

NEW AGE

COMMUNIST PARTY WEEKLY

VOL. X, NO. 35

NEW DELHI, SEPTEMBER 2, 1962

25 nP.

cuba shall not be vanquished

Hypocrisy thy name is US imperialism!

For, hasn't the State Department rushed to disown any knowledge or responsibility for the piratical shelling of Havana on the night of August 24?

HAVING enticed away thousands of Cubans to Miami and having given them the necessary training and arms, now when these traitors to their country dare to show death on a peaceful city from water-side protected in depth by the US imperialism's navy and other arms, it is understandable for the State Department to be ready with a statement denying any involvement.

Didn't the US imperialists cry themselves hoarse to disown any responsibility for the Bay of Pigs invasion of April 1961?

Dean Rusk once again hopes, as he did 16 months ago, that the world will take his denials at their face value. He is indeed protesting too much.

He perhaps expects us to believe that too many Secret Service men have been sent to guard Jacqueline Kennedy

in Italy that none are available to keep an eye on the Cuban emigres in the United States, who can therefore ship out and attack Havana against the wishes of the US.

continuing plot against cuba

It is a well-known fact that despite their fiasco at the Bay of Pigs American authorities have been harbouring, financing, training and arming a considerable number of Cuban emigres. Indeed they have made no effort to conceal this. Like all ruling classes doomed to death, they have forgotten nothing and learnt nothing from the disgraceful debacle of April 1961.

They have stuck to the same old policy ever since—of building up a force of Cuban reactionaries with the

aim of invading the island and restoring the domination of the American monopolists and the supporters of former dictator Batista.

The latest attack on Havana is the outcome of this very policy. If the American authorities really opposed such despicable and cowardly attacks, they could very easily prevent them.

Have a look at their latest crimes against a small country, whose only fault is that it wants to shape its destiny on the accepted foundations of social justice rather than on the basis of dog-eat-dog principles of private enterprise that guide the US social system.

united states not guilty?

A 20 millimetre cannon mounted on a 31-foot cabin cruiser and a former naval torpedo boat rained death over Havana in the darkness of the night. This sneak attack was followed by a flight of a US plane over six towns in Matanzas province and another over a Cuban ship in Cuban waters.

Incidentally, this brought to 142, the number of air space violations by the US against Cuba since the beginning of July.

According to a New York Times dispatch datelined Miami, August 26, a report was current there that "a number of United States students who have joined the (Cuban renegades) student movement were also on board one of the boats."

Two US citizens, according to the same New York Times dispatch, William Johnson and Frank Swanner by name, had flown an observation plane to spot the target before shelling. All these US nationals could function without the knowledge of any US security organ and without belonging to one of them is slightly difficult to believe.

While the State Department rushed to claim that the US had no knowledge of it, a self-confessed leader of the expedition was able to appear unmolested at a Miami Press conference on August 25. Juan Manuel Salvat, President of a so-called "Directio Revolucionario Estudiantil" declared there that 23 men including himself had made the attack. This quising in America's pay hastened like his masters to declare that the US was

ever too useful to the powerful American interests, who still aim at the overthrow of the revolutionary Government of Cuba.

Clear and categorical has sounded the warning of Fidel Castro whom the US dreads not merely because he is the unshakable captain of the ship of Cuban revolution but even more so because he voices the urges of entire Latin America.

"We declare", said Fidel commenting on this attack on Havana, "that the US Government is responsible for this new and cowardly attack on our country. We emphatically condemn before the entire world public the plans of aggression which imperialism prepares against Cuba."

"We warn the President of the United States, that our people have taken all the measures necessary to counter this threat."

castro declares

The attack, said Castro, showed the cowardice of its instigators—the US Government—and of the mercenary agents, its recruits who operate from Florida, violating the most elementary international law.

"The Cuban Revolution which could not be defeated, by economic blockade, nor by the repeated military actions, nor by direct attack organised by the United States, will be able to resist and repulse direct attack as well", declared Fidel.

Cuba is ready to meet any threat, as Castro, always true to his words, says.

But it is necessary for all countries that have been victims of colonialist plunder and aggression—including a country like our own—to tell the US once again, "Hands off Cuba, Stop playing with fire."



"We warn the President of the United States"

by zia-ul haq

"not involved in the affair" and claimed that the two boats had not been based in the US. These were later reported to have been impounded in Florida.

With criminals parading themselves openly in Florida but the tools of their crime taken over safely after the crime is accomplished, the State Department's statement deserves study. It says the US "could not approve of the use of its territory for such action".

What would one think of a judge whose court was being used as the headquarters of a criminal gang, and who said, when it was reported to him that armed assault had been organised from there, "Of course, I do not approve"?

Anyone with a little commonsense would unhesitatingly brand such a hypocrite as an accomplice and protector of the criminals, as the real perpetrator of the crime.

And that is the exact position of the United States. There would only be meaning in its "disapproval", if it took steps to prevent its territory from being used as a base for attack on Cuba, and if it took action against all the Cuban emigres plotting against the Cuban Government.

These renegades, cast off by the Cuban people, are how-

SPANISH MINERS RESIST FRESH ATTACKS

LONDON, August 26

Reports arriving here indicate the growing scale of the movement of the Asturian miners. The Times Madrid correspondent reports that 12,000 men are jobless, mostly as a result of lock-outs proclaimed by the authorities to break the miners' resistance.

THE Madrid correspondent of the Daily Herald reports that the disturbances involve a quarter of all Spanish miners. The disturbances have considerably aggravated in the past two days and are of a political nature.

The strike of Asturian miners in support of their demands for a shorter working week without wage cuts is spreading to more and more mines.

According to Paris press reports, at least 15,000 men, that is, approximately one-third of all Asturian miners, were on strike on August 26. In connection with this strike, the Secretariat of the World Federation of Trade

Unions (WFTU) issued a statement vigorously protesting against the new repressions of the Franco Government and demanding the release of workers imprisoned after the strikes of last April and May.

The WFTU has called upon the workers and trade unions of the whole world to express their solidarity with and support for the striking miners of the Asturias and the entire working class of Spain, who are evincing a bright example of determination to improve their social and economic position and to win democratic freedoms and trade union rights.

—TASS

dastardly attack on hayana condemned

West German Report: Kennedy's "Bonhomie"

The periodic breakdowns at the Rourkela Steel Plant have been a constant headache to the Hindustan Steel Limited. The damage they have caused to country's prospects of attaining its Third Plan steel target has also been confirmed by the Steel and Heavy Industries Minister.

FORMALLY, such an unenviable record, contrasting sharply with the magnificent successes at the Soviet-built Bhilai plant, should have had a chastening effect on the people associated with the project, but this has not been the case with the West German firms collaborating in setting up the Rourkela plant.

On the contrary, they have chosen to congratulate themselves on their excellent workmanship, which could not get any chance to show its prowess merely because the requisite Indian talent, to match it, was not forthcoming.

This is the quintessence of the Solveen Report, prepared by a Commission of West German experts, which was sponsored by the West German Government to probe into the maladies afflicting the Rourkela project. Not a single word has this Report to say about any default which the West Germans themselves might have committed.

All blame for the breakdowns, for shortfall in production, has to be squarely borne by the Indian authorities. We, on our part, do not hold any brief for the latter.

We know they are very often guilty of bureaucratic practices. And yet, these very authorities, with all their faults, have not been able to hold back the Bhilai project from attaining all its targets.

Inevitable Comparison

In fact, on the very day the Solveen report was officially released, the magnificent achievements at Bhilai were proclaimed and hailed in a joint Indo-Soviet communiqué. These achievements, the communiqué said, were made possible by "friendly cooperation between Soviet specialists and Indian engineers, technicians and operators."

Obviously, it was this "cooperation", so vital for any joint venture, which was lacking at Rourkela, and the responsibility for it has to be squarely placed on the West Germans.

The Solveen report charges Hindustan Steel authorities with 'not employing an adequate number of foreign technicians at Rourkela while the fact is that number of foreign technicians at Rourkela has probably been the highest among all the public sector steel projects.

If the other two projects did not suffer from any breakdowns in spite of a progressive withdrawal of foreign technicians, it was because these technicians had done a thorough job in training their Indian under-studies. The West German technicians did nothing of the kind, with the result that even though Rourkela was the first plant to be projected, it has to contend with a shortage of skilled hands.

The remedy for such a state of affairs should be obvious: to speedily train Indian technicians, but Solveen and his colleagues think otherwise. They recommend a large inflow of their compatriots, not merely as technicians, working under an Indian administration, but as virtual executives "sufficiently authorised to give and receive instructions and carry the full responsibility and obligations of their posts".

No other foreign party collaborating with our Government has till now dared go so far in its demands, and that too after such a dismal record in discharging the responsibility entrusted to it.

W. German Audacity

The West German experts' audacity, however, does not end here. They would even like our Government to learn a lesson or two from them in disciplining its working force. "Disciplinary action" they say, "should be strictly enforced" as also a review be made of "shop regulations and personnel policy".

In other words, the anti-labour practices, in which their own Governments, in fascist days, as well as afterwards, have been past masters, should be enforced in India too, otherwise their wonderful machinery which "comes up to most recent state of technology" would not work.

The cost of implementation of the recommendations of the Solveen Report has been estimated at Rs. 6 crores, and this the Government has agreed to bear. There is obviously no justification for this extra charge, but the Government perhaps had no choice, for, it had to see that the money invested so far in the Plan does bear some fruit.

The Solveen report is in fact an indictment of the West German firms, for, other things being the same, it is these firms which had failed to deliver the goods as well, as the Russians had done at Bhilai, or even the British at Durgapur.

It should, however, prove a deterrent to the Government against rushing into collaboration deals with parties which do not only not fulfil their part of the agreement, but blame the other party for their own default.

PRESIDENT Kennedy's statement this week, defending the US Aid Programme to India, has been hailed in our national press as marking a departure in the rigid attitude which the ruling US circles had so far adopted in relation to our country.

In fact, it is said that it marks the beginning of a new chapter of "bonhomie" between the two countries, in which hitches, like those generated by the proposed MIG deal, would be mere trifles. Obviously, if this was true it would amount to the US giving up its present policy of utilising assistance for its own purposes.

Our Ambassador in the USA, B. K. Nehru, a man not known very much for his anti-Americanism, had said at a conference in Salvador, Brussels, early this month, that the Western aid was often given as charity and "with a lack of grace that is truly remarkable".

He added, "it is on occasions overtly and often covertly sought to be used to ensure that the recipient nations do not depart in their external political policies from the line taken by the donor country".

If the new policy enunciated by President Kennedy marks a departure from this practice, it would really be something to talk about. But is it really the case? Let us see what President Kennedy himself has to say.

Describing India as an extremely large and important country, the President said, "it is free and non-communist, and it has indicated it is going to attempt to maintain its freedom... Therefore, I think it is in our interest to support it, because if it ever passed behind the iron curtain... the cause of freedom would have been very adversely affected, not only in Asia but all through the underdeveloped world".

Further, "We have to make a judgment as to what serves our interest, whether the country is attempting to maintain its freedom, whether the country is pursuing policies which are not inimical to the long-range interests of the USA".

If these sentiments are not an open admission of so many strings, which the US aid is still tied with, what else are they? Obviously, nothing has changed in the US policy. All that has changed, and that too slightly, is the tenor of the statements made about it, which are not now as audacious as they were in the days of Foster Dulles, and, yet, our national press, losing all sense of self-respect, has run into singing hallelujahs to President Kennedy.

Burden On Masses Redundant

—Says Bhupesh Gupta

In connection with a motion regarding the progress of the Third Five Year Plan, Bhupesh Gupta, leader of the Communist Group in Rajya Sabha, moved several amendments on August 28 and one of the amendments stated that "adequate resources for the Plan can be raised without placing new economic burdens on the masses and by taking the following steps:

- 1 Nationalisation of the large number of high-profit-yielding foreign-owned industries and business concerns.
- 2 Pending such nationalisation, as an immediate step, curbs on the remittances of interest, dividends, royalties, payment for patents, and other remittances abroad by foreign firms.
- 3 Curbing of the high salaries, allowances and other perquisites of the foreign technical and managerial personnel of foreign firms.
- 4 Nationalisation of foreign trade and rapid expansion of State trading in internal market.
- 5 Nationalisation of banking, general insurance, iron and steel, coal and other mining, oil, sugar, jute, tea plantations under foreign control.
- 6 Tapping of the reserves and accumulations of the companies, business houses and financiers to the maximum possible extent by necessary fiscal and other measures.
- 7 Mobilisation of the gold hoards in the hands of the wealthy sections of the community, especially, the gold held in bullion.
- 8 Cancellation of the former prices or at least freezing of future payments of the same to them.
- 9 The tapping of foreign assets held by former princes, industrialists and others in foreign countries by compelling them on pain of imprisonment to declare all their foreign assets in whatever forms.
- 10 Increase in the wealth tax and estate duty on the higher income brackets and the reintroduction of the expenditure tax.
- 11 Stringent measures against evasion and avoidance of taxes especially by the higher income groups, including measures to prevent such evasion and avoidance through fictitious arrangements by the assessees.
- 12 Publication of the names of all those whose assessed income is more than Rs. 50,000 annually, thus giving the people an opportunity to spot out cases of under-assessment, evasion and avoidance.
- 13 Punitive measures to recover arrears of income and other taxes from the higher income brackets.
- 14 Cancellation of all important concessions, rebates and refunds given lately to the industrialists and businessmen.
- 15 The rapid development of Indian shipping with a view to saving resources on account of freight charges.
- 16 Reduction of non-developmental expenditure to the maximum possible extent.
- 17 Cutting down of conspicuous consumption by the rich.
- 18 Drastic measures, both legislative as well as socio-economic, against corruption, inefficiency and maladministration.
- 19 Review of the present system of contracts through which Government's development works are done with a view to effecting economy and preventing waste, corruption and delay.
- 20 Setting up of increasing numbers of profit-yielding undertakings by the States and the grant of initial financial assistance by the Centre to them.

Price-Rise Can Also Be Arrested

Bhupesh Gupta also moved another amendment which stated that "the immediate and pressing problem of price rise can be tackled efficiently, if the Government implement the following programme:"

- 1 Supply by the Government of rice, millets and wheat through a wide network of fair price shops at the rate of one shop for every 500 families. Similar arrangements to be made in rural areas also wherever necessary at rates within the reach of the poor and middle class people. Government to procure foodgrains from landlords and hoarders.
- 2 Prices of all essential articles of consumption to be fixed by Government and these articles to be supplied from the cheap price shops to the people.
- 3 Minimum price for the agricultural produce to be fixed and ensured to the peasants by government undertaking to purchase them at the price whenever offered by the peasants at convenient places.
- 4 With a view to encourage the peasants to grow more food, Government should assist them by supply of agricultural implements and fertilisers at even subsidised rates and by provision of cheap credit for agricultural families. All big landlord families to be denied such government assistance.
- 5 Abolition of taxes on foodgrains and other essential articles of consumption by common people.

One-Day Token Strike If Bonus Is Not Paid



S. A. Dange addressing the Bonus Conference.

★ FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT

BOMBAY, August 27: Preparations for the forthcoming one-day token strike by the two lakh workers employed in the sixtytwo textile mills in Bombay under the leadership of the Mumbai Girni Kamgar Union (GKU) are in full swing.

WORKERS in thousands, at various meetings and demonstrations being held here daily, are coming forward to contribute money towards the strike-fund. The Action Committee for the strike appointed at the "Bonus Conference" held here last week has decided to demonstrate before the office of the Millowners Association at Fort on August 30.

Meanwhile the Maharashtra Chief Minister Y. B. Chavan, State Labour Minister. Mane and Union Labour Minister G. L. Nanda have been requested to take note of the workers' decision to go on the token-strike if the mill magnates stick to their unjust refusal to grant twelve month's bonus spread over past three years to the workers.

The decision to go on the strike was taken at the "Bonus Conference" called by the GKU at the Kamgar Maidan at Parel on August 22 last.

TEN THOUSAND DELEGATES

The conference was attended by nearly ten thousand delegates and observers representing the textile workers in the city. The pandal raised at the maidan to accommodate six thousand delegates overflowed and many delegates sat through the conference outside braving occasional showers and scorching mid-day sun.

The venue of the conference was named after the memory of the late Hanumanthaya, one of the twelve workers killed during the bonus struggle in 1950 in police firing.

The conference demanded of the Millowners Association to "declare bonus for the years 1956, 1960, and 1961 immediately".

only these capitalists will sit around a table and put signature to the bonus agreement".

He made a scathing attack on the anti-national activities of the capitalists, and said that even Congressmen like Khandubhai Desai had pointed out these things and had pleaded for nationalisation of the textile industry.

NATIONALISATION OF TEXTILE INDUSTRY

Datta Deshmukh in his inaugural speech demanded the nationalisation of the textile industry. He said, the textile millowners were resorting to a deliberate go slow policy with regard to the production of more cloth.

"The struggle of textile workers and the forthcoming token-strike were therefore one of the steps towards the

annihilation of these anti-national elements", Dange said.

Dange declared that the AITUC would not be a party to the Code of Productivity and added that until and unless the workers were paid proper wage-rates, there could be no question of cooperation.

NO BONUS SINCE 1959

Since 1959 the workers did not receive anything as their bonus. Yet every year the mill magnates were showing large amounts as bonus in their respective balance-sheets. This was another example of the unscrupulous means the capitalists employ to exploit the workers, Dange said.

To the capitalists, Dange continued, gentle talks or appeals as indulged in by the Congress-led Rashtrya Mill Madoor Sangh (RMMS) which is the representative Union, did not mean anything. They would understand only the language of strike, he added.

"The capitalist god accepts offerings that are filthy and foul", he quipped.

Dange said: "We should fight with them with all our resources. Preparations must be made on war-footing. Then

The resolution also demanded of the Millowners Association to pay uniform bonus to all workers in the industry "on the basis of the total profits earned by the industry as a whole".

It urged the Government "to force the millowners to come to an agreement with the representatives of the workers representing all sections, through a tripartite conference".

Earlier the resolution declared "that in view of the open pro-management policies of the leaders of the Rashtrya Mill Madoor Sangh, in relation to the five year bonus pact and the pact regarding the bonus for the year 1958, the Sangh leaders cannot be relied upon to represent the workers in this bonus issue and have also lost the moral right to do the same".

It was mainly their desire Baburao Jagtap and Yesh-



Textile workers vote for the one-day token strike.

to get more and more profits that led them to whittle down the production of cloth and to increase its price at the same time.

A large number of workers were being thrown out of employment as a result of it, he said.

S. G. Patkar, a member of the Working Committee of the AITUC, and a Vice-President of GKU, moved the main resolution in the conference. The resolution called upon the workers to "observe token strike on September 24, as a first step in the struggle for forcing the government to intervene in this dispute effectively, and for acquiring social justice for labour who are already burdened by increasing taxation and prices".

Against Imperialist Provocations In Berlin

The following are the texts of two other resolutions adopted by the National Council of the Communist Party of India in its meeting held recently in Hyderabad. (See previous issue of New Age for other resolutions.)

THE USA and other imperialist Governments have inspired a new round of dangerous provocative actions by militarist and revanchist groups in West Berlin, to coincide with the first anniversary of the building of the anti-fascist defence wall by the Government of the German Democratic Republic.

These incidents, as well as the shooting down on August 14 of an officer of the GDR border guard by West German guards, who illegally entered GDR territory—could have certainly led to a major armed clash, had the Governments of the Soviet Union and the German Democratic Republic not taken resolute measures, firstly to warn the US Government and its allies of the consequences of further provocations and, secondly, to strengthen the State frontiers of the GDR, while giving instructions to all border personnel to exercise the greatest patience and calm in dealing with the provocations in the interests of peace.

The continuation of these fascist militarist acts of violence underlines, once more the urgent necessity for the immediate signing of a German Peace Treaty, the admission of both German States to the UNO; and the establishment of a demilitarised free city in West Berlin, guaranteed normal communications with all countries of the world, with the evacuation of all troops of the Western Powers from West Berlin (if necessary, United Nations troops from countries other than those of the NATO bloc may be temporarily stationed in West Berlin to guarantee its free city status and the right of its people to determine their own affairs).

Unable to stem this tide of patriotic fervour by any other means, US troops and armaments have been rushed to protect the dying order in South Vietnam.

Again and again has the International Supervisory Commission in Vietnam, headed by India, accused the South Vietnam Government of violations of the Geneva Agreement, and more particularly has it pointed its accusing finger at the introduction into South Vietnam of U. S. troops and armaments.

Despite all this, the fact remains that U. S. military aggression in South Vietnam grows with every day and the International Supervisory Commission appears to be unable to take any effective measures to halt the almost daily massacres of Vietnamese citizens by US-led troops.

The National Council reiterates its demand that, as a vital contribution to the solution of the German problem and in pursuance of the policy of non-alignment, the Government of India should immediately grant diplomatic recognition to the Government of the German Democratic Republic and use its influence to bring about the signing of a peace treaty with both German States.

Solidarity With People Of South Vietnam

THE National Council of the Communist Party of India strongly condemns the U. S. Government for its brazen aggressive actions against the people of South Vietnam.

In open defiance of the Geneva Agreements, more and more US troops have entered South Vietnam and are actively engaged in massacre and plunder of the heroic people of South Vietnam.

The establishment of a U.S. military command in South Vietnam, again in flagrant contravention of the

Geneva Agreements, is a direct threat to peace and security in South East Asia.

Facing increasing violence and repression from the Ngo Dinh Diem Government, the people of South Vietnam are engaged in a gigantic heroic battle for their lives and liberties.

Tens of thousands of courageous men and women have declared their determination to overthrow the rapacious imperialist-propagated Government of South Vietnam and liberate themselves from its tyranny.

These figures clearly show that the incidence of the disease is not only on the increase in towns, it is also extending its grip over the rural areas at a fast pace.

A survey, carried out by the Bengal Tuberculosis Association puts the total number of TB patients in this State at over eight lakhs. (The total population of West Bengal is now about 3.5 crores)

Tuberculosis has been spreading at an alarming rate in West Bengal despite the tall claims of the State Government to the contrary.

It is contended by the Government that as a result of its "strenuous" efforts, death-rate from this disease has declined by 50 per cent since 1947. Hard facts, however, tell a different story.

About a decade ago, the incidence of the disease was 2 per cent to 5 per cent in the urban areas and 0.2 per cent to 0.5 per cent in the rural areas of West Bengal. The corresponding figures now are 12 per cent to 24 per cent and 10 per cent to 15 per cent respectively! (These figures are taken from articles written by famous TB specialists of West Bengal in the official journal of the Bengal Tuberculosis Association)

These figures clearly show that the incidence of the disease is not only on the increase in towns, it is also extending its grip over the rural areas at a fast pace.

A survey, carried out by the Bengal Tuberculosis Association puts the total number of TB patients in this State at over eight lakhs. (The total population of West Bengal is now about 3.5 crores)

400% Increase In Ten Years

In Calcutta alone, the number of patients who visited different TB clinics in the city in 1951 was 109,412. The number rose to 559,981 in 1961, that is, an increase of over 400 per cent in ten years! The number of new patients in 1961 was 81,713 as against 25,970 in 1951.

Thus, under Congress dispensation, one in every six persons in Calcutta's population of 2,926,498 is a TB patient!

According to TB specialists, the highest incidence of the disease is found among people in the age-group of 20-30. But what is far more disquieting is that the disease is spreading at an alarming rate among the womenfolk, especially housewives.

Classified on the basis of profession, about 30 per cent of the 81,713 patients registered in different TB clinics in the city were housewives. Next came the unemployed, their number being 20 per cent of them, 11,141 were males and 7,590 were females.

According to age-groups, 39 per cent of the patients were of 20 to 30 years and 21 per cent between 31-40 years. The incidence of the disease among children in the age-group 0-10 years increased from 2 per cent in 1946 to 5 per cent in 1961.

After Calcutta, 24-Parganas district had the largest number of TB patients. Howrah district occupied the third place.

While over 800,000 persons are suffering from the disease, the total number of beds in different hospitals is only 4,000, that is one bed for every 200 patients!

This lamentable lack of facilities for medical treatment is one of the reasons for the growing incidence of the

disease. Poor patients, who are turned away from hospitals, but have no financial means to get themselves treated outside, help to spread the disease.

Experts are firmly of the opinion that the main causes of the disease are semi-starvation, lack of nutritious food, over-crowding and unhygienic living conditions and financial worries due to unemployment, etc. And, all these conditions do exist in Calcutta in the worst forms.

About 27 per cent of the city's population or 900,000 people live in slums in conditions of indescribable filth, squalor and poverty. In most of these slums there are no arrangements for the supply of safe drinking water. Facilities for drainage and sewerage virtually do not exist. It is no exaggeration to say that a Calcutta slum would put even a pigsty to shame!

In non-slum areas, as many as 30 per cent of the total number of families are squeezed in one room with two other families. And, 22 per cent of the houses in these areas do not have filtered water-taps.

As regards employment, one in every three persons in Calcutta is unemployed. Not only that. The monthly income of 30 per cent of the city's population is no more than Rs. 20.

Little wonder that Calcutta is perhaps the only metropolitan city in the world which has such a large number of TB patients.

Floods In North Bengal

DISASTROUS floods threatened to engulf wide tracts in Jalpaiguri, Cooch Behar and West Dinajpur districts in North Bengal in the past few days.

As a result of heavy rains, the turbulent rivers Teesta, Torsha and Raldak overflowed their banks and submerged a total area of about 300 square miles. Nearly a hundred villages were inundated.

Embankments were breached and at several places washed away. Communications by both rail and road were disrupted. One vital railway bridge was in imminent danger of being washed away under the impact of swirling flood-waters.

The worst-affected areas were three sub-divisions of Cooch Behar district, where as many as 70 villages spread over an area of 150 square miles were badly hit.

But, the levels of all the rivers are now receding, though a fresh rise as a result of another spell of heavy rains is not ruled out.

Hundreds of huts have been washed away, and many more

Alarming Increase Of Tuberculosis

have been damaged beyond repairs. At least three persons have lost their lives, and scores of cattle have perished. The damage to standing crops has not yet been estimated, but it must be considerable.

About 80,000 people have been affected by the floods. Many of them have been accommodated in Government Camps. What they need urgently is immediate relief and speedy rehabilitation in their respective villages.

Paralysis From American Flour

ALL controversies regarding the cause or causes of paralysis, which had struck down a large number of people in Malda district of this State, were finally set at rest by the press note issued by the West Bengal Government on August 22.

The press note stated that the results of field and laboratory investigation of the recent attacks of paralytic disease in some areas of Malda district pointed to the paralytic agent as being triorthocresyl phosphate (TCP—JEM), a chemical agent largely used as a lubricant in the paint industry and the industries associated with plastics.

About 435 people in Malda were suddenly stricken with paralysis about two months ago. Three of them have completely recovered since then, but the rest have not responded to medical treatment.

The School of Tropical Medicine, Calcutta, was one of the Institutions which thoroughly investigated these cases and it came to the definite conclusion that the contamination of wheat flour with TCP was the cause of the paralytic disease. This flour had been consumed by the affected people.

The flour came from the USA.

The State Government accepted the findings of the School of Tropical Medicine. The press note, referred to above, further said that the mass of evidence went to show that some imported flour became contaminated and the paralytic disease emanated from consumption of this contaminated flour (emphasis added).

Scientific investigation and the unequivocal acceptance by the Government of the result of the probe have established it beyond any shadow of doubt that American flour

was the cause of the crippling disease.

And, not only in West Bengal but also in Assam and Orissa, people who took the same American flour fell victims to the disease.

Yet, the "General Secretary" of a so-called "Aryasthan Social Centre" issued a press statement, contending that it was mischievous propaganda to say that American flour was contaminated.

Will the gentleman now characterise the West Bengal Government's Press Note as mischievous propaganda?

It was further stated on behalf of the above organisation that it would be "good for the country" if "patriots" could foil the "conspiracy to create anti-American sentiments".

The organisation would have done good to itself if it had not brazenly exhibited such "patriotic" exuberance for the US imperialists.

Campaign Against Spurious Drugs

THE West Bengal branch of the Federation of Indian Women has collected signatures on about 8,000 postcards, which will be sent to the Chief Minister P. C. Sen.

The demand made in these letters is that a law should be enacted to place the offence of adulteration of medicines and food articles on a par with murder and to provide for severe punishment for those guilty of the offence.

In the morning of August 23, the leaders and workers of the Federation gathered in front of 13 main markets of the city. People from all walks of life enthusiastically came forward to put their signatures and to contribute one Naya Falsa each towards the cost of the postage.

Within less than three hours, all the cards were exhausted, and there was demand for more.

Death-Trap For Pedestrians

THE streets of Calcutta are a veritable death-trap for pedestrians as well as those who use the motor transport.

Official statistics show that the number of accidents in which motor vehicles are involved, are on the increase. On an average, there were 34 motor accidents a day during the six months ended June, 1962—an increase of 13 per cent compared with the figure for the corresponding period of last year.

Of 6,104 accidents till June 30, 135 were serious and caused the death of 157 people. Over 2,150 people were injured.

During the same period, 16,372 people were convicted for traffic offences. More than 47,000 traffic offence cases are still pending in court.

The reasons for the growing number of accidents are: growth in the number of automobiles in the city outstripping road facilities, interference with the normal flow of traffic by slow-moving vehicles, rash and negligent driving and failure of the police to enforce the traffic law.

North Vietnam...

★FROM PAGE TWELVE

on a foreign policy whose cornerstone is peaceful co-existence, has been expanding its relations with other countries, specially those of Asia, Africa and Latin America.

The contribution it made for the preservation of peace in Southeast Asia at the two Geneva Conferences—that of 1954 and the recent one on Laos—needs no elaboration. And guided by the same policy the DRV continues its efforts to peacefully reunify Vietnam.

On September 10, 1960, closing the Third Congress of the Vietnam Workers' Party, President Ho Chi Minh said, "Our whole party and our whole people are uniting closely into one mighty bloc. We are creating. We are building. We are marching forward. No force can hinder our march from victory to victory."

This is the confidence which enabled the people of North Vietnam to change the face of their land in such a short time. It is with the same confidence that the Socialist working people are dedicating their creative labour to the building of a better life in North Vietnam and the peaceful reunification of their fatherland.

Let us wish them ever-new successes in this glorious task.

PLAN IN PARLIAMENT

Editorial

THE RECENT debates in Parliament on the progress of the

Third Five Year Plan have emphasized the need for re-thinking by those who direct India's planning. The criticisms and apprehensions about the implementation of the Plan among the people outside were echoed in Parliament. Members belonging both to the Opposition and the Congress joined in this.

We have been through a decade of planning and we are now in the second year of the Third Plan. If the Government's earlier declarations and forecasts had any meaning, our economy by now should have developed a great tempo and become more self-reliant. But what do we have instead?

The tempo of development remains slow. In some rather vital sectors, it has even further declined. There are short-falls in the fulfilment of plan targets in coal, steel, cement, fertilizer, power and transport. In the first year of the Third Plan, the production of food went up insignificantly by only a million tons, as against the annual target of four million tons.

In the agricultural sector, rice, pulses, oil-seeds and cotton are lagging behind the targets. Even industrial production rose by only 5% last year and fears were expressed that the rate might be slower during the current year. Many industries are working below their installed capacity.

The national income which is an index of economic growth rose by only 3% during the first year of the current Plan as against the target of 5%. Yet the reality is that in order to cope with rising population and maintain it even at the existing level of living, the national income must increase by six to seven per cent annually. It is evident that if the present trends continue, we will be faced with an over-all decline in the living standards of the masses.

Moreover, this slow rate of growth limits savings and hence the investments so essential for a developing economy. Needless to say, without an accelerated rate of growth in our economy and larger investments, the problem of mounting unemployment can hardly be tackled.

Thus from every point of view, this slow rate of growth, and that too, in the twelfth year of our planning should cause the gravest concern. The Government however showed little awareness of the seriousness of the situation.

By now, it has become habitual with our planners to land our economy and our Plan in a man-made foreign exchange crisis. As in the Second Plan, so in the Third, we are much short of the needed foreign exchange.

It was revealed that we would require a bigger amount of external assistance than Rs. 2,600 crores as was originally envisaged (excluding the PL 480 allocation). What is surprising is that the Government have not drawn the right lessons either from the blackmailing tactics of the so-called Aid India Club or from Britain's move to join the European Common Market.

There are, of course, prodigious talks about export promotion but little, in fact, has been done except to shower concessions on industrialists and big exporters. Our trade deficits over the last few years have already exceeded Rs. 2,000 crores. This situation can be met only by reorganising and diversifying our external trade and by procuring such foreign assistance as is most suitable to our needs.

Even now a lot of foreign exchange is spent for importing intermediate products, some of which at least we can, with a little effort, find within our country. Consumption articles for the upper classes are still imported.

The two other issues which invited widespread criticism in Parliament were high prices and heavy tax burdens on the people. The failure of the Government to evolve a correct price policy caused no little embarrassment to many loyal followers of the treasury benches. The Planning Minister's assurance that vigorous steps will be taken to hold the price-line has evoked little optimism in the absence of concretely formulated measures.

As for taxes, the Planning Minister sought to justify the heavy economic burdens on the masses as an imperative for planning but his case on this score only exposed the class bias of the Government. The concentration of economic power is going on unabated and this is something which many members from both sides of the Houses condemned.

It was particularly refreshing to hear some Congress members urging for improving the living conditions of the working people and expressing their concern at the growth of unemployment. Among the critics on the point was the Ex-Chief Minister and Ex-Governor Ramakrishna Rao, who had no hesitation in saying that he agreed with many of the criticisms.

The differences on basic questions no doubt remain. But the debates also revealed much that is common in regard to broad policy and urgent practical questions. It is the task of the democratic forces to build a broad-based, united movement on the basis of these common strivings for the solution of the problems of India's planned development.

August 30.

Textile Workers Move Forward

Even a casual visitor to Kanpur cannot miss to see that the 50,000 textile workers of the city are on the march.

FOR nearly ten years, since that unfortunate full bench decision of the Bombay High Court in 1950-51 decreeing that bonus to workers could be given only after all other charges such as under the depreciation, rationalisation and reserve fund heads had been defrayed from the profits, the workers in Kanpur had felt severely let down and crushed. In the ensuing period of rabid legalism and economism which had invaded Kanpur like all other industrial metropolises, the worker hardly dared to raise his head.

The unscrupulous private sector took full advantage of the situation. Of the eleven textile and woollen factories in the city only one, and that too strangely enough, the one that was controlled by the B.I.C., paid out bonus to its workers on the basis of 50-50.

The treacherous INTUC men of the city, as well as its Congress MLAs, assisted the local Baglas, Singhania, Jaipurias and Ram Ratan Guptas in their unpatriotic attitude towards those who produced all their and the nation's wealth.

This was so more or less till the eve of the last general election, when, with the heralding of the tempestuous election campaign of Maulana Yusuf, as well as of S. M. Banerji and Ravi Sinha, but specially of Maulana Yusuf, who symbolises the urges and aspirations of the Kanpur worker as no one else does, a new chapter was opened in the city's working class annals.

Upsurge Of Workers

In fact, the workers were roused so much that even before the election was over, a struggle for bonus was launched in Singhania's Kailash Mills. The 2,500 workers of this young mill could wait no longer. They were already breathing in the exhilarating atmosphere of victory. The hard-boiled owners' resistance crumbled before the tide. They announced a bonus of Rs. 1,00,000. The workers asked for Rs. 1,50,000 and won. Ten years' stalemate was broken and so were the dams of the workers' restraint.

Yusuf was carried to victory over the crest of this glorious wave of Kanpur worker's reawakening. The full meaning and significance of his victory are becoming clear only now-even to us.

Anyhow, since then the Kanpur worker has not looked back. In mill after mill he has risen, defeated the manoeuvres of the mill-owners and their INTUC and other allies, pushed forward his real leaders to fight his battle, and won.

It began with the big Swadeshi Mills of the Jaipurias. It employs about 10,000 work-

ers. Last year the mill had yielded a profit of Rs. 80 lakhs, but the owners did not agree to part even with a single naya Paisa. They had kept mum even till Yusuf's election. But after his victory was announced, they too announced their intention to give 2 naya Paisa (that is about 2 per cent of the worker's annual salary) as bonus to their workers.

Matters reached a point where a ballot was taken for strike. The conclusion was foregone. The owners haggled. From two naya Paisa they came to four naya Paisa and then to six naya Paisa. Ultimately, however, an agreement was signed for ten naya Paisa.

Struggle Begins

It is not enough. The workers should have got at least twenty-five naya Paisa. But, despite everything, the workers are proceeding cautiously and also they do not wish to upset production as far as they can help.

Next, the struggle broke out in the Atherton West Mills. It employs about 3,500 workers.

It is one of those 36 textile mills of the country which were closed because of so-called unprofitability. Even the niggardly recommendations of the Textile Wage Board were not applied to these mills. But now the Mills are being run by the U.P. Government under the Industrial Development Act.

Like all textile mills, it is also minting money out of the sweat of workers' labour. Last year it recorded a profit of Rs. 40 lakhs. But, in the name of old debts, etc., it denied any share of these to workers. Paid them no bonus. Heeded no pleadings.

Now the situation is changed. Even the administration has to be careful. And hence, after the usual round of higgling, the management has agreed to pay Rs. 8 per month from July 1, 1962. It will also continue to pay the arrears of the paid off labour. Here only the talk of a strike ballot was sufficient to induce a proper mood in the management.

The battle in the Elgin Mills No. 2 was a bit tougher. This was also one of those unlucky 36 mills. The crisis in it was largely due to Murchra who had bought it. Through him it came back to the B.I.C. and they are now its owners.

The conditions in this mill were among the worst in Kanpur. Twice a week the workers were made to work for more than eight hours for a shift. The wage rates were low. The conditions of the workers were bad. Temporary hands abounded. Of course, the question of bonus did not arise. The mill had opened after nearly two years, during which the workers were more often than not unemployed.

They did not have much guts to put up a fight.

But here too the scene was transformed after the result of the general election. The workers decided to take a strike ballot when every other attempt had failed. Within a week the management expressed readiness to negotiate.

During negotiations they offered to reduce one hour from the shifts in which they were taking unpaid extra work, promised to make temporary hands permanent, agreed to give an increase of Rs. 8 per month beginning from July 1, 1962 along with an assurance that no one's wages will be reduced. They will give bonus too—but only half of what the worker in Elgin Mills No. 1 has got. The agreement has been

By Ramesh Sinha

signed, but not without a bitter feud with the INTUC and the mistries, masters and supervisors who are its backbone. As these sections get nothing in the recommendations of the Wage Board, they were for getting full bonus, that its bonus equal to what they are getting now in the Elgin Mills No. 1, and did not care for the wage increase recommended for the workers by the Wage Board. Votes were taken. Ninety per cent of the mill hands supported the agreement and so it has been signed.

The fight is now on in the Muir and Victoria Mills. The Muir Mills (about 6,000 workers) is owned by the Singhania and the Victoria Mills (about 6,000 to 7,000 workers) belongs to Sir J. P. Srivastava's heirs, but is actually managed and run by Sehgal of the INA fame. Gihirav is taking place in both the mills and so are meetings and demonstrations. Singhania has said that "bonus can be given." It is still hoped that Sehgal too reads the writing on the wall and ultimately in both the mills the issue of bonus will be settled.

Even in the midst of this

upsurge the workers are preparing for the struggle, which they think might become necessary, for getting Dr. Sampurnanand's Award, which is expected soon, implemented.

This post-election upsurge has drawn into its orbit other sections of the workers also. The workers engaged in the Iron and Steel, Oil, Electric, Chemical, Rayon, Jute and other industries are also on the move. Four new Unions, of the Card Board workers, Chemical workers, Iron and Steel workers and the Oil workers, have already been formed.

In the Jute there was even a day's strike against rationalisation. The management agreed, as a result of the strike, to postpone rationalisation.

These developments are inevitably having a repercussion in the rural areas of the district. They have had experience of the PSP and the SP and of course of the Congress. Now they want to meet Yusuf's comrades. Both in the city and the district the Communist Party is emerging as a leading force after a long long time.

Future Of Former French Territories

No Separate State

By V. Subbiah, Leader of Opposition in Pondichery Assembly

(Statement made at the Press Conference in New Delhi, August 16)

Now that the ratification of de jure transfer of former French possessions in India has taken place, the question that poses itself before the people is as to the future status of these territories.

ON the day the amendment to the Constitution for integration of these territories was taken up in the Lok Sabha, the Prime Minister made a statement in reply to questions. He said that the Government still stood by the assurance given to the people at the time of liberation to maintain these territories as a separate entity. He further added that they would constitute a Union territory with a certain measure of wider powers.

It would appear from the statement of the Prime Minister that he was anxious to confine himself to the previous assurance and to the terms of the de jure agreement that any change in regard to the future of these territories would be effected in consultation with the people.

One can understand such a statement being made by the Government of India in the then existing situation. But it would pass anybody's comprehension today how this idea of a separate state could be compatible with the integration of India, especially now when the people of these territories have gone through a long period of seven years of de facto regime.

It is time that Government of India reviewed their former position and saw the incongruity of keeping these far-flung territories, speaking three different languages and totally lacking in economic viability, as a separate state. It passes one's comprehension how the Government of India

feels itself bound to keep intact this imperialist set-up in a free India where states have long been constituted on a linguistic basis. If the Government were to persist in keeping these territories as one state—and it would mean in practice a state each within the states of Madras, Kerala and Andhra—such a set-up would only hamper the free and natural growth of the people in their language, culture and democratic participation in the administration. It would, above all, negate the very freedom and aspiration of the people to rejoin their brethren in the national homelands from whom a foreign imperialism had kept them separated for over three centuries. Is it for this that the people made sacrifices while fighting for freedom from imperialism?

One can understand if the Government requires some time to effect the merger of these territories with respective states and on that ground proposes to maintain this as a Union territory for a short period. That however does not seem to be the case. It appears on the other hand that the Government is succumbing to certain pressures from the reactionary leadership in the Congress Party in Pondichery. These reactionaries seem to be throwing a challenge at the Government to the effect that should a separate state with autonomous powers like Madras not be conceded, they would go out of politics.

The so-called reasons advanced by them to support their demand for a separate state under the schedule of territories of States in the constitution are, firstly, that people of Pondichery are according to them more mature than the people of India in Parliamentary practices and secondly, that the protection of French culture needs a separate state.

Both arguments are fallacious and will not stand any scrutiny.

Certain vested interests in Pondichery have been very active mobilising public opinion by spreading certain canards and indulging in anti-national propaganda. The big importers owning "black money, the evaders of income-tax, the contractors who are gulping a big share of the Plan money, the bus route licence-holders, etc. are rallied in full strength behind this slogan of a separate state. They propagate among people that the new Central and State taxes would fall on their shoulders if they let these territories be merged with respective States, as if this could be obviated under a separate State with a huge subsidy from the Central Government.

Along with this certain doubts and apprehensions of the Government employees regarding their future pensions and privileges are being played up by the advocates of a separate state by saying that such rights could be protected only under a separate state, though the fact remains that these rights were ensured under Article 10 of the de jure agreement dated May 23, 1956. If the Government of India were to reassure these

the chief exponent of the second view. He said:

"The question that has been posed is most misleading. This kind of question has been the bane of our literature. Link with the people must not be made the criterion for literary evaluation. One should only see whether literature expressed experience or not. Kulbhushan reinforced the argument by saying: 'Literature did have an element of the people's life, but it must be evaluated by its own flavour. In former times literature was created at the behest of feudal chiefs; now the demand was that it should meet the taste of the office-going masses.'

Manmathnath Gupta, stridently championing the third viewpoint, said in his paper: 'Modern Indian literature as a whole was, directly or indirectly, connected with the problem of national uplift. Ours has been a tradition of "fighter-writers".

"Take Tagore for instance. He was first and foremost a poet, but he never forgot that the poet's main func-

*NON FACING PAGE

SEPTEMBER 2, 1962

Literature And Life

Freedom And Frustration

★ By Girija Kumar Sinha

WRITERS in Delhi observed the 15th anniversary of freedom in a rather odd way. Over a hundred of them gathered on August 12 at the Link House at a literary symposium the subject of which was: *Why this growing gap between Indian literature and people's life since Freedom?*

Broadly three positions were taken in the debate. One averred that there was no such gap; another asserted that the demand for literature to be close to people's life was but a remnant of the old phase of slogan-mongering in Indian literature; while the third asserted that there did exist a gap between literature and the life of the people.

Dr. Namwar Singh, who initiated the discussion, said: "One might question and discuss whether the life of the people was adequately reflected in post-Freedom literature, but it certainly was too hasty to assert that literature was getting divorced from life.

"It is of course, odd that some of the outstanding literary creations in Hindi, e.g., 'Boond Aur Samudra' and 'Malla Anchal', which give the most living and realistic pictures of people's life have described the people as a worthless lot and characterised all the political parties as equally dishonest, ambitious and opportunistic. . . . But there is a silver lining in the fact that in spite of all his bitterness, the attitude of utter indifference or hatred towards the people had not taken root in the writer's mind. . . .

"No change in the present situation in literature can be expected unless an organised popular political effort is made to break this circle of indifference and individualism."

Art For Art's Sake?

Nemi Chand Jain was the chief exponent of the second view. He said:

"The question that has been posed is most misleading. This kind of question has been the bane of our literature. Link with the people must not be made the criterion for literary evaluation. One should only see whether literature expressed experience or not. Kulbhushan reinforced the argument by saying: 'Literature did have an element of the people's life, but it must be evaluated by its own flavour. In former times literature was created at the behest of feudal chiefs; now the demand was that it should meet the taste of the office-going masses.'

Manmathnath Gupta, stridently championing the third viewpoint, said in his paper: 'Modern Indian literature as a whole was, directly or indirectly, connected with the problem of national uplift. Ours has been a tradition of "fighter-writers".

"Take Tagore for instance. He was first and foremost a poet, but he never forgot that the poet's main func-

tion was not simply to create flavour and delicacy. 'Prem Chand had declared: That literature alone is the real stuff which has loftiness of thought, the urge for freedom, aesthetic essence, creativeness, portrayal of the realities of life, and which imparts drive, an urge for struggle and striving in the reader instead of lulling him to slumber. . . .

"But post-Freedom literature seems to have undergone a transformation. A note of exhilaration was missing due to the way-Freedom came to us. . . .

"The number of writers and the volume of writing is much more in the post-Freedom period. But has the writer today the same kind of ties with the people which he had before? One must say, he has not. . . .

"The intellectuals, like the political leaders are engaged in plunder and pillage. . . .

"Many writers who when they go near life portray it in such a manner that instead of getting inspiration for a revolutionary upheaval, the reader begins to feel like committing suicide. . . .

"Our writers who associated themselves with the struggle for national liberation must now associate themselves with the struggle for socialism."

Prakash Chandra Gupta: The special feature of today's literature is defeatism, frustration and depression. Till 1947 the Indian intellectual had been inspired by the objective of freedom. 1947 marked one stage. The new stage is not yet so clear. Social justice, economic liberation are as yet comparatively vague objectives. The present frustration will disappear only when the goal of socialism becomes as strongly inspiring as was the goal of freedom.

Meera Mahadevan: We do not seem to have a national purpose.

Lethargy And Deadlock

D. Ramalingam: Telugu writers currently taking part in a discussion "When did we have the best literature: is it before Independence or after Independence?"; both for and against, are agreeing on one point, i.e., there is a sort of lethargy, a kind of deadlock and that simply the status quo is being maintained. The writings are dull and nobody is moved. The writers are unable to find the subject matter for their writings.

N. Gopinathan Nair: We are still between two worlds, one dead, the other powerless to be born, and the frustrated exasperation that inevitably results, particularly among the young and the ardent, has been one of the most significant phenomena of recent years. . . . The writer must take upon himself the duties of the visionary, the evangelist, the social leader, and the teacher, and urge society forward. . . .

No one suggested that there had been less of creative writing in the post-freedom period, nor that some outstanding works had not been produced. So far as Hindi is concerned, Yashpal's epic work, 'Jhoota Sach' (Untruthful Truth) was written precisely in this period. It is a masterly portrayal of the Punjabi people's life and genius in the background of partition.

Phanushwar Nath Renu's 'Parati Parikatha' (Saga of the Barren Land) is an outstanding creation of this very period. The book reveals the sublime patriotic vision of a devastated land flowering into a garden again after ages of neglect.

Nagarjun's 'Balchanama' and 'Varuna ke Bete' (Sons of Varuna) are excellent novels of this period. It is 'Balchanama' which pioneered what is termed 'regionalism' in Hindi fiction today.

Mention was also made of Ila Chandra Joshi's 'Jehaz ka Panchnami' among other notable works of fiction of the post-Freedom period.

But there is no gainsaying the fact that Indian writers generally feel frustrated. There is much too much mediocrity, degeneracy and rank dishonesty in those who dominate Indian society and it is becoming increasingly difficult for the writer to stick to his vocation as a creator.

But the symposium revealed that the writer, largely, knows what he is missing. The Indian

writer had created during the independence struggle under spell of a great slogan, Onward for national liberation! The slogan now has to be: For national reconstruction, towards socialism, against Reaction which would not let the heritage of backwardness be overcome. Helplessness, disgust, self-loathing, mysticism, and contempt for social action are to be eschewed.

In a forthright comment on the symposium one of the participants said:

It seems that some of those who used to be in the forefront of the battle for progress are today sick and tired men. They are afraid, or too circumspect in avowing that 'slogans' alone have been the fountain-spring of the greatest creative writing of our times.

The symposium provided one of its liveliest moments when Manmathnath Gupta invited issue with Shivadan Singh Chouhan for the latter's apparently derogatory remark against 'sloganisation'. (The latter, it transpires, observed that he thought the subject of the symposium was reminiscent of a slogan.)

We know how such a fine artist and powerful painter of the common folk's life as Amritlal Nagar trips badly in his

writer had created during the independence struggle under spell of a great slogan, Onward for national liberation! The slogan now has to be: For national reconstruction, towards socialism, against Reaction which would not let the heritage of backwardness be overcome. Helplessness, disgust, self-loathing, mysticism, and contempt for social action are to be eschewed.

In a forthright comment on the symposium one of the participants said:

It seems that some of those who used to be in the forefront of the battle for progress are today sick and tired men. They are afraid, or too circumspect in avowing that 'slogans' alone have been the fountain-spring of the greatest creative writing of our times.

The symposium provided one of its liveliest moments when Manmathnath Gupta invited issue with Shivadan Singh Chouhan for the latter's apparently derogatory remark against 'sloganisation'. (The latter, it transpires, observed that he thought the subject of the symposium was reminiscent of a slogan.)

We know how such a fine artist and powerful painter of the common folk's life as Amritlal Nagar trips badly in his

writer had created during the independence struggle under spell of a great slogan, Onward for national liberation! The slogan now has to be: For national reconstruction, towards socialism, against Reaction which would not let the heritage of backwardness be overcome. Helplessness, disgust, self-loathing, mysticism, and contempt for social action are to be eschewed.

In a forthright comment on the symposium one of the participants said:

It seems that some of those who used to be in the forefront of the battle for progress are today sick and tired men. They are afraid, or too circumspect in avowing that 'slogans' alone have been the fountain-spring of the greatest creative writing of our times.

The symposium provided one of its liveliest moments when Manmathnath Gupta invited issue with Shivadan Singh Chouhan for the latter's apparently derogatory remark against 'sloganisation'. (The latter, it transpires, observed that he thought the subject of the symposium was reminiscent of a slogan.)

We know how such a fine artist and powerful painter of the common folk's life as Amritlal Nagar trips badly in his

writer had created during the independence struggle under spell of a great slogan, Onward for national liberation! The slogan now has to be: For national reconstruction, towards socialism, against Reaction which would not let the heritage of backwardness be overcome. Helplessness, disgust, self-loathing, mysticism, and contempt for social action are to be eschewed.

In a forthright comment on the symposium one of the participants said:

It seems that some of those who used to be in the forefront of the battle for progress are today sick and tired men. They are afraid, or too circumspect in avowing that 'slogans' alone have been the fountain-spring of the greatest creative writing of our times.

The symposium provided one of its liveliest moments when Manmathnath Gupta invited issue with Shivadan Singh Chouhan for the latter's apparently derogatory remark against 'sloganisation'. (The latter, it transpires, observed that he thought the subject of the symposium was reminiscent of a slogan.)

We know how such a fine artist and powerful painter of the common folk's life as Amritlal Nagar trips badly in his

writer had created during the independence struggle under spell of a great slogan, Onward for national liberation! The slogan now has to be: For national reconstruction, towards socialism, against Reaction which would not let the heritage of backwardness be overcome. Helplessness, disgust, self-loathing, mysticism, and contempt for social action are to be eschewed.

The symposium revealed that the Indian writer is not averse to a slogan. In fact, he is angry at the tone of goody-goodyness being set for him, ("A heritage handed over by getting freedom through compromise"—Shrikant Verma).

He is also indignant at not being able to live as a writer. Many are having often to sell themselves for a living to mediocre rulers or the commercial interests. ("This places physical limits on his time and creativity"—Yashpal). Circumstances are conspiring to rob him of his role of social leader. But he is awake and aware that the future beckons him. He also knows the 'slogan' under which to create in order that Independence anniversaries would not become occasions for depressing introspection.

As for the gap, what is a writer to use as his material, if not the life of the people? And if his heart be compassionate, his mind inquiring, his eyes perceptive how can he close his heart to the longing for a better India in a better world?

We know how such a fine artist and powerful painter of the common folk's life as Amritlal Nagar trips badly in his

Interim Administration Till Merger

*FROM FACING PAGE

sections of people regarding their earned rights, much of the wind would be taken out of the sails of the protagonists of a separate state.

It is worth noting here that these advocates of a separate state have consistently played a reactionary role in the history of the national movement of Pondichery. At the time of freedom struggle between 1947 and 1954, these men propagated among the people that it would be in their interest to remain forever under French imperialism. Again during the de facto regime, they stood in the way of Indian laws, such as labour and agrarian legislations being applied and in reconstituting the judiciary. Now, again after ratification of the de jure agreement, these gentlemen of the Congress Party advocate a separate state, which virtually means the prevention of the people of these territories from rejoining their linguistic states.

I understand that money is lavishly spent by the vested interests in Pondichery to flood the Government of India with innumerable memoranda and cables in the name of organisations which do not even exist. Still, notwithstanding such a barrage of made-up propaganda unleashed by the protagonists of a separate state, public opinion in support of merger of these territories with respective linguistic states is growing in all territories. Almost all leading English and Tamil Dailies of Madras—such as the Hindu, the Mail, Swadesamitran, etc., have fully supported the cause of merger with states. A number of municipalities, and public organisations have expressed their views in support of merger through despatches of telegrams to the Prime Minister.

I urge upon the Government

writer had created during the independence struggle under spell of a great slogan, Onward for national liberation! The slogan now has to be: For national reconstruction, towards socialism, against Reaction which would not let the heritage of backwardness be overcome. Helplessness, disgust, self-loathing, mysticism, and contempt for social action are to be eschewed.

The symposium revealed that the Indian writer is not averse to a slogan. In fact, he is angry at the tone of goody-goodyness being set for him, ("A heritage handed over by getting freedom through compromise"—Shrikant Verma).

He is also indignant at not being able to live as a writer. Many are having often to sell themselves for a living to mediocre rulers or the commercial interests. ("This places physical limits on his time and creativity"—Yashpal). Circumstances are conspiring to rob him of his role of social leader. But he is awake and aware that the future beckons him. He also knows the 'slogan' under which to create in order that Independence anniversaries would not become occasions for depressing introspection.

As for the gap, what is a writer to use as his material, if not the life of the people? And if his heart be compassionate, his mind inquiring, his eyes perceptive how can he close his heart to the longing for a better India in a better world?

We know how such a fine artist and powerful painter of the common folk's life as Amritlal Nagar trips badly in his

Interim Administration Till Merger

*FROM FACING PAGE

sections of people regarding their earned rights, much of the wind would be taken out of the sails of the protagonists of a separate state.

It is worth noting here that these advocates of a separate state have consistently played a reactionary role in the history of the national movement of Pondichery. At the time of freedom struggle between 1947 and 1954, these men propagated among the people that it would be in their interest to remain forever under French imperialism. Again during the de facto regime, they stood in the way of Indian laws, such as labour and agrarian legislations being applied and in reconstituting the judiciary. Now, again after ratification of the de jure agreement, these gentlemen of the Congress Party advocate a separate state, which virtually means the prevention of the people of these territories from rejoining their linguistic states.

I understand that money is lavishly spent by the vested interests in Pondichery to flood the Government of India with innumerable memoranda and cables in the name of organisations which do not even exist. Still, notwithstanding such a barrage of made-up propaganda unleashed by the protagonists of a separate state, public opinion in support of merger of these territories with respective linguistic states is growing in all territories. Almost all leading English and Tamil Dailies of Madras—such as the Hindu, the Mail, Swadesamitran, etc., have fully supported the cause of merger with states. A number of municipalities, and public organisations have expressed their views in support of merger through despatches of telegrams to the Prime Minister.

I urge upon the Government

NEW AGE

EDITOR:
E. M. S. Namboodiripad

Printed by D. P. Sinha at the
NEW AGE PRINTING PRESS,
East Street Road, New Delhi,
and published by him from 74,
Anand All Road, New Delhi.

Telegraphic Address
MADHAVANI
Phone: 225194

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

INLAND: Yearly Rs. 12.00
Half-yearly Rs. 6.00 and
Quarterly Rs. 3.00.
FOREIGN: Yearly Rs. 20.00
Half-yearly Rs. 10.00.

All cheques and drafts are to be made payable to T. MADHAVAN and not to NEW AGE.

WHY THIRD PLAN FACES CRISIS?

In the course of a discussion on Third Five Year Plan, Indrajit Gupta said on August 25 in Lok Sabha that though the Minister for Planning admitted the difficulties confronting the Plan, he also indulged, in a somewhat sterile sort of controversy with the Mover of the motion as to whether the achievements should be best seen in relation to the targets or in relation to the past out of which we have produced our Plan.

He said that he did not think that that sort of abstract argument was going to help very much, because, after all, when the technique of planning was taken into account, targets must have a certain definite meaning.

He said: "Either the Planning Commission should now come forward and say that targets are not very important in themselves or they are unreal or they are only notional things, and, therefore we should not bother much about the degree of our approximation to those targets, or they should state quite frankly that there have been considerable shortfalls, and that is a matter of very serious concern."

He said that "it was true that certainly, if we look behind us to where we were ten years ago or fourteen years ago, the country has advanced considerably. And certainly, it is also true that had it not been for the planned economy and for our taking recourse to the methods of planning, we would not have been able to advance even to the extent that we have done."

But, he said, "the fact remains that even after 1 1/2 years of the Third Plan, we find that targets have not been fulfilled yet, which should have been fulfilled during the Second Plan period, in respect of some very vital sectors."

● For example, the Second Plan target for finished steel was 4.4 million tons; in 1961-62, according to the figures circulated by the Ministry itself, we have achieved only 2.9 million tons.

● The Second Plan target for iron ore was 12.7 million tons; in 1961-62, we have achieved only 12.1 million tons. In cement, the target in the Second Plan was 13.2 million tons, but we have achieved only 8.2 million tons.

● In coal, the target was 61 million tons at the end of the Second Plan, but in 1961-62, we have reached only 55.2 million tons.

Indrajit Gupta said that not only in relation to the targets ahead, but also in relation to the targets that should have been left behind, we have to measure the real extent of the shortfall, and if it is done there is cause for serious concern.

Quoting the AICC Economic Review of August 7, which highlighted the foreign exchange crisis, Indrajit Gupta emphasised that it was an extremely grave matter that the reserve had fallen below Rs. 100 crores.

In this connection, he also raised the question of export target not being achieved to the extent desired and pointed out that "there seemed to be an absolute decline or fall, not in terms of the actual quantum of value of our exports but in relation to our share in the total exports in the world trade."

He called upon the Minister to shed all complacency and not to try to minimise the

situation because, if "the malady is not properly got hold of, we shall not be able to devise the remedy."

Referring to the so-called measures regarding Plan imbalances, stresses and strains and admitting that they might be having some corrective effect, he said that they did not go to the root of the problem and at best, were palliatives.

Twin Pillars Of Crisis

Indrajit Gupta said that he would emphasise the basic problem, which he described as, "twin pillars of this present crisis."

He said that this crisis, "rests on two main pillars. One is the pillar of this foreign exchange question, and the other is the pillar of internal resources."

"Both these pillars," he said "are more than a little shaky today. The crisis is deepening and will deepen further, unless these twin pillars are got hold of, and tackled in a basic and fundamental way."

Indrajit Gupta regretted that the Minister, has really not suggested any basic solution to these two problems.

Indrajit Gupta said that this foreign exchange crisis was entirely a man-made one and stressed that "this foreign exchange position is a very serious one, and if we do not tackle it properly, it may vitiate the whole basis of our Plan. No basic remedy has been suggested at all for this."

He said that until we gave up those policies responsible for crisis, "we are not going to get out of the woods, however much we may tinker superficially with administrative measures or some system of priorities and so on."

Citing examples, such as the question of shipping, on which Rs. 80 to Rs. 130 crores per year in freight charges were being paid, he said that "Indian shipping is not able even today to carry more than barely 10 per cent. of India's total trade and this is a drain for the country."

He said: "But despite this huge drain from year to year, can we say that we are making any serious attempt to develop the shipbuilding capacity in our country? When we raise the question of shipbuilding capacity, the question of resources is brought up—a contradictory position—and yet Rs. 100 crores is going out every year simply under the head of freight charges being paid to ships belonging to foreign countries."

Referring to the question of automobiles and the statement of the Minister of Heavy Industries to the manufacturers of automobiles that if they did not do something quickly to reduce the proportion of foreign components which are still being imported by them, so many years after the development of their production in this country, Government would have to take measures to either



Indrajit Gupta

restrict production or to restrict their licence, Indrajit Gupta said that it was certainly a sad commentary that even after 14 or 15 years, the big business houses

which have gone into automobile production were not able today to develop indigenous manufacture, and were dependent so heavily on foreign components.

Indrajit Gupta said that though the target for production of raw jute was reached, yet the fact remained that "the control of the industry and export trade has been left in the hands of the big business interests; neither on the one hand are prices being fixed in a way which will ensure that the peasants continue to step up jute production from year to year, nor are we able to check the loss in foreign exchange which everybody knows is due to large-scale under-invoicing of these jute exports."

He demanded measures to tighten the working of the Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, and to give some deterrent penalties to people who are found guilty of this under-invoicing. "This under-invoicing," he said, "takes place only in the case of our trade, multilateral trade, with the Western countries. It does not take place, and cannot take place, in our trade with the countries of eastern Europe, because payment there is made in rupees, not in a currency which can be converted."

"Therefore, there is no incentive to under-invoice in our trade with Eastern Europe, but as far as our multilateral trade is concerned, this is going on. Lakhs of rupees are being lost to us as foreign exchange."

Indrajit Gupta asked whether in

regard to licensing of industrial capacity it was not a fact that the Government itself had gone in for over-licensing all this time?

"The targeted figure for the entire period of the Third Plan for licences involving foreign exchange, was Rs. 450 crores, and we find that already out of that, Rs. 400 crores worth of licences have been issued."

"But mere licensing does not mean necessarily that those plants are coming up, or going into production."

Indrajit Gupta said the Indian imports were tied up to a very large extent with loans and credits, but the Minister did not tell, "exactly how much of this aid from the world consortium is tied, and how much untied."

Referring to the summary of the Annual Report for the year 1962-63 of the India Supply Mission, Washington, he said that it showed that the Indian Supply Mission in Washington placed contracts worth Rs. 137.45 crores during 1960-61, and in the next year, 1961-62, the value of the contracts has gone down to Rs. 95.99 crores.

"On the face of it, it seems that we are spending less, but the next sentence says that food purchases dropped substantially during the year and that the purchase of capital equipment financed from US Government and other agencies, loans and credits went up three-fold as compared to the previous year."

"There was a fall in the purchase of foodgrains, but because we have got tied-up credits and

loans with strings attached, we have no alternative but to step up import of capital goods by the extent of three times."

In this connection he referred to the fact that in respect of cargo shipped in Indian vessels, freight was paid amounting to Rs. 41.47 lakhs, while the freight paid for the other portion which was carried in foreign vessels came to Rs. 14.76 crores and asked: "How are we to stop this drain?"

He said: "we may get some more loans and credits, but the point is how do you take measures to stop the simultaneous drain which is taking place, at a heavier pace?"

Indrajit Gupta also pointed out the agreement by which manganese ore was going to be bartered for terylene fabric and said that "our manganese resources could be put to better use."

Indrajit Gupta said that no basic and fundamental steps to liquidate this legacy of the past has been taken and that "we are going on with the same old heritage and internally, inside the country, in the name of socialist planning, the Government is depending more and more on the big capitalists. If this is the way they want to build up socialism, well, I have got no quarrel with them except that I do not like that name to be misused in this way. Some other name can be used."

Indrajit Gupta quoted from a speech of Prof. Gadgil, which

inter alia stated: "The dominance of this resurgent group of large capitalists is the most important and significant change in India since Independence," and said that it was precisely this group of capitalists to whom Government has subordinated itself as a political client by means of that permissive legislation which was passed by this House enabling them to donate funds to political parties.

"It is, therefore, I suggest that apart from this crisis of foreign exchange, we find a crisis of internal resources because the way Government tries to solve the problem it is faced with is to make a series of concessions, one concession after another precisely to this group of big business houses and capitalists."

Indrajit Gupta also referred to the actions of Government contrary to the spirit of Industrial Policy Resolution and the hoarding of gold by certain agencies and said that: "If we are to save the Plan and if we are to save democracy, then, this kind of right-rope walking, this kind of depending on foreign countries and their aid, their strings and internally on these big business houses must be given up and new ground must be broken so that the internal resources may be mobilised by taking over productive assets in the hands of Government and by building up the development resources that we need."

RAILWAY ACCIDENTS

Based On A Speech Of P. K. Kumaran In
Rajya Sabha On August 21, 1962

The Railway Minister has placed before us a statement in which the accidents are listed. These accidents happened during the period when the Parliament was not in session.

DURING this period, a large number of accidents have crowded together at the rate of almost one accident in every two days. Naturally the public mind is much exercised over these accidents. A feeling of insecurity is being felt in all quarters.

The list with us shows a good number of accidents where the trains have entered obstructed lines. This shows, that apart from the human factor involved, the signal and interlocking systems on our railways are not perfect.

We have inherited from the British almost a heap of scrap in the form of railways. Our railway system was put to the maximum use and greatest strain during war years. There was no replacement, no re-



P. K. Kumaran

pairs worth mentioning. Maintenance of track was neglected. Worn-out rail were not renewed. Engines became exhausted. The required renewals and repairs for effecting efficient service were not done.

It was on such a system that the heavy Canadian, W. P. engines were introduced during 1949-50, which was not made according to the design we wanted. After importing, as many as 150 changes had to be made on some engines, before they were put on the track.

That was the beginning of the present spate of accidents on our Railways. Ever since then, accidents have been keeping more or less the same rate of increase as the increase in the volume and speed of our traffic.

Then about the signalling system. Except in some of the modernised stations, we are still having the obsolete system of signalling and pointlocking. Even mechanically fully interlocked stations are few. Our system can cater only to the old type of light trains which run in a leisurely way. Yet we are running faster and heavier trains now-a-days what is possible because the staff are giving their maximum co-operation.

The number of accidents could have been reduced, if only the authorities took to the practice of removing the cause of accidents, whenever they were discovered. They are more interested in fixing responsibility on somebody, punish him and close the file. If nobody could be fixed, they invariably attributed accidents to sabotage. Sabotage has become a convenient device for the top officials to explain away accidents which are difficult to understand.

I will give some examples of accidents.

● On July 10, the driver of a passenger train struck against a signal post at Kankarai and fell down from the running train. (This is not included in the list given by the Railway Minister.) The driver is now in Vellore Hospital in an unconscious state.

● Some months back, at Thinnapatti, the driver of a tanker engine working mail

train struck against signal post. He fell down unconscious in the cabin. Ten days later, he died.

● At Buddireddipatti, on October 4, 1961, a goods train driver struck against signal post. He was in hospital for 6 months. He was permanently disabled and was given some light job after recovery.

● Now, all the three stations I have mentioned are in the Jalarpet-Salem section of the West coast Main line of Southern Railway. About a year back, the signals were re-arranged over this section, when the signal posts were planted too close to the track.

If the authorities had taken steps to remove the cause even when the first accident took place, the other two accidents would not have taken place. But then, the question of taking the blame for not providing adequate distance between the track and the signal post must be owned by the engineer who supervised the work of re-arranging the signals. This the officer was not prepared for. So, the re-fixation of signals is not being contemplated.

● Another instance of defect of the signalling system. On March 24, 1958 G. T. Express had averted a collision with a goods train at Machavaram. Points were set for one line, but the signals were lowered for another line. The vigilance of the running staff saved the train from disaster.

What was the reaction of the administration? They issued a circular on March 26, 1958, instructing the staff that they should not rely completely on the signals. Four days after the first accident, while the staff were still trying to understand the circular, another accident took place.

On March 28, 1958, Delhi-Madras Deluxe Express and Madras-Calcutta Mail came face to face on the same line, at the same station, Machavaram. Luckily, this time also, they did not touch each other. The staff were vigilant.

And what did the administration do? The circular of March 26, 1958 was converted into correction slip to the general rule No. 36B. That was all.

Instead of improving the mechanism of the system, we went on adding correction slips to the General rules for working the trains. Even now the same bureaucratic approach persists and hence the accidents are increasing. You cannot run faster and heavier trains with the equipment meant for slower and lighter trains.

In many stations, where traffic is heavy, the spring trap system of points or key locking system of points are in use. On December 4, 1961, at Kistna Canal station, a passenger train and a goods train dashed against each other. Ten passengers were injured. This is a line where, on an average, 50 to 60 trains pass through up-and down. If the station had a fully interlocked system of points and

Communist Cartoon and PSP Caricature

Following a well-argued statement by Bhupesh Gupta, leader of the Communist Group in Rajya Sabha, on August 24, Dr. Zakir Hussain, Chairman of the House declared that the criticisms levelled by several members against the cartoon published in "Swadhinata" were "unjustified".

In the course of his statement Bhupesh Gupta said that on August 22, during the debate on the India-China border question, Akbar Ali Khan and B. K. P. Sinha referred to an alleged cartoon in the "Swadhinata" of the Independence Day and made serious allegations against that paper and the Communist party on the basis of what they heard or understood of this cartoon.

He said: "While Akbar Ali Khan went to the length of saying that the 'Swadhinata' had committed treason, B. K. P. Sinha insinuated that the Communist Party was a party of traitors. Akbar Ali Khan said that the cartoon showed that 'our people are being given food by the military men of China across the border.'"

"I felt that none of these Members had actually seen, much less examined, what they called a cartoon. The same matter was raised in the other House by Hem Barua, a Member of the PSP from Assam. I have examined the alleged cartoon published in the Independence Day Number of the 'Swadhinata'."

"In fact it is not a cartoon, but a pictorial representation of a very important concept of our political theory, namely the alliance of the workers and peasants for the progress of the people."

"I may inform the House that on the same Independence Day, August 15, 1962, the Hindi edition of the 'Swadhinata' published the same sketch with the caption, 'Kisan-Mazdoor unity is the only road to country's progress. The caption is there in the cartoon, a copy of which I have supplied. This should be conclusive evidence of what the cartoon means'."

the hammer and the sickle. Describing that the flag of the CPI displays the hammer and the sickle, Bhupesh Gupta rebutted the suggestion that the peasants in the picture were Chinese, on the basis of the fact that the Chinese flag does not at all contain the hammer and the sickle.

He said that the Chinese flag contains a big star and four small stars around it and added that the Prime Minister knew it but his friends might not know it. Probably to help them understand it, he also produced a Chinese flag. Bhupesh Gupta said that the peasants who were sought to be interpreted as Chinese, "Akbar Ali Khan even went to the length of saying that they were Chinese armed forces," were carrying sickle

and one of them a sheaf of corn, and added that sickle and sheaf of corn formed the election symbol of the CPI.

"The peasants are bare-bodied, bare-footed; they wear no trousers but only a little piece of lion cloth. No one has come across any picture of the Chinese appearing so bare-bodied and bare-footed; if for nothing else, their climate does not permit of such exposure."

"The peasants in the picture are shown wearing a kind of head-gear. This has been exploited to prove that they are Chinese peasants. Now this head-gear, which in Bengal we call 'toka', is put on by the peasants to protect them from heavy rain, and sometimes even from scorching sun. This is very common both in West Bengal and East Bengal.

"This toka finds many references in Bengali literature

as well as in the paintings of eminent artists including Poet Rabindranath Tagore."

Bhupesh Gupta drew the attention of the Chairman to the drawings and paintings of Rabindranath Tagore in a centenary publication by Lalit Kala Akademi and referred to plate No. 6, which showed a Bengali peasant wearing a toka. He also produced a toka which he had purchased from Cottage Industries Emporium at New Delhi.

Bhupesh Gupta also showed a publication from East Pakistan which in section 5, dealing with arts in East Bengal, showed the East Bengal peasant wearing the toka.

Proceeding further amid interruption and an order from the Chair not to mention names, Bhupesh Gupta said that there was no suggestion

स्वाधीनता दिवस विशेषांक-



किसान-मजदूर एकता ही देश की प्रगति का रास्ता

Beyond Arctic Circle

Masood Ali Khan

(FROM PREVIOUS ISSUE)

THE ship even from a distance is a thing of beauty. As she lay anchored a few kilometres from the shore, the miracle-ship about which we had already heard so much, looked graceful and majestic resting tranquilly upon the waters.

Her shining cream and white and brownish-red paint, her flowing lines and streamlined modern forms gave her the look of a luxury liner rather than of a working ship.

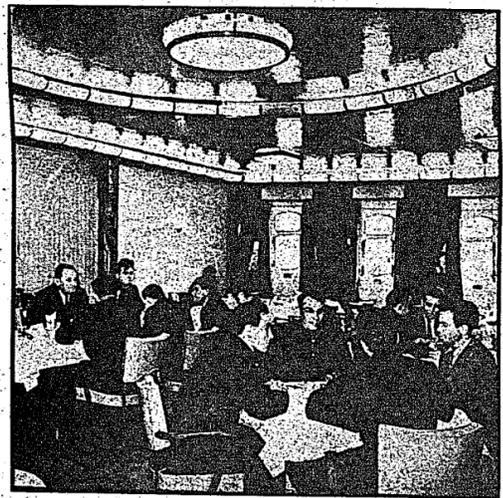
It looked too beautiful and too graceful, a dream of the future-atomic age which has become a reality of today.

As our launch came nearer, to the grace and beauty an

surroundings breakfast was served.

The young and handsome 34-year old captain of the atomic icebreaker "Lenin", Boris Sokolov, welcomed us to the ship.

One side of this hall was a curved wall with innumerable glass windows looking towards the nose of the ship from the height of four or five stories. And we saw a lovely view of the Murmansk harbour, the ships anchored in the bay and the town beyond. Soon the whole ship began to tremble and shake as the mighty engines were started and the propellers began to churn the waters, but this was only for a minute or so; soon the ship was gliding smoothly on the waters and we had started on



A Scene Inside the Atomic Ice-breaker 'Lenin'.

impression of might and power was added, and only from close distance we realised how big the ship was. As we came to know later, 134 metres long and the height of a seven-or eight-storey building, her graceful form gave the ship a deceptive look of a delicate toy from a distance.

Inside, everything was like in a luxury hotel. Polished wood and cream-colour plastic walls, neon lights, modern furniture in pleasant colours and everything spotlessly clean and shining. We entered a wonderful big room, what looked like a beautiful banquet hall, and here under very pleasant

our cruise in the Barents Sea while breakfast continued.

This was the energy of the mighty atom driving the ship forward, it was a pleasant and exciting thought. Not only the engines but the lights that burned were getting their energy from the hidden mysterious nucleus of the mighty little atom. Everything on the ship was being done by atomic energy, and as the captain remarked, the coffee we were drinking, the bread we were eating and all the food we had in front of us had been prepared by atomic energy. The plates and cutlery had the sign of atom and the letter L embossed on them.

After breakfast we climbed up the command post or control room of the captain, which is a long hall high up across the body of the ship and in front you have a lovely view of the green decks and the thin nose of the ship cutting through the sea. There were many complicated looking navigation instruments in front, many dials, pointers and moving scales, and the whole back wall was a huge remote-control panel for the mighty engines, reactors and other mechanisms of the ship.

The cabin was silent as if nobody were there, every thing was so automatized that the need to give oral commands had been reduced to the minimum. We have seen the big rudder wheels of ships in films and remember the helmsman turning it this way and that in storms to keep the ship steady. Here the wheel of the atomic ship in the middle of the hall is only about ten inches in diameter and you can turn it with your little finger. It is much lighter than the steering-wheel of the smallest car.

And some of us tried it with the permission of the captain. It was a strange sensation to see the nose of the huge ship turning this way and that at the slightest touch of hand on the little wheel. Later I saw the mighty mechanisms which move the rudder of the ship down below.

Then began a tour of the ship which lasted five hours. Through innumerable corridors, up and down dozens of staircases, we went to the ship's well-furnished pleasant-looking cabins, the dining-hall and the club-room, and the library and reading-room with 7500 books including many foreign translations and even a book on Indian art — saw the engine rooms, the mighty turbo-generators and the power-house, the giant electric motors which move the ship, went through heavy doors with complicated levers attached to them. We were blown about by the streams of air pumped into the engine rooms to keep the temperature down.

We went down below ten metres under the sea and saw the huge shaft, five feet in diameter, revolving and turning the main propeller. We saw the control rooms of the generators and reactors and the electric motors, with hundreds of instruments and coloured lights and dials on complicated-looking panels...

Overwhelming Impression

All this made on us an overwhelming impression, this wonder of science and the technique of atomic age. It was all automation, all smooth-running efficiency, all brilliance and shine and polish. What was most striking was the spotless beauty and cleanliness of the whole ship, including the engine-rooms and mechanisms. There was no soot or smoke or oil and grease to be seen anywhere. The engines and motors were even painted shining white, and the main huge motor, churning away and spotlessly clean, looked more like a huge ice-cream machine than a ship's engine.

Why was it decided to use atomic energy for an ice-

breaker first, I asked engineer Arseny Stefanovich, who has worked thirty years in the Arctic, taken part in the building of the "Lenin" and now studies its performance in action. This is the gist of what he said:

For ice-breaking ships in the Arctic great power is required and the diesel engines cannot give more than 26,000 horse power. The limit had been reached, for example, in the ice-breaker "Leningrad". Of course, theoretically it is possible to add many more diesel engines to the ship, but then it will become very bulky and would have to carry a lot of fuel.

And if you increase the size it defeats its own purpose. Because with the size of the ship the resistance of the ice also



Captain Sokolov explaining navigation instruments to our correspondent.

increases, and the power gain is in practice lost. The bulky ship would also be less manoeuvrable in ice-fields.

The atom ship uses only a few grams of uranium fuel every day. It has already made two trips each lasting about six, seven months and has covered more than 20,000 kilometres, most of it in ice-fields, and is ready to go again. (Actually the "Lenin" was leaving the next day on its third yearly trip and was delayed one day for our cruise).

Only after three years, after the next trip, it would require refuelling. A diesel ship would have used up 60,000 tons of oil on these trips if it could go that far at all.

The ships using coal or oil are all the time tied to their bases. The old ice-breakers have to return to base, steamships every 20 days and diesels every 40-50 days. The journey back and the time needed for taking fuel are a dead loss. And the captain of the ship is afraid to venture far into the Arctic, for if he gets stranded in ice, no one can reach him that far from the base with fuel, the other ship would also not have enough fuel to return. So the atom was the only answer. It gives more power in small size and does not require refuelling for years.

"We have not made the atomic ice-breaker for propaganda purposes, this was the most rational use of the atomic energy we could think of. The captain can cut through to the North Pole, if required, and would be back with lot of fuel still in his pocket.

"Actually at the Geneva conference the Americans said

that we were lucky to have the northern route where we could really use the new atomic technique. They are making the passenger ship "Savannah", but it will not make any revolution in passenger transport as the "Lenin" has done in the Arctic. Building a passenger ship is much easier, for an ice-breaker we need 100 per cent surety because no one would be nearby, if something went wrong far in the Arctic."

Actually due to atomic energy there is 400 per cent more power in the same size and the speed of caravans in the Arctic has increased three times because of the ice-breaker "Lenin". The atomic power-unit and all other mechanisms have worked well in all sea conditions.

The ship has three atomic reactors, cylinders about 4 metres high and 2 metres wide, each with 80 kilograms of uranium. Water is used to slow down the speed of neutrons. There is a closed circuit of water which circulates to the stream generators and back. This water is heated up in the reactor to 300 degrees centigrade, but it does not boil because it is under a pressure of 100 atmosphere.

This water is radio-active. With the help of special pumps it is sent to the steam generator, where it gives away its heat to other water which is not radio-active and turns it to steam. The radioactive water returns to the reactors, and the steam turns the turbines to make electricity. This current is used to turn huge motors which move the ship and all other mechanisms.

There are three big motors, one central with 20,000 horse power, and two on the two sides 10,000 hp each. They turn the three propellers. So the total power of the ship comes to 40,000 hp. There are subsidiary generators to supply the other power needs of the ship. The total electric power produced would be enough for a town of 300,000.

Automatic Control

Automatic machines control the work of the reactors through remote control. And at any time their work can be observed through television. 40,000 cubic metres of water is used for cooling the engines every hour, there are 85 kilometres of tubes and 320 kilometres of cables on the ship.

The atom ship creates 320 tons of pressure power, it can cut through ice up to two metres thick. On thick ice it climbs up with part of its front and breaks it by sheer weight.

Additionally, 4,000 tons of water can be pumped into the empty tank in front to add more weight. There are such tanks in the rear and on both sides. If the ship gets jammed in ice, water is pumped from one side into another, thus swinging the ship and freeing it from the grip of thick ice from all sides.

The devilish grasp of ice-fields moving in from all sides, used to be the great danger of the Arctic, and ships were even crushed by it. There is no danger to the mighty armour of the

*ON FACING PAGE

SEPTEMBER 2, 1962

CABLE FROM G. D. R.

RIOT-TORN WEST BERLIN

BERLIN, August 23:

The West Berlin fascist ultras were brought out on the streets this week in continuous rioting and to attack Soviet army guards at the Soviet built war memorial in British occupied sector of West Berlin. A number of serious incidents have brought West Berlin on to the brink of chaos.

BIG bands of fascist youth dominate the streets. Parked cars are overturned. Bomb plots against GDR-run suburban trains are carried out. Bandits and fascists have taken the city in their own hands. For weeks now West German propaganda services have been trying to whip up a war psychosis in Berlin. When the planned "uprising" on August 13 did not happen to perforate the wall, West Berlin newspapers wrote "the patience of West Berliners with the compromisers is at an end".

West Berlin riots broke out immediately after Willy Brandt's secret talks with Chancellor Adenauer in Bonn on August 17, when they were reported to have chalked out a plan for security of West Berlin. Nobody knows what exactly transpired between them, but the result is for everyone to see.

The latest provocations have come soon after Premier Khrushchov had once again

outlined in Red Square speech the Soviet aim of ending the dangerous and explosive situation in Germany through a German peace treaty, with all necessary guarantees to safeguard the rights and interests of peoples of West Berlin in a free and demilitarised city.

On every occasion when the West German militarists fear that there is a chance of the Berlin problem being resolved, they raise the tension here.

This week's riot against the protective wall was a whipped up frenzy over the latest border incident in which a criminal trespasser was shot by East Berlin guards. Three of the German Democratic Republic's border guards—two in Berlin and one on the West German border—have been shot dead recently in similar incidents by the West Berlin and West German border police. No tears were shed by the Western press or politicians for those lives.

Beyond Arctic Circle

*FROM FACING PAGE

"Lenin", it can give battle and cut through this ice embrace.

Some times the battle with ice lasts a few hours. The ship goes back and then attacks with full force. Huge pieces of ice 20 to 50 tons in weight, break from the mass, overturn, drive and climb over one another, crashing and roaring as the atomic ship goes to regions where no other ship in the world could go. And rarely it uses even 70 per cent of its total strength. It has never met any insurmountable barrier.

In honour of the 22nd Congress of the CPSU, the "Lenin" made an unprecedented trip to the high latitudes of the Arctic in the polar night, reached upto a point 500 kilometres from the North Pole, and set up the research station "North Pole 10" on a drifting ice-field. After unloading the men and heavy equipment, it made the return voyage and came to port safe.

The polar captain must know not only the latest technique but also the character of ice, should be able to find the weak spots in the ice armour of the ocean, and must be an experienced strategist of navigation through thick ice. And the young 34-year-old captain Sokolov who has been given the proud command of the new ship has all the necessary qualifications.

It is amazing that all the crew of the ship, 230 in all, are young. The average age is 25-26 years. More than half of them have had higher education, and nearly

everybody is studying for further diplomas and degrees. The ship has courses and classes on board and people take yearly exams.

There is no dirty, low work here, and all work together as a good team, which has been given the title of the Komsomol Youth Crew. Many have started their working careers on this ship. I met many interesting enthusiastic young men on the ship, who are doing their job with love and devotion.

Actually there is no radiation danger on the ship. The captain said that we were safer on the ship because there was no radiation from reactors, and the natural radiation comes from cosmos and from the bowels of the earth. This earth radiation is absorbed by the sea, whereas on dry land it acts freely on all. "Here you are liable to cosmic radiation only", Sokolov told me.

The head of the safety service, engineer Kovalenko, said that as a matter of fact things are so safe that people are liable to forget the potential dangers, dangers which the atomic reaction means. The defence system is so good that no one could inadvertently or deliberately harm himself or others. Even people who work nearest to the reactors get 40 times less radiation in a day than you would get while taking one X-ray photograph.

Now at last I was inside. Standing on a balcony I could see in front of me below the three reactors in a row. Long rods were sticking out of them.

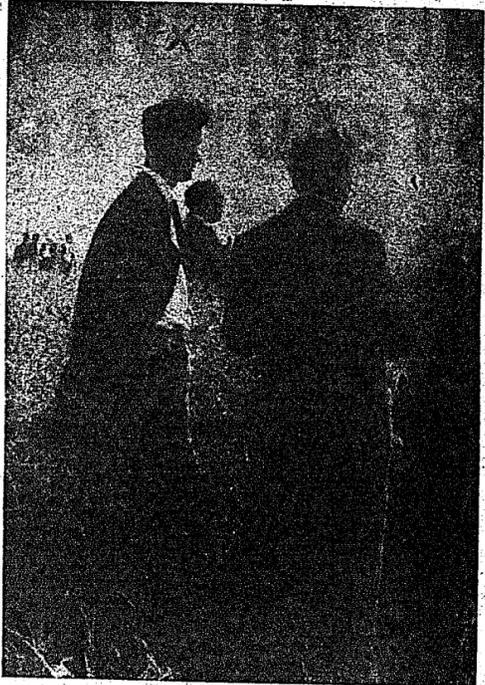
When the fascist agents organised stone-throwing continuously for three days on Soviet buses which were bringing sentries from East Berlin to Soviet war memorial in Tiergarten, the West Berlin police was in no hurry to end this vandalism on Soviet soldiers honouring those who fell in battle liberating Berlin from fascist hordes.

The crowd then jeered and cat-called American troops at check-point Charlie shouting, "Yankees Go Home. New York Herald Tribune reported on the 20th, "Out there were jeers and unfriendly whistles and boos for American jeeps and military sedans going back and forth between Charlie check point and American headquarters".

While the London Times joined the camp of fascist gangsters with a provocative editorial on Tuesday, clearly showing what powerful support these German criminals have in other Western countries, a number of important British and European bourgeois newspapers unhesitatingly condemned the West Berlin riots.

For example the Evening Standard on August 21 in sharpest condemnation of Berlin outrage said, "Hooliganism and bloodshed goes on in Berlin. Yet the West German leaders have taken no realistic measure to suppress clearly organised attempts to heighten tension and provoke a major explosion in Berlin."

Recalling that the British



West German provocateur (marked by cross) directs shooting at border which resulted in killing a GDR guard.

Government had just been forced by public opinion to take action against deliberate fascist provocations, the Evening Standard continued, "The West German authorities could do the same thing if they were prepared to take action to suppress most inflammable violence of the mob. But it seems the authorities have almost welcomed these nightly incidents hoping perhaps to underline with blood and baton the fears of West Germany that a settlement of Berlin question is in the offing".

The attempts to create a war atmosphere, says the paper, is not the work merely of hooligans. "The newspapers who clamour for return for General Clay and civic leaders who have made inflammatory statements attacking Allied 'weakness' must all share the responsibility". And finally the paper warned: "A war which neither Russia nor the West wants might be touched off because those responsible in West Berlin were not able to or willing to keep order in their own city".

While there is complete chaos and total breakdown of law and order, insecurity prevailing for foreigners and peace-loving West Berliners themselves, the East of the wall is calm and life goes on normally. All factories and offices, shops and transport run as usual without bothering what is happening in West Berlin. In West Berlin people are told to be prepared for a war on the wall.

London Daily Express in its editorial on August 22 said, "Dr Adenauer is to warn Mr. Macmillan that British troops may be required to man the Berlin wall. The German Chancellor should be told: Not a single British soldier will go near the wall. It is for German authorities to control the mob and to make sure no incidents are allowed to precipitate a crisis". More or less similar edito-

rial comments blaming the West for Berlin riots have appeared in Evening News of London, Daily Herald and so-called democratic papers of Denmark, Sweden, Norway and other West European countries.

Meanwhile a German Democratic Republic spokesman announced on August 20 that GDR security organs had arrested a large group of Western agents working in Berlin and other GDR centres. They included agents of American and West German intelligence. Two of the agents caught redhanded were yesterday presented in a television broadcast. One confessed he had been working for an American secret service and the other said he was a West German spy. They said, shooting, systematic murder, provocations of all sorts along the Berlin wall were the instructions given to them by their West Berlin and Washington masters.

Three gangsters arrested for dynamiting GDR trains running in West Berlin were freed by West Berlin police yesterday. One of them, Gerhard Naehar was reported by Der Spiegel to have said, "I am no criminal. I have done only what Willy Brandt called for".

The cloudy Berlin sky is echoing all the time the rumbling noise of the American military aircraft. Troops move in battle preparedness in West Berlin. As Erandt and his city government kept pulling the wires of all crimes from behind the scene, a West German army jet intruded into GDR air space last Saturday. A GDR fighter summoned the enemy plane to land, but it refused to obey the signal. The Western News Agency reported that thereupon the plane was fired at but succeeded to escape and made emergency landing in West Germany. Imperialists are playing with fire in Berlin which can start a war any moment.

(Concluded)

NEW AGE

PAGE ELEVEN

PAGE TEN

NEW AGE

NORTH VIETNAM'S STEADY ADVANCE

It is seventeen years since that second day of September 1945 when President Ho Chi Minh walked up to the rostrum of the Ba Dinh Square in Hanoi and announced to the world that the Democratic Republic of Vietnam was born.

SEPTEMBER 2, is a day of rejoicing not only for the people of Vietnam. All those who with avid interest have been following this small Asian country's rapid advance from the utmost backwardness to the building of a Socialist base, all those who have watched its peaceful foreign policy and the efforts it has made for the peaceful reunification of Vietnam, will be happy to congratulate the people and Government of the Democratic Republic of Vietnam and its beloved President Ho Chi Minh on the DRV's seventeenth birth anniversary.

Seventeen years is a very short period in the history of a nation and even of these seventeen years, the people of Vietnam had to devote nine years to the bitter resistance war against French imperialism which came back in 1946 seeking to reimpose the colonial yoke which the Vietnamese people through their heroic liberation struggle had once thrown off.

When peace was restored in 1954 after the Geneva Agreements in a temporarily divided Vietnam, the task that faced the Democratic Republic in the North was really stupendous.

Over eighty years of colonialism had left Vietnam a

backward agricultural country with no industry worth the name and with a primitive agriculture. Even this economy had been further depressed by the Second World War and the nine years of the Resistance War. During these years of war, 140,000 hectares of land had been laid waste, tens of thousands of cattle killed, a great quantity of farm implements

burnt or destroyed, many irrigation systems ruined. Handicrafts, which had been allowed to stagnate, had left more than a hundred thousand people jobless. The few mines and factories that existed had been heavily damaged by bombings or handicapped by the transfer of machines, raw materials and skilled workmen to the South. The railways had been completely dismantled, roads and highways needed urgent repairs, transport of the waterways had come to a standstill with many boats and junks destroyed and most of the barges and ships taken away.

Yet another problem which the young republic faced was that the overwhelming majority of the cadres did not have even an elementary knowledge of industrial management and they lacked experience and even the basic scientific and technical know-how.

But a country rich in natural resources and populated by a sturdy, hard-working patriotic people with a people's power to mobilise them for the development of the country and with disinterested aid from the socialist camp which had become a powerful world system, had all the prerequisites to start on the path

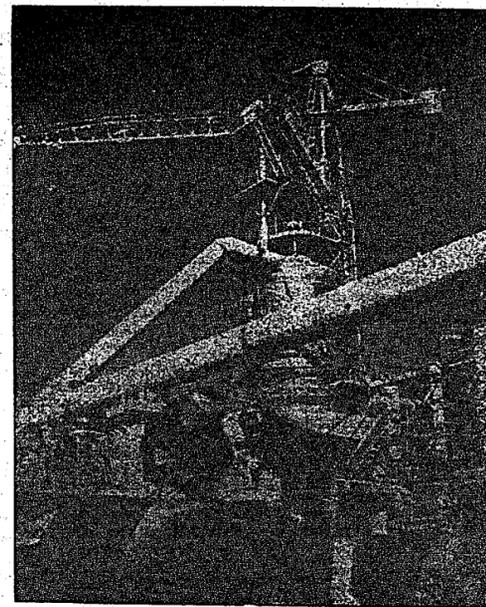
per cent of the gross output value of industry and agriculture when the DRV started on this road in 1955; by 1961 the share of industry had risen to 43.5 per cent and by the end of the first five-year plan the DRV would be a modern industrial-agricultural nation with industry contributing more than half of the output value.

When the last French colonialists withdrew in 1955, there were just 19 heavily-damaged industrial enterprises in North Vietnam to day there are 200 centrally-run industrial establishments, not counting hundreds of local enterprises.

Under French domination, the Vietnamese people could not even dream of any heavy industry. Let alone heavy industries, essential consumer goods were not being produced in the country, even thread and needles had to be imported.

Today North Vietnam has a flourishing heavy industrial base covering many branches like electric power, machine-building, metallurgy, fertilizers, chemicals, etc., and is also producing a major part of the consumer goods needed by the people.

Almost all private capitalist industry and commerce has been organized into state-private or cooperative enterprises; the system of exploitation of man by man and small individual economy which generates it have been



The Thai-Nguyen Iron and Steel Complex under construction

8,800,000 metres to 93,200,000 metres and so on.

The Thai Nguyen Iron and Steel Complex, the first of its kind in Vietnam has already been partly commissioned and is estimated to produce 200,000 tons of steel annually in the initial stages.

Agriculture, too, has undergone fundamental changes. Under the colonial order, primitive methods of agriculture had condemned the people to eternal misery though they worked hard and the land was fertile.

The famine of 1944-45 took a toll of two million lives in the delta areas alone.

All that is now of the past. Famine can never again rear its head in North Vietnam. Over 88 per cent of the households are now in agricultural production cooperatives. These coops have been gradually growing in size and today hamlet-sized cooperatives cover seven per cent of the villages in the delta region.

Irrigation facilities extend to 70 per cent of the total crop land which had reached 3.1 million hectares in 1961. The North was always deficit in rice in the old days and it was never considered possible that it could attain self-sufficiency in this foodgrain.

In the event, it has done even better—from 2,600,000 tons in 1939 and 3,900,000 tons in 1955, food production went up to 5,530,000 tons in 1961—a per capita share of 332 kg., the highest in South-east Asia.

The solution of the food problem has enabled North Vietnam to diversify its agriculture and develop tropical industrial crops and fruit trees, animal husbandry, forest exploitation, pisciculture, etc.

Transport and communications, home and foreign trade have all kept pace with this rapid advance in industry and agriculture and the fast-developing planned economy ensured for the people a new life.

They have adequate food now, and clothing and housing; their purchasing power has increased and the stores have plenty of essential consumer goods, their children can go to school, the grown-

ups are assured of work with the eradication of unemployment, women have an equal status with men and they can all look forward to a daily-improving life.

National income rose by 32.6 per cent from 1957 to 1960 and per capita income by 18 per cent in the same period. Real wages of workers and employees were in 1960, 37 per cent more compared to 1955 and peasants' income had risen by 15 per cent from 1957 to 1959.

The great changes that have taken place in culture and social welfare are an index of this better life which people in North Vietnam enjoy today.

Under French rule, 95 per cent of the population was illiterate; today illiteracy has been basically wiped out and the colonial education transformed into national, scientific, popular education.

The number of general education school children increased from 567,300 in 1939 for the whole of Vietnam to 716,100 in 1955 and 2,300,000 in 1961 in the North alone; that of university students from 600 in 1939 for the whole of Vietnam to 1,200 in 1955 and to 16,000 in 1961 in the North alone.

Cultural activities have been stepped up. Clubs in factories and cultural houses in the villages and construction sites cater to the people's recreational needs and give them the opportunity to develop their political and scientific knowledge and improve their technical know-how.

Mobile library rooms, film projection teams and theatrical troupes visit the remotest out-of-the way hamlets to serve the people.

In the field of public health also, the DRV has recorded notable achievements. Many epidemics, chronic in the old days, have been wiped out, 80 per cent of the villages have their own medical centres and the annual death rate has dropped from three per cent to less than 0.5 per cent. While building Socialism at home, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam, basing itself

*On Page 5

Ujjain Strike For Better Education Facilities

From Our Correspondent

BHOPAL, August 27

Ujjain agitation for pressing the demand of establishing Engineering, Agriculture and Medical Colleges has been further intensified with the resignation of three Congress MLAs of the city. The agitation was launched on August 19 when the city including all educational institutions observed complete strike.

A second phase of the agitation began on the 22nd when five leaders of the city including Communist worker Mansingh Rahi went on five-day hunger strike.

This movement for securing more academic facilities at Ujjain is being conducted by an Action Committee which includes all political parties in its fold.

On August 24, students brought out a big procession. The processionists were carrying the effigies of the state Chief Minister Mandoli, Education Minister Dr. Sharma, and Finance Minister Gangwal. The effigies were later burnt in the presence of a huge crowd.

The Communist Party has extended whole-hearted support to the movement. In a statement the Party has justified the demand and has urged upon the state government to concede it forthwith.

It may be mentioned here that Ujjain is the headquarters of the Vikram University.

minatory treatment that while conceding the demand of Indore and Gwalior, the Government did not care to give even an assurance of respect to their demand.

Now the movement has taken the shape of a mass upsurge. Even now if the Government fails to do the needful, it will have to pay heavy

In spite of this the city students have to go out for medical and engineering education. This situation was the constant cause of discontent in the city populace. Leaders belonging to the various political parties used to raise the demand time and again, but in vain. The Government never paid any attention to this popular urge.

Mismanagement and maladministration in the Vikram University played a vital role in arousing the students' anger against the Education Ministry. Just a few weeks ago the students of Ujjain virtually attacked the University office for its failure to rectify some bungling done in the process of finalising the results of B. A. part II exam.

With the decision of the Government to establish Universities at Indore and Gwalior this demand gathered further momentum. Indore and Gwalior both have Engineering and Medical Colleges. Gwalior has an agricultural college too. The people of Ujjain considered it discri-

penalty for it. In this context the resignation of three Congress MLAs assumes extraordinary importance. As is well known Congressmen never quit offices which they occupy unless they are forced to do so. In Ujjain it is solely due to intense pressure of public opinion that they were forced to resign their seats.

Of course the internal Congress power politics has also something to do with this. Those Congressmen, who want to see Dr. Sharma, the Education Minister, out of the Cabinet have extended wholehearted support to this movement, though it may be that the handling of education

problems by him in an autocratic manner and rampant corruption and favouritism under him have added to the fury of the people.

In spite of this it is a fact that the movement has gone to such an extent that even if Congressmen want to withdraw from it they cannot. They can do so only at the cost of their political existence.

Meanwhile five opposition MLAs of the Ujjain district including Communist member Bhairav Bhatti have demanded an emergent session of Vidhan Sabha to discuss the situation.

Chotanagpur Newsletter

Employers Again Create Tension At Hatia

From Our Correspondent

JAMSHEDPUR, August 27:

Close on the heels of the termination of the strike of 10,000 workers at Hatia when there was an all-round sigh of relief, the vendetta of victimisation started by the contractor firms, in spite of the assurances given by the Chief Minister of Bihar, has precipitated a tense situation again.

It is understood that the Chief Minister had assured the workers of payment of rest-day wages with retrospective effect. But immediately after they joined duties, most of the contractor firms served notice of dismissal on worker-leaders, numbering about seven in each firm, besides dismissing quite a large number of workers for their alleged participation in the strike. Wage cuts have been announced and working hours enhanced to nine hours.

The workers have therefore, rallied once again to resist the new attack and formed a union—HEC Mazdur Union—to meet the employers' onslaught.

In an advanced industrial city like Jamshedpur, the extent of indebtedness among workers has reached dangerous proportions, it is learnt.

The Chairman of the Jam-

shedpur-Golmuri Cooperative Union, a few days back, disclosed that about 50,000 members of the union were in debt amounting to Rs. 4.5 crores, borrowed from 42 affiliated cooperative societies.

This, of course, does not take into account the loans taken from unauthorised money-lenders, most of whom charge 6 per cent interest per month at the minimum on the amount loaned.

One side of the disastrous result that accrues from this indebtedness was clearly revealed when Jitendra Nath Chakravarty, an employee of TELCO, drawing a salary of Rs. 225 per month, committed suicide on July 10.

The reason for his suicide was that he had only forty

*ON BACK PAGE

PUBLICATIONS FROM YUGOSLAVIA

REVIEW

A monthly magazine dealing with subjects concerning Foreign Relations, Home Affairs, Art, Sports, Tourism etc. Published by "BORBA", Beograd

YUGOSLAV LIFE

A monthly news survey covering every aspect of the life of Yugoslav people. Published by the Jugoslavija Publishing House

Review of INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

A fortnightly journal published by the Federation of Yugoslav Journalists which covers all important international events

NEWS BULLETINS

World news round-up by TANJUG—Yugoslav News Agency

For details of subscription etc.,

please contact:

EMBASSY OF YUGOSLAVIA
13 Sundernagar, New Delhi



Bamboo Tree Dance in North Vietnam

backward agricultural country with no industry worth the name and with a primitive agriculture. Even this economy had been further depressed by the Second World War and the nine years of the Resistance War. During these years of war, 140,000 hectares of land had been laid waste, tens of thousands of cattle killed, a great quantity of farm implements

of wiping out this legacy of colonial backwardness and rapidly advancing into the modern age.

Aid in just over seven years after the restoration of peace, the Democratic Republic of Vietnam has already advanced to the stage of transition to socialism.

Industry including handicrafts accounted for only 16.9

abolished creating the necessary conditions for the steady development of the productive forces and harmonious planning of the national economy.

From 1955 to 1961, output of electric power rose from 53 million kwh to 276 million kwh, cement from 850 tons to 452,600 tons, anthracite coal from 641,000 tons to 2,595,000 tons, textiles from

Poet From Pakistan Receives Lenin Peace Prize

★ From Masood Ali Khan

MOSCOW, August 27:

In the stately Sverdlov Hall of the Kremlin today, Pakistan's famous poet and progressive statesman Faiz Ahmad Faiz was given the gold medal of the International Lenin Peace prize.

THE round white columned hall was packed with leading representatives from all walks of life and the whole audience gave Faiz a moving ovation.

Academician Dmitri Skobeltsin, Chairman of the Lenin Peace Committee called the bard of Pakistan, a faithful son of the people who had given all his strength, his flaming heart and great talent for the good of his country.

He spoke of his work as a journalist, as organiser of trade unions, as General Secretary of Pakistan's Peace Committee and, of course, as a man of letters and a poet who had continued to work for the people wherever he had been in spite of sufferings and imprisonment.

The award of the Lenin prize to Faiz was a recognition of his work and services for the cause of peace and freedom, and also a recognition of the progressive forces of Pakistan. Academician Skobeltsin declared.

Nikolai Tikhonov speaking on behalf of the Soviet Peace Committee called Faiz a "wonderful



Faiz Ahmed Faiz

poet not only of Pakistan and Asia but of the whole world whose great talent had been multiplied by his golden heart and wisdom.

Faiz was a man who never faltered even when he was on the brink of mortal danger in prison. He had always carried forward the shining torch of inspiration without fear. Tikhonov called Faiz a person with a beautiful soul and warmly embraced him on the platform.

The Russian poet Surkov declared that Faiz was a man of the same calibre as Julius Fucik and his words had never been different from his deeds. He had written his verses with the blood of his own heart and did not have an easy time of it.

Surkov declared that like Iqbal, Faiz too was a great figure not only of Pakistan but of the whole contemporary East. His talent, his lyricism, his love of man and firm belief in humanity's future, his originality and brilliance made him one of the brightest progressive poets of the world.

Another poet, Sofronov, recalled the unforgettable experience of the audience listening to Faiz's poems in Lahore, Delhi, Tashkent and other places. Faiz is a brave, wise and talented son of the Pakistan people, he said.

Chilsev speaking on behalf of the Soviet Orientalists said that Faiz was in the great oriental tradition of Khayyam, Hafiz and Jami. But he had also created new forms of expression in accordance with the needs of today.

Faiz was warmly cheered when he rose to speak. He was visibly moved by the wonderful reception given to him. Wearing a black Sherwani with the gold medal of the laureate of Lenin Peace Prize shining on his breast, he made a poetic and at the same time a statesman like speech in Urdu.

"Thanks to the achievements of human mind," Faiz Ahmed Faiz declared: "we are now able to

provide everything necessary for all who need it."

"Each sprout may now blossom if the inexhaustible treasures of nature and the boundless energy of man are placed at the service of humanity," he continued.

However, the poet said, there are forces in the world that do not want to have peace established on earth. "That is precisely why those who sincerely strive for peace and freedom must be vigilant."

"Now, when the stellar routes of the Universe are opened and all its treasures can become the possession of mankind, are there really not enough reasonable people among us who would say to the others: 'Enough! Dump military rockets into the sea, dump all weapons into the sea!'" he remarked.

Faiz Ahmed Faiz said that "mankind has never lost the struggle against its enemies."

Railway Accidents

★ FROM CENTRE PAGES

signals, this accident could not have taken place.

The railway tracks were grievously neglected during the years of Second World War. The renewals of rails and sleepers have not yet caught up with the demands we make on the railway track now.

Hitherto a gang of 12 men were given the responsibility of maintaining three miles of track. Now this has been increased to 4 miles. By the time the gang reaches one end of the gang length, the other end under the impact of the present heavy and fast traffic would have become loose and sagging. The increase of workload is two-fold, by adding more miles and by quicker loosening of the packing under the sleepers.

The iron sleepers often become rusty, and the holes become enlarged. The keys which hold the rails to the sleepers become loose. And whenever a speedy train passes over, the keys slip away.

If an accident takes place, they definitely get scattered. Then, of course, the authorities get the opportunity of throwing the entire blame on sabotage and avoid many embarrassing queries.

Engines are now under permanent repairs. Tools and spare parts are not supplied. In the repair sheds, there are more supervisors than actual workers. Instead of using new spare parts, parts from the next engines are removed and put on to the engine required first.

Number of skilled workers available for maintenance of engines are not sufficient. And the workload is more than they could do.

On August 29, 1959, Madras-Calcutta Mail was derailed at Chinnagarjam, because of a defect in the left radial wheel.

On the previous day, the same engine was taken from Rajamundry to Waltair. The driver had remarked that the radial wheel was defective and the wheel may slip off the rail.

But without properly removing the defect, the engine was booked again. If the driver had refused, he would have been charged for obstructing work, or insubordination. After derailment, the remark book disappeared.

On February 24, 1961, the Delhi-Deluxa Express escaped a major disaster near Kavali. The side coke crank pin of the engine broke into two. The vigilant driver sensed something wrong and brought the train to a halt. Otherwise, hundreds of lives would have been lost that day.

On March 20, 1962, the Delhi-Janata Express came to a sudden stop on a bridge near Talamanehi. The gudgeon pin on the left side of the engine broke into two pieces. Luckily the train was going at a slow speed of 10 miles per hour and it could be stopped.

The accident which happened to the Ranchi Express on South Eastern Railway also is an example of defective engines being put on express trains.

In the name of increased turnout, improved result, and for quicker transport, the Railway Board has introduced an element of compulsion; while the workload has increased, the number of workers has gone down.

Coupled with this, as if to do slave driving, the number of supervisors and officers has increased. The workers are always being urged, on pain of punishment, to increase the quantity of work, speed of work, and the direct result is a drastic reduction in quality and efficiency.

Overhauling of wagons and coaches are done in a hurry-hurry way. In a very defective way. Worn-out tyres are not being levelled. Sharpened flanges are not being rounded. Buffers are not being removed and examined. Oil is applied here and there and the whole pieces are put together again.

In olden days, employees from all branches were anxious to become ASMs. Now-a-days, even if one forces them, they are not prepared to come and work as ASMs. Even in the open market, railway is getting only those who cannot get other jobs. Their pay is not commensurate with the responsibility and hazards which the post carries. If the efficiency in that cadre goes down still further, nobody need wonder.

Another important category in this section is the cabinmen or pointsmen working in the cabins. On some railways, his pay is Rs. 80-100, while on the Southern Railway, he is paid only Rs. 75-85.

Another cause for discontent among the staff and helplessness among the officers is the Personnel Branch system. Somehow, in the Railways this system has failed.

In the Personnel Branch, the workers are not human beings. They are simply serial numbers. They do not get leave passes and other personal privileges when they are required. The dealings are very impersonal.

Some of the zones have become too unwieldy. They are too far-flung for one management to look after properly. From the operational point of view, it is better that some of the bigger systems are bifurcated.

There should not be more than 4,000 miles for each operating office to look after and control the train movement.

Assam Again In Floods

★ FROM MADHUSUDAN BHATTACHARYA

SHILLONG, August 26:

Assam has again been drowned into a grim tragedy. All the districts of the Brahmaputra valley, as well as the plains—part of the district of Garo hills, have been affected by one of the worst floods of the recent times. The Brahmaputra and almost all its tributaries have been in spate for a little over one week till the time of writing this.

FLOOD water has crept into the low-lying areas of a number of towns also, including Gauhati and Dibrugarh. It is not yet possible to give an accurate figure of the number of villages inundated by the current wave of floods; but all available information here indicate that a large portion of all the districts mentioned above has been more or less affected.

The worst affected areas are said to be North-Lakhimpur subdivision of Lakhimpur district and Goalpara subdivision of the district of the same name. It is through Goalpara that the Brahmaputra flows out of Assam. North-Lakhimpur is cordoned by hills, with some turbulent streams, to the north and north-east and the Brahmaputra to the other sides. It is virtually cut off from the rest of the State except by air.

Majuli, in Sibsagar district, said to be the biggest river island in the world, has, perhaps, no place which has been spared by flood water. People there have been precariously marooned.

In the interior villages of almost every district, thousands of people have been marooned. Their rescue is at the moment the biggest problem. Till now about five thousand people are reported to have been rescued and brought to relief camps.

Apart from the danger of being swept away by the swirling current of flood water, the marooned people also face the problem of food which is said to have become unavailable in those areas.

Dearth of boats and, no less than that, of persons who are not only brave enough to hazard a trip across the treacherous current of the flooded rivers, but are also experienced enough to do so with confidence, made the rescue operation halting.

After an aerial survey of the affected areas, the State Chief Minister Chaliha returned here to confer with his cabinet colleagues and senior officials about the steps that should be taken in the situation.

The cabinet meeting came to the conclusion that the resources of the State alone were not at all sufficient to cope with the task. It was decided to take the help of the Army.

The Army readily offered the help sought for. Army jawans have been detailed now for rescue operation and distribution of some essential goods like blankets, medicine, etc. and above all, air dropping food to the marooned people, as also to those areas which have been experiencing acute scarcity of food and cannot arrange prompt supply because of severance of communication line.

It has been decided to undertake relief work, with top priority of rescue of marooned people, on a "war footing" and the Army has assured its whole-hearted cooperation with the

civil administration in this matter.

Motor transport had to be suspended on two major routes, one linking upper Assam and the other linking lower Assam with Gauhati. Both the trunk roads have portions affected by flood water rendering them unfit for plying of motor vehicles.

Rail traffic has also been disrupted and the Assam link line, the vital link between Assam and the rest of the country over land, has been affected at a number of

places. Apart from other problems imposed by this disruption of railway traffic, supply from outside has also been affected by this and Assam has been depending on outside supply for many of her essential needs.

Paddy crop has been so extensively damaged that it is not considered likely that the winter crop can be raised again this year. After the flood havoc in June and July, attempts were being made by cultivators to replant their damaged fields.

But after this second onslaught, few can expect to raise another harvest this year. Even the government seem to have written off the current year's harvest. This is also signified by comparatively small amount of seed loan granted this time.

Needless to say that this holds

out the threat of an acute food scarcity in the coming year. Already after the June-July floods, ten thousand tons of rice had been sanctioned by the Union Government to meet the needs of Assam.

The Chief Minister is reported to have asked for another seven thousand tons of rice from central pool for immediate needs. But it is not considered possible to tide over the coming period till another harvest is raised even with a supply of another seven thousand tons of rice.

More will be required. But until now it has not been possible to make an assessment of the total loss or the total needs of the State till better days.

Resources at the disposal of the State have been found to be far short of the requirements. Hence the State Chief Minister Chaliha sent an SOS to the Prime Minister to come to the aid of the suffer-

ing State. The reply of the Prime Minister is awaited.

Even a near accurate assessment of the actual damage in man and materials has to wait till communication has been at least workably restored and all the affected areas have been approached.

Reports reaching here till now indicate loss of a human lives, officially confirmed, and another 5 yet to be confirmed. Loss of cattle heads has not yet been assessed. Damage of houses also has not yet been assessed.

Reports also indicate that the worst period, perhaps, has not yet been over. Heavy downpour has been reported from a number of places. While only one place has reported slight fall in the level of flood water, a number of other places report further alarming rise in the water level. Erosion has also been reported from many a place.

At any rate it is obvious that it will be a long time before the State has recovered from the impact of this calamity. Relief and rehabilitation will both require sustained effort for a long time. It is hoped that the whole country will come forward to the aid of this suffering State.

L. I. C. EMPLOYEES DEMONSTRATE

★ From Ajoy Das Gupta

CALCUTTA, August 26:

Negotiation between the management of the Life Insurance Corporation of India and its employees, represented by the All India Insurance Employees' Association and the All India Life Insurance Employees' Association, on the Charter of Demands submitted by them, has broken down due to the totally negative and unresponsive attitude of the management.

THE employees submitted their Charter in March 1960, full three years after the pay scales, allowances and other conditions of service of the employees drawn into one monolithic Corporation from 243 companies were standardised through an interim settlement in April, 1957.

On that occasion the then Union Finance Minister, T. T. Krishnamachari, announcing the settlement stated that as the LIC did not settle down then and the financial position was not fully known, what needed to be given to the employees could not be given.

Since then the LIC has made phenomenal progress in all directions. The number of life policies increased from 45.16 lacs at the end of 1955 to 77.13 lacs at the end of 1960. The business in force increased from Rs. 1,220 crores at the end of 1955 to Rs. 2,285 crores at the end of 1960, an increase of Rs. 1,065 crores, whereas the increase in the preceding five years in private sector was only Rs. 748 crores.

The total new business secured by all insurers in 1955 was Rs. 260.84 crores and in 1961 it had shot up to Rs. 626 crores. The corresponding premium income has risen from Rs. 58.67 crores in 1955 to Rs. 110 crores or so in 1961.

The ratios of lapse of policies and of expenses incurred for management have considerably declined and the expense ratio is more than 2% below the permissible 15%.

And during the period, the cost of living has continuously risen and there is no possibility of its

coming down or even stabilising at any given point.

In this background the Charter of demands framed on the basis of the unanimous recommendations of the 15th session of the Indian Labour Conference on the need-based minimum wage was only just and reasonable.

The employees in their eagerness to preserve good employer-employee relations and not to create any crisis in this nationalised industry agreed to defer the talks on the Charter till early 1962 and to accept Rs. 15 ad-hoc rise in D.A. in May 1961, which also the LIC agreed to pay after much haggling.

But coming to discuss the Charter in the second half of 1962, the LIC authorities refused to accept the most reasonable demands of the employees, who for the sake of finding an area of agreement reduced the demands still further.

What the LIC offered was in practice nothing but a merger of a part of D.A. with the basic pay, and that too without its full reflection in the retiring benefits and a paltry sum as house rent, and tried to pass it off as a wage revision.

By this device, even the rates of increments have been lowered in many cases. The very just and vital demand of automatic linking of D.A. with the cost of living index as per Bank Award formula was also rejected.

In fact the LIC authorities refused to give to their employees even what the National Tribunal gave to "B" class bank employees and against which the bank em-

ployees have already raised their voice of protest.

It might sound strange but it is a fact that the Oriental Fire & General Insurance Company, a subsidiary of the LIC gives to its employees on the strength of an agreement entered into in 1960, much more than what the LIC authorities offered to their employees in the middle of the year 1962.

The talks therefore broke down and it clearly shows that the responsibility of the breakdown of talks lies fully and squarely on the shoulders of the LIC authorities.

Following the failure of the talks, the two organisations of the employees — AIIEA and AILIEA, gave a call for a movement to press for the demand and as a first step, to observe August 25 as the ALL-INDIA DEMANDS DAY.

Reports received at the headquarters of the All-India Insurance Employees' Association at Calcutta show that the observance has been a grand success throughout India.

In Calcutta the Employees responded to the call in a magnificent observance. Numerous processions of employees converged in the University Institute Hall which could ill afford to accommodate the huge gathering.

Similar demonstrations were held in Delhi, Madras, Bombay, Madurai and various other towns and cities and the insurance employees have successfully demonstrated their unity in support of the demands.

It is now up to the authorities to reconsider the matter and accept the demands and not to precipitate the matter.

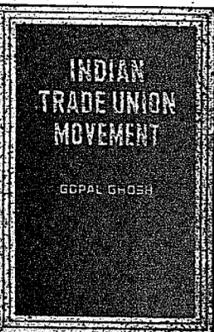
JUST OUT INTERNATIONAL SOCIALIST MISCELLANY No. 5

PRICE: One Rupee Fifty nP.

CONTENTS:
Basic Principles of International Socialist Division of Labour
Productive Forces And Commodity-Money Relations
Labour Productivity in USA And USSR
Oil And Capitalist Monopolies
Old Doctrines And New Situation
and other articles of interest

PEOPLE'S PUBLISHING HOUSE
Rani Jhansi Road, New Delhi 1.

BOOK REVIEW



INDIAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT by Gopal Ghosh, pp. 98 price Rs. two. T.U. Publications, 9/4 C. N. Roy Road, Calcutta 39.

THIS book attempts to provide the readers with background materials of the Indian trade union movement, its genesis and advance, and in that it succeeds to a great extent.

It does not claim to be a comprehensive history of the movement as such and yet it brings out into sharp relief the salient features of the early days of Indian trade union movement.

This is only the first part of a voluminous book which the writer proposes to write concerning the various aspects

of the trade union movement. The present volume contains only five chapters: Growth of Capitalism in India; The Birth of the Indian Working Class; The Rise of the Working Class; The Development of the Trade Union Movement; and the Birth of the AITUC.

The writer is a trade unionist himself and therefore adds his personal fervour in describing the events and makes no secret about it. He, in the introduction, explains that he has treated the subject matter from "the partisan standpoint of a trade union worker" but at the same time, he has been cautious enough to remain true to the objective truth.

This book will provide a base for further study in the T. U. movement in India and help bring out a comprehensive history of the movement which is so utterly lacking, despite attempts made by various noted personalities which mostly contain only partial truth.

This book will be a valuable help to the trade union functionaries to know in the outline the growth of Indian trade union movement and an aid to teach the workers the birth and growth of trade unions in our country.

We hope the writer will proceed with his endeavour and write also about the more recent phase of the trade union movement.

BANKERS REFUSE TO DISCUSS AWARD RECONSIDER YOUR DECISION

—Says Prabhat Kar

According to the texts of the letters exchanged between the Indian Banks Association (IBA) and the All India Bank Employees Association (AIBEA) recently, it is learnt that the banks have refused to accede to the request of the AIBEA for a mutual discussion and settlement regarding removal of anomalies, inadequacies and contradictions which have arisen following the Desai Award.

P RABHAT KAR, General Secretary of the AIBEA, in his letter to the Secretary of the Indian Banks Association, dated August 28, has expressed disappointment at the stand taken by the IBA.

He has inter alia stated in his letter that "It was our expectation that in the interest of the industry, you will accede to our request as you are aware that the bank employees are not satisfied with the Desai Award.

"We thought that with a view to ensuring smooth functioning of the banking institutions and in the interest of national economy, you will appreciate that contentment among the staff is of most vital importance. We felt that as you are also anxious for smooth functioning of the

industry you will accede to this request of ours.

"It appears that your managing committee instead of examining the whole question from practical point of view, has taken a technical stand. It may be pointed out that we never requested to throw away Desai Award and settle the dispute through negotiations on all matters afresh.

"What we suggested was that certain improvements and adjustments be made on the Desai Award itself without changing its basis. We know, it would not be prudent to ask to go over the same questions which have been decided by the Tribunal.

"We thought that you know as to how this Award would affect adversely some of the

bank employees and accordingly you would be agreeable for certain adjustments. You should appreciate that solution of a dispute is of greater importance than judicial or quasi-judicial awards.

"It is not for the first time that such proposal has been made, as there had been cases where the employers and employees have entered into fresh settlements even after the Award of an Industrial Tribunal. This was done as it was felt that more important was the maintenance of good relations than to have an Award which brings discontentment.

"We have calculated the total burden that may have to be borne by the Banks, in case our proposals are accepted. We are convinced that in spite of what you have said about the obligation of the banking industry in your aforesaid paragraphs, it is possible for the banking industry to bear some more extra burden than what has been imposed by the Desai Award.

"Moreover, this extra bur-

den which will be very meagre in relation to the extra income that the Banking Industry will earn in the coming years, you will get better cooperation by keeping the employees contented, which by itself will be a great asset for your future functioning.

"We regret that your Managing Committee did not think it fit to consider all these aspects. We are extremely sorry to point out that by your refusal to accede to our request, you will be putting the bank employees into a very difficult position, because it is almost impossible for them to accept the Award in its present form. It may be recalled that in 1954 on the representation of your organisation the L.A.T. Decision was modified.

"Under these circumstances, we would again request you to reconsider this matter because a refusal will create complications which our organisation wants to avoid."

The Secretary of the IBA had earlier written to AIBEA among others that:

"We wish to point out that the National Tribunal was presided over by an eminent and experienced Judge who is the Chief Justice of the Gujarat High Court. The proceedings of the Tribunal went on for nearly 2½ years and during this long period, the Judge was good enough to allow both the sides to the disputes to place all their viewpoints and arguments fully before him and gave the



Prabhat Kar

most patient hearing to them.

"His award is a balanced document and has been accepted, in its entirety, by the Government of India, which has always been most sympathetic towards the demands of all employees in the country.

"If, in face of the above circumstances, we are to comply with your request for conducting negotiations for settling the terms and conditions of service of bank employees, it would mean that all the labour of the Tribunal, Judge and of the parties to the disputes taken over a period of 2½ years would be wasted absolutely.

"This would have very serious repercussions on the future of industrial relations, not merely in the banking industry, but also in all other industries."

for
pure
ayurvedic
medicine
depend
and
rely
on...



SADHANA AUSADHALAYA DACCA

(Branches throughout India)

36, Sadhana Ausadhalaya Road

Sadhana Nagar, Calcutta 48



BIGGEST
CONCERN
OF PURE
AYURVEDIC
MEDICINE

Delhi Branch: 224, Chandni Chowk, Delhi-6, 1855, Chandni Chowk, Delhi-6.

TU Conference On ECM

The WFTU has taken steps to convene an International Trade Union Conference on the economic and social consequences of the Common Market.

T HIS conference is to be held in Leipzig from October 31 to November 2, 1962.

A press communique issued by the WFTU Press Department on July 25, in this regard, stated:

In view of the scope of the present offensive waged by the monopolies against the living standards of the workers and against national sovereignty in political and economic spheres, under the cover of the so-called Common Market, and in view of the concern expressed on the matter by the 25th Session of the Executive Committee, the WFTU has decided to convene a consultative international trade union conference to study the economic and social

consequences of the Common Market in the different countries of the world, as well as the measures to be taken for a better coordination of efforts of the National Centres in the defence of the interests of the workers.

This Conference will set up a programme of demands against the control exercised by the monopolies over the economic and social life, against discriminatory measures and the policy of preferential tariffs they enjoy within the Common Market, and against all restrictions on world trade development.

Invitation has been extended to trade union organisations, whether affiliated or not to the WFTU, from 26 European and 16 non-European countries.

Chotanagpur Newsletter

*FROM PAGE 13

naye paise left out of his pay when he left for home on the pay day after settling accounts with his creditors.

I N reply to a question put by Dr. U. Misra, Home Minister Lal Bahadur Shastri stated in the Lok Sabha a few days back that the Bihar Government had loaned the services of one IAS officer to Tata Iron and Steel Company in 1958.

He is still in the service of the company and is drawing a basic salary in the scale of Rs. 3,250-125-4,250 with dearness allowance of Rs. 300, en-

tertainment allowance of Rs. 250, car allowance of Rs. 150 etc.

This emolument, it may be noted, is about twice his earlier salary as a government officer. His lien with the TISCO, it is learnt, will expire by February 1963.

It may be mentioned here that this IAS officer was formerly the Secretary of the Government of Bihar in the department of labour and his services were "specially loaned" to Tisco in order to help them deal with labour problems which came about in 1958 culminating in the general strike. How effectively he dealt with the strike situation through active assistance of the police machinery is only too well known to all.

As a special recognition of his services he has now been made the Agent of TISCO.