

VOL. VII, NO. 8

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 22, 1959

25 nP.

Greetings Soviet Refends

W. W. SHAH WISLEADS PARLAMENT

False Production Figures SABOTAGE OF HELP TO U. S. **SOVIET OFFER** FIRM

FROM A SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT

Sri Manubhai Shah, Minister for Commerce and Industry, in answer to a question by Sri P. Narayanan Nair in the Rajya Sabha on December 2, 1958, stated that "Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., Pimpri, is concurrently manufacturing all the penicillin required by the country" and that "other units are also manufacturing 20 million mega units."

TE also mentioned that the production of Pimpri will soon be raised to 40 million mega units. He obviously claimed and gave the impression to the House that the current demand for the drug, which he assessed at 60 million mega units, is met by national production.

All these statements are false and Sri Shah should have known it. The Hindustan Antibiotics Bulletin, February 1958, page 102, tells us that the Plant produced in 1958, 26.96 million mega units of certified and passed penicillin, and we know that this finished product was produced by the Plant from its own production and from first crystals which it imported from abroad.

Sri Shah should have known Sri Shah should have known that Pimpri imported ten milion mega units of first crystals of penicillin from April 1, 1958, to the end of the year. At this rate of import the Plant is likely to have imported a little more than three million mega units of first appeals during the first threemillion mega units of first crystals during the first three-months of the year also, putting the total import of first crystals during the year at 13 million mega units. This imported material must have yielded 10.51 million mega units of the finished product.

The Pimpri Plant itself produced no more than 16.46 million mega units of the finished drug during the

Sri Manubhai Shah must also know that barring insig-nificant quantities of penicil-lin produced by Standard Pharmaceuticals, Calcutta, and Alembic Chemicals, Baroda, no other units produce any penicillin in the country. His own Department has is-sued during the second half of the year 1958 the following licences for the import of penicillin:-

stood that licences for the same amount were issued for the first half of the year. Thus penicillin worth about Rs. 74 lakhs was imported Rs. 74 lakhs was imported during the year. At the pre-sent import price this must have amounted to about 20 million mega units of penici-

It is to be noted that be-

No.	No.	Firm	(Rupees)	avous.
208	A-911883/58	Alembic Chemical, Baroda.	3,48,250/-	Bulk peni- cillin
239	A-911914/58	ries, Bombay.	12,10,300/-	-do-
228	A-911892/58	Dumex, Bombay.	13,82,400/-	-do-
299	A-911882/58	Sarabhai Chemi-	8,48,000/-	Penicillin

(The above figures are taken from the Weekly Bulletin of Imports and Export Trade for the week ending 27-12issued from New Delhi Saturday January 10, 1958 is

The above licences for the import of penicillin worth about Rs. 37 lakhs were issued for the second half of the year 1958, and it is undersides this import of penicillin by private firms, Hindustan Antibiotics as said before, im-ported 10.5 million mega units of penicillin during the year. What the State plant and the private firms might do in future, is still in the do in future is still in the realm of guesswork, because both Standard Pharmaceuticals and Alembic Chemicals

*SEE BACK PAGE

This Is What The Minister Said

This is what Sri Manubhai Shah said on December 2, 1958:

Question No: 196 (Rajya Sabha).

Answer to Supplementary by Sri Perath Narayanan Nair.

Manubhai Shah: As the House is aware, the Hindustan Antibiotics Ltd., Pimpri, is concurrently manufacturing all the penicillin required by the country. We are also undertaking an expansion which is going to take place very soon which will raise the production to about 40 million mega units. Other units are also manufacturing 20 million mega units. The entire demand is currently assessed at 60 million mega units of penicillin and this will be covered through national production. through national production.

HE Soviet delegation which visits our country on a goodwill mission this week will be warmly welcomed by the Indian people. We join our voice in offering our warm greetings to the Soviet representatives who bring with them the fraternal and friendly feelings of the peoples of the USSR for the people of India.

According to the original plan, Comrade K. E. Voroshilov, President of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, was to visit our country at the invitation of the Government of India. In his absence due to serious illness, the delegation will be led by other stalwart leaders like A. A. Andreeyev, Member of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, and N. A. Mukhitdinov, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Soviet of Nationalities.

The friendship between our two peoples has grown with every year since India attained her independence. The barriers erected by the British were smashed in one single step and a fruitful era of cooperation and mutual help based on equality developed.

Economic development was free India's first concern.

And it was the Soviet Union who by agreeing to build our first steel plant after independence, frustrated Western attempts to stall our industrial progress.

The erection of the steel plant at Bhilai stands as a monument to the living cooperation of the two peoples. More so the fact that the Soviet engineers have trained a whole team of Indian engineers who can now build new steel plants on their own. This easy mastery over the technical know-how could not have been possible without the disinterested help of the Soviet Government, people and technicians. This was followed by agreements for erecting machine-building enterprise, thermal power station, coal-mining, machinery-producing plant, an oil refinery and several other important projects with Soviet help and credit. The erection of the steel plant at Bhilai stands as a

No country perhaps had got such easy terms from another country when it was struggling hard to build its economy from scratch. The Western Powers have imposed excessively onerous terms on India for similar or less stra-tegic projects.

The help rendered by the USSR to our economy has been extremely precious. It removes the Western veto on our industrial progress and opens before us the rich prospect of increasing trade and exchange with the USSR and other Socialist countries. Such exchange will be to the mutual benefit of the two countries.

The policy of peace and defence of freedom pursued by the Soviet Union coincides with the interests and the ardent desire of the Indian people. The Indian people are against war, they are against the use of nuclear weapons, they support banning of all atomic tests; they are against colonialism and imperialism and demand complete freedom. for all Asian and African nations.

The Soviet championship of the freedom of oppres antions, its struggle for peace and against atomic war, are widely appreciated by the Indian people who stand for a policy based on the Panch Shila. The Indian people are happy to find that the Government has also contributed to the struggle for world peace and freedom.

The Soviet delegation is visiting this country just after the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, which has announced its Seven-Year Plan of Communist construction. The Indian people wish success to the Plan. They know that every step forward in the economic advance of the USSR is a step which strengthens peace and friendship among nations. The Soviet people's desire for peaceful coexistence is fully shared by the Indian people.

Bonds of mutual help and mutual respect tie together the two peoples. They share together the desire to defend peace and freedom. They are both opposed to imperialism. Their friendship must grow warmer every day. Everyone in India will endorse what Comrade Khrushchov said in his greetings to the builders of Bhilai: "May the heat of this fornace warm up the friendship between our two great peace-loving peoples. May our friendship be as strong as the metal produced by this plant put up by the joint efforts of the Governments and the peoples of the Soviet Union and India."

[SEE PAGES 9 TO 12 FOR EXTRACTS FROM N. S. KHRUSHCHOV'S REPORT]

The Facts Are So Damning That If Ever There Was Need For A Public Enquiry

Comrade Bhupesh Gupta, leader of the Communist Group, speaking in the Rajya Sabha on February dealt extensively with what has come to be called, "Mathai affair." The following is the text of Comrade Gupta's speech:

carries with it great respon-

sibility and access not only to the confidence of the

Prime Minister of the coun-

try but access to secret State files and other matters of

great importance. We are interested to know as to how

Therefore, from these an-

gles, it would seem that a public judicial enquiry would

be warranted in this case. I would refer to Mr. Mathai's own letter to the Prime Minis-

ter which is a public document now. He himself said in his letter very bravely: "A person

like me, who has had the great honour and privilege of working closely with you during the most memoritors be

ing the most momentous period in the history of our

nation, should be prepared to stand in the sun for public gaze and I gladly and willing-

y submit myself to it".
This is what he said. This is

what I am demanding. The

public has had only a glimpse of the Special Assistant. Let

him stand under the sun, let the whole world have a look

sun? I want the unveiling of

the entire story. I think the

proper course would be a pub-lic judicial enquiry as we have

noted with astonishment

what the Prime Minister said

about his integrity. It is too

late in the day to speak of in-tegrity because his whole con-

posite of it. He spoke also of

of his Special Assistant. seems to us that the Prin

Minister mistakes the sem-

blance of lovalty for its subs-

tance and we would like to know to what extent the

lovalty operated and for whom

and how it functioned in the context of the responsibility assigned to him.

According to our informa-

with Big Business like the

means anything wrong but it

Questionable

Relations

the lovalty to him on the part

suggested.

Why This

Hesitance?

WE have been discussing the question of rebuilding the nation but it will be coneded and admitted on all hands that without cleaning up the mess, without removing the corruption and malactices that are there in the practices that are there in the high seats of power, the nation can never be built. The Mat-hai affair has been before us for several weeks now and it has posed a number of im-portant constitutional, politial and administrative questions. When, out of a small issue such as this, big ques-tions arise, we must face them not as small men but as men worthy of a great nation. The country is awaiting with great oncern and avid interest as to how the Government would tackle the issues that have arisen out of this particular

I made a statement on January 17, the day on which the statement of Mr. Mathai appeared, in which I said that what had been revealed about the Prime Minister's Special Assistant Mr Mathai, would most definitely warrant a searching public enquiry. I regret that the Prime Minister ld not have taken note of this demand that I voiced on behalf of our Group.

Last week, on behalf of our

Group again, voicing the sentiments of a large number of people in the country, Dr. Z. A. Ahmad, from this side is prepared. Why should the Government be hesitant to put him under the light of the of the House, reiterated this lemand. Again, I regret that in his speech, intervening in debate last week, the Prime Minister should have thought that there need be no reference to it. Maybe he was

In Wider Interests

Now I raise it here on this occasion again and I empha-tically reiterate the demand for a public and judicial en-quiry. I make it clear that I do so in the interest of the I do so in the interest of the Government, I do so in the interest of the security of the State, I do so in order to protect the public morality and standards of our public dministration. I do so with a view to finding out as to what damage such a man had caused to our administration and what possible sources of danger he has left behind.

It is not the concern of our Prime Minister alone or tion, it appears that the Spe-cial Assistant had very great even the Home Minister alone as to who becomes his and still has close relations Birlas, and the Americans whom he had served earlier Personal Security Officer. It is the concern of the entire nation as to how best his personal security is protec-ted. Likewise it is the conand this is a matter which should be considered. I am not saying that such associa-tion, by itself, necessarily cern not merely of the Prime Minister nor of the Home Department alone but of the entire nation as to that, position not only had who becomes his Special such association but main-Assistant. For, such an office

Now the Prime Minister informed us that when he tune in the correction of his serjoined, he had Rs. two or Rs. three lakhs—a difference of Rs. one lakh—not a small sum value of the Government Servants. and the Prime Minister informed us in his statement that he earned this amount. He said that he had been given large salaries by American establishments, the Red Cross and so on. This is what the Prime Minister told us.

Salary And Savina

I don't blame the Prime Minister. He would not be knowing everything but our information is that when he joined the American establishment, the salacan establishment, the sala-ry was Rs. 425 per month nd when he left three years later, in 1945, it was Rs. 498 and just for a few months, in 1945, the person who be-came the Special Assistant later, was earning Rs. 800 per month from the Red Cross. This is all that I got from the facts. Assuming that every penny of it had been saved, Mr. Mathai would not have more than Rs. 30,000 in the bank or in

At the same time, Mr. Mathai is a very insurance-minded person and his insurance policy before he joined, was of only Rs. 2,000, with an annual premium of Rs. 50. I don't

Insurance Premium

I have it on the basis of the facts stated that he took three insurance policies and that one in 1957 by paying in lump sum Rs. 48,546 as premium. In the Agent's Form he gove his the Agent's Form he gave hi income as Rs. 2,000 and normally, you know, people give their gross income. Then, we their gross income. Then, we find in the same year he also paid Rs. 18,000 as premium on two other policies about which mention has been made in the letter. All tald in the letter. All told, in the year 1957 he spent on the three insurance policies alone Rs. 66,000

Then let us come to the year 1958. We find that he mentions in the letter to the Prime Minister that he had a net income of Rs. 27,500. In order to have Rs. 27,500 net income, one would require a gross income of Rs. 36,000 or so. It seems the more money is spent, the greater is the inis spent, the greater is the in-crease in income. Now, that would require some kind of an explanation. What is the Home Ministry doing? Is it aware of these things? I would like to know. It is a very important thing for a government servant. Venkataraman was

ing purchased. In 1956 and 1958, it seems land worth Rs. 12,000 was purchased.

As for the trust, we are

living in the midst of mystery. Why on earth should not the Memorial Trust be made pubunder sub-rules (1) (2) (4) and so on and also other rules you will find that government servants, when they acquire property or deal or transact in property, have to inform the Government in the proper way prescribed in the rules. Was that done? Has Mr. Jha. the the permission given to the Special Assistant to become a trustee of the Chechemma Me. morial Trust? It appears that the Kidwai Memoiral Trust got less than ten lakhs. The Saroget only Rs. five lakhs and the Azad Memorial Trust only Rs. five lakhs. How then do you explain that a Trust created in the name of an unknown person could readily attract so much money? What was the magic in it? What was the special attraction? Or was it because some people wanted to pull that weight?

I have before me the Deed of Gift that was signed by two trustees, the Chairman of the Chechemma Memorial Trust and Mr Mathai on the one hand and the Birla Cotton Spinning and Weaving Mills hauled up and an investiga-tion was started because he of No. 9, Tees January Marg.

IT IS ON THIS MATHAI AFFAIR

-SAYS BHUPESH GUPTA

know how much income-tax he paid but I don't get any light on that score from the figures the Prime Minister gave. Therefore an enquiry is

During the war years, the family of Mr. Mathal, it seems, was poor. I ascertained this from Kerala. They lived on the poverty line and had hardly a few acres of land.

Mow Did It Become Lakhs?

Then from where did Mr. Mathai get funds worth two and three lakhs? An explanation is owed to the nation. He was not a war contractor as far as we are aware. He vas not an industrialist. Nor was he a big lawyer or a top doctor, and of course, he was not a film star, and I take it that he did not win a couple of Nobel Prizes in order to account for such realth Then where did he strike his Golconda? Where did he strike his gold mine? That matter remains a mystery which should be unravelled in the interest of the public. The income of such a person would provide the subject for very close

public enquiry. It appears that money flowed into his hands even after he had joined the Prime apart from his ed into. Now, it appears that

could not explain certain of

Shares And Investment

Now take another question. have information that Mr. lathal has 1,000 shares of the Tata Iron and Steel worth Rs. 1.75,000. He has shares in Indian Cements and in Elphinstone Mills and other concerns of what value, I don't know. And in saving certificates he has got Rs. 25,000 and also development loans worth Rs.

There is still another aspect. During the war years the family, as I said, was very poor, living almost on the poverty line. Then I find here in this latest statement the family fortune began to change and change rather quickly and heavy remit-tances had been made to his (Mr. Mathai's) relatives there from Delhi, every year since 1953 and particularly in 1958. I have got some figures, but I will not give them. Insured covers had been sent from the post office in South Avenue and received in Chengannur Taluk in the names of the brothers of the Mathai family. Then I understand there was also a heavy bank remittance in 1958 to the Forward Bank of Alleppey. These are important remit-tances. I also find houses

being built there, lands be-

This deed gift was signed on July 3, 1958. Why is it being kept a secret? Tell us that. Give us the names of the donors. We know and we have our suspicions. But it is for the Government to speak on the subject. Am I to understand that our Government lost all sense of propriety when it sanctioned one of the Ministers to become a trustee of the trust or an officer to become a trustee? Did it not find out who the donors were? After all, a trust means all kinds of businesses and trans-actions. Morton & Co. is mentioned. The Kulu Valley property is a Birla concern. But I am told by the Calcutta people that not much of the juice extracted from the fruits of those Kulu gardens has en-tered into the products of the

Darkness Of Anonymity

I would like the enquiry to go into all this. I do not want Parliament to take the place of a court of enquiry. I know that the Prime Minister said it was a private trust. The Chairman of the trust says it is a public trust. I have got cuttings but we don't know what is what. All we know is that the donors are anony-mous, that the investments are anonymous, that the charitable purposes are anony-

*SEE FACING PAGE

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* FROM PAGE 2

mous. We live in the darkness of anonymity. Bring us into the light of the day and along with Mr. Mathai, put us in the sun light so that we can

I have made out a case and I think there is a prima facie case if ever there was one for a public judicial en quiry and a departmental enquiry is no substitute for a public judicial enquiry in this matter. I need not go into that. Apart from the into that. Apart from the question of public confidence, other limitations are there in a departmental enquiry and so we want a judicial enquiry. Let it not be said that Mr. Mathai's e was differently treated just because he happened to be associated with the Prime Minister That would be a sad thing. (S. S. N. Tankha: I would

like to draw the attention of my hon friend to the fact that in the letter appointing a departmental enquiry it is stated that a judicial enquiry will be ordered if it is found necessary upon the results of the departmental enquiry.)

esh Gunta: The hon. party. He may have such knowledge but nobody has written to me and I have no knowledge of any such letter. However, if it is preparatory to a judicial public enqui then go ahead by all mea enquiry. but I would not trust an enquiry, solely undertaken by the department. I want the whole thing to be publicly enquired into in a manner which will evoke public confidence, help the Government to elicit the necessary evidence and discover all material documents so that the truth may be arrived at.

The nation's interest must be protected so that in future such things may not be re-peated. Mathais may come and go but the parliamentary system and our democratic standards shall remain and we have to protect them here and now when confronted with the challenge that has arisen from this case.

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FERRITARY 22, 1959

Serious, Not Trivial

Bellionia

T HE Mathai affair continues to occupy the front-page headlines in our Press. Our Party Press and Parliamentary spokesment took up the issue and are

oursuing it as their national duty. They have won widespread support and acclaim.

Mathai's case is not only one of a small man in a big job. It is worse. When New Age first exposed a few of Mathai's doings, he and his supporters took the line that our Party attacked him only to discredit the Prime Minister. Anti-Communism did not work. He had to resign his job and face the Privilege Committee of our Parliament.

The Prime Minister in his Press Conference publicly criticised the political indiscretions and bad over-bearing manners of fallen Mathai but gave him a certificate for manners of fallen Mathai but gave him a certificate for integrity and loyalty. In this issue we print the telling speech of Bhupesh Gupta in the Rajya Sabha which conclusively proves that if Mathai lacked anything, it was integrity and if he was loyal to anybody, it was not to the Prime Minister and whatever good things he stands for.

There is no escaping the undeniable evidence that Mathai's already known income was more than his own earnings as a government servant. There is no escaping the evidence that the trust in the name of Mathai's unknown mother has more funds than the trusts in the name of Maulana Azad, Rafi Ahmed Kidwai or Sarojini Naidu. There is no escaping the evidence that Birla Brothers were among the patrons of Mathai. It is necessary to uncover the rest and draw lessons as to how Big Business corrupts and misuses our top administrative personnel.

Mathai was an ex-U.S. employee and hence not a safe person to be employed on the Prime Minister's staff. It very necessary to investigate how far and in what form he maintained his relations with his ex-employers. The

capital is thick with rumours that Mathai liked spending his holidays with top U.S. diplomats.

The Prime Minister's Special Assistant is an important official who opens the door to the Prime Minister's confidence, and has access to secret State papers. As long as the Mathais can occupy such a post, the Birlas can make hay and the Dulleses know all that goes on inside the Indian

The integrity of our administration, the development of our economy and the security of our country, and the good name of our nation demand that the Mathai affair. be never repeated. There is no better way to ensure this than to hold an open public judicial enquiry into the present Mathai affair and draw the necessary lessons for the guidance of the Government and to restore confidence among the people.

Our Party in Parliament is pressing the demand and the Home Minister wants the country to dismiss the Mathai affair as a trivial matter and be satisfied with a departmental enquiry.

A bureaucrat to enquire into the doings of another bureaucrat and a whitewashing report or one which never sees the light of day—this has become a familiar pattern. Too long has the Government relied upon the bureaucracy to carry on the administration while Big Business an foreigners corrupt and use it for their own ends. Too often has the Government shielded the corrupt, unreliable and irresponsible bureaucrats against criticism and exposure from the Opposition. This has hindered the healthy ormation of democratic traditions in our country and strengthened cynicism.

The Mathai scandal is a test case. The Communist opposition has only brought it to light and voiced the di-mand, raised by many others also, for full enquiry and proper lessons for the strengthening of Indian democracy nd safeguarding of Indian security.

(February 17)

Anniversary Of The R. I. N. Revolt

THIRTEEN YEARS BACK ON FEBRUARY 19, 1946, THE PATRIOTIC naval ratings of our country took arms against the British oppressors and wrote one of the glorious chapters in our struggle for national freedom.

Though the immediate cause of the revolt, was the oppressive and humiliating conditions imposed on them by the British officials, it was and became an integral part of the revolutionary struggle for freedom that had spread from one corner of the country to another.

The deep national feeling behind the revolt was expressed by a rating when he said: "Every morning, as one opens the paper, there is only one thing that one sees—firing in Bombay, firing in Calcutta! So far the Whites have oppressed us. We shall show that an an Indian knows how to avenge his children."

The R.I.N. Revolt dealt the final death-blow to British imperialism and within a year-and-a-half India was free. It made it clear to the British that they can no longer rely on the Indian armed forces to hold the people in subjection. The strikes and demonstrations in the army and air force preceding and accompanying the R.I.N. Revolt gave too clear a signal to be ignored.

The patriotic ratings were supported by the working class and the people of the country. The ratings themselves raised the flags of the political parties, including the Red Flag. The working class and the people of Bombay rose in defence of their patriotic sons in the navy and defeated the attempts of the British Commander to guish the revolt in blood. They British Commander to crush the revolt in blood. They fought the British tanks with bare hands. Hundreds were killed in the Bombay uprising but the naval ratings were saved.

The Anniversary of the R.I.N. Revolt should serve to underline the patriotic and democratic traditions of our armed forces, who at each decisive period in our nation's life stood by the people and fought for democracy and freedom.

Notwithstanding the repeated attempts of the British to build a mercenary army removed from the people, the Indian armed forces could never forget the raditions of 1857 when they led the great national revolt. Since then the army under the British had seen innumerable local revolts and mutinies. The refusal of the Garhwal regiment to open fire on Peshawar satyagrahis in 1930 emphasised these traditions still further. They were again underlined when some of the forces sent abroad by the British joined hands with the people there in their struggle for freedom.

It is necessary to recall them when in some of the neighbouring countries of India military Generals are establishing themselves as dictators, subverting democracy and oppressing the people. It is necessary to recall them when across our border American imperialists are hatching new plots threatening the security

On the occasion of the R.I.N. Anniversary we send our warm greetings to our patriotic forces. There is no doubt that in conformity with their traditions, they will heroically guard our frontiers and shores against any intruder; there is no doubt that as true sons of the people they will always remain with them to defend and strengthen democracy and the sovereignty of the

(February 18)

NEW AGE

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"SORROW AND SHAME"

F OOD continues to dominate the national scene this week as well and will continue to do so till a real break-through is made. The Government, however, continues to drift, torn by dissensions within the ruling party and under pressure of the vested interests.

The last meeting of the Development Council National Development Council decided to nationalise the trade in foodgrains. Nothing has been done to put this into practice. The Special Correspondent of the Hindustan Times (February 18) reports: The final shape of the proposed scheme for State trading in foodgrains is likely to be known towards the end of known towards the end of next month when the National Development Council is expected to meet.".
The earlier drift has meant

that the rice stock is already in the hands of the hoarders and the present drift will only mean that the coming wheat them and they will be in a trategic position to dictate their own terms by the time the Government scheme is an-nounced. Prime Minister Nehru has plaintively admit-ted the "difficulties" of the Government, which has to rely upon the wholesalers, the very persons who are op-posed to State trading to be able to implement the scheme that his Government has in mind. It is no wonder that

In Kashmir, the price of rice which was Rs. 35 per maund has shot up to Rs. 40 to 45 within a week. Our Correspondent reports that batches of angry women came out to demonstrate in front of the State Food Control Office. Food, democratic rights and closer relations with India featured in the debate on the Sadar-i-Riyasat's address in the Kashmir Assembly. In Punjab, during the last

months, wheat price has gone up by Rs. eight per maund and it costs 15 to 30 per cent more to purchase the per cent incre to purchase necessities of life. A wide-spread food movement is bursting into satyagraha form, compelling the Government to sit up and registering local

The main theme this week in the budget debate in the U. P. Assembly was the food issue. The Government was completely on the defensive only a few Congressmen got up to support it on feeble feet and with fumbling words. The Oppo-sition came out with shat-tering facts and exposed the utter failure of the Government to increase food pro-

Crores of rupees have been spent on irrigation, canals have been dug, but they never became water-borne. The area irrigated in 1939 was 1.29 crore acres and it rose to 1.30 crore acres in 1957-58.

The PSP leader Triloki Sin-

gh called upon the Govern-ment to withdraw the State trading scheme and galvanise its scheme of service cooperatives for marketing of foodgrains. To counterpose cooperatives to State trading is not ven commonsense, leave aside Socialism. Cooperatives to supwill leave wholesale trade in the hands of the private traders! Why not ask a murderess to become the wet nurse of its baby victim?

On February 16, grave con cern at the soaring prices of food was expressed in the Assembly and the Government anound was considering the formation of an all-party committee to suggest adequate measures.

IN THE LOK SABHA

In the Lok Sabha, over halfa-dozen amendments were moved to the Rashtrapati's address on the issue of foo adone. They were moved not only by the Opposition mem-bers, but also by Congress-men. A former Madras Minister, Sri Avinashalingam Chettiar stated that it was a matter for "sorrow and shame" that the plan for self-

The Home Minister stressed that the job of the hour was to have "a self-feeding eco-nomy". The Government, however, has announced no new policies which will take the country out of the present scandalous situation. The only effective drive that is taking place to increase food production is in Kerala, where shramdan for small irrigation works is becoming a popular mass movement.
The Union Government

instead of calling upon the other State Govern-ments to emulate the Kerala example, is doing Kerala in the eye. Kerala is 50 per cent icit in rice. The Union Government is buying sur-plus rice from Andhra but refusing to allot even the three lakh tons demanded by Kerala. The first claim on Andhra rice should be Ke rala's according to the Gov-New Delhi, however, refu to buy rice from the surplus State for a deficit State within the zone it has itself formed. This is petty partisan politics and not fair-It needs to be thoughtfully

considered why New Delhi refuses to fulfil its obligations to make scarce and controlled rice available to deficit Kerala, while it claims and takes over while it claims and takes over all the foreign exchange earned by the commercial crops of Kerala. Kerala Food Minister K. C. George has complained: "The Centre is not prepared to help us to make up our deficit." The rest of the country must respond to Kerala's dire need and compel the Union Government to do its plain duty. Kerala is helping itself as no other State is doing. The Centre must not be allowed to discriminate against it.

CAPITALIST AID

S RI B. K. Nehru was appointed, with the publicity fanfare as India's Commis-sioner General in Washington, soon after the World Bank-IMF Conference. He, together with Sri Morarji Desai, were boosted up as successful negitiators, who had masterfully insured the solution of the foreign exchange crisis and got India loans and credits for the remaining years of the Second Plan.

During the last year, about 350 million dollars were promised. This year 700 million dollars had to be ensured for the remaining years of the Second Plan. Sri B. K. Nehru has come and gone after three week's stay in New Delhi and long consultations with the Union Government and

ference, under the auspices of the World Bank, of our main creditor countries, the U.S., U.K., Canada, West Germany and Japan, which was due to be held in Febru-ary, postponed to the beginning of March, will now be held in Washington on March 16, after Sri B. K. Nehru goes back. The demands made by the capitalist nations and the mandate given by the Indian Government to Sri B. K. Nehru are not known. But enough has appeared in the Press to make our people vigilant and the patriotic parties act in and all to realise how lists of the West who pretend to be our "friends".

NAFEN purposefully leaks out that the financiers and statesmen of these countries the current loud thinking on the size of the Third Five-Year Plan and whether the next Plan is to be of the order of Rs. 10,000 crores." Before they would aid our Second Plan, they want us "to give a clear indication of the foreign exchange part" of our, Third Plan. Their guilty conscience makes them assure us that they have no desire to dictate to us. They take us to be so naive as to believe their argument that all their concern is to save us from getting into a

WESTERN TACTICS

deeper foreign exchange crisis

during our Third Plan as well.

This is not all. Reuter reports from Washington on February 13, that "Diplomats here believe it unlikely that the next meeting will result in a simple pledge for the full 700 million dollars for 1959-61. They thought it more probable that the participants would prefer to tackle India's needs one year at a time.'

The tactics are clear enough: twist our arm from year to year and after assessing the concessions that can be extracted from us year. This is not the way of friends who aid, but of the

sharks who swallow. Another demand that they make is that India reduce her foreign exchange reserves from Rs. 200 crores to Rs. 150 crores. This is not only a move to make us weaker than pendent on the dollars from Washington after depleting the sterling we hold in London.

As revealed by Indian sour-ces, the Indian negotiator will "impress on the creditors the procedure to enable India to utilise the loan sanctioned.' This should give a glimpse of the hard and gruelling job before Sri B. K. Nehru.

Such are the self-styled "friends of India" and the sooner we see through them the better for us and our

SOVIET AID

S ENSIBLE elements inside the Indian ruling class seem to be realising that their friends of the West are not as made themselves out to be, for Sri B. K. Nehru has gone to Washington via Moscow! The situation is so desperate

Dr. Nagaraj Rao, Joint Se-

cretary to the Commerce and Industry Ministry, has also gone on a similar big job abroad In Moscow, he will discuss the project report of the Ranchi Heavy Engineering Plant, the Coal-Mining Machinery Plant, and the five-project drug plan. In Prague, he will discuss the details of the foundry forge plant and in London, the heavy electrical project. In Berlin, he will negotiate for the raw film construction of the plant to produce intermediaries.

tapped.

NEW VISTAS

The unrelenting pressure from the West against India nic indepenthe grandiose Soviet Seven-Vear Plan have onened up new vistas. The Kerala Chief Minister, after attending the 21st Congress of the mist Party of the So. viet Union, told newsmen in New Delhi on February 15 that "there were vast pos bilities of extending trade between this country and the Soviet Union and if these were utilised properly, India could well have ambi-tious Third and Fourth Plans."

The concrete meaning of the Soviet Plan for India that the Soviet Union wou be able to supply the capital goods needed for Indian in-dustrialisation provided the Indian people can get the Indian Government to pursue policies of Indo-Soviet come ration on mutually advanta geous terms.

NATIONAL SCENE

THE demand of the situa-tion and the healthy sentiments of our people are both reflected in the fact that every blow struck at reaction is applauded and every towards national unity comed. The Communist exposure of M. O. Mathai was acclaimed by every honest M. P. irrespective of party differences. The distillusionment with the record of the ruling party is reflected in the keen popular interest being displayed in what the Prime Minister and the new Congress the Nagpur resolutions on the basis of broad cooperation

The Rashtrapati's appeal of development was repeated with emphasis by the Prime Minister during the parlia-mentary debate.

The Special Correspondent of the Hindustan Times (February 17) reports that the Congress President would seek to contact the representatives of various parties with the purpose of "knowing their mind" and exploring the avenues for cooperation.

This time Smt. Gandhi is reported to have sharply de-marcated the Communists from the Jan Sangh. The Times of India (February 17) reports her saying that "the views of the Communist Party on cooperative farming and fixation of ceilings were almost 'similar' to those of the (February 17, 1959)

their cooperation in carrying out this programme. Similarly operation in implementing such other schemes of national development on which they had no differences with the Congress."

She did not think cooperaopposition to the Congress rogramme."

In the Raiva Sabha. Com-

"There is talk of cooperation.

I say on behalf of the Com-munist Party that if the co-operation is for the defence of democracy and cooperation velopment, if sought for in a proper manner and on the basis of a real people's pro-gramme, the Party will be second to none in offering that cooperation.... There should be an outlook of unity of the people for the defence of democratic life and for the defence of all people."

Pandit Pant, welcomed the offer of Dr. Ahmad and said that he only wished that the offer had not been hedged round with too many condiround with too many conditions. In order that a proper atmosphere might be built up to abandon food marches and strikes in docks, railways and Pandit Pant's is the typi-

cal Right-wing outlook. Under the banner of coopera-tion, he wants surrender. The country needs national unity and popular movements against pro-imperialist, pro-feudal, Big Business reaction. If the working people give up their mass movements and struggles, it will not be the triumph of In-dian democracy but of Indian reaction. National cooperation minus popular action adds up to a bare skeleton minus life. 19

GRAND NEWS

THE Bombay workers gave flesh and blood to the Samvukta Maharashtra movement till it became an irresis-Maharashtrian people, based on a new powerful mass movement. This week a united Executive of Bombay's textile workers has been announced with the PSP leader, Sri S M S. A. Dange as the General Secretary. This trade union Secretary. This trade unior unity has been achieved des pite the opposition of the offi-cial PSP leadership and despite the anti-Communist scare. Sri Joshi declared that this unity was necessary to fight unemployment,

Not only the textile magnates but the entire powerful Big Business reaction of Bombay is panicky. Dange has given a call, for one-lakh membership for the new united union within a month.
Bombay's working class is getting into stride to beat back
the Big Business offensive. Their struggle and victory will

-P. C. JOSHI

FEBRUARY 22, 1959

WHO RULES ANDHRA?

None expected from a Gov-

ernment of the Congress Party

to admit that the person who

is reported to have murdered

Communist was a Congressman

No one knows what, in the opi-nion of the Andhra Pradesh

Congress Government is a poli-

a political murder if one goes

by the definition given in prac-tice to political murder by their

On January 7, a kisan

worker was shot dead in broad daylight in the fields by a landlord in Dammadapalle

Police Had Been

had sought immediate interven

tion to prevent any deteriora-tion in the situation. He con-

cretely suggested confiscation of.

all fire-arms from the landlords

But strangely enough, the police authorities instead of proceeding against the culprits,

initiated proceedings against

some kisan workers. It is this

of the authorities that embold-

scene of firing and finding their

blood, got enraged and beat

up the landlord severely. He

fire by local landlords, known

to be Congressmen, resulting in

the death of the Communist

of property to the tune of Rs.

blatantly pro-landlord attitude

village in Nalgonda District.

tical murder. But what

counterparts in Kerala.

Informed

Who rules Andhra? A legally constituted Government or landlords-cum-Congressmen? One is contrained to ask this question after seeing some of the things happening in

A LANDLORD, brother of the President of the Warangal District Congress Committee, barricaded the entrance to the village of Vadde Kothapalli on the 5th of this month and his aides stood behind him armed with swords and spears. It looked as if the village was facing an imminent attack and pened in Madhira was certainly they were all poised to beat it

Where was the attack coming from? S. V. K. Prasad, Communist MLA, along with two or three of his colleagues, were scheduled to arrive in this village to hear some of the gries of the people. The landto prevent this visit.

The worst part of the story is that all this was happening right in the presence of a Circle Inspector of Police, who expressed his helplessness in putting these law-breakers in their

The villagers on the other side of the barricade were angry and, if they had been told, they would have thrown out the gangsters and cleared the path for the Communist MLA to enter the village. It was only Comrade Prasad's desire to prevent bloodshed and maintain peace that averted an ugly situ-He returned entering the village.

This is not an isolated incident of landlords taking the law into their own hands—a charge freely hurled against Communists and on the of which they are arrested and prosecuted. This is again not the only incident where the Government has conveniently closed its eyes, giving the imof approval to such actions.

Before and after the Madhira incident in which a Communist was murdered by a Congressite landlord (reported in New Age of December 14), many in ents have taken place in Andhra, which lead to the inescapapable conclusion that, emboldened by the prolandlord policies of the Sanjeeva Reddi Ministry, the landlords have, with the help and cooperation of the police and the adminis-trative machinery of the Government, let loose an offensiv

A List Of Crimes

Here are some of the instances which substantiate this

Before going into these details, however, it would be helpful to deal with the Press-Note issued by the Government of Andhra Pradesh, contradicing the report that appeared in contradiction does not deny the of the incidents nor did it say that the police did not receive comconclusions drawn from these

addressed by the Deputy Leader of the Opposition in the Andhra Pradesh Assembly, Sri Ravi Narayan Reddi was conplaints. It only contradicted the stantly and continuously stoned by local landlord Congressmen in Garidepalli village, Nalgonda

. District. The organisers of the meeting had earlier approached the President of the local Con-gress Committee to avoid any incidents and he had promised all help. And this is how he

 Landlord Sivareddi of Gundalakonda village of Kurnool District has been notomits against the people. the police had to go to the village and release people from forcible internment in their own

Mardly five miles off the capital, in Mirpet village, landlords forced agricultural labourers to work for five annas The atrocities committed by this particular landlord, as well a day as against ten annas paid as other landlords in the area in the neighbouring villages. When the labourers refused, had been brought to the notice of the police authorities, includ-ing the highest in the State, by D. Venkateswara Rao, Member they were harassed, beaten and threatened with dire consequprotection after repeated appeals, they had to migrate to the city to avoid further torture. of Parliament from that area, in a detailed memorandum, one month before this incident. He

@ From V. HANUMANTHA RAO

police patel and tortured. The next occasion people heard about her was when a Composed body on the 13th in a neighbouring village. The Chief Minister parrot-like repeated the police story that she fell into a well and died.

A Legally-Constituted

Govt. Or Landlords

And Their Gangsters

December 10: A goldsmith died in police custody in Chitala in Nalgonda District. The police 'explained away' this death as due to heart failure The person had been arrested for alleged theft of gold and had been taken from Hydera-

During the second week of December, a goldsmith of Sur-yapet town, Nalgonda District,

Reports are not wanting to show that every Congress MLA has assumed the role of a Chief Minister in his own constituency and dictated things not only to the officials, but also to the people. Officials dare oppo their wishes only at the cost of their jobs. The MLA from Tenali told people that they can meet Ministers visiting the town and submit memoranda to him, only after sion was obtained. MLA in Chittoor told the auwaste lands could not be distributed without his consent.

Jungle

This attitude adopted by Con-

Minister's Advice To Officials:

Obey Congress Leaders

On January 12, Dasari Sailu, belonging to the rival ened them to shoot and kill the kisan worker. People who heard the gunshot, rushed to the group in the Congress, was murdered in cold blood in the fields, by the followers of the official group in Korakonda-palli village in Warangal Dist-

On January 12, the house of Even in such personal affairs like love and marriage, the local Communist leader of Muddalapuram village in Anantpur District was set on people seem to be at the mercy of these landlords. A young girl who was about to get married village in West Godavari District on January 1, was beaten and stabbed. The girl succumbed to the injuries in the hos-

These are only a few inst-ances in which landlords have gone to the extreme. They are

only illustrative and not ex-

Here is another list, much

more serious than the earlier one, which shows that those

who ought to preserve law and

order, themselves turn into law-

the deaths in police custody or

ouring of women

Deaths In Police

December 6: In Errapalli vil-

lage, a person was charged with theft and was arrested. Next

day, his wife was taken to the police station. Later, she was taken to the house of the

Custody

Avenging Defeat

It may be mentioned here that the landlords of this village were defeated by progressive elements in the Panchayat elections. The Communist Party had fought and got three hund-red acres of waste land released from the illegal occupation of these landlord Congressmen.

These activities had enraged the landlords and they sought revenge by setting fire to the Communist leader's house.

On January 7, a meeting

custody. The gentleman. narrated this story, said that there was a report of a similar death under police custody with the Magistrate, before whom he

January 17: A washerman died in police custody in a village in Cuddappah District. The police version was that just as he stepped into the police sta-

Women Dishonoured

On the same day in the same District, five policemen raided the house of one Munneyya and dishonoured his wife Yellan in his absence. A woman, nine months gone with child, tried to halt the police when she was kicked and pushed aside.

place in the same district three months ago when a woman had been raped by the police. Conentatives who were invited to serve on the enquiry committee, unanimously returned the verdict that the police were guilty, but the Collector, as usual, defended the police. The ed that the police would l structed to be careful in future. His assurance went the same

by no less a gentleman than the Minister for Labour himself, who convened a Conference of Congress leaders along with senior officials including the Collector of Khammam District and told the officials in the plainest possible terms that they cannot disobey the Congress leaders of the District

Panchavats are formed and abolished, municipalities are suppressed—all to suit the interests of Congressmen. There are of instances Panchayat elections were held but the election of President was postponed for years toge

Where is law and order? Where is security of life and property? A political worker the exploited: a peasant is not sure of his crop until it is harvested and it reaches home; a woman is not sure of her marry a young man of her

It is the law. of the jungle gress, Communist and Socialist that operates in Andhra; people live in villages at the mercy of

There is a strong undercur-rent of dissatisfaction, disgust, rent of dissatisfaction, disgust, disgruntlement and despair not Chief Minister, however, assur- only among the people but

The current session of the Asway and met the same fate as sembly is expected to mirror the other promises of the Conther of this state of affairs in this part of the country.

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NEW AGE

CONGRESS RULE HAS MEANT FOR

to recognise the hard fact that its policies over the past eleven years have landed West Bengal in a severe Not only that. After the recent Congress victory in the Bagnan by-election, the Government has become still more impudent.

THIS was quite evident in the Governor's address to Legislature on February 3. Reriewing the activities Government, the Governor made a series of claims which, however, have no relation whatsoever to the realities of

While rice at controlled rates has completely disap-peared from the open marpeared from the open market and reports of the acute distress of the people are pouring in from every part of the State, when thou sands of peasants have been evicted and large-scale mala fide transfers of land are taking place with the full knowledge of the Government, when the unemploy ment problem has assumed menacing proportions, when eight years of planning have brought no real benefits the masses of people in this State but have, on the con-trary, imposed mounting burdens of taxation on them, when demoralisation and frustration are writ large on the faces of the what the Governor had to say was, "I see a new life pulsating in our towns

and villages. Comrade Jyoti Basu, leader of the Opposition, who opened the four-day debate on the address. these observations and said the Governor's address was essay in self-conceit and self-complacency." The speech was a supreme example of the Covernment's callousness to the sufferings of the people, he

Would the Government be villages that were pulsating with a new life, he asked.

He had expected, he said, take lessons from the crisis of the Second Plan, the astounding progress made by China and from the repeated warnings and the constructive suggestions given by the Op-

He had also hoped that the Government would make serious efforts to put into practice the decisions adopted at the recent Nagpur Session of the

Lessons Not Learnt

But neither in the Governor's address nor in the business before this budget session was there any indication that the Government had drawn the

Comrade Jyoti Basu again urged upon the Government to pay heed to the suggestions of the Communist Party for an integrated development of West Bengal's economy. He said that despite the tall

talk about Socialism, the so-ciety that the Congress was building up was a capitalist one. Even then, he emphasised, the suggestions put forward by the Communist Party could be implemented within the framework of the existing

Prefacing his positive suggestions about the reconstruc-tion of West Bengal's economy, Comrade Basu compared the made by China and

PAGE SIX

WEST BENGAL— Government had handed over the fertillest factory, originally proposed to be set up in the public sector, to the Birlas. He

Food Crisis And Acute Distress * Mass Eviction Of The Peasantry

Menacing Unemployment Problem Mounting Burdens Of Taxation

He quoted figures of steel, tions in some years, constitutcoal and foodgrains production and the average yield per acre and per capita output of 1949 and 1958 to show the treendous advance made by it. He then pointed out how India was lagging far behi though it had achieved indeendence two years earlier and was one year ahead of China

He said that China had eradicated epidemics; but it was a matter of shame that even in a city like Calcutta prevent-ible diseases like cholera and small-pox continued to take a heavy toll of lives every year and hellish conditions prevail-

Pointing out that China had completely eliminated unemment in the rural areas India offered a dismal picture

The target for additional employment opportunities during the Second Plan period

ed the most glaring symptom of this crisis.

The total production of rice, the staple food of the people, had increased from 3,519,600 tons in 1947 to 4,185,000 tons in

He said that the Government was clever enough not to announce any estimate for 1958, because the total yield was expected to be much less than that for 1957. No wonder that West Bengal not been able to achiev self-sufficiency in its requirements of cereals, and this year, too, the deficit was expected to be in the region of nine lakh tons, the shortfalls in 1957 and 1958 being 380,000 and 750,000 tons res pectively.

The average yield of rice per acre had no doubt increased from 9.88 maunds in 1947-48 to 11.73 in 1956-57, but it was still miles behind Japan with 46.5 maunds per acre, and even Egypt with 26.5.

a gamble in rains. Yet, the progress of irrigation in this State had been extremely slow; even the potential created by different irrigation projects was not being utilised.

The percentage of the total

irrigated area to the total land under cultivation increased by only 2.97 between 1947-48

In 1957-58 provision was made for irrigating 1.92 lakh acres from the DVC but water was actually supplied to only 78,000 acres. Likewise, potential in the Mayurakshi Project had been created for 34.60 lakh acres but 3 42 lakh acres were actually irrigated.

The target of additional land

to be brought under irrigation during 1956-61 had been fixed at 12.48 lakh acres. It had now been reduced to 10.07 acres. The Kangsebati Project, 800,000 acres, was originally scheduled to be completed by But the target date had now

been shifted to 1975! The Government given practically no attento small-irrigation es although they of vital importance in the geographical and climatic conditions of West Bengal.

Pointing out that about 88 per cent of the total cropped

population.

ernment undertaking this job as it would benefit the refugees as well as the local important step in the direction of achieving self-sufficiency in the internal pro-duction of foodgrains, Comrade Basu further said

that when the peasants re-

proped upon the Government to reduce the price of fertilisers and to utilise green manures on a much bigger

Decay Of Industries

Turning to industries, Comrade Basu said that the pro-fessed aim of the Second Plan was rapid industrialisation. Yet, at the end of the third year of the Plan stagnation in industrial production had already set in.
So far as West Bengal was

concerned, the signs of stag-nation and decay were much more pronounced

Leave alone the question of the establishment of new ndustries, the capacity of existing enterprises was shrinking in many cases, and a good number of small-scale and cottage industries were dving out.

Referring to the jute indus-try, he emphasised its vital importance to the economy of this State, apart from the fact that it was the biggest foreign exchange earner.

The industry gave employment to about 240,000 workers growers depended on it for their living. Yet it was in utter chaos as the result of its complete domination by a few Marwari and British mono-

Comrade Basu said that Governor Padmaja Naidu had taken a lot of credit for the fact that 34.6 lakh bales of jute had been grown in West Bengal in 1958, but she had not mentioned that the peasants had had to pay a very heavy price for achieving selfsufficiency in jute.

He pointed out that ac-

cording to the Jute Enquiry Committee, the average cost of production of raw jute was Rs. 22 per maund, but the price this year had crashed to Rs. 16 a maund. Even at a very liberal esti-mate the jute-growing pea-santry had suffered a loss of

Rs 31.35 crores! He demanded that the purchase of raw jute and export of finished goods should be taken over by the State Trading Corporation. The Government should also take steps to reopen the sealed looms and der to expand the internal

He also demanded immediate nationalisation of the coal industry in the interest of the conservation and planned utilisation of our dwindling coal resources. He further pleaded Dealing with the important for the estbilshment of a coal washery in the Ranigunge belt

in this State.

Referring to medium and small engineering industries. several hundreds of which are located in the State. Comrad Jvoti Basu said that they had been passing through acute difficulties due to shortage of basic raw materials, absence of assured markets, shortage

He pointed out that of the 11,000 registered factories in West Bengal only 25 were getting permits for iron and

He made a series of sugges-tions for stablising the position * ON FACING PAGE

steel!

he set up here.

WHY RICE PROCUREMENT WAS A FLOP IN BIHAR

"Out of a procurement target of one lakh tons in Bihar, only six to seven thousand tons of rice had been procured so far," revealed Sri Ajit Prasad Jain, the Union Food Minister, at a Press Conference at Patna on January 28.

ed in the resolution of the are doing. Communist Party in Bihar have thus proved to be correct.
The State Government continues to be hostile to the whole scheme of State trading in foodgrains. Officials of the Supply Department are frankly sceptical about its success.

Meanwhile, the State Government has started succu ing to the pressure of the rice millowners. According to the report of a Special Correspondent of the Calcutta Statesman, the Government has al-ready granted a "transport allowance" of Rs. 1.25 per mound thus virtually raising the procurement price of mill-ed rice to Rs. 17.25 per maund.

No Consideration For Growers

But the Government has not shown any similar concern for the prices for the growers. Procurement prices for paddy continue to be pegged at Rs. nine per maund, thus increasing the margin of profit for the rice millowners and the big traders. The unfairness of the s can be seen from the when wholesale prices were lower than this year, the Asoka Mehta Committee had recomended a price of Rs. 9.25 to 11 per maund for coarse naddy and Rs. 15 to 17 per maund for coarse presented a memorandum rice. But in Bihar while rice him Reiterating the ten-pu prices have been raised to Rs. 17.25, paddy prices conne to be pegged at Rs. of the Party, the men

While the rice millowners and big traders are thus helped to reap an unfair profit, the small growers are seriously

of these industries, emphasis-

ing the point that big units

should be required to adopt a

common production pro-

gramme with the small en-

The lac industry in Purulia

He said that something

must be done immediately to

break the domination of a few

monopolists in the lac indus-

try and to give relief to the

tures. He also demanded that

the State Government should expedite the establishment of

spinning mills to supply yarn-to the weavers at the rates prevailing in Madras and else-

nall indigenous manufac-

District and the handloom industry all over the State were in a state of decay.

terprises.

HE apprehensions express- and this is exactly what they The consumers are also

being hit by this suicidal po-licy. Retail prices of rice have risen to Rs. 22 to Rs. 24 per naund and a situation of artificial scarcity has been created in the midst of the harvest season. The Centre's directive to the Bihar Government to close down some of the fairprice shops (because they are considered to be "excessive") and the refusal of the State Government to release stocks of rice even for those shops that are running, have only helped the rise in retail prices. For example, the Statesman reported. "all the fair-price reported, "all the fa shops" in Jamshedpu failed to supply rice to buyers since the beginning of this month as there is no stock."

Moreover, the State Government continues to be blindly partisan in its food administration. Opposition parties are being kept arm's length from the who kent at scheme of State trading and distribution of foodgrains. All-parties' food committees have not yet been formed in Bihar despite talk of food being treated as a "national

Thus food prospects continue to be very disquieting in Bihar, despite a good crop this year.

A deputation on behalf of the Communist Party waited on Sri Ajit Prasad Jain and demand formulated in Giridih Conference Resolution placed the following additional demands before him :

the normal deficit of Bihar hit by these prices. The big growers can, of course, afford to wait and withhold stocks which varies from three-and-a-half to eight lakh tons per year.

Crisis Of W. Bengal's Economy

* FROM PAGE SIX

As regards the finance for these new industries, he concretely showed how ad-

ditional resources to the

tune of Rs. 19.5 crores could

ment was serious about the

Emphasising the point that

successfully implementing

Second Plan, he said that

the willing cooperation of the Opposition and of the masses

the Government had been pursuing utterly anti-demo-

ratic policies. Any number of

West Bengal was the only

State where adult suffrage was

still denied in municipal elec-

tions. It was amazing that Calcutta did not yet have a

Stadium. Till now, a National

Theatre had not been built, and it was in protest against this callous attitude of the

Government that Natyacharya

instances could be cited, he

added, in support of his

stions given by him.

be mobilised if the Govern-

Govt. Shows Too Much Concern For Traders And Millers

From INDRADEEP SINHA

No existing fair-price shops should be closed; on the contrary more shops should be opened in areas where they have not been opened so far.

Stocks in the hands of the Government should immediately be released through fair-price shops in to bring down prices in the retail market.

Unfortunately, Sri Jain continues to be influenced by the complacent official theory of a bumper crop and hence no in Rihar He regaled the Pres Conference with an optimistic forecast of a rice crop of four million tons this year in Bihar though this State has never produced such a crop and the

average of the last five years is only 3.3 million tons. But he was forced to admit that "the question of price-support for paddy did not arise "the market price of paddy in Bihar was still high-

of Rs. nine per maund.

He also made the ambiguous statement that "the maintenance of fair price shops wor depend on the need of the consuming public. The num-ber of such shops would not be increased because the off-take had gone down. He expected that food prices would decline in the whole country.'

And therefore, he refused to guarantee a fair price to endorsed the State Government's decision to virtually enhance procurement prices of milled rice to Rs. 17.25 per maund and to exempt half of the stocks of milled rice from procurement. This will inevitably be sold at blackmarket prices in the retail market where there is

This is how State trading in rice in Bihar is being implemented by the Congress Government.

no price control.

Cooperative For Profiteering

by U. RAMAM, M.P.

need to be encouraged and if they work in a pro-per cooperative spirit, they can be of great benefit. But, experience shows, as the Trade Union International of Agricultural and Forestry Workers has said, that these coopera-tives also, in many capital-ist countries, have developed into a sort of monopolies and profiteers.

The working of the Co-operative Marketing Socie-ties in West Godavary Disof Andhra bears out this truth.

Bengali stage, had declined

the title of Padma Vibhusan

ther pointed out that legis-lation on trade union recog-

nition had not yet been passed; the Government had

not raised the scandalously low salaries of teachers. The administrative apparatus was being utilised in the in-

terests of the Congress Par-

a Judge of the Calcutta High Court, but another person was refused District Judge-

ship on the ground of his alleged membership of the

dred Government employees

had been sacked on the basis of police reports, and eight college professors had lost

their jobs for their political

How with all this can the

Government expect the cooperation of the Opposition and the people, Comrade Jyoti

ty. A defeated Congr Minister had been appoin

recently conferred on him.

The Marketing Federation in West Godavary is getting some chemical getting some chemical manures from the Government for sale to the ryots in the District. The Federation allots the stocks for ectual distribution to the Marketing Societies, each of portion of it. These Socie ties have to sell to the ac-tual landowners who pro-duce certificates from the Officers that they are the landowners. The ryots are now in

reat need of fertilisers for the seed beds and second crop paddy. The Directors of some Societies have seen their chance in the pressing have distributed the quotas g themselves for sale. They have offered stocks to the manure-dealers at five runees more per bag than the controlled price They are not authoris sell to the dealers. So is being done is that the dealers collect the certificates from the ryots and present them to the Socie ties, on the basis of which the Directors sell to the dealers. The dealers in their turn put another Rs. five to ten per bag and sell to the

actual rvots. Thus ammonium sulphate, whose controlled retail price is about Rs. 39 per bag, is being sold anywhere between Rs. 60 to 80 in the District as a result of this collusion between Directors of some Cooperative Mar-keting Societies and the manure-dealers.

The tragedy is that these particular Marketing Societies are dominated and run by Congressmen, and the Agricultural Depart-ment which knows the whole story is afraid to intervene against such in portant persons. An order sent by the Government that malpractices in the sale of fertilisers should be checked and that the Credit was later withdrawn on resentations made by Marby Congress landlords belonging to the ruling fac-

tion.

There is a way out. For instance, I had made the suggestion that the names of the quota holders, the quotas allotted to them, the stocks actually supplied to them should all be published in the monthly magazine. ed in the monthly magazine of the Department of Agriculture, PADI PANTALU, and that the Credit Cooperatives and where they do not exist, the Credit Cooperatives of the neighbouring villages, should be allotted the stocks to be directly old to the ryots, the lists of all such sales being exhibited by the Cooperatives for public notice.

The Marketing Federation was agreeable to this proposal but since the Martrolled by a dissident Congressman, against whom disciplinary action has been taken, and the Marketing Societies are held by Con gressmen belonging to the official group, the proposal has become a casualty to the factional struggle in the

operative serving a whole istrict works. Will Pandit in successfully forming and running Service Cooperatives on real cooperative lines? Do such practices help in developing our agricultural production?

PAGE SEVEN

Yet Govt. Says Complacently: A New Life Is Pulsatina

pleased to name the towns and had been fixed at eight million jobs. Last year, it was reduced it is being said that at the end that the Government would of the present Plan there would remain a backlog of ten million unemployed!

The employment position in West Bengal, Comrade Basu observed, was even worse.

The State Government had

fixed its target for the Second Plan at 250,000 new jobs. But, he pointed out, not only no additional employment opportunities had been created being retrenched.

The number of applications on the live registers of Employment Exchanges in West Bengal had gone up from 55,000 in 1951 to 214,916 in December, 1958. In one year alone (1957-58), the number of educated unemployed had shot up by

As regards rural unemployment in West Bengal, he said that the result of periodic floods and drought, mounting burdens of taxation, growing indebtedness of the peasantry, increasing pressure on land, decay of cottage industries unemployment and underem ployment in the countryside

had become extremely acute.

Dealing with certain basic features of West Bengal's economy Comrade Basu said that an all-round crisis had over-taken the State's agriculture on which 57.2 per cent of its population depended for its living.

Acute shortage of food, year after year, and famine condi-

Taking the officially estimated minimum requirements of cereals at 4.25 maunds per head per year, Comrade Basu pointed out that per capita availability of cereals in this State had gone down from maunds in 1947 to 3.42

maunds in 1957! Why This Food Crisis

He further said that the causes of the crisis in West Bengal's agriculture in general and of the recurring food shortage in particular were

Land reforms which were of the utmost importance to any scheme of reorganisation and regeneration of agriculture, had been systematically sabotaged by the big landlords. They had evaded the ceiling on land holdings, statutorily fixed at 25 acres per owner, through mala fide transfers partitions, etc. So the Governent was now left with only one lakh acres of surplus land although the original estimate was 600 000 acres

Comrade Basu said that the Government could easido certain things to revitalise agriculture. It could promulgate an ordinance prohibiting all evictions, ton mala fide transfers with the active cooperation of the peasantry, start ditsribution surplus land and make ns for credit and

He further observed that it had been admitted by the Government that agriculture in West Bengal still remained

Among the suggestions put forward by Comrade Basu for

quickly making up the lag, were the setting up of small tubewells on a large scale, fullest utilisation of the potential created by the DVC and the Mayurakshi Projects and fixing of the water tax at a low level.

area in this State was onecrop area, he said that it was market. expected that the Government would concentrate on switching over to double-crops in larger areas instead of talking nonsense about the growth of

question of cultivable waste land, he said that it was evident-from the Government's decision to send the East Pakistan refugees now living in West Bengal, to Dandakaranya that it was not willing to reclaim about ten to 16 lakh acres of cultivable waste land in this State:

He insisted on the Gov-

Comrade Basu then exposed the Government's claim that West Bengal had reached "saturation point" in the matter of industries by mention ing a good number of industrial enterprises which could

Sisir Kumar Bhaduri, one of the architects of the modern

NEW AGE

FEBRUARY 22, 1959

INSIDE OUR NEWS & NOTES ECONOMY

UNHEALTHY **COLLABORATION**

66 A NOTABLE feature of several of the new private enterprises started in India in recent years is collaboration with foreign enterpreneurs in form of capital and technical know-how", said the Commerce, in its issue of

The latest in this "feature" was provided by the link-up between the Hyderabad company, Republic Forge Ltd., established by former Nizami Minister Nawab Zain Yar Jung, and the World Bank affiliate, International Finance Corporation (IFC), whose facilities, again according to the Commerce, "are beginning to be appreciated better in this country."

The Republic Forge, in hold shares worth about Rs. 75 lakhs, will be pro-ducing steel forgings in technical collaboration with the U.S. firm. Steel Improent and Forge Company of Cleveland, Ohio. Its planning and designing will be handled by another U.S. firm, Bayles and Associa-

SINISTER

This, however, is only one of the many cases of grow-ing tie-ups between the ingenous and foreign private capitalists. Only in this case, the item of production being forgings, participa-tion in its equity capital of a foreign financial organisation imparts to it a particularly sinister character. For, did not the C ment's Industrial Pol Governsolution, adopted in April 1956, specifically reserve "heavy castings and forg-ings of iron and steel" in Schiedule A industries, whose "future development will be the exclusive responsibility of the State"?

How is it that in face of this specific policy—embo-died in a Resolution, adopted by Parliament—the Government blessed the intrusion of a patently foreign enterprise, whose terms even the Tatas had found "not attractive" into a sector, vital for the country's economy? No doubt, the Government would take hehind another in the Resolution stated that the "State might secure the cooperation of private e terprise in the establishment ment of new units when the national interests so project. where the Czechs and the Soviets are helping to build heavy machinery and forgings, it would be hard put to explain its too clear a deviation from a nationally-accepted policy.

What then is the expla-nation of this and a num-ber of other instances where the sanction for the intrusion of foreign capital was equally unwarranted?
The World Bank—especialferences-had been openly suggesting to the Govern ment to take precisely this course. And yet, the Government and especially the Prime Minister had been vociferously denying that they had wilted a wee-bit from their accepted path.

THE DEALS

But even as they have been protesting against any aspersion on their good faith in this behalf, the executives seem to have been busy making dents in their policy—for, besides the IFC-Republic Forge tie-up, they have sanctioned the following other link-

- Tata-Ceat Tyres manufacturing plant, in which the Italian firm, Ceat, will hold 60 per cent of the share capital and
- a Rallis India (Bombay) —link-up with World Electric Tools, London, to produce 25 types of electric
- Bedi and Co (Mysore) —link-up with Parsons and Whittemore, USA, to manufacture newsprint and white paper bagasse. The Government of Mysore will hold only ten per cent of a total share capital of Rs.
- Fort Gloster Industries (Calcutta) — link - up with British Insulated Callendars to produce electric
- Indian Aluminium Co (owned and managed by the automobile magnate Mahindra) — link-up with Canadian Aluminium Company to establish alumi-nium smelter at Hirakud.
- Associated Cement Companies (A C C)— link-up with British Com-panies, Vickers and Bab-cock and Wilcox, Ltd., to set up a huge heavy engineering project at Durga-pur to produce a wide range of machinery and equipment. The British firms will hold 49.8 per cent of the company's authorised capital of Rs. ten crores.

Besides these link-upsalready formalised—the Italian firm Montecatini has been invited to collaborate in setting up an alumiforeign firms have been directly allowed to expand

Rashtrapati Evades The Issues

weaknesses of Government policies in a most sober,

cogent, and powerful manner, showing up the utterly inade-

quate and evasive character

of the Presidential address.

The Prime Minister's intervention in the debate in Rajya Sabha was itself recognition

The Prime Minister repeat-

ed the talk of "a self-generat-ing and self-feeding econo-

my" and crossing "the barrier

from the stage of underdeve-

lopment to a stage where we begin to develop with the very

impetus of what we have

done." S. A. Dange in his powerful speech pointed to the loopholes in the Govern-

ment plan which barred ad-

howed the way to remove

While pride in rising in-

goes to a small group of

monopolist adventnrers and a smaller share to increase

the income of the workers.

peasants and the middle classes." Unless this was

corrected, our economy would face danger, Dange warned.

He welcomed the Prime

Minister's recent statements

in which he had come out

"furiously and in a weighty manner" to declare that the

private sector was not going to overwhelm the public sec-

tor. Dange regretted the fact

that the President's address

failed to take the clear stand

that the public sector was going to expand. Supporting the Prime Minister's state-

ments he said: "We shall

if necessary so that we can bring about Socialism."

Another omission in the President's address, Dange

pointed out, was any refer-

ence to land ceilings, despite the ruling party having adop-ted a resolution on that sub-

ject at Nagpur. Because there

was opposition to land reforms

inside the ruling party, the

idea was put in "a wobbly manner" in the President's

address, Dange said. "I hope you will come to a decision

quickly, otherwise there can

ence to land ceilings,

Throw Them

Ont

in that direction and

of this inadequacy.

● From ZIAUL HAQ

The opening days of Parliament's Budget Session have naturally had the focus on the sordid Mathai affair and the alarming food situation in the country, so much so that debate on what the Prime called "the big picture that the President's address is supposed to present to the country" has taken some time to get going.

NEVERTHELESS, complaints pointed attention to the basic of the picture getting blurred and things not being placed in the right perspec-tive could hardly be considered justified. In the opening week itself contributions made on behalf of the main Opposition group, the Communist Party, in both Houses tackled "big picture" and drew

- The Dunlops-who have begun operating their second big factory to manufacture tyres at Ambattur, near Madras, and
- The English Electric Company, U.K.—which has opened its first factory at Pallavaram, near Mad ras, to manufacture a wide range of electrical equip-

explosive factory at Gomia in Bihar, the Government itself has conceded 80 per cent of the share capital to the British combine Imperial Chemical Industries Ltd. It itself holds only 20

ENTRENCHMENT

Thus, simultaneously with the rejection of the World Bank's and its patrons' open demand for incentives to facilitate the entry of private capital from abroad into the country, a parallel process of its as yet slow but steady entrenchment in collusion with indigenous enterprise has been taking place. This is borne out as much by the deals mentioned above as by the insertion of an escape clause in the Merchant Shipping Bill which empowered the Government to increase the share of foreign shippers in national shipping concerns to the extent it desired.

Here then is a situation which needs a little ponderwhose highest tribune. Parliament, is currently in session in the capital, lest the imperialist device to control our developmentrebuffed and rejected at the national level—may stealthily seek its fulfilment through numerous small

-ESSEN

February 16, 1959

"Here we have the spectacle

we going to do with these gen-If you pass resolutions on ceiling on land, you cannot have Ministers who oppose that ceiling. You must remove You cannot let these gentlemen go on saying: 'Let the Prime Minister talk about it. We will sabotage it in act-

ions."
S. A. Dange asserted that it terms are concerned

the President's Address in the Rajya Sabha characterised it as "uninspiring, stale in its approach and unrealistic in its assess-ment." He demanded a sharp break from the past so that real progress could be registered. The vested interests, he said, had taken advantage of the difficulties faced by the Plan and were trying to reverse the whole process. Besides a firm stand against these, it was necessary to launch on a programme to mobilise all resources financial and hu had to be tapped effectively.

The Government "must intake it out of the traditional rut in which profits were appropriated by foreign ele-ments, and diversify the trade by developing new markets,

All democratic Z. A. Ahmad said, should unite to save India's parliamentary system and demo-cracy. "There is talk of coope-ration. I say on behalf of the Communist Party that if the of democracy, for economic and cultural development, if it is sought in a proper man-ner and on the basis of a real people's programme, the Party

the development plans for

of the Congress talking about it. But their Ministers go against it. The civil war call tlemen? They are in a majority in the States. They are in a majority at the Centre.

was quite feasible to introduce State trading in foodgrains straightaway. He suggested that the thousands of "munims"-and others who actually went about the villages pur-chasing foodgrains should be made Government employees. "If food speculators raise the cry against it, they should be put in the Nasik prison. If the Government cannot deal with the speculators, the peasants and the people will deal with them. It does not matter what their share is so far as prison

dustrial production expres-sed in the Presidential add-ress was justified, Dange pointedly asked whether this was enough. Who appropriates this increasing national wealth, he asked and answered: "A larger share Break With These Policies

Z. A Ahmad speaking on

will be second to none in offering that cooperation."

MARXIST-LENINIST theory, and our practical experience in building a Socialist society, enable us to

draw some important conclu-

sions concerning the nature of society's forward move-

ment to Communism

FIRST, the transition from the Socialist to the higher stage is a law-governed historical period of rapid development of modern industry, of large-scale mechanised agriculture, rapid progress in all connection ss that cannot be violated or bypassed at will. The build-ing of Communist society is the Itimate goal of the Marxist-Leninist Parties. But society cannot leap straight from capitalism to Communism without through the Socialist

and conscious participation of the millions who are building a Communist society. This law-governed process of Social-ism growing into Communism Some comrades might, of course, suggest that we accelerate the introduction of the can be accelerated on the basis of the high level of material production attained in the peprinciples of Communism.
But to pass prematurely
to distribution according to
needs, at a time when riod of Socialism. There must be no undue haste, no hurried introduction of measures that conditions for have not yet matured. This would lead to distortions and would discredit our cause. But, in abundance of material vaon the other hand, we must not lues, and when people have not yet been prepared to live and stop long at what has already been achieved; that would lead work in a Communist waywould only impair the work of Material Base be borne in mind that with the present level of production there is not enough of the good Of Communism things of life for all, and we Is the time far off when we cannot as yet fully satisfy the requirements of the people. This "equalitarian Communwill be in a position fully to sa-tisfy the staple requirements of all Soviet citizens? Apparently would only eat up our

it is not so far off, considering our immense potentialities for increasing social production and production impossible and block successful expansion of the ecoraising cultural standards. But this will not be achieved all at once, by a single act. It will come step by step, consistently, step, creating the material and to the extent that we prepare

spiritual requisites for a methodical transition to Communism.

SECOND, notwithstanding all the difference between Communist and Socialist phases, there is no wall separating these two stages of social development. Communism stems from Socialism as its direct continuation. It would be wrong, erroneous, to believe that Communism will somethat Communism will some how appear on the scene st Communist forms of labour and industrial organisa-tion as well as such forms of satisfying the requirements of our people as public catering, boarding schools, kindergartens and day nurseries are already developing on an increasing scale. There are many tangible and visible features of Com nism in our society, and they

There is no set date for our entry into Communism. It is not as if at some given time we shall shut one door and announce: "the building of So-cialism is completed," and open another door with the announcement: "we are now in Com-munism." The transition from Socialism to Communism is a continuous process. In fact, we are already opening the door into Communist society, for what we are now engaged in is

ne building of Communism.

THIRD, gradual transition to communism should not be unrstood as a decelerated move-

Following are extracts from the Fourth Section of N. S. Khrushchov's Report to the 21st Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union dealing with the "New Stage in

of Marxist-Leninist Theory." ment. On the contrary, it is a urge to work in accordance period of rapid development of with their abilities. Until then, modern industry, of large-scale mechanised agriculture, rapid certain regulation of working time, in order that every ablebodied person cons definite amount of labour to the production of the values the

Communist Construction and Some Problems

progress in all economic

ultural fields with the active

It will take a longer time for

New Stage In Communist

Construction

nmunity needs. The country's fundamental practical task today is to build up the material and technical base of Communist society, secure a further powerful exnansion of the Socialist productive forces.

Why is this now our princi-

pal task in economic development? The present level of Socialist production does not, as yet, enable us to create the abundance of material and cultural values necessary to satisfy the rising requirements of people and ensure their harmonious development. But Communism is impossible without that. Consequently, the first job is to further develop the production forces and step up the production of material values. Communism is feasible levels of the leading capitalist countries and raise labour productivity to a level way above

It would be an oversimplificcatch up with the United States economically, that will signify completion of Communist con-struction. No, that will not be the end goal-only a decisive

We are competing with the USA, but we do not regard the USA as a standard of economic ment. For, though it has a highly-developed economy, the USA is dominated by the vice-ridden capitalist mode of production and distribution.
While it has a profusion of While it has a profusion of every kind of goods, it also has millions of unemployed, and millions with inadequate comes, who cannot satisfy even their most elementary needs. to imitate that order of things.

On the contrary, we want to put an end to that injustice. And if America's production level is taken as a measuring rod for our own economic progress, it is only in order to compare this country with capitalism's leading Power. When we win in this economic competition with the USA, we shall only have completed the initial of industry is automated, when phase of Communist construction man becomes the master of the ched in this phase will not be the end of our road, but only a ing the things he needs. Lamidway station at which we bour, which at times is still shall overtake capitalism's arduous and tiring, will become it behind and push
(Stormy applause)

As our productive forces expand, Socialist production rela-tions, which are based on comradely cooperation, friendship and mutual assistance of all members of society, will reach higher levels too. In or try, social labour has become the expression of new, Socialist relationships between men, the index of And as Socialist production is

extended on a new material and technical base, and as education is more closely linked with productive labour, the essential distinctions between mental and physical labour will gradually velopment of our people will transform labour into prime want. This will be faci-litated by the forthcoming re-duction of working hours and further improvement of working conditions. When every branch machine, he will have to devote most developed, country, leave a source of joy and pleasure for ahead. a harmoniously developed heal-

PROBLEM OF DISTRIBUTION

Social development confronts and quantity of production us with another major problem of scientific Communism, namely, distribution of the rial and cultural values produced by society among all its members. Marxism-Leninism members. Marxism-Leninism teaches us that in social development distribution is not a determining, but a derivative, factor and that its forms and

Under Socialism distribution is, basically, founded on the according to his labour. This means that the biggest share of duct is distributed in acc ance with the labour contribumakes to social production.

We must, of course, bear in mind that, even under Social-ism, a considerable and increasing portion of the material and cultural product is distributed irrespective of the quantity and quality of labour contributed, that is, gratis. Society spends immense sums on free educa-tion, free health services, pensions, family grants, club services, libraries, etc.

The following facts are indi-

cative of the part government Boarding-school camps. 5,600,000 children * SEE PAGE 10

and collective-farm expenditure standard of our people. There are about 100 million workers, office workers and collective farmers engaged in social production. Some 20 million pensioners are supported by the State, collective farms and public organisations. Five million children are accommodated in dents in higher and specialised condary and vocational trainends and hostel accommodaare fully provided for by the State. Our Young Pioneer camps, summer playgrounds and tourist camps accommodate

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FEBRUARY 22 1959

In the Congress Presidium (in the foreground); N. S. Khrushchov and E. I. Andreeva, Chairman of the Comintern Collective Farm of the Micharin Raion of Tambor Oblast.

AND SOME PROBLEMS OF MARXIST-LENINIST THEORY

Over three million industrial and office workers and collec-tive farmers go for treatment or rest to sanatoriums or holiday homes every year, and the tive farms. In addition, government grants are being paid to do so for a long time to come ried mothers and mothers of

In future, this type of State as we advance to Communism, society will provide more faci-lities for each of its members,

from birth to old age.

The Socialist principle of distribution according to work is based on the understanding that, in the Socialist stage, equalitarian distribution is imssible. Distribution according to work is the only reason-able and just principle under prevailing conditions. We can-not disregard the fact that lemethod of distribution: the bad worker and the good would receive an equal share, which slackers. The material incentive for people to work better, raise productivity and produce would be dampened. Levelling would mean not transition to Communism, but the discrediting of Communism.

according vork ensures a material incenof production. It stimulates productivity, higher skill and technical progress. It also pe an important educational function by accustoming people to Socialist discipline and making labour universal and obligatory. Socialism fosters labour enthu siasm; moral stimuli acquire the millions who make up Socialist society thanks to mateof a higher degree of consciousess and by virtue of habit.

Regulated distribution of the ocial product among the members of society disappears only under Communism, when the productive forces have reached and when all people voluntarily. and irrespective of their share of material values, work to the wing that this is necessary

for the common weal.

In Communist society there will, of course, be planned and organised allocation of labour among the various branches of production and social regulaance with the specific features of the different production proa corresponding arrangement of

FORMS OF **PROPERTY**

The question of how to develop and bring closer together the collective-farm and public forms of Socialist property acquires great theoretical nunist construction.

Several branches of agriculture lagged in the recent past not because the collective-farm was hampering expanproduction facilities with State and public facilities. Agricul

tialities and advantages it offered. What we have achieved in agriculture in the past five labour. years is conclusive proof that the collective-farm form of the collective-farm form of production relations, far from having used up its potentiali--to enhance the productive perty, but raising its socialisa-

forces in agriculture.

The continued development of the productive forces will tend to raise the degree of socialisation of collective-farm production and bring collectivefarm-cooperative property into closer approximation with public property, gradually obliterating the line dividing the two. This is shown by the following

characteristic processes:

FIRST, uninterrupted increase of collective-farm nondistributable assets, which are
the economic basis for continued expansion of collective farm production and gradual appro-ximation of collective-farm cooperative and public pro-

The merger of the collectivefarm cooperative and public forms of property is historically inevitable. It will be brought about not by dispenstion level with the aid and support of the Socialist State.

The merger of collective-farm-cooperative property with State property into an integral public property is not a simple organisational and economic measure, but is the solution of the cardinal problem of bridge ing the essential distinctions

SOCIALIST **DEMOCRACY**

The withering away of the State, if we approach the question dialectically, implies the development of the Socialist

are no more than a screen for omnipotence of capital and the people. For us, democracy ernment of the people. (Appla-

It is already clear that many functions of our government agencies will gradually pass to public organisations. Take, for instance, certain aspects of our cultural services. It is not at all obligatory that they remain in the charge of government organisations. Public organisations can handle them just as uccessfully.

Questions relating to public

order and the rules of Socialist human relations should, like-wise come increasingly under the jurisdiction of non-government organisations.

There are now no cases in the Soviet Union of people being tried for political offences.

show of "free elections," which shall take only the first, explo-

means genuine government by the people; it implies maximum scope for the activity and iniby stands to reason that the transfer to public bodies of certain functions now performed by government agencies does tiative of the masses, self-gov- not imply weakening the role of the Socialist State in the building of Communism. The fact that public organisations will take over some of the duties now performed by govern-ment agencies will tend to broaden and strengthen the political foundation of Socialist society and will make for the further development of Socialist democracy.

The tasks of the Socialist State in the defence of peace, in safeguarding the country against the threat of armed attack by the imperialist Powers, are of special importance and magnitude. As along as the Western Powers maintain their aggressive miltiary blocs, it is incumbent on us to strengthen and perfect our valiant Armed Forces, which stand guard the imposing achievements and peaceful labour achievements of our people. We should strengthen the State security services whose functions are

ratory steps in order to train people to safeguard public order strengthen the other agencies, whose mission it is to frustrate the provocatory actions and designs of our imperialist enemies. They are spending enormous sums on subversion against the Socialist countries. How, then, can we abolish the organs whose prime purpose is to safeguard the security of the Socialist State? That would be criminal folly.

The Yugoslav revisionists cri-

ticise our Party for devoting so much attention to strengthening the Soviet State, alleging that this does not accord with the Marxist-Leninist proposition that the State will wither away.

As I have already pointed out, no one is now being kept in prison for political reasons. It would be a good thing if the Yugoslav leaders, with their penchant for disquisitions about the withering away of coercive having disagreed with the new for holding dissenting opinions on the building of Socialism and the role of the Party. (Anima-tion in the hall. Stormy pro-



to new laws of development,

laws unknown to human society

in the past. For instance, the

law operating under imperial-ism is uneven economic and

political development of differ-

ent countries. The course of

development under that system

is such that some countries are

able to push ahead at the ex-pense of others, which they op-press and exploit. To keep the

backward countries in depend-

ence and subjugation, they take care to safeguard their privi-

The economic law operating

-under Socialism is balanced, proportional development, with the result that countries eco-

nomically backward in the past

economic and gultural levels by drawing on the experience, cooperation and mutual assis-tance of other Socialist coun-

tries. In this way the economic

and cultural progress of all the Socialist countries is evened

There is no doubt that with

the further growth and streng-thening of the world Socialist system, all the Socialist coun-

tries will develop with increa-

sing success. The conditions necessary for their transition from the first stage of Communism to the second will be created at an increasingly rapid

are able rapidly to make for lost time and raise

leged position.



LEFT: A. I. Mikoyan addressing the Congress. RIGHT: E. A. Furtseva, member of the Presidium of the Central Committee of the CPSU, talking with delegates to the CPSU. Congress.

Socialist Camp & Communismo

When the Soviet Republic was only just launching on the building of Socialism, and when for many the country's further math was hidden in the mist of the future, Lenin gave the people a clear and hearten-: all that is necessary for the purpose of building a complete Socialist society" (Works, Vol. 33, p. 428). Unswervingly guided by Lenin's directions and inspired by the Communist Party, the Soviet people, constantly beset by the threat of a capitalist military onslaught, worked perseveringly to build a Socialist society, advancing, along uncharted paths to and bringing about the

cialism to mean its triumph on an international scale. Having built Socialism, our country remained for a long time the mained for a long time world's only Socialist State, living a hostile capitalist encirclement. It could not consider itself fully guaranteed restoration of capitalism, by international reaction. For the capitalist States then surround-ing the land of Socialism were much stronger economically and

militarily.

The world situation has changed radically since then.
The Soviet Union is no longer There are two world social systems: capitalism, which is living out its day, and Socialism, tem that has the support of the workers of all lands. (Ap-

applause)
There is no power in the world that can re-establish caprolonged applause)

It can therefore be said that the question of building Social-

of society.

How will the Socialist countries continue their advance towards Communism? Can we envisage a situation when one of the Socialist countries passes to Communism and introduces the Communist principles of production and distribution, while other countries are left trailing behind, somewhere in the early stages of Socialist

That prospect is highly improbable, if we take into account the laws governing the development of the Socialist Communist society. We proceed from the fact that the Socialist

country at different stages of

The Yugoslav leaders have been voluminous in their allegations that the Communist slav leaders, take as their starting point in building Socialism the features peculiar to their own country, and do not emulate the example and experitries. That, of course is a perversion of the truth. The Marxist-Leninsit parties recognise that every country has its own specific features of Socialist development: But that does not mean we can go forward to Socialism by some other road, one that lies to the side of the ing Socialism do not resemble general path indicated by Marxism-Leninism. What has to be taken into consideration are in historical development, size the specific features of the situ- of population, level of producation and period in which one tion and national culture. It country or another advances to would be a mistake to ignore Socialism: For instance, certain steps in Socialist construction taken in the past in the Soviet country but unsuitable for an-Union cannot be mechanically translated to other countries. All the Socialist countries are build-ing Socialism, but not in a ste-

The Communist Party of

reotyped way.

apply the theory of scientific China is employing many ori-Communism to the concrete ginal forms of Socialist con-conditions of each individual struction. But we have no dis-Marxist-Leninist positions. It struction. But we have no disagreements with it, nor can there be any disagreement.

The Yugoslav revisionists are now concentrating their fire on the Chinese People's Republic, disseminating all sorts of inventions about alleged differences between the Communist Parties of the Soviet Union and China. Well, there is an old Russian saying about a wishful thinking—the hungry man al-ways thinks of bread. The re-visionists are searching for differences between our Communist Parties, but their illus-ory hopes are doomed to failure. We are in full and comour own. But we know that in China there are specific features. other.

Why have we no with the Communist Party of China? Because we share the

imperialists and exploiters and working to refashion life along Socialist lines. It abides by the principle of international proletarian solidarity and is guided

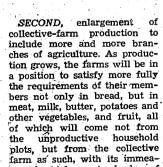
The chief consideration is to maintain and cement class soli-darity in the battle against capitalism for the liberation of ing of Socialism. And on this score there is no divergency, no conflicting conceptions, among Communists, nor can there be. That is the main point on which we differ with the revisionists (Stormy applause)

The question of methods and tion is a domestic affair of each country. We have no controv sy with the Yugoslav leaders on the organisation of Workers' ter relating to Yugoslavia's in-ternal affairs. When the Declaration of the Meeting of Representatives of the Communist sentatives of the Communist and Workers' Parties of the Socialist Countries was being

We can say to the Yugoslav revisionists: don't look for cracks where there aren't any. Presumably, you want to en-courage yourselves and mislead the Yugoslav people by assert-ing that there are differences not only between the USSR and Yugoslavia, but also between the USSR and the Chinese People's Republic. It won't work. You will never see such differences. The Communist Parties of the Soviet Union and China are doing everything /to strengthen the friendship of the two great Socialist countries still further. (Stormy, prolong-

For the international working-class movement and for the triumph of Communism the ideas of Marxism-Leninism are what sun-shine and warmth less in its progress, so Marx-ism-Leninism is limitless in its multiform manifestations and in its development and enrichment by new experience and

* SEE PAGE 12



surably higher standards of productivity.

THIRD, inter-farm produccooperation. These are being more widely applied, and will inevitably develop on a bigger scale still in the future. Joint

ing—all require more systema-tic coordination of the efforts f several collective farms.

FOURTH, agricultural elecautomation will lead to the pooling—in a certain sense even the merger—of collective-farm

of State into Communist public collective-farm production to include more and more branches of agriculture. As productions self-administration. For under Communism, too, there will remain certain public functions similar to those now performed by the State, but their nature, and the methods by which they and the methods by which they will be exercised, will differ from those obtaining in the present stage.

Delegation from the Communist Party of Tajikistan at the 21st Congress of the CPSU in the White Hall of the Kremlin.

The chief trend in the development of the Socialist State is maximum promotion of de-mocracy, drawing the broadest sections of the population into the management of all national affairs, enlisting all citizens to tion ties and diverse forms of share in the supervision of eco-

nomic and cultural upbilding. The Social-Democratic theoreticians and revisionists seek to discredit and vilify Socialconstruction of power stations, ist democracy. As they under stand it, "democratisation" impactives, manufacture of building materials and road building—all require more artistics. role of the working class and its Party under Socialism and a return to the forms of bourgeois democracy. Without this, in their view, there can be neither democracy nor Socialism. For them democracy means an opportunity to make grandiloquent parliamentary speeches, with undue haste. In some bring the various parties into cases it will be done more repolitical combinations, make a solutely, while in others we

evement, one that testifies to the unparalleled political unity of our people, to their solid support of the Communist Party and Soviet Government. (Prolonged applause) But there are still quite a few

cases when public order is violated, and this must be resolutely combated. Can the Soviet public deal with these violators of Socialist law and order? Of course it can. Our public organisations are well equipped to cope with the job. Their capacities and means are no less adequate than those of the militia, the courts and the prosecuting authorities!

Of course, definite functions will still be vested in the courts, the militia and the prosecuting authorities. They to exert a corrective influence on persons who persistently re-fuse to submit to the standards of Socialist conduct and are not amenable to persuasion. The transfer of certain State

functions to public organisations should not be carried out a full-blooded and growing sys-

other Socialist country, is not guaranteed against the possibi-lity of imperialist aggression. But the relation of real forces in the world today is such that mist of the future, term garden we shall be able to repel any ing perspective. He said we attack by any enemy. (Stormy

> pitalism in this country or crush the Socialist camp. The danger of capitalist restoration in the Soviet Union is ruled out. And this means that the triumph of Socialism is not only complete but final. (Stormy

(Prolonged applause)

But that was not yet final victory. For Marxists understand the final victory of Socialism to mean its triumble.

system of economy. From the theoretical standpoint it would be more correct to assume that by successfully employing the potentialities inherent in Socialism, the Socialist countries will



In surveying the prospect of mankind's advance to Commuthe tremendous variety of torical conditions obtaining in the different countries. And this is bound to produce specific methods, patterns and forms of applying the general laws of mankind's forward movement to Communism. But what must be emphasised here is that the principal, determining factor in the advance of all countries to Communism is the laws common to all of them, not their



In the Congress Lobby: Suhariti, member of the Indonesian Communist Party's fraternal delegation, and Evgennia Doliniuk, a Congress delegate, field-team leader of the Stalin Collective Farm in Ternopol Oblast and twice Hero of Socialist Labour.

International Affairs

—EXTRACTS FROM KHRUSHCHOV'S CONCLUDING SPEECH

T HE problem of peace and peaceful co-existence is the question of questions, because the people of country, whatever the social system there, are making it their concern to have a good life, work in peace and create better conditions for life.

Great changes have taken place in the world today. We have countries making up the other hand, we have countries making up the world imperialist system. But we also have countries which, though not Socialist, cannot be classed as the imperialist system either. These countries, which have won national indeovements for liberation, want to take their own road. They want to skip the capitalist stage of development so as, once having finished with colonial oppression, to embark upon the building of society along new

Many leaders in these countries say they want to build Socialism. True, they say "Communism" with difficulty and it is not always clear what they mean by Socialism. But one thing is unquestionable. These leaders look with good will upon the Socialist countries. They do not regard the Socialist countries as antago-nists, as being against their aspirations to build a new life without the imperialists colonial oppression. That is why the Socialist countries have relations with good friendly relations with these States, and normal economic relations are developing between them. We are jointly acting for peace and the security of the peoples, for a ban mic and hydrogen weapons, and against the colonialist

policy of the imperialists.

So, if we take the countries making up the world Socialist system and the countries vaiantly fighting against imperialism and colonialism for freedom and national independence we shall see that the scales have already now tipped in favour of these peace-loving countries, not of the imperialist States Further, in territory, the peace-loving countries are superior to the imperialist Sta-

deduced from an analysis of the present alignment of forces and semi-colonies, which but recently were impestopped being so. In the long struggle of the peoples, these countries have become active ing against imperialism and coonialism, for freedom and nathe peaceful States with different social

PEACEFUL **COMPETITION**

PAGE TWELVE

We want to compete with the work of our Congress, ternational Communist Move-the capitalist countries in which has evoked such keen in-peaceful pursuits, to compete terest and which has met with was received with extreme irri-

world—display our "goods," each showing its own. Let each system show which working day is shorter, where the work ing man gets more material spiritual spiritual values, where he has better living quarters, where he has more opportuni-ties for education, and what part he takes in deciding mataffairs of his country. Let each show who is the real owner of all the material and cultural riches-the man who works, or the man who does not work but

-Socialist world and capitalist

We maintain that the social order giving the people more of material values, the order, giving the people unlimited oppor-tunities for spiritual growth, is the progressive one, to which the future belongs. (Prolonged

U.S.-SOVIET RELATIONS

for the American strategists to stop basing their calculations on the illusion that in the event of a military conflict the territory of the United States will remain invulnerable. This has long ceased to correspond to reality, and is only a wishful of American Generals. concept of American Generals. The fact is that the Soviet Union today has the facilities to deal a crushing blow to an aggressor at any point of the globe (Stormy applause.) It is not to idly boast that we are saying we have organised serial production of inter-continental hallistic missiles. Nor are we body, but to make clear the real state of affairs. (Animation in the hall. Prolonged applause)

of productive forces, in the de-

velopment of national economic potential, in the promotion of

the people's material and cul-tural standards. We want each system to demonstrate its eco-

nomic and spiritual powers in

this competition. To use the language of commerce and bu-

we can put it this way. Let us

entatives of the capitalist

siness, which, apparently,

Comrades, improvement of relations between the United States and the Soviet Union is a specially important factor in relaxing international tension.

Comrade Mikoyan's trip to United States gave ground hope for a further "thaw" in the relations between our countries, for the development of contacts and ties. Inciden-tally, Comrade Mikoyan took advantage of his holiday for rest, to go to the United States. But he intimates that he should nevertheless, be allowed to take a rest in the Soviet Union. (Animation in the hall. Ap-

This trip helped in some degree to raise the temperature in the relations between us from below zero to zero and even higher. The temperature began to rise to the point need-ed for normal life. But, evidently, some politicians don't like that. Therefore, attempts are being made to detract from the positive influence of Comrade Mikoyan's trip on public opinion in the USA.

Instead of further developing these contacts, a turn is being made in the USA to a diametrically opposite direction. Asked by a correspondent at a news ther it would be likely for me

I think that it is high time to visit the USA in the same ly declared that that was ruled out. He said: "This cannot be done unofficially, as Mr. Mikovan did." So it seems there is one yardstick for him and an-other for me. (Animation in the hall)

That is certainly a conclusion that was quite unexpected. We seem to have something like discrimination here (Laughter in the hall). One can take advantage of the rights, comi to all, while another is deprived

As for us, Soviet people, we look at such things in a differ-ent light. We are pleased when people come to see us from abroad, whether politicians or

In recent years American de legations, Congressmen and tourists have been coming here, while our Soviet people have been going to the USA. This is a good practice and must be welcomed. Our people are giving the Americans a hospitable reception, while the Ame ricans, in turn, are showing great friendliness towards us. That was made particularly clear when Comrade Mikoyan visited America. And if the President would make up his mind to come here, he would be welcomed with sincere hospitality both by our Government and by our Soviet people (Prolonged applause). He can come with whomsover he pleases. They will all be welcome guests. Let the President take a map of the Soviet Union and pick out the parts he would like to visit. Our country is a vast one; it has many interest-ing spots to visit; and there is certainly something to see Such a visit would unquestion ably be of benefit for both our countries and would be approved by the peoples of the USA and the Soviet Union. We are making this proposal without expectations of reciprocity. We

International Solidarity And Yugoslavia

It is very characteristic that such great approval in the In-

up all sorts of absurd inventation by the Yugoslav revisionists. Articles have appeared in the Yugoslav Press The Yugoslav leaders very trying clumsily to justify the revisionist policy, hide from the Yugoslav people the Soviet Union's seeking to cooperate nervously react to the mention of the low standard of living of the working people in Yugoslavia. with Yugoslavia and the Socialist countries. By their revision-ist policy the Yugoslav leaders After the Congress report

the Yugoslav Press tried to re-

working people. But facts can-not be refuted. Much other data

could be cited in confirmation

of our remarks that the living

standard of the Yugoslav work-

It is known, for 'example,

prices of consumer goods and municipal services has not so

long ago been effected in Yugo-slavia. Though wages had

compensated for the higher

prices. Consequently the living standard of the population has further declined, while in the

countries of the Socialist camp the well-being of the masses of

proving No one can deny these

To those who by citing vari-

ous statistics try to create the impression that there is a high

living standard of the working

people in Yugoslavia, one may say: ask the people, how do

they by their own experience assess the material level of their life: is it rising or declin-

ing, and if it is rising, at what

rate compared with the growth of the living standard in the

countries of the Socialist camp.

The people will give a clear answer to this question. We can

answer to this question. We can express our sympathy for the

peoples of Yugoslavia who in their living standard are really behind the Socialist countries.

They have to pay for the policy

Since the Yugoslav Press

keeps silent about the senti-ments of friendship for the Yu-

goslav working people express-

the fraternal peoples of Yugo-slavia and the Yugoslav Com-munists, the heroes of the

tion with Yugoslavia along

State lines, in the struggle

will cooperate in all matters on

COMMUNIST PARTT WEEKL

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AJOY GHOSH

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nd not to NEW AGE.

positions

partisan

again that we entertain most friendly sentiments

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of their leaders.

onles of Yugoslavia who in

Though wages

raised simultaneously, the

that a new substantial rise

ing people is not rising.

ing standard of the

the cited data on the liv-

The Yugoslav leaders can make no coherent reply to all we say about where their revisionist policy has led them.

working to disunify the re-

volutionary forces of the work-

the fundamental interests of the

ing class in their struggle for

Aware of their weakness, they resort to their favourite od of demagogically claimsupposedly interfering in their domestic affairs. That is calustand for non-interference in affairs of other countries and parties. We have quite de-finitely said so once again at this present Congress of ours.

PROVOCATIVE TRICKS

Look, though, at the dirty,

ovocative tricks the Yugoslav

revisionists are using now in trying to impair the unity of the Socialist countries. have already noted in my re-port, the Yugoslav revisionists are concocting sundry cock-and-bull stories about the differences that supposedly exist between our Party and the Communist Party of China. La-tely, they went still further and, evidently, to bolster up their fabrications, they enlisted such a "reputable witness" and specialist on "differences between the USSR and People's China" as the U.S. Senator Hubert Humphrey (Animation in the hell). As you might rein the hall). As you might re-member, this Senator recently visited the Soviet Union and I had a talk with him. In the reckoning of making a sensa-tional splash, Hunmhrey piled up mountains of fairy-tales in s declarations and articles. He claimed that he was bringing a special message from the Soviet Government to President Eisenhower—there was no message at all, of course—and that I had imparted to him two especially important secrets. As if I could not find some better confident than Mr. Humphrey! (Animation in the hall) nator Humphrey's rich ima gination ran riot, espe when he began to cook up inventions about relations bet-ween the Soviet Union and the People's Republic of China Here he even outvied Baron

It is this story-teller, mind you, that the Yugoslav revi-sionists are taking for witness. To just presume that I could man who himself brags of his 20 years of anti-Communist struggle, is ridiculous. Anyone understanding politics a bit, let alone Marxism-Leninism will realise that to have a conphrey about the questions of the policy of the Communist Parties and about relations with our best friends, the leaders of the Communist Party of China

Evidently, things are very badly off with the Yugoslav re-visionists if they have to pick

FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

SRINAGAR, February 12

There is tremendous excitement here over Bakshi Abdul Hamid's statement and resignation from the National Conference. This resignation from the ruling party by the brother of Prime Minister Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed and the disclosures he has made have for the moment relegated everything else into the back ground in the public mind.

A DDRESSING the Press, Bakshi Abdul Hamid said that his decision was not dictated by anger or taken under any pressure or provocation. He said he still fully agreed with the original principles and objectives of the National Conference. His complaint was that in the practice of the National Conference today, those basic principles and objectives had been given the go-by and despite the rosy picture painted in official publicity the atmosphere in Kashmir was thoroughy vitiated.

The way the National Conference leadership had been trying to hound out respected leaders like G. M. Sadiq, Ghulam Mohmed Renzu and D. P. Dhar and the mean tactics adopted for this have been a most painthese people were made to quit the National Conference and form a separate party, inner-party norms in the National Conference have fallen to an unimagi-

Communa lists

The organisation has been captured from the top to bot-tom by a handful of tyrants who are interfering in day-today administration and keep-ing the State machinery under their personal control. The National Council's organisa-National Council's organisa-tional structure is today made up of people who live on Government subsidy or route permits and contracts. Dirty communalist elements have got refuge inside this struc-

Emphasising the need for an independent judiciary par-ticularly in this situation, he demanded extension of the jurisdiction of the Supreme Court of India to Kashmir and raising the status of the local High Court and said this was the only way to promote an independent judiciary.

An "atmosphere of thaw" had already set in in the State, before this new deve-lopment, with the removal of the ban on public meetings and demonstrations. With the lifting of the restrictions, the situation here was almost like those days in the past when people breaking through the reactionary communal hold had emerged, conscious and united, to fight for their democratic advance.

Beginning with January

FEBRUARY 22, 1959

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the State authorities in the Town Area elections held in Jammu, On January 26, undaunted by the freezing cold, people in their thousands flocked to meetings and demonstrations organised by the Democratic Na-tional Conference (DNC.)

The spontaneous demonstrations on January 26, which showed that the heart of the people in the State was sound and in spite of the brutal

gainst the interference by began shouting anti-national

Referring to this and similar incidents, Sri G. M. Sadio at a Press Conference said that the Government was "deliberately instigating and using agent-provo cateurs to raise anti-nation al slogans in our meeting to justify the re-enactmen of the restrictions on public meetings." He also warn ed the people against such elements used to disrupt their ranks.

for support to India. The mood of the people became clear when a section of the audience shouted down these and walked out of

KASHMIR: A NEW

AWAKENING

AMONG PEOPLE

The DNC campaign has become the starting point of a people's movement for the redressal of their grievances. People have begun to speak out against repression and to demand mea sures against the fast-dete

Spontaneous demonstrations of women demanding in-creased rations and reduced

prices for essential commo-dities have marched to the

Food Control Department.

ple's movement was gathering tempo, the National Confer-

ence remained a house divid-

ed against itself.
At Maharajgunj, one fac-

tion of the ruling party char-

ged a member of the other faction with all sorts of crimes including rape. The result was that the people of the area

were indignant not only aga-

All this time, when the peo-

prices was a ruse to rope in ral Secretary. Bakshi Rashid the Plebiscite Front following had to rush there to patch up the quarrel between the warsettlement was arrived at at a tea party in the house of an anti-Indian element shows that for the bosses of the National Conference nothing ever matters

The wranglings at the top level in the National Conference came into the open when sensational disclosure were made of embezziement of funds and corruption in of funds and corruption in the Government Transport Department. The fact that these disclosures were made in weekly Mazdoor, official organ of the Central Lab-our Union, is taken to mean that it is the first shot fired by the Bakshi Rashid fac-tion against Prime Minister tion against Prime Minister Bakshi Ghulam Mohammed.

It was against this backnd that the devastating statement and resignation of Bakshi Abdul Hamid from the National Conference came as a crushing blow to the ruling party. Scores of other prominent workers of the National Conference have followed him.

Bakshi Hamid's statementfrom "one of the flesh and blood" of Prime Minister Bakshi as people say here-has which the DNC has levelled against the ruling party. The DNC's prestige stands enhanced in the public eye toinst the particular faction but against the whole National Conference Committee. Geneday.

PAGE THIRTEEN

Factional Wrangles In Ruling Party

asked the Government to give

up its efforts to whitewash the

situation of growing poverty in the State and work for the

betterment of the people, the Democratic National Confer-ence has held a series of

workers' meetings in Srinaga

to focus the attention of the

diate measures to tackle such

problems as food scarcity and

These meetings which

were planned mainly for workers of the DNC turned into mass public rallies ex-

tending support to the DNC

One such meeting at Khwa-

At this meeting, an old man

got up and removing the torn shirt off his sunken belly,

to and arguing

listening to and ar with the DNC leaders.

Support

To D.N.C.

repression on the democratic Conference in which Sri Sadiq elements by the notorious Peace Brigade and the restrictions imposed on the liberties of the people, their faith in

Sri Ghulam Qadir Bedar, leader of the DNC branch at Pallan who along with his Front last year and later joined the DNC, recounting his experience of the Republic Day demonstrations, told a DNC workers' meeting at Srinagar that the "only person who did not participate in the illumination that day was a Plebiscite Front man who enjoys the patronage and sup-port of the local Peace Brigade and the National Conference bosses.

"While on the one hand local National Conference bosses are uniting with anti-national elements to beat us down," he said, "on the other, we are subjected to recurrent hooligan attacks by the Peace Brigade."

He quoted the instance of a local President of the National Conference who had dismissed people from the Peace Brigade for being soft with

When a DNC meeting at Naid

Provocation

party are getting alarmed at the fast turn the situation is taking and are adopting new tactics to discredit the DNC. Kadal in Srinagar was about to close, a few persons who were till then sitting in a

MANAGER.

18, Statewide protest de- were till then sitting in a monstrations had been held nearby tavern came out and

Attempts At

India was responsible for the conditions of anarchy, said that these were wrought by the policies of the State Gov-"Imagine what our condi-tions would be with such a

ruling clique in power, if we are isolated from the warm support and goodwill of the Indian people. We are fortunate that we are a part of India Only our unity and vigilance will help us overcome our present difficulties."

The new mood of enthu-siasm which marked DNC workers' meetings in Srinagar has begun to spread to other places and affect the people everywhere. This has alarmed the anti-national forces who are coming out openly against the DNC campaign.

At a meeting convened by Plebiscite Fronters, the speak-ers asked their followers not to go to DNC meetings. cording to them, the DNC campaign for food and lower



NEW AGE

BANKMEN MEET IN

CONFERENCE

T HE Tenth Annual Conference of the All-India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA) met early this month in Bangalore at a very critical juncture for the bank employees in the country. The award that was imposed on the bank employees after a scandalously long period of litigation, enquiries and tribunals on March 31, 1959.

National Organisation

The fact that 260 delegates and 265 observers attended this Conference from all over the country shows the organised strength and the versal appeal of the AIBEA.
It is decidedly the national organisation of the bank employees of our country.

Prabhat Kar, M.P., General Secretary of the AIBEA, in his report to the Conferduring the five years of the award, the banks had increased their deposits from Rs. 960.37 crores to Rs. 1,515 crores. The gross earnings of the Indian banks had risen from Rs. 37 crores to Rs. 64.36 crores while the et profits had shot up from Rs. 6.15 to Rs. 13.42 crores.

When during the period tion the banks have so increaed their earnings. the employees were perfectly justified in demanding wage-increase and betterment of service con-

The demand is so reasonable that even the Mysore State Labour Minister, who inaugu-rated the AIBEA Conference, teclared that "he could not understand why some of their demands were not conceded when the banking institutions had increased their deposits during the five years of the

PAGE FOURTEEN

operation of the award." (Deccan Herald, Bangalore,

Nevertheless concuiracies are going on to deny a wage-rise to the employees and ex-tend the life of the award. On the very eve of the AIBEA meet, the Labour Minister of the Government of India gave an interview to a delegation of the so-called All-India Bank Employees' Federation and the "Federation" is re-ported to have "demanded" an "extension of the award."

The least that can be said about this is that the Union Labour Ministry is violating the Nainital decisions on recognition of unions and committing a crime against the trade union movement by lending a helping hand

made it clear that it wants a posits into financing indus-settlement across the table. tries in the private sector held manded that dearness allowsettlement across the table.
And the Conference revealed unprecedented unanimity d determination to arrive at

a hipartite or tripartite set

Just when the Conference was discussing the Charter of Demands and the future course of action, a news-item appeared saying that the Union Labour Minister was conven-ing a Tripartite Conference of the Banking Industry to try We hope a settlement will be reached. The unity de-

by the respective Houses.

LABOUR NOTES

The twin objective of the Plan-that private savings should be diverted to public undertakings and a palanced industrial development of the country should be undertaken—are thus sought to be sabotaged. These banks are, for example, interested in Andhra Pradesh—not to in-dustrialise that industrially backword State but to make money by making speculative advances on paddy, groundnut and tobacco.

The AIBEA, therefore,

The Conference has deance should fully neutralise index over 360 and should be computed on the basis of an all-India average.

BY RAJ BAHADUR GOUR, M.P.

SECRETARY, ALL-INDIA TRADE UNION CONGRESS

Special house-rent and compensatory allowance were de-manded for cities where the cost of living is particularly high.

Special allowances are also demanded for technical personnel, for cadres called upon to shoulder responsibilities and for special qualifications.

Banks' Profits Have Increased Enormously,

Wage-Increase Demand Fully Justified

boost up rivalries and engineer splits. When the AIBEA is decidedly the organisation that enjoys the membership and support of the over-whelming majority of bank employees, who else can be the bargaining agent on hehalf of the bank employees The AIBEA is prepared to face any verification including a ballot of all employees. The AIBEA should be recognised.

Our information is that the Union Labour Minister has assured the AIBEA leadership that it is far from his desire to encourage rivalries and splits. We welcome his assurance and hope that those responsible for arranging the said interview would be reprimanded.

The AIBEA, however, has

monstrated at the AIBEA Conference is the guarantee for such hope.

The General Secretary's Report and the delegates' dis-cussion at the AIBEA Conferonce reveal the horrible state of affairs in the small banks and the banks operating within only one State. The award is not applicable. Even where applicable, it is not implemented properly. The emhave hardly any

Amalgamate Small Banks

There is a bank, for example, with its head office in ple, with its head office in Bangalore, whose Articles of Association ban members of all other communities except one from becoming its share-

It had entered into ar agreement with "a union" at the time of the Shastri Tribunal and is refusing to implement the award.

This instance can be multiplied. These small banks my itself. They breed anar-chy and corruption in the banking industry. They mean only misery for their employees. These banks should be amalgamated immediately—that is the demand of the AIBEA. The call deserves wide support from all democratic forces who stand for a healthy banking industry in the

Tools Of Monopolies

With regard to the big banks, Prabhat Kar's report, A. C. Kakkar's speech at the inaugural session and the disin the Conference reveal that they are managed and controlled by one or the other monopoly houses. They are, therefore, a vehicle of diverting private savings in the shape of our citizen's de-

firmly reiterated its demand that steps should be taken to nationalise banking in the very interests of the na-tional economy and its planned development.

The Tenth National Conference of the Bank Employees has voted on the basic features of the Charter of Demands and has asked fhe new Central Committee to fill in the details and submit it to the Government and the

The Conference has rejected any classification of areas and upheld the traditional stand of the AIBEA in this regard. Classification of areas is used by the banks only to victimise employees. And it is the sum total business of the bank that counts and not the business of this or that branch operating in this or that

But the Conference has Appeal For agreed in principle that there could be a classification of banks according to the working funds involved in its

Basic Minimum Wage

However, the Conference adheres to a basic minimum of Rs. 100 for the subordinate banks and more for better-off

With regard to wage differentials between the subordi-nate and the clerical staff, the Conference has demanded 70 per cent more for the latter.

As regards working hours, the Conference has den 6½ hours on week days and 3½ hours on Saturdays.

*Concerning promotion, the Conference has decided on strict adherence to seniority with weightage only to educaqualifications at the rate of one year for graduates and one year each for the two parts of the CAIIB examina-

Other allowances demanded include cycle peon allowance, The Tenth Conference of

the AIBEA has express its general desire to bring into the fold of the AIBEA their colleagues of the State Rank of India whose organisation is at the moment outside this national orga-nisation of bank employees. The leadership of the AIBEA is already in friendly correspondence with the State Bank of India staff leadership on the matter. And the fact that many fraternal delegates from the State Bank of India organisation: and unions of the subsidiary banks attended the Banga-lore Conference indicates the anxiety of the State Bank employees as well that they should come into the fold of the AIBEA.

Unity

The AIBEA has made a fervent appeal to them for unity. And the sincerity of the lea with the deep desire for unity am the bank employees is the guarantee that the prospects of such unity are bright.

The culmination of the Conference was the election of a eadership—a united and de-ermined leadership.

A. C. Kakkar and Prabhat Kar. M.P. were re-elected President and General Secretary

Natwarlal Shah (Ahmedabad) was unanimously elected Vice-President

The other Vice-President is K. K. Mandal (Bombay).

H. L. Parwana and Rajendra Sayal were unanimously elec-ted Assistant Secretary and Treasurer respectively. The other Assistant Secretaries are K. G. Joseph (Madras), T. N. Trikkannath (Bombay) and B. K. Porwal (U. P.) Behind The Doubling Of Congress Membership In U. P.

The other day when I happened to visit the local, Coffee House I was greeted by a number of friends with the strange question: "In whose group have you been enrolled Congress member?" Before I was able to collect my wits, one of them quipped, "Perhaps in hoth!" Then everybody began to laugh.

quire into the whole matter.
On the last day for depositing membership copies, the

State Congress Committee had

It is understood that in the

same manner special men were sent all over the State to

collect the membership copies

Just one more report before

Ballia District Congress

Committee office is being guarded by the police since February 2 midnight. Mr. Ras-

togi, the Provincial Congress Committee Auditor is staving

Committee Auditor, is staying here in the office hall since

Monday. He came to enquire

into alleged forgery in mem-

to check

bership forms and to check the membership fee account

The room containing the

necessary papers has been locked by the Secretary of the

ability to open the lock on

the ground of the key being with some one else, who ac-cording to him, has gone on

pad yatra.
All the office-bearers have left the office and men of the

opposite group are keeping watch on the office. Question-

ed by Pressmen, Mr. Rastogi

said he did not know how long

he would stay and informed that the PCC had again ins-

tructed the DCC to cooperate

The police arrived on the

were occupying the office hall
...." (Pioneer)

Commenting on this state

of affairs in the State Con-

gress, Navjeewan, Hindi edi-tion of the National Herald,

"Normally while enrolling

with him.

Press

laments:

that unauthorised

Comments

DCC, who expressed

February 1)

O NE of the two latest jokes in the political circles of the town is that lakhs and have deputed Sri Jain to enin the political circles of the town is that lakhs and lakhs of persons, living and imaginary, have been enrolled members in the latest drive for membershipwithout their even knowing it!

Last year the number primary members of the Congress in U. P. was 121 lakhs; out of these 4,500 were active members. The influence and popularity of the Congress in the State have obviously woned during last year: but its membership, according to incomplete reports, has already reached the 17-lakh 8,000 of whom are reported to be active mer And this when reports from 20 out of a total of 67 District and City Committees of the

Congress are still awaited ongress are still awaited.

The President of the State Congress has stated that a membership of about 25 lakhs is expected. The PCC office had issued 4,270,000 membership forms. If the estimate of the President of the State Congress is correct, the memhership of the Congress will be doubled this year.

has been achieved by an unprece dented campaign of enroll-ing bogus members—a fact admitted officially by Congress leaders. Here are a few random re-

which throw ample light on the situation:

 Aundiar (Ghazipur), January 27: These days a drive is on here for enrolling bogus membership. Any number of people do not even know when their name got into the membership receipt!
It is said that faction gle has given a fillip to this campaign... (Aj, January 30)

Tampering With Records

Jaunpur, January 30: Sri Jagannath Agrawal, M.P. (representative of the U.P. Congress) had hardly left Jaunpur after examining its records when the State Congress has been again forced to epute Sri Parasram Dixit.... He came here today suddenly and took all the papers of the District Congress connected with membership enrolment into his custody ...

.After Sri Agrawal had left, reports were sent both to the All-India Congress and to the State Congress that, even after the expiry of time (for enrolling members), receipt books were being tampered with The copies of some members were being rejected and in their place new copies were being included.... (Aj, Feb-

members of an organisation Kanpur, January 30: It is the principles of the organilearnt from reliable sour-ces that, on receipt of comsation are popularised and only those who believe in the plaints from some big leaders of Uttar Pradesh that a very objectives of the organisation express a desire to join it. But not so here.... In this large number of bogus memhave been enrolled in the Congress, General Secretary of the All-India Congress State there is no enthusiasm for popularising the aims and objects of the Congress during Committee Takhatmal Jain is the enrolment campaign soon arriving here for enquiry.

It is said that in the race there is only the desire to strengthen one's group. The principles of the Congress have been buried under the

to capture the State Congress, for which 40 lakh membership forms had been issued, lots of bogus members have been en-rolled by some groups... The

FEBRUARY 22, 1959

needed by the enrollers— names of adults and money. And if all the people are unable to pay their membership fee, then a man is found out who can pay for all. Such men are invited to help, sometimes hey are persuaded and pre-

vailed upon to do so.... "Lots of anti-nation ments have got into the Congress and they have secured a great deal of material advantage from it....
"Now the membership enrol-

sent Sri Jaspati Rai Kapoor to this place, who took all the copies into his custody. ment is being done with the financial aid of those people who consider this also to be a rade and want to double and treble their investment. The people consider that the Con ess is a milch-cow and feedso that there may be no tampering with them later ... (Aj, greater returns on the investment....

Ballia, February 5: The **Dangerous Elements**

Chronicler columnist of the National Herald, repeating many of the things said by the Navjeewan, says, "Those who talk more candidly about it assert that quite a large number of members are paid for by in-terested parties. In fact, such members are more or less innocuous: more dangerous are those who pay for them..."

Enrolment

Became Congress Members

Chronicler further

prolling members

hold, has reached.

Self-Seekers'

Paradise

countrymen

"But actually, in Districts, what secures high places in the Committees is the heavy

amount one has invested in

It is hardly necessary to comment on these statements.

They show well enough, the

Congress, in its biggest strong-

Gone are the days when

people used to consider it a great badge of patriotism and

nonour to belong to the

mighty Congress. Gone are the days when they used to troop into it with enthusiasm

and a sense of dedication to sacrifice their all in the ser-vice of their country and

It is the self-seekers who

most solicitously. It is they who spend lakhs on its mem-

bership campaigns. The National Herald had to say: "The

problem before the Congress

of it.... The ambitious 'new blood' (this is how the paper's

columnist ironically describes the rich who have seized hold

of the Congress organisation

has, in fact, barred the way

of young men, who say that the financiers' entry into the

Congress is a negation of So-

how to keep hypocrites out

seek its membership

abba "There is no anxiety about it in the State Con-

No, there is none. In fact, the whole husiness of enrolment, etc., is done now in a hard-headed and streamlined businesslike manner Vast sums of money are collected in advance from in-terested parties; then the electoral rolls are brought: and names are conied from will be of greater benefit to the receipt books. As a variation, sometimes the registers of the rationing department, or of colleges and universi-ties are used for the same

And when the armies of copyists have done their job, the receipt books and the money to cover the membership fee are deposited in the concerned Congress office. Of course, duplicates are kept for use during elections

This is exactly what has happened during the last few days of the 'enrolment drive'. There were a few places in burn till very late in the nights prior to January 26, the last date for enrolment, and the gress members was carried on on a large scale. During these s lakhs of rupees were deposited in the gress office from two or three

less a party to these trans-actions, told me that those who had obliged the Ministers

were already pressing for du returns. The "membership drive this time," records the Navjeewan,
"was conducted as if two different parties were fighting canvassed ment of this or that group

people...."
The clear objective therefore of this large-scale for-gery is to capture the Ministry.

Bitter Faction Fight

According to the amended constitution of the Congress, primary members, will elect the Mandal Committees and Committees will elect the members of the District and the State Committees. Hence it is the primary members who will decide who is to control the District and State Committees, who in turn, will, again according to the latest directives of the Congress High Command, exercise a decisive voice in the selection of candidates to the Assembly and Parliament in the next

general elections.
Sri Dhebar, who is the father of the Mandal Committee idea. had visualised * Financiers Pay For Bogus these basic units as the most potent medium of constructive work. Maybe he is still here. work. Maybe he is still hug-ging the idea, but as far as U. P. is concerned they have become the seats and arenas of the most bitter and foul factional struggle as well as wide-spread forgery and cor-People Don't Know When They

ruption.
It is in this novel (and for the Congress not too novel either) form that the factional fight of the various groups in the U. P. Congress has been waged during the last few

The same fight has been carried into the organisation of the so-called pad yatras. This pompous pageantry was originally announced for explaining and popularising the Nagpur Congress resolutions. Papers have been full of

reports of these yatras, but I have not come across more than one report of even words like ceiling on landholdings and cooperative farming being mentioned.
The only place where they were mentioned was Meerut. where the State's Revenue Minister Charan Singh mentioned them to assure his rich peasant patrons that they would not be forced into the cooperatives against their will and that the ceiling, if at all, would be fixed

at fifty acres per family!
This pad-yatra has been a really costly farce. The Chief Minister of the State did pad-yatra on a horse-drawn ekka! Wherever people went out on pad-yatra, they generally used them to prepare for the next elections and to organise their group against the other group

rent in the capital. is about pad yatra. Pad means but it also means posithis tion. People remark that the vatra was only with a view to save their nositions. The fact hold some important positions in the Government or the lends support to this feeling

PAGE FIFTEEN

dust of this ambition.... cialism...." "Today only two things are The same commentator

Open Appeal

Minister's

FROM RAMESH SINHA

said to have been

to the District offices.

Hundreds of workers from

the Districts were here in Lucknow in their respective

camps giving touches to their shameless forgeries. Even

shameless forgeries. Even copies of the membership rolls

had not been deposited in the

here-directly to the State

office because there was fear

might have never reached the

State centre. There was some justification for this fear.

But the main cause was that

the enrollers in the districts— the machinemen of the dadas at the capital, in the Ministry

or outside—needed money as well as names to submit on their behalf to the State cen-

tre. The money was provided here The forms of four lakh

members supposed to have been enrolled in the Districts

were thus submitted to the PCC office at Lucknow.

One Minister had sent open requests to dozens of his friends and patrons to send him money to help him "win the hattle of membership." Money had reached him in tens of thousands. Some of it has been used to pay for membership fees; the rest, I hear, has been kept for use later! donors too will get

NEW AGE

AROUND ASIA ON THE ASIA

NEW AGE

ეტეტეტების და გაციანების გაციანების გაციანების გაციანების გაციანების გაციანების გაციანების გაციანების გაციანების

WHILE THE GOVT. CLAIMS BETTER FOOD POSITION IN 1959

W. BENGAL FACES BIGGEST FOOD DEFICIT

For the past one-and-a-half months, West Bengal has been experiencing an acute shortage of food. As soon as the State Government's order fixing the prices of different varieties of rice under the Anti-Profiteering Act came into force on January 1, 1959, rice completely disappeared from the market, although the bulk of the new aman paddy crop had already come into the market.

HE food situation has rice and one seer of wheat been steadily deteriorating since then. A handful of profiteers and hoarders have successfully torpedoed the Government's price control

The prices of coarse, medium and fine rice have been fixed at Rs. 18.00, Rs. 18.20 and Rs. 20.80 a maund res-pectively. But today, rice is available only in the blackmarket. Coarse rice is sell-ing at Rs. 24 to 25 a maund and the medium variety at Rs. 30. Even at these prices, it is rather difficult to obtain adequate supplies.

People's Distress

Acute distress now prevails all over West Bengal.
Rice prices are now higher

by Rs. four to five a maund than those prevailing at this time last year. This has naturally caused severe hardships to the consumers.

During December-January last, the peasantry had to part with their produce at very low prices fixed by the Government—Rs. 9-8-0 to Rs. ten per maund of paddy. And now, they are unable to purchase their requirements of

The retail rice dealers also are facing a serious situation. They are being squeezed out of the rice trade because the wholesalers are just refusing to release their hoarded stocks

The Government claims that about 70 lakh people are now drawing rations from the modified ration shops at the enhanced scale of 13 seers of

CHILDRENS' LITERATURE

FROM THE USSR

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..........

S. Marshak: SHLLY LITTLE MOUSE

R. Baumvol . THE BLUE MITTEN

V. Suteyev: WHO SAID MIAOW

Ulyanova: LENIN'S BOYHOOD AND ADOLESCENCE

Kornei Chukôvsky: THE CHICK

Konstantin Hshinsky: BISHKA

P. Bazhov : SILVER HOOF

PAGE SIXTEEN

A. Kononov.: NEW YEAR'S IN SOKOLNIKI

E. Rachev : THE OLD MAN'S MITTEN

A. Pushkin: THE FISHERMAN AND THE GOLDFISH

Opposition

Walk-Out

· All the motions were disallowed by the Speaker. Com-rade Jyoti Basu, Leader of the Opposition, then drew the Speaker's attention to the gravity of the situation and requested him to fix a sepa-rate day for a full debate on

adopt stern measures against the Communist Party and the ernment

the hoarders now have the

least five lakh tons of rice through direct procurement ignored the advice and gave full scope to the hoarders to buy up a majo portion of the marketabl surplus, often at prices much lower than those fixed by the Government.

Kisan Sabha had repeatedly urged upon the Government to build up buffer stocks of at

Having cornered the stocks,

Mass Demonstration Demands Govt. Action Against Hoarders & Profiteers

to secure their ration cards Moreover, the quantum of rations is not sufficient to meet the normal requirements of a family and the people have to depend on the corp marks.

per adult per week.

This claim, however, is

highly exaggerated. A very large number of families, which are entitled to the benefit of modified ration-

ing, have not yet been able

On top of all this, rice is not at all available in many ration shops in the mofussil areas. Coarse rice with plenty of gravel and dirt in it is being

The food situation has al-ready become so alarming that on the first day of the current budget session of the West Bengal Assembly as many as 15 adjournment motions were sought to be moved by the Opposition, ten of them by Communist members, focus attention on the scarcity and high prices of rice and the Government's utter failure to enforce price control and

0.31

0.31

0.19

0.31

walked out of the Assembly in protest on February 10 when the State Food Minister started theorising about the food problem and per-sistently refused to give straight replies to the Opqueries as to where rice had vanished and what steps the Government pro-posed to take to make it available in the open market at controlled prices.

Chronic **Deficits**

Since 1947, West Bengal has never produced enough food-grains, particularly rice, to meet its own requirements. And, with the natural growth of population, the gap between production and needs has widened.

Last year, the overall deficit was of the order of 7.5 lakh tons. According to a recent ate of the State Agriculestimate of the State Agricul-tural Department, the short-age this year will not be any-thing less than 9.5 lakh tons. Yet it was brazenfacedly Yet it was brazenfacedly claimed in the Governor's address to the joint session of ruary 3 that the overall food position during the current year would be better than in 1958."

There is no denving the fact the largest in the past eleven years. Still there is no reason why rice prices should climb to such heights at this time of the year when the bulk of the new paddy crop came into the market only a month ago.

It is the hoarders and profiteers who have created the present artificial scarcity. Taking advantage of uncertainty and nervousness caused by the ex-pected heavy deficit this year, they have cornered the rice stocks.

Long before the price-control order was promulgated.

They are defying all provisions of the law. They are openly resorting to black-marketing and violating the ban on export to rice from the State. Not satisfied with the present margin of profit, in the blackmarket amounting to about Rs. ten to Rs. 12 per maund, they are now trying to "upgrade" the coarse and treating them with chemicals!

The small and medium retail rice dealers are being driven to the wall. At many places, rice millowners and have taken to retail sales Retail shops all over the State are not getting regular and adequate supplies even at blackmarket prices. The retailers complain that for every 16 maunds of rice they have to pay at least Rs. 40 more than the con-trolled prices. In this situa-tion, it is impossible for them to sell rice at the scheduled rates

Govt. Alone Responsible

The entire responsibility for the present food crisis rests squarely on the shoulders of the State Government It has turned down all cons tructive suggestions and has remained supremely indiffer-ent to the mounting sufferings of the people.

The Government has obstinately refused to procure sufficient stocks on its own, and has remained content by imposing a 25 per cent levy on the production of rice mills which as everyone knows, are big centres of hoarding and profiteering.

The Government has not yet taken any steps against the hoarders on the plea that 'there are no proofs". When tive Detention Act be applied in the mofussil

against the hoarders, official

against the noarders, olicial spokesmen remained silent.

The State Government has even failed to give a correct picture to the Centre about the realities of the food position here.

It is now trying to make out that the peasantry is res-ponsible for the present food crisis. Paddy growers, the Government maintains, are holding back their stocks in expectation of higher prices in future. As a result, rice mills cannot function and the wholesalers are unable to keep up supplies to retail dealers.

This "theory" is, to say the least, a shameless attempt to cover up the activities of the hoarders. Everyone knows that the masses of the peasantry are forced to sell their crop as soon as it is harvested because they are in urgent need of

Growing **Protests**

A mass campaign against the present food policy of the Government has already be-gun. It is gradually assuming a Statewide character through innumerable protest meetings. hunger marches and mass deputations in almost all Dis-

Calcutta witnessed an unusual sight on February 5 when retail rice dealers went in a mass deputation to the State Assembly to submit a memorandum which said that the Government's food policy had adversely affected the peasants, the retail dealers and the consumers.

The memorandum urged upon the Government to pro-cure all available paddy at fair prices and distribute the surplus after meeting the ration requirements of retailers, to help the retailers to buy their requirements at wholesale markets at scheduled prices inst exports and to stop retail sales by mills and who

The Demands

The Calcutta District Council of the Communist Party organised a mass demonstration to the Assembly on February 11. It was stopped by the police near the Assembly House, A deputation then met the Chief Minister and submitted a memorandum which made the following demands.

- The Government should build up adequate stocks by immediately buying up all available paddy and rice.
- ♠ The Government should supply rice to retail deal-
- Stern measures should be taken against the big hoarders and profiteers.
- Popular food committees should be set up at all levels

The Chief Minister assured the deputationists that the Government would supply rice to retail dealers in selected areas of Calcutta where rice was not easily available. He further said that the Government proposed to supply pad-dy to mills which were closed ecause of their failure to pro cure paddy. After the paddy had been converted into rice to retailers in scarcity areas

Cairo Conference Of Afro-Asian Youth

BY SUNIL SEN GUPTA

JT. SECRETARY, ALL-INDIA STUDENTS' FEDERATION

The young representatives of the millions of youth of Asia and Africa came to Cairo in the beginning of February to meet in the Afro-Asian Youth Conference and to reaffirm the determination of the youth of these continents to liquidate imperialism and build a happy new world.

MORE than a year ago, the Afro-Asian People's Solidarity Conference had been held ment of the AICC, was elected in this same city of Cairo, fol-lowing the historic Bandung Conference. The Bandung Conference was a profound reflec-tion of the historical changes that had taken place in the two continents of Asia and Africa. taken their destiny in their own hands after long-drawn strug-gles. And some are still struggling bitterly against the repression and century-old domination by imperialist Powers.

RANDIING SPIRIT

It was this spirit that inspired and guided the youth of the two continents to declare their "unanimous approval and unreserved support" for the princi-ple of the Bandung and Cairo Conferences, and their firm to struggle fight for the realisation of the

It was the same spirit which inspired the Conference to announce April 24, the last day of the Bandung Conference, "as the day of struggle against imter, for supporting the national and consolldating the principle of peaceful co-

Asian Youth in Cairo symbolises the unity of the younger generation. Four hundred and eightu delegates from countries of Asia and Africa ence. India was represented by a delegation of six memrs. This is the first time that India has been represented by a united delegation at an in ternational youth conference.
This united delegation from India, not only impressed the Conference, but played due role in unifying ******

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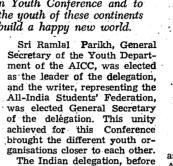
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Affairs, it was decided to



its departure, called upon Prime Minister Nehru, who stressed the role of India in support of colonial people, in restoring world peace, and in the fight against racial discrimination This discussion prior to the Conference helped the Indian delegates to remain united. Unfortunately, however, one

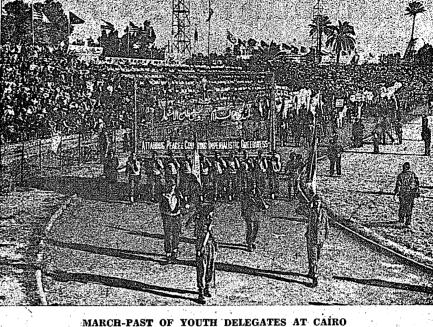
legation on the question of Taiwan, where he was hesitant about mentioning U.S. imperialism by name. Save this incident the Indian delegation by its work at the Conference has not only enhanced the prestige of the country, but has at the same time opened up new possibilities of Indian organisations acting unitedly in international gathe rings. The foundation which has been laid at this Conference may well serve as the basis in the coming World Festival, too.

On February 2, Yousuf El Sibai. Secretary-General of Afro-Asian Solidarity Committee, declared the Conference open. The same afternoon, the UAR Youth Festival organised in honour of the Conference was inaugurated in the National Sports Club Auditorium, when President Abdel Gamal Nasse ssed the marchpast. At the head of the procession the huge emblem of the Afro-Asian Xouth Conference was carried by the youth of Algeria and Palestine. Palestine. In the midst of cheers from the packed gathering of thirty thousand, the UAR President addressed the delagates, and said that the youth of Africa and Asia had gathered to speak of their struggles as well as the hopes of the two continents. The Afro-Asian Youth Conference, he said, is a ntinuation of the Bandung

COMMISSIONS

The Conference appointed six Commissions: on the Po-litical Situation, Social Welfare, Sports, Youth Affairs, Culture and on Arts and Lite-rature. All the six commissions discussed the problems confronting youth in detail and put forward their recommendations to the Plenary

In the Plenary Session, according to the recommendations of the Commission on Youth a permanent Secretariat attached to the People's Solidarity



vals at the national and inter-

national level and decided to

organise an Afro-Asian Youth

Festival in Cairo in 1962. The

Conference passed a resolution in support of the Vienna Youth Festival winch said:

"The organisation of wouth

aspirations of the youth of the ported the idea of Youth Festi-Afro-Asian countries.

The political resolution full support to the struggle of the Afro-Asian youth for na-tional independence, and to safeguard their national sovereignty.

A resolution supporting the dan, Taiwan, Kenya, Uganda, Madagascar, Congo, Zanzibar, Cyprus, Somaliland, Korea, Cyprus, Somaliland, Korea, Mongolia, Vietnam, West Africa. Oman. Yemen. Okinawa. neroon and Goa was passed unanimously.

The resolution called on the

youth to defeat the imperialist game, to tear up military pacts It exposed the role of American. French and British imperialism suppressing the national in dependence movements in the colonial countries. It condemn ned the action of the U.S. imperialists in Korea, Taiwan an Vietnam and demanded withdrawal of troops from Korea and an end to the aggression in the Taiwan Straits. upon the youth of the Afro-Asian countries to launch a powerful movement for the panning of nuclear weapons. I condemned the policy of racial discrimination which is being carried on by the Government of South Africa, the USA and

such other Governmen The Algerian and Palestin problems received the special attention of the Conference. A committee was set up in the Political Commission to discuss the problem. On the question of Algeria, the Conference gave full support to the struggle of the Algerian youth against French imperialism. It also urged upon the Afro-Asian youth to launch a movement for youth to launch a movement for the recognition of the Provisional Government of Algeria Support was also given to the trigues in Palestine.

The resolution on Youth Affairs clearly stated, "the future of our countries, their liberatheir prosperity makes it imperative on us to strengthen our solidarity and establish it on the strong foundation of cooperation and collaboration, and that one of the most sacred desire of the leaders of the present ge neration is to prepare the youth for its sublime mission and important role, using all means that ensure the close connect tion between the youth of the two continents as well as the development of fraternity and friendship among them.
The Conference fully

institutes interested in Afro-Asian youth affairs should encourage the holding of local festivals in order to keep intact their popular artistic heritage and should also encourage the participation in international festivals such as the Vienna Festival in order to attain the result of communication in the interna-national field."

DISTORTION IN INDIAN PRESS

It was astonishing to see that a section of the Indian Press had reported that the Conference had rejected the idea of support to the Vienna Festival. This section of the Press not only distorted the Cairo resolution but also gave wrong re-ports about the role of the Indian delegation on this question. It is true that Sri Ramlal Parikh, leader of the Indian delegation, stressed that the Conference should not come out categorically in support of the Vienna Festival, but at the same time he made it clear that this did not mean he opposed the Vienna Festival. But after dis-cussions, the Conference found it was necessary to support the

The Conference of Afro-Asian reflected the aspirations general. Attending

ference one fully understood the problems of those African countries which are still under imperialist domination. The fighting youth of these countries reminded us of the earlier days of our own freedom struggle. Wrath against the imperialists and warm solidarity with the fighting people were the dominant spirit of the Con-

Delegates from the Soviet Union lent their full support to the struggle of the Afro-Asian youth against imperialism and to establish world peace. Though the imperialist-backed South Vietnam Delegates wanted to obstruct the participation of the Soviet Union in the Conference the entire Conference was fo Soviet participation.

When the delegates went to see Port Said, a city reborn from the devastation of imperialist bombing, we felt the gratitude and love of the peonle of Port Said for us who supported them against the imperialist aggression. I have heard them say that the So-viet Union saved them from the aggression and the impe-rialists had to quit before Afro-Asian solidaritu

The youth of the Afro-Asian countries have carried forward the principles of Bandung, and with their glorious revolution-ary traditions they are confident of creating a better future

CENTRAL KISAN COUNCIL **MEETS ON MARCH 6**

The Central Kisan Coun cil is to meet from March 6 in Perintalmanna; Palghat District. Kerala, according by the All-India Kisan Sabha office.

The meeting will discuss among other items the report and drafts on rural youth, rural women and agricultural labour to be placed before the 16th An. nual Session of the Kisan

from the north Should tra- ference.

on the Madras-Mangalore line. From Shoranur, buses regularly ply to Perintal-manna which is about 15 miles from the railway station. Members should in form the Kerala Karshaka Sangham, Camp Perintal-manna, Palghat District Kerala State. about the time of their arrival The. Kerala Provincial

Kisan Conference will also be held from March 6 to 8. CKC members will b CKC members coming to participate in that Con-

Communist Victory In pooh it in their speeches, etc. They declared that the main contest was between the Congress which had bagged the seat in the general election and the PSP. The Indian Nation and the provincial Press echoed the The correspondent of the Bihar By-Election

TIME THE PSP DID SOME HEART-SEARCHING

and helps development of the body. Together they increase your weight and strength and making the stre

MAHA DRAKSHARISTA

CALCUTTA CENTRE -Dr. Nares Chandra Ghoss.
M.B.B.S. Ayurved-Acharya,
26, Goalpara Road, Calcutta-

PAGE EIGHTEEN

SADHANA AUSADHALAYA

The worlds- Largest DAGGA Ayuwedic Institution

The success of Communist candidate Deonandan Mahto in the by-election to the Bihar Assembly from Warsaliganj in Gaya is a tribute to Communist self-sacrifice, discipline, hard work and, of course, the policy of the Party of serving and uniting the people which inspires these

P OLLING took place on February 8, and the next morning Communist workers from all the booths of this farflung constituency assembled watch the counting of votes and hear the results before went home. The majority of them had had nothing to eat for twenty-four hours and some for Without money, without food, without conveyance they had walked their way, carrying the message of the Party from house to house and from village to village and suc-

TWICE DAILY

after meals..

The Season's

for that extra sparkle-in your health

FROM ALI ASHRAF ceeded in winning a place for

Two spoonsful of Mritasanjibani mixed with

four spoonsful of Mahadraksharista (6 years old) : start this course now and see the amazing differ-

ence it makes to your health. Matured for

6 years to increase its potency, this Maha-

draksharista directly acts to fortify your lunes and

puts an end to cough, cold and bronchial

ombles. Mritasanjibani improves your disestion

the Party in the hearts of the simple folk in this vast, out-of-the-way double-member constituency bordering on one side bagh, and on the other, South same time tried to pooh-

They had to face the full blast of the might of the rul-ing party—of all the resour-ces it could command and all the manoeuvres ranging from promises of monetary assistcaste pressure and S. K. Sinha, Mahesh Prasad Sinha, the Congress warlord th Gaya, Sri Mathura Singh, MLA, were all there to ensure a Congress victory.

And in its zeal the ruling party did not forget to mobianti-social elementsknown leaders of dacoit gangs

-for the Congress cause. And while bringing the full might of their campaign against the Communist Party, they at

and the provincial Fress echoed it. The correspondent of the Indian Nation had also men-tioned that the Communist elec-tion work was suffering for lack of funds. That did not prevent the paper from publishing the false news next day that a imported to do the campaigning

doubt, suffered from lack of in this election by the Party was a baré fifteen hundred rupees. And the Communist Party was comparatively weak, having its strong units only in jurisdiction of a police station)

PSP Spurns

The PSP on the other hand, had its traditional influence in this constutuency. Sri Jaiprakash Narain had chosen this area for setting up his Ashram at Shakho Duora and had lived there and it cannot be said that the Ashramites had no interest in politics even during the hectic days of the election carr paign. This was the area where the well-known peasant leader, the late Swami Sahajanand Saraswati had conducted the famous Reora Satyagraha in the late thirties and Jaiprakash Narain had built the CSP in its wake. That provided the tra-ditional background for the PSP in the constituency.

PSP leaders put in their best exploit this situation. State President Basawan Singh trotted out cheap anti-Communist which has become gentleman, once known for his sober reasoned appeals, though

But the PSP lost in both the general and reserved seats in Warsaliganj, one going to the Communist Party and the other to the Congress. It was a clear verdict of the people against the anti-unity policy of the PSP leadership.

The Communist Party had repeatedly and till the very last offered to have a united front with the PSP. It had offered to withdraw its candidate from the reserved seat our of the PSP in the against the ruling party. As a gesture it actually withdrew its candidate from the neighbouring constituency of Rafavour of the PSP. leaders of the PSP spurned these offers. They declared that then tory than an understanding with the Communist Party. It is this suicidal policy of the PSP leadership that has been rejected by the people of

No Isolated Event

Warsaliganj is by no means an isolated event. It is the ex-pression of a trend which is

slowly but sharply emerging since the general elections, the trend of the decline of the Bihar PSP, already once pointed ou is the logical end-product of the fiasco of the anti-unity line of the Bihar PSP leadership.

general elections, by-elections have taken place in two Parliamentary and seven Ass constituencies. And what have

The PSP won the Muzaffarpur Parliamentary by-election for Asoka Mehta with official Congress support so much s that the Congress General Se cretary's report at Nagpur had credit for the Congress.

The PSP had also won an Assembly by-election from Nabi-nagar in Gaya. But in Nabinagar only the symbol was that of the PSP but the victory was of Satyendra Narain Sinha, M.P., who was guarding the traditional seat of his father, Sinha from encroachment by the dominant group in the

PSP did not enjoy the active support of the Congress or a strong group of the Congress, it

The PSP lost the Parliamentary by-election from Katihar. The sitting PSP MLA lost his Saharsa District. In Marhaura. had lost in the general elections by a narrow margin. In the by-election there the PSP fared worse. In Dhanbad, a wellknown leader of the PSP and HMS. Mahesh Desai, lost and in the Lodna colliery belt where some years ago workers had fought some glorious battles under PSP leadership, a comparatively unknown Commu lawyer polled only a mere huned votes less than Mahesh sai. And finally the PSP has lost the four seats in the three constituencies of Warsaligani.

Lesson For.

All this should serve as a munism. It is not in the power of the PSP to stop the growth of the Communist Party or the democratic movement of the masses against the misrule of the Congress. Each time th PSP leadership raises its hand against the noble cause of deboomerang and hits the PSP itself, isolating it further from

This is the one serious lesson which can be drawn from the by-elections held in Bihar.

So far as the Communist Party is concerned, Warsaliganj has only further steeled its determination to continue its fight for democratic unity, even with

But will the PSP, its leaders and ranks learn the lesson? Only if they learn this lesson

FEBRUARY 22, 1959

MACMILLAN'S SOVIET VISIT

WITHIN a month of Mikoyan's visit to the United States came the anabout the British Governto an invitation extended by the Soviet Government in April 1956 by sending British Premier Macmillan along with Foreign Secre-tary Selwyn Lloyd to Mos-

ow on February 21. Considerations of courtesy apart, the background and the ing of Macmillan's projected visit to the Soviet Union provide ample indications of the fact that on questions of easing the international ten-sion, the imperialist Powers hardly respond unless they

Mounting Criticism

While the feasibility of personal contacts between the heads of States was being inrecognised. nearly three years for making up its mind to accept the in-Soviet

Meanwhile, the world was pushed repeatedly to the brink of war—Suez and Lebanon— and the sight of a Summit Conference faded in and fadout of the world's view.

It goes to the credit of the Soviet Union which has been constantly siding with the peace-loving peoples of the world and persistently coming out with initiative to end the cold war, to have effected yet another breakthrough in the East-West

With the grave menace of nuclear destruction looming heavily over the world, the Western Powers' obduracy in rejecting the Soviet move to sign a nuclear weapon tests' ban and to negotiate ways and means for easing the East-West tension was being in-creasingly subjected to indig-nant criticism from the world public opinion But the latest Soviet move, in the back-ground of the mounting resentment against cold war policies, have made it imposfor the Western Powers to sing the same old tune of intransigence' reject Soviet proposals out-

The concrete proposals of the Soviet Union to end the occupation regime in Berlin and to sign a Peace Treaty with Germany have not only caught the Western Powers in a tight corner, but have brought to the fore the contradictions within the Western camp. And Mikoyan's visit to the U.S., even as a tourist, has hammered into the heads of many Americans the feasi-bility of a heads-of-States

The experienced British diplomacy was quick to seize the occasion and by announcing Macmillan's visit, racedin the words of the Daily Telegraph—to win diplomatic "prestige" from the U. S., by trying to lead in the East-

FEBRUARY 22, 1959

tries of the Soviet proposals for resolving the German problem, the otherwise "in-flexibles" started to talk about some "flexibility of policy" at least in words.

The U. S. Secretary of State, Dulles, who had been all the time wedded to German reunification by "free elections" came out with the statement: "nobody can say that free elections are the only means by which there can be reuni-fication" adding, however, that the U.S. did not, at the mo-

Difference With Adenauer

The British authorities too. expressed their "willingness to negotiate" and the British Premier declared that Britain did not consider "free elections" the only means "for the reunification of Germany."

The British Press itself, has underlined Britain's differ-ence with West German chancellor Adenauer and the reasons for wanting a "settle-ment" of the German ques-tion. The New Statesman, for instance, while pointing to West Germany's rapid integration with Western Europe; as a direct threat to the British economic interests, opined that "Britain's paramountcy in Western Europe could restored," if a reunified uncommitted Germany would loosen her moorings to the Franco-Benelux complex and float in Central Europe.

The British Government's initiative in sending Macmillan to the Soviet Union and its hopes for an East-West Four-Power Foreign Ministers Conference to discuss the German question in the latter part of April, are accounted for, by the following three-fold motives: one, to intimidate the West German authorities by means of its mannel. rities by means of its manoeuvres on the German question and force Bonn to make concessions to Britain in the struggle for West European trade; two, to earn political capital for itself in the forthcoming general elections when Macmillan's visit to scow was announced in the House of Commons, Labour M.P. Jean Mann chimed in with: "May I thank the Prime Minister, wish him Godspeed and ask him the date of the election?": and three, to make use of this opportunity for raising Britain's prestige in the world which was lowered in the cold war.

Reaction In Paris & Bonn

The attitude of the West German and French Gov-ernments contrasts with that of Britain. After the Soviet proposals were put forward, Bonn Ministers and matic representatives have been carrying on in-tensive activities in Wash-ington, London, Paris and NATO, in an attempt to hold fast its Western part-ners and form an "uncompromising" defence line. hen even the New York

Under the wide repercus-ions in the Western coun-to admit: "Any poll of the

INTERNATIONAL EVENTS

West Germans would show an overwhelming majority in favour of reunification." Adenauer's statement—at a time the announcement of Macmillan's visit to the Soviet Union On his return, the U.S. spokesman had to say that during Dulles' discussions with ter announced his coming visit to the Soviet Union—that "however much we want re-unification, our first concern "his friends" in London, Paris and Bonn, "there was no shift in the position by anybody." is with Western unity," and his clamour for the Polish terri-tory east of the Oder-Neisse river and for the Sudetenland

The Dulles Testimony

sation, Dulles had made a testimony to a secret meeting of the U.S. Home of Representatives Foreign Affairs Committee on January 28, whose excerpts were released on February 9. According to Washington reports, in this testimony of his, Dulles had defined "cold war" between "the West and international Communism" as "an effort on the part of both parties to win the hearts and minds of the millions of people in the under-developed areas of the world—Asia, the Middle East

Shortly before his hospitali-

As to how many "hearts and minds" have been won or lost by pursuing this policy, hardly

have more say in Western affairs. But when the visit of the Difficult, indeed, was Dulles' ced, the news is received fav-

tain, the entire British Press has reacted favourably to Macmillan's visit, And a Press report says, "The glow of the coming Macmillan mission to Moscow has so uplifted British spirits that many people here are already having visions of a Summit Conference this vear."

Whether in Britain or in France, in Belgium or in Norway, increasingly people are demanding an end to the "cold war." Nuclear tests ban, the Rapacki Plan, not the queer ideas of Dulles are win-ning the hearts and minds of the people in Western countries as in other countries of the world.

And it is precisely this general trend in the world, which is making itself felt, that has to be strengthened further, if it is to become more effective in bridling the nuclear-happy maniacs in the Western ruling cir-

Today, there is as yet no indication of a substantial change in Britain's foreign policy in general and on Europe in particular. If Macmillan's visit is to be followed by concrete steps towards easing the international tension, the peace-loving countries of the world will have to come out follow their "flexibility"

New Agreement Will Accelerate China's Socialist Construction

A SINO-SOVIET agreement to still further extend economic cooperation between the two countries was signed in Moscow on February 7.

of Czechoslovakia, could only

mean that West German Chancellor fears that t

holding of talks on the Ger

man question will greatly weaken his ten-year policy of throwing himself on the West-

ern side, reviving militarism,

pounce upon the German De mocratic Republic.

support for Adenauer and for

f talks with the Soviet Union

motives of obtaining West

German support for France on

the question of France's share,

with the U.S. and Britain, in

Nato leadership. In France's

Britain, de Gaulle attempts to

use the German question for

pressurising them to support French policy in North Africa and to obtain the right to

are explained by the two-fol-

going slow" on the question

and waiting for a chance to

78 Industrial Plants

This new agreement which is supplementary to the existing agreements on Sovie Union's aid to the development stipulates that between the years 1959 and 1967, the Soviet struct 78 big industrial plan in the metallurgical, che coal, oil machine-building, electrical machinery, radio technique, building materials and other industries, including

The total value of the equipment, designing and other tech-nical assistance to be provided for by the Soviet Union under this agreement, will amount to some 5,000 million rubles.

The Chinese side, to compensate the equipment and techni-cal assistance provided by the Soviet Union, will supply the latter with commodities in ac-cordance with the existing Sino-Soviet trade agreements.

Seventy-eight big industrial plants worth some 5,000 milrubles, in a period of ment for these

achievements of the Soviet Union, but for the existence of the system of Socialism in today's world, this proposition mould have been

features of this agreement are aid by offering research and designing services based on the achievements of the Soviet Union, by supplying equipment, fied materials and by s the required number of Soviet experts in the field of building assembling, adjustment and launching of the plants. The Soviet Union will also receive Chinese experts and workers for production and technical training in her enterprises.

Still Greater Leap Forward

Like other agreements in the past, this agreement also stipulates that the Soviet side will fransfer without compensation the patent rights of production of products manufactured by these enterprises, and will supso as to facilitate the organisation of production and manu-

about eight years! But for the the Chinese People's Republic

Promisina a still greater leap ward in the development of China's national economy, accelerating still further her pace of Socialist construction, this agreement is without any parallel in the capitalist world. At the same time as it strengthens China's economy, it will strengthen the Socialist camp and all the forces fighting for peace and progress, and have its say in the deve-

Imperialism's scribes are, therefore, at their wit's end trying to explain away its significance. A Toronto daily, Globe and Mail (February 12), in an editorial bearing the pompous title: "Democracy's Test in Asia", is constrained to admit that the Sino-Soviet agreement "will give China a tremendous boost towards industrialisation" but hastens to warn: "The object lesson is directed particularly at India." Enumerating the similarities between the problems facing India and China, it consoles us for having "a clearcut advantage" mitted to Western democracy" only to shatter our hopes in the next paragraph with the con-Western nations largely with sympathy sighs."

RAZA ALI

PAGE NINETEEN

MRITASANJIBANI

Adhyaksha- Dr. Joges Chandra

Ghose, M.A., Ayurved-Sastri, F.C.S. (London), M.C.S. (America), formerly Professor of Chemistry. Bhagalpur College.

Lily & Cogus

KERALA: Budget Session Preview

• From C. ÛNNIRAJA

TRIVANDRUM, February 18

The third Budget Session of the Kerala State Legislative Assembly will open here this week-end with the Governor's address on February 21. The session is scheduled to last till April 1.

PART from discussion on A PART from discussion on the burget, a heavy pro-gramme of legislation is be-before this session of the As-

The Select Committee on the Agrarian Relations Bill has almost completed its work and is expected to sub-mit its report to the Assembly

during the session.

The Panchayats Bill now under consideration the Select Committee r come up for discussion. may

Another Bill for the constitution of elected District Administrative Councils as recommended by the majority report of the Administrative Reforms Committee, is under preparation to be introduced.

 The Industrial Relations
 Bill which gives statutory
validity to the labour policy
the Kerala Government has been implementing during the past two years, is also ex-, pected to be introduced during the Budget Session of the ssembly.

The political significance of

The political significance of this session needs no emphasising. The Congress General Secretary, Sri Sadiq Ali, in a survey of the general elections of 1957• is reported /to have stated, referring to the Congress defeat in Kerala, that the people of Kerala wanted

to bring about a stable Gov-ernment either by voting Con-gress or Communists into power and that since they had tried the Congress and found it wanting, they had voted for the Communists.

After two years it will be difficult for anyone to deny that the Communists have lived up to the expectations of the people and given gov-ernmental stability to the State despite its precariously slender majority in the Assembly and despite the efforts of the Opposition parties to disturb that stability.

previous Government here in our Sate since responsible Government was estab-lished in Travancore in 1948 has lasted long enough to present a third budget

The Communist Party and The Communist Party and the Kerala Government can justly claim that the financial year that is coming to a close has been a period when their popular policies have begun to bear fruit in spite of the heightened political tension deliberately created by the Congress and other Opposition parties during the first half of the year. of the year.

It was during this period that the Administrative Re-forms Committee completed

its work and submitted its its work and submitted its report; the Master Plan for development of the water resources of the State was prepared; the recommenda-tions of Pay Revision Com-mittee upgrading the sala-ries of low-paid employees in Government services were implemented. implemented.

was during this period that a really State-wide mass movement was unleashed for people's participation in napeople's participation in national reconstruction during the Irrigation Week in the last week of January when nearly 500,000 people came forward to contribute free labour to construct nearly 400 new minor irrigation works new minor irrigation which when completed will irrigate 15,000 acres of paddy fields and increase food production by about 7,000 tons

annually.

The task facing the Party and Government in the comand Government in the coming year is to learn the lessons of the experiences of the last year and devise ways to apply them for enlisting popular

cooperation on a far wider scale for increasing the tempo of development.

The central question is the question of resources. Non-Plan expenditure is compara-tively higher in our State because the Government meets the entire cost of education, per capita expenditure on other social services is comparatively higher, better salaries are being paid to the Non-Gazetted employees, teachers, relies controlled. police constables, etc.

Hence the physical targets of the Plan have to be achie-ved with the least financial outlay and mainly with the cooperation of the people.

In the intensive drive to In the intensive drive to increase agricultural, especially food, production this has become an urgent necessity. What is needed for this is a big movement to bring as many small and middle peacents into better forming or sants into better farming or joint farming cooperative societies. In addition to in-creased irrigation facilities,

the peasants have to be enabled to use better seeds, improved cultivation methods,

In the field of industrial development, there is no-thing much yet to show to the credit of the Government or the Party. Experience has shown that just depending on big industrialists to start new industries will not take us a long way. The question that has to be tackled now is how to make industrial development also a mass movement by mobilising the small capital scattered in many thousands of hands and start a large number of small new industrial units in all parts of the

trial units in all parts of the State.

These are some of the problems which will have to be discussed by the Budget Session of the Assembly. And the question of questions is: will the Opposition parties take an attitude of constructive criticism and helpful cooperation to solve these problems?

Warrants Against Communist and Kisan Leaders

FREE & FAIR ELECTIONS

-THE KAIRON WAY

T HIS is Sirsa, a tehsil of Hissar District in the Punjab. Scores of policemen, armed with lathis and rifles, are parading the town since February 11. A contingent is sitting in front of the offices of the Communist Party and the Kisan Sabha. The local police have raided over twenty places in search of Communist and Kisan Sabha leaders, arrested over a dozen including one ordinary kisan, and warrants are said to be pending against over a dozen comrades.

Why have the Communist Party and the Kisan Sabha been made virtually illegal in this one tehsil? It cannot be because satyagraha against betterment levy is going on here, since the movement is on in the rest of the province also. Nor can it be because the Provincial Kisan Conference is scheduled to be held at Sirsa next month, for such conferences have been held at other places without local officials running amuck as they have done here.

These organisations and their entire cadre have been made the target of attack just be-cause a by-election is pending in the Sirsa double-member constituency and Chief Minister Kairon's righthand man, Chaudhri Devi Lal, is the Congress candidate. In the general elections he was not given the Congress ticket as there were grave charges of corruption against him. One of his men, L. Sant got the ticket but was defeated by an independent. This independent has been unseated as a result of a petition filed against him.

This time Kairon, with his group dominant in the Pro-vincial organisation, has made sure that Chaudhri Devi Lal

it is not so easy to get him into the legislature. Hence the attack on these organisations for it is their activities that Chaudhri Devi Lal and his henchmen fear will be a dan-

ger to his success. Chaudhri Devi Lal is a Congressman, notorious for inter-ference in the administration, for bossing over the local cials, giving his patronage to all anti-social elements and for using all weapons against his political opponents and even rivals inside the Congress. For some time he has been feeling very uneasy over the rapid growth of the kisan movement in this area and when the Provincial Kisan Conference was announced to be held at Sirsa, he did not like it but could do nothing except creating some obstacles. Then the by-election was announced.

At the same time, the Kisan Sabha organised a kisan rally at Sirsa from which the first kisan jatha was to march for satyagraha against the better-ment levy. This was on Feb-ruary 11. All this was too much for the powers-that-be. If there was a satyagraha on and the provincial kisan rally was also held at Sirsa, this could jeo-pardise the chances of Devi

So the police acted. They acted in order to prevent the rally and the satyagraha and to put the leading Communists behind the bars. In the early hours of February 11 they car-Communists ried out a number of raids in search of Avtar Singh Malhotra, member of the National Council of the Communist Party, and Chairman of the Reception Committee of the Provinical Kisan Conference; Lila Dhar Kisan Conference; Lila Dhar Dukhi, Secretary of the District Council of the Communist Party, and a number of other leaders. The Deputy Superin-

gets the Congerss ticket. But tendent himself led the police party and a Sirsa Congress leader was accompanying them.

When they could not find the the leaders, they began to arrest all kisan workers whom they could lay their hands on. The hundred armed policemen were posted in the town and in vil-lage Vaidwala from where the first satyagrahi jatha was to start. But all this proved of no start. But all this proven or no avail. The Communist leaders escaped the clutches of the police and the satyagraha jatha reached the meeting place and offered satvagraha.

Exasperated at this, that same evening, they arrested the local trade unionists and the agent of the Nawan Zamana (daily). Three Kisan Sabha workers of Bhatinda District who had attended the mass meeting addressed by S. V. Parulekar, M.P., were also ar-rested. The satyagrahis and the arrested comrades are reported to have been beaten up in custody and put in irons.

The police have continued their offensive in the subsequent days and arrested seven other Communist and Kisan Sabha workers from their homes. The police harass any body who approaches the offices of the Communist Party and the Kisan Sabha and have carried out more raids. Armed police are parading Sirsa town. And now after having done all this, the Ministers have started touring the constituency. This is cal-led "fair and free elections"! kisans of Sirsa have given a fitting reply to all this

police offensive by continuing the satyagraha and giving pro-tection to their leaders now hounded by the police, aided by some local Congress bosses. The voters of the area will get their chance to give their reply when polling takes place next month.

FALSE FIGURES

*FROM FRONT PAGE

were given licences to make about ten million mega units about ten million mega units of penicillin several years ago, and they have so far done verylittle to produce penicillin in the country. The fact remains that at present the country is largely depending on import of penicillin from abroad.

The question naturally arises, why is Sri Manubhai Shah interested in purveying false information to Parliament and the people.

ring false information to Parliament and the people, and possibly to the Cabinet as well? What is the pur-

pose of this manoeuvre?
There seems to be little doubt, from the whole history of the handling by the Com-merce and Industry Ministry of the proposal of the Soviet experts to make India selfsufficient in important basic drugs, that this is a dodge to sabotage the national project offered by the Soviets, which included the putting up of an additional antibiotic plant to produce not only a large quantity of penicillin, but also to make streptomycin, tetra-cyclines and other new anti-

He is trying to create an atmosphere by giving false information, to justify his Department's rejection of this additional antibiotic plant, in order to keep in private hands the manufacture of as much of antibiotics as possible, to the great damage of the public sector and the people. This is borne out by the fact that the first team of Soviet experts had in 1956 suggested He is trying to create an at-

immediate extension of Hindustan Antibiotics to manufacture larger quantities of penicillin and also to under-take production of 85 tons of streptomycin, aureomycin and other new antibiotics.

And though the Govern-

ment invited a second team ment invited a second team
of Soviet experts to come to,
India to finalise this project, before they could get
here, the Commerce and Industry Ministry entered into
an agreement with the American firm of Mercks to enlarge Hindustan Antibiotics
just to make strentomycin just to make streptomycin only, leaving the import and sale of aureomycin and other new antibiotics in the hands of private enterprise. This in spite of the fact that Prime Minister Nehru in a public statement said that in 1956 aureomycin was bein 1956 aureomycin was being imported at about Rs. 1.20 a gramme and was being sold to the public at more than Rs. ten a gram-

The sale price must be much nigher now. An average case needs 15 grammes of aureomycin, which means Rs. 150 per case, while the Soviet experts had suggested that they could help India to make this drug at only eight annas a

gramme.

Now the construction of an additional antibiotic plant in sublic sector is being the public sector is being obstructed. It is, therefore, obvious that Sri Shah is interested more in the huge profits of the private sector than in the well-being of our teeming millions.