support in a much larger measure in the future, since we are now in a better position to expand our business territory.

Apart from housing our Sales Depot and Stores at these premises, we also propose to set by a section of the building for conducting lectures for printers and holding periodic seminars on topics of interest to the Printing Community. We also hope to provide facilities for the dissemination of technical know-now and latest printing developments through the medium of

study classes conducted by experts on these subjects.

A small library of books and magazines pertaining to Printing, will be maintained in this building while it is proposed that the All Ceylon Printers' Association - the organization which sponsored the institution of the All Ceylon Printers' Co-operative Society Ltd. will have its permanent office too, on these premises.

Hon'ble Sir, now that you are with us, I would like to have your opinion on a few problems which have puzzled us printers. I would greatly appreciate it if you would kindly explain to the Printers here, the scope of activity of the proposed Printing Corporation because there is a lurking fear among the middle class and smaller printers, that the Corporation would immediately infringe on their business activities and subsequently cause considerable hardships to the less affluent printers.

One other factor which I feel should be brought to your notice is the question of Industrial Allocations. I wonder whether you are aware that while the entire allocation for the import of paper and paper boards granted to the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation amounts to only 7 million, the industrial sector receives the phenomenal sum of 9 million. There seems to be no justification in the manner in which the paper and paper boards allocations are granted to the industrialists. We are well aware that quite a few of these so-called industrialists who have hardly any men and machinery to convert the allocation of raw materials into the final product, have been granted generous import quotas which on arrival find its way into the Pettah market.

May I say that the industry of these pseudo industrialists is the blackmarketing of scarce raw materials like paper and paper board. The fact that there are paper dealers in the Pettah who have neither an import allocation nor an approved dealership in the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation but continue to stock

and trade in paper in a bigger way than we do - or for that matter, than any approved Eastern Paper Mills Corporation paper dealer in Ceylon, proves beyond reasonable doubt the abuse of these industrial allocations.

It is indeed a pity that the services of the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation are not requisitioned, in deciding on the nature and the quantum of the allocations granted to industrialists - let alone the necessity for such allocations. We suggest that the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation which is now the sole Importer and Manufacturer of paper - be given the sole responsibility of deciding on these allocations. This measure will definitely result in the saving of at least a few

million in foreign exchange - particularly at this juncture when our country most needs it. Items of paper which are not available to the printers through the Eastern Paper Mills Corporation are imported on these Industrial allocations Duty Free - which involves a considerable loss of revenue too. Your interest in this matter, Sir, we feel should soon result in a more realistic policy being adopted with regard to Industrial allocations. In conclusion, Sir, you have now a brief though first hand knowledge of the activities of this Society and we trust that with your interest and consideration we would be eligible for additional import facilities in the future in order that we may render better service to a wider circle of printers.

MR. THOMAS IS WORRIED

Some time ago the London *Times* published a letter from one Miles Thomas who had just returned from the Persian Gulf area. The London businessman unwittingly gave away the intentions harboured by the imperialist element in Britain whose government has proclaimed that it will withdraw its armed forces from the Persian Gulf by the end of 1971. Complaining that the Persian Gulf states and islands are literally flooded with Japanese, West-German, Belgian and Dutch businessmen, Mr. Thomas writes: "Surely it is not too late to reverse or at least revise our withdrawal? The economic argument does not exist. As a businessman and a fluent exporter, it seems to me that unless we are careful these crucial states in the Arabian gulf will become crucial states to our economic loss."

Mr. Thomas should not worry too much about this. The British colonialists are not leaving the Persian Gulf altogether—they are retaining some positions there. To begin with they have tried to scare the local sheiks and sultans with the alleged threat of invasion by other states after the British withdrawal, and suggested they form an alliance. Had the manoeuvre succeeded, the West would have compelled the local rulers to spend vast sums on arms and the services of foreign military advisers. And all this would naturally have to be paid for with oil. The shackling economic agreements would remain in force, and the Western monopolies would go on plundering the Arab oil wealth. Now the British are trying to get the sheiks and the sultans to form a federation, dependent on London, in order to perpetuate the *status quo*. The federation is to consist of the seven states of the British protectorate of Trucial Oman, Bahrain, which is dominated by the U.S. controlled Qatar, the South Arabian state virtually ruled by the British. The imperialist plans envisage no change in the *status quo* of these territories. All these manoeuvres indicate that the imperialists will not leave these areas of their own free will. They will be swept out by the people's liberation struggle. So perhaps Mr. Thomas has reason to be worried after all.

Questions & Answers In the Indian Rajya Sabha on

Dr. (Mrs.) Urmila Phadnis

In the *Ceylon Observer* 5/5 The Outsider in the OFF MY BEAT columns referred to an Indian woman by the name Dr. (Mrs.) Urmila Phadnis, who had come to Ceylon to collect research material, as Asia Foundation's "Mystery Woman" The *Nation* and the *Janadina* referred to her as a CIA Agent. During the middle of last month questions were raised in the Indian Rajya Sabha regarding the circumstances under which Dr. Phadnis, came to Ceylon to collect research material. Answering questions, the Minister of Education, Dr. Triguna Sen, said that the Indian School of International Studies received a grant from the Asia Foundation for sending Dr. Phadnis to Ceylon to collect research material and that it had the prior approval of the Ministries of External Affairs and Education. The grant, he said, was received by the school before it became known that the Asia Foundation had received CIA funds, and that thereafter the school authorities had refrained from approaching the Foundation again when Dr. Phadnis asked for an extension of stay in Ceylon to complete her work. Since the matter is of topical interest, we are publishing extracts of the debate in the Rajya Sabha which took place on May 13th.

Debate on the statement made by Dr. T. Sen, Education Minister in the Rajya Sabha on 13.5.68 correcting reply given to a supplementary question asked on Short Notice Question No. 10 answered on March 23, 1968.

Dr. T. Sen: I wish to make a brief statement clarifying one of my replies to a series of question in the House in connection with Short Notice question No. 10 on the Indian School of the International Studies on 23rd March, 1968.

I had stated that "through the Asia Foundation this institution, if I am correct, received some type of camera and a lady was given a scholarship to go to Ceylon for further studies." I wish to clarify that the grant referred to in the reply was actually given to the School to enable it to send Dr. (Mrs.) Urmila Phadnis to Ceylon to collect research materials for a study on "Religion as a Factor in the Politics of Ceylon." This is an approved project of the School. The receipt of this grant by the School has had the previous approval of the Ministries of Education and External

Affairs. The grant was received by the School long before it became known that the Asia Foundation had received "CIA Funds." After it became known that the Foundation has received "CIA Funds", the School authorities refrained from approaching the Foundation again when Mrs. Phadnis asked for a short extension. I may also add that the School authorities later on withdrew, on their own, a request for permission to approach the Asia Foundation for grants to finance visits abroad of some other teachers of the School.

I also wish to clarify that what the School received was a "Microfilm Reader", and not a "Camera", as I had stated earlier.

Shri Bhupesh Gupta: Sir, I have a submission to make. This is the difficulty. When the hon. Minister makes statement in the House, we are not given certain very material facts, and in the present case certain other facts should have been mentioned. Now in the light of those facts he has corrected something. But even so, he has not said, he should have made it clear that on

Sept. 21, 1966, the Ministry of External Affairs sent a letter to the Director of the Institute stating "It has no objection to the research being financed by the Asia Foundation." Then subsequently a letter dated 7th October, 1966, came from the Ministry, namely the Ministry of Education which stated, "the Government of India has no objection to the School approaching the Asia Foundation and accepting a grant of Rs. 10,950 (pre devaluation) in order to enable Dr. Phadnis to undertake a study of "Religion as a factor in the politics of Ceylon." Here you see how the House is handicapped in asking questions.

Mr. Chairman: On a matter where a statement has been made, if you feel some doubt about it, you raise a motion.

Shri Bhupesh Gupta: Today is the last day. Surely, I am not raising any doubt that way. I think you will not deny that the two letters I have quoted are very relevant. The point is even in this statement he does not mention these things. This is very material in this connection even when you make a correction. If you deny these things, I am helpless. I am sure Dr. Sen would not deny the existence of two such letters, one of which is in the files of his Ministry. It is surprising that even after the Asia Foundation's tricks had been known this Government did not *suo moto* move in order to stop all such transactions. How is it that this Government had not known the intention of the Asia Foundation. In fact it welcomed it and endorsed all such things. He should explain these things.

Dr. Triguna Sen: I am sorry that the Hon. Member referred to two communications from different Ministries, and perhaps he has not heard when I read "The receipt of this grant by the School has had the previous approval of the Ministries of Education and External Affairs."

Shri Bhupesh: You will say but you should have used the exact formulation. What is the difference....

Dr. Triguna Sen: Good Lord....

Letter From Israel

Shri Bhupesh Gupta: Good Lord will have no objection to being financed by the Asia Foundation.

Dr. Triguna Sen: This receipt of the grant by the School has had the previous approval of the Ministries of Education and External Affairs.

Shri Bhupesh Gupta: It is the same thing as saying that the Government of India has no objection to Asia Foundation financing this kind of things.

Mr. Chairman: If you have anything further to say, you may give a motion.

Shri Bhupesh Gupta: One thing relates to a policy. Another relates to an individual matter.

Shri Bhupesh Gupta: I wanted to say something — you did not allow — with regard to the Asia Foundation question. They have corrected it. Those who are in possession of the documents should have quoted letters showing that money did not come without Government itself sanctioning it. The lady was in Ceylon. I have seen the Ceylonese papers — she was described as a CIA spy because of the reply given. I don't know to what extent the recent statement is going to rectify the damage done. Suppose she is not a spy then a great damage has been done by the statement he made. Therefore he should be extremely careful in making replies specially when they may have repercussions. You have made one of the Indian citizen a spy. If she is a spy she should be treated as such. But if she is not then also a very serious damage has been done.



THOUGHTFUL

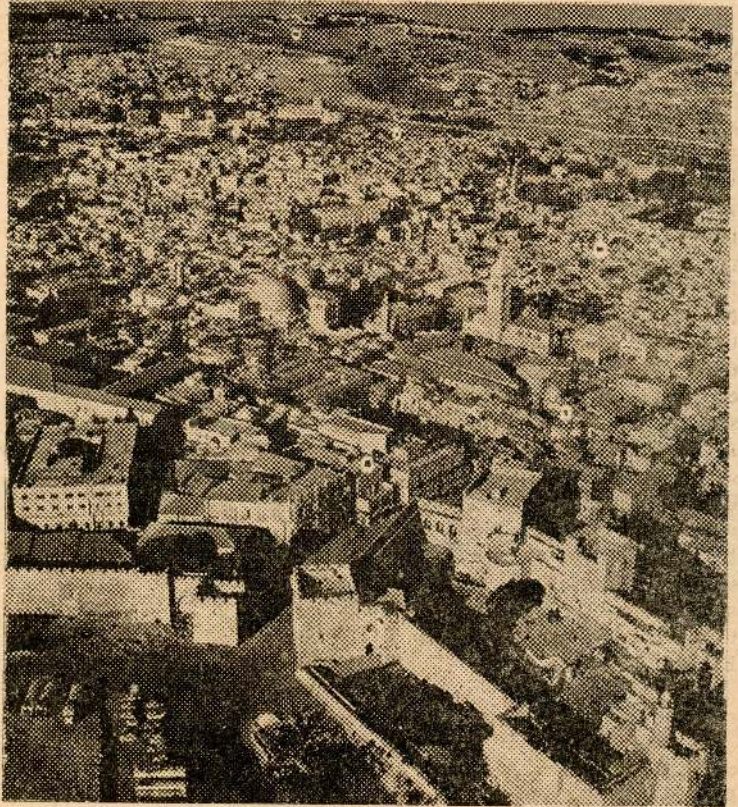
Prominently displayed in a London Bar is the message: "In case of nuclear attack, drinks are on the house".

Liberation From Colonialism

Tel Aviv

Looking at the Israel of today, so little of its colonial past is visible that there is a tendency to forget that it ever existed. Still, it is only 20 years since Israel won her independence after a long and desperate struggle. Let us not

forget that the rise of the State of Israel was greeted as one of the great moments in the march of history towards liberation from colonialism. Progressive forces everywhere rejoiced that another people had won through to freedom. Israel freed itself from the colonial power *par excellence*, Great Britain.



With the influx of tourists into Israel reaching an all-time high of 56,200 in April of this year, the occupancy rate in the Arab Hotels of East Jerusalem has risen to over 60%, as compared to 40% last year. This was announced by the Israel Minister of Tourism, Mr. Moshe Kol, at a ceremony to mark the opening of a new Tourist Information Office inside the Old City's Jaffa Gate (above, centre foreground). The Mayor of Jerusalem, Mr. Teddy Kollek, told Arab travel agents and other East Jerusalem notables attending the gathering that some Rs. 375,000 were being spent to improve the Jaffa Gate vicinity. Photo shows view of the Old City with (right foreground) David's Tower, (centre, with cupolas) Church of the Holy Sepulchre, and (top centre and left) Hebrew University and Hadassah Hospital buildings, which were cut off from Jewish Jerusalem during

A few weeks ago, some London papers reported a conversation between President Nasser and a British statesman friendly to Egypt which took place shortly before the Six-Day War. The President of Egypt is reported to have stated that, should negotiations take place with Israel, he would prefer them to be with the present Minister of Labour, Mr. Yigal Allon. He is supposed to have added that "Yigal Allon is the only Israel politician in whom I have confidence.

THE ISRAEL press was quick to recall under what circumstances the two men had met. These were hardly pleasant, especially for one of the parties to the conversation. It happened in 1948, during Israel's War of Independence. Nasser was then a young officer taken prisoner with part of the Egyptian troops caught in the "Falouja Pocket" in the Negev. Allon and Nasser became acquainted at that time and, in spite of the circumstances, were able to appreciate each other's qualities. They had several long conversations, in Arabic, and Nasser was particularly anxious to find out what methods had been used by Israel to rid itself of the British forces. The Egyptian officer was particularly interested because his own country, notwithstanding its independence in theory, had in fact remained a British colony.

He asked how 600,000 Jews could have made life so impossible for the troops of the world's greatest colonial power as to make them leave. Perhaps there was a lesson here which could be applied in his own country, even if it had to be learned from one of his enemies. Though Nasser's propagandists today try to claim otherwise, he himself quite clearly appreciated at that time Israel was far from being "the servant of imperialism". It was, in fact, a product of the universal drive towards decolonisation and the recognition of the right of every people to a national and independent existence.

As a matter of fact, the creation of the State of Israel was an event recognized as revolutionary and progressive by the USSR and all the socialist countries. and it was hailed by all of them as a victory of nationalism over imperialism and of the force of progress against reaction.

Had Nasser followed this line of reasoning to its logical end, had he been able to rise above his hatred, he would surely have found in Israel a sturdy ally in his struggle against imperialism and its end-products, which are poverty stagnation and under-development.

For Israel, in her 20 years of independent existence, has succeeded in liberating herself completely from all these consequences of colonialism. Rarely has a former colony been successful, in so short a time and so total a manner, in detaching itself from the former metropolis, in disengaging itself so completely from its colonial past. How many former colonies can point to the complete eradication of the influence of the colonial regime in their educational, administrative, judicial, economical and financial systems? The language in Israel today is Hebrew and not English.

Israel is justifiably proud of her liberation from colonialism; proud but not arrogant, for Israel is ready at all times to share her experience, above all with her immediate neighbours. In the struggle to rise from under-development and out of poverty and exploitation, the real enemies of the new nations, Israel could be the natural ally of the Arab States in the Middle East. Logic and wisdom demand this. Will it some day become politically possible as well?

After Years Of Research

Tobacco Without Nicotine

Experts of the Tobacco Institute of Prilep, the well-known tobacco growing centre in the southern parts of Yugoslavia, Republic of Macedonia, have succeeded in developing a tobacco variety without nicotine. This had been accomplished after years of research into many tobacco varieties grown in the region which are considered as the best quality Yugoslav tobacco.

The Institute's specialists have informed the public that tobacco obtained in this way contains 0.001 percent of nicotine. Nicotine-free tobacco is obtained by the fermentation of tobacco grown in rather unstable grounds. Nicotine is linked with other substances in the leaf of this tobacco in a different manner and is therefore more easily separated when tobacco is subjected to fermentation.



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In Pakistan

National Wealth Concentrated In A Few Hands

It all began in a very respectable note. The annual convention of the Management Association could hardly be expected to be lacking in decorum and respectability. Top luminaries of the State, including President Ayub Khan, had blessed the function. The President of the Association, on his part, had congratulated the Government on its miraculous performance in the industrial sector. Everything was going on well till someone got up and pricked the bubble.

That the man to do so should be Dr. Mahbulul Haq, the chief economist of the Planning Commission, was hardly expected. With his academic background of London and Harvard, his ideological antecedents seemed impeccable. He also had a useful book to his credit—"Strategy of Economic Planning in Pakistan" which had done much to boost the achievements of the Ayub regime in the field of industrial and agricultural development.

Suave and soft-spoken Dr. Mahbulul Haq, in short, seemed to represent that class of economists whom the people had started regarding as a super admen. All this only increased the intensity of the shock that Dr. Haq administered in his address to the Convention.

After making some laudatory references to the Government's achievements in the field of planning he bemoaned the fact that no thought was being given to the distribution of the wealth generated through greater production. Though gross national production had been rising by about 6 per cent per annum—a fairly impressive achievement—concentration of wealth had been taking place at a still faster rate,

illustrating his thesis with shocking details, Dr. Mahbulul Haq disclosed that 66 per cent of the

entire industrial capital was concentrated in the hands of 20 families. These 20 families also controlled over 80 per cent of the country's banking. As for insurance, which in Pakistan includes life insurance as well, the share of these 20 families was as high as 97 per cent.

The share of the smaller entrepreneurs in these sectors, Haq said, was negligible. For more than half of the remainder was owned by foreign concerns. This meant that the possibility of a middle sized or small-scale business class emerging as an economic force in Pakistan was ruled out. These facts were shocking enough. More shocking was Mahbulul Haq's disclosure that the "Lucky 20", as these families had come to be called controlled not only the bulk of large-scale business and commerce but also owned and managed a large number of other concerns through indirect means. The tendency to form interlocked companies, cartel and price control agencies was becoming stronger everyday.

Mahbulul Haq was also very bitter about the pattern of educational planning in the country. He noted that as much as Rs. 150 crores was allotted for education in the Third Five-Year Plan. But due to the wrong priorities in educational planning more than 80 per cent of this money would go waste. Concentration of wealth did not allow growth of technical education in a planned manner.

Dr. Mahbulul Haq's disclosures about the concentration of wealth created a good deal of furore in and outside the Convention Hall of the posh Beach Luxury Hotel. Not that such things had not been said earlier. Even as early as 1964, the talk of the "Lucky 20" controlling nearly three-fourths of Pakistan's industrial wealth was not completely unknown.

The fact that Ayub Khan's own family has graduated into the lucky circle has added pungency to such talk. Ayub Khan's family had no economic status before 1960. It was only after the resignation of his son, Captain Gauhar Ayub, from the Army in 1961 that the family started showing its industrial powers. In partnership with his father-in-law, who as a Major-General in the Army had been a good friend of the Boss, Gauhar Ayub blossomed into Pakistan's most enterprising industrial tycoon.

And then the Americans also came to his help with an offer of partnership with the General Motors who put the Gandhara Industries on an international footing. By 1965 the total capital of the family was unofficially assessed at about Rs. 25 crores.

The significance of Mahbulul Haq's remarks was heightened by the fact that they had come from the 'horse's own mouth'. Nobody could claim to be better informed about such matters than he. That is, perhaps, the reason why even a pro-Government daily like "*Jang*" called the disclosures "shocking, criminal and cruel". "*Nawa-i-Waqt*", an Opposition daily, commented that the disclosures had reaffirmed the fact that planning in Pakistan was totally oriented in favour of the rich.

This was borne out by the recent announcement of the East Pakistan Industrial Development Corporation that it would soon be auctioning industrial units set up in the public sector to private owners. The logic behind the Government's policy seems to be that while it must take the initiative in setting up industries in fields which look unremunerative to the private sector in the beginning it should have little say in their management as possible. Under this "philosophy" the Government set up a number of plants to manufacture cement, textile machinery, power generators, and so forth. These would now be transferred to the "Lucky 20".

The same philosophy has been in operation in the agricultural sector. A good deal of heat was recently generated by the West Pakistan Government's newly developed land in and around the old Bahawalpur State. The decision was justified on the ground that it would encourage mechanisation of farming. A number of industrial tycoons have shown keen interest in setting up such terms.

Among the "Lucky 20" Adamji and Isphahani were famous even before the partition. Isphahani was considered in a guardian angel of the Muslim League. His present interests are mainly in banking, insurance and inter-wing maritime trade. The House of Adamji is equally important. It has almost a monopoly of jute mills and also deals in insurance, light engineering goods and banking. Daud Seth is another famous name in the economic life of the country. Newspapers loathe him because of his monopolistic hold on Pakistan's only newsprint factory in Khulna in East Pakistan. But he is much more important than that. In textiles, he controls more than 50 per cent of the total production. In woollens and rayons, too, his hold seems fairly strong.

A fourth name to be reckoned with is that of the Walikas. Before the partition they were known in the

Karachi harbour as middle-sized commission agents handling export-import transactions. Today they are the fourth most important industrial house in the country. A comparatively new entrant is a Punjabi convert — Saeed Sehga'. His mills in Lyallpur, Okara, and Sakkhar have come to be regarded as the symbols of Pakistan's industrial progress.

Almost all the top 20 business houses are family concerns and therefore the circle of ownership in these families does not go beyond about a hundred members. Unlike their Indian counterparts this small group has no base in the lower and middle bourgeoisie. Some members of this narrow group are now planning to set up supermarkets in Karachi, Lahore and Rawalpindi.

This concentration of national wealth in a few hands has naturally raised an outcry in the intelligentsia. Mahbubul Haq has himself suggested the setting up of a high-powered commission to propose measures to redress the imbalance in the distribution of wealth. The other remedy that he has suggested is legislation prohibiting merger of banking with industrial ownership. He also wants some sort of "social control" on banking.

LINK

the conditions of peace that are most favourable for the development of the world revolutionary movement.

Marxist-Leninists have never denied the fact that wars and world wars even more so, may accelerate the revolutionary movements in some countries. There is no doubt that World War I was conducive to developing a revolutionary situation in Russia. New socialist states emerged and the world system of socialism was formed after World War II.

This, however, does not, as yet, provide grounds for saying that wars definitely give birth to revolutions, or that they are a prerequisite for or the cause of revolutions. Everything depends on the internal conditions, on the general level of revolutionary struggle and on the preparedness of the masses for a socialist or popular-democratic revolution. Sixtyone states took part in World War II, but revolutions have taken place in only a few of them. At the same time the revolution in Cuba occurred in conditions of peace, not war. And at-present the transition of a number of newly emerging countries to the non-capitalist way development is also taking place in conditions of peace.

AS FOR PEACE—it tends to actually create the most favourable conditions for the growth of the entire world revolutionary movement. Lenin's words that "peace....will further our cause infinitely more than war", and that "any peace, therefore, will open channels for our influence a hundred times wider" are as true today as ever before. Peace is vitally important for the socialist countries, for only in peaceful conditions can they successfully build socialism and Communism, and fully reveal all the advantages of socialism over capitalism. In conditions of peace the people of young developing states can successfully solve the problems of their economic renaissance and assure their economic independence. Peace and not

Answers Provided By

Lenin On Wars And Revolutions

Yuri Eremin

SO what conditions—peace or war — are most favourable for the development of the revolutionary struggle of working people against capitalism.? The answer to that has been provided by Lenin.

Firstly, Lenin based his ideas on the fact that a revolution is always the result, above all, of the struggle waged by the working people of a particular country.

Hence, he rejected categorically the possibility of imposing revolution on any country from outside by means of bayonets, of war. He said: "Revolutions are not made to order." And he called people who tried to prove the opposite provocateurs and madmen.

The second important conclusion made by Lenin was that it is not the conditions of war but precisely

military hysteria and chauvinism are the most favourable conditions for the growth of the revolutionary movement in the capitalist countries, too.

Experience shows that the cold war, international tensions, and military provocations and clashes are most conducive to bolstering the positions of reaction, to stepping up its attacks on democratic freedoms and exercising the most extreme form of the dictatorship of the exploiting class. On the other hand, in the postwar period, in relatively peaceful conditions, the numbers of working people taking part in political struggle has increased considerably.

Thus history has completely confirmed the correctness of Lenin's tenet that peaceful conditions are most suitable for the triumph of socialism over capitalism. Even the enemies of communism understand this. Schlamm, a West German anti-Communist, for example, wrote: "The crux of the conflict between the Communists and the West..... is that communism flourishes on peace, desires peace and triumphs in the conditions of peace." Schlamm drew his conclusions from this confession. Seeing no other way to halt the revolutionary process, he calls for a world war against socialist countries, hoping to save capitalism at the price of hundreds of millions of human lives.

This brand of thinking is characteristic of the economies of socialism and that is hardly surprising. What is strange is that there are people today who call themselves Marxist-Leninists but at the same time declare that the struggle for peace and against war tends to weaken the world revolutionary process, to divert the masses away from the struggle against imperialism, and to reduce their revolutionary enthusiasm. That is the stand taken by Mao Tse-tung's group.

Such statements have nothing in common whatsoever with Lenin's theory of socialist revolution. In

his time, protesting against similar statements, Lenin wrote: "Can a Communist with the slightest understanding of the mentality and the conditions of life of the toiling and exploited people descend to the point of view..... which declares that a 'peace mentality' is 'inactive' and believes that the brandishing of a cardboard sword is 'activity?'"

Marxist-Leninists, genuine Communists base all their practical activities on Lenin's teaching on the possibility of averting world war in our time. Lenin disclosed the aggressive nature of imperialism and, at the same time, pointed out that the nations could and should curb the attempts of the imperialists to stop, by force of arms, the revolutionary and national liberation movements. In this connection Lenin ascribed special importance to the growth and strengthening of the socialist countries.

HISTORICAL experience completely proves Lenin's idea that the growth of the forces of socialism signifies ever greater possibility of strait-jacketing the military aspirations of world imperialism. In 1956, thanks to the resolute stand taken by the USSR, the military machine of imperialism moving against Egypt and other Arab countries, was stopped in its tracks. "Had there been no Soviet Union", Fidel Castro the Prime Minister of the Cuban Republic, stressed, "the imperialists" would undertake a direct military attack on our country. It was the might of the USSR and the entire socialist camp that frustrated the imperialist aggression against our homeland". Today the main reason why imperialism does not dare to unleash a world thermonuclear war is the might of the socialist countries.

Peace cannot be begged from the imperialists, nor can it be achieved by incantations. Lenin severely criticised revolutionary phrase-mongering in the struggle against the military policy of imperialism. He said that it was harmful to intoxicate

oneself with loud talk and so underestimate the power of imperialism, for it was unworthy of a genuine revolutionary. While the threat of war continues the Soviet Union and the other socialist countries will continue building up their defence potentials.

Durable and universal peace on earth can be guaranteed only on the basis of unity of action of all peace loving forces in their struggle against the aggressive actions of imperialism. Lenin stressed repeatedly that the common interests of the working class movement always came before the interests of the separate components of this movement. Unity of action of all revolutionary forces, including the socialist nations, is at present of decisive importance in the struggle for peace, against war and imperialism.

The Communist Party of the Soviet Union bases its actions on Lenin's directives that the preservation and strengthening of peace is the most important task of Communists. At its 23rd Congress our Party reaffirmed its resolve to strengthen unity with all nations in the struggle against aggressive world imperialism. The ever-growing assistance rendered to the Vietnamese people by the CPSU and the entire Soviet people is a reflection of their Leninist policies.

STREAMLINING

A soviet expert has called for a computer to be used to invent new names for children. Reuter says Mr. V. Mioskovich a philologist, wrote in the weekly magazine "Nedelya" that dozens of Sergeis in every kindergarten class caused confusion among pupils and teachers. Too many girls were called Elena. A computer might turn out such Russian-sounding names as Radoslav Durolsal and Darimir, the article suggested.

Soviet View point

Recent Events In Czechoslovakia

THIS is what Joseph Goebbels, the notorious Minister of Propaganda of Hitler Germany used to say when instructing his underlings, "The more monstrous the lie, the more people will believe in it, this expert in deceiving public opinion claimed.

Apparently certain western propagandists proceed from this postulate in the "battle of ideas" between the forces of imperialism and socialism. Suffering daily astounding defeats in their foreign and domestic policy, the forces of imperialism have noticeably intensified their subversive activities and their ideological struggle against the socialist countries in Europe. Especially the propaganda services of the United States and Britain are in vain attempting to undermine the morals of the peoples of the countries of socialism, using Goebbels' methods. They like termites, attempt to 'bore from within' hoping to undermine a healthy tree.

During the past few weeks American news agencies and the Voice of America were especially active in this sphere. British newspapers and the BBC which proudly brag about its 'objectivity' are also not lagging behind in this matter. They are turning somersaults in order to somehow weaken and undermine that unity of the socialist countries and the world communist movement. The Western press organs and radio stations like as the three witches in Macbeth who bewailed that 'fair is foul, and foul is fair....' are attempting to organise a propaganda sabbath around the latest events in Czechoslovakia and the action programme of the Communist Party which is being carried out in that country.

DISTORTING the significance of the reforms in Czechoslovakia and the ideas behind the events taking place, western propagandists

hope to bolster and activate anti-socialist elements, who are attempting to use the obtaining situation in their own interests. Suffice it to cite two examples to illustrate the dishonest methods resorted to by western propagnada.

At the beginning of May the United Press International spread a deliberately false report throughout the world claiming that the Soviet Union had stopped wheat deliveries to Czechoslovakia. Earlier, this same agency reported that the USSR had also stopped the delivery of oil and cotton. The Czechoslovak Foreign Trade Ministry categorically refuted this malicious concoction and informed that during the period from April 1st to April 25 alone, the Soviet Union had supplied Czechoslovakia with 124,000 tons of wheat.

Having burned their fingers on this slander, the western propaganda agencies decided to launch their next canard outside Czechoslovakia's territory with the purpose of evoking anti-Soviet feelings among the people of that country and at the same time depriving the Czechoslovak authorities of the opportunity to rapidly refute it as the events described below allegedly took place in another neighbouring country. The beginning of this propaganda subversion was planned for May 10 and, incidentally, for the sake of diversity it was decided that in this case the British press and the BBC would show 'initiative' and then the American press and the Voice of America would take up this 'sensation' and spread it throughout the world.

According to the calculations of the organisers of this subversion it should stagger the imagination and the psychology of the Czechs and Slovaks and evoke their corresponding reaction. And thus, on May 10, in accordance with the plan of operations,

all the mass bourgeois papers in Britain carried under screaming headlines reports from their correspondents and agencies that allegedly Soviet troops, like an avalanche, were moving towards Czechoslovakia's borders in southern Poland. To lend greater 'authenticity' to these reports the papers juggled with figures and added colourful details on the movement of Soviet army units.

The *Daily Mail*, for instance, reported that 40,000 Soviet soldiers were moving towards Czechoslovakia's frontiers and that they had already passed Cracow and were 60 miles from Czechoslovakia. The *Guardian*, somewhat more modestly, spoke of '30,000 - 40,000 Soviet soldiers which moved from the Legnica district near Wroclaw towards the Czech border. However, the *Daily Telegraph*, operated in accordance with a somewhat paraphrased saying: "there is no jerk like an overzealous jerk"

There is no need to mention the fact that the BBC in the course of May 10 time and again broadcast this canard referring to the above mentioned papers while in the afternoon it was already taken up by all American papers and the Voice of America.

There is also no need to be a specialist in psychological warfare to realise that such slander inspired from one centre is aimed at poisoning the fraternal relations between Czechoslovakia and the Soviet Union. Western propaganda agencies, however, obviously miscounted. They probably forgot that Czechoslovakia is a member of the Warsaw Treaty Organisation and is therefore well informed about all military exercises and the movement of military units of the Warsaw Pact countries. This is why precisely Czechoslovakia was first to resolutely refute the slanderous concoctions about Soviet troop movements and the possible Soviet military intervention, already not mentioning the denials contained in the Marshal Yakubovskiy's *Pravda* article on the provocative reports of the western press and

radio. All these vain and unseemly attempts to undermine the unity of the European socialist countries by resorting to psychological warfare have failed and will never succeed. The peoples of the Soviet Union and of the other socialist countries are purposefully advancing along the road to socialism and communism.

N. BORODIN

The Vietnam Talks

After Four Meetings

THE American and North Vietnamese representatives have already met four times in Paris. The Western press is beginning to hint that the official talks between them may turn into a classical "dialogue of mutes".

There is naturally no lack of efforts to shift the responsibility to the Vietnamese side, to counterpose the 'propaganda position' allegedly adopted by the government of the DRV to the 'constructive' and 'realistic' stand of the United States. The position of the DRV, said Harriman, US representative at the Paris talks, 'suffers from a lack of wisdom and realism,' but so far as the USA is concerned, it is 'ready for constructive steps even today'.

True, the DRV representatives had to remind the American representatives at the Paris talks of several facts concerning the American aggression in Vietnam. But it is precisely this aggression which is the reason for the situation obtaining in the country at present. American intervention, American troops, American bombings of the territory of the DRV, American crimes committed against the people of Vietnam — it is the policy pursued by the US government rather than that of the DRV which put these questions on the agenda of the Paris talks.

It has long become clear to the world public that a solution of the

Vietnam problem may only be possible on condition that US troops are withdrawn from South Vietnam, the USA discontinues its interference into the affairs of the South Vietnamese people and that they be given the right to decide their own destiny. The pride of place is given to the unconditional cessation of American bombings of the territory of the DRV as well as other acts of war against it. This is actually the purpose of the present talks.

Mr. Harriman has called the position of the USA 'constructive' but the question arises: what is constructive about the position? Until now the American representatives in Paris has been defending the 'lawfulness' of the 'presence' of American troops in South Vietnam and, turning historical truths upside down, asserting that the resistance of the Vietnamese people against the US invaders was an 'act of aggression' on the part of the DRV. Judging from Harriman's statements, the US intends to continue the Vietnam war and support the Saigon clique which does not represent anyone and which is held up in South Vietnam only by US bayonets. The USA does not intend to unconditionally discontinue its bombings of the territory of the DRV, but demands 'parallel de-escalation' in return, i.e. an actual stopping of the DRV's assistance to the fighting population of South Vietnam, and this is called a 'constructive position' although the whole world is condemning the US aggression and demanding in the US itself a widespread peace movement has begun at present!

The question naturally arises: does not the US consider the Paris talks to be a sort of screen for the continuation of its aggression. It is rather characteristic that the number of American raids made on the territory of the DRV in April, i. e. since the talks began, has exceeded the monthly average carried out in the past having reached 7,000 according to the *Newsweek* magazine.

Mr. Harriman considers the DRV's position suffering from a lack of

wisdom and realism' because its government does not want to capitulate to US imperialism and adheres to the position of struggle for Vietnam's national independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity, whereas the US proceeds in its policy from the idea of turning South Vietnam into its military base and perpetuating its occupational of the country? According to Mr. Harriman, the insistent striving of the North Vietnamese delegation to direct the talks into a premeditated and a fore thought channel, i.e. towards a discontinuance of the US raids on the territory of the DRV, should probably be added to the "lack of wisdom and realism" of the latter. It is rather characteristic that Mr. Harriman could not give an intelligible answer when at some press - conference he was asked whether the American side was ready to unconditionally put an end to the bombing so as to open the road for peace talks on the settlement of the Vietnam conflict. It is perfectly clear that all questions pertaining to political settlement, including those stipulated in Mr. Harriman's speeches, can be discussed in Paris or elsewhere only after the unconditional cessation of the American raids. 'Why should the delegations have come to Paris, writes the French *Figaro*' had there not existed a loophole for the unconditional cessation of bombings?

The bargain Mr. Harriman is trying to conduct in Paris, let us be frank, is not worthy of a gentleman since it is not difficult to see behind the position of the USA a striving to avoid the essence of the talks and to achieve concession made by the Vietnam side for a more effective continuation of the war. Does the USA really want to conduct negotiations? Or did it come to Paris for the sole reason to 'throw a bone' to public opinion within the United States and beyond its borders? The answer to this question is still pending even though four meetings have already been held at Hotel Majestic.

G. D.

THE BORDERLAND — by C. V. VELUPILLAI

CHAPTER SEVEN

THE CRASH

The Story so far.....

Sundari lived alone in her estate bungalow in the hills: Amaradasa, the artist-doctor, was her intimate friend. Dr. Nayagam's nephew, Ravi, came to spend the April holidays with Sundari. Her conduct towards the youth seemed to be very queer to Amaradasa.

The elegant Mrs. Tilekeratne, who came for treatment to Amaradasa, turned out to be his cousin. He promised to meet her in the village.

Sundari, Amaradasa and Ravi visited a cattle farm. On their return journey Amaradasa noticed that Sundari's behaviour was not in good taste. When they reached home, Amaradasa declined to have dinner with her and went away.

Ravi's presence in the house disturbed Sundari's emotional balance. She fought against it and her thoughts went back to the past.

She was the daughter of a rich lawyer-cum business man. In her fifteenth year she fell in love with Rajendran, a law student. When he left for England to complete his studies, he promised to marry her on his return. But he married an English girl there. This betrayal severely shocked Sundari and the illness that followed impaired her emotional growth. It took an erratic turn as she grew up.

She married Dr. Nayagam. He was a male flirt and her disappointment made her despise men who fell a prey to her beauty.

The days were dreary and sapless as if the very essence of life had been drawn out of him through a tube. However, Amaradasa was in and out of the "Beehive" but there was a kind of estrangement, a cold barrier between him and the "Queen Bee." Although she knew it she did not unduly worry but wished to be left alone. Amaradasa, on the other hand, could not contain his disturbing thoughts. Luckily for him there was plenty of work and the regular stream of patients who came to him were a source of comfort. The little boy with the brown paper appearance was brought to him by the old woman when he least expected them. The tonic he had given him appeared to have done some good. There was light in his eyes and cheer and brightness on his face but he looked so thin and bony that one could have seen through him. Amaradasa knew that the little fellow would perish in the squalor of the slum that was eating into the vitals of the old woman. So he had decided to take him to the village. He wondered whether the old woman

MICROWAVE COOKING

The advantages of microwave cooking of food are manifold: it is six to seven times faster than with a pressure cooker, far neater than with an electric oven and in considerably cheaper to work. Besides, with microwave cooking, the sides of the cooking vessel remain cool; no thermal insulation is needed and there is far less danger of any fire. In fact, dishes can be prepared in throwaway paper or plastic food molecules at such enormously high frequency that the molecular friction raises the temperature suddenly and leaves the food instantly "cooked". Despite these laudable virtues however, cooking food by microwaves has not found very wide acceptance. One reason may be its high initial investment. Another can be people's conservatism which looks on any new invention with suspicion for some time. This is more so in this case because cold cooking is a new concept altogether. However, the US army is not handicapped by such inhibitions. It is now testing a microwave bakery that can provide fresh bread each day for 9,000 men and a microwave kitchen that can turn out 200 meals an hour. The latest kitchen gadgets will use four 1.5 kw magnetrons operating on a frequency of 2,450 megahertz. It will take only three to five minutes to replace a faulty magnetron and only ten to 15 minutes to pull out a whole oven. A particular virtue which will be welcomed in the defence services is that, with the new cooker, utensils can be increased by the oven after use, or cleansed in an ultrasonic sink.

would agree to such an arrangement and therefore he made a cautious suggestion.

"Ammay, this boy needs lot of herbs and plenty of good air. Would you like to send him with me to the village for treatment?"

"Please take him anywhere, sir. I only want him to get well."

"Very well. I'll take him on Saturday."

"Thank you, master. Is there a mosque in the village?"

"Yes. Would his father agree?"

"His father is dead, sir."

"Poor fellow! What's his name?"

"Subir."

"It's a beautiful name and he would grow into a nice fellow. How old is he?"

"Twelve years, sir."

"Old mother, do not be worried. I'll take care of him."

"I am grateful to you, sir. I will come with him on Saturday."

They left.

Amaradasa stood near the window looking at the mountain in the distance. He thought of his visit to the village after eight months and remembered that he had to call on Mrs. Tilikeratne. How strange, he thought that she should turn out to be the first patient in the village. Somehow he had a feeling that his uncle would not like him to visit her because he was very jealous of the customs and traditions of the *Walauwa*. After all they were the mountain and the village had to come to them. He did not wish to displease the old man but still he had to maintain professional etiquette. He chose to be a medical man and he must be true to his calling. What did it matter if his uncle said anything. So he decided to call on Mrs. Tilikeratne.

All that was poor consolation. Something was gnawing his inside. Yes, it was Sundari. But what had she done? Even if she had behaved in any manner she liked who was he to be offended? Had she not invited him to her house and admitted him to the charmed circle of her friends, entertained him to tea and lunch and kept him amused with her company. What business had he to fall in love with her? And the state he was in was not love but something demeaning, a blight on his manhood. He was ashamed of himself and felt bitter. It was too late. The fire had consumed him. There was nothing left in him to be called self respect. He wanted to redeem himself. But how? For three years, yes, for three long years he had worked night and day to build up his practice.

Well, a man might start anew, he thought. He must have the courage to wipe out his itching passions that defiled

EXCAVATIONS OF KUSHAN KINGDOM CITY

A huge city, discovered by Soviet archaeologists in Southern Uzbekistan, might have been the first capital of the state of Kushan, an empire of the antique world. This is the conclusion, specifically, of Professor Galina Pugachengova, who heads an expedition excavating the site of the ancient Dalverzin Tepe city, near Termez. Archaeologists discovered remnants of a city, there, considerably bigger in size than all other populated settlements of the Kushan epoch (1 century B. C. — 4th century A. D.) in the territory of the USSR. Next to the city was a fortress with strong (up to 8-metre thick) walls, surrounded by a wide and deep moat. According to archaeologists, the remnants of a Buddhist sanctuary, a fine piece of architecture, presents particular interests. Under a UNESCO decision, an international conference to study the kingdom of Kushan is planned to be held in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, this September. The kingdom of Kushan occupied a vast territory, including Central Asia and Northern India.

LONGO

Luigi Longo, General Secretary of the Italian Communist Party, after a visit to Prague, has praised the new leaders of the Czechoslovak Communist Party for the courage with which they are trying to build a modern, youthful, open system of socialism accessible to all democratic forces". The changes in Czechoslovakia, he added, "have not weakened but strengthened the socialist system".

his body and mind. Otherwise he would cease to be a man. Life was not full of ease and comfort. He was prepared to do anything to get himself back. Yes, his dignity, his ideal and integrity that were the essential part of his life. His mind was made up and he decided to go away to an unknown place where he could start again. He found great relief in that decision. He laughed to himself and walked to and fro from the Waiting Room to the Consultation Room and back. His eyes, however, alighted on Sundari's window. There was no one. He had an impulse to go there and display his light state of mind.

He went straight. The front door was partly closed. To a gentle push it moved on its hinges. In his panther-like swiftness he turned towards the left and stood shock still as if he were struck by an invisible hand. There on the couch Sundari was seated in a state of disorder, her saree fallen from her breast and Ravi was leaning on her shoulder and her left arm was round him. Her face was flushed and she had the eyes of the drunk.

Amaradas's sudden entry was like a hammer stroke on a sheet of glass; only there was no crash.

"I am sorry", mumbled Amaradasa and turned to go.

"Mr. Amaradasa, please come here and see the boy", she called him.

It all happened in a split second. Without a word he went to her. She sat in the same position as if nothing had happened but was only a bit pale. Her lips had dried up and looked angry like a woman who was caught robbing in her own house.

"He said, he was feeling giddy. See what's wrong with him."

"Why didn't you give me a ring. I would have come here. Please move a bit and let me see his pulse."

Sundari pulled Ravi close to her and turned him towards Amaradasa. He felt the boy's pulse. It was not weak or irregular, as he expected it to be. But it galloped wildly and registered intense excitement. Amaradasa felt the boy's temples. He drew it back. All the while Sundari watched the elder man's face and got no hint from it.

"Would you care to take a "pick me up"?"

The boy shook his head.

"Just a nervous condition. It will pass off."

"When he fainted I was upset."

"Naturally. The dispensary is open. I must go."

He quickly turned back like a man who was flogged on his naked back.

Sundari swallowed the lump in her throat.

"Now, you would scold me", said Ravi.

"You are an evil in this house. For my sake and your sake go away. Let me have peace."

The boy was silent. He thought she was mad.

GUNNAR MYDRAL

There is nothing honourable about the war and, *Gunnar Myrdal* told a group of New York journalists, the basic problem for the US is to get out of Vietnam in an orderly manner. The statement hit the headlines next day in the American newspapers. The well-known Swedish economist and author of "*The American Dilemma*" had called a press conference to release another monumental work of his called "*Asian Drama*".

Myrdal's new three-volume study is mainly devoted to India, its economic development and Jawaharlal Nehru. He has been Professor of Political Economics for over a decade at the Stockholm University and then Sweden's Minister of Trade and Commerce. He was also Executive Secretary of the UN Economic Commission for Europe.

A firm believer in planned economic development, he has first-hand knowledge of India. His wife was Swedish Ambassador in New Delhi and he spent two very useful years in the country. He addressed several seminars and held long discussions with the policy makers and economists. Old age does not deter him from hard academic work and at 70 he still plans a few more tomes.

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The Reader's Digest And Its Dupes

WITH the largest circulation of any publication in the country—16,000,000 copies each month—the *Reader's Digest* has an enormous capacity to deceive the public. For example, there was its false claim of a few months ago that the Social Security system is going bankrupt. This phony charge has been exposed by angry Congressmen and bitterly denounced by the National Council of Senior Citizens, whose members plan to picket *Digest* office: many other citizens were panicked by fear that their Federal old age benefits were imperiled.

The *Reader's Digest*, which has published anti-welfare and anti-"Big Government" views with increasing frequency, also has attacked unemployment compensation, the Internal Revenue Service, the Bureau of Labour Statistics, and the U.S. Employment Service.

The magazine's most recent gambit against the public interest was to join with the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association (PMA) in a year long campaign designed to deceive millions of Americans. In its November issue the *Digest* ran four articles together in an eight-page section so that they would appear to be editorial matter. One article glorified the drug firms for developing drugs that combat children's diseases. Another described a man allegedly hospitalized because he was given a drug designated not by brand name but under its "generic" or family name. (The pharmaceutical firms have made vast profits through their brand name merchandising and relentlessly oppose the sale of drugs under their far less costly generic names.) A third article reported the miracles wrought by drugs in coping with mental illness. The fourth contended that 'inflation' is a problem with most things you buy but not prescription drugs".

The magazine presented these pieces with typical *Digest* article headlines and artwork. At the top right hand corner of the opening page of the section, in small type appeared the words "Apecial Advertising Section". At the bottom of the last page a modest notice stated that the section was "First in a series published as a Public Service by the Pharmaceutical Manufacturers Association". The PMA's president, C. Joseph Stetler, said the section in the November issue cost \$240,000 and was the first of a series of four such sections to be run in the *Digest*. The magazine, he said, had approached his organization and persuaded it (our emphasis) to run the the advertisements.

The PMA has distributed a million reprints of the *Digest* material, omitting the line identifying it as advertising. Most have been sent to doctors whom the drug companies expect will make them available to patients.

Senator Gaylord Nelson, Wisconsin Democrat who heads a Senate subcommittee which has been investigating the high cost of life-saving drugs, branded the PMA campaign in the *Digest* as "calculated deception". He disclosed that the Department of Justice and the Federal Trade Commission were investigating the matter for possible deceptive practice. Senator Mark Hatfield, Oregon Republican, citing other examples of the *Digest* tendency to disguise advertisements as articles has called for an inquiry into the magazine's entire advertising policy.

The *Reader's Digest*, the country's largest transmission belt for reactionary ideas, has always refused to publish any rebuttal of its attacks. This hit-and-run editorial policy makes the *Digest* an ideal vehicle for the PMA's propaganda. The

Government, and the Senate itself, should conduct a vigorous inquiry into the publication's advertising practices.

PROGRESSIVE, USA
Jan. 1968

TRUDEAU

Canadian Prime Minister Trudeau says Canada must soon begin making direct contacts with China as a contribution to "international order and stability". He added: "I would be in favour of any measures, including recognition on suitable terms, which could intensify the contacts between our two countries."

LUNG TRANSPLANTATION

Over a hundred surgical replantations (return transplantation) of lungs have been conducted at the Institute of Clinical and Experimental Surgery. Animals had a lung completely severed and then sutured back. After some time the lung adapted itself and the function of respiration restored. Continuing the experiment surgeons removed the second lung of a test dog. Observations showed that in this event replanted lung ensured the animal's life. The Institute has conducted several successful experimental operations transplanting a part of the right lung in place of the removed left one. After experimental studies the surgeons of the Institute conducted in the clinical department 25 operations on the chest part of trachea. Three operations had a lethal outcome, while 22 patients recovered and returned to work.

US Drains

Latin America Of Its Doctors

by Beatrice Johnson

Havana

In the years between 1961 and 1966, 4,000 Latin American doctors migrated to the U. S., according to a report released here by the Cuban Ministry of Public Health.

The cost of training one doctor has been estimated at between \$21,000 and \$50,000. Consequently, said the report, these countries lost not only desperately needed doctors, but spent \$84,000,000 to further the U.S.'s medical practice. This sum is approximately equal to the amount of and given to Latin America by the U. S. annually for health and medical purposes.

The loss of approximately eight percent of medical graduates yearly affects all of Latin America, but is a particularly serious problem in such small poverty-stricken countries as Haiti, which loses 48 percent, Panama, which loses 40 percent, and the Dominican Republic, which loses 37 percent.

THE PAN AMERICAN Sanitary Office recently reported that 2,200 doctors, all university graduates, are now interns or residents in U.S. hospitals; 3,733 doctors, who are neither interns nor residents, practice medicine as a private profession. Of these 1,300 are Cubans, 933 Mexicans, 399 Argentinians, 294 Dominicans, 211 Colombians, and 101 Brazilians. Of the more than 3,000 doctors in private practice 33 percent are specialists, 20 percent general practitioners, 30 percent work in hospitals, four percent teach and five percent engaged in scientific research.

While more and more Latin American doctors are being lured to the north, most of their native countries are suffering from a desperate lack of medical personnel.

Haiti, which loses 48 percent of its graduates, has only 0.7 doctors for each 10,000 inhabitants; Argentina has 14.9 doctors per 10,000, and Bolivia, Ecuador and Guatemala have only four doctors per 10,000.

THE CUBAN study seeks to determine why so many doctors and other professionals leave their countries. It is too simple, it decides, to blame the individual doctor. Among many other factors, many desire not only the higher living standards, but the greater scientific possibilities offered in the U.S.

But in Latin America, it is almost impossible for the son of a worker or a peasant to have the means to finance the long years of study necessary for the achievement of a medical degree: the profession is normally within the reach of the sons of the bourgeoisie and the wealthy landowners only. They tend to see that their chosen profession, says the study, as a means to status and wealth

The U.S., in its recruiting drives, has consistently lured these young professionals—engineers, scientists, doctors, writers and artists—with lucrative promises of scholarships, scientific literature, scientific congress, etc. In other words, the effort is made, not to bring the benefits of science and technology to the countries of Latin America, but rather to prevent their development by draining off the cream of the trained personnel.

IN SPITE OF THE LOSS of many doctors and other professionals, lured by fear of the Revolution and by promises of the U.S., Cuba has attained the highest health standards of any Latin American country. The Revolution called for a new concept of medicine and

Medicine, taken out of the business world, has become a public service, free to every citizen. Two new medical schools, in Oriente and Las Villas provinces, have been built.

A network of preventive medicine covers the country and a system of hospitals, clinics and doctor's care reaches into the remotest regions. This has helped eradicate, malaria, the tropical killer, tuberculosis has been greatly reduced, and polio, through the universal vaccination of children under 14 years of age, has been virtually eliminated.

The system of complete scholarships for medical and technical students has brought the sons and daughters of the working people into the schools, hospitals and clinics.

UNDERWATER UTOPIA

The Munich authorities stopped a night club show in which girls in bikinis tumbled and wrestled in a pool to the accompaniment of beat music. The office for Public Order said it decided to stop the show in the psychedelic 'blow up' beat club for reasons of hygiene and morals. Dozens of young men in the audience had dived into the pool to join the girls.

SASEBO

Japan and the USA may jointly investigate reports of excessive radiation in Sasebo harbour during the recent visit of the nuclear-powered American submarine *Swordfish*. The submarine visited Sasebo from May 2 to May 11. Investigations conducted on May 6 yielded radiation counts of 10 or 20 times the normal amount.

EMPIRE*From Thurs*

Cliff Robertson - Red Buttons

Up From The Beach*Air-Conditioned*
MAJESTICAlex Cord - Shirley Eaton in
M G M's**The Scorpio Letters**

3rd Week

Air-Conditioned
REGAL

John Wayne - Rita Hayworth

Circus World

2nd week

ELPHINSTONE-ROXYJeeva Rani
Sandhya Kumari in

E. A. P. Films'

BICYCLE HORA*Directed by: K. A. W. Perera***GAIETY**Trichy Soundararajan
in**PANAM THARUM
PARISU****SELLAMAHAL**● Gemini ● Savithri
● Mutturaman ● K.R. Vijaya**SEETHA**

5th Week

CROWN

Rajendra Kumar - Vyjanthimala

SURAJ*in Technicolor**Air-Conditioned*
SAVOY

Marlon Brando — Yul Brynner

MORITURI**FILM PAGE**

● **BICYCLE HORA**, E. A. P. Films' 5th production, released through Ceylon Theatres Ltd. now showing at *ELPHINSTONE, ROXY, ASOKA* and other centres, is an all round family entertainer, placing it apart from most other films of its class by its strikingly different set-up and the intensely realistic manner of the treatment. The picture grips the audience attention in a remarkable degree by its realistic portrayal of life and the novelty of its background. The topical theme, that society cannot be divided as good and bad, as according to the environments of the day, a good person is liable to turn bad, and a bad one will reform and the life and glimpses of the upper and middle class are well integrated. Being a sort of combination, and to retain the really vital aspects of the types, the plot line is well developed with an entertaining mixture. The story, of course, holds scope for drama and sentiment in ample measure and the way it is scripted and worded, it becomes quite interesting to watch. In the dramatic construction, the focus is not merely on the narration of misdeed and reformation, but on several collateral aspects, some of which are problems in the country and, therefore, give a topical significance to the film. This is helped to a large extent by the puposeful dialogue, which often brings home rational solutions for ticklish issues, in a few telling words. This is a commendable movie with a healthy aim and purpose. The film preaches that character is man's biggest wealth and pleads for the higher values of life, while hinting at the evils prevalent in the country. Direction by K. A. W. Perera is breathtakingly brisk maintaining a fast pace throughout. The story is narrated in a straight forward manner by his skilful, artistic and creative direction. His pithy dialogues lifts many a humdrum scene with sparkling impact. He has taken full advantage of the story, and from the beginning to end there is a very

commendable restraint in his treatment.
noolaham.org | aavanaham.org

ment which has made the film worthy of the medium of expression. The musical score by Premasiri Kemasada is well-based and the tunes are attractive. The background score too is rich in its various strains and effects. The roof-top fight is well composed by Robin Fernando and executed in a thrilling and exciting manner. The camera work by Lenin Moraes is verily a highlight of the film. He has employed some unusual technique in the credit titles. The movie produced by E. A. P. Edirisinghe is commendable for its naturalness in filming, acting and locale, and the performances are good.

Suraweera (D. R. Nanayakkara) who has just returned from jail, steals a bicycle to earn a living as a lunch-carrier. His daughter (Jeevarani Kurukulasooriya) advises him to give up his bad ways and earn a honest living. He takes the cycle and leaves it at a junction. Later he notices an attache case on a pillar box. He takes the case and returns to the rightful owner, his landlord, a M. P. (David Dharmakirithi). Suraweera receives a reward of Rs. 150 and with this money he purchases a bicycle and commences the lunch-carrier business. Through his perseverance and honesty the business develops. The M. P.'s son (Oswald Jayasinghe) who is interested in



Sandhya Kumari in a scene from E.A.P. Films **BICYCLE HORA**, produced by E.A.P. Edirisinghe and directed by K.A.W. Perera. Ceylon Theatres Ltd. latest release.

Suraweera's daughter gets married to her, and Suraweera finally defeats his landlord in the election and becomes an M. P.

● **THE SCORPIO LETTERS**, an exciting story of blackmail and murder, now showing at the *MAJESTIC*

THEATRE, stars Alex Cord, Shirley Eaten, the Goldfinger Girl, Laurence Naismith, and a number of others playing secret agents. They try desperately to capture a super-criminal who has set up a fabulous system for gathering intimate secrets on important people and then intricately and safely collecting blackmail ransom. The master criminal signs his letters "Scorpio, and he is a former French underground leader who has diverted his techniques to crime. When an undercover agent named Chaffee leaps to his death from a hotel window in London, Joe Christopher (Alex Cord), an American living in England is hired by an intelligence chief to find out the reason for Chaffee's suicide and pick up the man's work in trying to locate a mysterious super black mailer called Scorpio and destroy his organisation. During his operation, Joe encounters Phoebe Stewart (Shirley Eaten), a lush British girl who works for the military as an agent and is trying to unravel the same riddle. During the course of action as they help one another out of death traps, they become romantically involved. Joe takes on a job as a waiter, and later infiltrates a group known as the Bianeri, a section from a resistance branch in France during the German occupation. Here he finds intrigue, violence, even

traitors to the blackmail organisation itself. Joe and Phoebe then find their way to the Riviera and the master criminal known as Scorpio whose real name is Phillippe Bardine. He is surrounded by an odd collection of murderous characters including a woman with a monstrous face.

Air Conditioned
LIBERTY

JACK LEMMON
TONY CURTIS
NATALIE WOOD

"The
Great Race"

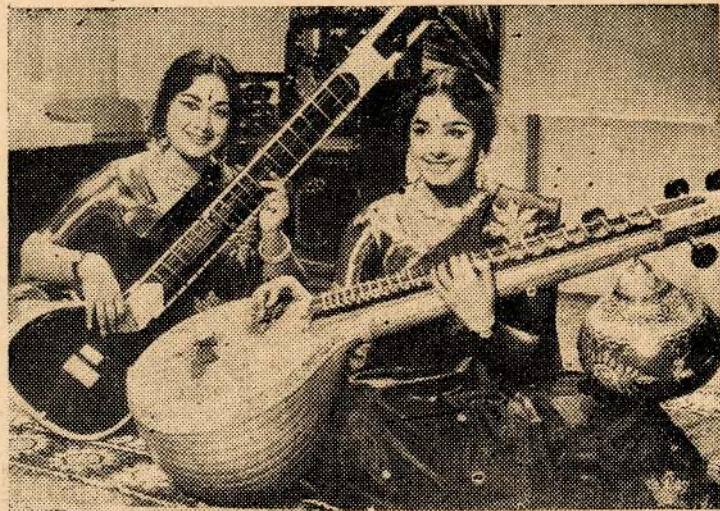
Superpanavision 70

CENTRAL

JAISHANKER
BHARATHI

in

Nan Yar
Theriyuma



Savithri and K. R. Vijaya in a scene from the Tamil Movie SEETHA
Ceylon Theatres Ltd. release.

NOW SHOWING
KINGSLEY PLAZA
MYLAN

& 5 Other Centers

10 a.m., 2, 6, 9.30 p.m

President Award Winner

- Gemini ● K. R. Vijaya
- Asokan ● Nagesh in

R A M U

Another AVM Production

3rd. Week

CAPITOL

10.30, 3.30, 6.30, 9.30 p.m.

MIKE HENRY
NANCY KOVAK
in

**TARZAN AND
THE VALLEY
OF GOLD**

IN COLOR

6TH WEEK

GAMINI

10 a.m. 2, 6, 9.30 p.m

Sandhya Kumari

IN

AKKA NAGO

3rd Week

LIDO (BORELLA)

10.30, a.m 2.30, 6.30

& 9.30 p.m

Dharmendra—Rajshree

in

**MOHABBAT
ZINDAGI HAI**

Eastman Colour

Greek Junta's Payoff

TO US BONDHOLDERS

by Victor Perlo

THE Papadopoulos mob in Athens has been wooing the buzzards of Wall Street, the bankers who specialize in picking the bones of the bankrupt. During the 1930s and 1940s most international bond issues defaulted, thanks to the economic crisis and the German invasions. The unfortunate "lambs" who had bought them in the 1920s now sold out for peanuts to the specialists.

These well-connected operators waited while their men in Washington poured tens of billions of "foreign aid" and established military bases, to install reactionary collaborationist governments. In every case, when the time was ripe, the moribund bonds were presented for "settlement"

Altogether, there were over \$60 million of defaulted Greek dollar bonds, and a large pile of British-held sterling bonds. In 1948-52, the "best" of them, the 6s of 1948 and the 7s of 1924, could be picked up for \$50-\$100 per \$1,000 bond - at 5-10 percent of parity.

IN 1962 the right-wing Greek Government agreed with the Foreign Bondholders Protective Council to pay \$136 in cash for each bond of these types, to pay interest of 2-3 percent, and to place small amounts into a sinking fund, through 1967, with no guarantees beyond then. This partial settlement brought the price of the bonds up to about \$400.

In May, 1967, one month after the coup, and shortly before a July 1 deadline, the dictatorship announced it would make the payments permanently, and promised to raise the interest rate on some bonds to 3½%. Bonds on

which \$136 had already been paid jumped to around \$490 at the end of 1967, equivalent to \$626 for the bonds purchasable for one-tenth that sum after World War II. This deal applied to \$35 million of bonds.

The King's abortive semi-coup called for some new lubrication, to insure prompt all-out Washington support, regardless of mounting protests. On Dec. 21, in the midst of the crisis, the Greek Government offered a payment plan for the \$7 million of 3 percent Notes of 1931, originally due in 1934-36.

Holders of this erstwhile wallpaper will receive \$249.02 immediately, and \$552 in cash over the next four years, making a total of \$801.02 for each \$1,000 note. Greece will pay all expenses and fees to First National City Bank named Exchange Agent for the deal.

AS TO the Esso-Pappas and Litton deals a check in the files shows just how intimately they depend on the dictatorship. The Esso-Pappas deal was concluded in 1962 with the repressive right-wing government, against the opposition of Centrist Papandreu and the Left. When Papandreu became Premier, he forced Esso-Pappas to revise the terms radically, providing substantial royalties for the Greek Government, limiting profits, and waiving the Standard Oil supply monopoly so that the Greek Government could import Soviet oil in exchange for its surplus farm products. These concessions were negotiated in 1964 for the U. S. side by Pappas, acting simultaneously as Pres. Johnson's special envoy. I haven't seen a new announcement, but: How

much is left of those 1964 concessions to Greek national interests?

Litton's lucrative deal to act as procurer for turning over Crete and the Western Peloponessus to U.S. corporations, was concluded early in 1966, after the overthrow of Papandreu, but before the military dictatorship. However, opponents could still speak out, and parliament members charged that Litton, as overlord of Greece, was "turning this country into a European Congo."

Under pressure of the mounting opposition, Litton cancelled the contract in Sept. 1966. Its spokesman blamed Greek M.P.'s, saying that the withdrawal "removes Litton from the crossfire of conflicting elements of the Greek political factions, especially since Litton is not a political organization" (*N. Y. Times*, 9/24/66).

The poor babes in the woods! On May 15, 1967, only 24 days after the military coup, the \$828 million contract was signed once again, providing Litton with 1.9 percent - 2.25 percent commission on all investments procured and 11 percent "overhead" on its 'costs,' estimated at \$10 million in the next few years.

BUT THERE'S nothing political about Litton Director Henry Salvatore, principal 1964 financier of Goldwater's California campaign, or Director retired Gen. Carl A. Spaatz, a notorious Strangelove type.

The payoffs to bondholders and the take of U.S. investing corporations are sweated out of the Greek people. But they are also at the expense of U.S. taxpayers forced to pay vast sums in "foreign aid" payoffs to Greek generals, royalty, and puppet politicians. It amounts to an international gangup on the peoples of both countries.