



Tribune This Week
Publishes A Special
Soviet Number To Mark
The Fifty First Anni-
versary Of The October
Socialist Revolution.

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THE BOLSHEVIK REVOLUTION

EVER SINCE it started publication in 1954, *Tribune* has marked the anniversary of the Russian Revolution with a special number. In the course of its short but eventful publishing history, *Tribune* has brought out many special numbers, but it must be said that it has paid special attention to the founding of the USSR because this event has had such a profound impact on contemporary human history. One may agree or disagree with the way that the leaders of the Soviet Union have conducted the affairs of the country during the last 51 years, but whatever one's views there cannot be the slightest doubt that but for the fact that Lenin and his colleagues established Soviet power in Russia and the far-flung empire of the Tsars in 1917, the history of the world will not be what it is today. For one thing, colonialism and imperialism would have continued to reign supreme and independence may not yet have come to the big and small

nations in Asia, Africa and Latin America. There is moreover no dispute about the fact that concepts of socialism, based on the philosophy and economics of Marxism-Leninism, have affected thinking and logic in every part of the world. **IT IS ALSO** something that staggers one's imagination that, within a short span of fifty one years, Russia has been able to transform itself and its Tsarist colonies from being one of the most backward states in the world to becoming the second most powerful — economically and militarily — country on the planet. What the United States and other capitalist states had taken well over two hundred years to achieve, the Soviet Union has been able to accomplish in fifty years — and ensuring at the same time greater social justice and equality to its citizens. **THIS YEAR'S ANNIVERSARY** in the USSR has been seemingly "clouded" with the controversy concerning the events in Czechoslo-

vakia, but this is because many wishfully pretend that historical events must shape themselves consistent with subjective inhibitions, predelictions and theories. In that sense, every anniversary of the Soviet Union since 1917 has been "clouded" by some controversy or other. The developments in the international scene and in the "communist" camp itself are different this year from what they were before, and this is to be expected. **WE IN CEYLON**, have to examine these developments and changes without getting emotionally involved. We are a small nation and we can at best hope to be discerning witnesses to history that is being made in the world. And if, we want to create a better society in Ceylon itself, we must learn to unify our efforts for progress without increasing the traditional racial, linguistic, religious and caste divisions with yet more divisions that presently torment either the capitalist or the socialist world abroad.

Headlines Of The Week

THURSDAY, October 31 — The Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake paid a tribute to the nation's achievements in the planned use of its resources. He said that the increase in paddy output was so significant that it would be possible for the country to have an eight percent growth rate this year. The President of the Washington Buddhist Vihare Society and the Chief Incumbent arrived in Ceylon yesterday. Secret talks between President Johnson and his Field Commander in Vietnam have triggered fresh hope of a breakthrough in the peace negotiations. Senator Edward Kennedy yesterday announced the establishment of a "living memorial" to his murdered brother—Senator Robert Kennedy—a foundation to help the poor and minorities in the US and abroad.

FRIDAY, November 1 — The Six-Member Committee of Permanent Secretaries, examining the utilisation and development of the resources of Trincomalee, will call for public representations in writing regarding relevant matters. Nominations for the forthcoming by-election for the Balapitiya seat have been fixed for November 24. President Johnson yesterday night ordered a total halt to the bombing of North Vietnam and said the Saigon Government and the National Liberation Front would be brought into broadened and intensive peace talks in Paris. Disenchanted young Americans were scheduled to launch a nation-wide series of protests because the Presidential election offered no choice.

SATURDAY, November 2—A series of far-reaching amendments to the Industrial Disputes Act will soon protest workers from victimisation by employers during periods of industrial disputes. The Prime Minister welcomed the decision of the US Government ordering a total halt of the bombing of North Vietnam. W. Averell Harriman, the Chief American negotiator, announced that he would demand a political solution of the Vietnam war assuring the South Vietnamese a free choice of their future when he enters full-scale peace talks with the Communists next Wednesday. The former Greek Prime Minister George Papandreu died in hospital yesterday.

SUNDAY, November 3 — The Peradeniya University yesterday decided to cancel the discontinuance notices served on the fifty two students who did not have the requisite admission qualifications. Ceylon will be permitted another loan of Rs. 98.2 million from the International Monetary Fund to help the Government to strengthen the FEEC scheme. Bus conductors and drivers attached to the Meetotamulla Depot, Kolonnawa, struck work this morning because a conductor was allegedly stabbed by a commuter at Borella last night. Hanoi's chief negotiator, Yuan

Thuy today confirmed that during the Paris preliminary peace talks the two sides reached an agreement that after the bombing of North Vietnam stopped a four-sided meeting would be held here to seek peace. President Thieu said that South Vietnam could not attend the peace talks session in Paris because conditions for serious and direct negotiations did not exist at present.

MONDAY, November 4 — A "get-tough" attitude taken by the Port Cargos Corporation yesterday resulted in many of the dockers who were on strike returning to work in the morning. The motion of no-confidence brought against the UNP Mayor, Sir Bennett Soysa by the SLFP Group of the Kandy Municipal Council failed yesterday. The Government has decided to give priority to the setting up of a Volunteer Force which will be utilised to handle both major and minor development projects. President Ho Chi-minh described the American bombing halt as "only an initial victory" and called on his people to sweep every aggressor out of the country.

TUESDAY, November 5 — The Federal Party leader, Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam, said in Batticaloa that though the Party quit the National Government its pact with the United National Party had not been abrogated. The University of Ceylon, Peradeniya, Senate at an emergency meeting held on Sunday decided to recommend to the Board of Regents of the University of Ceylon, not to penalise the fifty two entrants to the University who were found to be without the requisite qualifications. The United States went to the polls today to elect its 37th President. A South Vietnamese National Liberation Front negotiating team warned on its arrival in Paris today that Vietnamese communists would continue their armed struggle if they did not get a peace settlement on their own terms. The United Arab Republic stepped up preparations for renewed war against Israel.

WEDNESDAY, November 6 — The strike of the three Ceylon Transport Board Depots were called off last evening. The *Sin* reported that the United National Party had put off its decision on the date of the polls. The Minister of Local Government, Mr. R. Premadasa, yesterday told the conference of heads of local bodies and Parliamentarians of the Batticaloa District that for nine long years the district had been neglected for political reasons. Ten ships are outside the Colombo harbour as a result of the five-day strike. At an emergency meeting of the Senate of the University of Ceylon, Peradeniya, a vote of no confidence in the National Council of Higher Education was passed by 29 votes to three with five absentions. Twelve industrial Corporations, operating under the Ministry of Industries and Fisheries, made a net profit of Rs 31 million during 1967/68. The United States announced that the Vietnam talks scheduled for Wednesday had been postponed indefinitely following Saigon's refusal to sit down with the Viet Cong.

COMMENT ON CURRENT AFFAIRS

● NIXON'S TRIUMPH : will not help US image in Asia : uncertain and dangerous times ahead.

Richard Nixon has been elected President of the United States by the slenderest of majorities in the popular vote; and his victory in the electoral college is only a sad reflection of one the anomalies of the American voting system where machine politics supercedes popular sentiment. With the support of 43 percent of these who voted — and only 70 percent of those eligible for voting had come to the polls— Richard Nixon will be at the helm of affairs of the richest and most powerful country in the world today. The difficulties of his position are brought home by the fact that hostile Democratic Party majorities will control both the Congress and the Senate, and Nixon has already indicated that he will draw into his administration top Democratic administrators and Cabinet members in order to make his regime as bi-partisan as possible. Whether this will make his regime viable is yet to be seen, because there are many who doubt whether Nixon will be able to rise above himself and his past *not only* to pull the US out of the many pitfalls that now beset it, *but also* to bring some of the lustre (of the Rooseveltian or Kennedy eras) to the American image abroad which Lyndon Johnson had tarnished. Even the pro-West journals published by the Lake House press in Ceylon are uneasy about Nixon's victory. The *Observer*, 8/11/68, in an editorial, stated: "Confronted by a choice of two evils a majority of the American peoples have chosen the worse.... It was a poor choice of personalities the world's richest and mightiest power had for its President.... It would be hypocritical to pretend there is great rejoicing in the world outside the US — except perhaps in Saigon and West Germany living in the shadow of Russian imperialism — that Nixon is the new President of the U.S. Popular comment before the elections showed a preference for Humphrey as the less likely to steer the world to a nuclear war. The desire for peace among nations is strong and negotiation rather than talking tough, of flexing nuclear muscles, is necessary. As a leader of the world's largest democratic power Mr. Nixon now has the responsibility to conduct international relations in such a way that he will not provoke international tensions. The brinkmanship of Mr. Dulles must not be revived by him".

The Madras *Hindu* is even better known for its pro-West and pro-Washington attitudes on all matters of foreign affairs, but even this paper in an editorial on 7/11/68 stated: "Who the Americans want for their President is for them alone to decide but there will be general disappointment in the rest of the world that their choice has fallen on Richard Milhous Nixon. The United States occupies such a position in the international firmament that any move by its President

makes will have strong impact on the rest of the globe, and Mr. Nixon's past, the long record and the stances he has lately taken during the election campaign have not been such as to raise hope that with him in the White House it is easy to find answers to the problems facing the world. Principal among these are bringing about a settlement in Vietnam, checking the nuclear arms race and promoting development of less advanced countries. Mr. Nixon's approach to all these questions is not encouraging. American aid to developing countries, already a trickle now, may shrink even further under President Nixon, for he holds the view that foreign aid should be given only to those who serve political ends and must also not be used to support socialism. As regards Vietnam and the nuclear arms race, there has to be close understanding between the U.S. and Russia for dealing with them, but Mr. Nixon will talk with Russia only after the U.S. and NATO have further built up their military strength. He is also for the U.S. constructing a full-scale anti-ballistic missile system. All these steps forebode an intensified arms race and more international tension...." The *Hindu* also pointed out that Mr. Nixon ("Tricky Dicky") gained a great deal from the internal dissensions within the Democratic Party. "The Democrats have ruled in Washington for 28 out of the last 36 years, thanks mainly to the grand coalition of liberals, labour, Negroes and religious and ethnic minorities that President Franklin Roosevelt had lined up behind his party. Vietnam and the racial explosion in the country grievously fractured this coalition. Mr. Humphery in addition had to bear the cross of the unpopular Johnson administration. (It is ironical that Mr. Johnson who was elected with the largest majority in American history is ending up as one of the most unpopular Presidents). ." After drawing attention to the deep divisions in American society on a large number of issues, the *Hindu* concluded: "...The United States can expect to play an effective role in the world only if it has a President who commands the support of a vast majority of his people. For the present, Mr. Nixon has emerged only as a minority President".

The pessimistic note struck by the *Observer* and the *Hindu* are fully justified. During the election campaign, Mr. Nixon had stressed, more than once, the old Dullesian formula that "Asians should be allowed to fight their wars". Even Eisenhower had echoed that 'Asians Should Fight Asians'. Concretely, Mr. Nixon during his campaign had proposed the establishment of more regional pacts in Asia. It will be recalled that the existing regional pacts in Asia were all concluded when Nixon was Vice-President and Dulles was Secretary of State, but his new proposals are linked with the neo-isolationism that has gripped the US. Nixon has argued that "Asians must in future make the initial response to aggression" and that the US would only help regional groupings but would not fight their wars for them. In the days, weeks and months ahead, the world will know more about Nixon's plans, and there is every reason for ordinary people in Asia to be deeply apprehensive about the Nixon era that is already upon the world.

In Retrospect

★ **Balapitiya & Welimada**
 ★ **Federal Party & UNP**
 ★ **Strike**
 ★ **Kandy Mayor & SLFP**

IT IS NOW becoming increasingly clear that the National Government of Prime Minister Mr. Dudley Senanayake will decide on the date of the next general election only after the two by-elections are held — one at Welimada and the other at Balapitiya.

The *Sun* of 6/11 reported that the United National Party leaders were of the view that the results of the two by-elections would serve as ideal samplings of voter reaction to the upturn in the economy mainly because of the food drive and the departure of the Federal Party from the Government — a fact which was expected to swing the Sinhala vote in favour of the UNP.

If the report is factually correct, it is a fair indication that the UNP, which is the major constituent of the National Government, is not yet too sure in its own mind that all its claims that the food production drive is a phenomenal success and that there has been an upturn in the country's economy are having any impact on the voter. In point of fact, the voter is thoroughly disillusioned that the UNP has failed to solve the high cost of living, housing, unemployment and a host of other problems which have snowballed into dangerous proportions and that the price of a measure of rice in the open market continues to be as high as ever.

It would also appear that the UNP is not yet too sure in its own mind that it has been able to disabuse the minds of the Sinhala voter that it has no secret pact with the Tamil Federal Party, in spite of the fact that it broke away from it on a relatively minor issue — the Koneswaram Temple — when it should have actually severed all its connections when the National Government went back on its word to implement the District Councils Bill.

Public statements from Federal Party leaders can certainly cause political embarrassment to the United National Party which is trying hard to erase from the mind of the Sinhala voter that it has not made a complete sellout of the rights of the Sinhalese to the Tamils. Last week, according to the *Daily Mirror* 5/11, the leader of the Federal Party, Mr. S. J. V. Chelvanayakam, said at a meeting held in Batticaloa that "though we quit the National Government Parliamentary Group our Pact with the United National Party has not been abrogated". He went on to say that "it was due to the existence of this fact that the party continued to support the Government. But, he said, "that the Federal Party did not wish to disclose the contents of the agreement, because it might lead to trouble in the country;" and added that "one of the conditions of that Pact was to establish District Councils to relpace the Kachcheris and give the people a greater participation in conducting their affairs."

THE strike build-up in the public sector seems to be gathering momentum, and only time will tell whether the administration will be paralysed or not. It is apparent that the National Government wants to prevent a show-down by public servants and the *Daily Mirror* reported that the Government would grant a substantial rise in pay by the middle of next year and that a tentative decision to this effect had been taken by the Ministers at a recent meeting. The paper said that Government sources had ruled out the granting of any immediate salary increase as this was impossible in the context of the present economic situation, but the source, however, said the country's economy was developing rapidly and that

proof of this was that the Gross National Product had jumped from three to eight percent this year and that the Government was now expecting the GNP to be in the region of ten percent by mid next year at the present rate of growth.

In anticipation that there will be no untoward events during the proposed strike, the Security Council of the Ministry of Defence has decided to clamp down a curfew, if sabotage and violence followed in the wake of a strike. The *Daily Mirror*, which reported this news item, said that according to reports discussed at the Ministry of Defence, there was a likelihood of the majority of the members of the General Clerical Service Union not answering the strike call.

THE Sri Lanka Freedom Party was in an optimistic mood that it would be able to topple the UNP administration of the Kandy Municipal Council, but the vote of no-confidence against the UNP Mayor, Sir Bennet Soya, was declared as "not passed" when Mr. Henry Wijewardena, SLFP, MMC, voted with the UNP, although he had signed the motion of no-confidence against the Mayor. Mr. Wijewardena, who announced his decision to resign his ward, denied SLFP charges that he had solemnly pledged before Mrs. Bandaranaike that he would honour his signature and stand by his party.

Mr. G. B. de Silva, SLFP member, said that they were not surprised at the turn of events. Mr. Wijewardena had been working against the SLFP from within the party. Mrs. Bandaranaike described the event as "Another stab in the back". The *Daily Mirror* reported that the view of the Coalition was that it could not permit any more stabs in the back and that all candidates seeing nomination for the Coalition Parties for both Parliamentary and Local Government elections should be carefully screened and that they were bitter that the SLFP should have given nomination to candidates who could switch over their loyalties without even batting an eyelid.

KAUTILYA

Rhodesian Merry-Go-Round

UK Frustrates African Moves To Take Steps Against Rhodesia

THERE is a disease in this world that cannot be found in any medical books. It is seasonal in character and in Rhodesia, for instance, it occurs in autumn, says one British correspondent, "when the jacaranda trees bloom in Salisbury's wide streets". People who catch it show an inclination for mysterious trips, secret talks and vague pronouncements. The disease has been labelled "settlement fever" and the people affected most by it are the present rulers of Rhodesia and those who are responsible for the British government's Rhodesian policy.

This autumn they probably suffered their worst bout ever. It began with a television interview given by

Ian Smith to British correspondent David Frost on September 20. The leader of the Rhodesian racialists hinted at the desirability of a settlement in Rhodesia and even said that it would be "very simple" to reach it. It was no accident of course that this interview was broadcast on the very day that James Bottomely, a high-ranking official of the Commonwealth Office, arrived in Salisbury.

This time there was no sign whatever of Smith being treated as a "rebel". On the contrary, he was shown every honour, according to the London *Daily Mail*. More important than that, however, was the fact that the Labour govern-

ment, true to its policy, of appeasing the Rhodesian racialists, dropped its "key" principle—that of no independence before majority, i.e., African, rule. London's continuing concessions to the racialists apparently encouraged Smith to refuse to accept even the purely formal and more than modest terms laid down by Wilson, and they again parted company without reaching any agreement. This does not mean, however, that they have burned the bridges behind them. The above-mentioned *Daily Mail* writes that the personal relations between Wilson and Smith have improved considerably.

But of course neither personal relations nor the blooming of the jacaranda tree has anything to do with it. The British and Rhodesian leaders have entirely different reasons for seeking a settlement. At the current U.N. General Assembly African representatives have again raised the Rhodesian question and asked the United Nations to take effective measures against the racialist regime. London foresaw this move and decided to take the wind out of their opponent's sails—to frustrate the African initiative in the U.N. and prevent the adoption of vigorous steps against the Smith regime. This is exactly how the latest developments have been interpreted in Zambia, whose leaders, according to *France Presse*, have accused Britain of deliberately trying "to hold back United Nations pressure for an effective settlement of the three-year-old Rhodesian independence dispute".

As for the Rhodesian racialists, they have their own ideas about the "settlement". In the meantime the African patriots, having lost all hopes of seeing a just settlement of the Rhodesian question by peaceful means, have taken up arms under the leadership of the Zimbabwe African People's Union. A guerilla war has been going on in Rhodesia for more than a year and is spreading. This naturally cannot but alarm the Rhodesian rulers. The "cowboys" as Smith's Ministers call themselves would obviously feel safer in the saddle if they were sure of London's full support.



Colonel Georgy Beregovoi the cosmonaut who piloted the spaceship Soyuz-3

Story Behind The News

Coup D'Etat In Panama: Work Of US Imperialists

THE NEWS TODAY is the establishment of a military junta in Panama, following the recent overthrow of President Arnulfo Arias: the story behind it is simply that of an imperialist operation featuring the rivalry among various groups — all instruments of U.S. imperialism.

The most recent occurrence is the dismissal — on orders of the overthrown President, who had been inaugurated only eleven days ago — of the principal leaders of the National Guard, including General Bolivar Vallarino, who had for years held the position of its commander-for-life.

The dismissals had the approval of the U.S. Government and, naturally, did not affect the nature of the National Guard as imperialism's main instrument in Panama. In the May elections, Arnulfo

Arias tried to demagogically exploit the patriotic sentiments of the people, who demanded the withdrawal of the Yankee troops from the Canal Zone, and presented a program couched in nationalist slogans which gained him enough support to defeat the government's candidate, David Samudio. Furthermore, Arias openly allied himself with the rightist political forces and guaranteed imperialism — with which he has always had strong ties — the defence of its position in Panama.

It has been an invariable principle of U.S. policy in Panama to have a person in the government of that country who at all times offers it the most guarantees and to utilize all factors offering it an advantage. Therefore, when the imperialists decided on Arias, suddenly the National Guard — which had been merciless in its repression of the

followers of the President-elect — gave him its support and made it possible for him to be inaugurated.

THE DISMISSAL of those who were the most outstanding in that repression was, naturally, a foreseeable and almost inevitable consequence of the compromise that on the eve of Arias' inauguration, united all the opposing factions under the imperialist baton. But the dispute among the lackeys as to which was to become the group most useful to imperialism was not ended with that compromise. As a result it endangered the stability that the imperialists require for the signing of the so-called new contracts on the Canal, that will reinforce and strengthen its domination under the pretext of returning sovereignty to the Panamanians. Arias was imperialism's card, but only on the condition that he be able to guarantee unity around him and the obedience of the National Guard. Otherwise, the imperialist would not go to the National Guard itself, to govern directly.

As a result, a military outfit whose ties with the Yankee Pentagon are well known and several civilians with a long history of service to imperialism are to be found in the Palace of the Government of the Panamanian capital, while, on the other hand, the overthrown President has sought asylum in the house of his master, right in the territory of the Panamanian people's enemy, the Canal Zone, occupied by the Yankees, where he also stayed while the Yankee troops perpetrated the massacre of 1964.

This is the second military coup in Latin America in less than two weeks, carried out in the midst of the imperialists' strategy for continental military and economic unity, and U.S. news releases take special pains to try to hide the U.S. Government's role in the affair. This time imperialism has preferred not to go too far into the strictly formal question of non recognition, and has forbidden the recently toppled Arias from carrying out activities against the new regime.



Photo shows Colonel Georgy Beregovoi undergoing a medical test after his return to earth

Soviet Union—51 Years Old

Soviet Power Has Changed Russia And The Tsar's Empire: It Has Opened New Vistas For All Mankind: Relations With Ceylon

The peoples of the Soviet Union invariably celebrate the anniversary of the establishment of their state on November 7, 1917, in a festive, enthusiastic and cordial atmosphere. In terms of human social history fifty one years is but a short period of time. However the half-century which has passed since the Great October Socialist Revolution was so eventful, the significance of those events so far-reaching that they have become highly important, and not only for the Soviet people.

TODAY the October Revolution attracts the world's attention, just as it did at the time of its accomplishment. And its influence on the social and economic development of mankind is ever stronger and more profound.

Those who are trying to comprehend social transformations that have taken place in our country during this period should, first of all, take into consideration the fact that instead of pre-revolutionary Russia, which economically occupied one of the last places among the big countries, there has now emerged one of the world's most industrially advanced powers capable of conquering outer space.

Its present annual steel output exceeds 100 million tons, as against the mere 4 million tons produced on the eve of the Revolution. The generation of electric power has risen from the 2,000 million kilowatt - hours in 1913 to almost 600,000 million kilowatt-hours today. Taken as a whole, the country's industrial production has grown 66-fold in the past five decades. **The average annual rate of increase of industrial production in the USSR between 1918 and 1966 reached about 10 per cent, whereas in the**

USA it was 3.7 and in Great Britain—2.1 per cent.

At present, the Soviet Union mines more iron ore and coal than any other country in the world and produces more locomotives, combine - harvestors, sawn-timber, cement, pre-fabricated ferro-concrete structures, window-glass, woolen and linen fabrics, fish, sugar and butter.



By V. P. STEPANOV
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the USSR in Ceylon

The industrial progress as well as the scientific and technical advances enabled our country to be the first in the world to launch the Earth's artificial satellite in 1957 and launch a man into outer space — Yuri Gagarin's flight in April 1961. The Soviet Union pioneered extensive use of atomic energy for peaceful

purposes by commissioning the the world's first atomic power station in 1954. The high standard of Soviet industrial and technical progress can also be seen from the extensive degree of automation of production processes at the USSR's industrial enterprises.

The collectivisation of farming has once and for all put an end to the poverty of rural life and facilitated the farmers' labour. In 1913 the the country produced 86 million tons of grain, whereas in 1966 the amount of grain produced reached the 171 million-ton mark. The output of meat, dairy produce and sugar has considerably grown too. Rural living and cultural standards are about as high as those of the urban population.

SOVIET POWER has radically improved the living conditions of the ordinary working people. The improvements have embraced all spheres of everyday life of the average man. The working day has become much shorter and working conditions improved in many other respects. Leave with pay is guaranteed to everyone. Health-resorts are accessible to all. Compared with the pre-revolutionary level, workers' real incomes have grown 6.6 fold, and those of the farmers — 8.5 fold. Though the housing problem has not yet been fully solved, what has been done shows marked progress — in the past decade alone 100 million persons have got better housing.

Free, medical service, free education, and an extensive system of payments and benefits from public maintenance funds — all those arrangements improve the people's life making it easier, removing any cares for and fear of the future, and stimulating the normal life of the family and the individual. In that way, the socialist tenor of life has guaranteed permanent social security to everyone.

It also must be remembered that these fifty-one years of the Soviet power were not years of unhindered progress towards achieving the aims

set. Twenty years were taken by wars imposed on us by imperialists and the restoration of the devastated economy.

The victory of socialism in the Soviet country has also opened up a bright and optimistic prospects for all humanity. In the comparatively short period, in terms of history since 1917, about a dozen other nations have embarked on a socialist way in their development, the new social system has gained a firm foothold on the international arena and is now having a tangible positive influence on the international developments, particularly so, on the problem of war and peace.

An appeal for peace was the first international act of the October Revolution. Through its history the Soviet state has steadily been for peace, disarmament, the solution of controversial issues by peaceful means. This policy which is advantageous to all, without exception, is steadily pursued by the Soviet Government. All the peoples of the Soviet Union uphold this course of action, fully appreciate it and whole-heartedly approve it.

The October Socialist Revolution was truly the dawn of a new era for the colonial peoples, a turning-point in the international-liberation movements. On Lenin's initiative the newly-formed Republic proclaimed the unconditional right of all the Eastern nations, big or small, to active participation in world affairs. The Soviet Government implemented a series of measures spelling the end of the diplomatic isolation of the Eastern countries and bringing them into the mainstream of world affairs.

THE USSR sacredly cherishes and implements the Leninist traditions of friendship with the Afro-Asian nations. Lenin's ideas of national emancipation encourage Soviet diplomacy in its persistent efforts for justice in the UNO.

The USSR is rendering not mere service but a practical contribution to the implementation of Lenin's

injunction to the world's first workers' state, rendering international assistance to nations struggling against imperialist aggression and exploitation.

The USSR is co-operating with the developing countries in the building of 600 industrial and other installations of economic importance. Soviet assistance is directed primarily towards the industrialization of the developing countries — 70 per cent of Soviet credits and subsidies are invested in industry.

The relations between the Soviet Union and Ceylon provide a good example of this policy towards developing countries.

Last year two large modern industrial enterprises, a *Steel Plant* and a *Tyre and Tube Factory* built with Soviet economic and technical assistance were commissioned in Ceylon. The construction of a large *Flour Mill* is nearing completion. These projects are very important for the economy of Ceylon. Not only do they help to save foreign exchange and provide employment to hundreds of workers but also provide the impetus for the growth of miscellaneous industries utilising their produce and waste materials and contribute generally towards the overall industrial development of Ceylon. These enterprises are vivid symbols of friendship between the peoples of Ceylon and the Soviet Union.

As important are mutually beneficial trade links between our two countries.

The Soviet Union supplies to Ceylon modern machinery and equipment and such essential goods as cement, textiles, foodstuffs etc. on very favourable terms. In return our trade organisations buy not only traditional export goods of Ceylon but locally-produced manufactured articles as well.

Fifty-one years ago the question was often asked how soon "the Bolshevik experiment" would fail; 30 years ago, the question was: How

long would socialism be in action; 10 years ago, the question was raised how well socialism was acting. At present the question is put more and more often: How is it that socialism is doing better than capitalism.

This change in questions is characteristic of the change in the attitude towards the October Revolution. In this world of ours, even the ideologists of imperialism prefer to avoid the word "capitalism." On the other hand, the word "socialism" in all its numerous aspects can be found more and more often in the programmes of various political parties. "The Bolshevik experiment", as the socialist revolution is often called by the Western press, has come to be recognised everywhere as a real and powerful factor having an ever greater and decisive influence on the world's social development.



AN INVITATION TO NAKEDNESS

London, Sept. 26

Britain's theatre censor laid down his blue pencil for ever today, a signal for a musical abounding in nakedness to take the stage. Lord Cobbold, whose predecessors as Lord Chamberlain have wielded the heavy hand of censorship for 400 years, has given way to the Theatres Act which abolishes his office. And tomorrow night, the controversial Hippie Broadway musical "Hair"—in which several young men and women display themselves naked—will have its British premiere. The cast of "Hair" have been waiting gleefully in the wings for the Lord Chamberlain to disappear from the scene since he rejected the script several months ago.

In *The USSR*

What Social Equality Means Today: And What It Will Mean Tomorrow

by L. Nikiforov

MARX, ENGELS AND LENIN held that the road to social and economic equality led through the abolition of private property and the exploitation of man by man. That was the road taken by the Soviet Union, and we can mark up many achievements; we wiped out illiteracy; we gave women equality with men; we were the first country to abolish unemployment for ever and give our citizens the right to work, rest, a free education and a free health service.

The abolition of private property and the rise of socialist property does not, however, wipe out all social inequalities at one go.

We have a modern, industrialised society, but in it we have skilled and unskilled workers, manual workers and brain workers.

Inasmuch as their contribution is unequal, so are their wages and living standards.

As Lenin said: "The first phase of communism cannot provide justice and equality; differences, and unjust differences, in wealth will persist; but the exploitation of man by man will have become impossible".

OUR SOCIETY has still not reached the stage where it can fully satisfy all the needs of the people and create equal working and living conditions for all.

That means we cannot yet operate the communist principle, "To each according to his needs". We work the socialist principle, "To each according to his work".

That, of course, gives every worker and body of workers an

interest in making proper use of our resources and helping to raise the efficiency of socialist production.

The bigger the contribution he makes, the larger his pay; that is the law of socialism.

I should stress that wages are proportional to the amount and quality of the individual's work, not to the value of the output, which depends on factors beyond his control.

In that way, our socialist society keeps wages fairly level for the same skills, regardless of differences in the technical equipment of the place of work.

At the same time, payment for work done means that people are not equal.

We have not so far been able to eliminate the differences in the complexity of labour which determine wage differentials.

But, admitting that, we have made considerable progress in getting rid of unjustified differentials.

THIS YEAR the minimum wage has been raised to 60 roubles - which was the average wage in 1960. And remember, our prices are lower, not higher than they were at that time.

These measures are an important step in ironing out differences in standards of living and catering more fully for people's needs.

We must, however, frankly admit that proper differentiation is a tricky business, and we still have a number of unsolved problems with regard to basic wages and bonus payments.

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Plainly, inequalities in distribution can be wiped out only by improving production. You cannot just "level out" incomes. If you did, you would not only not satisfy demand, but would also weaken the incentive to increase productivity, so holding up the whole economy.

China's experience is instructive. During the "Big Leap" they tried to level out distribution in the people's communes.

The result was that resources were squandered, productivity fell and production dropped.

Levelling is the enemy of social equality, not a way of achieving it.

It is by strengthening the material and technical basis of socialism and communism that we shall gradually even out the complexity and skill of labour and the social differences that go with them.

THE PRESENT scientific and technological revolution will certainly speed the process, and in particular wipe out differences between "worked by hand and brain".

As changes in production method proceed we shall gradually even out payments for work done and bring about a general rise in the incomes of the working people.

That is the process which will turn socialism into communism, turn "according to work" into "according to needs". It will be a lengthy process; but the drawing together of the wages of different groups of workers is a real fact. Take the years 1958-65.

In that period average wages increased 23 per cent; and still faster in the lower-paid sectors; on state farms by 40 per cent; in education by 34 per cent; in the health service by 34 per cent; and in housing and public services by 30.

On collective farms, too, remuneration is rising, and the minimum has been raised to that on state farms. And that refers to wages

pure and simple. Bonuses and other payments from public funds are equally important as a means of raising incomes and making for social and economic equality.

It is sufficient to note that, while the average monthly wage in 1967 was 103 roubles, such payments brought it up to 139.5. Moreover, the public funds put everybody, regardless of income or social position, on an equal footing in regard to education, improvement of skill, enjoyment of amenities, etc.

To boil down what I have said: the basis for the introduction of public ownership is the means of production. Its achievement depends on changes in the nature of production which permit the gradual elimination of inequality in distribution, consumption and living standards.



PRIEST SEES 'BLONDES FROM SPACE'

Seville, Spain, Sept, 19

A colony of blondhaired beings from outer space has been living in Spain since 1952, the Rev. Enrique Lopez Guerrero said yesterday. However, he did not say exactly where they are in Spain. Father Guerrero, 38, a parish priest at Mairena Del Arcor, near here, said the beings came from the planet Ummo 14 light-years away, first landing in southern France and then moving to Spain. He emphasized that the beings came for the peaceful study of earth civilization, which he said was similar to that on Ummo. Father Guerrero predicted that such contacts would reinforce universal brotherhood.

Soviet Assistance To Developing Countries

Soviet Aid Helps State Sector To Promote All-Round Economic Development

by ALEXEI PETRUSHOV

Vice Chairman of the State Committee
For Foreign Economic Contacts

The Soviet Union bases its relations with the developing countries on the Leninist idea of peace and friendship among nations and on the principles of full equality, non-interference in internal affairs of other countries, respect for sovereignty and support of the peoples fighting for independence.

In its policy as regards the developing countries, the Soviet Union proceeds from the fact that their newly-won political independence is only the first stage of liberation; that it will be followed by a second — the economic independence, which is of no less importance.

In the post-war period, after successfully winning political freedom scores of newly liberated states on the Asian, African and Latin-American continents set foot on the road of building independent national economies. The Soviet Union and the other socialist countries are rendering them all-round assistance in developing industry and agriculture, conducting geological surveys, establishing building facilities and modern means of transport and communication, and training qualified specialists.

Today the Soviet Union has official state agreements on rendering economic and technical assistance with 34 countries, including Iraq, the UAR, Syria, Laos, Pakistan, and Chile. The volume of this co-operation exceeds 4,000 million roubles.

The Soviet Union is aiding the developing countries in constructing and expanding some 600 projects more than 220 of which have become operational. These projects include

over 40 machine-building and metal-working factories, more than 20 mills and shops of the ferrous and non-ferrous metal industries, almost 30 power stations (not counting factory stations), some 70 enterprises of light and food industries, more than 100 agricultural and 60 transport and communication projects, and approximately 100 educational establishments.

BESIDES medical equipment and pharmaceutical factories, atomic piles, radio stations, highways and railways, bridges, ports, elevators, dams, irrigation canals, hospitals, dwelling houses, stadiums etc. are being built in these countries with Soviet co-operation.

The technical aid rendered by the Soviet Union to the developing countries undoubtedly contributes to their economic potentialities, which, in turn, make it possible considerably to decrease the economic dependence of the newly-freed states, to change their place in the international division of labour, and to improve the pattern of their exports and imports.

Soviet economic and technical co-operation with the developing countries is mainly directed towards the building, strengthening and expanding of the state sector in their economies. The state sector is known for its ability to mobilize all the funds on a national scale, to prevent them from being scattered and to use them for solving the most important problems; to accelerate the rate of economic development, to bolster the positions of the national economy in the struggle against the imperialist monopolies.

Some 70 per cent of the funds under the Soviet agreements on economic co-operation with the developing countries are being used for the promotion of industry and more than half of this sum is being invested in building enterprises of heavy industry.

AT THE REQUEST of the most economically backward countries of Asia and Africa — Yemen, Cambodia, Nepal, Guinea, Mali, Somali and the Sudan — they are given assistance, in the first place, in the fields of the manufacturing industries, agriculture and transport.

This is explained mainly by the shortage of means in these countries for investment in the slowly-repaying heavy industry; by an almost complete lack of qualified specialists, and a shortage of raw materials. Therefore, the chief task they set themselves is the satisfaction of the needs of the population in the shortest possible time.

I should like to emphasize the significance of Soviet technical co-operation in geological surveys, which are conducted with the application of the most progressive geological and geophysical techniques, particularly, aeromagnetic surveying, seismological prospecting in the sea and on the ground, and electrical surveying. Co-operation in the field of geology has proved very successful.

It is a well-known fact now that US and British oil concerns hampered prospecting in Syria and utilized their oil deliveries for putting political and economic pressure on the country. Several years ago the Soviet Union began oil prospecting there and discovered rich deposits of oil. When they are exploited, Syria will no longer need to import oil. The USSR has also helped Syria to locate big deposits of phosphorites and rock-salt.

The Soviet Union is extensively co-operating with the developing countries in training native specialists. Native personnel are being trained by Soviet specialists right

on the job during the construction of operation of new projects.

Besides, Soviet enterprises and institutions admit foreigners for vocational and technical training. Since the beginning of this co-operation as many as 68,000 foreigners, including more than 28,000 people from the developing countries, have been admitted to the vocational and technical courses in the Soviet Union.

In the period of 1961-1966, Soviet specialists taught more than 120,000 skilled workers and technicians on the construction sites in the developing countries. In the United Arab Republic, for instance, more than 12,000 skilled workers and foremen were trained on the construction site of the high Aswan dam.

ONE of the effective ways of training local specialists is Soviet assistance in the organization, in these countries, of their own systems of education and the setting up of local educational establishments.

The Soviet Union is helping to build and organize 70 educational establishments in the Near and Middle East, including institutes, technical schools, specialized and general secondary schools, and educational centres for vocational training. Fifty of them are already functioning, such as the Oil and Gas Institute and the oil and textile secondary schools in Algeria, the educational centres for vocational training in the UAR, Algeria and Iraq; and the secondary schools, in Yemen.

Co-operation between the USSR and the developing countries is mutually advantageous and provides additional opportunities for the Soviet Union to make better use of the international division of labour. It will enable the USSR to purchase, in these countries, increasing quantities of their traditional export commodities — dressed non-ferrous ores, cotton, wool, skins and hides, vegetable oil, fruit, coffee, cocoa beans, tea and other raw materials

goods, such as footwear, textiles and haberdashery articles.

Abiding by the firm course of peaceful and friendly relations with foreign countries, the Soviet Union is prepared to co-operate with all states on the principles of complete equality and mutual advantage. This kind of co-operation leads to the rapprochement of nations and serves the cause of strengthening peace throughout the world.

RESTORATION OF LAKE ISSYK

Alma Ata

Lake Issyk in the northern spurs of the Tien Shan (Kazakhstan) which was ousted from its bed by a disastrous mud current, is being restored under a project drafted by local hydro engineers. Scientists assume that the lake was formed ten thousand years ago as a result of a violent earthquake during which tumbling rock barred the way of glacial water to the valley. The calamity which drained the lake in 1963 helped scientists solve the mystery of the rare turquoise colour of the lake's water and the total absence of fish in it. It turned out that beneath the lake there was a huge fracture in the earth's crust through which different gases escaped from the depth of the earth to give the water its rare colour and kill any life in it. The lake to be restored with the help of a fill dam as high as a 10-storey house will again become a major tourist attraction in the heart of Asia. A highway has been built to connect its shore where a hotel and a tourist centre are situated with this city.

On Soviet Economics

US Congress Special Committee's Report On USSR—Critically Examined

by M. Maximov

A Special Sub-commission of the Joint Economic Commission of the US Congress has prepared a report on Soviet economic development in 1966-1967, issued in May 1968 as a Congressional document.

In the covering letter Boggs, chairman of the Sub-commission, points out that the said study of the current economic tendencies in the USSR is, in the main, the statistical report the aim of which is to complement and illustrate with fresh facts the extensive study published in July 1966. He meant the "production" of the Joint Economic Commission on the new trends in Soviet economics.

Usually such congressional publications (and quite a few of them have been dedicated to the USSR already) have quite a definite aim: to present the Soviet economics in unfavourable light compared with the US economics. The above-mentioned "statistical report" has this colouring, too. Nevertheless, it is noteworthy for some hidden aims and intentions by which its authors and publishers had been guided. That positive tendencies and changes in the Soviet economic development have become so obvious in the last few years that the congressmen cannot ignore them any longer. This explains the appearance of the report of Bogg's sub-commission, which might be regarded as a method of belatedly correcting and even refuting some facts contained in the reports on the new trends in Soviet economics.

As in the case of previous analogous Congressional papers, officials of various government and private offices and departments, Universities and research organiza-

tions, down to CIA, had a hand in the compilation of the document issued by Bogg's sub-commission. All this, however, does not impart the necessary authenticity to the study in question, required of a work of this kind, for it is known that official Soviet data gets "corrected", ignored on some occasions or even altogether replaced by home-made calculations and controversial assertions.

THE REPORT of Bogg's sub-commission, for example, alleges that there are some kind of differences within the Soviet leadership over the policy of the distribution of resources, that, for example, allocations for agriculture are curtailed, and the programme of improving living standards is being slowed down. But it does not tally with actual facts and a little bit further on in the "statistical report" its authors themselves confirm the opposite tendencies in the development of Soviet economics.

They are forced to admit that not only a lavish programme of ensuring the consumer's welfare was worked out, including: (1) an increase in the output of quality consumer goods such as meat, milk, clothing, and durables and (2) a considerable growth of the monetary income of the population, the collective farmers, state-farm workers, unskilled labourers and pensioners in particular, but that this programme is being implemented successfully.

Owing mainly, to the good crops of the last two years, the report points out, the consumption of goods and services grew roughly at a doubly quicker rate in the Soviet Union in 1966-1967 than in the preceding five years.

These favourable conditions, the report goes on to say, resulting from an increase in the output of foodstuffs, enabled the leadership to launch a series of reforms in the field of wages and social security which, undoubtedly, will enhance the consumer's monetary incomes to a considerably higher degree; it is envisaged that the monetary incomes will grow by 9 per cent in 1968, that is, will grow two times quicker than in 1967.

The data on the development in 1968 shows that the population's nominal incomes have been growing even faster. In the first six months of the current year, for example, they had grown by 10.4 per cent.

THE AUTHORS of the "statistical report" admit that not favourable weather alone but the changes in the Soviet agrarian policy, too, had made it possible to put into play the great reserves of Soviet collective farming, the rates of the growth of gross output of which have increased considerably. The higher purchasing prices and payments, for work the improvement of management and planning have resulted in a considerable increase of the grain and livestock output.

The authors of the report point out that the Soviet authorities have managed to restore their strategical grain stocks, to dispense with large grain purchases abroad, increase their exports to the industrial countries of the West and improve their payment balance. The improved situation in agriculture has had its favourable effect on the industry, the consumer industry, in particular.

The report's evaluations and admissions of changes in the Soviet agricultural development are frank and interesting enough to merit a special comment.

"The statistical report" cites a number of appraising and prospective facts in the field of comparing the Soviet industrial development with the development in the coun-

tries of market economy, the United States, in particular. The striving to prove that the USSR has lost its leadership in the rate of industrial growth is refuted by the statistical data cited in the material of Bogg's sub-commission.

The authors sin against the truth when they say that the volume of the Soviet gross national product was, allegedly, about 48 per cent of the American product, while, in actual fact, it amounted to 63 per cent in 1967. The report admits that the USSR occupies a stable second place in the world in this respect, its gross national product exceeding that of the FRG and Japan combined 2.5 - fold.

As for the rate of the growth of the gross national product, the report admits that the positions of the USSR are still rather strong. And it is evident even from the data of the report that the Soviet rate still surpasses the analogous rate of growth in the capitalist countries of West Europe and the USA 1.5-2 fold at times.

The authors of the report point out that the rate of the Soviet industrial growth has, allegedly, slowed down. Yet, a certain delay in the growth of the rates, observed in 1963-1965, has been overcome, in fact, and we have witnessed a drastic increase in the rate of growth in the last three years (1966-1967 and 1968). The report asserts, for example, that the annual rate of industrial growth was 7.4 per cent on the whole for 1966-1967, but in actual fact it was 9.4 per cent. The industrial growth has been at the level of 9 per cent in the current year and there are no indications to its getting lower, for the economic reform, which was spread to more than 25,000 industrial enterprises (and many other economic establishments) accounting for some 70 per cent of the entire industrial output, is giving an ever growing effect.

But the effect of the reform has been neglected by the report of Bogg's sub-commission.

We will come back yet to separate problems of the said US Congressional report, those pertaining, for example, to the living standards, production and consumption, cultural matters, the development of the socialist countries of East Europe. But at present we shall deal in the conclusion with the attempt of the authors of the report to forecast the future.

Characterising the prospect for the Soviet economic growth the authors of the report declare that in the future the gross national product of the USSR will annually increase by 4.8-6 per cent at the most. But the acceleration of the Soviet rate of development witnessed in the last few years, gives no grounds for such conclusions. The average annual

growth of the national income of the USSR was 7.2 per cent in the Soviet Union in 1966-1967.

And the further growth of the effect of capital investments and the systematic growth of labour productivity, just as of the effectiveness of production on the whole, give grounds for asserting that the rate of the growth of the gross national product of the USSR will be higher than predicted by the US Congressmen and considerably above the rate of the growth of the gross national product of the United States, which, in the estimation of the Americans themselves (and this is the most optimistic version) will not exceed 4.4-5 per cent annually up to 1975.

Bypassing The Capitalist Epoch

What Socialism Has Meant To The Formerly Backward Tsarist Colonies In Central Asia

by A Special Correspondent

ACCORDING to an old legend in Central Asia, when God began to hand out the land after creating the earth and people, the Uzbeks, Tajiks, Turkmenians and Khirgiz were the first to come and they received a great deal of land. The same thing happened when God distributed the Sun.

But when it came to water, the inhabitants of Central Asia overslept and they got almost nothing. As a matter of fact, vast expanses in this region — about three quarters of the territory — are covered with desert and dry steppe. Except for occasional wells and a small number of rivers, there is practically no water in these places. The fate of most of the rivers is unusual — they do not go anywhere, either being lost in the sands or used up for irrigation.

Nature in Central Asia offers many contrasts: its mountains are

among the highest in the USSR, in the desert enormous depressions lie below sea level. The barren sand reach right up to the cases with their flowering orchards and vineyards. In summer the temperature reaches 50 degrees Centigrade in the shade, in winter it drops to 30 degrees below zero.

Some 50 or 60 years ago, striking contrasts were also to be observed in the life of people. The fabulous luxury that surrounded the Bukhara emir and the khans existed side by side with the terrible poverty of the common people. The land for the most part belonged to the feudal lords and the bais. The peasants cultivated it and gave up half the crop to their masters. The khans and bais also owned the water. They could block the irrigation ditches and deprive the peasants of life-giving moisture. So that even if a peasant had his own plot of land just the same he was at the mercy of the feudal lords.

The ordinary people also suffered from colonial oppression. The peoples living in Central Asia had been enslaved by the tsarist autocracy. Their religious belief — Moslem — was persecuted by the dominant Christian orthodox church.

Some 50, 60 years ago, travellers to Central Asia were shocked at the poverty, the hunger and deprivation of the overwhelming majority of the population. Investigators believed that if a miracle did not take place, the Uzbeks, Tajiks, Turkmenians and Khirgiz were doomed to extinction as nations.

A MIRACLE did not occur. What did happen was the socialist revolution in Russia. To the peoples of Central Asia, the revolution was a real salvation. It marked the beginning of the road to progress, plenty, joy and happiness.

The road was not an easy one. They had to free themselves from the fetters of feudalism and move forward to socialism, bypassing the capitalist stage of development, an entire epoch in the life of other nations. After the victory of the socialist revolution, they were confronted with the question of how this was to be done.

Their first step was to do away with national inequality, and the colonial order existing in Central Asia. Right after the establishment of the people's power in the country, the "Declaration of the Rights of the Peoples of Russia" was issued. It abolished all national and religious privileges and restrictions, it declared full equality for all the nationalities inhabiting the country.

Following this, the Soviet government issued an appeal "To all the Moslem Working People of Russia and the East." It said: "Henceforth your religious beliefs and customs, your national and cultural institutions are declared free and inviolable. Arrange your national life freely and without hindrance. It is your right. Remember that your rights, just as the rights of all the peoples of Russia, are protected

by the full might of the revolution and its governing bodies — the Workers' Soldiers' and Peasant's Soviets."

These documents became the legal basis for the equality of nations in the country. Subsequently, this equality was written into the Constitution of the USSR. The practical activity of the Soviet government in the first post-revolutionary years strengthened the loyalty of the Central Asian peoples to the new social system. At that time, half a century ago, the overwhelming majority of the population were peasants. So the solution of the agrarian problem played a major role. Everywhere the land was distributed to those who cultivated it. A just system was also established for the irrigation of all the peasant fields.

SIMULTANEOUSLY, construction was started on hydroengineering installations and new irrigation systems. An example is Turkmenia, where in three years from 1925-1927, the area of irrigated lands increased by more than 75,000 hectares. The same is true of the other Central Asian republics. Understandably these social changes and also the growth of irrigated lands greatly increased the living standards of the rural population. The stage was set for the reorganization of agriculture on socialist principles. But this required a modern industry without which it is impossible to organize large-scale highly mechanized farming. So the next task in socialist construction was to create a modern industry.

The socialist revolution, transferred the mineral wealth, the industrial enterprises, transport, the power resources and finances to state ownership. It was now possible to develop the economy, in particular, industry, according to a scientific plan. Industry in Central Asia was also built up in this way. The area was rich in nonferrous metals, coal, oil, sulphur, mineral salts and many other natural resources. Yet all this had either not been used at all or only in small amounts. Thus, Turkmenia's oil

resources which were exploited by foreign firms, yielded not more than 25-30 thousand tons of oil a year.

After the revolution, in the late 20's and early 30's, the groundwork was laid for a modern oil industry. Job training courses were organized to prepare skilled workers from among the local people. Today, Turkmenia produces 10.5 million tons of "black gold" a year. Other industries developed in about the same way.

Some industries had to start from scratch. A steel plant built in Uzbekistan, for example, was the first in Central Asia. In the past 35 years metal working and mechanical engineering plants have been built in Taskent, Frunze, Ashkabad, Samarkand and other cities. They supply Central Asia's agriculture with machines and implements, while the chemical works in Chardjou and other cities provide fertilizers.

At the same time the problem of transport was also being solved. The Turkestan - Siberian railway was built to connect Central Asia with the Trans-Siberian line, other railways were built and also motorways. This played an important role in economic development in a region where once the donkey and the camel were the only means of transport. Modern transport changed the very pulse of life in Central Asia. Time there seemed to move faster.

WITH THE rapid development of industry in Central Asia, as in the whole country, it was possible to carry out fundamental social changes in agriculture. The example of the large state farms convinced the peasants of the advantages of large scale mechanized farming. The peasants began to pool their plots of land and set up co-operative farms. The state provided the machines.

Meanwhile, new irrigation canals were being laid — the Northern and Southern Fergana Canals, the Bolshoi, the Chuisk, Vakhsh, Kara-

Kum and many other canals. These irrigation systems made it possible to wrest hundreds of thousands of hectares of land from the deserts and arid steppe and turn them into fertile fields, orchards, vineyards. As a result, output of cotton, Central Asia's main agricultural crop, has increased 10-fold in the Soviet period. The peasants have become prosperous, hunger and poverty are a thing of the past, surviving only in old songs and legends.

But Central Asia has not only changed economically. People have changed, too. Industry and mechanized agriculture need agronomists, and skilled workers of all kinds. So the son of a poor peasant becomes an engineer, the daughter of a herdsman — a doctor, the cameleer — a driver.

In Central Asia a real cultural revolution has taken place. Whereas in the past only seven or eight people out of a thousand could read and write, today it is only among the very old one might find illiterates. As for the ratio of students to the population, every Central Asian republic has out-distanced even the civilized countries of Europe. 25 million books fill the shelves in the public libraries. Practically every family subscribes to one or two newspapers and a magazine in their native language.

THE FLOWERING of culture dealt a death blow to feudal survivals in the minds of people. This, of course, didn't happen at once and not easily. But it was precisely the changes in the minds of people, in the spiritual life of the population of Central Asia that completed the victory of socialism. This took place without in any way infringing on national traditions or religious beliefs. In Central Asia there are still a fairly large number of Moslem believers, most of them Sunnites.

Together with the Moslems of Kazakhstan, they have a common organization—an ecclesiastical board headed by Mufti Ziyantdin Babakhanov who resides in Tashkent, capital of Uzbekistan. Also situated

in Tashkent is a special department for relations with Moslems of other countries. Every year believers make pilgrimages to Mecca, they visit the grave of the prophet and other sacred places of Islam.

In the Soviet Union, there is deep respect for national traditions in art, in good customs, in clothing, in the preparation of food. The different nationalities in the USSR not only live in friendship, they not only help each other in construction, but also in scientific research. They also share their national cultural wealth. People in our country believe, and rightly so, that the culture of

friends and brothers help to enrich the national cultures of all the peoples in the Soviet Union.

In the USSR there is no discord, no antagonism between the nations. On the contrary, they are united by common aims and aspirations, they form a single large close-knit family.

This unity and this friendship were an important factor in the transition of the Central Asian peoples from feudalism to socialism. Singly, without fraternal aid, it would have been impossible to make such tremendous strides in such a brief period.

A Question Many Ask

Can Soviet Workers Strike? How are Industrial Disputes Settled?

by **Vyacheslav Koshtikov**

"Are there strikes in the USSR?" asks Mr. D. Peggic, shipwright apprentice from Rosyth.

Regular readers of "*Soviet Weekly*" are well aware that conflicts between unions and management at Soviet factories are not rare events.

Here is a recent example from a large motor works in Ulyanovsk. The factory has been operating for many years, it has a strong trade union organisation with a committee led by workers who are not at all timid. But the director Fedyushin, underrated the committee. Without consulting them, he extended the working day. The workers, naturally, demanded that the decision be revoked.

Could the workers have gone on strike in support of their demand?

"Of course, they could!" would be the reply of any active trade-unionist familiar with Soviet labour legislation.

"At no time has Soviet legislation prohibited recourse to strikes", wrote the members of a mission

from the International Labour Office in Geneva, who visited the Soviet Union to study trade unionism.

"Moreover", they said, "there is a provision in a Decree of January 23, 1929, protecting strike funds". This, they conceded, implied that the right to strike exists. Nevertheless the workers at Ulyanovsk — and in many similar disputes didn't take advantage of this right.

"Why?" I asked Vladimir Konnov, Chairman of the Motor Transport and Road Workers' Trade Union. "A strike is an extreme measure, the result of feeling hopeless about winning by any other method", he answered. Instead, at Ulyanovsk, the trade union acted quickly to deal with the management's crude violation of the labour laws.

At its demand, the director's illegal order was revoked immediately.

In accordance with normal practice, the local union committee must report all conflicts at the plant to its central committee and

to the Soviet TUC—the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions. These bodies considered the report from Ulyanovsk and decided to send a trade-union commission there to investigate relations between workers and management. They found that the dispute was not the first case of the director ignoring labour legislation.

Fedyushin was found to have repeatedly changed the workers' free day from Sunday, giving them time off in lieu at the beginning of the following month. The factory trade union branch, supported by the union executive and the TUC, passed a vote of no confidence in the Director.

A director who has lost the confidence of the workers cannot re-

main in office. The USSR Ministry of the Motor Industry, therefore, sacked Fedyushin.

As you see, in the USSR labour disputes are usually settled locally, as at Ulyanovsk.

Every factory has a special disputes committee, with an equal number of representatives from the trade union and management. If the parties do not reach agreement, the case may be submitted to the courts.

Here the rights of workers and their trade unions are backed by the labour code, ratified by the Supreme Soviet as long ago as 1922.

Workers in the USSR do not only enjoy the protection of their trade

unions, they are also defended by the state.

"Through these bodies the unions could exert their social pressure directly on management," the ILO mission reported.

"This pressure can also be thought to bear on higher economic bodies when the former means are unsuccessful. For these reasons it was felt that the need to strike was nonexistent. In view of the facilities available, a strike would probably be considered a sign that appropriate steps had not been taken in time to prevent the development of discontent".

— SOVIET WEEKLY



A scene from N. Simonyan's ballet "A Pearl" at the Leningrad State Kirov Opera and Ballet Theatre. People's Artist of the RSFSR A. Osipenko as the Pearl, and Merited Artist of the RSFSR Y. Solovyov as Kino, the pearl-Diver

Noteworthy

Russian Literature In The Tamil Language: Many Books Already Translated

ONE MORE work of Russian literature recently came out in the Tamil language. It is Nikolai Ostrovsky's novel, *How the Steel was Tempered*, put out by the Progress Foreign Languages Publishing House in Moscow.

Ostrovsky died early, at the age of 32. He spent the last 12 years of his life chained to bed by an incurable disease, the result of the heavy wound which he received while defending, arms in hand, the gains of the socialist revolution. However, the writer's blindness did not prevent him from creating his wonderful works and his "*How The Steel Was Tempered*", the novel that holds a special place among them, in particular. It is an exciting story about the heroic struggle and work of the YCLers during the Civil War, about the first steps on the road of building socialism, about friendship, youth and love.

The novel enjoys great popularity. It has been translated into more than 16 languages and has had about 300 editions.

MANY WORKS by *Maxim Gorky*, the world-famous founder of the literature of socialist realism, have also been translated into Tamil. Among these works are his novel, "Mother", and his trilogy, "Childhood", "In the World", and "My Apprenticeship."

The outstanding Soviet writer *Mikhail Sholokhov*, Lenin Prize and Nobel prize winner, is well-known to the whole world. His books, "And Quiet Flows the Don", "The Soil Upturned", and his wonderful story "The Destiny of a Man", have been published in many languages including the Tamil language. The best works by *Fadeyev*, *Aitmatov* and *Mukhtar Auevov* have also been

translated into Tamil. The inexhaustible wealth of the classical Russian literature is represented in the Tamil translations by the works of brilliant Russian writers, *Alexander Pushkin's* D "Dubrovsky" and "Captain's Daughter", *Tolstoy's* masterpieces "War and Peace", "Anna Karenina" and "Resurrection", *Lermontov's* "The Hero of Our Time" and several best stories by *Chekhov*.

Soviet popular science literature has also been made accessible to the Tamil readers of different age. Such fascinating books as "Physics for Entertainment" and "Astronomy for Entertainment" by Perelman, a well-known popular-science author, "Space Travels" by Shternfeld and "The Origin of the Earth and Other Planets" by Levin have been translated into Tamil.

The translated literature published in the Tamil language also includes a number of works by the founders of scientific communism Karl Marx, Friedrich Engels and Vladimir Lenin. Among these works is the "Communist Manifesto", a classic by Marx and Engels, the first programme document of Marxism in which the main ideas of communism are expressed in a concise and vivid form.

IN THE APRIL of 1970 Lenin's 100th birth anniversary will be celebrated. Many collected and separate works by Lenin, the brilliant continuer of Marx's cause, have been published in the Tamil language, including "The Three Sources and Three Component Parts of Marxism", in which Lenin gives a short characteristic of the Marxist teaching and the brief description of the main problems of the dialectical and historical materialism, political economy and the theory of scientific communism. Noolaham Foundation. noolaham.org | aavanaham.org

The translated biographical literature devoted to the founder of Marxism-Leninism (Marx's and Lenin's short biographies, their contemporaries, reminiscences about them, etc) is quite extensive.

The Progress Publishing House put out many Tamil translations for the children and adolescence, including the books by such well-known Soviet-children's writers as Gaidar, Nosov and Lagin, as well as Russian fairy tales.

What are the Progress Publishers plans for the future? They are planning to put out, for example, Lenin's separate and collected works, such as the book "Nations Right to Self-Determination" and "Articles and Speeches on the Occasion of the October Revolution Anniversaries", "What is Soviet Power?" etc. The book by *A. Williams*, an American Journalist, entitled "About Lenin and the October Revolution" will also be published. The publication of all these is timed for Lenin's anniversary.

APN



Larisa Latynina, Over-all gymnastics champion of the 17th Olympic Games

International Conference

The Mystery Of The Kushans And Their Lost Empire In Central Asia: Who Are They ?

by **B. STANVINSKY**

*Member of the Committee on Studying the Central Asian
Civilisation of the USSR Commission on UNESCO Affairs*

AN INTERNATIONAL scientific conference on the history, archaeology and culture of Central Asia in the Kushan period (1st century B. C. — the 4th century A. C.) was held in Dushanbe recently. The conference was attended by more than 200 delegates of 17 countries of Asia, Europe and America.

In October, 1932, frontier-guards on board a patrol boat spotted a strange-looking stone on the bottom of the Amu-Darya, not far off the city of Termez. It was not without difficulty that it had been hauled ashore. Soon, photograph of a remarkable high-relief showing three musicians against the background of luxuriant foliage was placed on the desk of M. Masson, a Tashkent archaeologist. That was how Soviet scholars discovered 35 years ago a work of art of one more forgotten empire, a powerful ancient kingdom from which only coins had remained in our museums up till then.

A hundred years before the discovery in Airtam these coins had attracted the attention of European scientists. Small copper, more rarely gold, coins with images of bearded kings and gods were the first call signs of the Kushan kingdom. Soon stone statues and high-reliefs of the Kushan period were discovered in the north of modern India and in West Pakistan.

Slowly, step by step, science was moving towards the mysterious kingdom. Scientists of different countries and specialisations carefully studied coins and high-reliefs, the spots where they had been

found, extracted crumbs of information on the Kushans from the writings of ancient authors of the Mediterranean and the Far East, and studied laconic and rare inscriptions found in India. As a result, the general outlines of the history of the Kushan kingdom came to light. But they were too general.

WHO ARE THEY, THE KUSHANS ? That ancient Central Asian - Indian kingdom was called Kushan in manuscripts of ancient China, in rock inscriptions of Iranian kings, in the later oriental texts and on coins. Who were they, the Kushans ? It is not yet sufficiently clear. It seems that they were a stock, a tribe from which the founders of the empire originated. But where that stock had come from has not been established yet. Ancient Chinese chronicles say they had come from the Nomad tribes of East Turkestan.

But the excavations of burial mounds of the Nomadic conquerors of Central Asia, dating back to the 3rd - 1st centuries B.C., show that these steppe warriors were connected with Kazakh and Volga tribes. The centre of the Kushan kingdom was Bactria, an ancient region taking up the area of the southern districts of the Uzbek and Tajik Soviet Republics, and North Afghanistan.

There the steppe conquerors had settled. There, the ruler of a small kingdom, Kudzula Kadpiz by name, a Kushan, subordinated the rest of the four possessions (Bactria consisted of five principalities at the time) to himself and

had built the foundations of the Kushan empire.

THEIR UNKNOWN LANGUAGE. Up till recently one could judge of the Kushan language only by their coins. Inscriptions on them were first in Greek, inherited from the Greco-Bactrian kings, successors of Alexander the Great. There were sometimes Indian inscriptions, too. That meant the coins were minted by the Kushans in conquered regions of India.

That was how the Kushan script, based, like the Slavic alphabet, on Greek characters, came into being. The nature of the alphabet was to be seen from the coins. But to form a notion of the Kushan language one needed definitely some thing more than the coins, for inscriptions on them consisted only of the title "The King of the Kings", the name of the king and an indication to his stock — a Kushan.

And only new inscriptions discovered by the French in Surh-Kotale (North Afghanistan) and by the author of the article on the Kar Tepe hill (in old Termez) made it possible for the linguists to establish that the language of the Kushans was the local ancient Bactrian language.

"KANISHKA'S DATE". The long Kushan inscription of Surh-Kotale, the gift inscriptions on the Kara-Tepe clay vessels and a considerable part of the Indian inscriptions coming from North of India date back to the rule of Kanishka and his successors.

Some of them bear dates relating to the "Kanishka Era", the counting of years from the time of the accession of Kanishka and his successors to the throne. But when did that happen? We still do not know, which means that we still cannot connect the events of the Kushan history of other countries and peoples.

The ill-starred "Kanishka's date" was twice discussed at international gatherings in London: In 1913 and in 1960. Yet, it has not been yet possible to fasten it to my definite time.

Solar Activity And Human Health

Research Into Impact of Sun-Spots And Magnetic-Field Fluctuations On Cardio-Vascular Diseases

Many years' statistics on the frequency of cardiovascular diseases and lethal outcomes thereof show that these numbers grow markedly in certain years. There must be a certain connection between the deterioration of the health of people who are susceptible to these diseases and the effects of some kind of external causes.

Among these, of particular importance, are the changes in meteorological factors, living conditions, nutrition and labour. Further quests led researchers to studying the effects of solar activity upon the biosphere. This factor is studied by heliobiology.

Active processes on the Sun are attended by the discharge of electrically charged particles (corpuscules) and intensive wave radiation in the X-ray, ultraviolet and radio-wave parts of the spectrum. These kinds of radiation supplement the constant radiation of the quiet Sun. Active areas on the Sun are characterised by the appearance of spots, chromospheric flares, and other formations.

FROM the viewpoint of their effects on biological objects, not all types of radiation from active areas are of scientific interest. Corpuscular radiation, X-ray and ultraviolet radiation are fully absorbed in the upper layers of the Earth's atmosphere and so are dangerous to cosmonauts only. We know still very little about the biological effects of radio-radiation. Experiments showed that the permanent field acts if its intensity reaches several dozen oersteds, i.e., much more than the natural field of the Earth. Under the effects of a weak alternating magnetic field, especially with oscillation frequencies close to those of biological currents, marked changes may appear in organisms.

The troposphere was till recently considered to be an isolate confined system. Subsequently, the lower layers of the Earth's atmosphere were found to be closely connected with the upper layers, while solar activity, without changing the sum total of energy, was found to affect the distribution thereof on the Earth. And if that is so, then the phenomena in biology which depend on the weather must also be connected with solar activity.

The problem of the direct effects of solar activity upon biological objects and, first and foremost on the human organism, is extremely important in principle. It is only having convincing proof of there being such bonds that we may pass over to the next stage of investigation to quests for the mechanisms of these effects.

The existence of bonds may be proved by statistical comparisons because any biological object, including man, is subject to a large number of various effects. That is why immense importance is now attached to complex research into the "Sun-biosphere" problem.

The statistical connection of man's pathological reactions with changes in solar activity must not be identified with the functional dependence of two extremely complex dynamic systems; the heliogeophysical environment and the inner medium of the organism.

THE PATHOLOGY of the cardio-vascular system was studied not only because it is so widespread, but also because it ranks prominently in the mortality of the population. In our quest for the external cause of the growth of cardiovascular affections in certain

given years and periods, our attention was attracted by fluctuations of the magnetic field. Magnetic disturbances, owing their origin to solar activity, are geoeffective and alter considerably the intensity of the Earth's magnetic field. It is obvious that at the instant of a magnetic storm the control systems in a number of patients grow much weaker or are even gravely affected. The organism becomes more sensitive to environmental changes.

Having studied all trustworthy cases of myocardial infarction and the mortality due to this disease in Sverdlovsk for the period from 1961 to 1965, an interesting fact was discovered. It was found that on days marked by higher geomagnetic activity, the number of myocardial infarction cases and deaths was, with a sufficient degree of statistical trustworthiness, larger than on geomagnetically quiet days.

Similar results were obtained by Leningrad researchers quite independently of Sverdlovsk investigations. The increase of the number of hypertension crises in the periods of changes in the magnetic activity level is borne out by research performed at the A. Myashikov Institute of Cardiology of the USSR Academy of Medical Science, too.

True scientists at the Alpine Astronomical Station of Pulkovo Observatory and the staff of the forensic medicine chair of the Sverdlovsk Medical Institute jointly compared solar activity factors with cases of sudden death to cardiovascular diseases for a period of 22 years (from 1944 to 1966), as applied to the city of Sverdlovsk. All calculations were made in the deaths per 10,000 of the population and plotted on special diagrams. Naturally, scientists dealt only with the effects of such elements of solar activity that were geoeffective, i.e. caused biological effects on the Earth.

An answer to the question concerning the effects of solar activity on the biosphere is important not only in principle alone. If the effects of solar activity on human health are firmly established, then in the future we shall be able — taking advantage of solar activity forecasts — to predict the periods that are dangerous for certain groups of patients. And this will give us the chance of taking the prophylactic measures which are essential.

APN



SECRETS OF PHOTOGRAPHY

These excellent portraits and landscapes with a deep black background resemble the famous lacquered paintings of Russian masters from the village Palekh. The picture is edged with a similar exquisite ornament in bronze or gold. All this is new to photography. Lacquered paintings cannot be imitated by conventional printing methods used in photography, said Moscow photographers A. Kuritsyn and A. Liborman, who invented the new method. Their innovation is based on the principle of splitting the process of printing. The subject matter is printed first on a glossy paper, while a special mask is made on a nitro or acetate positive film, retouched blackening along the sides and a translucent ornament. The prints are glued together by a hot gelatine glue. After this the surface is polished by a soft fabric till it becomes glossy, and the picture is ready. The nitro or acetate surface protects the photograph from mechanical or atmospheric damage. These pictures are extremely durable and can even be washed in hot water.

APN

Full Text Of The Terms Of The

Soviet-Czech Treaty On The Stationing Of Troops

concluded between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic on the Terms of the Temporary Stationing of Soviet Troops on the Territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

Determined to make every effort to strengthen friendship and co-operation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Czechoslovakia, as well as between all the countries of the socialist community, and to defend the gains of socialism, and strengthen peace and security in Europe and throughout the world, in conformity with the Statement of the Bratislava Conference of August 3rd, 1968,

Taking into consideration the Treaty of Friendship, Mutual Assistance and Postwar Co-operation of December 12th, 1943, which was extended by the Protocol of November 27th, 1963,

And in accordance with the agreement reached during the Soviet-Czechoslovak talks held in Moscow on August 23rd-26th and October 3rd-4th, 1968,

Have decided to conclude the present Treaty and have agreed upon the following:

ARTICLE 1

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, acting with the consent of the Governments of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic and the Polish People's Republic, and the Government of the Czecho-

slovak Socialist Republic, have agreed that part of the Soviet troops now in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall remain temporarily on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in order to ensure the security of the countries of the socialist community against the increasing revanchist strivings of the West German militarist forces.

The rest of the troops of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as well as the troops of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Hungarian People's Republic, the German Democratic Republic and the Polish People's Republic shall be withdrawn from the Czechoslovak territory in accordance with the documents of the Moscow talks of August 23rd-26th, and October 3rd-4th, 1968. The withdrawal of these troops shall be started after the ratification of this Treaty by both Sides, and shall be carried out by stages within two months.

The numbers and places of deployment of Soviet troops remaining temporarily on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall be determined by agreement between the Governments of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Soviet troops temporarily staying on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall remain subordinated to the Soviet Military Command.

ARTICLE 2

1. The temporary presence of Soviet troops on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic does not violate its sovereignty. Soviet troops do not interfere in the internal affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2. Soviet troops, persons serving with Soviet troops and members of their families staying on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall observe the legislation operating in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

ARTICLE 3

1. The Soviet Side shall bear the maintenance costs of Soviet troops on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall provide Soviet troops, persons serving with Soviet troops and members of their families, for the period of their temporary stay in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, with barrack accommodation and housing in garrison settlements, service, warehouse and other premises, airfields with stationary structures and equipment, state-owned means of communication and transport, electric power and other services.

Testing grounds, firing and training ranges shall be used jointly with the Czechoslovak People's Army.

The procedure and terms of using the above listed facilities as well as municipal, trade and other services shall be established by agreement between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 4

Soviet troops, persons serving with Soviet troops and members of their families may travel to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, to the places of deployment of Soviet troops and back from the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic both in through trains and carriages belonging to the Soviet Union, or change from the carriages of one country to the carriages of the other country, or travel by motor car or by air.

Persons serving with Soviet troops and members of their families are exempted from passport or visa

control when entering, staying in or leaving the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Points and procedure for crossing the Soviet-Czechoslovak frontier, methods of control, as well as types and forms of corresponding documents are determined by agreement between the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 5

The Czechoslovak Side agrees to let through the state frontier of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic without collecting duties, and without customs and border inspection:

— Soviet troops and persons serving with them travelling with military units, contingents, and teams:

— all military freight, including freight designed for trade and other servicing of Soviet troops:

— persons serving with the Soviet troops travelling to the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic or leaving the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, alone or together with members of their families, with their personal belongings, on presentation to customs officials of documents certifying their right to cross the state frontier of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Property, and military equipment and material, brought into the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic by the Soviet Side, may be taken back to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics without being duty-charged.

ARTICLE 6

1. Trade and other services for the personnel of the Soviet troops temporarily stationed on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, and members of the families of persons serving with Soviet troops, will be provided through Soviet trade and service establishments.

2. The Czechoslovak Side shall supply Soviet trade and service establishments with goods to the amount agreed upon between competent trade organisations of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, at state retail prices existing in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and at a trade discount accepted for corresponding trade organisations of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

Payment for deliveries shall be made in the currency of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

3. Under contracts concluded between appropriate Soviet and Czechoslovak foreign trade organisations and at prices operating in trade relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Czechoslovak Side shall deliver agreed-upon quantities of foodstuffs and manufactures, including fuel (coal, coke, firewood), for a planned supply to Soviet troops.

ARTICLE 7

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall give the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the necessary sums in Czechoslovak koruny for expenses connected with the temporary stay of Soviet troops on Czechoslovak territory. The size of these sums will be fixed by agreement between the competent organs of the Contracting Parties.

ARTICLE 8

A procedure of payment for services, provided for by Article 3, as well as on sums in Czechoslovak koruny under Article 7 of this Treaty, shall be established by an additional Agreement between the Contracting Parties within six weeks after the present Treaty comes into force. The above sums in Czechoslovak koruny will be recounted into convertible roubles on the basis of the ratio of hom

prices and tariffs in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and of foreign trade prices.

ARTICLE 9

Questions of jurisdiction connected with the temporary presence of Soviet troops on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall be regulated as follows:

1. In cases of crimes and offences committed by persons serving with the Soviet troops, or by members of their families, on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Czechoslovak legislation shall be applied and the cases shall be handled by Czechoslovak courts, prosecutors' offices and other Czechoslovak organs competent on prosecuting for punishable offences.

Cases of crimes committed by Soviet servicemen shall be investigated by the military prosecutors' office and examined by military judicial bodies of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2. Provisions of Point 1 of the present Article are inapplicable:

(a) in the event of persons, serving with the Soviet troops, or members of their families, committing crimes or misdemeanours against the Soviet Union alone, and also against persons, serving with the Soviet troops or members of their families:

(b) in the event of persons, serving with the Soviet troops, committing crimes or misdemeanours when discharging their duties in areas where the military units are deployed.

Cases indicated in subpoints 'a' and 'b' are within the competence of Soviet courts, prosecuting and other bodies, acting on the basis of Soviet legislation.

3. In the case of punishable actions against Soviet troops, temporarily stationed on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Re-

public, and also against persons serving with them, the persons guilty of such actions shall bear the same responsibility as for punishable actions against the armed forces of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and against persons serving with them.

4. Competent Soviet and Czechoslovak organs may request each other reciprocally for transfer or acceptance of jurisdiction in respect to individual cases envisaged in Points 1 and 2 of the present Article. Such requests shall be considered favourably.

5. Competent Soviet and Czechoslovak organs shall render each other legal and every kind of other assistance in questions of prosecuting punishable actions, indicated in Points 1, 2 and 3 of the present Article.

ARTICLE 10

1. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees to compensate the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for the material damage which might be inflicted upon the Czechoslovak state by actions or negligence of Soviet armed units or persons serving with them, and also for the injury or damage which might be inflicted by Soviet armed units or persons serving with them during the discharge of their duties upon Czechoslovak citizens, establishments, or to citizens of third states, staying on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic—in both cases within limits established (on the basis of submitted claims and with due account for provisions of the Czechoslovak law by Plenipotentiary Representatives for the affairs of the temporary stay of Soviet troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, appointed in accordance with Article 13 of the present Treaty.

Disputes which might arise from the commitment of Soviet armed units are subject to consideration on the same grounds.

2. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics agrees also to compensate the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for the damage or injury which might be inflicted upon Czechoslovak establishments or citizens, and also citizens of third states, staying on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, as a result of actions or negligence by persons serving with the Soviet forces, caused outside the discharge of their duties, and also as a result of actions or negligence by members of the families or persons serving with the Soviet troops — in both cases within limits fixed by a competent Czechoslovak court, on the basis of claims made to persons responsible for the damage or injury.

ARTICLE 11

1. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic agrees to compensate the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for the damage or injury which might be inflicted upon the property of Soviet military units, temporarily stationed on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, or upon persons, serving with the Soviet troops, due to actions or negligence of Czechoslovak state institutions — within limits fixed by Plenipotentiary Representatives for the affairs of the temporary stay of Soviet troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, on the basis of the submitted claims and with due account taken of Czechoslovak legislation.

Disputes which might arise from the commitments of Czechoslovak state institutions to Soviet military units are subject to consideration on the same grounds.

2. The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic also agrees to compensate the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics for damage or injury which might be inflicted upon Soviet armed units, temporarily stationed on the territory of the Czechoslovak

Socialist Republic, or persons, serving with the Soviet troops and members of their families, due to actions or negligence of Czechoslovak citizens — within limits fixed by a Czechoslovak court, on the basis of claims made to persons responsible for the damage.

ARTICLE 12

Compensation for damage, envisaged in Articles 10 and 11, will be effected by the Sides within three months of the passing of a decision by Plenipotentiary Representatives for the affairs of the temporary stay of Soviet troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, or the coming into force of a court verdict.

Payment of sums, due to persons, units and institutions, to which damage was caused, will be effected by competent organs of the Sides: in cases envisaged by Article 10 Czechoslovak organs, Article 11 Soviet organs.

ARTICLE 13

To duly regulate current questions connected with the temporary stay of Soviet troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic appoint their Plenipotentiary Representative for the affairs of the temporary stay of Soviet troops in the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

ARTICLE 14

1. In interpreting the present Treaty: a "person, serving with the Soviet troops" is: (a) serviceman of the Soviet forces; (b) civilian, who is a Soviet citizen, working in Soviet units temporarily staying on the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

2 "Members of the families of persons serving with the Soviet

troops are: (a) wives, (b) unmarried children, (c) close relatives who are dependants of these persons.

3. "Place of deployment" is an area designated by the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic or local government bodies for the stationing of Soviet troops, including places of deployment of army units.

ARTICLE 15

The present Treaty shall come into force after its ratification by both Sides and shall be in operation during the temporary stay of Soviet troops on the territory of the the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

The Treaty may be amended with the consent of the Contracting Parties.

Drawn up in the city of Prague on October 16th, 1968, in two authentic copies, each in the Russian and Czech languages, with both texts having equal force.

O. CERNIK,
Chairman of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic.

A. KOSYGIN,
Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Pravda, -October 19th, 1968



GRAFTED HEARTS NOT FOR LONG

Cincinnati,

Dr. Christian Barnard, who performed the world's first heart transplant, said yesterday that transplanted hearts ultimately will be rejected by the recipient bodies. "We can help extend life," Dr. Barnard said, "but rejection of a transplanted heart is inevitable in the long run although it may not show up for a long period except under the microscope." Rejection has been one of the major stumbling blocks in heart transplant surgery. Dr. Barnard performed the world's 1st transplant on 3 December 1967 on Lewis Washansky at Groete Schuur Hospital in Capetown, South Africa. Washkansky died 18 days later, but another of Dr. Barnard's patients, or Philip Blaiberg, has been living with a new heart since January. Dr. Barnard was here for a lecture.



People's Artist of the USSR, ballerina Maya Plisetskaya as Princess Betsy Tverskaya in the film "Anna Karenina."

From Prague

Czech Leaders On The Stationing Of Soviet Troops

Prague, October 18

Dr. Bohuslav Kucera, Chairman of the Czechoslovak Socialist Party, regards the agreement on the temporary stationing of Soviet troops in Czechoslovakia as the beginning of "a new important stage of normalization of life in Czechoslovakia" and in the "restoration of confidence in the spirit of the traditions of mutual alliance."

This emerges from an interview on the Czechoslovak delegation's visit to Moscow in which Dr. Kucera participated as its member. The interview was carried by the Socialist Party organ *Svobodne Slovo* yesterday. "...The treaty has also its important international political aspects because it is based on the idea of the joint defence of the socialist countries whose component we always felt to be and continue to feel so. It cannot even be otherwise in today's divided world in which a number of hotbeds of international tension are threatening world peace. The treaty emphasizes that the troops present on our territory will not interfere in the internal affairs of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic", Dr. Bohuslav Kucera points out.

"I believe that the concluded treaty consequently creates the necessary prerequisites and scope for our further positive political development respecting both the general principles of socialism as well as our own conditions and traditions. This, however, makes it necessary to formulate within a short time the programme aims for the immediate period. It will be useful to base these aims especially on the elaborated programme of our economic policy, in the spirit of the government declaration, on the development and the assertion of the system of the national regeneration enabling all citizens to participate in the

administration of public affairs. This programme can rally all positive socialist forces of our people and create the necessary conditions for the road ahead", says Dr. Kucera in the interview for *Svobodne Slovo*.

CETEKA.

* * *

Prague, October 19

Soviet troops which will be temporarily stationed on Czechoslovak territory and all Polish, Hungarian, Bulgarian and GDR troops will be withdrawn from Czechoslovakia within two months, Premier Oldrich Cernik told the Czechoslovak Parliament here yesterday. The precise number of troops to remain temporarily on Czechoslovak territory is stipulated by the agreement, Mr. Cernik told the Parliament.

The text of the agreement fully respects the sovereign execution of the state power and administration by Czechoslovak bodies on the territory of the Republic. It safeguards the security and legal protection of Czechoslovak citizens and creates pre-conditions lest the stay of the troops in Czechoslovakia should affect the country's economic situation and the standard of living of the population, Premier Cernik said. The Czechoslovak-Soviet agreement contains a provision that the Soviet troops will not interfere with Czechoslovakia's internal affairs and that in all their activities they will respect and abide by the Czechoslovak law and legal regulations.

The basic aspect in solving legal relations is the principle that only the Czechoslovak legal order is valid on the territory of the Republic, Mr. Cernik said. He also told the Parliament that the direct protection of the Czechoslovak western frontier remains fully in the hands of the Czechoslovak army, despite the temporary stationing in Czechoslovakia of Soviet troops. The Czechoslovak people's army thus remains a valid inseparable part of the Warsaw Pact armies, Premier Cernik said.

All costs connected with the upkeep of Soviet troops on the territory of the Czechoslovak socialist republic will be paid for by the Soviet side, Premier Cernik said and added: the Soviet Government will cover all costs which will arise to Czechoslovakia in connection with providing material and other necessities to the Soviet units stationed temporarily on Czechoslovak territory.

It is a matter for the Czechoslovak working people and our functionaries and representatives how the concrete social position of the Soviet troops will be arranged, Mr. Cernik said and continued: "I think that the social relations with the commanding and commissioned officers' staff will be determined also by their attitude to the Czechoslovak people, and to our political representatives. The presence of troops other than the State's own is not a simple affair for the life of any country. I believe that you, deputies of the National Assembly and the whole Czechoslovak public will understand me well if I say that it is necessary to consider the troops of the Soviet Union, which will be stationed in Czechoslovakia under the proposed agreement, as troops of our ally, as troops of a socialist country whose nations brought the greatest sacrifices in the struggle against fascism during the second world war", Premier Oldrich Cernik said.

CETEKA

Science

Is There Confirmation For Life In Space?

TRACES of former living organisms in meteorites appear to have been found by Dr. Boris V. Timofeyev, head of the Laboratory of biostratigraphy of the Institute of Precambrian Geology of the Academy of Sciences.

Although Dr. Timofeyev is an expert in the identification of fossil remains of small organisms, his findings are not accepted by all scientists.

The evidence for traces of life in space consists of a series of sliders prepared from a number of meteorites. Under the microscope, these show shapes, which are similar to but, not the same as, the shapes of micro-organisms found in rocks on Earth.

They are similar to the remains of terrestrial single-cell algae. Dr. Timofeyev is well aware that similar reports in the past of the discovery of micro-organisms in meteorites have turned out to be false — the organisms later having been showing to be "settlers", terrestrial intruders into the body of the fallen space material.

In spite of this, he decided to take up the search himself. The reason for this step was the presence of carbon in many stone meteorites. There was a strong possibility, he felt, that some of this carbon could be of organic origin.

Dr. Timofeyev has devoted many years to the study of biostratigraphy — the science of determining the sequence of rock strata of which the Earth's crust is composed, its age, from fossils of animals and plants.

THE MORE ancient the rocks, the fewer the fossils preserved. It was thought until recently that such fossils, with the exception of certain

algae, are totally absent in rock formations older than 600-million years — i. e. those which were formed in the pre-Cambrian geological period.

Geologists call such formations "dumb". The Leningrad scientists and his students have developed a new method for determining the age of these "dumb" rock formations.

They succeeded with the aid of this method in discovering in the most ancient strata of the Earth's crust remnants of microscopic organisms. These are mainly algae, and have existed hundreds of millions and even two or three thousand million years.

Dr. Timofeyev's students won recognition both in the USSR and abroad. He has applied this method in his study of carbonaceous matter contained in meteorites.



A Russian athlete

A CITY'S MENU

How much does a city, for example, Moscow, consume within a single day and who, so to speak, serves the table? 2,000-2,200 tons of bread, up to 2,500 tons of meat and fish, up to 800 tons of sugar and nearly 200 tons of salt. It washes all this down with 1,800 tons of milk, not to mention wine, beer kvass and juices, which are on sale in nearly two thousand stores, and are delivered there by hundreds of vans. Quite a "gulp". Working in the delivery services are 125,000 people, mostly drivers. But it is not only food that they carry. Thus, in Moscow eight thousand tons of vegetable mould are transported every day for town improvement projects.

Every day six thousand tons of asphalt mass are delivered from plants to the streets of the capital. This is enough to cover a street eight kilometers long and seven meters wide. Also every day, trucks carry out of Moscow up to 70,000 tons of earth, excavated for the foundation pits of 31 five-storeyed apartment houses. In the morning and in the evening Moscow "washes up", and this requires a "bar" of soap weighing 160 tons. To keep all this going and arriving on time, Moscow consumes daily five and a half thousand tons of gasoline.

Vladimir Ilyich Lenin

The Most Humane Of Men: How He Dealt With Ordinary People

ONE should learn to approach the masses patiently and carefully to understand the peculiarities and specific features of every stratum of the working people and every profession.

“To live in *the midst of the people*.”

“To know *the attitudes*.”

“To know *all*.”

“To raise the masses.”

“To be able to approach them.”

“To win their *absolute confidence*”

How much profound meaning there is in these lines by Lenin.

It was at Moscow's Dynamo Plant on November 7, 1921, a big audience listened to Lenin with bated breath. The shop was overcrowded, people filled passageways between lathes, stood on window-sills. Lenin spoke on the meaning and significance of Soviet power. Old workers say that Lenin had come to the plant long before the time set, went straight to the management office and had a long talk with the workers, asked them how they lived and worked and what they needed, about their wages, about the sort of meals they got, the way specialists worked and about the plant's output.

Lenin's contact with the workers of the Dynamo Plant was not broken. The workers published a book of stories about their plant. They presented the first copy of the book to Lenin with the following inscription: “The workers of Dynamo Plant devote the pages of their life and struggle to their favourite leader V. I. Lenin”. The book is now kept in Lenin's office in the Kremlin.

In the first years after the victory of the October Revolution Lenin visited many big enterprises in Moscow — some of them two or three times. He addressed meetings in various parts of the city, visited peasants in the Moscow Region. We know that he went to more than 20 near-Moscow villages specially to talk with the peasants. While on business or hunting — a pastime Lenin liked very much because it gave him a chance of making new acquaintances among the peasants — he stayed in various villages and had heart-to-heart talks with ordinary people.

“When we approached a quiet village”, S. Gil, Lenin's former chauffeur, says in reminiscence, “Vladimir Ilyich asked me to stop the car and went out to meet the peasants and to seek lodging for the night”.

“Vladimir Ilyich, shall we drop in here?” someone asked pointing to a sturdy and beautiful house.

“No, here is the place we'll drop in at”, Lenin would say and led us to a small but neat log cabin.

Vladimir Ilyich preferred to stay in poor peasants' homes. He said it was much nicer to talk to them.

LENIN'S ties with the people were most variegated. Though busy, he always found time for receiving numerous delegations and various people. He talked with them not only because he considered that a duty of the head of the government, but because he had an insistent need for a direct contact with the people. Lenin received Party, government, trade union, military, economic and scientific workers, particularly those who had returned from the periphery and guests from other parts of the country.

A. Takho-Godi, a member of the Dagestani delegation received by Lenin in 1921, recalled how attentively the Premier of new Russia listened to what they had to say. Lenin seemed to imbibe everything they told him. He was not a silent listener. He showed a lively reaction, asked questions, made remarks, helped the interlocutor to unwind the tangle of the story and encouraged him to talk more freely.

Party worker G. Korolyov, who came to Moscow from a province, recalls that Lenin used to “shower him with questions” seemingly unrelated to the subject of the talk, but actually the most important ones, as it turned out later. “Lenin possesses such a tremendous force of attraction”, G. Korolyov writes, “that one feels absolutely unconstrained and unbosoms himself to Lenin, and if one misses something, Lenin fishes it out by clever questions.”

Taking leave of Lenin, the envoys of the people realised that they had told him not only about themselves — and least of all about themselves — but about the life of the masses. In his article “How I, a non-Party Siberian Peasant, Visited Lenin and What Came of it”, O. Chernov wrote: “It was not me, of course, that Lenin listened to: through me he learned all the complexity of the situation in the lower orders.”

In 1921 worker L. D. Grazkin returned to Moscow from a Vologda village where he spent his leave. He wrote about everything he had seen and heard to Mikhail Kalinin, Chairman of the All-Russia Central Executive Committee, and handed over a copy of the letter to the Central Committee of the Party. “I found the situation in the village very hard”, Grazkin reminisces. “The imperialist, and later civil wars did bad damage to agriculture which could not but tell on the attitudes of the peasants.....the peasants sowed the minimum necessary to keep just above the starvation level.

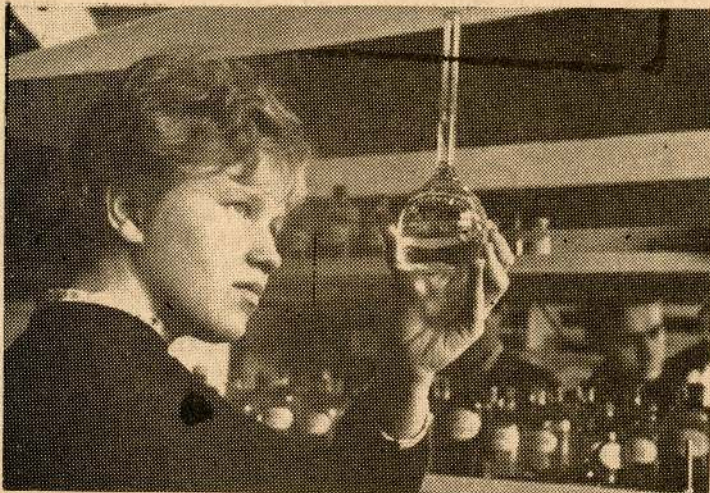
The head of cattle also went down sharply. The peasant households did not produce anything for the market and became almost natural. This resulted in hard conditions not only for agriculture but for industry as well.... I suggested that the peasants should be told in advance how much produce they should hand in to the state and how much they can leave for their own use. Some two or three days later there came a telephone call — I was asked to go to Comrade Lenin's office right away. He received me and asked me many questions. He wondered how big the peasants' plots were there, how much arable land, pastureland and wooded land was there on the plot, what kind of soil predominated, what crops were grown, what crop yields were. During that talk with Comrade Lenin I was struck by his all-round interest in everything that took place in the republic and what agitated the working people".

USUALLY Lenin's conversations with visitors ended with him writing notes to appropriate organisations and offices or contacting officials by telephone and instructing them to take the necessary measures, to meet the citizen's requests and to act on their proposals.

Lenin often spent holidays with the working people. On December 31, 1919, he visited four New Year's parties. It is hard to describe how happy people were when Lenin called on them, often unexpectedly.

May 1, 1921, was proclaimed an All-Russia subbotnik (the day of labour freely given to the State), and Lenin took an active part in it: together with workers and students he cleaned the territory of the Kremlin. At 2 p.m. he delivered a speech at the ceremony of laying the foundation of the Karl Marx monument. At three o'clock, the foundation of the monument of Emancipated Labour was laid. Several meetings were scheduled for the evening.

Many workers, peasants, Red Army men and Party workers visited Lenin at Smolny, the headquarters of the Revolution, and later in the Kremlin. He met many people at meetings, congresses and conferences, at factories and plants, in villages where he went whenever he had an opportunity. Through Lenin, the young Soviet state talked with each ordinary working-man.



School No 710, Kievsky District, Moscow. Practical lesson at the chemical laboratory

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**DRUG THAT CURES
"BAD MOOD"**

Moscow, Oct. 22

A Soviet chemist claimed that he has developed a harmless miracle drug that overcomes sadness, fear, alarm, fatigue, timidity, irritation and "bad mood". The Leningrad Professor, Dr. Vsevolod Perekalin, recommended the drug to help offset the effects of mechanization in modern Soviet life. He said in an interview with *Pravda* that his discovery, "Phenigama", is superior to common narcotics, which he said young people in the West are using at a growing rate to combat the tension of modern life.

The drug could be used only on a doctor's prescription, but he left unclear whether it is on the market yet. Dr. Perekalin indicated the drug would be useful in the Soviet Union to prevent the effects of industrialization from lowering the average worker's productivity. His description of the drug made it sound like a variation of the common tranquilizer, which already is widely used in the Soviet Union. He cited "high intensity of labour" in modern factories as making harmful demands on the nervous energy and attention of the worker

APN

In Sri Lanka Today: Cullings From The Press

Sugathadasa Probe: Chicken Thief: Meat Eating: Birth Rate: Bo-Tree: Hostesses: New Balawegaya

CALL TO PROBE SUGATHADASA DEALS

The decision of the Opposition to press for the earliest possible discussion in Parliament of a motion to appoint a Select Committee to probe certain real estate deals of Minister V. A. Sugathadasa (see last week's *Forward*) is fully understandable. The disclosure of these deals has raised a hornet's nest within the Government. A section of Ministers and MP's on the Government side who have long been sharpening their political knives waiting for an appropriate moment to even the score with Mr. Sugathadasa have been loudly demanding that the Prime Minister should agree to the Opposition's request for a Select Committee. Prominent among them are some who have taken, in early days, a leading part in the inner-UNP factional fighting in the Colombo Municipal Council, where the Sugathadasa - M. H. Mahomed majority used to ride roughshod over Mr. Premadasa and a handful of "Dudley Loyalists" whose efforts to give Mr. Premadasa a turn as Mayor of Colombo were never allowed to succeed.

These circles have been quick to seize on the fact that one of these transactions - the sale at nearly double its value of a land of the Department of National Housing took place when Mr. M. H. Mahomed was the Minister of Housing. The pro-Sugathadasa faction in the Government group, many of whom are prominent J.R. J-men, accuse their Government colleagues, who now say that a Select Committee should be appointed of leaking the information to the Opposition and thus trying to get their revenge. They trace these incidents back to the suspension of a UNP Member of the Colombo Municipal Council who once used to follow Mr.

Sugathadasa round in the same way as the lamb followed little Mary.

Notwithstanding all these inner-UNP strategies, this column agrees that it is best for all concerned—not excluding Minister Sugathadasa—if a Select Committee to probe these matters is appointed without delay. The Government was extra-quick to set up a Select Committee to probe allegations of a far less serious nature made by one of their back-bench MP's against Mrs. Bandaranaike—only to find in the end that the Select Committee, with a pro-Government majority, unani-mously agreed that the allegations were baseless and that no criticism could be made of Mrs. Bandaranaike in that matter.

Can it now refuse a probe into the actions of one of its own Ministers - especially when demand for the probe is backed with documentary evidence, only a minute fraction of which has been published? Normally one would say that a refusal under these circumstances would be unthinkable. But considering how Mr. Dudley Senanayake refused to probe into allegations against Mr. A. W. A. Abeygoonewardene on the grounds that he (the Prime Minister) had looked into them and was satisfied that there was "nothing in them", anything is possible.

Forward, 3/11/68

* * *

22 YEARS FOR CHICKEN THIEF

Kayts, Oct. 19

A man who faced a dozen theft charges — the majority of them for stealing chicken — pleaded guilty to each charge and received a total

sentence of 22 years rigorous imprisonment at the Jaffna Magistrate's Court on Saturday. He was also sentenced to 24 years' police supervision.

Observer 22/10/68

* * *

EATING OF MEAT HAS TREBLED

The per capita consumption of meat in Ceylon has more than trebled in the last 14 years. The present annual rate of consumption is 18 pounds per person against 5.42 pounds in 1954, but this is considered low, according to world standards. Dr. C. L. Wisidagama, Chief Municipal Veterinary Surgeon of the Colombo Municipal Council, highlighted these facts when he presented his report at the fourth FAO-WHO training seminar on abattoir management, operation and planning held in Denmark recently. Twenty two countries participated in the seminar.

Times of Ceylon, 13/10/68

* * *

BIRTH RATE DECLINES...

The population increase has been declining since 1960 according to statistics furnished by the Registrar General. The birth rate in 1960 was 36.6 per cent while in 1967 it has been 31.6 percent. Last year 326,000 were born and 82,000 died. It is further reported that this decline in the birth rate has been the direct result of family planning schemes —

Sun, 22/10/68

* * *

BRANCH CUT FROM SACRED BO-TREE

The right branch of the Sacred Bo-tree at Anuradhapura was cut down and burnt several days ago,

a reliable source reported from Anuradhapura yesterday. This had been done on account of a disease which had afflicted the branch. It became necessary to cut the diseased branch in order to save an off-shoot from the right branch which had begun to wither away, the source added. A team of experts from the Horticulture Division, Department of Agriculture, visited the sacred Bo-tree and took steps to ensure that the disease did not spread to other branches. Another team is expected at Anuradhapura on October 25.

Sun, 21//10/68

* * *

HOSSESSES IN SHIP FINED

Two women, whom police described as night club hostesses, were fined Re. 50 each by the Colombo Fort Joint Magistrate Mr. D. S. Nethesinghe. They were found in a cargo liner berthed in the Port. At the time they were detected they had been inside a cabin in a state of semi-nudity. The fines imposed on them were for entering the Port without a permit.

Observer, 23/10/68

* * *

NEW BALAWEGAYA TO FIGHT FOR OUR ECONOMIC FREEDOM

A new organisation - the "Lankaraksha Balawegaya" - was formed at a top-secret meeting in Colombo a few days ago. Its purpose is to fight for Ceylon's economic freedom as a non-political body. Its first target will be to deprive non-nationals of advantages they hold over-nationals in commercial and industrial fields. The organisation which had nearly 100 founder-members at its first meeting, has pledged itself to force whatever government is in power to legislate towards complete Ceylonisation, the "Daily News" understands. It has also already formed its own "intelligence unit" to collect information regarding the activities of saboteurs in government departments and Corporations.

Daily News, 16/10/68

A 2,750-Year-Old City In The USSR

Yerevan, Capital of Armenia, Has A Significant Past But A Still More Glorious Future

by Robert Khachatryan

ON October 18th the Armenian people marked a wonderful occasion, the 2,750th anniversary of Yerevan, the capital of the Armenian Soviet Socialist Republic — one of the 15 fraternal Republics of the Soviet Union.

Yerevan has now existed for 28 centuries, but this was the first official jubilee of the city. The "birth certificate" of Yerevan—the inscription left by King Argistis, the founder of the city — for a long time remained undiscovered by the archaeologists. These stone records and relics of the city's material culture were shrouded in antiquity, but not entirely lost in oblivion. Thanks to the great success of Soviet historic and, in particular, archaeological science, the date of birth of the city has been accurately established. Events of this sort give joy to all, for they concern the relics of human civilisation which provide proof that the creative labour of men remains throughout the ages and enriches the culture of mankind as a whole.

2,750 years is quite a period of time even for a city. But it should not surprise those who know the history of the Armenian nation. Four-digit numbers are no rarity in our history. The Armenian alphabet is 1,600 years old, and Armenian stage art has recently celebrated its 2,000 th anniversary. Yerevan's age blends naturally with these other dates, for it is quite understandable that cities had to be built before written language or stage art could be developed. In the Yerevan of today you will find historical relics, standing only a few hundred metres apart, but separated by millennia in time. They reflect

the history of the nation, its struggle, its dreams and victories.

Yerevan was both the witness and the companion of the Armenian people's long and arduous journey through history. The city went through periods of prosperity and decline, it was destroyed and rebuilt, and it fell but rose again together with its people, as their loyal friend. In the social aspect Yerevan is a city of four historical formations. In the national aspect it is a city which has seen many alien conquerors, a city that was destroyed many times, and because of that lost numerous historic relics. The history of Yerevan in the town-building aspect is a process which had frequent interruptions, when great quantities of precious things were lost along the long road, and were never found nor restored. But the city which has sustained a nearly 3,000-year-long struggle has remained intact. It lives and flourishes. The political, social, national and cultural life of the city has been an uninterrupted process. The generations that built Yerevan could not always hand down in full measure material treasures to each other. But they did hand down moral values and the traditions which have shaped the image of Yerevan.

The joining of Eastern Armenia and Yerevan to Russia in the first quarter of the 19th century was a turning point in the history of the city. It created favourable conditions for the further progress of the Armenian people by the inclusion of Armenia into the more developed economy of Russia. The favourable influence of advanced Russian culture predetermined the new, progressive stage in the development of Eastern

Armenia as a whole, and of its capital — Yerevan, in particular. The main political result of the joining of Armenia to Russia was that the Armenian nation united its struggle with the revolutionary struggle of the Russian proletariat.

1920, when Soviet power was established in Armenia, when the socialist revolution was triumphant there, and when Yerevan was proclaimed the capital of the Armenian SSR, was the start of an entirely new era in the history of the city.

NATIONS and cities win respect not for their old age but for the fact that they do not age. Yerevan is one of the most ancient cities, but at the same time it is one of the youngest cities in the world of our time. The 2,750 years are quite often compared to the last 50 years. There is nothing paradoxical in this. The last half-a-century was a time of constant accumulation of material, cultural and spiritual values by the city. The last 50 years was a period of the highest prosperity of the city, naturally connected with the triumph of the socialist revolution in Armenia, the Leninist national policy of the Communist Party, the friendship of the nations of the USSR, and their aid, frequently and freely given to the Armenians people, and above all, the aid of the Russian people — the aid which Moscow gave to Yerevan.

The changes which have taken place in the last 50 years in the destinies of the Armenian people and of their capital — Yerevan — were no more quantitative changes which can take place in a period of 50 years under the most diverse circumstances. These changes are profoundly qualitative. These cardinal changes are described in Armenia by one simple but meaningful word — resurrection. Yerevan is a witness and a participant and a symbol of this resurrection, of the socialist revival of the Armenian people. In the past, Armenia used to have many capitals. They frequently changed because of invasions and

wars. After she lost her statehood in the 14th century. Armenia had no official capital at all. Hence, the making of Yerevan into a capital was not just a proclamation of one more capital as such, it was a symbol of the resurrection of Armenian statehood, the socialist statehood of the nation.

Figures and statistics are dry stuff, but still, there are some figures that are very eloquent. In 1920, when Soviet power was established in Armenia, it had a population of 760,000. Now the Republic has 2,300,000 inhabitants. The population of Yerevan is about 700,000, or nearly as much the entire population of Armenia was half a century ago. This great increase in population called, above all, for the large-scale construction of new housing which is so characteristic of Yerevan.

Prior to the revolution Armenia had practically no industry. It was an agrarian country. Under Soviet power the Republic, and its capital with it, have turned into a large-scale industrial Republic and city. Today Armenian industry is characterised by very many modern branches — chemical, non-ferrous metallurgy, engineering, machine-tool building, radio-engineering, electronics, manufacture of computers and instrument-making. The capital is of great importance in the industrial progress achieved by Armenia. Many major enterprises operate in Yerevan — the Lenin electrical engineering plant; the Kirov chemical plant; the electric-bulb factory, cable — and instrument-making plants; the "Elektrotokpribor" plant, the Dzerzhinsky machine-tool plant and many others.

Tremendous cultural changes have taken place under Soviet power, firmly based on the mighty growth of the economy. In 1920, for example, 19,000 children studied at school in Armenia, and now the Republic has 30,000 teachers. Naturally, the capital is the centre for training them. Yerevan has a broad network of general secondary, higher and special

secondary technical schools. The city has 11 higher schools which train personnel for all the main branches of the country's economy and of its culture.

SCIENCE has been greatly developed in Armenia. 8,000 research associates work in Yerevan, which has dozens of scientific-research centres. Armenian science excels in astrophysics, mathematics, computer techniques, chemistry, and geology. Yerevan is the centre for research, which goes on all over Armenia, into the history, language, literature and the culture of the Armenian people. The scientists of the Republic are led by the Hero of Socialist Labour, Viktor Ambartsumian, a world-famous researcher who is the President of the Academy of Sciences of the Armenian SSR.

Thanks to the conditions now existing, the culture of Armenia is becoming available to other nations and countries. In the last 5 years alone, the actors and workers in the field of art in Armenia have toured 80 countries of the world.

Every one knows that the fate of the Armenian people before the Revolution had forced a considerable number of them to emigrate from their own country. Settlements, with large numbers of Armenians living in them, were formed in 35 countries. The economic, scientific and cultural achievements of the country have made it possible for Armenian Government to solve one of its major problems — the question of repatriation. Under Soviet power, many thousands of Armenians have returned to their native land.

Yerevan maintains friendly ties not only with the Republics and cities of USSR, but maintains close contacts with many cities of the world. Yerevan has extremely wide-scale international relations and continues to expand them day by day.

The anniversaries of cities differ tangibly from anniversaries of men. When anniversaries of men are

celebrated, people speak mostly about the past. The man, to some measure, sums up the results of his life. But no one has established or defined the limits for the life of cities. Yerevan is the symbol of the past, present and the future of the Armenian people, and even more the symbol of the present and future than of the past. Anyone who visits the city will see this future, for Yerevan is being added to and freshly created every day. Today, summing up the results of its 2,750-year-long history, Yerevan looks confidently and boldly into its tomorrow.

The centre of Yerevan is a fine square named after Lenin. There stands a monument to that great leader and teacher. This monument is the united expression of the gratitude of all Armenian working people to the man, the triumph of whose ideas secured the resurrection of the Armenian nation, and the united expression of the deep feelings of Armenian people for the Leninist Communist Party.

PAK DEFENCE SPENDING

Pakistan spends annually four dollars per head of population on defence, as against 2.50 dollars spent by India, according to a recent publication of the Institute of Strategic Studies, London. Pakistan's defence expenditure is 3.6 per cent of its gross national product while India's is only 3.3 per cent. The Institute has pointed out Pakistan's expenditure is actually very much higher than the figures suggest, for the entire defence outlay is not included in its published annual budget. According to the Institute, the strength of the Pakistani armed forces has lately risen from 278,000 to 320,000 and the number of combat aircraft squadrons has gone up from 11 to 14.

The Co-op Movement In The USSR

Covers A Wide Range Of Activities And Services

by R. N. Gupta

WHAT LESSONS have the co-operative movements in socialist countries to offer for developing countries ? To what extent and in which spheres has this movement made marked advance in such countries ? These were among the questions which formed the subject matter of my study during a month's tour of the Soviet Union and East Germany in April-May, this year.

The socialist countries make no secret of the fact that "co-operation for them is an instrument of State policy for achieving the ends of a Communist society". But it is rightly claimed that the principle of democratic management in respect of internal working is fully observed. All co-operatives are fully autonomous and self-governing. The highest organ of a co-operative is its own general meeting of members, or in the case of larger co-operatives an assembly of elected delegates. If not only elects its own Managing Committee, the Auditing Commission and the Supervising Committees, but also lays down the programme of work for the year and approves the budget.

THE PRIMARY societies are federated to form District, Regional and State Unions, with well-defined functions for each, encompassing not merely educational and training duties, but also trading, servicing, supply and manufacturing functions, requiring heavier investments and expert handling.

In Russia, for example, the primary consumer co-operative stores, which exist in every village, are federated to form District Unions which undertake the supply of consumer goods to stores and the manufacture on a small scale

of goods in local demand. These are further federated into Regional Unions and an All-State Union. The higher body has the lower institutions as its members. There is no direct individual membership. It services its lower organs and provides them with funds.

The Centrosoyus is the highest organ of the co-operative movement in that country. It has a separate section to deal with international trade in co-operative products.

IN RUSSIA the co-operative movement concerns itself, by and large, with consumer activities, including the running of restaurants, hotels and recreation centres, and the manufacture of goods in demand in the villages. The Centrosoyus alone (excluding the Republican and Regional Co-operative Unions) runs 3 holiday homes which provide accommodation for 13,400 persons, 3 sanatoria which accommodate 22,550 persons, and a very large number of kindergarten, creches and young pioneer centres. The number of such holiday homes increases every year through planned investment of savings from the co-operative sector.

An important feature of the movement in USSR is planning from below. While in our country this is still an idea, it has been largely implemented in practice in the socialist States. The plans for each new year, in terms of people's needs and resources, are discussed at the lowest level, passed on to the next higher organs, and co-ordinated at the national level. Representatives of the co-operative movement are represented in planning bodies at all stages. Once the National Planning Commission

has laid down the targets, it is for the Centrosoyusto break them down into targets for each region, district and locality. Special incentives are offered to institutions which achieve or surpass the targets.

I visited a small village near Moscow, populated by about 300 people, and saw a self-service store there. It was managed by three shop assistants who received about 80 roubles a month (one rouble = Rs 8). Daily sales at this shop amounted to about 1,000 roubles. The administrative expenses of consumer stores thus amount to hardly four to five per cent of the turnover. Their profits, therefore, always exceed operational costs, and surplus profits are distributed to several funds by decision of the general body. The higher organs of the co-operative movement also receive a part of these profits for their educational, training and cultural activities in addition to earnings from their own trading and production activities. Thus all wings of the co-operative movement are not only financially strong and self-supporting but contribute a sizable share to State revenues.

There are also many mobile shops and stores without salesmen in the villages. I was told there are about 20,000 such shops without salesmen in the USSR. Goods are nearly arranged in counters, and anyone can pick up what he wants and deposit money in a slot.

Cases of theft and petty crimes are almost non-existent. There is no unemployment. In fact, jobs chase the workers. All able-bodied men and women work. There is a preponderance of women employees in restaurants, hotels, shops, offices and lighter jobs. House rents do not exceed three to five per cent of monthly wage. Education, medical care, and old age, sickness and accident benefits are guaranteed to every individual. The entire income of families is spent on consumer goods. Food and necessities of life being very cheap, even the rural population goes in for such luxury items as radio,

TV, motor cycles, electrical gadgets, fancy furniture and flowerpots.

AN IMPORTANT lesson which could perhaps be learnt by co-operators in India from the experience of co-operatives in socialist countries such as the USSR and East Germany relates to the very wide range of service activities undertaken by them. There are co-operatives of tailors and dress-makers, designers and fashion creators, photographers and painters, washermen and launderers, electrical fitters and repairers, carpenters and furniture makers, etc.

Another significant feature relates to training and educational institutions. The co-operative training centres, as in India, do not merely provide general grounding in co-operative principles, laws and practices, but run professional courses of three to four years' duration to train agricultural workers for co-operative farms, bearers and cooks for hotels and restaurants, barbers and hair-dressers, tailors and dress-makers, window-dressers, layout artists, etc. Students after primary education join these professional schools which are managed, run and financed by co-operative unions at different levels. The entire programme of co-operatives being planned, personnel needs in each category are estimated in advance and training is provided to the requisite number of students. During training, the students receive scholarships and stipends, and after completing the course they join their sponsoring organizations on a contract basis. Thus, there is no waste of manpower, or nonutilization of trained personnel or unemployment in different trades and professions.

In India, where we are trying to expand the co-operative sector to cover many new fields of economic activity, co-operators would do well to study these aspects of professional training provided by co-operatives in socialist countries. Also, it would be advantageous for our trainees who go abroad to specialise in courses such as management and account keeping of co-operative

hotels and restaurants, bakeries and producers' co-operatives, agricultural farms, and self-service stores, and in courses such as window-dressing, layout and artistic display of consumer goods. The Co-operative College in Russia offers such a combined course for students from foreign countries.

In my discussions with officers of the Centrosoyus, I was assured that they would be willing to plan even specialised courses for Indian co-operators. They were also eager to explore the possibilities of collaboration in the field of setting up co-operative processing industries and exchange of technical personnel. In particular, they were keen that apex co-operatives in India should establish trading relations with their counterparts in the USSR.

It is to be hoped that Indian co-operators will follow up these suggestions and further strengthen the close and friendly relations between the co-operative movements of the two countries.

—PATRIOT
New Delhi

NEW BREED OF CHICKEN

Georgian biologists have evolved a method of transplanting the white from one egg into another and evolving thus new breeds of poultry. This "operation" is conducted by means of a tiny instrument that ensures full airtightness.

The scientists succeeded in creating a new breed of chicken after injecting the white from turkey eggs. Already the third generation of these hybrids is producing healthy offspring at the biological station in Kutaisi. The hybrids weigh nearly two kilograms more than ordinary hens and are resistant to virus diseases.

A Soviet Suggestion That Merits International Attention

A Common Language For World Science: Computers Cannot Cope With Problem

by Ziaul Hasan

Moscow

A GROUP of Soviet scientists recently made a suggestion that a world language of science should be created, based on rational grammar and international terminology. The world has accepted, they argued, such universal means of communication as the sea and air codes, Arabic numerals, musical symbols, and mathematical and chemical formulae. The connecting links between these symbols are words, which create a babel of tongues. Now the necessary words and their syntax should also be universalised.

This is how Academician A. Berg and his colleagues, D. Armand and E. Bokarev, enunciated the problem faced by scientists. A knowledge of the main European languages will no longer enable a scientist to keep pace with the world's scientific literature, while science is getting more and more concerned with tasks that demand direct co-operation among the world's scientists. Soon the share of publications in English, French and German will begin decreasing in relation to works in Japanese, Arabic, Swahili and Hindi. What is a specialist to do ?

An obvious solution is to get all scientific material translated. But this is no longer a practical proposition. The main stream of scientific information comes through journals. Whose number runs into thousands.

ANOTHER WAY is to summarise and process scientific informa-

tion before transferring it into the native language of the specialist. This is a stupendous task. The USSR Institute of Scientific and Technical Information, the largest organisation of its type in the world, processes almost one million articles in a year, though it does not handle literature on agriculture, construction or the humanities. Some 2,500 employees scan 15,000 foreign journals in 64 languages and then pass them on to off-staff abstract writers, whose number is about 22,000.

The system suffers from two drawbacks. Each publication has to go through six or more operations: classification, translation, summarisation, editing, etc. The sum of inevitable errors made at the various stages of processing is too big to be ignored. Secondly, the system is time-consuming. Abstracts published by the USSR Institute often carry scientific information originally released a year before, while in book form the material reaches the specialist about three years later. Both the error in processing and the delay in release of information defy solution.

The Soviet scientists reject the suggestion of using computing machines to expedite translation. They point out that Norbert Weiner, father of cybernetics, who knew 13 European and Asian languages, warned against mechanical methods of translation. The meaning of words is too diffused, the rules of grammar too contradictory for a machine to put the ideas of one language into another at this stage. Years of research will be required to compile machine translations even

for a narrow fixed work. The machine translations will also have to be edited by man.

ACADEMICIAN BERG and his colleagues agree with the British scientists Bernal that a radically improved means of communication has to be developed to enable the scientists of the world to talk to each other directly. They are for one language of science.

The question arises: Why not choose one of the existing languages? In the divided world of today there are many reasons why a national language cannot be chosen as a world scientific language. One reason has already been thoroughly discussed in India, though in a different context. It is that a country or countries whose language is chosen will acquire a privileged position, not only in the world of science but also in other spheres, economic and political.

There is only one choice left—to create a world language of science. It should be a well-constructed language based on logical rules of grammar and an international terminology. In the first stage of its introduction the scientists would be obliged to supply in this language a summary of their original papers. In the second stage scientific literature will have to be published in the common language, even if it was originally written in a national language.

Berg and his two colleagues are aware that they may be accused of proposing a return to the days when Latin dominated the world of science. But they argue that development proceeds in a spiral manner. If something is being repeated it is not entirely the same as before. Latin is surely obsolete now, but a new language of science does make sense.



A Unique Invention

“The Experiment”—World’s First Soviet Catamaran

THE WORLD’S first Soviet catamaran for deep sea fishing has completed sea trials.

She has been built at the shipyards of Svetly, the youngest town in the West of the Soviet Baltic area.

What does she look like ?

Imagine two ships standing side by side and joined, along almost the whole length, by steel framework. The impression: a broad raft is before you. She has important advantages over any single-hull ship. The main are insubmersibility, lots of space for labour-saving mechanisms and, finally, high manoeuvrability. Then the two chief engines and two water screws enable the catamaran to make sharp turns even in a small bay which is very important while drawing in the big trawls. The new

ship has a future in the fishing fleet, claim the ship builders.

The Soviet Ministry of Fisheries has undertaken a responsible and important experiment: a twin-hull seiner, usually called catamaran, the first ever in the practice of world deep sea fishing. She has got the name Experiment, this stemming from the very essence of the problem of modern fishing in that the modern level of catching techniques and fish processing on board ships require the availability of a great quantity of mechanisms to place which on board a single-hull ship — usual practice since the beginning of fishing — is a very complex and difficult task.

SHIPS of the new type will doubtlessly be useful to the fishermen. The catamaran considerably increases catching intensity: she

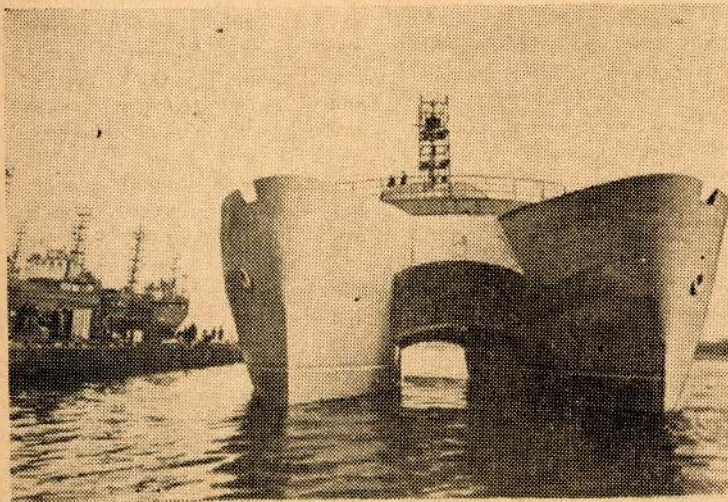
can operate two trawls at once. While one is being drawn in, the other may be let go. At the catch from the first is being processed, the other trawl continues catching. Aboard a single-hull ship, you cannot do this, of course. Another distinction is that re-equipment is no longer needed to use any of fishing methods including round hull net and electric light fishing. Besides, the catamaran affords more comforts to the crew: the double cabins (instead of ones for 4-6 men on board conventional fishing ships), the air-conditioning system, shower-baths, lounges and cinema-hall.

Then she gains much safety. The width of the ship is half the length. The Experiment, according to the project authors, does not fear any storm.

“THREE - DIMENSIONAL” CAMERA SCORES HIT IN 1968 EXHIBITION

The 1968 Japan Camera Show that yearly lifts the curtain on the latest progress in the camera field recently ended a six-day run in Tokyo. Twenty-seven camera makers displayed approximately 12,000 products in the exhibition sponsored by the Japan Camera Industry Association. This is 20 per cent more than last year. The show was timed for the advent of the camera season. Makers gave particular attention to new types of cameras, 8mm. movie cameras and varied accessories destined to attract avid camera fans. One of the key features of this year’s show was the effect of the makers to sell large size cameras employing 6x6 c.m. films and an increase of exchangeable lenses for fulfilling the requirements of the single lens reflex camera era.

Japan Economic Journal



The catamaran *EXPERIMENT* has been built in the USSR to the order of the ocean-going fishing fleet. The vessel has a number of advantages: she possesses good stability and manoeuvrability, her working platform enables fish to be caught by the universal purse net, trawl and by electric light. All the living accommodation is housed in the superstructure. The *EXPERIMENT* is 54 metres long and 19 metres wide and has a displacement of 1,000 tons and a speed of 9 knots.

Across Siberia—1

Fast Changing Country: New Industrial Plants

by P. Unnikrishnan

This is the first of a series of articles by P. Unnikrishnan about his journey to India by rail through Siberia and by ship from Vladivostock. Unnikrishnan had been *Patriot-Link* Correspondent in Moscow for nearly five years and returned to India last month. Many will recall that he was PTI Correspondent in Colombo from 1954 to 1962.

NO ILLUSION can be as unrelated to reality as Siberia is to its reputation. At the mention of Siberia one conjures up chilling visions of vast emptiness, of impenetrable taiga and tundra, of unbearable cold, of Tzarist persecution and of Stalinist labour camps. But these associations are wholly irrelevant to Siberia today.

If Chenghis were to come alive, he would not recognize even the steppes on which his army pitched its yurtas and spent long wintry nights. Nor would Marco Polo be able to pick his earlier landmarks. Except for the climate, everything else about Siberia has changed: even the climate in some parts, thanks to man-made 'seas'; has broken the earlier tedium. Today, Siberia is not the backyard of Russia that it was. It is the pride of the Soviet Union, the secret of its strength, an index of its growth and potential.

TRAVELLING across from end to end, from Moscow to Nakhodka as I did by the Trans-Siberian Express, I could not help being overwhelmed by the vastness of the land. I had expected Siberia to be first like the top of a table, barren like the Sahara, cold as in a freezing chamber. I was wrong on

every count. The land is undulating, green and picturesque. In the heart of Siberia, it was warmer than in Moscow. No doubt there is severe frost in winter which is long. Temperature drops to seventy degrees below zero, Siberians say it is pleasanter than in Moscow because in Siberia it is windless and drier. They like the stillness that prevails when one can hear the crackle of the moisture in one's breath, when smoke from chimneys freezes in mid-air and stays like suspended pillars in the ever-blue sky. There are three summer months — June, July and August — when in places it gets as hot as in Delhi.

Twenty-four hours after we boarded the train which is called "Rossia" we were still in the European part of Russia. It was one of the fastest trains in Europe, running at a steady 70 km an hour. There were a few stops where the restaurant car picked up supplies and passengers rushed out to buy fresh cool cucumbers, cooked sausages, bread, milk and curds which peasants sold on the platform. There were near little wooden kiosks, heated in winter, from where the farmers carried on a brisk trade. The scene was like on any Indian railway platform.

ASIA BEGINS somewhere near Urals. A signpost is stuck where notionally Europe ends and Asia begins. We missed it in the night as we did Sverdovsk, former Ekaterinaburg, where the last of the Tsars, Nicholas II, was exiled and killed.

Towns and cities are far apart but there are signs of industry and agriculture all along the route. The farther one goes the greater is the pace of development and activity. There is a look of newness

about the towns: most of them are postwar. Before the war these areas were scarcely populated but today more than 25 million live in Siberia, nearly four times as many as at the turn of the century. Towns like Novosibirsk, Omsk, Barnaul, Biisk in Western Siberia had either not existed or were mere trading posts for Siberian furs. But today they are centres of industry producing more than a third of the Soviet Union's coal and accounting for two-thirds of hydroelectric power potential, one-third of iron ore, great part of the gold and diamonds and an infinite range of ferrous and non-ferrous metals.

TRAVELLING by train one gains a glimpse of Omsk which sprawls for miles along the track. A tumbled church marks what must have been the old Omsk but it is now lost amidst the big blocks of buildings that stand against the skyline. There are well-laid roads over which heavy traffic or cars and buses, trolleys and tramscars plied. Smoke rose from hundreds of chimneys. The train passed by an airfield from which planes were taking off one after another: I was told they were on agricultural service, spraying fields or watching over forests. Similarly, Krasnoyarsk, Irkutsk and Bratsk — all give unmistakable impression of youth and endeavour.

Irkutsk was founded 310 years ago by Russians as a relay-post for trade with China. It was 5,000 kilometres from Moscow in the centre of Siberia. The first traveller took four years to reach there. The Russian author, Mikhail Zagoskin, who knew the city well, wrote at the beginning of the 19th century: "Irkutsk only imports goods and sells them on the spot, but does not produce anything... Everything is imported here — the furniture, footwear, spoons, etc".

Today Irkutsk exports a variety of industrial plants and generators to many parts of the world including India. It is the biggest producer of hydroelectric power in the Soviet Union. With the damming of the

turbulent Angara, two major hydrel stations have been built at Irkutsk and Bratsk which between them already produce more than half of the country's electric energy. The damming of the Angara has led to the creation of vast seas in the middle of Siberia which have altered the climate of Irkutsk, giving it more warmth and humidity. The power generated in Irkutsk is claimed to be a third cheaper than anywhere else in the world. By

1980, Selinski, Planning Adviser to the Irkutsk City Soviet, told me, the region will produce 90 million kw hours of electric power. By then the river Lena, after which Lenin took his name, will also be put to power production.

The one thing that Irkutsk lacks is fruit. It does not grow. Irkutsk also needs more people.

by courtesy—*Patriot*, New Delhi

A Reality In The Soviet Union

A Fully State-Financed Social Insurance System For Workers

Moscow

Half a century ago, on October 31, 1918, Vladimir Lenin signed the "statute of social maintenance of working people". This act laid down the legislative foundation of the material security of working people in all cases of incapacity to work. That was the first time that a fully state - financed social maintenance system appeared on our planet.

The constitution of the USSR adopted in 1936 laid down the working people's broad democratic rights, including the right of USSR citizens to material security in cases of sickness, incapacity to work and retirement. This right is not only declared, but it is also actually guaranteed by the social insurance of wage and salary earners at the expense of the state.

THE USSR is the first country where industrial and office workers do not have to pay any social insurance contributions. These are paid by the enterprises and offices they are employed at.

The Soviet social maintenance system is put in direct dependence on the development of production which belongs entirely to society. As socialism's economy grows, society expenditure on social needs

increase, as well. Citizens of the USSR are rendered all kinds of material assistance and benefits in cases of sickness or permanent incapacity. There is but one kind of assistance that is not issued — unemployment benefits, because unemployment has long been put an end to in the Soviet land.

The social maintenance system in the Soviet Union is steadily developing. This was particularly marked in the last 12 years. In July, 1956, a new law on the pensions was passed, which extended considerably this type of benefit to millions of working people. Retirement pensions, for instance, were raised by more than 100 per cent and disablement pensions by 70 per cent. Moreover, the class of people entitled to pensions was greatly broadened.

Since the new law started operating the number of old - age pensioners increased four-fold, while the state's expenditures for pensions expanded by many times, as compared with the pre-war year of 1940.

The system of social maintenance and insurance could not be considered as entirely satisfactory so long as it applied to farmers only in part: collective farmers had been

drawing pensions from their collective farms, and not in all cases as that. As of 1965, a law on the unified social maintenance of all collective farmers came into force, and the USSR's social maintenance and security system became universal—it applies to all working people in town and country side.

SOME 35 million people, or over 15 per cent of the population draw state pensions of all sorts. This includes 9 million retired collective farmers. The Soviet state's expenditure on social insurance has more than doubled in the last ten years and up to about 14,000 million roubles this year. Together with social maintenance expenditure this sum will surpass 17,000 million roubles this year, as against 16,100 million roubles in 1967 and 14,600 million roubles in 1966. As of this January, the USSR's social maintenance system has been further improved: sick benefits have been enlarged, the retirement age for farmers has been fixed on the same level as that for industrial and office workers and minimum pensions to farmers have been raised, the age limit for some categories of servicemen with reference to disablement pension has been lowered, etc.

What distinguishes the Soviet social maintenance system from the relevant systems existing in capitalist countries ?

Answering this question Nikolai Lyashko, Deputy Minister of Social Maintenance of the Russian Federation, said: "In our country, social maintenance is fully taken care of by the state, public organizations and collective farms and applies to all categories of the population. In the capitalist countries where such systems do exist at all, the working man and woman have to pay contributions out of their own wages and salaries. In the USA, for instance, these contributions consist of 3.6 to 6.5 per cent of the earnings, in Britain

of 3.2 to 7.8 per cent. in the FRG and Austria of 7 per cent, and in Turkey of 10 per cent. The USSR can boast of the retirement age in the world", N. Lyashko went on, "It is the age of 60 for men and 55 for women. In most capitalist countries this age is much higher from 65 to 70".

"The Soviet social insurance system has the other advantage that the average retirement pension comes to 60 per cent of the pensioner's former wages or salaries and, in cases of these having been low, it reaches 100 per cent. Meanwhile, in developed capitalist countries retirement pensions come to 18, 20 to 23 per cent of the insured persons' earlier wages and salaries, not to speak of the fact that in these countries social insurance applies not to all the categories of working people and does not include all the types of maintenance. In many countries, for instance, there are no sick benefits at all".

So, we may justly say that the USSR has the highest level of social maintenance. At the same time, we ought to point out the highly democratic procedure in this field. Social insurance affairs, for instance, and its many-thousand million budget are controlled by the trade unions and the USSR has now taken the course of fully implementing the principle of putting social insurance under the complete control and management of the insured persons. Meeting the suggestion of the All-Union Central Council of Trade Unions the Soviet Government has granted trade unions the right of distribution as of 1969, all the appropriations (except pensions) for the various kinds of maintenance under the social insurance system. Moreover, the funds saved as a result of the reduction of the sick rate and, consequently, of sick benefits may be used for improving the sphere of sanitation and prophylactic work. This makes for the trade unions playing a still more important part in controlling the state social insurance system.

BBC Reportage

British Scientific Expedition Up The Amazon In A Hovercraft

FOUR BBC men are taking part in a British scientific expedition by hovercraft up the River Amazon. The purpose of the expedition is to demonstrate the versatility of the British Westland SRN 6 hovercraft in negotiating river obstacles and rapids, and also to carry out geographical and other research in this little-known part of the world. Reporting in a BBC broadcast, John Mulholland said the BBC contingent is led by Brian Branston, the editor of the Corporation's Travel and Exploration Unit, who will direct the filming of several colour programmes for BBC Television. These will feature the hovercraft's journey and the three cities of Manaus, Brasilia and Cidade Livre - the workers' community near the new administrative capital.

As Brian Branston himself said, "We hope to investigate the stories of Eldorado, the Amazon women, and try to capture glimpses of animal life such as the sloth and the anaconda. And when the expedition stops at various points for two or three days, we hope to go inland and contact Indians living in the forests". In this, the BBC team will be helped by the Brazilian cameraman Jescon von Puttkamer, who has lived among the Indians for the past ten years.

The BBC film about Manaus the fabulous city in the midst of the Amazon jungle which grew out of a rubber boom - promises to be of special interest. Melba and Caruso once sang in the city's opera-house; and the inhabitants became so rich that they lit their cigars with the equivalent of £5 notes, and sent their washing to Liverpool. But then an Englishman collected some of the rubber seeds and sent them to Malaya starting

a rival rubber boom and that killed the trade in Manaus.

Another film which Brian Branston hopes to make would be devoted to a BBC expedition by mule to a gigantic rock called Piedra Pintada, near Boa Vista. "There are hundreds of ancient engravings and paintings in caves dug out of the rock (he says). Some depict horses and wheeled vehicles. But as far as anyone knows, the horse was first introduced to South America by the Spanish, and the Incas and similar people did not have the wheel. So we will try to get to the bottom of this story if we can".

All in all, it looks as though the hovercraft explorers are in for an exciting trip - and many a would-be traveller in Britain will be able to share the thrills without stirring from his arm-chair.

TRADE UNION OF MAHOUTS

By K. R. S. NAIR

Trivandrum

And now a trade union for Mahouts. Over three thousand Mahouts in Kerala have formed a trade union, Kerala State Mahout Union with its headquarters at Konni, a place famous for trapping elephants. The Mahouts, among other things want security of Service, risk allowance, salary befitting their 'technical' job and weapon allowances. If these demands are not met, the Mahouts threaten to march to the city with their elephants and demonstrate before the white elephants of bureaucracy.

FILM PAGE

● **THE POWER**, spellbinding drama centering on the hunt for a man possessed with a power to control the wills of others for murder, is brought to the screen with a brilliant all-star cast headed by George Hamilton and Suzanne Pleshette and co-starring Richard Carlson, Yvonne De Carlo, Earl Holliman, Gray Merrill, Ken Murray, Barbara Nichols, Arthur O'Connell, Nehemiah Persoff, Aldo Ray and Michael.

The George Pal production in Panavision and Metrocolor, released through Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer now at the *MAJESTIC*, is directed by Byron Haskin. The film's superb musical score was written by three-time Oscar-winner Miklos Roza. Producer George Pal renowned for his imaginative science-fiction themes, this time has taken

son's novel, dealing with the power of a scientist to impose his will on men's minds and to direct them to self-destruction. John Gay adapted the novel to the screen.

This mysterious power is first revealed when a group of scientific experts, engaged in human endurance research, discover that one among them has a super-intelligence capable of driving each of them to the terrifying limit of human endurance and survival. O'Connell is the first victim of a series of murders which eliminate several of the suspects thought to be the supermind, and when George Hamilton becomes the prime target of suspicion, he and Suzanne Pleshette ally themselves in tracking down of the unseen and unknown menace, one which is fraught with some of the most suspenseful, frightening and thrilling adventures ever conceived for a motion picture before the narrative is brought to its stunning climax.

The special effects created for the laboratory sequences of the movie are spectacular in their surrealistic vision of bodies floating, heated and spinning to their end under unendurable gravitational force. Similarly, the film's visual hallucinations will hold the spectator in fascination. The whole backdrop and atmosphere have been given



Sundar (Sivaji Ganesan) and Uma (Padmini) in an intimate scene in Manjeh Productions Tamil movie IRU MALARGAL. Now Showing at Ceylon Theatres Ltd. circuit.

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FINAL WEEK

Air Conditioned
LIBERTY

in

Cecil B. De Mille's

**THE TEN
COMMANDMENTS**

Technicolor

From 10th Nov.

CENTRAL

M. G. R. — Jayalalita
Nagesh — Manorama

**THER
THIRUVILA**

a Dali and Hieronymus Bosch inspiration of permeating intensity. Among the varied settings of the movie, fifteen in all, is the Space Research Centre at the University of Southern California, where survival test scenes were filmed. In one of them not easily forgotten

5th Week

**KINGSLEY
PLAZA**

2, 6 & 9.30 P.M.

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

**PARAKKUM
PAAVAI**
COLOUR

16th Week

LIDO

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

WEMBLEY — Kandy
9 a.m. 1, 5 & 9-30 p.m.

● **RAJ KAPOOR**
● **VYJANTHIMALA**
● **RAJENDRAKUMAR**
in
Raj Kapoor's

SANGAM

Technicolor

Music: Shankar, Jaikishan

GAMINI

2, 6, & 9.30 p.m

VANAMOHINI

CAPITOL

2, 6, & 9.30 p.m.

Sivaji — Saroja Devi
in

Palum Palamum

3rd Week
EMPIRE Air-Conditioned
Columbia's
The Bridge On The River Kwai
 in CINEMASCOPE AND TECHNICOLOR

MAJESTIC Air-Conditioned
 Awaiting:
 MGM's
GRAND PRIX
 in the wonder of 70 M.M.

3rd Week
 Air-Conditioned
REGAL
 Dean Martin as Matt Helm in
THE SILENCERS
 in colour

3rd Week
ELPHINSTONE—ROXY
 & 14 other centres
 Gamini Fonseka—Vijitha Mallika
 in
R. T. Studio's
**DEHADAKA
 DUKA**
 Produced & Directed by:
 Robin Tamboe

4th Week
SELLAMAHAL-EROS
 & 7 other centres
 Sivaji - Padmini - Vijaya in
IRU MALARGAL

CROWN
 From Sat. Nov. 16
 Asha Parekh—Dharminder in
AAYE DIN BAHAR KE
 in Eastman Colour

7th Week
SAVOY Air-Conditioned
 Sean Connery as James Bond
 in
THUNDERBALL
 in CinemaScope & Technicolor

George Hamilton in an extraordinary psychedelic experience, is a spectator to his own suffering in a tank of freezing water. Another harrowing sequence takes place on a parched California plain where Hamilton, both the hunter and the hunted, encounters a ghost of the past. These are terrifying sequences.

● **KRIMINAL** in Technicolor and Techniscope, now at the **NEW OLYMPIA**. An Italo-Spanish Co-production, directed by Umberto Lenzi, with screenplay by Umberto Lenzi and David Moreno Mingote and the musical score is provided by Raymond Full.

Kriminal (GLENN SAXSON), a notorious bandit, escapes from prison in London, just when he is about to be hanged. He takes



Vijitha Mallika and Gamini Fonseka in an intimate scene in R. T. Studios Production **DEHADAKA DUKA**, Produced and Directed by Robin Tamboe, Ceylon Theatres Ltd. release.



Saroja Devi as circus Star Kala in R. R. Films Tamil Movie **PARAKKUM PAVAI** (Eastmancolor) Cinemas Ltd. Release

refuge with his ex-wife Margie (SUSAN BAKER), and Inspector Milton (ANDREA BOSIC) looks for him in vain. Margie is employed as a secretary with a firm that imports and exports diamonds and precious metals, and she tells Kriminal that a shipment is to leave shortly for Turkey, through a messenger girl. Kriminal unable to find out which of the twin girl messengers is to take the valuable parcel. The landit learns the destination of the valuable from Lady Gold (ESMERALDA RUSPOLI), the proprietress of Tradex, and gets onto the train of Inge (HELGA LINE), one of the twins. His journey takes him across Europe and as far as Istanbul, where Inge meets Alex (IVANO STACCIOLI) her finance. Kriminal escapes from the many obstacles and avoids being caught by Milton, and finally steals the valuable and gets on a train. Here he is pursued by the British and Turkish police, and manages to hide himself, but in the end throws the booty into the river, and jumps off the train. Kriminal then finds himself lost in the desert, and gets a lift from a young woman who is travelling towards the frontier. Kriminal thinking he is safe with her, gets the unpleasant surprise of meeting Inspector Miltor.

Old Folk And Invalids

No Longer A Burden On Individuals And Families: Pensions And Where Necessary Old Age Homes

by K. Tsyplenkov

How do you provide for old folk and invalids ?

This is not accidental that this question is asked invariably by foreign tourists coming to the Soviet Union. The social maintenance of labour veterans and invalids makes it possible to judge not only of the economic possibilities of a state, but also of the advantages of its social system.

THE MAIN MOTTO of Soviet society is "Everything for Man, Everything for the Good of Man!" What can be said about its implementation ? Social conditions improve as the state grows richer. An indicator of this is the length of lifespan. Men now live an average of 66 years and women 74 years. Naturally, the number of pensioners has grown considerably in the country and reached 35 million persons, or 15 per cent of the total population. This proportion is even more impressive for cities. In Moscow, for example, every fifth resident is a pensioner.

There is another important reason of a growing number of pensioners — a relatively small and much lower, compared with capitalist countries, pensionable age. Soviet women become pensionable at 55, and women working at textile mills, some sectors of the printing industry and other categories of women-workers at 50 and even 45. As a rule, men retire on a pension at 60 and those

doing arduous jobs or working in the Far North at 55 or 50.

The Soviet state keeps increasing social maintenance and insurance allocations with every year. Last year over 16,000 million roubles were spent for these purposes from the budget alone. In 1968 social maintenance funds will exceed 17,000 million roubles — due to pension increases. Last January the pensionable age of over a million rural workers was lowered by five years. Minimum pensions to collective farm invalids were increased. Pensions to war invalids grew sharply.

In the past Russians used to say that old age promises nothing happy. Old folks felt alone, unwanted by society and a burden for their families. Soviet society took the care of people who retire after many years of work into its own hands. Things do not stop at state pensions. Some of the old people, mostly single, are given accommodation in houses for the aged. In the Russian Federation there are over 800 such houses where 160,000 persons live at state expense. Old people call them "life-time sanatoria".

In such houses every care is taken so that old folks do not feel alone. Comfortable rooms are for one or two. Most of these houses have clinics, pharmacies, cinema halls and rooms where people can watch a TV programme,

read newspapers and magazines play chess or draughts.

More and more such houses are being built. Recently 300 old men and women moved into a house for the aged built on a picturesque suburb of Rostov-on-Don. The house has 150 single and two-room flats and well-equipped halls, including a cinema hall. A group of medical personnel, including two doctors, surgeon's assistant, five nurses and 20 nurse's assistants, look after the old men. In such "life-time sanatoria" people make one big family, sharing their joy and sorrow and living the interests of the nation.

WHAT happens if a person lost capacity to work through an accident and cannot continue with his trade ? Such persons may learn trades. The Russian Federation has 42 vocational schools and eleven secondary specialized schools for invalids.

What can be said about the care for war invalids ? Their pensions have been increased. They enjoy priority in receiving flats. Medical aid to them is free. They pay only a small proportion of the cost, or nothing at all, for stay in sanatoria, rest homes, etc. They are supplied with special cars. Some 500,000 invalids have the right of the free use of public transport.

In connection with the 20th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, at the UN decision, 1968 was proclaimed the International Year of Human Rights. Article 22 of the Declaration says that every person, being a member of society, has a right to social maintenance.

This right has long become a norm of life in the Soviet Union. This right is as inalienable as the right to work, leisure and education.