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Present Indications Point To A Snap Election In The First Half Of 1969 :

All present indications in the political field have made discerning political observers believe that the top leadership of the Government (and the UNP) has decided that the most opportune moment to hold the next General Elections would be in the first half of 1969. The Government administrators believe that the Maha harvest of February / March 1969 would be a record one and that a general election on the crest of a propaganda drive to celebrate this phenomenal paddy crop will help the UNP led by Mr. Dudley Senanayake to supreme victory. Unless unexpectedly devastating rains fall between now and the Maha crop with consequent floods, it is likely that a really impressive rice crop will be harvested early next year. The full impact of the rise in the cost of living on account of the devaluation and FEECs scheme will become more and more marked as time goes on, and the earlier the general elections are held the better it would be for the government. Moreover, with the present

foreign exchange reserves it would be possible to supply all the hardy essentials, (like dhal, coriander, maldive fish, etc.) that the consumers crave for a period for six to nine months. Additionally, the exchange and other difficulties which will arise as a result of the implementation of the Shastri - Sirimavo Agreement will also come to head in about a year's time. Furthermore, the minority votes, (e.g. the Muslim vote, the Ceylon Tamil vote, and the Indian Tamil vote) can be best gathered before conflicts and contradictions become more acute. Already the Ceylon Tamil vote is in jeopardy with the partial breakaway of the FP: the glamour of celebrating the 1400th anniversary of the Qur'an may not stand the test of one full year; and the Indian vote would be best got before the repatriation difficulties come to a head. Taking all these factors into consideration, it is likely that the general elections may be held early next year — shortly after the Maha crop and before

the time is fully up for the repayment of the agricultural loans so generously advanced by the Government. Furthermore, the internal difficulties of the Opposition are at the highest point of intensity at the moment. The Czech crisis has introduced strains and stresses into the partnership which may cause a major split. The defection of Mr. R. G. Senanayake has undoubtedly made inroads into SLFP support, and is strengthening the hands of SLFP stalwarts who want the party to "go it alone" without the LSSP and the CP. Given time, governmental strategists feel, the Opposition may compose these differences and overcome the difficulties that arise therefrom — and therefore a snap election as early as possible would be best for the UNP. And finally, it is whispered in knowledgeable circles that astrologers have indicated that a general election before June 1969 would be most favourable for the powers-that-be at the helm of affairs today.

Headlines Of The Week

THURSDAY, October 3 — The Board of the Lanka Salu Sala, the sole importer of cloth, has decided to bring down the price of all imported textiles. The Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake is tentatively scheduled to begin a state visit to India on November 25. Twenty one year old T. M. Tikiri Menike of Mawata-gama successfully underwent an operation for the replacement of her diseased mitral valve with an artificial valve at the open heart surgery unit of the General Hospital, Colombo, yesterday. The US Secretary of State, Mr. Dean Rusk, called on the Soviet Union to make good its promise to pull its troops out of Czechoslovakia and to give an assurance that it was not seeking to place itself above the law of the UN Charter, at the UN General Assembly. The Malaysian Premier warned that there may be even bloodshed if the Phillipines brought the Sabah dispute into an open conflict.

FRIDAY, October 4 — Mrs. D. Sabapathy, mother of nine children, died yesterday, two hours after the completion of a mitral heart-valve operation on her. The Ceylon Dumb Friends Welfare Association celebrated World Animal Day today. Today is the 1,000th day of the state of emergency that began on December 19, 1966. The Minister of Education had laid down that each electorate should have a minimum of eight schools. The Treasury has directed all Permanent Secretaries and Heads of Departments to take steps immediately to ensure that Sinhala translations of all out-going official letters drafted in English are done within a maximum of 48 hours. The Army overthrew the Government of President Belaunde Terry in a pre-dawn coup. The President was seized and flown out of the country to exile in Buenos Aires. President Johnson withdrew his nomination of Abbe Fortas to be Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court.

SATURDAY, October 5 — A third heart valve operation on David Singho was successfully performed yesterday. The Secretary of the National Union of Workers has proposed to the Ministry of Health that all doctors who are unable to obtain Government appointments, be employed in the estates run by private companies. The Minister of State, Mr. J. R. Jayawardena, has prepared legislation for setting up a Wild Life Preservation Fund. Czechoslovakian and Russian leaders were having fresh talks in Moscow yesterday. A palace spokesman confirmed that President Ferdinand Marcos was willing to meet the Malaysian Prime Minister even if Manila's claim to Sabah was not included in the discussion.

SUNDAY, October 6 — The Prime Minister addressing the Government Agents at a conference yesterday said that paddy production target for 1969 had even surpassed the target for 1970. Mr. M. J. Perera, Vice Chancellor of the University of Ceylon, Peradeniya

advised 1,200 fresher students that they must not be misled by the press as news reports were not necessarily accurate. Czech leaders returned to Prague from the Moscow negotiations that legalised the presence of 600,000 Soviet-led occupation troops.

MONDAY, October 7 — At a press conference, the Pakistan Minister for Law and Parliamentary Affairs, Mr. Seyed Mohammed Zafar, who participated in the Holy Quran celebrations here, said that there could never have been any vagueness over the Kachchativu issue and that it was essentially an integral part of Ceylon. Five thousand new entrants to the four Universities are to receive bursaries. T. M. Tikiri Menike, the first heart-valve operation patient, died at the General Hospital yesterday morning. The Customs have uncovered a largescale racket resorted to by some firms in the import of car spares duty free by furnishing false invoices and declaring that they are agricultural machinery spares. For the first seven months this year Ceylon has a deficit of Rs. 200.7 million in the balance of trade, according to the latest monthly Customs Returns. The three Permanent Secretaries appointed by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Food Production has discovered that almost £ 655,000 in foreign exchange was paid out by the Government as demurrage in the first seven months of this year. Rome Police have detained four Italians on suspicion of handing over Italian state secrets to a Russian diplomat. Surveys published in the *New York Times* and the *Washington Post* have given the Republican Presidential nominee, Richard M. Nixon, a winning lead.

TUESDAY, October 8 — The *Daily Mirror* reported that the Treasury had directed all Permanent Secretaries and heads of Departments to implement the Official Language Act and the Regulations under the Tamil Language (Special Provisions) Act. In 1965/66 there were over 2,000 deaths in the country due to malnutrition or due to diseases in which malnutrition was a leading factor. A twenty eight million five hundred and eighty thousand rupee aid agreement between the governments of Britain and Ceylon was signed yesterday. Alexander Dubcek and three other Czech Communist leaders were expected to resign in protest against the Kremlin treaty legalising Soviet occupation of the country.

WEDNESDAY, October 9 — The Federal Party will support the Government on the Opposition-sponsored "No confidence motion against the Minister of Education". The Prime Minister said in Parliament that the Government would have no use for the Emergency once the Interim Devaluation Allowance Bill and the Co-operative Societies (Temporary Provisions) Bill were passed. The *Daily Mirror* reported that thirty Kandyan leaders who met over the weekend decided that they should go all out to have Ceylon divided into three separate states *viz*: Northern, Kandyan and Ruhuna. The British Prime Minister is due to fly to Gibraltar for a last-chance confrontation with the Rhodesian Premier on settling the Rhodesian independence conflict.

COMMENT
ON
CURRENT AFFAIRS

WORLD BANK AID : less and less to give on higher interest and harder terms

In spite of the fact that everybody now knows that the World Bank (and even its agencies like the IDA) cannot play the role of Santa Claus distributing gifts all round, the Dudley Senanayake government has little or no alternative but to make much of the World Bank and the assistance which its country has got and hopes to get from this international lending agency. It is reported that a team from the World Bank has come to Ceylon "to study its economy" — after the Government has implemented the World Bank's requirements that Ceylon should cut down on its rice subsidy and also devalue its currency. The subsidised rice ration was cut by half (with the election bait of a free measure of rice), and a twenty percent devaluation was effected in domestic currency ratios and sixty five percent (forty five through FEECs) on foreign imports. All this was done at the behest of World Bank experts who had predicted that if these were done the economy of the country would show a marked improvement. Although government publicists claim that there has been a remarkable growth in "production" (and this has probably helped only a handful of "industrialists" who have been permitted to sell at fancy blackmarket prices), the standard of living has worsened particularly after the devaluation. There is also much shouting about the increase in paddy production, but this has not yet been reflected in the price the ordinary householder pays for his rice in the open market. Government spokesmen over the Radio argue that although many regard statistics as notoriously unreliable (many GAs and food production officers still hoodwink their superiors with bogus and inflated figures of paddy production), the fact that rice can be bought at Marketing Department stalls at Poya Polas and other places at prices less than what they were a few months ago was clear indication that more rice had been harvested. The simple fact is that the Marketing Department sells rice at slightly reduced prices — but only a fraction of the total turnover of rice sales goes through the Marketing Department stalls. Moreover, the Marketing Department sell out their stocks quickly each day, and the ordinary householder has to fall back upon his usual retailer, who also extends him some measure of credit essential to make both ends meet. *If one takes the price of rice at the ordinary retailers, it cannot be said that the increase of production has effected a reduction in price. There is however no shortage of rice in the open market and this is no doubt due to increased production. Thus far and more, and the rest is propaganda, and election propaganda, at that.*

TO SHOW that living standards have been adversely affected, we cannot do better than quote a few sentences from the *Daily Mirror*, 10/10, which editorially hinted that the elections would be held in about nine months time. "The deceits of democracy", stated the editorial, "are such that Governments in power always imagine that they can toy and trifle with the people immediately after they are voted into power and then when the elections loom near again, the very people who are booted about till then can be wooed again. Hence politicians change overnight from starchy snobs into effusive friends, from arrogant popinjays into simple Samaritans. So do Governments. For three years they dally and dawdle. Then when the battle of ballots is round the corner, they lay seige to the minds and hearts of the people with gestures of unimaginable generosity, with open general licences for dhal and dry fish, coriander and canned fish, indeed for all those essential commodities for which the people cried out so long, but could never obtain. We are therefore compelled to parade the living index of their own compiling. When the National Government took the reins of power the living index was 112.5. Today it has zoomed to an all time high — 122.9. The food index in March 1965 was 107.3. Today it is 122.3. Need we offer any comment other than parade this eloquent barometer of the Government itself, the living index, to assess the woes of the people?" *Is any better analysis possible of the consequences of blindly adopting World Bank recommendations than the unanswerable fact that living standards have dropped to perilous levels?*

THE UNP and its allies won the March 1965 elections on the promise that Western capitalist countries would render them such massive economic aid that this island would be turned into an economic paradise within a short time. This massive aid never came, and what was given were only dribbles from an Aid Club under the general patronage of the World Bank. But even the meagre sums of "tied aid" that was extended to Ceylon was coupled with demands that Ceylon should cut the rice ration and also devalue her currency. But, even after these dubious economic measures were adopted, Ceylon's economy has not shown any marked improvement nor has aid from the West increased in any substantial manner. On the other hand, the prospects are that the aid would be reduced not because Ceylon has not toed the line but because the World Bank is getting short of funds. With all the kowtowing Ceylon has done to World Bank panjandrums, it will be a miracle of alms-getting if the "aid" is maintained at the level given before. The Government, no doubt, hopes that an increase will be given for loyalty in view of the imminent general elections: at least, bigger promises and bigger carrots should be held out to help the UNP and its allies to win the elections. *How far these hopes of the Government will materialise is yet to be seen, but it is also clear that World Bank authorities like to help the present Government to retain its power. Wishful thinking si*

one thing, but hard realities are another, and there is not the slightest doubt that the World Bank and the IDA are starved for funds.

EVEN BEFORE the annual meeting of the World Bank on September 30, it was known that the most serious problem facing the Bank was the shortage of funds particularly to provide "soft" loans to developing countries. The Bank's instrument for dispensing concessionary aid is its affiliate, the International Development Association (IDA), which depends on its funds and contributions from the 18 wealthiest members of the Bank. Earlier this year, these countries had pledged a total of 1,200 million dollars over three years to the IDA whose resources are now down to a meagre 130 million dollars. However, the obtaining of these funds was dependent on parliamentary sanction in the respective donor countries, and what was disheartening was that the US Congress and Senate had blocked the ratification of the 480 million dollars the US administration had promised the IDA as its contribution. If no US share is forthcoming — it is not likely that any decision will be made until after the Presidential elections — the IDA will have to depend on what it can get from other countries. Nevertheless, the estimates by World Bank staff put the maximum funds likely to be available to the IDA around 500 million dollars (instead of the 1200 millions) including a 75 million dollar transfer from bank earnings. **This is less than the current estimated needs of a single nation like India over the next few years. Moreover, it is also a fact that the world's developing nations are already in such debt that they cannot afford to take on more aid on commercial terms without endangering their economies for years ahead.** This means that the IDA, which has dispensed some 1,800 million dollars to date, should raise its level of operations rather than allow it to sink drastically. The IDA grants 50-year credits with no interest and only a three-fourth percent service charge, and any possible expiration of this aid is, according to observers, a far more menacing prospect than by the halving of the US administration foreign aid proposals by the Congress. *Whilst the IDA is thus left in the doldrums, the World Bank can easily raise money for re-lending in most world capitals and the suggestion has been made that the World Bank should take over much of the foreign aid responsibilities abandoned by the USA. Whatever administration comes into power in the USA after the next elections, it is abundantly clear that US Congress and the Senate will vote less and less for aid.*

Bank increased its interest rate by a quarter percent and Ceylon will in future have to pay 0.25 cents more per annum for every one hundred rupees borrowed from the World Bank. So far, the World Bank has granted four loans to Ceylon totalling Rs. 185 millions, and of this sum Rs. 177.7 had been withdrawn up to September, 1967. A further loan of Rs. 20 million has been granted to the Development Finance Corporation, repayment being guaranteed by the Ceylon Government. The interest rate on these loans vary from four and three-quarter percent to six and one quarter percent annually. Any new loan will carry a further quarter percent and this will place an additional strain on Ceylon's repayment capacity. For this reason, the Ceylon administration had placed much store on obtaining "soft" loans from the IDA. Ceylon had so far received only Rs. 10 million from the IDA. It was granted for lift irrigation projects repayable in 50 years including a grace period of 10 years. It is interest-free but carries a service charge of three-quarter percent.

THE CEYLON GOVERNMENT's hopes of securing more IDA loans—now that all the World Bank's behests about rice subsidy and devaluation had been carried out — have now been dashed to the ground. This is not a crisis for Ceylon only but all developing countries which are today faced with the problem of meeting their debt service obligations. This will either compel them to stop borrowing from the Bank or bind them hand and foot permanently to the apron strings of the Bank. The latest increase in the Bank's lending rate is the second announced this year and since the costs of its borrowings in the capital market show no signs of a let-up, it may not be the last increase in the interest rate. The Bank knows the urgency for softening the terms of debts for developing countries which, as its own studies have shown, have hardened increasingly in recent years. Its failure to ease its terms, and the decision to stiffen them instead, therefore, show up once again the limitations of the World Bank as a development bank. *Depending exclusively on Western sources for its funds, it is structurally incapable of acting against the dictates of Western bankers. With the result that the World Bank has become an extension of western financing agencies rather than an international organisation helping the growth of developing countries. Even when it has wanted to help developing countries with "soft" loans through the IDA, Western countries have frustrated this effort by refusing to replenish funds. In these circumstances, can the National Government hope for very much? What have the World Bank experts, now is the island, to offer this country — besides recommending that we should tighten our belts some more?*

IT IS well to remember that World Bank loans have many limitations, apart from the requirement that the borrowing country has to toe the line in economic policies. From August 1, 1968, the World

Point Of View

THE QUR'AN

by Asoka Buddhadeva

Festivities marking the 1400th year of the Qur'an — the Bible of the Muslims — began in this country on October 2. Ceylon is the only non-Muslim country in the world to celebrate the Qur'an year on a large scale. To mark the celebrations the National Government of Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake will issue a commemorative stamp. We are publishing an article on the Qur'an in two instalments. The concluding instalment will appear in Tribune of October 20.

THE 1400 year anniversary of the Qur'an has focussed the attention of the Muslim world. Qur'an is the Arabic name for the Muslim Bible, or the collection of messages delivered by Mohamed in the name of God, in his capacity as an inspired prophet—messages which, according to him, were now transmitted by the angel Gabriel and now directly revealed to him in visions or in dreams. I should like to begin this article with a description of the personal appearance of the Prophet as given to us by the Arab biographers.

Mohamed was of middle stature. He had a large head, a thick beard, a round face with red cheeks. His brow was broad and noble, his mouth well-shaped, his nose high and slightly aquiline. He had large black eyes, a vein passed from his forehead over his brow, which used to swell, when he became angry. On his lower lips he had a small mole. His hair descended to his shoulders and unto death retained its black colour. He sometimes dyed it brown and frequently moistened it with fine-scented oil. Only on the occasion of his last pilgrimage did he have it shaved off. Every Friday before the prayer he cropped his moustache, shaved off the hair under

his arm nad paired his nails. Most graceful indeed was his neck which like a silver pole, rose over his broad breast. Between his shoulders he had a mole — reports differ about it — which the Muslims regarded as the seal of prophetship. His hands and feet were very large but he had so light a gait that his feet left no traces on the sand.

Unlike the Christian Bible the Qur'an is not a book arranged according to chronological order, or according to the nature of its contents. It is a motley collection of hymns, prayers, dogmas, sermons, fables, legends, laws and temporary ordinances, with reiterations and contradictions. This is due to the fact that Mohamed did not personally collect the revelations announced by him during a period of twenty-three years. Probably he did not wish them all to be preserved, for a great number of them dealt only with matters of passing importance. So many changes had to be effected in his laws and in his teachings that he possibly feared to hand them all down to posterity. Finally he wished, until death, to keep himself free to make necessary additions and alterations. After his death all the fragments of the revelations were put together, even those that were revised or repealed.

Verses of the Qur'an, scattered in all directions and recorded on parchment, leaves, stones, bones and other crude materials or those that were preserved in the memory of his contemporaries — all, indeed, were collected together and divided into chapters — large or small — without any regard to chronology or their contents. Thus arose the Qur'an with all its imperfections as we know it.

Only by a careful examination of the life of Mohamed and the language of the Qur'an we are able, to a

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certain extent, to fix the date of its individual Suras. With the help of the Arab biographies of Mohamed, of which some go back to the second century of the Hegira, we are able to determine the dates of those sections of the Qur'an which refer to historical events. Where such is not the case the determining factors are the form and the contents of the revelations. In the beginning Mohamed appears as a reformer, later as the founder of a new religion, and finally as a ruler and a law-giver. In the first period he was entirely carried away by an overpowering enthusiasm. His language is rhythmical. It bears a true poetical colouring. In the second period cool calculation takes the place of excited imagination. He is rather rhetorical than poetical. His language is sober and well-reasoned, and it springs forth no longer as before from the heart with warmth and spontaneity. In the third period the language falls absolutely flat. It is insipid not only when laws are laid down, directions issued, or accounts of wars related, but also when he describes the omnipotence of God, the beauty of the world, the terrors of the day of judgment, and the splendour of paradise.

Abu Bakr was the first to collect the Qur'an. The reason for the collection is said to have been the death of many literate persons in the war against the false prophet Musailamah and the fear that soon there might be none left who understood or knew the Qur'an by heart. A certain Zaid Ibn Thabit who had served as secretary to the prophet was commissioned to collect the revelations. When he had done his work he made it over to the Caliph, from whose hands, on his death, it passed on to his successor Omar, who in turn left it to his daughter Hafzah, the widow of the prophet. Zaid's work was nothing more nor less than a transcript of the scattered fragments, regardless of any order or division into chapters. This collection was not the official version, for there were other fragments still in circulation which differed more or less from it and which led to disputes as to the correct reading

of particular passages. To put an end to this position of affairs, fatal alike to the laws and the unity of the faith, the Caliph, Uthman, ordered a fresh redaction of the Qur'an — its basis being the collection under the Caliph Abu Bakr.

On its completion the Caliph sent a copy to all chief cities of the provinces, and ordered the destruction of other versions which differed from it. The division of the Qur'an into 114 chapters dates from the time of the Caliph Uthman, but as already mentioned the division was effected without reference to its contents or to any chronological order.

AS REGARDS the arrangement it was chiefly designed with a view to its length — the longer section being placed in the beginning, the shorter at the end. Since then Uthman's Qur'an has passed for the authorised version of the divine revelation, and although later readings came into existence, differing from each other, owing to further copies having been made — these can be traced back to the defectiveness of the Kufic writing which remained in use for several centuries and in which not only the vowel signs were wanting but also the discritical marks which serve to distinguish letters similar to each other.

As to its contents, it is, as already mentioned, of a very mixed character. It includes not only the whole of his teachings and his legislation, but also a considerable portion of his life, an account of his temporal and spiritual warfares, as also the history and the sayings of the prophets who had gone before him.

If we would arrange the Qur'an chronologically we must begin with those revelations which deal with the mission of Mohamed, his spiritual wrestlings, resulting in the conviction that he is truly called by God to fight against the superstition of his people and to enthrone, in the place of idolatry, the worship of one all-powerful, all-knowing God who punishes the wicked and the unfaithful frequently enough in this life but always for certain in the next,

he also rewards the good and the faithful. To this may be added his attacks upon his opponents who despised him and declared him a liar, and the words of consolation which God addressed to him to cheer him on in the path of endurance and perseverance.

Many Suras of this period paint the joys of paradise and the terrors of hell with a brush deeply dyed in material colours, and portray the terrible catastrophies which will herald the Day of Judgment. Others contain prayers, hymns, imprecations and so forth.

To these Suras, mostly short ones - bearing the impress of passionate excitement — follow somewhat longer ones containing further explanation of individual articles of faith, or rhetorical embellishments of numerous legends of the older people and the prophets, with the object of inspiring courage in his followers and terror in his opponents. In fact Mohamed identifies himself with the former prophets and puts into their mouth words such as he addressed to the Mekkans. They too are stated by him to have been misjudged by their contemporaries until truth triumphed and the sinners were put to shame and perished. To this period also belong further polemics against disbelief which called for miracles from the Prophet in support of divine mission. But the Prophet always referred to the inner truth and the outward perfection of his revelation as the surest sign of divine origin. Moreover to this period also belong several visions in which the genii paid homage to him, as well as the wonderful account of his midnight journey to Jerusalem, the passage to heaven which many of his contemporaries regarded merely as a dream, several precepts of an ethical nature, and attacks on the Christian doctrine of the Trinity and the crucifixion of Christ. Over and above these there was a great deal of repetition of what had already been said before about God, prophecy, immortality and the future life.

The revelations delivered after his emigration to Medina constitute the conclusion of the Qur'an. There, in lengthy Suras and protracted verses, in which nothing survives of poetry save the rhyme, there are to be found elaborate discourses directed against the Jews and the hypocrites of Medina, who like the Mekkans before, secretly ridiculed and opposed him. There are to be found an exposition of the laws of war, and a history of the various campaigns conducted against the Jews and the heathen. Victories are set down to divine aid—mishap to want of trust in God. In between are to be found many laws of ritual, many legislative enactments of a civil criminal nature, called forth by the necessity of the moment.

AS WE are not writing here a Muslim *Jus Canonicum* we will content ourselves only with those laws and articles of faith which have been of some consequence in the development of the Muslim people. Recognised as the Qur'an is, as the basis and foundation of Muslim law and theology, it must not be forgotten that many individual doctrines and laws are of later growth.

After the death of the Prophet the Muslims themselves felt that a book like the Qur'an, without sequence of system, with all its repetitions and contradictions, oblivious of many important dogmas and laws, would hardly suffice to serve as a guide in all matters theological. By theology the Muslims understood all matters dogmatic, ritualistic and juristic. They had, at first, recourse to the traditions of the Prophet orally handed down, and to the examples of his public and private life (Hadith and Sunnah) but when this source, easy as it was to keep it going, failed them, they turned to the decisions of the Imams, i.e., the Caliphs; for they were the spiritual chiefs of Islam. Upon the basis of the Qur'an, the tradition, the decisions of the Imams, there arose, with the aid of analogy and deduction, a still more stately edifice, including within its circumference politics, laws, rituals and dogmas, which, under the Abbasids, was cast into its final shape.

Four chief schools of theology and law arose in Islam, each bearing the name of its founder. They attained the highest authority. The text book composed by each of these founders serves up to the present day as the basis of theology and jurisprudence. These four schools were those of the Hanafites (called after Abu Hanifa), the Malikites (called after Malik Ibn Anas), the Shafiites (called after Mohamed Ibn Idris Al Shafi), and the Hambalites (called after Ahmad Ibn Hambal). These four teachers, known as the Sunnites, are regarded as orthodox, because they acknowledge the same fundamental basis of religion, though they differ from each other on minor points. They consider sacred the traditions of the Prophet and the decisions of the first Caliphs as explaining and supplementing the Qur'an in opposition to the Shiites, or the supporters of Ali and his race, who reject many of the traditions coming from the opponents of Ali, and deny a binding force to the decisions of the Caliphs outside the family of Ali for such they condemn as usurpers.

In the first century of the Hejira even the most important articles of faith, such as the theory of God and Providence, did not pass wholly unchallenged. They gave birth to most contentious debates. We can scarcely expect a clear cut system of theology from a man such as Mohamed was; a man wholly destitute of intellectual training.

LATER, therefore, when, in consequence of contact with the Persian religion and Greek philosophy, there was awakened among the Arabs a speculative spirit of an overpowering thirst for knowledge — the simplest article of faith led to violent discussion or permanent schism. Mohamed required of his followers belief in one, all-present, all-powerful, invisible, all-wise, all-knowing, just, merciful God — the Creator and the Preserver of the universe.

However simple this view of divinity — it opened to every possible sect a wide battlefield which grew wider as philosophic studies ex-

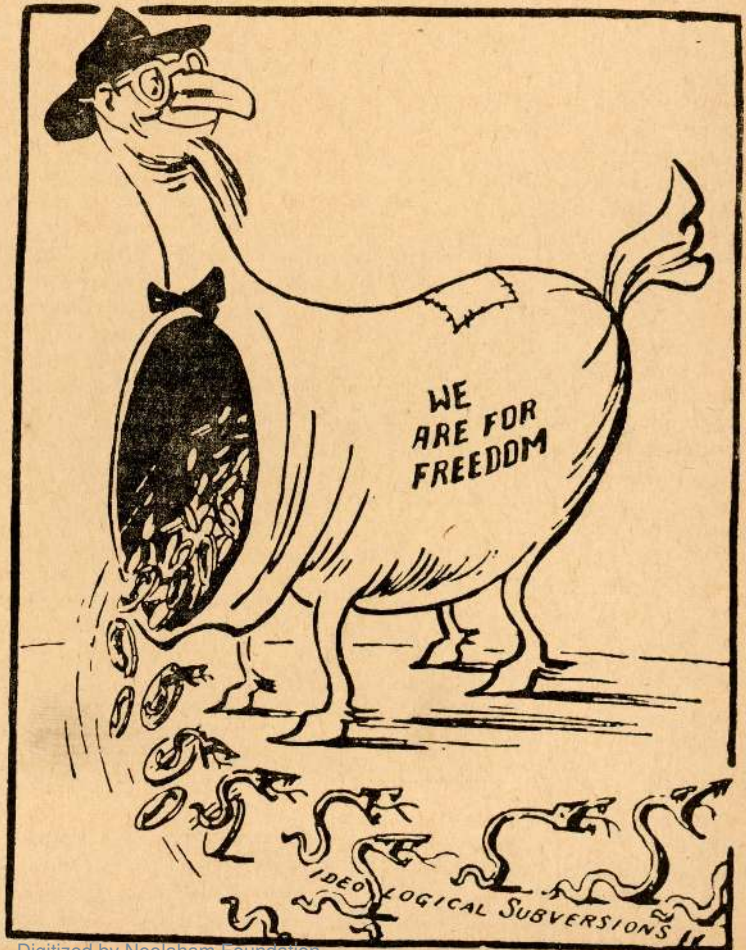
tended more and more; for every acquisition in this field was made to serve some theological doctrine which had to be traced back to the text of the holy Qur'an. Even in the earliest period some of the orthodox views relating to the character of the deity and his relation to mankind, so also the views relating to the Qur'an, appeared to many Muslims as blasphemously polytheistic. These thoughtful Muslims, who in the beginning only protested against some of the beliefs of the party in power, bore the name of the Mutazzalites. They were called so because they rejected the orthodox view. They refused credence to the extreme orthodox view which treated the attributes of God as qualities actually possessed by him. They, on the contrary, regarded him merely

as the quintessence of wisdom, goodness, power and other attributes.

The theory of divine justice led them further on the belief in the freedom of the human will; while the orthodox showed a strong leaning towards the doctrine of predestination. As a natural result of the Justice of God they believed in different grades of sin and their punishment; while, according to the orthodox, one who had committed a sin and had died without penance was doomed to eternal hell-fire. From the doctrine of oneness of God the Mutazzalites naturally concluded that the Qur'an was created because otherwise they would have had to accept that the two had co-existed eternally.

To be concluded

THE TROJAN HORSE OF US IMPERIALISM



Concluding

THE CHINESE INTELLECTUALS' ATTACHMENT TO MARXISM — LENINISM BETWEEN 1917 AND 1949

by Kantha Retnam

THE responsibility for the ease with which the intelligentsia turned to Marxism - Leninism for earthly salvation cannot be thrust on the Western Powers entirely; the inherent weaknesses of the Chinese system too had a major part to play. Contributing to the intellectuals' discontent were the flaws of the administrative machinery. (Clubb, O. Edmund, *Twentieth Century China*, New York, Columbia University Press, 1965, page 189). The government under the Nationalists was not broad-based; despite the formation of a multi-party cabinet in 1947, power resided only in a handful of people. There does not appear to have been much faith in the selection of the ruling party by popular will, for only one election

was held — and that related to the Presidential Election of 1948. According to a foreign observer, graft and greed, idleness and inefficiency, nepotism and factional rivalries had penetrated certain sections of the bureaucracy. (Referred to in Ch'en Jerome, *Mao And The Chinese Revolution*, London, Oxford University Press, 1965, page 284). The party's shortcomings were seen clearly on the economic front. The value of money which kept on falling under the Nationalist regime fell to an alarmingly low level immediately after the second world war. Goods said to be in short-supply were available in the blackmarket. Yet the economic malaise was not beyond the control of the Kuomintang. Plans for tackling almost

every challenging problem were available. But in failing to implement them, the party lost the allegiance of the intellectuals.

The ever-increasing withdrawal of their support from the Nationalist government could have been arrested had Chiang Kai-shek been receptive to their patriotic expressions. (Clubb in *op. cit.*, page 190). When in 1931 Japan invaded the country, Chiang Kai-shek was in the unenviable position of having to wage war on two fronts — against an internal enemy, that is, the Chinese Communist army, and against the aggressor from Japan. He could have rallied the intellectuals and others too under this banner had he come to an agreement with his local



Tea plantations in Georgian SSR spread on an area of 65,000 hectares. In 1967, the Republic's farms picked more than 226,000 tons of tea leaves. Georgia has become the producer of the world's first tea picking machine, Sakartvelo. The creators of this machine, Georgian scientists and designers, have been awarded the Lenin Prize. There are more than 1,000 such machines working on Georgia's plantations now. Photo shows Sakartvelo machines picking tea leaves on Georgia's Ingirsky tea growing state farm.

enemy, and enabled the Communist and Nationalist forces to face the invaders. Unfortunately for his party, he came to a decision that was unpopular with the intellectuals and indeed, with the masses. With him the need to eliminate the local challenger mattered more than the desire to beat back the foreign challenger. The country became sadly aware that the government's resistance to Japanese aggression would become effective some day in the dim future. But the Communist regime which had been set up in opposition to the Nationalist seized the opportunity to gain in popularity. Though well aware that the Nationalist armies would soon commence their offensive against the Communist forces, it had no hesitation in entering a state of belligerency towards Japan in February, 1932. And the beneficiary of this patriotic expression was Marxism - Leninism pursued by the intellectuals.

CONTRIBUTING no small part to this pursuance was the instability of the ruling party. (North, **Chinese Communism**, page 193). From the time of the fall of the Ch'ing dynasty in 1912 till the coming of the Communists to power in 1949, every party that ruled the Chinese mainland did not fail to have challenges to its authority from some group or other. In January, 1912, Sun Yat-sen gave up his provisional Presidency in favour of Yuan Shih-k'ai. But within a short time, he began to explore the possibilities of ensuring his successor's downfall as his republican notions would not permit him to stand idly by when Yuan Shih-k'ai was preparing to lever himself up to the position of Emperor within a monarchical set-up. Rejoicing at this ambitious ruler's discomfiture in not being able to raise a loan in Europe, he proceeded to prevent its flow from the United States of America. The provincial militia commanders who were appointed as Governors had no aversion to playing power politics. With the support of some of these "warlords" against others, the government after the death of Yuan Shih-k'ai clung to a precarious exist-

tence. The Komintang had difficulty in functioning as a united party; it was riven by factional disputes between its Right and its Left. It had, in addition, to meet the warlord threats to its authority. Moreover, it was at most times under attack covertly or overtly by the Communists. It does, therefore, seem strange that the instability of every post-Ch'ing pre-Communist regime should have strengthened the Marxist - Leninist leanings of the intellectuals as contributing largely to the instability of the Kuomintang regime were the Communists themselves. They engendered instability by subversion and open attacks from within China, and by territorial encroachments in Sinkiang from Soviet Russia. The Chinese intellectuals must have perhaps reached the point of no return on the road to Marxism - Leninism if they had been unable to note the infringement of Chinese sovereignty by Soviet Russia.

URGING them on deep into Marxism - Leninism was the apparent failure of Western civilization to solve European problems let alone Chinese. (Ch'en in **o. cit**, page 75). They considered the first world war waged between two opposing groups of capitalist nations, and the exodus of three hundred thousand pauperised White Russians to the cities of Harbin, and Shanghai as illustrations of that failure. On the other hand, the Russian revolution of 1917 had proved successful. (18. North, **Chinese Communism**, page 26). These comparative observations made them believe that the methods advocated by Marxism - Leninism should be adopted if China is to become a progressive nation. They had no guarantee when they became enthusiastic supporters of Marxism Leninism that it would solve all problems of China or would not create fresh ones. Yet their likes and dislikes were sufficiently strong to make them cling to Marxism - Leninism.

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In Retrospect

★ PM & GA's Conference ★ Emergency ★ World Bank & Aid ★ Prohibition ★ Unemployed Doctors

ON NO OCCASION BEFORE was the Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake in a more jubilant and confident mood than when he addressed the Government Agents at a conference last week on the food production drive. He himself admitted that he had been sceptical earlier about attaining self-sufficiency in food, but he added, "Happily I am speaking to you this morning as a thoroughly converted man. The scepticism has vanished. The efforts that have been made by the Ministry, by you, by the officials and, of course, the cultivators in achieving the target that had been set is something that any country can be proud of.

The Prime Minister went on to say that the paddy production target for 1969 had even surpassed the target for 1970. He urged the Government Agents that they should now make every effort to aise the 1970 target. He went on to say, "We will have to seriously consider whether rice holds out promise for us as an export commodity in the near future".

Encouraged by the success of the food drive, the National Government has decided to organise a mobile food exhibition which is to tour the country and for which it has earmarked Rs. 5,000,000. *The Times of Ceylon* in an editorial comment has cautioned the Government to abandon the exhibition on the ground that it is an ill-conceived plan which would do the Government no good. It warned that the Government's public image would well suffer from this act of blatant political propaganda on the eve, more or less, of a general election.

ON October 4 the National Government entered the 1,000th day of the State of Emergency that was declared on December 11th, 1966, which had been imposed when it reduced the rice ration from

two measures to one measure. *The Times of Ceylon* reported that the 1,000 days of emergency rule constituted a new record and said that the longest earlier lasted 743 days when Mrs. Sirimavo Bandaranaike was in power.

Earlier the Prime Minister stated in the House of Representatives that the State of Emergency would be lifted once the Interim Devaluation Allowance Bill and the Co-operative Societies (Temporary Provisions) Bill were passed by Parliament. These two Bills are on the Order Paper.

CEYLON'S Minister of Finance, Mr. U. B. Wanninayake and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, said at the concluding sessions in Washington that the meeting was a success. He said that both the Fund and the Bank had charted new paths for the years ahead and the Governors had discussed the problem of stabilising commodity prices and how to improve the relative position of the developing countries. He also said that the governors of the World Bank had spoken of the need for greater and more sustained lending to the developing countries, of the need for program as well as project lending, for an expanded program of technical assistance and increased emphasis on agriculture. Like other developing countries Ceylon has yet to see whether the developed countries will offer equitable and fair prices for their primary export crops in the times to come. So far beyond mouthing pious sentiments the developed countries have done nothing in this regard, except to depress prices.

Last week the governments of the United Kingdom and Ceylon signed an agreement under which the former has made available

twenty eight million five hundred and eighty thousand rupees aid to Ceylon. This is the seventh British interest-free loan to Ceylon which had been pledged as part of Britain's aid at the World Bank meeting of the Aid Ceylon Club held in Paris earlier this year. The money will be utilised for the purchase of fertilisers, tractors and other agricultural machinery from Britain and a part of it also will be used to buy motor spares and commercial vehicles. As in the case of the other British loans, Ceylon will have to purchase these items at prices stipulated by the British manufacturers even though these may be available from other countries at cheaper prices.

IN THE absence of any clear cut excise policy the prohibition Advisory Committee has decided not to convene any more meetings until the Government defines it. *The Sun*, which reported this new item, said that Mr. H. W. Amarasuriya, a member of the Committee, had stated that in view of the Home Minister's statement that the Government had not taken a final decision in the matter of imposing a total or partial prohibition, it was futile for it to meet or discuss the question of prohibition.

In spite of the fact that there is an export potential for arrack which will be able to earn foreign exchange for the country, the Home Minister, Dr. W. Dahanayake, seems to be on the horns of a dilemma that the Department of Excise cannot permit new areas to be opened for toddy tapping since the existing law and the prohibitionists would have none of it.

While earning more and more foreign exchange seems to be one of the main aims of the Government, the country seems to be paying out large amounts in foreign exchange as demurrage. The three Permanent Secretaries appointed by the Cabinet Sub-Committee on Food Production to study conditions in the Port of Colombo have stated in their report that £ 655,000 were paid out by the Government

as demurrage in the first seven months of this year. The Committee has stated that the chief cause was due to the overcrowded warehouses maintained by various government departments which imported foodstuffs and other goods.

THE CASE of the unemployed doctors who have passed out from the two medical colleges is again very much in the news. It has been estimated that nearly a hundred doctors would be leaving the country next year on whom the Government had spent twenty five thousand rupees on training each medical student. In this connection the Secretary of the National Union of Workers' Mr. C. V. Velupillai, has proposed to the Ministry of Health that all doctors who are unable to get Government appointments should be employed in the estates run by private companies because of the deplorable state of the health services in the plantation areas.

Supporting the proposal of Mr. Velupillai the *Observer* 5/10 said editorially, "...The Government has stopped the training of apothecaries and, consequently, vacancies left by

retiring apothecaries could easily be filled by doctors in the future. This is an eminently reasonable and timely suggestion. It is common knowledge that private doctors in the vicinity of plantations have a lucrative practice. Never ending queues of workers outside these private consulting rooms testify to the inadequacy of the estates' own medical service. The National Union's proposal would put an end to such anomalies. But, what is more important, it will help to put the estate health services on an organised footing, with properly qualified people to direct them for the first time. At a rough guess five to six hundred newly passed out doctors could be absorbed in to the plantation sector if this proposal is accepted by the Medical Wants Committee where estate employers are represented. We cannot see how any enlightened employer can turn down so reasonable a request. It is also to the advantage of all concerned in matters of public health that positive steps should be taken at long last to improve amenities to a sector so vital to our economy as the plantations."

KAUTILIYA

streaming across the border both ways at a place called Kisoro, tucked away at the southern extremity, 6,000 feet up, as high as Nuwara Eliya. This traffic, both Congolese and Ugandan lorries (the Ugandan driven by Sikhs) fanned northwards after entering Congo, and went as far north as Paulis to bring out coffee. Greeks managed the coffee trade on the Congolese side.

My destination, on my ill-fated trip which ended up by my becoming a prisoner of the Congolese, was Arua, near the Congolese border, at the northern end. To get there I had crossed the lower tip of Lake Albert in a Congolese outboard-motor fishing boat, and walked up along a road fairly near the Congolese frontier. There was a tongue of Congolese territory which bit into Uganda lying right across my route, and I decided to risk cutting across it instead of walking round. Suddenly, there seemed to be a hue and cry from behind. My chance Ugandan companion fled on his bicycle, and I was left carrying my huge pack, very tired after my long walk. My companion was caught soon afterwards, and we both ended up in the gendarmerie barracks, where there were three cells, five feet long, and I am over six feet tall. I used to sleep with my feet up the wall until I got tired of that.

The Case Of

THREE STRANGE MEN IN THE CONGO

by Patrick R. Daniel

AN ARTICLE appearing in another paper prompted me to get my own adventure down with three strange men. The scene and the time were Congo (Kinshasa), April, 1961, and the men were, in the order of my meeting them, a corporal in the gendarmerie barracks at Mahagi, just inside the Congo border, a man who was alleged to have been deported from Uganda but was more like a Uganda Special Agent working in the Congo, and the Assistant Surete (Security) Officer at Bunia, where the famous explorer H. M. Stanley had pitched his camp, in the

Relief of Emin Pasha, away back in 1872.

Uganda was a British Protectorate in 1961, and the Congo had been given independence in the middle of 1960. Patrice Lumumba had been murdered by February, 1961, and his deputy Prime Minister, Antoine Gizenga, an alleged Communist, was supposed to be ruling the vast Orientale Province and Northern Kivu. People in Uganda were under the impression that communications were cut off with the Congo, all unaware that traffic was

All went well, and I was kindly treated, gradually being given more and more liberty, as the days wore on, until a man arrived with a suitcase, who passed me a slip of paper which said that he was an undesirable Congolese in Uganda and was to be deported across the border at Mahagi (where I was). It was signed by no less a man than the Assistant Resident at Kampala. The man's suitcase was meticulously packed, and off he went. Just as I was about to have lunch, I was summoned to the Camp Commandant's house in another part of the town, and had to stand listening to a long harangue, with much stamping of feet and grinding of teeth, by this "deported" man, and the only part translated to me was something about Europeans making Ugandans

eat their own excreta back in Uganda. The Commandant gave me many significant glances, although he never lost his exquisite courtesy in the days that followed. On the strength of this "excreta" racket, I was unpopular until a few days before I was taken off to Bunia to go through the procedure of being released and then sent back at once to Uganda.

On my way to Bunia, we passed this man from Uganda, also on his way to Bunia, and he explained to me elaborately that he, too, was on his way there to have me released! Back in Mahagi, I had been told that this man was under strong suspicion of being a Ugandan "spy", because by his accent they could tell that he was from a certain tribe far removed from the Congolese border (for many tribes were settled on both sides of the border), and because he was splashing money around in a way he would never have done if he had actually had to earn it; and yet, months later in Uganda, I was told by the English police officer who had put him across the border, that he had not had a cent on him at the time! The regular Congolese army officer who took charge of me in Bunia, until I became the responsibility of Security, reminded me very much of the several Guards officers I had met on various occasions after the War. He was not tall, but then neither are the officers in the British Foot Guards.

GIZENGA'S troops, by the way, were armed with the latest type of automatic rifle, which had not yet been distributed to the NATO armies in Europe. After I was back in Ceylon, I discovered that the President of the company that was making the rifles was also head of *Societe Generale*, the Belgian Company that together with Tanganyika Concessions owned Union Miniere de Haut-Katanga, the fabulous mines in Katanga. *Societe-Generale* was virtually the *de jure* owner of the Congo before independence, and for all I know she might still be the *de facto* one. The Congo was run at her behest, even as regards immi-

gration policy and deporation. Tanganyika Concessions' Chairman at that time was the Tory Member of Parliament, Captain Charles Waterhouse, with company headquarters in the Bahamas, and the present Chairman is another former Tory M. P.

The Assistant Security Officer at Bunia always gave me the impression that he knew English, although he was careful to hide the fact, if he did. Driving back to Mahagi, he joked so much about Mau-Mau, that in desperation I turned to his chief, and asked: "*Mau-Mau — bon?*" and received the prompt reply: "*Mechant.*" The Security officers were very insistent that I did not come to the Congo again unless I had signed permission from the British authorities in Kampala to do so, and the authorities there, in Kampala, were equally adamant that they had no authority to give me such authority. Of course, *de jure* they were quite correct; but *de facto* — as a working arrangement?

So without the authority from Kampala, and a very worried man because of this, because I knew that the Congolese were speaking the truth, I was no sooner released that I was back in the Congo via Kisoro, where I found even European women, and Belgian at that, were going backwards and forwards. The spirit that prevailed there was quite different, with even the Congolese soldiers coming over into Uganda to buy provisions.

Incidentally, as regards the apparent break-down of all communications between Uganda and Congo, when the coffee was ready for shipment, the telegraph suddenly sprang back into life and the Lake Albert paddle steamer at Butiaba in Uganda received instructions to call at Kis- enyi for shipments of coffee. I had this from the ship's captain, an Englishman, on his return from one such trip.

MY destination now was Stanleyville, which I made successfully in the company of a person who described himself as Gizenga's Minister of Agriculture, but who, as far as I could make out, had been brought up in Ghana. The British Vice-Consul there recoiled like one shot when I told him that there seemed to be two governments in that part of the Congo. I ignored his "who told you that?" to go on to say that one was the so-called Central Government of Antoine Gizenga who hit all the headlines in the English papers, and the other was the Provincial Government who ran the country quietly. He had to agree.

When Christophe Gbenye, Gizenga's, and formerly Lumumba's, Minister of the Interior, ordered me personally to return to Uganda, I heaved a sigh of relief for, having achieved a kind of cheap success in reaching Stanleyville at all, I felt my sails were now all set for Ceylon. To my consternation, when I reached Mambasa, on my way out of the Congo, I met and was arrested by my old friend the Assistant Security Officer from Bunia, who was on his way to Stanleyville, as I discovered afterwards. He said in English: "You — here?" and demanded to see my written authorization from Kampala. When he had left, I was released by the local authorities, who had been much overawed by him, but were obviously on my side, and after the miraculous recovery of my passport, which had been taken away from me by the Security Officer, who then disappeared, in the direction of Stanleyville, I presume, I decided to return by the way I had come in, instead of through Bunia and across Lake Albert, which I had intended to do. What was remarkable was that this Assistant Security Officer from Bunia, confidently ignored the Laissez-passer which had been given me by his own Minister of the Interior at Stanleyville, and kept harping, as he done before, on the British authorization from Kampala, which I had been unable to get.

MONTHS LATER, I was back at Kisoro for a last look at the Congo, and on being told that there was a Congolese colonel in the town, I discovered him to be my old friend the deportee at Mahagi masquerading as one, albeit in mufti. I asked him to accompany me to the police, which he did, and searched out a young English police officer whom I knew to be in town. This police officer cut short my explanations by saying: "He's a bloody fool!" and ordered him to go to the police station and wait for him there. At the police station this fellow was greeted like a long lost colleague by one of the special branch men, in the usual way, by a warm handshake. Later that night he entered a store where I was; he was with a police escort, and had come in to buy his last cigarettes before returning to whatever his onerous duties were the other side of the border.

I find I have left out one of my irio, the corporal at Mahagi. He was a remarkable man. Physical strength and will power he undoubtedly had, and I felt it was he who really ran the camp, and not the Commandant whose authority he acknowledged. In fact, it was probably due to him that I was not beaten up on more than one occasion when the gendarmes were drunk and the Commandant away, for they were never drunk in his presence. In spite of this, he was never really friendly.

On my release, that first time I was a prisoner, on my way back through Mahagi, this chap entertained me more as a duty than as a friend, in his private quarters at the barracks, for I could no longer quite qualify for the guardroom. He let me share his enormous Dutch cheese, and it made me wonder wherever did he get a fresh Dutch cheese in Gizenga-ruled, allegedly Communist-held, Orientale Province of the Congo?



London Letter

Western Banking Circles Had Planned To Draw Czechoslovakia Into Capitalist Network

Reports from Basle and Prague reaching here suggest that international banking circles had discussed the possibility of advancing a loan of five hundred million dollars to Czechoslovakia before the Warsaw Pact powers had sent their troops into that country. There were some *procedural* as well as *political* snags which had delayed the decision. As Czechoslovakia was *neither* a member of the IMF *nor* the World Bank, modalities outside the framework of these instruments of international capitalism had to be specially worked out. One suggestion was that any loan on which Britain and West Germany were expected to participate would have been made by an *ad hoc* consortium of Central Banks. Politically, and partly due to their own difficulties, Western chancelleries had urged caution to avoid any overtact which might have given an impression that Czechoslovakia was being rewarded for "standing up" to the Russians at Cierna and Bratislava, or was being bribed to loosen its ties with COMECON.

It was therefore believed that a final decision had been put off till after the Czechoslovakia Party Congress in September. In the meantime international banks had decided to assess how far Czechoslovakia intended to "re-orientate" its economic policy. If it was judged that Czechoslovakia was willing to carry through "modernisation" of its economy with a view to becoming eventually part of the Western market, then West European countries would have provided Czechoslovakia with plants for production of chemicals, plastics, and even heavy engineering goods, and repayments would have been in the form

of the output of the plants. But all these calculations went wrong with the military intervention by the Warsaw Pact powers. It has also now come to be known that on the day following the entry of Warsaw Pact troops into Czechoslovakia, representatives of the West German Government managed to establish contact with the four Czechoslovak leaders — Mr. Ota Sik, Md Jiri Hajek, Mr. F. Vlasek and Mr. S. Gashparek — who were in Yugoslavia at that time.

Consultations also took place in West Germany with US Government representatives on how best to use the stay outside Czechoslovakia of these leaders for Western propaganda purposes. Plans were made for these Czech leaders to meet the Americans and West Germans to discuss their future activity in connection with the confrontation with the socialist countries. The questions of funds to finance their activities was also to be settled at this meeting.

The first remittance to the Czech leaders was understood to have been made through the West German Embassy in Belgrade and it was out of this amount that the expenses of ex-Foreign Minister Jiri Hajek's trip to New York to appear before the UN Security Council was met.

It has also come to be known that the statements made on behalf of the Czech Government and the National Assembly between 21-23 August were prepared by a group of persons belonging to Ceteka news agency and the TV headed by Ceteka Director — Jiri Pelikan. These statements were drafted *without* consultation with Czechoslovak Government officials.

A Special Correspondent

A Question Answered

ATHEISM IN THE USSR : HOW PROPAGANDA IS CARRIED ON

Sen. ELPIDIO MORENO, Mexico, and other readers wish to learn something about anti-religious propaganda in the Soviet Union. The following article has been written for their benefit by VLADIMIR MAZOKHIN, who works on the magazine "*Nauka i Religiya*" (Science and Religion).

IN pre-revolutionary Russia, the Orthodox Church held a dominant position. With the full connivance of the authorities, it persecuted millions of heterodox people, and especially atheists. The Civil Code envisaged deprivation of all civil rights and hard labour camps for a term of eight years for all disbelievers who openly professed their atheistic views.

The victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution in 1917 provided all the conditions necessary for freedom of conscience in the country. The first few months following the establishment of Soviet power witnessed the laying of the foundation for new legislation which guaranteed free choice of religion and opportunities for anti-religious propaganda. The fundamentals of the new legislation were formulated in the Decree divorcing the church from the state and the school from the church, which was passed in 1918 by the Council of People's Commissars.

The exploiting classes having been wiped out in the Soviet Union, and socialism having triumphed, the bulk of soberminded clergymen declared loyalty to the new state system. As for the mass of the believers, as honest toilers they took the side of the Revolution without hesitation and together with the progressive, socially-conscious section of the population bore the

brunt of the Civil War, of the economic devastation, the arduous work to rehabilitate the economy, the strain of the first five-year plans, and the terrific hardships of the Great Patriotic War. Nowadays, hand-in-hand with the atheists they are working to build a new society.

THEREFORE in the present relations between the state and the church, there is no hostility which could be observed in the period of the sharp class struggle during the first years of Soviet power. This does not mean reconciliation between these irreconcilable outlooks—communist and religious, but no one in the country would think of considering religion and religious rites as anti-Soviet acts.

In the twenties and thirties, anti-religious propaganda was con-

ducted primarily against religious institutions, the open propagators of religious ideology, which in those days carried on vigorous anti-socialist activities. Following the building of a socialist society, and especially after the Decree passed in 1954 by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, on errors in conducting scientifically-based anti-religious propaganda among the Soviet population, the centre of gravity in the anti-religious drive was shifted to rational criticism of the religious outlook and to popularising the Marxist-Leninist outlook.

The profound anti-religious propaganda since then has borne wholesome fruit.

The scientific, atheistic monthly *Nauka i Religiya* (Science and Religion) founded in 1959 and published by the Znaniya (Knowledge) Society, has a circulation of about 300,000 copies. The popularity of its younger colleague, the Ukrainian anti-religious monthly *Lyudina i Svit* (Man and the World) is also growing steadily.



Mohammed Rez Pahlevi, the Shah of Iran, and Queen Farah Pahlevi arrived in Moscow recently. Photo shows Nikolai Podgorny, President of the Presidium of the USSR Supreme Soviet, greeting Queen Farah Pahlevi at Vnukovo airport in Moscow.

THE THEORY of Marxist atheism and anti-religious propaganda in the present conditions, when the country is changing over from socialism to communism, is being elaborated by the Institute of Scientific Atheism of the Academy of Social Sciences which was established several years ago. It carries out unique social research into the religious attitude of people and the ways of overcoming it, has set up dozens of branches all over the country, and publishes collections of *Papers* several times a year.

The national society "Znaniye" which has recently celebrated its 20th birthday, has been engaged in mammoth educational and anti-religious activities. This voluntary organisation has branches in every city and district centre, and thousands of lecturers. Apart from its local branches, anti-religious propaganda is conducted within the framework of this Society, by Houses of Scientific Atheism, planetariums, mobile clubs and public libraries.

There are various forms of anti-religious propaganda: lectures and talks, topical evenings of questions and answers, exhibitions, lectures illustrated with films, radio and TV programmes, conferences, seminars and so on.

What are the practical results of this large-scale atheistic propaganda throughout the length and breadth of a vast state? Assuredly, they are part and parcel of the victories scored in the process of the Soviet cultural revolution, and are closely linked with the spectacular feat of transforming a backward country into an advanced stage, where the population is one hundred per cent literate, and which is holding first place in the world for educational standards. Half a century ago atheists and disbelievers were few and far between. Today out of 230 million Soviet citizens only one-tenth claim that God exists.

Scientific, popular, comprehensible, tactful propaganda, which precludes offence to the feelings

of believers, is an important factor in the steady dying out of religious ideology.

In conditions of socialism, this is a prolonged and complex process. It will proceed with increasing tempo as the country more swiftly builds the material and technical foundation of communism and develops new social relations, science, culture, and education. But as previously, atheistic education of Soviet people will play an important role in accelerating the process.

Moscow News

Letter To The Editor

Jatika Sampatha Sweep Mystery

Sir,

There is something extraordinary about the Jatika Sampatha Sweep results published in the *Daily News* of 30/9, which, I hope, you will be good enough to investigate immediately.

All the Consolation Prizes awarded are from the following series of tickets:—

20,	10,	04,
03,	29,	08,
26,	05,	23,
11,	07,	01,
16,	19,	21,
12,	24,	28,
02,	25,	27,

Now, the major prizes have gone to tickets in the following series, in the order given which corresponds to the order of the Consolation Prize series —

20,	and the intermediate	29,
03,	prizes, as follows —	05,
26,		07,
11,		19,
16,		24,
12,		25,
02,		04,
10,		

How did this amazing result take place?

Secondly, the Series 13 and the Series 09, for which tickets have been sold, whether fraudulent has to be ascertained, and perhaps other series have not come into the reckoning at all. Would the Board inquire and state publicly whether the Series 13 and 09 were sold on Draw No. 2?

Whether mathematical probability has operated on the one instance in a thousand million; or whether there is something wrong with the Drum from which tickets are drawn; or whether some hanky panky has been going on during this draw is a matter of public interest, since thousands of buyers of lottery tickets must not be fooled, if any tomfoolery is going on.

Could you please clear this mystery?

P. M. Perera

Peradeniya Road.
Kandy.
30.9.68



PAKISTAN

IT SEEMED....

In West Pakistan, Balochi people's poet Gulkhan 'Nasir' has been sentenced to rigorous imprisonment for a term of three years. His crime? The Police charge sheet reads: "At the time when the armed police had gone to arrest Sardar Khan Bakhyi, Gulkhan 'Nasir' was also present there. On hearing about the arrest of his friend, his face got blood-shot, eyes became fiery. It seemed as if he would pounce upon the police."

UAR Government Spokesman Says

Army Will Defend The Country Against Israeli Attack

THE OFFICIAL U. A. R. Government spokesman, Dr. Mohamed Hassan El Zayyat, declared on 18th September 1968, that the armed forces, in fulfilment of their duty to defend the country and its population, would take the necessary preventive defence measures whenever a single shot is fired by the Israelis at the Suez Canal area. Dr. Zayyat told at his weekly press conference that this was the duty of the armed forces in defence of the country, since a single shot may be the prelude to violent raids of the kind to which the Canal zone has been exposed time and again.

The official spokesman was answering questions by foreign and U. A. R. correspondents on what the U. A. R. meant by the preventive defence measures it has declared it would enforce. He said it was evident that the questioner was referring to the military communique issued in the wake of the latest Israeli aggression on civilians in the Suez Canal zone.

THE ZONE had been subject to aggression by Israeli armed forces more than once, in attacks on civilians and their homes, as the foreign pressmen had themselves seen he said. He added that Israeli troops staged these attacks in the conviction that reprisal was not easy, since the retaliation of the U.A.R. artillery would be limited. Being stationed in the desert where no civilian targets exist, the Israel forces thought it would be possible to avoid the consequences of U.A.R. artillery shelling.

The U.A.R. Armed Forces, in fulfilment of their obligation to defend the country and its population, declare that they will before the necessary measures of defence whenever a single shot is fired by the Israeli side that is so since

this one shot may be the prelude to violent raids of the kind to which the Canal zone has been exposed time and again. There is no doubt that this is the duty of the armed forces in defence of the country, Dr. Zayyat said.

Asked by the correspondent of the Algerian Press Service to comment on the speech by the Israeli Defence Minister in which General Dayan called upon Israelis to prepare for a forthcoming battle, Dr. Zayyat said that Moshe Dayan had already said that the present cease-fire lines were not final and that it was necessary for Israel to continue expanding. The official spokesman also quoted General Dayan as having said: "Our fathers gained the partition borders of 1947; our generation gained the armistice borders of 1949; and the generation of the six-day war gained the borders of the ceasefire lines along Suez and the River Jordan. But these lines should not be final, and should extend to cover the south of Lebanon and mid-Syria"

Dr. Zayyat said: "This kind of talk is an inevitable result not of intoxication with the Israeli victory, but of the American campaign of encouragement whose echo is still being heard day after day"

DR. ZAYYAT also told the press conference that Mr. Lucius Battle ex U.S. envoy to the U.A.R., who is shortly coming on a brief visit, is expected to meet El Sayed Mahmud Riad, Minister of Foreign Affairs, and that Mr. Battle is resigning his post with the US State Department at the end of the current month. Asked about what had been announced concerning a warning to the Government of the Sudan of an Israeli attack, should the Sudan continue its aid to Egyptian naval forces, Dr.

Zayyat said he had no comment on this particular subjects. However, he said, there were numerous false rumours which he described as being part of the psychological warfare to which the Arab countries were being subjected. Every tool that can be used in such a war, including unfortunately, some of the papers published in our own area but known to have contacts with foreign circles, are being used, Dr. Zayyat stressed.

He added that the popular Arab front was now being subjected to a campaign of falsehood and rumours similar to the one to which the Arab military front was exposed after the battle. A similar campaign failed in 1965. In 1967, too, the will of the Egyptian people, expressed on June 9th and June 10th, resisted the campaign with complete success. The Israeli aggression, which was supposed to be a fatal blow will instead serve as a vaccine giving our people immunity and strength, Dr. Zayyat said.

ASKED about the outcome of studies concerning economic mobilisation carried out by the General National Congress of the Arab Socialist Union, and the connection between economic mobilisation and military mobilisation. Dr. Zayyat said that the results of these studies would be made public shortly. The results of similar studies made by the Preparatory Committee, had already been announced, he added.

Dr. Zayyat went on to say that it was clear, *firstly*, that the U.A.R. is keen to proceed with her economic development programme with the greatest possible technical and administrative efficiency in order to achieve the best results in exploiting her resources and her possibilities.

Secondly, he said, the U.A.R. is keen on increasing her production by raising the standard of efficiency on the basis of science and study. And *thirdly*, the U.A.R. is keen to eliminate all unnecessary expenditure in order to realise every possible saving.

THE BORDERLAND — by C. V. VELUPILLAI

CHAPTER TWENTY FIVE

QUEEN BEE AGAIN

The monsoon had come and gone. The murky, sullen sky had cleared; its depth was one of vast tender blue like the eyes of a new born baby. There was new vigour in the green of the trees, the shrubs, plants and grass around the cottage. Its garden with its oxide daisy, cannas and ferns and the well among the bamboos unfolded an atmosphere of serenity and acted as a balm on Amaradasa.

The prolonged monsoon in its wake had left behind additional work for him. He sat long hours in his back room dispensary attending to an unending queue of patients. Such work never fagged him. Every day by 4 p. m. he put down the shutters and went for a long stroll, leisurely pausing to look at the effect light and shade on the hazy green of the mountain or the delicate colours on wayside flowers.

It was Saturday; the day allotted for Menike and his hospital. As usual he went out for an early stroll before he took the slow train home. As he passed through the crowded streets of the town, he bought a tin of chocolate for his little nephews and took the road adjacent to the vihara. He smiled to himself as he turned over in his mind what his uncle had told Rajan during his recent visit to the Walauwa. He knew the words by heart so to say. "Tell my son," the laird said, that he has come of age to have children. We'll take Menike into our house as if she were a fresh flower from the tree. She is ours".

He thought of Rajan and his boundless confidence in the success of his hospital, which he had told him was only a prelude to their major labours. His mind then turned to Menike. His love for her was latent in his marrow with the all embracing quality of his creed as an artist.

Lost in his musings he walked and as he cleared the bend of the road he came face to face with Sundari. This sudden meeting put him off his guard. He decided to bow to her and pass on. He found her to be very beautiful, young, fresh and buoyant. He could not account for this change.

"Good evening", he bowed and paused.

"How long have I waited for this meeting, Mr. Amaradasa. I came to take you home. Say, you forgive me."

She stretched her open hand and he took and pressed it warmly.

"Please do not bother."

"Do not bother! You do not know how much I have suffered?"

"Yes. Little things hurt when we are wounded."

RAMESES AT HIS NEW SITE

Abu Simbel, (Nubia) Sept 2

The two temples of Abu Simbel, the splendour of Nubian art, were reopened at their new site some 70 metres above their original location at a splendid ceremony here. The colourful ceremony was watched by representatives of countries and organisations which contributed funds to save the Nubian monuments from the rising waters of the Nile. India was represented by the Union Deputy Minister for Education, Prof. Sher Singh. Both the temples, dedicated to Rameses II, god-like king of the Nubians, and his favourite wife Nefertari, were cut into 20 and 30 ton blocks from their original cliff face and reassembled at an elevation buttressed by an artificial mountain to provide their original backdrop.

The powerful face of Rameses, cut into blocks and preserved for the past four years, is now back in its life form to greet the first rays of the rising sun, towering over the grey hills of Nubia. At the ceremony Dr. Rene Maheu, Director General of the UNESCO, announced plans to save the famed Ptolemaic temples of Isis with their pylons, a Trojan monument, and the Roman Collonades in the island of Philae, half-submerged by the Nile between the Aswan high dam and the old Aswan dam. The temples, dedicated to the cult of Isis, motherhood and fidelity, will be dismantled and reassembled in the neighbouring island of Agikia at a cost of eight million dollars.

PTI

They walked together towards her bungalow.

"Mr. Amaradasa, these few days I have been very happy. I'll be leaving for the U.K. next week."

"Very good news indeed ! Has Dr. Nayagam gone ahead of you?"

"No ! Someone very dear to me. My dream man."

"You never said a word about it before!"

They reached her bungalow. She invited him to take his usual seat with a gesture of her hand and she sat in front of him with the little table between them.

"I have tried to refer to it but you were not fond of puzzles as you used to say; and it was not in your nature to probe into my affairs. So now, you will hear of it and know that I am not so wicked."

"May I tell you something first?"

"Please do."

"Mrs. Nayagam, you have never been wicked but mentally ill."

"Mr. Amaradasa!" she gasped. "Then you know that I am mentally gone."

"Yes. Isn't it a periodical thing?"

"My! You are a wonderful physician. How did you know it? Please do not hide anything from me."

"Very well. Do you remember the day I burst upon you when you were with Ravi on this divan?"

She nodded and blushed.

"My mind registered something from the look of your eyes. They were fixed on the wall but gazed inwards, into your very being" He paused.

"Speak. I will not misunderstand you."

"Ravi has a strange resemblance to Tilikeratne."

"My dear friend! What a marvellous doctor you are ! When did you know this?"

"On the day of the picture incident, while I was travelling in the train; it came to me in a flash, for a split second and then vanished"

"There is one more link. My dream man has some resemblance to these two."

"That's very interesting. Now tell me what are your plans in the U. K.?"

SOVIET CHALLENGE TO US SUBMARINE MIGHT

Washington, Sept. 24

The Senate preparedness investigating sub committee said Russia was posing a "meaningful and serious challenge" to the quality of U.S. submarine superiority and recommended that the United States step up its submarine programme. The sub committee recommended in a report that the United States re-evaluate the nature and size of its nuclear attack submarine force in view of the Soviet challenge.

The report said that 'having scored a first a number of years ago in the practical application of nuclear energy for submarine propulsion, the United States considered itself so technologically advanced, and, therefore, qualitatively superior, that any serious challenge to that supremacy could not possibly occur for years to come. "Unfortunately" the report went on, "that meaningful and serious challenge has taken place".

The Soviet Union has more than 350 submarines, of which at least 250 are attack submarines. The remainder are either cruise or ballistic-missile firing types, either diesel or nuclear powered. The Soviet submarines have been designed and constructed after World War II. In contrast, the United States has a total of 146 submarines, of which 105 are torpedo attack boats and 41 Polaris ballistic-missile firing subs. Of the 72 U. S. attack submarines, only 12 have been built after World War II.

Reuter

"The biggest plan of my life will be to get married to the man I lost when I was a mere girl."

"Mrs. Nayagam, now I have got the whole story. Your dream man has some kind of resemblance to Ravi and Tilikeratne and the little girl in you has vainly searched in them something you have lost?"

"Please stop. It frightens me."

Sundari briefly told him her past history. Amaradasa was moved.

"Mr. Amaradasa", she concluded, "I have always respected you. There is something saintly about you."

"No. No. I am a black sinner trying to be clean".

They laughed like in the old days.

"We will have some tea together. I don't know when we will meet again."

She went in and returned with tea and cakes.

"I saw you look at your dispensary. You and I'll miss it."

"And your cup of tea, too"

She sat down with the same old abruptness and pushed the tray towards him.

"Come !"

They ate and drank in silence. Yes. The silence that came at the time of parting.

"Now I must take your leave till I meet you before you leave".

"Please ask your future wife to forgive me".

"Nothing should please me better. Good evening. Please go to bed and dream of your man".

"Thank you."

He turned and walked away happy in her happiness. She watched him go with feeling that she could not understand.

It was late evening when Amaradasa went down the steps to the Walauwa and to his delight he found Menike and his two nephews gathering flowering flowers for offering. It was a full moon day.

"Mahataya, I have waiting for you. Why so late today?"

"Many unusual things happen in a man's life. I'll tell you later."

"You will make a fine story teller, Mahataya."

USA

CORRUPTION

"A forceful indictment of venality in Congress", is how the U.S. *Time* magazine describes a recent book by the well-known Washington journalist Drew Pearson in collaboration with Jack Anderson. That is no exaggeration is evident from the facts cited by the *Time* reviewer of "The Case Against Congress". Take for instance, Senator L. Mendel Rivers, Chairman of the Armed Services Committee. Thanks to his influence, his home town has had military installations lavished upon it. "His district," the authors write, "has prospered from his service on the military committees like a tick on a fat dog."

Senator Thomas J. Dodd takes bribes.

Senator James Eastland, Chairman of the Un-American Activities Sub-Committee, is fighting strenuously for higher price supports for cotton. He himself owns vast cotton plantations. Last year, this millionaire received \$ 129,997 in farm subsidies. Representative Sam Gibbons has sponsored a special bill for the construction of a veterans' hospital on land to be purchased from a corporation represented by his own law firm. Representative Arch Moore, Jr., champions restrictions on imports of glass because he belongs to a law firm that has the Pittsburgh Plate Glass Company as a client. And much more of the same order.

"Uncle, Punchi Amma has warmed your bath today also."

"She is mad. Here there is something for both of you in the pocket." He took off his coat and gave it to the elder boy and the younger boy caught one end of it and tugged.

"Children, don't tear uncle's coat." cautioned Menike.

They ran in to Swarna.

"Mahataya, brother would be keen to talk to you about the building. So please have your bath now."

"With all this fuss you will make me old before my time."

This ritual of daily bath and "moments of peace" were an inevitable part of Amaradasa and radiated its influence on the other members of the household. Everybody else unconsciously looked upon it as a moment of "holy calm" in the house.

It was a day of stocktaking, he said to Menike.

The shifting of his dispensary and the departure of Sundari marked the end of a period in his life. He conveyed to her Sundari's final wishes.

"I am sorry for her". She lapsed into painful silence.

"I am sorry for others also. On the ruin of your house I have raised the foundation of mine."

"Yours and mine, Mahatya. I have no tears; only prayers for everybody"

"You are wonderful, Menike!"

They joined Muthu Bandara and Swarna in the back room.

"The monsoon is over, Mahataya. Next week I'll start work on your hospital", said Muthu Bandara.

"The hospital will be completed in the next five months. Then what happens to Mahataya and Menike?" asked Swarna.

"I suppose you will look after that, Akke.....But it has to be very, very quiet", replied Amaradasa.

"Tell that to your uncle", said Muthu Bandara.

"I can tell him", joined Menike.

"It has taken such a long time for my sister to speak" teased Swarna.

After a pause. "Menike take Mahataya for a walk. The moonlight is meant for young people like you."

"How sentimental you are. Digitized by Noolaham Foundation.
noolaham.org | aavanaham.org

POLAND

CRIME WITHOUT
PUNISHMENT

The nazis killed 6,028,000 people in Poland, committing all told more than 50,000 mass and individual murders, says a statement of the General Committee for Investigating Nazi Crimes in Poland published in *Trybuna Ludu* on July 6. The Committee is still far from having completed its work. At present it is investigating another 3,000 or so murder cases involving at least 10,000 nazi criminals, most of them living in the German Federal Republic. In the last few years Poland has sent the West-German judicial authorities more than 50,000 microfilms of documents, concerning nazi criminals. Nevertheless, many of them have not yet been charged, although under a law passed in Federal Germany in 1965 the statute of limitations is to come into force on December 31, 1969, and after that no proceedings will be taken against nazi criminals. The 32rd U.N. General Assembly is to discuss a draft international convention on the non-application of the statute of limitations to war crimes and crimes against humanity. Realizing that this would place West-Germany in an unpleasant position, Bonn's Social Democratic Justice Minister Gustav Heinemann last year proposed to revise the 1965 law. But the nazis' protectors, fiercely opposed the idea. As a result, on June 21 the Bundestag's Judicial and Foreign Policy Committee voted down Dr. Heinemann's suggestion. The Polish General Committee for Investigating Nazi Crimes has protested this decision.

"I was a romantic thing. Ask him". She looked towards Muthu Bandara.

"Don't listen to her" he evaded.

The laird was reading. His subdued voice could be heard. The children were playing in their study room with Subir.

Amaradasa went out to the front garden. The night had cast its spell over the village. In its liquid quality there was the faint smell of the earth, its grass and wild flowers. The full rimmed moon had risen above the fringe of the mountain and the silver points of the stars were scattered round it.

Amaradasa stood under the Na tree and quietly sat on the round stone on which his father used to wash his feet in days gone by. Just then Menike came to him.

"Mahataya, you are here".

"Yes. This stone has kind memories for me."

She knelt beside him. He looked into her face in the white of the moon. She smiled in the warmth of his presence. In the closeness of their bodies there came a remembrance; an old memory woke. They did not understand its meaning. It was of joy and pain.

From the temple below came the rhythmic throb of the drum.

"Mahataya, can you hear that?"

"Yes. It is an unending call. Man's prayer never ends while there is suffering."

"Are you sad?"

"No, Menike".

"Are you happy?"

"There is a kind of fullness in me today because of you and the work we have before us."

She grasped his hand.

BLACK MAGIC

What is called "black magic" still widely prevalent in many parts of the country, particularly Kerala. Prof. H.N. Banerjee of Rajasthan University, whose studies of reincarnation cases have made him well known, has announced a new project to examine the effect of 'black magic' in Kerala. He is not interested in the magic itself, but in its effects.

Academic groups from many countries are to visit Kerala to make studies. The object of the project is to examine the claims of some persons to influence objects and persons by reciting the prescribed screeds. About the reality of the phenomenon in many cases there is little doubt. Strange things have happened to individuals who are placed under the spell particularly in remote areas. It is, however, doubtful whether they could be explained in terms of science.

Prof. Banerjee was creating a controversy when he said categorically that it was impossible to cure snake bites through "mantras". The belief is that scorpion bites could be cured if the sufferer sends a telegram about the incident to certain persons who, it is claimed, possess extraordinary powers of remedy through "mantras". Prof. Banerjee is so strongly sceptical that he has offered a prize of Rs. 10,000 to any one who could demonstrate a cure.

Indian Express

FILM PAGE

2nd week
EMPIRE Air-Conditioned
 Jerry Lewis — Janet Leigh in

3 ON A COUCH

Next: **THE BRIDGE ON THE RIVER KWAI**

2nd Week
 Air-Conditioned
REGAL
The funniest of the "Carry On" Series

CARRY ON CLEO

in Colour

MAJESTIC Air-Conditioned

Richard Burton-Elizabeth Taylor
 in MGM's

THE COMEDIANS

For Adults Only

3rd Week

ELPHINSTONE—ROXY

& 10 other centres

G. D. L. Perera's

Dahasak Sithuvili

Photographed by: Nihal Singha

2nd Week

GAJETY

THE ADVENTURES OF ROBIN HOOD

in Hindi & Colour

SELLAMAHAL

From Thurs Oct. 17

Sivaji Ganeshan—Padmini in

IRU MALARGAL

CROWN

Rajendra Kumar—Saira Banu
 in

AYEE MILAN KI BELA

in Eastman Colour

3rd Week

SAVOY Air-Conditioned

Sean Connery as James Bond
 in

THUNDERBALL

in Pana Vision & Technicolor

● **PARAKKUM PAAVAI**, R.R. Films Eastmancolor presentation, released through Cinemas Ltd. now showing at **KINGSLEY, PLAZA** and other centres is one of the joyous, romantic, star and song studded spectacular films with a circus background made in the Tamil medium. Its big cast, headed by M. G. Ramachandran, also features circus stars, elephants, tigers and lions. The glittering array of tight-rope, trapeze, juggling animals and exciting circus acts, together with comedy, fights and the suspense of the story, makes it a thrilling and delightful movie. The musical score is provided by M. S. Viswanathan, and the film is directed by Ramanna.

Jeeva saves the life of Shanti a nurse and she resides with him and his mother. Though she loves Jeeva, he is not attracted towards her. Meanwhile, Jeeva comes across Kala, who has run away from home, and hands her back to her father and step-mother. Kala's father having learnt that Jeeva is the son of his business partner who died, confesses to him, he swindled his father's share of the business and now he is suffering for what he has done. Just before his death he makes Jeeva to promise he will take care of Kala. After the death of her father, Kala is attacked by an unknown person and Jeeva rescues her. Kala again runs away from home fearing she will be killed by her relations, to get the wealth in her name, and joins her eldest sister in the circus, who was once an outstanding trapeze star, now disabled owing to an accident. Kala becomes popular too, in the circus by her spell-binding aerial acts. Jeeva goes in search of Kala and finally locates her, but she refuses to return home. Meanwhile, a trapeze star is wilfully injured by his rival, and Jeeva is given the opportunity of taking his place in the circus. Then onwards Kala is attacked by the same

unknown person, while Jeeva's life is threatened by two stars in the circus. At the final showdown, Kala's unknown attacker is caught and just when the police arrive, he is stabbed to death before he could reveal the person for whom he was working. Just then Shanti takes to her heels, but she is caught. Shanti then discloses she stabbed the man to restrains him from telling the truth, and she had planned to kill Kala, from the beginning in order to marry Jeeva.

● **IRU MALARGAL**, Manijeh Cine Productions Tamil movie, released through Ceylon Theatres Ltd. which opens this week at the **SELLAMAHAL, EROS** and other centres, is a love story woven around three characters, and it portrays the inner conflicts of love and sacrifice for the lover. The film opens with a scintillating dance beautifully executed by Padmini to a song rendered by Sivaji Ganesan. Choreography is by A. K. Chopra and P. S. Gopalakrishnan, and the music is by M. S. Viswanathan. Lyrics are penned by Vali and the dialogues by Arur Doss. The story and direction is by A. C. Thirulokachander. Also included, in the cast are, Nagesh as Professor, Asokan in the role of a villain Manorama and Madhavi. Talented actress K. R. Vijaya won the best Actress Award for her excellent performance in this film. . .

Sunder (SIVAJI GANESAN) and Uma (Padmini), college students fall in love and make a vow to marry. Sunder's father (CHITTOOR V. NAGIAH) plans to get him married to Shanti (K. R. VIJAYA), who has been brought up by him at home. But Sunder's attitude towards her is of a brotherly type while she in turn worships him. When the father reveals his plans at last, Sunder refuses, and the father promises to find a very good husband for her instead. Uma in the meanwhile goes home to get permission to marry Sunder, but her brother and his wife meet with a fatal accident. Duty bound she shoulders the responsibility of the three children left behind.

Uma then writes to Sunder, she is going to marr a wealthy man. Sunder on going through this letter gets an attack and becomes bedridden. Shanti treats him faithfully till he is well again. In the meantime a groom and party come to look at Shanti, but seeing her rushing to the aid of her cousin Sunder, the party walk out. The father feels insulted, and Sunder tells her to keep away from him. In a frenzy of frustration Shanti runs to commit suicide, but she is stopped by Sunder. On the doorstep, seeing the father fallen, Shanti steps back and the two together bring him in. The father recovers and reveals his story of toil. Sunder then understanding the matters, promises to take over the responsibilities of the house and to marry Shanti. Everything goes smoothly for some years, and Sunder has by now a six year old daughter (BABY ROJARAMANI). Uma is her new class teacher and she comes back to Sunder under the pretext of tuitions. The old remantic flame stars again, and the child is witness

to some intimate scenes. Shanti who originally treated Uma as her sister, now learning the affair from the changed attitudes of the three, her husband, teacher and child, who is forced to keep silent, again decides to commit suicide and runs away, but seeing her husband's condition stops her rash act. It is only then Uma discloses the sudden death of her brother, the new responsibilities on her and deterring her from love and marriage. Uma and her nephews and nieces then go one way, while Sunder and family follow, once again united together.

● **THE COMEDIANS**, drama of terrorised Haiti, now showing at the renovated and re-decorated *MAJESTIC CINEMA*, is based on Graham Green's explosive novel, an international best seller, and was adapted to the screen by its author. The terror and suspense permeate the motion picture version, and it is one of the dramatic entertainments. Haiti, currently formenting amid the ruthless dictatorship of Francois Duvalier, known as "Papa Dod?" and his murderous secret police, the Ten'on Macoute is the setting for the movie produced and directed by Peter Glenville. The powerfully realistic production is prought to the screen with an all-star cast headed by the Burtons Alec Guinness, Peter Ustinov, Paul Ford and Lillian Gish. The film unfolds an engrossing and tensely dramatic story of a group of people who come to Haiti despite the danger of its revolution torn regime and who finds themselves drawn into the vortex of plotting, intrigue and armed action against the government. The picture portrays a tensely compelling atmosphere of voodoo rises and native customs against the drama of road blocks, sudden searches, the torture of the Gestapo like police in the conflict against untrained, illarmed rebels waiting in the hills for the propitious moment to strike, and towering over the entire landscape is the brooding presence of Haiti's unseen mad ruler. Since it was impossible to film this revealing picture in

Haiti, the movie was photographed in Panavision and Metrocolor largely in Dahomey, in West Africa, and its surroundings, a locale whose terrain and characteristics closely resemble that of Haiti. Interiors were shot in a Paris studio, with the picture's final scene made in France.

**KINGSLEY
PLAZA
MYLAN**

10 A.M. 2, 6 & 9.30 P.M.

**M. G. R. Saroja Devi
Nambiar Asokan
Thangavelu**

in
**PARAKKUM
PAAVAI**

COLOUR

3RD MONTH

LIDO

9-00 a.m. 1-30, 6-00
& 9-45 p.m.

RAJ—Negombo

9 a.m. 5 & 9 p.m.

- **RAJ KAPOOR**
- **VYJANTHIMALA**
- **RAJENDRAKUMAR**

in
Raj Kapoor's

SANGAM

Technicolor

4th Week

GAMINI

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

Meenamovies

RUHUNU KUMARI

5th Week

CAPITOL

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

M. G. R. Sarojadevi in

NAAN

AANAIYITTAL

Air Conditioned
LIBERTY

**Charlton Heston
Yul Brynner**
in

Cecil B. De mille's

**THE TEN
COMMANDMENTS**

Technicolor

CENTRAL

Gemini
B. Saroja Devi
in

**PENN ENDRAL
PENN**

From The Indian Capital

“King” Chogyal Of Sikkim Cut Down To Size: Another Czechoslovakia ? : Military Bases In The Indian Ocean

New Delhi

The Government of India had, at last told the Chogyal of Sikkim that enough's enough. The anti-Indian demonstration on Independence Day at Gangtok had proved a blessing in disguise in this that the casualness with which the Sikkim Durbar has, so far, been dealt with has ended.

It took over a fortnight for our Political Officer, acting on behalf of the External Affairs Ministry, to bring the Sikkim Maharaja to his senses. He had, it is reported, hummed and hawed, but ultimately had to authorise a Press Note apologising for the placard incident.

IT DID NOT STOP AT THAT. HE HAD BEEN ASKED TO STOP INDULGING IN FANTASIES AND TAILOR HIS AMBITIONS AS HEAD OF A SOVEREIGN NATION.

He was to visit Ceylon in response to an invitation from the Mahabodhi Society. It had been planned that he was to hop in there with Hope, flying his personal flag; and was to be received as the Head of the State amidst the strains of a newly fabricated Sikkim national anthem. *All these have been ordered to be stopped. The Chogyal and his American Maharani were to visit Ceylon as private citizens. Ultimately the Maharani did not go.*

In other words, the anti-Indian incident stage-managed by the Sik-

kim Durbar had marked a watershed in India-Sikkim relations. There has been a section in the External Affairs Ministry here which believed that the Chogyal could be steered by pandering to his playboy tastes. It paid no heed to the increasing influx of CIA agents into the kingdom in the name of research. Worse, it turned a deaf ear to the people's cry for democratisation.

In 1949 the people of Sikkim had bottled up the Chogyal. It was the Indian armed forces that rescued him from popular wrath. Since then, New Delhi paid no attention to the demand for representative government; it did not give enough encouragement to such parties as the Sikkim National Congress headed by the Kazi of Chakhung, which is anti-Durbar and pro-Indian.

The only effective way to contain the Chogyal is to confront him with a popular movement for a democratic government as against the present autocracy; and after such a government has come into being, revise the Indo-Sikkim Treaty of 1950 to remove some of its harsh features.

It is highly interesting that the August 15 incident in the Sikkim capital coloured the discussion in the Union Cabinet six days later on the Czechoslovak crisis. *How would India defend Sikkim and Bhutan in case of an eventuality if we were to decry Soviet intervention beyond a point? The question troubled some members.*

One need not exaggerate the importance of the Sikkim Bhutan angle in the Indian attitude to the Czechoslovak imbroglio; but it is noteworthy that the threatened show-down in the Congress Working Committee on September 11 did not materialise.

The international situation was on the agenda, but none of the newly blossomed international experts of the Working Committee fired their borrowed guns. There was no sign of the expected encounter with Indira Gandhi for her alleged betrayal of the Czechs and Slovaks.

It is also known that the British Indian Ocean Territory has been made available to US for defence purposes for 50 years, under an agreement signed in December, 1966. This was stated in the Lok Sabha recently by Prime Minister Indira Gandhi in a written answer to Mr. Madhu Limaye. Mrs. Gandhi said: "We are opposed to the setting up of military bases in this area".

Briefly, the provisions of the agreement are: Both Britain and US will consult each other before constructing or installing facilities in the territory, use by a third country will be subject to an agreement between the two Governments; each Government will normally bear its own cost of construction, maintenance etc.

The required sites will be made available to the US by Britain without any charge. Commercial aircraft will not be authorised to use military air fields in the territory. The agreement lays down that the US Government and its contractors will make use of workers from Mauritius and Seychelles to the maximum extent possible.

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